

Festival...continued from page 1A

soap, unusual birdhouses, decorated gourds, and much more.

Flocks of visitors scoured over the seemingly endless cache of art work on display, each searching for that special work that would significantly contribute to the home décor.

Overall, friendly faces, great weather and a beautiful location (Mayor's Park) made for an incredible festival. The event also featured Bettie Sellers, Georgia's Poet Laureate from 1997 to 2001.

Several animal rescue organizations were present during the festival. The Humane Society's Mountain Shelter, the Whiskers Project, the Georgia Equine Rescue project, Operation

PUP, Logan's Run, and Cast Away Critters held fundraisers and gave out information to raise awareness for their special causes.

Holland Lapidary School was also represented at the festival with a variety of items on display. Miss Ansley Burnette was on hand to autograph copies of her book, *Frisco Finds a Forever Family*.

Also, many fine artists gave demonstrations of their gifted techniques.

Miss Jenny's Soaps had several family members present during the event showing how to make homemade soaps and healing ointments. Around every booth and hidden nook, there was something new and ex-

citing to see.

A highlight of the event was a talk by Bettie Sellers, Georgia's Poet Laureate from 1997 to 2001. A member of the Byron Herbert Reece Society, Sellers is well known for her poems about life in southern Appalachia and her study of Blairsville Poet and former Young Harris College professor, Byron Herbert Reece.

Another highlight was Dawn Dickins, artist and teacher at Young Harris College. Ms. Dickins worked on a life size mural throughout the event. Visitors watched as she brought the large painting to life with color and expression.

For more details, contact festival coordinator Robin Roberts at (706) 897-6179.

Liz and Tim to perform at the Folk School on April 22

Liz and Tim will perform in concert in the Community Room of the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, N.C. at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 22. The concert is free but donations are welcome.

With haunting two-part harmony and arresting arrangements, Liz and Tim's musical style gives a fresh perspective to the lasting themes of traditional mountain music: longing for home, love of people and place, the power of stories, and the need to laugh even in the face of troubles.

Liz and Tim have performed at the Master Musicians Festival in Somerset, KY; the Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC; Mary and Martha's Place in

Atlanta, GA; Seedtime on the Cumberland in Whitesburg, KY; and Historic Rugby Theatre in Rugby, TN. They sing regularly at community festivals and events and in church.

Upcoming Folk School concerts include Betty Smith (May 6) and The Brass-town Ringers (May 13).

The Folk School concert schedule is available on the world wide web at <http://www.folkschool.org>. For further information call the Folk School at 828-837-2775 or 1-800-FOLK-SCH. NT(Apr20,22)D



Liz McGeachy and Tim Marema

Civil Air Patrol News

The busy season has arrived for the North Georgia Composite Squadron. Last weekend the squadron divided into two elements. One was led by 1stLt Shannon Williams and SM Jason Patrick, they took C/MSgt. Brumfield, C/MSgt. Morris, C/Amn Patrick, C/Amn King and C/Amn Rogers to Atlanta to attend the annual wing conference. They left on Friday afternoon and returned on Sunday. The wing conference provides the attendees the opportunity to attend training seminars and associate with members of other squadrons to allow them to find out what is happening in the State of Georgia with CAP. The other element led by LtCol. Roshaven and 1stLt Maholski with C/MSgt. Reeves and C/Amn Potts provided an information table at the Experimental Aircraft Association Young Eagles flights. The EAA provides free flights to young people to foster an interest in aviation. Forty-nine young people received free flights on Saturday.

At the regular Monday meeting, the cadets participated in Cadet Physical Fitness Testing and several took their written test for promotion. Cadet Elijah Morris completed requirements for and was awarded the rank of C/MSgt. Cadet Goves was also promoted, to the rank of C/Amn.

The next scheduled meeting is Monday the 25th of April 6:30 p.m. at the Blairsville Airport. Visitors welcome. N(Apr20,21)CA

School of Dance to offer free classes

In honor of National Dance Week, Blairsville School of Dance will be offering several free classes the week of April 25. In addition to offering our students the chance to "Bring a Friend to Class," many offerings will be open to the public.

To kick off the week, on Monday, BSoD will offer free clogging and hip hop classes. Hip Hop is scheduled for Monday at 5:00 p.m. A beginner clogging class will be offered at 7:00 p.m., as well as an intermediate class for more experienced cloggers. On Tuesday at 5 p.m., children ages 5-8 can participate in a free ballet class, and 3-4 year old dancers can try out a pre-

school dance class on Thursday at 4:30.

While the classes are free, attendees must RSVP by calling Blairsville School of Dance at (706) 835-1415 or emailing blairsvilledance@yahoo.com.

Blairsville School of Dance offers private and group classes in ballet, tap, jazz, clogging, hip hop, lyrical, ballroom and more for ages 2-adult and is the home of the BSoD Force competition clogging teams and BSoD Inferno and Flames competition hip hop groups. BSoD is located at 80 Blue Ridge Street in downtown Blairsville's Merchant's Walk Plaza. N(Apr20,21)CA



Dawn Dickins, Young Harris College artist and teacher, paints life size mural. Photo/Janice Boling

Ronnie Milsap...continued from page 1A

record a handful of singles in Atlanta before moving to Memphis, where he joined forces with super producer Chips Morman and, by 1969, Elvis Presley.

Although Milsap was making a name for himself performing with legendary artists, he was more comfortable at being center stage, rather than a member of the supporting cast.

In 1974, Milsap went to score his first No. 1 country singles, *Pure Love* and *Please Don't Tell Me How the Story Ends*. He scored another No. 1 in 1975 with *Daydreams About Night Things*.

He quickly went to the top of country charts eight more times in the 70s, with such enduring hits as *Let My Love Be your Pillow* and

What a Difference You've made in My Life. During his storied music career, Milsap has claimed four Male Vocalist of the Year awards.

In 2005, Milsap was chosen as one of the 40 Greatest Men of Country Music.

It'll be first come, first served on May 13th at the Fairgrounds in the mad dash for tickets.

Chatuge Cleanup...continued from page 1A

kids (from Young Harris College) were involved along with coaches from basketball, softball, golf and the tennis team.

"The U.S. Coast Guard auxiliary team helped us out too, along with the Hiawassee Watershed Coalition group," Hooper said. "They actually got to the North Carolina side of the lake, so, a lot of the North Carolina trash was picked up along with the debris from the Georgia side."

"It was a huge event despite an overcast sky," he said. "It was a cool morning and it felt good. We've taken a lot of trash off the Lake so seeing this support from the community is a great encouragement to all of us."

The event is a recurring one for The Ridges, Hooper said.

"This event has been hosted by the resort for many years now," Hooper said. "We're trying to bring it back stronger with new owners here in the resort, we're wanting to continue this and make it an annual

event to where we get participation from both sides of the states of North Carolina and Georgia.

"Eventually, hopefully this is a huge turnout and every inch of these shore lines are protected and cleaned," Hooper said.

Young Harris College was well represented in the effort. Young Harris College Women's basketball Head Coach Brenda Paul applauded her players' contributions as they combed the Chatuge shoreline.

Other Young Harris College student athletes who took part in the cleanup event included players from Men's basketball, tennis and members of the Lady Mountain Lions softball teams as the athletes combined their effort to pitch in and help out in their adopted community.

Hiawassee Watershed Coalition members also pitched in during the annual shoreline clean up.

The morning's activities were highlighted by the

find of a black snake in one of the TVA trash bags. That, however, was upstaged by a Canada Goose chasing a senior citizen who was pitching in during the clean up effort. The volunteer apparently got too close to a nest of goose eggs.

Notable items discovered during the clean up: a toilet seat, lots of Styrofoam from floating docks, plenty of garbage and personal items left behind by recreational users of the lake.

Following the clean up, the group of eager workers were fed by their host, The Ridges Resort & Marina. The menu included hot dogs, cole slaw and chips with tea and lemonade served icy cold to watch down the meal.

Coach Paul said it was easy to get her group of basketball girls out to help clean up around the lake early on a Saturday morning.

"Food, tell them that they can get a free lunch and you can get them up," she said. "That's the key; it's always about the food."

Coach Paul...continued from page 1A

great balance with two guards, two small forwards, two power forwards, and one center," she said. "We are excited about the potential impact that this class can bring to our young basketball program."

Williams, a 5-foot, 11-inch power forward, who won multiple state championships with the Buford Lady Wolves is one huge piece of the Lady Mountain Lions' future.

"When you look at the 2011 recruiting class, there are several things that jump out at you," Coach Paul said. "First and foremost, these players are truly scholar athletes. They come from

highly successful high school programs.

"Collectively, they all started on teams that finished in the 'Sweet 16,' two were named Region MVPs, and a pair played on state championship teams," Coach Paul said. "They played for outstanding high school coaches, who taught the fundamentals of basketball, resulting in skilled position players with tremendous work ethics."

"They are winners," she said.

Coach Paul is excited about the potential impact of the 2011 recruiting class on a young basketball program such as the Mountain Lions.

"Combined with the early signees, this class has great balance with two guards, two small forwards, two power forwards and one center," she said.

Coach Paul refrained from commenting on whether Towns County's First Team Region 8-A forward Jordan Moss will join the coveted recruiting class.

"We've got an outstanding walk on," she said. "She'll be here on an academic scholarship, and believe me, she can play the game of basketball."

Coach Paul declined comment on whether that walk on will be Moss.