

Young Harris College presents Annual Valentine's Day Cabaret

Young Harris College's Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society will present the fourth annual "Unlucky in Love" Valentine's Day Cabaret fundraiser on Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m. in Dobbs Theatre of Goolsby Center on the YHC Campus.

This event features talented students performing a variety of short musical and dramatic bits related to the themes of love and heartbreak.

"This cabaret gives students the chance to perform pieces that are special to them and to do so alongside their friends," said junior theatre major Hannah Johnson, of Marietta, GA, who serves as the president of Alpha Psi

Omega. "I personally love this event because it brings different genres and people together to create an atmosphere of love, laughter, and heartbreak."

The performance will include a wide range of pieces from musicals such as "Rent," "Legally Blonde," and "Aladdin." The evening will also include classic love songs, dance performances, and a spoken word piece.

All donations collected will benefit the Division of Fine Arts and help fund students' travel expenses for conferences, competitions, and auditions.

For more information, contact the Division of Fine Arts at (706) 379-5182. NT(Feb8,A3)CA

4H Garden Club ready for Spring



L-r: Laura Mauldin, Aneesa Speck, Bellerose Childs, Sophia Piquette.

Towns County 4H Garden club members are trying their hand at houseplants. They painted clay pots then planted with a small succulent, which can be purchased at a local nursery or hardware. Succulents live best on little or no care. Very little water and a location that gets at least an hour of inside sunlight a day. About the only way to kill one is overwatering!

The kids also cleaned up their herb garden at the TC Extension office and cut back the asparagus stems, readying the area for Spring. UGA Master Gardeners meet with the group on the first and third Wednesday of each month, after school, at the Towns County Extension Office located at 67 Lakeview Circle. For more information about the program, please contact Andrew Smith,

Resource Manager/4-H Associate 706-896-2024. T(Feb8,H1)SH

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Historical Society presents Forgotten Families of Towns County

The Towns County Historical Society will be having their monthly meeting on Monday, February 13, 2017 at 5:30 PM. Our program will be "Finding the Forgotten: The African American Families of Towns County" by Jason Edwards. Edwards is always very diligent in doing research on any subject he brings to the Historical Society, and this little known subject is no different.

He will be discussing the African American families

of Towns County from slavery through World War I and his journey of discovering these forgotten families in local records. Please join us at the old Rec. Center on Hwy. 76 just before the Anderson Bridge in Hiwassee. You do not need to be a member to come and enjoy these meetings.

We have CDs of previous meetings for just \$5, also Historical Society t-shirts, and Towns County Pictorial History books for sale. See you there. T(Feb8,F1)SH

Georgia Mountain Writer's Club January meeting

Have you ever thought about what would be on your Bucket List? That was the writing topic for the Georgia Mountain Writer's Club, this month. Twelve local writers met at G&G's on January 18 for the monthly meeting of the GMWC. After a two-month break they were anxious to gather and share recent writings. Donna and Kevin Donnelly, who recently moved into the Blairsville area, were first time visitors. Donna shared her poetry which has been put into a book illustrated with photographs by Kevin.

Bucket List thoughts ranged from thoughtful to fanciful. Judy Abercrombie longed to discover the best way to conquer her phobias, while Ralph Kwiatkowski dreamed of places he's never been to. Another take on the topic came from Jackie Volk as she weighed the difference between accomplishing great feats, or leaving a meaningful legacy. However, several writers took a different approach in what Pam Ippolito dubbed The Reverse Bucket List as they looked back over the years at the people, places and events that filled their bucket.



Kevin and Donna Donnelly

Writing tips were shared and a few members read sections of the books they were working on asking for critiques and advice.

The group will meet again February 15 at G&G's at 10 a.m. The writing topic this month is based on a quote by

Dr. Seuss: "Sometimes you'll never know the significance of a moment until it becomes a memory." Now, that is a topic that is open to interpretation! If you enjoy writing, for pleasure, or for purpose, please join us.

Submitted by
Connie Rosenberry
NT(Feb8,Z9)CA

Sewer...from Page 1A

Councilmembers began the tour at the Lake Chatuge sewer lift station, which is located on the Lake Chatuge public beach. The oldest of stations in the system, the Lake Chatuge lift will require the most attention out of the 20 lifts across the system. The Lake Chatuge lift is more than 35 years old.

"That is the one that needs the most work," said Ordiales. "It's also the station that all of the other lifts flow to, so that's one of the lift stations that we desperately need to fix right away."

"There are other lift stations in our distribution throughout the city and the county, but the others are not in the same state of disrepair that this one is."

In the wastewater system, a sewage lift station is used to pump wastewater and sewage from a lower elevation to a higher elevation. These stations provide a means to funnel the sewage back to the plant in areas where elevation is not in favor of gravity flow for the system.

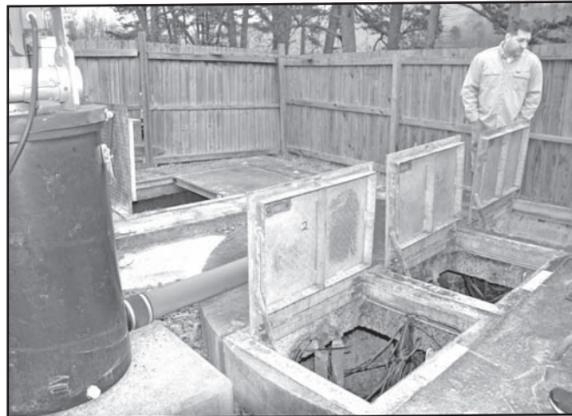
More often than not, these stations come at a lower cost to municipalities due to decreased excavation needs and lower construction costs, compared to a gravity conveyance system alternative.

While the lift station at Lake Chatuge still functions properly and gets the job done, the internal mechanisms are slowing down and are at risk of failing in the next five years.

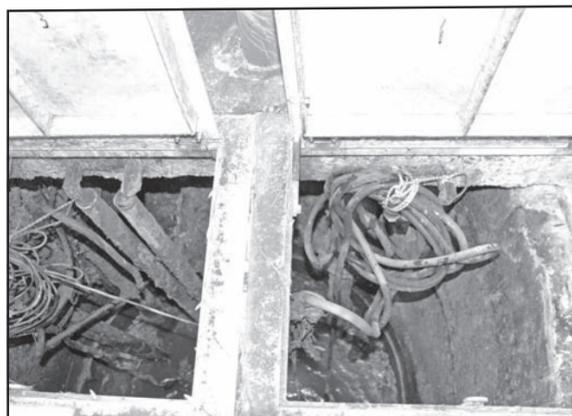
With the expected growth of the city and county, the council wants to ensure this does not happen.

"They all might need something," said Ordiales. "Some of them might need a fence around it or another one might need one element replaced, but that is the one that's in the worst shape."

"We're going to look at costs, but with the amount of money that we're going to spend to try and repair that



Clint Royce of the Hiwassee Wastewater Treatment Facility, at the Lake Chatuge Sewer Lift Station.



Here's an inside look at the Chatuge Sewer Lift Station..

one, it doesn't make sense to repair something that's 35 years old that will continue to have problems versus just putting in a whole new system.

"Now, it'll depend on costs, but I think it might not be too much more to just replace it, which I think would be best for the system."

While the lift stations may need some work, the city's wastewater system as a whole is in excellent condition. Current Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition samples show that the water is in some of the best condition it has been in years. If the city continues to upgrade equipment to work toward

Lake Chatuge conservation, the conditions will continue to improve.

"All of the levels are where they need to be or well below, but we're concerned about the capacity that we have," said Ordiales. "If we have any growth in the city where our sewer lines go, we're going to be maxed out at current capacity. So, in order to fix the capacity, we need to fix all of these issues in addition."

"We'll just run into problems down the road if we don't take the necessary steps now to fix what needs to be fixed."