

# The Badge

October 2024  
Issue Twenty-Six



## Towns County Sheriff's Office News



### From the desk of Sheriff Ken Henderson:

Community policing is a crucial partnership between neighbors, residents, and law enforcement. Deputies can not be present on every street on a constant basis, but homeowners are.

You are the first line of defense for your neighborhood. You know what's normal and you definitely know when something isn't right. Information and tips help us help you and can make a big difference in overall quality of life and safety.

Towns County Sheriff's Office remains committed to keeping our

community safe. A great way our community helps our office is by the tips we receive. If you see suspicious activity in your neighborhood, please call 911. You may also submit an anonymous tip online at <https://www.townscountysheriff.org/drug-crime-tips>

Towns County Sheriff's Office will be hosting its second annual Trunk or Treat on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Towns County Recreation Center and will also be participating in "Fangtastic" Halloween at the Fairgrounds on October 31<sup>st</sup>. These are always fun nights for everyone.

We will be hosting our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Shop with the Sheriff in December. We will again be taking less fortunate children from our community to shop for their Christmas treasures. We wish to make Christmas magical for as many children as possible, but we cannot make it happen without your help. If you would like to make a donation, please stop by our office located at 4070 State Highway 339, Young Harris.

Lastly, October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month. From mobile to connected home devices, technology is deeply intertwined in our lives. Emerging technologies have many great benefits for society but with those come new opportunities for bad actors to disrupt our online activities at home, school or at work. I would like to encourage you to read the important tips and guidelines included in this issue.



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## Towns County Sheriff's Office Mission Statement

Our Mission is to modernize the Towns County Sheriff's Office and to provide quality enforcement services using proactive enforcement, community partnership and problem solving, which will create a safe, secure, and desirable living and working environment for our citizens and visitors.

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## SEPTEMBER DRUG ARRESTS:



***ALL PERSONS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW.***

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## SEPTEMBER DRUG ARRESTS

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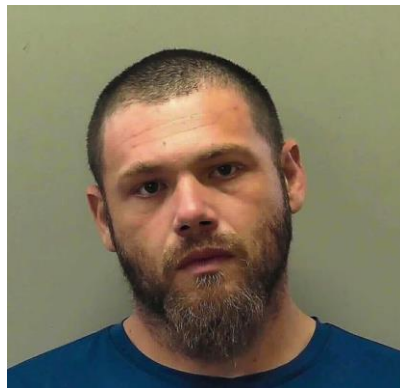
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Towns County Drug Investigators along with the Georgia State Patrol initiated a traffic stop on a traffic violation on Highway 66 near the Clay County NC line. Probably cause was developed and a search of the vehicle was conducted. An amount of Methamphetamine, which field-tested positive, was confiscated.

Robert Curtis Parker, age 32, Brasstown NC was arrested and charged with:

- Felony Possession of Methamphetamine
- No Insurance
- Driving While License Suspended or Revoked
- Adult Restraint Law Seat Belt
- Expired Vehicle Tag or Decal
- Unsafe Tires

Sheriff Ken Henderson is proud of the Sheriff's Office and the Georgia State Patrol for working together and wants to stress the importance of agencies working together to impact our fight against drugs in our community.



**\*\*All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law\*\***

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## SEPARATE INVESTIGATIONS LEADS TO ARRESTS FOR TERRORISTIC THREATS

Towns County Sheriff's Office investigators began an investigation into rumor of a threat against Towns County Schools.

A 17-year-old from Murphy, NC was suspected so Towns County Sheriff's investigators began monitoring the 17-year-old's social media accounts. On Friday, September 20th a threat against Towns County Schools was detected. Arrests and search warrants were executed.

During the investigation multiple other crimes involving a 14-year-old female victim were identified leading to additional charges.

Jeremiah Andrew Franklin Lloyd, Age 17, Murphy, NC was arrested at a residence on Konahetah Road and charged with:

- Felony Terroristic Threats
- Disrupting Public School
- Felony Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Felony Enticing a Child for Indecent Purposes

- Child Molestation
- Statutory Rape

Lloyd confessed to all charges during an interview and is being held without bond at the Towns County Detention Center. Sheriff Ken Henderson commends investigators for their quick action and thorough investigation. Threats against our schools, students, and faculty will not be tolerated. Any and all threats will be investigated thoroughly, and appropriate action taken.



On Saturday, September 21st, while at Union County School's Fall Ball Homecoming dance at Brasstown Valley Resort, a 17-year-old male student at Union County Schools, made threats toward Union County Schools, directly to three juvenile students. Towns County Sheriff's Office investigators were called by Union County School Police Department to interview the witnesses. Due to the threat being made in Towns County, Towns County Sheriff's Office has jurisdiction in investigating the incident and bringing charges on the suspect.

The threats were terroristic in nature.

Abraham Parker Patrick, age 17, Blairsville, GA was arrested and charged with Felony Terroristic Threats and is being held without bond at the Towns County Detention Center.

Sheriff Ken Henderson stated that terroristic threats made against schools, students, and staff will be taken seriously and the appropriate action will be taken.



**\*\*All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law\*\***

On Wednesday September 25th, the Towns County Sheriff's Office received a report that a teacher had committed several acts of theft against various faculty and staff members beginning the 2nd week of August until September 25th.

Adam Trottman, a teacher at the high school confessed and was arrested on 10 counts of theft by taking.



### **Remains from January 2024 identified.**

The skeletal remains found on January 1, 2024 in the 8000 block of Gumlog Rd. have been identified as 41 year old W/M Timothy Proctor from Missouri. Mr. Proctor's body was sent to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Medical Examiner's office where his death was ruled as a suicide.

## SEPTEMBER STATISTICS

September Arrests. . . . .	31
Traffic Crimes. . . . .	40
Personal Crimes. . . . .	23
*Battery. . . . .	1
*Child Molestation. . . . .	4
*Cruelty to Children. . . . .	3
*Disorderly Conduct. . . . .	3
*Enticing a Child for Indecent Purposes. . . . .	2
*False Imprisonment. . . . .	1
*Obstruction of Law Enforcement. . . . .	3
*Sexual Battery. . . . .	2
*Statutory Rape. . . . .	1
*Terroristic Threats/Acts. . . . .	3
Property Crimes. . . . .	13
*Criminal Damage to Property. . . . .	1
*Criminal Trespass . . . . .	1
*Theft by Taking. . . . .	11
Substance Crime. . . . .	23
*Driving Under the Influence Drugs/Alcohol. . . . .	9
*Pedestrian Under the Influence. . . . .	3
*Possess/Use of Drug Related Objects. . . . .	2
*Possess/Purch/Manuf/Dist/Methamphetamine. . . . .	5
*Possess/Purch/Sale/Manuf/Dist of Controlled Substance. . . . .	2
*Public Drunkenness. . . . .	2

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## MURDER SUSPECT CAPTURED IN YOUNG HARRIS



On Tuesday, September 10th at approximately 1:30pm, Towns County Sheriff's Office received a call of an abandoned vehicle in a wooded area at 4545 Thomas Town Road, near the Young Harris College campus.

The vehicle was wanted in connection to a homicide in Dekalb County, GA.

The vehicle was unoccupied, and an investigation revealed the vehicle was abandoned between 11:30am and 1:30 pm.

The murder suspect was identified as a black male approximately 17-years old, 5' 3" tall and weighing 130 pounds with long dreadlocks. The individual was wanted for murder and theft of a motor vehicle.

The suspect is considered armed and dangerous. If you have any contact with this subject, use extreme caution and call 911.

Towns County Sheriff's Office along with Young Harris College Police will be patrolling heavily with extra patrols in the Young Harris area.

At approximately 10:15 AM Wednesday morning, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Towns County Sheriff's Office received a call in reference to a wanted person in the Enota dorm on Young Harris College campus. Towns County Sheriff's Office and Young Harris College police responded, and the subject was taken into custody without incident. The suspect has also been identified as a 16-year-old juvenile. No weapons were located, and the suspect was turned over to Dekalb County Police Department.

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Sheriff Henderson would like to thank United Community Bank for providing an amazing lunch and Ignite Living at Hiawassee Park for the visit and for the delicious treats they delivered to our office in recognition of 911.



Cybersecurity Awareness Month highlights the growing importance of cybersecurity in our daily lives and encourages individuals and businesses to take important cybersecurity steps everyday to stay safe online.

Below are some tips from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to protect your devices.

- Use strong passwords
  - Use long passwords: At least 16 characters
  - Use upper and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols
  - Use a different password for each account
  - Use a password manager to store your passwords. It can also generate strong passwords and tell you when you have weak or reused passwords.
- Use Multifactor Authentication
  - Using multifactor authentication on any site that offers it provides an extra layer of security in addition to a password when logging into account and apps, like a face scan or a code sent by text.
  - Using multifactor authentication makes you much less likely to get hacked.
- Update software:
  - When your device notifies you that updates are available, install them as soon as possible. Updates close security code bugs to better protect your data.

Phishing scams are online messages designed to look like they are from a trusted source. We may open what we thought was a safe email, attachment or image only to find ourselves exposed to malware or a scammer looking for our personal data. Learn to recognize the signs and report phishing to protect devices and data:

- Common signs:
  - Urgent or emotionally appealing language
  - Requests to send personal or financial information
  - Unexpected attachments
  - Untrusted shortened URLs
  - Email addresses that do not match the supposed sender
  - Poor writing/misspellings (less common)
- Resist and report:
  - Use the “report spam” feature.

- If the message is designed to resemble an organization you trust, report the message by alerting the organization using their contact information found on their trusted webpage.
- Delete the message:
  - Do not reply or click on any attachment or link, including an “unsubscribe” link. The unsubscribe button could also carry a link used for phishing.
  - *Just delete*

From identity theft to phishing scams and cyberbullying, the spectrum of cybercrimes is vast and most of us will, unfortunately, encounter it in our digital life. Below is contact information for reporting cybercrime.

- Hacked Account: Find direct links to popular platforms at: [staysafeonline.org/online-safety-privacy-basics/hacked-accounts/](https://staysafeonline.org/online-safety-privacy-basics/hacked-accounts/)
- Identity Theft: [identitytheft.gov](https://identitytheft.gov)

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**Towns County Sheriff’s Office is proud to host:**



**MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ARE VICTIMS OF CRIME ANNUALLY- DON’T BE ONE OF THEM!**

Safety experts agree that the single most important factor in surviving a criminal confrontation is to have a personal safety strategy in place before it is needed. The Refuse To Be A Victim® crime prevention seminar, a program of the National Rifle Association, is pleased to offer this easy-to-understand personal safety information to the (Insert town here) community.

What? Refuse To Be A Victim® is a seminar for both men and women, and is full of crime prevention and personal safety strategies you can use to develop your own safety plan. In just (Insert time), you will learn about home, automobile, phone, technology, and personal safety—plus much more!

When? Saturday, November 16, 2024, 10am-2pm

Where? Towns County Recreation Center, 150 Foster Park Road, Young Harris, GA 30582

Presented by Carol Rosenqvist, President of the NRA Georgia Sport Shooting Association and Refuse To Be A Victim Certified Instructor.

There is no cost for this training.

**Space is limited. Reserve your seat today!** Please contact Jill Gittens at (706) 896-4444 or by email at [jgittenstcs@townscountyga.com](mailto:jgittenstcs@townscountyga.com) to register today!

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## CANDY CANES ON MAIN



The Towns County Sheriff's Office Christmas Parade  
Saturday, November 30, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for our community's favorite holiday tradition.

This year's theme is "Candy Canes on Main".

The parade route will begin in the parking lot of the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds with lineup beginning at 4:00 p.m. If you are planning to enter the float contest you will need to be lined up and fully decorated by 5:00 p.m.

NO ENTRY FEE IS REQUIRED UNLESS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO SHOP WITH THE SHERIFF

\*\*\*PLEASE READ RULES AS THEY HAVE BEEN UPDATED\*\*\*

\*We ask that each entry try and depict the theme of the parade as judging is based on the theme.

\*All parade entries must be well-lit.

\*Children under the age of 18 must be supervised by an adult.

\*We ask that no float have a Santa Claus on it because Santa Claus will be bringing up the rear of the parade and is the grand finale (too many Santa's will confuse the smaller kids).

\*No political floats or vehicles.

\*No items or clothing displaying obscene political or sexual language or language attacking or demeaning an individual or group.

Please call Towns County Sheriff's Office to let them know if you will be participating in the parade and your details. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Towns County Sheriff's Office at 1-706-896-4444.

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If you know someone who would like to receive the monthly newsletter, please have them contact Community Relations Coordinator Jill Gittens at (706) 896-4444 or [jgittenstcso@townscountyga.com](mailto:jgittenstcso@townscountyga.com)

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4070 State Highway 339  
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