

Towns County Herald

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Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thu: T-Storms	68 45
Fri: Clouds	60 37
Sat: Sunny	64 40
Sun: Clouds	68 45
Mon: Clouds	72 51
Tues: Clouds	71 48
Wed: Clouds	75 51



Upstream Elevation Predicted 04/10/13	
Lake Chatuge	1921.78
Lake Nottely	1769.14
Blue Ridge	1683.72

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Sports

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Sheriff's Forum with Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton

April 23 • 6 p.m.
Dinner available at 5:15 p.m.
Brasstown Community Center
255 Settawig Road
Brasstown, NC

Sheriff's Forum with Cherokee Co. Sheriff Lovin, Clay Co. Sheriff Davis and Towns County Sheriff Clinton. Focus will be on the role of county sheriff, specifically as it relates to the US Constitution and the Second Amendment. Special guest Shot Gun Granny Sue Johnson! Come find out where your sheriff stands! Everyone Invited! For additional information, www.912murphync.com



HGC Plant Fair

Hiawassee Garden Club Annual Plant Sale
April 13
8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
on the town square
Choose plants from at least 10 local vendors and club members. Delightful home made baked goods will be available for sale. Don't miss the fun and fellowship.

Free Food Distribution

Tues., April 16 • 2-6 p.m.
Towns County Food Pantry



Towns Co. Baseball
Thurs., April 11 • 5 p.m. vs. Providence
Fri., April 12 • 5 p.m. vs. George Walton

Grapplers have Disney on their minds

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
libby.tcherald@windstream.net

Towns County Wrestling Coach Jeff Stowers is pumped and with good reason.

The Indians' High School and Middle School grapplers, grades 7-12, have received quite the honor as they have been invited to compete in the KSA Event Classic Wrestling Tournament at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at Disney World in Orlando, Fla. Dec. 18th-22nd.

"I am really excited about our opportunity to wrestle at Disney next Christmas," Coach Stowers said. "It will be a chance for our kids to see competition from all over the country. It is also a chance for some kids that might not ever get the chance to go to Disney to get to see something magical."

This is the first time this invitation has been extended and the Towns County wrestling team is really excited, said Angie Collier, mother of sophomore wrestler Aaron



The Towns County Indians' wrestling team is working its way to Disney. Photo/Libby Shook

Collier. "We are committed to raising the money so they can make the trip," Angie Collier said. "We don't want anyone left out because of money. The cost will be approximately \$700 per wrestler."

They have their work cut out for them, but they are off to a good start as they were busy washing cars, motorcycles, and RVs Saturday and Sunday, April 6th and 7th, at

See *Disney*, page 12

There's a new grocer in town, Save A Lot

By Libby Shook
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The new Save A Lot opened their doors in Hiawassee on Wednesday, April 3rd to the delight of many Towns County residents who are happy to see that they have gone 'green', Doug Green that is.

Green is the store manager for the new store and he is extremely happy to be back in Hiawassee doing what he loves to do, providing quality customer service to the folks of Towns County.

Save A Lot is owned by the previous owners of the former Dills Grocery Store, brothers Stan and Tracy Dilworth.

Managing a store is not new to Green as he managed the Ingles Store in Hiawassee and worked for them for 22 years. Most recently, he man-



Customers have been lining up at the checkout counters at the new Save A Lot in Downtown Hiawassee. Photo/Libby Shook

aged the Dollar General Store in the Ivy Log section of Union County for approximately 18 months.

"Everything has gone great. We've had a huge turnout and I really appreciate

the heartfelt response of the community and their support. They come in and tell me how glad they are to see me back in town and that they are glad

See *Easter*, page 12

See the light, watch for pedestrians

By Libby Shook
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Young Harris - Mayor Andrea Gibby was excited to announce to the City Council and all visitors present for the April 2nd Council Meeting that the city would finally be getting their crosswalk lights.

"This is something we've needed for a long time, especially with college students and professors having to cross the streets several times each day," said Gibby. "It's a matter of safety for them." "We just want to get the word out and make drivers aware that the lights are there, so they know to watch for them," said Gibby.

This is a project that the City Council has had in the works since the Spring of 2012.

With many mitigating

See *Crosswalk*, page 12



Mark Zinn and Eric Richards install the new crosswalk beacons across from Young Harris College. It's an attempt to save lives. Photo/Libby Shook

Towns HOSA students honored

By Libby Shook
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Towns County High School has once again earned bragging rights thanks to Towns County High School HOSA President Hayle Lovelady with her second place win at the HOSA State Leadership Conference held March 7th-9th in Athens.

With no first place winners from Georgia, Lovelady now holds the esteemed honor of being nationally recognized as the top-ranked Georgia HOSA member.

This is impressive considering that Georgia currently has more than 200 Statewide HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) Chapters and almost 12,000 members. "Yep, I'm the girl to beat this year at nationals," said Lovelady.

Suzanne Crews, HOSA Advisor and Health Occupations Teacher, accompanied the students to the competition.

Lovelady was not alone in bringing home medals from



HOSA Award winners were celebrated at the Chop House in Hiawassee. Photo/Libby Shook

the State Leadership Conference. Twelve Towns County HOSA students were recognized and honored at the Towns County HOSA 'Future Health Professionals' Awards Ceremony and reception held at The Chop House of Hiawassee on Tuesday, April 2nd.

Each student received a plaque or trophy for bringing home a win.

The students honored included Devin Wheeler, son of Darren and Lisa Sutton; Lane Kimsey, son of Pat and Teresa Kimsey; Zane Boyd, son of Gene and Susan Boyd; Reed Moss, son of Judy and Rick Moss; Katelyn Patterson, daughter of Lisa Winkler; Emma Jackson, daughter of Barbara and James Crisp; Sa-

See *HOSA* page 12

Chris Young says he's ready to play The Hall

By Libby Shook
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RCA recording artist Chris Young will be performing for his many fans at Anderson Music Hall on Friday, April 12th and there are still tickets available.

If you haven't had the opportunity to hear this energetic and very talented young performer, you will definitely want to get up out of that recliner and make your way to the show.

FYI ladies, Young says "no, I am not married." Bring that glass slipper and head to The Hall.

"After just coming off the road and touring in Ireland, the UK, and Australia, it's just good to be back in the country," said Young. "We really like to have fun on stage and we're looking forward to being in Hiawassee."

"I knew when I was just a kid that singing was what I wanted to do," Young said. "It's just who I am and what I was meant to do."

"To be able to do something that you love is just wonderful and to have been able to stick around this long and be with RCA for these past eight years is even more amazing," he said. "I am blessed."



Chris Young

Young encourages young people to find their passion and just be persistent in following it. He says the key to making that dream come true is just working at it constantly.

"I was lucky to have a mom and dad who encouraged me and were supportive of anything I was passionate about including my desire to be a singer," said Young. "Music is why I'm here and it's something I can't live without."

"It's what I'm built to do," he said.

Young believes that all things happen in their due time and he is confident that his time is now. With the release of his

See *Young*, page 12

Kendall challenges Friends of Library

Friends to match Commissioner's Challenge Grant

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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On Wednesday, April 3rd, Commissioner Bill Kendall made his annual presentation of the Commissioner's Challenge Grant to the Libraries of Towns County in the amount of \$5,000.

The Friends of the Library will be matching that grant.

Kendall chose this time to present the grant as the annual celebration of National Library Week is coming up April 14th-21st.

The theme for this year is Communities Matter @ Your Library and this is a time when emphasis is placed on the value of libraries, librarians, and

library workers.

"I started this in 2011 as an incentive to get others involved in contributing and making donations to the libraries," Kendall said. "We match contributions made by Friends of the Library of Towns County dollar for dollar up to \$5,000 each year."

Donna Howell, President of the Mountain Regional Library System, said the Library thanks Commissioner Kendall for his generous support of our local libraries.

"These funds are used by the libraries of Towns County, the Towns County Public Library in Hiawassee and the Mountain Regional Library in

See *Grant*, page 12



Commissioner Bill Kendall presents a \$5,000 Challenge grant to the Friends of the Library Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Steve Holmes still going strong at 90

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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Easter Sunday, March 31st, was a great day for Towns County icon Steve Holmes as he celebrated his 90th birthday at Friendship Baptist Church with family, friends, and hundreds of community members.

They dropped in to wish him well, enjoy some delicious birthday cake, and reminisce about the 'good old days.'

Holmes was having a great time with all the attention he was getting, but he was eager to sit down and have a piece of birthday cake.

It's difficult being the 'man of the hour,' because that means you have to have your picture made with everyone in the family, and with four generations of family represented plus all their family and extended family.

It can be quite time consuming.

Holmes has been an integral part of the history of Towns County for many years and is loved by all who know him.



The birthday boy, Steve Holmes celebrates No. 90. Photo/Libby Shook

He has lived in the Friendship Community for well over 60 years.

He is a deacon of the Friendship Baptist Church and current President of the Friendship Community Club as well as Past President and one of the

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TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

