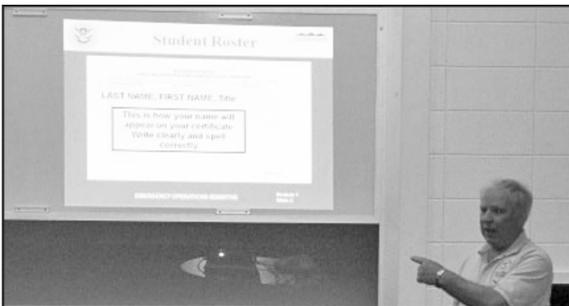


## Incident response to terrorist bombing training held



Mark Moore beginning the program's Powerpoint presentation.



Participants getting hands-on familiarization with military, commercial and improvised explosives.

By Bob Garrott,  
Public Affairs Staff Officer for  
US Coast Guard Auxiliary  
Flotilla 2-3

Instructors Mark and  
Leslie Moore of the US Coast

Guard Auxiliary's Northeast  
Georgia Flotilla 2-3 provided  
this training Saturday to  
representatives from Union  
County Sheriff's Department  
and School System, the Young

Harris College Police Depart-  
ment, and members of Flotilla  
2-3. The training, presented by  
the Department of Homeland  
Security's Office of Domestic  
Preparedness and New Mexico

Institute of Mining and Tech-  
nology, provided information  
on recognition of potential ter-  
rorism dangers and necessary  
responses to events. Young  
Harris College provided the  
Wilson Lecture Hall as the lo-  
cation of this training.

The program gave partic-  
ipants a familiarization  
with military and commercial  
explosives, improvised explo-  
sive devices and readily avail-  
able explosive formulations  
that have been used or could  
be used by terrorists, both for-  
eign and domestic. In addition  
to lectures and videos showing  
the effects of explosives, partic-  
ipants had an opportunity  
to view and handle explosive  
materials and do practical ex-  
ercises in responding to bomb  
threats and similar scenarios.

The training should bet-  
ter prepare local law enforce-  
ment and public safety per-  
sonnel to respond to terrorist  
incidents and similar events  
in the Northeast Georgia area.  
All participants received cer-  
tificates of completion and  
four contact hours (0.4 CEU)  
towards continuing education  
requirements. T1Dec15,G2JSH

## Anderson-Paris project continues

By Charles Duncan  
Towns County Herald  
cduncan.tch@windstream.net

The Anderson-Paris  
Pioneer Park Committee  
met last week at Daniels  
Steakhouse to present Geor-  
gia Mountain Fairgrounds  
General Manager Hilda  
Thomason with a check to-  
wards the construction of  
the park.

The group, which in-  
cludes Thomason, Charles  
Nicholson, Clay Dotson,  
Marc Buttrill, Jane Holland,  
Angel Long, Mickey  
Shearouse, Jane Hindsman  
and Brenda McKinney, has  
met for the past three  
months to organize the cele-  
bration of community icons  
Dick Paris and Elois Ander-  
son, Thomason said.

On Wednesday, the  
group presented Thomason  
with a significant check to  
aid in the construction of the  
Anderson-Paris Pioneer  
Park at the Georgia Moun-  
tain Fairgrounds.

"We met every two  
weeks and we just assigned  
different people to different  
projects," Thomason said. "It  
was definitely a team effort."

The committee is still  
working as the full amount  
needed to complete the  
project hasn't been raised.

"We're going to need  
about \$12,000 total to com-  
plete the Pioneer Park  
project," Thomason said.  
"Money is still coming in, but  
we haven't reached our final  
goal."

Construction has  
started on the project, most  
significantly trail develop-  
ment. Jeff Waldroup, who  
has donated not only finan-  
cially, but in materials, time  
and labor, is overseeing that



Hilda Thomason accepts a check on behalf of the Anderson-Paris Pioneer Park Project at Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds.

part of the project; Matt  
Turpin of Turpin's Wrecker  
Service has donated the ex-  
cavation equipment.

"And Catherine  
Hansen of The Plant Stand  
has been absolutely wonder-  
ful," Thomason said. "She  
did the park's design and pre-  
sented it at the celebration  
at Anderson Music Hall.

"She's down there  
kind of overseeing the  
project, she laid the trails  
out," Thomason said. "My  
guys down at the Georgia  
Mountain Fairgrounds have  
come in and hauled all the  
leaves out of there. We ac-  
tually tore down one build-  
ing that was rotting and  
we've got to rebuild the  
fence where the water  
wheel is.

"Jeff (Waldroup) is  
going to donate some rails  
for that," she said.

Also part of the con-  
struction includes building a  
stage," Thomason said.

"Bud Parker, the  
president of the Fair-  
grounds, is overseeing that

project," she said. "He's get-  
ting tips from Jim Wood on  
building the stage."

Thomason said that  
there's much work to do in  
development of the plant life  
at the park.

"We're also going to  
need some more money to  
buy the picnic tables and  
benches," she said.

The group has \$8,000  
raised for the project,  
Thomason said.

"We hope people will  
continue to contribute until  
we get the \$12,000 needed  
to finish the project.

"Ultimately, this is a  
tribute to Dick Paris and  
Elois Anderson," she said.  
"This is the community's  
way of honoring their lives.  
This is the perfect way to  
honor them. Dick is one of  
the ones that helped get the  
Fair started. Elois has been  
a blessing for the Fair-  
grounds over the years."

Anderson-Paris Pio-  
neer Park is projected to  
open in July in time for the  
61<sup>st</sup> Georgia Mountain Fair.

## BOE achieves goal...continued from page 1A

your peers. The board has  
worked very hard to achieve  
this goal."

Participation in the  
GSBA Standards for Local  
Boards of Education and the  
Board of Distinction pro-  
gram is voluntary. The stan-  
dards program sets bench-  
marks or organizational  
structure and governance  
objectives for local BOEs  
that wish to participate in the

program.

In reaching the goal of  
Board of Distinction, the  
Towns County BOE was in  
compliance with GSBA  
standards, implemented a  
GSBA Leadership Team  
Self Assessment Checklist,  
formalized the superinten-  
dent evaluation incorporat-  
ing district goals, established  
a Web link to the local  
district's policy manual, es-

tablished a Web link to the  
BOE's list of district goals,  
established a Web link to  
monthly board meeting  
agendas, established a plan  
to integrate technology at the  
governance level.

GSBA is a voluntary as-  
sociation of Georgia's 180 lo-  
cal boards of education. It pro-  
vides programs training and  
services to assist BOEs in gov-  
erning local school systems.

## City projects...continued from page 1A

upgrading the water intake at  
the water plant, implement-  
ing a sidewalk improvement  
project, and a pedestrian  
crosswalk and turn lane.

Medium level projects  
include the Mayor's Park,  
replacing pumps at the wa-  
ter plant, the purchase of a  
city police station and im-  
provements to City Square  
and Downtown develop-  
ment.

City officials will meet  
with Towns County Sole

Commissioner Bill Kendall  
and officials from the city of  
Young Harris to discuss po-  
tential capital projects for  
presentation to the public on  
a SPLOST referendum.

The two cities must  
negotiate with the county  
regarding an intergovern-  
mental agreement which  
would determine the  
amount of SPLOST funds  
to be shared with the city  
of Hiawassee and city of  
Young Harris and establish

the priority capital projects  
list for the referendum.

In other business, the  
council voted that the Towns  
County Joint Community As-  
sessment and Participation  
Program be submitted to the  
Georgia Mountains Regional  
Commission to begin the re-  
gional and state review pro-  
cess of the joint Service De-  
livery plan.

A plan extension until  
Jan. 1 was recently agreed  
to by the city and the county.

## Gatlins shine... continued from page 1A

signature song, the one that  
put them on the map, *All The  
Gold in California*.

They also sang fan fa-  
vorites *Houston (Means  
I'm One Day Closer to  
You)*, *Broken Lady* and  
*America*.

The Grammy Award-  
winning brothers also sang  
patriotic themes in honor of  
the men and women serving  
on foreign soil before shift-  
ing into the holiday mode.

Larry Gatlin pulled

double duty by finishing off  
the last verse of Merle  
Haggard's Working Man  
Blues while lead singer  
Steve Gatlin displayed his  
buck dancing skills.

Larry Gatlin later  
joined his brothers and the  
band to celebrate the holi-  
day season. The Gatlins per-  
formed Christmas classics  
such as *The First Noel*, *Joy  
to the World* and *What  
Child is This*. Larry Gatlin  
also included a solo Christ-

mas classic of his own, *No  
Star Tonight in Bethlehem*.

The Gatlins obliged their  
audience with the final encore  
performance of *Who Are  
These People? Americans,  
That's Who*.

The performance con-  
cluded the 2010 Anderson  
Music Hall schedule.

In 2011, The Hall wel-  
comes Bill Medley, Charlie  
Daniels, Don Williams and  
possibly Vince Gill among  
others legendary talents.