



# Chamber Chronicles

The official source of Towns County Chamber News

Wednesday August 25, 2010

## Angel's Chamber Messages



### August Business After Hours

Season's 4 Designs, Sunflower Interiors and Michael's Chocolate Café will be hosting our August Business After Hours on Tuesday, August 31st from 5pm - 7pm. Season's 4 Designs, Sunflower Interiors and Michael's are located in the Timberlake Village on Main Street in Hiwassee. Contact the Towns County Chamber of Commerce at 706.896.4966 with any questions.

### Towns County Tourism Association's Holiday Weekend Updates

On September 3 & 4 (Labor Day Weekend) Bar W Rodeo Company, which is sanctioned by the Professional Cowboys Association, will bring a rodeo to the Towns County Industrial Park in Hiwassee, Georgia. This rodeo is dedicated to the memory of Junior "Tootie" Ledford who was an integral part of the Bar W Rodeo Company in its earlier years. Bull riding, calf roping barrel racing and broc riding are just a few of the events that will be part of the full rodeo show. Kids will enjoy the calf scramble as well as the mutton busting. Clowns as well as bullfighters will entertain

the crowd. Kids (old and young alike) will want to ride the mechanical bull as well as either climb a rock wall, bungee jump or ride the swings. There will be vendors selling their wares as well as food concessions for those who come hungry. The Hiwassee Rodeo promises to be a fun filled time for the whole family. Gates open at 6pm each night with the show starting at 8pm on Friday and Saturday nights.

### Member Update on Deb Collins Signature Gallery and The Tangerine Frog

Deb Collins, artist and owner of Deb Collins Signature Gallery and The Tangerine Frog has moved to her new building at 347 North Main Street in Hiwassee. Deb and husband Russ have lots of new merchandise since moving to their new, much larger location and can be reached at 706.896.1294.

### The Ridges Resort & Marina is Having a Fireworks Show!

On Sunday, September 5th, The Ridges Resort & Marina will be having a huge fireworks show that is free and open to the public. The fireworks show will start at dark. Contact The Ridges Resort & Marina at 706.896.2262 for more information. "Summer's Last Kiss" - An Affair with the Arts will be held September 25 & 26 on the Square in Hiwassee. It is a community celebration of creative arts featuring art exhibits, music, street dance and great food.

### Member Calendar of Events

**8/26/2010 Peter Noone's Herman's Hermits**  
1028 Georgia Road, Franklin, NC 28734, Phone: 866-273-4615  
Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com  
Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Description: Peter Blair Denis Bernard Noone is a multi-talented entertainer, who has been delighting audiences nearly all his life. He was born in Manchester, England, where he studied voice and acting at St. Bede's College and the Manchester School of Music and Drama.

### 8/27/2010 Protecting Your Streambank

195 Georgia Mountain Experiment Station Rd., Blairsville, GA 30512. Location: The Georgia Mountain Research & Education Center. Hours: Doors open at 9:00 AM - Program 10:00-11:45 AM. Contact: Clare Johnston, Phone: 706-745-2655. Email: gmrec@uga.edu Website: www.gmrec.uga.edu Sponsor: The Outreach Committee of the Community Council. Description: HRWC staff members, Callie Moore & Tony Ward will speak about the most threatening non-native, invasive plants found in riparian areas throughout the upper Hiwassee River watershed, as well as watershed-friendly bank stabilization techniques.

### 8/28/2010 - 8/29/2010 2010 Lake Chatuge Tour of Homes

US Hwy 76, Young Harris, GA 30582. Location: The Ridges Resort Marina. Hours: Boat leaves from the Ridges Resort 11am, 2pm, & 5pm. Phone: 706-781-3030. Sponsor: The Northeast Georgia Board of Realtors. Cost: \$35. Reservations required. Guided Tour of the most beautiful homes on Lake Chatuge by boat. Description: Tickets may be purchased from the Towns County Chamber of Commerce 706-896-4966 - The Ridges Resort 706-896-2262 or The Northeast Georgia Board of Realtors 706-781-3030. Special room rates available at the Ridges Resort in Hiwassee for tour guests. Ask for the "Lake Tour" special when making your reservation.

### 8/28/2010 - 8/29/2010 Young Harris Art Festival

Highway 76 and Maple Street, Young Harris, GA 30582. Location: Mayor's Park - Young Harris, GA. Hours: 10 AM - 5 PM. Phone: 706-897-6179. Description: Arts & Crafts Festival, great food, entertainment, music & dancers, arts & crafts, children's crafts & clown, pottery & soap making, blacksmith demo and chain saw art. Food preservation and baking competition judged by the Towns and Union County Extension Agents - ribbons to be awarded.

### 8/28/2010 Diamond Rio

1028 Georgia Road, Franklin, NC 28734. Phone: 866-273-4615. Website: www.greatmountainmusic.com. Sponsor: Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Cost: \$25-35. Description: Diamond Rio has long been one of country music's most successful groups. The band released its platinum-selling debut disc in 1991. The following year, Diamond Rio won the Country Music Association's Vocal Group of the Year award for the first time. They've scored nine No. 1 hits and placed 15 singles in the Top Five.

### 8/31/2010 YHC Music Performance Event

Young Harris, GA 30582. Location: Glenn Auditorium. Hours: 7:00pm. Contact: H. Denise Murphy, Asst to Division of Fine Arts. Phone: 706-379-5182. Website: www.yhc.edu. Sponsor: Young Harris College

## Harmony Grits Quartet serenade at Young Harris College



Behind President Cox (front) are Hal Callaway - Lead, Lloyd Dunham - Bass, Jerry Hobbs - Baritone, and Donn Smith - Tenor.

Cathy Cox, the President of Young Harris College was serenaded by the Harmony Grits Quartet part of the High Country Harmonizers. Cathy Cox was presented with tickets to the High Country Harmonizers ninth annual show "REMEMBER" to be held at Clegg Auditorium, on the campus of Young Harris College, on September 11, 2010. The show is dedicated to the memory of all the military, firemen, and policemen who have been killed or injured since the attacks on September 11, 2001.

The show will feature patriotic songs from the High Country Harmonizers in four part acapella Barbershop style. Also featured will be "The Compulsive Lyers from Young Harris College. And "Timeless" a Sweet Adelines Quartet will be performing along with chapter quartets from the High Country Harmonizers.

The show will be on September 11, at 7 PM. Tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Please call 706-994-9801 for tickets. NT(Aug25-G3)gg

## Local quilt artist to teach speedy quilting technique



Iris Biassetti and Connie Tackett discuss the speedy quilting technique.

Connie Tackett, of Morganton, GA, an active member of the Misty Mountain Quilters Guild, will conduct an all-day workshop during the Guild's "Sewcial" on Monday, September 13, at Mountain Presbyterian Church in Blairsville. Ms. Tackett will teach the method "quilt as you go", similar to "lap-quilting", made famous by professional quil-

ter, Georgia Bonesteel. The technique is economical, in that it uses small pieces of batting and scraps on hand. The pattern used will be "Doodle Stars Quilt", and the class is provided free of charge to Guild members.

For more information, visit the guild website: www.mistymountainquiltguild.com. NT(Aug25,W1)SH

## Almost time for Puttin' On the Dog

Norm Bennett and Ken Snyder of Hiwassee and Betty Foss, Tricia Spear and Lynn Varian of Blairsville have completed preparations for the 10th Annual "Puttin on the Dog" fall fundraiser which benefits the Humane Society's Mountain Shelter. The Mountain Shelter serves both Towns and Union Counties. Bennett, long time organizer of the event has put together another exciting afternoon for animal supporters.

A well known and popular tradition, the wine tasting, raffle and silent and live auctions will be held at Crane Creek Vineyards in Young Harris. Eric and DeAnne Livingston Seifarth are again hosting the event at their 15 acre vineyard. The vineyard is blessed with a unique microclimate, warm days, cool nights and a well drained mineral soils which allow the Seifarths to cultivate and harvest grapes that produce fresh, assertive wines. Their Mountain Harvest, Sweet Sally, Brasstown and Enotah selections will delight the tastebuds of the afternoon's guests.

In addition to the vineyard's ambiance, the committee is pleased to announce the return of caterer Andy

Moschetto of Moschetto's in Young Harris. Chef Moschetto and his staff will prepare and elegant taste extravaganza of heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Hoyt's of Blairsville's, John Tamlyn, has donated a 42' flat screen television for the raffle and Betty Foss, auction chairman, has gathered fabulous items for the silent and live auctions.

Major sponsor, United Community Bank's, Mary Taylor said, "This is the most beneficial event of the year for the Humane Society and we are delighted to sponsor their 10th Anniversary. UCBI has been involved in this fund raiser from the beginning and over the years has been pleased to be a part of it's success. We are glad to be able to work together again for the benefit of the animals."

"Puttin on the Dog" will be Sunday afternoon, October 3, 2-5 p.m. at Crane Creek Vineyard. Ticket prices are \$30 and may be purchased at UCBI in Blairsville and Hiwassee, the Mountain Shelter, the HSMS Thrift Stores in Blairsville and Hiwassee, the Towns Chamber, or by calling the Shelter, 706-781-3843. NT(Aug25,U4)SH

## S.A.F.E. volunteer workshop

Support in Abusive Family Emergencies Inc. will be hosting a Volunteer Training Workshop at Cadence Bank/ Blairsville in the community room on September 9, 2010 from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Anyone interested in supporting domestic violence, child abuse and sexual assault intervention services is encouraged to attend.

Our mission is to provide support, advocacy and emergency shelter to 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.

We have many areas of opportunity for our volunteers

in direct client services, transportation, mentoring, child care and helping with our children's program once a week just to mention a few. We also have needs in non-client related services as well such as maintenance, picking up donations, helping out in our two thrift-stores and helping with fund raising and special events projects.

A lunch will be provided for this event. There is no cost to attend this training, however registration is required. To register or for more information about this workshop contact Margie Porter - Volunteer Coordinator for S.A.F.E. at 706-379-1901 or e-mail Mporter@safeservices.org. NT(Aug25,A5)SH

## Holmes to read at Coffee With the Poets

Karen Paul Holmes, award-winning freelance writer and poet, will be the featured reader at Coffee with the Poets, a monthly gathering of those who write and who enjoy poetry. The reading will be held in the Dessertery in the Phillips and Lloyd Book Store on the square in Hayesville, NC on Wednesday, September 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Karen, a former VP-Communications at ING (a global financial services company), now regularly participates in poetry readings throughout Atlanta and the Blue Ridge Mountains. She has a home in Hiwassee and belongs to the North Carolina Writers' Network, Georgia Poetry Society and Atlanta Writers Club. Karen's publish-

ing credits include journals such as Poetry East, Atlanta Review and Sow's Ear Poetry Review and anthologies, including Echoes Across the Blue Ridge: Stories, Essays & Poems Written by Writers Living in & Inspired by the Southern Appalachian Mountains.

In late September, Karen will teach a class on reading in public at the Writer's Circle in Hayesville, NC. In January, she'll be teaching a writing class at John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC.

The public is invited to come and listen to this fine poet and to bring their original poems to read at open mic. Delicious desserts, snacks, coffees and teas are furnished by the Dessertery for a nominal fee. TA(Aug25,H1)SH

## Local contributors to new anthology

Local poet and writer, Glenda C. Beall whose story, The Trillium, was included in Echoes Across the Blue Ridge was one of the readers at Malalpro's books in Asheville, NC Sunday, August 22. She will also be a featured reader at Blue Ridge Books in Waynesville, NC on August 28.

Karen Holmes of Hiwassee, GA and Atlanta was also invited to Asheville to read from Echoes Across the Blue Ridge, new anthology published this summer by the NCWN West literary group. This book has been widely praised and is available at your local bookstores now.

This book makes an excellent gift for anyone who enjoys Appalachian writing. Bed and Breakfast Inns find the book is perfect for keeping in the rooms for their guests. Vacation cabin owners also buy copies for their guests to enjoy while visiting.

Robert Morgan author of Boone, wrote the introduction and Ron Rash, author of Serena and other novels, rec-



Glenda Beall in new writing studio

ommends the book. Over 65 authors and poets living in and inspired by these mountains submitted poetry, stories, and essays. Tipper Pressley of Brasstown was a contributor of art work and Philip Sampson contributed the cover photo.

The book was edited by Nancy Simpson of Hayesville, and includes work by Bettie Sellers of Young Harris, Steven Harvey of Blairsville, GA and Kathryn Byer, former Poet Laureate of NC.

Look for book signings of Echoes Across the Blue Ridge, Stories, poems and essays by writers living in and inspired by the Southern Appalachian Mountains in your local bookstore in coming months. NT(Aug25-G9)gg

## Flower Show winning design



Dorothy Lee's winning design

Hiwassee Garden Club member and judge, Dorothy Lee, won a Blue Ribbon, the Award of Design Excellence, and the Designers Choice Award in the 60th Anniversary Standard Flower Show that was presented at the Georgia Mountain Fair this year. Her creative, lighted design featured dried and fresh hydrangeas. TA(Aug25,G1)SH

## New book from local writer

Nancy Simpson is the author of two previous poetry collections, *Night Student* and *Across Water*. She earned an MFA from Warren Wilson College and has had poems published in *Prairie Schooner*, *The Georgia Review* and other literary magazines. She edited *Light in the Mountains: Stories, Essays and Poems by Writers Living in and Inspired by the Southern Appalachian Mountains* and most recently edited *Echoes Across the Blue Ridge*. Seven of her poems were reprinted in McFarland Press's textbook, *Southern Appalachian Poetry*. In 1991, she received the North Carolina Arts Council Writing Fellowship for poetry. A longtime member of the North Carolina Writers Network, she co-founded Netwest to serve writers in the nine westernmost counties and Qualla Boundary. She founded the Clay County Arts Council Annual Poetry Contest for Middle School, High School and Adults. For the past fifteen years, she has worked to develop the Writing Program as Resident Writer at John C. Campbell Folk School.

Living Above the Frost Line is the first in our Laureate Series which features chosen by past or present North Carolina Poets Laureate. Poet Laureate Emerita Kathryn Lippert Byer selected Simpson's work for her engagement with the land she lives upon as well as the ethical life of this coun-

try: "Simpson's poems speak with a voice that knows where it comes from, honoring that place and the web of relationships that exist within it. She can make the world shimmer in a single line. She can break your heart. She can sing. She does what a poet has to do, wake the reader into a fresh vision of reality." Poet Laureate Emeritus Fred Chappell concurs: "Hard-won, sometimes hard-bitten, the poems of *Living Above the Frost Line* emerge from the page like daffodils from a snow bank: colorful, hardy and defiant. It is a privilege to be admitted into Nancy Simpson's intense vision of the world, a pleasure to stand for a while in its light." Pulitzer-Prize-winning poet Claudia Emerson is of like mind: "*Living Above the Frost Line* showcases the arc of a life lived richly and rendered in finely-made poems of heartbreak—and beauty. Nancy Simpson possesses a wise world view grounded in and informed by the intricacies of place, offering us all 'the great haven' poetry can be in hands as capable as hers."

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