

# Towns County Herald

Legal Organ of Towns County

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50 Cents

Publication Number 635540 Volume 89 Number 22

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

## Zell Miller remembered for his wisdom, friendship

By Shawn Jarrard  
North County News  
Assistant Editor

The family of Zell Miller held three public services last week in celebration of the man who spent his life leading his home state of Georgia into the future.

Miller, 86, passed away at his home in Young Harris on Friday, March 23.

The first of his memorials took place fittingly at Young Harris College, Miller's alma mater and former teaching grounds.

There, his son Murphy Miller – Chief Superior Court Judge of the Enotah Judicial Circuit – opened the doors of this memory, inviting everyone in attendance to contemplate the Miller family household of his youth.

Zell Miller loved baseball. In fact, he started the Young Harris College baseball program in 1960 and coached

three winning seasons, and he helped to ensure that the Zell B. Miller Stadium became a reality on campus in 2000.

So, it should come as no surprise that Zell used the great American pastime of baseball to impart many valuable life lessons to his children Murphy and Matthew, such as going the extra mile – or extra base – at every opportunity.

“To him, this maneuver demonstrated your personal character,” said Derrick Miller during the March 26 memorial service in Young Harris. “At least you had tried something bold, that you had come to play ... And tell me, my friends, who stretched more singles into doubles than Zell Miller?”

A common theme among speakers remembering Miller since his passing has been the remarkable bond and his wife Shirley shared, borne out over 64 wonderful years of marriage.

Politically, the former governor and U.S. senator will be remembered for his myriad worthwhile contributions to his home state, including the HOPE Scholarship and Georgia's Pre-K Program.

His contributions extend beyond Georgia to the nation and the world, however, in the words of wisdom he left behind in his books, speeches and other writings.

In his Celebration of Life Service on Tuesday, March 27, at the Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta, three former U.S. presidents – George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter – paid their respects to Miller and shared what they had learned in their friendships with Zell.

“He never forgot where he came from or where he was heading,” said President Bush, describing Zell as a humble man who put service above

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The Georgia State Patrol Honor Guard carrying former governor and U.S. Sen. Zell Miller into his memorial service at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church in Atlanta on Tuesday, March 27.

Photo by Miller Foundation

## Teachers learn how to ‘Stop the Bleed’ at school

By Mark Novak  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

The faculty and staff of Towns County Schools learned how to stop bleeding from injuries last week, and they received 36 emergency kits to place around the school.

Free training was provided at the schools by Air Life Georgia, the Towns County Fire Department and the Regional Trauma Committee from Northeast Georgia Medical Center on Tuesday, March 27.

“We requested grant money for these kits to go in the classrooms across the state of Georgia,” said Air Life Flight Paramedic Derrick Moody. “The likelihood of using this is very slim, but we want you to understand how they work.”



Towns County High/Middle School helping AirMethods Flight Medic Derrick Moody demonstrate how to properly apply a tourniquet.

Photo by Mark Novak

Added Moody: “The first kit that was in Forsyth County this week, when a student fell on the playground

and had an open humorous fracture. The teacher had been through our course and she was

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## Hands-free driving law expected to save lives

By Shawn Jarrard  
Towns County Herald  
Assistant Editor

As soon as Gov. Nathan Deal signs the new distracted driving bill into law, it will be illegal for Georgia drivers to use their cellphones and other devices without hands-free technology.

HB 673 passed the Georgia House on the final day of the 2018 Legislative Session, and backers believe the bill will cut down on the number of distracted drivers in Georgia.

The number of roadway fatalities has risen in recent years, likely due to the trend of increased cellphone use while driving.

Last year, 1,549 people died on Georgia's roads, and those who support HB 673 are



Georgia Capitol Building

aiming to make Georgia the 16th state in the nation to adopt hands-free driving measures to save lives.

“The vast majority of motor vehicle accidents are

caused by a failure to yield or an improper lane change,” said Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton. “Many of these are the result of drivers being

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## Water leak insurance meeting draws large crowd

By Mark Novak  
Towns County Herald  
Staff Writer

Water leaks can be very costly, not only in repairs, but they can increase your water bill dramatically.

The Hiawassee City Council met for a work session on Monday, March 26, to discuss an option to protect the city and the residents from a high bill when a customer has a water leak.

Jenna Hazelet, a representative from ServLine, addressed the city council and members of the community on the different options available to protect them from water leaks and sewer line leaks.

“The reality is that everyone is at risk of a water leak,” said Hazelet. “So, what happens when that occurs? You get your water bill and other

than seeing your normal \$20, \$30 or \$40, you see it's maybe a \$700 bill or \$1,000, and then it's kind of this scary freak out moment of whoa, what's happened?”

“It's not my normal bill, I don't understand what's happened. What am I going to do about this? So, you pick up the phone and call the city staff and try to figure out, did I have a leak? Did something occur? Was my meter misread? What's going on?”

Added Hazelet: “A lot of times it could actually be a leak.”

Hiawassee Mayor Liz Ordiales had a customer come in last week with a higher than normal water bill. Usually, this customer has a bill between \$25 and \$35, but last week, their bill was \$259.25.

“So, they went from

using 3,000 gallons of water on average to 49,734 gallons of water,” said Ordiales. “This is just one example, I can show you 20 more.”

The city can only help its customers so much before having to increase costs to the consumer to cover all the leaks and expenses, according to Ordiales.

“For example, we have had over a million gallons of water leaks, and I'm trying to keep up with it for our water audit next year,” said Ordiales. “So, when they come in and say, ‘What happened to all your water?’ I can say this much came from leaks.”

ServLine hopes to be able to help both sides with the costs incurred by water leaks.

“We pay for high water bills caused by customer water

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The Hiawassee City Council during the March 26 work session at city hall.

Photo by Mark Novak

## TCHS advances record number to FBLA nationals

By News Special  
Chase Rogers  
FBLA Reporter

Georgia Future Business Leaders of America held the State Leadership Conference and Competitive Events at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center on March 23 through March 25.

Thirty-six members from Towns County FBLA competed in 26 different individual, skill and performance business events.

TCHS was very successful, with 19 competitors finishing in the Top 10 in their event.

From those, 12 competitors will represent Georgia at the National Leadership Conference in Baltimore on June 27 through July 2.

At Friday night's

opening ceremony, senior member Chase Williams was awarded the Who's Who in Georgia FBLA Award and received an FBLA Who's Who Scholarship. Both were presented by Monty Rhodes, Executive Director of Georgia FBLA.

Chase will be traveling to Baltimore this summer to receive the prestigious America Award from the National FBLA CEO.

Towns County FBLA also received the Market Share Award, Largest Local Chapter (Division 1) and the Gold Seal Chapter Award at the opening ceremony.

After months of preparation, the Awards Ceremony was the pinnacle of the conference.

The Awarding of Top 10 winners from Towns County High School included:

Kaitlyn Crowder in Word Processing, First Place; Kyra Tallent in Word Processing; Chase Rogers in Word Processing; Andy Chambers in Computer Applications; Sara Beth Hobbs in Spreadsheet Applications; Ryan Tyler in Spreadsheet Applications; Chase Crawford in Impromptu Speaking; Kenzi Smith in Client Service, First Place; Chase Williams in Who's Who in FBLA; Corrina Luchenbach in Business Presentation; Danny Reagan in Graphic Design; Chase Williams in Future Business Leader; the team of Emily Williams and Taylor Cornett in Business Ethics; the team of Nick Bradley and Caleb Clark in Entrepreneurship; Chase Crawford in Business Communications; and the team of Kendall Floyd and Chase Rogers in Emerging Business Issues.

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A group photo of those who competed in the 2018 FBLA State Leadership Conference in Atlanta.

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Apr 9 vs. Athens Academy  
5 PM  
\*\*There will be no sports during Spring Break\*\*

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April 7th and 8th  
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