

Chamber Chronicles

The official source of Towns County Chamber News

Wednesday February 24, 2010

Community Events

Old Fashioned Square Dance - every Monday in Hiawasse, GA. 6:00 pm at the Senior Center (2 blocks behind - south of the town square, beside the Courthouse, 48 River St.). Old Fashioned Square Dance lessons are free. This is not Western Sq. Dance but rather Big Circle (shew-fly, grapevine, etc.) with basic clogging demos. Help us revive this lost art, come once or every lesson. Sponsor: Towns Co. Historical Soc., POB 1182, Hiawasse, GA 706-896-1060.

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

Be a part of the 2010 Census Team! Earn good pay, get paid weekly, work flexible hours, receive paid training, receive reimbursement for authorized mileage and other work-related expenses. Help your community have a successful 2010 Census and apply today! More information, including a practice test is available at www.2010censusjobs.gov or call the toll free jobs line at 866.861.2010. Brochures with detailed information are at the Towns County Chamber of Commerce.

A Message from Eric Seifarth of Crane Creek Vineyards



Creek Vineyards and Sally were one and the same. Although she had as ideal a life as a dog could have, she is sincerely missed by the staff and many of you who continue to ask about her.

Initially my thought was simply a quiet burial and an informal memorial with my family and staff. Over the last few months it has become clear that she did mean a great deal to great many of the folks who knew and loved her over the years.

In this spirit our extended family here at Crane Creek will host a celebration of Sally's life on Friday March at 5:00 pm. A tree planting (a dogwood of course), light snacks, and a toast with a glass of "Sweet Sally"!

Eric Seifarth • Crane Creek Vineyards • 916 Crane Creek Rd. • Young Harris, Ga. 30582

Tasting Room: 706-379-1236 • Fax: 706-379-0607 www.cranecreekvineyards.com

Many of our guests and friends may know and others may not. Crane Creek lost one of our most beloved vineyard dogs, Sweet Sally, last November. Sally truly was an integral part of our home here at Crane Creek. She was with me as I planted some of the first vines here in the spring of 1996. She watched and helped raise my two sons from age six months to age 15. To many, including our neighbors, Crane

Free "Backyard Poultry" Seminar

When: Friday, February 26, 2010 • Doors open at 9:00 a.m. • Program 10:00 to 11:45 a.m. • Where: The Georgia Mountain Research & Education Center.

3 miles south of the Blairsville Square, on the east side of Hwy 19/129. The physical address is: 195 Georgia Mountain Experiment Station Road Blairsville, GA 30512

Description: Think you want to raise chickens in your back yard? Come to this seminar to find out how. Sources of healthy stock, appropri-

ate breed selection, nutrition, housing, health issues, egg and meat production will be presented in this seminar.

Sponsored by: The Outreach Committee of the Community Council of the Georgia Mountain Research & Education Center.

Contact: Clare Johnston at 706-745-2655, or HYPERLINK "mailto:gmrec@uga.edu" \o "blocked::mailto:gmrec@uga.edu" gmrec@uga.edu. Our website is: www.gmrec.uga.edu

Cooking Class Offered by A Center for Wellness

March 20, 2010 at 10:00am-12:00 p.m., 215 Blue Ridge St., Suite E, Blairsville, GA. \$20 includes cooking class, recipes, samples. RSVP - Space is Limited 706-781-4048

Cooking Class- "Gluten-Free" Lunches & more!

If you have symptoms of headaches, joint pains, neck & back pain, acid reflux, constipation, diarrhea, weight gain, low or high blood sugar, fatigue, poor memory, swelling, chest pains, lung conditions,

yeast over-growth, sinus drainage after eating, sleepiness mid day---New research has discovered the Gluten in grains makes these conditions worse. Eating Gluten-Free meals can help reduce many adverse reactions.

Class Topics: Gluten-Free recipes for lunches, Products & Samples, How you can care for your troubled Digestion, Tips on reducing Brain reactions to Gluten, Gluten-Free Natural Solutions Booklet Available. \$18

Fuzion Dance Company Spring Concert

Fuzion Dance Company Spring Concert is March 6th at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. in Glenn Auditorium at Young Harris College.

Brasstown Dance Academy Spring Show, "On the Radio," is May 15th at 6pm in Glenn Auditorium at Young Harris College.

Member Benefit of the Month

Calendar of Events Listing on Mountaintopga.com. Send us your event information and will include it in our Calendar of Events on the website and in our vacation package brochure.

Angel's Chamber Messages



Member Calendar of Events

February 27th at 7:00pm - George Jones in Concert at the Anderson Music Hall. For tickets and information, call the Fairgrounds at 706.896.4191.

February 27th - Habitat for Humanity Towns / Union County's 4th Annual Bowling Tournament at Galaxy Lanes on Hwy 76. Four person teams at \$25.00 each - Contact Bobbi Tower at 706.745.8750 for additional information.

At The Peacock Playhouse, Hayesville, NC

Hot 'n Cole, A Musical Tribute to Cole Porter. Opens Feb 19-21 & 26-28, tickets on sale Feb 8. Call 828 389 8632 for

and information. Showtimes are 8pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 pm on Sundays

Young Harris College Community Concert Band

Young Harris College's Division of Fine Arts will present the Young Harris College/Community Concert Band in concert Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. in Glenn Auditorium of the Clegg Fine Arts Build-

ing on the Young Harris College campus. The performance is free and open to the public. Dr. Benny P. Ferguson, dean of the Division of Fine Arts, will serve as conductor.

Live Lambs at Always Christmas!

WE HAVE RECEIVED ADVANCE NOTICE: There will be Live Lambs at Inspirations and Always Christmas March 6th 2pm-4pm Plan to bring your children/grands by for this special event!



Brooklynn Elaine Owenby

The North Georgia News family welcomes Brooklynn Owenby



Justin and Brandy Owenby are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Brooklynn Elaine Owenby. Brooklynn was born Feb 11th at 6:10 PM at Union General Hospital. She was delivered by Dr. Davis, and weighed 9 lbs. 1 oz. She was 20.5 inches long. Paternal grandparents are Steve and Shirley Owenby of Mineral Bluff, GA. Maternal grandparents are Sheila Clore of Mineral Bluff, GA, and Johnny and Tori Clore of Gainesville, GA. Welcome, Brooklynn!

NT(Feb24,C3)ac



Q and A Column from John Oxendine Georgia's Insurance and Fire Commissioner

Q: If I rent a car while I'm on vacation, do I need to buy the rental company's insurance?

A: Many people purchase insurance at the auto rental counter without knowing whether their existing policies or credit card benefits might already cover their needs. Meanwhile, other drivers inadvertently underinsure their rental car, placing themselves at risk.

Drivers should educate themselves before they reach the auto rental counter.

Review your auto insurance policy or call your insurance agent before your vacation.

If your current policy doesn't offer coverage for a rental car, see if an insurance rider can be added for a small fee.

Many credit cards include some level of collision and theft protection. In most cases, these benefits are secondary to your personal auto insurance or the car rental company's insurance, meaning the credit card company will only pay claims after other insurance coverage has been exhausted. Call your credit card company and ask

about benefits.

If you lack personal auto insurance and your credit card does not provide benefits, it might be wise to purchase the liability insurance and collision damage waiver at the car rental counter.

Keep in mind that if it is a longer-term rental (e.g., a week, a month or more), there might be limitations on the coverage your existing auto insurance policy provides. Check with your insurance company or agent for details.

If you don't own a car, you might want to consider purchasing a non-owner auto insurance policy, because it provides benefits in addition to coverage for a rental car.

When traveling on business, a personal auto policy will generally not apply, so check with your employer for guidance.

You are not alone if you find car rental insurance confusing. In a recent survey, approximately 42 percent of respondents said they were either thoroughly confused or had only a rough idea about insurance coverage when renting a

car. If you are unclear about the car rental insurance options, or are concerned that a rental company is misrepresenting information, check with our Consumer Services Division at 1-800-656-2298. Please send your insur-

ance questions to: Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine, 716 West Tower, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Atlanta, GA 30334. Or call 404-656-2070 (toll free at 1-800-656-2298), from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays, for assistance with an insurance question. Website www.gain-insurance.org.

Cook releases new book of poetry

Poets have long drawn inspiration from their faith, putting pen to paper to provide scope and meaning to the vastness that is God. With the publication of his new book, *Beyond The Mountain Haze*, Charles Cook offers readers a glimpse into his own personal faith with a collection of poetry that will touch the heart and engage the mind.

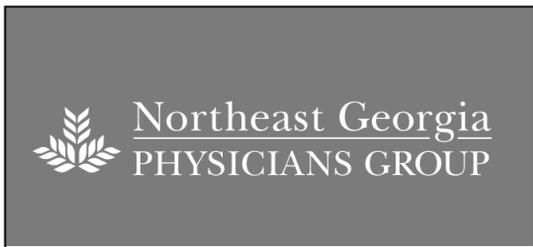
With nearly 200 poems covering myriad topics, *Beyond The Mountain Haze* takes time to express Cook's deep appreciation for his heritage, paying homage to his Southern Appalachian roots. Other themes include love of family, blessings of God, respect and living a life full of Christian love. The poem *Mountain Morn* showcases Cook's simple, metered rhymes:

*The morning haze engulfs the sun,
Where air is damp and cold;
The red-tailed hawk ascends the ridge
While deer graze on the knoll.
The daylight glistens 'cross the glade,
As distant cow-bells chime;*

*The peace of heaven comes again
To those who seize the time.
The mountain morn revives the soul,
And brings a sense of hope;
While fleeting moments of the dawn
Transcend across the slope.
Perhaps God gives a simple clue
Of how the earth was born;
Creation's splendor unveiled once more,
Revealed with mountain morn.*

Filled with vivid images and a cheerful cadence, *Beyond The Mountain Haze* will appeal to readers of all ages and from all walks of life.

Charles Cook was born and raised in the mountains of north Georgia. He graduated from Union County High School in 1957. He has a bachelor's degree in education from North Georgia College and a master's degree from the University of Georgia. He has been writing poetry for more than 30 years, and is a member of the Georgia Poetry Society and the Byron Herbert Reece Society. He can be reached at 478-784-8428 or by email at cook2730@bellsouth.net. NT(Feb24,A12)SH



Northeast Georgia PHYSICIANS GROUP

Now Accepting Patients in Blairsville!

Neurologist Shaena Blevins, MD, of Northeast Georgia Physicians Group Neurology, is now accepting patients in two locations:

BLAIRSVILLE
77 Weaver Road, Suite B
Blairsville, GA 30512
Friday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

GAINESVILLE (inside Medical Park 1)
1315 Jesse Jewell Parkway, Suite 300
Gainesville, GA 30501
Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Call 770-219-6520 to schedule appointments.



Name _____
Address _____
Date _____

Rx Shaena Blevins, MD
Northeast Georgia Physicians Group Neurology

Offering treatment for a wide range of neurological conditions including:

- Migraine headaches
- Stroke
- Epilepsy
- Sleep disorders

www.ngpg.org

Signature _____

Volunteer orientation for gardeners



Maybe spring fever is getting to you, or perhaps you cannot tell a valuable native plant from a weed. Help is available. The Preservation Committee of the Community Council will kick off the 2010 season with its Volunteer Orientation on March 1st at 10 AM, in the auditorium of the Georgia Mountain Research & Education Center. The Orientation will be a great time to meet like-minded folks, learn more about the native plants of this area and maybe even enjoy a snack. The Orientation will provide an introduction to the Preservation Committee and its projects, and a short lesson on the various natural regions of north Georgia and western North Carolina.

This group of volunteers meets twice a month during spring, summer and fall to help maintain the native plant gardens at the GMRE Center.

In the Ethnobotanic Garden, we prune, pull a lot of weeds, and mulch the garden beds, and we do general trail maintenance along the shady Woodland Medicine Trail. In the past season have transformed an old cannery into an interpretive center and have begun work on restoring an old spring area. We are very informal, some work for an hour or two, some of us work longer. We share the work and learn a lot about plants, birds and anything else that lives in our gardens and in the southern Appalachians. Enthusiasm for plants is more important than extensive horticultural knowledge. We will begin gardening in earnest on March 15 at 9 AM in the garden.

The GMRE Center is located three miles south of Blairsville on Hwy 19/129 south. For more information, please call Clare Johnston at 706-745-2655. NT(Feb24,A5)SH