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Zoller took 53 percent of the local vote, which consisted of 1,381 votes. Zoller claimed 738 votes to 643 for Collins in Union County.

District-wide, Collins took 54.62 percent of the vote. Overall, he captured 39,002 to Zoller's 32,406 votes.

Collins claimed victory in Towns, Lumpkin, Hall, White, Fannin, Franklin, Stephens, Jackson, Hart, Gilmer, Banks, Madison, Elbert, Clarke and Rabun counties. Zoller won Dawson, Forsyth, Union, Pickens and Habersham counties.

"We lost the battle, but we can still win the war," Zoller said. "Let's unite to restore America. Let's fight to restore accountability in Congress, enact bold reform that puts our fiscal house in order, and return government to the people through citizen engagement. "While I am deeply disappointed in last night's returns, I can't help but be thankful," she said. "Your hard work, support, and prayers were humbling and meant the world to me. I will always remember your dedication not only to the conservative movement, but also to my candidacy. From the very bottom of my heart, thank you." Zoller also encouraged

voters to get out to the polls on Nov. 6th.

"Don't stop fighting for what you believe," she said. "Don't give up on the future of this great nation and don't for a second believe that your efforts over the last year were in vain."

Zoller wanted the folks of Towns County to know that she appreciated their vote and support.

"After a year of traveling around the District, meeting with voters, and discussing issues most pertinent to the people of North Georgia, my campaign for Congress has ended," she said.

Meanwhile, Collins' next task: win in November.

He'll face Cooley, the former Gainesville City School board member, who practices law in the Queen City.

If history follows its historical suit, Collins should be the next Congressman from Georgia's 9th Congressional District.

Collins has represented Georgia House District 27 since 2007. He currently serves in the United States Air Force Reserves and serves as chaplain.

Early voting for Nov. 6 elections begins Oct. 15. Last day to register: Oct. 9.

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said Cox.

Continuing to discuss Eaves' "skewed" information, Cox said the county takes credit for almost all of the culture and recreation.

"He didn't give us (Young Harris) any credit and then his data on debt service is just flat wrong," Cox said.

Cox discussed the projected growth for Young Harris College as well as the DOT's proposed bypass in Young Harris.

He also strongly emphasized water and sewer services provided by Young Harris to Young Harris College, Blue Ridge Mountain EMC, as well as Brasstown Valley Resort and the Equani Spa.

"For the county to say 4.4 percent and cut us half of our population, I really think is appalling," he said. "It's not even true negotiations."

"The summary is this, 8.6 percent of the population; at least 1 percent for future growth; 1 percent for Blue Ridge Mountain EMC; at least 1 percent for Brasstown Valley; and 2 percent minimum for Young Harris College. That's 13.6 percent," stated Cox.

"We're willing to work because we understand what's going on with the Tax Digest. We understand the county has some issues that are there. We're not here to hurt anybody. We're willing to stay at our present split and then start tiering up, but we're going to 14 percent to compensate for the drag we're doing," Cox said.

"That's really a benefit to the county if you run the numbers," concluded Cox.

Although Attorney David Barrett was present to represent the City of Hiawassee, City Manager Rick Stancil took the floor to speak on behalf of the city.

Stancil opened with a paraphrased quote made to the Towns County Herald following the Aug. 7th meeting.

"Both the county and the cities must be prepared to work together to openly discuss our

differences and to compromise, and these are important discussions," Stancil said. "But we all need to keep in mind that the needs of our citizens come first, and take that in consideration for what it's worth."

Stancil said for the most part, he was laying Hiawassee's cards on the table.

"This is the presentation of the City of Hiawassee," he said. "We're using reporting data that was prepared by both of the municipalities, and by municipalities I am talking about both cities."

Stancil went over the eight criteria required by law to be considered during LOST negotiations.

"The cities are somewhat sensitive to a large degree because over the years, we've been limited pretty much to population," he said. "We've never been given, at least in the LOST, any type of reward for what we perceive to be efforts on our part to attract economic development, to bring jobs to the county, and to basically provide water and sewer service where there has not been any and that's been an expensive endeavor over the years."

Stancil did a break down of the eight criteria to be considered individually.

He began with population.

"We have to address population. That's night time population or residential population. I call it, sometimes, sleeping in the bed criteria," he said. "When you measure population by the Census, those are the people who are asleep in your town at night."

"They use very little in the way of services while laying there in bed sound asleep. What we're more concerned about is the criteria of population during normal business hours that you have to give credit to the cities basically for the population during the day," he said. "One of the main intrinsic to Hiawassee is the value of the downtown business district, something that is required to

be looked at and not just dismissed, but given credit for."

"And I think when we start looking at commercial digests and other measures, you will say substantially there's a huge contribution by the municipalities in the commercial digest tax base," Stancil said.

Stancil went on to discuss how the cities benefit the county and how the county benefits the cities.

"The bottom line is you have to look at it both ways," he said. "You have to give credit to the county, you have to give credit to the cities, but it is a comparison."

"This law sets up a comparison system whereby you look at these elements in order to develop a base where you can come back and apportion the taxes appropriately, rationally, and to a certain extent free from political influence," he said.

Stancil expressed concern, along with Cox, that the county had discounted the services provided by the cities saying that, "We've incurred great debt over the years providing for two water plants, two sewer plants, and the service that basically the economic development is based on. The bottom line is you look at all debt."

Addressing the county, Stancil said one wouldn't be able to generate a sizable portion of the taxes from any commercial activity in the county but for water and sewer provided by the municipalities.

Stancil was referring to a previous comment regarding taxes generated from local businesses,

"Most of those facilities are tied to water and sewer services provided by the municipalities," he said.

Stancil also indicated that the city of Hiawassee is in the process of revamping and replacing their water intake at the water plant.

"Additionally, we have spent almost \$1 million two years ago in a project for sewer

relining and rehab," said Stancil.

Stancil concluded by addressing findings of the cities' consulting firm, Brown Pelican Consulting, Inc., who proposed a 61/38 percent split.

"That's what our expert thinks and is willing to testify to," Stancil said. "This is basically what we're here to talk about, at least for the purpose of compromise. Last time I said 16 percent. I modified that after going back through various data, but 15 percent is probably a fair and accurate number based on criteria we've looked at."

"What we would propose is phasing that in over time because we recognize there could have an adverse effect on anyone's budget to start dealing with that," said Stancil.

Stancil said the city of Hiawassee's proposal would be holding at the same rate for the first year (2013).

"Then we would go up 1 percent until we reach the 15 percent," he said. "That wouldn't happen until 2019."

The LOST negotiations were scheduled to reconvene on Monday, Aug. 27th, but in a cooperative effort to give the county's consultant time to look over the numbers and proposal by the municipalities, it was agreed that they would meet Wednesday, Aug. 29th at 5:30 p.m. at the same location.

Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall said the purpose of the LOST is to use the revenue from the tax to roll back citizens' property taxes, which is shown on citizens' property tax bill each year.

"As commissioner I am elected to equally represent all citizens of the county, both inside and outside the city limits," he said. "It is my commitment and that of the County Negotiating Committee to come to an agreement with the cities that is a fair and equitable property tax roll back for all taxpaying citizens whether they live inside the city or out in the county," said Kendall.

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water quality issues, which currently impact the lake, like nutrients and sediment," Fuller said.

"Rainfall which flows downhill from development sites should leave the property as clean, or cleaner, than when it fell to the ground," said Fuller.

Strong emphasis was placed on the fact that development sites should take care to prevent excess sediment from being carried away during a rain event.

The Coalition gave a big kudos to Ingles' Market of Hiawassee as they have a corporate policy requiring them to make sure that run-off water issues are addressed during the construction phase.

"Stormwater management prevents water from washing directly into adjacent waterways and allows them to slowly percolate through the ground via some type of retention structure, thereby removing any contaminants before entering surface and/or groundwater," emphasized Fuller.

"By adopting a stormwater ordinance, the City of Hiawassee will ensure that future development does not negatively impact land and water as well as adjacent property owners. The City's initiative to adopt this stormwater ordinance is a big step forward in good stewardship of Lake Chatuge and its tributaries," said Moore.

"Many of the suggested actions for lake improvement identified in the 2007 Lake Chatuge Watershed Action Plan relate to managing and treating stormwater, including a recommendation for local governments to consider adopting a stormwater ordinance," said Moore. "We are pleased that the City of Hiawassee is pursuing this action."

"By taking the initiative to require responsible development through stormwater management, the City of Hiawassee is ensuring that the local economy continues to thrive from tourism, recreation, and high quality living along the shores of Lake Chatuge," said Fuller.

"The Council understands that land development and associated changes to land cover permanently alter the local watersheds and in many instances increase stormwater runoff rates and volumes, which in turn increase flooding, stream channel erosion, and sediment transport and deposition. All of these possible consequences can damage our streams and lakes," said City Manager Rick Stancil.

"Land development projects and other land use conversions also contribute to increased nonpoint source pollution and degradation of receiving waters," Stancil said. "Runoff quantity and quality can adversely affect public safety, public and private property, drinking water supplies, recreation, fish and other aquatic life, property values, and other uses of lands and waters."

With this in mind, Hiawassee City Council is working with the Coalition staff to establish reasonable stormwater management policies and requirements.

"The future of Lake Chatuge and the economy of Hiawassee go hand and hand," stated Mayor Barbara Mathis.

"We must all work together to ensure that our lake is protected to the best of our ability. The proposed ordinance is a small step forward for our city, but can serve as an example for all governments in our quest to improve the quality of Lake Chatuge," Mathis said.

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thing else you can imagine.

The Garden Village boasted beautiful and healthy tropical plants and flowers that can be found.

John and Corrine Bodin were the gardeners in charge.

Corrine, 78 years young, was quite a character and really enjoyed meeting folks and telling them about Bodin's Tropicals.

She even enjoyed sharing a joke or two when the opportunity presented itself.

The Bodins are from a very small town in South Georgia called Wray.

"We're a real small town and most folks don't know about us," said John Bodin. "We have been selling plants at arts and crafts shows for 15 years. We have several green-

houses and we just enjoy doing what we do."

The Bodins were personable and charming and folks just seemed to flock towards them.

This fall show was very well received by locals and visitors to the area as well as was evidenced by the huge turnout with hundreds of people walking through with family, pets, and their wallets open and ready to take home whatever treasures they might find.

The selections were plentiful, the vendors friendly and welcoming, and the weather was perfect with the sun shining brightly overhead and blue skies in abundance.

A perfect day to take a stroll in this lovely park and enjoy the beauty of all that Young

Ladies Golf at Chatuge Shores

What a great Aug. 21 to be out and about on the links. Thirty members and 2 guests enjoyed a gross game. One, Two, Three...that is a game of the total number of 1 best ball for all par 5s, 2 best balls for all par 4s, and 3 best balls for the par 3s. The score was based on the gross, not the net score. The 5 winning teams were: #1 Mary Reece, Opal Rose, Frankie Medford, and Lorene Avery; #2 Nancy Jensen, Mary Anderson, Vicky Donaldson, and Ines Bergstrom; #3 Donna Workman, Arleen Sheplak, Barbara Boswell, and Jackie DiChiara; #4 Nancy Outlaw, Anita Flood, Betty Williams, and Sandy Jersey.

#5 Pat Seeley, Pat Mosteller, Judy Schmitt, and Bobbi Le Houllier. Congratulations to all of the winners.

In addition to the game itself, Opal Rose won for having the least number of putts and for a chip-in on hole #3. Alas, she did not get to claim all of the millions of dollars for the chip-ins. She had to share it with Lorene Avery who chipped in on hole #10.

The next event involves a mystery, and on Sept. 4 and 11, the "Chatuquettes" will be involved in the league's 2 Tuesday championship event. That might just end up being a mystery, too! (Aug29-FJ)SH

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Branch, commonly known to locals as Stink Branch.

If you have ever lived in Young Harris or surrounding areas, you are familiar with Jacksonville.

Taylor explained that Coke was illegal in Young Harris from 1902 until 1929.

It was more specifically known as "dope" and was considered to be a narcotic.

If folks wanted to pur-

chase it, they had to drive a short distance to Jacksonville, where it was not illegal.

"It was considered sinful to partake of this beverage," explained Taylor. Crane Creek was named for Andrew Jackson Crane who moved here from South Carolina in 1864.

"Crane moved to Byers Creek where he mined for gold and kept his findings in snuff

boxes stored here and there," said Taylor. "He refused to fight for either side during the Civil War and refused to give aid or refuge to either side."

"Crane was captured by a soldier during the war and made his captor believe he heard enemy horses.

He escaped by convincing him that 'this horse can't carry both you and me. You can go faster without me.' The

captor rode off and Crane was able to escape," said Taylor.

Once again, Taylor held an audience captive and they did not seem eager to escape.

The Lions Club expressed their appreciation to Taylor for taking time out of his busy schedule to share his wealth of knowledge, regarding the history of Towns County with them.

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they all had big smiles on their faces. They knew they had been a part of something big.

They knew they had made a difference. Pendley's tone turned to a more serious note as she talked about her involvement with ACS.

"We believe that every birthday is a victory; it's another year that cancer has not prevailed," Pendley said. "Cancer victims' birthdays means everything to us. That's why we're dedicated to creating a world with less cancer and more birthdays."

"Helping create these birthdays has taken hard work and decades of scientific research, advocacy, and patient support," she said.

"Thanks in part to the American Cancer Society, 12 million cancer survivors and countless more who have avoided cancer will celebrate another birthday this year," said Pendley.

Pendley emphasized that the fight has to continue.

Events such as the 5K

run help raise the needed funds in the fight against cancer.

"We can create a world with even more celebrations, more laughter, and more birthdays for all," she stated emphatically.

Pendley shared that the ACS "will be working in the Towns County community to make needed improvements in the local Relay for Life."

"We will be forming a working committee to get

Towns County more involved in the fight against cancer," she said.

"The purpose of this committee will be for members to serve on fundraising activities, event committees, to recruit volunteers for various ACS programs, to educate the public about cancer, and to provide services where needed," she said.

Pendley went on to say that she knows that many

people in the community have been touched by cancer and are looking for ways to make a difference.

She encouraged anyone who has an interest in getting involved in the "fight against cancer" and would like to be involved in local planning of events, or to expand local patient programs, to please contact the local ACS office at (770) 297-1176.



Area youth take part in the American Cancer Society's 5K Fun Run on Saturday. Photo/Libby Shook

DAR Questions and Answers Session

In observance of Constitution Week, September 17-23, the Old Nicolai Trail Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution provides the following Questions and Answers about our U.S. Constitution.

The United States of America functions as a Republic under the Constitution, which is the oldest document still in active use that outlines the self-government of a people.

This landmark idea that men had the inalienable right as individuals to be free and live their lives under their own governance was the impetus of the American Revolution.

Today, the Constitution stands as an icon of freedom for people around the world.

The Founding Fathers: Q. What was the average age of the Framers of the Constitution? A. About 40; Benja-

min Franklin was the oldest at 81 and Jonathan Dayton of New Jersey was the youngest at 27.

Q. How many signers of the Constitution did Georgia have? A. Abraham Baldwin and William Few were two delegates of six (deputies) designated by Georgia to the Constitutional Convention. Baldwin and Few signed the final document on September 17, 1787.

In the famous portrait of the scene at the signing of the Constitution, Baldwin and Few are depicted on the back row furthest away from George Washington.

Two other delegates, William Houston and William Leigh Pierce did not attend the entire Convention nor did they sign the final document.

Two other Georgia delegates never showed up at the Convention; they were George Walton and Nathaniel Pendle-

ton. A list of all six delegates appeared in the Georgia Gazette on February 15, 1787.

Your Constitutional Right To Vote: Q. What were the original Constitutional requirements for all voters? A. Each state set its own voting requirements. Because the requirements for voters were not established by the Constitution, the right to determine those requirements is retained by the States under the 10th amendment.

Q. Prior to the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920 what was the status of women's right to vote in the US? A. Women in certain states had the right to vote for President. Oregon, Alaska, Arizona, and California had given women the right to vote prior to 1920.

Q. What impact did the Viet-

nam War have on the legal age to vote? A. The 26th amendment lowered the voting age to 18.

Congress and the state legislatures felt increasing pressure to pass the Constitutional amendment because of the Vietnam War, in which many young men who were ineligible to vote were drafted to fight in the war, thus lacking any means to influence the people sending them off to risk their lives. "Old enough to fight, old enough to vote," was a common slogan used by proponents of lowering the voting age.

The slogan traced its roots to World War II, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt lowered the military draft age to 18.

In 1971, Congress approved proposing a Constitutional amendment to guarantee that the voting age could not be higher than 18.