

# Towns County Herald

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## On Nov. 11, a busy Veterans Day expected

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Nov. 11, known by all as Veterans Day, is a date of great importance in American history, honoring the lives of those who have sacrificed the comfort and safety of their homes to heed the call of duty and protect this great nation, and all of the people who call her home.

Over the last century, this date has been an occasion of perseverance, dedication and remembrance, first with the armistice signing of the Allied Forces of World War I and Germany, and now, as Veterans Day, Armistice Day and Remembrance Day.

Unlike its beloved counterpart holiday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day is a time to pay respect to not only those who gave their lives serving

the United States, but also those who are still here to share their stories of allegiance and service to country.

In honor of this day, and all those who have given of themselves in the defense of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, Towns County is taking time to pay tribute to soldiers, both past and present, on Saturday, Nov. 11, at the Towns County Veterans Memorial Park. Hosted by area veterans groups, the ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. and will last roughly an hour.

Each year, the Veterans Day Ceremony has a guest speaker and this year retired U.S. Army Major Bob Bischoff will be speaking at the event's keynote service. A decorated Army Ranger and Vietnam Veteran, Major Bischoff currently resides in Young Harris and is sure to deliver

a heartwarming and genuine speech that no one will want to miss.

All veterans, active duty military, veterans of those who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces and anyone in the community who wishes to pay tribute to America and all of those who have valiantly served are welcome to attend.

And while the purpose of the ceremony is to recognize the courageous men and women of the United States military, it will also serve as a memorial and dedication to several fallen veterans who gave their lives for what they believed in, for the basic liberties and freedoms of this great nation.

Twelve names of deceased loved ones have been added to the Veterans Memorial Wall at the Veterans Park and

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Veterans saluting during the 2016 Veterans Day Ceremony at the Towns County Veterans Memorial Park. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

## A fun time was had by all at Halloween on the Square

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Ghosts, goblins, ghouls and more lined the streets of Hiawassee, ready for a night of candy-filled fun and fright for the annual Halloween on the Square on Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Festivities began at 5:30 p.m. but many enthusiastic young, and old, trick-or-treaters began showing up long before, enjoying the cool October air and preparing for an evening of Halloween excitement.

And boy, was it an extravaganza to remember. More than 20 churches, local businesses, civic organizations and community groups framed



Costume contest winners at the 2017 Hiawassee Halloween Trick-or-Treat Festival on the Square, on Tuesday, Oct. 31. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

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## Towns County Firewise welcomes state, national fire professionals

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

As so many North Georgians came to understand last fall, wild fire is not a matter of if, but when.

And just as people living on the coast must prepare for the eventuality of hurricanes, so must those in the mountains prepare for wildfire.

That's where Frank Riley comes in.

Riley is the executive director of the Chestnut-Chattahoochee Resource Conservation and Development Council, and he's kept busy for nearly a decade building a nationally



Dr. Darrell Barrett of the NFPA's Firewise Communities Program. Photo/Shawn Jarrard

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## Representative Gurtler's insight into upcoming legislative session

By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Georgia House District 8 State Rep. Matt Gurtler spent the morning discussing the upcoming 2018 Legislative Session with the Mountain Movers and Shakers at its weekly meeting at Sundance Grill on Friday, Nov. 3.

Rep. Gurtler shared with the group what he hopes to see come to pass in the approaching year.

Rep. Gurtler made quite a splash at the State Capitol during his freshman year in the Georgia State House of Representatives and while some may not agree with his policies and decisions, Gurtler fully intends to hit the ground running in the 2018 session.



Georgia House District 8 State Rep. Matt Gurtler spent Friday morning discussing the upcoming 2018 Legislative Session with the Mountain Movers and Shakers at its weekly meeting at Sundance Grill on Nov. 3.

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## Dr. Darrell Barrett speaks on alcoholism and addiction

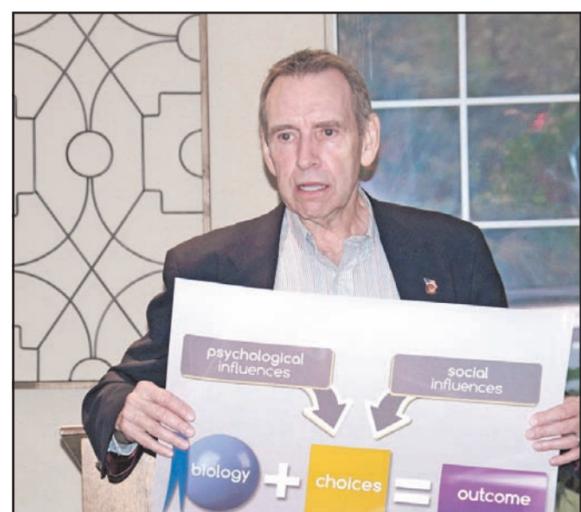
By Lily Avery  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Dr. Darrell Barrett spoke on the cold hard facts of alcoholism and its effects on the general public with the Mountain Movers and Shakers during the group's weekly meeting on Friday, Nov. 3 at Sundance Grill.

Dr. Barrett, a counselor, Appalachian Trail enthusiast and trusted community figure, has had first hand experience with alcoholism. Several members of his family have struggled with the disease and he has now found a passion in educating others about this dangerous illness, and how genetics can play a huge role in whom it infects.

"This is something that

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Dr. Darrell Barrett spoke on the cold hard facts of alcoholism and its effects on the general public with the Mountain Movers and Shakers during the group's weekly meeting on Friday, Nov. 3 at Sundance Grill.

## Making history: Indians football headed to first round of state playoffs



TCHS senior Dalton Key holds his helmet in the air after the win against Providence Christian Academy in Lilburn on Friday, Nov. 3. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

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## EMC tells Hiawassee that franchise fee ordinance is unenforceable

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Hiawassee City Attorney Thomas Mitchell addressed the most recent letter in a series of correspondence between the city and the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC, in the Oct. 30 work session of the Hiawassee City Council.

The subject of the correspondence has been the city's new franchise fee ordinance, which it adopted in August, and the EMC attorney has told Hiawassee that he does not believe the ordinance is enforceable.

According to the ordinance, the city expected the EMC to file its "written acceptance" of the ordinance within 45 days of its passing, and Attorney Mitchell wrote in a subsequent letter to the EMC that the EMC was required to



Hiawassee Mayor Pro Tem Anne Mitchell in the Oct. 30 work session of the Hiawassee City Council. Photo/Shawn Jarrard

Henry C. Tharpe Jr., disagreed with Mitchell's determination that it was required to pay the

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Lake Levels  
Blue Ridge 1,674.22  
Chatuge 1,919.21  
Nottely 1,764.34



Basketball

Tues. Nov 7 @ Robbinsville, NC  
6 and 7:30 PM

Tues. Nov 14 @ Stephens Co.  
6 and 7:30 PM

Hiawassee General/Special Election  
Results will be available at  
[www.TownsCountyHerald.net](http://www.TownsCountyHerald.net) following  
the election and in the Nov. 15 edition of  
the Towns County Herald

Thanksgiving  
Food Drive  
Drop off donations  
at Hiawassee  
Antique Mall

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