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years old. I love being onstage. I cheered, I danced, I sang, all of these things growing up. So that's home to me, is to be onstage," she said.

The experience in cooking and theater showed in Chef Roberts' stage presence, as she was as comfortable with her audience as she was with her assortment of spices, utensils, pots and pans. As she cooked, she kept up a steady stream of advice and plenty of jokes.

Recipes included breakfast burritos, chocolate crunch brownies, a sausage brunch braid, and a raspberry almond tart, and at the end of the night, the 10 finished dishes were given away as door prizes to lucky winners in the audience.

Other door prizes included Taste of Home kitchenware.

Even though cooking is her profession, Chef Roberts never gets tired of it.

"I still like to cook at home, because I still like to cook. I take my neighbor food whenever I cook. She gets a plate of leftovers. I like to share it. And I cook at my mother's house. I cook at family events, so I still like it. It's still one of my things that I want to do," she said.

Given the choice to only cook one dish for the rest of her life, Chef Roberts kept it simple.



"It'd probably be pork chops and rice and gravy. That's my favorite, and of course my Me-Maw's peanut butter cake. That's my comfort food," she said.

But Chef Roberts wasn't the only cook at the venue.

Vendors clustered offstage to sell everything culinary, from knives to hot sauce.

For example, the ladies of the Chatuge Hospital Auxiliary were in attendance.

"They asked us to come and sell the fudge, and it's the first time we've done this, and we've done real well," said Auxiliary President Brenda Hitchcock.

Although they usually do cookies during the regular Fall Festival at the fairgrounds, they decided on

fudge for the Taste of Home cooking event. The fudge was courtesy of volunteer Norma Ivey. Flavors ranged from vanilla nut to the more seasonal pumpkin.

Nearby, Brasstown Manor was hosting a basket giveaway to help promote the facility.

"It's got all kinds of goodies in it," said Teresa Anderson, activities director at the Manor.

"We enjoy doing this. We're not collecting any money. This is just a promotion, just collecting email addresses and giving out literature. There's a bottle of wine in there, and a lot of cooking stuff for the show, like the sea salts, and all these here are spices, and a cutting board, and some bowls, and stuff for that. So it's been really nice," she said.

Towns-Union Master Gardeners October garden chores

Plant peonies now. Buds should be no more than two inches below the soil surface. Harvest your pumpkins as the vines begin to dry. Plant trees and shrubs now. Their roots will have time to become well established before the demands of spring growth.

Harvest mature green tomatoes before the first frost. If you have not already planted garlic, plant now for harvest next summer. Clean up old plant debris from this year's vegetable garden because insects and diseases can survive winter weather in this material. Before storing your tomato cages, remove old tomato vines from them.

Before the first frost, cut and preserve herbs. If your soil test indicates that your soil needs lime, now is the time to add it to your soil in the recommended amounts. Pick up fallen apples, peaches, and pears from under your trees and destroy them to avoid diseases next spring.

Add spent plants from your vegetable and flower gardens and leaves to your compost pile. Do not put diseased plant material in your compost pile or you may spread disease to other plants when you use your compost. If you do not have a compost pile, start one. Dig sweet potatoes as the vines die back. Let them 'cure' in a dry, warm spot before storing. Protect strawberries with a light layer

of pine straw mulch.

Fall is a very good time to plant perennials like coneflower and black-eyed Susan. Collect seeds from perennials and annuals. Clean them and store in a cool dry place. Plant them next spring. Top-dress your perennial beds with one or two inches of compost, keeping it away from the crown of your plants.

Do not heavily prune shrubs or trees now, as this will force new growth that will be susceptible to cold weather injury. As night temperatures approach the mid-50s, bring in houseplants that have spent the warm weather on your deck or patio. Check for insect infestation. Water your soil before harvesting your carrots so they will be easier to pull. Once harvested, trim the tops so the leaves will not draw moisture out of the carrots, making them limp.

Spread shredded leaves and manure over your vegetable garden soil and turn it under to improve soil fertility, structure, and water-holding capacity. As the weather turns cool, plant spring flowering bulbs like tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, and crocus. A general rule is to set bulbs three times as deep as the dimension of the bulb. Fertilize freshly planted pansies with a water-soluble fertilizer. Switch to a nitrate nitrogen fertilizer as the weather gets cooler.

Carve a pumpkin. Cut

chrysanthemums and asters back to about five inches tall after they have bloomed so they will sprout strongly in spring. Continue planting pansies and other cool season annuals like snapdragons and ornamental kale. Fertilize established bulb beds with one-half cup per ten square feet of bulb fertilizer, always following package directions.

After the foliage dies back, dig caladium bulbs and store them loosely in dry peat moss or vermiculite for the winter. Refurbish mulch around shrubs and trees but do not place mulch too close to the plant's trunk. Mulch helps control weeds, provides insulation for the roots during cold weather, and helps keep the soil moist. Divide overgrown Boston ferns and repot. Keep evergreen shrubs and small trees watered to help prevent damage from low temperatures. Divide perennials like daylilies, phlox, and iris.

Replace areas of the lawn that are thin because of too much shade with a groundcover like liriope or ajuga. Rake fallen leaves from your lawn to keep them from matting down and killing your grass. Add them to your compost pile. Lightly fertilize evergreen azaleas and rhododendron to prevent yellowing during winter.

Jo Anne Allen
Master Gardener
Extension Volunteer
NT(Sep23,A2)JSH

County Mounties train in Tennessee over Labor Day



By Paula Palmer

Lawrence Beal, Director, along with North Carolina County Mounties, Paula Palmer of Hayesville, Ruby Scheer of New Bern, and Dotti Carter of Hiwassee, GA, traveled to Castalian Springs, TN, on Labor Day weekend to teach a weekend clinic for AL and TN CM units. There were twenty riders who practiced riding their horses with control and softness across and pass by obstacles such as sky dancer, teeter totter, mattresses, and barrels with noodles, motorcycle, chainsaw, lights, sirens, horns, stock whip, and gun

fire. Formation riding, ground work and trail ride training was included.

Up-coming plans include travel to the Kentucky Horse Park to train and compete at the annual Lexington Colloquium. In October in Alabama we are providing mounted security and parking for a sheriff's rodeo and participating in training at Canine SAR seminar.

County Mounties is a multi-state, 501(c)3 non-profit, service horse and K-9 search and rescue/recovery, mounted security and public relations organization. We have a Cana-

dian Unit and are members of and train with the NC Search and Rescue Dog Association (ncsardogs.org).

Equine training is every Sunday at 2 PM at the CM arena in Hayesville and clinics are at other locations across the southeast and Canada. People who are seriously interested in community service with their horses, K-9s, ATVs and 4-wheelers, ground pounders and non-riders should contact Lawrence Beal at 828-362-4669 or check us out on Facebook/County Mounties Mounted Patrol Unit and county-mounties.org. NT(Sep23,G1)JSH

Cailen Campbell and Andy Pond in concert at Folk School

Cailen Campbell and Andy Pond will be featured in concert on Friday, Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, N.C. The concert, which will be held in the Keith House Community Room, is free and open to the public. Donations are appreciated. Cailen Campbell and Andy Pond play an eclectic mix of "polyethnic fiddle tunes" ranging from bluegrass & old-time to contemporary & original to Celtic & Scandinavian to Eastern European & Latin.



Cailen Campbell is

farmer by day and musician by night. He fell in love with the violin while watching a guest performer on an episode of Sesame Street at age 5. He has been playing ever since, adding tunes to his repertoire during travels in the U.S. and South America. Cailen can walk onto a stage and win a bluegrass fiddle competition and later be found playing for tango dancers. It will be some of the fanciest fiddling you will ever hear!

Andy Pond came upon the banjo at age 15 and later, when attending Appalachian State University, earned the school's first degree in banjo. His beginnings were strictly bluegrass and over time other influences such as rock and reggae found their way into his playing style. Andy also performs with the Pond Brothers and Snake Oil Medicine Show.

Upcoming Folk School concert performers include The Jones Brothers (Oct. 2) and Lee Knight (Oct. 9). The Friday night concert schedule is available on the world wide web at: www.folkschool.org. For further information call the Folk School at 828-837-2775 or 1-800-FOLK-SCH. NT(Sep23,F3)JSH

Carolyn Brazil receives SAR Martha Washington Medal



(L-R): Carolyn Brazil and David Cook

At their September 15 chapter meeting the Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution recognized the support and contribution of Carolyn Brazil to the chapter by presenting her the Martha Washington Medal. Carolyn, wife of past Chapter President William O. "Bud" Brazil has performed many activities over the past 10 years helping the chapter receive many awards from both the Georgia Society and the National Society. In addition to supporting her husband in his SAR activi-

ties, she was instrumental in judging the George S. & Stella M. Knight High School Essay Contest. She also made several program presentations at chapter meetings.

The chapter issues a maximum of one Martha Washington Medal per year. Previous recipients of the medal are: Mrs. Shirley Fredrickson, Mrs. Shirley Learned, Mrs. Teresa Moore, Mrs. Margaret Wischmeyer and Mrs. Martha Preston. The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter is proud to present this award to Mrs. Carolyn Brazil. NT(Sep23,Z1)CA

Brass Quintet opens concert season September 27th

By Roberta Rankin

The Brasstown Concert Association (BCA) will open its 42nd season on September 27 with a performance by the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet. "We are delighted to feature a dynamic ensemble based in our region but with an international reputation," says BCA president George Heilner.

Brad Ulrich and David Ginn (trumpets), Travis Bennett (horn), Zsolt Szabo (trombone) and Michael Schallock (tuba) serve as Quintet-in-Residence at Western Carolina University.

Founded in 1993, the group has presented over 1,000 performances nationally and internationally, from Cullowhee to Carnegie Hall, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Russia, and China.

The Quintet performs a wide variety of music ranging from Classical to Jazz, Patri-



The Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet

otic to Pop. With a particular interest in the music of the Southern Appalachians, the ensemble has commissioned works from regional composers that have expanded the repertoire for all brass quintets.

The performance is on Sunday, September 27 at 2:30 p.m. in Keith House on the campus of the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown,

NC. No reservations are required; seating is by general admission. Individual tickets (adults \$18, students \$10) may be purchased at the door. Light refreshments are served at intermission.

For information call a BCA Board member at 828-837-1863, email brasstownconcertnews@gmail.com or Like us on Facebook. NT(Sep23,Z5)CA

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