

Early...continued from Page 1A

On the November ballot, Republican Lee Knight and Democrat Larry Trulove face off for tax commissioner. Both were uncontested on their respective ballots.

Democrat and Sole Union County Commissioner Lamar Paris faces Republican Charles Rich in November. Both were unopposed on their respective party ballots.

GOP Incumbent Coroner Benny Erwin faces a November election against Deputy Coroner Benny Brookshire, a Blairsville Democrat. Both were uncontested on their respective ballots.

Democratic Incumbent Sheriff Scott Stephens faces Republican challenger Mack Mason in November. Both were uncontested on their respective ballots.

Incumbent Democratic District 1 Board of Education member Gary Davenport and Republican political newcomer Patricia Bertuna face off in November. Both were uncontested on their respective primaries.

Democratic District 3 BOE Incumbent Carlton Collins faces Republican Cynthia Byers on the November ballot. Both were uncontested on their respective primaries.

In the District 8 State House race, Incumbent Stephen Allison, a Blairsville Republican, faces 58-year-old Democrat Jana Hill of Clayton. Both were uncontested on their respective primaries.

In District 51 State Sen-

ate, Incumbent Steve Gooch, a Dahlonega Republican, is unopposed.

In the 9th Congressional District Race, voters must return choose between Republican Doug Collins and Democrat Jody Cooley, both of Gainesville in November for the newly redistricted Congressional seat.

There are two proposed Constitutional Amendments on the ballot. First, voters are asked to agree to public school charter options. Should the Charter School amendment on the Nov. 6 ballot pass, it essentially brings an end to home rule by our local Board of Education.

A yes vote generates a new unfunded mandate by the state, and creates a situation where local school boards will have to increase millage rates to continue funding public schools. It also leads to charter school funding stripping public schools of the raw materials it takes to make each successful. It's a lose-lose for taxpayers.

Second, amendment No. 2 allows Georgia to save taxpayer dollars through multi-year real estate agreements. The belief is that this amendment would reduce the state's operating costs.

It allows agencies to enter into multi-year deals, where as now they're obligated to only enter into one-year deals, thus, taking away the state's negotiating powers.

Vote your conscience.

City...continued from Page 1A

rate the same. Councilman Buddy Moore made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Betty Easter followed by a unanimous yea vote by all council members to levy the millage rate of 2.00 to meet the 2013 City Operating Budget as advertised.

In other business, the council adopted the soil erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control ordinance after Mayor Conley held a public hearing prior to the 2nd reading the ordinance. There being no public comment the hearing was closed and a motion made by Tony Dyer seconded by Mahan with a unanimous yea vote to adopt the ordinance.

Afterward, the council agreed to a resolution to appoint Randy Day as enforcement officer to enforce the new city land disturbance ordinance. The annual fee for Day's services will be \$5,000 beginning at a time when the City becomes the issuing authority.

Council member Buddy Moore made the motion, seconded by Council member Betty Easter. It was a unanimous vote by the council to adopt the resolution.

The council also voted to invoke an eminent domain action against Kristy Chap-

man for acquisition of certain avigation (airspace or air) easement rights for the Blairsville Municipal Airport. The city and Chapman could not reach an easement solution. Chapman had issue with inclusive language required by FAA regulations. Motion was made by Councilman Dyer seconded by Councilman Moore with a unanimous yea vote to adopt a resolution authorizing special legal counsel to file for the city the petition and declaration of taking, without delay.

The council also unanimously approved a sign permit for Cornerstone Thrifts Store, James R. Gray, Owner; Approved an Occupational Tax Certificate to Morning Star Botanicals, Stephen Rouse, owner;

Approved an Occupational Tax Certificate to the North Georgia Gun Shows, Steven R. Wacholz, applicant;

Approved a sign permit and an occupational tax certificate to Antonietta's Pizzeria Inc. doing business as Cobb's Mill Eatery, Sweetry, & Coffee Beanry, Joan Drake, owner;

Approved a sign permit to Antonietta's Pizzeria doing business as Monet's Café & Tea Room, Joan Drake, owner.