



Chamber Chronicles

The official source of Towns County Chamber News

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Ribbon Cutting – Thursday, October 8 at 5 p.m. at Tilted Café – one of the newest restaurants in Hiawassee, located at 142 N. Main Street (In the Timberline Building next to United Community Bank).

The Lake Chatuge Chamber welcomes these new members!

The Angry Chicken – This new restaurant is located at 1620 Hwy. 76, Suite 13 in Hiawassee. They offer made from scratch breakfast Monday thru Saturday. Enjoy the lake view while eating a burger or chicken sandwich for lunch. For more information visit Facebook and enter The Angry Chicken Hiawassee GA or call 706-970-3773.

K. Boyer Photography - School, Family, Headshot, Portrait Photographer focusing on you, your children, your life, your strengths, your joys and the funny, happy, wonderful, tender moments that make up your beautiful lives! For more information, contact Kristin Boyer at (770) 722-9045 or visit <https://www.kboyerphotography.com>.

Blazin' Scoops – another great addition to downtown Hiawassee is this ice cream shop that also offers soda, shakes, sundaes, splits, and other foods and coffee. Check them out – they're located in the Timberline Plaza – next to United Community Bank at 134 North Main Street. For more information, visit their Facebook Page or call Tanner and Chelsey Byers at 706-970-7292.

Witches Night Out (Ladies Night Out) at Hiawassee Brew – October 20 at p.m. Ladies – join us for a night out at the Hiawassee Brew and see old friends and meet new ones! The best witches' hat will win a prize and entitle you to bragging rights and your photo in our e-newsletter and the newspaper. No RSVP needed – bring a friend or a prospective new Chamber member! See you there.

Virtual Auction – the Chamber will be hosting a 10-week Virtual Auction beginning the first full week of October. Stay tuned to future issues of the Towns County Herald to learn more about all of the great items that will be available for bid... just in time for holiday gift giving!

Visitor Center Update – if you are new to the area or if you know of someone who is new to the area, please stop by the Lake Chatuge Chamber & Visitor Center located at 1411 Jack Dayton Circle, Young Harris, GA 30582. We have Relocation Packages available for anyone new to the area. Also available are state road maps for Georgia and many of the states in the southeast; maps of Lake

Chatuge; maps of the Chattahoochee National Forest; trail maps; brochures and rack cards for many of the businesses in Towns County, phone books, magazines, fishing regulation guides, and, because we are a Regional Visitor Information Center we also have information on many other counties in Georgia as well as attractions in North Carolina and Tennessee. And, if you are planning a wedding, meeting, family or church retreat or any other gathering of more than 20 people, please let us know and we'll put together information packets for anyone attending. We also have Lake Chatuge hats and t-shirts for sale. For more information, call 706-896-4966.

Also, if you are a Facebook user, stay up on community news by liking Lake Chatuge Chamber and Community page. Updated information is shared regarding events, area businesses, "feel good" stories and much more about the Lake Chatuge community.

COVID-19 Resources - Center for Disease Control Coronavirus Information Site: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>

Center for Disease Control Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>

Georgia Department of Public Health: <https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus>

Office of the Georgia Governor: <https://gov.georgia.gov/>

Thanks to all our members for their continued support! Additionally, we'd like to thank these Platinum and Gold Members: PLATINUM MEMBERS: Blue Ridge Mountain EMC; Century 21 Black Bear Realty; Mountain Realty; Lakeview Vintage Market; RE/MAX Hiawassee Realty; United Community Bank; Windstream Communications. GOLD MEMBERS: Brasstown Manor; Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa; Brother's Restaurant at Willow Ranch; Chatuge Regional Hospital; Chick-fil-A of Blairsville; Holiday Inn Express; Homestead Hospice; Lake Chatuge Lodge; Little Bear Cabin Rentals & Property Management; Mahan Family Chiropractic; North Georgia Extreme Boot Camp; Northeast GA Medical Center; Peach State Federal Credit Union; Regency SouthernCare Hospice; Sanre Organic Skinfood; South State Bank; Tri-County Office Supply, and, Young Harris College. For information on becoming a member of the Towns County Chamber, visit www.golakechatuge.com or call Candace at (706) 896-4966.

Hitchcock thrillers featured at the Peacock Performing Arts Center "A Live Radio Play"



Veteran Peacock actors, (L-R): David Layfield, Ryan Hunter, Richard Cary play dozens of roles in the live radio production.

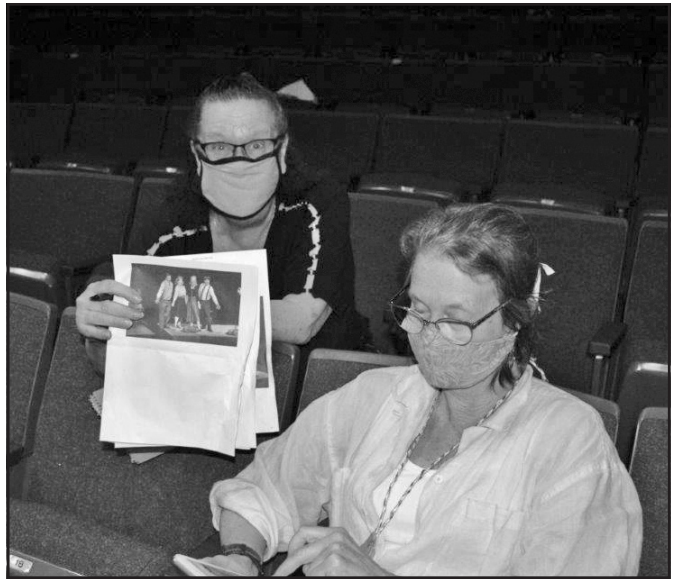
Suspense master Alfred Hitchcock will usher in Halloween at Hayesville's Peacock Performing Arts Center. Joe Landry's Vintage Hitchcock: A Live Radio Play is set in a 1946 radio station. This triple feature includes three one-act adaptations of Hitchcock's early thrillers—The Lodger, Sabotage and The 39 Steps—and brims with international intrigue, mayhem, and love. A handful of seasoned local actors, including David Layfield, Ryan Hunter, and Richard Cary, play dozens of roles.

"One of the greatest challenges is finding my characters," said Hunter. "Who are they, why do they do the things they do and say the things they say? That challenge is amplified by the need to learn more parts and keep them distinct from one another."

Cary agrees. "Finding different accents to clarify who is speaking to whom, and when, where and why; finding different voice ranges for the various characters—all in a vintage radio studio setting with live mics that we, live actors of 2020, are learning how to use—whew!"

Layfield noted that one thing is easier than in traditional plays: "Not having to memorize lines! This doesn't mean not mastering them or knowing how to bring them to life, but we have the script in hand."

Attire differs, too. Lead



Costumers Kathy Wright (left) and Patty Callahan outfitted the cast with 1940s-era everyday clothing. Not pictured: Donna Frazier

costumer Patty Callahan said, "This is an easier project because it involves fewer actors and no costume changes. The costumes are everyday clothing that characters would wear to work in 1946 London—nothing flashy or extravagant, as there were many restrictions on clothing manufacturers during the war."

"Costuming for an era that many in our audience will remember is a challenge," said Kathy Wright. "Post-war England remained on rationing until the early 1950s. There were actual laws about how much fabric could be in a skirt."

Performances are Oct. 23-25 and Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 7 p.m. Fridays/Saturdays, 2 p.m.

Sundays at the Peacock, 301 Church St., Hayesville.

Tickets: \$22/adults; \$9/students. Seating is limited to 25 per performance; tickets may only be purchased by calling 828-389-2787 or visiting the box office 10 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays.

The production will also be streamed; information will be posted at a later date. Covid guidelines will be followed. Program sponsored by the Clay County Historical & Arts Council with support from the NC Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources.

The Peacock is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

Early Voting...from Page 1A

and wearing of masks. Voters are encouraged but not required to wear facial coverings, which will be made available alongside hand sanitizer.

The Nov. 3 ballot features contested elections for the following federal, state and local offices: President of the United States; two U.S. Senate races; two Public Service Commissioner races; the 9th Congressional District seat; District 50 State Senator; 8th District State Representative; and Towns County Tax Commissioner.

Also on the ballot are uncontested elections for five local offices, including Probate Judge, Clerk of Superior Court, Sheriff, Coroner and Commissioner, and no one is running for Blue Ridge Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor.

The General Election features three statewide ballot initiatives for all Georgians to decide, including two proposed constitutional amendments and a referendum.

Amendment 1, if passed, would enable state legislators to use specifically imposed fees and taxes expressly for their intended purposes.

"For decades, the General Assembly has imposed fees for a variety of purposes, only to use the revenue for something else," according to David Wickert of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. "For example, the state charges for every new tire sold in Georgia, and the money is supposed to be used to clean up illegal dumps and fund other waste management programs."

"But lawmakers have dedicated only a portion of the money for those purposes. Since 2009 they have used more than \$50 million of the revenue for other programs, according to the Association County Commissioners of Georgia."

"Under current law, the only way to ensure a tax or fee is used for its intended purpose is for voters to dedicate the revenue through constitutional amendments. Amendment 1 would allow the General Assembly to dedicate fees and taxes for specific purposes."

Amendment 2, if passed, "would restore citizens' rights to file lawsuits to overturn unconstitutional laws without the consent of (state and federal) governments," Wickert wrote.

Statewide Referendum A "establishes a tax exemption for certain real property owned by charities," according to the ballot.

"The measure would exempt from taxes property owned by charities for the purpose of building or repairing single-family homes to be financed by the charity and sold to individuals using no-interest loans," Wickert said. "The referendum is aimed at providing a tax break to charities such as Habitat for Humanity. Once the property is sold to an individual, it would be taxed at fair-market value."

Election Day will be Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. That day, voters should report to one of the three pre-assigned Towns County voting precincts: Hiawassee at the Civic Center; Young Harris at the Lodge Hall Building, aka Stephens Lodge; and Macedonia at Macedonia Baptist Church.

Voters are not required to bring their mailed precinct

cards, but they must show a valid photo ID to vote.

Registered voters who will be at least 18 years of age by Election Day are eligible to vote during early voting, though Oct. 5 was the registration deadline for voters looking to participate in the Nov. 3 election.

Absentee ballots are being automatically mailed to voters who informed the Board Office they were elderly or disabled on a previous application, though all others need to apply to get their mail-in absentee ballot for the General Election.

People may request mail-in absentee ballots by visiting <https://ballotrequest.sos.ga.gov>, calling the local Board Office at 706-896-4353 or swinging by the office at Lakeview Circle.

After requesting a ballot, voters can easily track its progress in the mail by visiting <https://georgia.ballottrax.net/voter/>.

"BallotTrax is a secure software application that locates ballot envelopes," according to the service. "The system works with election officials and the Postal Office to send you messages when your ballot is received as well as notifies you if there is a discrepancy (such as verifying a ballot signature)."

"By logging into the BallotTrax site, voters can see their mail-in ballot status and sign up for alerts. The signup process is simple. Just sign on, enter contact info, select message method (email, text and voice messages), and note what time works best for messaging."

People wanting to fill out their absentee ballots/applications and drop them off in person can do so either with the Board Office directly or at the security-monitored drop box outside the office.

The current deadline to return absentee-by-mail ballots for counting is 7 p.m. on Nov. 3, though this may be subject to change.

In reporting by AJC's Mark Niesse, a federal appeals court on Friday "reinstated an Election Day deadline for Georgia voters to return their absentee ballots, overriding a judge's decision that would have given voters three additional days during the coronavirus pandemic."

"A three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decided 2-1 to grant a stay of a judge's ruling to count ballots postmarked by Nov. 3 and received at county election offices by the following Friday," Niesse said. "The decision restored a state law setting Georgia's absentee ballot deadline at 7 p.m. on Election Day."

"The ruling will likely disqualify thousands of absentee ballots mailed close to Nov. 3 and delivered afterward by the U.S. Postal Service."

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Oct. 30. Voters should be aware it could take days for requested

ballots to arrive in the mail and potentially several more for completed ballots to be returned for counting when mailed, so it's best to request one well in advance of the deadline.

An absentee ballot/application must be submitted by the requesting voter, except for a disabled person, who may have a relative by blood or marriage return his or her absentee ballot/application.

Those who receive an absentee ballot by mail but decide to vote in person will need to have their absentee ballot canceled at time of voting.

Election officials have said double voting is not a concern, as the system will alert poll workers if a voter has, for example, already cast an absentee-by-mail ballot but forgets and shows up at their regular voting precinct on Election Day.

Voters can access the My Voter Page at mvp.sos.ga.gov ahead of the election for information on voter registration status, mail-in application and ballot status, poll location, registration information on file with the county office, sample ballots and more.

It should be noted that voters are not allowed to display campaign-related materials at polling places where promoted candidates appear on ballots. For example, for the Nov. 3 election, voters will not be allowed to enter polling places wearing clothing promoting Donald Trump or Joe Biden for president.

Georgia Beta Delta begins new biennium



L-R: Irma Flanagan, Wanda Gray, Judy Slaton, Margie Winkler, Betty Phillips, Hilary Tallent, Lisa Penland, Colleen Swanson, and Mrs. Marlene Kesler.

The Georgia Beta Delta Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa is a group of retired and active educators.

Our 2020-2022 chapter officers were installed at our meeting September 21st by our Athens District Chairman, Mrs. Marlene Kesler of Toccoa, GA.

We have monthly meetings and perform civic altruistic projects for our schools and communities.

We are beginning our 51st year as a Chapter. We look forward to serving our fellow citizens and sharing Sisterhood. NT(Oct.7.2)SH



Colleen Swanson presents Margie Winkler with a 25 year certificate of membership in Alpha Delta Kappa.