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fundraiser and it's a crowd favorite," said Moore. "It's kind of like a family reunion for watershed supporters all across the four counties.

"And it's our only alcohol-free fundraiser so it's more family-friendly, I guess you could say. So much is donated that we also raise a tidy sum for our operating budget."

Regionally farmed, smoked rainbow trout from Holder's Trout Farm in Graham County, North Carolina, were served up along with baked beans, coleslaw, potato salad, cornbread, drinks and homemade desserts.

Usually, Moore sources the trout from a local hatchery to continue the support of the waterways within the HRWC — which covers all rivers, creeks and lakes that flow into the Hiwassee River. However, due to some residual effects of the drought, Moore had to outsource.

"This year we weren't able to get our trout in Union County because last year's drought cut the supply of fingerlings available," said Moore. "Trout require cold, highly oxygenated, clean water. A small part of Union County is actually still in extreme drought and with the early hot temperatures; well it's a challenge for trout farms.

"Our fish came from Holder's Trout Farm located in the higher elevations of Graham County, North Carolina, but they don't sell to individuals, they are a wholesale retailer, and we were lucky they were able to accommodate our event."

Nevertheless, dozens upon dozens of local trout lovers came out to enjoy the good eats and fellowship with fellow waterway enthusiasts.

Patrick Fix, Mickey Cummings and Doug Towery helped grill up the mountains of delicious trout for patrons on a smoker loaned to the HRWC for the event by Ryan Talton, Union County High School Young Farmers teacher.

Of the countless that came out for the dinner, Joan Crothers, from Hiwassee, came out to the fundraiser with her friend, Brenda Hunt. According to Crothers, this is something she looks forward to every year.

"I've been coming to this practically every year they've had it," said Crothers. "The trout is always so good and I

dedicated to one specific purpose, rather it supports all of our major programs," said Moore. "They are water quality monitoring, education for both youth and adults and hands-on water quality and stream habitat improvements, like repairing eroding stream banks and fixing leaking septic systems.

"We now have 62 active

water quality monitoring sites across the four-county area and E. coli is sampled at most of those during the summer months. We are always looking for more volunteers."

For more information on how to get involved with the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition, visit www.hrwc.net.



More than 100 patrons lined up to get their hands on this delicious fish main dish at the Haralson Memorial Civic Center last Thursday. Photo/Lily Avery

like to support the coalition. I think what they're doing is important and needs to be supported."

In Union County, the Nottely River, and each of the creeks, and streams that flow into the Nottely, are of importance to the HRWC since the Nottely River flows into the Hiwassee River in southern Cherokee County, North Carolina, after leaving the Nottely Reservoir in northern Union County.

The profits from the fundraiser dinner will go toward helping to keep these waterways clean and healthy, as well as the countless other waterways within the Hiwassee Watershed in both Georgia and North Carolina.

"This fundraiser isn't



Smoked trout... Yum! Photo/Lily Avery

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Fugitive...continued from Page 1A

Osborn. When Dills drove Cowan to the Dollar General, Cowan went inside and acquired a paring knife from merchandise available in the store, according to Lt. Osborn.

Cowan then went outside to tell Dills that his wife was shopping and would be finished soon, at which point he would pay Dills the bonding fee, according to Lt. Osborn.

Dills apparently grew suspicious when Cowan went back into the store, because he maneuvered his vehicle to block in the only other vehicle in the parking lot, an orange 2009 Honda Fit sitting nearby, according to Lt. Osborn.

Unbeknownst to Dills, Cowan had gone back into the store to demand at knifepoint the car keys of the clerk on duty at the Dollar General, according to Lt. Osborn.

When Cowan once more returned to the parking lot, he saw that Dills had blocked in the car he was about to steal, and according to Lt. Osborn, Cowan first cranked up the Fit, then approached Dills and slashed him multiple times.

Cowan was able to maneuver the stolen car around Dills' vehicle, and he drove off,

according to Lt. Osborn.

In the meantime, Dills drove himself to the hospital with lacerations to his arm, and medical workers contacted the sheriff's office upon his arrival, according to Lt. Osborn.

The sheriff's office also received a 911 call from the Dollar General, according to Lt. Osborn.

UCSO investigators tracked Cowan to Jackson County, where Cowan connected with his wife, according to Lt. Osborn.

Investigators just missed Cowan in Jackson County, though they continued to search for Cowan in other areas he was known to frequent, according to Lt. Osborn.

The big break in the manhunt came when a family friend called in a tip that Cowan was staying at a motel in Marion, Illinois, according to Lt. Osborn.

That family friend knew that Cowan was wanted out of Georgia thanks in part to the widespread media attention garnered by the Sunday, April 23, UCSO Facebook post containing a "be on the lookout" for Cowan.

While still on the scene with Cowan last Wednesday, Marion police contacted the

Union County Sheriff's Office, and investigators drove the seven hours to Marion to interview Cowan, according to Lt. Osborn.

Cowan confessed his crimes to both Marion authorities and UCSO investigators, according to Lt. Osborn.

It was determined after his arrest that Cowan had stolen a North Carolina license plate and swapped it out for the one that belonged with the Honda Fit, according to Lt. Osborn.

The Fit was recovered at the motel in Marion, according to Lt. Osborn.

Cowan and his wife had been checked in to the motel in Marion under false names since Tuesday of last week, according to Lt. Osborn.

Currently, Cowan faces charges of two counts aggravated assault, one count theft by taking, one count armed robbery, one count terroristic threats, and one count false imprisonment, all felonies, according to Lt. Osborn.

Dills and the Dollar General clerk were doing well at press time Monday, according to Lt. Osborn.

Indictments...continued from Page 1A

related objects; driving while license suspended.

Carl William Dilbeck, possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute; possession of a controlled substance; possession of marijuana, less than an ounce; possession of drug-related objects.

Travis Wyatt Beaver, AKA Pollo, two counts sale of methamphetamine; one count recidivist.

Evan Lane Jaco, criminal attempt to commit a felony; illegal use of communication facility; possession of a controlled substance; two counts possession of firearm during commission of a felony.

Dakota Andrew McCoy, AKA Hollywood Dakota, AKA Red McCoy, making a false statement; driving while license suspended; possession of marijuana, less than an ounce; speeding; reckless driving; failure to maintain lane.

Donna Lorraine Burrell, possession of drug-related objects; possession of a controlled substance.

Billy Steven Smith, two counts possession of a controlled substance; possession of marijuana, less than an ounce; theft by shoplifting; possession of drug-related objects.

Jan Michael Newell, six counts serious injury by vehicle; driving with unlawful alcohol level; driving under the influence — less safe (alcohol); reckless driving.

Randall Charles Cone, two counts involuntary manslaughter; pointing gun or pistol at another; reckless conduct.

Jaiyeola Jack, two counts armed robbery; home invasion; two counts aggravated assault; three counts burglary in the first degree; financial transaction card theft.

Nathaniel Corey Thomas, two counts armed robbery; home invasion; two counts aggravated assault; three counts burglary in the first degree; financial transaction card theft.

Juquitha L. Williams, two counts armed robbery;

home invasion; two counts aggravated assault; three counts burglary in the first degree; financial transaction card theft.

William Kennedy Taylor III, two counts armed robbery; home invasion; two counts aggravated assault; three counts burglary in the first degree; financial transaction card theft.

Jonathan Dewayne Davis, possession of a controlled substance; theft by taking; possession of drug-related objects; obstruction of an officer; possession of marijuana, less than an ounce.

Melissa Nicole Barnes, possession of methamphetamine; three counts possession of drug-related objects.

Veronica Allison Crisp, two counts giving false information to a law enforcement officer.

April Page Picklesimer, possession of methamphetamine; two counts possession of drug-related objects.

Thomas' Concert at the Folk School

The Brasstown Concert Association and the Kelischeck Family & Friends present Thomas' Concert: A Celebration of the Life of Thomas Kelischeck at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 28 in Keith House, John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC. Free admission. No reservations required. For information contact a BCA Board member at 828-837-1863, brasstown-concertnews@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.