

# Towns County Herald

Legal Organ of Towns County

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## Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Cloudy	85 64
Fri: Storms	85 63
Sat: Cloudy	87 64
Sun: Cloudy	90 65
Mon: Sunny	88 62
Tue: Sunny	85 61
Wed: Sunny	84 64



Upstream Elevation Predicted 06/20/12	
Lake Chatuge	1924.89
Lake Nottely	1773.81
Blue Ridge	1673.70

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## Meeting

The annual community meeting of the Towns County Homeowners will be held on Friday, June 29th, 6 p.m. with a BBQ dinner followed at 6:45 p.m. by the meeting at the Senior Center in Hiawassee. There will also be fried chicken, sides, and desserts. All members are asked to attend and everyone in the community is invited. Officers will be elected and fire hydrants in the county will be discussed.



## Jessi's Gift

Jessi's Gift A "Pay it Forward" 5K Run/Two Mile Walk is back for its second season.

The event will be on July 14th at 8:30 am at Clay County Recreational Park Myers Chapel Road Hayesville NC.

Jessi Patrick was granted a wish through Kingdom Kids. All proceeds from the event benefit Kingdom's Kid.



## WWII Vets

Towns County World War II Veterans, male or female, from all branches of military service are needed to fill the positions of Grand Marshals for the Georgia Mountains Fairgrounds Annual Parade. The parade will be held on July 20.

As Grand Marshal, you and your service to this great country will be honored.

Please call Walt Scott, USMC Retired, at (706) 896-2009 or Bud Johnson, USN Retired, at (706) 970-0195.

Also, you can visit Commissioner Bill Kendall, at the Courthouse.



## Cookbooks

Chatuge Regional Nursing Home has collected the best recipes from group members, family and friends and compiled them into attractive keepsake cookbook that makes a perfect gift.

The books are selling for \$12.50 each.

For more details on how to get a cookbook, call Tabitha Crawford or Rita Bradshaw at (706) 896-2231.

# Shriners, parade return to Hiawassee again

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

Everybody loves a parade, especially a Shriners' Parade, and Mother Nature saw fit to smile down on them with blue skies and sunshine for the days event.

But why wouldn't she? Mother Nature loves children, too.

Hundreds of people lined the streets of Hiawassee to enjoy all the excitement expected of a parade, and they were not disappointed as the Yaarab Shriners certainly know how to put on a parade.

Kids of all ages enjoyed the entourage of clowns, small cars, floats, and decorated Shriener vehicles as they delighted in a second year of parade activities which included the sounds of sirens and honking horns. It got its start in Hiawassee and ended at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds. The sounds of horns honking, sirens blaring, and whistles blowing was just a part of the festivities.

It was all part of the Second Annual Summer Ceremonial for the Yaarab Shrine held here in Hiawassee.

On Friday, the "Royal" visitors were treated to the traditional Luau and Low Country Boil. Hundreds of Shriners and their family members feasted during the private party.

The Towns County Beach and Pavilion was once again the site of live music, dancing, and feasting as the Shriners celebrated their volunteers for all the hard work they do, said Chuck Rager, Potentate of North Georgia's Yaarab Shrine.

They certainly deserved this much needed outlet, as they spent most of Friday involved in fundraisers to benefit the kids. They participated in a Golf Tournament at Brasstown Valley Resort's Golf Club, a Poker Run on Lake Chatuge, Motorcycle Rides through the beautiful mountain counties (\$20 per person to ride), and a Silent/Live Auction at The

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The Second Annual Summer Ceremonial of the Yaarab Shrine returned to Hiawassee for three days of reward for North Georgia Shrine members. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

# Happy Together Tour a hit

By Libby Shook  
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Local baby-boomers, as well as fans from surrounding counties and states, gathered at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds' Anderson Music Hall with some of the finest talent of the 1960s Pop Rock era taking center stage as the 2012 Happy Together Tour rolled into town Saturday evening.

The music was phenomenal and the talent immense, but the best part of this concert is that a portion of the proceeds went to the Shriners' Children's Hospital.

The starring line-up featured the memorable tunes of The Turtles' Flo and Eddie, The Monkees' lead singer Micky Dolenz, The Grass Roots, The Buckingham, and Gary Puckett.

These classic music icons can still rock the house and bring in a crowd. The boomers sang along to their favorite hits of these vintage artists and acknowledged their love, enthusiasm, and appreciation for their unique style and sound with shouts, whistles, waving arms, dancing, huge rounds of applause, and frequent standing ovations.

First to hit the stage was The Buckingham and the fans went wild when lead singer



Micky Dolenz leads the parade of stars at Anderson Musica Hall on Saturday night. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Carl Giammarese shouted out, "Forty-seven years of Rock 'N Roll and we're still going strong!"

They performed many of their great hits including Kind of a Drag and Mercy, Mercy. The fans loved every minute.

Up next, The Grassroots performing Temptation Eyes and Midnight Confessions and the fans rocked along.

A very energetic Micky Dolenz bounced out on stage with Last Train to Clarksville and I'm a Believer. He wowed the fans, but his dedication performance honoring "the late, great Davy Jones" had the fans

waving their arms in the air and singing along to Pleasant Valley Sunday and Daydream Believer.

The show would not have been complete without the music and comedic style of The Turtles' Flo and Eddie.

"We just missed being The Beatles by three letters and about \$87 bazillion dollars," said Flo (Mark Volman).

They had the audience in stitches from the moment they walked out on stage.

But, the evening really got jump-started when Gary Puckett hit the stage performing

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# Bulls, Barrels, Broncos a hit

By Joe Collins  
Special to The Herald  
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The Young Harris Valley came alive during weekend with the thundering hooves from the Second Annual Bulls, Barrels, Broncos and More Rodeo, hosted by the Towns County High School Future Farmers of America and FFA Alumni.

The event drew a lot of attention as locals celebrated quite an entertaining show.

The Hedrick Rodeo Company, which was brought here by invitation from the Towns County FFA and FFA Alumni, is an International Professional Rodeo sanctioned outfit and is located in Madisonville, TN. The professional cowboys who



The FFA Rodeo was a hit for all ages on Friday and Saturday at Junior Bridges Field. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

John Wilkinson was excited to be a part of this event.

"As a former FFA member and advisor, I have seen first-hand the positive differ-

District 51 State Sen.

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# 'Taste' scores again at GMF

By Libby Shook  
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Tuesday evening, the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds hosted one of the most popular events of the season as The Taste of the Southern Highlands returned for their seventh consecutive year to tantalize the taste buds of the many folks that turned out to savor the exquisite cuisine of the finest local participating restaurants.

The guests, plates in hand, walked through the various lines just waiting to sample the various specialty items that were available for the taking.

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Taste of the Southern Highlands was a huge success in its seventh year at the Fairgrounds. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

# Towns CRCT test scores improve

By Charles Duncan  
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Towns County Schools Criterion-Referenced Competency Test scores show marked improvement from a year ago.

Once again Towns County Middle School was dominant in CRCT testing, leading their region in five test scores, including two perfect scores. One came in eighth grade reading, the second came in English Language Arts.

Also, in seventh grade reading, TCMS dominated again, with a score of 98.97 percent. In seventh grade English Language Arts, Towns County took top honors with a score of 98.97 percent. TCMS took top region honors in eighth grade Social Studies as well with a score of 96.55 percent.

TCMS took second place honors in math in sixth and eighth grades, second place in sixth and seventh grade Social Studies, state test scores show.

In Science, TCMS took second place honors in grade six.

Towns County Elementary scores were decidedly higher than a year ago.

TCES took home second

Melissa Williams

place region honors in third grade English Language Arts, and second place honors in fifth grade Science. Test scores were up third, fourth and fifth grade Social Studies, third and fourth grade Science, third and fourth grade Math, third, fourth and fifth grade English Language Arts and fourth grade Reading.

"The best news in the 2012 CRCT report is that more of our students are exceeding the standards," said State School Superintendent Dr. John Barge. "Teachers are doing a great job teaching the more rigorous Georgia Performance Standards and they are to be applauded for raising expecta-

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# Cox named state staffer of the Year

By Libby Shook  
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Head Start teacher Michele Cox was recognized and honored at Monday night's Towns County Board of Education meeting as she was presented the Georgia Head Start Association 2012 Staff of the Year Award.

Head Start Director Kay Laws accepted the award for Cox at the Georgia Head Start conference at Epworth By The Sea, St. Simons Island on May 18, 2012.

"Head Start Teacher Michele Cox has been employed with Ninth District Opportunity and the Towns County Board of Education for almost seven years," Towns County Schools Superintendent Melissa Williams. "On August 12, 2003, Michele was hired as an assistant teacher in the Georgia Pre-K program. On June 1, 2005, Michele changed job positions from Pre-K Assistant Teacher to Head Start Teacher. Michele graduated December 2011 with her Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education. She completed her student teaching with the Towns County Board of Education in the Kindergarten classroom, enhancing the transition for our Head Start children entering Kindergarten."

Towns County Center Director Vicki Berrong said, "Michele's greatest reward comes from the smiles on the faces of her Head Start children."



Michele Cox

In August 2005, Cox commenced her educational career pursuing an Associate of Science Degree at Gainesville State College via Ninth District Opportunity while continuing to work as an assistant teacher with the Georgia Pre-K program.

"It is my pleasure to present this award to Michele," Williams said. "What a testament this accomplishment is to her dedication and perseverance, two stand out qualities for anyone seeking a career in education. Towns County is fortunate to have her working with our students."

Previous honors and awards include Merit List

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TOWNS COUNTY HERALD

