

# HOA...from Page 1A

“One of our goals and missions is to ensure transparency and accountability of elected officials as well as countywide service providers,” said Noel Turner, Towns County HOA president. “This is an important part of what we do as an organization and how we can make sure our concerns are heard.”

Commissioner Bradshaw shared county updates with the group, explaining the projects that he is currently working on as well as the projects he will be moving forward with in the coming months.

Of the several projects that Commissioner Bradshaw has been diligently working on since coming into office, the bathroom upgrades at the Lake Chatuge beach was heavily highlighted during the meeting, something many HOA members had voiced concerns about in the past.

“We have completely remodeled the beach house down there at the lake,” said Commissioner Bradshaw. “We have replaced all of the rotten wood. We have painted everything with new colors. We painted the bathrooms. We’ve replaced the countertops. We’ve put in the energy saving faucets. We put electric blowers on the walls and new signage down there.

“I’ve been going down there constantly to make sure that we’re keeping it clean. We want our county neat and we want it clean.”

Commissioner Bradshaw also shared that the county recently purchased advertisement on a billboard in Gilmer County as a way to boost the economics of the county. According to Commissioner Bradshaw, most tourists who travel to Blue Ridge or Blairsville pass through Gilmer County and, now, will hopefully continue into Towns County as well.

“If you go over to Fannin County or Gilmer County, they’re growing pretty rapidly over there,” said Commissioner Bradshaw. “We rented a billboard over there promoting Towns County, showing a picture of our lake and the dot com and the chamber has a link on there.

“We rented that billboard over there to bring more people up Highway 515 on into our county. I assure you, if they go through those counties and they come to Towns County, right here is where they’re going to stay because it’s absolutely beautiful here.”

TVA Natural Resource Manager Chris Cooper was scheduled to attend the annual meeting to share TVA updates with the group however, due to a pertinent work emergency, was unable to attend.

Appearing on his behalf, Ledford took questions from the group, answering those that



Towns County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw in the annual meeting. Photo/Lily Avery



TVA Watershed Representative Scott Ledford took questions about Lake Chatuge in the meeting. Photo/Lily Avery

he could and promising to pass along questions he could not answer to Cooper and other TVA staff.

While some members expressed concern with the lowering levels at Lake Chatuge in the early fall months, most voiced complaints about wave boats on the lake and dilapidated Styrofoam docks lining the banks.

Wave boats, while fun in larger bodies of water, can cause erosion in smaller, more shallow water reservoirs such as Lake Chatuge. Because of this, many members are concerned that these boats will cause irreversible damage to the lake.

Although Ledford expressed his understanding of the issue, he explained that TVA does not have the authority to prohibit such boats from being on the lake.

As for the unkempt docks along the shores of Lake Chatuge, Ledford explained that, again, this was not a matter that TVA could address, however, that concerned

individuals could contact the Georgia Department of Natural Resources with such matters.

“TVA doesn’t regulate the waters within the reservoirs,” said Ledford. “That would be more of a concern to take to DNR. We don’t even put out buoys.

“When it comes to the docks though, you can contact DNR for those docks to be tagged during a shoreline inspection so someone can take a look at them and determine what needs to happen from there.”

Any questions asked that Ledford could not answer he had written down and assured a timely written response.

Also during the meeting, the new board of directors were appointed and are as follows: Noel Turner, president; SuSu Davis, vice president; Don Berry, director; Michael Courey, director; Richard Klotzbier, director; Ken Manwaring, director; Joan Crothers, secretary and Jan Kowalsky, treasurer.

## Alan Kendall in concert at Mountain Home Music

Noted traditional Christian music artist Alan Kendall of Towns County will present a variety concert featuring classic gospel, country, and old standards this Saturday, July 1, at 8 p.m. at the very intimate and comfortable Mountain Home Music Theater near Hiawassee.

After serving as lead singer with the Melody Boys Quartet, filling in for a few dates with the Chuck Wagon Gang, singing baritone with Freedom Trio, and singing lead for the revived Rebels Quartet during a period of more than five years, Alan has now embarked on a solo career for several years.

He has made solo appearances across Georgia and surrounding states at festivals,



conferences, revivals, senior groups, and worship services and has appeared on Christian television stations in Greenville, SC, and Augusta, GA. For the past year, he has joined the top flight part time trio Jordan’s Bridge as lead singer,

including at the North Georgia Sing at McConnell Memorial Baptist Church in May.

He has received accolades from numerous legendary gospel music performers as shown on his website at [www.alankendallmusic.com](http://www.alankendallmusic.com) and additional information can be found at his Alan Kendall Music Facebook site.

Admission charge is just \$7 each with children under age ten admitted free. Mountain Home Music Theater is located on US Highway 76 and Georgia 17 between Hiawassee and Young Harris, 2.8 miles west of McDonalds in Hiawassee and 1.4 miles east of the Georgia 17 and 515 turnoff from US 76 toward Hayesville.

## Two rising stars featured at Writers’ Night Out

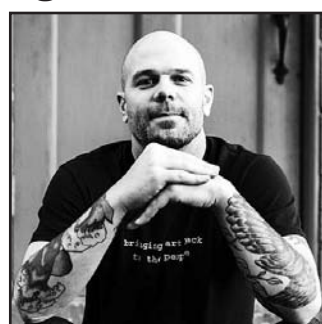
Two rising stars are featured at Writers’ Night Out this month: Andrea Jurjević, whose poetry book, *Small Crimes*, won the prestigious Philip Levine prize, and Jason Allen, who writes fiction and poetry. The event takes place at the Union County Community Center in Blairsville, GA on July 14 at 7 p.m. and is open to the public. There’s also an open microphone for those who’d like to share their own poetry or prose.

Jurjević, a native of Croatia, now lives in Atlanta. Of her prize-winning book, the judge remarked that her writing is “often dark but just as often beautiful... Jurjević’s language crackles with energy.” She has an MFA in poetry from Georgia State University, and her poems, as well as her translations of contemporary Croatian poetry, have appeared in journals such as *Epoch*, *TriQuarterly*, *Best New Poets*, *The Missouri Review*, *Gulf Coast*, and elsewhere. Her translation of *Mamasafari* from Croatian will be published by Diálogos in 2018.



Allen recently moved to Atlanta from New York, where he completed his PhD in literature and creative writing at Binghamton University. His work has appeared in *Passages North*, *Oregon Literary Review*, *Contemporary American Voices*, *Cream City Review*, *Ragazine*, and many other venues. His novel, *Gin Lane*, was a semi-finalist for the James Jones First Novel Fellowship, and his poetry collection, *A Meditation on Fire*, was published by Southeast Missouri State University Press.

Writers’ Night Out is sponsored by North Carolina Writers’ Network-West and



takes place on the second Friday of the month, April through November. Anyone wishing to participate in the open mic can sign up at the door to read for three minutes.

The Union County Community Center is located at Butternut Creek Golf Course at 129 Union County Recreation Rd., Blairsville, GA, off Highway 129 near the intersection of US 76, phone (706) 439-6092. Food is available for purchase but please arrive by 6 p.m. to get served.

For more information, contact Karen Holmes at (404) 316-8466 or [kpaulholmes@gmail.com](mailto:kpaulholmes@gmail.com).

## Diehl earns Faculty Honors at Georgia Tech

Danielle Diehl of Towns County, GA, earned the distinction of Faculty Honors for Spring 2017 at the Georgia Institute of Technology. This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have a 4.0 academic average for the semester. T(Jun28.F1)SH

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