# Schools open...continued from page 1A

"We always expect big things from our students," he said. "This is a good group of seniors and we look forward to see what they end up accomplishing. I know they all have goals that they want to achieve."

Roy Perren, principal of Towns County High School was excited to be back in the halls for another exciting school year.

"We're looking forward to getting the kids off to a real good start this

year," Perren said. "It's exciting every time you get a lucky to have Mark on new group of seniors. It's always something to watch years in high school. It's exciting to see them finally reach that point where they're getting ready to graduate."

One new face is on board. Dr. Mark Stallings, a us for a while working with two-time Teacher of the Year in Gilmer County, who retired in the area, will teach science part-time, Dr. big things from that group Behrens said.

"We're extremely board," he said.

Also, Daniel Isaacs them mature during their four has stepped into the shoes vacated when Towns County Marching Band Director Frank McKinney retired last year.

> 'Daniel has been with Frank," Dr. Behrens said. "He knows are band and our talent and we are expecting this year."

## BOE holds line...continued from page 1A

flat statewide economy.

Dr. Behrens made sure that continued shortfall of revenues, increased financial burdens imposed by state cutbacks, increased Local Fair Share obligations and mandated salary requirements won't impact the upcoming millage rate set by Board of Education members.

To accommodate the schools system's needs without raising the millage rate from 4.784 mills, Dr. Behrens has kept a tight band around the proposed 2010-2011 budget.

increase," Dr. Behrens said. "That's where we are at this point and we're excited that we won't need a millage rate increase.

"Of course this is tentative; we'll have to advertise the tax digest," he said. "This is a tentative approval of the proposed budget and millage rate. The final approval won't come until next month."

Things aren't looking any better for education statewide.

According to Jeannie "Sis" Henry, executive director of the Georgia School "We don't need a tax Boards Association, state

lawmakers have cut education funding by \$4.5 billion since 2002.

These cuts, called austerity reductions, have basically left local school boards faced with picking up the slack for mandated sick leave for teachers and other 10-month employees as well as textbooks, maintenance and operation of school buildings and transportation.

The true cost of operating schools is much greater than what the state funds and local taxpayers continue to pick up the tab

# Three charged in drug sting

Special to Towns County Herald

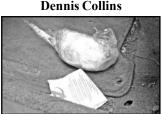
Cooperation between the Towns County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) and Appalachian Drug Task Force (ADTF) resulted in drug arrests in two separate cases in Towns County recently.

On July 21, agents from both offices made a felony drug arrest for the distribution of Marijuana. Lori Dawn Palmer, 39, of Hayesville, allegedly sold a quantity of marijuana from inside a local business in Hiawassee.

July 26, TCSO and ADTF investigators made two felony drug arrests which originated from an anonymous tip. Dennis Lloyd and Anthony Wayne seized. Debord, 35, Mount Orab,



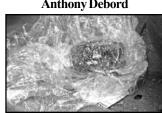
**Dennis Collins** 



Ohio, were allegedly found to be in possession of a felony amount of marijuana that was packaged for distribution. A vehicle driven by Collins, 39, Hayesville the suspects was also at (706) 89-3697. All calls



**Anthony Debord** 



courage all citizens who have knowledge of illegal drug activity to call the Towns County Sheriff's Office Anonymous Tip Line are confidential, no caller is Investigators en- asked to leave their name.

## **Lake Chatuge Tour of Homes**

Board of Realtors in partnership with The Ridges Resort in Hiawassee proudly presents the 2010 Lake Chatuge Tour of Homes. The tour will take place Saturday, August 28 and Sunday, August 29. Tour the most beautiful homes on Lake able at the Ridges Resort in Chatuge by boat! The boat Hiawassee for tour guests. Ask leaves from the Ridges Resort for the Lake Tour special when

The Northeast Georgia PM and 5 PM. (Ask about the driving tour that's also avail-

able.)

Tickets are \$35 per person. Only 25 bout tour tickets sort 706-896-2262 or through available for each tour time. the Northeast Georgia Board Reservations required.

Special room rates availin Hiawassee, GA at 11 AM, 2 making your reservation.

Tickets may be purchased from the Towns County Chamber of Commerce 706-896-4966, the Ridges Reof Realtors at 706-781-3030.

#### Carolina Christian 2nd annual golf tournament

emy will be holding their 2nd annual golf tournament on Saturday, August 21, at The Ridges Golf Course. The tournament will begin at 8:30 AM with a shotgun start. Tourna- mulligans (1 per player), 50/50 ment highlights: Four-man contest, Closest to pin, Entry select shot, Hole-in one, Closest to the pin (on all par 3s), contest and lunch. T(Aug11,F2)SH

Carolina Christian Acad- Longest drive, Putting contest, Chipping contest, Door prizes. \$5000 in cash and prizes: 1st -\$1000, 2nd - \$500, 3rd - \$250.

Participant package: \$350 per team of 4 includes: 4 into the chipping and putting

### Food preservation and baking contest

ris, Georgia will be hosting its first ever Food Preservation and Baking Contest on August 28th, 2010. Ribbons will be awarded for first, second and third place in each category. Categories for canning includes jams and marmalades, jellies, preserves and butters, canned fruits and vegetables, sauces, pickles and relishes and dried foods. Baking categories include all cookies, breads, cakes and pies. Food preservation entries can be dropped off at City Hall on August 25 and 26 between 10 AM and 2 PM each day. Baked goods need to be dropped off on August 27th between 9 AM and noon. Judges for the event include Sid Kurrimbukus, Executive Chef at Brasstown Valley Resort and Spa, Robert Brewer of the Towns County Extension Office and Mickey Cummings of the Union County Extension Office. Winning a ribbon in either category will be quite the southern honor. All submissions will be displayed at the Young Harris Art Festival on August 28thand 29th between 10 AM and 5 PM each day. Entry Forms for submission can be picked up at the Union County Canning Plant, The Senior Citizens Center in Blairsville, the Towns County Extension Office in Hiawassee or City Hall in Young Harris, Georgia or by calling 706-897-6179 and requesting that the forms be sent to you. All of the food preservation entries will be returned unopened. The baking submissions must be tasted for judging. We are asking each of the entrants in baking to donate their baked

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item so that it can be sold af-

