

100 three and four-year-olds in the county. Lee said their ultimate goal is to provide one book a month for every child in the county under five-years-old. Right now, the money raised will go to buy books for three and four-year olds attending the Towns County Development Center, McConnell Baptist Church Preschool, and Head Start.

The committee includes Byron McCombs, Amy Gibby-Rosser, Holly Tiger, Donna Howell, Cindy Jamison, and Elaine Delcuze.

Book authors who attended this year's Page in the Park include Robby & Susan McMahan, Scott. M. Anna, Curtis R. Blanton, Brian H. Word, and Zell Miller.

For more information, visit firstfoundation.org

Earlier on Friday, the American Cancer Society held a Relay Rally in the Anderson Music Hall. Unlike past years, this year's event was held indoors and ran from 5-10 p.m. instead of overnight. In addition, attendance was sparse compared to the recent past.

ACS community manager Rena Pendley said their major goal this year is to recruit new members from the community. She said the Relay committee usually has twelve members, but this year the committee is made up of Hilda Thomason, Nancy and Winston Gregg, and LaRanda Mauldin.

Pendley admitted the economy is keeping participation down, and people are reluctant to join committees and teams. At one point, Pendley told those attending the rally that this was a rebuilding year.

Committee member Winston Gregg said he is a cancer survivor for 39 years, having been diagnosed with thyroid cancer at the age of 27. He said at first the doctors gave him five years to live. Winston and Nancy are on the Hiwassee United Methodist Church team. He admitted attendance

is lower this year than expected. "I hope this doesn't reflect what is happening statewide and nationwide," he said.

United Community Bank team member Brittany Ellison and her fiancé Caleb Sellers attended the rally. Sellers said a four-year-old relative lost an eye to a cancerous tumor about six months ago. "It's been a long haul for the family," he said.

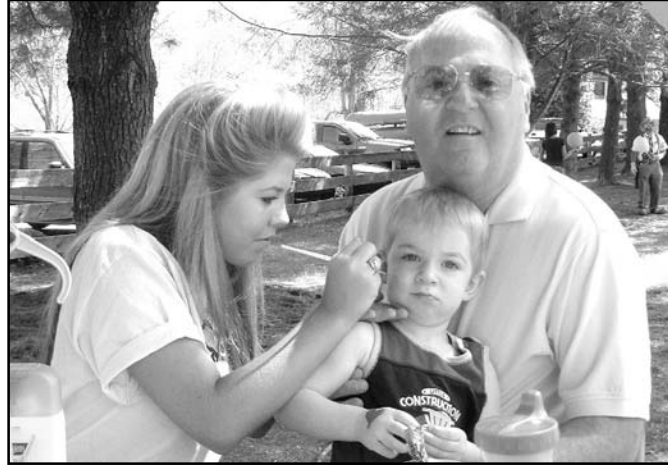
Cancer does not discriminate. Young and old, black and white, rich and poor: there is no category excluded when it comes to this fatal disease.

Husband and wife Barney and Betty Pedigo have both battled cancer. He developed skin cancer about six years ago. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1993, and then with gastric cancer 11 years ago. "They call me a miracle," said Betty. "We are just happy to be alive, to be a survivor."

A recent Towns County resident, Judy Cloyd, said she battled cancer 10 years ago in Florida. Judy said she and husband Mike attended this year's rally for two reasons. First, she said it is an opportunity to encourage a newly diagnosed person who doesn't know what the future holds. Second, Judy said it is good for her and Mike, as newcomers to the county, to meet people and become involved in local ACS functions.

While there may have been fewer people attending this year's Relay, it did not diminish the importance to those who did attend. In keeping with tradition, the Relay had a survivors' dinner, a survivors' walk, and a luminary service, as well as a trivia contest, a cakewalk, and entertainment from John Davis, Hallye King, and Roy Perren.

Pendley said there is now a full time staff dedicated to promoting ACS with the local churches and civic groups. For more information, visit townscountyrelay.com



Artist Morgan McCombs paints a frog on Ethan Deaton while grandpa Joey Dyer holds him still. Photos by David Seckinger

lowered approximately \$102,921 per year to \$39,375 per year, a savings of \$63,545 each year to members (customers) of BRMEMC.

Third, a new substation at Macedonia will be able to back up the Woods Grove substation (and vice versa) in the event of a transformer or equipment failure.

Fourth, the firm capacity (one transformer) available at Woods Grove is 20 MVA, not nearly enough for peak. Additional capacity is required. Woods Grove has two 20,000 kilowatt transformers. One is for serving the needs and the other is set up as a back up. In 2002 through 2004 it stayed under the 20,000 firm capacity. In 2005, it went over what one transformer would handle and they had to start using the back up transformer as well. They are now using almost full capacity on both transformers. Satterfield said if a problem came up at this time there could be major power interruptions.

Satterfield said, "The general location for the new substation was chosen due to the proximity of the load center. This location is also close to the existing split in the distribution lines, so new distribution is required."

TVA has met with BRMEMC and other leaders in the county and has discussed considerations for the substation and other uses for land adjoining the 1.3 acres needed for the substation. Under the current land use, they wanted a vacant green site, located alongside Hwy 76, within jurisdiction of City of Hiwassee, and a commercial area not located near any residential homes.

The proximity to the load center showed it would be located near the school and major commercial center of town. It would serve the eastern end of Hiwassee customers. The estimated savings in using Parcel 52 over the second choice is \$1.2 million, also a savings to customers in the cost to serving them their elec-

tric needs. Satterfield also noted that very little grading would be required as the site is relatively flat.

An additional benefit to the new substation site is it has a mostly pervious surface which allows for better infiltration of water into the soil than even a green site. Substations make great neighbors as they lead to increased power quality for all located nearby, they generate virtually no traffic, and do not generate noise that is bothersome to those businesses in close proximity.

Another benefit in the building of the new substation is that as BRMEMC builds the transmission line going to the new site, they will replace all the existing street lights down Main Street with the newest technology type of lights. They also will remove many of the support type of lines going from many of the poles along the highway as the new poles being set are self supporting.

Satterfield said that he had an opportunity to speak with the Towns County Homeowners Association at one of their recent monthly meetings and was able to explain his reason for needing to build on Parcel 52. The homeowners association has spoken out many times in opposition to building the new substation there. "They were very gracious in giving me the time to show them the plans, the reason for building, and the needs for building," said Satterfield. "I received a letter from them agreeing that Parcel 52 is the right place to build and serve the county in the best way".

The cost to build the substation will be around \$3 million, and the cost of the transmission line will be another \$1.2 million. Satterfield said that is all covered in the budget. He said that once they start building, it should with good weather take about nine months. They should know within three weeks when the land can be purchased through auction from TVA and they can start building. Building will halt during fair time and peak times.

been necessary. He further stated that prisoner morale is up, and he credits the discipline program for that also. He shared that the reason inmates fight is because they're afraid — and that's not the case anymore at Towns County Jail. Clinton said routine and discipline have lead to a noticeable increase in inmate pride.

In closing, Sheriff Clinton told of two programs that all citizens need to be aware of. The first program he shared was about his department beginning a monthly e-newsletter which will provide detailed status and financial reports, as well as crime prevention tips. The second program was the ability of citizens to request extra patrols for their homes or businesses. He said forms are available from deputies or from the sheriff's office. If you re-

quest extra patrol, you can receive a log of visits for the time period you request as well as what was noted by the deputy on duty.

Lastly, the sheriff shared that in addition to an increase in inmate morale, the moral of the entire department was up due to the attention they receive from other counties requesting training from our Towns County Sheriff's Department.

The next meeting for the Lion's Club is Tuesday, Apr. 28 at 6:30 pm. Meetings are held at the Anderson Music Hall on the fairgrounds. Anyone interested in learning more about the Lion's Club is welcome to come to the meeting.

This article was submitted by Laurie Rhatican, and pictures were submitted by Jimmy McAdams



EPD...from page 1

work and stabilize the site, but failed to do so resulting in tons of silt being dumped into lake Chatuge over the past two years.

Kendall expressed his appreciation to EPD who has a common goal along with the County Government to solve this problem in a way that would protect Lake Chatuge, the environment and save the Towns County Industrial Authority \$40,000 in fines levied against Clay-Towns Industrial Authority. The site preparation of filling washed out gullies and ditches and smoothing areas of the 21 acre site is being done with county road equipment and employees at no extra cost to the county. The seeding, fertilizer and hay to sew & stabilize the site will be taken from the budget area

of Parks Development. The labor cost of sowing and mulching the site will also be drastically cut by using road dept. employees and State Detainees.

The Commissioner stated that his goal of protecting the taxpayers from the liability of debts run up while the property was owned by the Clay-Towns Industrial Authority has been accomplished. These debts, passed along with the property to the Towns County Industrial Authority, will be paid by loans collateralized by the property and not the taxpayers. His desire and that of the new owners, the Towns County Industrial Development Authority, is to protect the environment and save this property for good clean industry and jobs for the Towns County citizens.