

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Storms	87 65
Fri: Storms	85 65
Sat: Storms	85 65
Sun: Storms	82 65
Mon: Storms	86 65
Tue: Storms	85 65
Wed: Storms	86 67



Upstream Elevation Predicted 7/14/10	
Lake Chatuge	1924.50
Lake Nottely	1774.40
Blue Ridge	1684.90

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Square Dance

Join us every Monday in Hiwassee, 6 p.m. at the Senior Center for free square dance and clogging practice. This is not Western Square Dance, rather the old traditional calls our great grandpas and grandmas used in our Appalachian Smokey Mountains sometimes called "Big Circle." The Senior Center is located two blocks behind the Town Square, Main Street, Highway 76, beside the Towns County Courthouse, 48 River St. The sponsor of this series of events is the Towns County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1182, Hiwassee, GA 30546. Call (706) 896-1060 for more details.

Food Pantry

The Towns County Food Pantry will hold its free food distribution on Tuesday, July 20. The distribution will be held at the Towns County Food Pantry on Jack Dayton Circle from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. All that are in need of assistance are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to pick up your food, please call (706) 896-4783 for more details prior to distribution day. This allows us to make arrangements to deliver food to you. All clients and inquiries are kept confidential.

Mountain Home Music

On Saturday night, July 17, the Hiwassee Opry with Ralph Nichols will be back by popular and great demand. On July 24, Meschell Berrong will be here with The Berrongs, Travis George, Tim Burch and Ron Riggsby, from Nashville, Tenn. Danny Burch is emcee. On July 31, it will be the Three-R-One Band. These three shows are great so come on out to see them. Mountain Home Music is located at Highway 76 two and a half miles west of Hiwassee. Just look for the Red Building.

Early voting comes to an end Saturday

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

It's crunch time in Towns County for voters planning to take part in the July 20 Primary.

The clock is ticking and what once seemed like a long Early Voting period is almost over.

Irma Nichols, Towns County's Voter Registrar says that Early Voting ends at noon on Saturday leaving only the July 20 Election Day to cast ballots for candidates in both the Republican and Democratic primaries.

By Monday, more than 480 ballots had been cast early, Nichols said.

Towns County has approximately 7,700 registered voters.

Mid-term elections are underway and Towns County voters must choose

among others the next governor, lieutenant governor, their District Attorney as well as their state senator in Senate District 50.

Opportunities to cast ballots are still available – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Towns County voters also can cast ballots on Saturday, from 9 a.m. to noon prior to the Primary Election.

Early ballots can be cast at the Board of Elections and Registration at 91 Berrong St. in Hiwassee, better known as the Old Rock Jail.

In the only two local races, Enotah Judicial Circuit Chief Assistant District Attorney Jeff Langley, Republican, faces Raymond George in the GOP Primary. In the District 50 State Senate race, Incumbent State Sen. Jim Butterworth faces

challenger Terry Rogers of Habersham County.

U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson is unopposed on the GOP Primary ballot, as is Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle. GOP voters must choose between Jeff Chapman, Nathan Deal, Karen Handel, Eric Johnson, Ray McBerry, John Oxendine and Otis Putnam in the gubernatorial race.

The Secretary of State race on the GOP ballot consists of Incumbent Brian Kemp and challenger Doug MacGinnitie.

In the Attorney General's race on the GOP ballot, voters must choose between Sam Olen, Preston W. Smith and Max Wood.

In the race to replace Commissioner Tommy Irvin, Gary Black and Dar-

See Early Voting, page 6A



The race for Enotah Circuit District Attorney will be decided in the July 20 Primary Election. Chief Assistant District Attorney Jeff Langley, above, and Raymond George, below, seek that seat. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

Fair celebrates 60 years



Expect long lines at the carnival rides as the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds gets ready to pull out the stops for its 60th Birthday Bash on July 21. The Fair features fun for all ages. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

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

It all started with humble beginnings in 1950, an agricultural expo that lasted three days at the Towns County High School Recreation Field.

Only 2,000 or so attended the first Georgia Mountain Fair, no one could have predicted the meager event would grow by leaps and bounds, adding rides and fun for children and arts and crafts for adults.

By the mid-1970s,

Hiwassee became a summer destination for more than 100,000 people looking to get in touch with rural roots and allowing their children to spend that hard-earned summer cash on 10

See Fair, page 7A

Don Williams to play The Hall in October

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

Mark your calendar for Sept. 10, "The Gentle Giant" is back.

That's when tickets go on sale at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds for soon-to-be Country Music Hall-of-Fame singer Don Williams.

Williams, who said good-bye to Country Music in 2006, has come out of retirement for a limited number of concert dates in October. He'll be here Oct. 23 at Anderson Music Hall.

Actually, Williams will be in Hiwassee the night before he's inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, Tenn.

Williams, 71, who has 17 No. 1 hits to professional credits, is one of the most legendary voices in Country Music. He was named Male Vocalist of the Year in 1978



Don Williams

and his iconic hit *Tulsa Time* has crossed genres and been featured in major Hollywood motion pictures.

However, his most memorable No. 1 hit is *I Believe in You*, a song, recorded in 1980, that reflects on the times we lived. It is a telling tale of the things in life that aren't genuine and the things that really mean the most.

Don Williams began

See Don Williams page 7A

Lady Indians fall at state

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

BAXLEY –The Towns County Lady Indians 14 and under Fast Pitch softball team dropped a pair early in the Georgia Class C Junior Girls Fast Pitch State Tournament to end their state title hopes in Appling County.

The Lady Indians dropped their first game 8-1 to a talented Trion squad on Thursday night. The following day, the Lady Indians ran into a red-hot hitting Telfair County team that ended Towns County's title hopes with a 13-1 win.

The two losses brought a close to the season for the feisty Lady Indi-



Brittany Ledford pitches her heart out to no avail as the Lady Indians were eliminated from the Class C Junior Girls Fast Pitch State Tournament in Baxley over the weekend.

ans, who fought long odds the Lady Indians' season happened once they were it to the tournament.

The real story behind See Lady Indians, page 6A

Blake Shelton comes to The Hall on Friday

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

Tickets are still available for Friday's performance by Country Music superstar Blake Shelton.

The 34-year-old native of Ada, OK, with six No. 1 hits to his credit, comes to Anderson Music Hall Friday night at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds. He's currently engaged to Country Music star Miranda Lambert.

Shelton crashed the Country Music scene in 2001 with a bonafide No. 1 hit, *Austin*, off his self-titled first album. *Austin* spent five weeks at the top of the Country Music charts.

Shelton moved to Nashville, Tenn. from Ada in June 1994, only two weeks after graduating from high school. While in Nashville, Shelton worked with his biggest musical influence, Earl Thomas Conley as well as Country Music legends Hoyt Axton and Bobby Braddock.

By 2001, Shelton was singing on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry.

Shelton followed his first hit single with *The Baby, Some Beach, Home and She Wouldn't Be Gone*. Shelton also has hit the Top 10 with hits that include *Nobody But Me, I'll Just Hold On*, and *Hillbilly Bone*. In 2007, he became a household name after lead-



Blake Shelton

ing a choir to the Top 3 on NBC-TV's "Clash of the Choirs."

Shelton is on the verge of releasing his sixth career album, *All About Tonight*. The title was recently released and the album is set to debut in August.

All About Tonight currently ranks No. 11 on the Billboard Charts. Other songs on the album include *Who Are You When I'm Not Looking, That Thing We Do, Draggin' The River*, with Lambert, *Suffocating* and *Got A Little Country*.

Tickets prices are \$45 plus \$2 handling and \$35 plus \$2 handling. Don't get left on the outside looking in.

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD



Sheriff eyes expanded watch program

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

Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton needs all the eyes he can find.

The sheriff spoke to the Towns County Republican Party last week about the key to lowering an already low local crime rate even lower.

Sheriff Clinton, speaking to a near capacity crowd at Daniels Steakhouse in Hiwassee is inspired to complete a unified Community Watch program to pro-



Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton told Towns County Republicans that an expanded Community Watch program pays immediate dividends in crime fighting. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

See Sheriff, page 5A