

Break-in...from page 1

and letting them know what happened," said Jarrard. She said that the door to the basement was also kicked in, but nothing seemed to be missing.

It is unusual for there to be any amount of cash on hand, said Jarrard, but the city had several people come in at the last minute to pay for turning on water that had been turned off earlier that week. A number of the city employees attended a funeral that afternoon so a deposit had not been made that day according to a statement by the sheriff's department.

Mayor Andrea Gibby has contacted a locksmith to re-key the replacement doors and is working with the insurance company to settle the damages.

Sheriff Chris Clinton said Deputies Davis and Wilson investigated the break in and the GBI also helped in the investigation, which at this time is ongoing. He also asked if anybody has any information to please contact his department at 706-896-4444.

Ten Year...from page 1

comprehensive plan will also cover issues such as land usage, economic development, roads and bridges, education, police, fire protection, hospitals, building inspection, and natural resources. Each major topic of the plan will need a committee of local experts to help organize data and figure out what the next ten years might bring.

Retired educator Jounida Bradley reinforced Garrett's statement by telling local leaders: "In some areas we are not meeting the needs of our people in the county." Bradley said it wasn't going to be easy and it wouldn't happen overnight, and they would have to work together to create a feasible plan. Bradley said she was going to a training session to find out about changes and requirements in how they compile this ten-year plan.

Bradley said they need small committees of hard working people with vision, and at least one person on each committee should be computer savvy. After the committees

create their reports, the local governments will have to hold public hearings to get the public's approval.

Garrett said one thing in their favor is they are starting on the plan early this time.

Hiawassee city manager Rick Stancil said the city needs to get a service agreement strategy redone immediately. He said this would not take a committee, just an agreement from both cities and the county. Hiawassee has been trying to secure money for projects, and they need to have the service agreement strategy complete this month. Gibby and Young Harris councilman John Kelley had some questions about what the strategy meant for Young Harris. However, Gibby did tell Stancil: "We'll do what we can to help you facilitate this."

There were many questions from the local leaders, and solid answers from Garrett and Bradley. They said to keep two things in mind when creating the plan. First, what do we have now? Second, what do we need in the future?

TCWSA...from page 1

ten serve consecutive terms. The board members are appointed by the Towns County Grand Jury, and the board elects its officers every March. The only money the board members make from the authority are per diem checks for attending monthly meetings: \$50 for each board member and \$75 for the chairman.

The board members answer to the grand jury, as well as file monthly reports to the state. The authority receives no money from Towns County. The only money they make is from the sale of water. The authority is given no subsidy from the State of Georgia; however, they can get grants and loans.

The authority has the power to set the water rates for its customers, to run and maintain its water system, to buy and sell surplus real estate and

equipment, and to borrow money.

Regular fulltime employees include manager of operations Jerry Bradshaw, office manager Maxine Bradshaw, secretary Jennifer Nichols, and maintenance technicians Richard Green, James Lovell, Justin Dale, and Charles Grant Rogers.

The authority considers itself a public corporation in that it has to run like a business but is also using the public money. The authority says it has to remain self supporting while, at the same time, serve as caretakers for the water system.

Even though the TCWSA has *sewer* in its title, the authority owns no sewer at this time. They only deal in water.

Gene Mitchell, Gene Jackson, and Jerry Bradshaw provided the information used in this report.

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pan, Korea, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Nigeria, Philippines, Slovenia, Switzerland and Taiwan.

The VIP Tour will visit sites highlighting Northeast Georgia's diversity. The first stop on Wednesday, April 15 is the Falcons Team Headquarters in Flowery Branch. The rest of the day, the VIPs will visit the Kubota plant in Gainesville and Tallulah Gorge State Park, with an overnight stay in Clayton.

Thursday, April 16 the group will enjoy a presentation at Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School and then head to Young Harris College for a program. In the afternoon, the VIPs will visit several sites in Dahlonega and spend the night at the Unicoi State Lodge in Helen.

On Friday, April 17, the VIPs will visit the Kangaroo Conservation Center in Dawsonville and complete their trip with a tour of Hansgrohe's facility in Cumming.

The Atlanta Consular Corps consists of consuls general, consuls, honorary consuls and trade commissioners

representing 61 countries. Career officers are members of their country's foreign services while honorary officials are local residents appointed by foreign governments to perform consular duties. Each consulate offers diplomatic and business assistance to nationals from its respective country.

Currently, 53 countries operate more than 2,500 internationally owned facilities in Georgia. In fiscal 2008, international companies accounted for \$1.08 billion in investment and the creation of 7,001 jobs.

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) is the state's sales and marketing arm, the lead agency for attracting new business investment, encouraging the expansion of existing industry and small businesses, locating new markets for Georgia products, attracting tourists to Georgia, and promoting the state as a location for film, music and digital entertainment projects, as well as planning and mobilizing state resources for economic development.

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Sargent told those in attendance that property already owned by the county would more than likely cover the amount needed to match what is required as a match for the grant. He said that the county should know if the grant is awarded to them in about three months. He also said that if the county does not get this grant that they also stand to get a grant through the stimulus package that the government has set up.