

**Babb...continued from Page 1A**



**Babb got to work the fire hose with Firefighter David Ueltzen. He got to miss a little school, too.**

that he was indeed choking.

By a terrific stroke of fortune, this schoolmate was sitting next to Babb, who had learned the Heimlich maneuver from one of his favorite cartoons, "Bob's Burgers."

Babb applied the technique as he'd seen it performed on the TV show, and sure enough, the candy popped out of his schoolmate's windpipe.

For that act, Babb received recognition during an early morning assembly last Thursday, Sept. 8, when Union County Fire Chief David Dyer, Firefighter David Ueltzen and Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris joined UCES Principal Trish Cook for a presentation.

"The act that he did was a very brave thing to do and is a life-saving act," said Fire Chief Dyer. "And it's very important, it's something that firefighters do every day."

The entire third, fourth and fifth-grade classes were in attendance for the assembly, and they clapped for their classmate in honor of the good deed he had performed.

Chief Dyer presented Babb with a certificate and named him Honorary Firefighter for a Day, "for his quick thinking and acting" on that fateful day in late August when he had saved another's life.

The title came with perks, too. Babb got to spend a good part of the morning at Fire Station No. 1, where Ueltzen treated him to a full tour of all the various fire equipment and vehicles, as well as a tour of the entire facility.

He also received the opportunity to dress in the many pounds of full firefighting gear, complete with self-contained breathing apparatus, coat, pants, boots and helmet.

And because he had earned it, Babb even got to work the fire hose.

Babb's mom Danielle Flanigan and his brother Josiah were in attendance as Babb was honored that Thursday, and they said they couldn't be more proud of their son and brother.

Fortunately for Union County, Babb said he wants to be a paramedic and drive ambulances when he grows up, where he will undoubtedly save more lives.

For Principal Cook, herself a choking survivor, she hopes parents learn of Babb's actions and take the time to teach their own children how to perform the Heimlich maneuver, both on others and on themselves.

"I'm so proud of him for noticing that a friend was in trouble, and for knowing what to do to help him," said Principal Cook. "That's really great, because parents, sometimes we don't think about teaching our little ones how to save other people at a young age, and we need to do that."

Added Principal Cook: "Having gotten choked on something myself and knowing the desperation you feel when you can't tell someone that you can't breathe - it is so important to let kids know what they need to do to help other people if they're in trouble breathing."

**O'Neal...continued from Page 1A**

hanging out with Christopher Clay Breeden of 934 Ellisa Payne Circle, according to the sheriff's office.

He is white, 6 feet tall and weighs 155 pounds, according to the sheriff's office.

To report tips concerning O'Neal and his possible whereabouts, the sheriff's office asks that concerned residents call the non-emergency number at (706) 439-6038.

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