

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2011

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Clouds	93 67
Fri: Storms	87 67
Sat: Clouds	87 66
Sun: Storms	88 65
Mon: Storms	87 63
Tue: Storms	87 64
Wed: Storms	86 64



Upstream Elevation Predicted 08/03/11	
Lake Chatuge	1923.99
Lake Nottely	1777.96
Blue Ridge	1677.41

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Driving Course

An AARP Driver Safety Program sponsored by North Georgia Technical College will be held Thursday, Aug. 11 at the Campus Conference Center in Blairsville.

The program consists of one seven-hour day meeting in two sessions from 9 a.m. to noon, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Students may bring a sack lunch or eat out. Fees are \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers. Anyone 50 years old or older are welcome. Please bring your AARP membership card to get the discount. To register, or for more details, call Jessica de Ruise at (706) 439-6332.

Archery Shoot

Mountain Grace Outdoor Ministry will host a 3D Archery Shoot Saturday, Aug. 6. Free admission. Two, 20 target courses, lunch available, novelty shots with prizes, two new bows to give away. Call (706) 781-5723 for more details. Registration is from 7:30 to 8:30 at Camp Hosana off Pope Road, Hiwassee.

DFCS has moved

Towns County's Department of Family and Children's Services office has relocated to 1620 US Hwy. 76 West, Suite 4 at Chatuge Place. They are located in the office suite formerly occupied by Georgia Vision Center near Mamasu's Brick Oven Pizza and Mossy Bottoms Café.

Class of 2015 arrives; school buses ready to roll

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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The school bell for classes to change at Towns County Schools has been going all summer.

Like clockwork, the bell rings at the time classes normally change, even if there aren't any students to adhere to the sound.

That all changes on Thursday, as students return to the daily grind of classes and those big yellow school buses get rolling along.

Late last week, Towns County High School Principal Roy Perren welcomed the new incoming class of freshmen, better known as the Class of 2015.

Perren and the Class of 2015 advisors gathered with parents to give them the run-down on what to expect come the first bell on Thursday.

As the Class of 2015 rises to their first rites of

High School, they'll join returning sophomores, juniors and seniors to round out a TCHS student count of almost 350 students.

All the other students from first grade through 12 got a welcome back on Wednesday as each school hosted Open House on each individual campus.

Bottom line: Towns County students and teachers return to the classroom on Thursday with high expectations of another exciting school year.

On Thursday, expect excitement and a few nervous stomachs as classes resume.

"There's a lot of activity going on," said new Towns County Schools Superintendent Melissa Williams. "I'm excited about this year, the prospects of new

See School Starts, page 11A



TCHS Principal Roy Perren welcomed 100 or so incoming freshman last week at the school's auditorium. Freshman orientation kicked off the countdown to opening day. Photo/James Reese.

Langford's Indians take the field

Towns County Indians' 2011 gridiron players ready for season to begin

By James Reese
Towns County Herald
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If Hall-of-Fame Country Music Disc Jockey Rhubarb Jones got one look at the 2011 Towns County Indians, he's have only one thing to say.

"They're little, but they're loud," one of Jones' many coined phrases.

The fact is, the numbers are down this year, but the skill level is there, Head Football Coach Kyle Langford said.

"It looks like the numbers are going to be down in terms of the number of bodies on the field," Coach Langford said. "The flip side to that is that the 25 we have can all do things. There's nobody out there that's helpless or not skilled.

"It's guys that have been around," he said. "Anytime you have players that want to play, that's the

See Football, page 11A



Towns County Indians' Head Football Coach Kyle Langford welcomes back his gridiron squad on Monday as Fall Football Practice is finally underway. The Indians are short on numbers and long on grit and guts in 2011. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Solid local police work turns up 49 pot plants

Towns man arrested on manufacturing charges



Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton and Detective Lt. Brian Wilson take pride in removing \$58,000 worth of pot off the streets.

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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It's harvest season in North Georgia and Western North Carolina.

Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton, Capt. Jeff Edge and Detective Lt. Brian Wilson teamed up

with Clay County, NC Sheriff Vic Davis and his detectives and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation to seize \$58,000 worth of marijuana plants on the Towns County-Clay County border.

See Pot Bust, page 11A

2011 Fair becomes history

Mother Nature impacts 61st Annual Georgia Mountain Fair



By Charles Duncan
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The success of the 2011 Georgia Mountain Fair can be easily summed up by one factor: shade.

If the venue had plenty of shade, or as in Anderson Music Hall, had plenty of air conditioning, the chances of success were greatly improved.

As for The Midway where the many carnival rides awaited anxious youths, near triple-digit temperatures kept the rides at a standstill until evening shade made it over the valley.

The 2011 Georgia Mountain Fair is in the history books and many folks didn't attend because of the searing heat wave.

Shows like Neal McCoy, the Bluegrass showcase, Mel Tillis and later, his daughter Pam Tillis, drew solid crowds. If the shows weren't sold out, they were close.

The Tampa Bay Water Ski Show drew solid crowds both Friday and Saturday as the thought of cool water splashing through the air had an appealing approach.

The Bengal Tiger Showcase attracted decent crowds, with locals and tourists alike being charmed by the majestic grace and

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Focus shifts to Georgia Moonshine Cruize-In

Crowd pleaser returns Aug. 11, 12 and 13 at Fairgrounds

By Charles Duncan
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As the 2011 Georgia Mountain Fair fades into the history books, the Third Annual Mountain Moonshine Cruize-In is a week away.

The event is scheduled for August 11-13 at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds.

Promoter Rakes Parrish says the 2011 event is going to be bigger and better than last year. More cars, more enthusiasm and most businesses owners are banking on more money than they brought in during



Rakes Parrish

the 2010 event.

The 2011 event will feature increased shuttles to make sure everyone gets where they want to go, said

See Cruize-In, page 11A

Grand Jury returns six true bills of indictment

By Charles Duncan
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Towns County Grand Jurors have returned six true bills of indictment during the 2011 July Grand Jury term.

Among those indicted are Timothy Russell Harkins and Jennifer Denise Roberson, each on a charge of possession of methamphetamine. Harkins also was indicted for failure to maintain lane.

A 19-year-old Young Harris College student was indicted for allegedly making false statements to the Georgia Bureau of Investi-

gation during a rape investigation. The GBI determined that Marie Amber Renee Wallace of Lindale, falsely accused a young man of rape, according to her one-page indictment.

Justin Alan O'Shields, 22, of Toccoa, was indicted on three counts of burglary, his three count indictment shows.

See Indictments, page 11A

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