

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, January 18, 2017

TCHS Basketball Homecoming set for Friday night

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The 2017 Basketball Homecoming will be held on Friday, Jan. 20, in between the girls and boys basketball games in the Bill P. Kendall Gymnasium.

Homecoming is a time-honored tradition where those who came before only to head on into the world, well, they return to cheer on those who will be following in their footsteps.

Not many schools have a Basketball Homecoming, so Towns County High is a bit unique in that regard.

Everyone is familiar with the Football Homecoming, which arrives with floats and bonfires and a week full of fun activities.

Basketball Homecoming is fun, too, and is especially memorable for those who participate on Homecoming Court.

The school will be

crowning a Senior Queen and Senior Runner-Up.

There will be five senior girls chosen representing the Senior Court, two Junior Princesses representing the junior class, one Sophomore Princess representing the sophomore class, and one Freshmen Princess representing the freshmen class.

The Homecoming Court is as follows:

Seniors: McKenna Cook, Emma Kate Ledford, Cadence Nichols, Sierra Oakes and Madison Stroud.

Juniors (a tie): Madison McClure and Hayley Stowers.

Sophomore Taylor Cornett.

Freshmen Kaitlyn Davis.

Be sure to check out Friday's homecoming games and root extra loud for the Indians to win against Lakeview Academy. It's always that much nicer when students get a big W for their homecoming games.

JV games start at 4 p.m. and varsity starts at 7 p.m.



The following young ladies make up the 2017 Basketball Girls Homecoming Court: seniors – McKenna Cook, Madison Stroud, Cadence Nichols, Sierra Oakes and Emma Kate Ledford; juniors – Madison McClure and Hayley Stowers; sophomore Taylor Cornett; and freshman Kaitlyn Davis.

Cummings looks forward to continued transparency

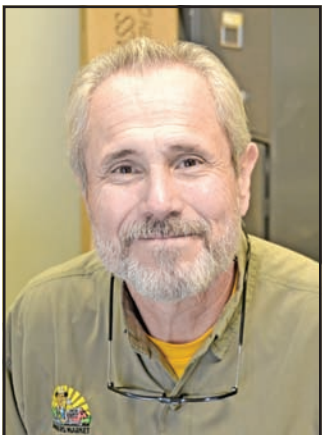
By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Blue Ridge Board of Directors has been striving to create a more open and communicative atmosphere for the employees and EMC membership since the election of new directors over the last couple years.

And with the new year now at hand, EMC Board President Mickey Cummings is focusing all efforts toward one thing – transparency.

Cummings wishes for the EMC to ultimately become an entity of full disclosure to the public, where members feel they are not only part of the EMC, but also involved with the inner workings.

"The biggest thing that we're working on right



Mickey Cummings is president of the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC Board of Directors.

now is that we're trying to become more transparent," said Cummings. "We want to continue to work towards doing things that allow as much transparency to the

public as we can get.

"It's important to be transparent with our members so they know what's going on in the company and why we're doing what we're doing."

A primary way that Cummings hopes to achieve this goal is through working with recently hired BRMEMC General Manager Jeremy Nelms to improve the financial state of not only the company, but also the rates for the membership.

According to Cummings, if the EMC succeeds financially, then the membership will also reap the benefits of those endeavors through better quality service.

"We want to make the company as efficient as possible in terms of dollars and cents," said Cummings. "We want

See Cummings, Page 6A

Young man with local ties taking part in inaugural parade

NEWS SPECIAL
Towns County Herald

While watching the Presidential Inaugural Parade this Friday, Jan. 20, keep an eye out for Alex Mayhew, a young man with local ties.

Mayhew is the great-grandson of Hiwassee resident Betty Holmes and the late John W. Holmes, and great-nephew to John L. Holmes and Parsly Galloway, as well as Carol and Gary Oeder, all of Hiwassee.

Mayhew likes visiting Hiwassee because, besides seeing his family, he enjoys the beauty of the mountains and Lake Chatuge.

He was chosen to participate in Friday's historic parade after the Presidential Inaugural Committee sent a request for Eagle Scouts from the DC Metropolitan Area to

march in the Inaugural Parade holding the state and territory flags.

Two-hundred and forty Eagle Scouts applied, and of those, Mayhew will be one of 56 chosen to march in the parade on Jan. 20.

After earning his Eagle Scout title, Alex went on to achieve being a Vigil member of BSA's Order of the Arrow.

He is currently a senior at Catotin High School in Thurmont, Maryland.

Mayhew has received a USAF ROTC scholarship and is planning to attend the University of Maryland.

The Towns County Herald would like to congratulate Mr. Mayhew on his selection to the parade, and also for his many accomplishments so far earned in his young life.



Alex Mayhew

Hiwassee City Council hears from Commissioner Bradshaw

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Hiwassee Mayor Barbara Mathis and city council welcomed Towns County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw in their first regular meeting of the year, which took place on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

Bradshaw, who won his election handily in November, has been traveling the county to make sure he gets a chance to meet and speak with stakeholders countywide.

"We're going out and addressing everybody," said Commissioner Bradshaw.

"And I want people to know, as commissioner, we're going to unite everybody and we're



Hiwassee City Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw addressed Hiwassee City Council and those in attendance at the beginning of last Tuesday's regular meeting.

See Bradshaw, Page 6A

38 Special rocked Music Hall

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

38 Special had the audience all caught up in the music as the band took the stage at the Anderson Music Hall on Friday, Jan. 13.

Fans filled the concert hall, all buzzing with anticipation and excitement to see the beloved '80s rockers whose influence and prevalence in music still holds true decades after its initial rise to fame.

Smoke filled the air and strobe lights bounced across the stage as the band kicked off the night with the group's first big hit from 1980, "Rockin' into the Night," a beloved fan favorite that had the crowd roaring.

"I do believe this is the place to be on Friday night,"



38 Special played a very special Friday the 13th show at the Anderson Music Hall last week.

said lead singer Don Barnes as the band prepared to launch into their next set.

Barnes has been a member of the band since its

start in 1974, taking a brief five-year hiatus in the late '80s and early '90s.

However, since original See 38 Special, Page 6A

BOE welcomes aboard Smith and Banister

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Board of Education held its first meeting of 2017 on Jan. 9, featuring two brand new board members finally taking their seats behind the big table in the Anne Oliver Mitchell Auditorium.

Recent student closures and student activities were primary topics of discussion.

Dr. Kilee Smith and Laura Banister were elected last year to replace longstanding board members Bob Gibby and Donna Hedden, both of whom left office in December.

Gibby had been a BOE member for 16 nonconsecutive



Dr. Kilee Smith and Laura Banister joined the Towns County Board of Education for their first meeting as members since swearing in last month.

See BOE, Page 6A

Young Harris man indicted for felony murder

NEWS SPECIAL
Towns County Herald

Robert James Holub, a 34-year-old Young Harris man, has been indicted for felony murder charges stemming from an incident that occurred Sept. 22, 2016.

On Sept. 22, 2016, Towns County Sheriff's deputies responded to a residence in Young Harris due to an unresponsive female.

At that time, Tiffany Dawn McClendon, a 32-year-old female from Grovetown, was found to be deceased.

In September, Holub was arrested and charged with multiple counts of Violation of Georgia Controlled Substance Act after the investigation showed that he had provided

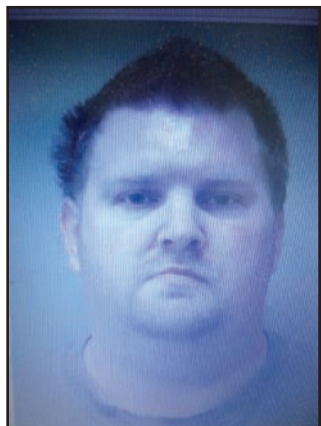
McClendon with controlled substances.

In an ongoing investigation, based on autopsy reports, Holub has been indicted for felony murder in relation to the death of McClendon.

Felony murder pertains to any felony act that results in the death of another human being. Holub is currently out on bond.

According to the January Term 2017 Indictments handed up at the beginning of the month by the Towns County Grand Jury, Holub has been indicted on 10 counts: four counts felony murder and six counts violation of Georgia Controlled Substance Act.

The Towns County Grand Jury meets multiple times a year, for a January term and a



Robert James Holub

July term.

The January term grand jury will meet for a second session before the July term of the Towns County Grand Jury convenes.

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Lake Levels
Blue Ridge 1,667.88
Chatuge 1,918.04
Nottely 1,761.26



Towns County Homeowners Association meeting Jan 27, 2017

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Sign Ups Underway for 4-H Air Rifle Team

See page 5A

The Peacock is looking for actors

See page 7A



Basketball

Tues. Jan 17 vs. Tallulah Falls 6 & 7:30 PM
Fri. Jan 20 vs. Lakeview 7 & 8:30 PM