

Hal Herrin Overlook Ordinance Bell Mountain Park and Historical Site

WHEREAS, Hal Herrin's estate sharing my desire of protecting Bell Mountain from private development gave the 18 acre summit to Towns County to preserve for all to enjoy its beauty as described in 1883 by Athens, Ga. Newspaper editor J.A. Gant, "*...as we reached the summit the greatest sight that the mortal eye ever rested upon met our gaze, it is impossible for the pen to do justice to this scene, for several famous tourists who have visited this mountain pronounce it the GRANDEST VIEW IN AMERICA.*" And;

WHEREAS, it was described 124 years later in 2007 by retired Atlanta Journal Constitution reporter, Tom Bennett, as "*... the mountain with a pit carved out of the top, a brazen excavation in, THE MOST SPLENDIDLY STRIKING MOUNTAIN SCENERY UPON THE FACE OF THE GLOBE.*"

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the summit of Bell Mountain shall hereafter be protected as BELL MOUNTAIN COUNTY PARK AND HISTORICAL SITE, with "**A HAL HERRIN OVERLOOK**" erected from whence citizens and posterity can drink in the beauty of God's Creation with Lake Chatuge glistening in the sunlight far below, the clouds below on a misty morning, or a distant sunset over the boundless Appalachian Mountain ranges of Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of Towns County this 4th day of January 2016.

Bill Kendall
Towns County Commissioner