

Towns County Herald

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Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Sunny	71	37
Fri: Sunny	73	39
Sat: Cloudy	73	46
Sun: Cloudy	74	49
Mon: Storms	73	48
Tue: Storms	74	50
Wed: Showers	72	47



Upstream Elevation Predicted 10/20/10	
Lake Chatuge	1919.90
Lake Nottely	1765.80
Blue Ridge	1628.80

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Be Strong Run Long

The Bradley Rogers Celebration begins Saturday, Oct. 30 on the Downtown Square in Hiwassee.

The event features a 5K Race, 10K Race, Corn-Hole competitions, music, kids games, barbecue and a softball tournament.

That's not all, the day's activities also include a silent auction, a cake walk, a bake sale and \$5 barbecue plates.

Fourteen-year-old Bradley Rogers was diagnosed with cancer in late 2009. Since then, he has undergone treatments, surgeries and physical therapy. Be Strong Run Long is a celebration of Bradley Rogers. Even though the cancer has returned, this brave young man still keeps a positive attitude and continues his studies at Towns County High School.

The corn-hole competition includes a \$20 per team entry fee to participate.

Come on out and celebrate one of the brightest young faces that Towns County has ever known, Bradley Rogers.

Proceeds from Be Strong Run Long will be given to Bradley for his continuing medical treatments. For more details on how to sign up for the event, or maybe, just to make a donation to the cause, please contact Lori McClure at lori.mcclure@hiwassee.com or Bonnie Carter at (706) 896-2243.



Food Pantry

The Towns County Food Pantry will hold its free food distribution on Tuesday, Oct. 19. The distribution will be held at the Towns County Food Pantry on Jack Dayton Circle from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. All that are in need of food assistance are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to pick up your food, please contact the Pantry at (706) 896-4783 prior to distribution day so that arrangements can be made to deliver your food. Clients' personal inquiries are kept confidential.

McDowell repeats as King

By James Reese
Towns County Herald
tcherald@windstream.net

Bryan McDowell has made Canton, NC proud – again.

The 17-year-old fiddler repeated on his 2009 performance as Georgia Mountain Fiddle King, edging out Hiwassee's own Don Fox. Competition began on Friday and saw McDowell repeat his dominance in the individual field events, taking top prize for mandolin, flat pick guitar and junior fiddle categories.

Fox, who claimed the senior fiddler prize, was destined for a fiddle-off with the top junior fiddler, McDowell.

When the dust settled close to midnight on Saturday, McDowell again was on cloud nine celebrating his second victory as Georgia

See Fiddle King, page 3A



Bryan McDowell, left, 17, of Canton, NC, repeated as the Georgia Mountain Fiddle King champion during the annual Georgia Mountain Fiddlers' Convention at Anderson Music Hall. Photo/James Reese

Loretta Lynn comes to Anderson Music Hall

Kenny Rogers' Nov. 28 Concert is canceled

By Charles Duncan
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The news coming from Anderson Music Hall on Monday amounts to the old adage, "good news, bad news."

First, the bad news: Kenny Rogers won't do a Christmas show here on Nov. 28. The reason, complications of practice time with the local high school chorus would have backed the show up to 8 p.m. on a Sunday night.

Sunday night shows just don't fill the seats at The Hall and Rogers' show was moved to Anderson, SC, according to Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds General Manager Hilda Thomason.

The one name that could top a Rogers' show at The Hall has agreed to a Nov. 20 performance in Hiwassee, Thomason said.



Loretta Lynn

That's the good news: Loretta Lynn, the Queen of Country Music, will appear at Anderson Music Hall on Nov. 20, Thomason said.

"It won't be a Christmas Show, but it'll be on a Saturday night at 7 p.m.," Thomason said. "We expect Loretta Lynn to be sold out."

Loretta Lynn, whose musical career began with

See Loretta Lynn, page 10A

Coffey, Bradshaw become Indian royalty

By James Reese
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Towns County High School has a new Homecoming King and Queen.

During Friday's Pep Rally at TCHS, it was revealed that senior Brett Bradshaw would wear the title of 2010 Homecoming King.

With much more pomp and circumstance, senior Carly Coffey was chosen from among a group of 10 beautiful TCHS students, to begin a one-year reign as Indians' Football Homecoming Queen.

Coffey was crowned by 2009 Homecoming Queen Amy Vardeman.

The choice of Coffey came at halftime of the Indians' matchup with the River Ridge Knights at Frank McClure Stadium.

Senior Ginny Rhoades

See Homecoming, page 5A



Carly Coffey and Brett Bradshaw were named TCHS 2010 Homecoming Queen and King on Friday. Below, Coffey and her 2010 Homecoming Court. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

Meier's gridiron days over

By James Reese
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For the past four years, the names Billy Meier and Towns County Indians have been synonymous.

Meier has been the face of a gritty Indians' gridiron squad. From day one in an Indian football uniform, Meier has played Ironman football. The senior is a noted and fierce defender, an exciting kick return specialist, and an aggressive offensive juggernaut.

On Friday, in the seventh game of the Indians' football season, Meier, playing the only way Billy Meier knows how to play, was injured either in the third or fourth quarters.

Meier can't pinpoint when his spleen was ruptured, but he can tell you he's a lucky young man. The heart and soul of the Towns County Indians football team almost died following the near lethal injury suffered in



Billy Meier

the Indians' 14-7 Homecoming win over River Ridge.

Meier, unaware that he was hurt, played the game in its entirety, coming off the field at the final horn, holding his side and eventually, throwing up during the game, an occurrence that isn't uncommon in sports play.

Finally, after the crowds had gone into the night, Meier had to head to the local emergency room

See Billy Meier, page 10A

Stars align for Fall Festival

By James Reese
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Throughout the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' entire Fall Festival event, one-by-one, musical acts took center stage at Anderson Music Hall.

Big names such as Crystal Gayle, Percy Sledge, Connie Smith, Marty Stuart, The Tams and The Quebe Sisters brought life to the stage at 'The Hall' during the week of arts, crafts, and the change in leaf color.

Crystal Gayle sang some of her biggest hits, including *Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue* and *Talking In Your Sleep*.

See Fall Festival, page 13A



Connie Smith delights the partisan Country Music crowd last week at Anderson Music Hall. Photo/James Reese

Courthouse becomes a campground

By Charles Duncan
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For the first time in recent memory, the campsites at Chatuge Woods were dealt out on a first-come, first serve basis on Saturday at the Towns County Courthouse.

The move by Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall opened the campground up to the public following years of renewals by seasonal campers.

On Friday, those same campers came and got in

See Campers, page 10A



Outdoor enthusiasts got in line on Friday in anticipation of regaining their favorite camping spot. Photo/Charles Duncan

Nobis pays visit to Indians

By James Reese
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Many consider Tommy Nobis the greatest linebacker the NFL has ever known.

One thing is for certain, he's the greatest linebacker in Atlanta Falcon history.

Mr. Falcon as he is known in the Falcons' Ring of Honor, came to town on Monday at the urging of his longtime friend Tom Phillips to talk with the Towns County Indians' football team.

The Monday afternoon meeting in the Indians' film room was informal. It allowed Nobis to let the Indians get to know him if they didn't already.

Nobis told the group that high school football is a lesson in life. It teaches young people to work through problems, solve them and move forward.

"Keep your eyes open as you go through this (football) program and you'll learn something that will help you carry on with your life," he said. "I had times in my life when I was going South, but I chose to go forward and it was because of what this game did for me."

As the Indians sat back in awe and amazement of the legendary linebacker, it didn't take them long to realize that there's a lot to know about Nobis.

In 1965, he was the Outland Trophy winner as the nation's top interior lineman, and the Maxwell



Falcon great Tommy Nobis

Award winner, as the nation's top football player, while a senior at the University of Texas, where he won a national championship. He also finished seventh in the Heisman Trophy voting behind USC great, Mike Garrett.

In 1966, he became the first player selected in the NFL draft and the first player ever drafted by the then expansion Atlanta Falcons.

He was named the 1966 NFL Rookie of the Year and led the NFL in tackles with 294, a record that still stands today. He's a five-time Pro Bowl selection, a member of the 1960s All Decade Team and the only player in Falcons' history to ever wear No. 60.

To date, the only

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