

TELLICO PLAINS
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PO BOX 481
TELLICO PLAINS, TN
37385

**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:**

- **Dance on the Square**
- **Cherohala Challenge**
- **Contest for Cherohala Skyway License Plate**
- **Tellico Plains Victory Garden**
- **Forestry Ranger speaks on OHV Area Closing**
- **TDS Applies for Grant and Needs Your Help**

Tellico Plains Chamber News

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 4

MAY 2009

Dance on the Square Coming Up Fast

The annual **DANCE ON THE SQUARE** will be on July 4th this year on the Town Square. In order to see this a great celebration on the 98th birthday of our town, we're looking for volunteers to help organize and fundraise for this popular event.



**Don't forget the Chamber Meeting June 1st
at 7:00 pm—
Tellico Plains Community Center**

Mayor Roger Powers has assured that the construction of the Square will be complete with the possible exception of new paving. Paving must be coordinated with Fort Loudoun Electric's placing of the electric service underground around the Town Square.



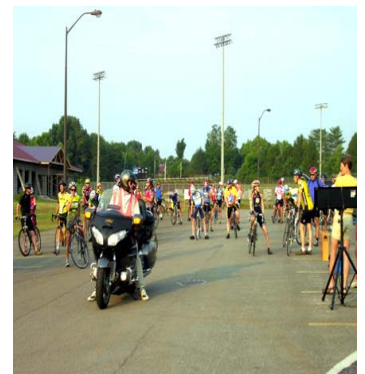
No only plan on spending the day in Tellico Plains, but let others know about the great times we have each year. We still need help for the booths and the activities that day. Email or call Ivy at 253-3183 to help your community.

Cherohala Challenge

The Cherohala Challenge Bicycle Run will be on June 20th. We still need at least 2 volunteers to staff the rest stops on the Cherohala Skyway. This is an excellent opportunity to spend part of the day out in the sun (weather permitting!) while enjoying the beautiful scenery of the

Smoky Mountains. We also need volunteers to make finger-foods for the Friday night, June 19th, reception. Please contact Betty Ledford for more information at 253-7622.

***We still need two
people to help with
the Rest Stops***



New Tellico Victory Garden

The **Tellico Plains Victory Garden** needs volunteers who will share in the reward of fresh produce throughout the season. Those in need will be served through community churches and a weekly produce distribution each Sat 10 a.m. to noon. All sales will be conducted at the Barn of Plenty just across the street. The garden, next to the Charles Hall Museum, has been

plowed and volunteers are working in the garden on Saturdays at 10 a.m. Show your community spirit and help your neighbor.



TDS Needs our help to Improve the Tellico Plains Area

Our Telephone carrier, TDS has applied for a Federal Grant made available through the Stimulus Package which would finally bring high speed Internet to those in the rural area around Tellico Plains.

The Bookshelf has the forms that needs your name, address and reason why you need high speed Internet. The more people in our area who want high speed at your home or business will increase the possibilities of getting this Grant. (cont. page4)

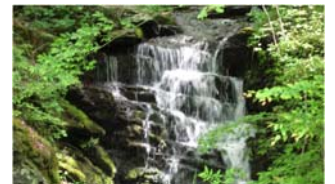
Design New Cherohala License Plates

A new contest to design a Cherohala Skyway License Plate is in full swing. We have some very talented designers and artists in our area who have an opportunity to have their art seen in all of Tennessee and around the nation. Samples of plates and design requirements are at: <http://state.tn.us/revenue/vehicle/license-plates/mostpop.htm>.

Contest entries should be mailed to: The Skyway Foundation, 1139 Reagan Valley Rd. Tellico Plains, TN 37385

We'll let you know when the contest ends and will announce the winner.

"To Give Your Life Away in Serving Others is the highest Calling mankind can offer this world"



OHV Area Discussed at May Chamber Meeting

(NEPA). The OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) area lies in the Nantahala National Forest over which the Cherokee National Forest has no jurisdiction nor authority. Candice Wyman, Upper Tellico OHV Project Coordinator

spoke and gave a detail presentation. She explained that it would cost as much as \$5.5 million to correct the sediment flow into the trout rivers.

If you would like a copy of the detailed PowerPoint Presentation, please send

an e-mail to President Gary Balsler at gary@loftyvision.com and he will get you a copy of the full report. To keep up with the progress visit their website at: <http://www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc/nepa/tusquitee/tellico.htm>.



Appears to be difficult to stop the closing of OHV Trails and the impact on Business in Tellico Plains

Ideas offered for Chamber Activities

Here is a list of ideas submitted for fundraising. We are open to other ideas and need help to bring them to fruition.

- Motor Home Club tour
- Event
- Post Cards
- Hats
- Shirts
- School Field Trips
- Training Class for Nature Trails – Women of the

- Outdoors
- Scout Program – Frank Myers
- History Tours
- Cookbook
- Dance on the Square
- Event
- Auction
- Booths
- Dog Parade and contest
- Chili Cookoff
- Car Show
- Carnival – Fall Break
- RV Show

- Antiquing Tour
- IronMan Competition - 2011
- Biathlon – Kayak and Mountain biking -2010
- Collegiate –Triathlon
- Tellico Sprint 2010—Spring
- Labor Day Craft and Concert Festival

There are other ways we can serve the people and businesses of the Tellico Plains area and will be working to make us all successful.

Don't miss the June meeting to talk about upcoming events.

TDS Telecom Needs Your Help

(continued from Page 2) If you are still on dial up service, then you need to get a form immediately. Residents must submit the form no later than May 24th.

Plans for the Rafter Community are included in this

proposal as well as the Highway 360 corridor, areas in Coker Creek and Rural Vale.

Jerry Parkerson, Marketing Director for TDS noted that it will take quite a bit of expensive equipment to

boost the signal for some of these areas and that this Grant will provide the funds for the completion of this project which will service our rural area. The rest of Monroe County is covered at great than 80%, but our area outside of downtown Tellico Plains is in dire need of some help. Stop by the Bookshelf this week, pickup a form and send it in to TDS Telecommunication, Government & Regulatory Affairs, PO Box 5158, Madison, WI 53705-9513. The form is postage Free. The form must be mailed by May 24th.

If you hate slow dial-up service,

Speak out NOW!

Around Town

Send us your photo around Tellico Plains!



Help Wanted

Dance on the Square Booth Organizer

The Chamber needs a person to undertake the organizing of booth for the Dance on the Square—July 4th. Call Ivy at 253-3183 for details



If you are interested in being the **Chamber Secretary**, please come to the meeting and let us know. The secretary takes the minutes of each meeting and sends out meeting emails to the membership.

Tellico Chamber News Leader

As the Tellico Plains chamber strives to inform its membership of its activities and highlights the businesses in the area, we need a leader to oversee the production of this newsletter. Please call Ivy at 253-3183 if you are in-

Board of Directors

The Tellico Plains Chamber of Commerce is required to replace two members of the Board of Directors this Fall. We need volunteers to help lead the direction of the Chamber in the next three years. Call Gary Balser at 253-2825 to learn more

There is always so much going on in the background around town and the Chamber would like to thank those citizens.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Charles Hall | Ivy Schielke | Betty Ledford |
| Joe Kyte | David Fankhauser | Larry Harris |
| Cherokee Women's Club | | Chief Bill Isbell |

If we missed something you are doing, it was not intentional, so please call Ivy at 253-3183 and let us know.

In Future Issues

Look for upcoming articles about Tellico Plains Chamber of Commerce businesses.

The Chamber News will feature our businesses beginning soon.

Watch for updates:

- Tellico Plains Community Park**
- New Hotel coming to Tellico Plains**
- Improvements to Chamber Website**



This open area behind the Visitor's Center is about to Transform