

# Cruisers...continued from Page 1A

area, hoods popped to reveal the vintage power within. Two awards were handed out that evening, one for Best Ford and the other for People's Choice.

The Best Ford Award served as a memorial for the late Tom Bruce, a three-time Blairsville Cruiser president and community patron who passed away in February.

Tom's wife Phyllis Bruce went around the show to pick her favorite Ford vehicle, and she bestowed the Tom Bruce Memorial Trophy upon Roy Phillips for his classic 1974 Ford Bronco.

The People's Choice Award – decided by popular

vote among event attendees – was handed out in honor of Billy "Gopher" Nelson, a former Cruiser who passed away in 2010.

Frank Capozzi from Brasstown, North Carolina, received the People's Choice Award for his 1961 Ford Starliner.

Door prizes were given away throughout the event, which served as a means to support the charitable efforts of the nonprofit Blairsville Cruisers.

The Cruisers make it their goal to raise money through raffles and other donations for children in need of presents for the holiday season.

Some of the programs supported by the Cruisers include Shop with a Cop and Shop with a Cruiser, both of which allow children who would otherwise do without to go Christmas shopping.

Their main fundraiser, of course, is the annual raffle car, which this year is a 2002 Pontiac Firebird convertible with only 49,000 miles. Raffle tickets are \$5 apiece or \$20 for five, and tickets are available at

all Blairsville Cruisers Cruise-In events.

"We want all of our proceeds to go to the kids," said Cruisers Treasurer Allora Couture. "Last year, we had 62 kids that received around \$200 each to use."

Apart from its Christmas shopping programs, the organization also helps with the local food bank and donates scholarship money to graduating seniors every year, with an overarching goal of bringing help to as many needy children in the community as possible.

"The kids are a major part of our community," said Cruisers Vice President Charlie

Brown. "When they get help such as this, they thrive better for their futures."

The Blairsville Cruisers put on a car show every first Saturday of the month at the Union County Farmers Market, and another show on the third Saturday of the month at the Blairsville Square.

The Cruisers offer membership to anyone who is interested in cars and helping with events for local children.

On Oct. 20, the organization will raffle off the Firebird, and the Cruise-Ins will continue through October.

For more information, visit BlairsvilleCruisers.com.



Classic cars filled the Blairsville Square on Saturday, Aug. 18, for the Blairsville Cruisers' monthly Cruise-In on the Square. Photo by Jarrett Whitener



All those classic cars on the Blairsville Square – it's like looking back in time. Photo by Jarrett Whitener

## Warriors Veterans Outreach Golf Tournament Sept. 7



The Tournament will be a best-ball foursome and will start with a shot gun blast at 1 p.m. on Friday, September 7th. Trophies will be awarded to Men - first and second;

Men - (over 65) first and second, Ladies - first and second; Longest Drive and Closest to Pin on selected holes for Men, Men over 65, and Ladies. Rain date will be September 14th.

Warriors Veterans Outreach is a local organization consisting of Veterans of all branches of service assisting fellow Veterans in need. Veterans that need help with shelter, travel or subsistence, is freely given to men, women

and their families. The all volunteer group of veterans of 50 plus members meet monthly but respond at any time to emergencies. Donations to this group are tax free. The Golf Tournament has been successful in the past and invite all for their support.

Entry applications are due by August 31st for further information call: Skip Belton at 706-745-2273 or Charlie Sowers at 706-745-5123.

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 Who is Tom Taylor?  
 Tom has been in the insurance business 36 years since his medical retirement from the US Army as a LTC. He has numerous awards, such as LUTCF, LILL ADA, Lifeleaders of GA & SC, Instructor for new agents. His awards for the Army include Silver Star, Bronze Stars, Meritorious Service Medals, Army Commendation Medals, Combat Infantry Badge, Airborne Wings, Air Crew Wings, Air Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, Good Conduct Medal, Reservist National Guard Achievement Medal and National Defense Medal recipient.

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