

# Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, April 22, 2015

## Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thurs: Clouds	68 43
Fri: Clouds	71 53
Sat: Rain	66 53
Sun: Rain	68 47
Mon: Rain	68 50
Tue: Rain	63 48
Wed: Clouds	68 49



Upstream Elevation Predicted 04/22/2015	
Lake Chatuge	1,923.92
Lake Nottely	1,772.90
Blue Ridge	1,687.81

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## BRMEMC Board of Directors Meeting February Minutes

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## Towns County Board of Health Meeting April 23rd

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## Homeowners Association NEEDS HELP Make "Towns County" really clean and green

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## Towns Co Food Pantry April 28th 2-5 PM

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## SPORTS Baseball Apr 21 @ Lakeview 5 PM Apr 24 vs. Lakeview 5:30 PM

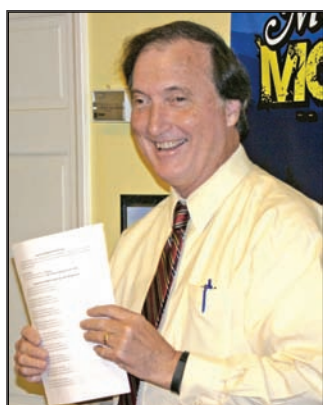
## Perren, Williams to seek EMC board posts

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

**Young Harris** – Roy Perren and Larry Williams announced their petition campaigns for nomination to the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC Board of Directors at the weekly Mountain Movers and Shakers meeting on Friday, April 17, at Mary's Southern Grill.

"I wanted to stand today before you and ask to be a candidate for the EMC board, and doing it through the petition, where we had to have a certain number of signatures of members in order to get on the ballot," said Perren, who is facilities director of Towns County High School.

Both candidates stressed that their decisions to petition



Roy Perren

for nominations – which is currently the only way to be placed on the ballot outside of the board's nominating committee – were not personal in nature.

"I want to say, first of all, I like Jerry Nichols," said Perren. "I have nothing against



Larry Williams

him. He's worked in my house on the air conditioning when we moved there, he's done some work for the school. So, this isn't a personal thing in that way. What I feel, though, is that with the controversy that

See EMC Post, Page 8

## TCSO seeks public's help

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

The Towns County Sheriff's Office seeks help from the public regarding the whereabouts of a 32-year-old Hiawasee woman.

Stacey Goode, of Hiawasee, is a person of interest in an aggravated assault investigation, according to the Sheriff's Office.

Deputies with the Towns County Sheriff's Office responded to the Chatuge Regional Hospital on Sunday April 19, in reference to a reported aggravated assault.

The assault was reported to have occurred on Saturday night at a residence off Bearmeat Road.

The investigation was turned over to the Criminal

Investigations Division for further follow up.

The victim in the assault was identified as Edwin Keith Whitlock, age 56 of Hiawasee.

The victim suffered knife wounds to various parts of his body. He was treated and released from Chatuge Regional Hospital.

Investigators handling the case are asking for the public's help in locating Goode.

Anyone who has information as to the whereabouts of Stacey Goode is asked to call the Towns County Sheriff's Office at (706) 896-4444.

In an unrelated incident, detectives with the Towns County Sheriff's Office and the Appalachian Regional Drug Enforcement Office executed a

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## National Day of Prayer set for May 7

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Residents of Towns and Clay counties will be celebrating the National Day of Prayer with a Prayer Breakfast to be held at the Towns County Recreation and Convention Center on Thursday, May 7, from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Tickets for the breakfast can be purchased for \$10 at area churches, and at the Towns County Chamber of Commerce and Clay County Chamber of Commerce, and the money will go toward the cost of the Chick-fil-A breakfast, as well as paper products for the event, printing materials and cost of travel for the guest speaker.

The steering committee for the event – Ruthie Jacobsen,



Kay Yandell and Dot Heard – met at the center on Tuesday, April 14, to finalize plans with a host of civic and church leaders from both communities.

Mark Speir, head football coach for Western Carolina

University, will be the speaker for the May 7 breakfast, and music will be provided by students from Towns County High School, Hayesville High

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## UGH Health Fair on Saturday

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

**Blairsville** - Hundreds of people from Union County and surrounding areas will be rolling up their sleeves on Saturday, April 25, between 6 a.m. and 11 a.m., as Union General Hospital's Annual Health Fair kicks into high gear.

The UGH Health Fair has been an ongoing service to the community for nearly four decades, and more than 80 hospital staff will be volunteering their time on Saturday to perform a variety of wellness checks for any who choose to attend – there is no residency requirement.

At the heart of the hospital's offerings will be deeply discounted lab work, as well as



Mike Gowder

free exams across a wide range of medical disciplines.

Lab work will feature a \$30 Comprehensive Lab Panel, a \$10 Prostate Specific Antigen test for men and a \$10 Hemoglobin A1C, which will check blood glucose over the last three months.

The \$30 comprehensive lab panel will include: checking levels of glucose, creatinine, electrolytes, total protein, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, AST/ALT, calcium, total bilirubin; a BUN test to monitor kidney function; a lipid screening for total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL calculation; TSH, which will check thyroid function; and offer a CBC, or complete blood count.

Usually, this same lab work runs around \$450—a savings of \$400, should someone choose to undergo all of the available lab work on Saturday. And this is just one reason why the health fair is such a special opportunity for Union County and abroad.

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## Earth Day turns 45 years old

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

This Wednesday, April 22, marks the 45th anniversary of Earth Day, and many area residents are marking the occasion as a chance to clean up the county.

Grace Howard, chairperson of the Great American Cleanup effort in Towns, along with Dr. Vernon Dixon and Dean Owens, has been busy spreading the word, and Earth Day falls smack dab in the middle of the cleanup.

The cleanup will last from April 18 through April 25, with special trash bags available at the Towns County Chamber of Commerce, Hiawasee and Young Harris city hall offices, and the commissioner's office.



Dr. Vernon Dixon

Residents are encouraged to take these special bags and fill them with road litter and trash, which they can then deliver to the Towns County Transfer Station during cleanup week at

no charge.

"Arising from an outcry by tens of millions of Americans to stop the pollution of our earth, Earth Day was first proclaimed in 1970," said Dr. Dixon. "Later that year, President Nixon signed the Clean Air Act. We can all be proud of the accomplishments since then. We are closing the hole in the ozone layer, we have markedly decreased acid rain that was destroying our forests, and we have drastically decreased the pollution of our skies and our water supply."

And as far as what can be done locally, resident Brad Rouse would like people to know that there are several measures residents can take, like installing new LED lightbulbs that

See Earth Day, Page 8

## Enotah Plant sale a huge success

By Mason Mitcham  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 16, the Enotah Garden Club held its annual plant sale at Mayor's Park in Young Harris. The club was lucky enough to do it on a rare sunny day in between April showers.

"We do an annual plant sale, and it's our only fundraiser. We do it always on the third Thursday in April. And it's something the community always looks forward to," said Marsha Elliott of the Enotah Garden Club.

"The weather cooperated today," she went on. "Yesterday, we were not so sure, but



today the weather cooperated, and we're very appreciative of the Man upstairs for giving us such a nice day."

Mrs. Birdie Bryan Miller—Zell Miller's mother—and

a handful of other like-minded ladies chartered the Garden Club 75 years ago. May will be the anniversary of its found-

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## TVA grants Parcel 52 for Mayor's Park

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, April 7, Hiawasee Mayor Barbara Mathis and City Council held the regular monthly meeting at City Hall.

"I'd like to make this announcement that we're very, very happy that we received the easement for Parcel 52 from TVA for the Mayor's Park that we've looked so forward to for 22 years, and it's become a reality," said Mayor Mathis. "So, we are very excited about that."

The next step in the project is signing a sublease with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which will be building a parking area and boat launch at the



Hilda Thomason

\$5. "The azaleas and the dogwoods will bloom the last two weeks in April, and the rhododendrons usually bloom the first two weeks in May," said

See Hamilton, Page 8

## Council awards project bids

By Mason Mitcham  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

The Young Harris City Council had its regular city council meeting on Tuesday, April 7, at 7 p.m.

After the council approved last meeting's minutes and the current agenda, the council discussed business.

First on the agenda, Shirley Jarrard went over the March 2015 financial reports.

She had prepared a three-month budget comparison. Requests from John Kelley and Matt Miller included reports of nine months water and sewer billing, nine months collections, reports broken down by residential, commercial, and Young Harris College, and a copy of the information used to set the current rates.

New business next included a discussion of the Sunset Drive Culvert Replacement and the Main Street Road Improvement Project.

For the Sunset Drive Culvert Replacement, bids were received from Colwell Construction, Graham County Land Company, and Patton Excavating.

The contract was awarded to Patton Excavating, Inc.

For the Main Street Road Improvement Project, bids had been received from Colwell Construction and GCLNC. Colwell Construction received the bid.

The council gave May-

or Andrea Gibby the authority to sign the contracts for the Bridge and Maple Street Projects.

Additional road improvement projects are underway.

Mayor Gibby discussed the need for gravel to be added to the Young Harris Service Road.

Also, Ashland Cove residents have asked Commissioner Kendall to install a 25 mph sign at the entrance of Ashland Cove from Bryson Road. Kendall agreed to do it if the city didn't object; the council told him they didn't object.

As far as water reports go, Gary Willer reported that Georgia Department of Transportation surveyors have not hit any City lines.

Due to extraordinary circumstances, one Luther Elder was allowed to disconnect from City Water.

Young Harris is in the process of obtaining financing for a Wastewater Improvement Project. A resolution to provide for the issuance of a Young Harris City Water and Sewer System Revenue bond in the amount of \$4,771,000 was adopted.

In other news, the Council has allowed Ashley Warren to operate a consignment and retail shop at 1352 Main Street, Suite 4.

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

