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a box that has some water spraying out of it. We get scrubbed up and then we go and we get into a box with wheels, and then we go to another box where we usually work with a box to make money and do whatever we do.

"Then we take that back to our box with wheels, and then we drive to yet another box, and we take that money and we buy boxes. And then we put it in our box with wheels, and then we go back to our command post box, and we eat from those boxes while we look at a box and work on the box.

"And when it's all over, they put you in a box. So my message to you is: think outside the box, because we're all boxed in."

Kay's said that humans are simple by nature, only needing water, shelter, fire and food.

"That's it," said Kay. "We tend to complicate it, and we've added a lot of layers to that, but it's water, shelter, fire and food. Now, mankind is the only thing in nature that cannot exist in their God-given environment. We have actually devolved to the point that we

can't take our rightful place on the earth.

"We were designed to live here. If you look around at all the plants and everything that's here – there's medicine, there's food, there's abundance. It was designed by a creator for us to live on it. But we've done all these boxes, we've separated ourselves from it and from each other, community. There's no community anymore. There's no basic skills."

Also in the meeting Friday was Dyana Costello Banks, Mountain Regional Library System training and outreach coordinator, and she shared with those in attendance information about the Talking Book program through the Georgia Libraries for Accessible Statewide Services (GLASS).

"The Talking Book program is a national program, and they actually give preference to veterans," said Costello Banks, adding that the program is free to anyone who qualifies.

Geared toward people who have a hard time seeing and those who are legally blind, the Talking Book program features a special tape player



Dyana Costello Banks

that plays cassette tapes.

The tapes themselves are a new, refreshed take on the cassette, with books that fit on single cassettes instead of 20 cassettes for a single book, as in the past.

Exchanging tapes for new books is easy, too, and does not cost the user postage. Simply flip over the card that

came with the book in the mail, and it is ready to mail back.

Contact any of the Mountain Regional Library System libraries to get in touch with Costello Banks, and to find out more information about the Talking Book program and any of the library system's other free services.

Scottish...continued from Page 1A

Blairsville.

Then at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning, the festival cut to the chase with a blacksmith demo in the vendor area and athletics beginning on the main field, along with kid's activities and historical re-enactors.

Later in the morning, the fan-favorite Blarney Girls returned to the Blairsville Scottish Festival for a 9:30 performance prior to the Kilted Mile race at 10 a.m. At 10:30 a.m. the Mini-Cooper Car Club provided festivalgoers with their annual parade through the park.

Then at 11:15 a.m., the band Seven Nations performed at the Entertainment Tent, providing the soundtrack to those entering the park and gathering at the main field for the opening ceremonies.

At 2 p.m. the Kid's Scottish Athletics began at the Children's Field with approximately 80 kids between the ages of 3-to-12 years old participating and braving the mid-90 degree temperatures. The kids were divided into four different age groups and competed in traditional Scottish contests such as "turning the caber," which consists of tossing a 4-foot long piece of timber.

They also "tossed the sheath" (throwing a bag of straw with a plastic shovel)

and "put the stone" (a shot put with a stone weighing between 3-to-7 pounds – depending on the child's size).

The final event was "tossing the Wellie" (throwing a Wellington rain boot that is worn in Scotland).

"We had prepared for the heat by moving the Athletics off the ballfield into the shady glen beside the new swing set," said Kimberly Poe Miller, who along with husband Gary Miller were the Event Chairpersons for the Children's Scottish Games. "All children enjoyed receiving recognition for participating, and parents appreciated the educational aspect of the games each instructor gave them."

Following the opening ceremonies, Rev. Travis Adams gave a special thank-you to those who have helped make the Blairsville Scottish Festival & Highland Games a hit for 13-straight years.

"We are fortunate to be continually supported by dignitaries and honored clans," he said. "We are thankful for Larry Garrett and the Meeks Park crew for helping us provide this wonderful venue year-after-year."

"We thank everyone for coming to our 13th Annual Scottish Festival, and we hope everyone has a wonderful time and makes this a yearly event."



Clan Hay was this festival's Honored Clan, and had a hand in the opening of the festival and games on Saturday, June 11.



Ali Csinos with Redtail Hawk "Thistle"

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