

SPLOST vote...continued from page 1A

homeowner groups that support the initiative. Kendall has balked at putting SPLOST on the November ballot because it would cause an 8-cent local tax for three months.

"I'm going to keep listening to the people in the county," Commissioner Kendall said. "This can be voted on in March and November in 2011. When we discovered that a SPLOST could be voted on in March 2011, we knew the tax wouldn't come on until July 1, 2011. The school's 1-cent tax would expire June 30 and our local sales tax would remain at 7 percent."

Commissioner Kendall said to look the other way and not extend the SPLOST for county use would be to walk away from millions in sales revenue that pass right through the county via tourism.

"I'm going to keep listening and we're going to keep planning," he said. "If a decision is made to move forward, a list would have to be prepared to put on the ballot of exactly what the money is going to be used for."

"The major portion of this SPLOST would be recreation," Commissioner Kendall said. "The next would be roads, fire department, improving our sewer

infrastructure, library funds. We have many different needy projects in the county.

"The recreation department is at the top of the list," he said.

Commissioner Kendall looked out over the capacity crowd in the Courthouse. He asked them for a show of hands for those supporting a SPLOST in March. Every hand in the room was raised.

"This is the response I've been getting," he said. "Unless something turns around, we'll put it on in March 2011 and it'll start in July."

Ray Stevens...continued from page 1A

Stevens, now 71, talked about his 53-year career in the industry and the songs that made him a star. He didn't brandish his new material.

"I believe in going with the ones that brought me here," he said as the crowd cheered wildly.

When one fan screamed out "Mississippi Squirrel!" Stevens paused.

"I hear ya," he said. "And we're going to sing that song. But, we're going to stay on schedule. If we get off schedule, we're libel to mess up the whole shebang."

He stayed true to his word about the songs he would sing, belting out classics like *Ahab the Arab*,

Gitarzan, *Shriner's Convention*, *Mississippi Squirrel Revival*, *Everything is Beautiful and Misty*.

Stevens' voice is as strong as it's ever been over the course of his 53-year career.

He also kept the crowd loose with his quick wit and his incredible ability to tell comedic jokes.

Stevens also donned a hat that made him look like a hillbilly as he sang *It's Me Again Margaret*. He showed he was popular with the Gospel fans as he sang his 1972 hit *Turn Your Radio On*.

All-in-all, Stevens, a two-time Grammy winner, didn't disappoint. The crowd rose to its feet when it be-

came apparent that his all-time favorite hit among his fans, *The Streak*, was about to be sung. It was the final song of the night, and what better timeless treasure for a show-stopper.

One Ray Stevens fan having an enjoyable experience in Hiwassee was Nathan Deal, the former Ninth District U.S. Congressman, now seeking to become Georgia's 82nd governor.

"It's a great show," Deal said. "You've got to love Ray Stevens, he's one of Georgia's own and he's so, so talented. He's meant so much to the music world. He's one of the funniest people alive."



The Union Towns Employer Committee will meet on July 13th, at Brother's at Willow Ranch in Young Harris, Georgia. This will be the 3rd and final session of "Surviving in a Difficult Economy". The meeting will consist of a facilitated panel discussion of local business owners. The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. and conclude at 1:30 p.m.

Please R.S.V.P. the Towns County Chamber 706-896-4966 by July 9th. The

cost is \$12 and can be paid in cash or check at the door. No credit cards please.

The next series will be "Growing in a Difficult Economy" and will be held on August 3rd, September 7th, and October 5th.

For more information about the Employer Committee or to be added to the contact list, please call Fran Reilly at the Georgia Department of Labor (706) 745-6959. NTJ07.C2

Patriots draw large crowd



L-R: Dr. Curtis Tomlin, Jeff Langley, Ashton Owens, Nighta Davis and Jack Lance.

A crowd of over 300 attended the June Patriot meeting in Hiwassee to hear Dr. Curtis Tomlin and other speakers.

Dr. Tomlin spoke about the condition of America today and the danger of the United Nations Treaties. His experience with the development of the implantable microchips and other subjects. Other speakers included 13-year-old Ashton Owens of Hayesville, NC. 2 local candidates who introduced themselves were Jack Lance and Jeff Langley.

The Patriots have announced they are donating 300 pocket U.S. Constitutions to the Towns County Schools for their upcoming history classes.

The Patriots are primarily an all volunteer, non partisan, educational organization who do not endorse political

candidates, but will for informational purposes present candidates who follow the guidelines of the Patriots. Guidelines of the Patriots are:

Candidate must not have any ethics or pending ethics charges against them, must support the values and principles of the 912, must support and defend the constitution, must support tough immigration laws in the upcoming legislative year, must support legislation to allow citizens to purchase health insurance across State lines. The Patriots are non partisan and do not support ANY individual political parties. The patriots believe people should lay their political parties aside and work together as Americans to resolve this nation's many pressing issues. For information call 706-896-9021. TJ07.F4/SH

Bluegrass and humor on the Square

This Saturday, July 10, from 6-8 p.m. on the Hiwassee Square features the Bluegrass sounds of two excellent North Georgia musical groups.

Joe Mattheson and Jim White are the Buzzard Mountain Boys. They present an amusing selection of Brother-Duet and Old-Time Music from the heart, which takes you back to the days of traveling Minstrel Shows, Joe and Jim are residents of Lumpkin County and are "fixtures" in the Georgia traditional Music community.

Joe is an accomplished Mandolin, Banjo and Guitar player. Jim plays a lively fiddle and wows the crowd with his solid guitar work. Brothers duet harmony, peppered with humor, makes for a delightful musical performance. TJ07.F2/SH

Barefoot Creek are two women, Sarrah Ellen McDonald and Tonia Conner, who sing very close "sister duo" harmony on a variety of music including Appalachian, Bluegrass and old-time melodies. Sarrah Ellen plays rhythm guitar and they are accompanied by an accomplished lead guitar player and a wonderful stand-up bass player.

Come join the fun! Bring a lawn chair or blanket your family and the family pet (on a leash please, and clean-up equipment!)

Barbecue plates and ice cream are for sale, as well as 10th Anniversary Concert T-shirts.

Call 706-896-4988 after 4 p.m. to see if weather has cancelled the performance. TJ07.F2/SH

Free food distribution

The Towns County Food Pantry will hold a free food distribution for Towns County residents on Tuesday, July 13, 2010. The distribution will be held at the pantry on Jack Dayton Circle. All that are in need of assistance are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to pick up your food, please contact the pantry at 706-896-4783, prior to distribution day, so arrangements can be made to deliver food to you. All clients and inquiries are confidential. TJ07.G1/SH

American Legion Post 532 auction

Come join us at the auction! Fun! Food! Great buys! July 9, 2010, Southern Auctions Services on Route 64 6:30 p.m. until all the great buys are gone! TJ07.F2/SH

Walker receives Lambert Award

Hiwassee resident Lindsey Walker was among those who received awards and scholarships this spring totaling more than \$100,000 for outstanding achievement in Berea's academic, labor, and service programs for the 2009-10 academic year.

Lindsey received the May Harrison Lambert Memorial Award in Elementary Education. TJ07.F2/SH

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday, Lowell

Lowell is the Towns County Herald's longest term employee and one of the most dedicated and excellent photographers!

Dance at CCSC

DANCE at the Clay County Senior Center, 196 Ritter Road, Hayesville, NC, Friday, July 16, from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Music by "Swing Time Band". Playing Foxtrots, Waltzes, Latins, Line Dances, Country, Rock, and Polkas. For more information call: (828) 389-9271 (828) 369-9155 or (828) 586-6373. TJ07.G3/SH

New Al-Anon meetings/times

New times and meetings for Al-Anon/Ala Teen. Family Group Meetings are as follows: Al-Anon: 7 p.m. Sunday night, Chatuge Regional Hospital, Hiwassee, GA; Al-Anon: 8 p.m. Monday night, "The Mustard Seed", 12 Step and Twelve Tradition meeting at Mountain Presbyterian Church, Blairsville; new Ala-Teen meeting: 8 p.m. Wednesday night at Mountain Presbyterian Church, Blairsville; Al-Anon: 8 p.m. Wednesday night at Mountain Presbyterian Church, Blairsville; Al-Anon 12 noon Tuesday, Sharp Memorial UMC, Young Harris.

Al-Anon is open to anyone who has been affected by another person's drinking. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or a friend.

Call 706-835-5827, 706-897-0628 or 828-389-8981. for more information. NTJ07.G1/jg

GWRRA meetings

Chapter J of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) meets on the fourth Saturday of each month (excluding December) at Daniels Steakhouse, Hiwassee, GA. Fellowship and food at 11 AM with the meeting commencing at noon. We welcome riders of all brands of motorcycles and welcome participants of other GWRRA chapters. For further information, please contact Chapter Director Peg Jones 678-464-7340. NTJ07.G1/jg



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Vote Raymond George For District Attorney July 20th

www.RaymondGeorgeForDA.com

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