

Towns County Herald

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Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Clouds	79	48
Fri: Clouds	79	49
Sat: Sunny	75	49
Sun: Clouds	73	46
Mon: Sunny	72	48
Tue: Clouds	73	43
Wed: Clouds	71	38



Upstream Elevation Predicted	10/03/12
Lake Chatuge	1920.53
Lake Nottely	1766.65
Blue Ridge	1670.53

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Sports

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Gridiron

The Towns County Indians didn't lose a ball game on Friday as they focused on fundamentals during the bye week. The Indians travel to Copper Hill, Tenn. on Friday to take on the Cougars of Copper Basin. The Indians are in search of their first victory of the season. The Indians lost to the Cougars last year 26-21.



TCMS

The Towns County Middle School Indians football team finished its regular season Thursday with a tough loss to the Rabun County Wildcats and finished the 2012 season 3-3.

However, the Indians played well enough to finish in the Top Four of the conference and won a birth to the conference championship round starting Oct. 4. **Story Page 10**



Cross Country

Towns County's Cross Country competed at Fannin last week against solid competition from around the area to prepare themselves for the Area Championships. **Story Page 10**



Farmers Market

The Towns County Farmers Market will continue to be open for the next three weeks.

Rock Hill Farms will have fresh produce available on site.

The Market is open from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.



Tips from the Range

Having trouble being accurate off the tee with your driver? Towns County Herald Staff Writer Joe Collins discusses the fundamentals to a consistent swing, and finding the fairway with a driver. For more details see Tips from the Range on **Page 10**

Campers camp out at Senior Center

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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TVA-owned Chatuge Woods Campground on Red Bank Road was quite the focal point in Towns County last week as anxious campers waited for the renewal process began Saturday, Sept. 29th.

The doors of the courthouse opened at 8:15 a.m. with folks scurrying to get as close to the front of the line as possible.

The renewal process commenced at 8:30 a.m.

According to Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall the lots are picked on a "first come, first served" basis with numbers being given out based on positioning in line.

"Folks will line up and they will receive a number based on who is in line first, second, and so on. When their number is called they will be allowed to come in and pick the lot they want," said Kendall. It was like a family re-

union throughout the week as about 40 folks who are current tenants at Chatuge Woods Campground gathered on the courthouse lawn in an effort to have a better chance at being first in line and keeping their same spot for the 2013 season.

Locals and folks from North Carolina and surrounding Georgia counties brought in their lawn chairs, coolers, and blankets and waited out the process.

Ralph and Thelma Sanders have been camping at Chatuge Woods Campground for the past 22 years.

"We love the water and we love fishing. That's our thing. This is only the second spot we've had in all those years and we are hoping to get our same spot back," said Thelma Sanders, a retired Macon County, NC School teacher.

Ralph Sanders, a former County Commissioner from Macon County, NC, said the campground is a home away from home.

"We have raised our kids



Seasonal campers who have called Chatuge Woods Campground home during many summer months, some more than 20 years. Photo/Libby Shook

here and now our grandchildren are coming up here with us," Ralph Sanders said. "We just love it here and we spend a lot of money in Towns County. Every time we come up here we are spending \$200 plus at Ingles, buying gas here, and eating at restaurants here."

Local Jimmy McKin-

ney said he loved the campground.

"I grew up here in Towns County. I love the land, the lake, and I love to camp," McKinney said. "If I get my same spot back that would be great, but if I don't that will be okay too."

"It's a real nice, well

maintained campground," said McKinney. "We've tried to keep it real peaceful here. We try not to get too loud. We keep everything cleaned up and we try to park down behind the courthouse so we don't interfere with the comings and goings of the folks at the courthouse."

Phyllis Sanders of Franklin, NC said she wanted her campsite again.

"I want my campsite back," Phyllis Sanders said. "I've been at Chatuge Woods for four years. I'd like to be able to stay there if I could."

"We've got a good family going on down there and we help support the county. We do all our shopping here," said Phyllis Sanders.

Ralph Sanders commended Commissioner Kendall.

"Commissioner Kendall has been real nice and willing to work with us about this and he invited us (himself and McKin-

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Boys Scouts learn CPR training

By Libby Shook
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Towns County Boy Scout Troop 125 participated in a basic Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) class taught by instructors Mike Lallement and Jonathan Wilson.

Lallement is a 23-year veteran paramedic who works with the Towns County EMS and Wilson is a full-time employee with the Towns County Fire Department who also substitutes part-time with the Towns EMS.

The six troops, ranging in age from 12-17, were very enthusiastic about the training.

The training consisted first of witnessing the latest technology of the TCMS. The LUCAS 2 Chest Compression Device, Lallement explained, "is an automated external device for doing CPR."

The Boy Scouts watched with great interest as Lallement demonstrated how the LUCAS 2 worked by "providing effective, consistent, uninterrupted chest compression."

Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall was present for the class and explained that the county had purchased two LUCAS 2 devices, one for both EMS centers (East and West) in the county.

The cost is approximate-



Boy Scout Troop 125 gets a front row seat in the back of a Med Unit with Towns County Firefighter/Paramedic Jonathan Wilson. Photo/Libby Shook

ly \$23,000 per device.

"We try to keep our EMS centers updated with the best equipment available and provide the best available services to our residents. We have a very qualified group of folks working in both centers," said Kendall.

The boys received handouts and watched a video on the ABCs of CPR which is an acronym for Airway, Breathing, and Circulation.

The video would stop at key points and give the boys the opportunity to practice what they had learned.

They each had their own mannequin to practice on. They were taught the key locations for finding a pulse with the pri-

mary being the carotid artery.

They practiced compressions, breathing techniques, and practiced performing the Heimlich maneuver on choking victims.

"The earlier the CPR is begun the better the chance of survival," stressed Lallement.

A key point made by the video that seemed to really hit home with the Boy Scouts was, "the most important link in the chain of survival is you."

Probably the most exciting part of the evening for the youth was when they were invited by Lallement and Wilson to have a hands-on lesson inside an ambulance

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Gardens project underway through Oct. 21st

By Libby Shook
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The Fifth Annual Summer's Last Kiss, sponsored by the Towns County Tourism Association, was the highlight of the fall season.

Some of the finest and most talented juried artists and crafters gathered at the Downtown Square Saturday, Sept. 29th and Sunday, Sept. 30th as they bid fond adieu to the summer season.

Hiwassee Mayor Barbara Mathis opened the event by extending a hearty welcome to the crowd, vendors, and musicians.

As tradition holds, Mathis released a dozen balloons into the air to signal the official opening of 'The Kiss.'

There was a huge turnout on Saturday as folks braved the elements and the threat of rain to enjoy the many arts and crafts, wonderful live entertainment, and delicious food.

Sunday the weather was perfect with only slightly overcast skies. The sun peeked it's through for the last day of the event.

A crowd flocked to the Square once again in search of that perfect gift for home and in some cases a gift for friends and family.

Marley Jenkins of Marietta was doing a little Christmas shopping while in town.

"I didn't even know the festival was going on. I was just in visiting family. This is wonderful and I have found some unique gifts. I bought my mom an alpaca scarf. She will be thrilled," said an excited



Destiny's Alpacas were a popular attraction at Summer's Last Kiss on Saturday and Sunday in Downtown Hiwassee. Crowds were strong both days as the weather cooperated just enough.

Jenkins.

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

There were approximately 40 vendors set up and ready to share their story and handiwork with anyone who stopped by.

There were some amazing treasures to be found with the incredible handcrafted wares being offered.

Everything you could imagine including jewelry, silk scarves, designer jackets and vests, acrylic and water color paintings, furniture, pottery, birdhouses, alpaca woven hats and scarves, reclaimed metal art, stained glass items, hand bags, letter art, and so much

more.

Tina and Richie Harwood of Alpharetta were there selling window-framed glass art for their 20-year-old daughter, Haley. She is an art student at Georgia Southern University and due to illness could not make the trip, so proud mom and dad stepped in to pick up the slack.

"There's been quite a bit of traffic and we've done pretty well for Haley," said Tina Harwood.

Kotah Moon, eco artist, who specializes in reclaimed metal art was more than happy to share information regarding her passion for metal working.

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Homecoming Parade tradition begins

By Libby Shook
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In celebration of the Towns County Indians' Varsity Football Team and upcoming Homecoming game, the City of Hiwassee and Towns County Schools are proud to announce the First Annual Towns County Football Homecoming Parade on Thursday, Oct. 18th at 5 p.m.

The parade will feature the Towns County Indians' Football Team, the Towns County Indian Marching Raider Band, Towns County Cheerleaders, and the 2012 Homecoming Court.

Towns County School Superintendent Melissa Williams said she was excited to see the parade come to fruition.

"I am excited to see the implementation of a Football Homecoming Parade," she said. "I hope this becomes a tradition for Towns County. It has been my experience that a homecoming parade is a wonderful way to build community and school support, enthusiasm, and spirit."

"We welcome all the community to enjoy the parade and participate in our community-wide pep rally back at the schools immediately following the parade," Williams said.

The parade will start at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds traveling through Main Street toward Hiwassee and ending at the front lawn of Towns County Schools.

There will be a county-wide bonfire and pep rally back at the schools following



Melissa Williams

the parade.

This is all in celebration of the Oct. 19th Homecoming game when the Indians face off against North Cobb Christian High School.

Some lucky young lady will be chosen as the 2012 Homecoming Queen.

"The City and Towns County Schools are expecting a great turn out in support of the hard work and efforts of our students and has taken steps toward making the event as safe and accessible as possible," said Family Connections' Coordinator Amy Rosser who has been instrumental in the planning of this event.

During the course of the parade, drivers are encouraged to take an alternate route, Hwy. 288, if they need to get around the Downtown area.

Local law enforcement and the Towns County Fire Department will be on hand to provide traffic control and to ensure the safety of drivers, parade followers, and the community.

"If you are interested in volunteering for the parade, the

See Parade, page 15

HRWC volunteers to monitor Chatuge

By Libby Shook
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The Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition's trained volunteer numbers are growing.

The coalition announced last week that they now have four additional trained volunteers to monitor chemical and bacterial water quality.

The training was held Tuesday, Sept. 25th, at Riverbend Campground on the Hiwassee River.

"We had a great time enjoying the cool weather at the beautiful Riverbend Campground as volunteers learned why measuring dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH and conductivity are important in understanding stream health," said Lake Chatuge Watershed Coordinator Scarlett Fuller.

"After lunch, volunteers were certified in bacterial monitoring. Bacterial monitoring is always a hot topic because folks are concerned with 'is this water safe'," said Fuller.

Using Georgia Adopt-A-Stream's (AAS) 3M Petrifilm method, volunteers are now able to collect, incubate, and



Scarlett Fuller

count E. coli colonies and determine if there is a public health concern in local streams. Adopt-A-Stream is housed in the NonPoint Source Program in the Water Protection Branch of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. The program is funded by a Section 319(h) Grant. The goals of Georgia Adopt-A-Stream are

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