

Times-Herald.com Archive Search

[\[CLICK HERE FOR A PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION OF THIS ARTICLE \] \(/nl-search/we/Archives?p_action=print\)](#)

Newnan Times-Herald, The (GA)

January 21, 2012

Section: Local News

Coweta to fund part-time naturalist for Chattahoochee Bend State Park

Sarah Fay Campbell The Newnan Times-Herald

Coweta County will fund a part-time naturalist at Chattahoochee **Bend** State Park for the next three years. Glenn Flake, president of the Friends of Chattahoochee **Bend**, appeared before the commissioners Thursday to make the request. Park Manager Trint Wicklund was also in attendance.

Several years ago, while trying to get the park open, "the county had made a commitment for a two-year period to be able to assist with staffing, as a way to partner with the state," said County Administrator Theron Gay. "The request is to consider, instead of the full-time position for a two-year period, bringing on a part-time naturalist for a three-year period, to be able to kind of work with the staff at the park."

"First, let me thank you for over \$2 million in road paving" at the park, said Flake.

Flake said everyone "waited to approach the county to fill this position, to find out what we really needed."

What is most needed is an interpretive ranger, "a person who can speak to groups who come out there" about trees, nature, the history of the park, etc., Flake said. "We don't really need a person out there eight hours a day, five days a week. We need them when large groups come."

The county's commitment for a full-time person for two years would cost roughly \$70,000, Flake said. The current request is for a maximum of \$45,000. The naturalist will be paid \$10 per hour for up to 1,500 hours per year.

Flake added that there will be a tree-planting event at the park on Jan. 28. The Newnan Rotary Club has purchased 100 trees that will be planted at various locations.

"Glenn and the other members of the friends of the park have done a fantastic job," said Commissioner Tim Lassetter, who represents the second district where the park is located.

"Many people throughout the community have done a lot of work," Lassetter said.

"We appreciate everything that the friends group has done. It has made a difference, and I'm sure Trint will be quick to 'amen' that as well," Lassetter said.

Copyright 2012 The Newnan Times-Herald, Inc, All Rights Reserved.

- [Times-Herald.com \(http://www.times-herald.com\)](http://www.times-herald.com)
- [Archive FAQ \(http://www.times-herald.com/archive/faq/\)](http://www.times-herald.com/archive/faq/)
- [Archive Help \(http://www.times-herald.com/archive/help/\)](http://www.times-herald.com/archive/help/)
- [Archive Pricing \(http://www.times-herald.com/archive/pricing/\)](http://www.times-herald.com/archive/pricing/)

Copyright 2011 The Newnan-Times-Herald, Inc.