

## Free shots available at Health Department...continued from page 1

vaccinated as possible.”

A schedule of when shots are given can be obtained by calling (706) 896-2265.

The normal cost of the vaccinations being offered at no cost for the adults would normally cost around \$450. The vaccines for teenagers would normally cost about \$340.

“We need to protect as many people as we can,” said Green, who has been a nurse for 20 years. “A lot of people don’t have insurance or the money to get to the doctor.”

“It is very important that we provide these immunizations to the public so we can prevent these diseases,” said Glenda Brown, who has been with a North Georgia health department for 16 years. “This is the first time I have seen vaccinations offered for free, so this is a great opportunity for our community. Everybody needs to take advantage of

getting their children and themselves immunized.”

The TDaP is available for adults ages 19 to 64 and teens as young as age 10. The Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (TDaP) vaccine can protect against three serious diseases. Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis are all caused by bacteria. Diphtheria and pertussis are spread from person to person. Tetanus enters the body through cuts, scratches, or wounds.

Females ages 19 to 26 and teens ages 1 to 18 can receive the HPV vaccine. Genital human papillomavirus, HPV, is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States. More than half of sexually active men and women are infected with HPV at some time in their lives.

The Menactra vaccine, is given to teenagers (and as young as 11) for active immunization against invasive meningococcal dis-

ease. It is the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children two through 18 years of age in the United States. Meningitis is an infection of the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Meningococcal disease also causes blood infections.

The MMR vaccine can prevent measles, mumps, and rubella. They are serious diseases. The Measles virus causes rash, cough, runny nose, eye irritation, and fever. It can lead to ear infection, pneumonia, seizures (jerking and staring), brain damage, and death. The Mumps virus causes fever, headache, and swollen glands. It can lead to deafness, meningitis (infection of the brain and spinal cord covering), painful swelling of the testicles or ovaries, and (rarely) death. Rubella, also known as German Measles, is a virus that causes rash, mild fever, and

arthritis (mostly in women). If a woman gets rubella while she is pregnant, she could have a miscarriage or her baby could be born with serious birth defects.

The Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPSV aka Pneu) protects against 23 types of pneumococcal bacteria, including those most likely to cause serious disease. Pneumococcal disease can lead to serious infections of the lungs (pneumonia), blood (bacteremia), and covering of the brain (meningitis). Pneumococcal pneumonia kills about one out of 20 people who get it. Bacteremia kills about one person in five, and meningitis about three people in 10.

The Hep A vaccine combats Hepatitis A, a serious liver disease caused by the Hepatitis A virus (HAV). It is usually spread by close personal contact and some-

times by eating food or drinking water containing HAV. Hepatitis A can cause mild flu-like illness, jaundice, severe stomach pains, and diarrhea.

The Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV) is one of eight herpes viruses known to infect humans and commonly causes chicken-pox in children.

Hepatitis B is a serious disease that affects the liver. Acute short term illness can lead to loss of appetite, tiredness, diarrhea, vomiting, jaundice (yellow skin or eyes), pain in muscles, pain in joints, and pain in the stomach. The acute illness is more common among adults. Chronic long term infection can lead to liver damage, liver cancer, or death.

The Chicken Pox vaccine is offered to those 19 and older who have never had a case of chicken pox.

## Operation PUP



### Mums on the Square

Fall mums, all colors, small and large, will be sold on the square on Friday and Saturday, September 17-18, early both days. This will be to benefit PUP (Prevent Unwanted Pets) in our work to help spay and neuter cats and dogs in Towns County. T(Sep8,F)SH

## Reception for Artist of Month

You are cordially invited to attend a reception for our featured Artist of the Month Sharon Hayden specializing in fiber art.

Meet Sharon and view a display of her work. Items will be for sale. Thursday, September 9, 5 – 7 PM.

ArtWorks, 308 Big Sky Drive, Hiawassee.

Refreshments will be served. T(Sep8,F)SH

## Soapstone revisited...continued from page 1

They have their fun, then they disappear back to their houses and come back every holiday.

“We have an event here New Year’s Eve, on Thanksgiving, Memorial Day, Fourth of July and of course Labor Day,” he said. “It’s a great bunch of people. Celebrating friends, family and life is what life is all about.”

Eventually, everyone remembers 1969.

“That’s when we found this place,” said Emily Buttrill. “Labor Day was the first day we celebrated like we celebrate today. It was

a celebration that we found it, purchased it and all the family came up. Every Labor Day we celebrate.

“The community has grown. We have residents now, we have friends that are residents, some of the people that come to join us live here, some don’t,” she said. “People come that have lots, but don’t have houses here yet and they celebrate with us.

“It’s a fun night to get together and celebrate and eat and watch the kids grow up,” she said. “We have watched some grow

from toddlers to college and marriage. Some come back with their babies. It’s a fun time.”

“I’ve known the Buttrills for 40 years,” said friend and neighbor Curtis Armstrong. “We have a real strong community here on the mountain. People get together for the holidays, celebrate great food and the good times we can be together.

“It’s days like this that remind us of what’s really important in life,” he said. “Friends, family and strong bonds, it’s what life is all about. That’s what is really important.”



Family and friends of the Buttrill Family of Soapstone gathered Saturday for the 41st annual Labor Day Celebration in the historic Towns County community. Photo/James Reese

## Don Williams...continued from page 1

the most.

Williams began playing guitar as a teenager after being taught by his mother. While growing up as a teenager in Texas Williams experienced Country Music, Rock n’ Roll and folk music.

Williams joined Lofton Kline to form his first band, called The Strangers Two. The duo was joined in 1964 by Susan Taylor to form a trio which ultimately became the Pozo-Seco Singers, a folk-pop group.

The band recorded a song called *Time* on a local

label called Edmark Records and the song became a regional hit in their home state of Texas.

Columbia Records, picked up the record, signed the group, and released a series of Top 50 hits and three albums. The group disbanded in 1971, at which point Don embarked on a solo singing career.

Williams, originally a songwriter for Jack Music Inc., eventually signed with JMI Records as a solo artist in 1971. His 1974 song, *We Should Be To-*

*gether* reached number five, and he signed with ABC/Dot Records. His first single with ABC/Dot, *I Wouldn’t Want to Live If You Didn’t Love Me* became a No. 1 hit, and was the first of a string of Top 10 hits for the “Gentle Giant” between 1974 and 1991. Only four of his 46 singles didn’t make it to the Top 10.

When tickets go on sale Friday, remember, it could be the last time to ever catch Don Williams on stage again. Tickets are \$35, plus \$2 handling, and \$25, plus \$2 handling.