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Bald Mountain Park off Fodder Creek Road and working for donations only.

This was a dedicated group of folks and they have already got several more fundraisers in the works.

"I would really like to thank Mrs. (Melissa) Williams and the School Board as well as Mr. (Roy) Perren and Mr. (Jonathan) Gibson for allowing us this opportunity," Stowers said. "We have several fundraisers coming up. April 27 a car show, swap meet and BBQ in front of the school. On May 18 celebrity baggers at Ingles and on May 29 a Taking Down Disney golf tournament at Chantage Shores."

Also, mark your calendars wrestling fans, on April 18th, Bear Meadows Grill will be doing their part for this group of young people as they will be donating 10 percent of all dinner sales between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Everybody's got to eat and this is a very worthwhile cause and you can get your belly full and help out the wrestling team at the same time.

Also, on April 27th, the

wrestling team will be sponsoring a *Wrestle to Disney* Car Show between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Towns County High School. Vehicle check in will begin at 8 a.m.

This is going to be an exciting day complete with raffles, food, vendors, and music. The entry fee is a nominal \$20 and the admission cost is only \$5. For more details on participating in this event, contact Coach Stowers at (706) 835-7934 or by email at stowers@townscountyschools.org or call Ricky Rogers at (706) 781-5826.

This group just has no quit in them. They also will be offering a golf tournament on May 29th at Chantage Shores Golf Course. More details will be forthcoming.

They also have plans to sponsor a Celebrity Baggers Day at Ingles of Hiwassee on May 18th.

Towns County, let's get behind this talented group of wrestlers and make sure that they are able to represent the school at Disney World. Donations are accepted and appreciated.

Young...continued from Page 1

third studio album, *NEON*, there is no doubt that Young's confidence is well-founded.

Young's latest hit, *Tomorrow*, one of the seven impressive songs on the *NEON* album, is the fasting rising hit of his career.

All of the songs on this album were co-written by Young.

"It's my number one single and the first to go Platinum," he said. "It's exciting to have a string of number ones."

Young and his seven-member band will be showcasing many of his great hits including *NEON*, *The Man I Want To Be*, *Getting You Home*, and *Voices*.

Young was amazingly honest as he admitted, "I had no idea where Hiwassee was. I had to Google it, but I love being a singer and performer and I'm real excited about coming to Hiwassee. We're going to put on a great show."

The very talented Eric Paslay will be opening for Young and it promises to be a great show.

Mark your calendars for all the exciting upcoming

events brought to you courtesy of the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds.

You will not want to miss the upcoming *Banker's Hour* on April 27th at Anderson Music Hall or the BMW Motorcycle Rally on May 3rd and 4th.

It's a real busy time at the Fairgrounds and you are invited and encouraged to come out and be a part of it.

The Georgia Mountain Green Egg Fest will be held at the Fairgrounds on May 17th and 18th.

General Manager Hilda Thomason is excited to announce that they already have 120 cooks registered.

If you haven't been to the Green Egg Fest, you are in for a mouth-watering, delectable treat.

You can pre-order your Green Egg at a discount price by calling Hiwassee Hardware. For additional information on upcoming concerts, call the GMF office at (706) 896-4191 or check out their Web site at georgiamountainfairgrounds.com.

They have all the latest info on ticket sales, upcoming concerts, and events.

Grant...continued from Page 1

Young Harris," Howell said.

Howell says that the money will be used to report purchase new library materials, equipment, supplies, and to provide summer reading programs and other services.

"With state budget cuts over the past several years, the funds from the Commissioner and the Friends of the Library of Towns County have provided almost all of the new books, audio books, magazine subscriptions, newspapers, e-books, and other materials for Towns County's libraries," she said. "They have also provided classes, children's programs, new equipment and supplies."

Howell stressed that "libraries today or more than just a repository for books and other

resources."

She emphasized that librarians no longer just check books in and out, but work with elected officials, small business owners, students, and the public to discover what their community needs are and to work to meet those needs.

"Librarians listen to the communities they served and they respond," she said.

Howell encourages you to visit your local library and see what they have to offer.

"If you are a regular library user, you are already making use of this great community resource," she said.

Howell invites the Towns County community to join them in celebrating National Library Week.

HOSA...continued from Page 1

Savannah Crews, daughter of Mike and Suzanne Crews; Alex King, son of Tonya and Eric King; Stephany Hooper, daughter of Ronnie and Elizabeth Hooper; Zach Pittman, son of Belinda and Richard Pittman; Hayle Lovelady, daughter of Detra and Scott Lovelady; and Brooke-Anne Crews, daughter of Mike and Suzanne Crews.

Chapter Awards went to Towns County High School HOSA for their National Service Project, HOSA State Theme "Putting the CARE back into HealthCARE" and to the Towns County Middle School HOSA for their National Service Project, *HOSA Happenings* Newsletter.

Individual Awards included Interview Skills, Katelyn Patterson; Personal Care, Hayle Lovelady; Clinical Specialty, Savannah Crews; Medical Math, Alex King; Medical Reading, Devin Wheeler;

Community Awareness, Emma Jackson, Zachary Pittman, and Stephany Hooper; and Public Health, Zack Boyd, Reed Moss, and Lane Kimsey.

The prestigious Barbara James Service Award went to Reed Moss for his participation with the Towns County Fire Rescue Department.

"I've been involved with the fire department for a long time," Moss said. "I'm not into school, but the HOSA events allow me to have fun and show my real life skills in a competitive way."

CTAE Director Melissa McConnell said she was extremely proud of the accomplishments of the HOSA competitors.

"Being able to compete at the national level will not only increase their knowledge, but will also boost student confidence in their health care skills," McConnell said.

Save A Lot...continued from Page 1

to see that I'm running the store. It's good to be back," said Green.

Green said that he had traveled with store co-owner Stan Dilworth and District Store Manager Terry Mitchum for a week long training at the Save A Lot Headquarters in St. Louis, Mo.

Don and Jan Schrock of Hiwassee came out to check out the new store and see what kind of deals they could get.

"It's real nice and clean and everybody was real friendly and helpful," said Jan Schrock.

Don Shrock was impressed that they had three employees ask them if they could help them find anything during their visit.

Cashiers Haleigh Green, Chelsea Alferink, and Brittany Serra were very busy at the registers and still managed to keep a smile on their face and tell the customers to 'have a good day' as they finished checking out and prepared to leave the store.

"Customer service is amazing here. That's the one thing we really emphasized to the employees while they were training. Customer ser-



Store Manager Doug Green, and District Manager Terry Mitchum, are excited about the prospects of Save A Lot in Hiwassee. Photo/Libby Shook

vice comes first. They make sure that the store is always clean, registers clean, and that the aisles are well-stocked"

said Assistant Store Manager Nikki Barrow.

Barrow also said that all the employees have been trained as multi-purpose clerks.

What exactly does that mean?

According to employee Caden Smith it means "we are responsible for doing whatever needs to be done. We are all trained to work as a cashier, stock shelves, mop floors, and basically just do what it takes to make sure that we provide good customer service."

Smith said that he really likes working at Save A Lot

and enjoys having Green as store manager.

"Everybody here works together. We're like a big family here and everybody is great to work with," he said.

Melissa Chastain came over from Brasstown, NC to check out the store.

"I came to where I can get more for my money," she said. "I have five people living in my house and with the economy the way that it is, I look for the best prices and go to where I can get the most groceries for my money."

"That's why I'm here," she said. "They have really good prices."

Hiwassee resident Angie Hogsted seconded those comments.

"I think this is something we've needed for a long time," she said. "The prices are great and everybody's so helpful."

Chris Fulton of Hayesville said he likes that "it's really clean and so well organized."

The verdict is in; folks are glad to have Save A Lot opened for business in Hiwassee and they are enjoying the savings.

Crosswalk...continued from page 1

factors to resolve, including financing, permits, and approval from GDOT, everything had finally come together and the installation was scheduled for Thursday morning, April 4th, Gibby said.

Mother Nature, however, had plans of her own, and as the thunder rolled and the rain poured down, the installation had to be delayed until Friday morning.

Mark Zinn and Eric Richards of Southern Lighting and Traffic Systems of Cumming were there bright and early on Friday morning and they had a beautiful day to install the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons at the crosswalk directly across from Young Harris College.

The beacons were installed on each side of the crosswalk.

"We got the approval by the Council back last year when we did a presentation at one of their council meetings," Zinn said. "We had to wait for approval from the Georgia Department of Transportation. They approved it in December 2012 and we got the go ahead sometime in January."

While Zinn and Richards were installing the crosswalk lights, Young Harris College freshman Sean Burke of Blairsville was waiting to cross the street.

As he neared the men working, he said, "I'm glad to see this. It's been a long time



Workers complete the construction of a crosswalk in Downtown Young Harris. Photo/Libby Shook

coming.

"This is very good; it's a plus," said Burke. "I just tried to cross and that car didn't even slow down. It didn't stop."

"I've been standing there for a while trying to cross, and drivers don't pay attention to the crosswalk," said Burke.

Burke hopes the new flashing light helps with this situation.

Several pedestrians attempting to cross the street echoed Burke's sentiments.

Once they were across and they took time to thank the workers as they walked by.

According to Zinn, the beacons are one of the fastest growing pedestrian safety devices on the market today.

"It has an 88 to 90 percent driver compliance rate.

The only other higher compliance rate would be a traffic signal," said Zinn.

Zinn said that the device is being used by more and more folks, especially in school-populated areas.

"It's an amazing piece of technology. It's not just a flasher," said Zinn. "It's a low-cost investment, right about \$10,000, and the fact is that it alerts drivers to slow down in advance."

"There is no sudden light change," said Zinn.

The beacons have a cell modem so they can monitor the light through Southern Lighting and Traffic Systems in Cumming.

"It is constantly talking to a Web site and we know right away if something goes wrong," he said. "It even sends me a cell phone alert so we can respond immediately and take care of the problem."

Zinn said that while the crosswalk lights have a battery, they are solar powered and that extends the life of the battery.

The batteries should last about five or six years, according to Zinn.

The crosswalk lights have buttons on the side and they only flash if the button is pushed.

The button beeps loudly so a blind or visually impaired pedestrian knows that they have hit it right; it also flashes to provide the same service to deaf or hearing impaired pedestrians.

Holmes...continued from Page 1

original founders of Friendship Community Club.

He is a member of the Towns County Lions Club (Past President, Secretary, and Director), Georgia Hospital Association, Georgia Health Care Association, Towns County Board of Health, and the past Director of the Georgia Mountain Fair.

Long time friend and fellow Lion, Jack Anderson said, "Between me, Steve, and Doc (Lanier Nicholson), you're looking at about 160 combined years of service to the Lions Club."

Holmes is still very active and hasn't let a little bit of age slow him down when it comes to work.

He still gets up and goes to work every day at the Towns County Courthouse Annex where he has been employed since the mid-1980s and works with the EPD, Mapping 911, road signage, building permits, and he looks forward to it each and every day.

He enjoys having the opportunity to talk with folks who stop in and to be able to work on behalf of all the good folks of Towns County.

Holmes was born on



Steve Holmes celebrates No. 90 with family and friends at Friendship Baptist Church. Photo/Libby Shook

March 31, 1923 to John Truman and Stella Brown Holmes.

He was the grandson of John W. and Martha Burch Holmes and Alex and Rutha Wilson Brown.

He attended Hiwassee Elementary School and Towns County High School. Soon after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Holmes dropped out of school during his senior year and took welding courses at Clarksville Trade School.

He then went to work in the Southeastern Shipyards in

Savannah.

In 1943, Holmes enlisted in the U.S. Navy, attended boot camp in Great Lakes, Ill., and from there transferred to Monterey, Calif., but spent most of his military time in the Aleutian Islands.

At the time of his discharge in 1946, Holmes had achieved the rank of 3rd Class Petty Officer.

Holmes married Joyce Kimsey on December 15, 1946 and they became the proud parents of four lovely daughters,

Cynthia, Sharon, Ramona, and Stephanie.

For the first 3-plus years of their marriage, Holmes served as manager of Hendrix Tourist Camp.

He took the needed courses to obtain his high school diploma and enrolled at Young Harris College.

In 1953, he became the first WWII Veteran to graduate from YHC under the GI Bill.

Holmes became Administrator of then Towns County Hospital in April 1953, a position he held for more than 30 years.

In 1971, he was honored by the Towns County Lions Club as 'Lion of the Year' and in 1973 was recognized as Citizen of the Year.

"We all unanimously agree that he is a very caring, fair, easy-going Christian man, and we are proud to call him Daddy," said daughter Sharon Payne speaking on behalf of all her sisters.

Holmes said, "I want to thank all my friends from the courthouse, Friendship Baptist Church, and the community for everything they did to make this a really good day."

Irvin Receives State Recognition for Leadership

Towns County High School junior Lesleigh Irvin has recently been chosen by the Georgia FBLA Board of Directors as Georgia FBLA Member of the Month for March for Region 15.

Georgia FBLA recognizes an outstanding FBLA member from each region monthly based on the student's leadership involvement and FBLA membership achievement.

Lesleigh is a local



Lesleigh Irvin

chapter officer and a region, state and national FBLA competitor.

She was recently elected as Region 15 FBLA President for 2013-2014.

She has organized many community service and school service projects locally as well as chairs several local committees with FBLA.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) educa-

tion association with a quarter million students preparing for careers in business.

FBLA is the largest business student organization in the world with over 250,000 members.

Georgia FBLA has the largest state membership in the nation with over 26,000 members.

Congratulations, Lesleigh, for exemplifying leadership excellence in Georgia FBLA.