

# Towns County Herald

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Publication Number 635540 Volume 80 Number 37

Thursday, July 23, 2009

## Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur:	Sunny	76	58
Fri:	T-Storms	82	60
Sat:	T-Storms	81	59
Sun:	T-Storms	80	61
Mon:	T-Storms	80	60
Tue:	Sunny	81	60
Wed:	T-Storms	81	62



Upstream Elevation Predicted 7/23/09	
Lake Chatuge	1924.50
Lake Nottely	1774.40
Blue Ridge	1685.30

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## Humane Society

The Humane Society Mountain Shelter board meeting will be held on July 23 at 5:30 p.m. at Cadence Bank in Blairsville.

## Hoedown & BBQ

Drug Free Towns County Coalition invites everyone to attend a hoedown and barbecue on Aug. 29 at 6 p.m. at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds upper pavilion.

Tickets to the event are \$20 with children 10 and under getting in free. The event is Western style square dancing, the Virginia Reel and Line Dancing, all by caller Jim Duncan.

Come one, come all, bring a lawn chair and learn how to dance. For more details, call (706) 896-0007.

## Church yard sale

A yard sale is scheduled at Christ the King Church, in Hiwassee (between Noblet's and the \$2 Store) on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to noon, come rain or shine.

Books, videos, DVDs, household items, clothing and much, much more are available.

Coupons for 15 percent off items at Christ the King Antiques & Furniture are available with any purchase.

## Driver Safety

There will be an AARP Driver Safety Course at the Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris on August 6 and 7 (Thursday & Friday) from 9:30am to 1:30pm. The new enrollment fee is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-AARP members. All participants must register before August 6. For more information and to enroll please call 706-3792140 or cell 706-781-9527.

## Support local athletes

Your local athletic teams are doing fund raiser booths at the Georgia Mountain Fair this week. Come out and support the Indian athletic programs.

## 2009 Miss Ga. Mtn Fair is crowned

From Staff Reports  
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Miranda Lee Carballo of Murphy, NC was crowned the 2009 Miss Georgia Mountain Fair on Monday night. Throughout the year Miranda will serve as an ambassador for the Georgia Mountain Fair during select events, including the 2010 Fairest of the Fair Pageant held in Atlanta.

Towns County's own Jessica Phillips, a recent Young Harris College graduate was named First runner-up. Second runner-up went to Holly Wright of Union County. The contestants chose Miranda as "Miss Congeniality." The optional talent portion winner went to Lacey Rogers, of Hayesville, NC with her rendition of Etta James' "At Last."

Nine young ladies vied



Miranda Carballo was crowned Miss Georgia Mountain Fair 2009 on Monday night in Anderson Music Hall.

Photo/Jim and Lisa Bryant and Brette Allen of "The Loft" & Gemstone Creations of Hiwassee.

The pageant will be broadcasted in its entirety on Windstream Channel 4.

Complete pageant coverage and photos will be in the July 30th edition of the Towns County Herald.

## Indians start 2009 football season 1-0

By Charles Duncan  
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The Towns County Indians are a victim of their own success.

Head Coach Kyle Langford's Indians, which set a school record with seven victories in 2008, will start the 2009 season with a win without having taken the field.

The Asheville School, which fell to the Indians last season by a score of 37-6 have forfeited the Oct. 9th contest between the two squads to put less emphasis on their football program, Coach Langford said.

"We got a call that the Asheville School would forfeit this season's game between the two schools," Langford said. "It's really a victory I would have rather



Indians' Head Coach Kyle Langford chats with Herald Editor Charles Duncan at the Georgia Mountain Fair. The Indians are doing fundraising with their Clux Delux chicken sandwiches and nuggets.

Photo/Lowell Nicholson

have gotten on the field, but we can't control that outcome.

"When you sign a contract, to me, that's an honorable thing," Langford said. "If I sign a contract, I'm going to live up to that deal. I'm not at all excited about

playing Robbinsville this season, nobody in the world wants to jump on the Black Knights. They're good, real good and they may win a state championship.

"We signed a contract

See Gridiron, page 3A

## Thousands visit Georgia Mountain Fair

By Charles Duncan  
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As billed, the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia Mountain Fair has been a major attraction and draw for Hiwassee and Towns County.

"Little Nashville," as it was referred to last week by Country Music legend Joe Diffie, was the destination of thousands as they flocked to the Country Music Mecca of the North Georgia Mountains.

"I'm thrilled and excited to be here," said Melissa Holliday, of Chatsworth. "My husband is a huge Gene Watson fan and we just had to be here. In July, there's no place else I'd rather be than at the Georgia Mountain Fair."

The Fairgrounds have been bustling with activity ever since the first carnival ride cranked up on Wednesday, July 15. From country music shows featuring yesterday's legends and tomorrow's stars to the arts and crafts exhibits in the Pioneer Village, the 2009 Fair offered something for children of all ages.

"It's a great price," said Kevin Albert of Dunwoody, who brought his wife and three children to the Fair. "Getting to do everything for one price, now that's a bargain in today's economy. It's as good a bargain as you'll come across and best of all, it's not Atlanta."

Anderson Music Hall also was a place to be as headliners like Diffie, Gene Watson, John Conlee, T.G. Sheppard, Janie Fricke and the Gatlin Brothers took center stage throughout the week.



From parade floats to carnival rides, the Georgia Mountain Fair was a major attraction for tourists last week in Hiwassee. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

Up-and-comers like Hayesville, NC's Irons in the Fire and Lincolnton, NC's Tammie Davis also warmed the hearts of the Country Music-partial crowd. The Music Hall was packed, show after show.

Norman Agee of Monticello said it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out the mass appeal of Country Music stars like Conlee, Watson, Sheppard and Fricke.

"They engage their audience," Agee said. "They don't just stand up on stage, jump around and scream lyrics out in the darkness. They talk with their audience, they connect with them, and they get out

and touch their fans' hands. I guess the bottom line is that they are great at showmanship."

Watson, the man with the "Fourteen Carat Voice" accepted an Afghan covered with roses as he sang his legendary hit Paper Roses. He continually conversed with fans between songs and focused all his attention on his audience.

"Gene Watson is a prime example of getting an audience involved in his show," Agee said. "John Conlee, T.G. Sheppard and Janie Fricke do an excellent job as well. It's the reason my wife and I keep coming

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## Recession, state cuts take toll on DOT barn

By Charles Duncan  
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The decision by state lawmakers to eliminate funds for the upkeep of local roads (LARP) has forced the closure of Towns County's Georgia Department of Transportation road maintenance department.

The GDOT maintenance barn and crew has been a fixture in Towns County since the 1940s. Unfortunately, Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall says that road department is now eliminated, a casualty of the re-



Bill Kendall

cession and budget cuts by state lawmakers.

Closure of Towns See DOT, page 2A

## Bellamy Brothers here on Saturday

By Charles Duncan  
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David and Howard Bellamy are headed to Hiwassee to help close the historic Georgia Mountain Fair's 59<sup>th</sup> annual gathering.

The Bellamy Brothers have a new hit 33 years after their first single went No. 1 on Billboard's record charts. Only time will tell if "Guilty of the Crime" in concert with The Bacon Brothers, is as successful as "Let Your Love Flow."

One thing is for certain, one of the most successful duos in Pop and Country Music already has 14 No. 1 hits to their credit. Those hits include "If I Said You Had a Beautiful Body (Would You Hold It Against Me)"; "Sugar Daddy"; "Redneck Girl"; "Dancing Cowboys"; "For All the Wrong Reasons"; "Old Hippie" and "Kids of the Baby Boom."

The Brothers will grace the stage at Anderson Music Hall on Saturday.

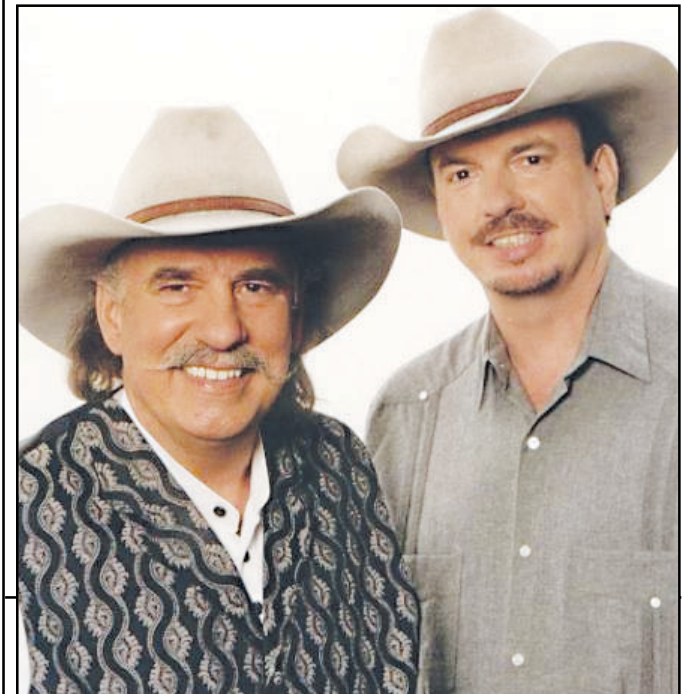
Show times are 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. as the Grammy-nominated, Top Country Music duo gets ready to bring down the house.

In the 1990s, Billboard named the Bellamy Brothers as Top Country Duo; in addition, the brothers eventually went on to set the record for most duo nominations from both the Academy of Country Music and the Country Music Association, despite having never won either duo award.

As the Fair winds down, the sound of school bells can't be far away. Until then, local youth will celebrate Wednesday, July 22 as the Fairgrounds hosts Customer Appreciation Day.

The day's festivities include a Youth Variety Show at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. featuring James Childers and the Scataway Pickers, clogging, youth bands and

See Brothers, page 2A



Howard and David Bellamy will take center stage on Saturday at Anderson Music Hall as the 59th Georgia Mountain Fair comes to a close.

## Harry Potter draws a crowd at Fieldstone

By Charles Duncan  
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There's a traitor at Hogwarts and Harry Potter is on their trail. The real question is whether he can discover exactly who the turncoat is before they threaten the life of one of Hogwarts' most endearing leaders.

Author J.K. Rowling's most beloved "muggle" is back on the silver screen and he's bringing home a ton of money as "Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince" is pulling fans back into the theater.

At Fieldstone Cinemas Six, the newest Potter film sold every seat except for 60 during the early opening at midnight Tuesday.

"Obviously, the new Harry Potter movie is a must

see," said Fun World Manager Don Lloyd. "You wouldn't think a movie theater would be packed until 2:41 a.m., but it sure was."

See Potter, page 2A



Harry Potter

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