THE PITCH

A NEWSPAPER FEATURING VILLAGE NEWS, GOLF, CHIT CHAT, AND OTHER "SAP THAT RUNS FROM THE PINES"

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BOGGIS, GEBHARDT WIN COUNCIL SEATS

New Village Council members Molly Boggis and Skip Gebhardt.

On November 6, Molly Boggis and Robert "Skip Gebhardt were elected to serve four year terms on the Whispering Pines Village Council. Gebhardt received 822 votes, Boggis 594 votes, Carl Lanning received 320 votes and Lynn Crawford received 280 votes. There were 21 write –in votes.

The candidates replace outgoing Mayor Giles Hopkins who opted not to seek a second term, and Councilman Bill Bateman, who had resigned earlier in the year because of health problems.

Boggis and Gebhardt used diametrically opposed campaign styles, with Boggis doing an intensive door to door campaign and Gebhardt relying on a direct mail campaign with detailed position papers.

The candidates both have stated that they intend to seek a change to a Village Manager form of government at the earliest opportunity. Both had campaigned on this issue as well as strengthening the Villages zoning ordinances, and controlling growth in the Village and the ETJ.

The new Council persons will be sworn in at a regular meeting of the Council to be held on December 12. Gebhardt says he plans to ask for a public hearting at the January Council meeting to consider an amendment to the Village charter that would allow a Village Manager form of government.

Thanks Mr. Mayor

Thanks Mr. Mayor. The Village owes you a debt of gratitude for leading the Villager Council in a gracious and dignified manner through a turbulent period in the Village's growth.

In an interview with the Pitch, the Mayor expressed satisfaction that he had laid a base for the Village to grow and meet the needs of the residents. His regret was that a systematic tree planting program to beautify the Village never was implemented.

His concern for the future can be highlighted in one word: water. The Mayor is very concerned that the water supply from Southern Pines may be limited in the future and that alternative sources of water will have to be found. He is a firm believer that the Village should form its own water company so that a future supply can be ensured.

The Mayor will not be idle. He will continue to act as a consultant to Vass and will remain chairman of the Regional Urban Land Advisory Commission.

Editorial- Guest Editorials and the New Council

As everyone is aware, Robert "Skip" Gebhardt, who along with his wife Johnnie as a Co-Editor of the Pitch, has stopped writing editorials because of a potential conflict of interest while running for a seat on the Village Council. Now that he has been elected, he has requested that there be guest editorials published so the Pitch will not lose its unique place in the community. Hopefully, the guest editorials will continue to act as the watch dog and conscience of the community, as has been the case in the past, and will give you pause for thought.

Without hesitation, we can unequivocally state that Whispering Pines is fortunate to have had four quality people willing to run for two positions on the Village Council and commit to four years of public service. Any of the four would have made a valid contribution to the village. They all ran very admirable campaigns where they limited their remarks to the issues they deemed important to the community and to their personal attributes and background that they felt important so the voters could make an informed decision. Such was not the case in surrounding communities. We applaud our candidates for resisting the temptation. We would also be remiss if we did not thank the retiring council members for their time, effort, and commitment to the community.

We are not telling Mr. Gebhardt or Ms. Boggis anything they don't know when we say that the easy part is over. Winning the election was easy; keeping your campaign representations and not getting bogged down in the political rhetoric and red tape is a major challenge.

The theme of all the campaigns in central and eastern North Carolina this year seems to have been "we have a wonderful place to live and we want to keep it that way" - Raleigh, Cary, Wake Forrest, Southern Pines, Pinehurst, Whispering Pines and the list goes on. Every community is facing a large population surge. Probably the largest problem for the new council will be to balance the rights of property owners to develop their land in a manner consistent with the desired growth in the community, based on providing the appropriate services by the village, protecting the environment, and maintaining the lifestyle that brought most of us to Whispering Pines.

Change is inevitable, but change without planning is a disaster. There is a two year study (Land Development Plan) presently in front of our Planning Board that addresses most of these problems in detail and needs to be brought to the council and adopted. It has been submitted to the community and amended in many areas based on the input from the citizenry in the form of direct comments and on the results of an extensive survey. Those critics that said it would be a waste of time to prepare the plan because it would never be adopted or followed by the council will only be proven correct if action is not forthcoming in the immediate future. Both of the new council members have indicated support for the plan and should have this high on their agenda as should the other council members who were responsible for initiating the study.

Another major issue brought out in the campaign is changing the form of government for Whispering Pines from a "mayor council" form to a "village manager" form of government. We would agree that we need the change, and, even though we are small, it makes sense for a number of reasons. It has been successful in other small communities. It will allow the individual council members to concentrate on the big picture and set policy rather than be inundated with the task of overseeing the day to day operation of the village. It will eliminate fragmented management where each of the council members is attempting to push their agenda for the good of the village. It will allow priorities to be set and followed without pressure from individual council members which will make the city employees more productive. But we believe the most compelling reason is that there will be accountability.

Even though, theoretically, the council is accountable to the citizens of the village, it is difficult to attach responsibility to one individual on the council and it is more difficult to garner enough support from our citizens to influence individual council members. Also, the other council members are reluctant to point fingers at another council member. With a village manager, after policies have been set and priorities established by the council, there is a focal point the village manager and a standard by which you can measure the task and there will be accountability to the council. The council's accountability is transferred from the day to day operation of the village to setting policies which is also much easier for the public to measure. There will be an increase in expenditures by hiring a village manager, but under the right circumstances, the manager will pay for the additional cost as has been the case in other communities.

It is our understanding that there has been some discussion that the change to a village manager form of government cannot be made until the Charter is amended and passed through the state legislature. We believe the charter provides that the council could appoint a village manager, and, as a result, we believe the change can be made by passing an Ordinance, after a public hearing, without submitting it to the state legislature. This should be investigated and pursued. There are other reasons to amend the Charter which may require legislative approval, but that is a different subject for a different time.

Just being myself.

Ron Saylor– Member of The Pitch Editorial Board

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C C W P *News and Coming Attractions*

Membership

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Golf

Pro Shop Hours / 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Call / 949-4320

Work Out Room

Open to all members 24 hours a day.
Obtain entry key from Club Office.
Children under 12 may NOT use the equipment in the fitness center.

Thagard Lake Grill

Continental BKF / Mon to Thur / 7 a.m. to 10 am
Full BKF / Fri & Sat 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Lunch Mon to Sun 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Villa Rooms

41 Villa Rooms are available for when you need extra rooms for family or friends.
Contact 949-3000 ext 370

Shout Outs:
Christmas Dinner and Show
December 16, 2007
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New Years Eve
December 31, 2007
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Details on the Bulletin Board

December 2007

Club Events
Halfway House East and West open 9 to 4 pm
Clubhouse Breakfast Buffet
Weekends 7 to 10 a.m. / all you can eat.
Ninettes / Pinettes / MGA
Schedule on next page.
****

Dec. 1-Couples Christmas Scramble & Lunch
9:00 a.m. / Toys for Tots Donation / West
Dec. 2-Sunday Golf & Lunch / 10:00 am
Dec. 3-Mah Jongg –EDR– 10 am.
Dec. 4-Ninettes Bridge –CR / 10:30 am
Dec. 5– CCWP Players—EDR—2:30 pm
Dec. 7– Duplicate Bridge CR / 10:00 am
Dec. 11– Duplicate Bridge CR / 10:00 am
Social Comm / BR / 3:00 p.m.
Dec. 12– Line Dancing 6:00 p.m.
Dec. 13– CCWP Players—EDR—2:30 p.m.
Dec. 4—CCWP Players—EDR—2:30 p.m.
Birthday Night / 5:30 pm
Dec. 15—Members Christmas Party 5:00 p.m.
Dec. 17- Mah Jongg—EDR—10:00 a.m.
Dec. 21—Duplicate Bridge—CR—10:00 a.m.
Dec. 26– Comm. Comm BR / 2:30 p.m.
Dec. 31—Members' New Years Eve Party
MDR 8:00 p.m.

The CCWP Christmas Dinner and Show
Reservations Needed
Christmas in the Pines ~ December 16
Cocktails 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Dinner at 6 p.m.
Show follows dinner
Cost is $20.00 per person / inclusive
Sign up today in the clubhouse

Whispering Woods Golf News

LGA for December
All Tee Times are 10:00 am
Dec. 4—Low Gross & Low Net
Dec. 11– 9-Hole Tournament
Followed by Lunch
Dec. 18 to Feb. 26—No organized play
Just sign up and check in at 9:30 a.m.

MGA for December
All Tee Times are 10:00 a.m.
Dec. 5—Team Captain's Choice
Dec. 12—Christmas Tournament
and meeting.
Dec. 19—Team Three Low Net
Dec. 26—No Events scheduled

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CCWP—Ninettes / Pinettes / MGA— Golf Information

Ninettes

Dec. 3—9:30 a.m. SG—West Front 9
Best Friends Format

Dec. 10—TT /West Back / Guilt Free
Dec. 17—TT / East Back / Guilt Free
Dec. 24—No Golf
Dec. 31—No Golf

December 2007

Pinettes

Dec. 4—10 a.m. SG East—9-Holes
Christmas Scramble & Lunch
Dec. 11– 10:00 a.m. SG—Guilt Free
Dec. 18– 10:00 a.m. SG—Guilt Free
Dec. 25– No Golf

MGA

Dec. 5—10:00 a.m. Guilt Free
Dec. 12– 10:00 a.m. MGA Santa's Special
Lunch follows Golf
Dec. 19—No MGA
Dec. 26—No MGA

December 1, 2007
Couples Christmas Scramble and Lunch
9:00 a.m. SG—West Course
Toys for Tots
Details on the Bulletin Board
Sign up Today !!

Sunday Golf and Lunch
December 2, 2007 / Registration 9:30 a.m. / Golf 10:00 a.m. Shot Gun
West Course—Format—Texas Scramble
Luncheon: Salad Bar / Assorted Dressings
Baked Lasagna & Garlic Bread & Vegetable Medley
Tiramisu for Dessert / Coffee / Tea / Water
Cost is $13.00 inclusive.
Same gender groups and couples are encouraged to sign up.
Need a partner?? Sign up as a single and the committee will match you up.
Lets get everyone out for this fun event. Sign up sheet in the Pro Shop

Veronica Karaman

Golf Professional at CCWP

Would you like to break 100, 90 or 80? If so my course , Personal Champion Coaching, covers the short game and full swing mechanics, how to develop a pre-shot routine, the mental and emotional game, specific practice routines, plus a champion's mindset.
Several of my students here at CCWP have taken their games to a winning level.
The lessons cost $349.00 for 12 hours of instruction.
You may want to give the Personal Champion Coaching and the lessons as a Christmas gift.
Call Veronica at 255-6493 or email her at veronica@truechampioncoaching.com

"STEPPIN OUT"
CCWP New Year's Eve Party
Cocktails and hor'doevres at 6:00 p.m. (cash bar)
Dinner at 7:15 pm
Shrimp Cocktail Appetizer ~ Filet Mignon Entrée'
Salad—Vegetable—Potatoes—Dessert
Champagne at Midnight
Dance to Glenn Davis Orchestra
Price $55.00 per person
Reservations: call Peg Carfi at 949-3125 or sign up on the Social Board.

VIKING GIRLS CLAIM STATE GOLF TITLE

The Union Pines girls' golf team won 1st place in the NCHSAA 1A/2A/3A State Championship at Longleaf Golf Club Oct. 29-30. The Viking Team members are (as pictured above) juniors Laura Kinsman and Amanda D'Ostroph and sophomore Samantha Gilder. Kinsman placed second individually with scores of 78-78-156. D'Ostroph shot 83-75-158 to finish in a three-way tie for third. Gilder came in at 82-94-176 for a Viking team total of 490. Their home course is the Country Club of Whispering Pines.

Editor's Note:

Each month, 700 copies of The Pitch have to have address labels attached. They are then sealed for mailing. Each month the Good Hands Gang is there to do this thankless job.

Thanks to you all. ***Johnnie & Skip***

The Good Hands Gang: Another Extraordinary Year

One of our most cherished organizations in the Village – and areas outside the Village for that matter – is the Good Hands Gang. Here is what the Good Hands Gang has done this year:

- Provided eight bags of groceries a month to Carolina Dialysis;
- provided tray favors for Meals on Wheels eight times a year;
- bagged and distributed motel samples (over 650!) to Carolina Dialysis;
- made scarves, hats, mittens and well over 150

<u>Above.</u> Good Hands Gang presents warehoused in Kurt Ludke's garage pending wrapping and mailing. <u>Left.</u> Mary Galtere in the maze of presents wrapped by 45 volunteers on November 26th.

small pillows to distribute to the Office of Aging and Carolina Dialysis;

- assembled and distributed 425 Easter baskets to the County Health Department, the Coalition, and Anthony's We Care program;
- distributed 88 bags of groceries for Thanksgiving and Christmas throughout Moore and Lee County Health Departments;
- helped prepare the Pitch for publication each month;
- and lastly, 45 volunteers wrapped a record number of new clothing items (2122!) to distribute as Christmas gifts to needy children.

The Good Hands Gang is looking for another banner year in 2008. If you would like to donate to the Good Hands Gang or want to get involved in any of the activities, please contact Mary Galtere at 949-3084 or e-mail her at ggaltere@pinehurst.net.

VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES - November 7 Regular Meeting

- Council discussed the status of Cardinal Dam Council directed the Village attorney to proceed with the finalization of both agreements and have them finalized and agreed to by both parties and brought back to Council on December 5, 2007 to be signed.
- The final report from the Charter Committee has been received by Council.
- The Personnel Policy Section 10 subparagraph (c) was amended to cap the longevity pay at $2000.
- Council re-appointed Mayor Hopkins to the RLUAC for the year of 2008. Brian Borchardt will also be attending as a member of RLUAC for the 2008 year.
- Council agreed not to grant an extension to Mr. Boyer, instead they directed Attorney Morphis to enforce the in place agreement.
- Councilman Zschoche explained that Arrow Drive was a platted deeded road that never got paved. A property owner is now requesting a building permit that would require access off Arrow Drive. In order for the Village to issue a building permit Arrow Drive must be a paved road. It will cost about $30,000 to pave the road. The Finance Office, Sue Shuster stated that the Village had the option of assessing the property owner for the cost of the paving plus interest. After some discussion Council voted to pave the road and assess the property owner for the cost of the paving at 8% interest rate to be repaid over a five year period. At the November 14, 2007 Council meeting Mayor Hopkins stated that the Village has four options regarding Arrow Dr:

1. Abandon the road; 2. Make it an easement; 3. Combine the two lots into one lot and make it a driveway; or 4. Pave it. Councilman Zschoche will communicate with the property owner to resolve the situation.

- Mayor Pro Tem Zamaroni stated that there have been nine responses from the Planning List Serve regarding consulting firms to help us with our zoning ordinances.
- Planning & Zoning Director, Brian Borchardt, reported on the permits for new homes have been issued:
- Councilman Saunders stated that the Village has received over $2000 from recycling aluminum since it began two years ago. He also mentioned that Channel 18 is not working and an alternative source is being sought.
- Mayor Hopkins reported that the Halloween festival was successful, with over 300 people attending.
- A Public Hearing will be held on December 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Whispering Pines Village Hall to consider a request to amend the Conditional Use Zoning Ordinance in Section 8.10 NS, Neighborhood Shopping District to allow "landscaping services.
- Councilman Zschoche and Police Chief Gregory reported on possible ways to accomplish the closing of Hammerstone Dr. at Pine Ridge Drive safely. One of the recommendations made by Chief Gregory was a flashing light 24 hours a day along with a barricade across the road. No action was taken.
- Councilman Zschoche reported the engineer survey is complete and a proposal has been received regarding Short Rd. and Pine Ridge Dr. The work on Blue Dam has begun. We are waiting on State approval to begin the repair work on Pine Lake Dam. The engineer is still waiting for the final survey data regarding the Spring Valley spillway.
- Councilman Saunders urged everyone to continue to conserve water.
- The Spring Valley Lake boat rides that benefit Toys for Tots will be on December 7th and 8th. Please call Mickey Terzigni for reservations at 949-3539.

The next Work Session will be December 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. and the next Regular Meeting will be December 12, 2007 at 7:00 PM.

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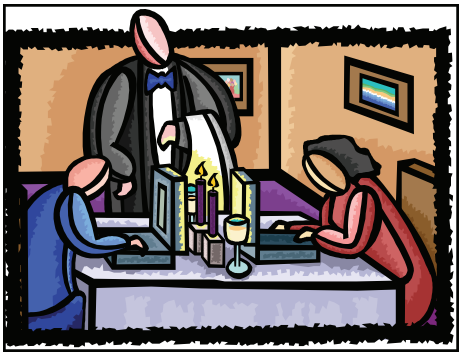
DINING OUT *Another monthly critique of restaurants in the Sandhills area for the non-connoisseur.*

Café Sonoma - By Gordon Galtere, Guest Food Editor



Here is something you may want to try one evening. CAFÉ SONOMA located at 1150 South Old US 1 in a small shopping plaza on the same side of US 1 as Bill Smith Ford.

The menu (*http://cafe-sonoma.com/Home_Page.php*) is varied with some interesting looking dishes. Entrees range from $23 to $33. Appetizers, salads, and deserts are ala carte. However, we opted for the $23 meal limited to tilapia or chicken breast. Included with the special is choice of salad and desert. The salads are either Caesar or Mescaline bleu cheese. We both had the Mescaline salad with walnuts and garnished with thinly sliced Granny Smith apples. A good way to start your taste buds for the entrée. On a previous visit I had the Caesar, but now I definitely prefer the Mescaline.

We both ordered the tilapia because Mary had it on a previous visit and said it was the best she has ever had. I had the chicken the first time and would not hesitate to get it again but I definitely wanted to test the tilapia. The fish was served over asparagus and mashed potatoes, and it definitely was excellent.

The offered deserts were varied from a dark chocolate pie to scoops of ice cream or sherbet. We chose the Granny Smith apple tart, and I would say it was delicious.

Although Café Sonoma is small, we never felt crowded by other diners. The lighting is subdued, and the general atmosphere was very relaxing and intimate. It would be a disservice not to praise the attentive wait staff. They anticipated your needs before you realized you needed something!

The two meals, a bottle of wine including tax came to $72. A return visit is definitely in our plans.

For reservations call 695-3155.

THE PITCH ANNOUNCES EDITORIAL CHANGES

Co-Editors, Johnnie and Skip Gebhardt have announced changes to the Editorial Staff of the Pitch which have arisen because of Skip's election to the Whispering Pines Village Council.

Ronald Saylor and William Wade have been named to the Pitch's Editorial Board. They will have exclusive control over the content and topics in the Editorial page of the The Pitch. Ron Saylor is a retired attorney who recently chaired the Village's Land Development Plan's Steering Committee. Bill Wade is a retired educator who has long been a resident of Moore County. Skip Gebhardt, former editorial writer stated that in addition to being the Village's newsletter, The Pitch acts as a "watch dog" of sorts over the Village government, and that he will have no voice in the content or editorial style of future editorials. He stated that he did not want "the Pitch to be a shill for the Village Council".

Kathy Schroeder has been named The Pitch's Business Manager who will assume full control over The Pitch's finances. This again is designed to further insulate The Pitch from Gebhardt's role on the Village Council.

Help Wanted – The Village of Whispering Pines is seeking a part time person to take and type minutes at meetings. The position requires 20 -25 hours a month. Day and Night meetings. Please submit your resumes to the Village Clerk at the Village Hall.

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BIRD CHIRPINGS-NOVEMBER

(Courtesy of Susan Campbell)

It sure looks, sounds and feels like winter in the Village now! The Ring-necked Ducks and Bufflehead have returned to join the Mallards and Canada Geese on our lakes. Pied-billed Grebes, the smallest of our wintering waterfowl and usually solitary in nature, can now be seen diving for small fish also.

Ring-necked Duck. Photo courtesy of Michael McCloy

Jack and Pam Lyons had a close encounter with a Common (yellow-shafted) Flicker in their yard recently. They were able to examine an individual that ran into a window. Unfortunately window-strikes are all too common. Birds are confused by the reflection of the sky in the glass, especially when spooked by a variety of disturbances, including attacks by bird hawks. Sometimes individuals are only temporarily stunned but often there is lethal head trauma resulting in death. The best way to reduce collisions, whether you feed birds or not, is to break up the reflectivity of the glass. Hanging suncatchers or static cutouts helps a lot. The ultimate solution is hanging a product like Birdscreen (http://www.birdscreen.com) in front of windows or sliding glass doors. If you are unfortunate enough to find a window-killed bird but are willing to save it, we can arrange for it to be donated as educational and/or research material at either Weymouth Woods or the state museum.

The Red-breasted Nuthatches are still very active here at our sunflower feeders. I am watching the goldfinch flock feeding here very carefully, waiting for the first Pine Siskin or Purple Finch to appear. These two northern species being reported across the state as they move much further south that usual this winter in search of food. Evening Grosbeaks may turn up at sunflower feeders over the next few months also for the same reason. I saw a small flock at Weymouth Woods feeding on tulip poplar seeds this week. I would be very interested to hear from anyone who sees any of these seedeaters in the area.

Coyote. Photo Courtesy of Brady Beck

We have been surprised to find that a family of coyotes has been making nocturnal forays through our yard. I have seen at least five nosing around here on several occasions. This is the time of year that coyotes expand their foraging area in search of prey given that their offspring are now full grown and capable of traveling long distances. Coyotes can be differentiated from foxes not only by their larger size but the fact that their rusty, gray bushy tail is tipped black—not white as it is on either a red or gray fox.

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TREE LIGHTING AND HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Once again the Village invites all the residents to join us in a Holiday celebration at the Police—Fire Department complex. Mayor Hopkins received a letter from the North Pole, from Santa, telling him that he will be in Whispering Pines on Dec. 2nd, and would like to meet with all his young friends. He will be arriving at 4 p.m. at the Police complex on a Fire truck.

The newly planted holly tree that will be lit on December 2nd.

Hot chocolate and cookies will be served, hayrides from 4-5:30 pm, followed by traditional carols at 5:30 pm. At 6 p.m. Santa will light the Village Christmas tree.

We encourage everyone to mark their calendars and join us in the celebration of this joyous season.

THE PITCH GROWTH REPORT
(Provided by Brian Borchardt, Dir. Village Planning and Zoning)

Bldg. Permits Issued

October
Village 4
ETJ 0

Year to Date 2007
Village 38
ETJ 6

Year-To-Date 2006
Village 23
ETJ 6

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GARDEN CLUB

The Whispering Pines Garden Club met on Tuesday, November 6th at 7:30 pm. John Hopkins reported that a stone wall has been completed at the Village Hall. Fifty-one flats of pansies were delivered to park caretakers with help from John Hopkins, George Mc Nally, Jim Griffin, Bob Kern, and Ned Voss.

The new pine tree at Village Hall.

Water lines were relocated at the Village Hall Park with help from John Hopkins, George Mc Nally, and Jim Griffin. A pine tree was planted at the Village Hall by Aurora Hills Nursery. We will decorate this tree with lights for the holidays.

Joan Bruno introduced the speaker Dr. Beth Lyerly who presented the program Winter Interest Gardens. Dr. Lyerly showed slides to convince the group that winter gardens need not be boring. Use of specific plants, bushes, trees, grasses and other items in landscape and gardens can have continuing interest. Color and texture of tree bark against evergreens add interest as do seed pods from our already flowered plants. She named the trees, bushes, grasses and plants that create this affect.

Beth also listed plants that will grow and provide color in the winter besides the old standby, pansies. Creative paths and other man made items will also add to the winter landscape. She mentioned various places to acquire the flora mentioned in her presentation and also mentioned how lucky we are to have so many of these wonderful places. During the question and answer period, Beth recommended we visit the Sandhills Horticultural Gardens to get ideas for additions to our landscapes and gardens.

The next Garden Club meeting will take place on January 8th when Gloria Polakof will be giving a presentation on Healing Herb Gardens. New Members are always welcome!

STEPPIN OUT

CCWP New Year's Party

Grab your best guy or gal and join your neighbors for New Year's Eve. It will be **Steppin' Out** time at CCWP as we gather to welcome in the New Year. Festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a cash bar and appetizers. In the background DJ Glen Davis will provide music for your listening and dancing pleasure. At 7:15 Chef John Swain will delight your pallet with filet mignon followed by his special Wow dessert. Special clocks will be on all the tables so you can decide when it is time to ring in the New Year with a champagne toast. Jackets are required for the men and tuxedo are optional. Cost for the evening will be $55 per person inclusive.

For reservations: Sign up sheets will be posted on the Social Board in the CCWP lobby or contact Peg Carfi at 949-3125; email - geopegcarfi@embarqmail.com

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Boat Rides on Spring Valley Lake December 7-8. A Toys for Tots Tradition

Mark your Calendars! The Third Annual Toys for Tots Christmas boat rides on Spring Valley Lake are tentatively scheduled for December 7 and 8. Rides to view the

Christmas lights will begin at 6 P.M. from the public park on the east side of the lake. Seating will be limited so call early for reservations at 949-3539.

Participants are asked to donate an unwrapped new toy and lakeside residents are encouraged to have their lights up in early December. In honor of Charlie Blake who began this wonderful Whispering Pines tradition, we hope to collect a record number

At the same time, don't forget the tree lighting ceremony at the Village Police-Fire department complex on December 8th.

MARK & SON'S

HOME IMPROVEMENTS & LAWN CARE SERVICE

- Mulch
- Pine Bar
- Pine Straw
- Mowing
- Raking
- Pruning
- Year Round Service

- Pressure Washing
- Sheet Rock Repair
- Decks
- Gutter Cleaning
- Fencing
- Painting
- And Many Other

Home 949-2240
Cell 261-8077

Mark Rasdall
Owner

Insured & Licensed

Monthly Special

10% off all home repair work will be donated to the Whispering Pines Firefighters Association

We charge $25 per hour

rangerras@aol.com

LOCAL DEATHS

We express our condolences to the families of the following Village residents:

John Boermeester passed away on October 31.

Robert Shoemaker passed away on November 11.

Jack Sheridan passed away on November 26.

THE WHISPERING PINES THRIFT SHOP

December, what a wonderful month! The Shop is loaded with Christmas items including some great party clothes. The tag sales are still going on, discounts coming faster and faster. So keep the "JINGLE" in your pocket and shop thrift.

"The smartest people shop thrift and have double the fun while they're spending *and* saving…"

We will be closed for the holidays after Saturday, December 22; reopening Wednesday, January 2, 2008

The shop is located on HWY 22N, 1.2 miles past the airport.

Receiving: Mon. and Tues. 9 a.m. to noon
Shopping: Wed thru Sat. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

TOP HAT AND TAILS!

A MOST SOPHISTICATED PET ADOPTION EVENT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 2007
5:00 p.m. TO 8:00 p.m.

HOMEWOOD SUITES , OLMSTED VILLAGE, PINEHURST

Truman Capote was famous for his "Black & White Ball": sophisticated creatures socializing at a wonderful party! He would be proud of our upcoming event: black dogs, white dogs, black cats, white cats, black and white dogs, black and white cats accompanied by their classy caretakers dressed in style for an equally wonderful party.

The award winning Homewood Suites in the lovely Olmsted Village is hosting a sophisticated pet adoption event at Homewood Suites – where pets are always welcome.

While attendees enjoy tasteful music, wine, beer and appetizers, they can socialize with adorable dogs and cats who are looking for a forever home. Three Moore County animal welfare groups will be presenting their adoptable pets at this truly unique event.

Why It's Important to Choose a Board Certified Plastic Surgeon to Enhance Your Appearance

So many doctors are offering different cosmetic procedures to improve your face and body - that it's confusing. Some of these treatments provide questionable results and may not be worth the investment. Before making a decision be sure to consult with a **Board Certified Plastic Surgeon,** who can help you fully understand the options available.

Dr. Steven Zoellner is known for his excellence and artistry in facial rejuvenation and body contouring. As thousands of patients know – you can count on Dr. Zoellner's integrity.

FREE DVD
Meet Dr. Zoellner and Patients who have had Cosmetic Surgery

Combining Warmth, Sensitivity & Excellence

Steven M. Zoellner, M.D.
Board Certified Plastic Surgeon

(910) 295-1917
20 Memorial Drive
Pinehurst, NC

www.drszoellner.com

0% Interest Financing Available

TIPS FOR THE GARDENER – DECEMBER

Mistletoe

It has long been the custom,if a girl was standing under a sprig of mistletoe, that a boy could steal a kiss from her without fear of being slapped. (It is also alleged that some girls stand under a sprig of mistletoe deliberately!) The correct mistletoe etiquette is for the boy to remove one berry when he kisses a girl. When all the berries are gone, there is no more kissing underneath that plant. It is believed that an unmarried girl not kissed under the mistletoe will remain single for another year.

Here in the Sandhills, mistletoe is quite prevalent in our broad leafed trees. Now that the leaves are down, a ball of greenery about the size of a basketball is often seen in many of them. That ball is mistletoe!

Mistletoe is a parasite that derives some nutriment from the host plant but has little ill effect on its host. Mistletoe does manufacture its own food supply, unlike a saprophyte which has no chlorophyll and derives all of its food supply from the host plant or decaying organic matter.

When one of the familiar sticky berries of the mistletoe comes into contact with the bark of a tree – generally through the help of a bird – after a few days it sends forth a threadlike root. This finally pierces the bark and roots itself firmly in the growing wood, from which it has the power of selecting and appropriating to its own use.

Mistletoe is always produced by seed and cannot be cultivated in the earth like other plants, hence the ancients considered it to be an extension of the tree. By rubbing the berries on the smooth bark of the underside of the branches of trees till they adhere, or inserting them in clefts made for the purpose, it is possible to grow mistletoe quite successfully, if desired.

History of Mistletoe

Mistletoe was held in great reverence by the Druids. They went forth clad in white robes to search for the sacred plant, and when it was discovered, one of the Druids ascended the tree and gathered it with great ceremony, separating it from an oak tree with a golden knife. The Druids held that the mistletoe protected its possessor from all evil, and the oaks on which it was seen growing were to be respected because of the wonderful cures which the priests were able to effect with it. They sent round their attendant youth with branches of the mistletoe to announce the entrance of the New Year. It is probable that the custom of including it in the decoration of our homes at Christmas, giving it a special place of honor, is a survival of this old custom.

Dr. John Gerwig is professor emeritus of Rutgers University and was for 30 years the Director of Rutgers Cooperative Extension in New Jersey.

Christy's

Hair Creations and Full Service Salon

Open Monday – Friday
Every other Saturday

949-3410

Call today for your appointment or stop in at:

3133 Vass-Carthage Rd.

Walk-ins Welcome!

Gone to Heaven? You will think so after our hot stone massage. Feel the tension just drain out of your body under the care of our licensed massage therapist.
One-half hour- $35 **One hour- $60**

Manicures
Pedicures
Acrylics

10% OFF ALL FACIAL AND MICRODERM TREATMENTS

Facial Treatment -**
Includes skin analysis, steam vapor, deep cleansing, exfoliation, impurity extraction, hot stone massage and SPF moisturizer. Prices range from $50-$75

Microderm Abrasion-**
New scientific removal of exfoliated skin cells for hyper pigmentation, sun damage and stretch marks. Prices at $65 per treatment or 6 for $325

Ear Candling-
Soothing removal of ear wax. $35

Hollywood Facelift-**
Tightens facial muscles and stimulates blood circulation. You will see a visible reduction in wrinkles and sagging skin. Full face $60, Face and Neck $65.

Body Waxing-
Arms, Legs, Face, Bikini, Brazilian.

Present this coupon for your 10% discount on those treatments shown with an asterisk (**). One Time only.

WHISPERS

Whispers, the women's club of Whispering Pines, held its monthly luncheon and program "Fine Arts in the Village" on Wednesday, November 14. A delicious lunch and lovely autumn table decorations arranged by the hostesses were enjoyed by all the ladies.

Lu Navarro displayed his hand-made bird houses and bird feeders

An exhibition of the outstanding work from 16 of our local talented craftsmen and artists displayed prints, paintings, and photography along with jewelry, basketry, woodworks, millinery, decorative art, and purses.

The next Whispers luncheon will be on Wednesday, February 13, with a card and game party. Plan to gather a table of players and come. Lunch and reservation details will be published in January 2008.

Joan Bruno and Lucie Saylor admire baskets hand made by Bonnie Roberson, right.

Whispers attendees view jewelry hand made by Marion 'Shorty' Chase (not pictured).

COMPUTER CLUB December 2007 Meeting

The Computer Club of The Sandhills will meet on Monday, December 10th from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the lower level meeting room of the Whispering Pines Village Hall. The guest speaker will be Jim Reetz presenting the program, "Google Earth, the Big Brother of Google Maps". Jim will demonstrate how to use this entertaining and powerful mapping and imaging software.

Jim Reetz moved back east to North Carolina in 1997 from Phoenix, Arizona, after a 20 year career as an Electrical Engineer in the semiconductor industry. He then joined ICL Retail Systems as a Systems and Network Engineer before he started his own PC consulting business in Whispering Pines emphasizing onsite service. Jim is a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer with an extensive background in Microsoft Operating Systems and Unix.

The Club meets on the second Monday of each month and visitors are always welcome.

WANTED

- Bamboo Fly Rods (any condition)
- Old Fishing Tackle

I collect and recondition fly rods and old tackle.
I'll buy it all; give me a call.
Ralph Acker: 949-2342

MOORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGING

The Moore County Senior Enrichment Center is offering the following new programs in December:
Call 215-0900 for further information

Free Ballroom Dance Lessons with Beverly and Bob Wetherbie.
Tuesdays, December 4,11,18 and January 8, 15,22,29) 7 - 9 p.m. Come on your own or with a partner. Limited Space. Reservation Required.

Karaoke Night at the Moore County Senior Enrichment Center
Saturday, December 8. 7 - 9 p.m.
Free Age 50+ singers, wanna-be singers, and listeners welcome to share the fun!

Ron Polisoto will offer dance music at the Moore County Senior Enrichment Center. Sat., Dec. 15, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. $5 per person.

Holiday Cookie Swap. December 18. Call for details

LIKE TO TRY YOUR HAND AT NEWS REPORTING?

The Pitch is seeking interested writers who would report on community events and meetings. Call 949-0443

Jim Reetz

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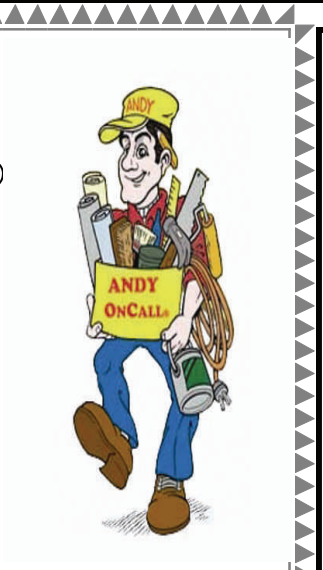


FULLY INSURED • 1 YEAR WARRANTY • FREE ESTIMATES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Thrift Shop of Whispering Pines now has several shifts available for willing helpers. 3 hours once a month is all you need to contribute.

Interested parties should contact Mary Lou Winn at 949-6592

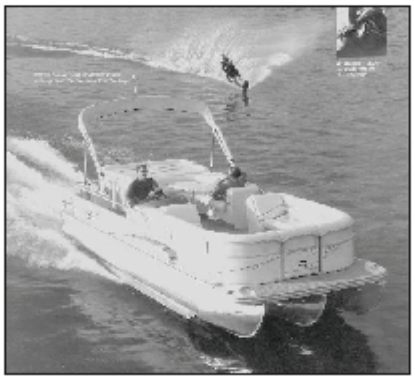
THINGS AND TIMES

APHORISMS *(Courtesy of Bob Tice)*

- *The nicest thing about the future is that it starts tomorrow.*
- *Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.*
- *If you don't have a sense of humor, you probably don't have any sense at all.*
- *Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.*
- *A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.*
- *How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?*
- *Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?*
- *Scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job.*
- *No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.*
- *Think about this..., No one ever says "It's only a game." when his team is winning.*
- *Be careful reading the fine print. There's no way you're going to like it.*
- *The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.*

Seven Lakes Marine

BENNINGTON
Pontoons & Deck Boats
KEY WEST
Center & Dual Console & Deck Boats
Mercury, Yamaha, Honda,
& Ray Electric Motors
Used Pontoons & Ski Boats Available
Service & Repairs on All Marine Products
Fiberglass & Gelcoat Repairs Onsite



300 GRANT STREET
MON-FRI 9-5; SAT 9-1*
*Winter hours may vary.
(910) 673-1440

Some History of Whispering Pines from the Pitch of Yesterday

(Courtesy of Bob Zschoche)

November 1972 (35 years ago).

- The November ballot included a Bond Referendum to authorize $83,000 for the construction of a Village Hall. The vote was 300 FOR and 132 AGAINST. The annual Village budget for 1972 is $72,444.
- A recap of the state of the Village included the following: 1,067 recorded lots, 600 permanent residents, recent completion of an elevated water tank, construction of the new South Course, and Country Club membership of 414.
- An interview with A.B. Hardee, the developer who founded Whispering Pines, includes the quote, “I wanted Whispering Pines to become a WAY OF LIFE”.
-

November 1982. (25 years ago)

- The Lakes Committee submitted a report to Council recommending the Village purchase the lakes from the developer of Whispering Pines.
- Mary Corbett is elected Vice Chair of the NINETTES.
- The property owners of Lakewood Court agree to voluntary annexation by the Village.

November 1992. (15 years ago)

- Numerous complaints have been received about outages of the Cable TV system. Cable system officials have assured the Village that all problems have been corrected.
- Council begins studying the feasibility of moving the Fire Station from its location under Village Hall.
- Newcomers to the Village include Paul & Judith Sams, Chris & Mary Lash and Luther & Sybil Littleton.

WHISPERING PINES PROPERTIES

One Clubhouse Boulevard
Whispering Pines, NC 28327
910-949-2261

OUR STAFF:

George Ellis, Owner/Broker
Cell 690-4292
Jean Ellis, Owner/Broker
Cell 690-2047
Ron Goldberg, Broker
Cell 690-8274
Marjean Campbell, Broker
Cell 695-6758
Diane Norman, Broker
Cell 585-2010
Sue Young, Broker
Cell 489-5620

32 BOGIE DRIVE

Excellent brick home features living room, dining room, Carolina room, kitchen, breakfast, 3 bedrooms each with a bath, utility room, 2 car garage. Many extras.

$329,000.

At this time of the year, when we give thanks for our countless blessings, we immediately think of this beautiful Village and all of our many friends and neighbors. Thanks to all of you who make this such a fabulous place to live.

Whispering Pines Properties is the only real estate agency in the Sandhills that specializes exclusively in the properties of Whispering Pines. All of our advertising is dedicated to promoting the Village of Whispering Pines and the properties therein and all of our efforts are concentrated on the listing and sale of the properties of Whispering Pines. When you deal with us, you can be assured that you are getting our undivided attention.

KNOW ABOUT YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

If you would like some help locating where your septic tank may be, please stop by our offices and we will try to be of assistance.

www.whisperingpinesproperties.com

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads. $3 per issue for nonsubscribers. Subscribers free. E-mail your ads to WPPitch@embarqmail.com or kskl@pinehurst.net, Or snail mail to The Pitch, 25 Lakeview Drive, Whispering Pines, NC 28327. The Editors reserve the right in their sole discretion to reject any ad. Ads must be received by the 15th of each month to be included in that month's Pitch.

FOR SALE

Arbonne International., Pure Swiss Skincare. Please call me to try our pure, and beneficial products. Call 949-3060.

Avon. Call me for a free book which shows all the things Avon has to offer. Free delivery. Call 215-0507.

Brick, Concrete, **Pavers**, **Stone** - driveway, landscaping, patio, retaining wall, steps, walkway, etc. New and repair. Call 949-2921

Country French triple dresser with shell motif 57" w x 20 D x31"H with matching mirror and night stand 27"W 18"D x 25"H, $350 for both. single, maple nightstand $50. call 910 949 3980 or 910 315 3854.

Deka's Doghouse Pantry, 127B SW Broad Street, Southern Pines. Fancy pastry treats for dogs**.** Call 692-2306.

Firewood, green or dry. Any length. $75 for 1/2 cord. Call 947-5729.

Fuller Brush is in Whispering Pines. Call 949-1160 or 690-6534 for catalog.

Golf Cart Accessories- Cleaning and Detailing Products, Battery Maintenance Products, Battery Bottles, Sand Shakers, Rain/Club Covers, Golf Gifts--Call 949-3099 or visit www. golfbuggygear.com

Dichroic Jewelry For Christmas!! Small, easy to ship. I have a HUGE inventory--you name it, I've got it. Looks VERY expensive but my prices are wholesale. Call me at 949-2164 or email kimbwitchn@aol.com to arrange to see my work. You won't be disappointed!!

Mary Kay "Stress-Free Holiday Shopping" Get fabulous gifts for everyone on your list from the comfort of your home, just call me to see our line of Gift Sets for men and women. Bobbi Breighner 295-5508

Stamping and Scrapbook Supplies For all of your card making and scrapbook supplies . Call 949-7264, or 949-3674, or 949-3860. Schedule a workshop and earn free stamps /supplies.

Yamaha Golf Cart - 1996Yamaha G16E 36 Volt Golf Cart, Top W/Split Windshield, 2 Year Old Trojan Batteries, Headlights/Tail lights, Rearview Mirror, Built in Cooler, Rear Hitch W/ Receiver, Custom Hubcaps, Teal Color - $1950.00 - 219 Lakeview Dr. (910)949-2448

WANTED

Bamboo rods: any condition and old used fishing tackle. Call 949-2342.

SERVICES

Able to perform all levels of masonry repair or design and build new stone or brick projects. Journeyman Stone Mason, over 36 years. Call 949-0430 *See ad in this issue of the Pitch.*

Bowles Yard Service. We mow, blow, pickup sticks, cones, brush, and clean out garages, blow roofs, gutters and driveways, and anything else you need. Call 690-8912. Also dump truck service. We haul blue stones, mulch, dirt gravel. Call 690-1313, 245-7509.

Brick, Concrete, **Pavers**, **Stone** - driveway, landscaping, patio, retaining wall, steps, walkway, etc. New and repair. Call 949-2921.

Brick, Block, Concrete & Cultured Stone. New jobs & repair work. No job is too small. Call 949-3076.

Brooke Insurance, Exceptional auto rates for senior citizens who qualify. Call for a quote for home, auto, boat, motorcycle, and affordable Short Term Major Medical at 692-3900.

Can you use support services from someone local? I will run errands, sit with loved ones at home/appointments, help with housework. Call Kendra 949-2784

Caregiver: Looking to sit with elderly or run errands, etc. Experience. WP references. Call 245-4296**.**

Caregiver: Lady seeks position looking after elderly or disabled – call Christie at 947-5600 and leave message.

Care Giver: Private duty in home. Local area. 25 years experience. Reliable, honest. Excellent references. Call 245-7274.

Care Giver. I, Ora Watkins, am looking for work as a care giver to the elderly or handicapped. Price is negotiable and I will work first or second shift. Call 944-1586.

Caregiver's Services. I have 15 years experience in Moore County. References. Please call 910-246-3414.

Care provider. Healthcare provider/ companion for employment. Certified with WP references. Personal care, house cleaning, errands, etc. Part time or full time. Call 947-3835.

Certified Flight Instructor, CFII & MEI. Call 9492854 (h), 609-457-4043 (C).

Cleaning and Caregiver Services: If you'd like someone reliable to clean your home, call 245-4194. Excellent WP references.

Cleaning Services: Mrs. Clean will make your home sparkle & shine. References upon request. 295-1535

Mrs. Clean Cleaning caregiver, hair care, and pedicures and manicures services. References. Call 464-9456.

Christmas is Coming! Shop EBAY & Amazon From One Website and Get Savings Coupons & Tips on How to Save Money When Shopping Online! Go to www.mywebcashstore.com/macinta2945 and Check It Out! Lydia Macinta - Resident of Whispering Pines.

Computer Services: Comp-U-Aide - Computer services and other electronic hookups. Fast dependable, affordable, references. 315-4033 or 295-1535.

Concrete, Patios, Pavers, Stonework & Landscaping. Call 949-2921

Custom Framing – Will make frames and cut mats to order. Have a selection of moldings and mats available at reasonable prices – call Fred at 949-2778.

Discover a World of Wellness! Improve your family's health with immune enhancing energy-boosting products Call 949-7261.

Financial And Insurance Services – JG Financial and Insurance Services. Call 944-0575 or 949-3360.

Golf Carts Cleaned and waxed . Pick up and Delivered 295-2903 or 528-1346.

Home Repair Service: Andy On Call - discounts available – one year guarantee – Evening/weekend appointments available. Call 695-9988. Local references.

Dependable, Experienced and Mature Caregiver: House sitting; pet sitting; in home care for immobile children, adults, and seniors. Run errands; take seniors shopping or to dr.'s appointments. Call 944-6048 or 639-0279.

Have you cleaned your garage yet? We'll remove most anything including old furniture, appliances, construction junk, unwanted vehicles and gently used clothing. Call 783-8869.

Holiday pictures professionally placed on a DVD with animations and music. Ideal for: Holidays, Birthdays. Call 949-2777.

(Classifieds continued on next page.)

CLASSIFIED

Income Tax Preparation - Where has 2007 gone? You will soon find out when you have to face the tax man. Having professional assistance by a CPA right here in Whispering Pines can remove some of the stress. Call Sue Thomas at 949-2669 for an appointment. Don't wait for 2008 to arrive!

Insurance: First Casualty Insurance Group – Dare to compare – call for a free no obligation quote. Call 910-692-8303.

Irrigation Services: DCK Irrigation – Install complete irrigation systems. Service on all types of systems. Wire locator service. Call at 673-8762.

L & H Painting. No job too small. Residential and redo's, pressure washing, Decks, Mildew. Free Estimates. Also lawn care mowing and weeding. Call 783-8869.

Loving Private Duty Caregiver. Would like to assist elderly person with their personal needs. Have references. Call 947-3672 or 690-8885

Mark & Son's. A home repair and lawn care service to meet all your needs. Great prices and monthly specials. Call 949-2240 or Cell (910) 261-8077.

Medicare Supplements, Medicare Advantage and Long Term Care. Call Jake Gollehon at 949-3360.

Melissa's Pet Sitting. Going on vacation? Need a pet sitter? I am available to love and care for your pets. Affordable pricing. References. Call 949-2013.

New Freedom Travel. Offering incredible vacation packages that last a lifetime!! Call Lydia Macinta today to get the details! Toll free number: 1-888-577-0643. Or go to my website http://NewFreedomTravel.WinningWithCoastal.com Lydia Macinta is a Whispering Pines Resident.

Open House- December 4, 2007-- 1:00-5:00 p.m. featuring: jewelry, purses, Turvis Tumblers. Location: 127 Harrell road, Seven Lakes, West . Hostesses: Lynn Hammond and Eva Huston. Call 949-1160 for direction card. I will mail one or drop it off. Lynn

Painter and Handyman. Light carpentry work, install outlets and switches, fix roof leaks, water stains, sheet-rock etc. References. No job too small. Call 949-1137

Photographer. Weddings, anniversaries, corporate events & real estate. Reliable, affordable & professional. Call 949-6569

Polly's Beauty Salon. Time for a new creation. Hair cutting for the whole family. Call 949-3341. 1547 Ray's Bridge Road. Walk-ins welcome.

Private Math Tutoring: pre algebra, algebra and geometry. 25 years experience in Moore County. Call 949-4537.

Private Tutoring: for 3rd, 4th, or 5th grader in reading, math, or writing . Recently retired Moore County teacher of 32 years. Call Doris Russell at 949-6549.

Journeyman, stone mason, build custom stone design or brick structures/ projects. Grind, tuck-point, repair and replace brick and stone. Call for a quote. 949-0430

Remodel Rooms: Painting and remodeling. Call 949-3532.

Sandhills House and Carpet Cleaning. Residential, office, rentals, new construction commercial professional service. Call 949-3311 or 638-1696.

Senior's Relocation Services: Beverly & Susan 910-295-0905 or seniormoving@yahoo.com. We offer sorting/ distributing, packing/unpacking, worry free move, shipping, garage sales, cleaning, haul away of unwanted items, attic & garage cleaning/removal. Insured/ references available upon request.

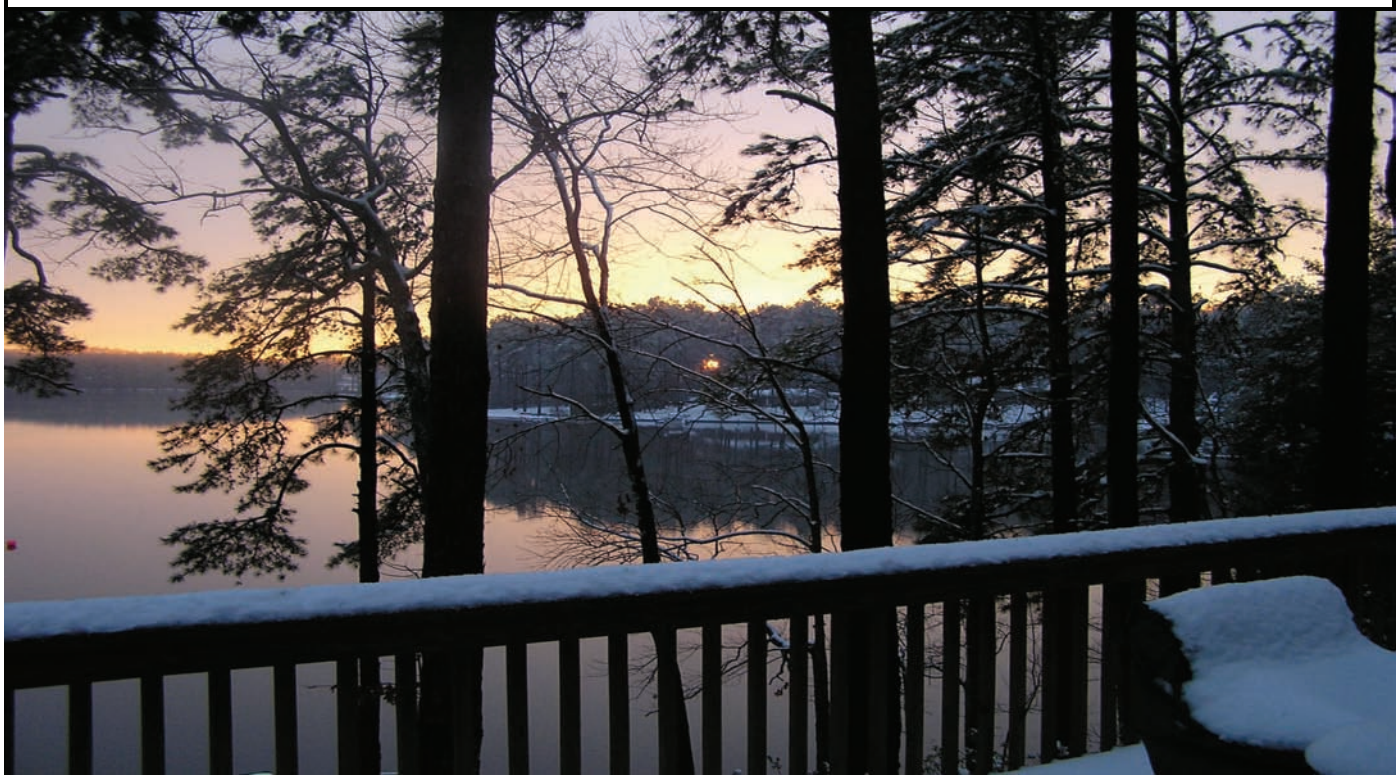
Sew-It-Seems: Alterations by CJ Grant— Women's and men's clothing alterations. Prompt, quality workmanship, reasonable prices. 944-7347.

Travel Services: Need help with arrangements for tours, cruises, vacation travel? . Don Winslow at 949-3565 or donwin@charter.net

Tweetise House Cleaning. Reasonable rates. WP references provided upon request. Call 947-7011 or 585-3043.

Yard Services: Prim's Lawn Service – Will install gutter guards. Eliminates cleaning your gutters. 949-3301.

Yard Services: T & H Yard Service—Residential & Commercial—we do yards, driveways, etc. Call 673-1508;



2004- (Before global warming). See you next month. *Johnnie & Skip*