

## Magical Pumpkins



**It was pumpkin madness at STAR works for the annual glass pumpkin sale on Saturday October 12. See page 10 for the story.**

## Commissioners delay Land Use Plan approval

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor



Moore County's Board of Commissioners plans to do a little "word-smithing" on the new Land Use Plan before granting it their final approval.

"I think, when we do things, we have to do it with the utmost concern for all the people in the County," Commissioner Chairman Nick Picerno said, after closing a Public Hearing on the plan during the Tuesday, October 15 regular meeting of the Board. "They expect us to go through every line of this

document. There are a couple of specific action items that would keep me from voting yes."

The draft Land Use Plan, which was crafted over fourteen months by a twenty-seven member Steering Committee, is designed to replace the County's original Land Use Plan, adopted in 1999. Planning Board Chairman Robert Hayter led the Steering Committee.

The role of the Land Use Plan is to provide an overarching vision to guide development in the County, while ensuring that growth does not overwhelm those unique characteristics that give Moore County its character

and that current County residents want to preserve. Once the plan is passed it will become a touchstone for decisions about rezonings and conditional use permits, which, by law, must be found to be consistent with the Land Use Plan.

### Like fine linen

Hayter told the Commissioners that the plan aimed to make sure those decisions — typically made by the Planning Board and the Commissioners — consider with equal weight the County's culture, health, economy, and natural resources.

A Land Use Plan, Hayter  
(See "Land Use," p. 25)

## Ritter: SLLA-SLCC pact ready for signatures

by Ellen Marcus  
Times Reporter



A long-awaited agreement between Seven Lakes Country Club and the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] that will protect the Club's property from development is ready to be signed, SLLA President Steve Ritter reported during the Monday, October 14 Work Session of the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors.

The meeting included a lean quorum of only four Directors — Ritter, Rich Faraci, Bill Hirsch, and Conrad Meyer.

Details of the agreement have yet to be released to the public.

Public statements by Ritter and other Directors indicate that it involves the creation of a new covenant protecting Club property, as well as the transfer of a number of lots from the Club to the Association.

"Basically, we have heard back from the Country Club's attorney, and ten property deeds are done," Ritter reported. "We have also heard back from our own attorney, and he was okay with the covenant change and ready to proceed." We are at the point where we can sign the agreement, transfer documents, and bring this to a conclusion."

Ritter did not indicate on what date that signing might take place.

### Curbing Dumping

Illegal dumping at the debris site has continued to be a costly concern. Manager Ray Sohl presented the SLLA maintenance committee's recommendation that a barcode-activated security gate be erected at the entrance to the debris site.

"It will help to cut cost and control access," Sohl said. "It will also limit the use of the facility to trucks under three-quarter tons. It would allow us to program specific times that people could access it."

The company that currently services the barcode system at the North and South entry gates would also provide service for security at the debris site.

(See "SLLA," p. 26)

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# Seven Lakes VFD hosts Open House on Oct. 29

Please come join the Seven Lakes Fire Department at their Annual Open House on Tuesday, October 29, from 6 – 9 pm. There will be prevention activities, demonstrations, and fire truck rides for the kids. Along with the open house activities they are holding their annual membership drive.

Volunteer firefighting is one of the most rewarding experiences. The skills learned

as a volunteer firefighter are invaluable.

Fire departments need volunteers with all types of skills and abilities. Besides the men and women who put on the turn out gear and respond to fire calls other volunteers are needed. Volunteers who have backgrounds in Accounting, Computers, General Business, Medical and Law Enforcement are in high demand.

Along with these skills, young men and women between the ages of 16 and 18 who are interested in Public Safety as a career path play a much needed role as a volunteer junior firefighter. Please make a difference in the community, become a volunteer firefighter.

See you at the Seven Lakes Fire Department Open House.

## Living in the Kingdom

On the first three Sunday evenings in November (November 3, 10, & 17) Don Welch will be offering a course on The Sermon on the Mount found in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapters 5-7.

The class will begin at 5:30 pm with an informal pot-luck supper followed by a presentation and discussion ending at 7 pm. Reverend Welch has offered numerous courses for the Seven Lakes Community in the past.

He has taught in several colleges and universities, and has lectured and conducted seminars on Biblical

topics in churches, conferences and on college campuses throughout the country.

Reverend Welch will be retiring from the Chapel at the end of December. This will be the last opportunity for the Seven Lakes Community and the Chapel not only to hear him teach but also to "Ask the Rev." in person.

All are invited.

Bring your Bible and a dish to share.

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, Joralemon Fellowship Hall, 581 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. 910-673-2156.

### CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to *The Times* should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be e-mailed to mail@sevenlaketimes.net, dropped off at the *Seven Lakes Times* offices at 1107 Seven Lakes Drive, mailed to P.O. Box 468, West End, NC 27376, or faxed to 888-806-2572.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

### PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Fri, Oct 25	Fri, Nov 1
Fri, Nov 8	Fri, Nov 15
Thu, Nov 21*	Fri, Nov 29
Fri, Dec 6	Fri, Dec 13
Thu, Dec 19*	Fri, Dec 27

\*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

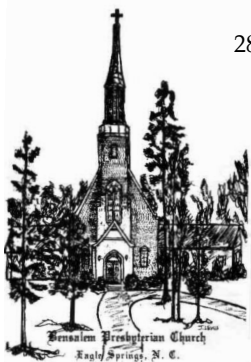
## Seven Lakes EMS BBQ

The Seven Lakes EMS will be having a BBQ lunch and Dinner on Friday, October 25 starting at 11 am.

The BBQ will be from Jordan's Catering Services of West End with all the fixings. Cost of the BBQ Plates will be \$7.50 each.

The Seven Lakes EMS appreciates your support during this annual fundraiser.

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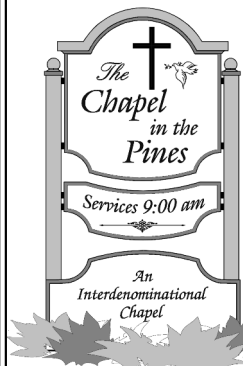
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# A ride to the polls for Foxfire Village voters

by Ellen Marcus  
Times Reporter



Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, and three seats on the Village Council, will appear on the ballot. Leslie Frusco, Vic Koos, and Mick McCue are all running unopposed for re-election. The official ballot also offers space for write-in candidates.

The Council voted in August to no longer offer absentee voting in municipal elections. Under the guidance of Moore County Board of Elections, the Council determined that the too few people took advantage of absentee voting to justify the expense.

Mary Anne Lauer had expressed concern that elderly or homebound residents might not have transportation to the polls. Foxfire voters cast their ballots in the West End precinct, at West End Presbyterian Church.

To help ease that problem, the Council agreed during their Tuesday, October 8 Regular Meeting that Village Clerk Lisa Kivett would help connect voters in need of transportation with individuals offering rides to the polls in West End.

Requests are to be sent by email only by October 31 to Kivett at lkivett@foxfirenc.com. The Clerks' office will not schedule rides, but will forward the emails to individuals offering rides.

## Trunk or Treat

There will be pumpkins, little goblins and hayrides on Halloween in Foxfire Village. Foxfire is hosting a Trunk or Treat and costume

contest for local families at the Village Green Park from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 31.

## Red Ribbon Week

The Council proclaimed October 23 – 31 "Red Ribbon Week," and Mayor George Erickson encouraged all citizens to participate in drug prevention education activities and to commit to making Foxfire a drug-free community.

## A \$10,000 Plunge

Councilwoman Leslie Frusco reported that the swimming pool continues to be a popular Summer respite for local residents. Frusco presented a summary of pool activity and finances for the May – August swim season.

"As you can see, the 2013 revenue was up," Frusco said,

"both in terms pool passes and tickets sales [that totaled \$17,679.30] Expenses were a little higher this year. The end result is we operate at a deficit [\$10,611.43] but less than the deficit in 2010 and 2011."

Frusco thanked Kivett for overseeing pool's operations.

"I would like to acknowledge all the time and effort Lisa [Kivett] puts into scheduling to make sure the pool runs smoothly," Frusco said. "I know it's a lot of work to get it opened and closed and get it through the season."

Kivett reminded the Council that Deputy Finance Officer Sharon Sanchez had also shared in the responsibility.

## Treading Water

The Foxfire Village Water Department is manned by one employee, and the council

will soon be looking for someone new to fill that position.

John Sedlack tendered his resignation, effective at the end of 2013. Councilman Steve Durham has worked to update the Water Superintendent's job description in anticipation of the need. He announced during the meeting that it was ready for approval.

"We need to get this in order," Durham said. "Based on my last conversation with John, he will not continue past the calendar year."

## Beauty in the Eye of the Council

During the Council's September regular meeting and Work Session, members had discussed how best to address unkempt properties within the Village. During the September 26 Work Session, the Council asked Councilman Vic Koos to spearhead the effort to gain adherence to Village Ordinance 16-4, which requires that landowners keep their properties "free of any uncontrolled growth of noxious

(See "Foxfire," p. 29)



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# Clarks determined to recover lost beagle

By Claudia Watson

Tom and Terry Clark are not sitting idly by waiting for their phone to ring; they are on a hunt – for Lacy, their 15-pound miniature beagle.

"It was the first time we ever opened the door without her being on a leash," says Terry Clark.

Lacy spotted a deer a few feet away and her instincts took over. Deaf to the Clark's commands to stop, she burst through the electronic dog fence and chased the deer into the nearby woods.

Missing since September 19, they have employed every imaginable tactic to bring her home.

In the first hours after Lacy's disappearance, they did the things done when a pet is lost; posting ads, using social media, enlisting friends in the search and offering a hefty reward of \$1,000 for the safe return of Lacy. However, the Clarks felt the need to use new tactics in their search to isolate a search area.

Terry searched online for canine search and rescue (SAR) that was certified for companion animal recovery and found Pet Search and Rescue based in California.

The company put them in touch with their Florida affiliate and handler, Pat Totillo.

Twenty-four hours later Totillo was on-site with Tango, a 3-year-old German Shepherd. Outfitted with a global positioning system device (GPS) that transmitted her location and Tango's, they found Lacy's trail and mapped an extensive area.

"Lacy is traveling an easy trail, open areas with very little vegetation and along power lines and other trails in the area." But she cautions, "Where a dog has been is not the same as where the dog may be now."

In addition to tracking her trail, Totillo recommended other tactics including placing very large, brightly colored signs at major intersections. She also showed the Clarks how to set up wildlife cameras and feeding stations surrounded with sand to record signs of activity and identify paw prints in areas of high interest.

Totillo says that in seventy percent of the cases the pet is located, sometimes they are deceased, but she emphasizes, "the worst thing is not knowing."

Tom and Terry are now

concentrating time searching the areas around Foxfire Village and West End, which are surrounded by thousands of acres of fields and pine forest.

"We know from the hunters we've talked with that there are large herds of deer in these areas and we suspect Lacy may still be chasing them," says Terry.

"She is a very small beagle, only 15 pounds – much smaller than a standard beagle, so she will be easily seen among a pack of hunting dogs. We hope the hunters spot her and we can get her home."

When Lacy disappeared

she was wearing a black nylon collar with identification and rabies tags, a pink choker type collar and a pink patterned electronic fence collar. She is also micro-chipped.

If you have any information about Lacy, contact the

Clarks at 910-295-1817 day or night.

*Claudia Watson is a freelance writer and may be contacted at [cwatson87@nc.rr.com](mailto:cwatson87@nc.rr.com).*



**Lacy Clark**, a 15-pound miniature beagle, has been missing from her Pinehurst home since September 19. There is a \$1,000 reward for information leading to her safe return.



**Tom Clark** mounts a wildlife camera at one of the feeding stations set up in nearby woods where Lacy's tracks were found.

## Don't Miss Chapel Rummage Sale

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Annual Rummage Sale will be this Saturday, October 19, at the old West end Gym. Doors will open at 8 am.

Something for everyone to enjoy.

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# Corso, Miles present 'talent recruitment' website

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor



The 2014 twin US Open Golf Tournaments in Pinehurst will shine the national spot-

light on Moore County for a brief window of time, and Pat Corso and Caleb Miles want to optimize the opportunity that represents for economic development.

Corso is Executive Director of Moore County Partners in Progress, and Miles is President and CEO of the Convention and Visitors Bureau [CVB]. They were on hand at the Tuesday, October 15 regular meeting of the Moore County Board of Commissioners seeking funding for a new website aimed at attracting creative entrepreneurs to Moore County.

Corso explained that the demographic and economic trends that fueled Moore County's growth in the 1990s have changed.

"The dynamics have changed," he explained. "What brought us here, the engine is not quite the same. Retirement isn't the same, disposable income is not the same, folks can't sell their homes for four times what they paid for them and invest that down here. Those dynamics are still going on, but they aren't going to go on forever."

In other words, the future of Moore County's economy may be less tied to retirees and more tied to entrepreneurs. And a prime source of entrepreneurs, Corso said, is the military.

Noting that his wife teaches at Sandhills Farm Life School, Corso said third percent of the students there are the children of members of the Special Forces.

"They are well educated and motivated," he said of Special Forces families. "They have bought homes here. They have put down roots here. The question is whether we can keep them here."

Corso said he was aware of at least eight new businesses started in the County

by individuals retired from the Special Forces.

Another source of new people and new businesses is The Triangle.

A rapid increase in population and talent in the

Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area provides a source of talent for Moore County, which can attract families tired of big city traffic, Corso said.

## Talent Recruitment

Economic development is becoming less about recruiting big companies to come and build manufacturing plants, Corso explained, than about attracting talented indi-

viduals to come and start new businesses.

Wake County has pioneered talent recruitment through the use of a website — [workinthetriangle.com](http://workinthetriangle.com) — that (See "Commissioners," p. 20)

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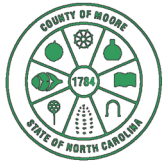
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# County could see many new cell towers

by Greg Hankins  
Times Editor



Nine new cellular telephone towers may rise above the hills of Northern Moore County, if tower companies can convince the Planning Board and Commissioners that reliable cellular service is more valuable than a rural viewscape uncluttered by radio equipment and blinking lights.

That news emerged at the very end of the Planning Board's Thursday, October 10 regular meeting, when Planning Director Debra Ensminger reported that the docket for the November meeting originally included applications for nine cell towers.

But five of those were withdrawn, she said, because the County's tower ordinance requires that towers within a mile of a scenic byway be concealed, or "stealth" towers, and those five towers were all within a mile of NC Highway 705 — North Carolina's "Pottery Highway."

Of the nine towers with applications pending, seven exceed the maximum 195-foot height imposed by the County's ordinance. The other seven are either 250 or 300 feet tall.

Tower companies appar-

ently prefer to build 300 foot towers to service rural areas, allowing them to cover a larger area with a single tower, rather than using multiple shorter towers to cover the same area.

Ensminger said the Planning Department had been instructed by the County Administration to amend the ordinance, though she could not provide any details on that pending revision.

Ensminger said the Planning Board should expect to consider the amended ordinance, as well as the four remaining tower applications, during their November meeting.

Though the County's tower ordinance sets maximum tower height at 195 feet, it offers companies the ability to win an exception to that limitation if they can prove, via an highly technical process, that a taller tower is warranted. The County hires a consultant to evaluate those claims.

Reaction among Planning Board members was decidedly mixed.

"Does it have to be a 300-foot tower?" Todd Williams asked. "Are they just going up that high in order to lease space on it?"

"There's probably one-third of Moore County with no cell-phone service," Les Murray said, adding that he has

\$1000 of cellular booster equipment in his basement because of the poor cellular service in his area.

"I just dread to see that many cell towers in Moore County," Johnny Harris replied, adding "I'm not going to vote for a 300 foot tower."

The Planning Board approved a 300-foot tower on land near Vass belonging to former Board of Commissioners Chairman David Cummings during its Thursday, September 5 regular meeting.

## Mini-Storage Approved in Seven Lakes Village

In other business during their October 10 meeting, the Board unanimously approved a conditional use permit that will allow MVR, LLC, a company owned by members of the Jimmy Stackhouse family, to expand their Mini Warehouse operation in the Seven Lakes Business Village.

MVR has owned the 24-

year-old business for about three years, Stackhouse explained. Because it was established prior to county-wide zoning, neither the mini-warehouse business, nor the outdoor storage it provides for boats and RVs have ever been authorized by the County. Nor have the five lots on which the business sits ever been combined into a single tract.

The property is zoned Village Business, an Mini Warehouse/Storage is a conditional use within that zoning district. Ensminger explained that, in order for MVR to expand, the company

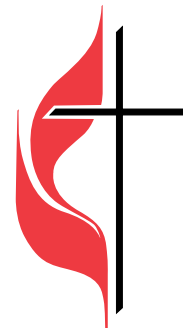
required a conditional use permit.

MVR's plans include adding another five lots to the operation. Ensminger said the company, once the conditional use permit was granted, would recombine all ten lots into a single tract.

Preston Stackhouse explained that MVR planned to move the outdoor RV storage onto those additional lots and build a new building with 23 storage units near the entrance. The facility currently includes 195 or 197 units, he added.

Because the outdoor stor-

(See "Planning," p. 28)



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4 Tomato & Basil Soup ♥  Pasta with Five Cheeses Dinner	5 White Bean Chicken Chili ♥  Chicken Paprikash Dinner	6 Mushroom Bisque  Stuffed Peppers with Pasta Dinner	7 Beef Barley Soup ♥  Shrimp Stroganoff Dinner	8 Chicken & Dumpling Soup  Sausage & Potato Bake Dinner
11 Split Pea with Ham Soup  Baked Spaghetti Dinner	12 Chicken Brunswick Stew  Chicken Fajitas Dinner	13 Chicken Noodle Soup  Beef Stew over Rice Dinner	14 Beef Vegetable Soup ♥  Spice-Crusted Tilapia Dinner ♥	15 New England Clam Chowder  Mexican Casserole Dinner
18 Goldie's Chili  Ravioli with Meat Sauce Dinner	19 Macaroni & Peas Soup  Chicken Parmesan Dinner	20 Potato Leek Soup  Pork with Apples Dinner ♥	21 Minestrone  Basil Shrimp with Orzo Dinner	22 Manhattan Clam Chowder ♥  Italian Meatloaf Dinner
25 Tomato & Rice Soup  Pasta with Oil & Garlic Sauce Dinner	26 Green Beans & Sausage Soup  Chicken Pot Pie Dinner	27 Butternut Bisque ♥  Herb Turkey Dinner	— ENTREES — \$8.25 Single • \$15.50 Double — SOUP — Pint - \$4.50 • Quart - \$8.50	

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# School Board finalizes goals for the year

By Greg Hankins  
Times Editor



To say a document “reads like it was written by a committee,” is seldom thought of as a compliment.

But writing by committee is exactly how members of the Moore County Board of Education spent the afternoon of Monday, October 14, meeting in a work session to finalize their Board Goals for the current school year.

A rough draft of the document, created during a previous work session, was displayed on a screen at the front of the room. As Board members made suggestions for revisions, Superintendent Dr. Aaron Spence used a word-processor to make edits in real time.

Members of the MCS executive team were arrayed around the conference table in case the Board need their assistance during the meeting. With the exception of Spence, none spoke during the session.

## Three goals

In the end, the Board’s goals for the year remained unchanged in substance from that earlier meeting, though their language was refined. The three goals are:

- Finalize new facilities master plan and get voter approval for construction and renovation funding in 2014.
- Continue to be strong advocates for public education and for our teachers, students, and staff.
- Develop and adopt next generation strategic plan.

Under each goal are a few objectives that support the goal, and each objective has several action steps. One Board Member is responsible for monitoring and reporting on the progress toward accomplishing each objective.

## Who’s responsible?

Chairman Ed Dennison had redrafted the Board Goals document prior to the meeting with an eye toward making sure each action step in the plan was assigned to a particular Board Member,

who would be responsible for making sure it happened.

“My intention was to make it easier to understand, easier to use, and clearer which Board member was responsible,” Dennison said. Because the document involves goals specifically for the Board, not for Moore County Schools [MCS], Dennison said, Board members, rather than staff members, should be responsible for making sure actions happen and objectives and goals are achieved.

But Dennison’s initiative faced strong headwinds from

Laura Lang, Kathy Farren, and Enola Lineberger. Lang and Farren are both former Board chairwomen.

They argued that all members of the Board are responsible for making sure that each action is accomplished and objective achieved. The Board member assigned to each objective, in their view, is tasked only with monitoring and reporting on progress toward achieving the objective.

“All of our Board Members are team members on every one of these goals,” Lang said, “It’s just a matter of

who is going to be the one who monitors it and talks about it.”

Ultimately, Dennison’s push for a more fine-grained assignment of responsibility did not win the day, and the Board spent the last half of the meeting deciding who would report on which objectives.

The Board is expected to vote on the final draft of the Board Goals during their next regular meeting, scheduled for Monday, October 21.



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# Where in Moore County is this?



## Come to the Merry Market!

The popular Merry Market sponsored by St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church will take place on Saturday, November 16 beginning at 9:00 a.m. and running through 4:00 p.m.

The Merry Market this year is featuring the works of over 20 area crafters of wonderful jewelry, festive candles, baskets and a host of other items. Also take advantage of the huge bake sale of cake, cookies and all manner of baked goods.

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church  
is located at 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.

Post your answers on our Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/sevenlakestimes](http://www.facebook.com/sevenlakestimes)  
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Female miniature/toy Beagle named  
Lacy Clark. She is 18 months old, weighs  
15 pounds and is 15 inches tall. She was  
wearing multiple collars and she is mi-  
cro-chipped. She was lost on September  
19, 2013 near  
Chicken Plant Rd., Pinehurst.

Call (910) 295-1817 anytime of the  
day or night if found or with any  
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**\$1,000 Reward for her Return**

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**Costumes Optional**

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# Annual sale of glass pumpkins highlights the

by Ellen Marcus  
Times Reporter

The early autumn morning shimmers in downtown Star's glass pumpkin patch. The Town of Star has the distinction of being the geographical center of the state of North Carolina, and folks converge from all directions to pick the perfect transparent pumpkin at the annual STARworks Glass Pumpkin sale.

This year's sale was held on Saturday, October 12.

## Ingenuity meets industry

Star marks the spot where ingenuity meets industry. In the economically-depressed, former hosiery mill town, Central Park NC and forward thinking entrepreneurs formed one of the most unique and creative ventures in the state. On the rich clay banks of the Little River, in a town rich with pottery tradition and textile knowledge, STARworks Center for Creative Enterprise was born.

Central Park NC is a non-profit organization that works to promote a new economy based on the sustainable use of the natural and cultural resources of the Central Park region, encompassing Anson, Davidson, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Richmond, Rowan, and Stanly counties. The organization took over Star's old Renfro hosiery mill in 2005 and began to use the building to create businesses and provide educational programming focused on the creative arts, renewable energy, and sustainable food programs. They called it "STARworks," and it immediately began attracting creative people from all over the country and beyond.

One of the first businesses



*Pumpkin lovers of all sizes converge on Star for the annual glass pumpkin sale at STARworks.*

created, STARworks Ceramics, provides clay supplies, tools, and equipment for area potters and other ceramic artists across six states. The business is directed by Takuro Shibata, a native of Japan who has a background in materials engineering. Shibata and his wife are both potters.

In 2009, STARworks Ceramics began manufacturing specialty clays made from clay sourced from Ran-

dolph, Moore, and Montgomery counties. The large clay studio provides classes, workshops, and studio space for rent.

Every summer, the clay studio offers a very successful summer clay camp for area youth, often taught by noted Seagrove potters, including Ben Owen III.

It wasn't fate, but a hurricane, that relocated Louisiana natives Eddie and Angela

*(Continued on page 11)*

*Acquire the skills to build a better relationship with your dog*

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## No Pusser Pumpkins This Year

The annual Todd Pusser Pumpkin display on Flowers Road in Eagle Springs will not be held this year.

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# mission of STARworks business incubator

(Continued from page 10)

Bernard to Star. Their company, Wet Dog Glass LLC, manufactures energy-efficient glass studio equipment, primarily for universities and arts centers. They were initially invited to STARworks to design and build the equipment for STARworks' non-profit glass studio and decided to move their manufacturing to STARworks.

"We don't make glass" says owner Eddie Bernard, "We build the furnaces and other equipment that artists use to make glass art."

The STARworks Glass Lab is unique, in that it allows

public access. The space is rented by professional glass blowers and provides classes, workshops, and demonstrations for the general public. STARworks provides one of the few high school glass blowing programs in the United States. The studio also has a new Artist in Residency program that provides young artists a chance to work in a state of the art studio alongside visiting artists from all over the world.

STARworks has cultivated its vision within the local community. It is home to a Micro-Eco Farm that not only promotes environmentally responsible growing methods,

but introduces healthy eating and sustainable growing practices to children and adults.

In addition to Wet Dog Glass, STARworks Ceramics, and the STARworks Glass Lab, STARworks is also home to echo3, a sustainable graphic studio, a regional NC Wildlife Resource Commission office, and Blankenship Business Solutions.

## An incubator to hatch new sustainable businesses

Outside, at the pumpkin sale, the pumpkin hunters hold the glass orbs into the sun, inspecting for glass bubbles, iridescence, or just in

pure admiration. The works of art are appropriate for any season, and the price reflects the craftsmanship. In the shade of the big oaks, farmers and bakers selling locally grown produce, pork, and baked pumpkin bread.

On this Saturday morning,

over 1500 handmade glass pumpkins find new homes, proving American craftsmanship and ingenuity is alive and thriving.

All it takes is an incubator to nurture and grow tradition and skills.



Glittering pumpkins shine in the autumn sun.

## Tour Area Horse Farms

The Prancing Horse Farm Tour will be held on Sunday, October 20, from 11 am – 4 pm.

Tour picturesque farms and enjoy equine demonstrations. Lunch available. Advanced tickets \$20 (\$25 at gate). Children under 12 free. Buy tickets at Sandhills Winery (Seven Lakes), Given Book Store, Moore Equine, Lady Bedford's Tea Parlour or online [www.prancing-horse.org](http://www.prancing-horse.org) 910-246-3202. All proceeds benefit Prancing Horse Center for Therapeutic Horseback Riding.



**Sunday, October 27th 3:00 - 5:30 pm**

West End United Methodist Church will be hosting a Fall Festival and Block Party in our Fellowship Hall & Backyard. Bring a chair and enjoy hotdogs and popcorn. Games include: Bingo, a Cake Walk, Corn Hole, a Bounce House and more. Wear a costume if you like, just nothing too scary! There will be activities for all ages to enjoy, so invite your friends, your family and your neighbors to enjoy this time of fun and fellowship.



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4015 NC Highway 73, West End, NC 27376  
Phone: 673-1371

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**Meet Steven!**



**STEVEN** is a rescue dog. He rescued me from the gentle fog that had been hanging over

me since the loss of my golden Labrador, Lady, in November 2010. Returning from Sanford on a warm Spring day in April 2011, my car found its way up the driveway of The Animal Center of Moore County. I told myself I was just "going to look."

I looked . . . looked right into the eyes of the littlest scrap of dog I had ever seen. He was waif-like, with a tired old red plastic flea collar. He was sitting in a giant cage with a bowl of kibble larger than himself. He didn't bark or cry, he just stared up with those pleading eyes. I looked at all those dogs, wanting to take them all home, but with one glance down, I knew who was riding shotgun on the way home.

Steven is now my faithful partner at Karen Simmons Designs and the one I can count on to "help" at a moment's notice. Together we have designed a special Doggie Holiday Gift Bag. My design contribution includes Whispering Willow organic Doggie Soap with carved cedar soap dish, and Steven's is a treat from Cold Stone Creamery and a Golden Bronze paw print dog tag.

We decided the best part will be the feeling our customers will have when they purchase one of our special gift bags and discover part of the purchase price will be donated to The Animal Center of Moore County. Steven and I are blessed to have found each other. Maybe our contribution will help care for other shelter animals until they can rescue someone — like Steven rescued me.

Seven Lakes Village • 910-673-0842 • [www.karensimmonsdesigns.com](http://www.karensimmonsdesigns.com)



# Traveling by mule and wagon you see the

by Ellen Marcus  
Times Reporter

Whether you can make good time in a mule drawn wagon depends on how soon you get to wherever it is you're going.

At four miles per hour, a rider might be tempted to get off the wagon and jog along. But then again, mules are beasts of burden and built for endurance.

Gene Driggers from Maxton has worked mules all his life.

"There's a photo of me sitting on a mule before I could walk," he said. His love for mules is balanced with his love for his wife. They have had a long, sweet, supportive marriage.

Gene and good friend Kenny Tyndall have their mules hitched to Kenny's wagon and are riding together to Benson for the Mule Days festival.

Held every year in late September, the festival attracts 40,000 to 50,000 for four days of rodeos, mule pulling contests, arts and crafts, vendors, street dances, carnival rides, camping, parades, bluegrass shows and more. Thousands pack the streets of Benson to watch a parade that includes hundreds of horses, mules, buggies, wagons, and such.

Riding along with the wag-

ons and mules on horseback are Delores Slappey, Kacey Poliquin, Gracie Duncan, and Dorothy Hildreth.

## A camp for the night

It was nearing evening when the road-weary party  
(Continued on page 13)



Gracie Duncan & Kacey Poliquin enjoy a camp breakfast.



Gene Driggers from Maxton has worked mules all his life.



Kenny Tyndall



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# the world go by at a different, slower pace

(Continued from page 12)

ventured up to the Malcolm Blue Farm. It was near supertime, and they made their way down to the quiet pine woods to set up camp. Mules and horses were tethered, fed, and watered, tents were pitched, and charlie-horses were walked off.

The late evening sun set gold behind the windmill and supper was finished. In the early dusk, under the canopy of pines, it was time to hit the hay.

Sleeping under the stars was a bit more comfortable

for those with cots than for those who slept on the ground.

## Revielle

The mules stirred in the chill of early morning. Coffee perked on the camp stove, and bacon sizzled in a cast iron skillet. The mules and horses gently whinnied and neighed.

Best friends Kacey and Gracie sat perched on a stack of logs eating breakfast.

Gracie is not just along for the ride she is thoroughly enjoying herself. "I am doing

this for the experience of the old days," she said.

Kacey grins big and agrees: "I thought it would be fun to see how they did it in the olden days. I also like to ride."

## Back on the road

For the mule men cross country travel is not a novelty. They have put many a mile on their wagons. Kenny, a modern day frontiersman, is a man who wants for little, though he lives off the grid in a two room cabin he built himself. He shows off his hobo survival stove, made

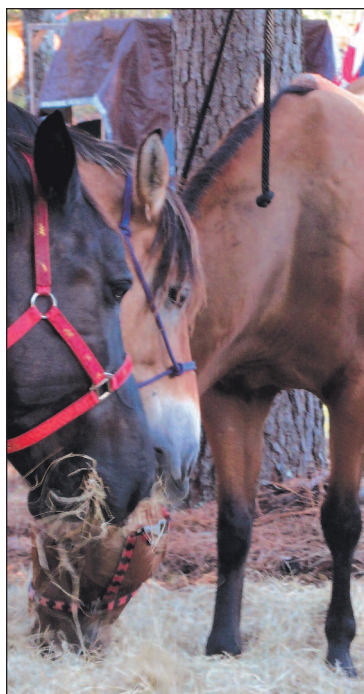
from an aluminum can and rubbing alcohol.

Camp is cleared and packed away in the wagons. A day of travel already behind them, the girls mount their horses, happy to ride.

The wagon makes its way up the hill. They have another two full days of travel ahead of them. Enjoying the beautiful, cool, sunny autumn day, they are sure to make good time.



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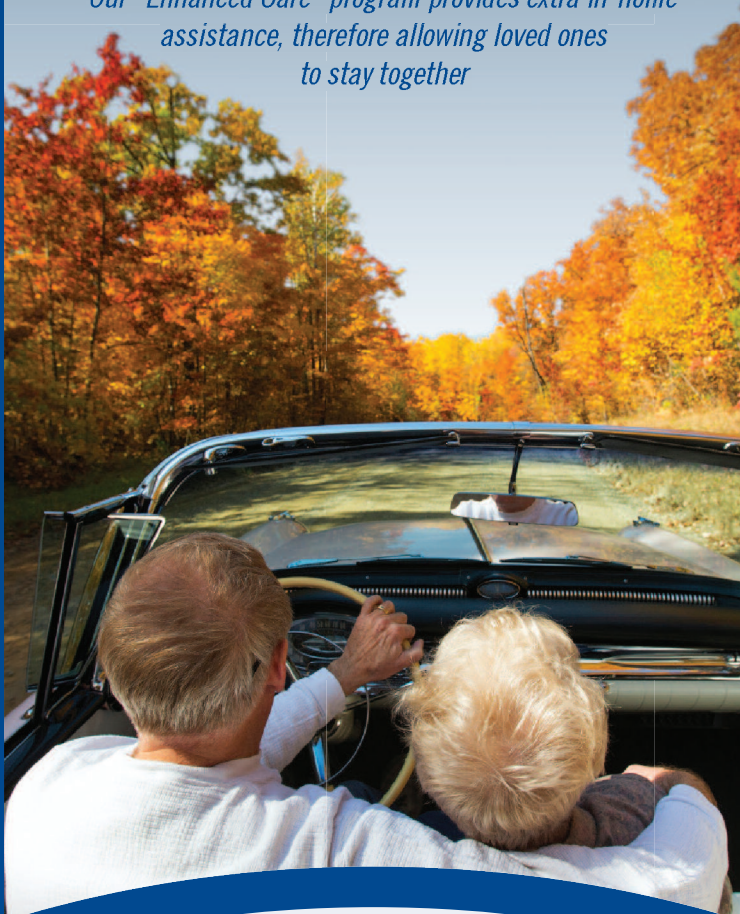
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# In memory of . . .

**Roger D. Neilson**, of Williamsburg, VA; formerly of Seven Lakes, died Sunday, October 13.

Mr. Neilson received his bachelor's degree from East Stroudsburg State University and a master's degree from Syracuse University, served in the United States Army and was a Korean War veteran.

He was a high school teacher, principal, and football coach, and his highly successful coaching career included leading the Pulaski, NY Blue Devils to a 30-3 record and four Oswego County League championships from 1957-1961. The 1958 Pulaski team went undefeated and unscored upon.

After coaching at Pulaski, he became the freshman football coach and a physical education instructor at The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA and later served as Athletic Director and Head Football Coach at Hargrave Military Academy in Chatham, VA. He later coached the 1966 Fulton Red Raider football team to a championship.

Mr. Neilson and his wife, Nancy, retired from teaching in 1985 and lived for over 25 years in Seven Lakes, before moving to Williamsburg, VA in 2010.

A small family memorial service will be held.

He was preceded in death by his siblings Paul, Robert, Jean, Rosemary, and his parents Edith and William.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Nancy Porter Neilson; son, Thomas; son James and daughter-in law, Deelyn, and his grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the Roger Neilson Football Scholarship Fund, Pulaski Academy Central School, Attention: Dorothy Atkinson, 2 Hinman Road, Pulaski, NY, 13142.

**John Calvin Blue**, 93, formerly of West End, died Sunday, October 6.

He was born in Jackson Springs and was a well-

known and respected farmer.

Mr. Blue was most proud of his military service, serving in World War II as a member of the 8th Air Force, 305th Bomb Group and served as a Tail Gunner on a B-17 Flying Fortress, and completed 25 missions over Continental Occupied Europe. He was decorated nine times, and among the medals he received was the Distinguished Flying Cross.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Lonnie and Flossie Thomas Blue; his wife, Alda Marie McCall Blue; sisters, Dorothy McDonald and Ruth Blue; and brothers, Knox Blue and Monroe Blue.

He is survived by his daughter, Joyce Blue Collins,

of Pinehurst; son, John Blue, Jr., of Asheville; sisters, Anna Belle Campbell of Carthage, Lucille Blue of Southern Pines and Mildred Gesford of Greensboro; brothers, Harold Blue of Eagle Springs and Albert Blue of Thomasville and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, November 3, at 2 pm at his beloved farm, BlueBerry Hill, 3555 NC Hwy. 211, West End. The family will greet guests after the service at a reception. A private interment for both he and his wife will follow at West End Cemetery.

The family requests memorial contributions be made  
(Continued on page 15)

## McDonalds Chapel Traditional Music Circle

The Acoustic Music Circle of McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church will meet on Sunday, October 20, from 4 - 6 pm, in the church's fellowship hall.

The Music Circle invites traditional acoustic musicians of all levels, including beginners, to come and play a variety of traditional folk music including old time

and Celtic in a friendly and supportive setting. Listeners are welcome, too.

The Music Circle meets the third Sunday afternoon of most months, from 4 - 6 pm. McDonalds Chapel, 1374 Foxfire Road, Aberdeen (off Linden Road from Pinehurst). For more information, please call Jill McCloy at (910)692-5094.

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# In memory of . . .

(Continued from page 14)

to FirstHealth Hospice Foundation, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374.

Boles Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc. in Southern Pines is assisting the family.

**Fred Herbert Renner Jr.**, 77, of Southern Pines, (formerly of Seven Lakes) died Tuesday, October 1.

Though his body had grown weak from a medullary stroke he suffered in August 2010, he retained his sharp wit and interest in current affairs. His passing was peaceful, surrounded by love and family.

Mr. Renner was born in Buffalo, NY and graduated from George Washington High School in Alexandria, VA. He earned a BS in Biology-Chem-

istry from the University of Richmond, followed by an MBA from American University.

After a 35-year career in both the public and private sectors, he and Joan retired to Moore County, where Mr. Renner was able to pursue his love of golf and classic British sports cars. He was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels and the Southern Pines Literacy Council.

His remains will be cremated and a celebration of his life will be held a later date.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred Herbert Renner and Anne McGee Renner; and his sister, Beverly Anne Renner Chapell.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Joan Councilor Renner; son, Fred H. Renner

III (Tad) and his wife, Mary Weaver Renner, of Lancaster, PA; daughter, Anne Tate Renner and her husband, Mark A. McCombs, of Pittsboro and his grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to: FirstHealth Hospice Foundation, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374, or to another charity of your choice.

Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines is assisting the family.

**Judith Merritt Pasig**, 71 of Seven Lakes, died Thursday October 3 at FirstHealth

Moore Regional Hospital.

A memorial service was held Sunday, October 6 at Rainbow Baptist Church in Aberdeen. The Rev. Wayne Jones officiated.

Mrs. Pasig was born in Rose Hill, NC, daughter to the late Judson Tate Merritt and Sarah Harrell Merritt.

She had worked as a CNA at various nursing facilities. She was an animal lover and cherished her family.

Mrs. Masig was preceded in death by her brother, Edwin Merritt.

Survivors include sons, Jesse Albert Hernandez and

wife Annette of Aberdeen; Phillip Edwin Hernandez of Kannapolis; three brothers, Randy Merritt and wife Rhonda of Seven Lakes; Judson Merritt and wife Dianne of Loris, SC; and Allen Merritt and wife Joy of Atlantic Beach; one grandson and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made in memory of Judith Pasig to Rainbow Baptist Church, PO Box 604, Aberdeen, NC 28315.

Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes assisted the family.

## WSL Fashion Show and Card Party

Please join the Women of Seven Lakes for their annual Fashion Show at 12 noon on Thursday, November 7, at the Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Hall.

Fashions will be presented by Phoenix Fashions of Seven Lakes, and Laurie Rich of Pinehurst will cater the food.

The menu will be Chicken Piccata, wild and brown

rice with almonds, glazed carrots, green salad, a brownie for dessert, coffee, iced tea and water. The all inclusive cost is \$16.

Call Carolyn Follansbee, 673-5913, for reservations, or mail your checks to Carolyn Follansbee, 1115 Seven Lakes North, West End, NC 27376.

Reservations should be made by November 1.

## October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Digital Mammography is the most effective method for the detection, diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer. FirstHealth of the Carolinas encourages you to take advantage of this lifesaving measure.

You will be given a **FREE Insulated Lunch Bag** if you receive a mammogram during the month of October at FirstHealth's Moore Regional Hospital, Montgomery Memorial Hospital, Raeford Center or Richmond Memorial Hospital.

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\* Moore Regional offers evening and Saturday appointments and does not require a physician referral for routine screening mammograms.

\* FirstHealth Raeford Center does not require a physician referral for routine screening mammograms.

\* Montgomery Memorial offers evening appointments the first Tuesday of the month and does not require a physician referral for routine screening mammograms.

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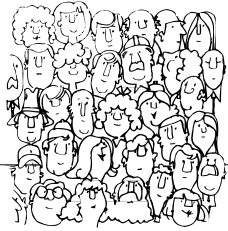
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OF THE CAROLINAS



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19**

- **Chapel in the Pines Rummage Sale** – 8 am to 2 pm, at the West End Old Gym.
- **Fall Plant Sale** – 8 am to Noon, Sandhills Horticultural Society and Student Horticultural Club annual fall plant sale, next to Steed Hall at Sandhills Community College. Woody plants (azaleas, hollies, camellias), perennials, daffodils, pansies and spring flowering bulbs available.
- **Horse Fun Show** – 9:30 am, at Seven Lakes Stables. Community is welcome to this fun filled event. (Please, no dogs.)
- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 to 10:30 am, free class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656.
- **35th Annual Holly Arts and Crafts Festival** – 10 am - 4 pm, in downtown Pinehurst. Festival features more than 100 hand-crafters of woodworking, glass, stitched art, lawn ornaments, jewelry, and metal sculpture.
- **28th Annual Harvest Festival and Auction** – 10 am to 7:30 pm. Culdee Presbyterian Church, 916 NC Hwy. 73, West End. Crafts, baked goods, with live and silent auctions held from noon to 2 pm. Lunch of hot dogs 11 am to 2 pm. Dinner with chicken and dumplings starts at 4:30 pm. Raffles and prizes all day. 910-295-6685.

- **Moore County Library - Carthage** – 3 pm, *Quilting Class*. Sandhills Quilters Guild will be offering a beginners class. 910-947-5335, Moore County Library, 101 Saunders Street, Carthage. Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 4 pm.
- **Charity Concert to ben-**



## What's When Calendar

### efit Fed By Faith

– show starts at 7 pm, Featuring: McKenzies Mill, Swain, Tony Barnes and Marion Grace. Tickets: \$20. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad St., Southern Pines 692-3611.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20**

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-3838.
- **Prancing Horse Farm Tour** – 11 am – 4 pm, Tour picturesque farms equine demonstrations. Lunch available. Tickets \$20 (\$25 at gate). Children under 12 free. Buy tickets at Sandhills Winery (Seven

Lakes), Given Book Store, Moore Equine, www.prancing-horse.org 910-246-3202. Proceeds benefit Prancing Horse.

- **Foxfire Resort and Golf** – 12 - 6 pm, Sunday Ticket Tailgate lunch. Resort offering lunch and drink specials, prizes and all the top games. 910-295-5555.

- **McDonalds Chapel Music Circle** – 4 to 6 pm, Acoustic Music Circle of McDonalds Chapel Presbyterian Church in the fellow-

ship hall. The Circle invites traditional acoustic musicians of all levels, to come and play a variety of traditional music. Listeners welcome. McDonalds Chapel, 1374 Foxfire Road, Aberdeen. Jill McCloy (910) 692-5094.

- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest: *Creole Stomp*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 21**

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22**

- **Healing Service** – 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven

Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.

- **Seven Lakes West Landowners Association** – 7 pm, work session. West Side Park Community Center.

- **Zumba Class** – 7 pm to 8 pm, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23**

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.

- **SL Chapel "Lunch Bunch"** – noon, Seven Lakes Chapel October luncheon. Single seniors invited to attend at Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Fellowship Hall. No cost for the meal. Transportation provided. Following lunch, Laura Kuzma, Volunteer Coordinator for the Foundation of FirstHealth will be the guest speaker. 673-2156.

- **SL Baptist Church AWANA** – 6:30 to 8 pm, in the Hankins Family Life Center. For children age 3 to 5th grade. Seven Lakes Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. Seven

Lakes, 910-673-4656.

- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines, Seven Lakes. Coordinator Virginia Heerma, 673-5150.

- **Mayberry Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead in WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24**

- **United Nations Day**
- **Native Plants In The Landscape Program** – 10 am, horticultural expert Katherine Schlosser will be the speaker. Session held at the Sandhills Community College – Ball Visitors Center at the SCC Horticultural Gardens. Program is free, reservations required 910-695-3882.
- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship, devotion and a meal provided at \$5.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Moore County Library - Carthage** – 5:30 to 6:30 pm, Halloween Spooktacular. Games, refreshments, and Clara the Witch. Costumes welcome! 910-947-

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**Tuesday, October 29, from 6 to 9 pm**

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AGES 13-18 CAN REGISTER TO  
WIN VISA GIFT CARDS  
FOOD AND DRINKS**

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5335. Moore County Library, 101 Saunders Street, Carthage. Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 4 pm.

- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** - 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. [www.sandhillswinery.com](http://www.sandhillswinery.com)

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

- **Seven Lakes EMS** - 11 am, BBQ lunch and Dinner. Food from Jordan's Catering Services. Plates \$7.50 each. Eat in or take out. Support SL EMS.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

- **West End Elementary PTA Scarecrow 5K and 1 mile fun run** - 8 am. Register on Active.com Contact Shannon Stites: [Shannon-Stites@gmail.com](mailto:Shannon-Stites@gmail.com) Schedule: Friday, October 25, from 5:00-6:30 pm, Early Packet Pickup and Registration at West End Elementary School. Sat., October 26. Registration at 7 am, McLendon Hills; 8 am, 1 Mile Fun Run; 8:30 am 5K begins. Race Day Parking: Event parking at the Back Gate of McLendon Hills. Follow Hwy. 211 to Holly Grove School Rd.

- **Foxfire Community Yard Sale** - 9 To 5 pm, at Foxfire Village Green Park (*Rain Date, Saturday, November 2*). Sponsored by The Foxfire Women's Association.
- **Zumba Class** - 9:30 am to 10:30 am, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656.
- **Moore County Library - Carthage** - 11 am to 1 pm, *Lego Build for Kids*. Use Library's Lego collection. Call 910-947-5335, Moore County Library, 101 Saunders Street, Carthage. Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 6 pm, Sat. 10 am to 4 pm.
- **Moore County Library - Carthage** - 2 to 4 pm program, *Ghost hunting a paranormal phenomena*. Adults and teens welcome. Fayetteville Paranormal Research Association will explain the science of ghost hunting. 910-947-5335. Moore County Library, 101 Saunders Street, Carthage. Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 6 pm, Sat. 10 am to 4 pm.
- **Seven Lakes Business Guild Annual Chili Cook-off** - 2 pm to 5 pm. Vendors welcome and Cook-off participants needed.

Interested, contact Cheryl Darwell at [SevenLakesBusinessGuild@gmail.com](mailto:SevenLakesBusinessGuild@gmail.com), or 910-673-7245.

- **Jackson Springs Community Club** - 5 pm to 8 pm, Annual Chicken and Dumpling Supper at the Community Center, 447 Mill Road, Jackson Springs. Take-out available. Cost \$7 Adults, \$3 Children 12 and under. O'Neil Bennett at 974-9406 or Susan Miller cell 910-639-5267 to donate auction items.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** - 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** - 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-3838.
- **Foxfire Resort and Golf** - 12 - 6 pm, Sunday Ticket Tailgate lunch. Resort offering lunch and drink specials, prizes and all the top games. 910-295-5555.
- **SL Chapel Halloween Party** - 3 to 5 pm, children's Halloween Party in the Fellowship Hall. Party for children ages 4 through 11. Refreshments, special games, contests, crafts,

and songs. Story lesson. Carving of a Jack-o-Lanterns. Wear costume and come and join the Chapel for a fun. Dora Lancaster at 673-0166.

- **Fall Festival and Block Party** - 3 pm - 5:30 pm, at West End United Methodist Church. Bring a chair and enjoy hotdogs, popcorn, Bingo, a Cake Walk, Corn Hole, and a Bounce House. Wear a costume (not too scary). Activities for all ages.
- **The Rooster's Wife** - 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest tonight is: *Mike Farris*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, [www.theroosterswife.org](http://www.theroosterswife.org) (910) 944-7502.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

- **Weight Watchers Meeting** - 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Classical Concert Series** - 7:30 pm doors open, concert at 8 pm. Tickets: \$27. Opening concert will feature the Grammy Award-winning Parker Quartet. Sunrise Theater in Southern Pines, 910-692-2787.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

- **Healing Service** - 11 am, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church. 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Intercessory prayers for the sick & trouble, those in harms way, traveling, bereaved or deceased.
- **Seven Lakes Fire Department Annual Open House** - 6 to 9 pm. Prevention activities, demonstrations, and fire truck rides for the kids. Visit the Fire Department.
- **Networking for Success** - 6 pm - 9 pm, Sandhills Community College 3395 Airport Road Pinehurst. 910-695-3980. Information: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=zzflrwdab&oeidk=a07e7hmuiqa35b50372>
- **Zumba Class** - 7 pm to 8 pm, free class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive. 910-673-4656.
- **Sandhills Natural History Society** - 7 pm at Weymouth Woods Auditorium, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd., Southern Pines. Natural History of Raft Swamp Farms presented by Jackie and Louie Hough. Visitors Welcome.

## Chili Lovers Wanted!



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 • 2-5PM**

**AT VILLAGE CENTRAL**

ON GRANT STREET, BETWEEN LAKE HOUSE BAR & GRILL & TEMPCONTROL  
(RAIN LOCATION - SEVEN LAKES BAPTIST CHURCH GYM)

**Cash Prizes for the Best Chili!**  
(Chefs! There's still time to sign up!)

**Meet your local Merchants**

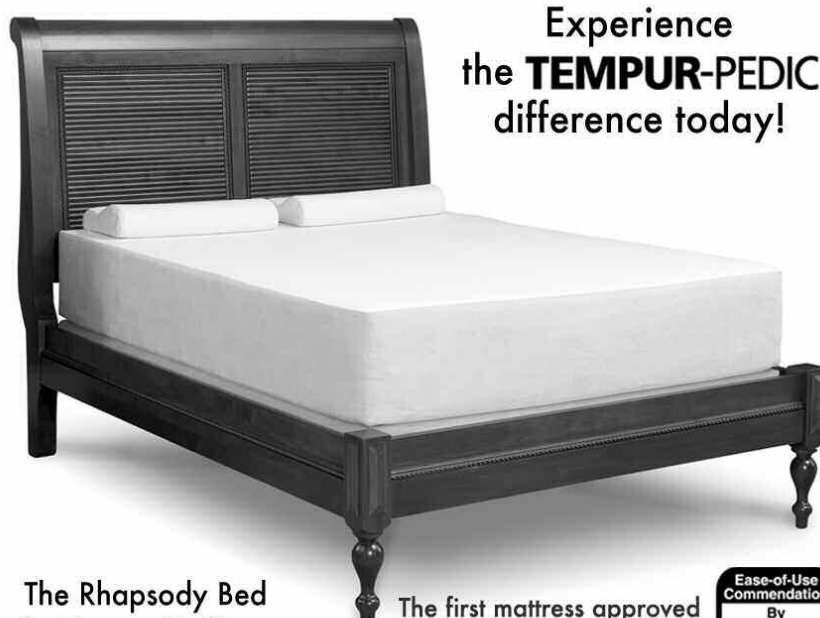
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# Guild Chili Cook-Off

Don't miss the Chili Cook-Off, sponsored by the Seven Lakes Business Guild, on Saturday, October 26, from 2 pm to 5 pm.

The Cook-Off will be held in the Village Central grassy area on Grant St. (or in Seven Lakes Baptist Church Gymnasium in the event of rain).

If you think you have the right stuff to be the "Top Chili Chef" of the Seven Lakes Chili Cook-Off, then you have to enter the contest and prove yourself.

There is fierce competition among many participants from previous year's competitors. Toss your chefs hat into the ring and let everyone know you are the "Best Chili Chef in Seven Lakes."

Cash prizes for the best chili recipe winners.

This year's event will include an artisan alley, games, music and children's corner.

Businesses, Civic organizations, and Non-profits are welcome to register for booths. \$30 for non-Guild members, and spaces are free to all members of the Seven Lakes Business Guild.

Reserve booth spaces by contacting Cheryl Darwell at sevenlakesbusinessguild@gmail.com, CDarwell@Cruise-Planners.com or 673-7245.

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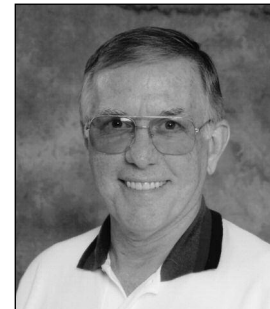
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LOT #1052 - \$15,000  
LOT #2550 - \$26,000  
LOT #2552 - \$19,900  
LOT #4047 - \$30,000  
LOT #5348 - \$35,000  
LOT #5436 - \$35,000

— GOLF FRONT —  
LOT #2407 - \$12,000  
LOT #2396 - \$15,000  
LOT #2399 - \$23,500  
LOT #2352R - \$35,000  
LOT #6146 - \$59,500  
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**Alexandra and Veronica  
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## OCTOBER ACTION

119 Overlook - Under Contract  
in 3 Days!

132 Firetree - New Listing

120 Callis - New Listing

2736 Hwy 73 - SOLD!

118 Dartmoor - SOLD!

104 Pinewood - SOLD!

114 Hastings - Under Contract

125 Shagbark - Under Contract

Lot #4070 - Under Contract



# Prime time for lovers of chicken & dumplings

by Ellen Marcus  
Times Reporter

It's chicken and dumpling weather and both Culdee Presbyterian Church and Jackson Springs Community Club are hosting their annual homemade Chicken and Dumpling suppers.

It is rare that the chance to taste-test made-from-scratch chicken and dumplings comes along. Fortunately for dumpling lovers, the events are scheduled a week apart, so you can mark your calendar for both. Culdee's Harvest Festival is this Saturday, October 19. The Jackson Springs event is Saturday, October 26.

Both events include auctions and other fun activities, but the heart of the matter is, after all, the heaping bowls of chicken and dumplings.

Both groups kick off the event with chicken stewing and picking parties. But there are some subtle differences in the critical dumpling-making part of the process.

The chefs at Culdee make their dumplings on location and drop them directly into the broth," church member and dumpling maker Donna Parsons reported.

Jackson Springs employs a dumpling maker to make the dumplings ahead of time, and lets them rest before dropping them in the gently simmering chicken stock. Jackson Springs native Betty McConnell says the group is pleased that they are able to

support a local business woman and stressed: "Our chicken and dumplings are homemade."

As you might expect, neither Culdee nor Jackson Springs were willing to share their recipes. But both assured *The Times* that they make the old-fashioned, lightly incorporated, just kneaded, rolled, cut, dropped, and simmered pastry. No Bisquick Northern puffy dough balls

here!

At \$7 a plate, with sides, a homemade dessert, tea, and free seconds, it's too delicious to pass up.

It is also a great time to get a boost on holiday shopping. Both events feature raffles, homemade baked goods, arts and crafts, and good company. Supporting your local communities has never been more rewarding, filling, or delicious.



**Donna Parsons** has the kettles ready to be filled with chicken and dumplings for the Annual Culdee Presbyterian Church Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 19.

## Jackson Springs Community Club Chicken and Dumpling Supper

Saturday October 26  
Community Center  
447 Mill Road  
Jackson Springs

\$7 Adults & \$3 Children  
12 and under  
Auction will include Christmas items and other goodies  
Take Out Available

**Celebrating 10 Years – Serving Seven Lakes Since 2003!**

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Materials Screened. No Internet/Cable.

**After School Care & Teacher Work Days!**  
Til 6pm! - Grades K-5th  
\$35/week, Regis. \$25/family. Free Play, Snack, Games & Bible Blip, Brain Gym® Sessions, Assisted Homework Time!  
Hours 2:30pm-6:00pm.  
Teacher Work Days 7:30am-6:00pm

**673-6789** 4139 Hwy 211, Seven Lakes, 2 Doors Fr McDonald's! A Christian-Based Facility.

## Culdee Harvest Festival

Saturday October 19

NC Hwy 73, West End • 910-295-6685

10:00 - Crafts, canned goods, & home baked goods  
11:00 - 2:00 - Hot dogs, drinks, snacks - Culdee's youth  
12:00 - 2:00 - Silent Auction  
1:00 - 4:00 - Live Auction  
4:30 - 7:30 - Annual Chicken and Dumpling Supper  
Homemade dumplings, slaw, green beans, roll, dessert, and beverage. Adults \$7, Children under 6 free  
Dine in, Take out, or Drive Through

**Carolina**



Phil & Kathy Cook, Owners  
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## Commissioners

(Continued from page 5)

is targeted specifically to specific target segments that they hope to attract.

"It tells you why you want to bring your family to live and work in Wake County," Corso said.

Partners and CVB want to replicate that effort for Moore County — and to do it in time to tap into the interest generated by the US Opens in 2014.

They have commissioned a professor from Eastern Carolina University to conduct research on the key characteristics and motivations of four target segments:

- Traditional retirees.
- Returnees — Young people who left for college but have moved back.
- Relocates - Military and others who have relocated here
- Outsiders - Young professional and families in the Triangle and Fayetteville areas.

That research will be used to craft messages that appeal to each of those target groups to feature on the new website.

In addition, Corso and Miles have solicited bids from three web development companies who will create and market the site.

The estimated price tag ranges from \$85,000 to \$160,000, with a target budget of \$125,000. Some portion of that would be a one-time expense, but an additional portion would be ongoing

from year to year.

Corso asked the Commissioners to commit to covering \$75,000 of the cost, saying that would give he and Miles important momentum in winning pledges from the County's municipalities.

Commissioner Randy Saunders said he is friends with many of the sorts of young entrepreneurs the program is designed to attract, and was ready to make a dollar commitment on the spot.

"The whole golf retiree thing is not happening," Saunders said. So, he added, if the Commissioners are going to avoid raising taxes, they have to invest in economic development that can increase the overall tax base.

"I am ready to make an investment," Saunders said. "I'll put that in the form of a motion if you would like."

But his fellow Commissioner counseled caution — particularly given that the total cost of the project has yet to be finalized. Corso said that his steering committee would be meeting with web development companies in the next week to make a selection and nail down the price.

"For me, 'investing' in government is a code word for spending money," Chairman Picerno said. "I want to know what it is going to cost . . . Rational thinking tells you that the US Open will bring people here. We have been growing two percent a year since I have been here . . .

Let's get the facts, and then we can make a rational decision."

Ultimately, Saunders made a motion to support the concept and to support it with funding once the costs of the project are finalized. That was approved unanimously.

### Other Business

In other business during their Tuesday, October 15 meeting, the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Approved a resolution declaring November Adoption Awareness Month. The County's Department of Social Services has finalized fourteen adoptions in the past year.
- Awarded two construction contracts for the EMS and Fire Substation on Glendon Carthage Road, one for the equipment facility and the other for housing for emergency personnel. The total cost is just over \$273,000 against a budget of \$275,000.
- Authorized staff to seek quotes for building renovations for the basement and first floor of the Moore County Courthouse and all three levels of the Currie Building. Space was made available in the Courthouse when the Sheriff's office moved from the basement to the new Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center. It will be used for the Clerk of Courts

and the probation office. Space in the Currie Building will be used for offices of the District Attorney.

- The Commissioners authorized the donation of used

911 call center consoles to the Bladen County Sheriff's Department. New Consoles were purchased for installation in the Public Safety Center.

## Chapel Halloween Party

Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines will hold a children's Halloween Party in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 27 from 3 to 5 pm.

The party is especially for all children ages four through eleven. Younger children may attend, but we ask that a parent accompany them.

There will be refreshments

and fun to include special games, contests, crafts, and songs. A story with a lesson will accompany the carving of a Jack-o-Lantern to remind everyone to let their light shine. Wear your costume and come and join the Chapel on the October 27.

For additional information, please contact Dora Lancaster at 673-0166.

# SMILE!

**SEVEN LAKES ORTHODONTICS**  
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## West End Presbyterian Church

*A place to love,  
 and a place to be loved  
 A place of grace,  
 for all ages*



**Come and see, come and see a loving congregation who worship a loving Lord!**

Larry Lyon, Pastor; Chip Pope, Associate Pastor  
 Worship – 11 a.m. • Sunday School 10 a.m.

**673-4341**

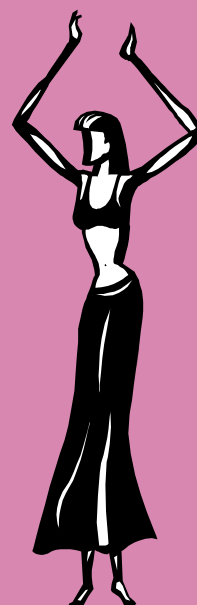
West End Presbyterian Church is located on Knox Lane in West End, one block west of Highway 211

SEVEN LAKES  
**MASSAGE & BODY**  
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 FUN!*  
*All Ages Welcome*

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 into Shape!*

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 strengthen your core!*



# Gibbons heads FirstHealth wound care center

Jeffrey Gibbons, M.D., has been named the first full-time wound care physician for the FirstHealth Wound Care and Hyperbaric Centers at Moore Regional Hospital and Richmond Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Gibbons, who has an extensive background and

training in the care and treatment of chronic non-healing wounds, had previously worked one day a week at the centers. Certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine, he received his medical degree from Oklahoma University College of Medicine and completed his residency at York Hospital, York, PA.

New to the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Centers staff is family nurse practitioner Ann Poplin, FNP-C, R.N. Poplin earned her associate degree in nursing from Cabarrus Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, her B.S. in nursing from Wingate College and her M.S. in nursing from Duke University. She has also received a Certificate of Completion in wound, ostomy and continence (WOC) nursing from Emory University.

With their full-time employment with the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Centers, Dr. Gibbons and Poplin now provide clinic days as well as inpatient consultations at Moore Regional and Richmond Memorial to offer a continuum of care for patients at both hospitals.

For more information on the FirstHealth Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center at FirstHealth Moore Regional

Hospital, call (910) 715-5901. For more information on FirstHealth Richmond Memorial, call (910) 417-3636.



Dr. Jeffrey Gibbons



Ann Poplin, FNP-C, RN

## Chapel Lunch Bunch

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines "Lunch Bunch" October luncheon will be held on Wednesday, October 23 at noon.

All single seniors are invited to attend the luncheon at Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Fellowship Hall. There is no cost for the meal. Transportation will be provided if needed.

Following lunch, Laura Kuzma, Volunteer Coordinator for the Foundation of FirstHealth and the CARE-Net Coordinator, will be the guest speaker.

In June, Kuzma travelled

with her children (ages 14 and 12) on an educational trip to Belize. They spent a week traveling throughout the country experiencing and learning about the rain forest, ancient civilizations, sea life, and the everyday life of the people of Belize.

The community is welcome to come at 12:30 pm for the presentation.

To make a reservation for lunch or if transportation is needed, please call the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines at 673-2156, between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

## Merry Market

St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church will be having their Annual Merry Market bazaar a week earlier this year on Saturday, November 16, at 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

All are welcome, please mark your calendar to visit our vendors and get your Christmas gifts early.

Vendors may contact Carol Burgess at 910-673-0356 to secure a table.

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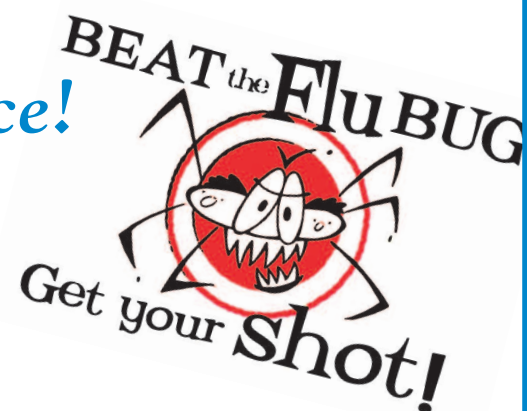
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## Avoiding the 'grumpy' label

Apparently I will never get to play shortstop for the Major League Baseball team in Washington. So I can scratch that goal off the list.

Here is another personal goal, however, one that remains on the list, for better or for worse: to avoid becoming a Grumpy Old Man.

I can't be a shortstop, apparently. I can not avoid becoming old; indeed, some would say, I am already there. I still like to think, however, I can avoid the "Grumpy" label.

It is my theory that the world has enough Grumpy Old Men. Many of them are "serving" in Washington or in Raleigh. I think a lot of those types would be better off serving by immersing themselves in bocce ball or the latest fad, Pickleball. I

really think it might considerably help their moods. I know if they did so, it would improve mine.

The world apparently has enough shortstops. But, if Pickleball keeps hearts pumping and creates more peaceful minds, the world could use

If I am grumpy about anything, it is about the amount of griping, ranting, complaining and (insert the b-ing word here) going on these days. The television, the radio, and the internet all seem only too happy these days to let everybody vent whatever is bothering them.

So, not only do we get to hear of all the bad news all of the time, we also get to hear what Joe

Schmo in Sioux Falls thinks about it. And guess what? Joe Schmo is angry about it.

How this helps any of us, I am not sure.

Indeed, I think the opposite

is happening: it is hurting us, as a nation, and as a society. We have given up the pursuit of happiness and gone instead after the pursuit of venting our anger.

Really, are things that bad? The sun still comes up. The pine trees still glisten. The lake waters still ripple. My television picture is better than it has ever been. People still come to the church I attend. They smile at each other, they ask how each other is doing, they still sing "Amazing Grace" and "What a Friend I Have in Jesus," and the new Presbyterian hymnal is bringing back "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me."

Actually, I have been blessed by the churches I have either attended as a layperson or served as a pastor. For me, church has been

a positive experience. These churches have been populated by generally positive people, people who believe that there is a God, and that God is a god of love, which, it turns out, is a biblical concept. So in church I have found people who do these things: they live in faith, they abound in hope, and they grow in love.

What refreshing notions for a 21st Century in which people seem to desire to live in negativity, abound in attitude, and grow in venom.

Any moment now, some old codger is going to call me a Pollyanna, and accuse me of seeking to live in Kum Ba Yah moments. Is that a sin? Actually, I am a long way from being "Pollyannish," but I seek to stifle some of

(See "Lyon," p. 24)



### From the Lyon's Den

Larry Lyon

more Pickleball players, absolutely.

Men get old and then decide to impose their "wisdom" on everyone else. Actually, maybe that is what I am doing here. Forgive me.

## Boring sermons, annoying hymns

**Question:** I am a church member, and attend church regularly, but I must confess that I am bored to death with a 20-30 minute sermon that never speaks to my needs or interests. I cannot stand electronic organ music and the choir usually sings trashy contemporary anthems and doesn't sing them well. The hymns are okay, but not those 7-11 praise choruses (seven words sung eleven

times). I want to worship God but where can I go?

**Response:** You didn't say what church you attend, and I don't want to know, since it might be my own. I do think that many people are bored with sermons for several reasons. First, I have often thought that many men and women are called into the ministry, but few are called to preach. Unfortunately, most pastors not only

believe they can preach, but usually find their identity as a preacher. In the technological, visual world in which we live, few

people can hold the attention of an audience with only the spoken word. Notice how the preachers at TV mega-

churches use visual aids and large screens to illustrate their sermons. I am beginning to think that I am retiring at just the right time.

What can I say to you about church music? I love the sound of a great pipe organ, and although there are electronic organs that simulate the sound of a pipe organ, it is not the same. Most churches cannot afford the cost of a pipe organ, and if they could, they would have difficult time finding an

organist to play it. The trend toward contemporary worship services has re-introduced other instruments such as the guitar, drums and brass.



### Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

This is not new. The church where I grew up had a church orchestra, and Pentecostal churches have been using sting instruments and percussion for nearly a century.

I love hymns, but I recognize that the present generation did not learn these hymns in church, nor did they learn great choral music in most public schools, thus we often settle for music and texts that are mediocre at best and terrible at worst.

Gospel songs are surviving, not in the churches but in bluegrass and country music venues.

You ask where you can go to worship God. I doubt that you will find all you are looking for in a single church. Some churches still have good and relevant preaching, but they are few. Others have great organ and choral music, and they also are few. You may have to settle for a half loaf or perhaps turn to the Society of Friends (Quakers) where neither preaching nor music is necessary to worship God.

I am convinced that the church of the second half of the 21st century will be very different from what we know now. My only regret is that I won't be here to witness it.

Don Welch, the minister of The Chapel in the Pines welcomes your comments and questions at: [dwelch1@nc.rr.com](mailto:dwelch1@nc.rr.com)

### SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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# Words of wisdom from one of the founders

At the Constitutional Convention of 1787, Benjamin Franklin, who was eighty-one years old, gave the following address on June 28, when hostilities and bitterness threatened to totally disrupt the convention:

"Mr. President: the small progress we have made after four or five weeks close attendance and continual reasoning with each other our different sentiments on almost every question, several of the last producing as many noes as ayes, is methinks a melancholy proof of the imperfection of the human understanding.

We indeed seem to feel our own want of political wisdom, since we have been running about in search of it. We have gone back to ancient history for models of government, and examined the different forms of those republics which, have been formed with the seeds of their own dissolution, no longer exist. And we have viewed modern states all round Europe, but find none of their constitutions suitable to our circumstances.

In this situation of our assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly apply-

ing to the Father of lights to illuminate our understanding? In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room for divine protection. Our

We had been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that "except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it." I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political build-

ing no better than the builders of Babel: we shall be divided by our partial local interests, our projects will

be confounded, and we ourselves have become a reproach and byword down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of estab-

prayers, sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending Providence in our favor.

To that kind Providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten that powerful Friend? Or do we imagine we no longer need His assistance? I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth- that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?

## Bound by Grace

Rev. Chris Hrabosky



lishing governments by human wisdom and leave it to chance, war and conquest.

I therefore beg leave to move- that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and it's blessing on our deliberations, be held in the assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service.

Perhaps the leaders of our nation, including the Presi-

dent, the House, and the Senate, should listen to the advice that one of our founding fathers gave to politicians who couldn't agree on anything. It is time to seek the wisdom of God, so that they can make decisions and get this nation back on target.

Chris Hrabosky is pastor at Seven Lakes Baptist Church. You may send him your question or comments at [chrabosky@mac.com](mailto:chrabosky@mac.com)

## ZUMBA!

Everyone is invited to join in for a Zumba Dance Class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church every Tuesday evening from 7:00 – 8:00 pm and Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30 am, in the Hankins Family Life Center.

This is a free class. Call 673-4656 for information.

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SEVEN LAKES



# Hudson answers Hirsch on stables finances

Dear Editor:

In answer to Bill Hirsch's letter in the October 4 *Seven Lakes Times*, I took my data from the August 31, 2013 Seven Lakes Landowners Association financial reports. He simply used statements. In answer to the stables are saving money, how can you save when you budget over \$88,000 for something very few landowners use? Even the community manager says they're too expensive for us.

Hirsch states that stables revenue has exceeded projections. That's true. Year-to-date budgeted income was \$5,000, while the actual was \$7,770. That's \$2,770 to the good. But the annual income is \$15,000 balanced against over \$88,000 in expense, which includes over \$49,000 in salary. Got a ways to go don't you think?

He talks about the increased profile of the stables being good for the community. Do you mean those

bright blue barrels at the riding ring? Or maybe the stacks of white poles there? And did ARB really approve that new color for the barn? Or what about the horse trailer parked there? Why can an employee park their personal trailer there, but a landowner, who pays the bills, can't park their trailer at their home (be it camper, horse, or whatever)?

Next, I'm glad that the board discussed all this in the open meetings which I did not attend. My duties at

the hospital to patients and lab far override my presence at the open meetings. *The Times* does a very good job of keeping us informed along with the agendas sent out by the office. Why do I want to sit in a meeting listening to something that's already been decided in a work session?

You are correct in saying that I resigned after one work session. After seeing our bylaws ignored in a non-voting work session and Steve Ritter's attitude about our

election bylaws, I realized it was a waste of my time to go up against six directors who feel they can do whatever they wish. I know that you have introduced a bylaw change to vote in work sessions, but you apparently never knew about the past and why some bylaws are in place.

I do wish to thank you for reporting that I was an elected director. Bob Racine, Rich Faraci, and I stood in front of the community to answer their questions. You did not. You were appointed. I voted for your appointment. You're welcome.

Steve Hudson  
Seven Lakes North

## Praise for Homewood

Dear Editor:

Homewood Suites by Hilton was the setting for a Riverboat Cruise Night that I arranged for some of my very special customers. I never had an event like this at the hotel, but I need not have worried. Jim, Claire, Kim and the hotel staff did an outstanding job from beginning to end.

They went the extra mile, and took special care in planning the lovely table arrangements with beautiful flowers,

fabric and candles.

The wonderful appetizers, desserts and wine were above and beyond what I expected. Everything was first class and very impressive.

Many of my guests, like us, stayed there while their houses were under construction, and remarked that "It was just like coming home." I can't think of a better compliment than that for a hotel.

Cheryl Darwell  
Cruise Planners

## Lyon

(Continued from page 22)

my dreadful realism. If I bestow praise and thanksgiving upon God and humankind, is that bad?

I read this the other day from C.S. Lewis, who a century ago was saying and writing good things as, surprise, a Christian. He wrote this:

"I noticed how the humblest and at the same time most balanced minds praised most; while the cranks, the misfits and malcontents praised least."

I do not want to be a crank. I do not want to be a misfit. I do not want to be a malcontent. I do want to be a shortstop, still.

This is the day The Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Psalmist wrote that. I wish I had.

Larry Lyon is pastor of West End Presbyterian Church, a mostly happy place.

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*I have made it a rule to give every tooth of mine a chance, and when I eat, to chew every bite thirty-two times. To this rule I owe much of my success in life.*

— William Gladstone

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In each grain of brown rice exists a matrix of whole unrefined energy and nutrition. It is a complex carbohydrate and therefore burns slowly in the body, providing a steady stream of long-lasting energy

while increasing the brain's levels of serotonin, the chemical responsible for the feeling of well-being. Those who consistently eat brown rice report steady energy and an overall feeling of calm and balance in their daily lives.

For brown rice and whole grains in general, the majority of digestion occurs in the mouth through chewing and exposure to saliva. For optimal nutrition and assimilation, it is vital to chew your rice well and with awareness. A great meditation is to find a calm place, without distractions, to sit down for your meal. Make it a habit to chew each bite 20 times or more. See how this simple practice can help your digestion and overall focus for the rest of your day.

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## Thanks from Candor Lions

The Candor Lions Club would like to say thank you to everyone that supported and played in the Candor Lion Club Golf Tournament during the 29th Annual Charlie Lewis Invitational recently held at Beacon Ridge County Club.

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## Land Use Plan

(Continued from front page)

said, must be a “balanced textile.” To explain, he conjured up the image of a grandmother straining grape juice to make jelly.

“It can’t be made of Kevlar,” Hayter said, “because then nothing would get through.”

But neither will a loose burlap make an effective strainer. Instead what is needed is a fine linen, that will let the rich juice pass, while retaining the pulp.

Hayter said the new plan is designed to “optimize” land use and maximize the efficiency of public investments in infrastructure and services, like water and sewer systems, and public schools. It encourages developers to create and County officials to approve subdivisions in and near existing municipalities, rather than creating new towns out in the middle of rural areas.

That not only protects environmentally-sensitive areas and preserves farmland, it uses tax dollars more efficiently, because it costs less to support development in and near existing towns.

### Not the end, the beginning

The October 15 Commissioners’ meeting included a public hearing on the proposed Land Use Plan, but there were few speakers.

Harry Huberth, a member of both the current Land Use Plan Steering Committee and the committee that created the 1999 Land Use Plan, said he had worked with the Planning Department since 1996.

“This is one of the finest pieces of work that has come out of that department in that time,” Huberth said. “This is a vision, not a regulatory document. It is a map that shows us how to get wherever you want to go. I ask you to approve it as presented . . . I don’t think you will find another plan anywhere in North Carolina that rivals this plan.”

Walter Bull of Pinehurst also urged the Commissioners to adopt the Plan.

“It is comprehensive and detailed,” Bull said. “The work is broad-based and serves to provide a useful

platform. It can and should form the base for other studies that will lay out the path to the future.”

Jeff Marcus of Pinehurst, a biologist with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, attended many of the meetings of the Land Use Plan Steering Committee. He asked the Commissioners to think of the plan’s approval

not as the end of a process, but as the beginning of the process of implementing its recommendations.

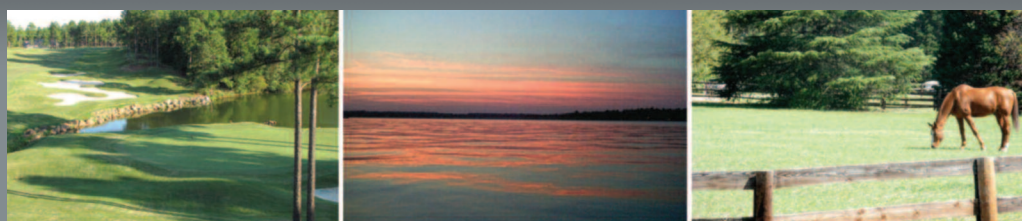
Noting that the new Plan includes many “action items,” Marcus said. “I would like to see some timelines put on those.”

“The plan is very specific that we value rural areas, agriculture, and natural

areas,” Marcus said. “To do that well is going to require some changes to zoning and the Unified Development Ordinance. It won’t just happen on its own. It will take some proactive policies.”

### And there’s the rub

But it was the prospect of having County government (See “Land Use,” p. 26)



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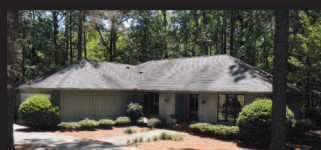
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## SLLA Work Session

(Continued from front page)

Director Meyer asked where the gate would go, and whether there would be a turn around area and a security camera installed. He asked what would keep someone from breaking the gate.

There is always a risk, Sohl agreed. "This will not provide a complete solution," he said. "But it will greatly cut down on the number of violations."

Ritter concluded, "It is no

silver bullet. But this will solve a large percentage of our issues; and the others, we will have to deal with as they come up."

The Directors agreed to move the proposal to the October 30 Open Meeting for a vote.

### Scanning Barcodes versus Manual Entry

For quicker entry, consistency, control, tightening

security, and reducing congestion, Ritter recommended making barcodes mandatory for all landowners.

"It would cut down on congestion at the front gate during peak times," he said. "More could have access through the gate quicker."

Ritter's proposal sparked a lengthy discussion on whether or not to reduce or even eliminate barcode fees.

Faraci recommended con-

sidering the priorities. "What are we trying to accomplish here, make money, increase security of gates, or make entry more efficient?" he asked. "For the life of me, I don't understand why everyone doesn't have a barcode for convenience."

### Better Control

"I think it is the right way to go in that it will truly improve our security," Ritter said. "When people move away and no longer live here, they shouldn't necessarily have full unfettered access to our amenities and what we have here. A sticker gives them twelve month access."

"We also have people in arrears or who don't pay their fines. We could turn off their barcodes. It would allow us to have more control over

that."

Delinquent members would have to drive through the gate and request a thirty day hanging pass.

Sohl reported that barcodes are common in the majority of gated communities.

"What we are proposing here is nothing unusual, and is following good practices," he said.

The Board agreed that Sohl should draw up two recommendations with the suggested fees to present at the October 30 Open Meeting.

### Audit Complete

After months of tedious labor and research, Treasurer Conrad Meyer was pleased to announce that the audit of the Association's FY 2012-2013 books is complete. The

(See "SLLA," p. 28)

## Land Use Plan

(Continued from page 25)

do things that seemed most to worry Chairman Picerno.

"I am hesitant that Jeff said we have to get started and have to start doing things," Picerno said, noting that he could not support some of the Plan's action items. However, he suggested that he would seek only minor changes to the document, and expected it could be placed back on the agenda for the next Commissioner meeting, scheduled for November 19.

Commissioner Larry Caddell indicated that he wanted to make sure the Plan was approved with the vote of all five Commissioners.

"I want to make sure that we have total consensus when we vote on this," Caddell said. "I really want this to be something we could be proud of for generations to come."

Caddell made a motion to table approval of the Plan and to assemble an ad hoc committee that would meet and attempt to answer the questions and concerns of Picerno and other members of the Board. He suggested that Committee include Picerno, Hayter, Commissioner Jimmy Melton, Planning Director Debra Ensminger, County Attorney Misty Leland, and County Manager Wayne Vest.

The goal would be to "get a couple of things straightened out so that we don't have to do it in the public," Caddell said. "It is just word-smithing."

The creation of the draft plan has, to this point, been a completely public process, with all meetings of the Land Use Plan Steering Committee open to the public. Speaking with *The Times* after the meeting, Picerno pledged that any changes made to the plan by the ad hoc committee would be shared with citizens prior to any final vote on the document.



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## Native Plants in the Landscape

On Thursday, October 24 at 10 am, well-known horticultural expert Katherine Schlosser will be the guest speaker at the joint presentation of the Sandhills Horticultural Society and the

Sandhills Council of Garden Clubs. The session will be held at the SCC Horticultural Gardens.

Schlosser, who lives in Greensboro, is a member of the NC Native Plant Society

as well as the NC unit of the Herb Society of America. She was appointed by the NC Commissioner of Agriculture to represent citizens of NC on the NC Plant Conservation Board. She served

as chair of the National Herb Garden, US National Arboretum in Washington, DC for 10 years. The program is free, but reservations are required by calling 910-695-3882.

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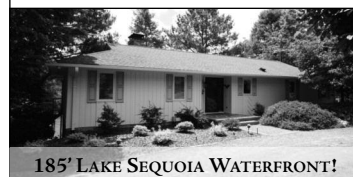
WATERVIEW, 3 BD+LOFT \$344,900

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4 BD+BONUS+LOFT! – \$319,900

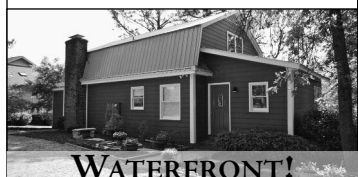
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## Planning Board

(Continued from page 6)

age component of the operation doesn't conform to current County zoning regulations, no additional spaces will be added, but the twenty-six spaces allowed will be widened from ten feet to twelve feet.

The Planning Board unanimously approved the conditional use permit.

### Murdocksville rezoning draws protests

The Board also endorsed the rezoning of a 55.58 acre tract near the intersection of Murdocksville Road and

Juniper Lake Road, though that decision was neither unanimous nor universally welcomed by the owners of nearby properties.

Unlike conditional use permits, which are approved by the Planning Board, rezonings are reviewed by the Planning Board and then forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for a final decision.

The application for a conditional use permit typically provides a great deal of detail about what the landowner plans to do with the property. That is not the case with a "straight" rezoning.

And the lack of detail about what property owner David Upchurch planned to do with his fifty-plus acres if he was successful in have it rezoning from RA-5 to RA-40 is exactly what worried some owners of neighboring properties.

Donald Monroe said he was born in Murdocksville and had lived there for 72 years. He expressed concern that the proposed rezoning would drop the minimum lot size, should the property be subdivided, from five acres to less than an acre.

"This is a heavily wooded area," Monroe said. "It hasn't

been cut or used in years. I can't help but be concerned about the environmental problem. They will have to clearcut it."

"I had really hoped that I could look out my front window and see those trees until the day I die. But that's just a wish."

He noted that Murdocksville Road is already heavily traveled by drivers who use it as a shortcut from one side of the County to the other. He asked whether the NC Department of Transportation would make the road safer if the rezoning were allowed.

Perceiving that members of the Planning Board could not answer that question, he added, "In cases like this, there are so many issues and

so many questions that I don't think they can answer and I don't think you can answer."

Other neighbors echoed Monroe's concerns about the problems that would come from increased density, including the loss of green space, increased traffic, impact on existing wells, and the proliferation of septic fields.

Planning Board Chairman Robert Hayter explained that in a straight rezoning, the applicant is not required to answer any of the questions that were raised. Rather, in recommending approval, the Board is acknowledging that any use allowed under the new zoning classification

(See "Planning," p. 29)

## SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 26)

2012 transition from Talis Management to CAS Management was one of the reasons for the delay.

"It took longer than it should have," Meyer said. "There were a lot of records that we couldn't find and had difficulty getting from Talis. It took longer than it should have to get it squared away."

The audit found the Association's finances in good order.

"Lots of people don't like audits," Meyer said. "I always view audits as an opportunity to learn about ways to improve practices and do things better. If, audit after audit, they never find any-

thing, then you are either running perfectly or they are not looking hard enough for improvements."

The Reserve Study of the Association's need for future capital expenditures factors into the audit.

"The auditor relies very heavily on the reserve study that we do," Meyer explained. "It gives a better idea in the future of what we will need to do, repair, or replace. That independent view point of what we have and need to accomplish all those projects goes into the audit. A summary goes in there. It used not to be required, but it is now."

### Repairs on Ramapo

The start date for repairs to Ramapo Dam is November 30, and any additional rainfall is not likely to push that date back, Director Faraci and Manager Sohl agreed.

The repairs will require that the water level in the lake be dropped at least seven feet — and possible as much as thirteen feet — in order to find the intake pipe.

According to Director Faraci, water removed from Ramapo will be siphoned into Echo, bringing it up to the highest safe level, and then excess will be directed to Lake Sequoia.

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## Planning Board

(Continued from page 28)

would be appropriate on the property.

But he reassured the neighbors that, before the property could be subdivided and developed, a subdivision plan would have to be approved by the County and the Health Department would have to sign off on the septic fields for each individual lot.

Board Members Aaron McNeill pointed out that the table of uses for RA-5 and RA-40 are practically identical, making the allowed density to only significant difference between the two.

Member Jules Latham noted that RA-40 allows

multi-family housing, which is not permitted in RA-5.

In the end, the Board voted to endorse the rezoning request in a 5 to 3 vote, with Latham, Harris, and Williams opposed. Ensminger explained that a public hearing on the rezoning will be held by the Board of Commissioners on December 2. Adjacent property owners will receive notices of that hearing in the mail.

### Neighbors object to STARS mobile units

Neighborhood Youth Leadership, Inc., which operates the Sandhills Theatre Arts Renaissance School [STARS]

on US Highway 1, petitioned the Board for a conditional use permit to install three mobile classrooms with the goal of increasing classroom space, but not in order to serve more students.

Principal Wes Graner explained that the school lacks dedicated classrooms for art, music, and a library, as well as for Exceptions Children.

Louise Valure, who owns a multi-family structure across Southern Dunes Drive from the school pointed to a years-long history of problems with the school administration not fulfilling promises made to the County. She

particularly objected to the traffic on Southern Dunes Drive — a private road that provides access to both the school and her property.

Graner said that, since coming to his post, he has worked to correct past deficiencies, including planting shrubbery that the County had required along Southern Dunes Drive.

Despite Valure's continued protests, the Board voted unanimously to grant to conditional use permit.

### Other Business

In other business during the Planning Board's Thursday, October 10 meeting, the Board:

- Endorsed an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance

that lays out a process for the evaluation of a municipality's request to expand its extraterritorial jurisdiction. The Board of Commissioners will have final say over the amendment.

- Endorsed an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance that will increase the maximum allowed height for a home from 35 to 40 feet.
- Heard from Ensminger that the Board would be reviewing the Unified Development Ordinance one last time prior to forwarding it on to the Board of Commissioners for approval. She said the Planning Board will hold a work session dedicated to the task in January.

## Foxfire

(Continued from page 3)

weeds, vegetation, grasses or bushes to a height in excess of ten inches, and any dead fall, dead trees, broken trees, severely leaning trees, debris, litter and all other forms of waste which may be dangerous or prejudicial to the public health, degrade neighboring property, or may be so unsightly as to constitute a public nuisance."

Koos submitted photographs of several yards in question, prompting an often subjective debate among Council members on what constituted an infraction in residential yard maintenance. Councilman Mick McCue

questioned how many pinecones were too many.

Clerk Kivett reminded the board that the Council must refer to the wording of the ordinance in making enforcement decisions.

### Foxfire Going Dutch with Brown Golf

Mayor George Erickson would like to see more signage directing traffic to Foxfire Resort and Golf.

Erickson had consulted with the NC Department of Transportation on the matter and reported during the Council meeting: "For the club to get signage to announce the club over on [NC Highway] 211 and on

Linden Road, the annual fee would be \$200 per sign each year. The fabrication and making the signs would be the responsibility of the club."

Erickson proposed that the Village partner with Foxfire Resort owner Brown Golf Management and each pay \$200 a year to maintain the signs.



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*2tp 10/04*

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  - Phone System Installation & Support for Residential & Business
    - VoIP Phone System Design & Installation
  - Internet Service Expert (Cable, DSL, & Dial-Up)

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# Martha Gentry's Home Selling Team

## MOORE COUNTY'S MOST TRUSTED REAL ESTATE TEAM!



### #1 IN THE SEVEN LAKES MARKET FOR OVER A DECADE!



**McLendon Hills \$575,000**  
French country farmhouse on 3 acres  
4 BR / 3.5 BA  
600 Broken Ridge Trail



**Seven Lakes South \$245,900**  
Maintenance free and pristine home!  
3 BR / 2 BA  
240 W. Devonshire Avenue



**Seven Lakes North \$165,000**  
Charming ranch with split floor plan  
3 BR / 2 BA  
117 Pinecone Court



**Seven Lakes North \$175,000**  
Charming cottage on two lots- great privacy  
3 BR / 2 BA  
255 Firetree Lane



**Seven Lakes West \$166,000**  
Cute and affordable w/split plan  
2 BR / 2 BA  
107 James Drive

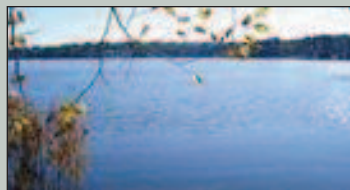
## Outstanding Lake Auman Lots



**103 Gordon Point \$225,000**  
Beautiful water front lot in Seven  
Lakes West! The only lot left on  
Gordon Point! (.82 Acres)



**126 Simmons Drive \$250,000**  
Lake Auman lakefront. Gently sloping. Beautiful wide water views. Lot beside this lot is also for sale — wonderful chance to own over sized lakefront for your special house!



**128 Simmons Drive \$250,000**  
Lake Auman lakefront. Gently sloping. Beautiful wide water views. Lot beside this lot is also for sale — wonderful chance to own over sized lakefront for your special house!



**126 Swaringen Drive \$395,000**  
Gorgeous wide water views — eastern exposure for optimum enjoyment of your late afternoon entertainment — one of the best lots on the lake! (.67 Acres)



**128 Swaringen Drive \$375,000**  
Spectacular, wide-open water views. Site is perfect for walk out level. Eastern orientation for beautiful sunrises and cool shaded evenings on your deck! (.64 Acres)



**107 Butterfly Court \$395,000**  
Enjoy wide water views from this wonderful waterfront lot on Lake Auman! Cul-de-sac location! The perfect spot to build your dream home!

## Thinking of Building?

Many More Building Lots Available in 7 Lakes!



**Seven Lakes West \$339,000**  
Private lakefront retreat on Lake Auman  
4 BR / 3 BA  
105 Tucker Court



**Foxfire \$165,000**  
Lovely updated golf-front home  
3 BR / 2 BA  
4 Dogwood Court



**Seven Lakes West \$698,000**  
Gorgeous lakefront custom home  
5 BR / 3.5 BA  
129 Shaw Drive



**Seven Lakes South \$159,900**  
Fully updated home on oversized lot  
3 BR / 2 BA  
110 Sherwood Road



**Foxfire \$225,000**  
Immaculate all-brick w/golf views  
3 BR / 2 BA Code 953  
18 Shamrock Drive



**Seven Lakes West \$599,900**  
Stunning All Brick Water Front  
3 BR / 4.5 BA  
135 Andrews Drive



**Seven Lakes West \$298,000**  
Wonderful 2-story home on cul-de-sac  
4 BR / 3BA  
108 Rector Drive



**Seven Lakes West \$470,000**  
Elegant 2-story brick w/water view!  
4 BR / 3.5 BA  
www.113ClayCircle.com



**Seven Lakes West \$495,000**  
Lovely Lake Auman waterfront home  
3 BR / 2.5 BA  
163 Morris Drive



**Seven Lakes South \$215,000**  
Charming brick ranch w/front porch  
3 BR / 2 BA  
188 Devonshire Avenue



**Seven Lakes South \$269,000**  
Water view with upstairs bonus room  
3 BR / 2 BA  
252 Devonshire Avenue



**Seven Lakes North \$375,000**  
Beautiful home on Lake Sequoia  
3 BR / 3 BA  
163 E Shenandoah Road



**Seven Lakes North \$325,000**  
Gorgeous lakefront on Lake Sequoia  
3 BR / 2 BA  
181 Firetree Lane



**Seven Lakes South \$199,000**  
Charming golf front w/panoramic view  
3 BR / 3 BA  
122 Devonshire Avenue



**Seven Lakes North \$175,000**  
Adorable ranch with split floor plan  
3 BR / 2 BA  
106 Pineneedle Drive

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