

Historical Society...from Page 1A

those things and make some upgrades where needed," he said.

At the start of the

meeting, Stevens lit a memorial candle to remember "all who have gone before us," and invitees were treated

to Jim's Smokin' Que.

Before announcing the new president and officers, outgoing Historical Society President Bud Akins offered those in attendance a rundown of this year's successes.

"We've got the Pat Haralson Office open now," said Akins. "The fireplace in that thing was built to burn coal in. It's small. So later on they did a wood-burning stove in there, and then later on they got an electric heater. But they put a new fireplace thing in where the fireplace was."

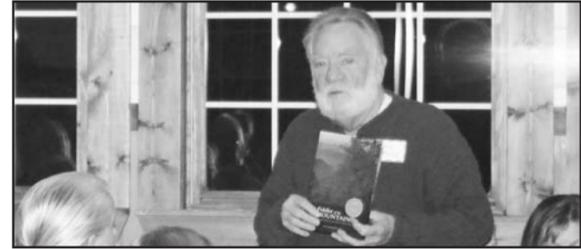
He also mentioned that work on the cemeteries of Union County was moving right along, and that furthermore, the Historical Society is working on adding walking trails in the county.



"We met with the (U.S.) Forest Service and we're in the process of trying to get the trails of the Old Unicoi Turnpike. They did tell us that the Old Unicoi Turnpike was a candidate for a trail, and we think we can get it if we can scrape up some money," he said.

Top photo: Cindy and Tom Rafter receiving Lifetime Membership plaque.

Bottom photo: Sam Ensley displays Historical Society book. Photos by Mason Mitchum



Ingraham...from Page 1A

aggravated child molestation and aggravated sodomy, all of those being felonies."

According to the initial investigation, Ingraham is originally from upstate New York, though he has been living in the Choestoe Falls RV Park for the last 17 years, and he was arrested twice in the 1980s for similar crimes against children, before the institution of any sex crime registries.

Ingraham ran his own landscaping/lawn care venture, and would invite young boys to his home under the pretenses of teaching them responsibility and landscaping, according to the sheriff's office.

As a result of Ingraham's arrest on Nov. 23, Det. Sgt. Mangifesta and Det. Sgt. Andrew Hammond have been following up on leads called in to the sheriff's office, with

some of the calls coming from Ingraham's neighbors at the RV park who saw him at different times with different boys, according to Det. Sgt. Mangifesta.

Investigators with the Union County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the community for coming forward and providing crucial information concerning Ingraham, and Det. Sgt.

Mangifesta encourages those with information to come forward if they have not already.

"There's always the possibility of more victims," said Det. Sgt. Mangifesta. "As far as additional charges based on the two victims we have, that'll be up to the district attorney's office when it goes to grand jury how many count indictment they're seeking."

Harmonizers...from Page 1A

while, and then I had this lapse of time. I got tired of not being a barbershopper, so one thing led to another back in 2000 to get this thing started."

The High Country Harmonizers sing all over the region, in Ellijay and Blue Ridge, and in Murphy and Hayesville, NC, as well as in Towns and Union counties.

"I sing for the chill bumps that I get," said Smith. "It's four-part harmony, it's close harmony, acapella. We sing for all kinds of community events, and we go to churches, too. Valentine's Day



thing. The chill bumps just start coming."

Marilyn Peters of Morganton joined the High Country Harmonizers as director of the group earlier this year, and she has a great time doing it.

Peters is the choir director at Mountain Presbyterian Church in Blairsville, and she became involved with the barbershoppers after being recruited by a fellow churchgoer who sings with the church and the group.

"It's different than any other kind of music - it's not a genre as much as a style of music, because anything can be written in the barbershop style. You just have to take it and put certain chords in there to make it sound like barbershop," said Peters, who has a master's degree in music education, and also attended Harmony University this summer after joining with the Harmonizers.

Included in the Christmas Show that Tuesday were Christmas classics like *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, *White Christmas*, *Jingle Bells*, *O Holy Night*, *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*, and many, many more.

The group is always recruiting members, and men interested in joining the High Country Harmonizers can meet them during their weekly practice at Branan Lodge, which takes place at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

is big for us, we send quartets around."

In order to sing the most gigs possible throughout the year, the Harmonizers split off into quartets to meet regional demand, with days like Valentine's Day sometimes requiring upwards of 20 performances booked by various sweethearts for their loved ones.

A common thread for those in the group is a lifelong love of music.

"I have been involved in music all my life, from a teenager in the church choir, right on up," said barbershopper Lloyd

Dunham. "It's just about as much a part of my life as eating. We sing just about anything you could imagine, but it's arranged barbershop style. We have a number of gospel tunes that you would recognize, but we have rearranged them to fit our specific needs.

"And at the end is what we refer to as a tag, and when you hit that tag, you've got four notes, and all of a sudden one sticks out there. And you say, something's wrong - then the other three guys, all of a sudden it resolves, and then all four people are singing the same

AARP Smart Driver Course

Senior Center of Blairsville will host the AARP Smart Driver Course on Thursday, January 7, 2016. Sign in time is 8:30 a.m. The 6 hour course starts promptly at 9 a.m. ending at 4 p.m. The course fee is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non members. Pre-registration is recommended to secure your place in the classroom. Telephone the instructor Rosemary Kerr at 706-745-7046 Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Please speak clearly when leaving your name and telephone number for call back confirmation.

Union County Senior Center, 95 Senior Center Drive is handicapped accessible. You will learn defensive driving techniques, proven safety strategies, new traffic laws, rules of the road and new vehicle technology innovations. No tests to pass or writing required. The AARP Smart Driver course is opened to all licensed drivers. AARP is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all, as we age.

Parkinson's support meeting location change

As of 1/1/2016 the Blairsville area Parkinson's Disease Support Group (PDSG) will change its meeting location from the Southern Bank & Trust to the Cabin Coffee Co. of Blairsville at 44A Town Square (706.745.0073 www.cabin-coffeecompany.com). The monthly meeting day (second Wednesday of each month) and meeting start time (3 p.m.) remain unchanged. For more information: Chuck Esposito terraesp@windstream.net 706.747.2183).