

# Grads...from page 1

Lucarelli also was awarded an additional scholarship to attend YHC for \$13,000 per year, renewable for up to four years. "The Union and Fanin Site faculty and staff are proud of our 37 students present tonight and the five others who have received diplomas earlier this year. Tonight we are pleased to have 26 Honor Graduates with us,"

said Union Site Administrator Judy Waldroup. Chastain presented the MECHS Senior Class of 2012 to Dr. Behrens and assisted him in the delivery of diplomas. "I want to thank each of you for coming and assisting in honoring the Mountain Education Center High School's 2012 Graduates," said Chastain.

# TSPLOST...continued from page 1

and that serves no purpose," Commissioner Kendall said. "It's already been labeled the Road to Nowhere." Nighta Davis, representing the American USA Patriots/Tea Party members was very vocal and stood her ground regarding HB 277. "If this tax passes, we will file an injunction and we will go to court with this. It's unconstitutional; it takes away local control," she said. "Taxing residents by setting up regional taxing authority violates the Georgia Constitution."

World War II veteran Bud Johnson was vocal about the tax as well. "I fought for and stood up for this great nation and I will do it again," Johnson said. "We can't take anymore unjustifiable taxation. I stand as one, but I also stand as We, the People." Commissioner Kendall said TSPLOST is bad for Towns County. "If you look at this bill, exemptions are not in favor of Towns County citizens," he said. "It will affect every homeowner."

# Signs...continued from page 1

truck is dispatched during an emergency and is unable to find the residence due to a sign being stolen, there could be serious repercussions," Commissioner Kendall said. Many of the road signs have been stolen from the Bell

Creek Community including Upper and Lower Bell Creek, Bell Creek Circle, Hickory Nut Cove and surrounding area, Crooked Creek Connector, and Brasstown Creek Estates, Commissioner Kendall said.

# Market...continued from page 1

ful day to be outdoors for both vendors and customers alike. The Towns County Farmers Market Committee members on hand to greet and assist the vendors and customers included: Frank Riley, Chairman, Shylan Wood, Diana Swindell, Bob Lamm, Judy Caines, Maggie Oliver, Steve Scarborough, Robert Brewer, Patti Bransford, and Dorothy Lee, a member of the Extension Leadership Committee.

very busy selling many varieties of lettuce and herbs grown in the Demonstration Garden behind Towns County Courthouse.

The Market was made possible through the joint ventures of the TCFMC, in conjunction with Towns County, the Towns County Extension Office, and the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds. "The advisory committee's responsibility is to meet the needs of the community. We match needs to the community. Since this is primarily an agricultural area, we felt it was important to provide a place where farmers could sell their excess products without traveling a great distance," said Caines. "We conferred with folks from the Union County Farmers Market to learn how it should be run and took several of their ideas and incorporated them into our plans," said Caines. Maggie Oliver stayed

Oliver emphasized that all the produce grown in this garden is organically grown and pesticide free. "It got its start from Better Earth Compost provided by Truman Barrett," said Oliver. Paul Hanson was there representing the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' Hamilton Gardens. They had a huge selection of beautiful, healthy bedding plants, azaleas, rhododendrons, and hanging baskets. They will be there each week with proceeds going back into the gardens according to Hanson. "We are just letting people know we are up and running," said Hanson. Karen Rutishauser, owner of The Herb Crib in Union County, was set up with an array of products including homemade soaps, candles, lotions, wildflowers, and culinary and medicinal herbs. The Market will be open every Saturday, June-October. The hours are 8 a.m. to noon. For additional information, contact the Towns County Extension Office at (706) 896-2024.

# Reece...continued from page 1

he said. "This truly preserves the heritage of the Appalachian lifestyle." Set along the sterling waters of Wolf Creek, the historic enclave is a tribute to the man, his family and Appalachia. Hub Reece, who died at the age of 40, farmed, worked and cultivated the land in the Wolf Creek bottoms. He spent his free time reading the works of literary greats, and writing prose about the Mountain way of life.



**Bettie Sellers**  
 tive Editor and later Publisher Ralph McGill once said that Reece was "one of the really great poets of our time, and one to stand with those of any other time."

During his short-lived career, Hub Reece, who attended, but did not graduate from Young Harris College, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, earned two Guggenheim awards, and served as writer-in-residence at UCLA, Atlanta's Emory University, and Young Harris College in Towns County. In his lifetime, Reece had his work published in the local newspaper, and later went on to compose four books of poetry and two fiction novels. His work, which included *Ballad of the Bones and Other Poems*, was highly acclaimed, earning esteemed literary praise and national attention. Other works included novels, *Better a Dinner of Herbs*, and *The Hawk and the Sun*. Hundreds of unpublished Hub Reece poems still exist today, Kay said. *Atlanta Constitution* Execu-

Hub Reece was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for his 1950 work entitled *Bow Down in Jericho*. By January 1951, Hub Reece had been recognized on the national scene in a magazine article published in Newsweek. It was around this time that Hub Reece was befriended by McGill. The two developed a strong friendship and McGill became a lifetime advocate of Hub Reece's work. Saturday, and eventually Sunday, was James Mathis Sr.'s vision of a legacy to the Mountain poet and his

life and writings that literally came to life. All the time by James Mathis' side was his beloved wife Frances, who shared his dream. "Frances and James managed Goose Creek and that's how they became friends with the Reece family," Fleming Weaver said. "The rest is history as they say."



**Frances Mathis**  
 spring house have been built. The Reece family house also has under gone a complete renovation, making it a centerpiece Welcome Center for the Farm and Heritage Center. The Center also houses a gift shop, rest room facilities, Reece Family Museum, office and meeting space, and storage areas. It also includes numerous Farm exhibits. Meanwhile, a beautiful pedestrian bridge crosses Wolf Creek, joining the North and South portions of the 9.3 acres of property. Also, the pavilion is capable of accommodating 200 people for meetings or 150 for meals. Most importantly, the Hub Reece writing studio was restored and is located along the Poetry Trail

James Mathis had the vision to begin purchasing items that belonged to Reece, all the while envisioning a heritage center that detailed the life and works of the man. W.R. Berry owns the 1947 tractor used by Hub Reece on his farm. W.C. Nelson of Nelson Tractor restored the farm tool's mechanics, while still leaving it in a rustic state. Berry continues to loan the tractor to the Farm and Heritage Center. Weaver, one of the driving forces behind the project acknowledged Mathis' contributions. He also said the Reece Farm and Heritage Center was the Mountain way of reaching out and preserving the legacy of Byron Herbert Reece. Reaching out indeed. The Heritage Center includes a completely restored main barn for agricultural exhibits and the Reece Gallery and Theatre. In addition, the Farm's corn crib has been restored; a smoke house, chicken coop, and

# Friends pay last respects to Hiawassee teen

By Charles Duncan  
 Towns County Herald  
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Blairsville – Friday evening, friends of Jamie Ian Worley gathered at Pavilion No. 3 at Meeks Park in Blairsville to share their experiences about the 18-year-old young man who drowned in Lake Nottely Memorial Day Weekend. Friends described Worley as a free spirit with a smile on his face and love in his heart.

think of him to remember him," she said. Bell praised local emergency crews, firefighters, DNR rangers and Union County sheriff's deputies for their actions in the immediate moments after Worley was lost in the water. "From the moment it happened, they were on the scene," she said. "They never left the scene. Their only concern was to find Jamie. They didn't know Jamie, but they sure did Jamie proud."

Georgia State Patrol Dive Team discovered the body of the 18-year-old boy that lived and worked in Hiawassee. Worley was a night shift stocker at Ingles of Hiawassee.

to save Worley. There were members of Union County's Emergency Management Agency, sheriff's office, fire department, Ambulance Services, DNR, U.S. Forest Service, Union County Commissioners Office, the Union County Dive Team, Dawson County Sheriff's Office Dive Team, Georgia State Patrol Dive Team, Alpha Search and Rescue, American Red Cross, Commerce Police Department, DeKalb County Fire Department, and the Hart County Emergency Management Agency.

Helen Berrong urged those attending the service to remember Worley in their own special way. "Be thankful for the journey that you shared together," she said. Rebecca Bell said if one day it's hard to remember what Worley looked like, close your eyes. "You only need to

The search for Worley came to a close on May 28 when divers with the Georgia State Patrol Dive Team recovered the 18-year old's body from the chilly waters of Lake Nottely in Union County. At 11:15 a.m. that morning, two divers from the

Union County Sheriff Scott Stephens said that Union County Deputy Coroner Benny Brookshire was in charge of the investigation to determine if there was a medical issue that caused or to Worley's abrupt death in 50 feet of water. The recovery, which lasted three days, one of the best organized crisis management events witnessed in this area. Eighty-one people were involved in the attempt to recover Jamie Worley from Lake Nottely. There was no doubt that every attempt was made

Commissioner Lamar Paris told the group that there were a lot of folks making sure the recovery of Worley was a successful one. "There were a lot of folks out there and they had one think on their minds," Commissioner Paris said. "They weren't going home until that young man was recovered. It makes you proud to know that emergency situations are well handled." At the end of the emotional ceremony, each friend took a red or black balloon and released it into the air, saying good bye to a friend. "Jamie was a Bull dog," Rebecca Bell said. "He loved Georgia with all of his heart."



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**Every Green Herb**  
 By Janice Boling

**Vinegar in the kitchen, the body, and the garden**

**Balsamic vinegar is dark and rich**

Vinegars have been used for over 5000 years as a healthy flavor enhancer and food preserver. Vinegar helps the body digest heavy meals and high protein foods. The most nutritious vinegars contain beneficial bacteria and enzymes. They may look slightly cloudy or have settlement on the bottom of the bottle since they have not been heavily filtered.

Vinegar is a product of fermentation. This is a process in which sugars in food are broken down by bacteria and yeast. In the first stage of fermentation the sugars are turned into alcohol. If the alcohol is then allowed to ferment, it becomes vinegar. The word comes from the French, meaning "sour wine."

Vinegar should be in every kitchen. Whether brown rice vinegar, balsamic vinegar, apple cider vinegar, malt vinegar, white distilled vinegar, or another variety such as raspberry vinegar, this tangy, acidic liquid serves many purposes.

Real Balsamic vinegar is aged from 12 to 100 years. It

is made from grapes, is dark in color, and has a sweet, rich flavor. Most grocery store brands sold in supermarkets are not true Balsamic vinegars (although they may be made from grapes). Rice vinegar comes in white, red, and black varieties. It is popular in Asian cuisine. Apple cider vinegar, as the name implies, is made from pulverized apples. Vinegar may be substituted for lemon juice in recipes. In cooking, vinegar is most often used in sauces, salad dressings, and pickles. In herbal medicine, vinegar is used to treat many conditions. It is especially useful when cooling sunburn. Apply diluted white vinegar to skin with spray bottle. A teaspoon of vinegar added to foods has been shown to reduce the glycemic index (when eating carbohydrates) and is useful in treating obesity. Vinegar is antibacterial, can be used to fight warts, helps stop body odor when used as a deodorant, makes an excellent hair rinse (resulting in shiny, manageable hair), and fights dandruff (add rosemary for scalp treatment). Vinegar has been used to quench thirst, to stimulate the appetite, and to stop tumors from forming. Vinegar is not appropriate for long term use as it may cause potassium imbalances and calcium to leech from the bones. It can also burn the esophagus when swallowed. Diluted vinegar is often used as a household cleanser. It removes mineral deposits

(and grease) from coffeemakers, appliances, bathtubs, and other smooth surfaces. It is used to clean windows and to polish brass or stainless steel. Just apply diluted vinegar to newspaper and rub until shiny. Vinegar is also used to kill weeds. It makes a good herbicide but does not destroy the roots of perennials – it only kills top growth. Most vinegar solutions do not exceed 5%. Stronger solutions of vinegar are available but they require careful handling (since vinegar is corrosive and damaging to the skin). Always consult with a healthcare professional before using any herbal remedy or supplement as a medicine especially if pregnant, nursing, or taking other medications. Visit [www.EveryGreenHerb.com](http://www.EveryGreenHerb.com) for more information. NT(May30,C3)ac

**Neighbor's Hand hosts The Gathering**

Neighbor's Hand will host The Gathering each first and third Saturday night of each month. Praise and worship will begin at 7 p.m. at 307C Cleveland Street in Blairsville. Everyone is welcome to attend. N(June21)CA

**Watchtower notice**

If you were once a member of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society but have left the Society, I would like to talk with you. Call 706-897-7175. N(June21)3