

# Schools open...continued from page 1A

County Indians' football team began practice in shoulder pads and shorts at The Refuge in Plott Town.

"It's great to be back out here with the kids," Indians' Head Coach Kyle Langford said. "We can't wait until the lights go on for real on Friday nights."

The Indians had 43 football players out on the practice field this week and Coach Langford said he pleased.

"Hey, we've got some great kids, who are very talented," he said. "We're going to have some depth."

On Monday, the signs of a new school year were even more evident as new technology equipment was being transferred from the Central Office on Lakeview to the schools.

"There's a lot of activity going on," Dr. Behrens

said. "I'm excited about this year, the prospects of new kids and the challenges that we all face."

Early on some of those challenges are traffic jams as young parents look to make sure their little ones get settled in the classroom as the first couple of days of school get underway.

"The parents of the young students want to make sure their children are safe, so they'll bring them into the school," Dr. Behrens said. "It takes a little extra time for the younger ones to get acclimated."

"Getting through the rush of the first two or three days is probably the biggest challenge," he said. "After that, we all fall into a pattern and we do well."

Dr. Behrens is expecting big things from the Class of 2011.

"We always expect big

things from our students," he said. "This is a good group of seniors and we look forward to see what they end up accomplishing."

At least one new face is on board. Dr. Mark Stallings, a two-time Teacher of the Year in Gilmer County, who retired in the area, will teach science part-time, Dr. Behrens said.

"We're extremely lucky to have Mark on board," he said.

Also, Daniel Isaacs will step into the shoes vacated when Towns County Marching Band Director Frank McKinney retired last year.

"Daniel has been with us for a while working with Frank," Dr. Behrens said. "He knows our band and our talent and we are expecting big things from that group this year."

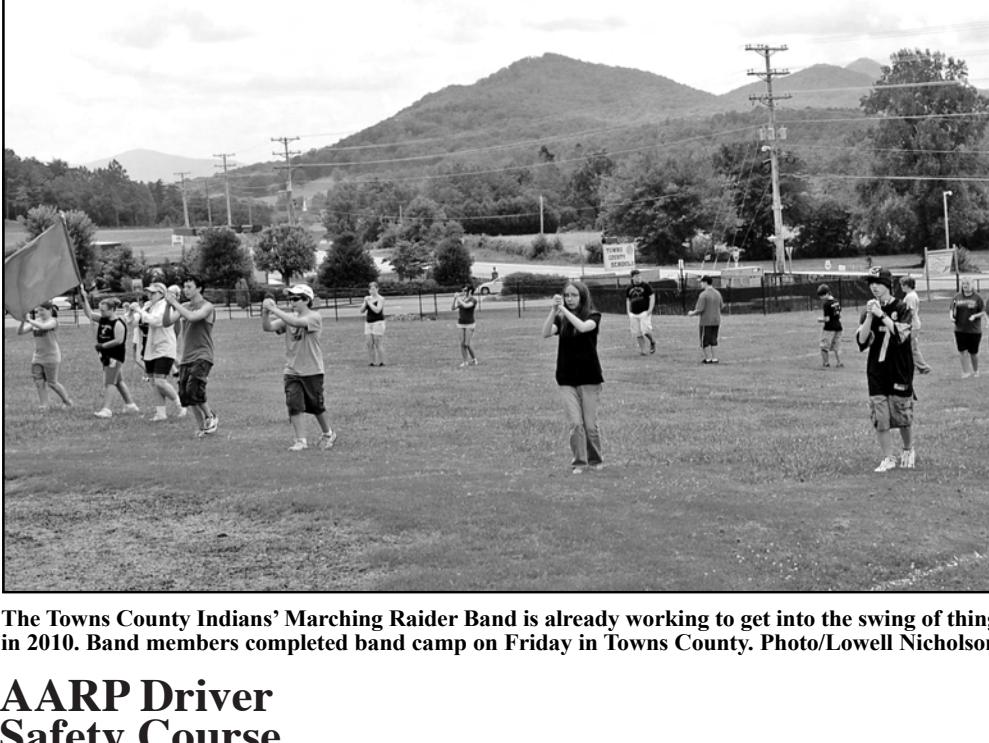
## TC Historical Society meeting

Towns County Historical Society meets at 5 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the Senior Center in Hiawassee. Annual dues \$15, PO Box 1132, Hiawassee, GA 30546, 706-896-1060 www.townshistory.org. NT(Aug4-G1)gg

## Georgia Mountain Writers Club meeting

The Georgia Mountain Writers Club meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Catholic church on Hwy. 76.

For more information, call Ellee Dobson at 706-745-0678 or email her at jldobson@windstream.net. N(Aug40G1)



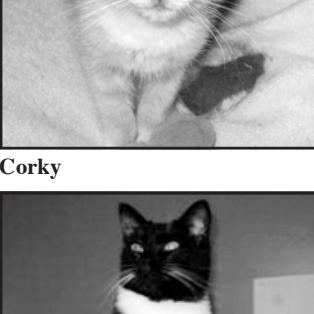
The Towns County Indians' Marching Raider Band is already working to get into the swing of things in 2010. Band members completed band camp on Friday in Towns County. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

## AARP Driver Safety Course

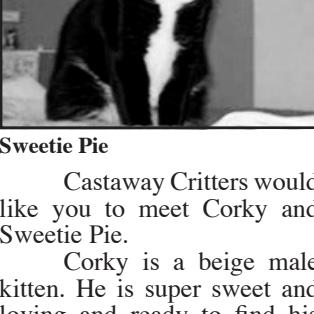
There will be an AARP Driver Safety Course at Branan Lodge in Blairsville, Ga August 24th from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, with an hour break for lunch. The safety course has been reduced from an 8 hour course to a 6 hour one day course.

The classroom course is geared to drivers aged 50 and older. Anyone may attend. It will help senior drivers to better understand their driving skills, vehicle safety and physical changes that could affect their driving safety. The course is taught by AARP Volunteer instructor Tom SMith. The enrollment fee is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-AARP members ( cash or check). Completing the Driver Safety Course may mean a reduction on your auto insurance( consult your insurance company). All participants must register before August 24. For more information and to enroll please call 706-379-2140. Branan Lodge is located on Wesley Mountain Drive in Blairsville , Ga. NT(Aug4,C3)ac

## Castaway Critters Pets of the Week



Corky



Sweetie Pie

Castaway Critters would like you to meet Corky and Sweetie Pie.

Corky is a beige male kitten. He is super sweet and loving and ready to find his new best friend!

Sweetie Pie is a young female tuxedo. She is very friendly and loves people.

Right now we have lots of cats and kittens available for adoption. The spay/neuter and up to date vaccinations are included in the adoption fee. If you are looking to add a new member to your home, please call June at 706-379-2169. If you would like to help with a donation to care for our animals, it may be mailed to 1732 John Smith Rd. E. Blairsville, GA 30512. We would be grateful for any contributions- thank

you! NT(Aug4-B5)sjh