

ReStore...from Page 1A

The new building's close proximity to the Castoff Pet Rescue and the Humane Society Mountain Shelter thrift stores will allow all three ventures to coordinate donations.

Local Habitat Executive Director Bryan Thomas said the plans are for the three thrift stores to work together, as each specializes in its own kinds of merchandise. The trio have even dubbed themselves collectively as "Vintage Village."

"We want to make this a destination for people to come to," Thomas said. "We're looking forward to growing this."

According to Thomas, Habitat found out it would be needing to build a new reuse store after the Georgia Department of Transportation approached the nonprofit about three years ago.

GDOT has been planning to expand and relocate Georgia 515 between Blairsville and Young Harris for several years now, and the state agency informed Habitat that it would require much of the property being used by the former ReStore near the Towns/Union county line.

"They offered us a fair price, and we actually sold it to them last December," Thomas said. "This (new location) kind of came up out of nowhere, being able to do a long-term ground lease in this parking lot and build a building here."

Habitat Board Member Linda Lawrence said The Skillet Cafe owners, Karen and Cody Brendle, are also

the owners of the property the new ReStore sits on, and they granted a 50-year lease to Habitat for Humanity Towns/Union Counties Inc. for constructing the building.

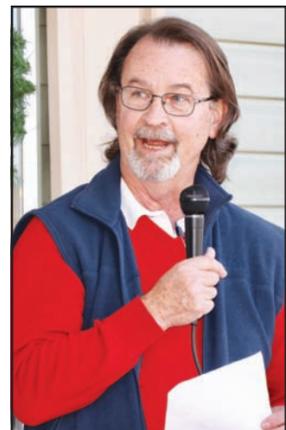
"We figure that there will be enough sales out of here within three years to let us build three houses a year," Thomas said, adding that two would be built by Habitat volunteers and one by the high school. "We're starting a partnership with the high school. They're putting in a Career Academy, so we are part of that."

"They're actually going to build a house a year on campus, and we're going to put it on wheels and tow it to a piece of property and jack it up and build a foundation under it. It's not a mobile home or a modular, it's a site-built house—we just tow it down the road."

The Nov. 18 Grand Opening Ceremony and ribbon cutting was attended by Thomas, Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris, Hiawasse Mayor Liz Ordiales, Union County Tax Commissioner Lee Knight, and officials from both the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce and the Lake Chatuge Chamber of Towns County.

Most of the Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors and all of the new employees were on hand as well, with hot dogs and warm chili being served to attendees.

Patrick Construction Inc. owner Solomon Patrick was also on hand for the ceremony.



Towns/Union Habitat Executive Director Bryan Thomas

Patrick Construction is instrumental in helping Habitat build houses.

"We agreed to take this on, and we did it, start to finish, in 82 days," Patrick said, speaking on the new ReStore.

Since 1995, Habitat for Humanity has built 19 homes in Towns and Union counties and is on track to complete the 20th home in December, this one in Towns County.

"Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit Christian organization that partners with future and current homeowners to build safe, decent, and affordable homes for working families," according to townsunionhabitat.org. "The affiliate, volunteers and future homeowners work together through the home ownership process."

GBI investigates officer involved shooting in Lumpkin County, GA

Lumpkin County, GA - On Wednesday, November 20, 2019, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation was requested by the Lumpkin County Sheriff's Office to investigate an officer involved shooting.

Preliminary information indicates that at approximately 1:24 PM, Lumpkin County 911 was contacted by Wylene Cheek, 66, who reported a domestic disturbance involving her husband, Paul Cheek, 55, at their residence located at 1851 Black Mountain Road, Dahlonega, GA. A responding Lumpkin County Sheriff's Deputy made contact with Paul Cheek in the front yard of the residence, at which time Cheek pulled out a knife. During the confrontation, Cheek was shot by the deputy one time. Cheek was pronounced dead at the scene.

No officers were injured in this incident.

The GBI will continue its independent investigation. Once complete, it will be turned over to the Enotah Judicial Circuit District Attorney for review.

Grand Jury... from Page 1A

failure to maintain lane.

Tanya Michelle Brown, possession of methamphetamine.

James Paul Weaver, sale of methamphetamine.

Robert Chase Kelley, criminal damage to property in the second degree; two counts simple battery, Family Violence; two counts criminal trespass.

Kyle Richard Belle, criminal damage to property in the second degree; public drunkenness.

Robert Anthony Sistok, aggravated stalking.

Joshua Lee Bryant, burglary in the first degree; possession of tools for the commission of crime; theft by taking; theft by receiving stolen property; fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer; reckless driving; driving while license suspended.

Rex Earnest Harris, two counts theft by receiving stolen property.

Skye Freedom Payne, criminal use of an article with an altered identification mark; possession of marijuana, less than an ounce; possession of drug-related objects.

Phillip Eric McGahee, possession of firearm by convicted felon; obstruction of an officer.

Ethan Allen Garrett, exploitation and intimidation of disabled adult, elder person or resident; two counts criminal trespass; two counts disorderly conduct.



UNION COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE

December 7, 2019 - 6:00 PM

Sponsored by the Union County Historical Society

Theme: "A Christmas to Remember"

Parade Application

Name of Entry _____

Contact Person _____

Phone _____

Type of Entry: Float ___ Automobile ___ Walkers ___ Animal ___

*****All entries must contain lights*****

Entry forms must be received in the Historical Society office by noon on December 2nd. Send completed form by Fax to 706-781-1899, email to history1@windstream.net or drop off at the Society's office in the Old Courthouse on the square.

For more information call 706-745-5493