

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Letters to The Editor

Letter to the Editor:

Speaking of the Weather
Perhaps you noticed that 2013 was an uncommonly rainy year. At our home in Gumlog I keep a careful, day-by-day record of rainfall and recorded a total of 87 inches for 2013, the rainiest year of my life.

Wm. Ronald Gibson

Letter to the Editor:

Historical Society needs YOU
The Towns County Historical Society is approaching an exciting time in the New Year 2014. We will now have a new home for our archives, thanks to the generosity of Commissioner Bill Kendall.

Towns County Historical Society
Joan Crothers, Secretary

RARE KIDS; WELL DONE
By Don Jacobsen

Question: Our son is 16, going on 21. Ever since he became a teenager we have tried to give him increasing amounts of freedom, and he was more than happy to run with it. Now it seems that he wants to make more and more of his own decisions without consulting us.

The Middle Path
by Don Perry

Floyd Shooke was born in 1924 in a little log cabin on the headwaters of Upper High-tower Creek, the youngest of five children. His family lived so far back in the woods and so close to the land that when the Great Depression came a few years later, "they couldn't tell the difference," he would often say.

Floyd was the offspring of generations of survivors, people who overcame the challenges and the hazards of living in the Great American Wilderness: the back breaking work, disease, hunger and isolation.

Toughness and resourcefulness are good for survival, but a third ingredient was needed for our Appalachian communities to thrive. That ingredient was faith; faith in God, faith in community and common decency and faith in a great nation.

Floyd Shooke was also my father, and he taught me the lessons that sustain me to this day. He always insisted that the key to success in life is integrity and common sense buoyed by faith.

When a parent dies, we are never the same, nor should we expect to be. Something profound if unknowable shifts in our being.

"From the Mountains to the Sea" is a phrase often used to describe the diversity of Georgia's varied regions and habitats, and it is a fitting description of Floyd's path from the North Georgia Mountains, around the world and back home again.

"IT'S ON MY MIND.."
Danny H. Parris

The Divider of Time

The New Year is a gift from God. It contains 365 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes, and 31,536,000 seconds. Time is so very precious.

Likewise, it would be interesting to look back over the past twelve months and see where we have invested our time. Has it been working? Watching television? Pursuing your favorite hobby? Worshipping? Seeking amusements? Sleeping? Being entertained?

An unknown war correspondent observed how people squander their lives when he wrote: "Some men die of shrapnel - some go down in flames - but most men perish inch by inch - who play at little games."



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

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 EMAILED OR MAILED

TO: Towns County Herald, Letter to the Editor, PO Box 365, Hiawassee, GA 30546. Our email address: tcherald@windstream.net.

American Legion Post 23 meets 1st Tuesday of each month at 4 PM at VFW Post 7807, Sunnyside Rd., Hiawassee. Call 706-896-8387 for details.



"You won't believe it! When I heard stamps are going up, I rushed to buy some, and there wasn't even a line yet!"

Towns County Herald
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