

# Arthur...from Page 1

seven months," he said during an interview with the Towns County Herald in 2010.

Arthur voted in the Old Rock Jail, a building that he helped construct in 1930.

He was born Feb. 5th, 1908, to the late Elisha and Lou (Watkins) Shook in Young Harris.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Cloie Shook, son and daughter-in-law, Loman and Betty Shook, son, Loyal Shook, and son-in-law, Burl Henderson.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, Sept. 15th, at West Union Baptist Church with Rev. Jimmy Rogers, Rev. Jerry Young and grandson, Ricky Tanner officiating.

Pallbearers included Dexter Shook, Jeff Tanner, Gary Hooper, Mike Hooper, Harold Henderson, Larry Shook and Cecil Shook. Interment followed in the West Union Baptist Church cemetery.

Banister Funeral Home of Hiwassee had charge of arrangements.

In 1930 served as a worker with President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal work programs, Arthur was 22 years old at the time.

He remembers getting up well before daylight to walk through Ivy Log Gap with Cicero Nichols and Ott Hooper to get to Crow Gap and through to Hog Creek to get to Hiwassee where the Rock Jail was being built.

In his lifetime, Arthur Shook, who grew up in part in Union County, has been a moonshiner, saw miller, a logger, he worked on cars and as a farmer during his days on this earth.

Arthur went to a doctor for the first time at age 98.

"The doctor said I had the vital signs of a 20-year-old," he said with a laugh during his 2010 interview.

# Safety...from Page 1

rooms. The buttons will each have specific GPS coordinates, so emergency personnel would be able to immediately identify if it came from the math room, or the gym.

This system eliminates any guess work for emergency responders. It also takes out the middle man when it comes to emergency responders in the first place.

"If you can save seconds, you can save lives," Gibson said. "With the buttons, we get to skip dispatch. When the button is pressed, all emergency responders, including the police, firemen and EMS are immediately notified of the emergency."

The school looked at numerous options and chose the buttons they felt were the best for Towns County Schools.

The buttons will be placed in at least five high school classrooms, but Gibson insisted they will be placed in such a space that the teacher can easily use them, the students will know where they are, but it will be difficult for students to press the buttons as a joke.

As with all of the other safety precautions the school system has implemented, Gibson explained that it is all to

avoid an emergency, not to make up for one that already happened.

He feels it is better to be safe than sorry when it comes to his students adding that, "you can never do enough when it comes to safety. We have safety meetings to ensure we are doing all that we can."

Along with the technological security, there is also a sign in/sign out procedure for any guests entering the building, and any student leaving it before the school day is over.

This includes Dual Enrolled students who leave during the day to attend college classes.

Previously, students could exit through a side door, but now, when the school day begins, every door is locked and the only way in or out is through the front.

Gibson is confident in all of these precautions.

"These kids do not know how lucky they are," Gibson said.

While the students are all lucky to have never faced an emergency situation at the Towns County Schools, they also are lucky to have a Board of Education and a principal that care so much about keeping them safe.

# BOE...from Page 1

High School Principal Gibson named the Teacher of the Month and Students of the Week.

Gibson, anxious to acknowledge his students' successes, has teamed up with Dairy Queen and Michael's to reward Students of the Week and a Teacher of the Month for their hard work.

He started the program shortly after the new school year began, and he was sure to include incentive.

As a way to ensure that students and teachers alike know that he is aware of all their hard work, Gibson has been keeping a close eye on successes of everyone at the high school.

For the week of Aug. 19th, Makayla Underwood, Alejandro Lemus-Gomez, Kevin Reardon and Jacqueline Crisp were awarded with the title of Students of the Week.

For the week of Aug. 26th, student awards went to Emma Ledford, Anna Jade

Sutton, Alex Dayton and Courtney Marshall.

For the week of Sept. 2nd, Kobe Denton, Emily Kogod, Jonathan Ruble and Alex King received the honors.

The Teacher of the Month, rewarded with a \$25 Michael's gift certificate, was Brent Lance, the new high school science teacher.

Lance is in his first year teaching at Towns County, but he has taught high school for seven years. He has taught at Arizona State and Western Carolina University before he arrived at the Towns County campus.

Lance loves his job. "It is awesome to teach here," he said. "Everyone has been very welcoming."

"I have super students, and they truly are all great," he said.

He radiates concern for his students, and based on how focused his students are when he teaches, it is obvious why he was deemed the Teacher of the Month.

# Leon...from Page 1

As John Wayne says in the movies of that day, "war is hell."

Today, Leon, now 87, is fighting his greatest battle, cancer.

Jackie explains that until this year, Leon was in great health.

Two months ago, he suffered from severe breathing problems, and after his wife took him to the doctor, they found out Leon had cancer.

They sent him to the Veterans Administration Hospital and his condition only continued to worsen.

Jackie takes good care of Leon, and hospice comes two times a week.

"They make it easier," Jackie said.

She brings Leon home cooked meals to make him more comfortable, which also helps him.

A long-time Hiwassee resident, Leon is originally from East Point. He worked for Western Electric, which later became Bell South.

After a while, he wanted to be closer to family, so he moved to Towns County.

He graduated high school at just 16 years old, and went to Emory University shortly thereafter. He was drafted at 17.

Leon still has a photo of himself during his time serving



Leon West, right, and his good friend and fellow Iwo Jima vet, C.E. Bud Johnson, prior to their 2011 trip to the Pacific War Veterans Reunion in Rome, at Berry College. Photo/Charles Duncan

our country in his room.

While his teenage years might not have gone as he planned, it is obvious he is proud of what he did for our freedom.

Linda Gorman of the Misty Mountain Quilters Guild was at the hospital to present Leon with a Quilt of Valor.

Typically, the ladies in the Guild do presentations twice a month for a large group of veterans, but due to Leon's fragile state, Gorman knew there was no time to waste.

The quilters make beautiful quilts for nominated vet-

erans, as well as matching pillowcases.

When the quilts go to recently wounded veterans in hospitals overseas, the pillowcases serve as convenient bags to toss in all of their paperwork.

Even when the quilts go to long time veterans, the pillowcases are still presented, as it has become part of the tradition.

Leon had multiple friends, also veterans, in attendance, crowding the small room in the care center where Leon has been staying.

Two of those friends were C.E. "Bud" Johnson, also an Iwo Jima veteran, and Vince Miller, who started sharing stories almost as soon as they entered the room.

The Rev. Richard Hoibraten also was there. A veteran as well, the Rev. Hoibraten said, "It is so important to do this for people who put time in, now that their time is almost up. Today's young people have lost sight of what it means to maintain our freedom."

Gorman agreed, as one of the main goals of the Guild is to let veterans know how appreciated they are.

She explained the goals to Leon, as he looked at her with emotion brimming in his eyes.

She held his hand and told him, "we are working for you so you know how in debt we are to you for our freedoms."

After being awarded the beautiful, patriotic quilt, Leon put it to use, having it spread on his bed.

After all the excitement, he fell asleep quickly.

Those who had come to witness the celebration were very moved by the event, not to mention nostalgic.

Johnson and Miller traded war stories, most of them light-hearted to accommodate the mood, while Leon rested under the quilt that was so much more than sewn fabric.

# Harley...from Page 1

keep the Georgia State H.O.G. members coming back.

It's in close proximity to the infamous Dragon, a must ride for Harley enthusiasts, and, the mountain hospitality is unparalleled, many H.O.G. members said on Saturday.

Add in the mountain venue and the twists and turns of the mountainous terrain, and you've got yourself a H.O.G. rally.

From Day One, the Harley owners were treated just like they lived in the Northeast Georgia Mountains.

Harley enthusiasts declared that it really didn't matter which direction that they drove, it was never a bad ride.

The community also received high marks for hospitality.

The Harley Group was especially active all weekend long, taking full advantage of the welcome they received at the Ridges Resort and Marina, and driving back and forth to the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds.

On Saturday night, the group was treated to a cookout



The Harley Owners of Georgia (H.O.G.) rumble down Main Street in Downtown Hiwassee last weekend. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

and entertainment at the Ridges and an awesome fireworks display, a signature entertainment event at the Ridges.

There were vendor booths set up selling Harley merchandise, patches, and sunglasses.

There also were more than a few bikers having a good time.

Many of the bikers took advantage of the beautiful, fall-like weather and toured around

by the lake and chatted with guests who were staying at the resort.

Hilda Thomason, general manager at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds worked hard to ensure that the group felt welcome, and based on all of the smiling faces, she succeeded.

A Waymore's Outlaws concert at Anderson Music Hall on Friday night provided the kickoff.

Earlier that morning, the motorcycles took part in a Parade of Flags that began in Downtown Hiwassee and made its way back to the Fairgrounds.

After the parade, the vendor area was open to the public. There, visitors could shop for unique, hand-made items.

The group headed out of town on Sunday, a visual that was hard to miss, as so many of the bikers rode around together creating long lines of Harleys.

It was a short stay, but everyone in here worked hard to make them feel at home.

If the great time the bikers appeared to be having is any indication, there is a good chance they may return in 2015.

# Crashes...from Page 1

Richard Fahlteich, of Pasadena, Md., and Vincent Angelo Glorioso, of Elk Ridge, Md., experienced minor injuries and damage to their motorcycles, Trooper White said.

Trooper White said no charges are pending in the incident.

"The silver car pulling out was not a factor because Mr. Carswell's girlfriend slowed down for the car in front of her," he said. "Mr. Carswell just wasn't paying attention and couldn't get slowed down in time."

"We don't expect any charges, it's just an unfortunate tragedy that unfolded here today," Trooper White said.

In Union County, Senior Trooper Tony "Bream"



A group of Georgia State H.O.G. Rally enthusiasts wait for permission to leave Saturday's fatal accident scene. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Saunders said around 5:10 p.m., near Helton Creek Falls Road, a Kawasaki 1700 No-

mad motorcycle was traveling south on Georgia 11, when the driver crossed the centerline in

a curve and hit a tractor trailer carrying goods for Wal-Mart, traveling north, head on.

The driver, Michael Reid Waddell, age 61, from Ball Ground, died of injuries sustained in the crash, Trooper Saunders said.

Witnesses say the motorcycle exploded on impact, but, Waddell survived the early moments following the crash. He died en route to a Union General Hospital.

Waddell's brother was in front of him on another motorcycle. Pete Waddell had to turn around and come back to find his brother, Trooper Saunders said.

Tanner's Wrecker Service, of Blairsville, hauled the damaged 18-wheeler to the Blairsville Wal-Mart.

# Rotary Club of Lake Chatuge - Hiwassee begins new year



Cheryl Barrett hands gavel to Reverend Dr. Tim Moore.

Rotarians meet to kick off the new Rotary year. Past President Cheryl Barrett hands over the gavel to the Reverend Dr. Tim Moore of Young Harris College.

The Citizens Award went to Frank Riley of Towns County. Frank has served Towns County by serving on many committees such as the Farmers Market, Food-to-the-School program, T. C. Future Farmers of America, F.F.A. Rodeo, Volunteer fire fighter, coordinator for Fire Rescue

and Fire and Safety Educational Group which administrates the "Fire Wise" program for Towns County.

The award "Above and Beyond" went to Jack Millgard for his dedicated service to his fellow Rotarians. The Rotarian of the Year award was presented to Chip Rainwater for his "Service Above Self" chairing the reverse raffle fundraiser that brought a profit of \$17,000 into the club treasury which will be given to the community.

President Moore, will

meet with the membership to decide what organization will receive the \$17,000 raised by the reverse raffle.

Rotary was pleased to award four scholarships to Towns County High School Seniors last May as well as to Young Harris College and the Mountain Education Center.

Financial support was also awarded to "Empty Stockings", "Shop with a Cop", and Towns County Food Pantry and Towns County Anti-Drug Coalition plus several other organizations. On a National level the Rotarians gave funds to the Oklahoma Relief Fund and sent a Shelter Box to Haiti.

Fun and fellowship is shared at the weekly meeting on Tuesday noon at the Brass-town Valley Resort. Rotary enjoyed spending the afternoon at the Georgia Mountain Fair in July with Fair Director Hilda Thompson.

All Rotary Clubs make up International Rotary. IR is pleased to announce we will soon be a polio free world due to 25 years of working to eradicate the disease. Since 1985 over 2 billion children have received the oral polio vaccine. We thank all who have donated funds to this historical project and have become partners with Rotary to make this a reality.

# Shakers...from Page 1

cases as he could, so he mentioned there were currently 2,300 cases pending in the circuit.

The case load is tremendous, and the circuit budget constraints are tight, so Langley is constantly trying to figure out what is worth spending our tax money on and what is not.

He quickly confirmed it was false saying, "If you spend time and speak to them like I do, you will see they need to be in prison."

He said there is also an idea that prisoners are being held only because they are first-time drug offenders.

Denying it, Langley said, "It just is not true. I have looked at the numbers. They are going to Drug Court and

ally acclaimed pianist Frederick Moyer in concert at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, October 13 at Keith House, John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC. No reservations required. Adult tickets: \$18; student tickets: \$10. For information contact a BCA Board member at 828-837-1863, 828-837-8822 or brasstownconcertnews@gmail.com. NT(Sep18,C)ac

getting help, not filling the prisons."

He left the group asking them for a favor.

"Whichever approach our leadership chooses to deal with the debt, do not shoot the messenger," he said. "That results in shooting the wounded."

He tried to make everyone understand that often times, we receive bad news from government figures that had nothing to do with the decisions in the first place, yet our blame is directed at them because they are the first people we see.

Langley stuck around to answer questions, and Fullerton continued to apologize for the change in the program.

Congressman Collins' camp told Fullerton that the congressman would be happy to reschedule, but Fullerton was against it, thoroughly offended by the whole event.

**Brasstown Concert Association presents Frederick Moyer**  
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