

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, June 8, 2011

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Clouds	89 62
Fri: Clouds	87 62
Sat: Clouds	87 62
Sun: Rain	89 63
Mon: Clouds	90 62
Tue: Storms	86 62
Wed: Rain	84 63



Upstream Elevation Predicted 06/08/11	
Lake Chatuge	1925.61
Lake Nottely	1778.35
Blue Ridge	1675.35

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Chamber Chronicles

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Bass Tourney

Young Harris College led by Brad Rutherford, took the two-day Second Annual Chatuge Challenge over the weekend. The YHC team finished with almost 26 pounds of bass. Georgia Southern University finished second and Georgia Southwestern finished third in the collegiate event.

Golf Cart

The Towns County Food Pantry needs a golf cart for Food Pantry volunteers to use on distribution days.

Please call Richard at the Pantry, (706) 896-4783.

Youth Football

Registration for Youth Recreation League Football is scheduled for Saturday, June 25. Registration will be held at Frank McClure Stadium's field house from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Youth Football Coordinator Jimmy Smith said. Youth registration is \$60 and will continue every Saturday from July 9th through July 23rd. The fee will cover each player's equipment and insurance to play. Returning players from last season will not need to bring birth certificates. Newcomers will need to provide a birth certificate at registration. The first practice will start July 25th and continue every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. The 2011 Recreation Department Youth Football Camp will take place at the high school fields (at no additional charge for participants) on Thursday and Friday July 14-15th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Towns County Football Head Coach Kyle Langford and staff also will lend a helping hand throughout practice. Also, this year, following a two-year effort, the Recreation Department is fielding an exclusive 11-year old team. Previously, the league fielded an 11/12 year-old team.

Georgia State Harley Rally will mean \$\$ in Towns

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

The Georgia State Harley Owners Group Rally will offer a solid financial shot in the arm to the local Towns County economy in September.

That's what community leaders and business professionals learned Monday night as the group putting on the state's 19th Annual State Rally spoke about the event that comes here Sept. 8-10.

The event will be huge, lots of people, lots of motorcycles and a whole lot of ringing cash registers.

The total economic impact could reach \$1 million-plus. That's a big financial boost for a post Labor Day event.

Eric Grandowski and Bobby Conway spoke with locals at Anderson Music

Hall about the event that will fill every local hotel in Towns County and two in neighboring Union County.

H.O.G. members will spend lots of cash while they're here. The median income for a H.O.G. rally member is \$87,000-plus, Conway said.

"A Harley owner can easily tie up \$45,000 in their bike," Conway said. "If you've got that kind of money tied up in your bike, you want to show it off."

H.O.G. members will get the chance to show off their bikes as part of the Friday night *Bright Lights, Hot Bikes* event on Sept. 8th, of which the public is invited to attend.

"We're going to make this an afternoon, all-evening party for everyone," Conway said. "They want to

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Bobby Conway, left, and Eric Grandowski share details about just how the 2011 State H.O.G. Rally at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds will work during the second weekend in September. Photo/James Reese

Lady Indians wash their way to camp

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

The Towns County Lady Indians basketball team took to the pavement on Saturday as they scrubbed their way to basketball camp.

Utilizing a lot of elbow grease, the Lady Indians washed cars and served up hotdog and hamburger plates to community members as they worked through 90-degree-plus temperatures to earn enough money to attend basketball camps this summer.

The Lady Indians, always noted for their hard work on the court, displayed a disciplined work ethic on Saturday in the Towns County High School parking lot.

The players donned summer-time clothes and went to work washing cars to raise money for the

See Lady Indians, page 12



Members of the Towns County Lady Indians' Basketball team wash down vehicles on Saturday to raise money for the summer's basketball camps during the annual cookout and car wash. They raised more than \$2,700. Photo/ Lowell Nicholson

Trap Shoot scheduled for Friday at Owl Creek

Annual fund raiser for Georgia Sheriff's Youth Homes

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

On Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Sheriff Chris Clinton and the Chatuge Gun Club will kick-off the Third Annual Georgia Sheriff's Youth Homes Benefit Trapshooting Event at the Shooting Range on Owl Creek Road in Towns County.

The 2011 event is being sponsored by the Jackie Jones Automotive Group. The event will feature raffles and silent auctions as well as door prizes.

"All the proceeds go directly to benefit the children of the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes and because the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes is a public charity, any donation to the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes qualifies for the highest tax de-



Sheriff Chris Clinton

duction allowed by law," Sheriff Clinton said. "You do not have to participate in the trap shoot to participate in the other events of the day. Please come out and join us as we have a great time and raise money for a great cause."

The event is for a good cause indeed. Last year, 85 shooters raised more than

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Garden Tour a huge success

By James Reese
Towns County Herald
tcherald@windstream.net

The first Spring Garden Tour of Hiwassee and Young Harris had much to offer over the weekend.

The tour featured an outing to examine several private gardens, five commercial gardens and the newest park in Young Harris.

Cupid Falls, which, over the years has been the meeting site of many couples who met and married during their years at Young Harris College, has experienced a renaissance in recent years.

The City of Young Harris has worked fever-

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A couple explores the beauty of Young Harris' Cupid Falls on Saturday during the first Chamber Garden Tour. Photo/James Reese

Long steps down as Chamber President

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

Towns County Chamber of Commerce President Angel Long is stepping down as president to take on a higher calling - full-time mom.

Admirably, Long, who stepped into the role of Chamber President in 2009, said that it's time to focus on family rather than career.

She has three small children, all under the age of 6 years old. It's hard to keep up with the day-to-day activities of children and work Monday through Friday with weekend shifts



Angel Long

included. "I'm missing out on a lot of important things at home," she said. "It was hard to be Mommy and Chamber President at the same time. Ultimately, I chose to be Mommy."

Long's last day as Chamber President will be Sunday, June 12th, at

the Annual Chamber Golf Tournament at Brasstown Valley Resort.

The Chamber's Executive Board currently is conducting interviews and has placed an advertisement in today's Towns County Herald, seeking applicants interested in the position of Chamber of Commerce President.

"I had told the Board that I would see things through the first Garden Tour and the annual Golf Tournament," Long said. "Being at home, I'll have more time to spend with my husband and children. I'm ready for that to happen."

City of Young Harris Government goes green

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

The City of Young Harris has gone green.

On Thursday, Blue Ridge Mountain Electrical Engineer Kevin Conley of Blue Ridge Mountain EMC put the power to the meter box that collects kilowatt data to determine how much power the city is generating through its recently completed solar project.

The project became possible with funding provided by a renewable energy grant by Georgia Environmental Finance Authority of \$288,000. The city worked with Automation and Positioning LLC - the project manager - to complete the solar project.

Solar panels were installed at six city government sites, including City Hall. These installations will provide a yearly cost of about 45 percent, savings equivalent to roughly the amount of power that City Hall uses every two years.

The Renewable Energy Project is part of a statewide effort to educate the public about renewable energies, including photovoltaics, or solar power. The purpose of the grant also is to support local small businesses, entering into the renewable energies domain.

The successful completion of the sites were



Kevin Conley connects the city's solar kilowatt collection meter box last week. Photo/ Lowell Nicholson

a direct result of a combined effort between GEFA, the city of Young Harris, Automation and Positioning LLC, Blue Ridge Mountain EMC, and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

The renewable, earth friendly source of energy supplements the city's power usage by generating power from the sun and placing it in the power grid. TVA buys the newly generated power back from the city.

The government sites

See Solar, page 12

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

