Cliffs' dominates delinquent tax list

More than 160 lots to be sold at tax sale on Oct. 3

BY CARLOS GALARZA
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — About one out of every six properties to be sold at a delinquent tax sale in Oconee County on Oct. 3 are associated with the prestigious Cliffs' communities.

The Oconee County Delinquent Tax Office released last week a listing of 1,192 properties that owe almost $1 million in taxes combined.

More than 160 lots from The Cliffs at Keowee Falls and Keowee Falls South are among the delinquent properties that owe taxes.

Keowee Falls Investment Group, LLC and Keowee Investment Group, LLC, are listed as the owners of The Cliffs properties on the delinquent tax rolls.

SEE TAX, PAGE A3

TAX: List of delinquent properties is 31.4%

FROM PAGE A1

Oconee County Delinquent Tax Collector Kevin Robinson said that as of Monday neither Keowee Falls Investment Group nor Keowee Investment Group had made any payments on the properties listed as delinquent in their names.

Both firms list Lucas Anthony as their registered agent. The companies also list their address as 3598 Highway 11 in Travelers Rest, which also is the address for the corporate office of The Cliffs Communities, Inc.

James B. Anthony founded The Cliffs more than 20 years ago.

In a related development, a gourmet grocer at Keowee Towne, a small commercial village outside the gates of The Cliffs at Keowee Falls, has closed.

A Cliffs' spokesperson did not return a call from The Journal on Monday.

A total of $995,825.14 in 2010 taxes is due on the 1,192 properties listed on the delinquent tax rolls. Oconee County will

more than last year's

attempt to recover as much of those delinquent taxes during a delinquent tax sale Oct. 3. The sale is scheduled to begin 10 a.m. at the County Council Chambers, 415 S. Pine St. in Walhalla.

For a property owner to avoid the sale, all delinquent taxes, assessments, penalties and costs must be received and processed by the county prior to the opening bid of the tax sale.

The defaulting taxpayer has one year from the date of the sale to still redeem the property.

This year's initial list of delinquent properties is 31.4 percent more than last year's total of 907 properties.

carlos@dailyjm.com | (864) 973-6685