

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2012

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Showers	78 61
Fri: Showers	80 62
Sat: Showers	82 61
Sun: Showers	81 60
Mon: Showers	80 58
Tue: Showers	80 57
Wed: Sunny	81 56



Upstream Elevation Predicted 08/29/12	
Lake Chatuge	1922.17
Lake Nottely	1770.33
Blue Ridge	1671.07

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Sports Page 10A

Grid Iron

The Towns County opened the 2012 High School Football season on the road with a 20-12 loss in Hayesville, NC.

The Indians open the 2012 season at Frank McClure Stadium against the Union County Panthers on Friday. Game time: 7:30 p.m.

Retired Educators

The Towns County Retired Educators will meet Thursday, Sept. 6th at Moschetto's Continental Cafe in Young Harris. The time of the event is 11 a.m. Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall will be the speaker. A full luncheon will be served for \$13.50. All retired educators are invited to attend.

TCMS Indians win

The Towns County middle school football team traveled to White County on Thursday to open the 2012 season with a 6-0 win against the Warriors.

The game was fought mostly in the trenches with the Indians defensive front line taking control of things early and often.

The Indians defensive line led by Ian Thompson and Johnathan Watson camped out in the Warriors back field all day. They held the Warriors behind the line of scrimmage most of the day.

The Indians' Walker Ross pulled a Warrior running back down from behind late in the second half and caused a fumble that Major Moss picked up and ran 36 yards for the Indians only score of the game. The Indians led 6-0 and the defense made it stand for the win.

"Our guys found a way to win," Indians Head Coach Chris Vardo said. "We didn't execute the way we know we can and we lost control of the football. Our offensive and defensive lines kept us in the ballgame."

"Our defensive secondary looked good. All-in-all we did what we needed to do," a proud Coach Vardo said.

TCMS' next game will be on Aug. 30 at home against the North Georgia Falcons. Come out and support your Indians as they play their first home game of 2012. Go Indians!

Joe Collins reporting

Collins wins 9th in GOP race

By Libby Shook and Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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The 9th Congressional District's "conservative firebrand" conceded to the GOP's November candidate.

Gainesville Republican Doug Collins cruised to victory in last week's runoff election in the 9th District Congressional race. Collins' runoff opponent was North Georgia radio personality Martha Zoller.

Zoller conceded the race to Collins early on runoff night. The math was simple, Collins was leading by 6,290 votes throughout the district.

In Towns County, Collins took a slim victory over Zoller, 421 votes to 392 votes.

The district-wide win by Collins in the GOP runoff makes him the heavy favorite to win the Nov. 6th General Election against Gainesville Democrat Jody Cooley. North Georgia traditionally votes heavily Republican.

"I am thrilled to be the



Doug Collins is now the GOP nominee for the 9th District Congressional seat. He faces Gainesville Democrat Jody Cooley in November. Photo courtesy/ Collins for Congress

Republican nominee for the Ninth Congressional District of Georgia," Collins said. "I want to thank everyone for their prayers, support, and encouragement over the past year. I am looking forward to winning in November and taking our

Northeast Georgia conservative values to Washington."

Collins won 15 of the 20 counties that make up the 9th District Congressional seat. In neighboring Union County,

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LOST negotiations continue in Towns

By Libby Shook
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LOST negotiations resumed Thursday night, Aug. 23rd, at the 911 Mapping Office on Jack Dayton Drive.

At the previous meeting, Douglas Eaves, of Eaves Consulting Group, presented his findings and recommendations regarding LOST distribution on behalf of Towns County.

The county and both municipalities were once again represented by council. The City of Young Harris and the City of Hiwassee presented their proposed findings to almost 40 interested parties.

"Let me tell you what I'm going to do or at least try to do and try to accomplish," said Cary Cox, attorney for the City of Young Harris. "I'm going to first take a look at what we think LOST is, but I'm not going through the eight criteria."

"If you haven't figured it out by now, I'm not here to teach you," he said.

"Then I'm going to talk about what the expert for the county said. No disrespect for him, but obviously the City of Young Harris feels it's appalling to have 4.4 percent," he said.

"That's not even close or in the parameters of discussion," said Cox.

"(Young Harris) believes



Hiwassee City Manager Rick Stancil states the city's position last week during the Local Option Sales Tax negotiations. Towns County, Hiwassee and Young Harris are negotiating a new 10-year deal.

we're paying for benefits that primarily benefit the unincorporated area, basically looking at your net maintenance and operations," Cox said. "We believe based on the research there is an inequity of maintenance and operations. We're financing stuff in the unincorporated areas."

"We believe we deserve a larger share," he said. "And we also believe that population is a starting point, not a place to work off of in a negative direction."

"So what does that mean? That means that we're providing services out there, water, sewer, and that the county is not," Cox said.

Cox said that the information that Eaves had presented at the previous meeting, "was skewed."

"I know he's not here, but I asked the question about water and sewer, and he called it nebulous," Cox said. "Well I can tell you this, the reality is that the cities, Hiwassee and Young Harris, are the only ones providing water and sewer."

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Arts in the Park a hit yet again

By Libby Shook
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YOUNG HARRIS - Nestled in the beautiful Enchanted Valley, the Young Harris Mayor's Park was once again the scene of Arts in the Park, a Robin Roberts' Juried Arts and Crafts show Saturday morning with almost 90 vendors participating from all around the Southeast.

There was a Crafter's Village, Garden Village, and Food Village.

If you couldn't find what you were looking for at this show, you just were not looking hard enough.

The Food Village boasted homemade ice cream, kettle corn, deep fried corn, smoked turkey legs, barbecue pork sandwiches, barbecued turkey wings, and almost any kind of sweets you could imagine were available at Country Cabins Sweets & Treats.

There was also organic salsa, sauces, and herbs and spices. Folks were taking advantage of the free samples and enjoying deciding which best suited their palate.

Back again in the Crafter's Village was Blairsville's own Angie Hernden of Mountain Hope Pottery with her homemade pottery crafted on her grandmother's original pottery wheel.

Herden's most famous collection appeared to be her chocolate swirl dish sets.

She has been apart of many of the Arts and Crafts scenes for more than a year and has become well known in the crafting circle.

Also returning was Da-



If you went hungry at the annual Arts in the Park Festival, well, you only had yourself to blame. Photo/Libby Shook

vid Little of Cleveland. Little, known as *The Shoal Creek Carver*, makes handcrafted wooden bowls and stays very busy year round as well as selling on his Website.

"In this downturn economy, I have been very blessed. People are very picky about what they buy and they want quality products. That's what I give them and I have been very fortunate that people are interested in what I do," he said.

"Most folks are looking for things for they can use in their home and that's what I provide," Little said.

Ronald Moore of Hartwell, had a beautiful selection of framed pen and ink drawings.

He does drawings of barns, churches, farm scenes, animals, ducks, and almost any

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Stormwater ordinance passes first hurdle

By Libby Shook
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At their monthly meeting in August, the Hiwassee City Council voted to approve a first reading of the city's proposed Stormwater Ordinance.

Callie Moore, Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition executive director, and Scarlett Fuller, Lake Chatuge Watershed Coalition coordinator, were on hand for the reading and presented information to the Council regarding the need for the Stormwater Ordinance.

"This ordinance will require that developments larger than 5,000 square feet have a stormwater management plan prior to, during, and after construction," said Fuller.

Exemptions include single family residential and agricultural land activities.

"Currently, there are no specifications for stormwater



Rick Stancil

management when land is developed in either the city or county," said Fuller. "This ordinance will provide specific guidelines for future developments with the Hiwassee city limits to ensure that Lake Chatuge and its tributaries are not negatively impacted by runoff from these sites."

Moore and Fuller strongly emphasized the need for the ordinance.

"Stormwater management is vital to preventing

See Stormwater, page 13A

Taylor tells it like it is to Towns County Lions

By Libby Shook
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The Towns County Lions Club held its regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday night Aug. 14.

President Julie Payne opened the meeting with the traditional ringing of the bell.

Club members welcomed Lion Bob Dawson, Past District Governor from District 35-D in Florida, and his wife.

After a delicious meal provided by Daniel's Steakhouse, guest speaker Jerry Taylor was introduced by First Secretary Janice Smith.

Taylor retired from the Towns County School System after having served 32 years as a history teacher. He is an avid collector of antique organs and he currently serves as a board member with the Towns County Board of Education.

Taylor also is the editor of *Hearthstones of Home*, the Towns County heritage book published in 1983.

Former Commissioner Jack Dayton gave Taylor the distinguished title of Towns County's official Historian.

As is characteristic of Taylor, he opened with a humorous story and went on to entertain and inform with his quick wit and slow southern drawl as he shared stories of how local streets and communities got their names.

"I have always been interested in names," Taylor said. "They have just always fascinated me."

Taylor shared some interesting history on how many places in the county were



Jerry Taylor

named. Hog Creek got its name because in the old days, "Hogs were not fenced in; they were fenced out." Folks put fences around their houses and gardens to keep the hogs out.

For some reason they mostly free-ranged near this particular creek and in the fall, their owners would go to the creek to round up the their hogs.

"Everybody had their hogs marked so they would know which hog was theirs," said Taylor.

He also explained that Airline Road in Young Harris got its name due to a misunderstanding.

"It was named Airline Road even though there is no airline there or even nearby," Taylor said. "It marked the dividing line among the 'heirs' of the property at that time."

He also went on to explain how the following communities and streets got their name: Bugscuffle, Shake Rag Branch, Walker Street, Scataway, Streak Hill, and Hooper

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5K Run raises money for Towns Relay for Life

By Libby Shook
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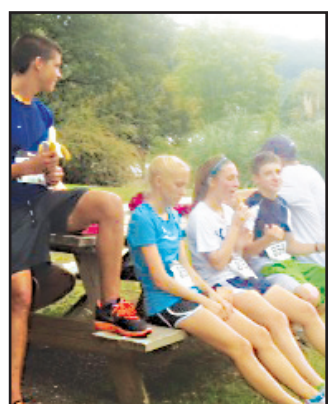
The Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds was the site of the American Cancer Society's 5K/Fun Run on Saturday, Aug. 18th as folks from Towns, Union, and many surrounding counties came together in a single-minded effort.

They were in it for the victory, but not the kind most imagine when they think of a competitive race. These folks were in it for the victory over cancer.

The weather cooperated nicely with blue skies overhead, the sun coming up over the beautiful North Georgia Mountains, and just a hint of a light breeze. Participants were up and out early with registration beginning at 7:30am and the race commencing at 8:30am.

The Fun Run was only a 1-mile run open to local youth.

Organizer Rena Pendley of Gainesville was just as eager as the runners as she arrived at 6:30 a.m. to get set up and ready to register the participants. Pendley also is the ACS Community Manager serving Towns, Union, Lumpkin, and



Taking a break from the Run

White Counties. All proceeds for the 5K/Fun Run went to the Towns County Relay for Life netting them \$1,000.

"I would like to thank the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds for their support of the 5K event for the American Cancer Society," said Pendley. "They are always so accommodating." The participants returned breathing a little bit heavier and moving a little more slowly, but

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