

Bash...from Page 1A

ing Math in Nichols' classroom. Nichols said that she had come to the Bash to "see what Collins has done with the school." Clearly, she was proud of her former student. Cantrell, who has taught Math and Local Studies for 13 years, said, "it is remarkable that of the 30 students in the High School, 14 are on the Student Council."

Most of the students on the Student Council like Shelby Tomlin, president; Lauren Adams, vice president; and Connor Sosebee, secretary, have worked on the Bash for several years.

"It's just a homey time for everybody to fellowship and enjoy everybody's company," Cantrell said.

"I think it's great. It's a wonderful time for family and friends, and all the students and teachers to get together and have some informal bonding that's meaningful," Murphy said. "It's not so stiff-necked and professional. It's simply



A good time was had by all on Thursday at the Woody Gap School.

people that are just enjoying each other's company. And, I like that."

Murphy added that a large portion of the student

population turned out for the event, along with parents and grandparents.

A wonderful example of informal bonding was

displayed by Wynn Mott, parent of two Woody Gap students and retired teacher from Woody Gap School.

Mott received an accidental blow to the "posterior" from a Frisbee. He turned around, and realized that a young student about 7 years old had thrown the projectile.

He then pretended it was a fatal blow, and dramatically fell to the ground in a most dramatic fashion.

Mott's reaction was enjoyed greatly by the young student and several bystanders who witnessed the occurrence.

"The purpose of the Back to School Bash is for all of the community to come together. We have retired teachers who came, who taught me in school," Collins said. "It gives all of us time to be social together. I think it gives good luck to the school year. I just think it's good all the way around."

Plea...from Page 1A

Brett Bowman's guilty plea to the lesser charge of voluntary manslaughter, Union County Superior Court records show.

Judge Gunter sentenced Brett Bowman to 20 years in state prison, with 18 years to

serve in confinement, Union County Superior Court records show.

The charges of malice murder, two counts felony murder, and two counts aggravated battery in violation of Georgia's

Family Violence Act were not processed, or dismissed against Brett Bowman, Union County Superior Court records show.

Bowman will serve the next 18 years in state prison, followed by two years of state

probation, Union County Superior Court records show.

He also must pay a \$5,000 fine, and additional court costs of \$1,300 court records show.

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"As you know, we fall under the umbrella of Pioneer RESA and every once in a while they give us some reports and this is one that I am excited to give out," Union County Schools Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Williams said. "This is just a great testament to the work that our teachers are doing because when you look at those Top 10 school districts, we face more challenges, and it is harder for us to take these kids to that next level."

To take a look at where Union County ranks among other local schools, Jefferson

City Schools placed fourth with an ED Rate of 33.5, Stephens County was 11th with an ED Rate of 62.3, Lumpkin County was 20th with an ED Rate of 56.6, Rabun County was 29th with an ED Rate of 68.6, Towns County was in 32nd with an ED Rate of 57.3 percent, Banks County and White County were 33rd and 34th respectively with ED Rates of 64 and 56.2.

Dawson County came in 40th with an ED Rate of 51.6, Habersham County was 56th with an ED Rate of 64.6, Fannin County came in 61st with an ED Rate of 63.8, meanwhile

Gilmer County was 92nd with a 69.7 ED Rate, Hall County was 109th with an ED Rate of 61.4 and Gainesville City Schools were 134th with a 76 percent ED Rate.

In other news from the Board of Education, enrollment has increased across the board.

For the first time, every grade in the primary school has 200 students.

Also, with four new principals this year, the Principals Reports brought nothing but good news and praise from the school board.

The new security measures are not yet complete, but should be soon.

According to Keith Ledford, the guard station at the High School still has a few more modifications before it will be complete. For the most part, the parents are applauding the efforts that UCHS Principal John Hill and his staff have made at the high school.

After a closed session, there were three new hires. Julia Montieth and Lena Varner were added as teachers and Tina Burnette will be a parapro for the upcoming year.

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"Everything else is pretty much the same," he said. "A dangerous dog is one that bites or aggressively pursues a person or kills a another pet while not on its owner's property."

"A vicious dog is one that inflicts serious injury or death on a person, or causes serious injury to a person resulting from reasonable attempts to escape from the dog's attack," Paris said. "Or, the dog is owned, possessed or kept, harbored, trained or maintained for the purpose of fighting. There are a number of regulations that accompany the vicious dog label."

"Vicious dogs may not be left unattended in the presence of minor children, owners of vicious dogs must have at least \$50,000 in liability insurance, and a person cannot have more than one dog labeled as vicious."

A person convicted of a felony dog fighting or animal cruelty charge will not be allowed to own a vicious dog under the new ordinance, Commissioner Paris said.

"Also, a person convicted of a felony involving

trafficking of cocaine, methamphetamine or ecstasy cannot own a vicious dog," Paris said. "Many definitions have been revised to conform with the new state law."

Also, one item that has been added is how to handle dogs who bark excessively, Commissioner Paris said.

"We've had a serious issue with barking dogs," he said. "What we've got is a change in the local nuisance law. The Animal Control officer will be the one to determine if a dog is an excessive barker."

"You're not going to stop hearing dogs barking in the mountains," Paris said. "But if you've got an obnoxious barker living right beside you, Animal Control will pay a visit and then they'll have to figure out some way to correct the problem."

The changes to the Alcohol ordinance include creating provisions that comply with state law to allow for the construction and development of a distillery for distilled spirits, Commissioner Paris said.

"There will be two new

types of licenses for distilleries," he said. "We're just getting on the same page with the new Georgia law that is designed to promote agritourism."

In other business, Commissioner Paris proclaimed August as National Recovery Month, and the week of Sept. 17th through 23rd, as Constitution Week.

