

Creating with Cloth



Making a quilt requires vision, skill, patience, and, sometimes, the ability to hold your mouth just right. Nancy Koster of the Culdee Quilters uses hers to hold some pins while piloting her vintage Singer Featherweight. [Read more on page 8.]

Mercedes Herdrich appointed Treasurer

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



The Westside Board is recycling talent.

Active volunteer Mercedes Herdrich has served on the Finance Committee, Judicial Panel, Beacon Ridge Committee, Safety and Security Committee, and Boat Registration Committee.

And now, she'll serve on the Board as the Treasurer of the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association [SLWLA].

The SLWLA Directors voted during its regular Tuesday, February 25 meeting to add Herdrich to the panel and appoint her Treasurer.

Prior to her retirement in 2001 Herdrich's career was

in finance. She will fill the position left open by Don Freiert, who had acted as the interim treasurer after Dale Erickson's resignation.

After the Board voted to appoint her, Herdrich presented the Treasurer's report, noting that timely collection of dues continues to be a challenge. Currently, 54 delinquent accounts owe the Association a total of \$36,595.

Secretary needed

Just as they fill the Treasurer's slot, the Board finds itself without a Secretary. Due to time constraints and work commitments, Secretary Brian Benjamin has resigned.

"We are sorry to lose Brian from the Board and wish him the best," said Director Ed

(See "Westside," p. 29)

Bylaws approved

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter



With I's dotted and T's crossed, the Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept the revised and updated SLLA Bylaws during the Wednesday, February 26 Open Meeting.

After months of edits, discussion, and fine tuning there was nothing left to discuss. The board and audience applauded the efforts and final draft.

SLLA Dues Payment Plans

The Association has adopted two options for monthly payment of dues. Landowners can chose up front to make monthly payments either by check or by auto draft over the course of the

year, but may not use a check one month and auto draft the next.

Or landowners may choose the time-honored option of paying the entire year's dues at once. Those paying monthly will incur an annual \$50 administration fee, plus interest of one percent per month on the outstanding balance.

"The fee is not to make money," SLLA President Steve Ritter said. "It is to offset the cost of the extra work and time created by processing the monthly payments. The community should clearly understand that this was an additional charge that was not paid in the past."

Preparing for the Next Storm

SLLA management and staff coped well with the (See "SLLA," p. 29)

Council weighs Foxtail options

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



There's progress on Foxtail Lane — sort of.

Construction is ready to re-

sume on one of three long-neglected duplex foundations, Mayor George Erickson reported during the Thursday, February 27 Work Session of the Foxfire Village Council.

Actually, work had already

begun on 22 & 24 Foxtail Lane, but had to be stopped because the required permits hadn't been pulled, Erickson said. But plans for the units were submitted for review by the Appearance Committee, and Village Attorney Michael Brough determined that permit fees would total \$600 to \$700.

The builder is Quality Built Advantage, which the Mayor indicated was a company affiliated with developer Ron Jackson. The lots on which that foundation sits is owned by FAC Holdings, another Jackson-affiliated company, Erickson explained.

New Owner Surfaces

Two nearby lots, units 38 (See "Foxtail," p. 26)

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League presents 'Lunch with Legends'

New venue. New menu. New honored guests.

In celebration of Women's History Month, the League of Women Voters of Moore

County will present the sixth annual Lunch with Legends at the newly renovated Pinehurst Members Club on Tuesday, March 11.

The "guests" this year will be Clara Barton, first woman clerk in the US Patent Office, founder of the American Red Cross and active suffragette,

and Anne Dallas Dudley, suffragette and southern leader who believed that a women's right to vote was "a matter of simple justice."

Anne Dallas Dudley came from a privileged and proper Victorian background as the daughter of a wealthy Southern cotton mill owner and the wife of a prominent Nashville banker.

Mrs. Dudley worked with other Tennessee women lobbying the Tennessee General Assembly to become the 36th and final state to ratify the 19th Amendment. She continued to work in support of women's issues and to preserve the history of the south

until her death in 1955.

The actors portraying the Legends will be dressed in period costumes and will deliver the moving and sometimes emotional words actually written and spoken by Ms. Barton and Mrs. Dudley.

Mary Lou and Tom Bennett are the program producers. Bennett will be the Master of Ceremonies and also provide a patriotic musical finale.

Tickets for the lunch and program are \$30 and are available by calling Linda Burch at 910-295-1935. Doors and cash bar open at 11:30 with lunch served at noon.

Arrest in Westside assault

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor

The Moore County Sheriff's office has arrested 71-year-old Jon Bruce Sheroff of 202 Buckler Avenue in Aberdeen

on a felony assault charge, alleging that he attacked Margaret Sheroff of Seven Lakes West.

The Sheriff's Office received a call on the evening of Tuesday, February 25, requesting that deputies respond to 105 Sheroff Lane. The caller advised that an assault had occurred at the residence, and the victim had been stabbed during the altercation.

Sheriff's deputies and an EMS Paramedic Unit responded to the scene and found that 70-year-old Margaret Sheroff had received several lacerations to her face, arms, and chest. Mr. Sheroff, the suspect, was also at the scene when deputies arrived and was taken into custody.

Ms. Sheroff was transport-

ed to the Moore Regional Hospital Emergency Room for treatment of her injuries. She was later admitted to the hospital, but her injuries are not believed to be life threatening.

Sheriff's Office Investigators arrested Jon Bruce Sheroff on February 26, charging him with one count of felony assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury.

Sheroff was placed in the Moore County Detention Center under a \$100,000 secured bond. His first court appearance is scheduled for March 11, 2014 in Moore County District Court.

Moore County records list Jon and Margaret Sheroff as co-owners of the home on Sheroff Lane.

Publication Dates and Deadlines

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, 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.

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New 'Rural Estate' zoning district proposed

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



"Rural Estate" is the new zoning district recommended for a 200-acre unzoned parcel that lies within the extreme eastern edge of Foxfire Village.

Mary Gilroy, who chairs Foxfire Village's Planning And Zoning Committee, briefed the Council on the proposed zoning district during their Thursday, February 27 Work Session.

The "Rural Estate" [RE] district was crafted as a way to handle the large unzoned tract, but Gilroy was quick to point out that the new classification could also be applied to other areas currently zoned Rural Agricultural [RA] that abut the Village proper.

The 200-acre parcel is owned by Robert Edwards, and Gilroy said she consulted with him in crafting the district, as well as investigating how other municipalities zone the area between the densely populated urban or suburban core and the rural area that

surrounds it.

"The reason we came up with a new zoning district," Gilroy told the Council, "is that this is a kind of the bridge between Equestrian and RA — it is sort of the bridge that bridges a village to a rural area."

"This property is rural," she said, referring to the Edwards property. "You don't look at it and think that it is part of the Village."

She explained that the Rural Estate zoning is designed to accommodate the desires of families who want to a small acreage and have a garden and a few chickens or other farm animals.

Room for Your Roosters

The details of the district are still being ironed out by the Planning and Zoning Committee. Providing the Council members with a draft of the ordinance amendment that would define the district, she asked that they submit any questions or concerns to her, so they could be worked through by the Committee.

In the current draft, the

minimum lot size for the district is set at six acres. It is zoned for single family dwellings and allows the raising of "agricultural crops" as long as they do not occupy more than forty percent of the total area of the property. Gardens and crops are allowed to encroach on rear and side setbacks but not the front setback.

Housing of farm animals in the RE District will generally conform to Section 4 of the Village Ordinances. Gilroy said she would recommend a change to that Section to allow two roosters per property, provided the property doesn't abut the more densely zoned areas of the Village. Commercial activity would be prohibited.

Room for your Rolls-Royce

Gilroy said the district as proposed would allow considerable leeway in the size of outbuildings.

"What is I am a classic car guy and I want to build an eight-car garage for my cars?" she asked. "We're okay with that. You can't build on more than twenty percent because of watershed regulations."

It is that lack of limitation on accessory buildings that distinguishes Rural Estate from the current Equestrian Zoning, she said in answer to a question from Councilman McCue.

The Council agreed to have a public hearing on the new district during their Tuesday, April 8 regular meeting.

Moore Alive

Responding to a presentation on the Moore Alive talent recruitment project being spearheaded by Partners in Progress and the Convention and Visitors Bureau, Councilwoman Frusco recommended pledging \$750 to the effort in this budget year and

another \$750 next year.

"I think it is a very worthwhile thing to do," she said. "What intrigued me about this is they will make a place on the website where every municipality is featured. If you are on that website, you could go to the Foxfire section, and we would have input into that section. We could have residents who would talk about why they came here. . . . We are too small to be able to come up with the funds to do something ourselves."

After discussion, the Council lowered the contribution to \$500 this year and \$500 next year.

(See "Foxfire," p. 25)

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— Cornel West



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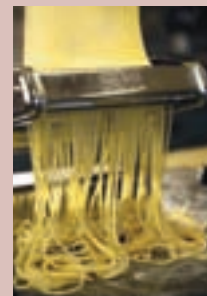
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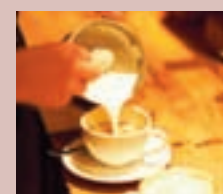
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They're undeniably cute, but herding goats

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

There is no such thing as a fair weather farmer. The balmy springlike days that punctuate the Sandhills Winter are pleasant but undependable. It is on these pretty days that volunteers line up to bottle feed sweet baby goats at Paradox Farm in West End.

Paradox is home to frolicking goats, foraging free range hens, a round-bellied

lama, and happy dogs. What is often overlooked is the dedication; the hard, repetitive work; and just a little bit of stress that keeps the animals healthy, fed, and milked.

Hunter and Sue Stovall have put their hearts into raising a strong, happy, milk herd. Assisted by farmhands drawn from the local community, the Stovalls juggle their professional careers with 24/7 farming.

Up before the chickens, they face each morning with a quick pace, no matter the weather: pulling wagons of hay and feed to the different pastures, feeding the chickens, collecting the eggs, herding the goats in to be milked, milking the goats, weighing and recording the milk per goat, straining the milk, preparing the bottles, warming the milk, bottle feeding

the baby goats one at time, recording who ate, and stressing over the ones that haven't

eaten well.

Claire Arnold, an Aberdeen

(Continued on page 5)



Goat staffer Claire Arnold happily puts in a hard day of work



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is no job for a fair-weather would-be farmer

(Continued from page 4)

native, is all smiles, no matter the time of day. With a careful step, she gently wades through the bleating kids with two coolers of milk. Some kids suck the bottle dry in less than a minute. Daintier, more fastidious, little ones prefer to meditate and occasionally suckle during an extended bottle feeding.

Adding to the endless work is kidding season — the season when heavy-laden mother goats give birth to absolutely adorable all-legs and ears kids. If all goes well, the mother goat needs no assistance. If things go poorly the mother goat needs intervention.

This not Sue Stovall's first kid round up. But even the most experienced goatherd

is wise to vagaries of Mother Nature. There is only so much you can control. Just ask new mother goat Sarah, who might think twice before backing up to another fence to scratch her haunches.

The Stovalls had no intention of breeding her. But, thanks to a billy as resourceful as he was randy, Sarah wound up with quintuplets.

Goats generally give birth to twins or triplets. It is when they struggle with quads and quints that birthing can become precarious. Three of Sarah's kids survived.

In need of quick support, Sue turned to the small knowledgeable online

(See "Goats," p. 20)



Inquisitive goats love to photobomb



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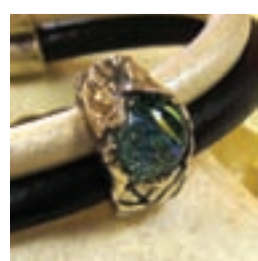


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In memory

Virginia Patterson Caddell, 89, a lifelong resident of Carthage, died Monday, March 3, at her home.

Funeral services will be held at 11 am, Friday, March 7 at the First Baptist Church, Carthage, conducted by the Reverends Ray Campbell, Marshall Old and Heath Caddell.

Entombment will be at 1:30 pm at the Cross Hill Cemetery Mausoleum in Carthage.

The family will receive friends Thursday from 6 to 8 pm at First Baptist Fellowship Hall and other times at the residence.

Born in Moore County, she was the last surviving child of the late Dewey and Thelma Gilmore Patterson.

Mrs. Caddell worked alongside her husband for many years at Alex's Exxon in Carthage, where she managed the grocery portion of the station and helped keep books.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, Alex Caddell; sisters, Frances Cockman and Olivia Griffin; and her niece, Carlotta Maples.

She is survived by her children, Carol Old and husband, Marshall, of Elon; Larry Caddell and wife, Lisa, of Carthage, and Andy Caddell and wife, Sylvia, of Cameron; adopted daughter Elizabeth Howard; nine grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law Dot Moss and husband, Jay, of Carthage.

Memorial may be made to First Baptist Church, PO Box 824, Carthage, NC 28327.

Fry and Prickett Funeral Home is assisting the Caddell Family.



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Board approves \$252,000 MCS laptop lease

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



More than three thousand laptop computers will soon find their way into the hands of middle and high school students in Northern Moore County.

Moore County's Commissioners approved a \$252,000 lease payment for 3,400 Chromebook laptop computers during their Tuesday, March 4 regular meeting.

The computers will be distributed over the next few weeks to middle school students at Elsie, Westmoore, Highfalls, New Century, and

Crains Creek and to high school students at North Moore and Union Pines. Next year, students at Pinecrest High School and West Pine and Southern Pines Middle School will receive laptops.

Moore County Schools [MCS] Deputy Superintendent Mark Bergen provided the Commissioners with copies of a Student/Parent Booklet that explain family responsibilities in accepting one of the digital devices, which students will be able to use both at school and at home.

Bergen explained that students who are given a Chromebook this year will turn it in at the end of the school year and be given the

same Chromebook next year — giving the student an incentive to take good care of the device.

The laptops will be distributed in special rollout meetings for students and parents, including at least two at each of the target schools, one at dismissal and another in the evening.

Funding the Move to Digital

The Commissioners must sign off on the digital learning expenditures because they are being paid for from a special County fund, rather than from MCS accounts. The Commissioners budgeted \$750,000 this year to support the MCS digital learning ini-

tiative.

MCS Chief Finance Officer Mike Griffin pointed out one advantage of having the lease paid for by the County: \$82,000 in sales tax savings. MCS and the County are governed by different rules when it comes to state sales taxes. Griffin said the savings would fund the purchase of 230 Chromebooks.

Commissioner Nick Picerno asked Griffin how much of the \$750,000 that the County budgeted for digital technology would be left after the \$252,000 lease payment. Griffin explained that the Commissioners had approved a \$250,000 expenditure from

(See "Commissioners," p. 19)

Picerno tries to cut some red tape for park

Commissioner Nick Picerno is trying to cut some red tape for a Seven Lakes couple with the dream of building an athletic park on ten acres near the Seven Lake Cemetery.

During the Tuesday, March 4 Commissioner's meeting, Picerno asked County Manager Wayne Vest to meet with Steven and Tammi Smith of Seven Lakes South to investigate how government regulations might be torpedoing the project.

The Smiths acquired the property last year in order to create "Synergy Park," offering several athletic fields that could attract teams from across the County. But their attempt to develop the property ran afoul of

County regulations, they told Picerno.

"This seems like a very worthwhile initiative, Picerno said. "I think the County should be doing everything we can to encourage this."

"The Smith's have had some initial meetings with Planning and appear to be a little dismayed with the rules and regulations."

"I think this is a case where we have to figure out how to make government work. I see them as entrepreneurs."

Picerno asked Vest to meet with the Smiths, try to understand how government regulations may be interfering with their plans to develop the park, and report back to the Board.

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The Culdee quilting circle pieces together

by Ellen Marcus
Times Reporter

The congregation of Culdee Presbyterian Church can trace its life — new babies, weddings, illnesses, graduations, funerals, new homes, congratulations, condolences, good times, and hard times — through miles and miles of hand stitching.

Stitches on handmade

quilts created by a small group of Culdee women, The Culdee Quilters, bind together church members, friends, kin, and the wider community.

Each Thursday the ladies congregate to sew in a well-lit, just-big-enough room at the church in Eastwood. An annual pilgrimage to Joanne's Fabric is their one outing.

These ladies are serious about the work at hand.

Sometimes, the need for secrecy leads to subterfuge. Making a quilt for Church Secretary Edith Martin, the Quilters they wanted it to be a complete surprise. Clandestine quilting bees held at a member's home. The unsuspecting secretary never saw it coming.

In a cheery red sweater Joan Altman sits in the warm sunshine quilting a straight neat row of stitches. Altman, a Scotland County native, and her husband moved to Eastwood and built their home.

The rural landscape, strong
(Continued on page 9)



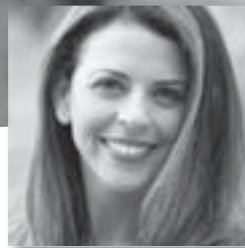
Judy McKenzie consults a quilting magazine, planning a new project



Sharron Moon quilts, while Joan Garner traces out the pattern for stitches

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community, block by block, stitch by stitch

(Continued from page 8)

community, and quilting bee is reason enough to relocate — and reason to keep coming back. Joan Garner moved from Seven Lakes to Lake Tillery in 2005 but is still an active member of the quilting circle.

Lib Burgess and her husband made the move to East-

wood to retire. “We liked the area and we have children in Charlotte, Rockingham, and Raleigh. This puts us in the middle and we get to see the grands more by being closer by,” Burgess said.

Sisterhood is a strong bond. Burgess’s sister-in-law Patsy Perkins has also joined the quilters. She just retired and

is looking to relocate to Eastwood.

“I am still looking for a place, a little farm or bungalow where I can have chickens and goats, but nothing

has jumped up so far,” Perkins said.

Nancy Koster might have the longest commute. She and her husband have moved back to Michigan, but she

still comes to quilt — in the winter months.

“I was one of the instigators of this group,” Koster said. “We don’t live here anymore.

(See “Quilters,” p. 21)



Joan Garner and Patsy Perkins lay out a quilting pattern



The Culdee Quilters – Patsy Perkins, Ann Savage, Joan Altman, Sharron Moon, Nancy Koster, Joan Garner, Judy McKenzie, and Lib Burgess



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Loan for Harnett water fails to come through

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Moore County's plan to import more water from Harnett County to supply

Seven Lakes has hit a snag.

The County hoped to secure an \$11 million zero-interest loan from the state to fund the project, which includes buying into an expansion of the Harnett County water treatment plant.

That loan won't happen this year.

The NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources committee that evaluates loan applications met in mid January and recently informed the County of its decision not to fund the Harnett County project this year.

County Public Works Director Randy Gould told *The Times* that applications for the state fund totaled \$244 million, but only \$102 million were funded — roughly forty percent. NCDENR received 89 applications for loans from its Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, and approved 23 of them

"Obviously, we're disap-

pointed," Gould said. "We've been meeting with the finance team to consider our options."

One option is to simply reapply for the same state loan in September of this year, when another round of funding cranks up.

Or, Gould said, the County could look at a "pay-as-you-go" approach.

In order to meet the qualifications for the loan application, he explained, the County rolled the entire Harnett County project into a twenty-year period, even though the water demand it was designed to meet stretch out thirty years into the future.

Initially, Gould had developed scenarios to meet anticipated water needs in ten, twenty, and thirty years. He's dusting off those plans to see whether a more gradually approach to bringing Harnett County online would allow the County to complete the project without relying on the state loan.

More Water from Harnett

The plan to bring more water from Harnett County is the solution County leaders finally settled on after nearly a decade of evaluating alter-

natives, from buying a moth-balled Robbins water plant to piping in water from an old industrial intake in Wagram.

Harnett County is expanding its water treatment plant on the Cape Fear River, and is actively seeking customers. Moore County has an existing contract to purchase up to two million gallons a day from Harnett, using that water primarily to supply the East Moore Water District.

Buying into the plant expansion will give Moore County access to another million gallons a day, while dropping the price from \$2.40 per thousand gallons to \$1.92 per thousand gallons. That deal, at an initial cost of \$5.45 million was negotiated by Commissioners Larry Caddell and Jimmy Melton, who lead the County's Water Task Force.

Another \$5.39 million is needed to design the project, lay the pipe, acquire land, and install a booster station and new water tank near West End. The County has already acquired the land for the booster pump and water tank.

Need not immediate

County leaders put water on the front burner after a couple of years of significant drought in the early 2000s, and it has been a top priority ever since.

But the weather has taken a wetter turn in the past few years — and the recession that began in 2008 has slowed construction and household growth — as well as the rate of growth in the demand for water.

"The good news is that we don't have to have this water to meet demand going into the Summer," Gould said. "Growth has slowed down,

and that has hurt us on the revenue side, but helped us on the demand side."

A good bit of the pressure for additional water resources has come from Seven Lakes, which, in the drought years, was using more water than the 880,000 gallons per day that Public Works could force through the water main that runs along NC Highway 211 and connects Seven Lakes to the County system.

An upgrade to the pump station near West Pine Elementary increased that supply to more than one million gallons per day, while wetter

(See "Water," p. 10)

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Water

(Continued from page 10)

Summers decreased demand. In July 2013, Seven Lakes usage was closer to 500,000 gallons per day than to 1 million.

7 Lakes on the front burner

Given that the need for extra water from Harnett County is not immediate, Gould told *The Times* that the County will quite likely reapply for the state loan

next year.

However, even if the decision is made to go with a phased, pay-as-you-go approach, Seven Lakes' need for an additional water source will be in Phase 1 of the plan.

"Phase 1 would be to extend the existing water line on down NC 73 to bring more water to Seven Lakes," Gould said. A water main connecting the Dormie Club to the East Moore Water District has

already covered a portion of that distance.

Moore County typically uses only about one million gallons of the two million gallons of Harnett County water that are available to it each day, so the supply is available, it's simply a matter of bringing it to Seven Lakes. That will also have the virtue of providing Seven Lakes water from two separate sources.

Though the County has

already signed a contract to participate in the expansion of the Harnett County plant, the entire \$5.35 million cost of that participation is not due up front, Gould explained. Instead, payments on that contract come due based on various stages of completion of the treatment plant expansion, which would work with a "pay-as-you-go" approach.

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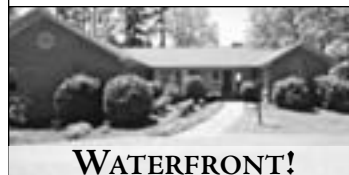
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Westsiders create 'Neighbor 2 Neighbor'

Neighbors helping neighbors is a newly formed committee in Seven Lakes West.

After observing the need in the community for extending a hand to a neighbor who might need short term assistance due to either a recent accident or surgery is what the Seven Lakes community has always been about.

Many are all in the same situation in Seven Lakes where families live long distances away or are basically by themselves. Knowing that a caring neighbor will be stopping by to chat is great to know. The reassurance that there is someone there that can assist with basic needs is a big relief in many instances.

West Side committee members are more than happy to run errands, do light grocery shopping, pick up a prescription at the pharmacy, go to the post office, retrieve a book from the library, help with correspondence or simply if someone needs a person

there to just listen. Presently, the Neighbor 2 Neighbor program is only available to

Seven Lakes West residents, but future expansion to Seven Lakes North and South is

expected in the near future.

If you know someone in need or know of someone that would like to become a volunteer, please have them contact one of the Neighbor

2 Neighbor committee coordinators (phone numbers in the Seven Lakes EMS phone directory) Sally Walsh, Lisa Sheridan, Bernadette York or Rosemary Weber.



Neighbor 2 Neighbor Committee: Lisa Sheridan, Cheryl Luc, Ruth Caldara, Bernadette York, Sally Walsh, Rosemary Weber. Not available for photo: Marilyn Lamon, Phylis Hergenbahn

Helping Family Members Age Gracefully

Watching your family members age isn't easy. Trying to help them can be even tougher.

They may be having trouble doing the things they used to handle effortlessly, but that doesn't mean they're willing to acknowledge the problem or listen to your advice. Yet, failing to help may have financial, health, and safety consequences.

Join a group discussion on Tuesday, March 18, 6 pm to 7 pm at Sandhills Memory Care, 292 McDougall Drive, Seven Lakes. This is a free workshop for family members or caregivers of seniors. For more information and to register call Barbara Stender at 673-2230 or Sandhills Memory Care at 673-2045.

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Outreach Valentine Party

Join the Chapel in the Pines on Wednesday, March 12 at 2 pm, for their annual Chapel in the Pines Outreach Valentine Party rescheduled due to the snow storm.

The Chapel invites everyone to come, especially those living in the community that are alone or shut-in. The New Horizons Band in the Pines will provide music for everyone's enjoyment.

For information or if transportation is needed, please call the Chapel office at 673-2156 or Fran stark at 673-5493.

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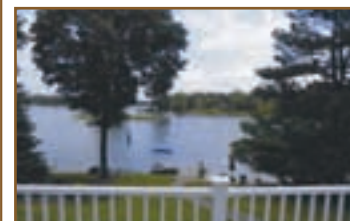
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Sports Club boosts Lake Auman fishery

by Don Smith, President
Lake Auman Sports Club

Lake Auman became the new home for more than 13,500 bream and approximately 20,000 minnows on Thursday, February 20 when the Lake Auman Sports Club volunteers stocked fish and minnows in the lake for the Seven Lakes West Landowners Association.

The bream stocked included over 12,000 two to four inch Bluegills and 1,500 four to six inch Bluegills. The Fat-head minnows, which are often sold as bait, were stocked as feeder fish for the bream and other fish in Lake Auman. The minnows will grow up to three inches in length and will reproduce

two to four times during their fourteen month life span.

The fish and minnows were placed in the lake at fifteen different locations that provided good cover and were spread around the lake. The fish were purchased from and delivered by Carolina Fish Hatchery in Turkey, NC and were certified non-invasive species.

The stocking of the fish and minnows by the SLW Landowners Association with help from the Lake Auman Sports Club addresses the primary recommendation for Lake Auman identified in a professional lake study of the lake conducted in 2012. Other initiatives to ensure and maintain the overall good

health of Lake Auman are taking place on an ongoing basis throughout the year by the Sports Club.

Five Sports Club members participated in the stocking effort. They were SLWLA Lake and Dam Director Bruce

Keyser, Ed Cockman, Jim Beck, Dave Lamon and Don Smith, who organized and supervised the stocking.



Lake Auman fish stocking team – Ed Cockman, Bonnie and Phil of Carolina Fish Hatchery, Bruce Keyser, Jim Beck, Dave Lamon and Don Smith

Seven Lakes Democrats

The Seven Lakes Precinct of the Moore County Democratic Party will hold its annual precinct organizational meeting at the Seven Lakes Fire House on Monday, March 10 at 6:45 pm.

Meetings are free and open to any registered Democrat residing in the Precinct.

Attendees will vote upon a resolution and elect delegates to the Moore County Convention. The resolution concerns North Carolina's failure to expand Medicaid and the delegates will represent

the Seven Lakes Precinct at the County Convention on April 12 at the Moore County Agricultural Center in Carthage.

Kevin Smith, Executive Committee, NAACP, will speak on The Moral Monday Movement with the subtitle "Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public." (American Educator, Cornel West)

For more information contact Seven Lakes Democratic Precinct Chair Ed Squire at 673-5258, 783-4692 or asthma.ed@gmail.com

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The challenge of serving exceptional children

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Moore County Schools [MCS] educate nearly 1500 students with exception-

al needs, using a complicated mix of federal and state funds that are often targeted to specific disabilities or specific strategies for serving students with those needs.

The number of exceptional needs children is growing, while the federal and state funding streams that support them is shrinking, creating pressure to increase local funding.

That was the message MCS Director of Student Support Services Becky Benton and Chief Finance Officer Mike Griffin brought to the Board of Education during their Thursday, February 27 Work Session.

form of autism, and 158 who are developmentally delayed.

Eighty percent of EC students are able to be served while remaining a part of the general student population.

"Fewer than twenty percent, are pulled out," Benton said.

More than two-thirds of EC students' needs are met through the creation of individualized learning plans in a team approach that includes the classroom teachers, EC specialists, parents, and students.

Another 226 leave their regular classroom for a portion of the day for special services that address their needs — for example, speech or occupational therapy.

Of the nearly 1500 EC students, only 255 attend classes in a separate classroom — but even those students are able to attend their home school.

"We do a very good job of keeping students in our own schools," Benton said. "All schools have a self-contained EC classroom."

"We don't want exceptional children being on a bus for an hour and a half every day," added Kathy Kennedy, MCS' Associate Superintendent for Instructional Design and Innovation.

Thirteen students must be served at home or in the hospital because of medical issues, and one MCS student who was unable to be served within the district was placed in a residential facility at a cost of \$10,000 per month.

The number of students in most EC categories has increased, Benton said. That includes the number of children with an autism diagnosis, up from 136 in 2012 to 158 in 2013, and students with health impairments, up

from 196 to 233.

More EC students, rising EC costs

Benton and Griffin both stressed that it is an honor for MCS to serve EC children and a service the district takes pride in providing. But that task does require substantial resources.

MCS has 413 students who require speech therapy and employs 18 therapists. Four occupational therapists are on staff to serve 233 students. MCS employs three teachers to serve hearing impaired students and one for students with vision impairment.

The system has four sign language interpreters and one brailist to translate learning materials into Braille. Two contracted sign language interpreters cost the district \$123,000 per year.

More than a dozen students have health needs or other

issues that require the full-time attention of a support person throughout the school day.

The EC transportation department serves 132 students with 14 buses, 14 drivers, and 17 monitors.

"Costs are eighty-five percent personnel in this area," Griffin told the Board, "and the health care and pension costs are rising."

"It creates local funding pressure," he said. "We don't have enough state and federal resources to cover the cost, so we have to go to other sources — other state allotments, county funds."

"The Board needs to bring awareness of the students served and the funding issue," Griffin said. "We are privileged to be able to serve these students. We are also legally obligated to provide

(See "EC," p. 15)

Large population, diverse needs

MCS served 1435 children with exceptional needs in 2010, a number that has grown to 1498 this year. Over the same time period, state allotments for MCS exceptional children's [EC] service have remained flat, increasing from \$6 million in 2010 to \$6.1 million this year, while federal funding has dropped from \$3.6 million to \$2.7 million.

Part of that drop in federal funding is explained by the end of stimulus spending under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which pumped an extra \$1 million into Moore County's EC budget in 2010 and 2011.

The moniker "EC" covers a wide range of conditions that can create challenges for learning, from mild learning disabilities to traumatic brain injury.

By far the largest single group of EC students that Moore County serves have learning disabilities; they make up a little more than one third of all EC students.

The district serves 233 students with health impairments, 214 with speech impairments, 159 with some

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March Lunch Bunch

All single seniors are invited to attend the Seven Lakes Lunch Bunch at Chapel in the Pines, Joralemon Hall on Wednesday, March 26 at noon.

The program this month will feature Jan Leitschuh, master gardener, writer and local entrepreneur.

Leitschuh is co-founder of Sandhills Farm to Table Cooperative. With over 1600 members, the co-op distributes up to 1200 subscription boxes of fresh, local produce from mid-April to early November.

All members own a share of this local enterprise, including area farmers, produce box subscribers, supporters and staff.

Leitschuh will speak on the topic "The Importance of Local Food." Come and learn how this organization creates win-win-win solutions for our area. You may read her monthly column, The Kitchen Garden, in the Pine Straw Magazine.

There is no cost. Reservations would be appreciated. Transportation will be provided if needed.

To make a reservation for lunch and/or transportation please call the Chapel office at 673-2156.

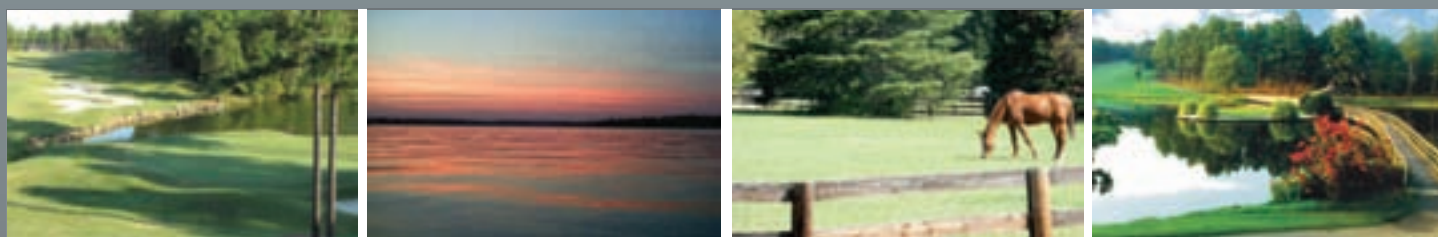
EC

(Continued from page 14)

these services. We will incur these costs. We are required to incur these costs. That will put pressure on our funding."

"We need additional resources to keep up with the cost of providing services," he said.

"It is hard to communicate with the public and hard to understand," Board member Enola Lineberger said. "because the students receiving these services are invisible to the public. But it is a huge benefit to society to



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Large master on 1st floor with tray ceiling, large BA & closet. Dining Room. Large living room. Gas fireplace & large sunroom. Beacon Ridge. 4 BR 2.5 BA 2,600+ sq.ft.
MLS# 156694 \$289,000

225 Windswept Vista, Foxfire
A gated community! Near Pinehurst, this brick home sits on 15 acres. 4 Master Suites & views of the woods in Grand Pines! 4 BR, 4 BA 4,500+ sq.ft.
ML# 153964 \$895,000

160 Pinelands Vista, Foxfire
"The Links" - a beautiful floor plan of open living, kitchen with keeping room, dining room, bonus room, and more! 4BR, 3BA 2,800+ sq.ft.
MLS# 154258 \$293,900

3 Foxfire Blvd, Foxfire Golf Front
End Unit Condo on Foxfire's East Course 18th Hole. This unit has many recent upgrades/improvements and is Move in Ready! 2 BR, 2 BA 1,000+ sq.ft.
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118 Lancashire Ln. 7 Lakes South
Great functionality! Open living space, Carolina room overlooking the inground pool, fenced backyard & wood stove in the basement! 3 BR, 2.5 BA. 1,800+ sq.ft.
MLS# 155222 \$185,000

460 Broken Ridge Trail, McLendon Hills
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Grand Pines Vista –
4 Lots \$62,000-\$137,500
Preserve Ct, 3 Lots \$40,000 each
Sterling Way, 2 Lots \$62,500 - \$125,500
Vista Ridge East/West –
4 Lots, 2-4 acres \$68,500-\$135,000
Second Wind, 2 Lots \$68,500 each
Pinelands Vista, 6 Lots \$40,000-\$44,000
152 Grande Pines Ct. E 3 Acres \$84,500
TBD Windswept Vista 12.47 Acres \$223,462
18 Oak Hill Drive 1.05 Acres \$60,000
14 Green Valley Lane .86 Acres \$29,900
TBD Potterfield Ln 10.01 Acres \$189,379
370 Gun Club Dr. \$28,000

SEVEN LAKES NORTH
146 Cardinal Dr 1.17 Acres \$49,500
SEVEN LAKES SOUTH
107 Devonshire Ave \$13,000
104 Bexley Ct .63 Acres \$18,500
SEVEN LAKES WEST
139 Beacon Ridge Dr .47 Acres \$35,000
104 Myrick Ct \$25,000
106 Myrick Ct \$25,000
126 Baker Cir \$69,900
117 Baker Cir .45 Acres \$295,000
113 Banbridge Dr 1.38 Acres \$99,500
159 Morris Dr \$445,000
176 Morris Dr \$35,000
115 James Dr \$30,000
117 James Dr \$32,000
TBA Baker Ct, 71 Acres \$351,450
124 Vanore Rd \$38,900

MCLENDON HILLS
183 Gails Rd, 1.45 Acres \$62,500
425 Broken Ridge Trail, 2.08 Ac. \$93,900
120 Broken Ridge Trail, 3.13 Ac. \$100,000
170 Beths Pt, 1 Acre \$111,000
138 Gails Rd, 2.27 Acres \$149,000
770 Broken Ridge Trail, 3 Acres \$149,000
190 Beths Pt, 1.14 Acres \$150,000
760 Broken Ridge Trail, 3.2 Ac. \$159,000
211 Beths Pt, .84 Acres \$169,000
135 Beths Pt, 2.6 Acres \$185,000
740 Broken Ridge Trail, 4 Acres \$196,800
145 Troys Pt, .8 Acres \$198,900
260 Gails Rd, 1.1 Acres \$215,000
250 Gails Rd, 1.3 Acres \$225,000
225 Beths Pt, .89 Acres \$325,000
102 Jonathons Dr, 1.3 Acres \$339,000
145 Rachels Pt, 1.49 Acres \$139,000

WEST END
TBD Dowd Rd 2.2 Acres \$10,150
11823 NC HWY 705, 6 Acres \$38,000
5579 NC HWY 211, 2.09 Acres \$45,000
215 Riverway Ln, 4.46 Acres \$45,000
208 Standing Oak Ln, 5.20 Acres \$47,500
Currie Rd, 7.16 Acres \$47,600
Lot 9 Meredith Ln, 5.28 Acres \$50,000
Currie Rd, 16.04 Acres \$108,800
TBD Fire Tower Rd, 39 Acres \$120,000
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FRIDAY, MARCH 7

- **World Day of Prayer** – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, join in the World Day of Prayer at the Chapel in the Pines. Sanctuary will be open for anyone in the community to spend as much time as they would like in silent prayer. Every thirty minutes the silence will be interrupted as scripture is read with a brief, guided Christian meditation. Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Nine & Dine and Casual Friday SLCC** – Sign up for Nine & Dine (9 hole Golf Tournament and buffet dinner) at 2 pm or Casual Friday (dinner and games) at 5:30 pm. Buffet dinner. Call 673-1100. *Public welcome.*

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 am to 10:30 am, *free* class at Seven Lakes Baptist Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 910-673-4656.
- **Lego Build Saturday** – 11 am to 1 pm. Kids come ready to build! The library's collection of Legos and K'nex will be provided. Be sure to look for some of the Lego creations on display in the library. Moore County Library, 101 Saunders Street, Carthage.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

- **Daylight Saving Time Begins**
- **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.
- **EXPLORERS! Ministry for Children at West End United Methodist Church** – 5 pm, Explorers children meet on Sunday nights for school age kids, Grades K-5. A time of learning, crafts and activities before eating dinner with the youth. Explore God's Word through scripture, crafts, games and more.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – show 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot.

Music guest: *Ameranouche*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.the-roosterswife.org (910)944-7502.

- **WEUMC Youth Group** – 6 to 7:30 pm, West End United Methodist Church Youth Group invites all youth to join. Youth Ministry is led by Mandy Allen, with Youth in 6th – 12th grades. Enjoy fellowship, study, meal.

Landowners – 7 pm, Tom Keith of Tom Keith Associates will be the guest speaker. Sponsored by Sandhills Area Land Trust, Conservation in Action. Southern Pines Civic Center, 105 S. Ashe Street, Southern Pines. Questions: 910-695-4323, www.sandhillslandtrust.org \$5 Donation appreciated.

- **Jackson Springs Community Club** – meeting, 7 pm, at the Community Center, 447 Mill Road, Jackson Springs. Dr.

Elizabeth Lyerly, DVM, will speak about the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race held in Alaska. Dr. Lyerly, graduated of NCSU with a BS degree and UGA with a DVM degree, and is Past President of the NC Veterinary Medical Association and NC Veterinarian of the Year 1994. All members of the community are invited. Judy Boroughs, 673-5963.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

- **Workshop For Farmers And Landowners** – 8:30 am to 3 pm, hosted by Sandhills Area Land Trust, Farm Transition Workshop For Farmers And Landowners at NC Cooperative Extension Office, Moore County Center, 707 Pinehurst Ave, Carthage. Cooperative Extension Center and Mount Olive College's Lois G. Britt of the Agribusiness Center will conduct a farm transition conference for farmers and landown-

What's When Calendar

**MONDAY, MARCH 10**

- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 9 am, work session. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse Game Room.
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm to 6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes
- **Seven Lakes Democratic Precinct Meeting** – 6:45 pm, annual precinct organizational meeting at the Seven Lakes Fire House. Meetings are free and open to any registered Democrat residing in the Precinct. Attendees will vote upon a resolution and elect delegates to the Moore County Convention. For information contact Seven Lakes Democratic Precinct Chair Ed Squire at 673-5258, 783-4692 or asthma.ed@gmail.com
- **"Estate Planning for**

ers. Registration required, a meal and workbooks provided. Registration fee \$10 individuals, \$5 for additional family members. To register: Richmond County Extension Office at (910) 997-8255 or <http://farm-transition.eventbrite.com>

- **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.
- **6th Annual Lunch with Legends** – Luncheon and program, Clara Barton and Anne Dallas Dudley are this year's legendary guests. Hosted by the League of Women Voters of Moore County. Pinehurst Members Club. \$30. Doors open and cash bar, 11:30 am. Call Linda Burch for reservations, 910-295-1935.
- **Foxfire Village Council** – 7 pm, meeting. at Foxfire Village Hall.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church,

- 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **Outreach Valentine Party (Rescheduled)** – 2 pm, (rescheduled due to the snow storm). The Chapel in the Pines invites everyone to come, especially those living in the community that are alone or shut-in. New Horizons Band in the Pines will provide music. Information or transportation, call Chapel office at 673-2156 or Fran Stark at 673-5493.
- **Lenten Suppers & Devotional Services** – 6 pm and 7 pm, at West End United Methodist Church. The church will join together for a special meal followed by a Lenten devotional service at 7 pm. 4015 NC Highway 73, West End
- **English Speaking Union** – New York Times best-selling author, Mary Alice Monroe, will be speaking. Held at the Country Club of North Carolina, Cocktails 6 pm, Dinner at 7 pm. Dress: Black Tie Optional, \$46 per person. Contact for Membership Information: Hope Price (910) 692-7727 or Hopewp@AOL.com
- **SL Baptist Church AWANA** – 6:30 to 8 pm, in the Hankins Family Life Center. Children age 3 to 5th grade. Seven Lakes



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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.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am until 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). Fellowship and devotion and a meal at \$5.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **SL Garden Club** – 2 pm, at The Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive. Get your body and garden into shape. Guest speaker will be Karen Backall, from Appalachian Physical Therapy. She will demonstrate exercises. Door Prize and free raffle.
- **Sandhills Winery Wine Tasting** – 5:30 pm to 8 pm. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **The Rooster's Wife** – show 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest: *Joe Craven*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

- **Zumba Class** – 9:30 am to 10:30 am, free class at Seven Lakes Baptist

Church, Hankins Family Life Center. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, 910-673-4656.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

- **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** – 2 pm, performance in the Grand Ballroom of the Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst. Theme of the program is March Madness. Concert is free and open to the public.
- **EXPLORERS! Ministry for Children at West End United Methodist Church** – 5 pm, Explorers children meet on Sunday nights for school age kids, Grades K-5. A time of learning, crafts and activities before eating dinner with the youth. Explore God's Word through scripture, crafts, games and more.
- **The Rooster's Wife** – show 6:45 pm, doors open at 6 pm, the gallery of Poplar Knight Spot. Music guest: *The Kennedys, and Tough Cats*. Rooster's Wife. 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, www.theroosterswife.org (910)944-7502.
- **WEUMC Youth Group** – 6 to 7:30 pm, West End United Methodist Church Youth Group invites all youth to join. Youth Ministry is led

by Mandy Allen, with Youth in 6th – 12th grades.

MONDAY, MARCH 17

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

- **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.
- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – monthly meeting, 11:30 am, NC District 52 Representative and Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, Jamie Boles will speak. Table on the Green, Midland Country Club. Cost: \$12. Everyone is welcome, reservations required. Call Charlotte at 910-944-9611.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6 pm, at the Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Helping Family Members Grow Old Gracefully** – 6 pm to 7 pm. Free workshop for family members or care-

givers of seniors. Sandhills Memory Care, 292 McDougall Drive, Seven Lakes. Speaker Barbara Stender. Refreshments served. Call 673-2230 or 673-2045 to reserve a seat.

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

- **Rosary at Our Lady of the Americas Church** – 8:50 am, 298 Market Rd. Biscoe, 974-3051.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.
- **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. Focus is to provide support, resources and education to the person who has been diagnosed. Facilitators: Rev. Fran Stark and Amy Natt, M.S. Contact Fran Stark at 910-673-5493.
- **Lenten Suppers & Devo-**

tional Services – 6 pm and 7 pm, at West End United Methodist Church. The church will join together for a special meal followed by a Lenten devotional service. 4015 NC Highway 73, West End.

- **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, 910-673-4656.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes.
- **Seven Lakes Landowners Association** – 7:30 pm, General meeting. Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

- **Spring Begins**
- **Gardener's Guide To Moles And Voles** – 10 am, How to deal with these furry, destructive varmints? Peter T. Hertl, Ph.D. of the NC State University Turf Entomology department will speak at the Ball Center of the Horticultural Gardens, Sandhills Community College, call Tricia Mabe, (910) 695-3882.

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Ginger Gentry Manages Sleep Disorders Centers

A health care professional with a background in respiratory care and sleep technology has been named manager of the FirstHealth of the Carolinas Sleep Disorders Centers.

A Seven Lakes resident, Ginger Gentry, RPSGT, RRT, RCP, is a registered respiratory therapist and polysomnographic technologist. She received an associate degree in respiratory care from Sandhills Community College before earning her bachelor's degree in neurodiagnostics and sleep disorders from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Prior to assuming her cur-

rent position, Gentry was a respiratory therapist with FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital, a sleep technologist with Sandhills Neurologists in Pinehurst and a respiratory care specialist with SleepMed Therapy in Pinehurst, where she managed the sleep lab.

FirstHealth has a Sleep Disorders Center at Richmond Memorial Hospital in Rockingham, Montgomery Memorial Hospital in Troy and Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst. The sleep studies conducted at each location are used to diagnose sleep disorders, which typically include:

- Sleep disordered breathing,

which may be caused by certain obstructive or central nervous system disorders.

- Problems staying awake (from conditions such as narcolepsy).
- Problems with sleep-disruptive behaviors (such as sleepwalking, night terrors or bed-wetting).
- Problems with daytime sleepiness or insomnia (from conditions such as sleep disruptive sleep apnea or restless legs syndrome).

For more information on the services offered by FirstHealth's Sleep Disorders Program, call (800) 213-3284.



Ginger Gentry

Dirt gardeners need rummage

The Weymouth Center Dirt Gardeners are seeking donations of garden white elephant items for the upcoming Dirt Gardeners Plant and White Elephant Sale to be held at the Weymouth Center in Southern Pines from 9 am to 1 pm, on Saturday, April 12 (rain or shine).

Any garden-related items you no longer need, such as old tools, pots, books, garden décor, watering cans, and similar items may be donated to the upcoming sale.

The Dirt Gardeners are also always looking for plants that can be propagated for this as well as future sales. Please keep them in mind when you do your garden cleanup this Spring. They collect plants year-round and can provide pots.

Items for the sale can be dropped off at the rear of the Weymouth Center near the garage area. If you have something large, they can help provide pickup.

Contact Kathy Luckhaus

at 949-3999 or email at dolphin3999@gmail.com to make pickup or drop-off arrangements and to let them know when you will be dropping off items.

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Commissioners

(Continued from page 7)

the fund early in the school year.

Two more expenditures are expected this year: \$80,000 for Google software that will allow the MCS Information Technology department to configure the Chromebooks without actually touching them, and \$50,000 in satchels for the computers that will help protect them from damage.

That will leave \$120,000 in the Digital Technology Fund at the end of the budget year, Griffin said.

Picerno said those funds could likely be set aside for next year.

"We would roll it over," Picerno said. "So, by doing good and saving money, you wouldn't be punished, but would be rewarded."

Commissioner Randy Saunders reminded Griffin that MCS projections developed in the Spring of 2013 suggested that the Digital Technology initiative, when fully implemented, would cost \$2 million per year, largely to replace outdated equipment. He asked whether that number had been revised downward.

Griffin explained that the earlier estimate had been based on an \$800 average per unit cost for laptops. Because the Chromebooks are less expensive than the MacBook Air laptops that MCS was initially considering, "we are now at \$350," Griffin said. "I feel that will come down."

The size of the K-12 education market, which is only now beginning to implement digital technology, he said,

will tend to drive down unit costs.

Griffin said he believed that a more accurate estimate of the annual cost may be \$1.2 million — and even that figure is likely to decrease over time.

Plenty of Questions

In addition to probing on costs, the Commissioners had other questions for Deputy Superintendent Bergen.

The Mooresville school district served as a model for Moore County's move to digital technology, and Commissioner Picerno noted that Mooresville used MacBook Airs. He asked why Moore County had departed from that model.

Bergen explained that MCS, last Fall, had tested MacBooks against Windows lap-

tops and Chromebooks in selected Moore County classrooms. Students, teachers, and digital technology specialists all agreed that the Chromebooks best met classroom needs.

"Students wanted a device that was light, that had long battery life, and that booted up quickly," Bergen explained.

"Chromebooks didn't exist when Mooresville went with MacBooks," he said. "They might make a different decision today."

Griffin stressed that testing and data collection will continue in Moore County Schools — and that leasing the devices rather than buying them creates the flexibility to transition to a different device if something better comes along.

The state has recently implemented the Common Core curriculum in math and science, new state curriculum guidelines in other subjects, and new standardized testing regimes. Picerno asked whether adding digital technology on top of all that might be asking too much of classroom teachers.

"If we were to put the devices in teachers hands and walk away, that would be malpractice," Bergen said. He explained that the teachers whose classrooms were used to test various devices would serve as mentors for their fellow teachers as digital technology is rolled out.

MCS has created a six-person team of master teachers with extensive expertise using digital technology in the class-

(See "Commissioners," p. 20)

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Dr. Mantila is board certified in Family Medicine and speaks English and Vietnamese. She takes pride in being a family doctor and having the privilege of providing health care to the entire family. Dr. Mantila, her husband and their three children make their home in Seven Lakes.

"I love being a part of this community," she says, "and I look forward to working with the families here on their health and wellness."



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Commissioners

(Continued from page 19)

room, he said, who will serve as coaches and a resource for classroom teachers.

Commissioner Otis Ritter asked how students who lack internet access at home would be able to use the devices for homework.

Bergen explained that the devices have the ability to cache web pages, so that research done via the internet at school can be stored on the device for use at home creating documents, spreadsheets, and presentations.

The Commissioners unanimously approved Griffin's request for the \$252,000 lease payment. He said an additional payment will be

due the coming July, as well as in July 2015 and 2016. After three years, the devices will be returned to the leasing company and replaced with newer models.

Other Business

In other business during their Tuesday, March 4 meeting, the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Heard a presentation on Sandhills Center for Mental Health's three year local business plan, which, under state law, must receive approval from County boards. The plan was approved unanimously.

- Approved the Center's attempt to attain "Substantial Equivalent Status," which would free it from funneling all personnel matters through

the state Office of Human Resources.

- Authorized an application Moore County Youth Services for \$131,564 in grants from the NC Department of Public Safety to fund three local programs: juvenile restitution, teen court, and psychological evaluation programs.

- Approved the travel Travel Reimbursement Policy of the Board of Education.

- Authorized the purchase of an ambulance by Public Safety for an amount not to exceed \$171,315, utilizing a cooperative local government buying agency created by the Houston-Galveston Area Council.

- Awarded a contract to NC Beal for final grading, erosion, control, and paving at the new Glendon-Carthage

Road Fire and EMS Substation. The cost of that contract puts the overall project \$65,000 over budget, a fact the Commissioners noted with some displeasure. When the overall area occupied by the station exceeded one acre, a variety of NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources regulations took effect, resulting in the increased costs.

- Granted Randolph Electric Membership Corporation an easement that will allow it to supply power to the substation.

- Approved an easement on Midland Road with MMTM Associates in order to bring utilities to the Carolina Eye expansion.

- Proclaimed March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in Moore County.

- Heard from County Manager Wayne Vest that architects had visited the County Courthouse and Currie Building and will be providing CAD drawings of suggested renovations, as well as cost estimates.

- Heard from Vest that discussions continue with Sandhills Community College and MCS about funding options for their future facilities needs.

- Appointed Peggy Caple to the RSVP Advisory Council and Jack Bickart to the Convention and Visitors Bureau Board.

Goats

(Continued from page 5)

goatherd community during several of the kiddings. She posted the situation on Facebook and good, solid information came back. With each successful birth, friends rejoiced.

That rejoicing was not simply joy over a new baby goat. It was a celebration that a friend and strong woman remained calm and delivered it. It is a testament to a couple who decided to do something more with their land.

When most professional adults are contemplating an easier life, the Stovall's dreamed of doing something more. An attorney and a doctor took on farming and cheesemaking as a third career.

The latest post on Facebook: "More babies! You would think we were raising rabbits! Curly May had 4 . . . not even half way there yet! We are looking for week-day bottle feeders at 1 pm and later on at 6 pm, weekends too! PM me if you want to schedule some volunteer cuddle time."

Sue, Hunter, and the goats will be there, rain or shine.



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Quilters

(Continued from page 9)

I commute from Michigan," she laughs, "just to come back and quilt in the Winter. We have the best of both worlds."

Sharron Moon is dressed for the occasion, in a sage green quilted vest. Moon, a native West Ender, grew up in the Methodist church. But young love brought Moon to Eastwood and Culdee.



Ann Savage

"I married and converted to Presbyterian," Moon said.

The quilters prefer to work by the strong light of day — a preference that can interfere with work schedules. Moon has been quilting with the group for almost a year.

"I was working and I didn't get to quilt during the day," she explained. "When I retired, I got to join them."

Judy McKenzie hails from the southern end of Moore County — another sweetheart conversion. A born and bred Baptist, McKenzie was wooed by an Eastwood swain.

"It will be thirty-eight years ago May that I married my husband and converted to Presbyterian," she said.

Amongst the commuters and converted, Ann Savage is a bonafide Culdee descendent. She has lived in Eastwood all of her life and resides on the old home place.

"I have just been in the area," she said. "I guess I just stayed right here, because I was planted right

here."

Regular quilter Connie Marion is absent; it's her turn to help fix supper for the monthly men's fellowship.

The quilters use fabric pens and stencils to carefully mark where the stitches will go.

"One time, we had an elderly member who would come and quilt with us," McKenzie said. "Margaret was in her nineties. She is gone now, but those were precious stitches she made."

There have been countless stitches put in and precious few pulled out. All the Culdee quilts are stitched by hand.

"We would like the church to buy us a long arm quilting machine, but it just wouldn't go through the Session," a quilter confides, referring to the body of ruling elders that guides each local Presbyterian church.

"But then, again," she added, "it might put us girls out of work. It seems to keep us out of trouble."

Anyone is invited to come, visit, and put in a stitch. The quilters have been

thanked for their quilts in many ways, from cards to gifts of vegetables.

Their work graces the sanctuary with altar cloths and an Easter banner.

The quilters reserve one quilt a year to be raffled off to raise funds for the church and for charity. Last year they made two. At \$2 a ticket, they raised \$5,200. Half of the money went to support a mission to Haiti, and the rest to the church.

For a decade, the quilts have been given as gifts for celebration and comfort.

A total of 186 lap quilts have been given to members that turn 90 years old, and to Newborns in Need and Project Linus. Twenty-two larger quilts were made for raffles or gifts.

The quilters' busy needles have turned out banners, kitchen aprons, acolyte sashes, paraments for Advent, and a "Colors of Cancer" quilt. In their spare time they stitch pillowcases for the Conquer Cancer Program at UNC Hospital.

West End History

The *Seven Lakes Times* is planning a series of articles on the history of West End. We are looking for old photos of the area, as well as older residents who may be able to share stories that touch on the history of the community — and, in particular, the history the buildings that remain in the area. If you have photos or stories, please contact Ellen Marcus, Times Reporter, at 910-603-2739 or email: ekmarcus@windstream.net

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LONG OR SHORT TERM RENTALS!

OPINION

Marbles and madness . . . It's March!

It is March. Madness is upon us.

Outside of maybe Kansas and maybe Kentucky, nobody takes college basketball more seriously than the people of what used to be called Tobacco Road, before Tobacco Road moved overseas or wherever Tobacco Road moved.

From the time I was 14 to about the time I was 32, I used to write a lot about basketball and all sorts of other kinds of balls. I was a "sports-writer."

I haven't been a sports-writer since 1983, but the label doesn't seem to want to leave me. It still shadows me. Maybe "sportswriter" intrigues people more than "pastor." Or maybe it seems less pious. I have definitely noticed people act differently around you when they figure out you are a "pastor."

My problem is, I always have of thought myself more just as "Larry." Pretty good jump shot, kind of clumsy, kind of absent-minded, writes decently, Larry. I am who I

am, to quote the Bible. I am in my 60s what I was when I was 14, pretty much, for better or for worse.

Actually, that is not true.

One real way

I am different is that I don't lose my marbles when it comes to the outcome of basketball games. I just don't.

My alma mater, Wake Forest, has lost so much that I pretty much lost track of my marbles a long time ago.

If you don't have a bit of North Carolina in your blood, and I do, since my maternal ancestors arrived here hundreds of years ago, perhaps you do not understand what a religion basketball was, is, and, as long as there is a single Tar Heel, Blue Devil, or Wolfpacker still alive, will continue to be in this state.

There was a day when this entire state would literally

shut down for the Atlantic Coast Conference basketball tournament. School buses would screech to a halt. Workplaces would turn on

of that again on February 26, when the Wolfpack Nation had its hearts torn in two when the latest Tar Heel star, Marcus Page, raced down the court and laid in a game-winning basket to end what was an extremely emotional evening among those who don red in Raleigh.

Things have changed a bit, however.

The ACC tournament unfolds in Greensboro next week, and it will command about a fourth or fifth of the attention it used to command around here. ACC tickets used to be treasured and hallowed, almost sacred. For years I sat courtside, covering a number of ACC tournaments, and never did people look at me with more envy than they did in early March.

Now ACC tournament tickets can be had, easily. Lots of people have them and don't even go, opting instead for their high definition televisions inside of their home theaters.

Indeed, the nature of college

basketball has changed. Most of the focus is now on March's Greater Madness, which is the NCAA tournament. Moods rise and fall now on what happens in the NCAA tournament, not the ACC. If your team fails to make the final 16, your mood is not so sweet. You begin wondering, that coach of ours, should he be fired?

Sixty-eight teams qualify, only one team wins, which means by the end of the month, most everybody is in a funk. You know what they say, right?

"Those who live in a land of deep funk just soon have others live there with them. On them light never shines."

Wait a minute. Maybe I am crossing my careers.

Marbles, wherefore art thou?

Larry Lyon is pastor of West End Presbyterian Church, where the congregation at least seeks to worship the one true God, which is not basketball.



From the Lyon's Den

Larry Lyon

transistor radios. Productivity would collapse. Everybody would stop and argue ferociously the merits of David Thompson vs. Phil Ford, and Duke blue vs. Carolina blue, and the NC State faithful would holler, hey look at us, over here! Even the old gold and black would pull off an upset every so often that would keep Deacons everywhere going for months. "Proud to be a Deacon," was the old saying.

Basketball remains big in these parts. I was reminded

Some suggestions for the Northside stables

Dear Editor:

After reading about the candidates running for the Seven Lakes Landowners Association Board in the Feb-

ruary 21 issue of *The Seven Lakes Times*, I realized that the cost and running of the stables seems to be a main issue. The stables are the

most expensive amenity we have.

My husband and I raise, breed, and show horses. We own nine horses, almost as many horses as are presently at the stables. Costs can be cut, if the costs are closely monitored.

There are many ways to cut costs and encourage use of the stables. The "free lease" horse we have at the stables needs to be given back to the owner. If we do this, it will reduce expenses by up to \$5,000 per year. We could also reduce the number of horses at the stables. Each horse taken out of the herd will reduce expenses by up to \$5,000 per year. If we choose to sell any landowner owned horses we need to do

it now in the Spring when the demand is there. No one wants to feed a horse over the Winter, even though our past stables manager chose to do this.

The stable can be run with two part time employees. There is no need to have two employees on every trail ride. When the need arises — holidays, horse camp — we can have both employees at the stables to handle the crowds. Employing two part time employees reduces the salary and benefits costs.

We need to make the stables more user friendly. Charging guests of landowners \$20 per trail ride is not encouraging use by guests. We need to go back to the card punch system that has

been used in the past. Cards are punched each time they are used for a trail or pony ride. Cards will be purchased at the Landowner's office. The Board can determine the price of the card and how many rides it will be good for. If a guest has no card, then a \$20 fee is charged for the ride.

The stables need to open on both Saturday (10:00 am – 5:00 pm) and Sunday (Noon – 5:00 pm). This will give the residents who work during the week a chance to ride. Close the stables on Monday. Mondays can be used to make farrier appointments so it will not disrupt the availability of horses for rides.

Offering more riding lessons
(See "Stables," p. 23)

SEVEN LAKES TIMES

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Dreamers needed!

I read a story recently about a little league baseball coach who reminisced about his own years in little league. He remembered how his coach had called together the entire team for a picnic and he asked, "Who here wants to eventually play major league baseball." Every single hand went up, as every child dreamed about playing in a major league stadium or hitting the game-winning hit in the World Series.

When he grew up to coach little league himself, he decided to ask his players the same question. He had a picnic for his players and asked, "Who here wants to eventually play major league baseball." Not one of the twelve team members raised his hand. He could see in their eyes that not one kid on his team believed he had what it took to become a major league baseball player.

Having dreams is so important to the human condition. It is critical for us to move

forward. Consider these famous predictions that underestimated the incredible power of dreaming.

Thomas Watson, the chairman of IBM in 1943 said, "I think there is a market for maybe five computers in the

er of the U.S. Office of Patents said in 1899, "Everything that can be invented has already been invented."

When people stop dreaming, progress ceases. Make sure that you continue to dream, encourage your children to dream big, because

they can do anything that they set their mind to do. I love opening *The Seven Lakes Times* and seeing that David Wid-



Bound by Grace

Rev. Chris Hrabosky

world." Ken Olson, president and founder of Digital Equipment Corporation said in 1977, "There is no reason why anyone would want a computer in their home."

Consider this Western Union memo from 1876: "The Telephone has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication." Or the words of Decca Recording Company, when they turned down signing the Beatles in 1962: "We don't like their sound and guitar music is on the way out."

Charles Duell, commission-

man and his Dad and brothers are building a submarine in their garage. I love to walk into their garage and look at the white board where they put their dreams and designs. I was so encouraged by the local businesses who contributed work and materials to the project so that they could accomplish their dream. They are dreamers who refused to listen to those who said that they couldn't do it. They overcame every barrier that was in their way.

If you have a dream, I want to encourage you to go for it. You have what it takes to

accomplish your dreams. There will be barriers and difficulties, but if it were easy then it wouldn't be a dream and everyone would do it.

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

Stables

(Continued from page 22)

in the summer months was suggested by candidate Mary Farley. That is a great way to generate money, especially when grandchildren are visiting. Do we have anyone qualified to teach lessons? If not, we need to have an instructor in place before we can offer lessons. This may be just a three month summer position. The \$35 price tag for lessons needs to continue.

Chuck Leach suggested we reconsider boarding horses to raise money. Liability and security are just a couple of the issues we have with boarding horses.

Sandy Sackmann suggested that we not allow the horses off the premises for any reason. I agree that the horses need to be here for the Landowners and their guests to use and enjoy. After all, we are paying all the costs.

Nancy Paulson
Seven Lakes North



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Who doesn't feel as if there aren't enough hours in the day? We rush through the day, running here and there, and end up exhausted. Somehow these days full of duties, obligations and busyness have begun to build up and become our lives. We spend our time doing things we don't really want to do, yet feel we should. We've come to believe that being productive and crossing things off our to-do list is the ultimate goal.

The truth is, life on Earth is a brief gift, and our time is too precious to be used like this. If we want our lives to be balanced and healthy, we need to lessen our load and increase our down time. This means planning less in a day, prioritizing those things that make our hearts sing and de-prioritizing those things that are not imperative.

If we must accomplish many things each day, we can still change the quality with which we do things. How can we transmute that sprint for the train into something delicious instead of the usual gripping and tightening experience? Where can we find ease in the midst of stress? How can we cultivate the art of going slowly?

The best way to calm down is so innate to our lives, we often take it for granted: Taking a breath. Focusing on your own breathing is the simplest form of mindful meditation and can have a significant im-

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Breath Meditation is a simple, effective and convenient way to calm your busy mind, relax your body, become grounded and find inner peace amidst the chaos of day-to-day life. Begin meditating today and reap the rewards.

So what are you waiting for? If you have time to breathe, you have time to meditate.

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Got to slow them down somehow . . .

After moving into Seven Lakes West in 2007 and observing the excessive speeding on Longleaf Drive I wrote a Letter to the Editor voicing my concern. The concern was that someone was going to get killed.

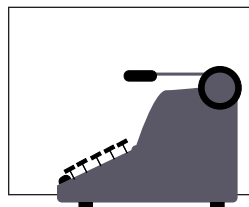
I live just off Longleaf Drive, but I can see the cars come flying over the crest of the hill down towards the two ponds, and, after much observation, I can pretty much tell how fast they are going. At the time of my first letter, I had observed cars consistently cruising 10 to 15 miles per hour over the posted 35 mph. I know what 35 looks like. I also know what 50 looks like. When I see a car doing 60 to 80 on Longleaf, it is almost unbelievable that I'm seeing it, but I have witnessed it on more occasions than I would like to admit.

I have been tailgated within three feet of the back of my truck (and I was going 30 mph) and then the person behind me decided he was going to pass me on a yellow line and with a turn coming up. I impeded his path around me, stopped in front of him, got out, and said, "You need to slow down, this is a residential neighborhood."

His response was "Who are you, the neighborhood police?"

Six months ago, I was out on my deck and heard spin-

ning tires and then a loud thud. I jumped in my truck headed toward the ponds as quickly as I could. I was the second responder to a fatal accident.



Your Turn

Rob Jonmoore
Seven Lakes West

Last month, I heard a blast right outside my house that rocked the walls. My wife and I looked out the front door and there was a truck plastered in a tree right on the side the house fifteen feet off of Longleaf. We were the first responders and called 911.

I talked with one of the EMS responders and he stated that he has responded to many, many of these occurrences over the years. The tow truck guy said he had seen a lot of these, enough to know that the car was going at least 70.

If that tree had not been there he would have ended up in our neighbors living room. The next day when the head of security come over to look at the damage, we had a conversation about speeding in the community. His response was: "If you have any ideas on how to slow them down, we would like to hear them."

There are some simple ways

to do it: Hire someone to shoot radar at different times of the day in different places; ticket for 5, 10, and 15 mph over the posted speed; and

have a graduated fine system (CCNC handles speeding like that). If the person is a non-resident and they

don't pay the fine, they are not allowed back in the gates. The monies generated would easily pay for a security person that can write tickets.

This is just one idea. There are many: use more effective signage, more effort to remind people to slow down, more community involvement — if someone sees somebody consistently speeding, get their license plate and report them.

My biggest concern is that an innocent person pulling onto Longleaf from a side street might get nailed or, worse, a kid riding his bike on a blind turn could get taken out.

When I moved to Seven Lakes West, I never thought I would be living near a major

expressway — Longleaf Drive. I know folks are frustrated because the Dam Road was closed down and they can't get onto NC Highway 211 fast enough, but 10 mph over the posted speed residential area does not cut it.

So, please, don't let it happen, do not let an innocent

person and their family be struck down needlessly.

We are spending bunches of money on a new gate house to keep law breakers out, but I see law breakers everyday. They are just not getting caught.

Keeping farm in the family

The Sandhills Area Land Trust is hosting a Farm Transition Workshop for Farmers and Landowners on Tuesday March 11, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, at the NC Cooperative Extension Office, Moore County Center, 707 Pinehurst Ave, Carthage.

Cooperative Extension Center and Mount Olive College's Lois G. Britt of the Agribusiness Center will conduct a farm transition conference for farmers and landowners.

Workshop speakers will address the following topics: Farm Transfer Issues, How to Keep Your Farm in the Family and Estate Planning Tools - Present Use Value-

Transferring Forest Assets.

This conference will provide landowners with information to start the conversation with family; illustrate different farm transition scenarios and impacts; and discuss successful real property, titled property and personal property transfer strategies.

Registration is required, a meal and workbooks will be provided. A registration fee of \$10 for individuals and \$5 for additional family members will be charged. To register: Richmond County Extension Office at (910) 997-8255 or <http://farmtransition.eventbrite.com>



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Foxfire

(Continued from page 3)

Making Moore Connections

Mayor Erickson briefed the Council on a recent meeting of Making Moore Connections, a FirstHealth-sponsored initiative that brings together municipal officials with the goal of improving the health of Moore County citizens.

Erickson said the group has focused on creating options for pedestrian and bicycle travel. The group will be seeking a \$100,000 state grant to fund a County-wide study, with the goal of using that information to apply for a \$1.5 million grant that could be used to actually implement some options for pedestrians and cyclists.

Erickson noted that Pinehurst has a public park on Chicken Plant Road and is working to create a trail network to connect that facility with Old Town.

Reviewing Water Rates

After a lengthy discussion on water, the Council agreed that Councilman Steve Durham should explore revisions to the water rate schedule.

"Our rates on the top end are way out of whack," Durham said. "They are punitive. Folks have responded that we can't afford to use irrigation systems. We're in the top quarter of the municipalities in terms of the cost of water. Maybe we can adjust all of that by tweaking the rates."

Durham said he had viewed a webinar from the NC School of Government on a water rate analysis tool that he could use to project the impact of various rate structures.

Both Durham and McCue stressed the need for the Village to explore alternative sources of water — partnering with Moore County or other local governments — before an unexpected drought catches the Village short.

"This is the time to make some alternative decisions about our water system, while things are going well," Durham said. "If we don't move forward with investi-

gating alternatives we will have to make a snap judgment later."

Budget time

Councilwoman Frusco presented and the Council approved a schedule for creating and approving the Village budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

Preliminary departmental budget requests are due to Deputy Finance Officer Sharon Sanchez by March 20, so that budget worksheets can be ready for Council review in the March 27 Work Session.

The Council will finalize its preliminary budget in the April 24 Work Session, so that it can be published for public comment. Citizen input meetings will be held on Tuesday, May 6 and Thursday, May 15.

Meeting a day early in a Wednesday, May 21 Work Session, the Council will finalize the budget. A public hear-

ing will be held during the regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 10 and the budget adopted either at that meeting or during a special meeting the week of June 23.

Other business

In other business during the Foxfire Village Council's Thursday, February 27 Work Session:

- On behalf of the Appearance Committee, Councilwoman Frusco asked Gilroy to have the Planning and Zoning Committee review the Village's height restrictions on decorative fences. The maximum is currently set at forty-two inches, and Frusco pointed out that much of the decorative fencing currently produced is manufactured to a forty-eight inch standard.

- Mayor Erickson reported that the Village swimming pool must be ready for County inspection by April 30.

The County is accelerating its pool inspection schedule in order to free up staff to meet the demands of the US Opens.

- The Council discussed how they could best promote Foxfire Village during the US Opens. The Village will soon have a billboard on NC Highway 211 and will make sure that Foxfire brochures are available at the Moore County Airport. Council members also discussed sprucing up the Village with flowering plants in high visibility locations.

- Councilman Vic Koos said some street patching

was scheduled the following day and indicated that he would be working with the contractor to develop an estimate for options to lessen the impact of concrete covers that protect the Village's water shutoffs on Reynview Vista Drive.

- The Council agreed with Koos' recommendation that the current landscaping contract with Gilbert Brown be renegotiated for next year, without putting the work out for competitive bids. Council members expressed considerable satisfaction with Brown's work. "Quality is very important," Frusco said.

Zumba at Seven Lakes Baptist

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

A Zumba licensed instructor will teach. This is a Free community class. Questions? Call the church at 673-4656. 1015 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.



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Foxtail Lane

(Continued from front page)

& 40, have been acquired by Redus One, LLC a Charlotte-based company that serves as a real estate arm of Wells Fargo.

"Redus is not probably going to build on those units," Erickson told the Council, "but they are going to try to get it in to a condition that they could sell it to someone who will build on it."

He added that Redus had called the Village offices on three separate occasions, "about what they need to do about cleaning up the lot," even asking for a recommendation of local contractors.

Iron rods protruding from the tops of the cinder block foundations have been a matter of concern for the Council and Foxtail Lane residents. The Mayor said Redus One plans to address that issue.

Penalties Pending

The third unbuilt foundation sits on lots that back up to Hoffman Road, at 38 & 40 Foxtail Lane. That lot is owned by FAC Holdings.

"Michael Brough talked with [Village Clerk] Lisa [Kivett] and asked what direction the Council wants to take," Erickson said. "Do we want to put a hold on any penalty and come up with a solution to cover the rods — or enter the penalty phase?"

"I think we follow our ordinance," Councilman Mic McCue said. "To cover it up or deal with the protruding rods is not what is called for in the ordinance."

The Council approved an amendment to the Village

Zoning Ordinance last April that requires construction to be completed in two years, unless a one-year extension is granted. Uncompleted buildings must be removed from the site. The Foxtail foundations are well past that three-year limit.

As written, the ordinance gives the Council the discretion to impose penalties of up to \$500 per day — and to treat each day that the violation persists as a separate violation. In May, the Council sent a letter to three of Jackson-affiliated companies, serving notice that they had six months to complete the buildings or risk \$500 per day penalties.

"Let's enforce our ordinance as it is written against any or all owners," McCue said regarding 38 & 40 Foxtail Lane, winning agreement from the remaining members of the Council.

Hitting the Books

Late in the meeting, prior to adjournment, *The Times* asked whether the Council intended to pursue penalties against Redus One, as well as the owners of units 38 & 40.

That prompted a lively discussion among Council members, who pulled out the ordinance books to determine what the ordinance requires when a property has changed hands during the allowed two-year construction period.

The result was some uncertainty.

"We should give them a reasonable amount of time," Erickson said. "let's see what their plan is."

"If they are going to leave those foundations in place, that isn't going to solve the problem," McCue said.

"In reality, the new owners haven't been given a notice," Councilwoman Leslie Frusco noted, referring to the six months notice of violation that the new ordinance requires. "I don't think you can treat owners differently."

"Our attorney gave six months for it to be reasonable," Erickson said. "After six months the ordinance is in effect."

As the meeting adjourned, it appeared resolving the Redus One issue would require some consultation with Village Attorney Brough.



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Lent at the Chapel

The community is welcome to join the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines on Sunday, March 9, for a Lenten study called "What Wondrous Love: Holy Week in Word and Art."

This six-session adventure will be held on six consecutive Sunday mornings through April 13 and will be facilitated by Reverend Paul James and Reverend Fran Stark.

Each Sunday, they will explore an event in the life of Christ during the week before his death and resurrection.

The pastors will discuss scripture from all four gospels as the group will be guided by video commentary from several members of the faculty at Chandler School of Theology at Emory University.

Each biblical text will be illustrated by the beautiful artwork of John August Swanson and artists from

the Chapel will comment on their interpretation of his work. Finally, the group will sing and delve into the background and lyrics of a hymn that will make the scripture come alive.

Each session will be a stand-alone unit, so there is no need to be concerned that you cannot attend all six. The community is welcome to attend one session or as many as you are able.

The Chapel in the Pines is an interdenominational chapel that welcomes all people to worship God with them each Sunday morning at 9:00 am. A time of coffee and fellowship follows in the fellowship hall at 10:00 am.

The Lenten study What Wondrous Love: Holy Week in Word and Art will follow at 10:30 am, March 9 through April 13. Childcare provided. Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive.



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SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from front page)

equipment on hand during the recent winter snow storm. Eight inches of snow and ice convinced Ritter that some additional capabilities are necessary.

"I can't believe we don't have a four wheel drive vehicle in our fleet," Ritter said.

"Giving the conditions and the careful preparation, I think [Community Manager]

Ray [Sohl] and his staff put together a plan that was about as good as we could expect," Ritter continued.

"Our staff was out there with tractors and did the job with machinery that was probably not designed for snow removal — but we still did it. The snow turned out to be more and more. Going through that process, it became clear to me that it

is never an issue, until it is an issue."

Ritter recommended that the issue be added to the agenda for the Board's Monday, March 10 Work Session and offered two possible solutions: either to purchase equipment that is designed for emergency needs or to contract with a local company that has snowplowing capability.

"We need to either get into the snowplow business, so that we can clear our streets, or have a contract," Ritter said. "There are 25 miles of roads."

Combined Lots a Challenge

After careful review and research, Treasurer Conrad Meyer confirmed that SLLA policy has always required the owner of a combined lot who desires to subdivide it to pay all dues back to the date when the lots were combined.

"A resident who has a combined lot requested to uncombine those two parcels and asked the board to waive the back dues of that parcel," Meyer said. The board voted unanimously to deny the request.

Meyer recommended that

SLLA should no longer allow lot combinations and suggested that it be brought to the board for discussion.

Allowing lot recombination is rare in other homeowners associations, but not in the SLLA. Lot recombinations have been allowed since the beginning of the community.

"It is unusual for associations to combine lots," Sohl reported. "Combining lots reduces assessment fees property wide. The reduction becomes an encumbrance for the entire community."

(See "SLLA," p. 28)

SLLA Payment Options

The Seven lakes Landowners Association will offer three options for payment of dues in 2014. Members may choose one of three options that will be in effect for the entire year. Treasurer Conrad Meyer provided to following rundown:

1. Annual Payment Option

- One-statement - payment in full
- Payment Methods - Check, On-line billpay, and CAS website
- Payment sent to lock box with statement
- CAS financial reports will reflect payment as "pre-payment"

2. Monthly Payment Plan Option 1

- Monthly auto draft
- Monthly payment charged at 1/12 of total annual assessment
- CAS \$50 administration fee per account
- 1% per month interest applied to the lot owner account on outstanding balance
- Payment due in full by the end of fiscal year

3. Monthly Payment Plan Option 2

- Monthly payment with check
- Monthly payment charged at 1/12 of total annual assessment
- CAS \$50 administration fee per account
- 1% interest per month applied to the outstanding balance
- Payment due in full by the end of the fiscal year

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123 Dennis Cr. in SLW – Wooded land with slight slope. Close to back gate **REDUCED to \$40,000**

106 Butterfly Ct. – Waterfront with bulkhead and docks. Awesome view! **\$299,000**

22 Cumberland Dr. – in Forest Creek Golf front in this beautiful development **\$195,000**

410 Sawgrass Rd. – in Eagle Springs 1.5 acres with septic and well! **REDUCED to \$13,000**

Several Carolina Equestrian Lots –
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SLLA Open Meeting

(Continued from page 27)

Pool Repairs, Before and After Swim Season

The Northside wading pool needs another drain for safety requirements. The work will be completed before the opening of the pool season. Safety hand rails will also be installed.

After pool season is over, damaged concrete sections of the pool deck and basin will be removed and replaced.

Director Chuck Leach presented other possible pool related upgrades that could be undertaken in the Fall, including replacing some of the damaged concrete patio sections with soft-scapes that would include "planting trees, shrubs, and grass that is cheaper than putting in more cement and that will add some beauty to the area."

Catch of the Day

SLLA fishermen can now harvest bass between 10 and 14 inches. Reducing the mid-size bass population will help promote the growth of larger fish. Fisherman will also be allowed to keep one trophy fish of 20 inches or greater.

SLLA members will be made aware of the new regulations in the newsletter, on the web, and through signage.

Replenishing the Herd

The recent resignation of Stable Manager Kate Pen-

nington has decreased the SLLA herd size by one horse, because Pennington used her personal horse to lead trail rides.

"This Board determined some time ago that the necessary herd size is eight horses and two ponies," Director Bob Darr said. We are now down to seven horses and two ponies. We will soon be down to six horses. One has to be let go due to health reasons."

Darr recommended a large-sized replacement horse.

"We have some pretty big people showing up to ride," he said, "and we need a bigger horse to handle them."

The unusually cold winter has decreased the number of days the stables were open.

"Here we go with Spring," Darr said, "and we need to get ready for it and get the herd back to the size that we need."

You're on Camera

The resolution and quality of motion-activated security cameras has increased while the purchase price has decreased.

The Safety and Security Committee was given the chance to meet with a camera vendor and see "some of the latest and greatest cameras that are available," President Ritter reported.

"At least one if not two down at the debris center

could be used to take photos of the gate and show who the violators are," Ritter said. "We are still finding inappropriate items dumped including railroad ties."

Ritter also recommended motion-activated cameras for the pool, "primarily to let the front gate know when anyone gets into the pool after hours."

Debris Site Overruns

Illegal dumping at the debris site has become costly.

"We are still experiencing considerable budget overrun at the debris site," Manager Sohl reported. "It continues to run over significantly — \$16,000 to date."

In March, a barcode-activated security gate will be installed to control access to the debris site.

Annual Meeting is March 23

Registration for the SLLA Annual Meeting begins at 2:30 pm on Sunday, March 23; the meeting starts at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the Joralemon Fellowship Hall of Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines.

"It is critical to get as many

residents as possible to attend," Ritter said. "Ten percent is required to conduct business," Ritter said.

Other Business

In other business during the Wednesday, February 26 SLLA Open Meeting:

- The Board voted unanimously to contract with Jewell Engineering Consultant as their on call dam consultant.

- Manager Sohl reported that Riley Paving has failed to address or correct the pavement failures on Firetree Road — and has not responded to correspondence on the matter.

- Due to time constraints

resident Eric Richey will revert back to an alternate on the judicial committee," SLLA Board Member Bob Racine reported. Donna Stephan will become a full member.

- Easter egg stuffers and hiders are needed for the annual Easter event held the Saturday before Easter, Director Darr announced. Volunteers are needed in the near future to organize a swim team.

- Director Rich Faraci has been absent from the last several meetings due to a recent surgery. Ritter reported that he is doing much better and hopes to be at the next work session.

Got Gardening Questions?

The Master Gardener Help Line is available March through October, Monday through Friday, 10 am until noon.

Call the Moore County Cooperative Extension Office at (910) 947-3188 with explanations and descrip-

tions of your gardening questions and problems. Master Gardener Volunteers will research the answers and respond to you. Walk-in consultations are available; if possible, bring a sample of the plant problem.



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Westside meeting

(Continued from front page)

Cockman. The position is now open; volunteers are being sought.

SLW on Ice

Southern snow days are rare and natives know to snuggle in and not to venture out. Vice President Bruce Keyser suggested that transplants from North of the Mason-Dixon, accustomed to extensive snow removal infrastructure, might be wise to learn to adapt.

Keyser reported that the

sensible majority of the community weathered the storm well and heeded the State of Emergency declared by County officials.

"I have encountered a number of winter storms, including the twenty-two-plus-inch storm of the century," Keyser said. "The one thing I learned early on is, in the South, you prepare and hibernate until the storm is over and Mother Nature returns things to normal."

The SLWLA contract for snow plowing services aims

to clear Longleaf Drive, as well as the entrance exit roads (Lakeway and Gateway) for safety and emergency needs.

"To be honest," Keyser said, "we were not thinking of providing our residents with the ability for general transportation — rather the ability for emergency vehicles to get as close as possible to our members, if needed."

Time to register your boat

Preparing for warmer months, boat owners are

encouraged to return their boat slip contracts by March 3. All boats must be registered with a green 2014 Lake Auman decal by May 1.

The ebb and flow of the Board's deliberations over maximum boat lengths has finally been anchored with a unanimous vote. The maximum allowable length for sailboats and pontoon boats is 24 feet overall. For other power boats, the maximum is 23 feet.

The Association invested \$5,000 in stocking bait and sport fish, with the help of the Lake Auman Sports Club,

at various locations to help sustain, feed, and populate the lake for sport fishing.

Fish large and small need a good habitat. The Sports Club placed forty recycled Christmas trees under docks to provide hiding spots.

Pat on the Back

A volunteer recognition reception will be held on Friday, March 21 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Great Room of the West Side Park Community Center.

The SLWLA Annual Meeting will be held on March 16 at 2:00 pm in the Great Room.

Get to know your moles & voles

Moles and voles elicit a series of common responses to gardeners throughout the area: scowls, mutterings, often despair.

Most gardeners have a common question: How to deal with these furry, destructive varmints?

These often unseen creatures, although having similar names and both wreaking havoc to yards, have little in common. Much of the damage attributed to moles is actually perpetrated by voles, thus effective control depends on the correct action to the correct animal.

The Sandhills Council of Garden Clubs and the Sandhills Horticultural Society, will welcome Peter T. Hertl, Ph.D. of the NC State University Turf Entomology department on March 20 at 10 am.

Dr. Hertl will speak to the community on all aspects of the problems, issues and

solutions for both pests. "Moles and voles are challenging pests to deal with for many reasons . . . both are native to North Carolina and part of the natural ecosystem. Controlling other landscape problems like insects, disease and weeds do not have the complicated legal or sensitive social issues that are often associated with controlling vertebrates."

Dr. Hertl will also discuss "viable and legal solutions for dealing with both moles and voles, but they differ substantially for each mammal."

To attend the program at the Ball Center of the Horticultural Gardens at Sandhills Community College on Thursday, March 20, 10 am, call Tricia Mabe, (910) 695-3882.

The program is *Free*, but seating is limited.

Seven Lakes Garden Club

The Seven Lakes Garden Club will meet Thursday, March 13, at 2 pm, at The Chapel in the Pines, 581 Seven Lakes Drive. Get your body and garden into shape. The guest speaker will be Karen Backall, from Appalachian Physical Therapy. She will demonstrate exercises to get everyone into shape and to stay fit.

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THE CHAPEL IN THE PINES – has Seven Lakes Cemetery plots and columbarium niches available. Contact Bob Tourt at 673-8156 for information.

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FOR SALE: 3 ACRES – on Highway 211 between Seven Lakes and Eagle Springs, lots of road frontage \$36,000. Call Blake Real Estate, Tommy Blake Broker, 910-220-2090.

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SEVEN LAKES WEST RARE ONE ACRE LOT NEAR 10TH TEE – For Sale flat, treed lot, 130 Paula Court across from Beacon Ridge Country Club. Backs up to 10th green. Lot great shape for circular drive. \$79,000. Call Laura at 615-483-2284.

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SEVEN LAKES WEST – Lots 5154 and 5153, 103 Woodcock Ct., legally combined to make 1.2 acre. Elevated cul de sac, very private, slightly sloped toward lake with potential views. All serious offers considered. Call Doug 910-975-1820.

5/30

SEVEN LAKES WEST – lot #3179 Owens Circle, cove lot, suitable for walk-out. \$150,000. 910-690-3664.

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March 7, 2014

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

SEVEN LAKES HOME AND LAWN – Call Ed at 638-2387, Rich at 638-8081 or email us at sevenlakeshl@yahoo.com for your lawn and yard upkeep.

CAREGIVERS, COMPANIONS, AND HOUSEKEEPERS AVAILABLE – Dependable and reliable. 910-692-6404, 910-992-1091, 336-302-5381. *3/21*

TREE SERVICE — ALLEN & SON TREE SERVICE. Topping, trimming, complete removal, clean-up, insured, 24 hour service. Free estimates, senior citizen discounts. Call James M. Allen at 910-974-7629 (Home) or 910-572-6818 (Cell). *tfn*

PATTY'S HELPING HANDS – companion & helper, meal prep & light housework, errands, shopping, Dr's appts, experienced, reliable, & refs. Call for appt: 910-947-5401. *3/21*

J&L HOME SERVICES — "A Handy Man and More." Interior/Exterior Home Maintenance & Repairs. Call today for Free estimates. Your Seven Lakes Neighbor. Call 673-3927.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

INTERIOR PAINTING – Get the inside of your home spruced up at reduced Winter prices. I also pressure wash, clean windows and gutters. Call or email Brian today for your free estimate! 910-585-8174. Fully Insured. brianleake06@gmail.com

DIRTY DEEDS DONE DIRTY CHEAP! – \$19/month. 96 gallon roll-out container provided for weekly pickup. Fully insured. Locally owned & operated. Professional Service. 100% Service Guarantee. **Carolina Waste Services. 910-673-4285 (HAUL).**

LOCAL RESIDENT: I buy used cars and trucks. Call before you trade. Call Kirk 910-690-9299.

CREATIVE CUSTOMWORK – "The Decorator's Workshop" Custom made Window Treatments, Bedding, Cushions, and Slipcovers. All made right here with the attention to detail demanded by the best designers! Pam Wasilewski, 336 McDougall Drive, Seven Lakes. Call 673-2500.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

GERITA'S CLEANING SERVICE – Let me do your dirty work. 15 years experience. References available. 910-639-9473. *9tp 9/6*

SEVEN LAKES DENTAL STUDIO – Repairs of dentures, acrylic partials, and relines. Same day service available. All work will be done only through your local dentist. Tom Wasilewski, 336 McDougall Drive, Seven Lakes. 673-1613. *tfn*

BUYING GOLD & SILVER SERVICE

BUYING GOLD & SILVER COINS – Sterling Silver Flatware. Old Broken Gold Cash Payments! Call 910-944-0808.

BOATS FOR SALE

NEW & USED PONTOONS AND SKI BOATS — Call Seven Lakes Marine. 673-1440.

SAILBOAT 1978 CATALINA – 22' w/trailer, 3 sails, electric trolling motor and accessories. Ready to sail, on trailer in Seven Lakes North. \$2,200 or B/O. Call Willy 207-380-7409. *3/21*

TURN YOUR USED BOAT INTO CASH — People are looking to purchase good condition used boats. Let us connect you to the prospective buyers. Call Jeff at 910-673-1440.

Advertise in The Times
Call 673-0111



Brighten Up Your Tired Kitchen!

A little fresh paint can work wonders
Call Amy for a Free Estimate: 910.986.5365

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Jim Leach/Agent

JIM LEACH AGENCY – 215-8150 – www.jimleachagency.com
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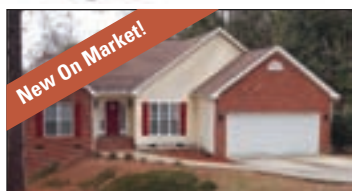


Martha Gentry's Home Selling Team

MOORE COUNTY'S MOST TRUSTED REAL ESTATE TEAM!



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



Seven Lakes West \$179,000
Great home w/views of Lake Sequoia
3 BR / 2 BA
115 Cardinal Lane



Seven Lakes West \$275,000
Lovely traditional home w/open floorplan
4 BR / 3 BA
113 Longleaf Drive



Seven Lakes West \$565,000
Beautiful custom home on Lake Auman
4 BR / 3BA
103 Vanore Road



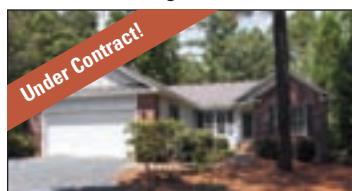
Seven Lakes West \$265,000
Elegant custom home w/open floor plan
3 BR / 2 Full & 2 Half BA
108 Smathers Drive



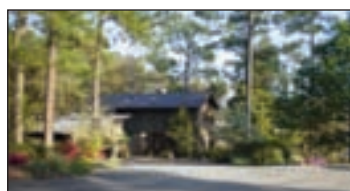
Seven Lakes South \$205,000
Super home with lots of upgrades!
4 BR / 2 BA
127 Winsford Circle



Seven Lakes West \$230,000
Charming cottage with water views
3 BR / 2 BA
136 Otter Drive



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



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



Seven Lakes West \$450,000
Stunning custom waterfront home
3 BR / 2.5 BA
459 Longleaf Drive



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



Seven Lakes North \$168,000
Charming cottage on two lots
3 BR / 2 BA
255 Firetree Lane



McLendon Hills \$565,000
French country farmhouse on 3 acres
4 BR / 3.5 BA
600 Broken Ridge Trail



Seven Lakes West \$259,000
Immaculate, cozy golf front cottage
3 BR / 2 BA
214 Longleaf Drive



Seven Lakes West \$289,900
Wonderful 2-story home on cul-de-sac
4 BR / 3BA
108 Rector Drive



Seven Lakes West \$278,900
Great home w/open floor plan
4 BR / 2.5 BA
116 James Drive



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



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



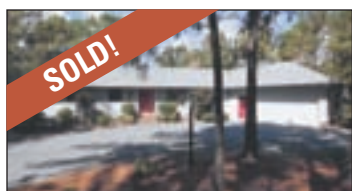
Seven Lakes West \$298,000
One-story w/sweeping golf views
3 BR / 3 BA
296 Longleaf Drive



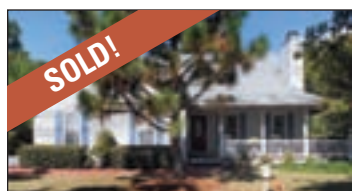
Seven Lakes West \$155,000
Charming ranch home in private setting
3 BR / 2 BA
105 Fox Run Court



Seven Lakes West \$440,000
Custom home on wooded cul-de-sac
4 BR / 3 BA
109 Timber Ridge Court



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



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



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



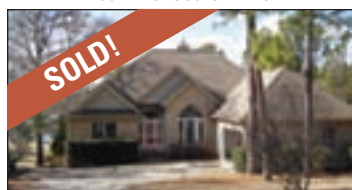
Seven Lakes West \$495,000
Lovely Lake Auman waterfront home
3 BR / 2.5 BA
163 Morris Drive



Seven Lakes West \$292,500
Cottage home on large corner lot
3 BR / 2.5 BA
347 Longleaf Drive



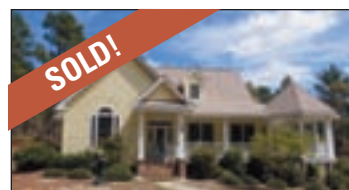
Seven Lakes North \$239,900
Gorgeous custom home by Harris & Son
3 BR / 2 BA
104 Scarlet Oak Drive



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



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



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

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Seven Lakes Area!

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