

Towns County Herald

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Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010

Local Weather and Lake Levels

Thur: Storms	86 56
Fri: Storms	87 61
Sat: Storms	87 61
Sun: Storms	85 57
Mon: Sunny	85 57
Tue: Storms	83 56
Wed: Cloudy	82 55



Upstream Elevation Predicted 9/08/10	
Lake Chatuge	1921.70
Lake Nottely	1769.30
Blue Ridge	1642.20

INDEX

18 Pages

Arrests.....	2
Church/Obits.....	8,9
Classifieds.....	14
Editorial.....	4
Calendar.....	4
Legals.....	15
Sports.....	12,13
Television.....	10

Chamber Chronicles

Page 11

Dems meet

Towns County Democrats will meet Thursday at 5 p.m. at The Chophouse of Hiwassee in the private dining room area.

Russell Edwards, a candidate for the 10th Congressional District seat currently occupied by Incumbent Paul Broun will be one of the guest speakers.

Also on hand, Jack Lance Jr., candidate for Georgia House District 8, currently occupied by State Rep. Stephen Allison, a Blairsville Republican.

Also, Jim Powell, who is Towns County's representative in the Roy Barnes campaign for Governor, will speak. For more details and to RSVP, call Kim Bailey at (706) 896-6747.



Food Pantry

The Towns County Food Pantry will hold its free food distribution on Tuesday, Sept. 14. The distribution will be held at the Towns County Food Pantry on Jack Dayton Circle from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. All that are in need of assistance are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to pick up your food, please call (706) 896-4783 for more details prior to distribution day. This allows us to make arrangements to deliver food to you. All clients and inquiries are kept confidential.



Mountain Music

Get ready for a week-end of celebrated mountain music at the Mountain Home Music Theater.

The Highway 76 Band is on hand to belt out those Georgia Musica Hall of Fame sounds at one of the most legendary music halls in the North Georgia Mountains.

Expect a real good show at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11. Get your tickets in a hurry, they go fast when Highway 76 is in Hiwassee. Also, remember Mountain Home Music is 2 and 1/2 miles west of Hiwassee on Highway 76.

Look for the red building on the right going toward downtown Hiwassee.

Labor Day revisited again at Soapstone

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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It all started on Labor Day 41 years ago.

The Buttrill family, the new owners of a mountainous piece of land in the Soapstone Community started inviting their friends and neighbors to celebrate their new home with food and fellowship.

It continues today. It all started when Marcus and Mattie Elizabeth Buttrill made Claude Kimsey an offer he couldn't refuse back in the late 1960s for a piece of land more popularly referred to as Soapstone.

Since then, the Buttrill family has grown. Pappy and Pat's children all have completed the same journey that their parents before them achieved, 50-plus years of marriage.

On Saturday, the

Buttrills, their friends and neighbors came together again to celebrate the last rites of summer at Soapstone.

More than 75 people gathered to feast on ribs, baked beans, bread, slaw, pickles and delicious desserts.

The day started with a trout fishing adventure and ended with everyone pitching in to clean up the day's festive labors.

"Marc cut grass for three days so people could come out and enjoy this day," said Athelyn Buttrill, referring to her husband's labor contribution to the event.

"It's been great," Marc Buttrill said. "What gives us a good feeling is when all these people turn out and have a good time."

See Soapstone, page 5



The Buttrill family closes out a long day of friends and family on Labor Day at Soapstone. For the 41st year, the family has celebrated the end of summer holiday with friends, neighbors and family in the tight-knit community off Georgia 180 and Georgia 17/75. Photo/James Reese

Greatest fireworks on earth

By Charles Duncan
Towns County Herald
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Folks left The Ridges Resort on Sunday night proclaiming they had seen the "greatest fireworks show on earth."

Fireworks are a key ingredient to The Ridges' community-oriented approach to celebrating the Towns County community, General Manager Chad Hooper said.

Hooper was all smiles Sunday night as the hundreds who came to witness the first Fire on the Water event, a celebration of Labor Day walked away in a euphoric buzz.

"It was a great event," he said. "Starting out this morning, I knew we were going to have a good day and a good evening. The crowd was extremely healthy in terms of numbers."

"For two weeks of putting this thing together, we saw a large number of people on the property, on the water - the lake was full of boats. We did a lot of meals. This is going to be a continuous event at The Ridges."

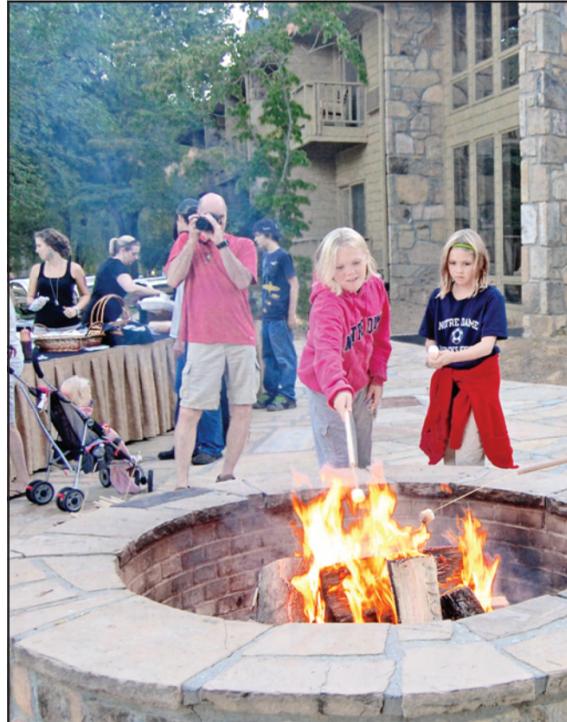
Ricky Smith, a Towns County native was excited about the event.

"Man, this was a great fireworks show," he said. "This event is a plus to our community. The food was great and I look forward to eating a lot more meals at The Oaks. I really appreciate them putting on this event. The fireworks were the best I've ever seen."

The Ridges looks strong again, flush with new ownership and an excited work force.

"There were several hundred people here tonight, so it was pretty busy," said Darrell Boles, executive

See Fireworks, page 7



The fireworks was a blast and the roasted marshmallows were mighty tasty. Fire on the Water at The Ridges was a huge success as hundreds turned out on land and by lake to witness the inaugural holiday event. Ridges General Manager Chad Hooper said the event will be a regular attraction at the Resort. Photos/Lowell Nicholson

Don Williams concert tickets go on sale Friday

By Charles Duncan
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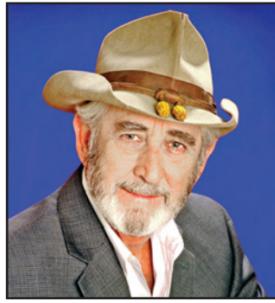
Tickets go on sale Friday at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds for the Oct. 23rd Don Williams Concert.

The soon-to-be Country Music Hall-of-Fame singer comes to Hiwassee as part of his limited Hall of Fame Tour.

Williams, who retired in 2006, has come out of retirement for a limited number of concert dates in October. He'll be here Oct. 23 at Anderson Music Hall.

Actually, Williams will be in Hiwassee the night before he's inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, Tenn. on Oct. 24th.

Williams, who has 17 No. 1 hits to professional credits, is one of the most legendary sounds in Country



Don Williams

Music. He was named Male Vocalist of the Year in 1978 and his iconic hit *Tulsa Time* has crossed genres and has been featured in major Hollywood motion pictures.

However, his most memorable No. 1 hit is *I Believe in You*, a song, recorded in 1980, that reflects on the times we lived. It is a telling tale of the things in life that aren't genuine and the things that really mean

See Don Williams, page 5

Free shots at Towns Health Department



The Towns County Health Department wants locals to know that free shots are available at the Health Department. Photo/James Reese

By Norman Cooper
North Georgia News Editor

Towns County teenagers and adults - regardless of insurance status or income level - can receive free vaccinations at the Towns County Health Department.

Vaccinations for teenagers are Tdap, Menaetra, VZV, and HPV. Vaccinations for adults are Tdap, HPV, Hep A, Hep B, MMR, Pneu, and VZV.

The vaccinations are at no charge to those living in Towns County due to a grant from the State of Georgia. That is a savings of hundreds of dollars, which is very meaningful in the present economy. One example, the chicken pox shot is being given to adults 19 and older who have never had a case of chicken pox. That is usually about a \$150 shot.

Julie Green, a Immunization Coordinator in the North Georgia area, stresses the importance of having current vaccinations and the benefits of it being at no cost.

"The health departments in our area are hoping this program can run through December, but when the money runs out, the program is over," said Green. "We do have a lot of vaccine here and we have ordered a lot of vaccine. If that money does not come here, it will go elsewhere. We are trying to get as many

See Free Shots, page 5

TOWNS COUNTY HERALD



Speaker comes to Towns

By Shawn Henrikson
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The Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives came to town last week to wish a local state representative well in his upcoming November general election race.

House Speaker David Ralston, a graduate of Young Harris College and the ranking Republican in the Georgia House of Representatives came to Towns County with a ringing endorsement of House District 8 State Rep. Stephen Allison.

Allison, accompanied



House Speaker David Ralston, center, came to town last week to endorse State Rep. Stephen Allison. Photo/Shawn Henrikson

by his family, was humbled by Speaker Ralston's resounding endorsement.

On Tuesday, U.S. Congressman Paul Broun came to throw his support to State Rep. Allison in his upcoming November race with challenger Jack Lance Jr.

The event featuring

Broun and Allison was held Tuesday evening at the Towns County Recreation Pavilion.

The event featured free barbecue and the all the fixings as Broun talked with

See Speaker, page 7