

Community

Union County student wins Earthwatch Institute Award



Recently, Earthwatch Institute announced the names of 100 high school students, including Union County High School sophomore Walker Harmon.

Harmon, who will take part in this summer's Student Challenge Awards Program. Competition was tough, since over 300 students older than sixteen were nominated by one of their teachers. Walker was nominated by Mrs. Molly Marsh, art teacher at the high school.

The Awards Program, which aims to expand the potential of high school students and interest them in science, allows students to

participate in field research expeditions and work with professional scientists. All field and travel costs are covered by Earthwatch. Groups of 6 - 8 award winners will spend up to three weeks at one of eleven research projects. These programs range from marine biology to geology and take place across the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean.

Along with 7 other award winners, Walker will travel to Challis, Idaho and from June 15 - June 26 will assist professor Ken Cannon and Molly Boeka Cannon at the Challis Bison Kill site. It is thought that

Shoshoni Native Americans used this site as a buffalo jump in the early 19th century, however reanalysis suggests an older and more complex site history. On his return from the expedition Walker will write a detailed mission report and will write a follow-up press release.

Walker is a good match for this project because he is very interested in anthropology and how humans interact with their environment. He is especially interested in Stone Age technology.

The Student Challenge Awards Program has many personal and educational benefits, ranging from heightened self-confidence and

interpersonal skills to greater scientific knowledge and interest in different career paths. Earthwatch seeks imaginative, intelligent students with limited experiences working with scientists. Students are not required to have a strong background in science.

For more information about this program or teacher fellowships and volunteer opportunities visit www.earthwatch.org or call 800-776-0188.

Earthwatch is a nonprofit organization



Union County High School student Walker Harmon.

which helps to protect and sustain the global environment by engaging people worldwide in field research and education.

All that jazz at OASIS

The Thursday OASIS lunch bunch enjoyed a toe-tapping program by the Union County High School Jazz Band directed by Kerry Rittenhouse. These talented young musicians are very professional, and their love of music really shines. Two of our own, John Price and Pennie Hebble, seized the moment to do some stepping out of their

own, much to the delight of their fellow students in the dining hall.

We invite all area 50+ folks to join us for entertainment and enlightenment as we meet for three 8 week terms each year at First United Methodist Church in Blairsville. Call Registrar Ruth Twedt at 706-781-6724 for more information.



Littles again present the MERL Program

As part of the MERL (Membership, Extension, Retention, Leadership) Team, Union County Lions Gene and Louise Little recently presented their outstanding program to the Jefferson Lions Club in Jefferson, Ga.

Welcomed by the President of the Club, Helen Lohmeier, the program includes ways to increase a club's membership; extending beyond your current club into the community to not only form new Lions Club but also form Leo Clubs, which will reach youth who in turn will become future Lions; how to retain current Lions members; and recognizing and developing leadership within the club.

Lions' Gene and Louise part in the MERL Team is Retention and Membership and the Jefferson Lions Club was delighted to receive the numerous suggestions and will most assuredly be implementing several plans.

Lions are all about serving others with visual and hearing impairments as well as assisting in many other worthy projects in the community, state, nation and world. The Lions motto is: "We Serve."



Lions Louise and Gene Little meet with Jefferson Lions Club Helen Lohmeier, President of Jefferson Lions Club.

North Georgia Rapids Swim Team Update

The Blue Ridge Mountain Fitness Club's Swim Team, the "North Georgia Rapids", traveled to Dalton, Georgia to compete in the 2007 "Mako Mania All Trophy Meet", April 28.

The team sent only two of its more experienced swimmers, as this is one of the most competitive meets of the year.

Anna Knight and Tanner Gay, both swimming in the 11-12 year old age group, had

excellent races. Anna, age 11, having just aged up, improved her personal best times in all four of her events. Anna's most impressive race was the 100 yd individual medley, where she lowered her previous best time by 7.35 seconds. Although Anna did not receive a trophy, she is well on her way to great improvements with her enthusiastic attitude. Anna should do great during this summer's

swim season.

Tanner, age 12, also improved his personal best times in all of his events. Tanner's hard work paid off during the afternoon session, as he won four trophies. Tanner's best race was the 100 yd freestyle, where he lowered his time by over 4 seconds. Tanner earned two fifths, a second in the 50 yd backstroke and a fourth in the 100 yd individual

medley.

The team is currently preparing for the summer outdoor season. If you have ever thought about competitive swimming, now would be a great time to give it a try. The team has swimmers from age six to seventeen.

For more information about the program, call Barry Gay (706)835-1662.

Mountain Valley Orthopedics

is accepting resumes for a **Front Office Coordinator**

for a busy orthopedic practice. Position would coordinate, lead and back-up the check-out functions, administrate the EMR system and network, and perform some operational tasks for the practice.

Resumes may be sent to lisa@mountainvalleyorthopedics.com.

Trash and Treasure Sale

The Friends of the Union County Library will have a Trash and Treasure Sale on Saturday, May 5 at the Blairsville Library from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

There will be a Member's Preview Sale on Friday evening from 6-8 p.m. Non-members are welcome at the Preview Sale by joining with membership fee at the door.

This is the first sale in several years for this group so we have a giant inventory. Items available will include practical household, children's items, decorative accessories, vintage collectibles, and some strange and unusual items.

Special features are a basket raffle for the Books for Babies Program and a Bake Sale.

Come find treasures while supporting your local library.

Rabies Clinic

Saturday, May 19

Primary School Parking Lot*:	UCPH/Dr. Barnes	9 a.m.-Noon
Ivy Log Fire Station:	BAH/Dr. Livingston	9 a.m.-Noon
Fire Station, Suches:	BAH/Dr. Boyd	1-3 p.m.
(Across from WG School)		
Voting Precinct 2, Jones Creek:	BAH/Dr. Livingston	1-4 p.m.
Voting Precinct 3, 19/129S:	UCPH/Dr. Barnes	1-4 p.m.

GEORGIA LAW REQUIRES RABIES VACCINATIONS FOR ALL DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS GREATER THAN 12 WEEKS OF AGE.

Rabies Vaccination Only:	\$10 dog, cat, ferret (UCPH)
Canine Distemper/Parvo (DHLPP):	\$13 per dog
Feline "Distemper" (FVRCP):	\$13 per cat
Feline FVRCP and FeLV:	\$17 per cat (UCPH only)
Ferret Distemper:	\$10 per ferret (UCPH only)

Dogs and cats are vaccinated at 6, 9, 12 and 15 weeks for DHLPP and FVRCP. Pets over 12 weeks of age getting their first vax should have a booster 2-4 weeks after the first. See your veterinarian about changes in vaccine protocols.

Rabies Clinic is sponsored by the Blairsville Animal Hospital, Union County Pet Hospital, and the Union County 4-H.

Tri-Cities Whole Town YARD SALE

Ducktown • Copperhill • McCaysville

Saturday, May 5, 2007
9a.m. - 3p.m.

Miles of bargains from local merchants, private yard sales throughout all 3 towns.

Don't miss this exciting annual event!

Spaces in town available for \$10.

Call 706-492-5541 to reserve your space.

Sponsored by the Tri-Cities Business Association. Rain date set for May 12, 2007.