

WWII Veteran James G. Farmer receives Quilt of Valor

On November 20, 2016, with his family present, it was an honor for the Misty Mountain Quilters Guild Quilts of Valor Outreach members, Bonny Garrett and Anna Stone, to award a Quilt of Valor to Mr. James G. Farmer, a U.S. Army WWII Veteran. The presentation was made at the Union County Nursing Home in Blairsville, GA.

In November 1942, James G. Farmer was inducted into the Army at Camp Croft, SC. In December 1942 he was sent to Camp Wheeler, GA for additional training. In July 1943 he was transferred to Camp Shelby, MS in preparation for shipment overseas. On August 21, 1943 he married Rachel Edna Hall.

On June 6, 1944 he was sent to England, and by July 1, 1944, he was in France. He was sent to the front lines and placed in the 35th Infantry Division, 137th Regiment, Company C as a machine gunner. During the Battle of Mortain in August 1944, PFC Farmer was injured. He was treated in the field hospital and later returned to his Company.

On Thanksgiving Day 1944 in Hilsprich, France, his Company took the heaviest losses of the battle -- with 4 KIA, 26 wounded and 29 missing. He was taken captive by the 38th Regiment of 17th SS Division (Germany). The Germans loaded him on a train with five other American soldiers and many wounded German soldiers and kept there for over 50 hours. He was transferred to a German hospital, as he had been wounded by shrapnel and his feet were severely swollen from frostbite.

In December 1944, PFC Farmer entered the German prison camp Stalag 4-B1 in Muhlberg, Germany. Then he was moved to work camp K.D.O. #3 near Vietchal, Germany. At this work camp the prisoners were taken out to



WWII Veteran James G. Farmer

work on the railroads damaged by air strikes -- working in the cold and snow. In February 1945 (due to the Russians invading Germany), PFC Farmer and other prisoners were forced to march three days to another German prison camp, Stalag 3-A in Luckenwalde, Germany. There he stayed until April 21, 1945 when Russian tanks knocked down the barb wire fences of the camp, liberating the prisoners. PFC Farmer and other prisoners walked away and made their way back to friendly territory.

PFC James G. Farmer received the Purple Heart for injuries sustained during the war. After the war Mr. Farmer became a minister and pastored for over 47 years.

Quilts of Valor are presented to those veterans and active duty military who have served in combat zones. The patriotic quilt presented to Mr. Farmer, represents a thank you to him for what he has done to defend and protect our nation. Each Quilt of Valor presented is registered with the National Archives. Founded in November 2003 by Blue Star mother, Catherine Roberts, the Quilts of Valor Founda-

tion (www.qovf.org) consists totally of volunteers who sew the quilts, quilt them, and then award them to honorably discharged Veterans who have been touched by war. Since 2003, this national group of quilters has awarded more than 150,450 patriotic quilts to veterans and active duty military. The Misty Mountain QOV Quilters have awarded more than 400 of those quilts -- many to local veterans -- and they have sent other quilts to injured active duty troops in Germany and in Afghanistan.

If you, or a veteran you know, served in a military combat zone, and you want to know more about how that veteran can be awarded a Quilt of Valor, please go online to <http://www.qovf.org/> and click on "TAKE ACTION/Request a QOV". If you would like to help this group make some of these quilts for heroic American veterans like James Farmer, please also see the www.qovf.org website, or contact the Misty Mountain Quilts of Valor group by clicking on this website and the word "Projects" on the left side of the home page: <http://www.mistymountainquiltguild.org/>

WWII Army Veteran Dossier Receives Quilt of Valor

On November 18, 2016, it was an honor for Anna Stone and Bonny Garrett to present a Quilt of Valor to David A. Dossier, Sr. at his home in the presence of his daughters. David A. Dossier was born in Morristown, TN in 1925. He attended early schools in Morristown, TN, Norris TN, Florence, AL and Marietta, GA. In 1943, he graduated from Marietta High School.

Four months later Mr. Dossier was inducted into the Army at Fort McPherson, GA and was sent to Hattiesburg, MS, on Christmas Eve for infantry training at Camp Shelby. He served in General Patton's Third Army as a member of the Sixty-Fifth Infantry Division. He served in an anti-tank unit that fought across France, Germany and Austria. He was three miles away from where the Russian and American Armies met at the Czech border.

After World War II he attended Emory University for two years with additional education at the University of Georgia, and the American Institute of Banking. He and his wife, Ann Hawkins Dossier



David Dossier and his family display his quilt.

had three children, David Jr., Elizabeth Jane and Sue Hawkins. He was employed by First National Bank of Cobb County for thirty years. He retired as a Senior Vice President. Since 2004, he has lived with his daughter, and son-in-law in Hiawassee, GA.

Mr. Dossier's medals and awards include a Combat Infantry Badge, World War II Victory Medal, American Service Medal, European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with two Bronze Stars,

Good Conduct Medal AR 600-88, and Army of Occupation Medal.

Quilts of Valor are presented to those veterans and active duty military who have served in combat zones. Information about the Quilts of Valor Foundation may be found at www.qovf.org. The patriotic quilt presented to Mr. Dossier represents a thank you to him for what he did to defend and protect our nation. Each Quilt of Valor presented is registered in the National Archives.

Ordiales...from Page 1A

from all of this, having not known much about economic development, is the amount of resources that are out there for people to help you move forward and do things in your town."

Ordiales said she learned that there are seemingly endless resources available to Hiawassee regarding every aspect of municipal and county living.

From education to agriculture, to tourism, industry building and more, Ordiales got a real sense that the people on the Board of the Georgia Academy for Economic Development sincerely want to help communities prosper.

She is the only Towns County graduate of the 2016 Region 2 Multi-Day Training Program, though she did have plenty of classmates that consisted of elected officials, public servants, business leaders, educators and social service providers from 12 counties in Region 2.

"The Academy provided each of the graduates an opportunity to gain a unique understanding

of the complexities of economic and community development on the local, regional and state levels," according to a release about the graduation.

As for what's next, Ordiales said that she wants Hiawassee to realize its full potential as a city -- not to become something that it's not, but to become everything it possibly can be.

"The intent here is not to become Asheville, it's not to become Helen -- it's to become Hiawassee, whatever that might be," said Ordiales. "Let's see what we've got, let's see how we can become self-sustaining. We don't want all of our high school kids to leave the minute they graduate. Maybe if we can provide some kind of jobs for them here, they can stay, and we could become self-sustaining."

"They could build their homes, they can have their kids here -- we can support ourselves versus you graduate and you get out of here. Then you come back 30 years later and you retire here. And that's okay. If that's the way it works, then let's tailor it toward that. But we have so many young people here that it would be great if we could keep some of our talent

here." Ordiales heard about the Academy, which cost \$225, from Blue Ridge Mountain EMC's Director of Economic Development Erik Brinke, and she said she was thankful for the chance to attend and is excited to start applying what she has learned.

"Another big takeaway is that when people come and want to invest in your community, not all money is good money," said Ordiales. "If it's going to cost you more to support them with your infrastructure, with your schooling, with your water, then maybe that's not what you need."

"But to do a study not only of how much money you're going to get, but a fiscal study, how much it's going to cost you, is invaluable. And a lot of times you'll see that, even if you have a great investment coming into your community, it's not going to do you much good because it's going to cost you more to support it."

The next Region 2 Georgia Academy for Economic Development will begin in August 2017. For more information, contact Kathy Papa at (770) 362-7068, or by email at kathy.papa@dca.ga.gov.

Parade...from Page 1A

certain theme. This year, the theme was "O' Holy Night," and each float was decked out in a true reflection of Christmas spirit.

Of the 13 floats that joined in on the parade this year, three were judged as the best of the best, receiving honorable mention for their outstanding decorating skills.

National Title Pawn took home the First Place prize, SERVPRO came in as Runner-Up, and Third Place was awarded to the Towns County Lions Club.

Spectators lined the streets, and children made sure to bring bags for the mountains of candy that was thrown into the crowd during the parade.

Everyone bundled up warmly for the event and afterward either visited McConnell Memorial Baptist Church to see Santa Claus or went to the Hiawassee Square for the Enotah CASA Lighting of the Christmas Luminaries event.

The luminaries around the square were bought in honor of, memory of, or just in thanks of individuals important to those who donated, and the proceeds from the luminaries will be put towards assisting the CASA volunteers in helping children in need.

Enotah CASA is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that spans across the Enotah Judicial Circuit -- Towns, Union, White and Lumpkin counties -- and helps more than 200 abused and neglected children in the foster system each year. Oftentimes these children are separated from their siblings and experience a great deal of confusion as they are processed through the system of social workers, foster homes and courts.

The purpose of a CASA volunteer is not only to give these abused and neglected children a voice within the legal system, but also a point of stability and certainty on a regular basis during a time when nothing is certain.

"This is our second annual hosting of the luminary event in Hiawassee," said Tammy Jordan, a CASA volunteer. "I want to thank Mayor (Barbara) Mathis and the city council for allowing us to join in the lighting of the square event. It is through the participation of many in our community and the financial support that we hope to continue the lighting of Hiawassee Square annually."

"Last year, we served 212 children in our four-county juvenile circuit, and 41 children here in Towns County. Our volunteers drove over 11,000 miles and volunteered over 1,200 hours to speak up for abused and neglected children in Towns County alone."

In the last year, Enotah CASA volunteers in total donated more than 5,000 hours of time and dedication advocating for the best interests of over 200 children in the region.

Any funds raised by Enotah CASA, such as those given through the luminary event, will go directly towards supporting these volunteers and the children on whose behalf they speak.

Steven Phillips emceed the event, reading off the names of those who were written on the luminary bags that lined the walkway of the Hiawassee Square. In total, there were more than 50 bags purchased during the luminary event, and Enotah CASA is appreciative of each and every donation made.

Enotah CASA would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their donations and support of this year's luminary event: United Community Bank, McKinney Heating and Air, Chatuge Medical Supply, Danny Burch Insurance, Jer-



Enotah CASA raised funds with these luminaries, donations for which were made in honor of an abused or neglected child. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Hiawassee Mayor Barbara Mathis speaking at the presentation of the Enotah CASA 2016 Christmas Luminaries. Photo/Lily Avery



2016 Miss Georgia Mountain Fair Amaira Barrett. Photo/Lily Avery



Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton led the Saturday, Nov. 26, parade. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

emy Hogsed -- Farmers Insurance, Tata's on Main, Worthy's Family Dentistry, Chatuge Regional Hospital, Crane Creek Vineyards and Berrong's Barbershop.

While normally the City of Hiawassee hosts a tree lighting after the parade, Mayor

Barbara Mathis did not have the annual event but encouraged those in the community to support the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' "Mountain Country Christmas in Lights" show and various other events throughout the community during the holiday season

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