

Schools...from Page 1A

in place and the new middle school computer lab was almost finished. The Chromebooks for new employees are ready also, as are the new IDs with access cards.

Assistant School Superintendent David Murphy proposed that the board approve a bid by Athens

Janitorial Supply in the amount of \$76,500 per year. Murphy said Custodial Director Mark Hughes contacted several other vendors and none of them could come close to that price.

Murphy said Athens Janitorial Supply operates as a just-in-time vendor such that the school would not have

to carry any inventory. And Murphy and Hughes were in agreement that it would save the school at least \$50,000 per year with no contract to bind them.

The board unanimously approved the bid.

Crow and Murphy also asked the board to consider a bid from BSN Sports for surrounding flooring for the middle and high school gyms

a great many projects that are currently underway in the county.

“We just completed the widening of the curve on the Pat Colwell Road to improve safety,” Paris said. “We are in the middle of completing not only the parking lot for the new double gymnasium, but we had to put in a turn lane, and we just graded that this week. Today, they are paving part of that turn lane for the new access area off Gooch Bypass.

“We just completed the addition of the building, and we’re building a new pad for future construction at the fire station and to improve the new training center behind the fire station. We just completed, today, the new sign at Meeks Park. We’ll finish up the landscaping next week.

“Our road department is completing patching of miles and miles of county roads and will begin resurfacing some of those and paving others, and we hope to complete it in about 45 days. We’ve also been striping.”

Paris estimated that the county will spend about \$100,000 on striping this year and mentioned that reflectors are being added as well.

“We hope that the Glenn Gooch Bypass will have the paving completed this week or early next week,” Paris said. “They’re also widening it by two feet on each side. This project was done by GDOT.

“Construction on the double gym has not started yet. They say they’re going to start within 30 days. Also, we’re beginning to build some pickleball courts. We’re finally going to be adding eight pickleball courts behind the Health Department.”

The commissioner mentioned the importance of the 2020 census and said the actual day of counting will be April 1, 2020. As previously reported, Pat Malone has contracted with the county to raise awareness about the census in both Union and Towns counties.

in the amount of \$90,000.

The school district sent out more than 60 requests for bids, though BSN was the only one to respond, Murphy said, adding that they were expecting quotes of approximately \$180,000.

However, BSN didn’t respond to the full specs in the bid request, so Murphy and Crow asked the board to let them proceed with BSN without having to start the bid process over again by allowing the schools to review the materials suggested by BSN before making a decision.

The board unanimously approved their request.

In her financial report for May, School Finance Director Karen Bundy reported that collections for property taxes that month were more than \$160,000.

Bundy also reported that the school had received \$253,000 in interest income through June, which is up significantly from the \$20,000 that had been budgeted.

She said the schools had received state approval for \$346,000 in construction reimbursement, and that she expects to get approval for another \$1 million. This will pay off construction costs from 2017 and 2018, she said.

The Union County High Girls Soccer Team received recognition in the July 16 meeting for going undefeated in the region last season.

High School Principal C.T. Hussion introduced Girls Soccer Head Coach Tim Hunter and Assistant Coach Shawna Lester, who, together with Hussion, presented each team member an award.

The Lady Panthers are Katie Baumeister, Gracie Bridges, Sheyenne Dyer, Allison Fair, Ellie Garrison, Jennifer Jimenez, Isabella Nottage, Desaray Patterson, Courtney Rollins, Sophia Romano, Mattison Ruff, Jenna Scott, Anzly Sherman, Lorelei Skinner, Madelyn Sutton, Demi Thorn, Sadie Underwood, Melia Whitener and Madison Yost.

Hunter and Lester were also recognized with award plaques presented by Hussion.

The Union County High Boys Soccer Team was recognized for going all the way to the state finals. Hussion introduced Boys Soccer Head Coach Leland Sarrell and Assistant Coaches Jon Krieger and Chris Robbins.

Hussion and the three coaches presented each player with an award, and each coach was presented with an award

plaque as well.

The Panthers are Dalton Allen, Bryson Baker, Reid Baumeister, Landon Cox, M.J. Delatte, Marcus Forrester, Aaron Helton, Colby Ives, Clayton Lester, Samuel Mendoza, Malachi Patrick, Matthew Patrick, Reese Patterson, Kobi Robbins, Tyler Robbins, Steven Seiler, Brian Smith, Isaac Tritt, David Van Pelt, Cesar Velador and Jeffrey Williams.

Coach Sarrell mentioned that Brian Smith couldn’t be there because he had already left for basic training in the U.S. Army. Sarrell said Smith had been voted the United Soccer Coaches MaxPreps Player of the Week for the entire state of Georgia.

Moving along, Hughes introduced young student Emma Nichols, who was recognized for her volunteer work at the school with the custodial staff. Hughes thanked Nichols’ parents as well.

Every four years, the high school band, chorus and theater students go on an educational field trip to New York City. The board approved this year’s trip, which will depart the Wednesday or Thursday before Spring Break 2020 and return on Monday or Tuesday during Spring Break.

Paris...from Page 1A

heart, and that is shown by their dedication to their community, Shady Grove United Methodist Church and the citizens of Union County,” Paris said.

The commissioner and Blairsville Mayor Jim Conley jointly proclaimed the upcoming Aug. 11, 2019, as 811 Day.

“In 2005, the Federal Communications Commission designated 811 as a phone number to provide contractors and homeowners a simple number to contact utility operators to request a location of underground lines at the intended dig site,” Paris said. “I encourage contractors and homeowners to always call 811 before digging.”

In conjunction with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Paris proclaimed Aug. 25, 2019, as Let’s Move! Day. He also had the support of the Union General Wellness Center

and Young Harris College for this proclamation.

“Nearly one in three children in America are overweight or obese, increasing their risk for asthma, Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, sleep problems, depression and bullying,” Paris said.

Seventh-day Adventist Tom Lighthall addressed meeting attendees, saying that he read where young children are watching screens 10 to 12 hours a day. He said kids ages 5 to 15 don’t get much exercise and that he’d like to see that change.

Patricia Allen was appointed by the commissioner to a three-year term on the Union County Library Board of Trustees, with her term ending on June 30, 2022.

In his Commissioner’s Comments portion of the meeting, Paris enumerated

Carter...from Page 1A

deputies with the Towns County Sheriff’s Office responded to the hospital that evening in reference to a male subject – Henderson – who had been shot in the chest.

Fortunately, Henderson survived the shooting but had to be airlifted to a nearby trauma center.

After dropping him off at Chatuge Regional, Carter is said to have left the scene in Henderson’s Chevrolet Tahoe. The truck was discovered abandoned later that night in the parking lot of the Marathon gas station on Georgia 75 North in Hiawassee.

Detectives determined that Carter left the Marathon in her own red Ford pickup, which was located the next day at Tiger’s residence in Clay County, North Carolina.

According to her own testimony in the May bond

hearing, Carter called a friend to pick her up at Tiger’s shortly after the shooting, and her friend took her to Athens, where she ultimately hid out for the next seven months.

Carter said she made her way back to Tiger’s house just prior to her April 16 arrest “when I was tired and I surrendered,” contending that she voluntarily gave herself up when a Clay County deputy showed up to serve Tiger with a warrant for failure to appear in court.

Tiger was arrested two days later and charged with a felony for assisting Carter when she was a fugitive from justice.

Next steps in Carter’s case include arraignment, wherein she will formally hear the charges against her and enter a plea, then motion hearings, and finally trial scheduling.