

Fair begins... from page 1

Lee brings her musical talents to Anderson Music Hall along with Freddie Way.

On Saturday, the annual Georgia Mountain Fair Parade provides a day of memories.

The parade begins at the Bank of Hiawassee and ends at the Fairgrounds. The day also features the musical duo, The Bellamy Brothers and local music legend Tommy Townsend & Waymore's Outlaws.

On Sunday, an Interfaith Worship Service is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the Fairgrounds with Jerry Goff. That's followed at 2 p.m. by the Gospel Music Show featuring The McKamey's, The Primitives and The Inspirations.

The fair continues

through July 31.

This year's event also features a Rockin' A Ranch Petting Zoo. The petting zoo features live cattle, horses, ponies, donkey, mule zebra, llama, camel, and more. These animals are part of a breeding program and private collection.

Another new attraction this year is Mal McEwen, who brings his chainsaw to the Fairgrounds for artistic display of chainsaw art.

The event also features the ever popular carnival rides and the annual arts and crafts shows, held daily with real exhibitions of old time craft making.

It's an event you don't want to miss.

Fashion show door prize winners

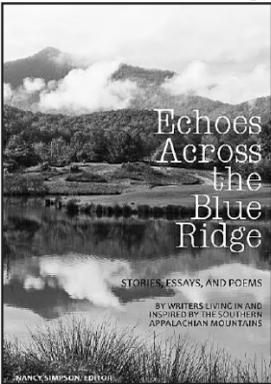


L to r: Debbie Wickersham, Owner Britt and Capri, Robin Plott, winner of the BodySense prize, Kathryn Scroggs, winner of the Britt and Capri prize, Chef James Reaux, Bobbi LeHoullier, winner of the Chophouse Prize, and Donna McAuliffe, Owner of BodySense.

The Chophouse of Hiawassee hosted a fashion show on Thursday, July 15 with Britt and Capri and BodySense pro-

viding summer fashions. Each of the participating businesses donated a \$50 gift certificate as door prizes. TJul21.F5/SH

Local authors' newest effort met with great enthusiasm



Winding Path Publishing and Nancy Simpson, editor, announce the release of Echoes Across the Blue Ridge, Stories, Essays and Poems by Writers Living in and Inspired by the Southern Appalachian Mountains. The sixty-eight writers and poets included, reside within the nine counties south of Asheville, on the Qualla Boundary and in bordering counties of Georgia and South Carolina. Members of the North Carolina Writers Network West conceived the idea of the anthology, raised funds and through their efforts brought it to fruition.

North Carolina author, Lee Smith said of this anthology, "Straight from the land of sky, song and story, another dynamic collection -- strong and surprising."

Noted educator, writer and poet, Robert Morgan writes in his introduction, "Beyond the storytelling, the ballads, the songs, the fiddle music, there is something profoundly poetic about the Southern Appalachian Mountains."

"It is the work of writers to both celebrate the present and to remember the past. Much of the old culture of the mountains is passing or has already passed away. But I am happy to say that a great deal of that life is recovered and brought into connection

with the present in the work of our current authors in Echoes Across the Blue Ridge. Here you have the writing of renowned poet laureates such as Kathryn Stripling Byer and Bettie M. Sellers, alongside the work of newcomers whose writing gives me renewed confidence in the future of Appalachian literature."

Among the local authors from Towns, and Union Counties are Glenda Barrett, Mary Michelle Brodine Keller, Karen Holmes, Jo Carolyn Beebe, Carole Richard Thompson, Maren Mitchell, Dorothea Spiegel, Rosemary Royston and Clarence Newton.

Philip Sampson of Blairsville, GA made the photograph from which Katja Holmes of Atlanta designed the cover. Upon request, Steven Harvey, professor of English at Young Harris College and author of three books of personal essays, generously offered use of his work for the book. Byer and Sellers work was also solicited.

Thomas Rain Crowe of the Tuckasegee community in western North Carolina, author of twenty books of original works, anthologies, and recordings also offered his work for the anthology.

Gary Carden, renowned playwright and story teller from Sylva, NC donated the proceeds from a special production of his play, Birdell, to NCWN West to help with costs involved in publishing Echoes Across the Blue Ridge. Two of Carden's stories appear in the book.

The anthology is dedicated to the memory of our Appalachian ballad poet Byron Herbert Reece. Several pieces of his work are included.

Echoes Across the Blue Ridge is available at Curiosity Books in Murphy, Phillips and Lloyd Bookstore in Hayesville, NC and the Book Nook in Blairsville, GA. NT(Jul21.Z3)SH

What's new with Lake Chatuge?

Callie Moore, Director of the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition, spoke to those attending the regular meeting of the Towns County Historical Society on Monday, July 12, 2010. Setting up a slide show presentation in the Senior Center in Hiawassee, she first gave a brief history of the HRWC which became a non-profit 501c3 in 1995, working in Cherokee and Clay counties in North Carolina and in Towns and Union counties in Georgia. Funding from a state grant will soon provide the paid position of a Lake Chatuge Watershed Restoration coordinator who will work on educational materials, livestock BMP's (Best Management Practices), storm water BMP's for residents and commercial, and septic tank repairs.

For those newcomers to this area who may not know, Lake Chatuge is a 7,000 acre reservoir created by TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority) in 1942 for the purpose of storing flood waters. Lake Chatuge is very important to the local economy, bringing many tourists (our number one industry) to Towns County. Thus keeping it a "clean" lake is important for boaters, swimmers, fishermen and anyone trying to make a living here. A lake dying with algae is not what brings income to the area.

A number of problems have sent the lake quality from "good" to "poor" in recent years: soil erosion with the construction of lake homes and close developments; lack of woody vegetation along

lake properties (riparian buffer) to filter runoff from fertilized lawns and golf courses; waste and overgrazing from livestock with unlimited access to waterways; waste from Canada geese; lack of storm water retention and treatment from parking lots and highways; leaking or failing septic systems.

Even though the City of Hiawassee's wastewater facility is in full compliance with state and federal permits, discharges of treated wastewater also add nutrients to the lake. Increasing the size of the wastewater plant will reduce the amount of phosphorous and nitrogen allowed to be discharged into the lake, helping greatly with that point source of nutrients. HRWC is working with both the City of Hiawassee and the County Commissioner to achieve this end. The SPLOST that the County is proposing for next spring would help pay for an enlarged plant.

Homeowners can also do their part by maintaining a good riparian buffer on your property if you border streams or the lake, restrict fertilizer use, retain and treat storm water runoff from your property with a rain garden, and don't encourage the geese. Learn more by going to www.hrwc.net or by calling 828-837-5414.

Moore said TVA is currently doing a full survey of the lake this summer and HRWC should have results by March or April of 2011.

The Towns County His-

torical Society meets the second Monday of each month at the Senior Center in Hiawassee

at 5 p.m. All are invited to attend and join this active group. Dues are only \$15. TJul21.G2)SH

A bear in the birdfeeder....



Ray and Helen Rowe of Ramey Mountain submitted this photo of one of their several ursine visitors. Bears of assorted sizes are visiting them regularly, with some dining on the deck and others enjoying their delicious blueberries. This little

fella had his birdseed lunch and then for a few minutes seemed to forget how he had gotten up on the railing. After some bear acrobatics he finally managed to make his exit. The Rowes have since removed their bird feeders. TJul21.J1)SH

Rehearsals for Fiddler On the Roof



Partial cast at rehearsal

Is This the Little Girl I Carried? Is This the Little Boy at Play? I don't remember growing older. When did they?

Rehearsal continues for Fiddler on the Roof! The cast for Fiddler on the Roof rehearse in costume at the Peacock Playhouse, in Hayesville, NC. Fiddler on the Roof will be performed by the Licklog Players, Thursday evening, July 29 through Sunday matinee, August 1st and again on

Friday, August 5th through Sunday matinee, August 8th.

Visit the Licklog Players online at <http://licklogplayers.org/info> for more information, times, prices, and directions. To make reservations you may also call 828-389-8632 or toll free at 1-877-691-9906. Tickets are reasonably priced at \$15 for adults and \$8 for students/children.

If you'd like more information, call me - Jeanne Mills, 706-745-3500. NJul21-G4)gg