

Fire...from Page 1

Clay County, NC, including six members and Tender 1 tanker.

Towns County American Red Cross personnel arrived on scene with coffee, hot chocolate, and water to the appreciation of the exhausted firefighters. The family spent the night in a room at The Holiday Inn, compliments of American Red Cross.

The home was a total loss, and Copeland remained on scene until the next morning watching for flare-ups.

He was relieved by rested crew members who wet down the remaining hot spots until 4 p.m. Thursday evening.

"As the Information Officer for Towns County Fire & Rescue, I would advise anyone who finds themselves in a burning building, to get out of the building and stay out," Capt. Sellers said. "To return inside a burning building to retrieve a lost pet, valuables, or keepsakes is very dangerous.

"Inhaling the smallest amount of smoke can cause choking, disorientation, and dizziness," Capt. Sellers said.



"And then it becomes the firefighters' duty to put their lives in jeopardy to rescue the victim inside.

In other Fire & Rescue News, on Thursday afternoon, Station 2 fought a small woods

fire off Plottown Road and on Friday morning a truck fire on Byers Creek Rd.

"Our sympathies go out to the family that lost their home and family pet," Capt. Sellers said.

Hobbs...from Page 1

entries were then forwarded to the District Patriots Pen contest.

Hobbs, a student in Julie Thompson's eighth grade class, was encouraged to take part in the Patriots Pen contest at the school level.

Her creative entry paid dividends with a second place finish at Towns County Middle School.

This is the 15th year that VFW Post 7807 has sponsored and supported the Patriots Pen Essay Contest for Towns County Middle School students.

VFW Commander Mel Halfon presented the awards in December to the participating students from TCMS.

"This is a great way for the kids to get started becom-

ing involved with our government," Halfon said. "And the kids participating all wrote terrific essays."

The topic for the middle school essay was What Patriotism Means to Me?

The written essay contest consisted of 300-400 words, and the essay had to be in the student's own words, and be typed.

The first and second place essays from VFW Post 7807 were submitted to the District for judging, and Hobbs' third place finish means she will continue to compete at the state level.

Hobbs received \$100 plus a plaque for her second place finish at Towns County Middle School in December.

Sara Beth Hobbs is the daughter of Von and Connie Hobbs of Hiwassee.

Towns County Middle School Principal Dr. Darren Berrong offered high praise for Sara Beth Hobbs.

"We're grinning from ear-to-ear at Towns County Middle School," Dr. Berrong said. "Student achievement is something significant to smile about."

The *Towns County Herald* congratulates Sara Beth Hobbs for her creative essay entry to the Patriots Pen Essay Contest.

"We wish Sara Beth the best of luck at the state competition," *Towns County Herald* publisher Kenneth West said.

Park Sterling Bank supports Relay For Life



Julie Payne and staff at Park Sterling Bank presenting Martha Cunningham, Sponsorship Chair for Towns County Relay For Life with proceeds from their Valentine's Bake Sale. (TMar19,G3)SH

Hilary Martin to be recognized in Reinhardt 10 Under 10

Hilary Martin '10, a resident of Young Harris, GA, will be honored as a 10 Under 10 during Reinhardt University's Talon Awards Gala on March 20, 2014, at The Bluffs in the Northside Hospital-Cherokee Conference Center in Canton, GA. This annual event honors distinguished alumni and dedicated members of the Reinhardt family. For more details about the Talon Awards Gala, visit www.reinhardt.edu/alumni.

Martin's Background: Martin graduated from Reinhardt with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and Advertising. While attending Reinhardt, she was active in many offices on campus, including Residence Life and Admissions. She was a Resident Assistant for three years and was named Senior RA during her last year. Martin also was a Captain for the Admissions Office, and she was actively involved in Campus Ministry.

Martin went on to receive a Master of Education

in Educational Leadership from Valdosta State University in 2012, while serving as the Graduate Assistant for Marketing and Public Relations in the Office of Housing and Residence Life. In June 2012, Hilary started her first professional job at Young Harris College as Resident Director and Program Coordinator. Currently, Hilary is running for a seat on the Young Harris City Council. She is excited for the opportunity to get involved in her new community and hopes to offer a fresh perspective to the city and a voice for the students, who make up about two-thirds of the population.

10 Under 10 Description: The 10 Under 10 Award recognizes alumni who have graduated within the last 10 years and are successful in their professions. Portraits and information about the 10 Under 10 hang in the Hasty Student Life Center on Reinhardt's campus in Waleska, GA. Each year a new group of 10 under 10 is selected. (TMar19,F2)SH

Whittle...

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pute with weapons involved on Sept. 15, 2011.

Enotah Circuit District Attorney Jeff Langley remembers Whittle well.

"Deputy Whittle was responding to a domestic disturbance involving weapons when his patrol car left the roadway and struck a tree near the intersection of Mt. Pleasant Church Road and Bowers Circle," he said. "Deputy Whittle was responding to a threat in his community."

Deputy Whittle was transported to Union General Hospital that afternoon before being flown to Erlanger Hospital.

Deputy Whittle had served with the Union County Sheriff's Office for less than one year.

He died Sept. 18, 2011 from injuries sustained in the crash.

In May 2012, the Union County Sheriff's Office retired Badge 221, the one worn by the 38-year-old deputy.

Deputy Whittle's service revolver also was retired and presented it to the Whittle family along with the fallen deputy's uniform.

The *Towns County Herald* is a proud sponsor of the Derrick Whittle Memorial Fund.

Prepare...from Page 1

works to reduce your chance of having a wildfire in your backyard," Riley said. "Firewise USA is a community approach to wildfire mitigation. Get involved with activities around the county or put some Firewise USA programs into practice at your home."

Those practices include clearing leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks;

Remove dead vegetation from under your deck and within 10 feet of the house;

Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches; Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh;

Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks, dry vegetation) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings;

Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to reduce fire intensity. Dry grass and shrubs are fuel for wildfire;

Cover exterior attic vents

with metal wire mesh; Join your neighbors on March 22 to help make your community and Towns County safe from wildfire.

Riley asks Towns County residents: Are you FIREWISE?

For more information about prescribed fires and wildfires contact Frank Riley, Executive Director of the *Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council* at www.frank.ccrd@gmail.com.

Bass...from Page 1

Club bass tournament, Towns County Head Football Coach Blair Harrison has fallen in love with the event and is already excited about next year's third Saturday in March.

"It was a perfect weather and a great day for fishing," Coach Harrison said. "We had some great fish roll in and we'd like to grow the tournament in the next few years.

"This is my first time and I think it was a success for my first year," Harrison said. "We plan on doing a better job of getting the word out and hope to double the turnout with about 40 boats in 2015 and continue to grow this thing to support our football program."

Harrison's day was busy as he doled out the tournament cash to its winners.

First place brought a \$500 prize, second place was awarded \$300, third place received \$200, fourth place got \$100, and the Big Fish prize is \$100.

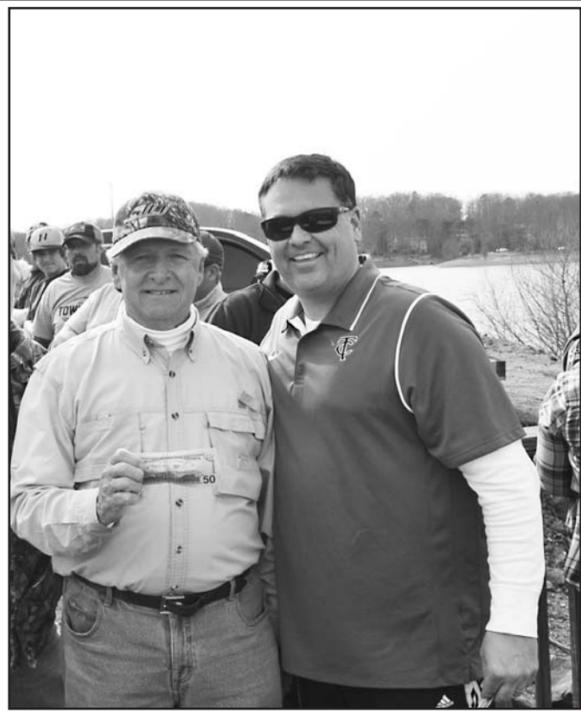
"This day is all about our football program," said Coach Harrison, who had his football players on scene helping with the event. "It's been a good day for Towns County Football."

Cross and Hoover, both of Hayesville, NC, also took the \$100 prize for Big Fish with largemouth catch of 7.70 pounds.

Cross and Hoover won the First Towns County Touchdown Club Bass Tourney in 2010. And they also won Big Fish that year.

The bass that counted on the weigh in had to come from within the black bass family. A five-fish limit applies and three or more dead fish would disqualify the angler.

The Touchdown Club would like to thank the following sponsors for making the 2014 tournament possible. L & L Concrete, C & J Outfitters, Parker's Concrete, United Community Bank, Jacky Jones GMC Superstore, Kurt Ledford, Scrubs & More, and Wholesale Supply.



Towns County Indians' Head Football Coach Blair Harrison was a busy man on Saturday. He paid out \$1,200 in prize money as the Indians hosted their Fifth Annual Towns County Touchdown Club Bass Tourney at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds boat ramp. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

Towns County Sheriff's Office News

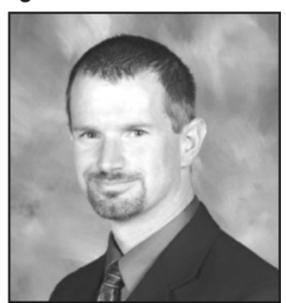
Two Basic Personal Safety/Firearms classes are full. Two class nights plus range day. Start dates in April and May. Updates will be sent.

As soon as a date can be determined for class three, the information will be posted on our Facebook page, and contact information will be made available for that roster.

A second Citizens Law Enforcement Academy is almost full. Registration for that class will end Tuesday, March 18. No more CLEA classes will be offered after the second one is completed in the fall. Those who are signed up should receive an email detailing the next steps.

Thanks to all for the strong interest. We now are looking forward to meeting with everyone in a fun, safe, and learning environment.

In other news, the first CHAMPS graduation for Towns



Sheriff Chris Clinton

County Elementary School fifth graders took place Friday at Towns County Schools' Auditorium.

The CHAMPS program replaced the DARE program this year at Towns County Elementary School, as it addresses broad dangers children face in modern society.

This year's topics included

alcohol awareness, choices and consequences, cocaine, marijuana, methamphetamine, internet safety, peer pressure among many others.

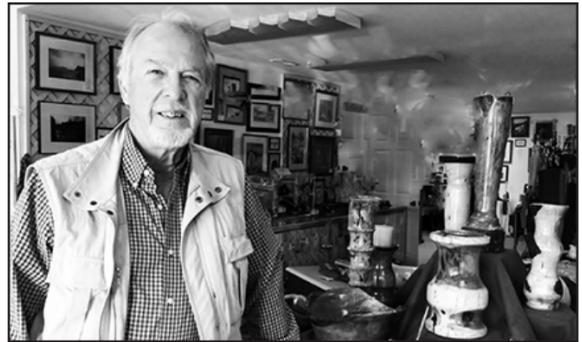
Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton says "much work by many people have gone into the program and we'd like to thank everyone for helping to make this first year a huge success."

The CHAMPS program was taught by the School Resource Officer, Deputy Donnie Jarrard.

The children were dancing the cha-cha slide and moving to YMCA. We're convinced Donnie Jarrard taught them their moves with the help of Laurie Main, of course.

For more information about the CHAMPS program, visit our website at www.townssheriff.com.

Roland Hardee featured at ArtWorks



Roland Hardee with some of his creations.

The Mountain Regional Arts and Crafts Guild, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the arts and crafts in the north Georgia mountains is pleased to announce that Roland Hardee is their featured artisan at ArtWorks from March 13th until April 14th.

A resident of Hayesville, NC, Roland creates beautiful bowls, lamps, tables and other decorative and useful wood pieces.

He will be present at ArtWorks on March 29th from noon until 3 PM to meet and greet the public and discuss his work. In working with wood, Roland, who calls himself 'sawdust anointed' says, "Each project seems to require that I learn a new skill or technique; so with each day in my shop,

there is a life lesson learned. An old block of wood becomes beautiful and/or useful when the waste and unnecessary are removed."

The public is invited to come by ArtWorks on March 22nd and meet Roland who comments, "it is so nice to have people compliment one's skill; however, I am happiest when someone holding a piece of my work remarks 'isn't that wood beautiful!'"

ArtWorks, located at 308 Big Sky Drive in Hiwassee, houses a gift shop featuring members' creations, offers classes in the arts and crafts, and fosters the Children's Summer Program in the local area.

For more information call 706-896-0932 or go to artguildstore.com. (TMar19,A1)SH

Tea Party debate night

The Union Towns County Tea Party will host Dr. Dan Eichenbaum of Freedom Forum and guest, and, Jacqueline Peterson & David Gulden-schuh of Convention of States for a debate/discussion of the options and pros and cons of Article V (5) of the American Constitution. This event will be held at the Brasstown Community Civic Center at 255 Settawig Road, Brasstown, NC at 7 p.m.

If you're not familiar with the workings of Article V of our Constitution or the Tenth Amendment and you want to know how they work and how each might affect you, please consider attending this event. Article V of the United States Constitution addresses the process for amending the Constitution of the Republic for the United States of America. The debate/discussion will address the issue of individual state's nullification of unconstitutional federal laws and policies versus an Article V Convention of States to amend the American Constitution.

On February 5, 2014, the Georgia Senate passed the Convention of States application. The Georgia House passed the application on March 7, 2014. If the Legislatures of 33 more states follow

suit, then an Article V Convention of States will become a reality. On March 5, HB707, which bans Georgia from participation in the Affordable Care Act (effectively nullifying it in GA), passed in the Georgia House, and is pending a vote in the Georgia Senate. This happened under Tenth Amendment authority. Which of these sorts of actions is most likely to "fix" America? Is there a 'quick fix' for America? Only an informed electorate can say. Please join us for this event.

Incidentally, the "Republic for the United States of America" is sovereign and worlds apart in definition from the "United States of America". Under the former, you're a sovereign citizen; under the latter, you're a subject.

As always, we pray for God to recognize and reward our Christian efforts, we salute the flag of the Republic for the United States of America and we recognize American Veterans, peace officers and others who have sworn, fought for, and died to defend our original American Constitution, and the liberty, individuality and freedom it guarantees, against all enemies both foreign and domestic.

All are welcome and there is no charge. (TMar19,Z4)C