

Station #3 gets new paint job

Combined efforts of Towns County Fire Corps members and Firemen have given Station #3 in Bald Mountain Park a "new lease on life," so to speak. Painting on the lower part of the fire station had been started by Fire Corps member, Jim Shute, but health problems did not allow him to continue.

Saturday morning, October 9, 2010 dawned bright and sunny, and a little cool--good weather for doing a lot of trimming of overgrown trees and shrubs, finishing up the painting, and cleaning out the bays. It now looks like an entirely different station with just a little more trim to paint.

Many thanks go to all who contributed: paint sprayer from Terry Thompson, ProFormance Paint; loan of a truck for trash from the county; a cooler full of ice from Rudy Roach



Brian Hollingshead sprayed part of the second floor of Station 3 in the cherry picker and Bob Garrett sprayed part.

for water and sodas, and 10% discount on lunch from Hawkeye Heaven.

Fire Corps members were Brenda Hunt, Bob Garrett, Ron Abrams, Jim Shute, Lynne Marshall and Joan Crothers; Fire Department personnel were Chief Mitch Floyd, Assistant Chief Harold Copeland, Brian Hollingshead, Jonathan Wilson, Buddy Sum-

ner, George Silver, Harold Koppel and helper Janet Warriner.

Also a big thank you goes to the two men brave enough to go up in the cherry picker to spray the top floor around the station, Brian Hollingshead and Bob Garrett!

Station #4 will be the next station to have maintenance done on Saturday, November 6th. T10Oct13.G1)SH

Firefighters BBQ October 16

The Young Harris fire fighters will be hosting their annual Fall barbecue on Saturday, October 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At the fire department in Young Harris.

Our professional Fire Fighters will be smoking butts all night, Friday, for the tenderest barbecue in Towns. Call early to reserve your butt.

Barbecue plates are \$6 and whole Boston Butts basted with our special sauce are \$30. To pre-order butts, call 706-379-3060. Leave your name, number and number of butts. Make sure to pick up your butts by 12 p.m. on Saturday.

Stop by and help support you local fire department and have your vital signs checked by our EMT's. The funds from this falls barbecue will go toward updating their victim extrication equipment, that help to save lives on wreck scenes with entrapment.

Come support your fire fighters on Saturday the 16th and enjoy some great barbecue. Bring the kids for a tour of their awesome monster fire trucks. T10Oct13.F1)SH

Treetops Lakeside...continued from page 1A

the rural community that catered to the locals."

Things worked smoothly and then the economy began to tank.

"The economy crunched and we ended up leasing out the Union County store to try and help us through the bad times," he said.

The family focus quickly shifted to Treetops Lakeside, because of the locals in the community that had become smitten with the intimate country store and its proprietors.

"We're seasonal, but if you don't have your local people doing business with you day-in, day-out, you're going to be hurting in a hurry," he said.

Today, the family has expanded its in-store variety to include feed products for dogs, cats and livestock.

"There isn't a lot of profit, but, it brings people into the store," he said. "In the short time we've had it we've seen a big spike in business."

Bottom line, the store is adding another item to gets people in the door."

The store now also ac-

cepts EBT/Snap and one day will be an expanded country store. The store also offers kerosene heating fuel.

However, "food is where it's at in this business. We'll be looking at putting in a small food court."

In a short time Wayne has seen people hit hard by the economy and it's been a painful sight from a personal level.

"The economy has really put a squeeze on a lot of good folks," he said. "The housing and the real estate market were the big industry here aside from the tourism. The tourism market has taken a hit because people don't have the money to travel and get out and see our area."

"We have a lot to offer here," he said. "As business people, we need to get together and pool our ideas on how to better improve the experience here and get people back in here."

"The local economy has been drastically hurt because most of the local people were in the building industry or real estate," he said. "As we know all too well, both of those in-

dustries have dried up."

Wayne said that local businesses must look at the long-term and close and grip their eyes tight on the short term.

"If we look at the short term, it only gets depressing," he said. "Being a business person, I look to the future. You have to look at the future."

"We're using the down time in the economy to brainstorm and envision the good days ahead, because, there will be good days ahead again, I'm certain of that."

The future is brighting already. The Tennessee Valley Authority recently built a camping area across the road from Treetops Lakeside. The primitive camping area includes five pads for recreational vehicles.

In the meantime, until the tourism and housing industry return to normal health, Treetops Lakeside & Feed will look just down the road a piece to its loyal, local customer base that keeps it thriving and keeps the doors swinging open.

"We'll never forget who kept us going in some of the worst times this country has ever seen."

Cassady speaks to Towns County Lions Club



Jack Cassady (left) with Lion Michael Annast

Towns County Lions Club is a service organization helping the community through many different avenues. One of the benefits for its members is the always-informative guest speakers brought before them at their bi-monthly meetings. Radical Islam: Who Are We Fighting? was the topic of Lions Club guest speaker John "Jack" Cassady from nearby Murphy, North Carolina. During his presentation at the September 28th meeting, Mr. Cassady gave five signs that warn of the corruption of religion. The background for his talk comes from Dr. Charles Kimball, a Baptist minister and an Adjunct Professor in the Wake Forest Divinity School, who authored When Religion Becomes Evil, published in 2002.

The five warning signs of the corruption of religion that Mr. Cassady discussed are:

1) Claims of absolute truth – groups have a dogmatic approach to the trust which allows no intellectual challenges or discussions.

2) Blind obedience – usually associated with a charismatic leader or ideology which promotes a limitation of

intellectual choice and whose group dynamics easily disintegrate to mob rule.

3) Establishment of the "ideal" time for events to occur – usually around a major historical event or natural occurrence.

4) The end always justifies the means – a justification for corruption to do whatever (lie, cheat, steal) just so long as it benefits the group objective.

5) Declaration of a "Holy War" (Jihad)

When addressing the difference between Radical Islam and Muslim, Mr. Cassady used the comparison of Germans and Nazis during WWII: Muslims are like the Germans living in Germany during WWII and Radical Islams are like the Nazis in Germany during the war. However, he shared the sheer number of Radical Islams is staggering, "Scholars believe that in the Muslim community, at least 10% of all Muslims identify themselves as radical (approximately 1.2 billion), while another 5% of the global Muslim population just do not like America." He states the real enemy is the Radical Islam member – not the Muslim community as a

whole. Additionally he stated that the majority of radical members support a "silent jihad" versus a violent one. Signs warning non-Muslims to keep out of areas in major European cities were sited as one example. Lastly, he stated that by 2025, statistics show that by sheer number, Muslims will take over most European countries simply by immigrating, reproducing, and going on the social support systems of these countries – a phenomenon labeled "Eurabia" in the political arena.

Mr. Cassady, Lt. Col. U.S. Army retired, is an artist, cartoonist, published author, and college professor. He currently is the Art Director at Heartland Boating and is actively involved in the National Cartoonists Society and Graphic Artist Guild. He can be contacted through his website: www.toonmaker.com.

Anyone interested in finding out more information about the Lions Club is welcome to attend a meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month in the Anderson Music Hall at 6:00 PM. Or interested persons can contact a local member or the Club's President, Ralph Grady at 706-896-4542.

Submitted by Laurie Main

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