

# Towns County Herald

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## Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thu: Rain	43 40
Fri: Rain	58 36
Sat: Clouds	66 42
Sun: Clouds	68 45
Mon: Sunny	71 50
Tue: Clouds	70 51
Wed: Clouds	70 51



Upstream Elevation Predicted 04/03/13	
Lake Chatuge	1921.25
Lake Nottely	1768.30
Blue Ridge	1682.89

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## Sports Page 6

### 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.

### Are you at risk?

The Bradford Club at Brasstown Manor and Emory Healthcare are pleased to present a free one hour seminar on preventing heart disease, knowing your risk factors and current cardiac testing.

Dr. Marc Veneziano, Cardiologist with Emory Healthcare, will be educating the public on how to manage and lower risk factors associated with heart disease and stroke on Tuesday, April 16, 11 a.m. Space is limited, so reserve your seat today by calling 706-896-4285.

Brasstown Manor is located at 108 Church Street in Hiawassee.

## TOWNS COUNTY Farmers Market

Towns County Farmers Market to begin 2nd year Opening in mid June No Vendor Fees See page 2

## Towns Co. Baseball

Wed., April 3 • 5 p.m. @ Athens Academy

Towns Co. Soccer Tues., April 2 • 4 p.m. @ Providence

Towns Co. Tennis Tues., April 2 • 4 p.m. vs. Athens Christian

## Warrior Hike comes to Towns

By Libby Shook  
Towns County Herald  
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The Warrior Hike came to Towns County Saturday, March 23rd.

Fourteen veterans from across the country were honored by Unicoi Detachment 783 as they came off the Appalachian Trail.

The veterans were picked up by a county bus, courtesy of Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall, and were transported to a local motel for a much needed shower, thaw out, and rest.

They were then treated to a meal at Daniel's Steakhouse courtesy the Marine Corps League.

The Warriors gathered and broke bread and shared stories of their war experiences with local veterans.

They've all fought the same fight and all felt the same loneliness and desolation of war.

They all served and fought with great courage and



Warrior Hikers enjoy a meal and conversation with local veterans at Daniel's Steakhouse. Photo/Libby Shook

are all participants in Warrior Hike which provides the opportunity for building friendships, trust, and camaraderie hiking the beautiful and tranquil Appalachian Trail.

The group, made up of veterans having served from four to 32 years in the military,

See *Tourney*, page 11

## Lions revving up for White Cane Days

By Libby Shook  
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The Towns County Lions Club are gearing up for White Cane Days.

The Lions have been an active participant in White Cane Day since its inception in 1940 and will continue in that commitment as they hold their annual White Cane Days on April 26th and 27th.

According to Lion Doug Canup, "Towns County generally raises close to \$3,500 every year and all funds go to support the Lighthouse Foundation."

Judith Kerr of the Georgia Lion's Lighthouse Foundation addressed club members on Tuesday, March 12th.

Kerr was there to update members on the current activities of the Lighthouse Foundation and talk about ways they can extend their services to local residents.

Kerr joined the Lighthouse Foundation through the AmeriCorps VISTA program in 2011 and stayed on as part of the vision clinic team.

She is working to expand services provision to underserved children statewide as well as increase the capacity of the Lighthouse's optical lab.

Kerr said, "The Lighthouse Foundation is made up

of a wonderful group of people who care about their community. It is a pleasure working alongside so many people dedicated to serving those in need."

The Georgia Lion's Lighthouse Foundation, founded in 1949, has served as a beacon of hope to many for more than 60 years.

Their services include vision screenings, vision clinics, eye surgeries, hearing services, and eyeglass recycling.

The reach of the Lighthouse extends statewide, and services have been provided in every county in Georgia.

The Lighthouse partners with 23 free clinics throughout the state. White Cane is an annual fundraiser to support Lighthouse's eye surgeries.

"The goal is \$120,000 statewide," said Kerr.

Mark your calendars and get out and support this effort on behalf of the Lighthouse Foundation and Georgia's needy children.

When you are out traveling during White Cane Days, drive a little slower, dig a little deeper, and feel that swell of pride as you contribute to a worthwhile cause that makes a tremendous difference in the life of a child and the Towns County community.

## Easter was a hop, skip and a jump for kids



Towns County youth make off in a mad dash for Easter Eggs and prizes at the annual Towns County Parks and Recreation Easter Egg Hunt at the Recreation Park. Photo/Libby Shook

By Libby Shook  
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Towns County Parks and Recreation Director Wes Hooper, Assistant Director Alan Rogers, and Joshua Carnes were out early Saturday morning, March 30th, rallying to assist the Easter Bunny in placing 2,600 plastic eggs on two Towns County Recreation Ball Fields.

Yes, once again Towns County Parks and Recreation hosted the Towns County Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the enjoyment of local kids between the ages of 4 and 9 years.

At exactly 10:30 a.m., the whistle blew and the kids were off and running. They had an egg-cellent time as about 150 kids swarmed the fields in search of the "Grand Prize Egg" and any other eggs they could fill their baskets with.

In just a short period of time, there wasn't an egg to be found.

"This makes about 26 years that we've been doing this and it's something we enjoy doing for the kids," said Hooper.

They provided two separate fields, one for kids aged 4-6 and one for the 7-9 year age range.

It makes the competition See *Easter*, page 11

## There's a new North Georgia Idol

By Libby Shook  
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It's official. North Georgia has a new idol.

Eighteen-year-old Caylin Walsingham of Lookout Mountain wowed the guests and the judges as she performed before a large crowd at the Lodge at Copperhead Saturday night.

She walked out on the stage like it was second nature to her and like she had been there all her life.

Along with the recognition and notoriety that comes with the honor of being chosen North Georgia Idol 2013, she also won a full production studio recording session, valued at more than \$5,000, compliments of this year's Sponsor, Sean Clyde of C & C Media of Young Harris.

Clyde is a two-time Grammy nominee and CSRA



Left to right, the North Georgia winners, Kaylee King, third place; Tatum Turner second place; and Caylin Walsingham, North Georgia Idol 2013. Hip Hop Award Winner.

He has produced some of the top talents in the world, including Michael Jackson, Alanis Morissette, Trisha Yearwood, and Garth Brooks.

See *Idol*, page 11

## There's no place like home

By Libby Shook  
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Spring has sprung and that is a cause for concern for the Humane Society's Mountain Shelter.

This is the time of year that animals start looking for mates and that includes the many dogs and cats in Towns and Union counties that have not been spayed or neutered.

That signals trouble with a capital 'T' for this private, non-profit charitable organization who depend on donations and fundraisers to keep them up and running.



It's time to spay and neuter your pets in Towns County if that's what they need. Photo/Libby Shook

## Art is in the air at Brasstown Valley



Jackie Su West shows off her artwork at Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris. Photo/Libby Shook

By Libby Shook  
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Mother Nature has quite a sense of humor and likes to show off when it suits her as was evidence at the Mountain Arts Association's 'Colors of Spring' Art Exhibition held at Brasstown Valley Resort.

With the temperatures in the mid-40s, she reminded us all that the calendar doesn't always signal spring time weather for the North Georgia Mountains.

Her antics did not keep the community from turning out in large numbers, however, for this spectacular display of artwork by some of the Southeast's most popular and talented artists.

Folks gathered downstairs for the art show featuring 24 area member artists with close to 60 pieces of art ranging from oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, charcoal, and photography hanging on every wall and lining the hallway.

Fine wines and hors d'oeuvres were served as guests and artists discussed the art work on display and artists exchanged ideas with fellow artists.

The artists were more than happy to discuss their craft and explain their art work to anyone willing to listen, as well they should as they had all definitely earned bragging rights with their craft.

Mountain Arts Association President Barbara Terrell was in charge of the exhibit and had her work represented as well with her oil paintings, *Lemon & Leek*, *Tomatoes II*, and *Green Cabbage*.

Terrell was quick to brag on the many talented artists participating in the Spring exhibit.

"We have some wonderful artists displaying their work here tonight and we've had a great turn out."

Local artist Jackie Su West of Hiawassee said, "I

joined the Mountain Arts Association in the winter of 2011 with only two paintings and one of them was sold before they even hung it up. The second one sold by the end of the season."

West has since been asked to serve on the Board of the Mountain Arts Association. "I have sold a total of 22 paintings and have had four commissioned works through referrals by friends or through the art exhibitions," said West.

She had two oil paintings hanging for this exhibit, *Sunrise* and *This Ole House*.

West is inspired by the natural beauty of the North Georgia Mountains and loves to recreate it in her art work.

Another local talent, Keith Burgess of Hiawassee, has been displaying his art work with the Mountain Arts Association for quite some time now.

*Colors of Spring* is his fifth exhibit with them and he really outdid himself for this particular show with his beautiful oil painting entitled *Pitcher with Phlox*.

He also had two additional oil paintings, *Pastoral Sunset* and *Orchard Light* that were crowd pleasers as well.

Burgess, an award winning artist working primarily in oil, has garnered numerous one-man gallery shows and commissions and his work is widely collected.

Bill Suttles of Blairsville, had two pastels on display, including *Crump Creek Road* and *Cove Road*. Suttles also works with oils and acrylics in his art as he captures landscapes and figurative work on canvas.

Amanda Fullerton has been a member of the Association.

See *Art*, page 11

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

