

Lee Knight declares for Tax Commissioner



Lee Knight

My name is Jesse Lee Knight and I am announcing my candidacy for Union County Tax Commissioner. I hope to earn your trust, your support and most importantly your vote in the upcoming 2012 elections.

I was born in April 1958 to Jesse O Knight and Marie Collins Knight and live in the Choestoe community near where my mother's family settled in Union County almost 200 years ago. I have been married to Carol Roberts Knight for 20 years and we have two children Tucker and Anna Knight. Carol teaches math at Union County High School and Tucker and Anna

are both students at UCHS. Carol and I are proud of our children and their accomplishments at school and their other activities. We are all active members of Antioch Baptist Church.

I graduated from Union County High in 1976 and attended North Georgia College and Southern Polytechnic College studying business and civil engineering. My career has been wholesale marketing and distribution of auto parts for over 25 years. My experience as a marketing representative has allowed me to build relationships while meeting customer's expectations and these are just two of the skills that I will bring to the tax commissioner's office. I also have extensive experience meeting budgets and time demands to stay competitive in multi-million dollar organizations. I have also been involved in residential development and building homes here locally.

I am running for Tax Commissioner because I believe it is time for honest and ethical leadership to serve all the taxpayers. It is time that your tax dollars be handled appropriately by the tax

commissioner's office. I bring the "strength of character" necessary to run our tax office with integrity and transparency that you, the taxpayers, deserve. I intend to have a complete forensic audit done to insure measures are in place to prevent the theft of your tax dollars and to insure those monies are directed to the appropriate accounts in a timely manner. Checks and balances will be a priority to manage the tax commissioner's office with complete transparency to the public. I will be an advocate for fair property appraisals and realistic assessments, and will work to improve tax collections on unpaid and overdue taxes to help meet county budget requirements.

I am running for Union County Tax Commissioner on the Republican ballot because I am a fiscal conservative and believe we have to be smart with the taxpayer's money. I believe in less government and lower taxes. We cannot expect the citizens to live off less while politicians continue to raise our taxes. I would be honored to earn your trust to serve as your tax commissioner and will serve all citizens with fairness and professionalism

regardless of political party or where you are from. I believe because of my personal and professional background, I am well prepared to serve Union County as your next Tax Commissioner. I will work hard for you and all citizens of Union County. I promise as your Tax Commissioner, I will always be dedicated to the smart use of our tax dollars. I will be an advocate for fair tax policies and work closely with those who share in my dedication to improve our community and keep Union County a great place to live, work and raise a family.

I am especially proud of my family heritage here in the mountains. Carol and I feel blessed to be able to call Blairsville our home and be able to raise our family here. I would be honored to serve you as your tax commissioner and have your vote in this election. I am Lee Knight, candidate for Tax Commissioner, and would like to thank you for your time and your consideration. Questions and feedback are important to me so feel free to call my home (706 745 7763), my cell (404 406 4357) or email me at leeknight123@yahoo.com.

UCSO deputies, canines assist at Colwell Detention Center

By Charles Duncan
North Georgia News
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A call for mutual aid from the Union County Sheriff's Office by the Carlton Colwell Probation Detention Center on Sunday, April 29, resulted in two arrests.

The arrests followed the requested search of vehicles in the Detention Center parking lot, Union County Sheriff's Reports show.

The arrests came during the visitation period at Colwell Probation Detention Center.

It was during this occasion that assistance from Union County Sheriff's Office K9 division was requested at the detention center.

"The staff of the Detention Center wish to ensure that the facility remains drug free,"

Union County Sheriff Scott Stephens said.

Deputies Tyler Miller and K-9 Zoey, Chad Deyton and K-9 Bodie, and Tracy James and K-9 Kilo checked the parking lot at the Detention Center.

Two vehicles were discovered that contained illegal prescription medicine and marijuana, sheriff's reports show.

According to UCSO detention center records, Justin Schumaker of Whitfield County, and Randy Brown of Fannin County, were subsequently arrested.

Both individuals were visiting inmates, Sheriff's Reports show.

"Our K-9s and their handlers are available 24/7 to as-



UCSO Sheriff's Investigator Tyler Miller and Zoey at work.

sist wherever they are needed. We are committed to the enforcement of drug laws and

keeping everyone in Union County as safe as we possibly can," Sheriff Stephens said.

"Tax Day Baby" awarded college savings contribution

The Path2College 529 Plan also officially kicked-off its 2012 Newborn Sweepstakes today, encouraging Georgia families to enter their 2012 newborns for a chance to win a prize that will put them on the path toward a college education and a brighter future.

"A college education is becoming increasingly important in a number of fields, but, unfortunately, college tuitions continue to be on the rise, making it harder for families to afford. It's never too early to begin saving for our children's future education, and that's why we are doing this sweepstakes—to help make new parents aware of their options and encourage them to start financial planning for their newborn," said Mitch Seabaugh, Georgia's deputy treasurer who oversees the Path2College 529 Plan.

"It's such a tremendous pleasure to award today's first tax day baby with a contribution to help her begin saving for future college expenses, and we look forward to another year of educating Georgia families about the importance of saving for college," said Seabaugh.

The 2012 Newborn Sweepstakes will award one Georgia newborn \$5,529 toward his/her college savings. Parent and grandparents of Georgia babies born during 2012 may go to www.Path2College529.com between January 1, 2012 and April 14, 2013 to enter. No purchase is necessary. Void where prohibited.

Hospitals interested in becoming an official partner may contact the Path2College 529 Plan at 866-529-9529. Official hospital partners have the opportunity to win a \$1,529 cash prize if the winning Georgia newborn was born at their hospital.

To learn more about the 2012 Newborn Sweepstakes, register your newborn for a chance to win, and find out about the Path2College 529 Plan, visit www.Path2College529.com.

About the Path2College 529 Plan: The Path2College 529 Plan is a state of Georgia program that helps families prepare for the future costs of college tuition and other qualified expenses, such as fees, books, and certain room and board costs for colleges in Georgia and nationwide. The plan is easy to use and understand, with no sign-up, maintenance or third-party sales fees – just a low annual asset-based management fee, and an account can be opened online with as little as \$25.

Any earnings in the Path2College 529 Plan are tax-deferred and withdrawals for qualified higher education are income tax free. In addition, the

State of Georgia offers a state income tax deduction on contributions of up to \$2,000 per year, per beneficiary. (Transfers from another 529 plan are not eligible for the deduction. Recapture provisions apply.) Your account assets can be used at virtually any college or university in the country. The plan offers seven investment options and participants can arrange for automatic contributions to their accounts to be drawn directly from a bank account or made through payroll deduction with participating employers.

Georgia's Path2College 529 Plan was recently rated "Above Average" by Morningstar, and it has maintained a 4.5 cap out of a 5-cap rating from SavingforCollege.com for over eight years.* The Path2College 529 Plan is managed by TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc., which is part of the TIAA-CREF group of companies. The Path2College 529 Plan has more than \$1.1 billion in assets under management and more than 129,000 accounts as of April 2, 2012.

*Morningstar, 2011 529 College Savings Plan Research Paper and Industry Study, October 2011.

Morningstar evaluated 529 plans in a number of different areas – portfolio, performance, price and program management – to determine an overall analyst rating for more than fifty 529 plans as of October 2011. Past performance is

not indicative of future results. The SavingforCollege.com cap rating is based on the comparison of investment options, fees and expenses, resident state tax benefits and other features as of 12/1/11. Ratings are not based on a fixed formula and are not indicative of future results.

Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing in the Path2College 529 Plan. Visit www.path2college529.com for a Disclosure Booklet containing this and other information. Please read it carefully.

Before investing in a 529 plan, you should consider whether the state you or your Beneficiary reside in or have taxable income in has a 529 plan that offers favorable state income tax or other benefits that are only available if you invest in that state's 529 plan.

We are required to notify you that the tax information contained herein is not intended to be used, and cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties. Taxpayers should seek advice based on their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor. Non-qualified withdrawals may be subject to federal and state taxes and the additional federal 10% tax.

Account value for the Investment Options is not guaranteed and will fluctuate based upon a number of factors, including general market conditions. NIMay9X6CA