

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Letters to The Editor

Letter To The Editor: On Thursday, July 23 there was a hearing of the Waite vs. City of Hiawasse lawsuit at the Towns County Court House.

Winners and losers? It is difficult to tell as few issues were completely resolved and the case remains open and ongoing.

The prevailing legal opinion of those present was "the City of Hiawasse failed to honor its intergovernmental agreement with the county, that was signed into law in November of 2000" by the Hiawasse City Council.

That same City Council then reversed itself and adopted the City of Hiawasse Comprehensive Plan. The exact date and proper notification of this action is unclear.

The hearing determined the Towns County Comprehensive Plan are the rules in effect. It should be noted that the property (6/10 acre) in question violates the basic minimum area requirements of both the County (7 acres) and City (2 acres) rules.

Mr. Stines logically approached the City seeking permission to build his RV park. He was granted water and sewer hook up, giving him de-facto permission to proceed with his project.

The City Council and the City Executives have all been in office long enough to be familiar with all of the ordinances and procedures. However, they continue to operate with disregard to the ordinances they formulated, discussed and placed on the books and even the State Laws that govern their performance.

Was Mr. Stines grossly misled or flat out lied to? You be the judge.

John L. Holmes Taxpayer Property Owner Hiawasse Resident

To the Editor:

This past Saturday morning a very important meeting was held at First Baptist Church - Blairsville. The topic of the day was discussion of the Biblical duty of standing up to escalating unconstitutional federal tyranny being foisted upon America, especially in areas of prime concern to Christians such as same-sex marriage and abortion.

The sponsors of this event sent letters of invitation to every pastor/minister in Towns and Union counties, enclosing with this letter information about the subject and a book entitled "The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates."

Less than six of these men, who are charged by their position of pastor with the responsibility of teaching the tenets of the Bible to their flock, attended.

Perhaps the concern of Saturday's meeting in addressing the immorality within our nation was misplaced. With demonstrated apathy and failing to lead on the part of these pastors, it seems the focus of this meeting should have been directed to the sad state of the Christian Church in Towns and Union counties.

Chuck Luca Gary Meier

It can happen here!

Wildfire seems to be one of my favorite topics but it's not that I like fires; I just want to help educate all of you of the dangers all around where we live. I don't want to run the topic in the ground, but we all need to realize that even though our fires are not usually as big and spectacular as the ones going on in the west right now, that we do have more fires in the southeast than out west and even a small fire at one of our homes can be just as devastating to the people involved.

We have been blessed for several years with wet weather which keeps the wildfire danger in check but our turn is coming and when we get a dry spell conditions will change quickly for the "Big One". Our Firewise program is a state and national leader and our fire numbers prove that it works since we have a fraction of the fires that other counties up here have.

Last week's blistering heatwave gave the fires an upper hand, but cooler weather since the weekend in the Pacific Northwest has given firefighters a slight advantage.

The majority of the fire activity continues in California, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska is having the worst fire season on record where hot and dry weather conditions continue to hamper firefighting efforts.

Eight new large fires were reported last week with only one contained. At least 465,991 acres are ablaze, according to the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise.

The Rocky Fire is one of nearly two dozen wildfires burning across the state of California last week. A South Dakota firefighter died while

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SHOULD BE E-MAILED OR MAILED TO: Towns County Herald, Letter to the Editor, PO Box 365, Hiawasse, GA 30546.



Executive Director of RC&D Frank Riley

assisting the U.S. Forest Service in fighting the Frog Fire in nearby Adin, in Modoc County. California has been gripped by a severe drought since 2011, which has raised the wildfire risk.

In Oregon, good progress was made on the 17,166-acre Stouts Creek Fire, burning in rugged, densely forested country 16 miles east of Canyonville in Douglas County, OR.

The Stouts Creek Fire is burning on private timberlands, Bureau of Land Management and Umpqua National Forest lands. The fire is 10 percent contained.

In Washington State, an entire small town in the path of a wildfire was evacuated. About 300 people from Roosevelt on the banks of the Columbia River were forced to flee.

These news reports seem a long way from us so we feel safe and assume it can't happen here so we put off cleaning the leaves from our roof or raking the leaves away from the house but one day as we are fleeing the oncoming flames rushing up the hill, we will wish that we had taken the time to do the little things that could help save our home.

For more information on the Firewise program contact Frank Riley Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council frank.ccrd@gmail.com.

The Veterans' Corner By Scott Drummond, USCG Veteran

Integrity! One extremely important human characteristic, often AWOL today, is ultimately important to the survival of our precious America, our people, family structure, and integral to many who serve and have served our nation.

We, of Towns County and America, are blessed to have a family of Patriots, several generations, who served honorably and who have passed along Integrity, Patriotism, wisdom, humility, and Christianity to their children, grandchildren as well as our mountain community from which they all were born, reared and lived.

Cecil Charles Sanders, of Hayesville, NC born 7/15/1902 enlisted in the USMC, 3 years 1920-1923 in Dominican Republic campaign.

PFC Sherlock Henry Sanders, born 12/1/1924, served in 137th Infantry, US Army, WWII in Saint Lo, France. He was a member of a replacement company and gave his life at a very young age, for America along with many others to a NAZI ambush, after 6 months in service on August 3, 1944.

Fraser Sanders, born 3/1/1927, served in WWII, US Army, and two years in Austria, was honorably discharged and lo and behold, was illegally drafted to serve again in the Korean War!

Cecil C. Sanders, Jr., born 2/6/1931 served in the First Division, USMC for four years, two years of which were spent in the Korean conflict,

including the assault and seizure at Inchon and Seoul, Wonsan, and Hungnam, as well as surviving the "Frozen Chosen" Reservoir Campaign. Cecil went on to serve with our Merchant Marines after Korea, and had a successful career, then moving back home to Hiawasse. Cecil shared with me that when he came home, he married the "prettiest girl in Hiawasse", Ada Estelle, and they live happily together in their rugged hand built log home overlooking the lake and facing the mountains south of Hiawasse.

Sherman Dale Sanders, of Hiawasse, and born 2/6/1939, served in our US Army for three years, in Japan. Dale was ordered home to serve his permanent and gloriously peaceful duty assignment with our Lord on 12/27/2012.

Jerry Sanders, of Hiawasse, the youngest of the Sanders brothers, born 3/19/1943, suffered a car crash and permanently altered right arm from a severe break. He tried to enlist in the USMC but was declared ineligible due to this injury.

A very wise and Godly man told me "integrity" is perhaps the most important word in our language. Semper Paratus

RARE KIDS; WELL DONE By Don Jacobsen

Q: Dr. Don, We have a girl and a boy, both preschoolers. Our family runs quite well, really. Except when the kids' grandmother, my mother, comes to visit. She only comes three or four times a year and stays about a week each time.

rain on that parade? Sometimes grandmas have a difficult time finding ways to tell the grands that she loves them. Especially if she lives a long ways away and doesn't get to see them often.

A: Oh, cool it, mom. When I was little there was a man in our church who brought a pocketful of mints every week to give to the kids.

Whatever you do, please don't take grandma aside and try to talk her out of it. It just might break her heart. Rejoice in her love for your children. There are trainloads of kids all across the nation whose moms would celebrate if grandma showed up occasionally and loved on her kids.

Kids love to get gifts, even little ones. Grandmas love to give gifts. What a great combination. Why would you

Send your parenting questions to: DrDon@RareKids.net.

Have something to sell? Let the Herald work for you! Contact us at 706-896-4454 Deadline for the Towns County Herald is Friday by 5 PM



"No matter how fancy they build the new pro stadiums, my favorite seat is still right here!"

Towns County Herald Dedicated to the promotion of Towns County KENNETH WEST.....PUBLISHER CHARLES DUNCAN.....EDITOR, ADVERTISING SHAWN HENRIKSON.....COPY EDITOR SHAWN JARRARD.....STAFF WRITER MASON MITCHAM.....STAFF WRITER JOE COLLINS.....ADVERTISING SALES LOWELL NICHOLSON,NEWS,SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHER OFFICE LOCATED AT 518 N. MAIN ST. SUITE 7 "THE MALL" HIAWASSEE (706) 896-4454

Elected Officials Governor Nathan Deal, Georgia State Capitol Atlanta, GA 30334, 404-656-1776 Sen. Johnny Isakson, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-3643 Sen. David Perdue, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-3521