

Chamber Chronicles

The official source of Towns County Chamber News

Wednesday March 31, 2010



President's Message

The Towns County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce our first Business After Hours for the Spring 2010 quarter. This will be a fun and new event because it will be a little different than traditional After Hours events we've previously held. Adrianna's Wine Cottage, Pro Therapy, Heavenly Bake Shop, Verizon Wireless and Mary's Southern Grill located in the Tower Place Shopping Plaza have graciously agreed to be hosts to our membership. We thought April 15th (TAX DAY!) would be a fun day to hold this event. Please mark your calendars for April 15th from 5:00pm-7:00pm and plan to have a great time and network with other businesses as well.

Furloughs...from page 1A

chairman of the Senate Committee on State and Local Government by Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle and the Committee on Assignments. This appointment became necessary after Sen. Lee Hawkins resigned from the State Senate to run for Congress.

"In the short time Sen. Butterworth has served in the state Senate, he has proven that he is a capable leader who delivers results. I'm confident in Senator Butterworth's ability to chair this committee and look forward to all he will accomplish," Lt. Gov. Cagle said. Sen. Butterworth was humbled and honored by the appointment and Lt. Gov.

Cagle's confidence in him. "I am honored by this appointment and look forward to working with local leaders on legislation that will further develop policies throughout our state," Sen. Butterworth said. "I would like to thank Lt. Gov. Cagle for the opportunity to serve as chairman and look forward to leading this committee."

Jurisdictions for the committee include special taxes, city and county organization and powers, subdivisions, and administration of special districts. The committee considers legislation for not only state government operations, but also counties and cities across the state.

YHC to present sophomore recitals

Young Harris College's Division of Fine Arts will present Sophomore Recitals on the following evenings: April 7, 9, 14 and 16. The free concerts are open to the public and begin at 4 p.m. in the Recital Hall of the Clegg Fine Arts Building on the Young Harris College campus.

The recital on Wednesday, April 7, will feature Jessica Craig, voice, of Blairsville, GA, Seth Peters, guitar, of Loganville, GA, Genevieve Rodriguez, voice, of Calhoun, GA, and Tyler Ogburn, voice, of Blairsville, GA. The recital on Friday, April 9, will feature Rebecca Wiggins, piano, of Robbinsville, NC, Adam Higgins, voice, of Canton,

GA, Ashley Murray, voice, of Young Harris, GA, and Julia Youngblood, piano, of Young Harris, GA.

The recital on Wednesday, April 14, will feature Rolando Fernandez-Carrion, trumpet, of Canton, GA, Jeb Rogers, voice, of Epworth, GA, and Chris Simms, saxophone, of Cumming, GA. The recital on Friday, April 16, will feature Jordan Fleming, voice, of Marietta, GA, Raquel Jasso, clarinet, of Gainesville, GA, Eric Lindsey, voice, of Fayetteville, GA, and Tara Shiver, clarinet, of Covington, GA.

For more information, contact the Division of Fine Arts at (706) 379-5182. NT(Mar31,W)SH

Hyland to speak at Young Harris College

On Thursday, April 8, Young Harris College's Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences will host "Life in a U.N. Organization: Cultural and Organizational Differences," a guest lecture by retired U.S. Navy Capt. Jay Hyland at 7 p.m. in Wilson Lecture Hall of Goolsby Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Capt. Hyland will compare the organizational cultures found in American government bureaucracies and in the United Nations' bureaucracies. Capt. Hyland's lecture

will place an emphasis on the bureaucratic structures and powers found in an international agency.

Capt. Hyland commanded a U.S. Navy ballistic missile submarine, served with the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency as an inspector in Iraq and worked in the American intelligence community as well as the Department of Energy.

For more information about the event, contact (706) 379-5126. NT(Mar31,X2)SH

Cassie Buck competes for Adeline Idol



Cassie Buck

Cassie Buck, a Towns County High School Sophomore, was one of six area singers in the semi-final competition for the title of Smokie Mountain Melodies' "Adeline Idol" Tuesday, March 16th. Three finalists will be featured guests at Front Row Center '10, the Smokie Mountain Melodies' fifth annual show, on May 15th. The audience will select the winner and first and second runners up.

Music directors in each of the high schools in Cherokee, Clay, Union, Fannin, and Towns Counties were asked

to select one student to represent their schools in the competition. Cassie, a member of director Chris Adams Chorus, was chosen as the outstanding singer from Towns County High School. She says that her favorite kind of music to sing is jazz, and she also enjoys playing soccer and guitar and writing lyrics.

Cassie is the daughter of Christy and Wally Knapp. She has a sister Jessika and a brother Zak. Her long range plans are to go to college at Lee University, and she hopes one day to audition for American Idol.

Smokie Mountain Melodies is a chapter of Sweet Adelines International, the organization for barbershop harmony singing for women. Front Row Center '10, "A Blast from the Past," will be at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 15th at the Performing Arts Center, Fannin County High School, in Blue Ridge. Tickets are \$15, \$8 for students, and \$12 for groups of 12 or more.

For information contact Anna Stone (706) 745-5943 ac.stone@gmail.com. T(Mar31,M6)SH

Congressman Broun to speak

Congressman Paul Broun is confirmed for a Town Hall Meeting at the Towns County Courthouse on Wednesday, March 31 at 6 p.m. All local governments are invited to meet with Congressman Broun, local business leaders, the Chamber and the Public to discuss our concerns regarding the local economy. It is important that all local officials attend this meeting. Hiawassee will request easier access to federal infrastructure funding.

Member Calendar of Events

Wednesday, March 31, Aloha Wellness is presenting Breath Empowerment Group classes. The cost is \$10. For more info contact Destini at (706) 896-3300.

Saturday, April 3, the Easter Bunny is coming to the Towns County Recreation Ball Fields. The Egg Hunt begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.

The Towns County Recreation Department, along with United Community Bank in Hiawassee, will be hosting its annual Easter Egg Hunt. All boys and girls through age 9 are invited to come out and join in on all the fun.

The hunt will be held on the recreation ball fields located at Highway 76 just west of Hiawassee. Entrance to the ball field complex will be through the upper gate located near the Geor-

gia Mountain Fair office. The hunt begins promptly at 10:30 a.m. and will last approximately one hour. There will be more than 2,500 eggs, including prize eggs to be found.

The hunt is FREE to all boys and girls ages 4 through 9. There will be two age divisions for the hunt: 4, 5 and 6 year olds; 7, 8 and 9 year olds. A special activity is being planned for children three years and younger.

There will be Cash Prize Eggs, Toy Prize Eggs and a Grand Easter Basket to be given away in both age divisions. There will also be a drawing for a Mother's prize.

Make plans now to join the Recreation Department and United Community Bank for all the fun on Saturday, April 3, 2010, at 10:30 a.m. For more details, call the Recreation Department at (706) 896-2600 or United Community Bank in Hiawassee at (706) 896-4186.

On April 7 at 2 p.m., Congressman Paul Broun has made arrangements for a Small Business Workshop, cosponsored by the Towns County Chamber of Commerce, to assist our local business with Small Business applications and funding training. This will be held at The Ridges Resort in Young Harris. Representatives from Congressman Broun's office, the Small Business Administration, the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, USDA Rural Development and the Small Business Development Center will attend the workshop.

Excitement expected at GOP meeting



Kathy Cox

Tuesday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m. will be an evening of excitement and fun as entertainment, speeches, a straw poll and appearances from numerous political campaigns converge at the Towns County Republican Party meeting at Daniel's Restaurant.

The evening will kick off with a stirring rendition or two by internationally acclaimed and two time International Country Gospel Singer of the Year, Buddy Benedict.

Headlining the event will be Georgia State School Superintendent Kathy Cox. She will report on the current education financial crisis facing Georgia and answer questions from teachers, administrators and the general public. Superintendent Cox invites all educators in Towns and Union Counties to attend this meeting.



Doug MacGinnitie

Also speaking will be Doug MacGinnitie, candidate for Secretary of State. MacGinnitie is one of three candidates vying for this important state position. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Emory School of Law, served as a White House Intern in the Reagan administration and has spent his entire career in the business community.

His platform includes an emphasis on helping small businesses by getting the government out of the way, protecting the military's right to vote and ensuring fair and honest elections. His five guiding principles are ethical leadership, lower taxes, less spending, limited government and individual freedom.

Austin Scott, candidate for Governor, will be the concluding speaker. Scott considers himself to be the economy



Austin Scott

candidate. He plans to improve Georgia's economy by promoting conditions conducive to entrepreneurs and businesses. He promises to reduce both the capital gains tax and corporate income tax to attract additional businesses to Georgia. Scott's ambition is to also simplify regulatory compliance and improve hiring conditions.

Also in attendance will be representatives from other state-wide campaigns, members of Young Harris College Republicans and some participants in the Youth Leadership Speech Contest.

A straw poll about state-wide offices and some local issues will be conducted.

Remember, Tuesday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Daniel's Restaurant in Hiawassee. Don't miss out on the fun. T(Mar31,O3)SH

Pickup service again available from S.A.F.E. stores

The S.A.F.E. thrift stores are pleased to announce that we are again able to pick up donations. Our stores are the S.A.F.E. Thrift Store on old Blue Ridge Hwy. in Blairsville (at the corner of Kiutuestia Rd.) and the S.A.F.E. Again Thrift Store on Bonny Hills Dr. in Young Harris (turn left off Hwy. 17 just past the Windstream building). If you have large items such as furniture or appliances which you can't bring yourself, call our S.A.F.E. Again Thrift Store at 706-896-1700 to schedule a pick up. Our currently designated day is Thursday, but we will work with you if other arrangements are needed. Please help us out and see that all donations are in good condition and ready for resale.

Do you know where your money goes from your donations to these stores? Our two stores are part of the public face of S.A.F.E., and are vital to the support of our programs. We operate two facilities, our 15-bed domestic violence shelter and office, as well as the Enotah Child Advocacy & Family Visitation Center. All of the profit from both stores is returned directly to our operating budget to fund these facilities and all of our services to the community. We also provide your donated clothing, furniture, and household items at no cost to clients accessing our services who are in need. Our mission is to provide support, advocacy and emergency shelter for victims of domestic abuse, child abuse

and sexual abuse, regardless of gender, and to heighten community awareness of such abuse in Towns and Union Counties. Help us continue our work by supporting our thrift stores, and remember that all your donations are tax deductible. Both stores are in need of donations and can receive them every day except Sunday from 10 to 4:30 (stores close at 5).

ICL announces courses for spring term

The Institute for Continuing Learning (ICL) at Young Harris College is celebrating its 19th anniversary with an exciting lineup of classes for the spring term beginning the week of April 12. One of the highlights will be a series of free seminars entitled An Ounce of Prevention Equals a Pound of Cure on three successive Saturdays - May 15, 22 & 29 at 10 a.m. in the Wilson Lecture Hall in the Goolsby Building on the campus of the college. There is no charge for these seminars and pre-registration is not required.

Spring classes include: Barbara Lewis' INTRODUCTION TO BRIDGE on Mondays at 10 a.m.

Ann Marie Stanczyk's HAVE YOUR CAKE...AND EAT IT TOO on Mondays at 1 p.m.

Jerry Taylor's GEORGIA HISTORY on Mondays at 1 p.m.

Elaine Delcuze's SPRING WILDFLOWER RAMBLES on Mondays at 3:15 p.m.

Andy & Tom Moschetto's COOKING WITH ANDY on Tuesdays at 2 p.m.

Tom Striker's NORTH GEORGIA BIRDING on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

Ed Endres' THE WAR OF MY GENERATION: WWII on Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Dr. Leon Lee's SURPRISED BY JOY: A LOOK AT THE POEMS OF WILLIAM WORDSWORTH on Wednesdays at 3:15 p.m.

Rev. Darris Baker's JERUSALEM JAMES on Thursdays at 10 a.m.

John Roberts' GENETIC ADVANCES: FRIEND OR FOE? on Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Tony Ward's ALIEN PLANTS: TAKING OVER A NATURAL AREA NEAR YOU on Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Eric Seifarth's WINE MAKING IN GEORGIA: VINEYARD TO MARKET PLACE on Thursdays at 3:15 p.m.

Jean Gora's LIVING AND DYING UNDER THE THIRD REICH on Fridays at 1 p.m.

Nancy Simpson's POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP on Fridays at 3:15 p.m.

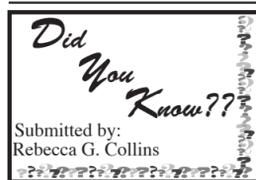
Lee & Robin Roberts' THE HOW-TO OF ORCHIDS, AIR PLANTS, HOUSE PLANTS, AND HERBS on Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Sheila Rodgers & Jill Long's AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION EQUALS A POUND OF CURE on Saturdays at 10 a.m.

You can obtain more detail on all the classes and download a registration form at www.iclyhc.org. Contact Bob Langenbacher in Young Harris (706-379-2660) or e-mail icl@yhc.edu for additional information. ICL is a not-for-profit organization with excess operating moneys going toward scholarships for students at YHC. In its 20th year of operation, the Institute offers a wide range of educational opportunities for adults of all ages. NT(Mar31,W2)SH

Vega String Quartet at Folk School

Sunday, April 25: Brasstown Concert Association presents The Vega String Quartet, 2:30 p.m., Keith House, John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC. No reservation required; general admission seating. Tickets at the door: \$14 adults, \$7 students. Information: 828-389-4210 or email Brasstown-ConcertNews@gmail.com. NT(Mar31,A2)SH



Did you know... that Andrew Jackson (1767-1845) the 7th President of the United States of America vetoed the Bank Renewal Bill in 1832, preventing the establishment of the Bank of the United States, recognizing that a Federal bank would be detrimental to the freedoms of Americans: "It is easy to conceive that great evils to our country and its institutions might flow from such a concentration of power in the hands of a few men irresponsible to the people..."

Their power would be great whenever they might choose to exert it... to influence elections or control the affairs of the nation. But if any private citizen or public functionary should interpose to curtail its power or prevent a renewal of its privileges, it can not be doubted that he would be made to feel its influence...

Controlling our currency, receiving our public moneys, and holding thousands of our citizens in dependence,

Vogel State Park Volunteer Day

Getting dirty, having fun and receiving the satisfaction of a successful day's work are all possible at Vogel State Park's Volunteer Day. Join other volunteers here at the park on Saturday, April 10, 2009 as they stain, rake, dig, plant and pound Vogel State Park into shape after a long winter's nap.

This annual event has become a popular melting pot of volunteers with varied experiences and backgrounds. Lifelong friendships have been fostered from this day of activities.

This year projects include cleaning the beach of winter storm debris, trail work, mulching, cleaning gardens and generally sprucing the park up for another vacationing season.

It is said an army runs on its stomach. The Vogel Volunteers are no exception. Breakfast and lunch are served for a nominal fee and an evening banquet with a Mayberry theme will be the culmination of a full day's work. Breakfast is served at 7 AM with work commencing at 8 AM.

Vogel State Park is a result of the 1930s depression era Civilian Conservation Corps. It is only appropriate that the legacy of this New Deal program is carried on.

Volunteers are encouraged to register in advance by calling the park at 706-745-2628. Vogel State Park is operated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and is 11 miles south of Blairsville on US Highway 129. For more information about the park, visit www.GeorgiaStateParks.org/info/Vogel. NT(Mar31,A1)SH

Free food distribution

There will be a free food distribution Tuesday, April 5, 2010. The distribution will be held at The Towns County Food Pantry from 2 p.m.-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 arrangements can be made to deliver your food. All clients and inquiries are confidential. T(Mar31,M2)SH

it would be more formidable and dangerous than the naval and military power of the enemy...

To this conclusion I can not assent. Mere precedent is a dangerous source of authority, and should not be regarded as deciding questions of constitutional power...

It is to be regretted that the rich and powerful too often bend the acts of government to their own selfish purposes...

In the full enjoyment of the gifts of Heaven and the fruits of superior industry, economy, and virtue, every man is equally entitled to protection by law; but when the laws undertake to add to these natural and just advantages artificial distinctions, to grant titles, gratuities, and exclusive privileges, to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of society the farmers, mechanics, and laborers who have neither the time nor the means of securing like favors to themselves, have a right to complain of the injustice of their Government..."

Federer, William J. *America's God and Country Encyclopedia Of Quotations.* Missouri : Amerisearch, Inc. 2000, pages 307 & 308. NT(Mar31,Y1)SH

Color Copies **West Printing Company** **25¢**
(706) 745-6343