

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Letters to The Editor

Letter to the Editor:

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence? Their story...

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants.

Nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated.

But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly.

He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General

George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying.

Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished.

Submitted by John Holmes



RARE KIDS; WELL DONE
By Don Jacobsen

Q: Dr. Don, our kids are 11 and 14. Most of the time when our family is together is spent on arguments with the kids challenging their dad and me. Then an argument follows. After it's over we vow not to let it happen again, but before long we find ourselves right back in the same mess. It seems like our children know how to make us angry and get under our skin and they have become experts. Should we just grit our teeth or is there something we can do?

A: Well, you'll be happy to know that arguing is one of the easiest problems to fix. I have a hard time convincing parents of that sometimes because they keep repeating the same mistake. The reason it's easy to fix is because it takes two to argue. You can't argue if there is no one to argue with. Let me suggest a strategy.

I suggest that you and your husband sit down alone together and have a discussion that goes something like this: Where is the leadership in our family? Is it with the children or is it with us, the parents? If you decide - as I'm sure you will - that leadership is the parents' role, then that decision will shape your strategy. You and your husband might want to shake hands on the deal because you have just

made a family-altering decision. Things will be different from now on. You might even want to pop open a root beer and celebrate.

So, Sean, the 11-year old, says he's going over to a friend's house after school. Dad says, This is your day to mow the lawn so you'll need to come right home after school to get it done. Sean replies, I'll mow it tomorrow, my friend just got a new Wii and I want to check it out. Dad responds, Wednesday is lawn day, then turns on his heel and walks out of the room. Sean shouts after him, I'll do it tomorrow. Besides, you make me do all the work. Eddie (the brother) never has to do anything. Dad responds, If I was 11 I might feel the same as you do. Today is your day to mow. And he drives off to work.

Now if the lawn gets mowed, all is well. If not, there is a significant and memorable consequence. These are deeply ingrained responses from Sean and Eddie so it will take a month or more for the new mode to sink in. Be strong. They are re-learning respect for authority, an important behavior here on the front end of their teen years.

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

How fire works - The Basic Elements of Fire

The Fire Triangle - The best way to understand how to stop a fire or control it is to understand how fire burns and what it takes to keep it going or to put it out. The first thing we learned in Firefighter 101 is the fire triangle which shows the three components of fire and to stop a fire, you have three choices, remove the fuel, remove heat, or remove the oxygen, and without all of these, the fire cannot burn.

The Fire Triangle is a simple way of understanding the factors of fire. Each side of the triangle represents one of the three ingredients needed to have a fire - oxygen, heat, and fuel - demonstrating the interdependence of these ingredients in creating and sustaining fire. When there is not enough heat generated to sustain the process, when the fuel is exhausted, removed, or isolated, or when oxygen supply is limited, then a side of the triangle is broken and the fire will die. A heat source, (i.e. match, spark, lightning bolt, electrical heat, etc.) is responsible for the initial ignition of a fire, and heat is also needed to maintain the fire and permit it to spread. Cool the fire and it will die. Heat allows fire to spread by removing the moisture from nearby fuel, warming surrounding air, and preheating the fuel in its path, enabling it to travel with greater ease. Fuel is any kind of combustible material, and is characterized by its moisture content, size and shape, quantity, and the arrangement in which it is spread over the landscape. The moisture content determines how easily that fuel will burn.

Air contains about 21% oxygen, and most fires require at least 16% oxygen content to burn. Oxygen supports the chemical processes that occur during a fire. When fuel burns, it reacts with oxygen from the surrounding air releasing heat and generating combustion products gases, smoke, embers which is what burns. This process is known as oxidation. The most common used fire extinguisher is water which can have two different roles with fire.

In the case of a solid combustible, the solid fuels produce pyrolyzing products under the influence of heat, commonly radiation. This process is halted by the application of water, since water is more easily evaporated than the fuel is pyrolyzed. Thereby energy is removed from the fuel surface and it is cooled and the pyrolysis is stopped, removing the fuel supply to the flames. In firefighting, this is referred to as surface cooling. In the gas phase, i.e. in the flames or in the smoke, the combustible cannot be separated from the oxidizer, and the only possible action consists of cooling down. In this case, water droplets are evaporated in the gas phase, thereby lowering the temperature and adding water vapor making the gas mixture non-combustible. This requires droplets of a size less than about 0.2 mm. In fire-

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. Others have a strong opinion after reading one of the many columns that appear throughout the paper. If so, please write. Please remember that publication of submitted editorials is not guaranteed.

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. Letters should be limited to 200 words or less, signed, dated and include a phone number for verification purposes. This paper reserves the right to edit letters to conform with Editorial page policy or refuse to print letters deemed pointless, potentially defamatory or in poor taste. Letters should address issues of general interest, such as politics, the community, environment, school issues, etc. Letters opposing the views of previous comments are welcomed; however, letters cannot be directed at, nor name or ridicule previous writers. Letters that recognize good deeds of others will be considered for publication.* **Note: All letters must be signed, and contain the first and last name and phone number for verification.**

Executive Director of RC&D



Frank Riley

fighting, this is referred to as gas cooling or smoke cooling.

There also exist cases where the ignition factor is not the activation energy. For example, a smoke explosion is a very violent combustion of unburned gases contained in the smoke created by a sudden fresh air input. The interval in which an air/gas mix can burn is limited by the explosive limits of the air.

Water cannot be used on certain type of fires: fires where live electricity is present - as water conducts electricity it presents an electrocution hazard. Hydrocarbon fires - as it will only spread the fire because of the difference in density/hydrophobicity. For example, adding water to a fire with an oil source will cause the oil to spread, since oil and water do not mix. Metal fires - as these fires produce huge amounts of energy and water can also create violent chemical reactions with burning metal. Oil fires - as vapor will carry and spread burning oil everywhere.

Since these reactions are well-understood, it has been possible to create specific water-additives which will allow better heat absorption with a higher density than water. Foam, enables water to stay on the surface of a liquid fire and prevent gas release or specific reactives which will react and change the nature of the burning material. Water-additives are generally designed to be effective on several categories of fires meaning a better global performance and usability of a single fire extinguisher on many different types of fires or fires that involve several different classes of materials.

For more information on fire contact Frank Riley, Executive Director, Chastatee/Chatahoochee RC&D Council at frank.ccrd@gmail.com.



The Veterans' Corner

By Scott Drummond, USCG Veteran

Attention All Military Veterans

Towns County Veterans will be honoring Mr. Bill Kendall, Towns County Commissioner at a banquet scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at Daniel's Steakhouse beginning at 5:30 PM. Buffet dinner will be \$8 per person. If you have not already pre-purchased your ticket you may pay at the door. We will have a table with two of our veterans at the door for this purpose. For information please call 706-970-0195. Veterans and their families are invited and there will be "special guests". Very special thanks to Daniel "Danny" Barrett of Daniel's Steak House for his help in planning, as well as providing the facilities for this event, and great food too! (As well as his service to our United States Army!)

Sponsors: VFW Post 7807; VFW Post 7807 Ladies Auxiliary; American Legion Post 23; American Legion Riders; American Legion Ladies Auxiliary 23; Marine Corps League Unicoi Detachment; Army-Navy Squadron 66; United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 23. Plus all other Veterans of Towns County.

Our purpose and intent is to honor Mr. Bill Kendall for his consistent support, recognition and his appreciation of all Veterans past, present, and future who serve our nation. Long overdue, we wish to say "Thank you, Sir!" Mr. Kendall and his dear sweet wife Jean will be presented some special gifts for their determined and undying dedication, as well as their many hours of personal time and sacrifice they willingly gave for all our Veterans of our community for over

31 years in Towns County, GA. One such example is our Towns County Veterans' Park began in 1984 by the Board of Education, then Superintendent, Bill Kendall and the Student Council. Monument Panels are dedicated to "those who served in defense of our country." Today with the willing assistance, leadership, and guidance of Mr. Kendall we continue to honor the next group of Towns County Veterans on a beautiful monument panel located on that sacred ground. As always, but not always known to all, there are obstacles to overcome, pitfalls to avoid, and many unexpected challenges along the way to fulfilling and completing projects of this nature. Bill Kendall all went above and beyond in order to insure this was done properly and to completion. Those of us who have served our nation understand and sincerely appreciate those untold hours put into this most honorable and moral commitment by Bill Kendall and beyond a shadow of doubt, Jean Kendall as well.

We the veteran associations and auxiliaries of Towns County, GA, hereby "Declare and Initiate" Mr. Bill Kendall into the order of an "Honorary American Veteran" of the United States of America; for your honorable service and dedication to American veterans these many years; and your forethought and completion of Towns County Veterans Memorial Park.

God's special blessings and humble thanks from all veterans of Towns County to Mr. Kendall, Jean and the entire Kendall family for all you have done!

Semper Paratus



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!
VFW Fish Fry April - October on 2nd & 4th Fridays each month from 4:30 - 7. \$10 per plate.
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 1 p.m.
Towns County Republican Party meets at 6:30 PM the 4th Thursday of each month at the new Senior Center. For more info call 706-994-3919.
Democratic Party of Towns County meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5 PM at the new Senior Center. For info contact Bill Jones at 706-851-0318.
Towns County Planning Commission is held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Courthouse.
Towns County 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 Unicoy 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. Sat. morning breakfast 2nd Sat. of each month from 8 - 10:30 AM. \$6 adults, \$3 12 & under.
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 old Rec Center in Hia-

wassee at 5:30 p.m. 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 & Crafts Guild meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Calvary Chapel on Hwy. 76 in Hiawassee. All local artists and crafters are welcome, for information call 706-896-0932.
Mountain Computer User Group meets the 2nd Monday of each month. Meetings start at 6 p.m. and visitors are welcome. Details can be found at www.mcug.org.
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 Gary at 706-896-4308 or visit www.moaa.org/chapter/blueridgemountains.
Alcoholics Anonymous: 24 hour phone line 828-837-4440.
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.
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 at 706-896-6407.
The Appalachian Shrine Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6 PM at the Shrine Club, Industrial Blvd., Blairsville.
GMREC Garden Tours every Monday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Shooting Creek Basket Weavers meets 2nd Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. at 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 evening at 7 PM at the Red Cross building 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 Towns Co. Rec. Ctr. from 7-9 PM. \$5/person to dance. Free to watch.
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.
Mountain Amateur Radio Club (MARC) meets 6:30 PM the 1st Monday of month at 1298 Jack Dayton Cir. (next to EMS), Hiawassee. For info call Al 706-896-9614 after 6 PM.
The Board of the Towns County Chamber of Commerce meets the second Monday of every month at 8 a.m. at the Chamber office, 1411 Jack Dayton Circle, Young Harris.
The Quilting Bee at McConnell Memorial Baptist Church in Family Life Center, Room 216. 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10 AM - 3 PM. Bring a sack lunch. For more information call Kathy at 706-835-6721 or Marilyn at 706-897-4367.
Mountain Coin Club meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the North Georgia Tech campus in Blairsville. Guests are welcome. For more info, call 706-379-1488.
Monday morning BINGO at Brasstown Manor every Monday morning at 9:30 a.m. 108 Church St., Hiawassee. Players meet in the Bradford. Questions 706-896-4285.

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Deadline for the T.C. Herald is Friday by 5 PM

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