

Towns County Herald

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TOWNS COUNTY ROCKS VOTER TURNOUT WITH 83%

Republicans Clyde, Gunter and Hatchett win re-election

TOWNS COUNTY UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

By Shawn Jarrard
Towns County Herald
Editor

Nationwide, votes were still being tallied at press time for the 2024 General Election, but local results are in after the close of polls on Tuesday, Nov. 5 – and Towns County did not disappoint, having made national headlines last week for its enthusiastic embrace of early voting.

There were no contested county-level seats up for grabs Nov. 5, as zero Democrats qualified for any local offices this year, meaning winners of the Towns County Republican Primary in May appeared without challengers in the 2024 General Election.

Unchallenged Republicans to be sworn into local office in 2025 are: Incumbent Cliff Bradshaw for Sole Commissioner; Incumbent Ken Henderson for Sheriff; Incumbent David Rogers for Probate-Magistrate Judge; Incumbent Tamela Cooper for Coroner; In-

cumbent Michael Anderson for Tax Commissioner; and Eric Barrett for Superior Court Clerk.

Once again, Towns County voter turnout was incredibly strong. The 2024 General Election featured 83% of the local electorate casting ballots, higher than 2020 turnout of 74.9%, putting Towns County in the top of state rankings in voter turnout for another year running.

As they have the past two presidential elections, Towns Countians heavily favored Republican Donald J. Trump, handing him 80.95% of the vote compared with 18.66% for Democrat Kamala Harris.

Statewide votes for “battleground” Georgia were still being counted at press time to determine which presidential nominee would earn the Peach State’s 16 Electoral College votes, though Trump appeared to have the advantage.

In Towns County, Re-

publican nominees convincingly won each of the contested state and federal-level races on the ballot this year, with each going on to win re-election in their wider contests.

Districtwide, in Georgia’s 9th Congressional District race for U.S. House of Representatives, Incumbent Andrew Clyde handily defeated his Democratic opponent, Tambrei Cash. Clyde earned 77.09% of the vote compared with 22.91% for Cash.

In the District 50 State Senate race, Incumbent Bo Hatchett beat Democrat June Kris with 83.79% of the vote to earn re-election.

For District 8 State Representative, Incumbent Stan Gunter was re-elected with 84.83% of the vote, defeating Democratic challenger Charlotte Slezkowski.

Also appearing on the ballot were two proposed amendments to the Georgia Constitution and one state-

wide referendum question.

Constitutional Amendment 1 passed locally with 66.85% of Towns Countians voting “YES” to establish a statewide floating homestead exemption to cap inflationary increases to annual property valuations at 3%. Statewide, the “YES” vote was leading at press time.

Constitutional Amendment 2 passed locally with 50.93% of Towns Countians voting “YES” to create a Georgia Tax Court. Statewide, the “YES” vote was leading at press time.

The referendum question to raise the amount of tangible personal property tax exemption from \$7,500 to \$20,000 passed locally with 74.66% of the Towns County electorate voting “YES.” Statewide, the “YES” vote was leading at press time.

All results are unofficial until certified in the coming days.