



Chamber Chronicles

The official source of Towns County Chamber News

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Angel's Chamber Messages



Member Spotlight on Realtor, Ann Wedgewood of Century 21 Scenic Realty



Atlanta suburbs for 20 years before becoming full-time residents in 2003 when Ann joined Peak Realty. In 2006, after graduating from Georgia Southern University with a Finance degree, son Rob partnered with Ann as a Realtor. Last year the Wedgewood's joined Broker Rick Andrews at sales leader Century 21 Scenic Realty on Hwy 76 in Young Harris.

Ann's other favorite "job" is volunteering at the Towns County Chamber of Commerce where you'll find her bragging that the people and quality of life here are just as wonderful as the scenery.

"I have the best jobs in the world." Everyday Ann introduces families to this beautiful land through her lakefront rentals and real estate businesses.

Like many others, Ann and husband Barry moved to Georgia from Florida. After discovering Lake Chatuge on July 4th, 1987 they knew they would live "at the lake" someday. They commuted almost weekly to Hiwassee and Hayesville from the north

Please don't hesitate to use Ann as a resource if you are buying or selling property, planning a vacation or family reunion, or want more information about the area. Ann's cell phone number is 706-897-3429 and her email address is annwedg@windstream.net. Or stop by or call Century 21 Scenic Realty for assistance from the staff of real estate professionals (706-896-8633).

Cabin Fever Holds Free Lunch & Fashion Show



Some say there is no such thing as a free lunch. Well, that is probably true unless you were at Cabin Fever Gifts and Accessories and experienced their spectacular luncheon and fashion show on June 17th. Guests and customers at Cabin Fever were treated to a gourmet, tea room lunch and choreographed fashion show featuring their Summer clothing line. Manager, Charlene Perkins paired Cabin Fever's outstanding selection of jewelry and accessories with reasonably priced clothing items. Cabin Fever's team of creative employees worked together to coordinate outfits, jewelry, handbags, accessories and music to make the show not only practical, but entertaining! While guests relaxed and enjoyed their lunch Charlene Perkins along with Cabin Fever customer and former Home Shopping Network model Helena Medgebow ruled the runway and modeled Brighton, Lazy Bones Sleepwear and a variety of other clothing brands for the guests. So, if you are thinking there is no such thing as a free lunch then you are probably right since most guests could not resist leaving without some of Cabin Fever's Summer clothing, jewelry or accessories. Visit Cabin Fever Gifts and Accessories and check out our newly arrived Fall line of clothing and accessories. Mention this article and receive 10% off your entire purchase until the end of July!

The Towns County Chamber of Commerce Welcomes Friendship Automotive



Friendship Automotive is locally owned and operated. Friendship Automotive provides automotive services including oil changes, photo 3D alignments, tires, brakes, transmission flushes, radiator flushes and machine rotors and drums. They also provide services for large trucks and R.V.s including tires, breaks, oil changes and alignments. Also available are detail services, wash, vacuum, Armour All & wax. Friendship Automotive is located at 1753 U.S. Hwy 76 East, Hiwassee, GA

Member Calendar of Events

Through the Summer Season

Mountain Arts Association - Summer Fun

Location: Brasstown Valley Resort
 Contact: Mary Taylor • Phone: 706-896-9739
 Email: maa2004@windstream.net

Website: www.hiwasseefestivalofarts.org
 Sponsor: Mountain Arts Association • Cost: Free
 Description: You are cordially invited to view the work of MAA member artists at the BVR Art Gallery.

7/21/2010 - 7/31/2010 Georgia Mountain Fair

1311 Music Hall Rd. • Hiwassee, GA 30546
 Location: Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds
 Contact: Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds
 Phone: 706-896-4191 • Email: gamtfair@windstream.net
 Website: www.georgiamountainfairgrounds.com

Sponsor: Towns County Lions Club
 Cost: \$9.00 Per Person (+\$2 parking) Children under 9 free
 Description: Look forward to the 60th annual Georgia Mountain Fair, held at the historic Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds this summer. Thousands of visitors from across the region have experienced the excitement and nostalgia that the event has to offer. With first class musical performances, fun carnival rides, unique attractions and a glimpse into North Georgia's rich history and culture, the Fair provides something for every member of the family. For daily events visit www.georgiamountainfairgrounds.com

7/24/2010 The Return (Beatles Tribute) with the Sock Hops

1028 Georgia Road • Franklin, NC 28734 • Cost: \$15.00
 Phone: 866-273-4615 • Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com
 • Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
 Description: The captivating, fun, exciting spirit that came to be known as "Beatlemania" is alive again in the Return-the world's most authentic and entertaining Beatles tribute band. These four lads, all in their early to mid-twenties, have carefully and skillfully recreated the Beatles experience by not only performing all the great songs of the original four, but also by sporting the same suits, boots, mop-tops, musical instruments, and gear.

7/24/2010 Appalachian Pottery Festival

Fodder Creek Rd • Hiwassee, GA 30546
 Location: Bald Mountain Park Resort
 Hours: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm • Cost: Free
 Website: www.appalachianpotteryfestival.weebly.com
 Description: A pottery lovers dream!

7/29/2010 - 8/1/2010 Fiddler on the Roof

301 Church Street • Hayesville, NC 28904
 Location: Peacock Playhouse
 Hours: Thurs, Fri & Sat 8pm Sun 2:30pm
 Phone: 877-691-9906 • Email: licklog@verizon.net
 Website: www.licklogplayers.org • Sponsor: Licklog Players

Description: Set in Tsarist Russia in 1905. It is based on Tevye and his Daughters (or Tevye the Milkman) and other tales by Sholem Aleichem. The story centers on Tevye, the father of five daughters, and his attempts to maintain his family and religious traditions while outside influences encroach upon their lives. He must cope with both the strong-willed actions of his three older daughters—each one's choice of husband moves further away from the customs of her faith—and with the edict of the Tsar that evicts the Jews from their village.

7/30/2010 Point of Grace & Laura Story

1028 Georgia Road • Franklin, NC 28734 • Cost: \$15.00
 Phone: 866-273-4615 • Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com
 • Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
 Description: Come be a part of a wonderful night of worship with award winning Christian artists/songwriters Point of Grace and Laura Story.

An Article by Your Friends at SERVPRO of Union, Towns, Fannin & Gilmer Counties

Contact: Keith Wall
 SERVPRO of Union, Towns, Fannin & Gilmer Counties
 (706) 896-1880
servpro9658@gmail.com

Campaign Sparks Discussion About Indoor Air Quality in Local Homes

SERVPRO of Union, Towns, Fannin & Gilmer Counties talks about the importance of air quality during Home Safety Month

Hiwassee, GA (Grassroots Newswire) May 20, 2010
 When thinking about the safety of one's home, initial thoughts turn to smoke detectors or child-proof measures such as safety locks on kitchen cabinets. Rarely do people think about the quality of their indoor air, said Keith Wall, owner of SERVPRO of Union, Towns, Fannin & Gilmer Counties.

In recognition of Home Safety Month this June, the local emergency cleanup and restoration business owner is explaining why Hiwassee-area residents should make addressing air quality a top priority and safety measure in their homes. Mold is one potential air quality problem.

"Mold spores are everywhere in our environment and can easily enter homes," Wall said. "Every year about 40 pounds of dust is generated per 1,500 square feet in a home. Most types of mold grow quickly if they have a water source, an organic food source and temperatures between 60 and 86 degrees Fahrenheit."

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has noted that moisture and mold problems in buildings may result in health issues. Families living in those buildings may experience odors and various health problems, such as headaches and allergic reactions. The EPA suggests these health problems could potentially be associated with people being exposed to mold.

Wall recommends residents take the following Healthy Home Checklist regarding indoor air:

- Do you smoke in your home?
- Does your kitchen, bathroom and laundry room have ventilation and exhaust fans?
- Do you change your air filters once a month?
- When cleaning or doing laundry, do you use bleach, ammonia or aerosol spray cans?
- Is your gas fireplace and/or gas stove checked yearly for emissions?
- Was your home built before 1978? If so, has it been checked for lead-based paint?
- Do your bathrooms have carpet where moisture and dust can build up?
- If you have answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may want to consider making changes in these areas of your home. According to the EPA, it is impossible to eliminate all molds, but mold growth can be controlled indoors by controlling moisture. Wall said to consider taking the following steps:
 - Correct any water leaks or standing water.
 - Remove standing water under cooling coils or air handling units.
 - Replace washing machine hoses with steel mesh lines.
 - Move large objects away from the walls to provide good air circulation.
 - Use exhaust fans in the bathroom, kitchens and laundry rooms.
 - Properly maintain humidifiers, if any.
 - Replace wet or visibly moldy insulation and carpet materials.
- Have dirty ducts cleaned by a professional.

"Since the ventilation system is often the biggest culprit in poor indoor air quality, inspecting the ductwork should be a high priority," Wall said. "Dirty ducts can circulate odors, contaminants such as mold, and irritating dust throughout your home. So, it's important to have someone examine the HVAC system and make a clean sweep of the ductwork."

In some circumstances, such as after fire, smoke or suspected mold growth, duct cleaning becomes an essential part of the cleanup process.

For more information about SERVPRO of Union, Towns, Fannin & Gilmer Counties or about addressing mold and moisture problems in your home, please contact Keith Wall at (706) 896-1880.

About SERVPRO
 Founded in 1967, the SERVPRO franchise system is a national leader and provider of fire and water cleanup and restoration services and mold mitigation and remediation. SERVPRO's professional services network of more than 1,500 individually owned and operated franchises responds to property damage emergencies ranging from small individual disasters to multi-million dollar large-loss situations. Providing coverage in 48 states, the SERVPRO System has established relationships with major insurance companies and commercial clients, as well as individual homeowners. All SERVPRO franchises are independently owned and operated.

June birthdays at Chatuge Regional Nursing Home



June birthdays were celebrated at Chatuge Regional Nursing Home. United Community Bank in Hiwassee provided the balloons. The Women's Auxiliary at the Hiwassee VFW provided the cake and helped serve at the party. Music was provided by resident Hollis Nuckolls on the piano. Celebrating birthdays in June are Ricky Welch, Florence Seneski, James Ledford, Barney Word, Joseph Gilbert, Mary Cotter, Arthur Arrowood, and Mont Bryson. Happy Birthday to each of the residents celebrating a birthday. TOW21,F55SH

July birthdays at Brasstown Manor Nursing Home



Brasstown Manor held a birthday party for residents on Friday, July 16, 2010. Olivia Cable, C.D. Phillips, Oliven Cowan, Vi Moyer and Connie Wilson are among those celebrating a July birthday as Kay Yandell of Bank of Hiwassee looks on. CONGRATULATIONS and HAPPY BIRTHDAY! TOW21,F55SH

Schools achieve AYP...continued from page 1

says we have to achieve. "I think it shows the staff is working very hard, they're focused and trying to present a quality curriculum," he said. "It's hard work achieving AYP seven years in a row."

"We're very excited," he said. "We maintain a consistent pattern. Occasionally, we have our ups and downs. In this case, our staff and faculty have worked very hard over the years."

Only four other schools statewide have achieved AYP more consecutive years than Towns County Schools.

All three Towns County Schools passed all the indicators required to achieve AYP. It isn't easy to make AYP because schools have various subgroups that must achieve to meet AYP as well as categories that include participation rates, various scores and graduation test results.

"One of the things that surprised us, we improved on our graduation rate this year," Dr. Behrens said.

"We're very excited about that. The high school was above state average in all their categories on the graduation test."

In June, the school also was honored with a high rate of achievement in CRCT scores. Students Georgia public schools grades 1-8 are required to take the CRCT in reading, English and math. Students in grades 3-8 also take science and social studies exams. Third-graders must pass the reading exam for promotion. Students in the fifth and eighth grades must pass the reading and math tests for promotion.

Towns County Schools have excelled in CRCT exams throughout the decade.

"We've continued to improve in that area," Dr. Behrens said. "That's something we work very hard on each school year."

Also, add the distinction of being named the 66th best high school out of 358 high schools in Georgia by the Georgia Public Policy

Foundation and actually, 2010 was a very good year.

Even with meeting AYP seven consecutive years with five consecutive years of distinguished status, Dr. Behrens said the school system has many areas of which it can improve.

"We're excited, but at the same time, we know we can do better in certain areas," he said. "We'll never stop working to improve."

Personally, seven years of distinguished AYP means a lot to Dr. Behrens.

"As we've experienced this past year, you can have a test score that can hurt you," he said. "This was kind of bittersweet because of what happened last year. We're a small school, we're going to have some tests that go down sometimes and we're going to have some tests that go up."

"But, consistently, we stay above of what is expected of us," he said. "Hopefully, we'll continue. I know that the staff and the faculty will continue to keep working toward that."