

Voting...from Page 1A

absentee ballots will need to contact the board office, which is situated next to the Towns County Courthouse, or call (706) 896-4353.

Towns County has 9,534 total registered voters, and Tuesday, April 24, was the voter registration deadline heading into the election.

Each of the following candidates appears on the ballot of his or her respective political party:

For Governor, L.S. "Casey" Cagle, Eddie Hayes, Hunter Hill, Brian Kemp, Clay Tippins, Marc Urbach and Michael Williams, all Republican; and Stacey Abrams and Stacey Evans, both Democrat.

For Lieutenant Governor, Geoff Duncan, Rick Jeffares and David Shafer, all Republican;

and Sarah Riggs Amico and Triana Arnold James, both Democrat.

For Secretary of State, David Belle Isle, Buzz Brockway, Josh McKoon and Brad Raffensperger, all Republican; and Josh Barrow, Dee Dawkins-Haigler and Rakeim "RJ" Hadley, all Democrat.

For Attorney General, Incumbent Chris Carr, Republican, and Charlie Bailey, Democrat.

For Commissioner of Agriculture, Incumbent Gary Black, Republican, and Fred Swann, Democrat.

For Commissioner of Insurance, Jim Beck, Jay Florence and Tracy Jordan, all Republican; and Janice Laws and Cindy Zeldin, both Democrat.

For State School Superintendent, Incumbent Richard Woods and John Barge, both Republican; and Sid Chapman, Sam Mosteller and Otha E. Thornton Jr., all Democrat.

For Commissioner of Labor, Incumbent Mark Butler, Republican; and Richard Keatley and Fred Quinn, both Democrat.

For Public Service Commissioner District 3, Incumbent Chuck Eaton; and Lindy Miller, John Noel and Johnny C. White, all Democrat.

For Public Service Commissioner District 5, Incumbent Tricia Pridemore and John Hitchins III, both Republican; and Dawn A. Randolph and Doug Stoner, both Democrat.

For U.S. Representative in 116th Congress from the 9th Congressional District

of Georgia, Incumbent Doug Collins, Republican; and Dave Cooper and Josh McCall, both Democrat.

For State Senator from the 50th District, Incumbent John Wilkinson, Republican.

For State Representative in the General Assembly from the 8th District, Incumbent Matt Gurtler and Mickey Cummings, both Republican.

For District Attorney of the Enotah Judicial Circuit, Incumbent Jeff Langley, Republican.

Appearing on the Nonpartisan General Election

Ballot:

For County Board of Education Post 1, Incumbent Robert C. Williams and Steve Green.

For County Board of Education Post 2, Tamie Bradley and Brandi Rutan.

For County Board of Education Post 3, Incumbent Stan Chastain.

For Justice, Supreme Court of Georgia, John Ellington and incumbents Michael P. Boggs, Britt Cagle Grant, Harold D. Melton and Nels Peterson are all running unopposed.

Incumbents Charlie Bethel, Stephen Dillard, Amanda H. Mercier, M. Yvette Miller, Clyde L. Reese III and Brian Rickman are all running unopposed for Judge, Court of Appeals Georgia.

Ken Hodges and Ken Shigley are running against one another for Judge, Court of Appeals Georgia, to succeed John Ellington.

Raymond E. George and N. Stanley Gunter are both running unopposed for Judge, Superior Court of the Enotah Judicial Circuit.

Hiawassee...from Page 1A



Photo by Mark Novak

Hiawassee City Councilmembers Nancy Noblet, Amy Barrett, Kris Berrong and Anne Mitchell in their May 1 regular monthly meeting.

The council voted to purchase a new large screen television and audio equipment to provide residents and visitors with a recurring family night event called "Flicks on the Square," which will soon take place on a recently erected stage on the square.

A listing of movies and dates will be made available on the backside of the new Appalachian Trail Kiosk that has been added to the square, and residents can also find a listing of summer square concerts.

Hiawassee Mayor Liz Ordiales and the council are still finetuning the licensing for the movie project, however, residents and visitors can expect to come out to the square on May 25 and enjoy a movie.

The Towns County Library has an agreement that allows it to show movies, and the library may work in conjunction with the city on this project, as well as allowing businesses to sponsor movies.

"I've got a lot of people that have called and said, 'We'll sponsor a movie,'" said Ordiales after the May 1 council meeting.

Hiawassee City Hall is open Monday through Friday,

and the new business hours began on April 30.

City hall still opens at its regular time of 8:30 a.m., though it closes at 4 p.m. now instead of the former 4:30 p.m. closing time.

Work hours for employees have not changed, though the new hours give city employees time to wrap up their work for the day with fewer interruptions.

Mayor Ordiales sought approval from the council on May 1 to move forward with the application process to purchase Georgia surplus items in order to save the city money on equipment.

"You can buy all kinds of equipment for pennies on the dollar," said Ordiales. "When I was president of the Fire Corps, we bought a Hummer for the Fire Corps, and they put a pump at the back of this Hummer that went into all kinds of woods and things like that, for \$50 bucks."

Added Ordiales: "I brought this over here so we can get this option for buying. Maybe we can buy some tractors, maybe we can buy some equipment for the water department."

CSRA Probation

Services Inc. currently oversees probationers for the City of Hiawassee and has been doing so without a contract with the city.

During the April 23 work session, Ordiales and City Attorney Thomas Mitchell arrived at the conclusion that it would be in the city's best interests to have a contract with CSRA.

So, in the May 1 regular meeting, the council voted unanimously to approve the Probation Services Contract.

A motion was presented to approve the second reading of the new elected officials pay structure, which will take effect after the next election cycle for each city post, and it was unanimously approved by the council.

Ordiales then moved on to a first reading of the Hiawassee Tree Ordinance and the Defined Benefit Retirement Plan, which the council approved as well.

A strategic planning committee meeting will be held on May 16 at 1 p.m. inside city hall, to discuss future plans for the City of Hiawassee.

The next council work session meeting will be held on Monday, May 21, at city hall.

Prayer...from Page 1A

Church here tonight." Teresa Conner performed "God Bless America" as part of the program, and when she finished, she encouraged the group to join in and sing along with her on a second rendition of the song.

Thomas then welcomed and recognized all the veterans in the room, and they stood to a round of applause.

Chief Deputy Terry Conner of the Towns County Sheriff's Office took to the podium to recognize and pray for all of the men and women who work in public safety in the community.

"I just want to thank you for the job that you all do, and the service to this community," said Col. Conner. "It's a hard job day in and day out to respond to a lot of these calls for service, and just want to thank you, because a lot of times you take it home with you at night."

Conner continued in prayer with the group for those who serve in the community as well as the people of the community who are sick and struggling.

Towns County High School students Evan Berrong and Kendall Floyd prayed with the group for unity and gratefulness, and Pastor David Berrong shared his thoughts and prayers with the group.

"We are God's people," said Berrong. "We're the greatest nation that's ever existed on the face of this planet - the United States of America. We forgot how to salute ... we forgot how to pay obedience to the command of our Lord and Savior, we forgot how to bow our knee to Christ.

"We forgot a lot of these things. But I'm going to tell you tonight, God's people can still cry to God and God can still hear us. God still saves and God still heals. God still directs the hearts of His own children that have been born again."



Photo by Lowell Nicholson

Members of the North Georgia Honor Guard presenting the colors for the National Day of Prayer event.



Photo by Mark Novak

The National Day of Prayer event in Towns County is always well attended.

The Macedonia Youth Group, Alan Kendall, Jim Wood and Bishop Ryan Wilson provided beautiful music of faith throughout the event.

In addition, pastors Ricky Rogers, Donnie Jarrard, Sam Hamby, Todd Flanagan, Johnny Foster, Chris Rumpfelt and Danny Byers shared an evening of prayer with the group.

President Donald J. Trump signed a proclamation on May 3 in an effort to unify the country through prayer.

"On this National Day of

Prayer, we join together to offer gratitude for our many blessings and to acknowledge our need for divine wisdom, guidance and protection," said President Trump. "Prayer, by which we affirm our dependence on God, has long been fundamental to our pursuit of freedom, peace, unity and prosperity.

"Prayer sustains us and brings us comfort, hope, peace and strength. Therefore, we must cherish our spiritual foundation and uphold our legacy of faith."