

Towns County Herald

Legal Organ of Towns County

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50 Cents

Publication Number 635540 Volume 88 Number 12

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

2017 Basketball Homecoming a night to remember

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer
Towns County High School's
2017 Basketball Girls Homecoming

festivities took place last Friday at the halftime of the boys' game in the Bill P. Kendall Gymnasium. Everyone waited in anticipation of who would be

announced Homecoming Queen, and when Emma Kate Ledford's name came out over the loudspeakers, all her family, friends and fellow Homecoming Court participants cheered her on as she gracefully received her crown as 2017 Basketball Homecoming Queen.

McKenna Cook was crowned Runner-Up among seniors, with Cadence Nichols, Sierra Oakes and Madison Stroud rounding out the soon-to-graduate crowd.

Hayley Stowers was crowned Junior Princess, in a cluff with classmate Madison McClure.

Taylor Cornett received a crown as Sophomore Princess, and Kaitlyn Davis got to wear her crown as Freshman Princess.

The event should be remembered for its high quality of spectacular formalwear, and for the high spirits shared by everyone in attendance that Friday, Jan. 20.



The Towns County High School 2017 Basketball Girls Homecoming Court: Left to right, freshman Kaitlyn Davis, junior Madison McClure, senior Cadence Nichols, senior McKenna Cook, senior Emma Kate Ledford, senior Madison Stroud, senior Sierra Oakes, junior Hayley Stowers and sophomore Taylor Cornett. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Emma Kate Ledford showing her excitement to be crowned 2017 Basketball Homecoming Queen in front of her friends, family and peers on Friday, Jan. 20. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Towns County woman charged with attempted murder

News Special
Towns County Herald

On Jan. 16, Jacqueline Kay Ford, 61, of Hiawassee, was arrested and charged with one count of attempted murder.

She is currently being held without bond in the Towns County Detention Center.

Towns County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a residence on Scataway Road in Hiawassee during the early morning hours on Friday, Dec. 30, 2016, in reference to a 911 hang-up call.

Upon arrival at the residence, deputies discovered a 79-year-old male and a 61-year-old female, both in semi-



Jacqueline Ford

conscious states. The man and woman were identified as Robert and Jacqueline Ford, husband and wife.

Both were initially transported to Chatuge Regional Hospital before being airlifted to Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Gainesville, where they were admitted in serious condition.

The case was investigated by the Towns County Sheriff's Office and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

The attempted murder charge stems from Jacqueline Ford adding an unknown amount of prescription medication and antifreeze to a liquid drink and giving it to her husband, Robert Ford, in an attempt to cause his death.

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Towns County High School sophomore Crawford makes District Honor Band

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Herald would like to congratulate Chase Crawford for his successful audition and selection to District Honor Band.

As a member of District Honor Band, Crawford will be traveling to Fannin County in February to learn and perform music in a special concert with other talented individuals from around the district.

Crawford has been playing the alto saxophone since the sixth grade, and while he tried out for honor band in middle school, this is his first time trying out in

high school. "In the region, there's an audition that you go to, and this year it was in Pickens County," said Crawford, explaining the honor band process. "You go to the high school, you play some scales, then you sight-read some music and there's an etude that you have to learn ahead of time."

Crawford was one of seven saxophone players who made the audition, and though he's a confident player and prepared himself with plenty of hours' practice, he was still pretty nervous during the actual audition.

The audition occurred

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Chase Crawford, TCHS 10th-Grader

19-year-old Hayesville man caught with \$80K in drugs and paraphernalia

News Special
Towns County Herald

One suspect is in custody on numerous charges, and a sizable amount of illegal drugs is off the streets after multiple search warrants in connection with an ongoing drug investigation were served on Wednesday, Jan. 11, by Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton and deputies.

The search warrants executed by the Towns County Sheriff's Office yielded a large quantity of various illegal drugs with an estimated street value of \$80,352.

Steven Douglas Anderson, 19, of Hayesville, North Carolina, was arrested and charged with multiple violations of the Georgia Controlled Substances Act. His charges include the following criminal offenses:



Steven Douglas Anderson

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Mushrooms (Shrooms) with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Ecstasy 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Ecstasy with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of THC oil 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of THC oil with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Xanax 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Xanax with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Oxycodone 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Oxycodone with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Mushrooms (Shrooms) 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Mushrooms (Shrooms) with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Ecstasy 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Ecstasy with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of THC oil 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of THC oil with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Xanax 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Xanax with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Oxycodone 16-13-30

V.G.C.S.A. Possession of Oxycodone with intent to distribute 16-13-30 (B)

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Diffie to fill in for Earl Thomas Conley on Feb. 11

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Country Music star Joe Diffie will be filling in for Earl Thomas Conley on Feb. 11 at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, when fellow Country Music icon Gene Watson is also set to perform.

Due to longstanding health conditions, Conley had to regrettably cancel his shows for all of 2017, the Hiawassee performance being on the list.

"Earl Thomas Conley had to go into the hospital last year to have leg surgery," said Fairgrounds General Manager Hilda Thomason. "He's had a lot of complications since then. He's had to come off the road, and he has gone back into the hospital to have the surgery redone. So, he'll be off the road for quite a while. He



Gene Watson will be performing at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds on Saturday, Feb. 11. He was last in town on Oct. 24, 2015, and here he is in Anderson Music Hall back in October 2011. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

had to cancel, and we replaced him with Joe Diffie." While Conley's presence at the show will be greatly missed, patrons will not be

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Library board looks forward to the coming year

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Library Board met at the Towns County Public Library on Tuesday, Jan. 10, to discuss the quarterly updates for both county libraries as well as establish plans for the year.

The meeting began with a visit from Towns County Sole



Towns County Public Library Branch Manager Debbie Phillips and Library Board Member Joan Crothers in the quarterly board meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

Chamber appreciates membership at annual meeting

By Lily Avery
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Chamber of Commerce paid tribute to the previous year, set goals for 2017 and celebrated its membership at the Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation on Thursday, Jan. 19, at The Ridges Resort.

Before getting down to business, members were



The swearing in of the 2017 Towns County Chamber of Commerce Board Members at the annual appreciation meeting on Thursday, Jan. 19. Photo/Lily Avery

County meetings move to third Tuesday each month

By Todd Forrest
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

Towns County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw hosted his first County Commission Meeting last week at the Towns County Courthouse on Thursday, Jan. 19.

The following were all on the docket: an appointee to the Board of Tax Assessors, Child/Adult Care Food Board, establishing a Tax Appeal Administration, a change to the monthly meeting schedule, and an awards presentation by the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

Steve Wiles was appointed to the Towns County Board of Tax Assessors by Commissioner Bradshaw for a three-year term. Wiles is a 1977 graduate of Florida State University and has been a Certified Public Accountant in Florida since 1978 and in Georgia since 2012.

He moved to Towns County in 2012 and attends



Towns County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw leading his first 19. Photo/Todd Forrest

Macedonia Baptist Church. "That is a hard position to fill," Bradshaw said. "It requires 40 hours of training the first year and 20 hours of training every year thereafter. "It's hard to find folks

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Towns County Homeowners Association meeting Jan 27, 2017

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Move On When Ready Towns County High School

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Affordable Health Screenings

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Basketball

Tues. Jan 24 @ Commerce 6 & 7:30 PM
Fri. Jan 27 vs. Athens Christian 6 & 7:30 PM
Sat. Jan 28 @ Prince Ave. 6 & 7:30 PM