

Director...from Page 1A

said Ed Reed, chair of the Union County Public Library Board of Trustees. "He sent a follow-up email thanking us for the interview."

Should the candidate accept the position, the evaluation periods will serve as a means of judging job performance and how well the applicant adjusts to the demands of the director position.

"At the three-month point, we would get together and say, okay, you're doing great at this, but maybe you need to work a little more in this area, just to provide feedback to him as to how he's doing at that three-month mark," said Moore. "And the six-month is kind of that point where we say, okay, this is

working or it isn't, and we'll make him aware of that stipulation to his acceptance of the job."

One particular trait that impressed the search committee and board of trustees about this candidate was his apparent ability to fit in wherever he goes.

"He's been involved in his church in his community there, which is important to people of this area," said Moore. "This person will be representing the Mountain Regional Library System, and it's important that they be the face of the library within the community, because we've got three counties here."

"We've had great success," Moore continued. "We've had the addition here, the renovation at the library in Hiawas-

see. The next one, which will be happening this year within the next few months, will be the renovation at Mountain Regional Library."

The board of trustees will keep a particularly close eye on how this applicant performs in regards to Fannin County Public Library.

"Right now, the only library in our system that hasn't experienced the positive growth is Fannin County, and they've had some challenges because they have a multi-person commission, and in Union and Towns County, we have sole commissioners," said Moore. "And we felt as a group that, with his personality, he would be capable of representing the library in a very positive way

to those people in the political arena in Fannin County.

"We hope that they will have a library there," Moore continued. "Right now, it's in their courthouse, and we want them to experience the same success that we've had in Union and Towns County. And I think that he is capable of doing that for us. That's one of the things, as the search committee, we were looking for that quality in whoever we got, and I think he's capable of that."

As things stand, the board is very confident in its decision.

"I think he'll be a good fit for the job," said Reed. "He's an outgoing, friendly person. I think he's easy to get to know, so I think he'll fit in well."

STAR...from Page 1A

I took that last test, my entire goal had been to break 2200. And when I walked out, I didn't feel like I had, but I did by 50 points."

She will be attending Princeton University in the fall, where she hopes to attain a concentration in chemistry, with a certificate in piano performance.

"And then medical school," said Todd. "I'm not sure where yet, but hopefully I will attend medical school and then get a specialty in neurology."

Todd is the first female student in UCHS history to be attending an Ivy League school, and only the second student ever to attend Princeton University upon graduation. The first was Matthew West, who graduated in 2004.

Passing on words of test-taking wisdom, Todd stressed the importance of not stressing about the SAT.

"If you go into it just with the mindset of getting as many points as you possibly can and not worrying about the rest, then you will test better," said Todd. "Don't stress yourself out, and with each section, focus on that section. If you feel like you did badly, move on. Don't worry about that one, just worry about the next upcoming one and focus on that."

Todd would like to thank her friends and family for help-

Banquet...from Page 1A

ing, STAR Students. Joey Swanson and Woodmen of the World sponsor the event.

Last year's STAR Students were Alice Francis, Union County High School, and Logan Wood, of Woody Gap School.

STAR Teachers were Amy Payne, Union County High School, and Althea Cantrell, Woody Gap School.

ing her along the way – and, of course, Hunter, who aided Todd in her quest for SAT greatness with plenty of prep and three years of math courses.

"He's a great math teacher, and I learned a lot from him," said Todd. "But also, he's there for me as a homeroom teacher and just as a teacher in general for me to talk to if there's something going on. He's kind of like that father figure at school for me. He helped me with my SAT. Like I said earlier, just helping me with the math questions, and just whenever I need him, he's there."

The relationships formed between Coach Hunter, as he's known around school, and his students and athletes are what drive the successes shared by all parties involved.

"You have to be open to the kids as far as understanding that they need to see you as a teacher, but they need to see

you as a person," said Coach Hunter. "And the fact, too, that humor goes a long way. If you have that good relationship with them, the kids can feel comfortable in there, they can feel excited about things, and they can legitimately enjoy learning. If you laugh, you have a good time. Nobody just wants to sit around and have somebody drone on about something forever."

The honor of being selected by Todd as STAR Teacher is doubly meaningful for Coach Hunter, who currently coaches boys and girls soccer at UCHS, but has coached everything from basketball to football over his 15 years teaching every level of math at the school.

"A lot of times, people don't think of your coaches as typically the ones who can help you in the academic setting," said Coach Hunter. "So, that's really a good feeling for me,

because I've gotten recognition both in the classroom and on the playing field. That was something I took as really a big deal.

"But the biggest thing is the honor that Rachel," continued Coach Hunter, "she could have chosen any faculty member here, and there are tons of fantastic faculty members. And then, she picks you out of that – that's a really big deal."

As both longtime coach and teacher, Coach Hunter is used to seeing students with incredible drive and work ethic, and he is also used to seeing students with extremely exceptional abilities.

"But the kind of kids that you remember are the ones who come through with both, and those are the rarest ones you find," said Coach Hunter of Todd. "Probably the best compliment that I could give for her is that she's that way academically."

"Ugly Christmas Sweater" contest winners announced; receive prizes and awards

A different sort of meeting was enjoyed by members of the Misty Mountain Quilters' Guild, which met January 27, 2015, at the First United Methodist Church of Union County. Linda McKnight, Program Chairman, presented some unusual activities to start the new year with laughter and fun. Prizes were given to the wearers of "Sweater with the most 'Bling,' the 'Ugliest Sweater,' and the sweater that was 'Over the top.'"

There was also a showing of the "Ugliest Quilt I Ever Made" by several ladies, and a swap table of 'ugly' unfinished projects. To raise funds, the "Hugs and Kisses" (children in crisis) volunteers sold fabric and books, as did the "Quilt of Valor" team. Several new members were wel-



(L-R): Elma Donaldson, of Mineral Bluff; Ruth McKinley, of Morgantown; and Marsha Elliott, of Young Harris.

comed and encouraged to participate in ongoing projects of the Guild. Visit the website:

www.mistymountainquiltguild.org.

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