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## Four Generations, One 90-Miler

Four generations of Tickners pull away from the dock in a four-man canoe at the Friday morning start of the Adirondack Canoe Classic, The 90-Miler. In the stern is Dan Tickner, Jr., in front is his son Mason, his dad, Dan, Sr. and his mom, Natalie Tickner. For more photographs of The 90-Miler, please see Pages 36-37. — Photo by Carol Hansen. J

## Inlet planning 12th annual Fall Festival

By Bob Lindsay

**INLET** — The 12th Annual Inlet Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 18 from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. at Fern Park on South Shore Road.

According to the Inlet Tourism Director Adele Burnette, planning for the 12th annual festival began just a few short weeks after the end of last year's event. "We send out vendor applications in January, and book the music and entertainment in October for the following year," she said. "So planning does begin a month after the previous festival."

What can people expect?

"Hopefully we'll have good foliage so it will be a good Adirondack experience on Fern Park," said Burnette. "We have hiking and mountain biking trails there."

More than 3,000 people have attended past festivals. This year will include music by Dave Ruch — "an Adirondack storyteller who is really popular with the children. He sings stories and ac-

companies himself on a guitar," said Burnette — and by The Renaissance Faire. Children's activities will include face painting and a coloring contest sponsored by the Town of Inlet.

The Inlet Youth Commission is bringing back Stephen Gratto to perform on Sunday. He will hold two, hour performances, one at 10:30 a.m. and another at 1 p.m. While he is not performing, he will be wandering through the park either in one of his many stilt costumes or on his unicycle making balloon animals for children.

"He calls himself the Comedy Juggler Extraordinaire, and he has all kinds of stilt costumes that he wears," Burnette said. "The one he had this summer at the park was an ostrich, so it looked like he was riding an ostrich. He has a unicycle, and also does a lot of balancing in a balancing act. The kids will love it. In between his shows, he'll be wandering around on his unicycle or on his stilts, making balloon

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## A High Tech Treasure Hunt Inlet hosting Geocaching during Festival Weekend

By Bob Lindsay

**INLET** — Geocaching is coming to Inlet.

Geocaching is a treasure hunt using a Global Positioning System (GPS), and Inlet's two-day Geocaching event will be held Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 17 and 18.

The game is played in 250 countries around the world. All participants must have a handheld GPS. They will be given clues and coordinates to help them locate the treasure and also "travel bugs" to put into "caches" along the way. It's Geo for geography and caching as in what Adirondackers (or computer folks) do when they find a hiding place for concealing and preserving provisions.

Inlet's Geocaching event begins on Saturday with breakfast specials at the Tamarack Cafe from 7-10 a.m. Information will be available at the movie theater about the day's caches, which include the Inlet Scramble, the Hubba-Bubba Cache, the Wood's Word Cache, and By Hook or by Crook Cache for Kids.

According to Inlet Area Business Association member Patty Wittmeyer, who also happens to own Bits of Nature in Inlet, Geocaching is "just a treasure hut that people are really hooked onto."

A high-tech treasure hunt is more like it. In Geocaching, participants take advantage of the technology the GPS unit provides. The idea, in a nutshell, is for individuals, groups or organizations to set up caches all over the world and share the locations of these caches on the internet. GPS users can then use the location coordinates to find the caches. Once found, a cache may provide the visitor with a wide variety of rewards. All the visitor is asked to do is if they get something they should try to leave something for the cache.

"Let's say I have a key chain in my pocket and I want to make a new prize," Patty explained. "The object is to find the

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## Republican Committee hosts Meet the Candidates Night

By Bob Lindsay

**OLD FORGE** — The Town of Webb Republican Party on Saturday night hosted a Meet the Candidates forum at the Park Avenue Building in Old Forge, an event that was attended by nearly two dozen community members as a chance to grill the candidates prior to the GOP primary, slated for noon-9 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 13 at the Park Avenue Building and at the Eagle Bay Fire Department.

There are five Republican candidates for two seats on the Town of Webb Board vying for their party's position on the ballot in November. Running for re-election are Mike Ross and David Winslow. They will be facing Jon Hansen, Richard Risley and J.B. Herron.

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## HCCC closes local door; classes now a 'virtual' class

By Carol Hansen

**OLD FORGE** — Herkimer County Community College's local office is slated to close after serving as an administrative and learning center for the college in the Town of Webb and surrounding communities for the past decade.

The decision to close the office primarily was based on the college's ability to provide high-quality distance-learning opportunities through HCCC's Internet Academy. HCCC will continue to offer non-credit courses in the Town of Webb. Fall offerings include line dancing, senior fitness, total body workout and nautilus training. High school students can participate in the HCCC's College Now program at the Town of Webb School, where college level credit courses are offered to juniors and seniors.

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