

Waycross Kiwanians Are Told About Waycross Main Street Program At Friday Luncheon Meeting

Waycross attorney Ken Taft addressed members of the Waycross Kiwanis Club at their Friday meeting, presenting information about Waycross Main Street, a national program in over 100 Georgia communities and thousands of communities nationwide. These communities have adopted the Main Street approach to look at "Main Street" as the heart of their communities, work to save its historic buildings, revive its commercial core, strengthen business, control community eroding sprawl and keep a sense of place and community life in America. Main Street works on a four-point approach to downtown revitalization. These communities work together to build sustainable and complete community revitalization in the areas of Organization, Design, Economic Restructuring and Promotion. Taft explained that anyone can become a member and that downtown business ownership is not required. Yearly membership levels include Individual (\$50), Business (\$100) and Sponsorship (\$250). He also talked about some of the many special events that are held each year to support Main Street. They include SwampFest, Mother-Daughter Tea Party, Pumpkin Fest and the Christmas Parade. Following the program, Taft was thanked by July program chairman Ginger Peagler. The Waycross Kiwanis Club meets every Friday at noon at the Jerry J's on Plant Avenue.



Photo By ROGER WILLIAMS

... T-SPLOST

(continued from page 1)
citizens. No official "list" of projects was presented at the meeting although Waycross and Ware both have their desired jobs pretty much on order. Within 30 days after the meeting, all the information will be presented to the supervisor of elections to be prepared for the ballot.

County commissioner Carlos Nelson said he wanted to make sure the boards deliver what they promise to the community. Raphael Maddox, city manager, suggested listing the issues in a generic manner such as connector roads, dirt roads to be paved, streets to be improved, etc. until a definitive list is ready to be revealed.

Mayor John Knox agreed that groupings such as residential streets in the city and residential streets in the county would be the best way to go about that. Chairman Jimmy Brown urged everyone to begin working to make sure the citizens are prepared to vote "yes" in November. "The voters have got to pass this or it goes to regional. We all need to agree on that," said Brown. Knox thanked the county for the leadership and willingness to work on projects that "just sort of fell into our laps. The grants we get each year are just not enough. I think each of you for your willingness to take on the project." Knox then added, "This is one of the best things we have ever done for the citizens of this community. If we don't do it, our city will end up paying for the region. We at the city stand right beside you in full support."

"We need to let the citizens know that they deserve this," said City Commissioner Norman Davis. Nelson agreed and echoed the comments of Knox and Davis. "This is a good process for the city and the county," said Nelson. "We are on the same page. This is for the citizens. We need to address city and county issues."

"If it doesn't pass, we're a sunk ship," said Brown. Said Davis, "I don't see not passing it as an option." Larry Gattis, who said he was at the meeting purely as a private citizen, suggested making note that the list was subject to change and that the governments need to be ready to defend past projects.

Commissioner Danny Turner gave assurance that the county has not been negligent in any past projects.

Edward Cady, Ware County human resources director, told the two boards it felt "great" to see the two commissions working together at Monday's courthouse meeting.

"I am thankful to see you working hand-in-hand," said Cady. Knox noted that when he got elected, he and Chairman Brown took a ride around town and talked about transportation issues that affect the entire county and city. "That was the first thing we talked about," said Knox. "If we don't pass this, we will be giving away \$53 million to other counties. I am really excited. This is one of the best things we have ever done for our community. It would be easy to sit back and let the region do this. But there is too much difference in the total not to take action."

"If we work together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish," said Brown. At the end of the joint meeting, the county convened a called meeting to vote on a proposed resolution and city-county intergovernmental agreement but decided the resolution needed some tweaking.

The county agreed to meet at 10 a.m. Friday to complete the vote. Before adjourning, however, the county did agree to purchase a 15-foot John Deere tractor and mower for county road work at a cost of \$79,600, the money to be used from the 2014 SPLOST. The machine was bid in recent months and is ready to be delivered this week.

from the Senate process, but Monday night's development was a major blow for him, too, as the president failed to rally support for what has been the GOP's trademark issue for seven years, ever since Obama and the Democrats passed the Affordable Care Act. Republicans won the White House and full control of Congress in large part on the basis of their promises to repeal and replace "Obamacare," but have struggled to overcome their deep internal divisions and deliver on those promises.

The Senate bill, like an earlier version that barely passed the House, eliminated mandates and taxes under Obamacare, and unraveled an expansion of the Medicaid health care program for the poor and disabled. For conservatives like Lee and Paul, it didn't go far enough in delivering on Republican Party promises to undo Obama's law. But moderates like Collins viewed the bill as too extreme in yanking insurance coverage from millions.

McConnell's latest version aimed to satisfy both camps, by incorporating language by Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas allowing insurers to sell skimpy plans alongside more robust ones, and by adding billions to treat opioid addiction and to defray consumer costs.

McConnell's bill "fails to repeal the Affordable Care Act or address healthcare's rising costs," said Moran. Lee said, "In addition to not repealing all of the Obamacare taxes, it doesn't go far enough in lowering premiums for middle class families; nor does it create enough free space from the most costly Obamacare regulations."

That left McConnell at least two votes short in the closely divided Senate from being able to move forward with his bill. Instead he said he would try to open debate on a repeal-and-replace bill passed by the House, and the first allowed amendment would be on the legislation approved by Congress in 2015 repealing much of Obamacare, with a two-year delay for the repeal to take effect.

Obama was in the White House when that bill passed, and he vetoed it. Few Republicans reckoned then with the reality of sending the bill to a president of their party who might actually sign it and invite all the consequences, including casting tens of millions off the rolls of the insured and off of Medicaid. This year's debate has already shown Republicans are highly wary of any such move, and a similar straightforward repeal was rejected early on.

Monday night's retreat was the second straight failure for McConnell, who had to cancel a vote on an earlier version of his repeal-and-replace bill last month when defeat became inevitable. Trump had kept his distance

... Health Bill Failing

(continued from page 1)
week. They joined GOP Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Rand Paul of Kentucky, both of whom announced their opposition right after McConnell released the bill on Thursday.

... Wreck

(continued from page 2)
to turn. Mathis entered the west-bound lane to go around the car. As Mathis was passing, the Williams car struck the rear of the Mathis truck, causing it to go out of control and overturn, ejecting the driver.

The Williams car came to a stop at Gorman Road and Albany Avenue. James said the preliminary report did not indicate that Williams was injured.

Sgt. Josh Taylor of the Georgia State Patrol was the primary investigator of the 1 p.m. accident. His report was not completed as of this morning, said a GSP official.

Ware County Deputy Blake Lewis assisted and turned in the preliminary report for the county. Ware County Fire Department personnel also responded to the crash to assist, along with Ware County Emergency Medical Service technicians.

... POLICE

(continued from page 2)
an assortment of personal items were stolen during the overnight hours Sunday; Ware County detectives are investigating.

-Vehicle burglary: a key was stolen out of an unlocked vehicle parked in the 2000 block of the Alma Highway some time Sunday or Monday; Ware County detectives are investigating

Drug Problem?
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS has the answer...
Call: 1-800-334-3322
HELPLINE

... Family

(continued from page 1)
patchy at best. Officials say that unless they had a weather radio, the swimmers would have been unaware of the descending wall of water, churning black with cinders from a recent wildfire and choked with tumbling tree trunks and limbs.

"They heard a roar, and it was on top of them," said Fire Chief Ron Sattelmaier of the Water Wheel Fire and Medical District. The victims ranged in age from 2 to 60. Their bodies were found up to 2 miles (3 kilometers) away. Five other people were rescued, some of them clinging desperately to trees.

Authorities and a family member identified the dead as 2-year-old Erica Raya-Garcia; Emily

Garnica, 3; Mia Garnica, 5; Daniel Garnica, 7; and Jonathan Leon, 13. Also killed were Javier Raya-Garcia, 19; Celia Garcia Castaneda, 60; Maribel Raya-Garcia, 24; and 26-year-old Maria Raya-Garcia, Hector Garnica's wife.

Hector Garnica's second cousin, Jessica Mandujano, said the family emigrated from Mexico over the course of 20 years looking for a better life.

Hector and Maria would often throw pizza parties, she said, where they would happily buy slices for all of the children.

Mandujano said their family of more than 50 people was set to get together Sunday for another birthday celebration but canceled the plans when word of the accident came.

COMPLETE FLOOR COVERING Installation

- Carpet • Wood
- Tile

Professional Floor Covering

Lamar Carter
912-281-7783

... Budget

(continued from page 8)

now, even with a Republican as president. The plan, in theory at least, promises to balance the budget through unprecedented and unworkable cuts across the budget. It calls for turning this year's projected \$700 billion or so deficit into a tiny \$9 billion surplus by 2027. It would do so by slashing \$5.4 trillion over the coming decade, including almost \$500 billion from Medicare, \$1.5 trillion from Medicaid and the Obama health law, along with enormous cuts to benefits such as federal employee pensions, food stamps, and tax credits for the working poor.

"The status quo is unsustainable. A mounting national debt and lackluster economic growth will limit opportunity for people all across the country," Black said in a statement. "But we don't have to accept this reality. We can move forward with an optimistic vision for the future and this budget is the first step in that process. This is the moment to get real results for the American people. The time for talking is over, now is the time for action."

But in the immediate future the GOP measure is a budget buster. It would add almost \$30 billion to Trump's \$668 billion request for national defense, which already exceeds an existing "cap" on spending by \$54 billion. But while Trump proposed taking that \$54 billion from domestic agencies and foreign aid, the GOP budget plan would restore most of the cuts, trimming non-defense agencies by just \$5 billion.

All told, the GOP plan would spend about \$67 billion more in the upcoming annual appropriations bills than would be allowed under harsh spending limits set by a failed 2011 budget and debt agreement and pads war accounts by \$10 billion.

2 JUMBO BBQ & 1 SMALL FRIES \$10.39
DK'S BBQ
701 Pittman St. • Waycross • 338-9880
Est. 1967

LIFT CHAIR HEADQUARTERS

Want a Lift?

When you get a recliner with our luxury lift feature, it not only lets you kick back, it also helps you up.

Farr's Fine Furniture
285-7700 • Financing Available
Waycross/Blackshear Hwy.

We Now Have A Toddler Program

DISCOVERY MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Early Development Is Fundamental To The Growth Of Your Child.
"It's Time To Come See For Yourself."

REGISTER NOW

For ages 18 months through 3rd Grade
Call or Email Today To Learn More!
dmsowfwayx@gmail.com
www.discoverymontessorischool.us
711 Satilla Blvd., Waycross, GA • (904)-556-2028