



Chamber Chronicles

The official source of Towns County Chamber News

Wednesday August 4, 2010

Angel's Chamber Messages



Towns County Tourism Association Sponsors the 2nd Annual Georgia Mountain Moonshine Cruiz-In

The 2nd Annual Georgia Mountain Moonshine Cruiz-In will be held August 12, 13 & 14 from 8am – 5pm daily at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds. Guests will enjoy strolling the pioneer setting, live mountain music, folk exhibits, local crafts, and of course hundreds of hot classic cars. There will also be plenty of automotive vendors on display to help with a hard to find part for your classic car or street rod. The shade trees, lakeside breeze and a cold glass of lemonade will cool participants and guests alike. Thanks to the Towns County Tourism Association, the City of Hiwassee, Towns County Commissioner's Office and the kind people of the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, there will be some good ole mountain music shows on Friday and Saturday night at the Anderson Music Hall located on the grounds. There will also be a Hot Rod Parade on Friday, August 13th beginning at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds at 7pm and will end with live music on the Square in Hiwassee. The nominal admission charge of \$10/day or three days for \$20 will prove to be one of the best deals of the summer. There is no charge for parking and free shuttle service will be available. Registered vehicles will receive a discount. Make plans now for the best Classic Automotive Fest you have ever attended! For more information, call 706.896.4191.

Meeting Announcement

The Towns County Tourism Association's August Board Meeting will be held on August 17th at 8:30am in the Board Room of the Towns County Chamber of Commerce. Contact Jane Holland at 706.896.4966.

Season's 4 Designs is Now Open!

Season's 4 Designs provides shoppers with exquisite table linens and fine gifts for the home. They are located on 132 N. Main Street in Hiwassee. Contact Anne at 706-435-0620.

The Towns County Chamber of Commerce Welcomes our Newest Members:

Van Keith Insurance of Hiwassee is located at 150A North Main Street in Hiwassee. They sell Life, Health, Home, Car and Business Insurance. They can be reached at 706-896-0029 or by email at matthew_vankeith@windstream.net.

Bread of Life Family Restaurant is located at 871 Main Street in Young Harris. They are open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. They have an all you can eat buffet and grill to order as well. Guests also enjoy a breakfast buffet on Saturday's. They can be reached at 706-379-2136.

Gause RV Center, Inc. is located at 501 Sunnyside Shores in Hiwassee. They offer RV Sales, part store, RV Service & Mobile service available and have over 35 years of RV experience. Ricky and Linda Gause can be reached at 706-896-7897 or by email at gauservcenter@windstream.net. Their web address is gauservcenter.com.

Interview with Andrea Bowman, 2010 President of the Northeast Georgia Board of Realtors.

How long have you been a real estate professional? I have been a licensed Real Estate Agent for more than ten years and have a background in business administration.

What advice would you give someone looking to become a real estate professional? Being a Realtor® has been a very rewarding career for me, helping my clients and families achieve their dream of home ownership and investing in their future has created many lifelong friendships and bonds. If you're dedicated and willing to work hard, sometimes with long hours, you can have a wonderful career in Real Estate.

Are your customers today coming from the same areas as in previous years? We still see a high number of our Customers coming from the Southeastern Region of the United States, but I believe we will start to see more and more International visitors and Investors, with opportunities for investment and home ownership in the U. S.

What indications do you have regarding the local real estate market? Have we hit bottom? Are we on our way back up? Overall the Real Estate Market remains sluggish. The good news is that we have seen a National rise in home sales over the last few months and a significant increase over this time last year. The National median price declined an average of 3 % from May to June but this is mostly due to Foreclosures. We still have a large volume of foreclosed properties and according to our MLS statistics in the 6 County area that we cover, over 30% of our sales volume has been in foreclosed properties over the last few months. I believe that we will continue to see many more foreclosed and distressed property sales and that this will continue for at least the next 12 to 18 months.

Do you think the local real estate market will ever recover to the point that it was in 2006 & 2007? There is a light at the end of our tunnel, as we start to see more investors taking advantage of the great opportunities that are out there. Land sales have seen an improvement, and homes that are priced to sell are doing just that.

What percentage of your clientele is looking for foreclosures? I rarely work with a customer anymore that doesn't at least inquire about foreclosures, what's out there, and are there any good deals.

What are your clients looking for? Primary Residence, Second Home, Investment Property? Our area remains well known as a haven for retirees, exclusive getaways and seasonal retreats. Our Clientele still seek second homes, vacation rentals and investment opportunities.

Do today's buyers have more difficulty with financing approval than in previous years? As lending regulations tighten and new laws are implemented, the loan process has become more difficult, but buyers with a good credit history and available down payment funds are still able to obtain loans.

What can sellers do to compete with foreclosures? The competition with foreclosures is the most difficult Challenge for today's Sellers, and its all about pricing. Sellers need to be sure that they find a Realtor® experienced with property evaluation to help them with pricing, a property overpriced will remain on the market indefinitely. A Realtor® will work with you to help you through the process of getting your property SOLD.

Does staging a home help it sell in this market? There are many things a Seller can do to improve their chances for a sale, and again their Realtor® can help them achieve this goal. Staging is an excellent example of making a home "sellable", it takes an experienced agent to show you how to stage your home for optimum results.

What is the most common misconception for buyers purchasing a foreclosed home? The most common misconception that buyers purchasing foreclosed properties have is probably the length of time it may take for a sale to come to fruition, it is not always a simple process.

Are there any advantages to purchasing a home that is not in financial distress versus a home in foreclosure? Distressed properties are not always the best deal out there, they rarely come with any disclosures or prior history information, and they are often damaged or have had permanent attachments removed from the property. Buyers should always have a property inspected by a licensed home inspector.

Member Calendar of Events

8/4/2010 Back to School Concert
1028 Georgia Road • Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 866-273-4615 • Cost: \$12.00
Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com

Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
Description: Featuring Shane and Shane and guest speaker Mark Cahill. (Groups greater than 10 people receive discount tickets at \$10 a piece)

8/5/2010 - 8/8/2010 Fiddler on the Roof
301 Church Street • Hayesville, NC 28904
Location: Peacock Playhouse
Hours: Thurs-Sat 8pm Sun 2:30 • 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.

8/6/2010 Ms. Patty's Entertainment Tonight II
1028 Georgia Road • Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 866-273-4615 • Cost: \$8-\$10.
Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com

Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
Description: A fantastic, fun-filled evening for the entire family presented by a host of talented singers, dancers and musicians. You do not want to miss spectacular performance! All proceeds go to Franklin First United Methodist Church missions.

8/7/2010 Ronnie McDowell - The Elvis Presley Story
1028 Georgia Road • Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 866-273-4615 • Cost: \$20-\$30
Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com

Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
Description: THE ELVIS PRESLEY STORY. Starring Ronnie McDowell and featuring memories of Elvis by his former backup singers and band members: The Jordanaires * The Stamps Quartet D.J. Fontana * Millie Kirkham

8/9/2010 - 8/10/2010 Blue Moon Musical Revue
1028 Georgia Road • Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 866-273-4615 Cost: \$8-12
Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com

Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
Description: Blue Moon Musical Revue, A Fun-Filled Doo-Wop Ride through the music of the 1950's & '60's.

8/12/2010 - 8/14/2010 2nd Annual Georgia Mountain Moonshine Cruiz-In
1311 Music Hall Rd. • Hiwassee, GA 30546
Location: Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds

Hours: 8am-5pm Sorry no pets due to Fairgrounds regulations. Handicap mobile devices permitted. Electric scooter rental will also be available. • Cost: \$10.00 per day
Contact: Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds
Phone: 706-896-4191 • Email: gamtfair@windstream.net

Website: www.georgiamountainfairgrounds.com
Sponsor: Towns County Tourism Association
Description: Georgia Mountain Moonshine Cruiz-In, is held at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds from 8am-5pm daily August 12, 13 & 14. Enjoy strolling the pioneer setting, live mountain music, folk exhibits, local crafts, and of course hundreds of hot classic cars. There will also be plenty of automotive vendors on display to help you with a hard to find part for your classic car or street rod. The shade trees, lakeside views, and ice cold lemonade will keep visitors cool. There will also be a hot rod parade on Friday night that will end with music on the square.

8/14/2010 Ricky Skaggs
mmee1028 Georgia Road • Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 866-273-4615 • Cost: \$35-45
Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com

Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts
Description: Sometimes in life, things come full circle. That's the story of Ricky Skaggs. By age 21, he was already considered a "recognized master" of one of America's most demanding art forms, but his career took him in other directions, catapulting him to popularity and success in the mainstream of country music. Now the road has brought him back to where it all began - bluegrass music.

SAY SO LONG TO SAGGY SKIN!

We are pleased to offer the next generation in skin tightening for facial rejuvenation AND body contouring for overall fat reduction through Lipolysis Ultra-Sonic Thermal ("LUST") treatments!



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Dr. Church named Rotary Citizen of Year



Local Rotarians appreciating a family musical performance from Dr. Church & his children. Event: Pages in the Park, a Rotary event to raise awareness & funding for the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy.

Good works -- humanitarian service to the community -- can often go unnoticed especially if done with the modest & quiet heart of sincere giving. While this essential care is the foundation upon which any community depends, it is often overshadowed by the highlighting of less admirable behavior around us. Human nature seems to gravitate toward catching others doing "bad" behaviors, vs. catching others doing good.

In the spirit catching others "doing good" in our community, the Lake Chatuge Rotary Club honors local citizens who have exemplified Rotary's motto... "Service Above Self."

Each year, the local service club awards their "Citizen of the Year" award to 2 citizens, one in Towns & one in Clay County. We honor these recipient's gracious gifts of service to our community.

This week, Lake Chatuge Rotary would like to acknowledge its Towns County recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award... Dr. Samuel Le Church. Dr. Church's volunteer efforts are quite varied

& multifaceted, from providing free sports physicals for Towns County Schools to being a volunteer firefighter... from volunteering his time for the children's choir at McConnell Baptist Church to actively raising money each year for Relay for Life.

Here is a list of some of the other contributions that Dr. Church has made to our community: Medical director - Enotah Child Advocacy Center (A multidisciplinary team in Towns/Union for child abuse Intervention). Established a pilot site for telemedicine collaboration with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Child Protection Center, Member of Towns/Union Sexual Assault Response Team, Towns County Drug Free Coalition Board of Directors, Soccer coach for regional recreation teams Wrestling Coach, Towns County Youth Wrestling, TC Middle School, and TC High School Football/Wrestling Team Doctor Volunteer Doctor, GA, Baptist Mobile Medical and Dental Clinic.

While it was common knowledge that Dr. Church graciously gave of his time in the

community, it was somewhat more of a challenge to gather the above list for publication... which came from other sources (Dr. Church's multifaceted contributions are matched only by his reticence to self promote...and his knack for flying beneath the radar). In responding to Rotary's honoring him with Citizen of the Year Award, Dr. Church responded, "...Nancy and I are involved in many things and have made a commitment to our community in many areas. We have established that in our family, serving others is a big part of what we do. Our fulfillment has already come from the lives and activities we have been able to participate in. ...I am appreciative of Rotary's efforts to foster and promote the ideal of "Service Above Self." If this recognition will serve as a catalyst and inspiration for others to give of themselves, then I am proud to serve in that capacity..."

The Lake Chatuge Rotary Club honors Dr. Church for his service to our community. He has made an outstanding contribution to making our small little corner of the world an even better place to live.

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Dr. Church receiving Rotary's Citizen of the Year Award



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