

Darr kicks hornet's nest on gate access policies

by Laura Douglass
 Times Reporter



Intentionally taking a pragmatic stance on the controversial issue of gate access, Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] President Bob Darr presented a provocative list of talking points for the Board of Directors to consider during the Monday, April 9 Work Session.

And while no action was taken on his proposal, Darr succeeded in kicking off a

heated round of discussion. "My objective of putting together this list was to take a hard-nosed position to see where we can back off. I am looking for feedback," he explained.

"We have gates and we have guards and we pay a hell of a lot of money to ensure we have security inside these gates," Darr stormed. "We need to come up with some rules or limitations — or just forget it all and just open the gates."

Quickly summarizing his

proposal, Darr made the following recommendations:

As of June 1, all vehicles would be required to have barcodes. The cost to property owners is a one time fee of \$15, good for as long as the vehicle is owned. Renewal fees for new vehicles would be \$10. Any commercial vehicles owned by residents would require a \$25 annual barcode sticker. Barcodes will not be available for purchase for non-resident family members.

(See "SLLA," p. 16)

Mailhouse architect chosen

by Stacy Naughton
 Times Reporter



During their Tuesday, April 10 meeting, the Seven Lakes West Landowners

Association [SLWLA] Board of Directors unanimously approved the appointment of Kanoy Architecture to begin drawing up blue prints for the mailhouse project.

The project includes three design phases, at a total cost of \$67,800: the mailhouse

design, at a cost of \$31,600; the front entrance, at \$20,700; and the back gate for \$15,500.

Preliminary design work is scheduled for completion on June 2 with final construction documents scheduled for completion on July 31, reported Treasurer Don Friert.

The mailhouse subcommittee, chaired by former Director John Hoffmann, interviewed six different architectural firms in March and chose Kanoy, in part because

the firm submitted the lowest bid. Firm principal Jake Kanoy is a resident of Seven Lakes West.

Among the firm's projects is the First Baptist Church of Pinehurst, located on NC Highway 211 across from Pinewild.

(See "Westside," p. 26)

Young Sculptor



WEE First-Grader Lydia Credle will be among the young artists participating in a special show at The Gallery at Seven Lakes on Friday, April 20 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, and Saturday, April 21 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. West End Elementary Art Teacher Caitlyn O'Brien and The Gallery welcome the community to this very special viewing of selected art pieces created by students from Kindergarten through 5th grade.

Board debates Robbins water

by Greg Hankins
 Times Editor



Moore County and the Town of Robbins find themselves on the verge of a long-awaited conversation about how Robbins's water resources can be used to meet the County's long-term water needs. But it's not clear that the County's Board of Commissioners have agreed among themselves what a water deal would look like.

The County and Town

Board's of Commissioners will meet in a special meeting set for Monday, April 16 to discuss water options.

During the Moore County Board's Tuesday, April 3, meeting, Commissioner Craig Kennedy presented the rough outlines of a deal that would include the following parameters:

- Robbins would keep all their current customers and infrastructure.
- Robbins would grant the County access to the town's reservoir, and the County would "commit to the town

of Robbins that we would update the intakes on Bear Creek and Cabin Creek and we would commit to keeping that reservoir full."

- The County would acquire a site for a new water treatment plant to treat water pulled from the Robbins reservoir and install lines to bring that water to Southern Moore County.

- The County would sell the Town water at a bulk rate for distribution to Robbins customers.

"There would be no money (See "Water," p. 29)

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Guild sets May date for Meet the Merchants

by Cheryl Darwell, Secretary
Seven Lakes Business Guild

Do you have a storefront or home based business in Seven Lakes? Are you a craftsperson, organization or vendor servicing the Seven Lakes area? Then you can't miss the "Meet the Merchants" day, sponsored by the Seven Lakes Business Guild, on Saturday, May 19, from 11 am - 2 pm.

The Guild invites everyone to register now for a booth to showcase your business in this most popular community event. The popular

band Almost Perfect will be back to entertain what will surely be a huge crowd of potential customers. A space at Meet the Merchants is only \$35 for non Guild businesses, and is Free to all members of the Business Guild.

Don't wait reserve your space now - contact Cheryl

Darwell at CDarwell@Cruise-Planners.com or 673-7245.

April Guild Meeting

The next Seven Lakes Business Guild meeting will be held at Lake House Bar & Grill on Monday, April 23, from 5:30 - 6:30 pm.

This is a very important meeting for discussing plans

for the remainder of the year including:

- Website revisions
- Meet the Merchants
- Setting the calendar for the rest of 2012
- Group marketing efforts
- Advertising
- Holiday event

The Guild has been hard at work improving the website, and gathering informa-

tion and pricing for various advertising projects. This meeting will be everyone's opportunity to provide the guild with feedback.

Prior to the meeting, please review the latest "work in progress" on the website, so you may offer comments and suggestions: www.SevenLakesBusinessGuild.com

CONTRIBUTORS & ADVERTISERS

Articles or advertisements submitted to *The Times* should include the name and telephone number of the author. Articles may be e-mailed to mail@sevenlakes.com, dropped off at the *Seven Lakes Times* offices at 4307 Seven Lakes Plaza, mailed to P.O. Box 602, West End, NC 27376, or faxed to 888-806-2572.

Our voice telephone number is 910-673-0111.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline	Issue
Apr 20	Apr 27
May 4	May 11
May 18	May 25
Jun 1	Jun 8
Jun 15	Jun 22
Jun 29	Jul 6
Jul 13	Jul 20
Jul 27	Aug 3
Aug 10	Aug 17
Aug 24	Aug 31
Sep 7	Sep 14
Sep 21	Sep 28
Oct 5	Oct 12
Oct 19	Oct 26
Nov 2	Nov 9
Nov 16	Nov 23
Nov 30	Dec 7
Dec 14	Dec 21
Dec 28	Jan 4

*Early publication or deadline due to holiday.

WEPC Youth Yard Sale

The West End Presbyterian Church will be holding a Yard Sale on Saturday, April 21, from 8 am to 1pm, to support the youth ministries of the church.

Many items will be available, including furniture and children and adult clothing. Proceeds will support the youth ministries

of the church. Donations for the yard sale will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact the church office at (910) 673-4341 with any questions.

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Baked Goods needed for EMS Chicken Dinner

Seven Lakes EMS is in need of baked goods for their Annual Chicken Dinner Fundraiser on Friday, April 20.

The cookies, brownies, cakes, and pies can be dropped off anytime at the EMS station on Wednesday, April 18 through Friday, April 20.

Many thanks in advance for the contributions to help with the fundraiser.

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No more clotheslines in Foxfire Village

by Stacy Naughton
Times Reporter



There will be no lingerie on the clotheslines of Foxfire.

The Village Council, during its Tuesday, April 10 meeting, unanimously approved Village Code Amendment 2012-06, which prohibits drying laundry outside or on a porch, whether screened or unscreened. Wayward laundries will be assessed a \$50 fine.

Town Clerk Lisa Kivett explained that no public hearing was required to make the modification to the Foxfire Village Code. However, a public hearing will be held in May to repeal a portion of the Village Zoning Ordinance that is in direct conflict with the new rule.

Private Wells in Foxfire

Foxfire's ordinance prohibiting the drilling of private potable water wells conflicts with state statutes, Councilman Steven Durham told the Council. Durham is working with Village Attorney Michael Brough to develop a new ordinance.

However, the the difference between irrigation wells and potable water wells is complicating the task.

"This gets more complicated and convoluted every day," Durham said. "You wouldn't think it would be so complicated; but, because of a lack of clarity — I think in the state statute regarding what potable drinking water is and isn't — it is becoming more and more difficult."

The new ordinance would repeal anything in the current ordinance that is in conflict with state law, Durham explained, while requiring that any property owner hooked up to a private well be disconnected from the Foxfire water system.

Brough outlined three scenarios for the new ordinance in a memo to the Council.

- If a person requests to have Village water, but has a private well, then the request will be denied.

- If a person is connected to both water sources — a private well and Village water — then they will have to disconnect from one of the two sources.

- If a person is on the Village water system and requests to drill a private well, then they will be disconnected from the Village water system.

Brough said a thirty-day notice of disconnect should be given; however, Durham advocated a shorter interval. "It should be almost instantaneous in terms of disconnection," he said. "After all, our responsibility is to ensure the integrity of our water supply system for the nine hundred plus members on the Foxfire system."

Finance Director Leslie Frusco said the main concern is that cross contamination from a private well can seep into the public system, which is an issue because private

wells cannot be regulated by the Village.

Durham hopes to have more information regarding private wells by Summer, at which point a public hearing will need to be held on any proposed changes to the ordinance.

Financial Report

The Village Council approved a re-negotiated interest rate and term for the Woodland Circle Extension project loan. The new interest rate will be 3.1 percent, which is the current interest rate for municipalities. The loan term has been extended from fifteen years to twenty years. The next step is for the NC Local Government Commission to approve the re-negotiated loan at their May meeting.

As of March 31, the Village has a general fund balance of \$905,000, of which \$809,000 is unrestricted funds reported Fresco. The

remaining funds are restricted.

The Water Fund balance is \$326,000 in unrestricted funds. The Village also has \$135,600 restricted to use for a new well.

The total Capital Fund balance is \$1.3 million. Fresco reported that all of the annual payments due from the water and general fund have been paid.

Nearly one hundred percent of budgeted taxes have been

collected, she said, leaving an uncollected balance to date of only \$300.

The Council will host two citizen participation workshops concerning the budget process on Tuesday, May 1 and Thursday, May 3. "It's an opportunity for individuals to come, listen, and ask questions," said Frusco.

Mayor's Report

Mayor George Erickson said
(See "Foxfire," p. 27)

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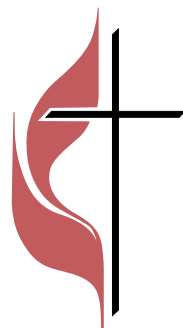
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Bebouts heading to Vegas for 'Pawn Stars'

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

Westsider Scott Bebout has a penchant for brass. Something about the shine appeals to him.

"I think it's cool; and hardly anyone buys it, so it's cheap," he explained.

And true to form, when an aged-looking pitcher made of brass was raised on the auction block recently in Lexington, no one was interested — except for Bebout.

"I didn't have a clue what it was . . . but you never know when you're going to get lucky," he said.

And Lady Luck had just arrived.

Bebout had modest expectations of cleaning up the pitcher and putting it in a display case at Ornaments, the little family-owned antiques shop in the Seven Lakes business village that he operates with his wife, Kris, and daughter, Kelsianne. However, as he buffed off the dirt, Bebout discovered a stamped marking, identifying the piece as the property of the U.S. Lighthouse Board. Further research revealed that he had a bona fide rare antique.

He knew what he had to do.

A fan of Pawn Stars, a hugely popular cable reality show that often features unusual and pricey collectibles, Bebout sent an email with some background on their find — and are now on their way to Las Vegas to film a segment for the program.

Pawn Stars debuted in 2009 and has often been compared to Antiques Roadshow — only with more tattoos. Educational and entertaining, each episode takes

viewers inside the World Famous Gold & Silver Pawn Shop and follows the ups and downs of shop owner, Rick Harrison, his father and son (known by their nick-

names "The Old Man" and "Big Hoss,") respectively, and family friend, "Chumlee."

"We were going to Las Vegas for my parents' fiftieth wedding anniversary, so we contacted the show," explained Kris. "We didn't really hear anything from them for a long time, so we put the pitcher up for sale on Ebay. We had some offers, but then the show called. We are thrilled."

Conducting their own



research into the pitcher's origins, the Bebout's have learned that the U.S. Lighthouse Board was established by Congress in 1872. Brass oil cans were a standard tool, as they were used to carefully track whale oil or kerosene usage — as oil was, and remains, a precious commodity.

Different sizes and styles of cans were used in the lighthouses, though the brass

(See "Pawn," p. 7)



Kris and Scott Bebout are headed to Vegas to try their luck with the "Pawn Stars."

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Horans named to NJ hockey Hall of Fame

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter

In honor of coaching their high school team to the state finals two years in a row in the early 1980s — including an undefeated season — Frank and Barb Horan of Seven Lakes West were recently inducted into the New Jersey High School Ice Hockey Hall of Fame.

"Our team was so family-oriented," recalled Barb. "The moms would show up to every game — sitting in the same seats and wearing the same clothes — because hockey players are so superstitious. It was incredible to see all of our players after twenty-eight years. When we last saw them they were 17-year olds, and here all those men walked in the door."

But Horan said they had no trouble figuring out who was who.

"You'll find that the body changes, but the eyes never grow up," she said.

Sponsored by the National Hockey League New Jersey Devils, the induction ceremony was held at the Prudential Center in Newark, NJ. Horan and her husband joined approximately fourteen of their players in accepting the award.

Longtime hockey lovers and coaches, Barb and Frank ran a youth hockey program and later coached two different, but very successful, high school programs.

"Our program got to be so popular they accused us of recruiting, but we weren't. The team had a reputation and recruited for itself. And it was an incredible team," she said of her boys at St. Joseph.

Frank also had a reputation of his own, Barb explained, of never allowing his players to fight and of having high expectations of his players.

"Frank always had a strong belief that sports would lead you to something. That it was a stepping stone to better things, like college," Barb explained. "We've always been very big about teaching the kids ethics and the importance of schoolwork, about

getting along with people and then giving back. And no kid ever tested Frank; they had too much respect for him."

In 1998, the couple retired from coaching and settled in Seven Lakes when Frank

took a job with the Carolina Hurricanes.

"He did a little bit of everything and was 'Mr. Jack of all Trades' for the hockey team for ten years," she explained.

During this same period, Barb discovered tennis and started coaching and organizing camps at the Seven Lakes Country Club Tennis Facility. A lifelong competitor,

Barb serves as captain of the ladies 3.5 over 70 team, and is currently finishing a 3-0 season with hopes to go on to the state finals this year.



Barb & Frank Horan (center) were recently inducted into the New Jersey High School Ice Hockey Hall of Fame.



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Saturday, Apr. 14th - Farmers Market - 9 am - 12:00 pm

Tuesday, Apr. 17th -

Cabi Clothing Trunk Show • 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Thursday, Apr. 19th -

Spring Time Wines • 5:30 - 8:00 pm

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Planning Board sends UDO to Commissioners

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



The Moore County Planning Board voted unanimously during its Thursday,

April 5 meeting to recommend the Unified Development Ordinance [UDO] for approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

Initiated over a year ago to combine multiple planning documents into a single user-friendly resource, the UDO has been on the table for public comment for the past three months of Planning Board meetings.

As part of the simplification process, several revisions were proposed, including the rezoning of approximately 249 properties into more established zoning categories. The majority of rezoned properties will change from Rural Business to Neighborhood

Business, with all current uses still permitted. Other rezoned parcels include 22 parcels changing from Rural Agricultural-30 to either RA-40 or RA-20, depending on size and location, and 23 Heavy Industrial and 22 Light Industrial parcels rezoned into a single category.

Two rounds of notification letters to affected property owners were sent; and, to date, only a handful of residents have responded.

Several family groups were observed in discussion with Planning staff shortly before the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 5, but they left without offering public comment, apparently satisfied with the information presented.

Two additional property owners did address the Board during the public hearing, with both offering similar requests to downgrade the proposed categories of their

tracts from the existing commercial designation to a residential agriculture zoning category.

Planning Board Chair Robert Hayter explained that, when the original Land Use Plan was adopted in 1999,

many properties were zoned according to historical conditions or use which did not always, in fact, reflect a more modern usage.

Offering unanimous support for their requests, he said their comments would

be included in the recommended UDO presented to the Moore County Board of Commissioners.

The next step will be a joint work session between the two county Boards to discuss the proposed UDO.

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Kiwanis Red Cross Blood Drive

The Seven Lakes Kiwanis will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on Wednesday, April 25, from 2:30 to 7 pm, at the Seven Lakes North Clubhouse.

Please make your reservation to donate by calling 673-4931. Walk-ins are welcome and encouraged to donate.

Bring your donor card or photo ID.

This blood drive is sponsored by the Seven Lakes Kiwanis Club, and The Women of Seven Lakes will provide nourishment.



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Schools seek no increase in local funding

by Laura Douglass
Times Reporter



Unanimously approving the Moore County Schools' [MCS] budget for Fiscal Year 2013, the Board of Education will send a zero-increase local funding request of \$25,540,140 in current expenses and \$711,932 in capital outlay to the County Commissioners.

Combining federal, state, and local funding sources, the MCS FY2013 budget will total \$95 million.

The Board, during its Tuesday, April 2 meeting, also unanimously approved a resolution opposing the discretionary reversion of funds to the state.

Currently representing \$62 million of the total MCS budget, state funding declined sharply after the 2008 recession and has yet to regain pre-recession levels.

Last year, the state requested that MCS return \$3.4 million; and, this year, the "reversion" is expected to total \$4.3 million.

The decline in state funding

Pawn

(Continued from page 4)

pitcher found at auction by Bebout is a three quart-size, circa 1870 to 1890, and has, thus far, proved very rare.

"We have only found two others like it online," he explained. "One was for sale, and the other is in a maritime museum."

In particular, the Bebouts are looking forward to meeting "The Old Man." A 20-year veteran of the U.S Navy and an avid collector of maritime history, he was born and raised in Lexington, where the pitcher was found. If Harrison offers the right price for the pitcher, the Bebouts said, they'll happily part with it.

As the saying goes, "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas."

"We have to keep selling so we can go look for our next treasure," said Kris.

has cost the school system a total of 176 positions, including 33 teaching positions, and per pupil funding is down nine percent.

"State budget cuts since 2008 have significantly impacted our ability to serve out students," said MCS Board Chair Kathy Farren. "More than 85 percent of our budget is in personnel. It is hard to cut \$3.4 million and not lose people. The state likes to say they haven't made cuts, but they do cut us because they send money and then have us send it back to them."

Board Member Laura Lang agreed, noting that the reversions are misleading to the public.

"Admit you're going to cut," she said. "To say they have funded you, but then to leave out the discretionary reversion? Let's call a spade a spade."

A copy of the FY 2013 MCS

Budget is available online at www.mcs.k12.nc.us.

Lottery funds to improve playgrounds

Approximately \$450,000 in state lottery funds were approved by the Board for the purpose of improving playground facilities at several elementary and middle schools in Moore County.

Lang explained that, over the past few years, renovating playgrounds to bring them up to state minimum standards has been an ongoing goal. Some schools have used PTA-generated funds to renovate playgrounds, while other renovations have been rolled into larger construction projects.

The \$450,000 approved at the April meeting will be used to close the gap and bring all county schools within state standards.



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180-day calendar approved

The General Assembly last year extended the school calendar from 180 to 185 days; however, no additional funding was provided for the additional days.

The MCS Board of Education requested a waiver to revert to the 180-day calendar — a request the state recently approved. As a result there are some slight modifications to the 2012-2013 school calendar for traditional and year-round schedules.

A complete copy of the 2012-2013 updated school calendar is available on the MCS website at www.mcs.k12.nc.us.

The Leader in Me

Based on the self-help book, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, a new program introduced this year at Aberdeen Primary School has been well-received.

Focusing on student leadership, the "Leader in Me" program utilizes the same principals as the book, though broken down into kid-friendly terms as the Seven Habits of Happy Kids. Each habit imparts values that encourage children to take charge of their own lives, to be proactive, set goals, and work cooperatively.

For more information on this program, visit www.theleaderinme.org

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Smith & Lovett win Auman Spring Bass Tourney

The weather and fish cooperated Saturday morning, March 17, as ten teams took to the waters of Lake Auman for the 2012 Lake Auman Sports Club Spring Team Bass Tournament. Twenty-four anglers competed in a four hour catch and release event with prizes awarded to teams with the heaviest total weights for the day and to individuals for the largest bass caught overall.

First place team honors went to Don Smith and Rich Lovett with a total weight of 11 pounds 7 ounces. In second place on the leader board was the team of Eddie Cagle, J.C. Cagle, and Tim Hoover who finished with a five fish limit totaling 9 pounds 3 ounces. Last year's Spring winners, Dick DeVoss and Robert Weistling, finished in third place with a weight of 7 pounds 8 ounces. The big bass prize went to Rich Lovett for catching a 7 pound 6 ounce lunker. Dick DeVoss weighed in the second largest bass at 4 pounds 3 ounces.

Special efforts were made by the anglers during the event to protect spawning bass. Some bass had started their spawn earlier than usual due to the warmer waters that the past few months of above average temperatures had created. Protecting these spawning bass helps maintain Lake Auman's fish population and is consistent with the Lake Auman Sports Club's mission.

Participating anglers enjoyed the picnic luncheon at Johnson Point following the bass tournament event. Charlie Flinchum organized the luncheon and was assisted this year by Michele Lasher, Jim Beck and Ron McGaughey. Thanks every-



Rick Lovett shows off a 7 lb 6 oz Lake Auman largemouth.

one, excellent job!

The Sports Club bass tournaments are held each year in the Spring and Fall. For

questions and additional information, contact the organizers Don Smith, Ed Cockman or Dick DeVoss.

Seven Lakes CC host 'Game-o-Rama Night'

Everyone's invited to a "Game O Rama Night" on Saturday, April 28, at Seven Lakes Country Club. It will be an evening of food and fun.

Festivities begin with Cocktails at 5:30 pm, followed by a Buffet of Fried Chicken, New Red Potatoes, Green Bean Almondine, Caesar Salad and Chocolate Mousse. Contestant and

audience participation games begin at 7:30 pm featuring "Jeopardy," "Seven Lakes Squares," and "In It To Win It." Hosts are Roni & Al Hann and committee.

All-inclusive price for members \$15 and nonmembers \$20 inclusive. Call 910-673-1100 to make your reservation.

You do not have to be a member to attend this event.



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_____	New Guinea Impatiens Basket (White, Hot Pink, Lavender, Pink, Salmon)	\$15.00
_____	Boston Fern Basket	\$15.00
_____	Ivy Geranium Basket (Burgundy, Red, Pink)	\$15.00
_____	Petunia Basket	\$15.00
_____	Mandevilla Vine (Red, White, Pink)	\$15.00
_____	Begonia Flats (36ct) (Mix, Red, White, Pink)	\$15.00
_____	Impatiens Flat (36ct) (Red, White, Pink, Mix, Lavender, Salmon)	\$15.00
_____	Vinca Flat (36ct) (Red, White, Pink, Purple)	\$15.00
_____	Marigold Flat (36ct)	\$15.00
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_____	Wave Petunia (6in) (Pink, Purple, White)	\$6.00
_____	New Guinea Impatiens (6in)	\$6.00
_____	Lantana (6in) (Red, Yellow, Orange, White)	\$6.00
_____	Gerber Daisy (6in) (Pink, Yellow, Red)	\$6.00
_____	Plectranthus (6in) (Purple, Lavender)	\$6.00
_____	Verbena (4in) (Red, Purple)	\$3.00
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For More Information Contact Rob Barrett, Seven Lakes Prescription Shoppe • 673-7467

In memory of . . .

Robert Thomas Van Vliet, 86, of Southern Pines, died Thursday, March 22, at Heartland Village Memory Care Community.

He was born in Poughkeepsie, NY, son of Thomas Aloysius and Lillian May Wesley Van Vliet.

A celebration of life will be held at the First Baptist Church of Southern Pines on Friday, April 13, at 6 pm. The memorial service will be followed by a visitation with family and friends.

Mr. Van Vliet served his country for many years, first as an interpreter and translator with the U.S. Army in Japan at the end of World War II and later as a cryptanalyst at the National Security Agency in Fort Meade, MD.

In 1991, he and his wife, the late Virginia Lucille Wright Van Vliet, moved to Pinehurst.

He is survived by daughter, Jo Ann, and son-in-law, Hans Juergen Guth, of Tuebingen, Germany; son, Alan Thomas Van Vliet, and daughter-in-law, Elaine; and his granddaughters of McLendon Hills.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, 322 Eight Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10001.

Boles Funeral Home and Crematory Inc. of Southern Pines assisted the family.

Rodney H. Becker, 89 of Seven Lakes, formerly of New Jersey died Monday, April 2 at Sandhills Memory Care, Seven Lakes.

Mr. Becker served in the Navy during WWII, a retired fireman with the Westwood, NJ Fire Department. He owned a German American Restaurant (The Meadows) in Sussex, NJ.

He is survived his wife of 62 years Shirley Becker; daughters Shirley Sikkema of Seven Lakes, Deborah Sisco of Savannah, GA; his granddaughter and two great grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at Boles Funeral Home, Seven Lakes on Friday, April

13, from 7 to 8:30 pm.

Memorial donations may be made to a charity of the donors choice or to Liberty Hospice, 300 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Southern Pines, NC 28387.

Boles Funeral Home and

Crematory, Inc. of Seven Lakes is assisting the family.

Salvatore "Sam" Cerami, 64, of Pinehurst, died Friday, March 23.

A calling took place at Falvo

Funeral Home in Rochester, NY, with funeral services following. The interment was private.

Mr. Cerami is survived by his wife of 31 years, Diane; children, Sam (Kristine), Shelley (Kyle Pagano) and Justin

Cerami; grandchildren Samantha, Libby and Stone; four sisters, many nieces; nephews; other relatives and friends.

Falvo Funeral Home of Rochester, NY, assisted the family.



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168 SIMMONS DR • LAKE AUMAN



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251 FIRETREE • 7LN



2500 SQ FT, MANY UPGRADES - \$190,000

148 MORRIS DRIVE • 7LW



POOL!

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Board passes resolution on Amendment 1

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Moore County's Board of Commissioners have unanimously approved a resolution encouraging citizens "to voice their opinion by exercising their right to vote" on Amendment One, commonly known as "The Marriage Amendment" in the Tuesday, May 8 primary election.

The action was taken during the Board's regular Tuesday, April 3 meeting, after the Commissioners heard nearly thirty minutes of public comment from supporters and opponents of the proposed amendment to the NC Constitution. Amendment One states in part that "Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State."

The NC General Statutes already ban the recognition of same-sex marriages, no matter where they are performed. The controversial amendment writes that ban into the NC Constitution, in order to make it more difficult for a court to overturn the statute.

The language of Amendment One is broader than that of the existing statute; opponents have argued that it will also cause problems for mixed-gender domestic partnerships — for example, unmarried widows and widowers living together, or younger couples who share a household and children but are unmarried. Proponents argue that the language of the Amendment covers these living variations by explicitly allowing contract among private parties.

Education, not advocacy?

Both Commissioner Nick Picerno, who brought the resolution before the Board, and County Attorney Misty Leland asserted that it merely encouraged citizens to vote on Amendment One rather than taking a position for or

against the Amendment.

"The action before the Board is not to advocate for or against Amendment One," Leland said. "It is only to encourage people to exercise their right to vote."

Noting that gay marriage is already banned by state statutes, Picerno said, "I'm not worried about gay marriage." His concern, instead, was the seriousness of any change to the State Constitution, which "should be taken seriously by all people. It deserves the time to be explained, so that our citizens

can know what they are voting about."

Picerno said the objective of the resolution was to "lead and inform the voter, not to tell them how to vote."

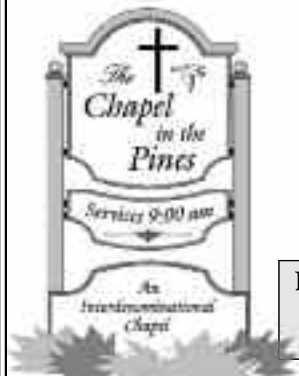
Picerno also mentioned that "all too often we are experiencing in our country where a judge or a small panel of judges are inflicting their will over the will of the people" and said the purpose of Amendment One is "to protect the will of the very people the Constitution is written for."

Of the 385 words in the

text of the resolution approved by the Commissioners, 329 words recount

legislative actions and referenda against gay marriage, (See "Amendment," p. 28)

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Non-profits brief County Commissioners

by Greg Hankins
Times Editor



Friend-to-Friend, Habitat for Humanity, the Moore County Arts Council, and other non-profit organizations that are included in Moore County's budget made brief presentations on their programs during the Tuesday, April 3 Board of Commissioners regular meeting.

Literacy Council. Steve Hurst of the Moore County Literacy Council told the Commissioners that twenty-two percent of the County's citizens cannot read at the ninth-grade level -- and thus are functionally illiterate. The council provides one-on-one tutoring to these individuals, serving 150 students in the past year. Hurst said the Council's 114 volunteers supplied \$113,000 in labor, complementing the Council's \$110,000 annual budget.

Coalition for Human Care. Vera Walker of the Sandhills/Moore Coalition for Human Care told the Board that her organization provided nearly \$490,000 in food, clothing, and financial resources to meet the emergency needs of Moore Countians last year. That included food for 7,427 people, clothing for 5,428 people, electrical

service for 1,357 households, shelter for 171 families, and emergency medications for 140 people.

Malcolm Blue Farm. Speaking on behalf of the Malcolm Blue Historical Foundation, Bob Martin reminded the Commissioners that the 7.5 acre property, with its circa-1825 farmhouse, is the only major historical museum in Moore County, providing both adults and school children a window onto 19th Century life in the pine barrens. To its annual budget of roughly \$50,000, the Foundation adds more than 6,500 hours of volunteer labor each year.

Citizen's Pet Responsibility. Angela Zumwalt of the Citizen's Pet Responsibility Committee said the group has conducted eighteen educational programs in sixteen Moore County schools this year, reaching more than 1,000 fourth grade students and contributing over 1000 volunteer teaching hours. The Committee's drive to encourage the spaying and neutering of pets has saved the county more than \$275,000 per year in the cost of dealing with unwanted pets, Zumwalt said. The Committee was founded in 2006 with a grant from the County and has subsisted on that initial funding for six years,

but will ask the Commissioners to commit \$8,000 per fiscal year to the effort, beginning in Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

Arts Council. Speaking for the Arts Council of Moore County, Chris Dunham stressed that his was the only Arts Organization that serves the entire County, boasting a \$500,000 budget and providing arts programming in every Moore County school. The Council supports a wide range of arts activities and organizations, from the recently-concluded Palustris Festival and the Holly Arts and Crafts Festival to the Moore County Choral Society and the Pinecrest Players.

Habitat. Executive Director Elizabeth Cox explained that Habitat for Humanity of the NC Sandhills has placed 202 families in "safe, decent homes" and "houses many Moore County workers who struggle to live in Moore County's expensive housing market." Habitat invests \$2 million annual in local building projects, and employs eleven people in its two "ReStore" locations. Volunteers contribute in excess of \$400,000 in labor annually, and owners of Habitat homes paid \$110,000 in property taxes in 2011.

Friend to Friend. Anne Friesen, Executive Director

of Friend to Friend told the Board that her organization offers a variety of services to help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault rebuild their lives, including a 24-Hour Crisis Line, referral services, emergency shelter, court advocacy, and community outreach. Last year, Friend to Friend handled more than 1,900 crisis calls and client support sessions, as well as making community education presentations to over 7,000 Moore County residents and students. Friesen estimated that providing the services currently provided by Friend to Friend would cost Moore County more than \$500,000 per year.

County Manager Cary McSwain thanked the organ-

izations for their reports and for the services they provide to Moore Countians.

"There is no way we could provide the services we do without the hours that you put in," Commissioner Tim Lea said. "Thank you."

"You are living examples that, if you have a good cause, people will show up to help you," Chairman Larry Caddell added.

Other Business

In other business during their Tuesday, April 3 meeting the Moore County Board of Commissioners:

- Passed a resolution honoring World War II pilot and Carthage native Hoyle Upchurch.

(See "Commissioners," p. 25)



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Senior Enrichment Center is 'steppin' out'

by Mary Price
Seven Lakes West

Put on your dancing shoes and help Moore County's Senior Enrichment Center celebrate its fifth anniversary by attending a very special Sunday Tea Dance on April 22.

The gala is presented by the Moore County Council on Aging and will be held at the Center from 5-8 pm and feature the great rhythms of the Swing Street Band led by Tom Bernett.

Goldie's Gourmet of Seven Lakes will cater the delicious hors d'oeuvres buffet and there will be great dancing from the nostalgic big band era as well as Latin rhythms and a bit of rock. The Swing Street Band features a nine member band with leader and featured singer, Tom Bernett, and a "who's who" of the best jazz musicians in the area.

The tickets are only \$20 and can be purchased at the Senior Enrichment Center, The Country Bookshop, The Arts Council of Moore County at the Campbell House, Given Library and Sandhills Winery in Seven Lakes.

Seating is limited and early ticket purchases are advised. Seven Lakes has three members serving on the Commissioner appointed Council on Aging: Carolyn Mealing,

Pauline Taylor and Mary Price, and you may call them for additional information.

Have you been to the Moore County Senior Enrichment Center? Each week over 600 people drop in to take part in a wide variety of educational, social, health and arts programs. Its Fitness Center has a membership of 2600 and is used by active adults. This membership includes 50 people ranging in age from 91 to 100. Isn't that encouraging! All this activity helps to explain why the center is certified as a Center of Excellence by the State of North Carolina.

The Senior Enrichment Center is also the home of the Department of Aging run by Director, Teri Prots. Prots' department handles Family Caregiver Support Programs; Medicare counseling under the SHIP program; Nutrition programs, including two Diner's Clubs and home-delivered meals; Medical transportation programs and In-Home Aide Programs.

The Senior Enrichment Center opened in 2007 and is just down the road on Highway 15-501. Go down Highway 73, turn right and keep going until you see a Crown station on your left. The Center is on the right, just after you pass the station.

If you are wondering why a government supported agency needs a fundraiser, it is because Moore County contributes only about one-half of the total budget with other lesser amounts coming from the state and federal governments, corporate and private donations. To maintain the current level of activity and to complete the lower level of the building, which will expand the fitness area with a running track and rooms for classes, money needs to be raised.

Give some thought to "step-pin out" and dancing the afternoon away on Sunday, April 22. You'll have a great time and help to make the running track a reality.

Prancing Horse Barn Dance at McLendon Hills

The Annual Spring Barn Dance to benefit Prancing Horse Therapeutic Riding Center will be held at the McLendon Hills Equestrian Center, in Seven Lakes, on Saturday, April 21, 6 pm to 10 pm.

Tickets for the event are \$45 per person and avail-

able for purchase at Sandhills Winery, Seven Lakes; Moore Equine and The Country Bookshop, Southern Pines; Given Book Shop and Village Wine Shop, Pinehurst; or www.prancing-horsecenter.com.

For more information, call 910-246-3202.

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Enjoy Clenny Creek Day

Bring the whole family to the Seventh Annual Clenny Creek Day Saturday, April 21, have food, fun, and support the Moore County Historical Association's maintenance of two historic dwellings: The Bryant House and McLendon Cabin at 3361 Mt. Carmel Road, Carthage.

Admission is free and parking is abundant off Richardson Road in the field, with parking signs showing you where to park.

Come and spend the whole day, 10 am to 5 pm. It's the annual rite of Spring organized by the Friends of the Bryant House, an 1820s-era furnished home on the site, next door to the 1760s era Joel McLendon Cabin, the oldest dwelling on its original site in Moore County. Both

historic house museums owned by the Moore County Historical Association are open year-round for tours.

There will be live music all day, more vendors than ever before, and the biggest White Elephant sale ever.

There will be "camps" of both American Revolution and Civil War reenactors on the beautiful Spring grounds, demonstrations of old-time activities such as quilting, weaving, and living history demonstrations in the cabin.

Hot lunches will be on sale: This year, enjoy delicious Boar's Head premium beef hot dogs, pinto beans, corn bread, and beverages.

Vendors will have crafts, heirloom plants, baked goods, jewelry and all kinds of items for sale and display.

A drawing will be held at 4 pm. Items donated so far include a gas grill from the John Davis family; plants from Poverty Hill Nursery; a 5x7 foot Oriental rug from Gulistan Carpets of Aberdeen; and a Toshiba 19-inch HDTV from Milton Sills.

Raffle tickets may be purchased for \$1 each at the Shaw House, corner of Morganton Road and Broad Street in Southern Pines, or from Friends of the Bryant House. You do not have to be present to win.

(In case of rain, Clenny Creek Day will be held the next day on Sunday, April 22, 12 noon to 5 pm.)

For information, call (910) 692-2051 or visit: www.moorehistory.com

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SLLA Work Session

(Continued from front page)

No boats without proper SLLA stickers would be allowed inside the gates whether power boats and non-power boats.

Charitable and civic groups that frequent SLLA facilities would provide a list of non-resident member names at the gates for access.

Members of the Fitness Club, Seven Lakes Country Club [SLCC], and the Tennis Facility may purchase barcodes. SLCC will provide the guard with tee times and player names for access.

Residents of Seven Lakes West would be required to purchase a valid barcode or be called in the gate for access.

Darr explained again that he had intentionally crafted harsh policies in hopes that discussion would demonstrate where more flexibility is needed.

"What I am trying to do is force people to buy barcodes," Darr said. "I feel we have up to a third of our residents who do not have them currently. I know having delays at the gate will cause traffic jams, but I do not know of any other way to encourage these residents to buy the barcodes."

Members of the Board and the Association quickly raised concerns about a number of Darr's proposals.

Jim Allen suggested a more moderate and balanced approach to access policies and cautioned against creating generic categories.

George Temple argued against requiring registration stickers for non-power boats, noting that safety has always been the primary issue and that an extra kayak or small sailboat on the lake would make little difference.

Director Steve Ritter noted

that 18,000 people played golf last year on the SLCC course and that the dining room was open for lunch six days a week. In addition, he said, the Club uses an online tee time service that could prove problematic if golfers make reservations the night before a round.

Director Chuck Leach presented for consideration a fee structure in use at another gated community with substantially higher fees.

Treasurer Conrad Meyer thanked Darr for his proposal, noting that it illustrated the complexity of the access issue. Meyer recommended that a formal plan should be developed on which to collect feedback.

Darr responded that time was a consideration, with new access policies in Seven Lakes West effective May 1.

"At that point, we will have a whole lot of people without

verification coming through our gates," he warned.

Currently, Westside residents have three ways to access SLLA property: they can be called in the gate as a guest, they may purchase a SLLA barcode, or use a window sticker. The new Westside access policy will do away with the window sticker.

Debris Site

Over budget and with no relief in sight for the coming year, the Board is taking a hard look at ways to reduce costs at the Yard Debris Site.

Typically, this popular amenity costs approximately \$25,000 each year; but the current year is expected to close with \$33,000 in Debris Site expenditures, and next year's approved budget set aside \$40,000 for the site.

"We are crunched as it relates to dollars and cents,"

President Darr said. "Next year, we will start to feel a real pinch, and we have to take a look at the dollars with everything we do."

"The Board is looking at the cost of hauling our debris from the site," he continued, "looking at the possibility of chipping and ways to separate materials like twigs and logs from pine straw and leaves. We are looking at ways to find and catch violators, so we can slap them with a good, heavy fine. In a survey of the community, the Debris Site came in as the number one amenity [in terms of percent usage]. It is used — very used — but I am concerned about the rise in cost."

Since February 2011, the debris site has been cleared through a contract with a commercial hauler, Chris Brooks, who was present at

(See "SLLA," p. 17)




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Heating and Cooling

SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 16)

the meeting to answer questions. He explained that debris removal fees are based on volume, not weight. He also said he loads his trucks manually using tarps, a practice that allows more debris to be piled each trip.

Brooks told the Board that debris that is too large, as well as unauthorized material, is driving up the cost. Frequently cited unauthorized items include old construction materials such as decking and bulkhead planks, dry-wall, and landscape ties. He estimated that two out of every ten loads removed have these items.

Brooks also noted that vehicles will wait until he leaves before entering the site, a move he said suggests non-members are also using the site to dispose of yard materials. Brooks argued that better policing — not changing hauling services — would be a more efficient way of reducing costs.

President Darr said another bid from a larger truck service could lower the cost, but he argued that cost should not be the only consideration.

"We must consider both the size of the trucks and also the way that Brooks has attended to the facility. My personal opinion is that I have never seen it look that good," said Darr, applauding Brooks' careful attention to clearing the area neatly.

A security camera is installed and operational at the dump, noted Darr, but the resolution is not strong enough to discern the difference between a four-inch or six-inch log being dumped.

Northsider Bob Cook reminded the Board that, at one time, the Yard Debris Site was manned by volunteers to discourage illegal usage.

Darr agreed that volunteers would be beneficial, but said it would probably require limiting the number of hours the site is open. Another consideration would be hiring staff to man the site.

Finance Committee member George Temple estimated that up to forty percent of the debris in the site is unauthorized — either construction materials or yard items deposited by non-members or commercial contractors.

"The biggest thing we need to do is get more cameras down there," Temple argued. "Even if we have to pay \$10,000 for a decent camera, it would pay for itself in a year."

Treasurer Meyers asked whether there would be any advantage to hauling debris by weight rather than volume; but also agreed that the lowest cost way to improve the site was to find volunteers to man it.

Northsider Les Sommers quickly raised his hand and offered to take a turn.

Stables

Looking to minimize costs at the stables, the Recreation Committee has unanimously recommended that the total number of horses should be reduced by half and the empty stalls used for boarding, Community Manager Alina Cochran reported.

Currently, there are eleven animals at the stables — seven horses and three ponies. By reducing the number to four or five horses and a pony, with six stalls used for boarding horses at a set fee, Cochran projected a net cost savings of approximately \$33,000 — representing a fifty percent reduction in expenditures.

Cochran explained that the

stables would offer a full boarding operation, with feed, hay, and animal handling provided. Other services, including farrier and veterinarian costs, would be charged directly back to the horse owner.

"The total number of trail rides is going down each year," Treasurer Meyer said. "I agree with the proposal to 'right-size' the amenity to the amount we use it. With eleven horses, we have ten times the capacity needed."

However, Meyer cautioned that insurance liability is a concern with boarding facilities.

"I have no problem with right-sizing the number of horses and ponies; but, with

boarding, there are more questions that must be answered," he said.

ADA pool lifts

A proposed Federal mandate to install Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA]-compliant lifts in public pools has created more questions than answers for operators across the country.

The new law is in legislative limbo for the next sixty days; but, if approved in its current form, it could require the SLLA to install two lifts, at an expected cost of \$11,000.

"The problem is, our legal opinion is that we don't need the lifts if we limit our pool to our members only,"

(See "SLLA," p. 20)



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FRIDAY, APRIL 13

- **Casual Friday at SLCC** – 5-9 pm, \$10 (all inclusive). Baked Penne pasta w/marinara sauce, & salad. Food, games & socializing.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

- **McLendon Hills Community Yard Sale** – 8 am – 11 am. The ultimate yard sale! 1.5 miles past Seven Lakes on Hwy. 211, McLendon Hills residents combine their treasures for a huge neighborhood yard sale. Household & yard items, furniture, clothing, toys, games and much, much more!
- **Weymouth Center Plant Sale** – 9 am to 1 pm, sponsored by the Dirt Gardeners. Price friendly perennials, shrubs, trees, ground covers, vines, and herbs that thrive in the heat, humidity, and poor soils of the Sandhills. Cash and checks accepted. Experienced gardeners will answer questions and help load your vehicle. 555 East Connecticut Avenue, Southern Pines. Information: 255-0010, 949-3999, or dolphin3999@gmail.com
- **Farmers' Market – at Sandhills Winery** 9 am - 12 pm, local produce and handcrafts. 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **4th Annual NC Pottery Festival** – 9 am to 6 pm, Seagrove. Over 60 potters and crafts people under the Big Top, at Seagrove Elementary School, 528 Old Plank Road, Seagrove. Admission is \$5 per person. Meet talented potters and craftsmen carrying on a 200 year old tradition. Tickets and more information contact Martha Graves at 336-873-7887 seagrovepotterymuseum.org
- **Project Linus Workshop** – 10 am - 2 pm, FirstHealth Cancer Center Classroom. The group will be making fleece blankets and giving crochet lessons. Please drop by and help make blankets for the EMS. Stay for an hour or for the session. Bring a snack and drink. Call Pat Weber 673-1457 or email

weberconsult@nc.rr.com if you have any questions.

- **Carolina Pines Ballroom Chapter** – 7 pm, food & snacks, then from 7:30 pm - 8 pm, a showcase featuring members of the USA



dance chapter. Open dancing from 8-10. 105 McReynolds St. Carthage. Singles and couples welcome. Bring an appetizer or a food to share. Beverages are provided. \$7 members, \$10 guests.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

- **St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church** – 9:30 am, Holy Communion. 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes, 673-3838.
- **4th Annual NC Pottery Festival** – 9 am to 6 pm, sponsored by The Museum of North Carolina Traditional Pottery in Seagrove. 60 potters and crafts people under the Big Top, at Seagrove Elementary School, 528 Old Plank Road, Seagrove. Admission is \$5 per person. Meet talented potters and craftsmen carrying on a 200 year old tradition. Demonstrations. For tickets/information Martha Graves at 336-873-7887 seagrovepotterymuseum.org

- **Discovery Hike** – 3 pm, join the Park Ranger for a short walk (approximately 2 miles) to discover the plants and animals that nature has to offer along some of the trails in Weymouth Woods. Weymouth Woods, 1024 Fort Bragg Rd., Southern Pines, 910-692-2167.

- **Bohemian Rhapsody Concert** – 4 pm, Chamber Music Concert by The Carolina Philharmonic at Owens Auditorium, Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst. Tickets are \$25 general; \$40 preferred; \$10 students are available www.shop.carolinaphil.org (910) 687 4746.

- **Congregational Church of Pinehurst UCC** – 7 pm, documentary film - "The One Percent" is by a young heir to the Johnson and Johnson family who, to the chagrin of his family, makes a film about the one percent in the society who have 40% of the nation's annual income and whose aggregate net worth is more than that of the bottom 90%. The film is free of charge and everyone is welcome to view the films and join in the discussion. Pinehurst Congregational Church, 895 Linden Road, across from Elliott's. (910) 295-2243 or contact John Arnold (910) 295-2456 or by email at jarno@nc.rr.com

MONDAY, APRIL 16

- **Seven Lakes Artists Group** – 1 pm, meets every Monday at Seven Lakes Northside Clubhouse. All Local artists are welcome join the group.
- **Senior Center Health Fair** – 1 - 4 pm. Preventive Vaccines (Pneumonia & Flu), Obesity (Prevention & treatment), Diabetes Management of Oral Hypoglycemic. Come by for the sessions. Students will be presenting the information for all. Sponsored by Sandhills Community College Nursing Program. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.
- **Weight Watchers Meeting** – 5 pm-6 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes. Group leader Rachel Carr.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, *Special Meeting*, at First Baptist Church, 651 East Hemp Street, Robbins.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

- **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. All welcome.

- **League of Women Voters of Moore County** – lunch meeting. Check-in time is 11:30 am; the meeting will start at 11:45 am. The topic of the meeting is questions about privatization. Held at the Table on the Green Restaurant, inside Midland Country Club, 2205 Midland Rd., Southern Pines. Reservation for the luncheon required. Members of the Moore County League may reserve by replying to an email that has been sent to members. Ginger Finney, at 910-673-1330, to reserve. Cost for luncheon is \$12; a check payable to LWVMC.
- **Senior Center Health Fair** – 1 - 4 pm, RSV (diagnosis, prevention and treatment), Understanding BMI (basal metabolic index), Diabetes Management with Insulin, Diabetes Diet Management. Come by for the sessions. Students will be presenting the information for all. Sponsored by Sandhills Community College Nursing Program. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.
- **Moore County Board of Commissioners** – 6:00 pm, at the Historic Courthouse, Carthage.
- **Welcome to Medicare** – 7 to 8:30 pm, Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) counselors Jill Sherman and Jeanette

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

- **Senior Center Health Fair** – 8 - 11 am. Living with COPD, Fall Prevention for Older Adults, Diabetes Management with Insulin, General Overview of Diabetes (Type I and Type II come) come by for the sessions. Students will be presenting the information. Sponsored by Sandhills Community College Nursing Program. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.
- **Project Linus Workshop** – 10 am - 2 pm, Seven Lakes North Clubhouse. Pot luck lunch and 2012 update, plans, and schedule. Bring a covered dish and learn more about Project Linus. Call Pat Weber 673-1457 or email weberconsult@nc.rr.com if you have any questions.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.
- **Senior Center Health Fair** – 1-4 pm., Food Borne Illness Prevention, MRSA/ Stopping the Chain of infection, Diabetes Management with Oral Hypoglycemic, Diabetes Diet Management. Come by for the session. Students will be presenting the information. Sponsored by Sandhills Community College Nursing Program. Senior Enrichment Center, 8040 NC Highway 15-501, Pinehurst.
- **Rosary at Chapel in the Pines** – 7 pm, at the Chapel in the Pines. Coordinator Virginia Heerema, 673-5150. Seven Lakes Drive.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

- **Bread of Life Ministry** – West End United Methodist Church, 11 am to 1 pm. Ministry is for seniors (widows, widowers, and the elderly). A time of fellowship and devotion and a wonderful meal for \$5.
- **Gallery at Seven Lakes** – 1 - 4 pm, at St. Mary Mag-

dalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive, Seven Lakes.

- **Wine Tasting** – at Sandhills Winery *Spring Time Wines*, 5:30 to 8 pm, 1057 Seven Lakes Drive. (910) 673-2949. www.sandhillswinery.com
- **Rufus Barringer Civil War Roundtable** – meeting 7 pm, at the Southern Pines Civic Club, located at Ashe and Pennsylvania Aves., behind the tennis courts, Southern Pines. Special guest speaker Robert Gragg. He will present his new book "Covered with Glory: The 26th North Carolina in the Gettysburg Campaign." New members are needed, and visitors are welcome. Refreshments served. Information 910-235-0946 or 910-695-9058.
- **Moore County Amateur Radio Society (MOCARS)** – 7 pm, meeting at the Moore County Health Department, 705 Pinehurst Ave, Carthage. Topics for discussion will include initial planning for initial club activities including the Southern Pines SpringFest with the Red Cross, the Carthage Buggy Fest and ARRL Field Day in June. For more class and examination information contact Charles Wackerman at 910-672-2707. For more club information contact James Johnson 910-400-3019.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

- **SL EMS Chicken Dinner** – annual Fundraiser. Lunch will be served 11:30 am to 2 pm, dinner served 4:30 pm to 7 pm. Only \$8 per dinner. Dinner consists of a choice of chicken breast or drumstick & thigh and include coleslaw, baked beans, roll, desert, and beverage. Dine at the EMS building while visiting with your friends and neighbors or purchase take-out dinners. Come and support this worthwhile cause and meet some of your neighbors who are serving you.
- **WEE Kids at The Gallery** – 7 pm to 9 pm, West End Elementary Art students from K through 5th – Grade. Grand Opening Student Art event featured at

The Gallery located in St Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Dr., Seven Lakes. Parents, Grandparents and the community are invited to attend this special event.


SATURDAY, APRIL 21

- **Earth Day Celebration** – 8 am - *Bird Banding* - Get up close and personal as you learn about our feathered friends from ornithologist Susan Campbell. 10 am *Wildflower Walk* - Local author and botanist Bruce Sorrie will lead the group on an exploration through the colors of Spring. 12 pm (noon) *Red-cockaded Woodpeckers* join biologist Brady Beck for a talk on the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker and a search for their nest trees. 8 am - 1 pm - *Compass Course* - Stop by any time during these hours to test your navigation skills on a short but entertaining compass course. All Day (8 am-5 pm) - *Nature Photography*. Browse at your leisure this display created by local third graders. Weymouth Woods, 910-692-2167, 1024 Ft. Bragg Rd. Southern Pines. All programs Free open to Public.

- **West End Presbyterian Church Youth Yard Sale** – 8 am to 1pm, to support the youth ministries of the church. Many items will be available, including furniture and children and adult clothing. Proceeds support the youth ministries of the church. Donations for the yard sale greatly appreciated. Contact the church office at (910) 673-4341 with any questions. West End Presbyterian Church 275 Knox Lane, West End.
- **Annual Pinehurst Garden Club Plant Sale** – Flats of 36 plants are \$12.50 each and 6.5 inch pots of geraniums are \$5.25 each, all in assorted colors. Hanging baskets, ferns, Mandeville and other annuals. Call 420-2661 or 295-0730.
- **Seventh Annual Clenny**

Creek Day – 10 am to 5 pm, at the Bryant House and McLendon Cabin, both at 3361 Mt. Carmel Road, Carthage. Admission free. Vendors available with jewelry, heritage tomato and other plants, baked goods, carved furniture, toys, and many other items to buy. Games organized by the Clenny Creek Day Committee. People in costume as historical figures to see and hear, music and food for purchase. (In case of rain Saturday, events move to Sunday, April 22, noon to 5.) (910) 692-2051.


- **WEE Kids at The Gallery** – 11 am - 1 pm, West End Elementary Art students from K - 5th Grade. Grand Opening Student Art event at St Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, 1145 Seven Lakes Drive.



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SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 17)

explained Darr. "We have a swim team, and some members of it are not Association members, and they also hold swim meets. If we don't have a swim team with people from the outside, and we don't have meets, we may not have to put in the lifts — but it is all still up in the air.

Recommending no action, Meyer said it was too early to make a reasonable decision.

"Our own lawyer has said the situation is confusing," he noted.

"It seems to me the best thing to do is let the dust settle until the Feds can get their act together and decide what they want to do," said Meyer.

However, Meyer said he supported installing the lift if a handicapped resident needed it for access to the pool and requested it.

"In that case, I think it would be a good idea and is a different issue when considering the cost," he said.

Director Dave Buckingham suggested that an alternative solution of installing a sloped entrance to the shallow end

of the pool should be considered.

No pool lifeguards?

Liability was also cited as a major concern as it relates to the use of lifeguards.

Darr said his understanding of the issue is that, if a child drowns at the community pool while it is staffed by a lifeguard, the liability would be enormous.

"You wouldn't have enough money to pay the suit," he explained. "If you put up signs that say 'Swim at Own Risk' and don't provide lifeguards, then the responsibility for safety falls to the individual parent. From a liability standpoint, we would be better off without them."

Community Manager Alina Cochran said, according to the Association's insurance coverage, there is no legal requirement to provide lifeguards, as long as access is controlled by a pool attendant. Cochran noted that signs are already in place that state "No Lifeguards on Duty," as they are an insurance requirement whether a lifeguard is on duty or not.

Recreation Director Bob Racine was unable to attend

the meeting, but Darr reported for him that the Recreation Committee unanimously supported keeping the lifeguards in place.

"I have mixed feelings," said Director Chuck Leach. "Kids love that diving board. If we don't have lifeguards and still maintain the diving boards, that is where injuries will occur."

Director Steve Ritter recommended that a legal opinion should be consulted before any action is taken.

"I understand the responsibility of having lifeguards," he said, "but I would like to think we would be able to say we tried to make a safe environment — but accidents do happen."

Ritter continued: "I have taken my grandchildren to the pool and seen heavy activity. With the lifeguards, we have some control. I would hate to see 25 or 30 kids in there running roughshod, their parents watching, or maybe not."

Northsider Laurie Werner questioned how the liability issue would apply if the Association employed pool attendants to provide control over the pool, but not lifeguarding

services.

Darr said he would contact legal counsel for additional information and bring the discussion back to the Board at a later date.

Sequoia Island bulkhead

With positive recommendations from both the Lakes & Dam Committee and the newly formed Long Range Planning [LRP] Committee, the Board tacitly approved

one of the three quotes received for renovation work at the Sequoia Island bulkhead. The proposed contract will be discussed and moved for action at the April 25 Open Meeting.

Lakes & Dam Director Fentzlaff said the work is not a wish list item, but a necessity.

"It is a hazard," he explained. "The bulkhead is

(See "SLLA," p. 21)

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SLLA Work Session

(Continued from page 20)

almost to the point that trying to repair it will be more expensive than replacing it. The amount of deterioration in just the last few months has been astonishing."

Security Director Steve Ritter expressed concern about the budgetary impact of the work; however, Meyer explained that unrestricted reserve funding was set aside by the LRP for prioritized capital items.

"There is money there," he said.

Northsider Bob Cook expressed doubt putting a priority on what he views as a limited amenity.

"You have talked about budgets and the Reserve Study," Cook said. "We can't pave our roads — we can get started, but not pave them all. Now you're going to spend on an amenity available to only a limited number of residents. I don't see how that makes sense," Cook said.

Fentzloff quickly opposed closing the island.

"We live in place called Seven Lakes," he said. "They are a major draw for residents. They are what keep our property values decent. We have a good stable market value to our homes; and, if we have an island on a lake

that we can't use, people could say: If they have an island they let fall apart and degrade, what other things are they going to let fall apart?"

During discussion, it was also noted that allowing the island to naturally degrade would still eventually require a considerable sum to dismantle and remove the debris.

Revamped website

Describing the current website as not much more than an electronic brochure, Communications Director Dave Buckingham reported he has identified new website software that has strong features and functionality to handle the multiple uses of a revamped community website.

He noted the site would offer several layers of security features and has options for posting documents and also classified advertisements.

"We could put the entire 'Interlake' up there and do away with that cost," Buckingham said. "I would like to see scrolling news and alerts on the new site and make it a single location for people to access information."

Buckingham also noted the

revamped site would provide a much stronger marketing opportunity to potential new residents.

Darr spoke in support of updating the website.

"It is time to move into the 21st century," he said. "There are a lot of things coming up that this board will have to sell — for example, where we are paving, what we are doing, and what we are not doing with any project. We have made a commitment to be transparent and communicative with our members."

Director Fentzloff agreed and noted that online communications would be a better way to connect with a large segment of the community that is not represented at meetings.

Lot Combinations

During the past month, several more property owners have requested Board approval for lot combinations, Community Manager Cochran reported. Those requests will be forwarded for a formal vote later in April.

Treasurer Meyer said it was a good business practice for the Board to review each request and offer approval in writing — but noted the information presented must be complete.

"We are looking for deeds that have been updated with Moore County," he said. "We also want to see that surveys have also been updated to reflect the combination of lots. I have no problem approving a combination, but it must have updated documents — and only then is the point when dues can be reduced from multiple to a single lot fee."

ARB

Four members of the Architectural Review Board [ARB] were nominated to continue their role for the coming year; JoAn Moses, Edie Starkey,

Dennis Mueller, and Donna Stephan. A formal vote of appointment will be held at the April 25 Open Meeting.

ARB Director Don Fentzloff said the committee recommends a rules revision to eliminate the existing restriction that only two septic fields may be constructed per one lot, in favor of adhering to county regulations, which allows multiple septic fields per lot.

"The committee felt that the information on septic lots should be clarified and placed in the rule book in a logical place where it can be easily found," explained Fentzloff.



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139 Beacon Ridge Drive, Lot 6044, Seven Lakes West
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128 Vanore Road, SL West – Lot 4207 Sec. Blackwood
Large sloping timbered lot across the street from Lake Auman. Lot near front gate entrance.
Call Ann Benton . . . \$59,000

102 Donnell Pt – Lot 4283, Seven Lakes
Large corner lot at Dennis and Donnell Pt. with large waterviews.
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111 Dubose Drive Seven Lakes West, Lot 5161 Westwood Sec
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No one comes to the Father . . .

Question: "No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6. I can't believe that the Jesus I accept as the hope for all humanity would even entertain such a thought. What are your thoughts on the matter?

Response: I want to attempt an answer to your question without wading too deep into the waters of New Testament scholarship and theology, although some critical thinking is necessary to give you a satisfactory answer.

The passage you quote from the fourteenth chapter of the Gospel of John is a favorite proof text for those Christians who seem to find it necessary to exclude most people from God's love in order to enhance their membership in "the club" of the chosen ones.

Since they have found God through a particular interpretation of scriptures that they call "the plan of salvation," they cannot imagine,



Ask the 'Rev'

Rev. Don Welch

much less accept, that there are ways to experience God other than their own.

The Gospel of John was written during the last decade of the first century, about sixty years or more after Jesus' death. This gospel, unlike the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke, presents

the Jesus story through long narratives and extensive conversation between Jesus, his disciples, and others. It is unlikely that the exact words

Jesus uttered while he was alive were actually recorded in the memory of the author or his sources.

The evangelists, including John, not infrequently ascribed Christian words to Jesus — they made him talk like a Christian, when in fact he was a Jewish rabbi that Christians saw as their savior and hero, giving him names such as "Christ" and "Son of God." They creatively invented speeches for Jesus

and wrote them in Greek, even though Jesus' native tongue was most likely Aramaic.

In addition, John was part of a Christian community that apparently was in continuous conflict with the leaders of Judaism in the same community. It may have been important for these particular Christians to see Jesus as the only way to God and to discredit Judaism and Roman paganism as an unacceptable way to God. Consequently, the Gospel of John is seen by many as being somewhat ant-Semitic.

This does not mean that Christians cannot learn a great deal about Jesus from John. This Gospel happens to be my favorite. It does mean that one cannot pull one or two sentences out of

context and be absolutely sure that these are the words of Jesus rather than words put into the mouth of Jesus by the author representing a particular Christian perspective.

I agree with you that the Jesus through whom I found the way to God and the Jesus you see as the hope for all humanity would not exclude Jews or Muslims, Buddhists or Hindus who have found their way to God and seek to lead a life of love and justice. My salvation as a Christian does not depend on the damnation of others.

Don Welch, the minister of the Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, welcomes your comments and questions at: donwelch1@nc.rr.com

Seven Lakes West - No marketing needed

Dear Editor:

The Seven Lakes West Landowners Association (SLWLA) board is considering a proposal by board member Mr. Friert to give some guy \$50,000 to tell us what our "vision" should be.

I can't think of a less effective way to spend money. Unless I've missed a big picture item in the meeting

reports, we do not need to market nor develop Seven Lakes West.

It appears that Mr. Friert's background in real estate has led him to believe that Seven Lakes West needs to be developed by the people who live here. He also thinks Seven Lakes West is a hodge-podge fraught with a wealth of past errors. The only errors

that come to mind since we moved here in 2006 are a few poorly thought out (and dropped) proposals for putting a 4-way stop at the club house entrance, building a gate to nowhere from Bannbridge Drive to Currie Mill road, and installing a big bucks replacement gate for the boat storage lot.

On the positive side, the

dam and lower pond have been restored and their appearance improved, the infrastructure maintained, the mailhouse and Railroad Crossing changes have been planned, enjoyable social activities have been maintained, and security improved.

Here's what should be considered for long range planning:

1. How much longer are the roads and infrastructure going to hold up, and how much will it cost to fix them?
2. How much longer will the dam hold up and how much will it cost to fix it?
3. What concerns are there for threats to the lake water quality, how shall they be addressed and how much will it cost?
4. Where's the money coming from for the new mailhouse and gate house?

In short, what's it take to maintain what we have rather

than marketing, developing, and "having a vision?" What we have and need to maintain IS the vision, otherwise most of us would not have chosen to live here.

What's inside the Seven Lakes West gates doesn't need to be marketed. It sells itself as attested to by the rate at which houses were going up here before the crash. When the economy gets back to pre-crash level the development will take place without any interference from the SLWLA board, provided they continue to address items 1-4 above. If the codes and standards in place are enforced (which they weren't in the case of the RV "barn" on Longleaf Dr.), development will take place just fine.

I thank all of you for your efforts on behalf of the community. Just don't fix stuff that ain't broke.

*Bruce Macdonald
Seven Lakes West*

SEVEN
SLAKES
TIMES

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Ruth H. Sullivan, & Thomas J. Tucker

Sandhills Winery's a real Seven Lakes gem

Dear Editor:

Since moving to Seven Lakes in 1998, my wife and I have seen many positive changes in the area including the addition of several new businesses.

We believe in supporting local businesses that offer quality service and products. Since we enjoy drinking wine especially with our evening meal, we were delighted when Bob and Leslie Rose decided to open Sandhills Winery in Seven Lakes about three years ago. Their well stocked store provides an array of wines for every budget and palate. When we have asked for a wine not on the shelves, Leslie was quick to find it and place an order for us.

Sandhills Winery is not just a store that sells any wine. Bob and Leslie are constantly searching for high quality wines at reasonable prices. Moreover, they are committed to providing opportunities for their customers to learn more about wines by offering tasting sessions and classes during which information about wine is presented and discussed. Paired tastings offered both with different wines and complimentary foods make deciding which wines to purchase much easier.

There is no better way to decide if you will like a particular wine than to taste it first. The opportunity to taste before buying is usually provided in stores that specialize in selling wine but seldom, if ever, provided in stores that offer wine along with many other products.

Currently, at Sandhills Win-

ery, a series of eight Italian Wine Classes is in progress. We have attended the first four and plan to attend the remaining four classes.

Cory Sloan from the Country Vintner leads the classes that focus on 16 of the 20 different wine regions in Italy. He makes each class enjoyable in an atmosphere that

is informal and friendly. Each class begins with a brief history of the region followed by a description of the soils, discussion of the vineyards where each of the sampled wines is grown and produced, as well as a description of the flavor profile of the particular wine that will be tasted. Also, the winemaking

philosophy and techniques of each vineyard are discussed and the special characteristics of each vineyard's unique wines are explained.

The schedule for the remaining four Italian Wine Classes is: April 23, April 30, May 7 and May 12. All classes begin a 6 pm, and are held at the Sandhills Winery on Seven Lakes Dr. next to the Food Lion.

If you enjoy good wine and food, we highly recommend these classes. The quality of food pairings and wine is excellent. The classes are \$25/person. This is quite a bargain considering the price includes five different wines paired with five different servings of delicious food prepared from fresh ingredients. Add

to this, some of the wines included in the tastings thus far were priced between \$35 and \$53 a bottle.

We thought some food offerings were every bit as good as entrees we have enjoyed in finer restaurants. Most wines offered in the classes are more moderately priced and all are discounted for those who attend. So, this is a great opportunity to learn and experience a world class wine with good food at an unbeatable price.

We have learned a great deal about wine, especially Italian wines, and tasted some of the best we have found anywhere. Come join us at the next class.

John & Carol Caggiano
Seven Lakes North

What Seven Lakes needs is more unity

Dear Editor:

In reply to George Jenner's letter to *The Times* on March 30, I say "Thank You." There are many of us who hope and pray that a reasonable solution to the problem some think we have - be resolved.

When we moved here in 1996, we thought this was a community, a community of North, South, and West residents. To our dismay it

has become very separate with some speaking very unkind words and causing a breach in our relationships. What a shame. Many of us have some of our best friends living on the North and South sides. Please Board members unify our "Sides" as opposed to more separation.

Let there be peace!

Phyllis Mahin
Seven Lakes West



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We're all friends. Why split up Seven Lakes?

Dear Editor:

"Hey Westsiders, Let's get it together." This six-word title to George Jenner's letter to the editor is well worth repeating again and again.

Our *Times* editor may well

have chosen these words for they so eloquently portray the content of Mr Jenner's letter in the March 30 issue of *The Times*.

The last paragraph of "Hey Westsiders, let's get it

together" states, and we quote: "All we would have had to do was to work out a plan that would combine the gate software to recognize all Seven Laker's at any gate and at any time — no phone calls

to gate guards — no sponsors required — no hassle at all. Just a community of friends. Friends who respect one another for each of us having the great goodwill and expansiveness to be one real community."

Doesn't this say it all? We welcome all Westsiders to our North and South sides, whether to join us for golf, tennis, bridge, or to utilize the fitness center, the stables or any of our other great amenities. We are one com-

munity. Let's do everything we can to keep it that way and, not be subjected to criticism for unduly complicating access to our North, South, and West Sides.

Thank you George for admonishing one and all to "get it together."

*Ron Erskine & Jim Allen,
Seven Lakes North
And, joined we feel sure, by
the overwhelming majority
of our fellow neighbors.*

Taste of the Town a Hit!

Dear Editor:

Taste Of The Town A Hit

The Women of Seven Lakes put together another successful event this year for the Taste of the Town on March 26. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit West End UMC Food Pantry and Friend to Friend.

The evening offered some of the best culinary specialties from many favorite community restaurants.

The Women of Seven Lakes would like to say thank you to the many local businesses for their generous contributions of merchandise and gift certificates which made it possible for us to create such outstanding gift baskets for our raffles – Beacon Ridge Golf and Country Club, Seven Lakes Country Club, Nina's, Seven Lakes Pizza Kitchen, Dickey's BBQ, Bonefish, Texas Roadhouse, Fratello's, Italian Table, Harris Teeter Table on the Green, and Sandhills Winery.

A special thank you to all of this year's participating restaurants - Basco Catering, Coldstone Creamery, Dog Nation Grill, The Flavor Exchange, Hickory Tavern, Lady Bedford's Tea Parlour, Lake House Bar and Grill, Little River Golf & Resort, Market Place, Mulligan's on 18, Rita's Italian Ice, Seven Lakes Snack Shop, Swordfish Grill, Table on the Green and White Rabbit Catering.

Through the support of all of these restaurants and local

businesses the Taste of the Town was a tremendous success and will benefit so many

people in our community.

*Rosemary Weber
Women of Seven Lakes*

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Should SLLA Board rethink hiring of Talis?

Dear Editor:

I must start by thanking last year's five newest Seven Lakes Landowners Association [SLLA] board members for a job well done! You had a lot of problems to overcome, and you succeeded!

I see we now have an Assistant Manager who was hired without a vote by the Board because it was "in the budget." She is paid over \$40,000 thousand (look at the budget for the salary info) to assist a manager who is only here

four days a week, who talked a previous board into getting rid of maintenance personnel, who spent over \$12,000 on landscaping that was not authorized, who has a closed door policy, and who has overstepped her bounds other

times concerning our community.

This Talis person has less to manage now and can't do that without an assistant? Why are we putting up with Talis? \$150,000 to Talis, \$140,000 to Davenport Landscaping, now over \$40,000 for an Assistant Manager. Around \$330,000 a year, about a fourth of our budget, for what?

to decide if we continue with this type of management, go with another company, or have an individual of their choosing to run our community. I simply hope they look after the landowners first and leave any personal agendas out of it.

Steve Hudson
Seven Lakes North

[Editor's Note: Mr. Hudson is a former Treasurer of the SLLA, so we will leave the budget parsing to him. But we see the same number of folks working in the SLLA office that have been on staff since Talis was hired — one fewer full-time equivalent, by our count, than in the pre-Talis period. — GH]

Our money is kept in banks in Raleigh (not here in Moore County), our web site is controlled by Talis, and the list goes on. They were given a three-year contract — to an unknown company — when most businesses would start with only one year.

The new board will have

Commissioners

(Continued from page 12)

- Declared April Child Abuse Prevention Month in Moore County.
- Called a Public Hearing for Tuesday, April 17 on a \$1 million low interest loan from the State Revolving Loan Fund that will be used to pay for Moore County Public Utilities' Lift Station 3-4 Replacement project
- Approved a \$39,000 change order for the \$21.5 million upgrade and expansion of the Addor Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Board also agreed that the County Manager is authorized to

sign off on future change orders of not more than \$50,000, with the proviso that the Board be informed of any such requests.

Appointments

The Board tabled an appointment to the Moore County ABC Board, but made several other appointments, including:

- Marilyn Flock to the RSVP Advisory Council.
- Jane Robinson to the Nursing and Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee.

- Francine Crumbaugh and Violet Bahr to the Moore County Library Board of Trustees.
- Carol Henry to the Pinehurst Planning and Zoning Board.
- Betty Sapp to the Pinehurst Board of Adjustment.



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Westside

(Continued from front page)

"He [Kanoy] is very excited to have this opportunity to help improve the quality of our community," said Friert.

After the design of all three phases is complete, Friert said, the Board will be able to obtain a firmer estimate of the cost of the project.

Westside Vision Plan

The Board unanimously approved issuing a Request for Proposal [RFP] to several companies regarding "community vision and planning" for Seven Lakes West.

Friert requested the RFP approval, saying a vision and plan are necessary in order to take Seven Lakes West from "a group of mergers and acquisitions to a planned community."

"We would constantly step back and say: Where are we going?" said Friert. "However we really can't point to any work that is understood by the community, by the Board, by the committees, by the members at large that says this is what the community should be, going forward."

Friert said community feedback is important in creating a vision for Seven Lakes West: "The key element to this whole thing is getting the participation of the community in the development of it."

"We have major amounts of money in that ten-year projection — millions of dollars to be spent on this community," he continued, "and the question is: Are we going to spend it in the right places? Are we spending it where we should spend it?"

Legal Director Jack Stevens said looking at all the bankruptcies in the community, some are due to lack of planning.

In order to get community feedback, Events Director Rosemary Weber said, a Town Hall meeting should be "a vital important part" of the process.

Friert said he expected the vision and planning process would not be complete until Summer of 2013 — and asserted that the project will require the partici-

pation of an outside consulting firm.

Westsider Dale Erickson said he is in favor of the "vision plan." "This isn't a 'nice-to-have' thing," he said. "I believe the vision statement and all that surrounds it is absolutely essential to the community. It provides a road map."

Simply issuing RFPs for the project comes with little cost to the Association. However, in March the Long Range Planning Committee estimated that the project itself could cost \$50,000.

Digitizing Records

Carolina Records Center will make a presentation to the Board on digitally archiving community records. The Archive Committee, a sub-committee under the Legal Committee which was using volunteer labor to scan the documents, has requested the presentation.

Legal Director Jack Stevens said having Association documents in digital form could save the Association \$5,000 a year in legal fees.

"We are just looking for information right now,"

Stevens said of the Carolina Records Center presentation.

Reminders to boat owners

Stevens reminded the community that boats, vehicles, and trailers stored at the boat yard are done so at the risk of the owner. According to Stevens, the Association has no liability for damaged or stolen goods, nor can the Association guarantee the safety of these items.

With boating season beginning, Stevens also reminded the community that individuals need to properly store their boats and will be liable for any damage caused by their boats — including wake damage. More information regarding this is available on the community website.

Westsider Charlie Flinchum said the Lake Auman Sports Club will be meeting with the Coast Guard and would be happy to share this event with the Association.

The Coast Guard will give information on how to properly moor and store a boat, as well as rules governing boat ownership and operation in NC.

Lake and Dam

New Lake and Dam Director Bruce Keyser reminded the community to properly tie up their boats — especially since dock repairs have only recently been completed. Keyser said maintenance work continues at the docks, including repairs to posts and lighting.

Boat registration is underway; 412 non-power boat stickers and 350 power boat stickers have been issued. The deadline for boat registration is May 1.

Finance Committee

The Board approved a request by Treasurer Don Friert to continue charging an eighteen percent interest fee on late payments. Instead of the late fee beginning ten days after it is due, it will now begin thirty days after the due date.

Events Committee

Events Director Rosemary

Weber said the Easter Egg festivities on April 3 was, "a great event for the kids."

To kick off the Johnson Point Concert Series, the Almost Perfect Band will be playing on May 4.

Weber has asked Sergeant Tom Brady of Moore County School's Police Department to conduct a class for women in self defense and gun safety.

The Events Committee has also purchased two sets of Corn Hole game boards for use at community events. The Committee is planning a community picnic for later in the year.

Safety and Security

Safety and Security Director Jim McCarthy is developing a proposal for installing a new, possibly electronic gate for the storage facility where the boats are kept in the community.

A new gate would cost \$9,000, but McCarthy said (See "Westside," p. 27)

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Foxfire

(Continued from page 3)

a recent meeting with the Moore County Planning Staff resulted in an increase in the watershed allocated to Foxfire from 1500 acres, as listed in 1993, to 10,000 acres, which includes Foxfire's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction.

What that additional allocation means for the Village was not clear during Tuesday night's meeting.

"What good or bad does this do for us?" asked Frusco.

Erickson said the positive or negative effects of the increased watershed will be determined when a resolution is brought to the council at

a later date.

Town Clerk Kivett said each municipality will have a separate watershed agreement with the County.

Erickson presented Kivett with a Certificate of Service for her five years with Foxfire. Officer Michael Campbell was also presented with a Certificate of Service for his ten years with the Village.

Mayor Erickson reported on his attendance at a ceremony honoring Lt. Robert Upchurch, whose plane was shot down over China during World War II.

Erickson reported that he had attended a meeting on fracking for natural gas and

said the introduction of the technique in North Carolina needs to be further reviewed. "To contaminate the aquifer would be devastating to our community," said Erikson.

The state's economy is showing slow improvement, Erickson said, based on a seminar he recently attended led by an NC State economist.

Erickson reminded the Council to submit their recommendations for the Steiner-Stempel Community Service Award, which is presented to a community member for their contributions during the last year.

Other Business

Other business during the Foxfire Village Council's Tuesday, April 10 meeting included:

- Councilman John Eltschlager said bids for crack sealing and pavement repair throughout the Village are due next Wednesday. He plans to be before the Council in May with a recommendation for the project, which is budgeted in the 2012-2013 year.
- At Eltschlager's request, the Council approved an \$8,500 bid from Sandhills Sign Vendor to install street signs throughout the community. The signs will be high grade, which means a life span of ten to fifteen

years. The new signs are needed in order to comply with new Federal standards.

- Both Bob Boone and Jim Jones spoke during member comments about the proposal to increase the minimum acreage for a horse farm from six to ten acres. Jones said many landowners rely on the fact that they can sell their property to someone with horses. "Our seven acres would be more than adequate for horses," said Jones. "You don't need a full ten acres to have a horse farm."
- Councilman Mick McCue was absent from Tuesday's meeting.

Westside

(Continued from page 26)

fees for the storage area bring in \$21,000 a year.

"We owe it to our community to at least try to secure it," said McCarthy.

Director Weber had suggested leaving the gate open during the day and closing it at night — similar to the procedure at Johnson Point. Concerned about the expected price tag for a new gate, Weber said, "I think that is overkill for what we're doing there."

During member comments, Ron Shepard said perhaps the entrance gates of the community need to be looked at, before the inside gates

are addressed.

Westsider Bruce MacDonald told the Board a vandal broke the teak bench from the back of his sailboat and asked that better security be provided at the marina.

McCarthy noted that the Westside's new security contractor will be taking over the gates on May 1.

Other Business

Other business conducted during the Board's Tuesday, April 10 meeting included:

- Treasurer Freiert asked that the Board to extend their sympathies to the family of the late William "Billy" Johnson, Jr. who owned roughly

one-third of the land that eventually became Seven Lakes West. He was the namesake of Johnson Point on Lake Auman.

• New Infrastructure Director Jim Pierman said thirteen construction and remodeling projects are underway in the community.

• The Board approved rosters for each of the SLWLA Committees except for Safety & Security.

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Amendment 1

(Continued from page 11)

while mentioning no legislative or judicial action in support of gay marriage.

Public weighs in

If the Commissioners and County Attorney intended the resolution as a policy-neutral call for voter participation, that intent was lost on the Moore County citizens who alternately praised the Board for their courage in supporting Amendment One, or pleaded with them to abandon the resolution.

Among the most eloquent supporters of the Amendment was Jennifer Boyer of Aberdeen, who said elected officials should not "take off their faith off at the door and leave it there like a jacket." "I am glad we that have men of faith at this table who are going to bring their courage," she added.

Boyer was joined in her opposition to Amendment One and support for the county's resolution by Dr. Robert Deucher, who said he was the Moore County Coordinator for Vote for Marriage NC, a group supporting Amendment One. He called marriage between members of the opposite sex is a "fundamental building block of all civilization . . . Life comes from the union of one man and one woman." "Children do best when raised by a loving mother and a loving father," Deucher said. He warned that courts might

overturn the existing statute against gay marriage -- hence the need for a Constitutional Amendment.

Robert Levy, who chairs the Moore County Republican Party, but said he spoke as a private citizen, told the Board that "it is important that the state not recognize relationships which many of our citizens -- and perhaps a majority -- believe to be immoral. . . . It does not dishonor anyone to recognize the definition of centuries of morality."

Ellen Marcus of Aberdeen, who has filed to run for Picerno's seat on the Board in the November General Election, told the Commissioners that "some things are between a man and their God and what they believe." She urged the Board not to "tie up Moore County citizens' time and money to vote on this. . . . Amendments should never take away rights; they should give rights."

Brent Bissette, pastor of the Congregational Church of Pinehurst noted that "Jesus is found to be constantly breaking bread with those persons that others have pushed to the margins of society. . . . much to the chagrin of the political and religious authorities of his day." Noting that his own congregation welcomed both straight and gay individuals, couples, and families, he said that gave him "hope for our world that we may eventually rec-

ognize the Kingdom of God together."

Kevin Smith, a member of Bissette's church, recounted the joy that the congregation shared when a lesbian couple, who had tried for years to have a child, brought their baby to be baptized. "These are all your constituents, and they all deserve your consideration. They all deserve your protection," he told the Commissioners. "They deserve equal treatment and equal protection under the law We have done enough to embarrass the next generation Let's not do this. This is not something that you need to do. This is not something that we should be doing."

Don Welch, minister at Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines, speaking as a private citizen, told the Board that, "Not long ago there were laws that disallowed marriage between two persons of different races in this state These laws were often supported -- even championed -- by Christians who somehow found support for injustice and inequality in the Hebrew and Christian scriptures. History has proven

them wrong. Since the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, God has been on the side of justice and equality for all God's children If our state adopts this Amendment, and you as County Commissioners support it, we will once again be on the wrong side of history, and, I think, on the wrong side of the loving God that was revealed in Jesus of Nazareth."

"I ask this question," Welch continued. "Is this why we elected you to be County Commissioners? Did we ask you to seek to enforce your concept of morality on all of us? What does this Amendment have to do with the future welfare and prosperity of Moore County? Are you here to divide us and create obstacles to our economic growth and prosperity?"

After assertions by both Leland and Picerno that the resolution was neither for nor against Amendment One, Picerno read the text, and each of the five Commissioners voted in favor of it, without discussion or debate.

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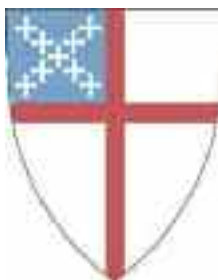
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Water

(Continued from front page)

changing hands," Kennedy said. "What we are offering would be very minimal," Kennedy said. "We are more or less looking for a partnership up there. I think that is what they are expecting from us."

Can the County Afford the Robbins Option?

But Commissioner Tim Lea questioned whether a Robbins solution for the County's water needs is worth the investment. Relying on projected costs developed by Public Utilities Director Randy Gould, Lea noted that the scenario Kennedy described is estimated to cost nearly \$14.5 million to bring the County an additional 1.1 million gallons per day [GPD] of water.

Longer term, using that new County water plant in Robbins to treat water pulled from a run-of-river intake on the Deep River could deliver an additional 2.2 million GPD, but would add another \$15 million to the cost.

Adding in the interest on the loans the County would undoubtedly need in order to pay for that infrastructure, Lea said the total cost of the project could approach \$40 million.

Gould's projections of future demand for water indicate the County will need an additional one million GPD to meet maximum daily demand in ten years and an additional two million GPD to meet 30-year demand.

The County can obtain another one million GPD under an existing contract with Harnett County, meeting its ten year needs, by installing just \$1.5 million in new infrastructure.

And exercising either that option — or drilling new wells — may be necessary in the short term, Lea suggested, because "even if we struck a deal with Robbins today, it was going to take five, six, seven years before we could even get to the point of pumping water through pipes."

"Unless I missed a meeting," Lea continued, "I haven't understood that the Board

had made a decision that Robbins is the option that we are looking at long term . . . I'm not sure we are ready to make an offer to anyone."

In contrast to Kennedy's perception of what Robbins would want in a water deal with the County, Lea said he believed the Town would want to be compensated for the County's use of its reservoir -- and would in fact rather be in the position, like Southern Pines and Aberdeen, of selling water to the County.

"For us to go to the table . . . with any kind of offer before we understand what Robbins is interested in..." Lea said. "I don't make offers until I understand what the total package cost is going to be. "I don't think we are in a position to go and offer anything until we hear what they have to say."

Kennedy said the idea he proposed would not preclude Robbins building their own new water plant and selling water to anyone. He envisioned only that the Town would provide the County with access to the reservoir.

"I think, if we have to buy any assets up there, then Robbins would be off the table completely," Kennedy concluded.

Gould to make presentation

Chairman Larry Caddell asked Gould to be prepared to deliver his presentation

on the Robbins options at the meeting.

"I think we need to just go up there and share that information, just to show them what it is going to cost," Caddell said, "and then work out some kind of agreement."

"We need to exhaust the option in Robbins; and, if it doesn't work out, we will go away friends."

Commissioner Picerno asked Gould for some additional analysis of the level of funds Public Utilities has to pay for capital projects.

"When we talk about these options," Picerno said, "it always looked like we had to raise a rate to perform a certain capital expenditure At the current rates, what kind of capital expansion can we do the the system with no rate increase? In other words, how much money are we generating now in excess of running the system? I don't think I've ever heard that number."

Gould pointed out that Public Utilities already has a long-term plan for capital improvements that utilize its available funds -- and has had to delay some projects, as a sluggish economy has reduced the growth in water revenues.

"Start out with a zero -- no projects -- how much are we generating?" Picerno asked. "And then maybe the projects that are on Board -- what are they eating up? That way we, as Commissioners, sort

of know what we have to work with. If we potentially have to raise a rate, I want

to be able to go out and justify it to a rate user . . . I want information."

Taste of Peru II

Don't miss out on the Taste of Peru II & Silent Auction at West End United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 21 at 5 pm.

The church will hold their Taste of Perú II in the fellowship hall. In addition to tasting foods native to Perú, there will be a silent auction. The church will have donations by artists within the congregation such as cooking classes, manicures, etc. to auction off.

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Sandhills Animal Rescue League [SARL] is a no kill shelter, 501(c)3 organization operating since January 2002.

Please help Sandhills Animal Rescue League continue to provide excellent vet care and good nutrition, and to buy supplies

that are needed on a daily basis by sending a tax deductible donation using the form below.

You may choose yearly, monthly, or a one time contribution.

Thank you from the cats and dogs we rescue, our volunteers, and the board of directors of Sandhills Animal Rescue League.

For more information about the League, volunteer opportunities or other information please contact Lou Atkins at 974-4468 or 638-1921.

Donations to S.A.R.L. will provide shelter, healthcare, and adoptions for rescued pets.

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