

Towns County Herald

Legal Organ of Towns County

Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928

50 Cents

www.townscountyherald.net

Publication Number 635540 Volume 84 Number 21

Wednesday, March 27, 2013

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thu: Sunny 53 26
 Fri: Sunny 57 34
 Sat: Clouds 58 40
 Sun: Rain 59 45
 Mon: Clouds 64 42
 Tues: Sunny 64 43
 Wed: Clouds 64 45



Upstream Elevation Predicted 03/27/13
 Lake Chatuge 1920.56
 Lake Nottely 1766.39
 Blue Ridge 1682.22

INDEX

2 Sections, 16 Pages

Arrests.....2A
 Chamber News.....10A
 Church/Obits.....6A,7A
 Classifieds.....2B
 Editorial.....4A
 Letters.....4A
 Legals.....3B

Sports

Page 8A

Towns County Republicans Meeting



Thursday, March 28
 6:30 p.m.
 New Senior Citizens Center
 (next to the Recreation Department on Rte. 515)

See page 3A

Courageous Dads First Meeting



Friday, March 29
 7:15 a.m.
 FREE Event for Fathers and their children
 See page 10A

Free Food Distribution



Tues., April 2 • 2-6 p.m.
 Towns County Food Pantry



Towns Co. Baseball
 Fri., March 29 • 5 p.m.
 vs. Hebron

Towns Co. Middle School Baseball
 Thurs., March 28 • 4:30 p.m.
 @ White County

Fri., March 29 • 4:30 p.m.
 @ Lakeview

Sat., March 30 • 1 p.m.
 vs. Rabun County

The largemouth bass are hitting

By Joe Collins
 Towns County Herald
 Staff Writer

The Towns County Touchdown Club held its Fourth Annual Bass Tournament on Lake Chatuge March 16th.

The event turned out to be a rousing success.

The weather was perfect and the fish were biting and it was a great day to be a bass fisherman.

More than 25 boats made the list as the day began and almost all of them weighed in when it was all said and done.

The boats entered the water a little after 7 a.m. to a near calm lake.

The weather was warming and the fish started biting. Anglers checked in their boats and sped away from the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds dock just after daybreak.

They headed for their favorite spots on beautiful Lake Chatuge in hopes of claiming the first prize for most weight, the biggest fish and all related bragging rights.

The father and son team



It was perfect weather for the Fourth Annual Towns County Touchdown Club Bass Tournament on Lake Chatuge. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

of Trevor and Alex Prince claimed top honors in the two top categories, Most weight and biggest fish.

The 7.26-pound prized largemouth pushed their total winning weight to 25.39

pounds and gave them the overall victory and the first place prize.

Second place went to Brad and Bob Rutherford with

See *Tourney*, page 11A

TCHS band marches at St. Patrick's parade



The weather was perfect in Savannah for the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Marching Indian Raider Band performed.

By Libby Shook
 Towns County Herald
 libby.tcherald@windstream.net

were thoroughly exhausted by parade's end," said McKinney. "There were about 350 units in the parade, with probably about a dozen high school bands.

"Since we were one of the only groups playing Irish music, we were quite popular with the spectators," said McKinney.

"The Savannah locals were very appreciative of our performance and complimented our students for their effort and their manners. We were the only Georgians in the parade from our area of the state," bragged McKinney.

McKinney explained that they had been looking for a special performance for the Spring that they could also combine with an entertaining trip for the high school band.

"They have worked so hard this year through the summer, during band camp, football season, two competitions, three local parades, a Veterans' Day concert, a Christmas concert, JanFest at UGA, plus All-District Band," he said. "This was a trip the students not only enjoyed as they had the opportunity to show half a million people in Savannah what TCHS band is made of, but one that they had certainly earned."

See *Band*, page 11A

Towns County FBLA heads to nationals



Towns County's Future Business Leaders of America took the state competitions by storm and are now on their way to national competitions.

By Kayla Taylor
 For the Towns County Herald
 tcherald@windstream.net

Georgia Future Business Leaders of America held the State Leadership Conference and Competitive Events at the Atlanta Hyatt Hotel and Conference Center on March 15-16.

Thirty-one members competed in 15 individual, skill and performance business

events. Towns County High School was very successful with 12 competitors finishing in the Top 10 in their event.

From those, five will represent Georgia at the National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, CA on June 26 - July 1.

In Friday night's opening ceremony, Lesleigh Irvin was recognized as Georgia FBLA's Member of the month for March. Irvin, a junior FBLA

member, has served as local chapter officer and competed at the region, state, and national level.

TCHS FBLA also was recognized as a Gold Seal Chapter Of Merit and received a national award for Largest Market Share in the Southern Region.

Irvin, Jessie Poole, and Courtney Stevens, TCHS

See *FBLA*, page 11A

HOSA students excel at state competition

By Charles Duncan
 Towns County Herald
 cduncan.tch@windstream.net

Towns County Schools Health Occupations Students of America made a significant showing at the HOSA State Leadership Conference in Athens recently.

Many will go on to compete in the National Competition in Nashville, Tenn., later this summer, said HOSA Advisor and teacher Suzanne Crews.

"I would like to congratulate my wonderful students on the superb job they did at the recent HOSA State Leadership Conference in Athens," Crews said. "HOSA stands for Health Occupations Students of America and consist of future healthcare professionals."

"Towns County competed for the first time last year and made it all the way



Suzanne Crews' Health Occupations students made a fine showing at the recent state competitions in Athens.

to Nationals," she said. "This year we brought home numerous awards from the state. Many will go on to compete for Georgia at the national level in Nashville this summer."

The TCHS HOSA award winners are: Katie Patterson, first place Interviewing Skills; Hayle Lovelady, sec-

See *HOSA*, page 11A

Towns County is there for Bud

By Libby Shook
 Towns County Herald
 libby.tcherald@windstream.net

Bud Johnson, surrounded by his military family, church family, and community family, gave his final salute to his only son Scott William Johnson as he was laid to rest at Woods Grove Baptist Church Cemetery on Saturday.

The Rev. Scott Sims officiated.

Scott Johnson, who followed in his father's footsteps in to the U.S. Navy as a Machinist Mate 2nd Class (1975-1979), was buried with full military honors provided by the North Georgia Honor Guard.

Scott was born June 25, 1955 in New London, Conn. and went home to be with his



Lord on Nov. 14th, 2011.

North Georgia Honor Guard Chaplain, Tom Barron, saluted Bud Johnson as he

spoke with great compassion and strong affirmation as he

See *Bud* page 11A

Towns County Schools celebrates BOE week



By Libby Shook
 Towns County Herald
 libby.tcherald@windstream.net

This is all done with extreme budget cuts continuing to rise annually at the state and federal level.

The BOE maintains a high standard of excellence for its students and teachers.

At the March 11th board meeting, Towns County School principals Roy Perren, Dr. Darren Bergrong, and Dr. Sandra Page honored school board members with a token of their appreciation as they presented them with a school system duffle bag.

This was in recognition of their dedicated service to the students, teachers, and staff of the local school system.

"I know that it takes strong schools to build a strong community, and the men and women on our school board devote countless hours to making sure our schools are helping every child learn at a higher

See *BOE*, page 11A

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

The Towns County Board of Education joined in a statewide celebration last week to salute the efforts of local school board members.

The week of March 18-22, 2013 was proclaimed School Board Appreciation Week in Georgia.

The week-long observance called attention to the contributions of local boards of education.

Being an elected official keeps board members continually in the spotlight as they often are faced with making decisions that are not always viewed by the general public as a popular.

However, this is a commitment they take very seriously and work very hard to ensure that Towns County Schools can compete with any school in the state.

What other school system can boast that they have two STAR students and that 24 out of a graduating class of 70 are honor students.

