

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY  
**OPINIONS & COMMENTARY**

**Letters to The Editor**

**Letter to the Editor:**

I would like to say "THANK YOU" to everybody that made a donation to the recent Towns County School FFA Fundraiser "Pounds for the Pantry". The fundraiser ran from April 14 thru April 24 in the elementary and middle school and raised \$469.10. That amount will buy about 2600 pounds of food to put on the shelves to be distributed to families in our community that are in need. Miss Libby Hall's 4th grade class raised the most money and will be treated to a pizza party with pizza being donated by Papa's Pizza in Hiawassee. Thank you to all the girls at Community Bank and Trust for counting all our coins and rolling them for us. The Towns County Food Pantry is located at 1294 Jack Dayton Circle just up the hill past the Chamber of Commerce. On Mondays the truck comes in and is unloaded and the items are sorted and put into boxes based on family sizes. On Tuesday's from 2-6 the food is distributed to families. They can always use volunteers if anyone would like to help. You can reach the Food Pantry @ 706-896-4783.

Jessi Patrick,  
 12 years old, 6th grader at TCMS, FFA Chaplain

**To the Class of 2009:**

I am honored to have been your principal during your years at Towns County High School. It has been my pleasure to watch you grow and mature into fine young men and women. I am proud of each and every one of you. As you leave this place, I pray that you will have the best of what life has to offer. I pray that you will have success in whatever endeavors you pursue.

We want to thank the parents and our community for their great support of our school. We are blessed to live in this wonderful place, Towns County Georgia.

Roy Perren, Principal  
 Towns County High School

**Letter to the Editor:**

To me it will be a sad day when I see Lowe's come to Towns County.

I just want to take this opportunity to thank MR. & Mrs. Dick Paris and son Dan Paris. Dan Paris came back home many years ago to help his family keep the family business. He also has given many years and services to this county.

The Hiawassee Hardware has been a Huge asset to our county long before there was a Lowe's or Home Depot.

Dick Paris has given more to this county than Lowe's ever will. Mr. Paris has been active with the Ga. Mt. Fair, Lions Club, Hospital Board, all charity befits and many others. Mr. Paris thank you for all you have done for me, my family, friends and all the people of this county.

The most beautiful site I ever saw was driving to work one morning and saw you out raising the American Flag. I just went real slow and took in the beauty of the moment. God has blessed you with many years of good health and you have passed your blessings on to others.

To any in this county that don't know, that you are 90+ years young and still opening and closing your business every day.

I would love to know how many people have used the credit of Hiawassee Hardware? Mr. Paris doesn't have a credit card service with 18% - 24% interest. Hiawassee Hardware credit was developed on trust and a hand shake. If you are on a fixed income you could depend on Hiawassee Hardware to be there to help when the Washer, dryer, or stove decided to quit.

I think there are many local builders that can thank Hiawassee Hardware for their success and job security over the years.

Lowe's may employ 75 people but they will bring in their own managers and other employees. Local employees will only be a small percentage. Positions will probably be part time to avoid providing Health Ins, and other benefits.

Lowe's, in my opinion, could destroy a business and a service that is a great part of Hiawassee History.

Lowe's will have a great impact on Hiawassee Hardware and the 48 employees that work there may loose their jobs and health benefits.

Bringing 75 jobs and taking away 48 27. Is it worth it? If it works out that Lowe's does come to our county I hope everyone will remember to stop at Hiawassee Hardware with your business first. Support the one who has supported you for many years.

Hiawassee Hardware needs to be here 100 more years.  
 Brenda Brewer

**The Middle Path**

by Don Perry

Recently a reader pointed out that in several of the Middle Path articles we encourage people to make use of the Internet for research, but she was reluctant to do so because of concerns about privacy and safety. This article is a result of that conversation, as she encouraged me to share some information on a subject I actually get paid to know about: computer security.

There is a great deal of misinformation about computers and the Internet and there are rumors and myths which have persisted long past what might be plausible to someone with even a basic understanding of how it all works. One of the most persistent myths is that everything that we do on the Internet, every website we visit, every email that we send, is being read by someone else. While this is remotely possible, it is also very unlikely on your home computer.

At work, yes - it is increasingly likely that someone is looking over your shoulder electronically. Business networks have to be secure to protect customer privacy and proprietary company information and if you are downloading a movie on the company dime you're not only pocketing a dime that doesn't belong to you, you are taking away bandwidth from a limited quantity that must be shared between all users on the network. Businesses realize that a great many users of the Internet do not employ safe practices when they are online, and these same bad habits at work can risk the integrity of the entire network. Therefore it is common practice for most business networks to either block access to a great many websites or monitor what happens on each workstation - or both.

As for your home computer, there are three main methods of compromising your privacy and the biggest threat is to be found in your own safe practices or lack of them. We will deal with this issue in some detail, but first to address the least likely scenarios, those in which your use of the Internet is monitored by your Internet Service Provider or a government agency. Service providers do monitor traffic, but the amount of monitoring they do of individual users varies from company to company. Some providers log only IP address and time of connection. An IP address is a unique

set of numbers that identifies your connection to your Internet Service Provider. That number is also visible to the websites you visit, but the only information the website can gather from it is your geographic area and the name and address of the company which provided your Internet service. That number is not attached to your name unless a court order requires your ISP to do so.

Some of the larger ISP's keep complete logs of usage which include your IP address and a list of websites that your address connects with. As invasive as this sounds, these are only numbers buried deeply within massive log files which are usually illustrated only by graphs and pie charts showing traffic patterns. Again, these numbers become personal only when they are extracted from the record when someone is under court ordered surveillance or investigation. Much has been rumored about the government's own surveillance programs, and the FBI, the Defense Department and various shadow government agencies do have the ability to sample Internet traffic that passes through the main backbone or trunk connections that join local and regional service providers to the World Wide Web. The government's efforts are twofold: to track specific individuals suspected in criminal activities and to analyze traffic for patterns - the "chatter" often referred to when escalating the level of our color coded national fear index.

The bottom line is that your use of the Internet for all practical purposes is about as anonymous as anything can be in our technologically sophisticated culture. It is much more anonymous than your credit history, your credit card purchases, your phone records or even your recorded purchases when the cashier swipes the little barcode on your grocery store discount card. As technology advances and government grows with the population, there are concerted efforts to increase the level of monitoring done on the Internet, and a certain amount of this is inevitable as Internet, telephone, wireless and television are increasingly integrated into bundled packages. TIA or Total Information Awareness is a project which is alive and well at the Department of Defense. All in all, however, we are our own worst enemies when it comes to safeguarding our privacy on the Internet. Next week we will take a look at some of the things we do to compromise our privacy - and what we can do to protect it - in detail.

**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 E-MAILED OR MAILED TO:** Towns County Herald, Letter to the Editor, PO Box 365, Hiawassee, GA 30546. Our email address: tcherald@brmenc.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.



**Can women govern in the church?**

By Dr. Steven Swisher, Pastor  
 Living Word Revival Center

Let's go back to the beginning of God's purposes for man and woman. Sometimes we have to do that in order to keep and protect the divine purposes in place. The bible says in Genesis 1:26- And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." Maybe you have not noticed before that God said let "them" have dominion or that God blessed "them" and said to "them" to be fruitful and to multiply, etc. "Them" included both man and woman to have the God given authority to govern in the earth together. Both Adam and Eve were commanded to operate in dominion in the earth and to subdue it. God did not say, Adam, it's all on your shoulders to take care of everything.

It is like a military officer telling his cadets to take the mountain. He would be giving all of them the authority and the right to take the mountain.

The Bible says in Micah 6:3,4, "O my people, what have I done unto thee? And wherein have I wearied thee? Testify against me. For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants; and I sent before thee Moses, Aaron, and Miriam." We have to acknowledge that God sent Miriam as well as Moses and Aaron to lead and govern the people of Israel. You can say that God set them as the team or governing counsel of that time over the children of Israel.

In Exodus 15:20,21, "And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea." Here it says that Miriam, the prophetess led the people of Israel in one of their first praise and worship services. If we know that she was a prophetess, female tense for prophet, then we can connect this with the New Testament gifts to the church also. The bible says in Ephesians 4:11-14, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and

some, pastors and teachers. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive." The five ministry gifts are not gender oriented, but spiritual gifts that will operate in men and women to perfect the saints, (teach, preach and minister to them).

The scripture in 1 Corinthians 14:34 says, "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law." This was commanded as to keep them from interrupting the services, not as a command to never let them participate. Otherwise we would have to tell them (women) that you cannot sing, dance, play an instrument, repeat any prayers or anything else but to be completely silent. Imagine telling the girls in Sunday school that they can't participate in anything. We can see that wrong interpretations of the bible only come out of ignorance in order to smother the true word of God in liberty.

Look around, we have the Queen of England, Speaker of the House, Secretary of State, Supreme Court Justices, Presidential candidates and Vice Presidential candidates who are women that have proved themselves worthy to serve in these positions. There are so many other great women such as Deborah who governed in Israel. In Judge 4:4, "And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time." There is even one other woman in which I admire and dedicate this article unto her for her service as a Pastor and Teacher of God's word, Rev. Ilene Mosteller who raised up two successful churches along with her husband, Roy Mosteller, in Clay County, North Carolina. Let us therefore "vicissitude" our thinking according to the word of faith! Anything else is erroneous behavior!

I would like to invite you to join us for our weekly services at Living Word Revival Center, where you can be delivered and healed by the power of the name of Jesus Christ", in Hayesville, NC, on Sundays at 10 a.m and on Wed. nites at 7 p.m. "Come taste and see that the Lord is Good!" For information 828-389-3444. Come join us to make a difference at home and on the mission field!



**Community Calendar**

**Towns County Water Board Meeting** 4th Monday of each month at 7 pm in the TC Water Office Building.  
**Towns County AARP Chapter 1859** meets the second Thursday of each month at the Senior Center in Hiawassee at 2 p.m. Luncheons are held at 1 p.m.  
**Towns County Democratic Party** meets at 5:30 every 2nd Thursday of the month at Crossroads Restaurant. Meeting begins at 6. Please call Kim Bailey, 706-994-2727 or 706-896-6747.  
**Towns County Republican Party** meets the 1st Tuesday of each month from 5 p.m.-6 p.m. Dinner at Daniels Steak House, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. meeting, 896-9021.  
**Towns County Planning Commission** is held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 pm in the Courthouse.  
**Towns County Commissioners** meeting is the 3rd Thursday at 5:30 pm 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 pm, at City Hall.  
**Young Harris City Council**, 1st Tuesday of month at 7 pm,

Young Harris City Hall.  
**The Hiawassee River Valley Kennel Club** meetings are held at 7 p.m. the 1st Monday of each month at Brother's Restaurant on Hwy 64 in Murphy, NC. Call President Kit Miracle: 706 492 5253 or Peggy Moorman: 828 835 1082.  
**The Unicoy Masonic Lodge #259** meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.  
**Board of Voter Registrars** meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m., Courthouse.  
**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 pm. Annual dues \$15, PO Box 932, Hiawassee, GA 706-896-1060, www.townshistory.org Bridge Players intermediate level meets at 12:45 pm on Mondays & Fridays at the Towns County Health Dept. Call Eden at 706-896-6921.  
**Mountain Regional Arts and Crafts Guild, Inc (MRACG)** meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at ArtWorks

Artisan Centre, located at 308 Big Sky Drive (behind the Holiday Inn), Hiawassee. Refreshments at 6 p.m. & the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. Contact us by calling 706-896-0932, mtnregarts-craftsguild.org, mtnregarts-craftsguild@hotmail.com.  
**VFW Post #7807 Fish Fry** will be 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 4:30-7 PM, \$9 a plate, all you can eat.  
**Mountain Computer User Group** meets the 2nd Monday of each month at the Goolsby Center at YHC. Q & A at 6 pm, meeting at 7 pm.  
**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. 5pm Fly Tying - 7pm 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 Quinlan at 706-896-2430 or visit www.moaa.org/chapter/blueridge-mountains.

**Towns County Herald**  
 Dedicated to the promotion of Towns County

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**OFFICE LOCATED AT 446 NORTH MAIN STREET "THE MALL" HIWASSEE (706) 896-4454**  
 Publication Number 635540. Entered as second-class matter on November 8, 1928, at the post office at Hiawassee, Georgia under Act of March 3, 1879. With additional mailing points.

**EMAIL Address: tcherald@brmenc.net**

**POSTMASTER: Send change of address to: TOWNS COUNTY HERALD P.O. BOX 365 HIWASSEE, GEORGIA 30546**

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