

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thu: Sun	59 29
Fri: Clouds	60 37
Sat: Clouds	61 40
Sun: Clouds	66 37
Mon: Clouds	62 37
Tue: Clouds	59 37
Wed: Clouds	59 34



Upstream Elevation Predicted 11/28/12	
Lake Chatuge	1916.70
Lake Nottely	1759.54
Blue Ridge	1671.73

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Free Food Distribution



Tuesday, December 4
2 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Towns County Food Pantry

Towns County Tourism Association



Annual Meeting
December 4 • 6:30 p.m.
The Ridges Resort & Marina
in The Oaks Restaurant
Contact Jane Holland with
any questions: 706-896-4966

Towns County Historical Society Annual Christmas Party



Reminder to Members:
Mon., Dec. 10 • 5:30 p.m.
Senior Center across from
the Courthouse
Bring Finger Food &
Enjoy the Fellowship
Anyone wishing to become
a member is welcome,
membership is \$15/year.

City of Young Harris Annual Christmas Tree Lighting



Friday, December 7
6 p.m.
Young Harris Mayor's Park
Located at 51 Irene Berry Dr.

Santa Claus comes to Towns

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

The Christmas Season is officially underway in Hiawassee.

The holiday season's true signal, the Towns County Sheriff's Annual Empty Stocking Christmas Parade, went on without a hitch, in spite of frigid temperatures and a blustery wind.

More than 30 decorated floats lined up at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds at 4 p.m. in anticipation of the event. Judging of the floats took place at 5 p.m., and the parade began its familiar route into Downtown Hiawassee at 5:30 p.m.

Bottom line, this event was all about the kids. The entry fee to this parade is an unwrapped Christmas present to fill the wish lists of those who will receive gifts via the Empty Stocking Fund.

"We're feeling pretty good about meeting the wish

See *Parade*, page 11A



That Jolly Ole Elf was as healthy as ever on Saturday.

Lions Club making a holiday difference

Annual auction meets the Christmas needs of many local children

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

It's all about the children for the Towns County Lions Club as they held their annual Give-A-Christmas Auction last week at Anderson Music Hall with all proceeds going to the Give-A-Christmas Program.

Lion Jack Anderson served as auctioneer and there is just no saying 'no' to him as he jokes, coerces, and charms his way into getting the best price for the auctioned items.

He was assisted by Lion Hilda Thomason and President Julie Payne.

Everyone opened their hearts and their wallets for this fun and worthwhile event.

The total raised at the Give-A-Christmas Auction was approximately \$4,500.

"Thank you to all the members and guests who graciously gave money at the annual Give-A-Christmas Auction," Payne said. "Thank you to all the individuals and businesses who donated items and gift certificates. The Towns County Lions Club appreciates the support of local businesses and the community for this yearly event."



One by one, the Lions Club auctioned off items donated from the local business community to support its Give-A-Christmas campaign. Photo/Libby Shook

"Anyone interested in donating toys (unwrapped) or gently used stuffed animals, please bring them to the Georgia Mountain Fair office during business hours," said Payne.

The Towns County

Lions Club and Leo Club will be collecting donations through Dec. 12th. The targeted age groups are children between the ages of 5

See *Lions*, page 11A

Oak Ridge Boys headed to The Hall

By Libby Shook
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The legendary Oak Ridge Boys will be kicking off the holiday season with their celebrated *Christmas Time's A-Coming Tour* as they are bringing their 23rd Annual Holiday Christmas Tour to the Anderson Music Hall on Saturday.

They have played to packed out houses across America since the inception of their 2012 Christmas Tour which has taken them to 16 states and 19 cities beginning in mid-November and continuing through Dec. 22nd.

"The Oak Ridge Boys love Christmas music. For us, Christmas is about family, home, singing, happiness, love, kids, and gifts. But, the main thing Christmas is about is the birth of Jesus Christ," said lead singer Duane Allen.

"So although we love singing the fun songs, the



The Oak Ridge Boys are coming to town on Saturday.

spiritual songs about the birth of Jesus Christ are very real for the Oak Ridge Boys," said Allen.

According to promoter Sandy Brokaw, "The two-hour extravaganza features a mixture of traditional and contemporary

songs, including religious, romantic, and fun holiday tunes, as well as the group's classic Country-Pop hits like *Elvira*, *Bobbie Sue*, and *Thank God for Kids*."

The full production show
See *The Boys*, page 11A

Community Day at National Title Pawn

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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National Title Pawn held a Community Day recently to show their appreciation to their many customers and friends.

This was quite an event as they had a spectacular set up.

If you were driving through Hiawassee on Nov. 10th, you couldn't help but notice that Shrek, the Teletubbies, Po and Laa-Laa, Spiderman, a dalmation, and other popular animated favorites were scattered around the town with signs welcoming folks to the

See *Community* page 11A



Nov. 10th was Community Day at National Title Pawn.

Ninth-ranked Indians host King of the Mountain

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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The Towns County Indians wrestling team is charting new waters.

The Indians are the pre-season No. 9 team in the Class A wrestling polls.

On Friday, a record 24 teams will arrive in Hiawassee to try and stake claim to the

title of the Indians' King of the Mountain tournament.

"Of course we're excited," Indians Head Coach Jeff Stowers said. "We feel really good about our team, and it looks like we're getting noticed a little."

Noticed is an understatement. For the first time in school history, the Indians have realized a state ranking in the wrestling

See *KOM*, page 11A



Indians Head Coach Jeff Stowers opens the 2011 KOM

Locals remember the Barefoot Community

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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The Towns County Historical Society met on Tuesday, Nov. 12th, with guest speakers Dan Simpson and Dion Eller speaking on the Barefoot Community in the Upper High Tower section of Towns County.

As this was the official recognized Veteran's Day, it seemed only appropriate to recognize the Veterans at the meeting.

Two veterans were recognized, Treasurer and guest speaker Dan Simpson and Vice-President/Program Coordinator Leeann Shook Wildman.

Both are retired U.S. Air Force and were applauded for their service to this great country.

Simpson bought a lot on Barefoot Road in Nov. 2001. He retired from the Air Force in Jan. 2005 and moved to Towns County as a full-time resident in August 2005. He built a home on his lot in the Barefoot Community and moved in January 2006.

Eller is a retired Towns County school teacher and legendary basketball coach.

He owns a farm in the

Hightower Community. He enjoys farming and said he "has about 35 cows."

Simpson and Eller are to be commended for the collaborative effort they put into planning this presentation and sharing their combined knowledge of the Barefoot Community.

The had maps of the Barefoot Community for everyone present.

The maps were labeled and they went over it to familiarize the group with the community as they discussed it in great detail.

Members and guests were very interactive as they asked questions and shared information about the Barefoot Community and the Upper High Tower Community.

Eller and Simpson had a Powerpoint presentation showing pictures of some of the old places in the community including the old water ground corn mill run by Sanford Berrong, the old home-place of Dee Berrong built in 1925, an old blacksmith shop, and an old sharecropper's house.

According to Simpson,

See *Barefoot*, page 11A



Dan Simpson (standing) and Dion Eller talk about the Barefoot Community at the Historical Society meeting.

Art show a hit at Resort

By Libby Shook
Towns County Herald
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Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris was the setting for the Fourth Annual Holiday Juried Arts and Crafts Show, Nov. 23rd through Nov. 25th, courtesy of Robin Roberts Promotions.

This three day event brought folks from all over the Southeast to show their unique art and craftsmanship with over 65 Juried Artist and Crafters participating.

The Resort was decked out beautifully with Christmas trees, wreaths, and lights that created the perfect setting for the spectacular displays. The visitors came out in large numbers to enjoy the picture-perfect decorations and peruse the many tables lining several halls and spilling over into the ball room set up for the event.

According to Mary Lennick of Young Harris, "literally

thousands of folks have walked through here today. It's been a good first day for everybody."

"Some folks are saying they have sold so much, they're not sure they have enough for a three-day show," said Lennick.

This was the perfect time to do a little holiday shopping and there were so many items to choose from that you could not possibly walk away without a purchase to give as a gift or just to add to your own home décor.

Whatever your taste, there was something for everyone. On display were alpaca scarves and hats, silk scarves, metal birdhouses, wooden birdhouses, hand-crafted children's toys, jewelry of all types, wooden bowls,

See *Show* page 11A

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

