

## Paris 'a great American' ...from page 1A

serve, Mr. Paris entered the European Theater of World War II in 1943, serving until 1946.

He moved to Hiawassee in May 1947 and founded Hiawassee Hardware Company.

Mr. Paris rolled up his sleeves once he arrived in Hiawassee. A tireless worker, Mr. Paris focused his efforts on Hiawassee Hardware, the Bank of Hiawassee, and later the Georgia Mountain Fair.

"Dick Paris was a part of the cornerstones of growth for Hiawassee and Towns County for decades," Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall said. "He and his son Dan still own and operate Hiawassee Hardware today."

In 1951, Mr. Paris was elected mayor of Hiawassee.

A member of the Towns County Lions Club, Mr. Paris was a driving force behind the Georgia Mountain Fair, serving on the Georgia Mountain Fair Authority.

"He has spent 60 years promoting the Georgia Mountain Fair," Commissioner Kendall said, noting that the Georgia Mountain Fair is 60 years old.

Mr. Paris also played a pivotal role in the development of Towns County Hospital, serving as a member of the Towns County Hospital Authority for many years.

He served as president of the Bank of Hiawassee from 1953 to 1981 and served as a bank board member faithfully for 57 years.

An active member of McConnell Memorial Church in Hiawassee, Mr. Paris worked tirelessly to help the church grow along with the community.

"He has always supported the church through his attendance and gifts," Commissioner Kendall said.

Mr. Paris played a pivotal role in Towns County Schools, supporting the construction of the Towns County High School football and baseball fields, Commissioner Kendall said.

Last, but not least, Mr. Paris endowed the Ragsdale Lecture Series at Young Harris College to honor the journalistic career of family member Warner Ragsdale, a 1917 graduate of Young Harris College. The Ragsdale Series brings prominent speakers of national stature to Young Harris College to speak about government and political affairs.

Dr. Clay Dotson, a renowned history professor and former president at Young Harris College, a member of the Towns County community for decades, said Mr. Paris is a great American.

He's known Mr. Paris and his family for 49 years. He's served with him as a Towns County Lion.

"Dick, you've always been an inspiration and role model to me," Dotson said. "From my own observations, you have so many great qualities."

"Dick Paris is a man of integrity," he said. "In all the years that I've known him, not once has he ever suggested doing something that wasn't on the up-and-up. He believes in honesty, believes that it pays and that everyone benefits from doing things the right way."

Dotson said Mr. Paris was a man who believed positive things would happen.

"He is a man of vision and optimism. He's depend-

able and determined to do his part. He doesn't look back, he looks to the now and the future," Dr. Dotson said. "In its infancy, he saw the value of the Georgia Mountain Fair for economic growth for the community. He worked diligently over the years to help the Fair succeed."

Dotson said that Mr. Paris' generosity didn't end with big projects.

"He supported youth groups, Boy Scouts and the school programs," Dotson said. "A friend recently told me that Dick would sell ball gloves, basketballs and footballs to the kids on credit so they could enjoy them until a way was found to pay for the items."

"He is a people person, he never meets a stranger," he said. "He is a family man. He loves sports, particularly Georgia football. I was told that Dick was a real good second baseman on the Hiawassee town team."

"Last September, Loran Smith interviewed Dick on the back deck of the Hardware Store. He later wrote that Dick Paris is a great American," Dotson said. "You don't have to be elected senator or win the Nobel Prize to be a great American. You don't have to have a book written about your life to be a great American."

"All you have to do is follow the Golden Rule, work hard, earn your keep, pay your bills, treat your fellow man with respect and embrace the principles of faith, hope and charity."

"This has been Dick Paris' life," he said. "Thank you Loran Smith for writing that and thank you Dick Paris for being the man that you are. We love you."

## Shopping Day at Chatuge Regional

The Activity Department at Chatuge Regional Nursing Home will be sponsoring its annual Resident Shopping Day in December.

If you would like to donate any new or gently used items, please bring them to the Activity Dept. no later than Monday, December 8.

T(Nov10.17.H2)SH



### FASHION TIP of the week

By Sarah Bavero

Q: How do I dress for my new job? I am applying but haven't landed one yet. Any suggestions?

A: Dress professionally in a jacket with slacks or a knee-length skirt. Do not wear anything too tight or revealing and stay away from sandals. No matter what the job is, you will present yourself with confidence and capability. Good luck!

Sarah Bavero has a degree in fashion design. N(Nov10.21)CA

## 21st Century Thanksgiving Dinner

The Towns County 21st Century After School Program will be hosting our First Ever Thanksgiving Dinner for 21st Century students and parents on Tuesday, November 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Middle/High

School Cafeteria.

There is no charge for the event and we ask parents to please RSVP to Gina Chambers or Betsy Settles at 706-896-4131 x1155. T(Nov10.FD)

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## Frizzell wins TOTY ...from page 1A

trade, Frizzell is a natural in the classroom, Dr. Behrens said.

As for all the fuss, Frizzell just smiles and gives the credit to her students.

"I'm very honored," she said. "I was surprised by the honor. It doesn't give me a sense of accomplishment. It's an award that is more for the kids than it is for me. I just try

to do whatever they need.

"Awards like this are for the kids," she said. "It's been a privilege to teach all of the kids. They're so dedicated, motivated and inspiring. It truly has been a privilege for me."

Teaching wasn't Frizzell's chosen profession. Actually, she was set on be-

coming a pharmacist. While in college, she was recruited to be a math tutor at Young Harris.

The rest is history. Frizzell fell in love with teaching and actually realized that it was her gift.

"I knew that was what I was supposed to do," she said. "It's a blessing; it's what God chose me to be."

## Basketball begins...continued from page 1A

Melton has a young, but experienced, playoff tested team returning, anchored by senior Jordan Moss.

Ali Bleckley, Gabby Arencibia, Kindle Moss, Crystal Bishop and Lindsay Patton have all seen significant playing time during their playing days at Towns County.

The tipoff with Andrews marks the only time the home folks will see

the Indians and Lady Indians in November.

Following the Andrews game, the Indians kick it off for real in Dawsonville at 4 p.m. on Nov. 19 against the Tigers. It also marks the first junior varsity games of the season.

On Nov. 22, both teams travel to Andrews, NC to take on the Wildcats again. The junior varsity

kicks off the action at 4 p.m.

The game in Andrews is followed by a trip to Hiawassee Dam on Nov. 23 and seven days later by a trip to Hayesville, NC on Nov. 30.

The Ladies and Gents don't play again at home until Dec. 4 when the Union County Panthers come to town.

For a free season schedule, come by the Towns County Herald office.

## Cookies & Tea with Mrs. Claus and me

Where: Green to Bean Coffee Roasters. When: December 14, 2010. Time: 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. (anytime during these hours).

\$5 includes assorted

desserts, coffee, tea, and/or hot cocoa, crafts & activities for kids of all ages, and a take home picture with Ms. Claus.

All proceeds benefit the Sheriff's Empty Stocking

Christmas Fund.

Hosted by Green to Bean Coffee Roasters, the Sheriff's Department, Towns County Family Connection, and the Bank of Hiawassee. T(Nov10.F3)SH

## Veterans...continued from page 1A

Towns County.

That's because the Howitzer is a weapon and state law prohibits weapons on school property.

However, with a \$1 a year lease agreement with the county, the property, which holds the Veterans Park, is now owned by the county via the lease agreement and the school is relieved of liability.

VFW Commander Chris Swett says the Howitzer has a storied past, from action in WWII to Korea all the way to Vietnam and later Croatia. While serving in the latter, the Howitzer, which has been on display at the Federal Military Records Center in St. Louis, was reconfigured to fire nuclear rounds up to 10 miles.

The search for a cannon for the Towns County Veterans Park began in 2005 when Park Chairman Louie Mitchell applied to the Department of the Army Life Cycle Management Command for an artillery piece to be placed in the Towns County Veterans Park.

The Howitzer recently became available due to the relocation of the Federal

Military Records Center.

Commander Swett said that the Howitzer was designed in 1939 and manufactured in 1940. It was used extensively in WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

The Veterans Committee commends Commissioner Kendall and Dr. Behrens with a special thanks for helping the Veterans Park obtain this incredible display of military history.

The Veterans Committee also commends Turpin's Wrecker Service for transporting the Howitzer from St. Louis to Hiawassee. They also refurbished the artillery piece by cleaning and painting it. Turpin's also moved the Howitzer to its permanent location on the pad at Veterans Park.

"Many thanks to the folks at Turpin's," Commander Swett said.

Chairman Mitchell invites Towns County residents to attend the ceremonies on Thursday at 11 a.m.

"As Chairman Mitchell has stated, the Veterans Park belongs to the people of Towns County," Commander Swett said.