

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

# OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

## Letters to The Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter is to thank the Chatuge Regional Hospital Auxiliary for their generous gifts of a GlideScope to assist the Emergency Room with difficult endotracheal tube placements. The Auxiliary also purchased a Dinamap Blood Pressure Machine, a pulse oximeter with pediatric probe, and a Geriatric Chair, plus a floor digital scale for the Medical Nursing Unit. Each of these items are needed and assist our staff in delivering excellent care.

The collaboration and support of our Chatuge Regional Hospital Auxiliary is so vital and necessary to our staff, patients and families. The Auxiliary enriches all through their loyal generosity and caring.

Sincerely,  
Machelle Lovell RN -  
Chatuge Regional Hospital Director of Nursing  
Carolyn Cotton Bayless RN -  
Chatuge Regional Hospital ED Manager

Thank you

The family of Hazel Coker Nichols conveys their thanks and appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown during her illness and death. We especially thank her church family at Old Union Baptist Church for the fellowship meal after the burial.

Irma, Terrell and Jo

We have been blessed

Our family has been abundantly blessed by God through your visits prayers, cards, gifts, food, flowers and many acts of kindness. They have sustained us and made life endurable during the illnesses and death of Mickie. We have been reminded how thankful we are to be a part of these NC/GA communities.

Kevin and Kery Morgan  
Carroll and Irma McClure  
Jenny Rogers and Julie Rogers

Dear Editor: A few words about beautifying Towns County

It's difficult to adequately explain how thrilled I am that BRMEMC is working so diligently at beautifying the area surrounding Lake Chatuge. When it was announced that a power substation, with its extremely attractive fences, towers and transformers, was planned for a nice parcel of land next to the lake, I thought that life could certainly not be any better and that we were surely blessed.

Now, however, imagine my absolute, total and complete delight when traveling West on Highway 76, I discovered our favorite electric company is installing truly outstanding appearing steel poles to replace the existing wooden ones that had somehow disappeared from my consciousness. Thankfully the concept of burying the service was not considered, which would certainly have ruined the scenery. The view will obviously be enhanced and will co-ordinate very well with the trash trucks, junk and stylish concrete walls that grace the main route into and out of Hiwassee.

It must be true that those of us who live in this area are blessed that the powers that be can continue to add to the beauty given to us by the developers who so graciously carved the pretty scars in the mountainsides overlooking the lake, enabling some of us to enjoy our vacation retreats for the customary month or two a year.

We, as a community, should mourn the day the recession began and brought an end to the ongoing efforts of those who did so much in the name of progress. With luck, this lull will be short-lived, and we will soon be able to enjoy the sound of dump trucks and earth movers, along with the clouds of dust and the red dirt distributed so nicely on our roadways as we are given the opportunity to fully appreciate the benefit of all that our wonderful little mountain community has to offer.

Jack Gottlieb



T.C. Herald Editor  
Benefits of higher technology  
By Charles Duncan

Documents generated during government meetings quickly become historical manuscripts at the close of each session. Therefore the integrity of these documents must be taken into account as meeting minutes are prepared for future use and historical purposes. Last week, the leaders who govern the City of Hiwassee voted to remove an entry into the previous month's meeting minutes. The entry was removed because it didn't take place at the March meeting. We applaud the council's decision to guarantee that the city's official meeting minutes accurately reflect events that transpired, rather than notations that were erroneously entered into the public record. Again, we put emphasis on the

fact that meeting minutes are historical documents. Future councils depend on the accuracy of these documents to help guide any decision that they may be faced with down the road. To have documents that do not accurately reflect the decisions by prior councils leads to confusion among future leaders of our fair city. In a day and age of higher technology, it might behoove city leaders to follow the actions of our Sole County Commissioner and have future council meetings taped and later aired on our local cable television channel. Through the use of higher technology there can be no confusion as to what transpired at any government meeting.

Filling Up  
Empty  
Space



By David Seckinger

At last week's Young Harris City Council meeting, there was a fair amount of debate whether or not to invest in a ladder truck.

Young Harris College, as most of us already know, is building for the future, which includes new buildings for its campus. One of the buildings, a gym, is going to have to be built higher than the county's building restrictions require. Therefore, the college went to the city council meeting requesting a variance.

YHC President Cathy Cox explained to the city council how the new building would be built with the latest fire-proof materials and design.

After a good amount of debate, the council allowed the college a variance.

After leaving the meeting, I spoke to Fire Chief Mitch Floyd and asked how much a ladder truck would cost. He said

a good, reliable used ladder truck would run about a half million dollars.

A half million dollars? That is a lot of money for a vehicle the county may never need.

Still, I think Young Harris College, the City of Young Harris, and Towns County should already begin to budget for a ladder truck in the future.

It is kind of like when a carpenter wants to build. In order to build certain structures, the carpenter needs certain tools.

In order for the college, the city, and the county to build, they will also have to have the right tools, which most likely includes a ladder truck.

When it comes down to it, a ladder truck falls into the category of something you would rather have and not need than something you need but don't have.

And as far as I know, the three entities may already be discussing how to purchase a ladder truck within the next few years.

In fact, a ladder truck may become a list item on the upcoming ten-year-plan the state has recently asked for.

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GUEST COLUMNS

From time to time, people in the community have a grand slant on an issue that would make a great guest editorial. Those who feel they have an issue of great importance should call our editor and talk with him about the idea. Others have a strong opinion after reading one of the many columns that appear throughout the paper. If so, please write. Please remember that publication of submitted editorials is not guaranteed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SHOULD BE E-MAILED OR MAILED TO: Towns County Herald, Letter to the Editor, PO Box 365, Hiwassee, GA 30546. Our email address: tcherald@brmemc.net. Letters should be limited to 200 words or less, signed, dated and include a phone number for verification purposes. This paper reserves the right to edit letters to conform with Editorial page policy or refuse to print letters deemed pointless, potentially defamatory or in poor taste. Letters should address issues of general interest, such as politics, the community, environment, school issues, etc. Letters opposing the views of previous comments are welcomed; however, letters cannot be directed at, nor name or ridicule previous writers. Letters that recognize good deeds of others will be considered for publication.\*  
Note: All letters must be signed, and contain the first and last name and phone number for verification.



Fallen sons and lost daughters  
By Dr. Steven Swisher, Pastor  
Living Word Revival Center

As I look through the past five decades of my life, I have seen the family unit getting less and less important in society. Now over 50% of marriages are ending in divorce and by the way, in the church is about the same percentage. We have been experiencing a moral decline in the world and even within the church that doesn't seem to be ending anytime soon. But when parents are separating and causing one parent household to raise children in these days, no wonder we are declining in moral standards. Parents are simply sending the messages to their children that if things don't work out, you can always break your marriage vows that you made as a covenant before God and find someone else to make you happy. This also is happening within the church, if you don't like the message or something offends you, you simply move on to the next church without trying to work through any kind of restoration process. The same message is being sent to your children that your covenant relationships in the body of Christ are not that important either. Where or when does it end? It's to the point where people are simply having children out of wedlock as a new trend, saying we don't need to be married! Much less the rally of gay people fighting for marriage rites and adopting children into perverted lifestyles. As Christians, we ought to find these things to be appalling to us. But for evil to prevail, the righteous must remain silent!

The Lord says in Isaiah 55:6-9, "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." God is telling us that our ways are not right in his sight and that we must turn from them while there is time to repent. I realize that many will be offended at any type of correction or rebuke because they love their evil deeds, but the church is called to live in the light of Christ as an example for the world. Amen!

Whatever reasons, our children are being thrown into difficult and even life damaging circumstances at all ages without good nor without godly parental upbringing. God is calling us all to repentance from our dead works. As Christians, God demands that we put on the new man that is after Jesus Christ and to let go of the old man and his ways. The bible tells us as parents that we are to train up our children in the way that they shall go, so that when they grow old, they will not depart from the teachings and ways of their faith. So many young men are falling away from God and our daughters are being lost to wrong relationships. Yet it is never too late to turn things around for the glory of God.

The Bible says in Malachi 4:5,6, the last book of the Old Testament and the last two verses of the book, "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." This is a wake up call for fathers to begin to turn their hearts to their children. God knows that if fathers will care for their families that most children will develop in a healthy environment. I believe that our children are undernourished and starving for the affection of their parents. It is going to take the parents to walk in leadership roles at restoration for their children to respond to them. Parents have to realize that their children will turn out the way that they train them in life. God is looking to restore the hearts of the parents with the hearts of their children. This will give back the hope that has dissipated from our children and give us the type of families that God has called us to be. Solve your differences now, and be not "Tellurian" in your approach to restoration, but be ye humbled and challenged by the true word of life, the bible! Your sons and daughters are waiting for you!

I would like to invite you to join us for our weekly services at Living Word Revival Center, "a Spirit filled church for Jesus Christ", in Hayesville, NC, on Sundays at 10 a.m. and on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. "Come taste and see that the Lord is Good!" For information 828-389-3444. Come join us to make a difference at home and on the mission field!

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