

Union County Schools | Blairsville & Woody Gap 2012-2013 CALENDAR

6/28/11

Calendar grid for July 2012 with school events: 27 Pre-planning (1), 30-31 Pre-planning (2-3)

Calendar grid for January 2013 with school events: 1-2 New Years Day Holiday, 3 School Resumes, 16 End of 5th Month (100), 21 MLK Holiday or Teacher In-Service

Calendar grid for August 2012 with school events: 1-2 Pre-planning (4-5), 3 First Day of School, 30 End of 1st Month (20)

Calendar grid for February 2013 with school events: 11 Early Release for Prof Development, 14 End of 6th Month (120), 18 Holiday - Presidents' Day or Make-up Day

Calendar grid for September 2012 with school events: 3 Holiday - Labor Day, 28 End of 2nd Month (40)

Calendar grid for March 2013 with school events: 11 Early Release for Prof. Development, 15 End of 7th Month (140)

Calendar grid for October 2012 with school events: 8 Early Release for Prof. Development, 19 Early Release for Prof. Development, 22-26 Fall Break

Calendar grid for April 2013 with school events: 1-5 Spring Break, 19 End of 8th Month (160)

Calendar grid for November 2012 with school events: 2 End of 3rd Month (60), 21-23 Thanksgiving Holiday

Calendar grid for May 2013 with school events: 17 Last Day of School End of 9th Month (180) End of 2nd Semester

Calendar grid for December 2012 with school events: 5 End of 4th Month (80), 19 End of 1st Semester (90), 20 Make-up Day for Inclement Weather, Last Day of School Prior to Christmas Holidays will be an Early Release, 21-31 Christmas Holiday

Calendar grid for June 2013 with school events: 17 Last Day of School End of 9th Month (180) End of 2nd Semester

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ty high schools will be determined approximately after the first week in April. Fall break is Oct. 22 through Oct. 26 and Nov. 21 through Nov. 23 is the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Christmas holidays will be Dec. 21 through Jan. 2. Spring break is April 1 through April 5 and most importantly, the last day of school is May 17.

In other business, the board approved its 2012-2013 Fiscal Budget, coming in at \$24.424 million. The board had to eliminate 19 positions and make significant cutbacks to balance the budget. The board faced a shortfall of \$1.762 million prior to preparation of the final budget. Superintendent Steppe was faced with the task of making major cuts to the budget and that's exactly what he did. The tentative budget

comes in with \$3,966.88 to spare when expenditures are subtracted from revenues, county records show. The budget includes money from state, federal and Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax that is not included in the final \$24.424 million budget, county records show. The state, federal and SPLOST dollars must be spent on specific items and cannot be used to pay salaries. BOE Commission Chair Gary Davenport said the budget cuts were difficult. "But we certainly didn't want to go back to the taxpayers and ask for more money," he said. "Times are tough and we've got a lot of folks that are hurting. "We've heard from them loud and clear and they're hurting themselves," he said. A shortfall of revenues combined with increased fi-

ancial burdens imposed by state cutbacks, increased Local Fair Share obligations and mandated salary requirements have impacted the 2012-2013 budget set by the board. Health care increases also impacted the budget. The county's Tax Digest continues in a downward spiral. The digest brought in less money in 2012 than it did in 2006, county tax records show. In addition to the Tax Digest woes, the board is faced with state of Georgia Austerity cuts of more than \$1.63 million. On top of that, based on the state's Quality Basic Education formula, Union County must surrender more than \$5.5 million in what is termed the "Local Fair Share" by the state of Georgia. "It hasn't been pleasant," Superintendent Steppe said.

Blue Ridge Community Theater news

Your Blue Ridge Community Theater would like to once again thank BT Bean and Bradley Bemboom, the actors for our production of Greater Tuna, who sat down with us for an interview. This week we feature Bradley Bemboom, a regular at the Blue Ridge Community Theater, having recently appeared in our productions of Caught in the Net, Run for Your Wife, and A Christmas Carole. Bradley is also the owner of Fezziwigs and Penelope's Garden in downtown Blue Ridge. Originally from Minnesota, Bradley got into theater at the age of 11, when he saw a production of Guys and Dolls, which prompted him to audition for a production the next year. He also worked in professional theater in Orlando until he moved to his second home in Blue Ridge. He got involved with BRCT through, as he puts it, "guilt", and after seeing the original production of Greater Tuna featuring BT Bean and Pat Ashton. Bradley's theatrical tal-

ent extends off stage as well. Bradley and BT will be portraying the male and female population of Tuna, Texas, and "...finding tall, outrageous female clothes to fit a 6'4" man is not easy. "Bradley, who also made his own outfits for his role in Leading Ladies, has used his talents again in creating his own costumes. This will be Bradley's first time in a production of Greater Tuna, which is very different from most productions even experienced actors are used to. He talked about the fun of playing the female parts, particularly Bertha, the oppressed housewife, and Pearl, her elderly aunt who, (as audiences familiar with Tuna will know), is fond of her chickens. When asked how he keeps track of which character he is playing, Bradley replied, "Ask me in a few weeks when I figure it out." Greater Tuna opens on Thursday July 5 with our Opening Night Benefit, were a portion of the ticket and concessions sales go to Fan-

nin County's Empty Stocking Fund. The show will run Thursdays - Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2:00 pm until July 22.

The show is popular and has sold out in our previous productions, so grab your tickets soon. Tickets can be purchased through our box office at: Blue Ridge Community Theater, 2591 East First Street, Blue Ridge, Ga. 30513, 706-632-9223(across from Swan Drive-In). Also feel free to visit our web site at www.BlueRidgeCommunityTheater.com.

TC Historical Society meeting

Towns County Historical Society meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the Senior Center in Hiwassee. Annual dues \$15, PO Box 1182, Hiwassee, GA 30546, 706-896-1060 www.townshistory.org. NTJ04421CA

Official Absentee/Provisional/Challenged Ballot for Union County, July 31, 2012. Includes sections for Public Service Commissioner, Sheriff, Tax Commissioner, Coroner, Sole County Commissioner, County Board of Education, State Senator, and State Representative.

Official Absentee/Provisional/Challenged Ballot for Union County, July 31, 2012. Includes sections for Supreme Court of Georgia, Court of Appeals of Georgia, Probate Court, Magistrate Court, and Special Election Referendum 1.

Official Democratic Party Primary and Nonpartisan General Election Ballot for Union County, July 31, 2012. Includes sections for Public Service Commissioner, Sole County Commissioner, U.S. Representative, State Representative, State Senator, and various party questions.

NOTE: The Nonpartisan candidates and the TSPLOST Special election are on both the Republican and Democratic ballots.

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