

Towns County Herald

Legal Organ of Towns County

www.townscountyherald.net

Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928

50 Cents

Publication Number 635540 Volume 87 Number 24

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Seabee Island X-3 celebrates a year of firsts

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Happy Birthday to Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-3, which turned a year old on Sunday, April 10.

Island X-3 members commemorated the anniversary two days prior, on Friday, April 8, during their regular monthly meeting, which takes place at 1300 hours the second Friday of every month at the Major Leon Davenport Veterans Center in Blairsville.

"The initial meeting we had, Mike Ruback, Richard Hoibraten and myself had discussed starting an Island, and we were hoping we could get the five members that we needed to start the Island," said Ed Crenshaw, who took over from Hoibraten as commander of Island X-3 in the most recent meeting.

"Our first meeting we had on April 10 of last year we had 17 members, so that was a highlight. The other highlight



2016 officers after having been sworn in at the April 8 meeting of the Seabee Island X-3. Photos in NGN News Photos.

of the year, I would say, would have been the Seabee Ball."

The Seabees took on a rather ambitious project of

conducting the first ever Seabee Ball in the North Georgia Mountains, all while being a brand new group themselves.

Fortunately, the March 5 event was a success, and Island X-3

See Seabee, Page 6A

White Cane Days coming up in Towns



On Thursday, March 31 Bill Kendall signed the proclamation honoring April 15 and 16 as Lions White Cane Days.

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

On Thursday, March 31, Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall signed a proclamation honoring April 15 and April 16 as Lions White Cane Days.

For the Towns County Lions Club, those are the most important dates of the year.

Most may know the Lions Club as the organization whose members routinely volunteer at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, but

See Lions, Page 6A

Towns County honors its Confederate roots with proclamation signing

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

On Thursday, March 31, Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall signed the Confederate Memorial Day Proclamation.

The Proclamation recognizes the United Daughters of the Confederacy as an organization with a purpose to include honoring the memory of its Confederate ancestors, and honoring the service of veterans from all wars as well as active duty military personnel, and recognizes April 26 as Confederate Memorial Day.

Each year, Towns County sets aside the same day to honor, observe and celebrate the Confederate States of America. The county also encourages its

citizens to participate in any activities that commemorate and honor the history and cultural inheritance regarding the Confederacy.

Representing the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy were Russell and Beverly Shreeve.

Beverly, a member of the Smith's Legion of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, explained that Smith's Legion was a local battalion formed to fight in the Civil War.

"Smiths' Legion was a group that was formed in North Georgia by Sumner Smith, and they had the enlistment in May of 1862. In March of 1863 it was absorbed within the 65th Infantry of the Confederacy. But lots of soldiers in North Georgia were in that unit,"



On Thursday, March 31, Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall signed a proclamation honoring April 26 as Confederate Memorial Day.

she said.

In honor of the members of Smith's Legion, specifically the unit's cavalry and infantry

battalions that were recruited from Towns County, Georgia governors since 1984 have

See Confederate, Page 6A

Board of elections looking for volunteer Primary poll workers

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Elections are right around the corner, and the Towns County Board of Elections needs volunteers to help work the polls in each of its four precincts: Young Harris, Hiawasse, Macedonia and Tate City.

Poll Manager Sis Jarrard said that 2016 will likely be a big election year, because of the upcoming presidential election as well as election for county sheriff and county commissioner.

The general primary election will be on May 24. The general primary runoff will be on July 26. The general election will be held on Nov. 8.



Tonya Nichols

The general election runoff for state and local offices is Dec. 6, and the federal election runoff is on January 10.

"If one of the candidates

See Election, Page 6A

Hiawasse City council entertains presentations in April meeting

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, April 5, the Hiawasse City Council heard a number of presentations during its regularly scheduled meeting.

President Candace Lee of the Towns County Chamber of Commerce gave an update on the city's hotel and motel dollars and tourism.

"The city's marketing dollars have been used for print ads in *Southern Living Magazine*, *Georgia Great Places*, which is the *Georgia State Parks Magazine*, and in print, *Smoky Mountain Living Magazine*, *Southern Travel and Lifestyle Magazine*, *USA News* and *Georgia Travel Guide*, which is a state piece. Every



At its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 5, the Hiawasse City Council heard a number of presentations.

visitor's center in the state of Georgia hands them out," she said.

"There's one we did last year that I think was real beneficial to us as far as getting

into the hands of people who use the outdoors, and that was the Department of *Natural Resources Fishing Regulations Guide*, so every time someone

See Hiawasse, Page 6A

Young Harris deals with water issues, hears from Howard

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

At the regular Young Harris City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 5, the city dealt with existing issues surrounding its biggest project, the Water Treatment Plant.

Residents Twyla Nicholson and Lewie Hughes returned to Young Harris City Hall to inquire whether the city had made any progress on replacing ruined water pumps. They feel the issues were caused when the city contractors cut a water line, causing low water pressure in their area.

Another problem has recently arisen concerning a nearby fire hydrant.

"We had another mishap," said Nicholson. "Our



The Young Harris City Council heard updates on several of its ongoing projects during its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 5

fire hydrant was knocked down and we had to get more pump work done. And it was because there was so much air in the lines that it kept surging back

and forth through our lines and it knocked our pipe off in there and flooded the pump valve. We had to do more work on it."

See Young Harris, Page 6A

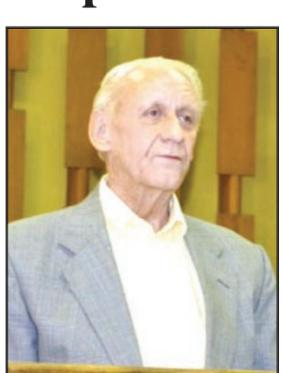
April Towns County commission meeting rescheduled to April 22nd

News Special
Towns County Herald

The regular county meeting of Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall, originally scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21, at the Towns County Courthouse, has been rescheduled for Friday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m.

The rescheduled meeting, dubbed the "State of the County Meeting," will take place at the Towns County Recreation and Conference Center, which is located at 150 Foster Park Rd. in Young Harris.

In the meeting, Commissioner Kendall will



Commissioner Bill Kendall give his State of the County presentation, including the 2015 ending financial report.

See Meeting, Page 6A

S.A.F.E. hosts pro wrestling fundraiser

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Blairsville - Wrestling fans rejoice, as the second annual S.A.F.E. Pro Wrestling Fundraiser has arrived.

The family-friendly event, featuring wrestling talent from Georgia Premier Wrestling, will take place on Friday, April 15, in the old rubber gym at 310 Welborn St. in Blairsville.

Doors open at 7 p.m., with a bell time of 8 p.m., and tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 11 and under.

S.A.F.E. Inc., a nonprofit serving Towns and Union counties, will receive a major percentage of ticket sales from the wrestling event, as well as 100 percent of the proceeds



Kyle Matthews vs Cody Roberts

generated from the sale of concessions.

"Our three programs - the domestic violence program,

sexual assault program and child abuse program, are all under the organization for S.A.F.E., so any proceeds

that we make apply to all programs," said Molly Cousin, executive director of S.A.F.E. Inc.

For those who were unable to make the event last year, Cousin said that she could personally attest to how much fun it was watching the wrestlers go at it.

"It's very obvious it's entertainment," said Cousin. "They keep it very kid-friendly, very pro-women - the way they did the wrestling was very woman empowered if there was a woman wrestling. They also sell masks while they're there, and they had all the kids come up and take pictures. It's very family-oriented, not super aggressive or adult-like."

S.A.F.E., which stands for Support in Abusive Family

See Wrestling, Page 6A

2 Sections 16 Pages
Lake Levels
Blue Ridge 1,682.84
Chatuge 1,922.42
Nottely 1,770.16

Arrests	2A
Chamber	2B
Church	4B
Classifieds	6B
Opinion	4A
Legals	15B
Obits	5B
Sports	7A

See page 11

Food Distribution
N. Mt. Zion Church
Thurs. April 21st

See page 11

Lions Club
White Cane
Days
April 15 & 16

S.A.F.E.
Kentucky
Derby Party

See page 28

SPORTS
BASEBALL
Fri Apr 15 @ Athens Christian 5 PM
BASEBALL
Tues Apr 12 @ George Walton 5 & 7 PM
Fri Apr 15 vs. Lakeview 5 & 7 PM