

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Clouds	83	66
Fri: Rain	79	64
Sat: Rain	81	63
Sun: Clouds	80	63
Mon: Clouds	86	63
Tue: Clouds	85	64
Wed: Sunny	86	65



Upstream Elevation Predicted 07/13/11	
Lake Chatuge	1924.90
Lake Nottely	1778.12
Blue Ridge	1679.01

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Youth Football Registration

The 2011 Towns County Recreation Department Youth Football Camp will take place at the high school fields (at no additional charge for participants) on Thursday and Friday July 14-15th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Towns County Football Head Coach Kyle Langford and his staff also will lend a helping hand throughout practice.

Also, this year, following a two-year effort, the Recreation Department is fielding an exclusive 11-year old team. Previously, the league fielded an 11/12 year-old team.

Registration for Youth Recreation League Football continues Saturday, July 16.

Registration will be held at Frank McClure Stadium's field house from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Youth Football Coordinator Jimmy Smith said.

Youth registration is \$60 and will continue every Saturday through July 23rd.

The fee will cover each player's equipment and insurance to play. Returning players from last season will not need to bring birth certificates.

Newcomers will need to provide a birth certificate at registration.

The first practice will start July 25th and continue every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Future City Hall will be at 50 River Street

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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During her long tenure as mayor of Hiawassee, Barbara Mathis has yearned for a more centrally located City Hall.

After years of waiting, her wish has come true.

The City of Hiawassee has purchased the property at 50 River Street, formerly the Bank of Hiawassee Operations Center.

Though the city will take its time before making the permanent switch from its existing location on Chatuge Way, Mayor Mathis is thrilled at the prospects of having City Hall located at the heart of the town.

"We've inquired about this property before, but were told that it wasn't for sale," Mayor Mathis said. "Due to an unfortunate set

of circumstances, we had an opportunity to purchase this property. It's an historic building, located in one of the most historic areas of the city.

"When everything is ready for us to move and make this location our permanent City Hall, you can rest assured it will be City Hall for generations to come," Mayor Mathis said. "This building is a legacy for the City of Hiawassee."

Mayor Mathis and City Manager Rick Stancil attended a recent FDIC auction with intentions of purchasing the historic building for use as a future City Hall. The purchase would make sense: the existing City Hall is 2,500-plus square feet, with very little storage space for city records and city police department records.

With almost 9,000

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Hiawassee Mayor Barbara Mathis opens the door to the city's future face, almost 9,000 square feet of space that will one day be called Hiawassee City Hall. It's on the Town Square Photo/James Reese

TCHS students take national honors

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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Towns County High School Principal Roy Perren is on Cloud Nine; still celebrating the latest achievement of Towns County's gifted Future Business Leaders of America students.

Katie McConnell, Ryan Tallent and Ali Bleckley brought home some significant hardware, rewards for their efforts in the National Leadership Conference competition in Orlando, Fla.

Bleckley placed second in the nation in Word Processing II, Tallent placed sixth in the nation in Spreadsheet, and McConnell placed seventh in the nation in Client Service.

"I want to congratulate our Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) for their great job representing our school and our state at the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Fla.," Principal Perren said.



Towns County's Katie McConnell, Ryan Talent and Ali Bleckley scored big time in Orlando, Fla. at the annual National Leadership Conference for Future Business Leaders of America.

The awards were part of a comprehensive national competitive events program sponsored by FBLA that recognizes and rewards excellence in a broad range of business and career related areas. For many students,

the competitive events are the pinnacle of their academic careers. In addition to the competitions, students immersed themselves in educational workshops, vis-

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First of 150 fire hydrants installed

By Charles Duncan
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Towns County hit the ground running last week with the hard work needed to lower the county's ISO fire rating to ensure lower homeowners insurance premiums for local residents.

It all started with the groundbreaking for the first of 150 fire hydrants being installed by the Towns county Water & Sewer Authority on Georgia 66, near the home of Hal and Patricia Phillips.

The Phillips home was used as the symbolic first of 150 fire hydrants to be installed as part of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales



Commissioner Kendall, Fire Chief Mitch Floyd and Fire Corps Chair Clint Hobbs with the Phillips family. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Tax projects because the Phillips' fire insurance increased from about \$360 to more than \$900 per year

because their insurance company checked and

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Anderson-Paris Park dedication set



A lot of hard work comes to fruition on Thursday at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds when Anderson-Paris Park is officially opened to the general public. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

By Charles Duncan
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The Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds will host the Towns County Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours on Thursday as the community tribute to Elois Anderson and Dick Paris, two crown jewel community icons.

The event is a showcase for the recently completed Anderson-Paris Pioneer Park, said Fairgrounds General Manager Hilda Thomason.

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Kendall won't pursue county noise ordinance

Residential Fourth of July fireworks prompt questions

By Charles Duncan
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With Towns County just a few days removed from celebrating the Fourth of July, Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall has fielded numerous inquiries about the county's noise ordinance regarding fireworks.

Commissioner Kendall is quick to point out that there is no such ordinance in Towns County.

The biggest question involving a noise ordinance is making an ordinance that would restrict the use of fireworks on private property.

"I have had anonymous complaints about noise from fireworks on private property and requests to put in a noise ordinance to prohibit these fireworks," Commissioner Kendall said.

The commissioner said he had no interest in imposing fireworks restrictions on Towns County residents. He cited the fact that July 4th should hold a special mean-



Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall says residential fireworks aren't illegal in Towns County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

ing in the hearts of every American.

"It is ironic that these requests to take away citizens' freedoms and private property rights come at the very time we are celebrating our Nation's Declaration of Independence and freedom from a dictatorial, oppressive King of England," he said. "It took much courage for our Founding Fathers to sign this document declaring our

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It's 'Fair' time in the North Georgia Mountains

61st Annual Georgia Mountain Fair continues on July 20

By Charles Duncan
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On July 20th, the Georgia Mountain Fair celebrates its 61st birthday with Country Music, carnival rides, arts and crafts and of course, some of the best mountain food this side of the Ozarks. Best of all, it celebrates a way of life unique to the Northeast Georgia Mountains.

Opening day features free carnival rides from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Entertainment includes Country Music Legend Neal McCoy at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Power Play.

McCoy is followed on Day 2 by none other than Ronnie McDowell and the Oconee River Boys. July 21 also features the Cooking Contest.

On July 22nd, Roy Clark brings his musical talents to Anderson Music Hall along with the Country River Band. On July 23rd, beginning at 11 a.m., the annual Georgia Mountain Fair Parade provides a day of high-lights. The parade begins at the Bank of Hiawassee and ends at the Fairgrounds. The day also features Americana Roots & Music Day, a blend



When July 20 rolls around, so will the many rides that accompany the fun at the Annual Georgia Mountain Fair. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

of Country Music, Bluegrass, Folk, Blues and Swing. Musical acts include Irons in the Fire, Nelson Thomas, Bearfoot and the Waybacks.

The fair continues through July 30 with other musical talents including At-

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TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

