

# Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, January 29, 2014

## Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thu: Clouds	43 20
Fri: Clouds	52 35
Sat: Rain	57 43
Sun: Clouds	51 33
Mon: Clouds	51 38
Tue: Rain	55 37
Wed: Rain	49 27



Upstream Elevation Predicted 01/29/14	
Lake Chatuge	1,917.65
Lake Nottely	1,760.69
Blue Ridge	1,668.95

## INDEX

2 Sections, 16 Pages

Arrests	.....2A
Church/Obits	.....6A,7A
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## SPORTS

Page 8A



## Tourism Board meeting

Feb 13th 8:30 a.m.

see page 3A

## Give Blood...



Give Life.

## Red Cross call for blood and platelets

see page 4B



## Food Distribution

Tues., Feb. 4th • 2-5 p.m.  
Towns County Food Pantry  
see page 3A



## WRESTLING:

Friday and Saturday  
Jan 31st and Feb 1st  
Area Tournament  
@ Commerce

## BASKETBALL:

Tues. Jan 28  
@ Commerce 6 PM  
Fri. Jan 31  
vs. Lakeview 7 PM  
Sat. Feb 1  
@ Pinecrest 6 PM

## Pride coming to Music Hall April 12

By Charles Duncan  
Towns County Herald  
cduncan.tch@windstream.net

Charley Pride is coming to Anderson Music Hall in Hiwassee on April 12.

Pride's music career has spanned almost 50 years, and turned out hits that include *All I Have To Offer You (Is Me)*, *The Snakes Crawl at Night*, *Before I Met You*, *All His Children*, which was nominated for an Academy Award, *Just Between You and Me*, and *I'm Just Me*. He has recorded 36 No. 1 hits on the Billboard Charts; he ranks No. 18 in the 40 Greatest Men in Country Music. Pride also is a two-time Country Music Vocalist of the Year, and Entertainer of the Year.

Pride was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000.

Pride was born on a cot-



**Charley Pride**  
ton farm in Sledge, Miss. His father was a sharecropper on the farm at the time. When he was 14 years old, Pride bought a guitar from Sears & Roebuck. He learned how to play by listening to Country Music on the radio.

Two years later, he turned his attention to baseball. He joined the Negro American League, playing with the Memphis Red Sox. After playing ball for two years, Pride joined the U.S. Army, where he served for two years. Upon his discharge, he intended to return to baseball, but injuries to his throwing arm derailed that effort. Discouraged that he would never make it to the Major Leagues, Pride began working construction in Helena, Montana, while he still played in the minors.

Eventually, he earned a tryout with the California Angels in 1961, but they sent him packing; the following year, the New York Mets rejected him as well.

Following his rejection in baseball, Pride turned his at-

See *Pride*, Page 10A

## Cochran, Hedden are royalty



Senior Eryn Cochran was chosen Basketball Homecoming Queen on Saturday. Senior Stetson Hedden was chosen Basketball Homecoming King. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

By Charles Duncan  
Towns County Herald  
cduncan.tch@windstream.net

Eryn Cochran and Stetson Hedden shared a moment that neither will

ever forget.

The two seniors are forever linked as the 2014 Basketball Homecoming Queen and King of Towns County High School.

Both were crowned

Saturday at halftime of the boys' game against Riverside Military Academy, a game the Indians almost won.

See *Homecoming*, Page 10A

## TCMS Robotics team heads to state



Front row, L to R, Kaitlyn Crowder, Owen Davenport, Kerri Bradshaw, Dalton Holcomb, J.W. Rosser and Daniel Hoffman; middle row, L to R, Dawson Denmark, Tristan Brown, Cullen Johnson, and Dylan Walls; back row, L to R, Connor Kelley, Brooke Spain, Becky Hampton, John Ditmore, Jared Edwards, Sylvan Schuette, and Dr. Daren E. King

Towns County Herald  
News Special

Disaster Masters are headed to state on Saturday.

On Jan. 11, TCMS Robot-

ics Team Disaster Masters, participated in a First Lego League (FLL) Super Regional at Athens Academy and advanced to the FLL State Championship to be held on Feb. 1. The team had

to compete in three categories, Robot Design, Project, and Core Values.

These categories are

See *Robotics*, Page 10A

## Two charged in separate property crimes

Towns County Herald  
News Special

Two North Carolina residents have been charged in separate incidents related to credit cards, Towns County Sheriff's reports show.

Mary Kathleen Maddox, 45, of Hayesville, NC, was charged with theft by deception and theft by conversion for suspected activities from 2011 to 2013, sheriff's reports show.

The victim employed the alleged suspect and noticed the company credit card statement had excessive charges. The victim notified Towns County Sheriff's Office in June 2013, and Sheriff's Detective Lt. Mark Cecci began an investigation, sheriff's reports show.

The suspect is alleged to have wrongly charged services and items to the victim's credit card, as well as allegedly taking money from her employer, sheriff's reports show.

The total amount of the alleged theft is in excess of \$19,000. Maddox was arrested and booked into the Towns County Detention Center and



**Mary Kathleen Maddox** is currently out on bond, jail records show.

In an unrelated case, a Hayesville, NC man has been arrested by Towns County Sheriff's Office in connection with fraudulent use of a credit card. From May through August 2013, the suspect allegedly participated in over 200 fraudulent transactions at various locations in Towns County, as well as locations in North Carolina.

Apec Atlantic Inc., based in Hayesville, NC reported the



suspicious activity on their company credit card to the Towns County Sheriff's Office, and detectives began an investigation. So far, the 200 plus transactions total nearly \$14,000. George Lee Fuller, 63, of Hayesville, NC was arrested and charged and is now free on bond.

According to the Towns County Sheriff's Office, the case is still under investigation and more charges may be pending.

## Kendall approves qualifying fees for May Primary

By Charles Duncan  
Towns County Herald  
cduncan.tch@windstream.net

Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall set the qualifying fees for local elections in the upcoming March Primary.

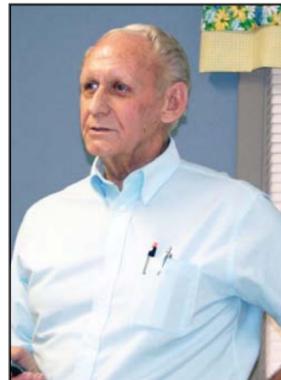
Three Board of Education seats are up for election in March.

Post 1, Macedonia/Tate City, and Board Chairman Mike Anderson, Post 2, Hiwassee, Emily Phillips, and Post 3, Young Harris, Jerry Taylor.

Qualifying for the offices listed above will begin at 9 a.m. on March 3, and will end at noon on March 7.

The general primary election will be held on May 20, 2014.

As per Georgia law, the qualifying fees have been set by Commissioner Kendall.



Commissioner Bill Kendall

The fee to run for Towns County Board of Education is \$36, Commissioner Kendall said.

Qualifying has changed this year after the Georgia General Assembly moved the qualifying dates to March 3.

See *Fees*, Page 10A

## More cold weather on the way to Towns

By Charles Duncan  
Towns County Herald  
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The cold will continue this week.

Another Arctic blast is headed our way as extremely cold air is expected to come in fast and furious causing temperatures to drop rapidly, according to the National Weather Service.

Precipitation is most likely to accompany the storm system, which is projected to include snow and sleet, Tuesday into Wednesday.

The weather service predicts the heaviest snow or sleet

is expected to fall between 10 p.m. Tuesday and 5 a.m. Wednesday. The region should experience wind gusts between 5 and 10 mph, with some gusts as strong as 20 mph, according to the weather service.

The weather system is expected to bring with it strong, gusty winds and wind chills of zero to 10-above throughout the North Georgia region beginning Tuesday morning, according to the weather service.

Chance of precipitation is 80 percent Tuesday into Wednesday.

The frigid temperatures are becoming a pattern for much of Northeast Georgia.

## Mayor Gibby speaks to Movers & Shakers

By Azure Welch  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Friday morning, Jan. 24, Young Harris Mayor Andrea Gibby spoke to members of the Mountain Movers & Shakers during their weekly morning meeting at Mary's Southern Grill in Young Harris.

Mayor Gibby was the featured speaker at the meeting and spoke about where she came from, her job as mayor, and her vision for the city of Young Harris.

Mayor Gibby said she was "delighted to be" at the meeting and glad to be able to talk about the future of Young Harris because she feels that the small town is getting ready for a growth spurt.

Being raised in Towns County, Mayor Gibby said that she has had a "varied and wonderful" background, and although she was gone for 20 years or so, it was "an act of fate that she came back to the area."

It is during the time that she returned and her father told her that "it was her time" to help the community that she and her parents loved. Before becoming mayor, Gibby got her start in community politics and was involved with the planning commission and was on the city



Mayor Andrea Gibby

council.

Gibby said that becoming mayor was a way for her to help the community that she loved, and said that the "community is this whole area in the mountains, and as a community we share in the responsibility to take care of this place."

One way in which Gibby does this as Mayor of Young Harris is to listen to the people. Mayor Gibby says that she may not always agree with someone's opinion, just as they will not always agree with hers, but "we have to start listening to each other if we are going to change our communities, and

See *Gibby*, Page 10A

## Hamilton Gardens honored

Curator, Paul Hansen of the Hamilton Gardens in Hiwassee, was honored for his community involvement and work with bringing science to the garden for children of Towns County Schools.

The State Health Department, District 2, hosted a day long symposium geared toward bringing more community awareness to organizations that promote wellness activities in their region. Hamilton Gardens was the only recipient from Towns County and the only Botanical Garden to receive this award in District 2 which encompasses all 13 Northeast Georgia counties.

Curator Hansen plans to expand his community services this season by including more involvement with the K-12 Science Department in the Towns County School system.



Hamilton Gardens

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

