

# Reece...from Page 1

Reece Society Chair John Kay and the Reece Center Gift Shop manager Dawn Scarbrough distributed certificates of appreciation to 19 men and women who have rendered some form of service over the past two seasons. At the same time, two new volunteers were welcomed into the family of workers.

In a move designed to increase knowledge of fellow servants, everyone shared his or her occupational background and volunteer commitments. The extent of community service being rendered by this group is truly impressive. The gathering ended with a delicious buffet lun-

cheon served by the Community Center's Grille. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Reece Farm's corps of volunteers, please register your interest or send your inquiries via e-mail at reecesociety@gmail.com, or call the Reece Farm office at (706) 745-2034.

# Vehicles...from Page 1

mileage were contributing to reliability issues and increased maintenance costs, Chief Floyd said.

All three vehicles had been identified for replacement in the Department's Strategic Plan, according to Chief Floyd.

The new pickup trucks have the capability of transporting five personnel, and are equipped with trailer towing packages, and have covered cargo areas to protect emergency gear from the elements as well as potential theft, a feature the Rangers didn't have,

Chief Floyd said. All three vehicles are also equipped with all wheel drive, a must have feature for emergency vehicles operating in a wide range of terrain and weather conditions found in Towns County, the chief said. While some of the emergency equipment from the old units was reused, most of the equipment needed for outfitting the new vehicles had to be purchased. The Towns County Fire Corps was asked by Chief Floyd to assist with this task and they agreed to provide the

funding to outfit one of the vehicles. The other vehicles were outfitted with funding provided by the Department's Cost Recovery Program. "We owe a special thanks to our Fire Corps for the continued support provided to our Department," Chief Floyd said. With the distinctive color scheme and graphics, the new units project an image that the department and community can be proud of, Chief Floyd said.

# Plant Affair...from Page 1

blue, and violet. Local band, the Church Family Trio, played to a small audience sitting on hay bales as shoppers browsed the herbs, grasses, and flowers on display.

"How, after a winter like we've had, can you not appreciate this beauty?" Gehring said fondly. "I think people are so ready to be out of their houses."

The Garden Club has been sponsoring this event for all of Gehring's seven years as president, and this is the largest they've had so far.

"This is the second time in seven years we haven't had to worry about the rain," Gehring said.

The other big fundraiser they put on is called *Designing Women* and focuses on fashion.

Individual crafters were selling birdhouses and bee traps, and the Garden Club sold baked goods. In addition, McConnell Memorial Baptist Church had tents set up, fundraising for mission trips to the Dominican Republic and Peru. One tent selling homemade soaps, honey, and candles, advertised that all of the proceeds would go to benefit women and children in Uganda.

Abi and Denise David, who were in charge of that tent, explained that conditions in certain parts of Uganda were rife with AIDS, poverty, and religious conflict.

Abi, who is only 16 years old, has been working in Uganda for two years, ever since she read the book *Kisses From Katie*, about a high school girl giving up her old life to help end poverty in Uganda. She went to there and made a life changing decision.

"I just fell in love with it," she said. "I tried to figure out what they needed most, and



so we decided to start raising money for a well." When she came home, she began to raise money, and soon had enough to fund a clean-water well for a new orphanage. Her current project is to build a new school. "The students get two meals a day, which is more than they probably ever have had," she said.

Abi and Denise got into the bee business to fund Abi's mission. "Every time she comes back, she comes back with a bigger and better project," Denise said. This is the first year they've been involved with Plant Affair, but it was such a success that odds are high they'll come back.

# Busts...from Page 1

broke off and remained in the victim's arm until removed by the suspect with pliers, sheriff's reports show.

Silvers currently is on parole, and is being house in Towns County Detention Center, jail records show.

In an unrelated incident, a 21-year-old Hiawassee man has been arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana, less than an ounce, and theft by receiving.

Austin Luke Bradley, was arrested and charged and also, his probation has placed a hold

on him and at press time he remains in the Towns County Detention Center.

The case involving Bradley began on Thursday, April 10, as TCSO Det. Sgt. Brandon Barrett and the Towns County agent for Appalachian Drug Task Force (ADTF) served a 4th Amendment Waiver in the Scataway community.

A 4th Amendment Waiver is a document signed by a probationer to allow law enforcement to search their person and home as part of the conditions of probation. Detective Barrett had

received information that stolen property and illegal drugs may be in the possession of Bradley, a probationer.

During the check, a quantity of Schedule III Controlled Substance, a misdemeanor amount of marijuana, and a hand-held tablet which had been reported stolen from a Towns County resident three days prior, were allegedly found in Bradley's bedroom.

Bradley was being held in the Towns County Detention Center at press time, jail records show.

# Easter...from Page 1

Methodist Church in Young Harris, which is a rewarding job, because it allows him a chance to hide Easter eggs for a swarm of small, anxious children to find.

Jones, who has been working at the church for three years, got the signs and wrote an advertisement for the local newspaper, but he didn't expect so many children.

About 30 children came prepared, each clutching their Easter baskets to seek their hidden holiday treasures.

Adam and Lauren Neil, who helped organize everything, grilled hotdogs. One of Jones' friends, Laura Grace, ordered a bouncy castle, which provided a source of endless fascination and entertainment - if not for the children, certainly for the adults. Bouncy Castles are universally fun.

Of course, it wasn't all fun and games.

"This is a good way to get involved while I'm still in school, trying to connect the college to the church and doing community events like this," Jones said.

Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church often plans charity events like canned food drives, but this is their first Easter Egg hunt.

The event was meant as a community outreach, and an attempt to gather a community for an Easter celebration.

"This event is just one to get everyone together and have a good time," Jones said.

A good time was had by all.



# White Cane...from Page 1

and more school children are identified as needing assistance with vision exams as their family just does not have the financial means to be able to provide them.

In addition to vision screenings and eyeglasses, eye surgeries, hearing services, and eyeglass recycling is also a primary focus of the Georgia Lions' Lighthouse Foundation. Founded in 1949, the Lions' Lighthouse Foundation has served as a beacon of hope to Georgians in all 159 counties for 65 years.

National White Cane

Safety Days began in 1964 when the U.S. Congress, trying to make Americans more fully aware of the meaning of the white cane and of the need for motorists to exercise special care for the blind person who carries it, approved a resolution authorizing President Lyndon Johnson and all presidents following him, to annually issue a proclamation designating Oct. 15 as National White Cane Safety Day.

The National Federation of the Blind, a leading organization for the blind, has established the third week in May as White Cane Week.

During this week, a special concentration of efforts to educate the public concerning the hopes and aspirations of the blind is emphasized.

In Towns County, the last Friday and Saturday in April is an opportunity for Towns County Lions county-wide to raise money for the Georgia Lions' Lighthouse Foundation in support of White Cane Safety Days.

Be ready to stop and lend a bit of help when you see those Lions and Leo Club members out collecting donations on White Cane Safety Days.

# The Skin Cancer Foundation encourages teens to prep for prom without tanning beds

As teens across the country prep for the most elegant night of the high school year, The Skin Cancer Foundation encourages young women who are prepping for prom to embrace their natural skin tones. Teens tempted to visit a tanning salon before prom should think twice: Just one indoor tanning session per year in high school or college boosts the risk of developing potentially deadly melanoma by 20 percent, and each additional session during the same year raises this risk almost another two percent. The risk of basal cell carcinoma (BCC), the most common form of skin cancer, soars to 73 percent after six or more indoor tanning sessions.

"There is no such thing as a safe tan," says Perry Robins, MD, President of The Skin Cancer Foundation. "A tan is dangerous and comes with consequences. In addition to increasing your risk of skin cancer, the cumulative damage caused by ultraviolet (UV) radiation can lead to signs of skin aging including wrinkles, brown spots and leathery skin."

The Skin Cancer Foundation strongly advocates embracing one's natural skin tone. The Foundation's Go With Your Own Glow™ campaign features print public service advertisements developed to encourage women to love - and protect - their skin, whatever its natural hue. Go With Your Own Glow™ relies not just on health and safety information but also on fashion and beauty trends to convey the message that tanning is unhealthy and simply no longer in style. More information is available at SkinCancer.org/glow.

Those who can't resist the bronzed look but won't sacrifice their health to achieve it should consider sunless (UV-free) tan-

ners. Sunless tanners effectively produce an even "tanned" look without causing skin damage. Self-tanners are easier than ever to apply and they are capable of providing natural-looking color. They are available in many different formulations, including creams, lotions, gels, pump sprays, aerosols and wipes.

Tips for properly applying sunless tanner:

Prep your skin. Exfoliate skin with a scrub or loofah and follow up with a moisturizer. This ensures that the sunless tanner will be absorbed evenly.

Follow the package directions closely. For example, wait at least 12 hours after shaving to apply (to avoid dark spots in hair follicles) and don't use on skin with active eczema.

Be patient. Self-tanners can take 30-60 minutes to produce visible color on the skin, and this color typically lasts about five days.

Repeat as necessary. Generally, the product should be reapplied daily for two to three days, until the desired shade is achieved. Then, reapply about three times a week to maintain the shade.

Don't rely on sunless tanners for sun protection. Even if your self-tanner contains sunscreen, reapply a separate broad spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher every two hours when outdoors. Note that sunscreen is not the only form of sun protection. The Skin Cancer Foundation has always recommended that everyone follow a complete sun protection regimen that includes seeking shade, covering up with clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses, in addition to daily sunscreen use.