

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, April 16, 2014

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thu: Clouds	65 36
Fri: Rain	65 44
Sat: Clouds	73 42
Sun: Clouds	72 46
Mon: Storms	73 44
Tue: Rain	75 44
Wed: Clouds	77 46



Upstream Elevation Predicted	04/16/14
Lake Chatuge	1,922.84
Lake Nottely	1,771.14
Blue Ridge	1,682.71

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Local Improvement Plan meetings scheduled

Towns County Herald News Special

Towns County Elementary School and Towns County Middle School are Title I schools.

The school district gets additional funds from the federal government to be used at the Title I schools.

The government requires strict accountability on how these additional funds are used.

While the funds received for the Title I program make up a very small portion of overall funding for the school district, these funds are meaningful and allow the schools to have staff, equipment, resources and supplies that it otherwise would not have if it were not part of the Title I program.

As part of Towns County Schools participation in the Title I program the administration recently sent home parent surveys with elementary and middle school students.

The response of our par-



Roy Perren

ents to the survey was overwhelming as a very large percentage of the surveys were returned. Towns County Schools want you to know that it takes your input seriously.

Another component of the Title I program is that we must have a Comprehensive Local Improvement Plan for the schools participating in the Title I program. In addition to using information gained from the surveys, we want to invite our parents and community members to participate in the annual revision of this Com-

prehensive Local Improvement Plan. One of the things we gained from the recent surveys is there is no one best time for you all to meet. We will have two meetings on Monday, April 21; one in the daytime at 9:30 a.m. and one in the evening at 6 p.m.

The daytime meeting will be held in the middle/high school meeting room.

The evening meeting will be held in the auditorium.

Since Towns County Schools know your time is valuable, it will do its best to keep the meetings to about one hour.

That said, Towns County Schools truly values your input and look forward to meeting with you as it plans for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Roy Perren by phone at (706) 896-4131, ext. 1525, or by e-mail at: rperren@townscountyschools.org.

Towns County Schools look forward to seeing you on Monday, April 21.

SPLOST funds support vehicles for Fire & Rescue



SPLOST proceeds purchased these new vehicles for Towns County Fire & Rescue.

Towns County Herald News Special

Towns County's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax recently funded the replacement of three support vehicles in Fire & Rescue operations.

Proceeds from the voter-approved SPLOST were used to purchase two new Ford F-150 crew cab pickup trucks and a Ford Explorer Utility Vehicle.

The new trucks replaced two older Ford Ranger pickups and the utility vehicle replaced a 2002 Ford Crown Victoria.

"The Rangers served

us well, said Towns County Fire Chief Mitch Floyd, "but they were undersized for their mission."

"They were only capable of transporting two personnel and they were not safely suited for towing our Water Rescue/Recovery, Public Education, and boat trailers," Chief Floyd said.

The Crown Victoria was purchased used and had already seen service as a sheriff's patrol vehicle in a neighboring county, Chief Floyd said.

See Vehicles, Page 10

Easter Egg season is underway in Towns



Saturday was a big day for small children in Young Harris as Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church hosted its first Easter Egg Hunt. The festivities happened at Mayor's Park. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald Staff Writer

Young Harris - One down, two to go.

Easter Egg season is on in Towns County.

Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church hosted an Easter Egg Hunt at Mayor's Park in Young Harris on Saturday as children flocked to the Enchanted Valley to try their luck at Easter Egg hunting.

On Saturday, April 19, the recreation ball fields should be covered in young children as the Towns County Recreation Department hosts its annual Easter Egg Hunt. That event starts at 10 a.m.

Boys and girls ages 4

to 9 years old are invited to come out and hunt Easter Eggs. Entrance to the ball fields will be at the upper gate located near the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' Office. More than 2,500 eggs, including special prize eggs will be there for the taking.

The event is free.

At 2 p.m. on Easter Sunday, the Ridges Resort & Marina will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt on the grounds of The Oaks Restaurant. Children ages 12 and under are welcomed to come and take part in the Resort's annual Easter tradition. Two areas will be designated according to the age of the children.

There is a golden prize egg for each age group, a

coloring station, popcorn and lemonade, as well as Easter tattoos.

It's a family-friendly event.

Meanwhile, last weekend's egg hunt at Mayor's Park was a blast for many eager youngsters.

Anxious children waited with much anticipation for the organizers of the Sharp Memorial egg hunt to tell them it was time to fill their Easter baskets.

Trent Jones, a senior English Major at Young Harris College, is going to pursue a career in ministry after he graduates. He currently interns at Sharp Memorial United

See Easter, Page 10

Garden Club's Plant Affair on the Square a hit

By Mason Mitcham
Towns County Herald Staff Writer

Hiwassee Garden Club President Cheryl Gehring doesn't have grass in her lawn.

That's because the pathways and flowers she's cultivated don't allow room for the grass.

"It's a work in progress," she said. "I couldn't have a house without flowers." Gehring, a Minnesota native, has been gardening all her life. She learned from her mother.

Saturday morning found Gehring and the Hiwassee Garden Club hosting their annual Plant Affair on the Square fundraiser.

A dozen different kinds of flowers washed the Hiwassee Square in shades of indigo,

See Plant Affair, Page 10



Saturday's Plant Affair on the Square was a huge success for the Hiwassee Garden Club. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

TCSO makes two drug-related arrests

Towns County Herald News Special

Two Towns County men have been arrested and charged in separate drug-related cases, according to the Towns County Sheriff's Office.

First, a 47-year-old Hiwassee man, Terry Silvers, has been charged with conspiracy to commit a Violation of Georgia's Controlled Substance Act, use of communication facilities in the act, a felony, and reckless conduct.

The charges stem from an April 7 incident in which

Towns County sheriff's deputies responded to Chatuge Regional Hospital in reference to a possible drug overdose case, sheriff's reports show.

Upon arrival, investigators found that the victim, a male resident of Hiwassee, was being treated for complications related to an overdose of a controlled substance that was not prescribed to him.

Investigators then discovered that the victim had been in the presence of the Silvers throughout the day, and that Silvers had allegedly

offered the victim a quantity of methamphetamine earlier that day, sheriff's reports show.

Investigators made contact with Silvers, and confirmed that he had offered the victim methamphetamine. It was also found that the suspect allegedly injected the victim with a hypodermic syringe containing suspected methamphetamine, while the victim was incoherent, sheriff's reports show.

The needle reportedly

See Busts, Page 10

Kendall declares White Cane Safety Days



Towns County Lion Bob Ford and Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall as the latter proclaims White Cane Safety Days in Towns.

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
cduncan.tch@windstream.net

With Towns County Lion Bob Ford by his side, Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall issued a proclamation declaring April 25 and April 26 White Cane Safety Days in Towns County.

"The white cane is a significant tool for independence and a symbol of equal access and expanding opportunities for blind and visually impaired persons," Commissioner Kendall said. "Therefore, I do hereby proclaim Towns

County's support for the full involvement of blind and visually impaired residents in the social and economic life of Towns County."

The Towns County Lions Club have been an active participant in White Cane Safety Days since its inception and all money raised goes to the Georgia Lions' Lighthouse Foundation to help needy families in Towns County with a focus on school children in need of vision exams and eyeglasses.

During the current downturned economy, more

See White Cane, Page 10

Reece Center is now open for business

Towns County Herald News Special

The 2014 opening of the Byron Herbert Reece Farm and Heritage Center occurred on Thursday, April 3rd.

Again this year the days and hours of operation are Thursdays-Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., April through November.

On Thursdays there will be no charge for admission to the exhibits area, while on the other days a modest fee of \$3 per person 12 and older applies.

There is no charge for visiting the Welcome Center with its gift shop and museum area.

Small group tours and activities at the Farm are encouraged.

Please call the Center's number at (706) 745-2034 or send a message to reecesociety@gmail.com.

Changes have been made in the Center's rental policies. Check these out by going to the Reece Society website at www.byronherbertreesociety.org.

On the opening page, click on Weddings At The Farm, then click on Pavilion Rental Policies and Reece Farm Policies.



Byron Herbert Reece

A number of special events for this year are planned, and these will be publicized later in the local papers.

Also, 21 enthusiastic Reece Farm volunteers gathered in the Union County/Blairsville Community Center on Thursday, March 27, for a celebration preceding the beginning of the Reece Farm and Heritage Center's third year of operation.

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TOWNS COUNTY HERALD



SPORTS

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Easter Egg Hunt
TC Rec Dept
April 19th

See page 2

ENOTAH GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE
YOUNG HARRIS CITY HALL
APRIL 17

See page 3

Food Distribution
N. Mt. Zion Church
Thursday, April 17th
10 a.m. - Noon

See Page 6

Rabies Clinic
Mtn. Valley Feed in Hayesville

See page 2

BASEBALL:

Tues. Apr 15 @ George Walton

5 PM

Thurs. Apr 17 vs. Athens Christ.

5 PM

Fri. Apr 18 @ Athens Christian

5:55 PM

Mon. Apr 21 @ Prince Avenue

5 PM

SOCCER:

Tues. Apr 15 @ Hebron

5 PM

Thurs. Apr 17 @ Lakeview

5 PM

Mon. Apr 21 @ Union Co.

5 PM