

Woody Gap...continued from Page 1A



Sen. Gooch presenting a proclamation to Woody Gap Principal Carol Knight and Student Council President Austin Clark. Also pictured: Lamar Paris, Lee Knight and Georgia Senate Pro Tempore Butch Miller.

Gap School in this way started with community service, as Woody Gap Principal Carol Knight volunteered at the Byron Herbert Reece Society's "Maters & Music" event last August.

Knight ran into Sen. Gooch, who was there to grab a tomato sandwich with Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris, and their ensuing conversation about the 78-year-old school proved fertile ground for the resolution.

Woody Gap social studies teacher Brock Gordon made sure to give the students a good civics lesson ahead of the trip.

"We took that Monday and Tuesday before Wednesday to go over the roles of the legislative branch and what they did," said Gordon. "We even talked a little bit about the executive branch."

"We had our picture with Gov. Nathan Deal, which was really awesome, so they had an idea of who he was and what his job was. It was a great experience for our kids."

The students took that photo with the governor after arriving at the State Capitol Building, then attended a reading of the resolution by Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle on the senate floor.

Afterward, they had lunch in a room reserved for them by Sen. Gooch, who met with the students to talk about state

government, answer any of their questions, and pose for selfies.

Later, the kids toured the Georgia Capitol Museum, where they studied portraits of past governors and witnessed oddities like the famous two-headed cow and other exhibits, before heading back to Suches after a long day at the capital.

"I would like the kids to feel a closer connection to their representatives, that government isn't something that happens somewhere else that they have no influence over," said Knight following the trip. "They can reach out to their representatives and senators and have their opinion heard."

"And also, that people are noticing what we're doing here. We're small, but we think big."

Molli Tritt is in the seventh grade at Woody Gap, and she serves as middle school representative on the School Governance Team.

"I was impressed with the architecture of the building," said Tritt. "The dome was pretty cool, and all the paintings, the statues and the stairs."

Senior Austin Clark is president of the Woody Gap Student Council, and he said he appreciated how well the students were received in Atlanta that day.

"We got treated with a lot of respect," said Clark, who

got to stand on the senate floor as his classmates sat in the gallery during the reading of the resolution.

Continued Clark: "Steve Gooch, he's an amazing guy, he treated us well. It wasn't just a handshake, hey, how are you - he asked us what we enjoyed, what our plans were. He's a really great guy."

Reid Dyer of Hayes, James and Associates was also volunteering at the Byron Herbert Reece Farm the day Sen. Gooch proposed Woody Gap School Day to Knight, and he attended the reading of the resolution with Union County Tax Commissioner Lee Knight and Commissioner Paris.

"Once the proclamation was ready, then Sen. Gooch spoke about the value of the Woody Gap School, and Carol Knight did an outstanding job representing the school in her talk to the senators about the virtues of the school," said Paris. "It really was a wonderful event, and thanks to everyone for making Union County and Woody Gap School and the Suches community so proud."

The school was recognized in a similar fashion in 2001, when the Georgia Senate commended Woody Gap School "on its outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in education."

For ALL your printing needs, contact West Printing!
Ask for Allison or Kenneth 706-745-6343

LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Olive Tree Art Centre
Art Gallery * Pottery Studio * Art Classes
563 Gainesville Hwy...1 mile south of town
Blairsville GA 30512
(706) 835-1257
www.OliveTreeArtCentre.com

A CUT ABOVE CARPENTRY
ACutAboveCarpentry.net
Kitchen Remodeling • Decks and Gazebos • Flooring
Bathroom Remodeling • Flooring • Cabinets
Windows & Doors • And so much more...

SHAWN'S HOME FURNISHINGS
Mattresses, Porch Rockers & More!
"From the Front Porch to the Back Door We've Got You Covered!"
568 Blue Ridge St. • Blairsville, GA
FREE DELIVERY! 706-835-1209
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm • Sat 9am-4pm • Closed Sun

TAXES FOR SMALL BUSINESS & INDIVIDUALS!
Dermott J. Tracey, CPA
706-745-9025
178 Mystic Overlook, Blairsville, GA
djtracey5@yahoo.com

TOTAL RECOVERY
PAINT & BODY
(706) 745-9703
391 BLUE RIDGE HWY
ALL INSURANCE ACCEPTED

AS PAVING DIVISION INC.
706-400-2988
DRIVEWAYS
PARKING LOTS
SUB DIVISIONS
TAR/GRAVEL
Commercial • Residential

SOUTHEAST GEOTHERMAL INC.
Southeast Geothermal & Spray Foam
706-745-8685
1442 Blue Ridge Hwy.
www.segeothermal.com
www.sesprayfoam.com

ARMADILLO GRILL
24 Scott Drive • Blairsville, GA
706-745-GRUB

Trail Rides at Trackrock
Winter Horse Ride Special
1 hour guided trail rides ~ \$25
706-745-5252
Valid daily except Holiday weekends
Additional Restrictions Apply—call for reservations

Michelin BFG Uniroyal
Specializing In:
Alignment • Computer Balancing
Brakes • Auto Repair
Industrial Foam Fill
Oil Changes
Thomas Tire, Inc.
Auto & Big Truck Service
Oscar Thomas - Owner 76 Shoe Factory Road
(706) 745-0264 Blairsville, Georgia 30512

Budget Blinds
The best in custom blinds and window coverings
Free In-Home Consultation!
Shutters • Wood Blinds • Honeycomb
Roller/Solar Shades • Roman Shades • Vertical Blinds
Woven Woods and Much More!
www.budgetblinds.com
Call Today! 706-745-0009

We Make Loans.
Personal Loans • Starter Loans • Consolidation Loans and more
www.1ffc.com
417 Blue Ridge Street, Suite 1
BLAIRSVILLE
706-745-6111
1st Franklin Financial
* All loans subject to our liberal credit policy and limitations, if any. 1st Franklin Financial Corporation, NMLS#141654, Georgia Residential Mortgage Licensee #5656.

NORTH GEORGIA MOVING
Local & Regional
20 Years Experience
Stephen Young, Owner/Operator
706-970-7573
stephengyoung77@gmail.com

Litton Landscaping, Inc.
1250 Collins Road
Blairsville, GA 30512
706-745-5478
Cell 706-781-4858
Complete Design
Installation
Maintenance
"We go the extra mile"
TUFSTUF

MONTGOMERY CONCRETE
~ FOR ALL YOUR CONCRETE NEEDS ~
Forming through Finishing, House Slabs,
Driveways, Sidewalks, Stamped
Colored Concrete. Top Quality Work!
Big Jobs and Small Jobs!
Serving North Georgia since 1997 • Insured
Call 706-781-1806

Hemphill Vinyl Siding And Metal Roofing Sales
154 Kelley Road
Blairsville, GA 30512
706-745-3145 • 706-745-9006
1-888-698-3225
Fax 706-745-8418
hvswi@windstream.net
Owner - Kenneth Hemphill

ROCK BOTTOM
Complete Gravel Driveway
Reconditioning
803-622-0037
Driveway Fabric Installation, Quarterly,
Semi-Annual or Annual Regrading, Large
Empty Lot Mowing / Garden Tilling,
Lawn Seeding (Till & Seed Now for 2018!)
"Rock Bottom Prices / Free Estimates"
rockbottomdriveway@yahoo.com

GOOCH TRUCKING Co. Inc.
DRIVERS WANTED
WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR QUALIFIED DRIVERS TO MAKE GOOCH TRUCKING COMPANY, INC. THEIR NEW HOME.
We are currently expanding our fleet and looking for drivers with 2 or more years experience to join the Gooch team. To apply, please contact Lori Prentice at 1-800-440-7144 or go online at www.goochtrucking.com for online application.

FREE ESTIMATES
All Materials Furnished
Installing
Insulation
Hanging
Sheetrock
Finishing
Texturing
RICH DRYWALL
Young Harris Hwy.
Blairsville, GA
706-745-5307

HILL CONTRACTING
New Construction, Additions, Remodel - FREE Estimates!
Macon Hill, Licensed Contractor
310-963-3463 • maconhill@gmail.com