

Vogel...continued from Page 1A

or linens, cooking utensils, a cooler, food, and family or friends.

Yurts also don't require a high level of upkeep and they make camping options a little bit more bearable for those that aren't into setting up their own tents and roughing it.

Negotiations also are underway to bring Vogel into the 21st century by adding cable TV and Internet.

Vogel is one of only two Georgia State parks without those two amenities.

Tippens also suggests increasing the number of special events at Vogel will benefit the park.

Vogel already hosts the CCC Reunion, the annual Trout Rodeo for kids, an Independence Day celebration, Mountain Music and Arts and Crafts show, a Fall Hoedown, and the annual Christmas Tree Lighting.

Tippens is working to involve local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Future Farmers of America, and working with Union County government

to create interest among the parks' visitors for the Union County Farmers Market.

Tippens also hopes to increase and improve the parks' recreation and interpretive programs.

He's exploring the creation of overnight hiking trips and possibly cycling clinics for the ever growing legion of bicyclists.

The next big community adventure at Vogel begins May 11th with the CCC Reunion.

Tippens asks that you

join the boys of *The Tree Army* as they tell stories of the New Deal era.

This is a covered-dish meal with meat and drinks provided by the Vogel Volunteers.

Also join the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club for a service project like one that would have been done during The Great Depression.

Work begins at 9 a.m. and the CCC Reunion begins at 11 a.m. RSVP is required so call (706) 745-2628 to let the park folks know that you're coming.

Home Show...continued from Page 1A

said.

"He's right here to help in Blairsville and he'll help you get started. Give him a call (706) 897-2762."

Over at the Blairsville-based *Dress Your Floors* display, Melissa Hays, and Owner Chris Gill were spinning the *Wheel of Floortion*, offering up prizes and discounts on various rugs from *Dress Your Floors*.

"Chris has all kinds of rugs, traditional and large," Hays said. "Everything you need for your floor, she's got it. She's done really well at the Show here."

"It's been a great flow of people Friday and (Saturday)," Hays said. "Even with the weather the way it is, the Show has done really well."



Foot traffic was strong at the 16th Annual Mountain Home Show at North Georgia Technical College on Friday and Saturday. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Hays said that trade shows like the one at North Georgia Technical College are important for two reasons.

First, the vendors become familiar with one another and become familiar with the needs of the community.

"It's also important for the customers around here and the community as well," Hays said. "Folks can come in, see what's going on and what is offered here. It's a strong point

of reference for vendors and consumers."

Gill said she was thrilled with the turnout and the response for her business.

"It's been wonderful," she said. "I'm excited that we did the Home Show. The turnout was great. It's the first trade show that I've done, so, this has been a real learning experience. It's been beneficial."

Local building per-

mits are on the rise and if the Home Show was any indication, those totals will continue to climb.

Patrons came to witness some of the special seminars that included *How to Remodel and Get More for Less*; *How to Save the Most Energy for the Least Cost*; and *Decorating*.

They learned how to remodel and get more for less; how to save the most energy for the least cost; and generated ideas for the planning of their future mountain home.

"Trade shows are really important if you're taking that leap of faith in home improvement," said Doug Gooch, who came with his wife Nancy to see what the Home Show was all about. "You can learn some really good ways to improve your home at events like this. It's a good opportunity for all the builders and vendors, and the folks who are just the do-it-yourself type."

"You can't go anywhere else and find this many folks that know about home improvement," Gooch said. "If you were looking to build, or remodel, this was the right place to be."

Head...continued from Page 1A

opportunity to enjoy athletic and cultural events throughout the weekend.

After graduating from YHC in 1959, Head continued his education at Georgia State University where he earned his bachelor of business administration in 1962. Since 1987, Head has served as president of Head-Westgate Corporation, a commercial construction and retail center

Deal signs Bill to expand access to Tech Schools



Gov. Nathan Deal

At the Technical College System of Georgia 2013 Leadership Summit, Gov. Nathan Deal signed into law legislation that will lower the GPA requirement for the HOPE Grant, which goes to students in the technical college system. By expanding access to the HOPE Grant, HB 372 will strengthen the state's workforce development efforts.

"We need more college or technical college degrees in order to attract and fill the jobs of tomorrow," Deal said. "This additional benefit will provide Georgians with greater access to school at a relatively small cost to the state."

This bill will drop the GPA requirement for the HOPE Grant back to a 2.0 after it increased to 3.0 two years ago for budgetary reasons. Recent growth in Lottery revenues will cover the additional \$5 million to \$8 million this expansion will cost. In the first six months of this fiscal year, deposits were up \$32 million, a 7.6 percent increase over the same period the year before.

"In recent years, Georgia has seen a large drop in technical college enrollment - much larger than in our University System," Deal said. "For some students enrolled in a technical school, the loss of scholarship money put higher education out of reach. This law will provide greater access to school and to a brighter career for thousands of Georgians."

management company based in Blairsville. He began his professional career in 1961 as a production accountant for the Coca-Cola Company before becoming president of Robert L. Head Building Supply, a position he held from 1970 through 1986. He later served in the U.S. Army Reserves and Georgia Air National Guard.

He co-founded Union County Bank and served on the Board of Directors since 1973. When the company merged into United Community Bank in 1988, he continued to serve on the board and was chairman from 1989 through 2012.

Head is very active in

the local community, serving as a member of the Union County Rotary Club, Union County Industrial Authority and the building committee for First United Methodist Church of Union County.

Head was elected to YHC's Board of Trustees in 1993 and currently serves on the Executive Committee.

He previously served on the Georgia State Board of Industry, Trade and Tourism from 1994 through 2000.

Head currently resides in Blairsville, GA, with his wife and YHC alumna Carol Fleming Head, '58. They have four children and two grandchildren.