

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

# OPINIONS & COMMENTARY



## Hearthstones of Home deadline extended through March 30

Reprinting of: *Hearthstones of Home*, Foundations of Towns County, Georgia - Vol. 1.

Long out of print, this could be your last chance to obtain a copy!

Acid free, enamel paper. 8½" x 11" coffee table size, 336 pages. Edited and compiled by well-known Towns County Historian/Genealogist Jerry Taylor.

Hardbound, collector's edition with rich gold stamped cover, closely matching the first printing.

More than 800 Modern and Early family histories, genealogies and pictures.

The deadline for pre-orders has been extended through March 30th to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to own this original piece of Towns County history. Delivery of the book will be June 2013. Only pre-paid copies will be ordered.

For questions or ordering information, retired History Teacher Jerry Taylor can be contacted by phone at 706-379-3150 or email at br686@windstream.net.

## Letters to The Editor

### Letter to the Editor:

Attention concerned parents and citizens of Towns County:

The next Board of Education meeting will be held April 1 at 7 PM. If you are concerned about:

- 1) The future of Towns County Schools.
- 2) The future of the Health Occupations Program.
- 3) The decisions being made by the Superintendent and the School Board members.

Show up and let your voice be heard.

The Board meeting is April 1 at 7 PM. Be there at 6:30 PM.

Barbara Crisp & Lisa Winkler

## RARE KIDS; WELL DONE

By Don Jacobsen

**Q:** Dr. Don, I am trying to get my toddler (our first child) potty trained now that he's nearly two, but some of my friends who have kids the same age are critical of me. They tell me I should wait until he's at least three or even four. They assure me that he will let me know when he is ready and that I shouldn't push him or I might do some kind of psychological damage. Whose side are you on in this debate?

**A:** I am certainly not on the side of the companies that sell disposable diapers in sizes that fit up to five- and six-year olds. They sold \$1.8 billion worth to America's parents last year. That's a lot of land-fill. And a lot of mess for mom (usually) to clean up.

Here's some perspective: Studies by Stanford, Harvard, and other university researchers show that when my kids were born ('55 and '58), more than 80% of America's toddlers were toilet trained by the age of two. That's two as in 24-months. By the way, "toilet trained" in sociology-speak means completely accident-free for one month. By contrast, the majority of babies born in 21st century America do not reach accident-free status until at least their third birthday.

So, what happened? Well, 50-years or so ago the mood among American parents began to shift toward, "Let the child show the way." We called it child-centered parenting and, urged on by parenting "experts," Dr. Benjamin Spock and others, it sounded plausible at first. If Suzy wants to write on the walls with her crayons, don't stop her or you may frustrate her artistic instincts. If Junior enjoys fishing the fish out of the fish bowl, don't stop him; perhaps one day he will become a marine biologist. If Angela doesn't want to sit on a cold potty, don't force her or you may damage her fragile psyche. There's a scientific term to describe that kind of parental thinking: baloney. Unfortunately in many places it's still with us.

Actually, my guess is that you are about to become the envy of mothers for miles around. At the age of your child it should take a week or maybe two, and you and junior will both be diaper-free. Think how that's going to uncomplicate your life. As for the specifics, I could suggest a book. Or you could ask your grandma.

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

## From the Desk of: Sheriff Clinton of Towns County

Property thefts are crimes that can be very personal and affect us on a human level. This is especially true when the theft comes in the form of burglary. When someone enters a person's home and goes through their personal belongings it can cause the victim to become very insecure inside their own home.

There are some things that you can do to help make your home safer. The following are just some ideas to make your home safer. They are offered as ideas and not an exhaustive list. The scope of this article is too limited to attempt to be all inclusive, but these ideas, if implemented, will certainly help.

You should always keep doors and windows closed and locked while you're away. If you do not have one, install a deadbolt lock on all exterior doors. Deadbolt locks should have a one inch throw and a reinforced strike plate, which should be held in place with three inch screws.

If you have a garage with an automatic garage door, the door should be locked along with any exterior door. Burglars often carry electronic garage door openers and will ride through neighborhoods pressing the button and waiting for a garage door with the same frequency to open.

It is always a good idea when you are away to create the illusion that someone is home. You can buy timers at most hardware stores that will turn on lights, radios and televisions, at preset times. This will make your home appear to be occupied. These timers are typically cheap to buy and can help ward off potential thieves.

It is always a good idea to keep the area around your home well lighted. The last thing a burglar wants is to be seen committing the crime.

If you are going to be away for several days it is always a good idea to have a trusted friend, family member, or neighbor to collect your mail for you while you are gone. Nothing says

you are away to a burglar like a stuffed mail box and several days of uncollected newspapers.

Sometimes people leave messages on their phone that they are away on a trip. You should never do this. It is like placing an advertisement to a thief that your home is available for a burglary.

Always keep shrubbery trimmed away from entrances or walkways. Large hedges may be appealing to look at. Burglars find them very attractive as well because they provide them a safe passage to your doors and windows.

Probably one of the best ways to protect your home is to be a part of a Neighborhood Watch. Burglars know that alert neighborhoods are dangerous places to commit a crime. They would much rather go to another area where they are less likely to be caught.

The Sheriff's Office in Towns County offers free advice and training to help individuals and neighborhoods protect themselves from crime. If you would like more information please contact us at 706-896-4444.

**OWN A BUSINESS? NEED TO ADVERTISE?**  
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## "IT'S ON MY MIND.."

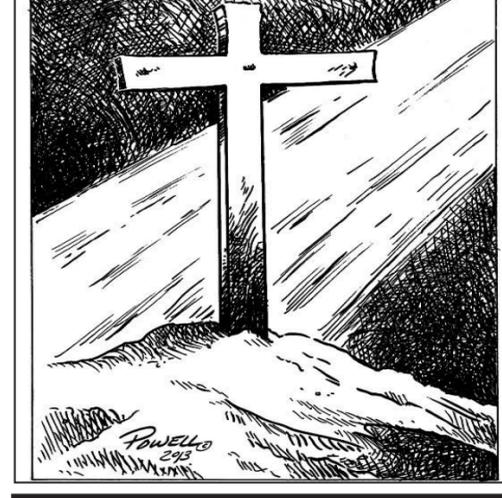
Danny H. Parris

### What think ye of Christ?

Holy Week extends from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday and Christians all over the world turn their thoughts to Jesus and to the events that took place in Jerusalem over two thousand years ago. In fact, the entire world is faced with the question, "What think ye of Christ?" This was the question that Jesus directed to the Pharisees in Matthew's gospel (Matt. 22:42). This is a personal question. "What do you think of Christ?" All of us must answer this probing question. As you consider this question I would like to share with you what others thought of Jesus. Let's ask God what He thinks of Christ and He says, "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17). If you ask the angels in heaven their response is, "Unto you is born... a savior which is Christ the Lord (Luke 2:11). Let's ask John the Baptist and he declares, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Ask impetuous Peter and he cries out, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt 16:16). Disbelieving Thomas, when asked his opinion would loudly announce, "My Lord, and my God" (John 20:28). The poor sinful Samaritan woman who had lived with six different men, invites us to "Come see a man.. Is not this the Christ?" (John 4:29). Nathanael, a man in whom was no guile, testified of Jesus, "Rabbi, thou art the Son of God" (John 1:49). Paul, the forgiven persecutor of Christ's followers, gladly proclaims his revelation of Christ when he confesses, "I count all things loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord" (Phil. 3:8). John the

Apostle, records in the last book of the Bible that Jesus is "The bright and morning star" (Rev. 22:16). That Roman Centurion helping to carry out the execution of Christ declared with a broken heart, "Truly this man was the Son of God" (Mark 15:39). The Ethiopian Eunuch when asked what he believed joyfully confesses that "Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:37). Pilate, the governor, weak and spineless, admits that "I find no fault at all" (John 18:38). Lastly, the very one who lived and traveled with Jesus for three years, and finally betrayed Him for the price of a slave, Judas, the name that makes you shudder, bitterly wails out, "I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood" (Matt. 27:4). The evidence is overwhelming. Jesus is God's Son, humanity's only Savior. The witnesses in heaven and on earth, both friends and foes, testify that Jesus is the Son of God. Even the devils believe and tremble (James 2:19). It is important what all of these witnesses believed and confessed. But what they believed won't help you. In the beginning, I said this was a personal question. Your eternal destiny depends on what you think of Christ. In light of the evidence and witnesses, what is your decision? During Holy Week or Passion Week, God demonstrated the great lengths to which He would go to forgive our sins. This Sunday as we worship and celebrate Easter we need to remember that this is not just an event on our calendar but the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ should stir the strongest feelings of worship from our souls. Easter is the experience of love conquering hate, light triumphing over darkness, good defeating evil, and life finally, fully and forever demolishing death because Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Because He lives we live and sing, "I serve a risen savior!" "Hallelujah, What a Savior!"



For God so loved the world...

John 3:16

## Community Calendar

**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. We need your support!  
**Towns County Water Board Meeting** 3rd Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the TC Water Office Building.  
**Mountain Community Seniors** meet the second Thursday of each month at the Senior Center in Hiawassee at 2 p.m.  
**Towns County Democratic Party** meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 5 PM at the Senior Center. Please call Kim Bailey at 706-994-2727 or 706-896-6747 for details.  
**Towns County Republican Party** meets at 6: 30 PM the 2nd Thursday of each month at Daniels Steak House. For more info call 706-379-1371.  
**Towns County Planning Commission** is held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Courthouse.  
**Towns County Commissioners** meeting is the 3rd Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the courthouse.  
**School Board Meeting**, 2nd Monday each month at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.  
**Hiawassee City Council** 1st Tuesday of month 4 p.m., at City Hall.  
**Young Harris City Council**, 1st Tuesday of month at 7 p.m., Young Harris City Hall.  
**The Hiwassee River Valley Kennel Club** meetings are held at 7 p.m. the 1st Monday of each month at Brother's Restaurant in Murphy. Call Kit: 706-492-5253 or Peggy: 828-835-1082.  
**The Unity Masonic Lodge #259** meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.  
**Stephens Lodge #414 F & AM** meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM in Young Harris.  
**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 Hiawassee at 5:30 p.m. Annual dues \$15, PO Box 1182, Hiawassee, GA. We do oral family histories of residents. 706-896-1060, www.townshistory.org  
**Bridge Players** intermediate level meets at 12:30 p.m. on Mondays & Fridays at the Towns County Rec Center.  
**Mountain Regional Arts and Crafts Guild, Inc (MRACG)** meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at ArtWorks Artisan Centre, Hiawassee. Refreshments at 6 p.m., meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. Call us by 706-896-0932 or mtntregartsandcraftsguild.org.  
**Mountain Computer User Group** meets the 2nd Monday of each month at the Goolsby Center at YHC. Q & A at 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m.  
**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 -7 p.m. General Meeting. Everyone welcome. www.ngatu692.com.  
**Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)** meets the 3rd Monday of each month at various area restaurants. For information call John at 706-896-2430 or visit www.moaa.org/chapter/blueridgemountains.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous**: 24 hour phone line 828-837-4440.  
**Mothers of Preschoolers** meets the third Thursday of each month at First Baptist Church of Blairsville from 6 - 8 p.m. Call the church at 706-745-2469.  
**Chatuge Regional Hospital Auxiliary** on the 3rd Monday of each month, except the months of July, October and December, in the hospital cafeteria at 1:30 p.m.  
**Mountain Magic Table Tennis Club** meets 3 p.m. Thursdays at Pine Log Baptist Church Fellowship Hall in Brasstown. Ping Pong players welcome. Call Jerry (828) 837-7658.  
**Prostate Cancer Support Group** meets the 3rd Monday of every month from 5-6 PM in the Cancer

Treatment Center Auditorium in Blairsville. For more info call Steve 706-896-1064.  
**The Humane Society Mountain Shelter** Board of Directors meets the last Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at Cadence Bank in Blairsville.  
**The Towns County Alzheimer's Support Group** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 PM in the Family Life Center of McConnell Memorial Baptist Church. For more info call Carol 706-896-1064.  
**The Appalachian Shrine Club** meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Allegheny Lodge in Blairsville. For more info call William 706-994-6177.  
**Georgia Mountain Writers Club** meets at St. Francis of Assisi Church the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 10 AM.  
**GMREC Garden Tours** every Monday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
**Shooting Creek Basket Weavers** meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. at the Shooting Creek Fire Hall Community Center. For more info www.shootingcreekbasketweavers.com.  
**Friendship Community Club** meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6 PM at Clubhouse, 1625 Hwy. 76, 706-896-3637.  
**Goldwing Road Riders** meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at Daniel's Steakhouse in Hiawassee. We eat at 11 and meeting begins at 12.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** meets every Wednesday evenings at 7 PM at the Red Cross building (up the hill from the chamber of office on Jack Dayton Circle).  
**Caregiver support group** meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, 3 p.m. at Brasstown Manor, located at 108 Church St., Hiawassee. Call 706-896-4285 for more info.  
**Enchanted Valley Square Dance Club**. Dances 2nd & 4th Fridays at Hiawassee Senior Ctr. from 7-9 PM. \$5/person to dance. Free to watch. Call 706-379-2191.  
**Brasstown Woodturners Guild** meets 1st Saturday of month at 9:30 AM in HHS shop. For more info call J. C. at 706-896-5711.

## Towns County Herald

Dedicated to the promotion of Towns County

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