

Towns County Herald

Legal Organ of Towns County

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Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Sunny	89 62
Fri: Sunny	89 64
Sat: Storms	86 64
Sun: Clouds	86 65
Mon: Storms	86 63
Tue: Rain	88 63
Wed: Rain	88 63



Upstream Elevation Predicted 08/01/12	
Lake Chatuge	1923.25
Lake Nottely	1772.01
Blue Ridge	1672.70

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Sports Page 8A

Cruise-In

The Third Annual Mountain Moonshine Cruise-In Classic Car Show is just around the corner.

The event that attracts thousands to Towns County is scheduled for Aug. 9-11 at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds.

The annual kickoff event is scheduled once again at the Ridges Resort on Aug. 9 in the afternoon.

Call Towns County Tourism Executive Director Jane Holland for more details. The number to call is (706) 896-4966.

Head Start

Towns County Pre-K Program will begin classes on Monday, Aug. 13th.

Pre-K Parent Orientation will be Thursday, Aug. 9th in the Towns County Elementary School Cafeteria at 4 p.m.

Towns County Head Start Program's first day of class begins on Thursday, Aug. 16th in the Towns County Elementary School Cafeteria at 4 p.m.

Bingo

The Northeast Georgia Board of Realtors Family Bingo night that was scheduled for Aug. 3 at Stephens Masonic Lodge in Young Harris has been canceled until further notice. Thank you!

Cookbooks

Chatuge Regional Nursing Home has collected the best recipes from group members, family and friends and compiled them into attractive keepsake cookbooks that makes a perfect gift.

The books are selling for \$12.50 each. For more details on how to get a cookbook, call Tabitha Crawford or Rita Bradshaw at (706) 896-2231.

FFA Car Wash

It's that time of year again. The Towns County Future Farmers of America will host an All-American Car Wash on Aug. 11th.

The Car Wash will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Towns County High School. Please come out for a clean, All-American start to your weekend and support your local FFA.

Towns voters shoot down T-SPLOST

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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Towns County voters said no to the 1-cent regional transportation sales tax, returned Donna Hedden and Bob Gibby to Towns County's Board of Education and supported Doug Collins in the 9th District Congressional race.

Towns voters killed the T-SPLOST with a vote of 2,417 or 89.58 percent to 281, or 10.42 percent during Tuesday's Primary Election.

The turnout was 37.07 percent, with 2,722 registered voters casting ballots.

No one has spoken louder, more vehemently, and more frequently against the proposed 1-cent regional tax increase than Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall.

"Towns County citizens have spoken loud and clear by defeating the T-SPLOST tax by a resounding 90 percent NO vote against this legislative abomination," Commissioner Kendall said. "I am very happy



More than 2,700 Towns County voters turned out to cast ballots in the July 31st Primary. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

for them and extend my thanks for joining in this fight to defeat this unjust tax.

"It has been a long and tiring fight since I cast that only 'no' vote at the T-SPLOST Roundtable asking them to not put this ill conceived tax burden upon our citizens," he said. "At the time of the Roundtable vote, chances looked very bleak of

defeating the power structure and the millions of dollars of special interest money trying to thrust this unfair tax upon our unsuspecting citizens.

"Our proud and independent thinking mountain folks, along with our like-minded new residents, came together

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Authorities seize drugs, paraphernalia and cash

By Charles Duncan
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Towns County sheriff's deputies and members of the Appalachian Drug Task Force and a Georgia Probation Officer have arrested a 38-year-old Hiwassee man on drug charges, sheriff's reports show.

The bust went down last Thursday as authorities followed up on an ongoing drug investigation, based on information gathered by Towns County Sheriff's detectives.

A Fourth Amendment waiver search was conducted on a probationer at a residence off Highway 75 South in Towns County. Two agents from the Appalachian Drug Task Force (ADTF), deputies and investigators with Towns County Sheriff's Office and a Georgia Probation Officer, conducted the investigation and arrested James Michael Dickert on multiple charges.



James Dickert

Sheriff's detectives described the scene as an apparent business set up.

At the scene was an office, a desk, money box and a product to be sold, sheriff's reports show.

Seized were bags containing suspected methamphetamine packaged for sale, as well as a larger bag with the same substance, sheriff's reports show.

A pipe ready for use containing suspected metham-

See Bust, page 12A

Lindsey crowned Miss Georgia Mountain Fair

By Libby Shook
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Monday night, July 23rd, Towns County witnessed the beginning of a new reigning era as Breann Lindsey proudly claimed the crown and title of Miss Georgia Mountain Fair 2012. Lindsey, as well as the other eight lovely contestants, demonstrated great poise, grace, beauty, and intellect.

She willingly accepted the crown that was previously worn by Jessie Carballo, Miss Georgia Mountain Fair 2011.

Carballo graciously relinquished the crown and placed it on Lindsey's head. There were tears and smiles on the faces of both beautiful Queens as the proverbial torch was passed.

As the reigning 2012 Miss Georgia Mountain Fair, Lindsey will participate in parades, civic meetings, and special events organized by the GMF throughout her reign.

She will also represent the GMF and the Towns County Lions Club in the Miss Georgia Fairs State Pageant at the State Agricultural Convention.

Lindsey is a 2012 graduate of Pepperell High School and calls Cedartown, Georgia home.

She will be attending Young Harris College in the fall studying Early Childhood Education.



Cedartown's Breann Lindsey is crowned Miss Georgia Mountain Fair 2012 at Anderson Music Hall. Lindsey is attending Young Harris College and is a competition cheerleader. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Lindsey is involved in many volunteer activities including Give a Kid a Chance and Relay for Life.

She is a current member of the first ever Competition Cheerleading Team at YHC.

Lindsey received \$200 for the competition as well as a Fossil watch from The Loft in Hiwassee.

"I have to say that the Georgia Mountain Fair has rightfully earned its name as 'Georgia's Most Unique Fair,'" Lindsey said. "Not only is it somewhere to learn the history

and heritage of Towns County, but it is a place to meet the genuine people that truly care about Towns County and are passionate about sharing the history of the Fair.

"I never would have imagined that I would have the chance to be a part of something that is so much more than just a Fair," she said. "I feel like I am a part of a family. I am so honored to hold the title of Miss Georgia Mountain Fair 2012, and I can not thank everyone

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Fair experiences 'running of the pigs'

By Joe Collins
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The Running of the Pigs is quickly becoming a tradition at the Georgia Mountain Fair.

Robinson's Racing Pigs and The Paddling Porkers took center stage to entertain the racing fans attending the Fair over the weekend.

It may not have been the Daytona 500, but these little pigs ran their hearts out for the grand prize of an Oreo cookie.

Dale "Oinkhart Jr." and Jeff "Gorham" were snout to snout for the first three turns until Gorham took the outside line and captured the red and white-checkered flag.

Michael "Wallertrip" was third, followed by Ryan "Newham," who had a little trouble with debris on the track.

The Paddling Porkers were next and this time it was the ladies turn to get in on the action.

Things started a little slow as there was a four-pig pileup in turn one. Officials got things cleared up and the green flag was out as the porkers rounded turn two and headed toward the water.

The ramp was slow this year due to the hot weather and the footing was unstable.

Lindsay "Slowham" reached the top of the ramp first but Brittany "Spare Ribs" hit the water before the other racers could gather their hold on the overheated ramp.

Christina "Hogulara" was determined to win this race but just couldn't pull away from Hillary "Rodham" Clinton as they entered the water with a liberal splash.



Lindsay "Slowham" takes the lead and later, the checkered flag as Robinson's Racing Pigs delight the crowds at the Fair. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

As the porkers left the water, it was "Spare Ribs" leading by a snout, but with proper drafting behind "Hogulara," a determined "Slowham" was able to catch an inside line and sizzle her way to a victory.

The fans squealed with delight as "Slowham" paraded around the track with the checkered flag in her mouth.

When asked what the pivotal point in the race was, "Slowham" grunted that she was able to catch some good air behind "Hogulara's" big rump and the inside line was hotter than a frying pan on Saturday morning.

Obviously, the other racers were hampered by the bad footing.

Rest easy race fans because these racing beauties are not meant for the breakfast

table. The only side of a placemat they see is the underside of the racing banners across their backs that show their numbers.

"They let us know when it is time to quit racing and we retire them to our farm in Florida," said owner Sharon Ross.

Robinson's Racing Pigs and The Paddling Porkers are owned by Randy and Sharon Ross from Fort White, FL.

They have been in the business since 1985 when the first pig race was designed for the Florida State Fair.

At the conclusion of that Fair, they had 12 bookings for the little inkers and they have never looked back.

They now run five different operations in the United

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Clinton selected VP of GSA Region 3

By Libby Shook
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Towns County Sheriff Chris Clinton was unanimously elected to the position of vice president of the Georgia Sheriffs' Association for Region 3.

He replaces Hall County Sheriff Steve Cronic, who is retiring at the end of his present term in office. Cronic has served as the Association's Vice President of Region 3 for several years.

As vice president of Region 3, Sheriff Clinton will serve as a voting member of the Georgia Sheriffs' Association's Board of Directors and will represent the other 21 sheriffs of the region on matters related to crime control, public safety, and the Office of Sheriff.

Sheriff Clinton has served on the association's Training and Standards Committee since 2008 and expects to continue in that important capacity.

During the Association's meeting, White County Sheriff Neal Walden spoke of Sheriff Clinton's dedication to the safety of the citizens of Towns County and his commitment to the Office of Sheriff.

"I am humbled and honored by this vote of confidence



Sheriff Chris Clinton

by the sheriffs of Georgia, and am pleased to have this opportunity to serve," Sheriff Clinton said. "I am committed to furthering the continued cooperation among the sheriffs' offices of Region 3, as well as statewide, as we share common concerns about the issues affecting the safety and well-being of our citizens."

The Georgia Sheriff's Association was established in 1954 to better enhance the safety of the citizens of Georgia and to professionalize the Office of Sheriff through training, participation in the legislative process, and the implementation of crime awareness and prevention initiatives.

It is the professional or-

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Contractors learn bidding process for new park

By Libby Shook
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Friday morning approximately 50 local construction workers and suppliers, some affiliated with a business and some independent contractors, attended a special called Commissioner's Meeting held at the Towns County Courthouse Courtroom.

They were there to learn more about the sub-contract work being offered to 'locals' for the new recreation center that will be constructed on Mining Gap Road.

Each interested individual received an application to complete and submit in which they had the opportunity to describe their particular area of expertise as well as all work related experience.

Commissioner Bill Kendall previously announced that his office is encouraging the use of local sub-contractors and suppliers to construct the 26,000 square foot Foster Memorial Park Recreational and Community Center.

Kendall and the R.W. Allen Construction Services Company scheduled the meeting to discuss the bidding process and give information to interested local bidders.

Kendall welcomed the interested participants and opened the floor for each person to introduce themselves, and disclose what company, if any, they represented.

"As we go along, if there's any particular area of interest you are wanting to bid



Commissioner Bill Kendall

on, feel free to ask questions," said Kendall.

Representatives of R.W. Allen were present to familiarize and educate those present on what is required for the bidding process.

Senior Project Administrator Tommy Goodyear, Project Manager Mark Day, and Project Estimator Drew Wren addressed the audience.

"I'm glad to see all of ya'll. This is a great turnout. Our goal is to get as many local sub-contractors and suppliers as we can involved in this project. It sounds like we've got a good representation of various needed skills, stone masonry, steel erectors, drywall, door installers, wood workers, plumb-

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