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unopposed.

In the 9th Congressional District Race, voters must choose between Republican Doug Collins and Democrat Jody Cooley, both of Gainesville, for the newly redistricted Congressional seat.

In the races for Public Service Commissioner, Incumbent Chuck Eaton faces challengers Stephen Oppenheimer and Brad Ploeger. Also, Incumbent Stan Wise takes on David Staples.

In the Presidential race, Democratic President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden are challenged by Republican Mitt Romney and his running mate Paul Ryan. Libertarian Gary Johnson and his running mate James Gray also are on the ballot.

There are two proposed Constitutional Amendments on the ballot.

First, voters are asked to agree to public school charter options. Should the Charter School amendment on the Nov. 6 ballot pass, it essentially brings an end to home rule by our local Board of Education. A yes vote generates a new unfunded mandate by the state, and creates a situation where local school boards will have to increase millage rates to continue funding public schools. It also leads to charter school funding stripping public schools of the raw materials to make each successful. It's a lose-lose for taxpayers.

Second, Amendment No. 2 supposedly allows Georgia to save taxpayer dol-

lars through multi-year real estate agreements. The belief is that this amendment would reduce the state's operating costs. It allows agencies to enter into multi-year deals, where as now they're obligated to only enter into one-year deals, thus, taking away the state's negotiating powers. A no vote is the popular choice on this amendment because one-year contracts are believed to provide a more competitive edge.

Polls open on Election Day at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. for precinct voting.

The *North Georgia News* will carry all election results in the Nov. 7th edition.

Results also will be posted online at nganews.com following the election.

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I would like to thank all the businesses for their help."

Hartman also thanked the Union County Sheriff's Office, the Blairsville Police Department, and the Union County Fire Department for all the hard work they put in to make this event a success.

"We couldn't do it with-

out all their help. The Square is only so big and we are thankful to everyone who came out and made this event possible. We had one of the largest crowds that we've had in recent years."

As the evening came to a close, the roar of a crowd could be heard near and far.

Those who dressed as a member of the Georgia Bulldogs' football team were glad they did.

Yes, you heard right, the number 10-ranked Dawgs upset the second-ranked Gators 17-9 in Jacksonville.

Indeed, a good time was had by all.



Hometown Halloween Photos by Todd Forrest

College Fair coming to Blairsville

The Georgia Education Articulation Committee's (GEAC) Fall 2012 PROBE College Fair will be in Blairsville, GA on Tuesday, November 6 at Union County High School from 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. The fair is free and open to high school students and their families. The nine-week fall tour consists of 58 college fairs held at various schools and venues across the state of Georgia. GEAC's mission is to stimulate interest in post-secondary education for citizens of Georgia by bringing together students, parents, counselors, administrators and representatives of post-secondary educational institutions which include colleges, universities and technical colleges.

The fair offers an economical and hassle free option by providing high school students the opportunity to speak one-on-one with representatives from colleges and universities in one central location.

"It is important for Georgia's youth to have access to the best resources when looking to further their education after high school," said Bill Smith, executive director of PROBE. "The PROBE College Fair provides a single location for students and their families to learn about a variety of colleges and universities. This makes it easier for students to find a school that meets their needs."

Students can stay informed about this year's PROBE College Fair by texting PROBEINFO to the number 33233 or on Facebook, www.facebook.com/GeorgiaProbe. Both options include fair details, links to participating schools and tips and advice for attending the fair.

For more information and to view the entire fall schedule please visit www.gaprobe.org