

Counterfeit...from Page 1

region and discovered that what is believed to be the same three men tried to purchase gift cards from the Dollar General Store in Graham County, NC.

However, the clerk at that store seemed wise to their game and refused them service as they tried to purchase gift cards at that store, Sgt. Osborn said.

"We've enlisted the aid of the U.S. Secret Service to assist in this investigation," Sgt. Osborn said. "The Secret

Service is the federal arm of investigation regarding counterfeit money. Together, we'll track down where these individuals are working and hopefully bring them to justice.

"We ask everyone, including store merchants to be on the lookout for individuals passing \$100 bills," Sgt. Osborn said. "These \$100 bills passed the pen test. The thing to look out for is that the serial numbers on these bills, the last four digits are the same.

"It's also come to our

attention that the Atlanta area is on alert for individuals passing counterfeit \$20 bills, that like the \$100s used here, passed the pen test, and the serial numbers are identical," Sgt. Osborn said.

"It's very important to stay on top of counterfeit cash being used at local markets," Sgt. Osborn said. "If counterfeit currency infiltrates our legitimate currency, it can create some serious problems, problems that we want to eliminate quickly."

Arbor Day...from Page 1

Trees and native plants are some of our most valuable resources," read Mayor Conley from the proclamation. "Trees provide a more livable environment for mankind, providing clean air and removing pollutants from the air. Trees provide a cooling effect and prevent global warming. Trees are a source of food for man and animals, trees constitute a hope for our future and carry out our heritage as they provide for a stable environment

Arbor Day Chair Lou Ann Bleakley gave the offi-

cial welcoming followed by the Rev. Travis Adams' invocation. The Blairsville Junior Garden Club led the Pledge of Allegiance before Mayor Conley's reading of the Arbor Day Proclamation.

"Arbor Day is designated for tree planting and the Garden Clubs of Georgia encourage the participation in tree planting," the proclamation read. "The Blairsville Garden Club recognizes that the third Friday in February is designated as Arbor Day in the State of Georgia."

A tree was planted at the Pat Haralson Civic Center on Tuesday, Feb. 17 to commemorate the 148th anniversary of Arbor Day and the 21st year in Union County.

In other news, the Union County Commissioner's Executive Assistant Peggy Deyton will be retiring on March 27th after 10 years.

"She sets up county meetings, is secretary for the alcohol board and handles a multitude of issues related to all aspects of county government," Commissioner Paris said. "She writes a monthly newsletter for the public and employees, assists me with my Q & A each week, keeps records of all ordinances and public documents, has attended many hours of clerk meetings to be a certified county clerk, substitutes in the front office when others are sick. She is artistic and also provides power points, charts and drawings always useful when making public presentations, and this is just part of her duties.

"Will I miss her? You bet I will and so will the county. She has been dedicated to Union County and its operation for most of my tenure as Commissioner. Because of that dedication, she is leaving our office in good hands as she has been training Jennifer Queen for several months to take over for her when she leaves. Thank you Peggy for your service to me, this office, and the citizens of Union County for a job well done. You can be very proud of your service."

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