

# Towns County Herald

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## Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Clouds	72 55
Fri: Storms	75 55
Sat: Storms	79 57
Sun: Storms	80 56
Mon: Rain	78 55
Tue: Rain	77 54
Wed: Storms	78 55



Upstream Elevation Predicted 5/19/10	
Lake Chatuge	1925.80
Lake Nottely	1776.00
Blue Ridge	1686.60

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## Chamber Chronicles

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### Rabies Clinic

A rabies clinic is scheduled for May 29. The event is sponsored by the Hiwassee Animal Hospital and Towns County 4-H.

Clinic schedule: from 10 a.m. to noon in the Young Harris Elementary School building; Towns County High School parking lot from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Hiwassee Animal Hospital parking lot from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Prices are Dogs/Cats Rabies shots \$10; Distemper/parvo shots \$13.

### Yard Sale

The Towns County Food Pantry will be holding its 2nd annual Yard Sale, June 4th and 5th. Items to donate to the yard sale can be dropped off Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1294 Jack Dayton Circle. If you are unable to get the items to the Pantry, please call (706) 896-4783. Proceeds benefit the Pantry.

### Food Pantry

A free food distribution is scheduled Tuesday, May 18th. The distribution will be at the Towns County Food Pantry from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. All in need of food are encouraged to attend. If you're unable to pick up food please call (706) 896-4783, prior to distribution day.

All clients and inquires are kept strictly confidential.

### Fund Raiser

The Towns County Lady Indians' Basketball Program will hold their annual Car Wash and Cook Out on May 29, at Towns County High School. Team members are pre-selling car wash and hotdog or hamburger plates now. Please see one of the girls to get yours! Everyone is welcome to also come by TCHS on May 29 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. to pick up a hamburger or hotdog plate (includes slaw, baked beans, and chips) for \$5 each or come by to get your car washed from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. for \$5 (or any donation amount).

## Vardeman, Black earn high honors

By Charles Duncan  
TOWNS COUNTY HERALD  
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Amy Vardeman and Thomas Black have taken their places in the Towns County High School history books.

Vardeman, Valdosta State University-bound, was named Salutatorian for the Class of 2010. Black, headed to Georgia Tech, was named Historian for the Class of 2010.

Their selections on Monday follow the May 7th announcement that Jeff Stewart is the Valedictorian for TCHS' Class of 2010.

Vardeman, a heralded member of the school's Cross Country team and a featured dancer at the Brasstown Dance Academy, said that her four years at Towns County High School have been a huge part of her life.



Amy Vardeman and Thomas Black share a moment of pride with TCHS Principal Roy Perren after they were named Salutatorian and Historian respectively. Photo/Charles Duncan

"I'm proud to be a Towns County Indian," she said. "This is a good school. The work that we put in was solid."

She credits Alecia Frizzell as being an inspiration in her academic career. Vardeman added that she felt she was given every opportunity to succeed at Towns County High School.

"I feel like I received a fair opportunity to learn and I feel like everyone else

that attended school here received the same opportunity," she said. "School is exactly what you make of it."

Frizzell is one educator in particular who goes above and beyond the call of duty as a teacher, Vardeman said.

"She just goes out of her way to help you in what

See Class of '10, page 13

## Towns students to lose two days in 2010-11

By Charles Duncan  
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Towns County students will get two days off that they didn't expect next year, courtesy state budget cuts.

Those cuts also mean the Towns County School System will have eight furlough days for local educators in the 2010-11 school year.

"Students normally go to school 180 days a year," said Dr. Richard Behrens, superintendent of Towns County Schools. "Next year, it'll be 178 days. This is a necessary calendar adjustment."

Teacher contracts are a combination of 190 days, which include 10 work days of staff development and planning. Six of those work days were cut by the Board of Education last week. Two additional days will be cut



Dr. Richard Behrens from the school calendar and include days off for teachers and students as well.

The school also will use two days set aside for snow days for economic reasons.

"We'll still have two snow days left," Dr. Behrens said. "The legislators really didn't give us any

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## Teachers of the Year chosen

By Charles Duncan  
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The Towns County Board of Education recently honored three teachers revered for their professionalism and love of teaching.

Alecia Frizzell, Thomas Boyd and Kay Dyer are the 2009-10 Teachers of the Year for Towns County Schools, said Dr. Richard Behrens, superintendent of schools for Towns County.

Frizzell becomes one of the rare few educators named Teacher of the Year in the same year she was selected as STAR Teacher.

"Alecia Frizzell wants these kids to succeed," said Roy Perren, TCHS principal. "She cares about all the kids. She goes above and beyond the expectations of an educator. She takes a leadership role; I can't say enough good things about her. She was born to be a teacher."



Dr. Richard Behrens celebrates Alecia Frizzell, Thomas Boyd and Kay Dyer as the trio were recently named Teachers of the Year at their respective schools. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

STAR Student Thomas Black said that Frizzell is the true definition of the word "teacher."

"She taught me more than any teacher has taught me before," Black said. "She inspired me."

Teaching wasn't

Frizzell's chosen profession. Actually, she was set on becoming a pharmacist. While in college, she was recruited to become a math tutor at Young Harris College. The

See TOTY Awards, page 7

## Singing Stars a rousing hit

By Jessica Keaton  
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The stars were shining, and singing, brightly on Saturday at the Towns County High School auditorium.

Robbie Dernehl, the director of the Singing Stars for a Better World group, is very enthusiastic about the good works the girls and boys do for the community.

"It is a goodwill children's performing group," she said. "We put together musical shows every fall and spring and go to nursing homes, retirement

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Left to right, Singing Stars, Robbie Dernehl, Corrina Luckenbach, Kaelyn Hamer, Aspen Fine, Zach Richter, Isabella Richter, Kaylee Carall, Laurel Sanford, Brelynn Lovinggood, Reanna Chaffin, Lily Armstrong, Liberty Armstrong, Tori Bradshaw, Michelle Miller and Amaira Barrett. Photo/Jessica Keaton

## Experts predict honey shortage

By Jessica Keaton  
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Locals can expect a shortage of honey in grocery stores this year.

Especially, local honey. Paul Arnold, Young Harris College's associate professor of Biology and part of the braintrust behind The Beekeeping Institute, has the answer.

"Some hives experienced mortality this winter," Arnold said, "I know a few beekeepers that lost most of their hives. That said, honeybees generally can survive harsh winters - there are many Canadian bee-

See Beekeeping, page 6



Students at Young Harris College's Beekeeping Institute learn the fine art of beekeeping. Experts say that without awareness and more beekeepers, Georgia's annual \$15 billion honey bee industry could soon be lost. Photo/Jessica Keaton

## Local man indicted on sex-related charges

By Charles Duncan  
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A Towns County Grand Jury has handed up a six-count indictment against Stanley Reginald Raymond on one count of aggravated child molestation and five counts of child molestation, Towns County Superior Court records show.

Raymond, 59, is accused of aggravated child molestation on a child under the age of 16 years old between the dates of May 17th, 2004 and Nov. 30, 2009, according to the six-count indictment filed in Towns County Superior Court.

Raymond, who is free on \$60,000 bail, has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Aggravated child molestation means that Raymond is accused of causing physical injury during the alleged encounter

with the child, court records show.

Raymond faces five other sex-related charges with a child under the age of 16 years old, according to the six-count indictment.

Allegedly, those incidents of molestation happened between the dates of May 17th, 2004 and January 2010, the six-count indictment shows.

Senior Judge Robert S. Struble set bail on March 10 at \$60,000 for Raymond, of a Hiwassee address, according to a Bond Order filed in Towns County Superior Court.

An arrest warrant was secured by Towns County sheriff's Detective Brian Wilson, court records show.

Detective Wilson went

See Indictment, page 5

## Hadley brings Senate campaign to Towns

By Charles Duncan  
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R.J. Hadley isn't a career politician.

He isn't shy either. The Democratic hopeful for Georgia's Johnny Isakson's United States Senate seat understands what it's like to lose a home to foreclosure. It happened when he was a small child and his parents divorced.

He understands why Tea Party supporters are tired of the status quo in Washington. Hadley is a firm believer that it's time to send a common man to Washington to fight for everything Georgians deserve.

Hadley, the former communications director for Rockdale County, tossed his hat into the political arena because he's tired of hearing the same old excuses that eventually make their way back home from the nation's Capitol.

Hadley was the keynote speaker at the Towns County Democratic Party meeting last week at the Towns County Courthouse.

"I started this race back in September. I'm not a career politician, but somebody has to go to Washington to represent the people of Georgia and look after this state's best interests," he said. "We have to take this attitude."

"It's time for Geor-



R.J. Hadley

gians to quit just throwing up their hands and accept what is a given," he said. "It's time to stop saying 'we can't do anything.' Yes we can, we can do better than this."

Hadley, a Dartmouth graduate, points out that Georgia is 34th nationally in bringing federal dollars home to roost for statewide improvements.

"Our leaders in Washington aren't setting a vision for us," he said. "They aren't helping to push Georgia forward. Why are we 34th in terms of federal dollars coming back to Georgia? We're paying into the system, but our leaders aren't out there fighting for us to help bring opportunities back to this state. I know for a fact that

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TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

