

# Easter...continued from Page 1A



"Look what I found, Lamar!"



UC Rec. Department employees Beau Ballard and Kelley Lockaby walk it off with Rec. Director Larry "Duff" Conley after most of the 4,000 eggs they'd put out had been picked up on Saturday, March 19

Wall Memorial was set up in October. Lee Beck of Blairsville attended the hunt with his girlfriend Samantha and his two daughters, Lexi, 10, and Marlee, 3 months.

## Garrett is Union County's nominee for the 15th Phillip Wright Award



(L-R): Phillip Wright and Stanley Garrett

Stanley Garrett is Union County's nominee for the Phillip Wright Award, during GLRS's 15th year of presentation. This award is designed to honor the legacy created by Phillip Wright in his strong commitment to improving educational services for students with disabilities in the 14 school systems located in the Pioneer RESA region.

Mr. Garrett demonstrates the qualities exemplified by Mr. Wright of service, deep respect, commitment and advocacy so that the lives of children with disabilities are impacted in a positive manner.

Having been the Transportation Director in Union County for 24 years and working with transportation for over 40 years, Stanley is often the first contact the community has with the school system. He works hard to make each contact a positive one for the betterment of the students.

Union County is proud of Mr. Garrett's nomination.

being up here for this," said Beck, who said he plans to make the event a family tradition. "I think it's great, because I'm originally from Gainesville, and they don't do this kind of stuff recreation department wise - it's always done by churches or big organizations, the Shriners, places like that."

The egg hunt also gives people from around the region a chance to take part in something special that happens right here in Union County.

Terry and Dolly Dailey of Hayesville have become regulars of the hunt, which they did last year and came back for this year with their twin 3-year-old grandchildren Devin and Reagan.

"This park is just wonderful for the little kids, and they love it," said Dolly Dailey, with an aside from her husband Terry that they visit Meeks Park regularly throughout the year.

And hailing from Towns County, Brenda Loudy brought her 6-year-old Lily, and Brenda's adult daughter, Sunshine Wolf, visited the hunt from Hiwassee with her own daughter, Payten, age 7.

"What I've realized with the towns up here, it's all about the children," said Loudy, who hails originally from Florida.

Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris said that, while they always hope to draw plenty of Union County folks, he and Conley are more than happy to accommodate other counties during the Easter celebration.

"It's all about kids," said Commissioner Paris. "If you're out here with all this, you're just smiling the whole time because the kids are so excited and having so much fun. We're glad that the county is able to participate, along with Walmart helping with the baskets, to provide this for the community and the surrounding communities."

Walmart sponsored the Easter egg baskets that were raffled off at the end of the hunt, with winning baskets going to: Leah Seabolt, 2; Reid Deaver, 4; Corbin Kombs, 6; Payten Wolf, 7; Owen Calloway, 9; and Hannah Hicks, 12.

"This is awesome," said Sterling Wilson, who took time off during his lunch break at Walmart to volunteer during the Easter egg hunt. "There's going to be a lot of happy kids today."

Weather may have played a role in the lower than average turnout this year, which was still robust at more than 300 children and parents combined from around the region.

During last year's hunt, the temperature dipped into the 20s thanks to a hearty wind chill. This year, the temperature stayed in the 60s, but the day was overcast, and it actually started raining shortly after - but not until - the close of hunt.

# Commandments...from Page 1A

Currently, a nonprofit called Ten Commandments Georgia is creating the displays, which are built to the letter of the law.

The nine documents included in the display are: the Ten Commandments, the Mayflower Compact of 1620, the Declaration of Independence, the Magna Carta, "The Star-Spangled Banner" by Francis Scott Key, the National Motto: "In God We Trust," the Preamble to the Georgia Constitution, the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution, and the description on the image of Lady Justice.

Dr. Fred Lodge, pastor of First Baptist Church of Blairsville, was the driving force behind bringing the display to Union County. After having read about the law last year, he contacted other area pastors, seven of whom decided to pitch in and support the effort with their parishioners.

Those pastors are: Dr. Lodge, George Cline of Antioch Baptist Church, Scotty Jarrard of Harmony Grove Baptist Church, Marty Duncan of Fellowship of the Hills Church, Mark Burgess of First United Methodist Church of Union County, Don Parmely of New Life Family Church, Bill Schakat of Redeemer Baptist Church and R. L. Martin of Zebulon Baptist Church.

"The display, which includes nine significant historical documents, is an excellent way to help educate our communities across the state about the historical facts concerning our nation's founding," said Dr. Lodge, who went on to thank Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris for his blessing in the endeavor.

Union County is only the 34th county of 159 in the state to have posted the display, thanks to the approval of Commissioner Paris.

The ceremony included an introduction of the display by Dr. Lodge, and Commissioner Paris spoke following a brief but heartfelt invocation led by Dr. Lodge.

Commissioner Paris went through each of the documents, telling those gathered of their historical importance to the county and beyond - for example, he said that the Declaration of Independence was perhaps the "most important document in American history," and he called Lady Justice a "symbol of the fair and equal administration of the law, without corruption, prejudice or favor."

On to the Ten Commandments, the commissioner read the statement that is often attributed to the display, which goes as follows:

"The Ten Commandments have profoundly influenced the formation of Western legal thought and the formation of our country. That influence is clearly seen in the Declaration of Independence, which declared that 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by

their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.' The Ten Commandments provide the moral background of the Declaration of Independence and the foundation of our legal tradition."

The Rev. Cline stated that, "It's important for us all to remember these documents and how important they are to our country and what they mean to our country - it's a part of history that many have forgotten, and this is a great way to remember them."

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