Council approves tourism grants

BY NORMAN CANNADA
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WALHALLA — Oconee County Council gave final approval Tuesday to $30,000 in grants to 15 local organizations recommended by the county Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission.

The largest single grant approved by the commission was $8,478.75 for roof repairs to the Walhalla Civic Auditorium. Officials had applied for $30,234. Seneca Fest was approved for $5,907.50, followed by the South Carolina Apple Festival (Westminster), $3,238.50; and the Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail, $3,058.30.

Other approved grant amounts are: Historic Old Pickens Foundation, $595; Walhalla Chamber Mayfest/Art of Living Festival, $776.70; Walhalla Partners for Progress, $1,275; West Union Fun in the Sun Festival, $637.50; Blue Ridge Arts Council, $352.75; Oconee Heritage Center, $1,363.40; Patriot's Hall Association billboard, $716.65; Patriot's Hall Association Advertising, $369.75; Collins Children's Home Mud Run, $1,402.50; and Westminster Chamber advertising, $637.50.

The Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department received $1,190 for 10,000 camping brochures.

In other business Tuesday, the council awarded a bid to Peek Pavement Marking, LLC of Columbus, Ga., for road and bridge striping. The amount awarded was up to a maximum of $231,242.09.

Council members were told five of 11 companies notified submitted bids with the Georgia company providing the lowest. No company from Oconee County bid on the project.

ncannada@upstatetoday.com | (864) 973-6684
Follow on Twitter: | @NormCannada