

Towns County Herald

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Five! Returning state champs reign supreme

By Todd Forrest
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

the Lady Tigers via tiebreaker at last week's Area 4 Meet.

"Commerce is such a worthy adversary, we have the greatest respect for them, and they work so hard," Towns County Cross Country Coach Jeannie Ledford said. "When you look at Area 4, the Georgia Military College men captured the (state) title, then you have us and Commerce, so these state championships are coming out of our area, so we get to fight little battles all year."

Although Whitehead and Cornett were Towns' top two runners, it took a complete

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Towns County High School Lady Indians – 2016 GHSA Class A Public State Champions (Fifth Year Running)

Countywide burn ban aims to prevent dangerous wildfires

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

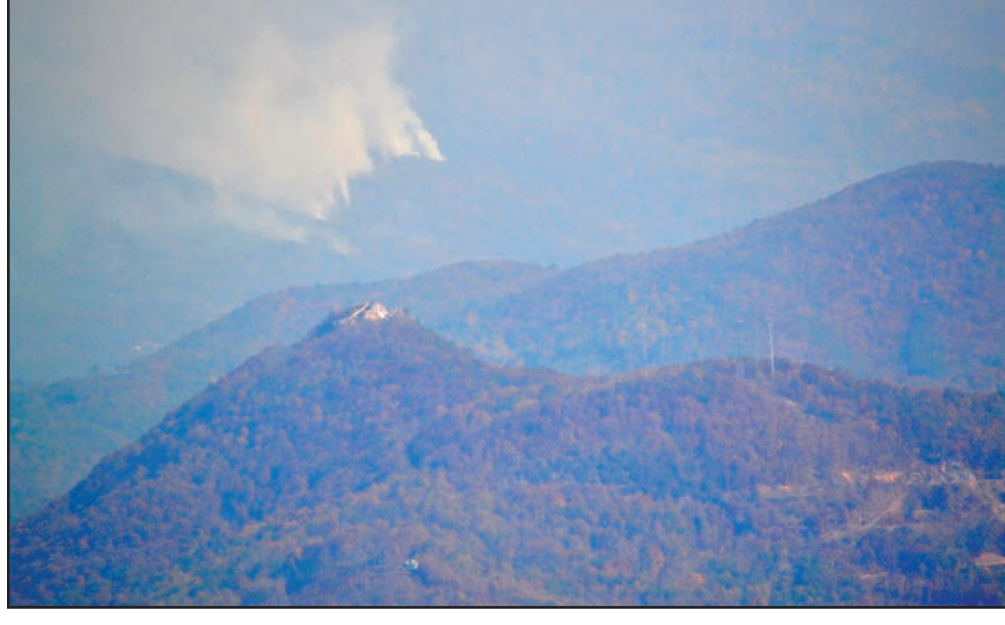
Attention Towns County residents – the mountains are catching fire.

Smoke has been clearly visible and breathable in the county lately due to wildfires burning in neighboring counties, and Towns County is so dry it could be next.

The North Georgia Mountains are currently experiencing a period of extreme drought, such that Towns County Fire Chief Harold Copeland and Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall decided to implement a burn ban by proclamation effective the evening of Friday, Nov. 4, in an attempt to prevent wildfires.

The message is clear, according to Chief Copeland: "No burning, no burning, no burning."

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This photo, taken from Brasstown Bald Visitor Center, demonstrates just how smoky the mountains have become. Pictured here, the Shooting Creek wildfire out of Hayesville, North Carolina.

Rep. Allison bids farewell to constituents

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

YOUNG HARRIS – District 8 State Rep. Stephen Allison shared parting words with area residents at his last public appearance as a state official at the Mountain Movers and Shakers weekly meeting at Mary's Southern Grill on Friday, Nov. 4.

Earlier in the year, Rep. Allison announced his decision to not seek a re-election in this year's election cycle, expressing his desire to spend more time with his children and family.

During the meeting, Rep. Allison shared anecdotes from his first experience in the political world eight years ago, and how the experience has changed his outlook on governmental workings as well as the needs of his constituents.

"Public service is a unique calling," said Rep. Allison. "It is not an easy road. It requires a lot



District 8 Representative Stephen Allison

of sacrifice. It requires a lot of cajoling. It requires a lot of time away from friends and family. It requires a lot."

According to Rep. Allison, his first election

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Mountain Regional Library shows off \$1 million renovation

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

YOUNG HARRIS – Mountain Regional Library opened its doors to the public for the first time in months for the official ribbon cutting and open house of the renovated facility on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Since December of 2015, Mountain Regional Library has held a temporary residence at the old Blue Ridge Mountain EMC building, making do with the less than ideal space while the Miller Street location underwent an interior restoration.

Gutting everything from the old building, from windows to flooring to architectural

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Mountain Regional Library Director Vince Stone talked at length about the \$1 million renovation of Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris.

Halloween on the Square offers family fun for everyone

By Todd Forrest
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Ghouls, ghosts and goblins were greeted with smiles and candy instead of screams of terror on Monday, Oct. 31, as the Hiwassee Town Square played host to its annual Halloween festivities.

This wasn't your typical Halloween, as temperatures remained in the low 70s, even after the sun sank below the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The unseasonably warm weather allowed for a greater variety of costumes, since keeping warm wasn't an issue on this night.

Trick or treaters of all

See Halloween, Page 7A



The 2016 Hiwassee Halloween on the Square was another huge success for both the city and its little candy warriors.

Towns County to recognize veterans on November 11

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Nov. 11 is a date of great importance to American history, honoring the lives of those who sacrificed the comfort and safety of home to heed the call of duty and protect this great nation.

Over the last century, this date has been an occasion of perseverance, dedication and remembrance, first with the armistice signing of the Allied Forces of World War I and Germany, and now, as Veterans Day, Armistice Day and Remembrance Day.

Unlike its beloved counterpart holiday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day is a time to pay respect to not only those



Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall had this sign made up to reduce road noise during Friday's upcoming Veterans Day ceremony at Towns County Veterans Park in front of the high school.

who gave their lives serving the United States, but also those who are still here to share their stories of wartime and

patriotism.

It is to this end that Towns

See Veterans, Page 6A

Locals dance the night away for Enotah CASA

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

BLAIRSVILLE – Towns and Union County locals took to the stage on Saturday, Nov. 5, for Enotah CASA's "Dancing with the North Georgia Stars" at the Union County Schools Fine Arts Center, where they danced their hearts out all that night.

The event, a charitable take on the hit reality TV show, featured 11 local celebrities from both Towns and Union counties performing a wide variety of dances with professional dance partners, in front of a crowd of nearly

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Roy Perren and Mary Lynn McKenzie, both of Towns County, competed in the recent Enotah CASA fundraising dance event, "Dancing with the North Georgia Stars."

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