

Historical...from Page 1A

that will include items that will be needed once the Society is housed in their new building, and this includes the need for new technologies to make the preservation of historical documents more efficient.

By having an "established space" dedicated for Historical Society use, the members are ecstatic because they know their preservation efforts will increase in regards to time and speed because a static location will mean that efforts will not be hampered by the continuing need to move projects because of lack of space, which will streamline the preservation efforts.

The meeting then turned to a discussion on how, organizationally, the archives should be filed, how and where to setup the area needed for digitally converting files from old film, and old bound volumes, so that future generations can access the information without destroying the historical documents.

The goal of the Society is also to make all converted files become part of searchable archives online for a wider audience to have access to the historical information.

As another way to preserve the history of the area, local historian Jerry Taylor is doing his second book on the narrative histories of native families.

He is asking that anyone whose family is native to write down, or contribute an already written down narrative history of the family for submission in his book.

All of the members present at the Towns County Historical Society meeting were overjoyed at the generous news given to them by Kendall and the Historical Society is looking forward to the future expansion of the Society's ability to preserve the history of Towns County.

Allison...from Page 1A

changed. Next year, the federal primary elections will be held on May 20. The General Election remains set for November.

A change in election dates may have consequences for voter turnout, Allison said.

Rep. Allison said that he was bragging about voter turnouts in Towns and Union counties in the last election.

Only three counties in the state of Georgia broke 80 percent voter turnout in the last election, and Towns and Union were two of them.

However, it could be possible that some aren't aware that the elections have been moved and simply forget to vote.

Rep. Allison admitted that reelection is a big issue right now.

However, throughout his presentation, he stressed one thing - that he was unwilling to sacrifice his personal integrity for reelection.

"If I don't represent the values that you hold dear, find someone else, and run them against me, and beat me," he said.

He noted that some of his colleagues might not necessarily share his beliefs.

Political paralysis occurs when a candidate becomes so worried about what the voters want him or her to do, that he or she seizes up in fear he or she might not get reelected.

That might be in part why it's so hard and takes so long to pass legislation.

Thankfully, Rep. Allison is unaffected by paralysis.

He just wants voters to vote - indeed, he stressed the vital importance of voting.

Otherwise, in the near future, Democrats who want to take everyone's firearms away might overrun Georgia.

"We have a law on the books here in Georgia that says if the governor declares martial law, he can take all your firearms," he said. "But all I hear is 'that'll never happen.'"

He warned, "For the first time since 2004, the Democratic Party and the National Democratic Party think Georgia's ripe for a Democrat to be elected statewide. Not only the governor, but they're also going after our Senatorial seat."

Former President Jimmy Carter's grandson, Jason Carter, is running for governor in 2014.

Former U.S. Sen. Sam Nunn's daughter, Michelle Nunn, is running for U.S. Senate. Both are running on the Democratic ticket.

With a Democrat in the Governor's Office, Georgia might closely be compared to Colorado, where it's now legal to smoke marijuana.

Rep. Allison also mentioned California's recent addition of unisex public bathrooms to try to avoid prejudice against transgendered persons.

"We are losing the fight for morality in this country," Allison declared.

As Allison said multiple times, America is a Constitutional Republic.

"You have a voice every two years to overthrow your government," he said.

The election is coming up in 2014. Rep. Allison urges locals to take responsibility and continue to vote their conscience in large numbers.

Cochran...from Page 1A

The Lady Indians have included three Region 8-A Championships and a State Final Four appearance within a most admirable overall 76-14 record during Cochran's three years on the team.

The significance of the three region championships can't be overstated as they give the Lady Indians a total of just five such championships with the first two having come in 1977 and 2009.

The Lady Indians have had significant individual and team successes, such as the Lady Indians winning 12 very competitive Sub Region tournament championships from the 1972 through the 2000 season when these tournaments were discontinued. However, region championships have been hard to come by at one of the smallest public schools in the state.

The last three Lady Indian Region titles are actually not the only ones that Towns County High School achieved through prominent contributions by the Cochran family.

The Indians have won just one such championship with that one coming in 1975 and Eryn's father, Shell, contributing mightily to an unexpected success under unexpected circumstances which arose.

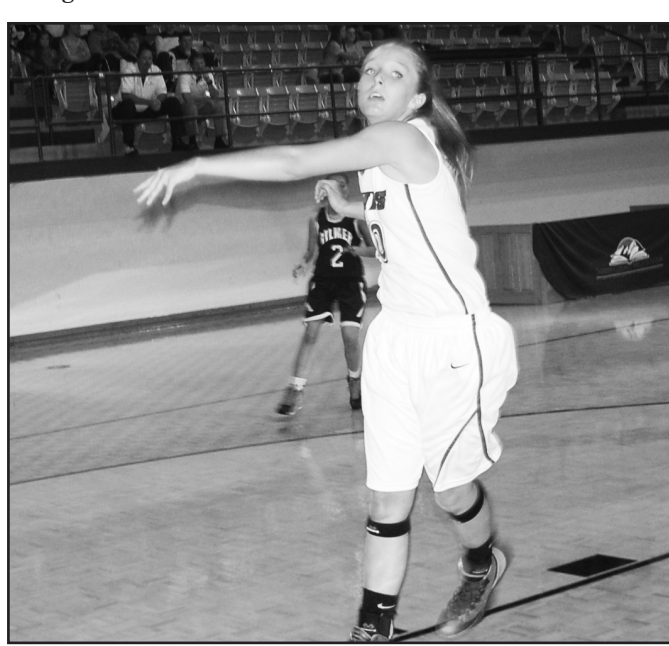
The Indians entered Sub Region Tournament play in 1975 with a sparkling 20-2 record and ranked second in the state in Class B, a classification eliminated a few years later and replaced by the Class A status still in effect.

With this in mind, one might wonder why such a championship would have been unexpected.

Well, the loss of Indians superstar Eddie Rushton, with his 22 points per game average and all around top notch play and leadership, to the mumps the day following the Sub Region tournament had left all kinds of questions as to whether the Indians would even make the state tournament.

Two wins were required in the Region tournament in those days to be one of just two teams from the Region to make it to State.

The senior laden Indians were up to the task, however, in



Eryn Cochran will take her game to the next level at Columbus State University. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

rising to the occasion as a unit in taking the measure of Banks County, Toccoa Falls, and the mighty Buford Wolves in winning the championship.

It was Shell Cochran, individually, who rose to the task in picking up the scoring slack left by Rushton's absence as he tied Keith Hunnicutt for the scoring lead with 13 points against Banks and then took top honors with 18 in a low scoring game against Toccoa Falls and 22 in the championship game against Buford.

He also provided vital and unexpected ball handling skills, along with Rushton's running mate at guard Kevin McClure, from his post position in Rushton's absence as the Indians survived Buford's tough full court press in the championship game.

TCHS connections to Eryn's signing do not stop with the exploits of her father, however, as numerous TCHS and Towns County "connections" relate to Columbus State Head Women's Basketball Coach Jonathan Norton.

Norton is at this writing two games into his fifth year as head coach at Columbus State, his alma mater, after three years as head coach at Lander University in Greenwood, SC, and four at Berry College in Rome.

His career record as a head coach to date, all at the college level, totals 196 wins and 130 losses with numerous

the late David Adams appears in this picture.

This may be of interest to long time Georgia Bulldogs fans as David served as the high school principal of Herschel Walker for all four years at Johnson County High School in Wrightsville.

It was actually Junior Norton who triggered the events leading to Cochran's signing with Columbus State as he quickly informed his son of her fine performance after attending last season's Region tournament Semi Final game between the Lady Indians and Providence Christian at Hebron Christian Academy in Dacula and the rest is history.

The Nortons, who have lived in Gwinnett County for many years due to employment needs, have been long time, active members of Hebron Baptist Church, which sponsors the Region 8-A school with Junior often attending games played by the Lady Indians and Indians at Hebron Christian.

Many other Norton and Puett relatives involved in basketball and other sports can be found when viewing TCHS annuals and photos from other sources.

Of particular interest is a grainy newspaper article from the past showing a 1922 photo.

According to a notation, that picture portrays the first coach, Cline Puett, and one of his players, Claud Swanson, from the first ever basketball team at the high school in Hiawassee, which predated our current Towns County High School.

Cline Puett was the grandfather of Jonathan Norton with coaching basketball perhaps being in the Puett genes.

Some readers seem to enjoy trips down memory lane and hopefully this visit has been of interest, but let's now return to the subject of the article for a final comment.

The Towns County Herald and this reporter extend their heartfelt congratulations to Eryn Cochran upon reaching this noteworthy accomplishment and best wishes are extended for another great season for herself and the Lady Indians and for an outstanding college career.

TCMS...from Page 1A

schools.

After analyzing both lists, only two schools out of 77 made the cut in both categories, Towns County Middle School and The Early College High School at Carver, an Atlanta

Public School.

This is a true testament as to how hard the teachers, staff, and students have worked in an effort to achieve true academic success.

Shop...from Page 1A

proudly. "I cannot say enough about our community."

Chief Wright is about halfway to the goal of \$8,500.

That much money will allow them to take about 40 kids, which will be chosen by DFCS and Towns County Family Connection.

More money will mean opportunities for more kids.

Chief Wright emphasizes that this is something that the kids will remember for many years to come.

He said that kids he helped out almost 10 years ago will still come and talk to him.

Shop With a Cop is an initiative that will remain a tradition long into the future, thanks to the support of the community and the generosity of Chief Wright, Smirz, and the Shop With a Cop volunteers.

"It's been great the way it's took off," Chief Wright said. "The first year was great and it's been great ever since."

Ben Workman's Eagle Scout project



Mrs. Stone, Principal and Ben Workman

Ben Workman of Troop 101, Boy Scouts of America, Blairsville, has presented the Union Middle School an outside classroom as his Eagle Scout Project. His project consisted of eight stained and stenciled tables with a teacher's easel. The outside classroom was presented to Mrs.

Stone, Principal, on October 17, 2013 and is located on the grounds of Union County Middle School. It is available for classroom use as well as recreational use.

Ben would like to extend a special thank you to Lowe's and Home Depot for discounting the supplies for this project.

Beauty...from Page 1A

ever following the Beast's death at the hands of the jealous, evil and pompous Gaston, and the reemergence of the handsome Prince in the tale's final act.

Adams directed and produced the magnificent performance.

Taylor Vardeman, who starred as Belle, also choreographed the show along with Amy McIntyre.

Austin Stephens co-starred as The Beast; Tyler Woodward was the production's Young Prince. And, Bradley Rogers had a command performance as Gaston, the tale's antagonist, the vain, egotistical, narcissistic, ultra-masculine villain determined to marry Belle.

Other important cast members include Andrew Rogers, who played Lumiere, a suave, French, debonair enchanted candelabra. The valet of The Beast's castle; Alex King as Cogsworth, a tightly-wound, enchanted stuffy mantle clock and the head of The Beast's household; Meagan Corbin, as Mrs. Potts, a warm-hearted, maternal enchanted teapot and the cook of The Beast's castle; Kaylynn Low, as Chip, an enchanted teacup, and Mrs. Potts' little boy; Slade Davenport as Maurice, Belle's loving, eccentric inventor father; Trent Whidden as Lefou,



Beauty and The Beast was a masterful performance at Towns County Auditorium. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Gaston's bumbling sidekick; Natlie Freel as Madame de la Grande Bouche, a former opera diva turned into an enchanted wardrobe; Amaira Barrett as Babbette, a saucy, enchanted feather-duster, and the object of Lumiere's affections; Zyndel Payne, as Monsieur d'Arque, the creepy, scheming proprietor

of the local insane asylum; Ansley Vardeman, as Enchantress, who placed the curse on The Beast and everyone in the castle; Cadence Nichols, Makenzie Carroll, and Sierra Oakes, as the Silly Girls.

Alicia Williams took charge of costume design for this show; Amber Williams

was the set designer, and Lindy Hollingshead was the student director. Fuzion Dance Company also played a major role in the show. Hannah Anderson, Sara Scott and Arianna Lentini were the Tech Crew.

Hats off to these multi-talented actors as they all turned in a command performance.

Mistletoe...from Page 1A

Mistletoe Market Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 24, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at North Georgia Technical College on Highway 515 in Blairsville.

Proceeds from the show's events support the ArtWorks Artisan Centre in Hiawassee that funds children's arts and crafts summer camps every year.

It's the Guild's biggest fundraiser of the year.

While fundraising is a major part of the weekend, superior talent also is on full display as painters, sculptors, mapmakers, jewelry designers, woodworkers, and sewing artisans demonstrate their gifts on the spot as if at work in Santa's Workshop.

Many of them are retired from a previous profession. Others are making a living in their art field while a few are fresh out of college.

The show is held indoors and there is ample free parking and no admission charge. Lunch is available to purchase.

The event features a juried art show with more than 50 vendors including many local artisans from the Northeast Georgia and Western Carolina Mountain communities.

The talented artists offer their latest works in ceramic items, one of a kind jewelry pieces, unique work with gourds, beautifully sewn and embroidered infant and children's clothing, unusual gifts, all types of wood items such as hand carved pens, walking sticks, turned bowls, furniture, quilts, painting and photography.

The ever-popular Sugar Plum Tearoom will be back again this year. The homemade goodies, salads, wonderful soups, sandwiches, and desserts are a delight for any palette. After shopping in the



The Christmas Shopping Season is here. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Market area, be sure to venture over to the Tearoom for a relaxing lunch. Then take a final shopping tour through the Market for those "just remembered" purchases before you head home as a happy, successful, and refreshed

early Christmas shopper.

For other related information regarding Mountain Regional Arts and Crafts Guild and Art Works, please call 706-896-0932 or visit the website at www.mtnregarts-craftsguild.com.

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