

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Letters to The Editor

Letter to the Editor:

I would like to publicly thank the crew from Blue Ridge Mountain EMC for their dedication and professionalism in their work on the Mountain Regional Library Headquarters in Young Harris last week. Our library was built in 1979 and the power supply and main lines had deteriorated to the point we were having major power issues. The system failed completely on Wednesday, September 29 at 4:45 in the afternoon. We called BRMEMC and within minutes they had a crew on site. Despite rain, mud, and darkness, and the fact that many of them had been on the job since 4 a.m., they worked until 10 p.m. to make sure our power system repairs were completed and everything was working properly so we could open for business on Thursday. The next day they returned to pressure wash mud off the driveway and make sure the dig site was covered with hay to prevent more erosion. Every person on the crew was polite and seemed genuinely happy to help. On behalf of our library staff and our library users, I extend our heartfelt thanks for their wonderful service.

Thank you,
Donna W. Howell, Director
Mountain Regional Library System

Letter to the Editor:

On behalf of Drake Software, I would like to extend huge and heartfelt thanks to those individuals who made the opening of our Hayesville Call Center a great success. Drake now has three call centers that provide support for our software clients - one in Franklin, one in Sylva, and our newest addition in Hayesville.

The following people were instrumental in the opening of the Hayesville Call Center: Property owners Jim Tiger and Rob Tiger, along with Clay County Manager Paul Leek, Clay County Building Department Director Sam Beck, Clay County Building Inspector Brian Trout, and Hayesville Mayor Harrell Moore. We also wish to thank the following Blue Ridge Mountain EMC employees: Economic Director Eric Brinke, Broadband Services Director Brian Anderson, and Broadband Services System Administrator Billy Wise. Finally, we wish to thank the local contractors with whom we worked, numerous employees from the tri-county region, and the citizens of Clay County.

Drake Software is delighted to be a part of Hayesville's business community and look forward to working with our Hayesville staff to offer the kind of quality support our clients have come to expect.

Sincerely,
Terry Breedlove
Vice President of Systems, CTO

Dear Editor,

I always thought it was easy to get in touch with my State Representative; it was that way when Carlton Colwell, Ralph Twigg and Charles Jenkins were in office.

It's not possible any more. I have tried to get in touch with our State Representative for the past eight months. I didn't want to ask him for a favor, I simply wanted to suggest how the State could save some money on highway maintenance.

Obviously, the incumbent doesn't want to hear from the people of our district. I hear that everywhere I go. Maybe in November he'll get our message.

Sincerely,
Doug Dyer

Letter to the Editor:

I understand it can be difficult, confusing and frustrating to navigate through bureaucratic red tape. Serving the 10th District of Georgia is my top priority, and one way I offer assistance is through "Congress on the Square."

"Congress on the Square" is an opportunity for folks to meet face-to-face with members of my staff to discuss current events or receive assistance with a federal agency. My staff has successfully assisted hundreds of folks with Social Security, Medicare, Veterans Affairs, passports, and more.

Although I cannot override the decisions made by a federal agency, I can often intervene on a person's behalf to answer questions, find solutions, or just cut through the red tape.

On Monday, October 18, 2010, members of my congressional staff will be at the Towns County Courthouse in the Grand Jury Room from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.

In addition to assisting constituents with casework, my staff will also be available to discuss current events and legislation. Over the past several months, Washington has made changes that will directly impact hardworking Georgians and their families, especially in regards to health care and taxes. My staff is ready to answer your questions.

"Congress on the Square" is one way to communicate with 10th District constituents, and I am eager to hear from the residents of Towns County. For more information about "Congress on the Square" and how individuals may share ideas or receive help from my office, call (706) 886-1008 or visit my website at www.broun.house.gov.

Rep. Paul Broun

The Middle Path

by Don Perry

October is the magical month. The air acquires a crystalline quality rarely seen in the haze of summer and hidden behind the gray mantle of winter. October skies are bluer; all the colors, more vibrant. October invites us to sit upon the bare ground and bask in the warming rays of the sun, the same sun which only a few short weeks ago drove us panting into the shade or trapped us indoors with the ubiquitous buzz of the air conditioner.

Each passing year increases the distance between Technological Man and the Earth which sustains him. Being "one with nature" is a quaint cliché from a bygone era; inconceivable when the temperature and the humidity are both above 90 or when the ground is hard and the breath turns to ice crystals, but in October, nature is welcoming. The hordes of stinging, biting and sucking things are in retreat and it is easier to remember why a walk in the woods is a very good thing.

October hints of mys-

teries obscured for most of the year by the never ending pursuit of stimulation and gratification. Leaves change colors and fall to the ground. Flowers fade, go to seed, wither and die. Hints of the winter to come are carried down the mountains on the evening breeze.

October reminds us of change and season and the irresistible march of time. In the frantic but fading calls of crickets we can hear the primordial rhythms of life on earth, older than civilization, older than religion, visceral, untamed. We feel the irrational but perfectly natural urge to build a bonfire, beat a drum, carve a pumpkin or wear a scary mask, to unconsciously join the thousands of generations stretching back into the mists of prehistory who raged against the dying of the light. The ancients claimed that the veil between this world and the next is thin this time of year. The grinning pumpkin sitting in the window would agree...



RARE KIDS; WELL DONE

By Don Jacobsen

So it takes a team of horses to get 12-year old Leslie out of bed in the morning. Mom gives a wakeup call about 6:45. At 7 there is still no activity in Leslie's bedroom. At 7:10 Mom calls again; no intelligible response. At 7:15 Mom strips off the covers, raises the volume and says something like, "This is the last time I'm going to call you for the last time...your bus comes in twenty minutes!"

You may know the drill; you may have been through it often enough you could write the script. Let me tell you how to fix it: Buy Leslie an alarm clock. Problem solved.

"You don't know my Leslie, Dr Don. She'd sleep right through it and miss the bus." Yes, she might. Is that bad? As a leader in your family, what is your goal here? To get Leslie to the bus on time or to help her become a responsible member of the family?

This little presentation the night before might help: "Leslie, your Mom and I have been micromanaging you in the mornings, treating you like we think you need our

help to get up and get started and that's not very respectful. So we have made a decision - we are not going to bug you anymore. To show our commitment to the new plan we have bought you a gift - an alarm clock."

"But Mom, Dad, what if I sleep through it and miss the bus?" "Well," Dad replies, "you can get there on your bike in about forty minutes, or if all else fails you can call a cab." "But what if it's raining...how much would a cab cost?"

"Probably about \$20." "But I don't have that kind of money!" "Then if you think you're going to need it you'll want to start putting some aside out of your allowance. You'll figure out a way. Don't forget to plug in your new clock. Good night, Honey."

That's a one-week fix for a problem that might have gone on for months. Try it, you'll like it.

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



"IT'S ON MY MIND.."

Danny H. Parris

Points to Ponder

Clear, cool fall mornings put me into a relaxed state of mind. In fact, these beautiful quiet fall days have an intoxicating effect on my mind. It's like being put to sleep. I enjoy this time of year so much that my thought processes seem to shift into neutral. I don't want to think about anything. Just sitting, staring at creation is quite satisfying for the moment. Because of these peaceful mornings it is difficult for me to figure out just what the point of this column is. If it's hard for me to discover the exact point of this article I can imagine that the readers will probably reach the boiling point before they grasp any point. Stretching a point is not my intention but writing a column and preaching a sermon are quite similar. It is essential that you be brief and right to the point. In writing and preaching you may mention several points before you hit your main point. The advantage you have in preaching over writing is when you reach a weak point, you just shout louder. A sore point for my wife has always been that I spend too much time on the first point of my sermon and I have to rush through the last points. Now mind you, I am not pointing a finger at my wife but she has always been helpful in pointing out ways that would improve my sermons. She especially has great insight in knowing at just what point I need to

stop. There is no doubt she is more God-inspired at that point than I am. For a case in point, this past Sunday as we were walking to our car after service, she commented, "When we entered church it was summer and you preached so long its turned wintertime." I had better be careful not to belabor that point or I will reach a point of no return - if you know what I mean. There is such a thing as the point of death. Just point blank ponder the farmer's advice: The best sermons are lived not preached. - Don't judge folks by their relatives. - It doesn't take a genius to spot a goat in a flock of sheep. - Every path has a few puddles. - Life is simpler when you plow around the stumps. - Always drink upstream from the herd. - Letting the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in. - When you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging. - Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong. - Sometimes you get and sometimes you get got. - Life ain't about how fast you can run, or how high you climb, but how well you bounce.

Well, I don't want you to be disappointed in this column so let me get this point across "that it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). That's the reason Jesus was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15). He became the point man to absorb all of God's wrath against sin so "God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess.5:9).

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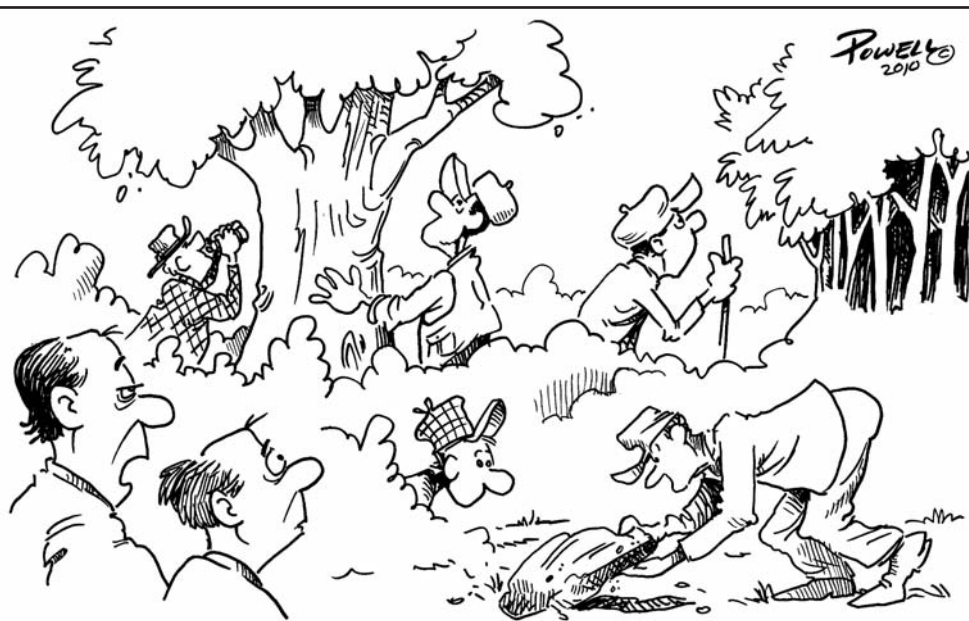


GUEST COLUMNS

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, Hiawassee, GA 30546. Our email address: tcherald@windstream.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.



"No, they are not hunters. Just candidates looking for undecided voters!"

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Sen. Johnny Isakson, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-3643
Sen. Saxby Chambliss, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-3521
U.S. Congressman Paul Broun, 10th District, Washington, DC 20515, 202-225-4101
Rep. Stephen Allison, Georgia House of Representatives, 404-656-0177 or 0185
Sen. Jim Butterworth, Georgia State Senate, 404-463-1367
Towns County Commissioner Bill Kendall, 706-896-2276
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Magistrate/Probate Judge David Rogers, 706-896-3467
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Coroner Ricky Mathis, 706-896-6254
Notah Circuit District Attorney Stan Gunter, 706-896-6489
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Hiawassee City Council: Janet Allen, Jay Chastain, Joan Crothers, Howard Cunningham, Annie Johnson
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