

Towns County 4-H Garden Club kicks off new year



Club members work together creating their plant charms.

For our first meeting of the New Year, the members made some plant charms! An idea we learned about from The Home Depot Garden Club (gardencub.homedepot.com).

Each child could make 2 or 3 charms. They rolled out polymer clay; cut a shape from cookie cutters; then used steel letters to punch words into their charms; and took picks to draw pictures. Once baked a few minutes in the oven, a piece of copper wire is attached to the charm so it can be placed in a flower pot. A great way to dress up your plants!

The group meets the first and third Monday of each month; after school at the Towns Extension Office.



The finished product.

A school bus drops them off and the children are picked up at about 4:30PM by their parents.

If you have a child who might want to participate, please contact Crissy Figg at

the extension office: 706-896-2024.

Judy Caines, 4H Garden Club Leader, Georgia Master Gardener, Hiawassee Garden Club Member

NTJan16,F4JSH

Tri-State Business Women – Another Year of Giving



Tri-State Business Women donate to local charities

Once again in 2018, TSBW members were able to coordinate two successful fundraising events with the support of local businesses and residents. These events provided the opportunity to offer donations to local charities and scholarships to students within the area.

According to Paula Padgett, TSBW President, the organization was able to provide donations to S.A.F.E., Inc., Georgia Mountain Positive Choices, Habitat for Humanity, Union County Anti-Drug Coalition, Union County

Family Connection, Union and Fannin Counties Shop with A Cop, Almost There, Inc., Union/Towns Foster Children, Enotah CASA, NAMI GA, Inc. Union County Affiliate, Relay For Life, as well as scholarship dollars to Mountain Education Charter High School, University of North Georgia-Blue Ridge and the North Georgia Technical College Foundation.

Tri-State Business Women is a not-for-profit organization of entrepreneurial women in Union and surrounding counties who own, co-own,

operate and/or accept full responsibility for a business and is or wants to be a positive force in the community.

Meetings are held every Tuesday from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m. at Cabin Coffee of Blairsville. For more information about this organization, please contact Paula Padgett at (770) 597-7645 or Kimberly Miller at (706) 835-8582.

Additional information is also available on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/tri-state-business-women or website <http://www.tri-statebusinesswomen.com>.

NTJan16,Z13JCA

New Planetarium Show comes to Young Harris College

Young Harris College will host "Phantom of the Universe" at the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium at 8 p.m. on Friday, January 18, Friday, January 25, Friday, Feb. 15 and Friday, Feb. 22. The planetarium is housed in the Maxwell Center for Mathematics and Sciences on the YHC campus, which is located at 1 College Street, Young Harris, GA. Each planetarium show costs \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and is free for YHC students, faculty and staff. All shows are open to the public.

From the journey of protons racing through the world's largest particle collider to close-up views of the Big Bang, "Phantom of the Universe" will immerse audiences in the search for dark matter. The first hints of its existence



are revealed through the eyes of the scientist who coined the term "dark matter." The show plummets deep underground to view the most sensitive dark matter detector on Earth, housed in a former gold mine. From there, the show journeys across space and time, speeding alongside particles as they collide in spectacular explosions of light. The show

features how scientists around the world are collaborating to track down the true nature of dark matter. "Phantom of the Universe" is narrated by Oscar-winning actress Tilda Swinton.

For more information about planetarium events or to purchase tickets, please visit yhc.edu/planetarium.

NTJan16,Z13JCA

McKay...from Page 1A

competition. Rather, they have acted in concert and will share McKay's talents as needed between each other, because they understand that any benefit for one is a benefit for all.

Originally, they had considered a joint economic development authority, said Gibby. However, state law requires a Georgia development authority to have a 12-person board, and Gibby said it just wasn't practical for their purposes.

"None of us, individually, could afford to hire an economic development officer," said Ordiales. "It just wouldn't be feasible. But together, by splitting McKay's salary three ways, it's workable for us and it's a fantastic opportunity for the citizens of this area."

Bradshaw said he does not have the time necessary to travel to conferences and get grants and funding, nor does he even know who to contact,

because he's too busy taking care of county business.

Ordiales and Gibby said the same regarding their respective municipalities.

Being able to delegate this authority to a professional in municipal and county economic development with a knowledge of grant writing and a list of contacts is a win-win for everyone concerned, said Bradshaw.

All three officials agree that controlled growth is the desired outcome for Towns County and her two cities, and that while there's plenty of potential up here, it's also the small-town feel that everyone is attracted to.

The county will be taking on the project as a pilot program for one year to make sure that the arrangement is indeed a beneficial one.

"That goes for me, too," said Ordiales, "But in economic development, nothing is going to happen in a week. It going to

take some time."

Each entity will pay one third of McKay's salary, which will be approximately \$20,000 per year each.

"It's exciting to have another person that can give us all ideas and can think through things and help us. I'm excited about what the possibilities are going to be," said Gibby.

For her part, McKay said she is excited to meet the people of Towns County, Hiawassee and Young Harris.

"And if they have ideas, suggestions, opportunities that they see arise, I welcome them reaching out to me. I would love to talk to them," said McKay. "The goal is not to change the character of the community.

"It's to enhance, preserve and protect it. And to grow it—sustainable, controlled growth that is going to enhance the community, not change it. That's why people come here, because they like it like it is."

Heaton...from Page 1A

Previously, Heaton also served as the director of the hospital's Nursing Home and as a member of the hospital's Board of Directors, according to court records.

Dr. David Gowder was the emergency room director at Union General Hospital at the time of his initial arrest for allegedly attempting to fill fraudulent prescriptions in Fannin County on April 1, 2015, according to authorities.

Furthermore, Dr. Gowder also held a position on the hospital's Board of Directors through April 2015, according to court records.



Mike Gowder



Dr. David Gowder

Grand Jury...from Page 1A

possession of drug-related objects; drugs not in original container; driving on improper registration.

Joey Malone Johnson, three counts cruelty to children in the first degree; three counts simple battery, Family Violence.

Kristen Renee Watson, three counts cruelty to children in the first degree; three counts simple battery, Family Violence.

Jacob Lea Rose, four counts aggravated assault, Family Violence; battery,

Family Violence; hindering emergency telephone call; two counts cruelty to children in the third degree; driving while license suspended.

Cindi Michelle Hernandez, crossing the guard lines with drugs; possession of methamphetamine; two counts driving under the influence (drugs) (per se); driving under the influence (drugs) (less safe); driving under the influence (drugs) (less safe, combined influence); possession of drug-related objects; taillight violation; improper tires.

Jacob Ray Joseph Lee, theft by receiving stolen property; criminal attempt to commit a felony.

Autumn Dawn Martin, theft by taking; theft by receiving stolen property; theft by deception.

Amanda Aveline Wheeler, possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute; possession of methamphetamine; possession of a Schedule IV controlled substance; possession of marijuana, less than an ounce; possession of drug-related objects.