

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Letters to The Editor

Editors: My wife and I grew up in a southwest Atlanta neighborhood, but spent considerable time in rural middle Georgia, the ancestral homes of farmers and my native Creek ancestors for 200+ years.

Although very pleased, there are some improvements which I hope could be made for the community. Although not a full time resident, we have tried to make contributions to the community in different ways such as through the Towns County Homeowners Association as a founding Director and working on some of their laudable activities.

Most Georgians, as I do, believe in individual property rights. However, as schooled by grandparent farmers who owned land, a property owner should always consider how one's utilization of property impacts your neighbors.

Arthur D. Brook, Macon & Hiawassee

To the Editor:

I would like to address your article regarding the Head Start shutdown that ran in the October 9, 2013 Herald. Some of your facts are not quite accurate. You stated "The Pre-K program in Towns County was shutdown..."

The Towns County Head Start/Pre-K program has 34 Head Start children and 22 Pre-K children. The Head Start program employs 2 Head Start Teachers, 2 Head Start teacher assistants, and 3 Head Start employees work in the Head Start office.

Instead of the 22 children and the 1 teacher you mentioned in your article who might be impacted by the shutdown, there are significantly more who are actually in jeopardy of not being able to continue with school and employment in Towns County.

Sincerely, Margaret Bolthouse



RARE KIDS; WELL DONE By Don Jacobsen

Q: Dr. Don, I keep reading these reports from various places saying that our kids are being barraged with media, that they're spending more time than they ought to be and are exposed to a lot of influences that I as a parent am concerned about.

A: I keep getting those reports, too, and frankly they worry me about where our kids are headed. Media is changing this generation of kids and parents are acting as though they have very little input into its influence.

So now we know that from the standpoint of time the most dominant influence in the lives of our kids is: Parental input? Family values? Church guidance? No. In fact, it's not even school any more.

shows that most families - 70 percent - have no kind of monitoring or even rules about the amount of time their kids can spend with TV, video games, social media or computers.

What if we parents were to make some new rules, such as: (1) As a family we're going to do some media events together. Good place to discuss family values. Help them see that, just as mom does with her cooking, some thought needs to go into our media diet, too.

Send your parenting questions to: DrDon@RareKids.net

London Fog, Penny Loafers, Madras, Ping Pong

I have reminisced here several times in the past about my days growing up in the 60s in Butler and these days my mind drifts back there more and more when I see and hear all that is going on around us in the world today.

The sign that I saw recently said "don't look back because your not going there again" makes logical sense, but I like to look back because it's a lot more pleasing than what we are facing today. I wish I could take my grandchildren back to those good ole days to experience the times that we had when we had nothing to worry about except keeping the old folks happy and having fun with our gang, no high technology to keep up with, the only cell phone that we knew about was Dick Tracey's wrist radio in the Sunday comics...

My best friend, Thurman, or Bubba as we called him, was our fashion leader because he had an older sister who made sure he had the correct labels showing, but we just threw dirt clods at him anyway. Butler was so small that the only ball games that mattered was basketball because we didn't have football.

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.

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.

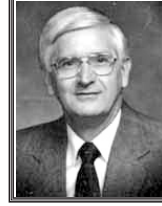
Executive Director of RC&D



lemonade and cookies and we would play into the wee hours of the night. Nobody got into trouble or fights and the only arguments that we had was whether the ball was over the line or not.

When we tell kids today about how we grew up, they just roll their eyes and think that we are just old fuddy duddies and we make these things up to make a good story like they have seen on reruns of Mayberry RFD and they can't wait to look at their I-Phone to see the very important, urgent text they have missed in the past 60 seconds from someone much more important.

Frank M. Riley, Jr, CF, is the Executive Director of the Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council, Inc. frank.crcd@gmail.com.



"IT'S ON MY MIND." Danny H. Parris

Givers and takers

A war hero, Clebe McClary, said, "In this world of give and take, there are not enough men willing to give what it takes."

First of all, he introduced the robbers who assaulted the traveler and relieved him of everything, including his clothing. We have multitudes today that live by the robber's philosophy, "What's yours is mine and I will take it" by whatever means that I have to employ.

Then Jesus introduced the religious philosophy of some as demonstrated in the Priest and Levite, whose philosophy was "What's mine is mine and I will keep it."

Then there is the Sa-

maritan who understands and lives life on a higher level. He is not a slave to anything and whatever he may have he uses as a tool to help build up others.

The fourth philosophy is introduced by the innkeeper. His standard of life is "What's mine is yours if you can pay for it." This philosophy is probably the dominant philosophy of our generation.

Don't give an ear to the devil, but give up your life to Christ. Do your giving while you're living, then you're knowing where it's going.



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.

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.

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.