

The Seven Lakes TIMES

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Volume 29 Number 1

Seven Lakes, North Carolina 27376

November 1, 2013

SLCC golf course finally protected

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Seven Lakes Country Club's golf course is now protected from development, for at least the next thirty years.

On Friday, October 18, SLCC President Bill Wiebking and Seven Lakes Landowners Association President Steve Ritter signed a long-awaited agreement between the two entities that calls for drafting of new covenants protecting the golf course and transfers nineteen undeveloped build-

ing lots from the Club to the Association.

A earlier agreement, negotiated in 2007 when Ritter was Country Club President, was greeted with substantial criticism by Seven Lakers who felt it failed to go far enough in protecting the golf course from development.

"Everyone is relieved to have worked through this potential quagmire," Ritter said of the new agreement. "Both boards came together in a professional manner and saw the good for both entities (See "Agreement," p. 36)

Test results have schools concerned

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Come November 7, Moore County students and parents will finally receive results from last year's end-of-grade testing, and the picture may not be pretty.

Moore County is accustomed to seeing seventy to eighty-five percent of its students rated as "proficient" on these tests, depending

on the subject matter and grade level. This year, proficiency scores may be in the forty to fifty percent range — or even lower.

So, what happened?

Did Moore County students suddenly forget everything they ever learned?

Nope. The state simply moved the goal posts: changed the curriculum, changed the tests, and changed the definition of (See "Tests," p. 16)

Rolling out the Dumplings



It takes a lot of hands to make enough chicken and dumplings to feed the hungry hoards that descend on Culdee Presbyterian Church for the Annual Harvest Festival. Kent Black, Camery Vest, and Tim Howell roll and cut the dumplings. [See page 4 for more.]

Westsider Louis Gregory will run for Commissioner

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Louis Gregory, a resident of Seven Lakes West, has announced his intention to run for County Commissioner from District III.

He made the announcement at the Friday, October 18 meeting of the Moore County Republican Men's Club, which he has served as President.

Retiring from a long and varied career in law enforcement, Gregory moved to Seven Lakes West in 2003 and, in short order, was appointed Chief of Police of the Village of Whispering Pines, serving in that post

until January 2009.

Gregory has established a website that offers plenty of

information about his background and how citizens can become involved in his campaign. It can be found at www.electlouisgregory.com.



Louis Gregory

Redistricting moved West Side into District III

The Current District III Commissioner is Otis Ritter, a Robbins resident, who was appointed May to serve out the unexpired term of Craig Kennedy, also a Robbins resident. Ritter told *The Times* that he does plan to run for election to a full term; we expect to interview Ritter for our November 15 edition.

District III stretches all the (See "Gregory," p. 34)

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'The Rev' offers course on Sermon on the Mount

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, Nov 8	Fri, Nov 15
Thu, Nov 21*	Fri, Nov 29
Fri, Dec 6	Fri, Dec 13
Thu, Dec 19*	Fri, Dec 27
Fri, Jan 3	Fri, Jan 10
Fri, Jan 17	Fri, Jan 24
Fri, Jan 31	Fri, Feb 7
Fri, Feb 14	Fri, Feb 21
Fri, Feb 28	Fri, Mar 7
Fri, Mar 14	Fri, Mar 21
Fri, Mar 28	Fri, Apr 4
Fri, Apr 11	Fri, Apr 18
Fri, Apr 25	Fri, May 2
Fri, May 9	Fri, May 16
Thu, May 22*	Fri, May 30
Fri, Jun 6	Fri, Jun 13
Fri, Jun 20	Fri, Jun 27
Thu, Jul 3*	Fri, Jul 11
Fri, Jul 18	Fri, Jul 25
Fri, Aug 1	Fri, Aug 8
Fri, Aug 15	Fri, Aug 22
Thu, Aug 28*	Fri, Sep 5
Fri, Sep 12	Fri, Sep 19
Fri, Sep 26	Fri, Oct 3
Fri, Oct 10	Fri, Oct 17
Fri, Oct 24	Fri, Oct 31
Fri, Nov 7	Fri, Nov 14
Thu, Nov 20*	Fri, Nov 28
Fri, Dec 5	Fri, Dec 12
Thu, Dec 18*	Fri, Dec 26

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

Jazz Guardians at SCC

The Jazz Guardians will be performing on Friday, November 15 at 7 pm, in Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College. The concert is Free, but a ticket is required and are available in the Boyd Library on the SCC campus and at the Arts Council of Moore County at 482 E. Connecticut Ave.

The Army Ground Forces Band called The Jazz Guardians serves as the Musical Ambassador of the American Combat Soldier,

acting as an outreach asset for the United States Army Forces Command. This is a 21-member big band, and the group tours the country from coast to coast showcasing a rich musical heritage. They will be paying tribute to the big bands of yesteryear, the Jazz Guardians often perform standards by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Glenn Miller, and Woody Herman and present innovative works by today's most popular composers.

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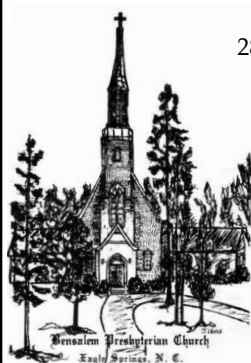
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7 Lakes Blood Drive

The Seven Lakes Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, November 6, from 1:30 pm to 6 pm at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Blood donations are desperately needed at this time.

Please consider making a donation for those in need. Call to make your reservation at 673-4931. Walk-ins

are always welcome and encouraged to donate.

Bring your blood donor card and photo ID. Donors must be 17 years of age to donate (16 with parents consent).

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Foxfire plans extension for Stonehill Pines

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



Development remains at a standstill for the Stonehill Pines Development, and an extension granted to the developer by the Village Council will end December 31.

Stonehill Pines initiated plans in December 2009 for a subdivision north of Foxfire Road and east of Hoffman Road that would include a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course, resort hotel, and residential development. The great recession, the struggles of established Moore County golf courses, and waning interest in golf nationally has not boded well for the developer's plans.

Mayor George Erickson told the Council during its Thursday, October 24 Work Session that he would have the Village Attorney Michael Brough prepare a new extension for 2014. Developing an extension for Stonehill is not free, as Brough is paid by the hour.

Councilwoman Leslie Frusco asked whether they should have Brough include an amendment requiring Stonehill Pines to help pay for any future water expenses the Village may incur if they decide to lay water lines.

"I wonder if this is the time to have our Attorney Michael Brough approach them about a potential change in regards to water," Frusco said.

"I would like to see something in the form of reimbursement, if we are footing the bill that they pay us. If we do decide to make an agreement with the County to bring the water line down, now is a good time to make amendments with Stonehill Pines with that agreement structure. If we put a line down here, it will make it more attractive to do this development."

Erickson noted the rapidly-approaching December 31 deadline.

"I can talk with him and see if there is time to do

both," Erickson said. "If he doesn't have time, he can still work on it for next year."

A pipe dream?

McCue asked whether Stonehill Pines had any real interest in extending the deadline. Erickson said that he had spoken with one of the Stonehill Pines investors about the 2014 US Open.

"A half a million people will be here for the Opens," Erickson said. "He [the investor] said, how I wish we had that hotel ready."

Taking into account the lack of progress since 2009, McCue said, "I don't think we are in the position to say you have got to help up pay for the water line."

Referring back to the recent negotiations with Moore County concerning water, Erickson said: "I said it before, I think the County is getting a real deal on this, and we are getting something else."

Building taller

The Foxfire Village Council is hoping to raise the maximum roof height in the Village

ordinances to 38 feet to entice contractors and builders. Moore County recently increased its maximum roof height to 40 feet.

Lot size and set backs would determine the height of the roof. Zoning districts RS 40 and Residential Agriculture would allow for the increased roof height; RS 30 would not.

Allowing for timely feedback

The Council is considering allowing time for public comments and questions at the end of their regular monthly meetings. Frusco asked her fellow council members to consider extending the meeting to allow for a second public comment at the end of the meeting.

McCue recommended that the comments be limited to items discussed during the meeting.

"It would need to be limited to what was discussed and not to rehash something from another month," he said. "It will not allow for interruption, and residents could save their comments for the end of the meeting."

Frusco agreed that it would follow the same rules as the opening comments. The difference would be "up front, in public comment, you can address anything you want. At the end, you can only comment on what was discussed during the meeting."

Appearance issues

Also during their work session, the Council discussed how best to enforce ordinances regarding the appearance of residential lots, a topic of conversation during the September work session and October regular meeting.

Appearance is subjective, but the ordinances are more specific. "Do we want to try to enforce someone having an excess of pine straw on the roof or in grassy areas?" McCue asked.

Frusco recommended exceptions for undeveloped properties.

"We do not want to be going

out and removing felled trees in the woods," she said. "We are not Pinewild."

Pinewild is a gated community in Pinehurst and Foxfire is a municipality.

"Unless something is encroaching from an undeveloped lot to the lot next to it, you can't encroach on someone else's lot," she continued. "I want to make the Village nice, clean, and neat within reason. I also don't want to have a bunch of regulations when people decide to build out here. No language is ever going to be perfect."

The Village has its own undeveloped acreage — a large parcel acquired in lieu of an assessment for the Woodland Circle Extension project.

Expanding the ordinance

The appearance of one specific residence prompted McCue to ask whether the appearance ordinance should

(See "Foxfire," p. 23)



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The dumpling's king of the Annual Harvest

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

Culdee Presbyterian Church has community involvement down pat. It is a rare thing to have more than one hundred cheerful, eager volunteers commit to a year of planning, organizing, cleaning, investing, donating, cooking, and cleaning some more.

The stews, kneaders, rollers, pickers, droppers, lifters, and servers wake up with the chickens. It is a full two days of intensive work

to turn out enough dumplings for 800 — really 1600, considering the portion sizes. Not to mention the sides, desserts, silent auction, live auction, bake sale, quilting raffle, craft sale, and youth refreshment stand — all a part of Culdee's Annual Harvest Festival.

Still, the main attraction is the dumplings.

But, before the dumplings first comes the chicken. One hundred plump chickens (generously donated by a member) go into pots large

enough to hold ten chickens each. The pots sit on large iron burners and are stewed down into hundreds of gallons of rich golden broth, seasoned with salt and pepper.

After stewing to tenderness the chickens are removed

Continued on page 5



Once rolled, the dumplings are cut into strips, ready for the stock.



Tammy Parson helps with the dishes.



Ellen Black, Elena Aponte, Crystal Carrico, Kim Cole, & Martha Matthews mix dumpling dough.

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Festival at Culdee Presbyterian Church

(Continued from page 4)

and let cool. The broth is cooled and stored overnight in a refrigerated truck donated by Jordan's Catering. Next morning, the pickers arrive with sleeves rolled up, and the picking and deboning commences.

As soon as the first batch of tender meat comes off the bone, a batch of chicken salad is mixed up — made with bread and butter pickles, mayonnaise, salt, and pepper. After the one hundred chickens have been picked clean, the volunteers lunch on chicken salad sandwiches.

On the official dumpling day, the first order of business is reheating the broth. Then a layer of chicken is dropped on the bottom to help keep the dumplings from sticking.

The dumplings are made of self-rising and plain flour, chicken stock and water, nothing more and nothing less. The trick is in the ratio and the mixing, making the dough not too crumbly and not too sticky. The mixer hands it off to the kneader to knead just enough — but not too long.

Next comes the roller, who gives their vote of approval or hands the dough back if it's too wet or too dry. The roller rolls the ball of dough evenly and thin, but not too thin and definitely not too thick. Don't forget! Self-rising flour is in the mix.

Once the rolling pin has done its work, the roller cuts the sheet of dough with a pizza cutter into rectangular dumplings and places them single file on a flour-dusted cookie sheet.

The dumplings then proceed to the droppers, who have been known to pinch the dumplings if they're too big. They drop one at a time into the gently boiling broth. One at a time they go in and one at a time they come out when served. The dumplings at this point are almost full-proof — if the cardinal rule is not broken. Breaking it is an offense that can ban a well-intentioned volunteer

(See "Culdee," p. 33)



Riley Seawell & his Dad Mark spent some time in the shop making crosses.



Krista Lilly serves up some dumplings.



Diane Van Winkle gives her final seal of approval to the picked chicken.

Mental Health Care in North Carolina - 'In Crisis'

From the National Alliance on Mental Illness—Moore County: A Program for the Public

Sheriff Neil Godfrey and State Mental Health Director Dave Richard to Speak

**Monday, November 4th at 7:00 PM, Rick Rhyne Public Safety & Detention Center in Carthage, NC
(Please Come to the Second Floor Conference Room)**

Sheriff Godfrey has invited NAMI Members and others in the community. Come to be informed. To listen and learn. To comment and question. This is a local crisis, a state crisis, and a national crisis. Be part of the national dialogue on mental health care.



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Dave Richard
Director, Mental Health, DHHS

Director Dave Richard will speak about the most challenging issues we have in North Carolina concerning the Mental Health Care System and specifically what Governor McCrory's Administration plans to do to stabilize the system after so many years of change.



Neil Godfrey
Sheriff, Moore County

Sheriff Neil Godfrey will speak about the impact that the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training has had on his Department and will take attendees on a tour of the Rick Rhyne Public Safety & Detention Center. He will also have several of his deputies speak about their personal experiences using the skills they have learned at CIT training in the field.

Directions to the Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center

Starting at the Pinehurst Traffic Circle, take the exit onto US-15 / US-501 North. (Go 8.5 miles.) Turn slight left onto McNeill ST (NC-22). Continue on McNeill Street / NC-22. 302 McNeill Street is on the left.

Questions?

If you have any specific questions or issues that you would like the speakers to address, please contact NAMI Moore County by phone at 295-1053 and leave a message, or send an email to george_namimc@nc.rr.com



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SLLA schedules meeting on new bylaws

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



The Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] will hold a Special Open Meeting on Tuesday, November 5 at 6:00 pm in the Game Room to gather input on the bylaws of the Association, as revised by attorney James Slaughter of Rossabi Black Slaughter. Slaughter will be on hand to answer questions and provide explanations.

A copy of the revised bylaws was emailed to members on the SLLA email distribution list on October 16 and again on October 25, along with an announcement of the special meeting. Members of the SLLA Board of Directors have already reviewed the draft document.

Homeowners association law is a principal focus of Slaughter's practice. His revision of the SLLA bylaws has reduced the size of the document by nearly half and substantially reorganized the content. Entire sections dealing with the powers of the Association and the rights and responsibilities of members have been eliminated, presumably because those areas are now covered by state law.

In 1998 — long after the Seven Lakes Landowners Association was created, the NC General Assembly approved the NC Planned Communities Act, Chapter 47F in the General Statutes, which regulates homeowners

associations. Roughly half of North Carolinians live in communities governed by homeowners associations, which number in the tens of thousands.

SLLA President Steve Ritter told *The Times* that, because the SLLA predates the Planned Community Act, some portions of the law apply to Seven Lakes, while other portions do not. And, every year, the General Assembly tweaks the law a little bit.

"Because part of our operating procedures were created before the NC law, and some after, trying to figure out which part we have to go by the current state statutes became a little cumbersome," Ritter said. "By having the bylaws redone, it brings us into compliance with the current state requirements and statutes."

Despite a dramatic reduction in the number of words, Slaughter's revision of the bylaws appears to make few substantive changes, though some of those may give pause to members concerned about the transparency of Board decision-making.

Making decisions outside of a meeting

In Article V - Board of Directors, Slaughter's draft bylaws appear to give the Board the authority to make decisions outside of a meeting, while the current SLLA bylaws limit such decisions to emergencies or instances when the need for a decision

is urgent.

Slaughter's draft, in Article V, Section 8, reads:

Action Taken Without a Meeting. Any action permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if the action is taken by all members entitled to vote on the action. The action shall be taken by written consent describing the action taken, signed before or after such action by all members. A consent signed under this section has the effect of a meeting vote and may be described as such in any document.

By contrast, the comparable paragraph in the current bylaws, found in Section 6.6, reads:

Voting by e-mail or proxy voting is only permitted in emergencies and/or when decision-making is urgent.

In addition, Board members customarily ratify any vote taken by email in the next available Open Meeting, though that appears not to be strictly required by the bylaws.

The proposed bylaws, if taken to an extreme, would appear to create the opportunity for a renegade Board of Directors — not an unknown species in the his-

tory of Seven Lakes — to take all their actions outside of the formal meeting process.

Board-scheduled meetings

The current bylaws create a hard-and-fast schedule for both the SLLA Annual Meeting and the monthly Open Meetings.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for the fourth Sunday in March in Bylaw 4.3. The Open Meeting is set for the last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

Slaughter's draft bylaws give the Board of Directors discretion in scheduling both meetings. In Article IV - Membership Meetings, the proposed bylaws read:

Section 1. Annual Meetings. A meeting of the Association shall be held annually at a place, date, and time determined by the Board of Direc-

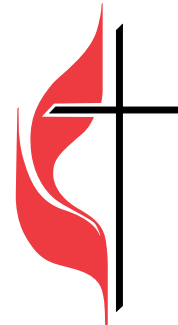
tors for the purpose of electing Directors, receiving reports, and transacting such other business . . .

The use of the phrase "shall be held annually" appears to require the continuation of an Annual meeting, but its date is no longer fixed. Section 3 of the proposed bylaws require that members receive at least ten days notice of the meeting.

The proposed bylaws also change the quorum requirement for the Annual Meeting from the current ten percent of the membership to twenty-five percent of the membership.

The current bylaws call for "Regular Director Open Business Meetings" on the last Wednesday of each month, without notice.

Article VII of the proposed (See "Bylaws," p. 17)



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Westside Board denies hardship variance

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



A decision by the Westside's Architectural Review Committee [ARC] to decline a hardship variance request was affirmed by the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA] Board during its Tuesday, October 22 regular meeting.

The covenant states that a fifty-foot setback is required for any construction on a resident's lot. With irregularly shaped lots, sloping land, drainage consideration, house size requirements, and garage placement, setbacks can present contractors with a challenge.

Builder Chuck Bolton faced such challenges when building the home on lot 3487. Bolton is a respected builder and has built many homes in Seven Lakes West over the years. During construction of the driveway, it was determined that the owner couldn't back up safely from her home.

Bolton extended a portion of a retaining wall roughly six feet toward the lake leaving a forty-three foot set back rather than the fifty feet called for in the covenant. The modification allowed the homeowner to pull in and exit her driveway successfully.

But Bolton did not submit a request for variance to extend the wall into the setback to ARC.

The six foot encroachment into the required setback was found to be in violation of the covenant. ARC was asked for a hardship variance, but denied the request. The landowner then appealed to the SLWLA Board.

Builder takes responsibility

During the October Board meeting, Bolton took full responsibility for the wall.

"I am here representing the homeowner, who couldn't be here," he told the Board. "Her daughter Laura Kuzma is here. I guess ultimately it was a real mistake of mine for assuming. I have built

numerous houses on the lake. In this particular case, I did put in a retaining wall. She is an elderly lady. She pulled in and tried to back out and there was no way. I could just see her backing off that wall. In haste, I did not submit an application of change. I am not making any kind of excuses. But the bottom line is I did this to ensure her safety and so she wouldn't back over the retaining wall. All I got to say is it won't happen again — I will tell you that."

Laura Kuzma asked to

speak on her mother's behalf. "I would like to tell you who it is moving in," she said. "It is my mom. We have been here twelve years. We own a lot up here and have enjoyed the lake and community. My parents were married forty-six years. Last year, my father died. My mom's whole world was turned upside down. It was important for him that she be cared for. My dad told us before he died that he wanted her live with us. My mom had said that, I am young enough I need to create a

new life for myself and be a part of the community. She asked if she could build on our lot. I tried to talk her out of it and thought it was too soon."

"Chuck has been nothing but honest and upfront with her. He has been caring and thoughtful of her and I will be eternally grateful for him not taking advantage of her. My mom is over seventy years old and she doesn't back up well. I believe with all my heart that Chuck was looking out for her. There is no way she can back up the driveway the way it was. I am grateful for him. He even took into account when my kids visit and built it so they wouldn't fall off the wall. I am very thankful. This wasn't someone who tried to slip in a fast one to get a bigger lot and wall. She is trying to rebuild a life and he is a builder who is trying to help her."

Proper Procedure and Setting Precedence

Board Member Jim Pierman argued that it was a matter of the Board either supporting the ARC or not. Director Nancy Workman agreed that they should support the ARC.

President Jack Stevens explained that if the ARC denies the hardship variance, then the individual has the right to appeal to the Board. It was not a matter of supporting or not supporting the ARC — it was giving a resident due process.

Paper versus Pavement

Pierman said, "I looked at the info provided online to me. The application for variance and also the timing of the application was after it was completed. Apparently, it was clear in the original drawing, and it did not violate it. It should go back to the way that it was originally

(See "West Side," p. 32)

Erickson resigns

Dale Erickson has resigned from the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association Board of Directors, according to a report posted by President Jack Stevens on the Association website.

No reason was cited for

the resignation, which Erickson submitted after the Tuesday, October 22 regular meeting.

Erickson served as the Association's Treasurer and will be replaced on the Board by the previous treasurer, Don Freiert.

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Partners scores \$50K Duke Energy grant

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

Pat Corso and Caleb Miles have been trying to convince Moore County and its municipalities that the County's economic development effort needs a new website that specifically targets high-skilled, well-educated, entrepreneurs, who can move to the County and form a creative core that will develop new businesses and create new jobs.

Corso is CEO of Partners in Progress; Miles runs the Convention and Visitors Bureau. The pricetag for the new web portal, which is modelled on a Wake County recruitment effort, is expected to hit \$125,000.

The pair asked the County Board of Commissioners for \$70,000 earlier this month. The Commissioners, while supportive of the project, delayed making a dollar commitment until all the cost figures are firmly nailed down.

The Duke Energy Foundation may have made Miles and Corso's task of raising funds from local government just a bit easier, by pledging \$50,000 toward the effort in the form of a challenge grant.

To collect the Duke cash, Partners will need to raise \$75,000 from other sources.

The effort has been dubbed "Moore Opportunity," and a press release from Partners describes it as "both an economic development initiative as well as a talent recruitment effort to enhance Moore County's overall competitiveness regionally, nationally, and globally by attracting new, skilled and innovative people to the County who will start businesses, enhance our workforce, and contribute intellectually, economically, and socially to the betterment of our communities."

"This initiative positions us, as a rural micropolitan county, to capitalize on the opportunity to grow our communities to achieve the overall goals of increasing economic prosperity, enhancing our quality of life, and generating more community vibrancy," Corso said.

"By encouraging a steady influx of highly skilled people into our workforce, particularly workers who might otherwise locate in urban areas, Moore County will be more attractive and competitive as a suitable location for prospective relocating and expanding companies," Corso added. "Moore Opportunity will also help us pursue targeted industry sectors as part of our economic development strategy."

In addition to Partners in Progress and the CVB both the Southern Pines Area Association of Realtors and the Moore County Homebuilders Association are supporting the project, having funded a research study aimed at identifying key message points that will help attract the target prospects.

According to the press release, "the plan is to launch

the website by the end of 1st quarter 2014 to capitalize on the increased public interest and international media exposure taking place before and during the U.S. Open and the U.S. Women's Open championships in Pinehurst in June 2014."

"Duke Energy is proud to support the Moore Opportunity marketing initiative, which will promote Moore County and all of its communities," said David McNeill, Duke Energy's district manager, based in Aberdeen. "The success of our company is closely tied to the growth and vitality of the communities we serve. We believe that investments in support of economic development are important to the prosperity of communities throughout this region, and are a stimulus for jobs and investments in the local economy."

The Duke Energy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity committed to improving the quality of life in the communities Duke Energy serves. By supporting local charitable organizations like Partners in Progress, the Foundation expresses its commitment to sustainable

economic development by providing resources to help communities thrive today and in the future. In addition to economic development, the Foundation's other areas of focus are the environment, education and community vitality.

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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.

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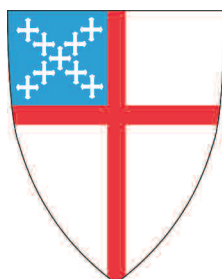
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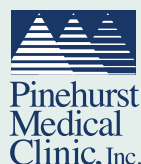


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Test shows MCS students exceeding expected growth

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



For teachers, administrators, parents, and students, one of the most important questions is this: How much has a given student grown and improved over the course of the school year.

The Education Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS) aims to answer that question, determining a child's knowledge level and provides teachers and administration a measure of growth to help that child to reach their next academic milestone.

During the October 21 regular meeting of the Moore County Board of Education, Superintendent Dr. Aaron Spence reported on the results of recent EVAAS testing.

Spence stressed the importance of charting a student's progress. "While a student may be behind his or her peers in a grade level," Spence said, "and may not be considered proficient on an end-of-grade test, they can still indicate significant learning growth over the course of a school year."

Moore County elementary students have shown steady growth and improvement in math and reading since the 2011-12 school year, exceeding expected growth — an achievement that Spence said is worth celebrating.

"As a district we are exceeding expected growth in elementary math," he said. "We have also had significant gains in almost every area."

You can see the same trends in reading. We have seven elementary schools that have met or exceeded their growth in every category."

Graduations moved up

School Board members voted unanimously to amend the school calendar so that senior graduation ceremonies will not be disrupted by the chaos surrounding the 2014 US Opens.

"Many of our students have family and friends coming from out of town to attend the celebration," said Eric Porter, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education.

"Many of our parents have expressed concerns regarding how Pinehurst hosting the US Open might affect graduates and their guests," he explained. After gaining input from high school principals and community members, Porter recommended that the last day of school, originally scheduled for June 4, 2014, be moved up to May 30.

Graduation ceremony dates will also be moved forward, with North Moore at 7:00 pm and Union Pines at 8:00 pm on May 30 and Pinecrest at 8:00 am on June 1.

The grass is greener back home

Leonard Smith has accepted the position of assistant

principal at Southern Middle. "He is a great veteran asset to us," Spence said.

Smith graduated from Union Pines in 1976. After graduating from Elizabeth State University in 1980, he pursued his education career in Maryland as a high school teacher, coach, guidance counselor, and administrator for thirty three years.

"I knew when I retired I wasn't really retiring," Smith told *The Times*. "I wanted to move back home and stay in the education system, but maybe try something new. So, I have switched from high school to middle school."

A Smooth Transition

Also returning back to Moore County is Aaron Bissonnette. Bissonnette worked previously in the Moore County School System as an Assistant Principal and Spanish Teacher. He has been made the new Data Analyst and Trainer in the Research, Data and Assessment Department.

Bissonnette will be working with Dr. Mike Metcalf, Director of Planning, Accountability, and Research, to make the switch over to the new the student data base systems Home Base and Power School. Bissonnette gained experience with both in his previous position.

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John Calvin Blue

Memorial services for John Calvin Blue, formerly of West End, who died October 6, will be held Sunday, November 3, at 2 pm at his beloved farm, BlueBerry Hill, 3555 Hwy 211, West End.

The family will greet guests at a reception following the service. A private interment will follow at West End Cemetery.

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

Henry Kroner, 91 of Seven Lakes died Saturday, October 19 at the FirstHealth Hospice House.

A funeral liturgy outside Mass and visitation was held at the Boles Funeral Home, Seven Lakes on Wednesday October 23. The Rev. Gregory Anatuanya officiated. Burial will be private at the Calvary Cemetery in Paterson, NJ at a later date.

Mr. Kroner was born in Passaic, NJ. He was the son to the late Stephen Kroner and Stephanie Sidorski.

He served his country during WWII in the US Army. He was a member of the Wallington, NJ volunteer Fire Department for over 25 Years and the Wallington Town Planning Board for over 36 Years. He was a member of the Wallington Firemen's Association serving as President from 1971 to 1972,

and was Commander of VFW Pavlick Coster Post 2641 from 1981 to 1982.

Mr. Kroner was preceded in death by his wife of Florence (Mycek) Kroner, brother, Edwin Chmiel and sister, Helen Pelcynska.

Mr. Kroner is survived by son Alan Kroner of Seven Lakes; daughter, Irene Baumgartner and husband John of Seven Lakes; sister Dorothy Shepherd of Parsippany, NJ; and his granddaughter, Lisa Marie Baumgartner of Los Angeles, CA.

Memorial donations may be made in memory of Henry Kroner to FirstHealth Hospice and Palliative Care, 150 Applecross Road, Pinehurst, NC 28374

Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines assisted the family.

Mary Janis (Metcalf) Malone, 83 of West End, died Wednesday October 16 at Manor Care Nursing Facility, Pinehurst.

A funeral service was held Sunday, October 20 at The Aberdeen First Baptist Church. The Rev. Michael Branscome officiated. Burial followed in Bethesda Cemetery, Aberdeen.

Mrs. Malone was born in Fort Worth, Texas daughter to the late Rev. Grady William Metcalf and Lois Laverne (Nicholson) Metcalf.

She grew up in Temple, Texas, attended Baylor Uni-

versity and married William Patton Malone, Jr., a fellow Baylor student. Her husband, Rev. Malone re-entered the Navy as a chaplain and after service there they moved to the Pacific Northwest as a church planters. The family moved to Argentina to serve for 32 years as Southern Baptist missionaries.

Survivors include her husband Rev. William Patton

Malone, Jr.; brothers, Grady and Gordon Metcalf, both of Texas; her children, Michael Malone of Houston Texas; daughter, Debbie M. Hickman of West End; and her grandchildren.

Memorial donations made in memory of Mary Janis Malone to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, c/o Aberdeen First Baptist Church, 700 N. Sand-

hills Boulevard, Aberdeen 28315.

Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines assisted the family.

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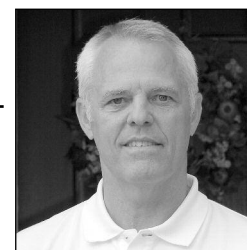
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Miller and Harvey achieve Eagle Scout rank

On Saturday, October 12, an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held for two members of Troop 98, Seven Lakes residents Russell Harvey and David Miller, Jr.

The ceremony took place at West End United Methodist Church, with many troop members, family, and friends in attendance.

Russell Harvey earned the rank of Eagle on April 15, by completing an Eagle project of building an outdoor classroom and nature trail at the Sandhills Children's Center.

He was assisted by Troop 98 and other volunteers to clear the trail to the classroom and build berms to control runoff. Stepping stones were installed as well as flag stands. An American flag and flags for each classroom were provided to the center. In addition, benches, stump seats, directional signs, and tree identification signs were built and installed.

David Miller, Jr., was awarded the rank of Eagle on June 6.

His Eagle project was to place American flags in every classroom at Pinecrest High School. David realized that not every classroom at Pinecrest had an American flag, while in some classrooms the flags needed to be cleaned or replaced. With sponsorship from the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 966, and assistance from Troop 98 and other volunteers, all of the flags were either cleaned or replaced. A ceremony was later held at the Troop 98 Scout Lodge to retire the

removed American flags.

Russell Harvey resides in Seven Lakes West with his parents, Dr. Henry and Jody Harvey. He currently attends UNC-Greensboro as a fresh-

man.

David Miller, Jr., lives with his parents, David and Kay Miller, in Seven Lakes North. He is currently a senior at Pinecrest High School.



Eagle Scouts David Miller, Jr. and Russell Harvey



Members of the Marine Corps League present certificates to Russell Harvey and David Miller, Jr.

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SunStage presents 'Barefoot in the Park'

SunStage, the community theater branch of the Sunrise Theater, will present Neil Simon's classic romantic comedy Barefoot in the Park, opening November 14 for a five performance run through November 17.

Six talented local actors and ninety minutes of Neil Simon wit and humor promise a good time at the Sunrise. Make your plans today.

Barefoot in the Park begins November 14 at 7:30 pm, and continues Friday and Saturday evenings also at 7:30. Matinee performances are available on Saturday and Sunday afternoons at 2 pm, November 16 and 17.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 students, and group rates for ten or more are just \$10. Seating

reserved.

Contact the Sunrise office at information@sunrisetheater.com or 910 692 8501 for tickets and information Tues-Friday 12-5. Tickets available at the door 30 minutes before each performance.

Sunstage is a division of the Sunrise Theater.



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Nelson Blue's Eastwood garden marries

By Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

A rose is more than a rose. Within its stem a rose has the power to recreate itself, to take root from a cutting and live to bloom another day.

"It is all in the timing," said Eastwood resident and Moore County native Nelson Blue. The cutting needs to be healthy and cut at the right time. Not too much mud or hot light — the morning sun is the best. It should root in about a month.

The ordinary becomes lovely under Blue's tender care.

"Nandinas like sun. When they get the sun, they pick up a lot of color, red, yellow, and purple. The cuttings are very easy to root — as easy as anything," Blue said, and then laughed. "The more desirable it is, the harder it is to root."

There is a serene beauty to Blue's land. It is mostly natural, with pockets of deep rich color, intricate foliage that creates interest for the eye, and, here and there, a bit of whimsy. Blue's green thumb and artful eye has a playful sense of humor.

Back in his woods he has come across old pine stumps, roots, and even trunks of sunbleached, windblown, and sand-scoured Sandhills driftwood. Off to itself, a weathered wooden duck is ready to take flight. A twelve-foot tall aged trunk, vertical and utilitarian, serves as a post for an arbor, the vines its canopy. Blue has created a thriving muscadine tree.

Blue is no stick in the mud. He is the resident scientist of his open air laboratory. Conversation is more than pleasantries, when Nelson questions a black berry vine's polarity.

Keen observation of nature has led Blue to question the 'right' way to propagate blackberries.

"I just don't believe someone hasn't already stumbled on this before me," he said. One day he was looking at the arc of the vine and how the top brushed the ground.

"They root upside down,"

he realized. "I feel like the polarity has been reversed. I stuck some cuttings early this year, and maybe thirty percent propagated — but I got one hundred percent

when I stuck the cuttings upside down — and they already have roots on them. I've never heard of that, I just stumbled on it," he said,

(Continued on page 15)



Amazing rose with no name — This perfect rose is from a cutting Blue received from a friend.



Always time to garden — Nelson Blue surveys the beds he helps maintain at Culdee Presbyterian Church.

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skill with consistent, careful observation

(Continued from page 14)

laughing.

It is Blue's quiet joy, enthusiasm, and curiosity that makes a beautiful sunny autumn day memorable. His love of figs and the need to create a new purpose for used plastic waterbottles defies logic.

"Air layering," Blue explained, looking at a fig tree decorated with blue labeled water bottles. "I finally found a use for those water bottles. Air layering is another way of rooting."

First he cuts the bottom off the water bottles. He then removes a fig leaf, and, with his small bone-handled pocket knife, gently scratches the nub. He carefully guides the nimble fig limb through the water bottle, and adheres bottle to branch. Next he packs the bottle full of Pro-mix. Roots will sprout and grow in the dirt, creating another tree.

"With air layering you get a ninety-five percent success rate, as opposed to sticking, which is around ten percent," he said.

"I could live on figs," Blue explains. "My mother made fig preserves when was growing up. I grew up on them. They are still my favorite." He has five different kinds of figs.

Next to his raised bed of vegetables is a hardy petunia that can bloom as late as Christmas.

Gleaming in the sun is another example of Blue's art. A paper white, dead tree laden with blue enamel coffee cups and coffee pot. The tree stands stark in the bright sun casting crazy shadows.

The waxy green leaves of a large magnolia touch the ground.

"The trick is not to trim the limbs," Blue explained. "All the leaves drop and stay trapped underneath and there is no mess." The tree provides the perfect habitat and protective cover for songbirds and small animals.

The cool crisp Autumn gives vivid hues to Blue's late blooming flowers. Looking up his drive he said, "This

is as good as it gets." The velvet crimson petals of his knock-out roses dance on the breeze.

Peeking out of the garden

is an amazing rose -- a bury your face in it concoction of orange, pineapple, and raspberry sherbet. The nameless

(See "Blue," p. 16)



Using the Sun — The key to gardening is knowing where to plant, using this warm spot to extend the vegetable season.



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Air-layering figs — Blue uses empty water bottles to grow new roots on the stems of fig trees.



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Tests

(Continued from front page)

"proficient."

So, even if Moore County would have seen growth in the level of proficiency under the old rules, the rules have changed, it's a different game, and the scores are going to look terrible.

That has leaders at Moore County Schools [MCS] worried — not about the actual level of learning or the quality of instruction in the classroom, but rather that parents, students, and the public will misunderstand the new test scores.

MCS Superintendent Dr. Aaron Spence, along with Dr. Michael Metcalf, Director of Planning, Accountability & Research, and Tim Lussier, Advisor for Community Relations, met with reporters on Thursday, October 17 to explain what the community is likely to see — and what it means.

Tougher tests mean lower scores

This is not the first time that the state Department of Public Instruction has moved the Proficiency goal

posts. With grade 3-8 proficiency at eighty-one percent statewide in 2004-2005, new math standards were implemented that dropped proficiency the next year to sixty-three percent.

It climbed back up to sixty-six percent the next year, when new reading standards were implemented, dropping it back to fifty-three percent in 2007-2008.

Statewide, it had climbed back up to sixty-one percent by last year.

Making the tests more rigorous, moving the goal posts, changes scores, reduces proficiency, but that represents a change in the test, not a change in the students.

"We call it an implementation dip," Spence said.

Tougher curriculum

And this time, it's not just a tougher test and revised standards. Moore County, along with the rest of the state's districts, implemented the new Common Core curriculum in the 2011-2012 School Year.

It was designed by the state elected officials and business leaders who created it to be a tougher, more demanding

curriculum, aimed at improving the standing of US students in world education rankings — and improving US competitiveness in the global marketplace.

But it was brand new to both teachers and students last year, and both need time to acclimate.

Revised "cut" scores

To add insult to injury, the Department of Public Instruction [DPI] chose the most rigorous option for determining what counts as "proficient."

A state committee determines what is allied the "cut score," Spence explained. That's the test score above which a student is considered "proficient" and below which he or she is considered "not proficient."

Given four options by DPI, with projected proficiency levels ranging from forty-one percent of students to fifty-nine percent of students, the committee chose the tougher standard.

A multi-variate problem

"It's a multi-variate problem," Spence said. "You have a harder curriculum. They have set a tougher standard

on the cut scores. Plus it is a brand new curriculum with more difficult standards."

And even the nature of the test was changed, to include short essay questions — called "constructed response items" — that NC students have not seen before.

A new starting point

"Our message to our community has to be we cannot compare previous years' scores to this year's score," Spence said. "These scores

are going to serve as a new baseline for us to work from."

This will give us an opportunity to seek new ways to prepare our students — and we will continue to improve year after year. The curve will continue to go up. I say that with absolute confidence."

Spence added that the new scores to be released next week will not impact a student's grade or placement.

Blue

(Continued from page 15)

cutting was shared by a friend. Blue slides through the photos on his iPad, comparing the photos of the rose he had taken earlier that day with the actual specimen.

Photos of his life drift by. There is a photo of his dear wife Georgie, their two daughters and son — all teachers — and his happy grandchildren. The images of his family are intermixed with those of flowers.

The rose's beauty is ephemeral; the first frost is only two days away. Perfectly timed, the final image is of Nelson's family smiling together at Christmas the year before. With the gift of enough days the Blues will be together for the holidays, and the late-blooming petunias will offer a splash of warm color in the winter landscape.

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Bylaws

(Continued from page 6)

bylaws give the Board the discretion to meet whenever and wherever they decide, and with whatever notice they decide is appropriate.

Section 1. Regular Board Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such time and place and with such notice as shall be determined by resolution of a majority of the Directors.

As a result, under the new bylaws, there is apparently no requirement that the Board of Directors must hold regular meetings.

Any meetings they do hold, on the other hand, must be open to the membership.

Rules for Executive Session weakened

The proposed bylaws give the Board the right to meet in a closed, Executive Session only for certain purposes, including consulting with the Board's attorney or discussing pending legal matters; discussing labor or personnel matters, discussing pending contracts; and to protect the privacy of an individual.

This is essentially unchanged from the current bylaws, which were changed earlier this year to expand the purposes for which the Board can meet in closed session. The previous, more restrictive rules on closed sessions were patterned on the state open meetings law that applies to town councils, school boards, and other public bodies.

However, the current bylaws include strong language to ensure that the Board announces the purpose for entering closed sessions, that the conversation in closed session is confined to that purpose, and that the Board votes in open session on any decision reached in closed session.

The motion shall state specifically the purpose for the executive session. Reference to the motion and the stated purpose for the executive session shall be included in the minutes. The board of directors shall restrict the consideration of matters during such portions of meetings to

only those purposes specifically exempted and stated in the motion.

Also,

No contract, motion or other action adopted, passed or agreed to in executive session shall become effective unless

the board of directors or sub-committee or other committee thereof, following the executive session, reconvenes in open meeting and takes a vote on such contract, motion or other action . . .

The proposed bylaws are

much less detailed, noting only that:

The Board and those committees may hold an executive session only during a regular or special meeting. No final vote or action may be taken during an executive session.

The proposed bylaws do, however warn Board members against the temptation to conduct Association business at an informal social gathering as a way of avoiding the open meeting requirements.

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Veterans Day celebration planned in Carthage

The Moore County Veterans Memorial Committee expects hundreds to gather at the Moore County Veterans Memorial at Carriage Oaks, Carthage, for the annual Veterans Day Observance. The ceremony will begin at 10 am on Saturday, November 9. The Union Pines NJROTC will present the colors and the Union Pines Band will begin playing music at 9:30

am. Singing the National Anthem will be Moore County Native - Barron Maness.

Each year on Veterans Day, the VVA honors all who served – those who made the ultimate sacrifice, and those who came home from war to build a life and contribute to the growth and prosperity of the country. The Moore County Veterans Memorial was built to honor all who

served.

The keynote speaker for the Veterans Day ceremony will be Ilario Pantano. Mr. Pantano enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at 17 and earned his first Combat Action Ribbon in Operation Desert Storm ('91).

Pantano served as a Scout Sniper Sergeant while deployed in support of U.N. Peacekeeping Operations in

ex-Yugoslavia ('92). Pantano then left the Marines to pursue a career in finance and media, but he returned to the Corps as commissioned officer after witnessing the attacks of 9/11/01.

He led a platoon of Infantry Marines in the fight for Falujah, Iraq ('04) and after receiving his second Honorable Discharge he became a New Hanover County Sheriff's Deputy and later a volunteer Chaplain and PTSD counselor. A fierce advocate for veterans and their families, Pantano has buried men

Killed in Action and also those who have taken their own lives after returning home.

Pantano is currently the Director for the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs working hard to ensure that our veterans receive the Respect, Dedication, and Service that they have earned.

For information please contact: Chairman, Veterans Memorial Committee, Mr. Raymond Doby at (910) 245-7704.

Run, Ride, & Chili Cook-Off Benefits Special Forces Assoc.

Pat O'Donnell & Dan Kennedy will hold a race and chili cook-off to raise funds for the Special Forces Association, CH. 62.

O'Donnell's Pub, The Pilot, and Southern Pines Crossfit have a goal to raise \$3000 for the Special Forces Association.

The Special Forces Association Serves as the Voice for the Special Forces Community; perpetuates Special Forces Traditions and Brotherhood; Advances the public Image of the Special Forces and Promotes the General Welfare of the Special Forces Community. All fundraiser contributions the SFA makes remains in the local community and is divided into scholarships fund and emergency relief for fallen Special Forces Community family members.

The Ride, Ride, & Drink race is a physical and challenging combination of a 5K run and 17K bike ride. This event can be raced as an individual or teams are welcomed. Contestants will be awarded a tasty beverage and shirt for their hard earned efforts.

This year's event will also include a Silly Chili Run an obstacle event for kids to get

into the action. The Silly Chili Run \$10, 5K \$20, Run & Bike \$30, Team Ride and Run \$40.

Following the race, the Chili cook-off will kick off. Contestants who enter are both restaurant owners and backyard chili alum. Awards will be given for Best Decorative Chili Booth, Best Restaurant, Back Yard chili, and People's

Choice. Price to enter is a \$5 entry fee and kids 12 & under free.

The event will take place on November 9, at 133. E. New Hampshire Ave, Southern Pines. The race will start at 9:30 am and the chili cook off kicks off at 11 am. There will be street closures between Ashe and Broad for the race and cook-off.

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Concert honors Veterans

On November 10, at 5 pm, in Robert E. Lee Auditorium at Pinecrest High School, the Military Officers of America, Sandhills Chapter (MOAA) will have a concert of patriotic music to raise funds to benefit Moore County Veterans.

All tickets are General Admission and are priced at \$11. This is done in recognition of the origins of Veteran's Day – the signing of the Armistice at the end of World War One, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

Funds raised by the 90 minute concert will be divided among Moore County organizations, such as Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and Military Missions in Action (MMIA), who are assisting veterans, whether serving, separated from the service or retired.

A secondary purpose of the concert is to enhance public awareness of veterans' needs in Moore County.

MOAA has obtained a commitment from a widely-traveled band. In 2012, lead singer Todd Allen Herendeen and the band "Follow That Dream." had a No.1 single on the World Independent Charts entitled "My Name Is America." It is a new patriotic anthem. The title and words of the song are inspiring and have gained national and international recognition for Todd and the band.

Anyone who has seen him perform knows, Herendeen has the utmost respect for the military. He considers anyone serving or who has served to be a hero. He always recognizes the veterans in the audiences.

A partial list of ticket sales locations includes: First Bank; The Country Bookshop (Southern Pines); Given Book Store (Olmstead Village); and Sandhills Winery in Seven Lakes. Tickets may be ordered on the MOAA web site; www.sandhillsmoaa.com



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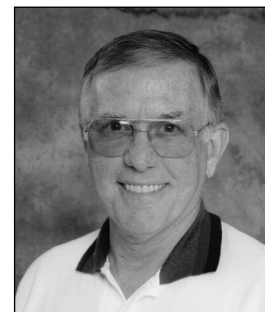
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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- **All Saints Day**
- **White Elephant Sale** – 8 am to 1 pm, Pre-sale of furniture: Fri., Nov. 1, from 1 pm - 4 pm. Sacred Heart Church, Founders Hall, NC Hwy 211 and Dundee Road, Pinehurst.
- **Linda Dalton Pottery** – 9 to 5, 5th annual Fall Open House. Demonstrations and studio tours. (Continues on Saturday, November 2.) Refreshments. 250 Oakhurst Vista, West End, (910) 947-5325.
- **SunFlix at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *The Butler*, starring: Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

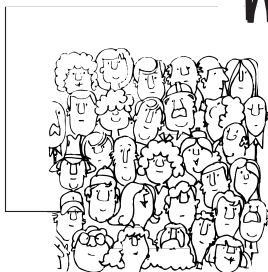
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 to 10:30 am, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **SunFlix at the Sunrise** – 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm, *The Butler*, starring: Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.
- **Moore County Library - Carthage** – 3 pm, *Quilting Class*. Sandhills Quilters Guild will be offering a beginners class. Call 910-947-5335, Moore County Library, 101 Saunders Street, Carthage.
- **Golf Capital Chorus "Rock & Roll Show 'Rock and Roll' format** – 7 pm, in the Robert E. Lee Auditorium, Pinecrest High School. Show will feature great rock songs. Show's second act will feature the International Prize Winning Guest Quartet, "Main Street." Tickets \$15 adults, \$10 students 910-295-3529.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- **Daylights Saving Time Ends**
- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:00 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.

- **SunFlix at the Sunrise** – 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm, *The Butler*, starring: Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey. Tickets: \$7. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.
- **The Sermon on the Mount - Living in the Kingdom of God on Earth** – 5:30 pm, with an informal pot-luck supper followed by a presenta-



What's When Calendar

- tion and discussion ending at 7 pm. Don Welch will be teaching the course. Bring Bible and a dish to share. Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, Joralemon Fellowship Hall, 581 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest is: *The Honeycutters*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- **Moore Republican Women's Club** – November Luncheon, Registration: 11:30 am – Luncheon: 12 pm, held at the Pinehurst Members Club. Guest speaker is Speaker Thom Tillis of the North Carolina House of Representatives. Reservations, e-mail or call Joan Ward,

paward@embarq-mail.com or 295-6544. Cost: \$17; payable at luncheon to Pinehurst LLC. Valet parking available.

- **Sandhills Needlers Guild** – 1 - 3 pm, at The Sandhills Horticultural Center, 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst. Open to all persons interested in needlepoint, crewel and cross stitch, from beginner to expert levels. Information: Bobbi (910)235-4550 or email bwe23@earthlink.net
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **SunFlix at the Sunrise** – 7:30 pm, *The Butler*, starring: Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey. Tickets: \$7.

Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines (910) 692-3611.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- **Election Day**
- **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.
- **Zumba Class** – 7 pm to 8 pm, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Temple Theatre presents Big Al Goodwin** – at 7 pm, Al Goodwin is one of the funniest and most respected comics. Tickets \$15. templeshow.com (919) 774-4155, 120 Carthage Street, Sanford.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **Seven Lakes Blood Drive** – 1:30 pm to 6 pm, at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Blood donations are desperately needed at this time. Making a donation

for those in need. Call to make your reservation at 673-4931. Walk-ins are welcome and encouraged to donate. Bring your blood donor card and photo Id. Donors must be 17 years of age to donate (16 with parents consent). Seven Lakes Kiwanis sponsoring the Blood Drive with the Women of Seven Lakes.

- **ALF (Alzheimer's Living Your Fullest) Monthly Social** – 2 to 3 pm, Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive. Anyone who is experiencing mild to moderate cognitive decline is invited attend this social. Family members are welcome. Fran Stark 910-673-5493.
- **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.
- **Mayberry Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead the focusing on Biblical Truth and everyday life applications based upon Andy Griffith's Mayberry.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- **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.
- **Women of Seven Lakes** – 12 noon, Annual Fashion Show, Luncheon and Card Party at the Chapel in the Pines Joralemon Hall. Fashions presented by Phoenix Fashions, Seven Lakes, and catered by Laurie Rich. Cost \$16. Carolyn Follansbee, 673-5913, reservations.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Bell, Book And Candle** – presented by Judson Theatre Company, a John Van Druten's magical romantic comedy. Production runs Thursday, Nov. 7 through Sunday, Nov. 10 at Owens Auditorium at Sandhills Community College, 3395 Airport Road, Pinehurst. Tickets: judsontheatre.com/ or call eTix (800) 514-ETIX (3849).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – dinner served from 5:30 to 7 pm. Call 673-1100. Non-members welcome. An enjoyable dinner out, socializing and playing games.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 to 10:30 am, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Moore County Veterans Day in Carthage** – 9:30 am, Union Pines NJROTC present colors, Union Pines Band will play music. Singing the National Anthem: Barron Maness. Ceremony at 10 am. Held at the Moore County Veterans Memorial Carriage Oaks, Carthage. Keynote speaker Ilario Pantano.
- **Moore County Library - Carthage** – 11 am to 1 pm, *Lego Build for Kids*. The Library's Lego collection will be provided. 910-947-5335, Moore County Library, 101 Saunders Street, Carthage. Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 4 pm.
- **Met Opera at the Sunrise - TOSCA** (Live in HD). Box office opens at 12:30, starts at 1 pm. Tickets: \$25. Sunrise Theater, 250 NW Broad Street, Southern Pines.
- **Carolina Pines Ballroom Chapter 6091 USA Dance** – Holiday Formal 105 McReynolds St. Carthage. Dance begins at 7 pm, with dinner & social time, open dancing 8-10. Singles & couples welcome. .

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:00 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive. 673-3838.
- **Moore County Concert Band** – performance at 2 pm, in the Grand Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst. Concert is open to the public free of charge.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – doors open at 6 pm, show at 6:45 pm, in the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. *The Quiet American and Underhill Rose*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- **Veteran's Day**
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse Game Room. Open to all landowners.
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Sandhills Photo Club** – 7 pm, meeting at Hannah Theater Center, The O'Neal School campus, Southern Pines. Featured speaker Joel Collins, a travel photographer. www.sandhill-photoclub.org

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- **Seven Lakes Baptist Church** – 10 am, Lynne O'Quinn author of "His Little Ones Ministry" and her latest, "His Shining Stars" for terminally ill children will be the guest speaker. Covered dish breakfast served. RSVP 910-400-5556 or 673-4656.
- **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.
- **Zumba Class** – 7 pm to 8 pm, free class, Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Foxfire Village Council** – 7 pm, meeting at Foxfire Village Hall.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **Living Your Fullest with Dementia & Memory Loss** – 2 to 3 pm, Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Weekly gathering

for individuals who are in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. Fran Stark at 910-673-5493.

- **English Speaking Union** – Lynne Olsen will be the guest speaker. Held at the Country Club of North Carolina, Cocktails 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm. Dress: Black Tie Optional, \$46 per person. Contact Hope Price (910) 692-7727 or Hopewp@AOL.com
- **SL Baptist Church AWANA** – 6:30 to 8 pm, in the Hankins For children age 3 to 5th grade. Seven Lakes Baptist Church, 1015 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Mayberry Bible Study** – 7 pm, West End United Methodist Church. Rev. Dr. Won Namkoong will lead in WEUMC Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- **Seven Lakes Garden Club** – meeting, 2 pm, at Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive. Subject: What plants work best in the fall and winter? How do I create beautiful fall and winter gardens?

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So. Pines parade celebrates Veterans Day

On November 9, Southern Pines will restore its long-dormant recognition of veterans with a Veterans Day Parade, co-sponsored by the Town of Southern Pines and First Bank. The parade will begin at 10:00 am.

Additional sponsorship support will be provided by Crossroads Ford Lincoln.

The last record that has been found for a November recognition of Veterans by Southern Pines was more than seventy years ago. The November 9 Veterans Day Parade changes that. It is the kickoff event for "Veterans' Weekend," an observance established by a joint September 23, proclamation of

the Mayors of Southern Pines, Aberdeen, and Pinehurst.

The Southern Pines Veterans Day Parade, will be all about honoring veterans, present and past. It is being organized by veterans for veterans. With the exception of a few parade units, such as bands and color guards, the organizers have established that all parade units must have a veteran-specific connection.

The parade will start at 10 am and last approximately 45 minutes, with a route similar to the Holiday Parade, but shorter. Beginning at the intersection of NW Broad Street and West Vermont Avenue and proceed south,

turning left across the railroad tracks, at New York Avenue. Following a left turn onto NW Broad St. the parade units will proceed to the finish at the intersection NE Broad and East Vermont.

The effort was originated by Southern Pines Mayor David McNeill's suggestion during an August 26 session of the Town Council. The Council was, at that moment, considering supporting a veterans' initiative being organized by the Sandhills Chapter of Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). Mayor McNeill suggested that a Veterans Day parade would be a fitting companion event.

Days later, the call went out for volunteers for the parade initiative. The first meeting was on Saturday, September 7, in Southern Pines. Sixteen days later, the parade was permitted, route planned, its concept adopted and a number of potential

parade units have already been identified.

The "new" parade is being planned and assembled by a diverse group of volunteers who represent a wide array of organizations and individuals. A partial list of organizations represented on the Parade Committee includes: Southern Pines Masonic Lodge, American Legion, Southern Pines Business Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Town of Southern Pines, Marine Corps League, and Sandhills MOAA.

The Parade Committee is contacting WWII Veterans to be featured at the front of the Parade. The Sandhills area is blessed by the presence of veterans of the December 7, 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor, The Bataan Death March which began April 9, 1942, and the June

6, 1944 invasion of Normandy, and more.

Weather permitting, it is hoped that an opportunity will be provided for parade spectators to meet and greet the WWII veterans at a site convenient to the parade route.

The parade will have sections dedicated to the many unsung and unrecognized heroes of the Korean War (June 1950 – July 1953) and Vietnam War (1961 – 1975).

A section of the parade will recognize the veterans of Desert Storm, the Iraq War and Afghanistan conflict. Also, a parade section will recognize the oft-forgotten veterans of the Cold War, an over-arching period of international tension stretching roughly from 1947 to 1991.

ESU presents author Lynne Olson

The English-Speaking Union will host Lynne Olson at its 7 pm dinner meeting on Wednesday, November 13 at Country Club of North Carolina.

Before she began writing books full time, Olson worked more than ten years as a journalist, including stints as Moscow correspondent for the Associated Press and White House correspondent for the Baltimore Sun.

She has written six books of history, including the national bestseller "Citizens of London."

Her latest book, "Those Angry Days: Roosevelt, Lindbergh, and America's Fight for World War II, 1939-1941" tells the story of the no-holds-barred debate that raged in America over what its role should be in the Second World War.

After the program, at 9:00 pm, she will be available for discussion and a book signing.

Monthly dinner meetings are held at the Country Club of North Carolina, and membership is open to the public. For more information, contact Hope Price at (910)-692-7727 or Hopewp@aol.com

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Foxfire

(Continued from page 3)

be expanded.

"Can we put something in an ordinance that prohibits black plastic on a screened in porch?" he asked. "And also limiting the time tarp can stay on the outer shell of a home."

"We don't allow trailers and boats, then why should we allow piles of pine straw covered with a black tarp?" Frusco added.

Currently, Village ordinances prohibit neither leaving a tarp exposed or using plastic to insulate or give privacy.

Three's enough

During the October Work Session Mayor George Erickson and Councilmen Mick McCue and Councilwoman Leslie Frusco were in attendance. Steve Durham and Vic Kooos were absent.

WSL Fashion Show & 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.

To reserve a table for cards and games, all checks must be sent at the same time.

Please provide Follansbee with a list of names at each table and what game you are playing. Reservations should be made by November 1.

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123 OWENS CIRCLE



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112 CLAY • 7LW



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SPACIOUS WATERFRONT! – \$549,900

119 LONGLEAF DR • 7LW



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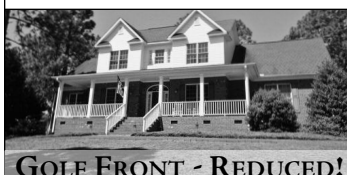
3 BD + 2 BONUS RMS – \$235,000

101 PITTMAN RD • 7LW



WATERVIEW, 3 BD+LOFT \$344,900

270 LONGLEAF DR • 7LW



GOLF FRONT - REDUCED!

4 BD+BONUS+LOFT! – \$319,000

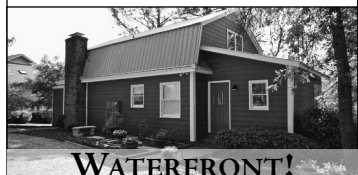
129 HARRELL RD • 7LW



UNDER CONTRACT!

3 BED + DEN, SPACIOUS, GREAT VIEWS! – \$429,000

114 JUNIPER CT • 7LN



WATERFRONT!

2BD – LOTS OF LIVING SPACE! – \$167,000

108 SMATHERS • 7LW



BOLTON BLDRS AWARD WINNER – \$265,000

115 BAKER • 7LW



WATERFRONT!

RV/BOAT STORAGE – \$400,000

112 ANCHOR PT • 7LW



2 MASTER SUITES & WATERVIEW – \$399,900

101 HAMPTON CT • 7LS



3 BD + 2.5 BA BRICK – \$210,000

124 SHAW DRIVE • 7LW



WATERVIEW!

CLOSE TO MARINA! – \$245,000

135 E DEVONSHIRE • 7LW



UNDER CONTRACT!

3BD+2 BA, MANY UPGRADES – \$245,000

106 SIMMONS • 7LW



4BD+BONUS, CLOSE TO MARINA – \$329,900

132 PINECONE CT • 7LN



3 BD + 3 BA + \$210,000

150 LANCASHIRE • 7LS



UNDER CONTRACT!

3/2 GOLF & WATERFRONT • \$175,000

BackPack pals begins its eighth year

The BackPack Pals program created by Moore County Schools began its eighth year on Thursday, September 12. The program started in December 2005 serving one school, Aberdeen Elementary and twenty-five children; eleven schools were added in 2006, six in 2007, and five in 2008 for a total of twenty-three primary, elementary, middle and high schools.

After working in partnership with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina at Sandhills for several years, the program is now being administered by

the Food Bank. Linda Hubbard, founder of the program remains as Director.

Children are identified as possible candidates for the program with input from teachers, teacher assistants, school nurses, counselors and social workers.

Plans are to expand the program as needed include requesting financial aid from area civic clubs and individuals. Product donations have been and will continue to be requested from Moore County Churches. Donations from individuals, churches, businesses and organizations to fund the program in addition

to special events including the Dugan's Pub Golf Tournament, Moore County Schools Dress-Down Day, Elsie Palooza Concert, Mark Trammel Quartet, and The Women of Seven Lakes Golf Tournament.

Volunteers recruited from churches, civic clubs and organizations help coordinate the entire program.

A large crew of volunteers meet every Thursday and set up an assembly line of products that will be used that each week.

The delivery volunteers come to the food bank every Thursday to pick up bags

for their designated school(s) by 11:15 am.

When school ended last

Spring, 1150 children were being provided with the BackPack meals.



Liz Riddle of Seven Lakes and Annette Castle of Southern Pines, volunteers at BackPack Pals for several years preparing the assembly line with foods for BackPacks.

Baking for BackPack Pals

Area restaurants will be donating to the BackPackPals program by using their culinary expertise to bake a pie and advertise at the same time.

All proceeds from the bake sale of donated pies will benefit the children in the BackPack Pals program.

Participating restaurants include The Bakehouse, Nature's Own, Sandhills Community College, (Culinary Arts Department), The Carolina Hotel, Rue 32, Chef Warren's and Squire's Pub.

Tickets for pies baked will be available for sale at \$25 each at the Boys and Girls Club, 160 Memorial Park Court, Southern Pines from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm M-F or by calling Humble Pies at (510) 771-PIES, Linda Hub-

bard, Director, BackPack Pals at 692-5959, Extension 2407. Tickets will be available for sale beginning November 6 until November 21.

Purchasers may pick up their pie at their selected restaurant between the dates of Saturday, November 21 and Wednesday, November

27. Hours for restaurant pick-up are printed on the restaurants ticket. The Purchaser has the option of donating their pie to the charity of their choice or purchase two, one for them and one for the charity.

For more information: contact Humble Pies, (510) 771-PIES or Linda Hubbard, 692-



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Golf Capital Chorus goes Rock & Roll

"It's not everyday that a Barbershop Chorus goes to a 'Rock and Roll' format, but on Saturday, November 2 at 7 pm, in the the Robert E. Lee Auditorium at Pinecrest High School that's what the Golf Capital Chorus will do.

Their 33rd Annual Show will feature such great rock songs as Under the Boardwalk, When I'm Sixty-four, Bridge Over Troubled Water, Barbara Ann, Help Me Rhonda, Bye Bye Love, My Girl, Silhouettes and Moments to Remember.

The show's second act will feature the International Prize Winning Guest Quartet,

"Main Street." Established in 2011, the quartet harkens back to the traditional style of barbershop harmony with soft shoe dance, slapstick routines and nostalgic songs – tipping their hat to turn of the century song and dance men.

Tickets for the show are \$15 for adults, \$10 for student. The year's effort is expected to attract a large and diverse audience.

Tickets will be available at the door, but to get your tickets ahead of time call Bob Tweed (295-3199) or Larry Harter (295-3529).



The award-winning Main Street Quartet

You can help Toys for Tots

The Marine Corps League Detachment 1001 of Moore County is gearing up for their 2013 Toys for Tots Drive. Toys for Tots collection boxes are located all over the county, but many more are needed, plus the support of businesses, civic groups, clubs, non-profit organizations, governmental offices, schools and other groups that want to help bring smiles to children of Moore County this Christ-

mas season.

The community can help Toys for Tots in several ways – place a toy collection box in your business or place of employment. Donate or collect new unwrapped toys valued at \$10 or more.

For more information contact: Toys for Tots at: 531 E. Maine Avenue, Southern Pines, NC 28387, rdmaley@nc.rr.com or thomasmcke@aol.com, 910-528-2024 or 910-420-2123.

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We're expecting . . . sort of

Marcy and I are eagerly awaiting the birth of our first grandchild, expected sometime in the next few weeks.

Of course, neither of our daughters is married — or pregnant — or planning to adopt.

Nevertheless, Marcy gets regular updates about the impending birth via text messages on her iPhone.

The first came several months ago. It was a simple note:

Ann is expecting! :-)

Our daughters are named Jeni and Sarah.

Clearly, this text had arrived at the wrong destination.

Being a dutiful user of modern technology, Marcy courteously texted back:

Congratulations!"

But she also explained to Ann's excited husband — we don't know his name yet —

that he had the wrong number.

And that was that.

Until a few months later, when Marcy received an excited text that read:

Look at our great new home . . . for us and the baby!

That one had

attached to it a lovely photo of the baby's room in the new house. The walls were taupe, so no clues about whether we are getting a grandson or granddaughter.

We did get a photo of Ann with a sizable baby bump — more like a baby basketball, really — showing off the new kitchen.

While it was all very interesting, these are not our chil-

dren, and that is not our grandchild inside Ann's basketball. So, it all felt a bit voyeuristic — not really Anthony-Weiner-quality icky, but not quite kosher either.

So, Marcy texted back to let . . . Paul? Joe? Harvey?



whatever Ann's husband's name is . . . to let him know he still had the wrong number.

A couple of weeks later, we got a new photo, this time of the baby's charming Jenny Lind crib and quilt, for which we were heartily thanked by

Ann and What's-His-Name.

It felt a bit odd taking credit for a crib we didn't buy for a grandchild who is not ours. But we're deeply into this relationship now; and, I'll admit, it felt good to be thanked.

The quilt was yellow, pink, and blue. So either Ann and What's-His-Name haven't seen the sonograms, or they were deliberately keeping us in the dark about whether we're getting a little grandson or a little granddaughter.

Then, yesterday, we got a photo of a cute little outfit with a bow and an embroidered "My Heart Belongs to Daddy." It was clearly girl clothing.

But it was blue.

So now, what with all the news about Bradley . . . Chelsea . . . Manning, Marcy's worried that our only grandchild is going to grow

up with gender identity issues and become some sort of threat to national security.

I figure: Kids are resilient. If they can survive parents who can't dial the right number on their smartphone, they can survive a little mixed messaging in their sportswear.

Delivery should be any day now. We're really excited to see the little bugger.

But we're both hoping that Ann's husband What's-His-Name doesn't take his iPhone into the delivery room, because that would be truly icky.

So, Ann, What's-His-Name, if you're reading this, we're so excited for you. And we really appreciate you making us a part of your family.

And, remember, if it's a girl, you spell it M-A-R-C-E-L-L-A. If a boy, G-R-E-G-O-R-Y.

Get out! Get Help!

Question: I did not sign this letter because I don't want anyone to know I am writing it. Actually, I am afraid to tell anyone about my problem. I have read a lot about domestic violence and domestic abuse. I know that I am suffering abuse from my husband and the

father of our two pre-school children, and I am afraid that this abuse may become violent. He has threatened to hit me several times, but he has not done it yet. He controls my money and the use of the car and when I am away from home longer than he has told me I could

be, he accuses me of having an affair with another man. I still love the guy and I believe that I can help him with his anger. What would you suggest I do?

address his anger and jealousy, but you are not the one to give that help.

Please don't wait until he actually lays a hand on you. If that happens even once, it will happen again no matter

how sorry he says he is or how he is going to change.

Do you have a close friend with whom you can con-

fide? Do you have a place with a family member or friend where you can go for refuge?

If you live in Moore County or an adjoining community, you should call "Friend to Friend Services" at 910-947-3333 and talk to a counselor there. The counselor will be prepared to give you a 24 hour crisis phone line that

you can call 24/7 for any help you need.

"Friend to Friend" can also provide guidance, advocacy and empowerment. If needed, you can receive help with protective orders and court services. If you have no other place to go for refuge and protection, they can provide a time for you to stay at the Serenity House Shelter.

You have reason to be afraid for you and your two children, but you need not feel alone. There are thousands, perhaps millions, of women who are victims of spousal abuse and domestic violence. You do not have to face this alone. There are numerous support groups nearby where you can meet with other women who are suffering as you are.

Since I do not know your name or address, I am taking the liberty of answering your

(See "Rev," p. 27)

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

Published every other Friday for residents & landowners of Seven Lakes, Foxfire, & McLendon Hills, NC
P.O. Box 468, West End, NC 27376
910-673-0111 • 888-806-2572 (fax) • mail@sevenlaketimestimes.net
www.sevenlaketimestimes.net

Greg Hankins & Tom Hankins, Publishers
Greg Hankins, Editor • Marcy Hankins, Layout & Copy Editing
Ellen Marcus, Reporters
Sarah Hankins, Ad Layout

Founded in 1985 by Seven Lakes Times, Inc.
J. Sherwood Dunham, Alfred C. Gent,
William C. Kerchof, Ruth H. Sullivan, and Thomas J. Tucker



Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

Response: There is no question in my mind that the little bit you have told me is a sure sign of domestic abuse, and there is reason to fear that violence may follow at any time. My first response is the one I have given numerous women in abusive relationships: Get out! and Get Help! Your abuser certainly needs help to

Three questions to ask about worship

Today there are so many different styles of worship in churches. In my own church, we minister across generations of people, so we are constantly questioning whether our worship is correct. I think that every Christian should ask three specific questions about themselves and about the church that they attend. Jesus said in John 4 that the standard of worship is that we worship in Spirit and Truth.

Question #1 – Does Our Worship Honor God?

Most people evaluate what happens in church on Sunday morning by how good or bad the special music was, if the sermon was too long or too short, or if the music was too loud or too soft for your taste. The problem with this is that it has nothing to do with whether God was honored, only how well you liked it. I encourage you to go to a church that agrees with your taste in worship; but you may find yourself in church with your son or daughter, and it may be different. Ask yourself this ques-

tion. Is the worship supposed to honor God or me? Are you in church to get something or to ascribe worth to Him? Your motive and your attitude affect not only your worship, but how others worship as well. When we understand the purpose of worship, we are more likely to walk away saying, "That was great! I hope God knows how much I appreciate Him."

Question #2 – Does Our Worship Inspire, Uplift, and Transform the Worshiper?

True worship ascribes worth to God and it is done to glorify Him, but the by-product is that people are inspired and uplifted and transformed. When true worship happens, the result is that the people worshipping are uplifted and encouraged. This has nothing to do with liturgy, but with the heart of the worshiper. One of the

things that we do in our church is we often have video testimony of what God is doing or has done in the life of one of our



Bound by
Grace

Rev. Chris Hrabosky

congregants. This is uplifting and encouraging because people recognize that God is still working. We had one family share how God had restored their family after separation. We celebrated with them and God was honored. That family was transformed by the truth of God's

Word. They recognized that there were things that needed to change after hearing God's Word. They made a decision to follow God's Word and to adjust their lives and God restored their family. If you go to a service and your are not called to let the Word of God transform you, then you have either missed the purpose of the sermon or you are not in the right church.

Question #3 – Does Our Worship Draw Visitors Closer to An Encounter with Jesus Christ?

How you worship matters to those who have come into your service. If you are not engaged, it tells others that it is not important. If you complain about everything in the service, do you think

that draws people to want to have a relationship with Jesus? If someone sings a song that you don't particularly like, do you scowl and groan? Do your actions draw visitors to a closer relationship with Christ? Are you obeying the clear teaching of Scripture? We can say that we believe God, but if our actions tell a different story, then we are not bringing people closer to God. If you are not obeying the clear things that God has prescribed in His Word, then don't tell me how spiritually enlightened you are, because God's Word says otherwise.

Chris Hrabosky is pastor at Seven Lakes Baptist Church. Send him your question or comments at chrabosky@mac.com

Rev

(Continued from page 26)

letter in my column. Perhaps others in similar circumstances can also be helped by reading this. If you do not live near here, please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 and you will receive answers in finding help in your community.

I do not need to know who you are to pray for your safety. God is your friend. There

is no reason for you to feel guilt or shame. You are not the cause for your husband's behavior, even if he blames you for it again and again. Remember these words: Get out! Get Help!

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

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.

To reserve a vendor space, please contact Carol Burgess at 910-673-0356 to secure a table.

Now Accepting New Patients

Amanda Martin, ANP (Adult Nurse Practitioner)



Mrs. Martin comes to Seven Lakes from Richmond Family Medicine, where she had been a provider since March 2008. Her approach to wellness and the special needs of women define her as a practitioner and keep her patients, even those living in Rockingham, coming back. As a new resident of Seven Lakes, where she now lives with her husband and two sons, she provides the community with an excellent nurse practitioner.

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Call me a fundamentalist

Way back in middle school, after swallowing my pride at a revival my best friend took me to, I recognized that I was separated from God by a sinful heart. I came to the realization that Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross paid my penalty for my rebellion, and provided a means for me to be clean and therefore reconciled back into an eternal relationship with God.

So I asked Him for forgiveness, thanked Him for His sacrificial mercy, and purposed in my heart from that

moment on that I would try to honor Him, in appreciation, by living my life for Him and others, and by following His rules.

As I journeyed forward, The Holy Spirit taught me as I read His Bible how to go in the right direction and He has blessed me in innumerable ways. I've often stumbled, but He has allowed me to return again, anew, and continue. This is the good news of the True Gospel that I praise Him for every day.

I tell the story above so the reader can understand that, because of my beliefs, I meet The Rev's definition of a "fundamentalist."

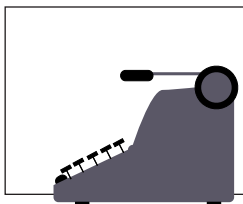
In his September 20 opinion piece, He insinuated that Christians like me may not be "rational human beings"

or that we have somehow allowed our "minds to be taken away through fear" because we adhere to the five "fundamentalist" beliefs he described.

Essentially, he implies that the "fundamentalist" is enslaved to very exclusive religious dogma and

Your Turn

Dr. Barry Kavanaugh
Seven Lakes



therefore not willing or able to consider "reliable Biblical scholars" or "the advancement in the study of the sciences, including the theory of evolution" that have the ability to give doubt to those five beliefs.

My faith as a "fundamentalist" does not make me captive to a false belief system that prevents me from being a "sincere Christian" as The Rev has suggested. Having several post-doctoral fellowships in the medical field, I have a very detailed understanding of "the sciences, including the theory of evolution."

I have done my due diligence with thorough research into the trustworthiness of The Bible. I have methodically weighed the evidence between

Evolution and Creation and have found it takes more faith to believe Evolution. Contrary to what The Rev authoritatively claims, science has not proven one part of the Theory of Evolution and only "casts a shadow on the historical and scientific accuracy of numerous Biblical stories" if you haven't studied all the evidence.

Science, archeology, sociology, secular historical documents, and fulfilled prophecy have all provided mounds of credible

evidence for the Biblical stories. My life-long study of both sides of the argument has only deepened and confirmed the sincerity of my faith decision.

In his attempt to define the difference between Evangelicals, whom he identifies with, and Fundamentalists, whom I identify with, The Rev states that he "respects the sincerity and beliefs of his fundamentalist brothers and sisters" and yet he casts innuendos that we are ignorant, fearful, irrational, unenlightened, and insincere, compared to him.

How can he expect to have the "rational conversation" he desires with "his fundamentalist brothers and sisters" if he does that?

Nominate a volunteer for award

Moore County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is currently accepting nominations for the 2014 NC Governor's Award for Volunteer Service.

The annual award honors the true spirit of volunteerism by recognizing individuals, groups and businesses that make a significant contribution to their community through volunteer service.

This year marks the 36th anniversary of this program that showcases North Carolina's most dedicated volunteers. Each county will select up to ten outstanding

volunteers from these twelve categories: Individual, Family, Group/Team, Youth, Senior, Perseverance in Volunteerism, National Service, Mentor, Faith-Based, Corporate/Business, Lifetime Achievement, Disaster (new this year).

In addition, one paid Director of Volunteers will be chosen. Last year's recipients from Moore County were Judy Lewis, Shirley Baldwin, Maggie Batson, Owen Gallagher, Red Cross Disaster Action Team, and Pam Giambelluca.

Nominations are being

accepted through Friday November 22.

Nomination forms are available for download Moore County's website at www.co.moore.nc.us. Follow links under Department of Aging to RSVP, or you can request a nomination form by calling 215-0900 or emailing tdeese@moorecountync.gov.

Completed nomination forms should be mailed to RSVP at PO Box 487, Carthage, NC 28327, faxed to (910) 215-0278, or emailed to tdeese@moorecountync.gov

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BODY IMAGE

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates vision for tomorrow."

— Melody Beattie

Almost all of us have a distorted image of our body, often due to the importance our culture places on outward appearance and the onslaught of media images of airbrushed models and celebrities. On a daily basis, we talk to ourselves in ways we would never speak to another. Imagine speaking to a child the way you speak to yourself about your body. It would devastate and squelch a child. It affects you similarly, causing stress and emotional pain in your body, which can make improving your health or losing weight even more difficult.

Our culture's preferred body type shifts every decade or so, but whatever it is, it is usually unattainable without spending enormous amounts of time, energy and money. Think of all the intelligence, creativity and time you spend on improving, altering and judging your appearance. Who would you be and what could you accomplish if your valuable resources weren't used this way? Constant emphasis on the external makes us discount the great presence and intelligence that is housed by the body. It makes us forget the magic of our internal rhythms and fail to acknowledge the beautiful bodies we have.

The body you have right now is incredible. It never misses a heartbeat, it maintains homeostasis and it miraculously digests whatever you

put in it. It is your instrument for expressing your creativity, intelligence and love. By focusing on the one percent you don't like or wish was different, you may be ignoring the remaining ninety-nine percent about your body that is beautiful, unique and delightful.

"Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit Who lives within you..." (1 Corinthians 6:19)

What would your life be like if you were simply at peace with the body you have? You may wish to make your body healthier and stronger, but could you do that out of love and respect for your body instead of the opposite? Could you begin to treat yourself with kindness, to limit the negative self-talk and to reconnect with your inner wisdom? Could you practice gratitude for your body daily? Take a minute to imagine what that would feel like.

It would mean celebrating your body rather than punishing it. It would mean nourishing your body rather than depriving it. It would mean a chance to watch your body flourish just like a child flourishes when treated with care and respect.

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— Pema Chodron

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Tuesday, November 5, 5:30 - 7:00 pm

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Presbyterians package food for the hungry

by Rev. Larry Lyon
West End Presbyterian Church

West End Presbyterians packaged more than 22,000 meals in a massive feed the hungry effort on Saturday

morning, October 19, in the church's Crawford Center.

The mission project was coordinated by Stop Hunger Now, a North Carolina based ministry organization that

sends pre-packaged meals around the world in an effort to feed the hungry people of the world.

People from the very young children to older adults in their 80's turned out for the intergenerational mission project. Nearly 100 people participated.

A local band, "Second

Childhood," played praise and gospel music while the workers packed the meals.

On Sunday, October 20, the church held its annual "Trunk or Treat" event, drawing scores of local youngsters to participate in Halloween related fun activities.

Parishioners decorated their car trunks in Halloween

motifs and offered treats to children of the church and community who came by. There also were games and food available inside the church's activities building, the Crawford Center.

West End Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the PC (USA).



Folks big and little donned hairnets at West End Presbyterian to help package food for the hungry. (Gene Lentz photo)



As did folks young and . . . young at heart. (Gene Lentz photo)

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NAMI hosts session on state Mental Health crisis

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Moore County has developed three Sandhills Partnerships in Moore County, with help from several state and local organizations, to improve the quality of life for individuals who are afflicted with mental illnesses, their families and the community, including:

- The Sandhills Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Partnership;
- The Sandhills Public Safety Partnership; and
- The Sandhills Schools Partnership.

As a result of our relationship with the Moore County Sheriff's Department through the Sandhills CIT Partnership, Sheriff Neil Godfrey has invited NAMI Moore County to conduct their November monthly Education and Support meeting at the new Rick Rhyne Public Safety and Detention Center.

The NAMI Moore County Board would like to extend an invitation to the public to attend their Monday, November 4, meeting, at 7 pm, in the second floor conference room of the Rick Rhyne Public Safety and Detention Center, 302 McNeill St., Carthage.

The subject of the meeting will be Mental Health in North Carolina.

Sheriff Godfrey will speak about the impact that the CIT training program has had on his department and take the attendees on a tour of the facility. Several of deputies will speak about their personal field experiences using the skills they learned at CIT training. The Sheriff's Department is one of the founding members of The Sandhills CIT Partnership when it was created in 2007.

Another result of the relationship with law enforcement, through the same Partnership, is the new location of the future monthly Education and Support meetings. Chief Earl Phipps, of the Pinehurst Police Department, has invited NAMI Moore County to hold its monthly meetings at their facility on Magnolia Rd. in Pinehurst, beginning on January 6, 2014.

While Governor McCrory is unable to attend the meeting due to scheduling conflicts, he has asked Dave Richard, Director, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disability and Substance Abuse Services of the NC Department of Health

and Human Services to represent him. Richard will speak about the most challenging issue NAMI has in North Carolina concerning the Mental Health system and specifically what Governor McCrory's administration plans to do to stabilize the system after so many years of change.

Richard also wants to know if there are other specific issues or concerns we would like him to address at the meeting. The public will have an opportunity to speak to a representative of Governor McCrory's administration to express concerns and to ask questions.

NAMI members are concerned because North Carolina has been in a state of perpetual reform for several years and they do not see any light at the end of this very long tunnel. NAMI members do not want to see any of your loved ones fall through the cracks again in another "reform" effort.

NAMI Moore County has brought their concerns directly to Governor McCrory's attention and he has asked Mr. Richard to address all concerns.

The community's support of NAMI Moore County and its programs is an important part of ensuring the quality of life of those individuals afflicted with mental illnesses, their families and the community.

Contact NAMI Moore County with any questions or concerns and they will be passed along to Dave Richard. You can call the Hot Line at 910-295-1053 and leave a message or send an email to george_namimc@nc.rr.com

White Elephant Sale

Join the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus for their annual White Elephant Sale on Saturday, November 2, from 8 am to 1 pm.

Pre-sale of furniture will be Friday, November 1, from 1 pm to 4 pm at Sacred Heart Church, Founders Hall, NC Hwy 211 and

Dundee Road, Pinehurst.

Raffle tickets for over 100 great prizes, including two passes to practice rounds of the 2014 Men's U.S. Open. All proceeds benefit local charities and schools.

Sale items include furniture, jewelry, household goods, sports equipment, small appliances, etc.



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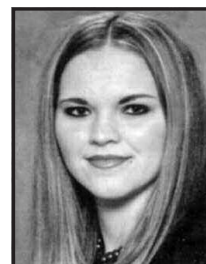
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Volunteer to serve with AARP Tax-Aide

Last year, the local AARP Tax-Aide program and local volunteers provided FREE Federal and NC Tax Return counseling and preparation for over 3000 Moore County residents by preparing and filing their 2012 Federal and State Tax Returns. These were filed electronically to ensure prompt processing and rapid payment of any refunds. There are many more that could benefit from this service but, they are limited by volunteer resources.

The AARP Tax-Aide Program is the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation services. This year the program expects to significantly increase the number of customers assisted in Moore County. To do this, additional volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are needed to assist with one-on-one counseling and tax return preparation as Tax Preparation Counselors as well as volunteers to serve as Site Facilitators to greet and process clients as they arrive. Tax preparation sites in Moore County will include the Senior Enrichment Center, the Southern Pines Public Library and the Habitat for Humanity Resale Facility.

Tax preparation counselors will be comprehensively trained and required to pass a competency test to become IRS Certified as a Tax Counselor. Volunteer training will be conducted in the Moore County Senior Enrichment

Center (2.5 miles N of Pinehurst Traffic Circle, at 8040 Hwy 15-501) during January of 2014. Volunteers who become IRS Certified are asked to make a target commitment of two each, four hour sessions per week during the ten-week filing season from February 1 to April 13, 2014.

To volunteer, or for more information about becoming a local AARP Tax-Aide volunteer, contact the local AARP Tax-Aide Coordinator,

Barry Guthrie at (910) 673-1164 or Bill Roberson at (910) 673-1452.

AARP Tax-Aide is administered through the AARP Foundation in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service. The AARP foundation is an AARP affiliated, 501 (c) (3) nonpartisan charitable organization. You are not required to be a member of AARP to volunteer for this program.

World-renowned guitarist performs at SCC

Internationally acclaimed guitarist Lukasz Kuropaczewski will be performing on the campus of Sandhills Community College on Thursday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m.

This free solo concert held in Owens Auditorium, is open to the public.

"The audience is in for quite a treat," says Ryan Book, Associate Professor of Music at Sandhills. "With his six CDs ranked high for guitar technique and appeal, Lukasz Kuropaczewski is well on his way to becoming a major figure on the worldwide classical music scene.

"Whether you play or not, love, or just appreciate the guitar, you will not want to miss this spectacular performance," added Book. "Kuropaczewski will be playing works by Mauro Giuliani,

Benjamin Britten, Manuel Ponce and Antonio Jose."

Born in 1981 in the small Polish town of Gniezno, Lukasz Kuropaczewski began studying guitar at the age of ten.

At 13 his early talent brought him to the attention of the distinguished guitar teacher Piotr Zaleski with whom he studied for nine years.

Kuropaczewski was a guitar teacher at the University of Pennsylvania. Currently, he is on the faculty of the Academy of Music in Poznan, Poland, the same town where he serves as the Artistic Director of the Polish Guitar Academy Festival.

The concert is free, tickets will be required. They can be acquired on the Sandhills Campus in 126 Wellard Hall or the Boyd Library as well

as The Arts Council of Moore County in the Campbell House on Connecticut Avenue in Southern Pines.

Kuropaczewski's appearance at Sandhills Community College has been arranged by Sandhills' Music Depart-

ment, which offers an Associate's degree in Fine Arts in Music and Music Education.

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West Side

(Continued from page 7)

approved."

"An inspection indicated that the construction there that was much larger than ARC anticipated," ARC Director Dan Blue explained. "We requested from the builder a change of form. The covenant is not something we can break. The submittal or denial request needed to be submitted to the Board before the changes were made."

"I think that basically it was approved in one position and built in another," Director Chuck Watkins said. "He should have come back to us for a change, at least."

Blue agreed: "Procedurally it should happen. Submit a change of approved amendment and appropriate documentation. In most cases a request for variance has gone through. That was not the case in this particular case. The encroachment might very well have been caught and set back to keep out of that fifty foot."

Blue then reminded the board, "The 50 foot setback encroachment is the issue. Appearance of the height, width, and aesthetics is determined by ARC. This request is strictly related to the setback. The encroachment is about 6.5 feet. It varies; it is an angle."

Director Dale Erickson said, "I have received no documentation, and I would side with the ARC."

Secretary Brian Benjamin took time to go out and see the wall for himself. "The intent of this was just trying to make it so that they would have a driveway. In my mind the approval process was out of line, but I am not sure his intent was bad. I have to ask: is there a way to work through this?"

Variance comes with a hefty fine

Blue thought that there might be other solutions. "A clearer set of eyes would see opportunities that I don't see. There are two options. There is a fairly significant fine associated with keeping that wall in place. I suspect that

it would be a lot cheaper than having to structurally change that wall," Blue said. "The first option is to tear down and return to original approval, but that would be breathtakingly expensive. Another option would be to trim the corner off. I don't know how expensive that would be. Those are the only two available I can see. There may be others."

Keyser doubted that there was sufficient space to shorten the wall. "Unless they can prove hardship, then the variance will not be permitted," Keyser said.

"It is a rather steeply sloped lot," Blue admitted. "I know that the garage in the back is the preferred configuration in the community. It not necessary preferred by the ARC. We will make determination on appearance. If it is an attractive garage, I am perfectly fine it being on the front of the residence. The slope of land mandated some kind of wall must be constructed. It is only the footprint of the retaining wall that changed. The motion strictly deals with the encroachment into the fifty-foot setback on the lake side."

President Jack Stevens was sympathetic to the homeowner's situation. "I see two issues here," he said. "I see a homeowner seeking to get a larger turn around in her driveway. We all know that there are many lots that have

had a variance approved due to odd shapes to get better parking. I would be inclined to be sympathetic to the homeowner."

Less sympathetic to the builder's actions, Stevens added, "The second issue is contractors and builders who would like to ask forgiveness rather than permission. This is taking up a lot of our time. I would like to separate those two individuals and be sympathetic to the homeowner. That is how I would vote on this."

Member Bruce Keyser asked, "If we don't support ARC, what is the fallout?"

Blue replied, "Either you are or you are not for it. If you are in favor of the hardship variance the homeowner or the builder is going to pay a fine. If you don't, they need to take it down or modify the wall. The homeowner is appealing the ARC denial. You are deciding whether or not you agree with that appeal."

When the matter was brought to a vote, Keyser abstained. Stevens, Benjamin, and Watkins voted in favor of granting the hardship variance. Blue, Workman, Pierman, and Erickson voted against the variance. Director Ed Cockman was absent. The request for variance was denied four-to-three with one abstention.

Following the vote, Blue told Bolton and Kuzma, "I

will work to help find a solution for you. Members need to be sensitive to what is going on. If you have got a question, then call. We have a great staff at CAS; they will send you over to me. I can't begin to say enough about the effort ARC works to solve the problems before they become problems."

An Unbudgeted Face Lift

The board unanimously approved a motion to begin cleaning up the landscaping and wooded area at the front entrance at a cost not to exceed \$3,000. The expense was not included in the original budget.

Paving Project Manager Appointed

Gene Opdyke was appointed Road Paving Project Manager during Tuesday's meeting.

"Part of the strategy developed was determined by the fact that the paving project would take several years and that continuity would be required to ensure a smooth transition from one director to the next," Infrastructure Director Pierman explained.

Opdyke's career was in engineering and he had served on an ARC committee in Florida.

Most recently, he worked for five years as the Public Works Director for Whispering Pines.

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Culdee

(Continued from page 5)
from the kitchen.

Never ever stir. Lift — and lift sparingly.

The dumplings simmer and the whole fellowship hall smells like Granny's house, if your Granny was a master chicken and dumpling maker. Desserts are dished out and line the tables wall to wall: German chocolate cake, lemon glazed pound cake, buttermilk pie, coconut cake, and pumpkin spiced cream cheese and marshmallow frosted bars.

The annual chicken and dumpling supper is no small endeavor. It has the potential for disaster. But there is no time for what-ifs or doubters.

If it rains . . . move the auction inside.

If the dumplings clump . . . that's not an option.

If people don't show up to help . . . well, it's never happened yet.

And the morning is perfect, cloudy with the chance of sunshine. The craft table is a recycler's dream with old hymnals transformed into angelic centerpieces. The bake sale features persimmon pudding, cakes, breads, pickles, jams, and jellies. Gardenias, nandinas, petunias, and strawberries grown from cuttings are ready to purchase and plant.

Two beautiful quilts — hand-quilted by the Culdee quilting bee — are ready to be raffled off. The youth have their own booth, selling drinks, hotdogs, and desserts for a dollar each. Outside, on rows of tables, the silent auction has been set up with new, gently used, handmade, and unique items.

The items for the live auction are impressive: a hand-built butcher's block, handsome slabs of reclaimed hickory, welded decorative

crosses, and homemade pies and cakes.

If you want a pie, then be prepared to bid big. A single pie can be auctioned off for as much as \$400. You know you are in a farming, tradesman, and artisan community when a pie brings more than golf tickets to the US Open. Brother and brother-in-law vie for their mother's pie. Two friends launch a bidding war for ten pounds of Jordan's BBQ.

Back in the kitchen, the dumplings are done. The beans are seasoned, the slaw is made, the rolls are warmed, and, come four o'clock, it's supper time. Culdee let's you have it your way: delivery for those who can't drive, a drive-thru for those in a rush, packaged to go with generous helpings, or served up on real bowls, with plates and flatware.

The servers serve and the

fellowship hall turns over time and time again. The morning worker bees roll up their sleeves and get to work washing and drying. Everything will be washed, wiped down, and put away before 10:00 pm.

Once, in the late 18th century, a group of hard working Scottish families in the area around Eastwood came together as a congregation and built their church.

Today, Culdee Presbyterian Church is a blend of descendants, natives and transplants. The spirit of the members remains strong, the work ethic unyielding, the generosity overflowing, and the

pews filled.

And, on the back burner, the chicken and dumpling dinner is already stewing for the next year.

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Gregory

(Continued from front page)

way across the northern portion of the County, and, until new Commissioner districts were approved in 2011, that was as far as it stretched.

The population in Southern Moore is growing much faster than in the North, and the 2010 US Census revealed a population imbalance among the districts. Searching for a solution that both balanced three districts and kept all sitting Commissioners and School Board members in their home districts, the Commissioners ultimately approved a plan that stretched District III southward along the County's western border, taking in Seven Lakes West, and placing it in a new district. Seven Lakes North and South and McLendon Hills all remained in District II.

Moore County's Commissioners run from a specific district; however, the Commissioner from each district is elected by a vote of all County citizens. The District II Commissioner is Chairman Nick Picerno, of McLendon Hills.

Keeping taxes as low as possible

The Times interviewed Gregory by telephone on Sunday, October 27. He has become a regular observer at meetings of the County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education, and attended the recent County Critical Issues Summit. So he was more ready than many candidates to dive into specific questions currently facing the County.

The Times noted that the five current members of the Board of Commissioners have all expressed no interest at all in raising taxes, to the extent that it appears to have become their over-riding priority. We asked Gregory about his attitude toward a possible tax increase to fund priorities like economic development and the schools.

"One of my primary concerns is keeping our taxes as low as possible," Gregory said. "Everyone I see is having to change their way of life,

taking fewer vacations, not as many trips."

"When you talk about taxes you are talking about money that people have to spend to take care of County needs. In 2014, we are doing a property revaluation, and we will be making the decision about how that will impact tax rates in 2015. I think the first thing that we need to think about is spending, and we need to look at everything in a sensible matter to make sure we don't have to raise taxes."

"If we use sound principles of money management, we should be able to meet our spending needs without raising taxes."

"If something comes up of real importance . . . but I'm a little different than most. This is a people's government. I think we need to let the people have some say about it if we feel that we need to spend a large amount of money for something."

"You cannot say upfront that you are never going to do something, because you do not know what the cir-

cumstances will be. I believe character, integrity, and trust all matter. I am hoping that the people will see that in me and trust me to make decisions that are in their best interest."

Don't rush to build new facilities

The Times noted that the Commissioners have often discussed the need for a new Judicial Center — and are under some pressure from the courts to build one. Architect's plans for a new County Administration Building are already bought and paid for, sitting on a shelf.

But, at the moment, the County is overhauling two existing office spaces to create more room for the Clerk of Court and new offices for the District Attorney, both expected to serve that purpose for the next five to seven years.

"I am pleased to hear that they are kind of putting the brakes on," Gregory said when asked to prioritize County facilities needs. He said using the temporary

facilities for the next five to seven years "is a good idea."

"I think what they are trying to accomplish is not putting another debt on our people."

Noting that the schools are expected to request a bond referendum for November 2014, Gregory said: "If all the sudden, everything comes at once, we are talking about millions and millions of dollars that the taxpayers are going to pay. So, we should do what we can to use the facilities that we have and see what happens in 2014 with the revaluation and revenues in 2015 before we make a decision to build anything. I think that is the right approach."

"I think the Board is handling this in a professional way to come up with a way

that the people can afford."

Boards need to work together

Asked about the prospect of a school bond referendum, Gregory told *The Times*: "The Commissioners and the School Board need to be working very closely together, in harmony, so they can come up with decisions. One of the things I want to have happen is to make sure we work very closely with the School Board on things like this — so that we know what is coming before budget time. When it comes time to make those big decisions, it makes it easier to understand."

Gregory said he strongly supported the idea, floated by Chairman Picerno during (See "Gregory," p. 35)



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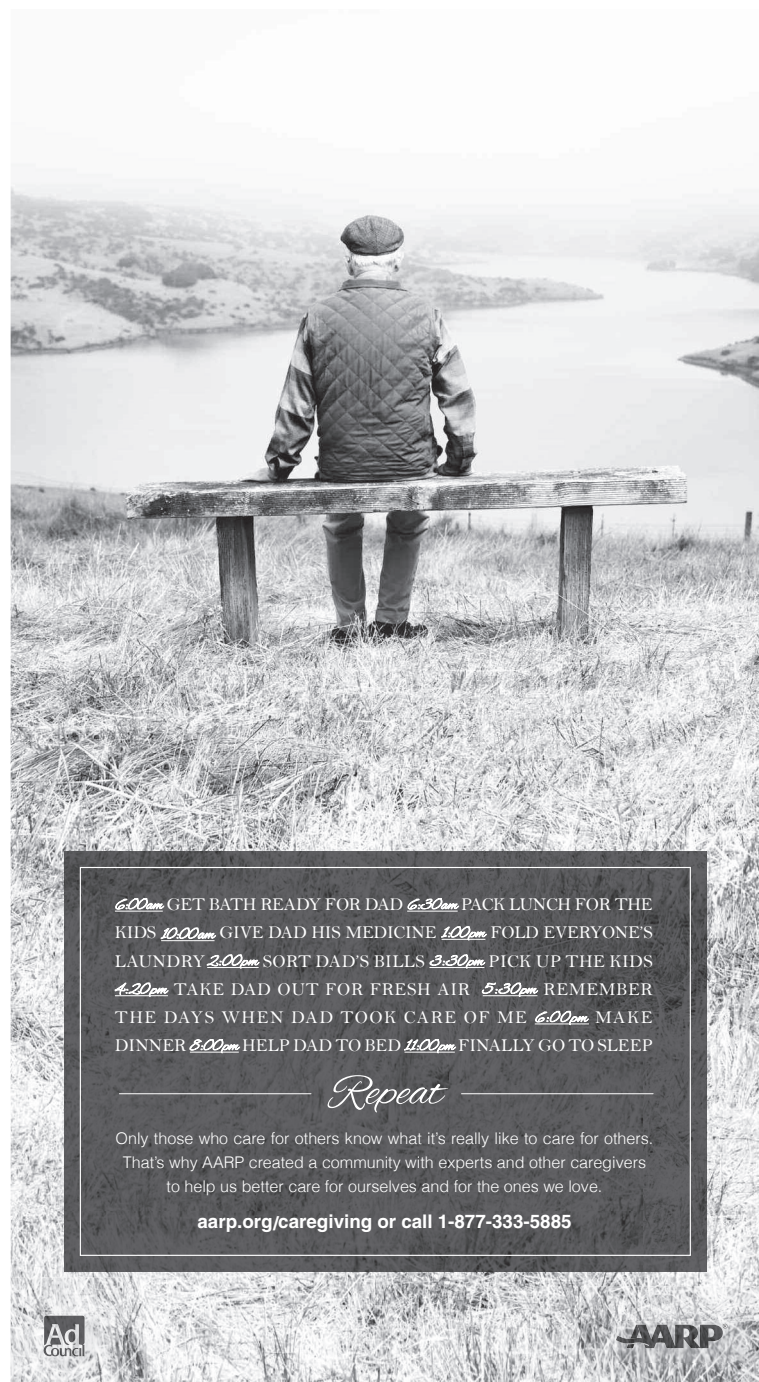


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Gregory

(Continued from page 34)

the Critical Issues Summit, of creating a County fund for school capital needs.

"When we are talking about having a little bank over there that is designated for the use of our School Board, I think that is a good approach," he said.

"The only concern I have with this is to make sure it is there forever. What concerns me is the next election or the election after that we have new Commissioners that have a different idea, and then what happens to the money? We need to work with the School Board in such away that it can be done. Then we might not even have to have a bond, because we would have done every year what we need to do to have to the money there."

Gregory supports Partners approach

Partners in Progress — the County's economic development partnership — wants to launch a new effort to recruit talented entrepreneurs, who can move to the County and start new businesses. The centerpiece of the effort is a talent recruitment website based on one developed by Wake County. *The Times* asked Gregory what he thought of this new

approach to economic development.

"I think [Partners in Progress CEO] Pat Corso is right on target," Gregory replied. "I fully support what he is trying to accomplish in letting people outside have a better understanding of our community and the opportunities here."

"I hear him talking about the new website. It's brilliant. It's a good way of doing what we need to do. The only question on the table is the costs."

"As I understand it, tourism produced \$400 million in revenue for Moore County businesses last year. That means a lot in terms of what we need to keep our community going."

"There's another angle to this, as well. We are doing the best we can to give our young people a good education. They go away to college, and they want to come home to live. But they can't find a good paying job in our area. I want us to have good paying jobs here, and attracting entrepreneurs to come here can enable us to provide opportunities for folks in our county. I think Pat is doing a good job with Partners in Progress, enhancing interest in the County."

Representing all the people

As a result of redistricting,

Gregory, as a resident of Southern Moore County, will run from a Commissioner district that includes all of North Moore. *The Times* asked, "What would you say to folks who are worried your election would leave North Moore unrepresented on the Board of Commissioners?"

"Being a police chief," Gregory said, "representing everybody, knowing that everyone needs to be represented, makes it easier for me to understand how Commissioners, though they come from one area, must represent everyone in the County."

"I am planning to do what I can to go up [to North Moore] and visit and see how

I can be of help. You cannot just pick and chose what you will represent. I am looking forward to being able to represent all of the County. I'm going to be involved in doing what I can for everybody. I am going to be very visible and be up there to talk with them. All my life has been serving the people, trying to protect them. I just want the message to get to everyone who is out there that I believe the County is best served by sharing information, ideas, and opinions. I want Robbins and everyone to be able to express those opinions."

Seven Lakes well-managed

Asked what he felt, as a

Commissioner, he could do to assist Seven Lakes, Gregory told *The Times* that he felt the Landowners Associations in the Seven Lakes area do a good job of managing their communities.

"This is a people's government, and I'm not going to interfere," he said. "We have three very good communities that have been operated by the boards elected by the people, and don't know that I should be involved unless they ask. I think we are doing well with the boards running their community."

He added that the periodic meetings that bring the Commissioner and County staff to Seven Lakes to meet with

(See "Gregory," p. 36)

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Agreement

(Continued from front page)

in resolving these issues. Everyone is pleased that we were able to come to a mutual agreement."

The newly-signed agreement includes six elements:

- Requiring the creation of a covenant for the golf course property restricting its use to golf course or open space for a minimum of thirty years.
- Excluding the 5.4 acre "old driving range" along Seven Lakes Drive from that covenant.
- Requiring the Club to secure the assent of its mortgage-holder, First Bank.
- Transferring nineteen undeveloped lots from the Club to the Association, while relieving the Club of an obligation for unpaid dues on those lots.
- Requiring the creation of easements that will allow the Club to continue to trim trees and bushes on

the lots in order to maintain the golf course.

- Declaring the intention of both parties that the deeds to the nineteen lots and the new covenant will be recorded at the same time.

Why take the chance?

"I personally don't feel there is a very high percentage of someone buying the Country Club and developing it as something else," Ritter told *The Times*. "Access is limited, and the fairways aren't that wide. Why would someone want to do that?"

"I don't think there is a high probability of that ever occurring. But why take a chance? There are ingenious architects and planners and developers out there. So, why take a chance?"

The agreement calls for the new covenant to be drafted within sixty days, but Ritter told *The Times* that the covenant is finalized, has the blessing of both boards, and

has been filed at the County Courthouse in Carthage.

That new covenant explicitly exempts the old driving range from its restrictions. The Club has been attempting to interest a developer in the old driving range for a number of years and, so far, has not been able to close a deal on the property.

If it were ever developed into residential parcels, Ritter said, the development of those parcels will be subject to the Southside covenant and to approval by the Architectural Review Board.

Lots became a liability

Despite regular complaints from the membership of both organizations, there has been little movement toward refining or replacing the 2007 SLCC-SLLA agreement in the past five years.

What apparently jump-started the process was the discovery that Club was in fact responsible for paying dues on the nineteen residential lots it owns. At current rates for undeveloped lots, that bill would appear to be nearly \$10,000 per year.

Ritter told *The Times* that SLCC acquired the nineteen lots over a number of years, often in the form of a gift from the property owner. Because the Club does not pay landowners dues on the

golf course property, the assumption was that it need not pay SLLA dues on the lots.

However, research conducted during an overall review of SLLA lots by Director Conrad Meyer discovered that, in fact, the Club was not exempt from paying dues on any residential lots it owns.

Most of the lots are unbuildable, Ritter said, either because they are swamp or wetlands, or because they cannot perk for septic.

That gave the Club an incentive to dispose of the lots, and a reason to agree to limit the use of the remainder of its property through the creation of a new covenant.

"The Country Club will still have the right to clean out those lots and use them to help run the golf course," Ritter said. "As far as the Country Club is concerned,

they didn't want and need those properties. They just took them because they felt there was no financial implication."

Ritter said the Board would evaluate the properties individually and determine whether they should be simply added to the SLLA common areas or put to other use.

"We will have to look at them and see what can be done with them," he said. "Some are just swamps. We will likely convert them into common space and keep them undeveloped. We expect that we won't have to pay county property taxes on them once they are converted."

As *The Times* went to press on Wednesday afternoon, October 30, Ritter was expected to announce the new agreement that same night at the SLLA's regular Open Meeting.

Gregory

(Continued from page 35)



the Greater Seven Lakes Community Council are "quite effective." He added that, if elected, he would plan to attend meetings of the landowners associations, in order to keep his finger on the pulse of the community.

"I see a lot of value in being able to attend their Board meetings, which puts us in

a better position to have an understanding of the areas we are representing. I will attend all of the meetings just to sit and listen and understand the concerns that people have. One of the things that I think is important is openness within the Commissioners' ranks to go out and sit and talk and get to know the people."

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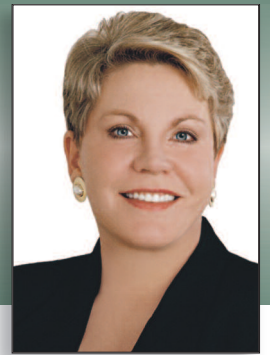
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Martha Gentry's Home Selling Team

MOORE COUNTY'S MOST TRUSTED REAL ESTATE TEAM!



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



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



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



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



Seven Lakes North \$215,000
Pristine lake front cottage
3 BR / 2.5 BA
114 Sunset Way



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



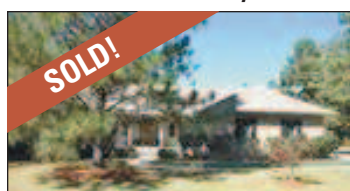
Seven Lakes North \$175,000
Cute brick ranch home
3 BR / 2 BA
112 Cottage Grove Lane



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



Seven Lakes South \$196,000
Sun-filled contemporary on large lot!
3 BR / 2.5 BA
106 Somerset Lane



Seven Lakes North \$239,900
Gorgeous custom home by Harris & Son
3 BR / 2 BA
104 Scarlet Oak Drive



Seven Lakes West \$649,000
Gorgeous lakefront on Lake Auman
3 BR / 3-Full & 2-Half BA
168 Simmons Drive



Seven Lakes North \$299,900
Totally renovated on Longleaf Lake
3 BR / 2 BA
104 Rolling Hill Court



Seven Lakes West \$315,000
Great home with open floor plan
3 BR / 3.5 BA
128 Owens Circle



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



Seven Lakes West \$619,000
Lakefront cottage w/custom upgrades
3 BR / 3.5 BA
103 Featherston Point



Seven Lakes South \$179,000
Golf Front w/Oversized Screened Porch
3 BR / 3 BA
223 Devonshire Avenue



Seven Lakes North \$249,000
Single level waterfront w/great privacy!
3 BR / 2 BA
126 Cardinal Lane



Seven Lakes North \$175,000
Picture perfect w/beautiful updates
3 BR / 2 BA
129 Shagbark Court



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



Seven Lakes West \$470,000
Elegant 2-story brick w/water view!
4 BR / 3.5 BA
113 Clay Circle



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



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



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



Seven Lakes North \$215,000
Waterfront ranch on 2 large lots!
2 BR / 2 Full & 2 Half BA
260 Firetree Lane



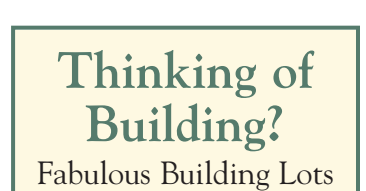
Foxfire \$225,000
Immaculate all-brick w/golf views
3 BR / 2 BA
Code 953
18 Shamrock Drive



Seven Lakes North \$375,000
Beautiful home on Lake Sequoia
3 BR / 3 BA
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Seven Lakes South \$215,000
Charming brick ranch w/front porch
3 BR / 2 BA
188 Devonshire Avenue



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