

# Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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## Gibson...continued from 10A

"He taught me to coach from the time I was 18 years old and I still rely on his wisdom and experience to guide me through the situations I encounter today," Gibson said, as he fondly reflected on his history in education and coaching.

Gibson is a graduate of Columbus State University where he received his bachelor's degree in educational leadership. He has recently received his specialist in education and is currently working on his doctorate at Walden University.

His parents moved to Columbus, so his mom could accept a teaching position at Columbus State University, while Gibson was a senior at Austin Peay.

He finished his collegiate football career and followed them to Columbus where he finished his bachelor's degree and took a teaching position at Hardaway High School and coached there for several years.

"I want people to know that I have coached several different sports throughout my career including not only

football but also basketball, baseball, wrestling and tennis at the high school and middle school levels," Gibson said. "I think it is important for people to know that I am not just a football person but am interested in all sports at our school."

Gibson wants to get the word out that he's interested in the overall best of the students at Towns County High School.

"I want everyone to know that our main goal here is to do what's best for the kids," he said. "We want to do

things right and I will maintain an open door policy for all the kids in our system.

"I know from experience that sports offers those involved a unique learning experience but we can't focus on just the athletes, we need to teach life's lessons to all our students and this is my desire as Assistant Principal and Athletic Director," Gibson said.

Towns County is very fortunate to have Gibson and his family in the fold. They will certainly have a positive influence on the school and the community.

## GSHF nominations

Do you know of a stellar athlete, coach or contributor in any sports arena who deserves recognition? The Georgia Sports Hall of Fame (GSHF) is calling for nominations of individuals, who may be living or deceased, to be considered for induction into the Hall of Fame.

Nomination categories are 1.) Athlete, 2.) Coach/Manager, 3.) Contributor, 4.) Senior, or 5.) Multi-Sport/Combination.

All nominees go through a three-tiered screening process by committees composed of GSHF Authority members and representatives from across the state in all areas of sports.

Nominations must be submitted on nomination forms provided by GSHF and returned to: Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 4644, Macon, GA 31208.

To obtain a nomination form, call GSHF at (478) 752-1585 or email Managing Director Ben Sapp at bens@

gshf.org. Please visit www.gshf.org to see if your nominee has already been inducted into the Hall of Fame and to learn more about GSHF.

The Georgia Sports Hall of Fame and Museum in Macon, Ga., is the country's largest state sports museum. The 43,000-square-foot state-of-the-art museum houses over 3,000 artifacts. From the old-style ticket booths to the brick columns in the rotunda and special lighting, the museum invites visitors to experience the history of sports in Georgia with more than 14,000 square feet of high-energy exhibit space and a Hall of Fame corridor that honors the over 300 inductees.

All nomination forms will stay on file at GSHF for a period of seven (7) years from the time they are first received. If the nominee has not been selected for induction during that time frame, the individual must be re-nominated for further consideration.

## Second Annual Putts for Paws Golf Scramble

Want to enjoy a day of golf, win great prizes, eat a fabulous steak dinner, and support an important cause?

Join us Saturday, September 8, for the second annual Putts for Paws Golf Scramble benefiting Castaway Critters Pet Rescue. The tournament will take place at Butternut Creek Golf Course in Blairsville. Check-in is at noon with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

The scramble will be followed by a steak and chicken dinner and silent auction for all participants and their guests in the beautiful Union County Community Center at the golf course.

Players may register as individuals or as teams of four. The cost is \$80 per player if you register before August 28. After August 28, the cost will be \$85. Registration includes a fabulous dinner consisting of steak, chicken, salad, sides, dessert, and drink. Additional dinners for guests are available for \$30 each and must be reserved in advance.

First, second, and third

place teams will receive prize packages. Special prizes will be awarded for longest drive, straightest drive, closest to the hole, and hole in one.

Registration forms are available at Butternut Creek Golf Course and at www.castaway-critters.org. Teams are limited and will be accepted in the order in which they register.

All levels of sponsorship are still available. If you would like to promote your business by sponsoring a hole or donating prizes, auction items, or goody bag items, please contact Dawn Burnette at dawnburnette@yahoo.com or 706-745-9432. Special thanks to our "early bird" sponsors: The Aviator Cafe, Zaxby's of Blairsville, the Tennessee Aquarium, Brasstown Valley Resort, The Ridges Golf Course, Chatuge Shores Golf Course, Art Miller, Nelson Ace Hardware, Alair Photography, and Sunset Printing.

Castaway Critters is a non-profit, no-kill dog and cat rescue shelter in Blairsville.

NT(Aug8,28)CA

## Golf news from The Ridges

Thursday, July 26, five ladies braved the heat to play golf at the Ridges. Because of the low numbers, the ladies chose to keep their own score without any games. Friday night twenty-eight members and guests participated in the weekly scramble. First place low gross went to the team of Jorge Azor, Dave Larson, Sally Mirocke, and Dolly Mott. They had the lowest score of the season with a four under 31. Second low gross team was comprised of Dennis Trosky, Dick Sutton, Kaye Wilkinson, and Kay McLeod. They shot a 33. First low net went to the team of Bill Wilkinson, Ron Brown, Jerry Mirocke, and Rita Robinson with a 26.9. They were followed by the team of John McLeod, Carl Saunders, Becky Sutton, and

Dee Ramsey with a net score of 27.9.

Hole number two was used for the ladies' closest to the pin. Pat Brown won this honor. It was hole number six for the mens' closest to the pin contest. John McLeod was the closest participant on this hole. Congratulations to all of the winners.

After golf, the players gathered at Celeste's Tavern on the Greens to cool off with some ice cold beverages. This was followed by a prime rib, chicken caesar salad, or a hamburger prepared by the staff of the Cherokee Grill. They were then introduced to Kenny's wife, Becky. Becky will be joining the staff soon. She and Kenny, general manager, are both PGA Professionals and will be available for lessons.

NT(Aug8,A3)SH

## Food Pantry Golf Tournament

It's time to restock the shelves at your local food pantry. The Men's and Ladies Golf Associations at Chatuge Shores will sponsor a golf tournament on August 14, 2012 to benefit the local tri-county food pantries. The \$30 fee includes 18 holes of golf, a lunch and an opportunity to benefit the food pantry. The format will be a modified scramble with

each player's drives used three times. Mulligans are available for purchase. Put together your own team or let the Pro pair you up. Call Chatuge Shores Golf Course at 828-389-8940 and reserve your place. The deadline is Sunday, August 12, 2012.

Be prepared to designate a food pantry to receive your winnings.

T(Aug1,F)SH

## Upward Flag Football, Cheerleading



Upward Sports, the world's largest Christian sports program for children, was created with a vision to introduce kids and families to Jesus Christ and to provide the best sports experience possible for every child while ensuring equal playing time for all. Each year some 1 million people around the world play, coach, referee, or volunteer in Upward Sports leagues and camps hosted by more than 2,600 churches. Anyone - children and volunteers of any faith or no faith - can participate in Upward Sports. The goal of Upward Sports is to bring out "the winner" in every child - regardless of the game's score.

On-line registration for Upward Flag Football and Cheerleading remains open for

boys and girls in grades Kindergarten through 6th Grade at www.hopb.org or at www.fumcunioncounty.org. The price to participate in both football and cheerleading is \$60, and after August 4th, \$70.

If needed, payment plans are available. Practices will be held once a week and they begin the week of August 13th, while games will be held on consecutive Saturdays between September 1st and October 6th.

Form and registration fees may also be dropped off, Monday through Friday, at First United Methodist's business office or the House of Prayer Family Life Center between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

For more information, contact either church office at FUMC (706) 745-2073 or HOP (706) 745-5925.

NT(Aug8,28)CA

## Blairsville School of Dance to offer

### two additional pre-registration days

In preparation for its seventh season, Blairsville School of Dance is offering two more registration events to give the community the opportunity to sign up for classes before the new season begins. Registration days will be held on Tuesday, August 7 from 6-8 p.m. and Saturday, August 11 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Classes for the 2012-13 season begin on Monday, August 13.

The Registration Days give the community an opportunity to tour the facility, meet the teachers and find out more about the classes at Blairsville School of Dance. The studio is also excited to premier several new classes this season including Musical Theater, Jazz/Hip Hop Combo, Fairy Tale Ballet and Preschool Clogging.

BSoD will also be holding auditions for its 2012-13

competition groups. Dancers interested in joining any of the BSoD Force competition groups should call (706) 835-1415 for audition information. BSoD offers competition opportunities in clogging, hip hop, jazz and lyrical. Students may choose to compete in as few or as many dance styles as they wish.

Blairsville School of Dance offers classes in ballet, clogging, hip hop, jazz, lyrical, ballroom, musical theater, break dance, Zumba, cardio hip hop, creative movement and preschool classes for ages 2-adult. BSoD is located in the Merchant's Walk Plaza at 90 Blue Ridge St. in downtown Blairsville. For more information, call (706)835-1415 or visit www.blairsvilledance.com.

NT(Aug8,C2)bc

## Golf news from The Ridges

On Tuesday, July 31, the men dodged the raindrops to participate in the weekly Men's day. The men decided to have two-man teams. John McLeod and Bill Meldram took on John Thomas and Bill Zimmerman. Meldram and McLeod combined for a net score of 136 to win. Thomas and Zimmerman finished with a net score of 139.

On Thursday, August 2, the ladies danced upon the greens as they played Cha, Cha, Cha. This game alternated one best ball, two best balls, three best balls on all eighteen holes. The team of Becky Sut-

ton, Jackie Dichiaro, Nancy Meldram, and Mary Rau finished with a total score of 115 to claim first place honors. They were closely followed by Kay McLeod, Barbara Boswell, Sidney Moser, and Anita Flood with a 119. Pat Brown, B.J. Swilley, Judy Wainwright, and Star Glock followed with a score of 127.

On Friday, August 3, thirty-nine players came out despite heavy clouds and managed to complete seven of nine holes before Mother Nature spoke loudly. Rumbles of thunder, streaks of lightning, and drops of rain brought the

golfers scurrying to the club house. The golfers might have gotten dampened, but their spirits were not. They visited Celeste's Mountain View Tavern on the Greens located on the Veranda of the Ridges Club House. After mingling with Celeste, the group dined at the Cherokee Grill. There might not have been any winners because of the rain-shortened match, but most everyone agreed a good time was still had by all.

The course continues to be in great shape. However, in order to maintain these great conditions, we will be aerifying nine greens on Monday,

August 20 and nine greens on Tuesday, August 21. Monday and Tuesday play will be on the nine holes that are not being aerified.

NT(Aug8,Z13)gg



Mountain High Hikers schedules two hikes each Tuesday, occasional specialty hikes, and regular trail maintaining trips - all in the beautiful mountains of Georgia and North Carolina. Check the website www.mountainhighhikers.org for schedule and meeting locations.

NT(Aug8,Z1)CA