

# Towns County Herald

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## TCHS sends 85 graduates out into the world



Class of 2017 graduates excitedly tossing their caps on Friday, May 19. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Eighty-five of the county's finest graduated from Towns County High School

at a packed Towns County Recreation and Conference Center on Friday, May 19.

After a beautiful rendition of the national anthem by graduating senior

Angel Moss, TCHS Student Body President all in attendance, extending a special thank you to family and friends of the Class of 2017 for pushing them toward graduation success.

"Guys, we've made it," said Smith. "It's taken a lot of

blood, sweat and Red Bull to get us this far but here we are. We've worked so incredibly hard to reach this moment, now is when it all pays off.

"Graduates, as we leave here tonight and probably

See Graduates, Page 6A



Joshua Goeltz, Towns County High School Class of 2017 Valedictorian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

## Hiawassee PD turns to social media for help

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

The Hiawassee Police Department is asking the public for help, and it's getting the word out using social media.

In a post to the department's Facebook page on Tuesday, May 16, Acting Police Chief Paul Smith said that several vehicles were wanted in connection with multiple trailer thefts in the area, as well as the burglary of a county building.

The first reported theft of a vehicle occurred in the early morning hours of Monday, April 17, at the A to Z Outlet across the street in Hiawassee.

"In the security video, See Hiawassee PD, Page 6A



Hiawassee Police are looking for this Dodge truck.

## Hamilton Gardens celebrates successful season



Dozens of plant lovers attended the May 20 benefit for the Hamilton Gardens at Lake Chatuge on Saturday. Photo/Lily Avery

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Dozens of patrons and gardens enthusiasts gathered

for food and fellowship for the "Celebrate the Gardens" benefit at Lake Chatuge on Saturday, May 20.

Sponsored by the Towns County Homeowners Association, last weekend's celebration was one for the

See Gardens, Page 6A

## Three World War II Vets make 'Honor Flight' to D.C.

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Todd Kimsey, Martha Warth and Shirley Sonnenfeld have three things in common: they each served in the U.S. Navy, they each served in World War II and all three recently traveled to Washington D.C.

As part of the Blue Ridge Honor Flight program, these three brave veterans flew from Asheville, North Carolina to the nation's capital on Saturday, May 13.

"The three of us just happened to be in the right place at the right time that we were selected to go on this Honor Flight," said Warth. "They took care of us from the minute they got hold of us, until the minute they got us back. There were about 81 of us that were taken to the capital. It was really quite extraordinary."



Martha Warth, Todd Kimsey and Shirley Sonnenfeld participated recently in the Honor Flight program as veterans of World War II. Photo/Lily Avery

The Blue Ridge Honor Flight program began in 2007

and two programs, HonorAir and National Honor Flight,

merged. Both HonorAir and

See Flight, Page 6A

## Commissioner goes over new drug policy, upcoming eclipse

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

During the May county meeting, Towns County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw adopted the Towns County Drug Policy that will affect all county employees once enacted.

Since he first began running for office, Commissioner Bradshaw has clearly voiced his opinion concerning the necessity for a stern drug policy for all county employees and now it is more than just talk.

"I've been talking about doing a random drug test policy for county employees for a good while," said Commissioner Bradshaw. "I've learned that it takes a lot of time. You have to get your attorney involved and it takes a lot of time."

Under the new Towns



Towns County Sole Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw

County Drug Policy, all those who are employed by the county will be susceptible to random drug testing at any

See Commissioner 6A

## Student achievement rewarded with annual TCHS Honors Day

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Each year, as seniors graduate and underclassmen get one step closer to that coveted place at the top, Towns County High School honors its students who will return in the fall with a ceremony specially set aside for underclassmen.

This year, those students were honored in front of their families and friends in the Anne Oliver Mitchell Auditorium on Wednesday, May 17.

"Students, you did it," said Dr. Connie Hobbs, TCHS principal. "I congratulate you on your hard work that you've put forth this year and now it's time to sit back and enjoy

See TCHS Honors, Page 7A



Towns County High School Class of 2018 Highest GPA, L-R: Sara Beth Hobbs, Zachary Davenport and Sarah Bastian. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

## Seventh Annual Eggfest brings thousands to the Fairgrounds

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Hundreds of "eggheads" gathered to taste homemade delicacies and treats at the Seventh Annual Georgia Mountain Eggfest, hosted at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds on Saturday, May 20.

Cooks and vendors lined the Fairgrounds early Saturday morning, showing off their bright Green Eggs and their cooking skills, filling the air with the sweet smell of freshly prepared eats.

"This is our seventh year to host the Eggfest," said Hilda Thomason, Fairgrounds General Manager. "This is the biggest crowd we've ever had."

See Eggfest, Page 7A



The Seventh Annual Georgia Mountain Eggfest was bigger than ever before. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

2 Sections 20 Pages  
Lake Levels  
Blue Ridge 1,686-10  
Chatuge 1,925-74  
Nottely 1,773-93

Inside  
Arrests 2A  
Chamber 9A  
Church 4B  
Classifieds 7B  
Opinion 4A  
Legals 8B  
Obits 5B

Memorial Day  
5K Run  
CANCELLED

See page 2A

U.S. Forest Service  
Fishing Rodeos

See page 2B

TCHS Girl's Basketball Fundraiser

See page 2B

TOWNS COUNTY Locally Grown  
Farmers Market  
OPENING DAY  
Saturday, May 27th

See page 2A