

Suspect...continued from page 1

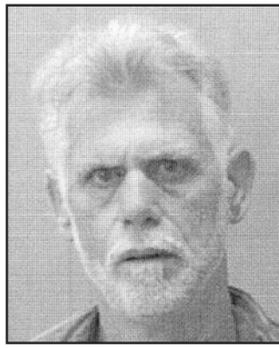
investigation, sheriff's reports show.

When Deputy Barrett and Sarge arrived, they received a description of the man, and began tracking him.

Sarge followed the suspect's scent straight to Turner, who was hiding in some thick bushes and briars well off the roadway, sheriff's reports show.

Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton said he couldn't be more pleased with the quick response and subsequent apprehension of Turner.

"This type event shows the training and dedication of our deputies," Sheriff Clinton said. "With little to go on initially, they sealed off the area, and when the K-9 unit arrived,



William Monroe Turner

they followed him into his hiding place and made the arrest without incident.

"I'm proud of our guys and the job they do every day and night," he said.

H.O.G....continued from page 1

"Come check out the Bike Show. This is an event that you definitely do not want to miss," said Polstra.

"The Tourism Association is happy to see the H.O.G. members again," she said. "We enjoy seeing them all weekend in the hotels, restaurants, and

local shops.

"The community benefits greatly from the much needed economic boost that comes from groups like the H.O.G. Rally choosing our community to host their event," Polstra said. "Help us welcome them when they arrive in our beautiful community on Thursday."

PreBid...continued from page 1

get this job done; that will factor into our decision regarding who gets the bid," he said.

"The architects and engineers hold us to the specifications and we will hold you to the specifications as well," said Day.

"If you can bond, put your bond rate down. If you can't bond, it will not eliminate you," Goodyear emphasized.

"We are not going to eliminate anyone because they can't bond. Our main interest is in getting this job done with local workers."

Prior to adjournment, Kendall gave an update on the project.

"The rough grading phase of Foster Memorial Park is nearing completion under budget due to unused contin-

gent funds budgeted for granite rock removal, which was not necessary," Commissioner Kendall said.

"The big item of savings was the low contract bid for price of dirt removal and compaction," Kendall said. "Some of these savings could be used, if needed, in the construction of the Recreation/Community Center.

"Other good news is that we drilled a well to irrigate the ball fields in order to save money by not having to pay for treated water. The well, which cost only \$2,000 to drill, turned out to be an artesian well that will produce 109 gallons per minute of free water. This large amount of water will save additional funds by not having to construct a large water storage tank," said Kendall.

LEO ...continued from page 1

show them what to do, and then get out of the way and let them do it," in reference to the newly formed club.

Helwig said that the LEOs of Georgia had set three goals to tackle: childhood hunger, teen pregnancy, and drop-out rate.

The following officers were installed: President Lesleigh Irvin, First Vice President Allison Page, Second Vice President Courtney Marshall, Secretary Madison Johnson, Treasurer Macy Shattles, directors Danielle Diehl, Carly

Gilfilian, Mia Manto, and Elizabeth Turner.

Irvin stood behind the lectern in her first address as President of the LEOs. "I'm much honored to be the founding president of the Towns County LEO club," Irvin said. "It's a very big job, but there are a lot of bright, motivated students that have been helping me along the way.

"I'm very proud of what we have accomplished so far and I'm very excited about what we will do in the future as an official LEO Club," she said.

Enchanted ...continued from page 1

Be There.

The evening kicked off with a riveting group performance by the Singing Stars of *Rocking Robin* which had audience members tapping their feet, clapping their hands, and some even singing along.

There were many phenomenal group performances including the finale, *You're a Grand Old Flag*.

Solos performed include *Once Upon a Dream* by Hiawassee's own 8-year-old Delayne Bowling; Blairsville's 9-year-old Alexander Zaleski singing *Pray*; 12-year-old Isabella Richter of Hayesville performed *This is the Stuff*; 7-year-old Ezie Elmore of Atlanta performed *What We Need Is a Miracle*; and 15-year-old Zach Richter of Hayesville, NC singing *This Is Not Goodbye*. Also performing was 8-year-old Kyndal Arrowood of Hayesville, NC.

Delayne Bowling said she loves singing with her friends in Singing Stars.

"Palmer takes good care of me," Delayne said. "I hope that I sing as good as her one day."

All of the kids and their parents were very proud. The young stars performed with great confidence and amazing talent. Former Singing Star, Carter Helm, 14, traveled from Chattanooga to perform only one song, *This is Me*, with his friend, Mireille.

They have been singing together since second grade.

The *Singing Stars for a Better World* is the creation of Robbie Dernehl of Young Harris.

"I started this group seven years ago to give kids a chance to develop talents they had and to spread joy and inspiration to people in the community," Dernehl said. "I audition the children first, so I get to see what they are capable of, and what they like to do, and then create the shows around them. Kids are much more able than we sometimes allow them to be."



Singing Stars perform in Downtown. Photo/Libby Shook

LOST ...continued from page 1

our case for a fair distribution of these funds."

Local Option Sales Tax dollars, or LOST dollars, are used to roll back government millage rates to provide a tax break to local residents.

Commissioner Kendall made a proposal based on recommendations by the county negotiating team.

"I support and submit the committee's recommendation of not taking money away from anyone by keeping the formula for the past 10 years at 82 percent county and 18 percent for the cities to decide how to split their share," the commissioner said.

Commissioner Kendall expressed his thanks to the county negotiating committee, Chairman Chris Bradshaw, Vice Chairman Grover Garrett, Cecil Hughes, Terry Williams, Diane Rogers, and Jim Powell for "their informed and deliberate approach in arriving at a recommended funding formula that they sincerely feel will result in a fair and equitable property tax roll back for all residents.

The commissioner also said that he agrees with the committee's "firm and unanimous" feelings that the fairest and best offer should initially be put on the table.

"For the past 20 years, LOST distribution in Towns County has been exclusively based on population over the objections of the city of Hiawassee," said Stancil.

At the joint meeting on Aug. 23rd, Hiawassee and Young Harris unveiled their presentations based on the



City of Young Harris LOST negotiators outside the Towns County Senior Center. Photo/Libby Shook

findings of the cities' consulting firm who proposed a 61/38 percent split.

Hiawassee made its first offer to split the funds through a phase-in process beginning at 9 percent in 2013 to increase by 1 percent per year until 15 percent was reached in 2019.

In an attempt to move forward in the negotiating process, Hiawassee offered to reduce its offer. This, too, was a phase-in process with LOST revenue remaining at 9 percent for the first two years and increasing in 1-percent increments every two years. This would put the LOST revenue for the city of Hiawassee at 13 percent for 2021 and 2022.

The city of Young Harris also presented a modified offer which would start out at 9 per-

cent and phase into a gradual 11 percent. Their previous proposal was 13.6 percent.

Young Harris City Attorney Cary Cox said his clients were pleased with the "fruitful status of the negotiations" and look forward to continued dialogue with the county and cities.

Doug Eaves of Eaves Consulting Group was present to provide a rebuttal on behalf of Towns County in regard to proposals by Young Harris and Hiawassee last week regarding their proposed numbers of how the LOST revenue should be divvied up.

Eaves came equipped with a PowerPoint presentation regarding what he referred to as inaccuracies and misinformation of the cities' consultant, Pelican Brown, Inc.

Eaves said that he couldn't find the data reported by Brown.

Eaves' recommendation at the initial meeting in early August was that 86.88 percent should be going to the county with Hiawassee receiving 9.08 percent and Young Harris receiving 4.04 percent.

The formula used to determine what percentage of LOST revenue that each county and their cities receive must be renegotiated every 10 years.

More LOST distributions formulas are based on population, with larger cities and counties receiving a bigger piece of the sales tax revenue pie.

State law also requires that LOST distributions consider other factors, such as public services provided in an area.

Adopt-A-Stream volunteers receive certifications

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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Ten volunteers representing all four counties in the upper Hiawassee River watershed became certified Georgia Adopt-A-Stream volunteers on Tuesday, Aug. 14th.

The Hiawassee River Watershed Coalition held a volunteer workshop with the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream program at Riverbend Campground on the Hiawassee River according to Callie Moore, coalition coordinator.

Georgia Adopt-A-Stream (AAS) is housed in the NonPoint Source Program in the Water Protection Branch of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

The program is funded

by a Section 319(h) Grant.

The goals of Georgia Adopt-A-Stream are to increase public awareness of the State's nonpoint source pollution and water quality issues. Goals also include providing citizens with the tools and training to evaluate and protect their local waterways, encourage partnerships between citizens and their local government, and collect quality baseline water quality data.

"Starting at 9 a.m., workshop participants were trained in chemical monitoring, learning how to test stream samples for dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, and conductivity," said Moore.

The classroom portion of the workshop explained why these chemical parameters are important to streams and aquatic life, as well as the value of long-

term baseline water quality data, Moore explained.

Moore said that after the attendees broke for lunch, they were trained on "how to conduct bacterial monitoring focusing on E-coli using Adopt-A-Stream's 3M Petrifilm method."

"All in all, the day was a great success and a lot of fun. All participants were successfully trained in both chemical and bacterial monitoring and will receive certificates good for one year, at which time volunteers must take a refresher workshop to re-certify," said Moore.

"Riverbend Campground provided a beautiful setting and perfect access to the river for collecting water samples," said Moore.

Moore said that the Co-

alition would like to thank Riverbend for allowing them to conduct the workshop at their facility, as well as offering their appreciation to Allison Hughes of Georgia Adopt-A-Stream for coming up to assist with the training.

"The Coalition would like to say a big thanks to all the volunteers who came out to become Adopt-A-Stream certified water quality monitors," said Moore.

The next workshop is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 25th. It is open to any watershed resident and you can choose a stream anywhere in the four-county coverage area, or even in North Carolina. You can register by contacting Lake Chatuge Watershed Coordinator Scarlett Fuller at (706) 970-9069. Call for e-mail address.

DAR Questions and Answers Session

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

Constitutional Provisions:

Q. Which of the following was specifically mentioned in the Constitution: "the right to keep and bear arms," "the separation of church and state," "the right of association," or "the right to privacy?"

A. The right to keep and bear arms; the second amendment says "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Q. Why is there not a religious test to qualify a government official?

A. The U.S. Constitution, Article 6, Clause 3 says that office holders of the state and federal governments will be bound by oath or affirmation to support the Constitution but that no religious test shall ever be required.

Q. What is the role of the Constitution in regard to religion?

A. The first amendment states that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. Additionally, this amendment prohibited Congress from making laws abridging the freedom of speech, or of the

press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Q. What are the requirements for U.S. Citizenship?

A. A person must be born or naturalized here. Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4 gives Congress the authority to establish requirements of naturalization for persons not born in the United States.

Q. What in the Constitution prevented discrimination based upon sex?

A. The 19th amendment ratified in 1920.

Q. What education does the U.S. Constitution guarantee its citizens?

A. The Constitution does not guarantee an education.

Amendments:

Q. What is the "Bill of Rights" and why was it important to the success of the U.S. Constitution?

A. The "Bill of Rights" is the name given to the first 10 amendments to the Constitution, ratified in 1791 not long after the Constitution was written. There was a concern when the Constitution was written in 1787 that the federal government would be too powerful. The Bill of Rights was added to put a 'check' on the power of the national government and to protect the individual rights of all Americans. Within a year after the signing of the Constitution members

of the First Federal Congress proposed 12 amendments to the new Constitution; 10 of the amendments were ratified by three-fourths of the states and became the "Bill of Right."

Several state conventions in their formal ratification of the Constitution had asked for such amendments; others ratified the Constitution with the understanding that the amendments would be offered.

The two amendments that were not ratified by states concerned the number of constituents for each Congressional Representative and the compensation of Congressmen (See 27th Amendment below).

Q. Which amendment took the longest time to be ratified by states? the shortest time?

A. The 27th Amendment was originally submitted by Congress to states for ratification as part of the proposed Bill of Rights in 1789; it was finally ratified in 1992, 203 years later. The 27th Amendment provides that any change in Congressional salaries may only take effect after the beginning of the next term of office for Representatives; this does not include cost-of-living increases. The 18th Amendment proposed in 1971 was ratified within four months and guaranteed that the legal voting age could not be higher than 18.

Q. Which amendment to the Constitution was

overturned by a later amendment to the Constitution? A. The 18th Amendment which was ratified in 1919 and which prohibited the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors was overturned by the 21st amendment in 1933. Franklin Roosevelt pledged to repeal the Amendment in his 1923 presidential campaign against Herbert Hoover.

Q. After the Civil War why couldn't former Confederates automatically serve as members of Congress?

A. Section 3 of the 14th Amendment says that no one "who shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the (United States)" can serve unless approved by 2/3 of each house of Congress.

Q. Why is the ratification process for new amendments to the Constitution so difficult?

A. The framers of the Constitution wanted to protect the core values of the Constitution by making change difficult. Article V describes the complicated process by which an amendment can be made to the Constitution.

Q. When does an amendment become part of the Constitution?

A. When it is ratified or approved by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states. Learn more about the U.S. Constitution by testing your knowledge at ConstitutionFacts.org or archives.gov/exhibits/charters.

Licklog Players present "Foxfire" play

Mountain Folklore is many things. For some it is the memory of the past and for others it is a living heritage. In the "Foxfire" play, Annie Nations presents her Hector with a child, born within the humble confines of their rural home, officiated by the country doctor and assisted by her husband. Oftentimes, a doctor was not available and it was essential that a midwife be at hand. The midwife could be an untrained neighbor woman, who, out of kindness, consolation and determination would carry on the work required - always willing to help out a family in need. For many people, midwives were the ideal solution, and for some, the only solution. In the course of their heyday, midwives touched

an amazing number of lives.

In the "Foxfire" books, Rabun County, Georgia, became very progressive through the establishment of a maternity center. The first baby born in the newly established facility was the son of the retired postmaster in November 1942. Prior to that time all babies born in Rabun County were born in the home.

Old time burials have their rules and rituals as well. Although mountain heritage regarding the dead and funerals is not exact science, several rituals are common among the "Foxfire" folk. For example, the neighbors and family play a big part in the preparations and the funeral itself. First comes the tolling of the bell announcing the death, often times rung for the

number of years the person lived, then a neighbor is contacted to bring a casket; sometimes the deceased has pre-arranged for the building of his own casket. Relatives are contacted as soon as possible, often by black-edge letter paper. The body is prepared to be "laid-out", which consists of working quickly or the body will stiffen up and swell; they wash and dress the body, they massage the cheeks in order to get the eyes closed, and then place a silver coin over each eye to keep them shut.

That is the way with much of mountain folklore. Come join the mountain people. "Foxfire" will be presented by the Licklog Players beginning September 14th. Tickets are on sale Monday



Donald Minette and Tinamarie Wolfley. Lying down, Wayne Roshaven

through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Adults \$15, seniors \$13 and children \$8.

Call 828-389-8632 for reservations or online at www.licklogplayers.org.