

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY
OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Letters to The Editor

Why we need trauma centers in Georgia

Dear Legislators,
 We need a trauma center in Georgia because we have numerous trauma injuries everyday. Please if you will build a trauma center I will pay whatever you need me as a citizen to pay. Trauma is the number 1 killer of Americans between the ages of 1 and 44. If you did not know that I encourage you to read more about our state and how bad we need a trauma center. I also want you to know that trauma is the number 3 cause of death in all age groups. I will pay for a certain percentage of the Georgia Insurance Premium Tax that would be diverted into the Georgia Trauma Fund. I will pay an additional \$5.00 surcharge on vehicle registrations. I will pay an extra \$1.16 in the monthly cell phone surcharge. I will add an additional surcharge on the rental and leased cars I have. I will add an additional add-on charge to fines for certain motor vehicle moving violations, such as the offense of DUI. I am not saying that I will not violate any of the laws but I would pay the additional charges to my fines if I had any. I will check the box on the individual Georgia Income Tax form that would allow Georgia citizens to contribute 5% of their tax refund or \$5.00 to the Georgia Trauma Care Fund. Please I will do anything to help build some trauma centers in Georgia. We are in desperate need of some trauma centers because everyday we have people in need of a trauma center. Everyday there is someone wrecking needing to go to one of these centers, but before the EMS can get to them BOOM they are dead because we don't have any trauma centers, around here. I am begging you to build a trauma center around here. I have one question for you, if you were in a wreck and suffered from trauma wouldn't you like to be alive when you get to the center? If you do, then please build trauma centers. If I wrecked and let's just say that I had a head on collision with another car and the regular hospitals had to life flight me out and I was in need of surgery right then and there was not a trauma center anywhere around, would you want me to die? If you had the same incident wouldn't you like to be saved? Please all I am asking is that there be a trauma center built closer to my town or near my town. There are 8 level 2 trauma centers in Georgia but that isn't enough, there are 2 level 4 trauma centers but is also not enough. There are 3 level 1 trauma centers but that is not enough and there are no level 3 trauma centers in Georgia. We don't have enough centers here in Georgia. Georgia is in desperate need of them. We also need at least a couple (2) of level 3 centers. Day in and day out, a statewide system saves lives. It is the best way to ensure that our families and friends can get trauma care when it is needed because we have no huge trauma centers and the only one that we can really have that is a really good trauma center is Northside in Gainesville. Please all the I am asking is if your family or friend wrecked and had to be transported to a medical center and had trauma injuries wouldn't you like their lives to be saved? Well, I know that I would because I don't want anyone dying from trauma related injuries. I know that it happens pretty much everyday and I don't want anyone else to die from it. I know that I don't want my family or friends or any of my relatives to be hurt from a car wreck and have to go to rehab because of trauma. SO PLEASE BUILD A TRAUMA CENTER CLOSE TO US. Trauma injuries happen every single day of the year. Thanks for listening to my essay about building a trauma center for families sake that I think we really need more centers because there is not one single one extremely close by because we have to drive about an hour to an hour and a half to get to one. I know that they had a severe trauma injury. So if you have questions please read this again or go to www.GeorgiaItsAboutTime.com

Thank you so much,
Lauren McCarter

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The Middle Path

by Don Perry

Archaeologists can glean an astonishing amount of information about ancient peoples by sifting through the disjecta membra of long buried garbage dumps. While tombs, burial grounds and barrows point to beliefs about religion and the afterlife, ancient garbage dumps provide a window into the day to day lives of our ancestors.

Of course we may never know how accurate our assumptions are about our ancestors, no matter how much evidence we may compile from bits of broken pottery and the petrified bones of small animals and fish discarded after dinner. It's all conjecture, educated guessing, but it does raise some interesting possibilities about how future civilizations will interpret our own time.

To begin with, I'm not sure how much of our disposable society will be left by the time we become someone else's "ancients." Most of the building materials used in today's dwellings are "disposable" compared to the stones and mud bricks of our forefathers. However, as I was riding the length of Towns County recently an idea occurred to me. I believe that some future assumptions about our one day ancient culture will be obtained from studying the mysterious ribbons of asphalt that link our places of dwelling, and particularly the millions of tons of discarded items that parallel these roads. Applying some of the same reasoning used by today's researchers, it may be assumed that, because of the enormous amount of resources that it must have taken to build such extensive and elaborate networks of transportation, that there must be some religious significance to it all. The brightly colored flakes of polymer that will be found accompanying the roads from one side of the continent to the other might be assumed to have been offerings we made in the course of our many religious pilgrimages. One can only speculate on what might one day be guessed from the contents of our landfills.

If you have picked up a National Geographic during the last decade or so, chances are you know something of Pompeii, the Roman city frozen in time, excavated from tons of volcanic ash. What if volcanic ash buried North Georgia? What might an archaeologist guess about us if, for example, he were to excavate a few hundred yards along just about any stretch of US High-

way 76 where, despite the best efforts of the county and several community organizations, we continue to deposit our brightly colored offerings at an astonishing rate? Would the preponderance of Mountain Dew bottles amidst the many area mountains suggest that we were mountain worshippers? What about the number of items printed with the words "McDonald's" in an unbroken chain from golden arch to golden arch? Would tomorrow's archaeologist be able to intuit our disposable society, our contempt for the natural world or the level of narcissistic self absorption that it must require to toss out the window of a moving vehicle a bag full of Styrofoam and greasy paper?

Back from the future, an interesting study might be made of our present day patterns of litter. I don't know of anyone locally who worships mountains or golden arches, so we can probably set aside religious pilgrimage as a reason for the insane number of discarded containers and wrappings bearing those marks. As an armchair speculator, I would venture a guess that contempt plays a part in the act of littering, and if this is an accurate assumption - and if the amount of trash is an indicator of the level of contempt in our society - this would be a disturbing realization. However, considering the amount of campaigning against litter which has occurred in our media and the number of signs along our roadsides threatening large fines for littering, one would hope to set aside mindlessness as a reason for trashy travel. In the face of all the information available with regards to littering, its environmental and economic impact and the threat of legal action warning against it, if mindlessness is still a large factor in habitual littering - that would be disturbing indeed.



Jesus Christ, the only way to heaven

By Dr. Steven Swisher, Pastor
 Living Word Revival Center

We are entering into our most celebrated season of our Christian faith. It is considered to be our high time, because many people are joined together in order to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is one of the very core things that will separate all other false religions from Christianity. The bible says in Ephesians 4:4-6, "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." This is what our forefathers believed when they established our nation as one nation under God, not gods. The Hindus, Atheists, Buddhists, New Age and all the rest of the thousands of false religious groups will never be partakers of the resurrection unto eternal life. Only those who believe that Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life will receive eternal life in heaven.

Some of these religions believe that you can be reincarnated as animals or some believe that your life is the opportunity for someone else's life in the past to gain spiritual purity. But Christianity declares that we are all individually made in the image of God and are accountable for our own destinies and choices. Our faith is much like the governments and laws of this world who hold individuals accountable for their own actions. The bible says in Romans 14:11,12, "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Now the resurrection of Jesus Christ took place with many witnesses who saw him crucified, put to death and than was raised from the dead three

days later. No other religion can say this about their god. Therefore, our faith gives us the ability to operate as believers in a real eternal destiny given to us by the grace of God through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Through the bible we understand that Jesus Christ is the only way to personal salvation and eternal life. Any other road or way will lead to destruction of your eternal destiny that Jesus Christ made for you. Jesus didn't come to condemn us, but to save us from the wrath of God to come upon the children of disobedience. The saying that all roads lead to Rome is not true for the Kingdom of God. Jesus said in Matthew 7:13,14, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Eternal life is a reality for everyone. We all will be raised from death, some to eternal life and some to eternal damnation. The choice is in the hands of each individual to make a decision to believe in Jesus Christ and the resurrection of the dead or to take some other road to destruction. The question to answer is, "Do you really want to go to heaven?" It is definitely not something to be "buffoonish about!" For God honors those who choose him.

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 Wed. nites 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!



They shall come,
 and shall declare
 his righteousness
 unto a people that
 shall be born, that
 he hath done this.

Psalms 22:31

Community Calendar

Towns County Water Board Meeting 4th Monday of each month at 7 pm in the TC Water Office Building.

AARP meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Senior Center

Towns County Democratic Party: The Towns County Democratic Party will meet at 5:30 on April 16 at Crossroads Restaurant. Meeting begins at 6. Please call Kim Bailey. 706-994-2727 or 706-896-6747.

Towns County Republican Party meets the 1st Tuesday of each month from 5pm-6pm Dinner at Daniels Steak House, 6pm - 7pm meeting, 896-9021.

Towns County Planning Commission is held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 pm in the Courthouse.

Towns County Commissioners meeting is the 3rd Thursday at 5:30 pm in the courthouse.

School Board Meeting, 2nd Monday each month at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

Hiwassee City Council 1st Tuesday of month 4 pm, at City Hall.

Young Harris City Council, 1st Tuesday of month at 7 pm, Young Harris City Hall.

The Hiwassee River Valley

Club meetings are held at 7 p.m. the 1st Monday of each month at Brother's Restaurant on Hwy 64 in Murphy, NC. Call President Kit Miracle: 706 492 5253 or Peggy Moorman: 828 835 1082.

The Unicoy Masonic Lodge #259 meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Board of Voter Registrars meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m., Courthouse.

Towns County Board of Elections holds its monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. at the Elections Office (Old Rock Jail).

Towns County Historical Society meets the 2nd Monday of each month at the Senior Center in Hiwassee at 5 pm. Annual dues \$15, PO Box 932, Hiwassee, GA 706-896-1060, www.townshistory.org Bridge Players intermediate level meets at 12:45 pm on Mondays & Fridays at the Towns County Health Dept. Call Eden at 706-896-6921.

Mountain Regional Arts and Crafts Guild, Inc (MRACG) meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at ArtWorks Artisan Centre, located at 308 Big Sky Drive (behind the Holiday Inn), Hiwassee. Refreshments at 6

p.m. & the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.. Contact us by calling 706-896-0932, mntnregarts-craftsguild.org. mntnregarts-craftsguild@hotmail.com.

VFW Post #7807 Fish Fry will be 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 4:30-7 PM, \$9 a plate, all you can eat.

Mountain Computer User Group meets the 2nd Monday of each month at the Goolsby Center at YHC. Q & A at 6 pm, meeting at 7 pm.

FPL Retirees Breakfast will meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Hole in the Wall Restaurant on the square in Blairsville at 9 a.m.

Chattahoochee-Nantahala Chapter, Trout Unlimited meets 2nd Thursday of each month at Cadence Bank in Blairsville. 5 p.m. Fly Tying - 7pm General Meeting. Everyone welcome. www.ngatu692.com.

Stephens Masonic Lodge #414 F&AM meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM at the lodge in Young Harris.

Towns County Lions meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at Anderson Music Hall.

Alcoholics Anonymous: 24 hour phone line 828-837-4440.