

Towns County Herald

Legal Organ of Towns County

Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928

50 Cents

www.townscountyherald.net

Publication Number 635540 Volume 86 Number 34

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thurs: Rain	93 68
Fri: Rain	87 67
Sat: Rain	82 62
Sun: Rain	81 59
Mon: Rain	83 61
Tue: Rain	83 63
Wed: Rain	81 63



Upstream Elevation Predicted 06/24/2015	
Lake Chatuge	1,925.03
Lake Nottely	1,776.05
Blue Ridge	1,686.29

INDEX 14 Pages

Arrests.....	2
Chamber.....	8
Church.....	6
Classifieds.....	11
Editorial.....	4
Legals.....	13
Obituaries.....	7

SPORTS Page 9



Hiawassee June 27th

Page 2



County wide Firewise Meeting June 29th

Page 2



Cooking Contest

Page 5



Saturdays 9am-Noon



Class of 1970 Reunion

Page 2

Rising junior at TCHS dies in car crash

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
cduncan.tch@windstream.net

Towns County is mourning the loss of one of its rising juniors.

Sixteen-year-old Jacqueline Crisp died in a single-car accident on 75 North at the first entrance of Upper Bell Creek Road, according to the Towns County Sheriff's Office.

The accident that claimed the life of Crisp happened around 3:15 p.m. on Sunday, June 21, according to the Sheriff's Office.

A sign bearing a cross and reading "In Loving Memory, Jacqueline," has been placed at the scene of her accident. Friends and loved ones have been frequenting the spot to record words of remembrance and leave behind tokens of love and friendship.



A roadside memorial pays tribute to Jacqueline Crisp.

Crisp was to be a junior at Towns County High School after the summer.

"Our hearts go out to her family," said Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton.

The Georgia State Patrol

responded to the accident with its Specialized Collision Reconstruction Team, but has yet to release a report on its investigation of the accident.

See Crisp, Page 10

CMA celebrates 40th anniversary

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Hundreds of motorcycles rolled through town last week, as the Christian Motorcyclists Association celebrated its 40th Anniversary during the biennial Eastern National Rally.

The rally took place at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, kicking off on Tuesday, June 16, and culminating in a parade that finished up on the Hiawassee Square on Saturday, June 20.

"It really has been going great," said CMA National Events Coordinator Missy Parmenter. "Everyone loves this area of the country, and all the people in the community are so hospitable and accommodating and welcoming. So, between the rides and the people, it's



Saturday's CMA Parade included 150 motorcycles.

just a beautiful, beautiful area. Everyone's enjoying themselves."

More than 1,500 registered attendees spent the week in fellowship and attending

lectures held at the fairgrounds. The rally served as a celebration over the announcement of the latest totals for the CMA's

See CMA, Page 10

Thursday marks 65th Anniversary of Korean War

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Thursday, June 25, marks the 65th anniversary of the start of the Korean War, a war that lasted three years and claimed more than 36,000 American lives.

Members of the Army-Navy Garrison No. 66 held an informational gathering of Korean War Veterans on Saturday, June 6, to educate veterans on obtaining service medals offered by the South Korean and the U.S. governments.

The Korean Ambassador Peace Medal is for members of the United States Armed Forces who served during the Korean War, and is offered by the Republic of Korea, and the Korea Defense Service Medal is meant to honor those who served in Korea after July 28, 1954, a year following the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement.

Garrison 66 is located on Georgia State Route 66, on the border of Towns County and Clay County, NC.

"Korean veterans are all



Veterans Herb Hair, Tony Peluso and Scott Drummond at a recent Mountain Veterans event. Photo/Shawn Jarrard

coming of age - they're in their 80s and late 80s," said Garrison 66 Chaplain Herb Hair. "After they're gone, you might as well say World War II is gone and Korea is gone. And then, you've got Vietnam left, most of them, but we're becoming extinct, we're getting older."

The importance of remembering and properly honoring these veterans is paramount, as the freedoms enjoyed today

must be laid at the boots of those who served in yesteryears.

Which is why the Army-Navy Garrison 66 is reaching out to area veterans, so that they might get the recognition that they are due.

These medals may even be awarded posthumously and are free of cost, and applications

See Korea, Page 10

Lucy Aparo still sharp as a tack at 102

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Towns County's oldest resident, Lucy Aparo, is turning 102 years old on June 25. Brasstown Manor Senior Living will be throwing her a party that day at 2:30 p.m.

Looking at her, you wouldn't think Lucy Aparo was a day over 60. Listening to her, you might change your mind - she seems even younger in conversation. At over a century old, she seems to have regained a child's enthusiasm for life and the small pleasures it offers.

"I still read," she said. "And I read without my glasses. I don't need glasses. And I still hear. I can hear a pin drop. And my mind is so awake, alert. I'm thinking all the time. And that's my life."

Lucy's days start at 7 a.m. and are filled with activity.

"Seven o'clock, get up, and go, go, go," she said, slapping the couch arm for emphasis. "And it's the go, go, go that gets me."

"She stays very active," said Activities Director Teresa Anderson. "And since Lucy has been in here, she's always stayed in independent living. Then, when she moved to my side, the assisted side, I



Lucy Aparo

have kept her very active, and she's very competitive. We play cornhole, putt-putt, and skeetball."

"Whatever they do, I do," Aparo added with a smile. "And it surprises me to see these younger people who don't want to do it, or they'll stay away from it."

In the last few months, Aparo has also helped to start a card club. Her hobbies include playing cards, walking, bowling, and reading.

"I carry a book everywhere," she said. "I like romances. I don't like wild things

and killing and things. To me, there's nothing better than a romance." She showed off her most recent read, a historical romance. "I'm halfway done already," she said. "If I don't like a book, I'll give it fifty pages. And if not, the books on the table for someone else to take."

Aparo was born in 1912 in Connecticut to an Italian family and lived through the Great Depression in relative comfort.

"My mother was a very intelligent woman. Uneducated, but she had such a bright mind. She had intelligence, but no education. I think I got her mind," Aparo said. "I admired her so much."

"Because the banks were going broke at the time," she continued, "but she had a little silk bag that she had sewn and all her money went right there. Then people began to lose their houses. It was a disaster for hundreds of people. Not for us though, because my mother was so bright. She saved what she earned, she saved what my father gave her."

When she grew older, Aparo became a teacher.

"I loved teaching," she said. "I like to be with children."

See Lucy, Page 10

Cummings speaks to Mountain Movers & Shakers about EMC

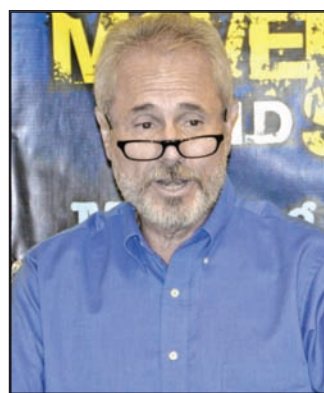
By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Young Harris - Pat Malone, Charles Rich, Mickey Cummings and Danny Hedden, the incumbent - these are the four people running for the Union County seat on the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC Board of Directors.

And all Cummings asks is that members vote.

"I think all those people running are good people, and I know every one of them," said Cummings in the Friday, June 19, Mountain Movers and Shakers Meeting at Mary's Southern Grill. "I would encourage you to vote, and if you don't vote for me, that's all right, but vote for at least one person. You've got a choice this year."

Cummings retires this month as the University of Georgia Extension agent for Union County, after which he will manage the Union County Farmers Market and Canning Plant full-time.



Mickey Cummings

He has been a county agent for 34 years, and is currently already responsible for the management of the Farmers Market.

Calling on his years of experience working as a county agent, Cummings told the Movers and Shakers that he considered himself to be a public servant, which has informed his thinking on the director position at BRMEMC.

"I know that the Blue

See Cummings, Page 10

Relay for Life set for June 27

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Mark your calendars. It's almost time for the annual Relay for Life in Towns County.

The Towns County branch of the American Cancer Society is holding the event on the Downtown Hiawassee Square on Saturday, June 27, at 11 a.m.

At 10 a.m., there will be a Survivor Brunch. The Survivor Walk at 11 a.m. starts off the event, and the walk will go on until 4 p.m.

"We're going to have entertainment, team fundraisers, door prizes. We're going to have cakewalks. There will be food. It's going to be for all ages," said Martha Cunningham, a member of the relay committee for three years.

"It's a great event where the whole community can come together and support it and try to make a difference so eventually we can find a cure for the cause," she said.

The committee consists of 10 people who have worked



on different fundraisers to raise money for the American Cancer Society. In past years, in addition to doing the Relay, they have worked to fight cancer by helping survivors and people currently undergoing cancer treatment.

"One of the most exciting things I did, being a part of Relay, is we went to the Hope Lodge in Atlanta, and that's one of the things that the American Cancer Society funds," said Cunningham.

The Hope Lodge offers

See Relay, Page 10

Glow Run a hit for Relay for Life

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

On Saturday, June 20, the Towns County Relay for Life committee held a 5K race at the Brasstown Valley Golf Course. The 5K, aptly named the Glow Run, started at 9 p.m., so the racers competed or walked in the dark.

"It's called the Glow Run because the runners are going to get a t-shirt, and it's got two feet on the t-shirt in yellow, and when it gets dark, they'll light up. And we have glow sticks, and they could purchase glow glasses and get some glow paint for their faces, so we just wanted to try something different to attract people," said committee member Martha Cunningham.

"This is our first time to do this event," Cunningham explained. "We have 71 runners, ranging in age from a little guy that's probably 8 years old up to people in their 70s. So we're thrilled because quite honestly only about 40 people pre-registered. We got more than we thought. We were hoping in the 70 range. We didn't know what



to expect, first time, but a lot of people have come out."

Putting together the 5K took a little bit of dedication on the part of the volunteers, plus some eco-friendly materials.

"We just had a good group of volunteers who just came and worked today. Out on the course, we used solar lights that you use in your yard, and we put them inside a container and put those throughout the path," said Cunningham.

Cunningham hopes that the Glow Run will be an annual event and will continue to grow, possibly even doubling

See Glow, Page 10

Peters returns to Avita board

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Towns County held its monthly county meeting at the Towns County Courthouse on Thursday, June 18. The main topic on the agenda was re-appointment of Zadie Peters to the board of directors of Avita Community Partners.

Avita Community Partners in Northeast Georgia, formed in 1993, is a resource for people experiencing the effects of developmental disabilities, addictive diseases, and mental illness. The Avita Board of Directors consists of at least one resident for each of the 13 counties represented in the Northeast Georgia area.

"I think this is a good program for our county,"



Zadie Peters

said Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall. "I've appointed other board

See Avita, Page 10

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

