## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

## \$10,000 PROVIDED TO TOWNS COUNTY LIBRARIES

In 2011 Commissioner Bill Kendall created the Commissioner's Matching Challenge Grant of \$5,000, with funds matched every year by Friends of the Libraries of Towns County (FOLTC). This has meant an additional \$10,000 each year to be spent on books, e-books, and other library materials for Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, and Towns County Public Library, Hiawassee.

This year's checks were presented on April 24<sup>th</sup> by Cliff Bradshaw, County Commissioner, and members of FOLTC's board of directors to Heath Lee, MRLS Director, and Marlene Cannon, Branch Manager of Towns County Libraries.

FOLTC's share of the challenge grant is made possible due to fundraising activities such as membership fees and the on-going sale of books at the FOLTC bookstores in each library. Special sales are offered once or twice per year, with the next sale taking place from May 15<sup>th</sup> to May 26<sup>th</sup> at both libraries during regular library hours. In addition to the \$5,000 grant given each year, FOLTC also provides \$1,500 for children's summer reading activities and funds for staff development and staff appreciation. The mission of FOLTC is to provide financial support for the Towns County libraries and to advocate for public libraries. For additional information, visit the website at www.foltc.com.

(please include photo below)



(left to right) Mary Welken, FOLTC President; Marlene Cannon, TC Branch Manager; Heath Lee, MRLS Director; Cliff Bradshaw, County Commissioner; Jim Reynolds, FOLTC Treasurer; Barbara Hale, FOLTC Member-at-Large; Suzanne Carter, FOLTC Publicity Chair.