

# Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, May 1, 2013

## Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thu: Clouds	67 48
Fri: Clouds	65 47
Sat: Clouds	60 43
Sun: Clouds	65 46
Mon: Clouds	71 48
Tue: Clouds	71 50
Wed: Rain	71 50



Upstream Elevation Predicted 05/01/13	
Lake Chatuge	1924.83
Lake Nottely	1776.07
Blue Ridge	1687.66

## INDEX

2 Sections, 18 Pages

Arrests.....	2A
Chamber News.....	12A
Church/Obits.....	6A,7A
Classifieds.....	2B
Editorial.....	4A
Letters.....	4A
Legals.....	3B

## Sports Page 10A



**County Wide Yard Sale**  
 Sat., May 25 • 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 On The Square in Hiawassee  
 Reserve Your Space  
 Email: tcfirecorps@gmail.com  
 or Call Judy 706-897-3798  
 or Liz 404-754-3430

Help Support Your Volunteer Fire Fighters!  


See page ??

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**FFA Car Wash & Yard Sale**  
 Saturday, May 4  
 Help Us Raise Money For Upcoming Conventions & Competitions  
 See page ??



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**3rd Annual Big Green Eggfest**  
 Saturday, May 18  
 Georgia Mtn. Fairgrounds in Hiawassee, GA  
 Begins @ 9 a.m.  
 Taster Tickets: \$20  
 Free "Meet & Greet" May 17 @ Anderson Music Hall  
 See page ??

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**Free Sports Physicals for TCHS Athletes**  
 Saturday, May 4  
 9:30 a.m. - 9th & 10th Grade Boys  
 10:15 a.m. - 11th & 12th Grade Boys  
 11 a.m. - 9th & 10th Grade Girls  
 11:45 a.m. - 11th & 12th Grade Girls

● ● ●

**Winter/Spring Sports Banquet**  
 Thursday, May 2 • 7 p.m.  
 Brasstown Valley Resort  
 Students/Athletes are allowed 3 guests.  
 Guest Tickets - \$15 each  
 See Joyce Moss in TCHS front office for tickets.

## State Senate honors Garrett

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

Towns County High School Principal Roy Perren enjoys bragging about current events happening at the high school.

He was especially happy to be able to announce that the Towns County Agriculture Mechanics Program recently received industry certification.

"Mrs. (Sabrina) Garrett has developed one of the best Agriculture Mechanics Programs in the State of Georgia. Towns County High School is only one of five high schools in the state and the only high school in the state north of Interstate 20 to receive this honor. This award is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of Sabrina Garrett," said Perren.

This announcement could not have come at a better time as Garrett was honored by Senate District 50 State Sen. John Wilkinson (R-Toccoa) and the Movers and Shakers Friday morning, April 12th, at



Sabrina Garrett is all smiles follow a recent string of honors for her school programs. State Sen. John Wilkinson and the Mountain Movers & Shakers honored her recently at Mary's Southern Grill. Photo/Libby Shook

Mary's Southern Grill for her dedication to education and her above and beyond efforts with the Agriculture/FFA program at TCHS.

Wilkinson said, "I am real glad to be able to be here with you this morning. As most of you know I got my start in Agriculture Education and FFA

and it's something I still hold very dear to my heart. It is a pleasure for me to be here to honor Sabrina Garrett today."

Wilkinson sponsored and introduced Senate Resolution (SR 669) which was read and adopted by the Senate on

See Garrett, page 9A

## Earth Day prompts clean up of Hiawassee

By Libby Shook  
 Towns County Herald  
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Earth Day 2013 was held on Saturday, April 27th, with close to 30 volunteers showing up at the Hiawassee Square despite the rainy weather and cool, breezy temperatures.

Hiawassee Mayor Barbara Mathis was on hand to welcome the volunteers.

Lake Chatuge Coordinator Scarlett Fuller also was there with a mapped out plan of locations to be cleaned up by the willing volunteers.

These folks deserved a medal for the unpleasant task awaiting them.

Not only would they be battling traffic, rain, and wind, but they would also be picking up the trash left behind by thought-

See Earth, page 9A



Stephen Smith separates good garbage from bad garbage

## Area sheriffs tout 2nd Amendment

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

Brasstown, NC - Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton makes no bones about it. He takes his 'Sworn Oath of Office' very seriously and does not intend to apologize to anyone for his beliefs, values, or his commitment and responsibility to the citizens of Towns County, especially not the folks in Washington, D.C.

That's what he told the hundreds of interested residents of Towns County, and Clay and Cherokee County, NC who came to The Sheriffs' Forum held at the Brasstown Community Center in Brasstown, NC on Tuesday, April 23rd.

Clinton joined Cherokee County Sheriff Keith Lovin and Clay County Sheriff Vic Davis to take a unified stand in defense of the Second Amendment rights of the citizens of their respective counties.



Clay County Sheriff Vic Davis, Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton and Cherokee County Sheriff Keith Lovin took part in a forum to discuss the Second Amendment last week. Photo/Libby Shook

They introduced themselves and spoke with the group regarding their perceived ideas and personal beliefs regarding gun control legislation, Second Amendment rights, and their duty "to serve and protect."

Sheriff Lovin boasted that, "per capita, residents

of Cherokee County (NC) have the highest rate of carry concealed weapon permits in the state. I am tremendously encouraged by this group wanting to get involved with this."

See Second, page 9A

## Bankers' Hour is packed at The Hall

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

Hiawassee - Everybody loves a county fair, especially when the very talented folks of United Community Bank are involved.

Saturday, April 27th, was a day that visitors and locals will be talking about for quite some time.

The 19th Annual Bankers' Hour had returned to Anderson Music Hall in Hiawassee with another grand musical, *The Big Show at the County Fair*.

This star-studded show was a hit from the time the performers walked out on stage until the final curtain call.

This year, they stepped it up a bit with several young folks from Towns County Elementary School's Music Program being integrated into the show.

The following aspiring young stars were a refreshing and welcome addition to The Bankers' Hour routine: Lindsey Giles, Trinity Nichols, Josie Poston, Quincey Rosser, Riley Smith, and Caylyn West.



Riley Smith is in step with grouchy old Mert (Janice Smith) during the Bankers' Hour at The Hall. Photo/Libby Shook

The cast was so amazing with the versatile vocal and comedic talents of the performers.

This motley-crew was mostly made up of local talent from the United Community Bank of Blairsville and Hiawassee.

However, folks from several surrounding county UCBs had the opportunity to showcase their talent as well.

Towns County High

School Chorus/Drama Director Chris Adams, a.k.a. *The Magical Clown*, thoroughly entertained the audience with his lyrical tunes and his outlandish "clowning" around.

Ditsy blonde bombshell, Kim Bridges and her stage husband Bryan Sosenski were pretty well matched in wits and their incessant bantering was well received by all.

See Bankers, page 9A

## Wilson in critical in Gainesville hospital

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

The Towns County Sheriff's Office is in deep prayer today, praying for the recovery of one of their own.

Lt. Brian Wilson was injured Sunday morning in a one-car crash on Georgia 288, Georgia State Patrol spokesman Gordy Wright said.

The crash occurred around 9:40 a.m. when Lt. Wilson, 29, lost control of the 2007 Dodge Charger he was driving after it crossed the centerline and traveled into the westbound lane, Wright said.

Wilson was traveling east when he lost control of the vehicle, Wright said.

The vehicle then traveled onto the north shoulder, went off an embankment, struck the ground with the front of the vehicle and then traveled into Lake Chatuge, Wright said.

Wilson was trapped inside the submerged vehicle and extricated by rescue divers for Towns County Fire & Rescue, Wright said.

"It is possible Wilson suffered a medical condition at the time of the crash," Wright said.

Wilson was taken to Northeast Georgia Medical Center after his rescue by



Sheriff's Lt. Brian Wilson  
 Towns County Fire & Rescue, Wright said.

His passenger, a female relative who is a budding sophomore basketball and soccer star for the Towns County Lady Indians, tried to save Wilson before she had to swim to safety for her own well being.

She was treated at Chatuge Regional Hospital in Hiawassee and later released.

Wilson remained in critical condition Monday night at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Gainesville, according to the Towns County Sheriff's Office.

See Wilson, page 9A

## Many flock to Young Harris SpringFest

Young Harris festival scores again



JoAnne Spring of Young Harris does her craft at the annual SpringFest in Young Harris. Photo/Libby Shook

By Libby Shook  
 Towns County Herald  
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Spring has certainly arrived and provided a beautiful weekend for the 2013 Young Harris SpringFest.

The event, held at the Mayor's Park in the beautiful Young Harris Valley on Saturday, April 20th and Sunday April 21st, enjoyed beautiful weather.

The park once again proved to be a great venue for this annual outdoor festival.

Despite the slight chill in the air, the sunshine was abundant and the cool weather did not keep the hundreds of visitors from coming out to see

what treasures were available at this very popular Robin Roberts Juried Arts and Crafts Show.

Young Harris Mayor Andrea Gibby was enjoying herself as she walked through the park greeting visitors and welcoming them to the park.

She also appeared to be having a fine time talking with the various vendors about their craft.

"This is a very big event for us and a very popular event. We enjoy hosting it for everyone to enjoy. I am thankful the rain came in on Friday instead of the weekend. The weather is always beautiful for our events. I like to think that we are just

See SpringFest, page 9A

## Hiawassee man charged with multiple violations

By Charles Duncan  
 Towns County Herald  
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A 33-year-old Hiawassee man is in custody following his arrest on charges of two counts of theft by receiving, possession of a firearm by convicted felon, driving while license revoked, and a parole violation, Towns County Sheriff's reports show.

Bradley Jeremy Sutton, of Hiawassee is being held in the Towns County Detention Center, jail records show.

Towns County Sheriff's deputies recovered a stolen vehicle, firearm, and ammunition early Tuesday morning, April 23rd during the arrest of Sutton, sheriff's reports show.

Sutton was driving a vehicle reported stolen out of Hall County last week when Towns County sheriff's Deputy Brandon Barrett spotted the vehicle and made a felony stop on Highway 76 East near Shake Rag Road, sheriff's reports



Bradley Jeremy Sutton

show. A BOLO (Be On Look-out) had been posted in the area for the alleged stolen vehicle, a 1985 Toyota Four Runner, sheriff's reports show.

After securing Sutton, See Charged, page 9A

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

