

Lakelands Leader Changes

BY KRISTA BRICK

Andrea Escher, who has produced the Lakelands homeowners' association newspaper for almost 10 years, will no longer serve as the editor and advertising manager for the *Lakelands Leader*, according to community representatives.

The August issue was the last *Lakelands Leader* published with Escher at the helm, where she has been since 2000. Her contract was terminated "due to irreconcilable differences," said Lakelands Community Association (LCA) Board of Directors' Vice President Mike Aubrey.

Escher, a Lakelands resident, said she has hired attorney Rene Sandler to help her obtain an explanation of her dismissal and collection of back pay due per her contract.

"I have enjoyed working with the *Lakelands Leader*, and I have enjoyed all the people I worked with over the years to tell their stories and promote their busi-

ness. The paper was a part of me, and I am sad to not be involved any more," Escher said.

As Lakelands officials work to fill the vacant editorial position, advertisers are being told not to expect a September edition of the monthly newspaper.

"We are completing the process for hiring a new editor, [who] will be named very shortly, and an announcement will be sent to you. Consequently, there will be no *Leader* newspaper printed for September. Anyone who has paid for an ad will have their ad extended an extra month to make up for the September leader," Joe Mills, the LCA communications committee chairman, wrote in a letter to advertisers August 24.

The letter states that the e-mail address for *Leader* article submissions and advertising information will remain the same: Leader@Lakelands.org. The new mailing address for correspondence and payments is: CMI-Lakelands Clubhouse, 960 Main Street, Gaithersburg, Md. 20878.