

IRS delays acceptance of some returns

The IRS is delaying the submission of some returns due to the requirement to make programming changes for the provisions of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Re-authorization and Job Creation Act of 2010 that was passed in December 2010.

The returns affected include those that have Itemized Deductions including mortgage interest, State and local tax, Charitable deductions, Higher education tuition and fees deductions, Medical and dental expenses, Educator expenses deductions, State and local general sales taxes, and Certain Casualty and Theft losses. This delay effects everyone who prepares and E-files Tax Returns. The IRS states they will have everything changed and be ready for E-filing and paper returns on Feb 14, 2011.

You have two options:

1. You can come in and we will prepare your taxes and hold them until the IRS opens the E-filing gate at which time we will E-file your return and notify you we have sent your return forward. OR

2. You can wait to file your taxes until after February 14, 2011 when the IRS is supposed to be ready to accept your E-filed return. The choice is yours.

Again, let me remind you the GA Low Income Credit has been changed so that if you don't owe GA state taxes you will not get the \$52 refund check that was available in the past several years. Unfortunately this hurts the people who most need the refund, but money is tight at the State level and this is one of the programs that was cut.

If you have any questions about your tax situation, feel free to call Ted Noelle at 706-745-7998 or email at tjnoelle@windstream.net. The AARP Tax Site will open February 1st from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church Bldg H (across from Rite Aid) and will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays through April 14th. NT(Feb2.Z17)CA

Diabetes Foundation of Georgia, Inc. group

The Diabetes Foundation of Georgia Inc. has a support group in Blairsville. This group meets at the Old Nursing Home location on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. We would like to invite everyone who is involved with diabetes, or is interested in learning about diabetes, to attend the meetings.

We have different speakers each month. Come on out and get involved with Union County Diabetic Support Group. 706-781-1200. NT(Feb2.Z17)CA

Arrest and Fire Reports

Local law enforcement provides the following information for publication. Names are spelled as they were when received from the law enforcement agencies. It is important to remember that the following individuals have been charged only and are presumed innocent until such time as they are found guilty by a court or enter a guilty plea.

**ARREST REPORT**

Towns County Jail
Sheriff-Chris Clinton

1/28/11	Karen Sue Brunner, age 46, Hayesville, NC Served 90 days per court
1/28/11	Kelvin Clay Burch, age 43, Hiawassee, GA Unlawful conduct during a 911 call
1/27/11	Nicole Lynn Connolly, age 24, Blairsville, GA Probation violation
1/27/11	Harley Ellis Hubbard, age 36, Ball Ground, GA Housed for Gilmer Co.
1/29/11	Carey Edward Kendall, age 29, Hiawassee, GA Reckless driving, Driving while license suspended or revoked
1/29/11	Joaquin Rivera Lopez, age 29, Hiawassee, GA License required, surrender of, Tail lights
1/30/11	John Bentley Maddox, age 50, Hayesville, NC DUI - alcohol, Driving on roadways laned, Open container/passenger area
1/24/11	James Thomas Wunderlich, age 51, Hiawassee, GA Simple battery

TC Fire Department**RESPONSE REPORT**

From: Fire Chief Mitchell Floyd



1/22/11	Longview Hidden View Church Mathis	Cancelled Med assist Smoke investigation Med assist
1/23/11	Cunningham Main Hwy. 76 E.	Cancelled Med assist MVA no injuries
1/24/11	Timberline Main Trails End Herman Drake	Med assist Med assist Med assist Gas leak
1/25/11	Frog Pond Village Mathis	Med assist Med assist Med assist
1/26/11	Ridgeway	Alarm
1/27/11	Hwy. 76 E. Sharon's Way	Med assist Med assist
1/28/11	Sharon's Way Cunningham Bearmeat Village Herman Drake Enota Village Hwy. 76 E. at 75 S.	Med assist Med assist Assist other agency Med assist Med assist MVA w/ injuries

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Towns County topped Commerce 32-8. Misty Lindemuth and Madison Johnson led the Lady Indians in the lopsided route with 9 points each.

"This is what it's all about," Coach Lana Parker said, regarding her team's triumph.

Johnson took the opening tip and got things started for the Lady Indians, scoring the game's first two baskets, beginning at the 2:20 mark in the first quarter.

Commerce scored their first point with a free throw with 2.5 seconds left in the first quarter. The Lady

Tigers could manage no more points in the first half.

The Lady Indians went in at the half with a commanding 16-1 lead.

As the second half got underway, Lindemuth sank a breakaway layup with 5:47 left in the third to lift the Lady Indians to an 18-1 lead.

With 4:05 left in the third, the Lady Tigers registered their first field goal of the evening. Feeling good, the Lady Tigers quickly connected with another field goal. However, the Lady Indians took it from there, finishing out the quarter with

a 20-5 lead.

Towns County outscored Commerce 12-3 in the final quarter to complete the route.

The experience was a good one for the Lady Indians as Coach Parker rotated her players in and out, keeping experienced players fresh and giving younger players some well earned experience.

In the boys tournament, the Indians didn't fare quite as well as the Lady Indians.

The No. 4 Seed Indians put up a fight before falling in the final frame to No. 1 Seed Banks County, 39-27.



Misty Lindemuth gets the third quarter rolling with a breakaway layup to put the Lady Indians in command in Monday's Regional basketball tournament at Lakeview Academy. Photo/James Reese

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growth."

Butterworth is currently the chairman of the Senate Higher Education Committee. He also serves as Vice Chairman of the powerful Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee and sits on the Appropriations, Economic Development, Natural Resources, and State and Local Governmental Operations committees for the 2011-2012 Term.

"I am honored to serve the people of Georgia in my capacity as a member of these important committees," said Sen. Butterworth. "A good education is the gateway to a successful future and Georgia offers some of the best colleges and universities in the nation."

"I look forward to working with my colleagues on legislation that addresses issues with higher education, ensuring we remain a leader in post-secondary education," he said.

Focusing on creating

an environment for businesses to grow and prosper will be crucial this session, Sen. Butterworth said.

"Our work on the economic development committee will be vital in creating concise, solution-based legislation," he said.

Northeast Georgia is home to some of the most beautiful natural resources the state has to offer, Sen. Butterworth said.

"Protecting our water supply is a constant priority in Northeast Georgia," he said. "I'm excited to work on the natural resources committee, which evaluates legislation that protects and maintains our vital natural resources."

Senate President Pro Tem Tommie Williams said Sen. Butterworth's inclusion on key Senate committees was vital.

"After numerous meetings, and careful consideration of the talents and expertise of each of our Senators, I feel strongly that

we have created strong, durable committees that will help to cultivate legislation that is beneficial to all Georgians," Sen. Williams said.

"By using this transparent, extensive process, we can ensure that we are working together and maximizing all of our efforts in order to bring Georgia through these hard times and into a prosperous future."

Senate Majority Leader Chip Rogers said that by giving the committee selection process the attention it deserves, he's confident that the result will be public policy that stimulates Georgia's economy, puts money back into the pockets of hardworking citizens, and improves the quality of life for all Georgians.

"Though we have many hard decisions to make, we must put politics aside to make Georgia a state where families, businesses, and communities can grow and thrive," Sen. Rogers said.