

Summer is winding down with only about 7 weeks left before the fall season sets in. We have had pleasant weather this summer with lower humidity than normal. The rivers and streams are running good thanks to the recent rains. There's plenty of time left to get in some good tubing, picnicking or just relaxing in the National Park.

Speaking of the National Park, renowned filmmaker Ken Burns has put together a 12-hour, six-part series documentary of America's National Parks featuring the Great Smoky Mountain's National Park. The film is called *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* and is scheduled to start airing on PBS September 27th. A 26 minute preview is being shown at Ripley's Aquarium lobby during normal operating hours now through September. You can call (865) 430-4148 *Toll-Free: 1-800-588-1817* if you would like more information.

Gatlinburg's Tunes and Tales are still going on and are very entertaining (and FREE). http://www.eventsgatlinburg.com/event_detail.aspx?id=3

5th Annual StringTime in the Smokies™ is a celebration of American Music and features an evening of free bluegrass.

Patriot Park, Pigeon Forge; 8/14/2009-8/15/2009 . For more information call (865) 429-7350 http://www.mypigeonforge.com/events_stringtime.aspx

Lura Porter, one of the founding sisters of Johnson's Inn will be 97 years old this September and until recently still lived by herself just up the street from the Inn. A couple of weeks ago she fell in her home and broke her hip but we are glad to say she is recovering nicely in the nursing home and I'm sure that she will be up and about before long.

Have a good rest of summer.

Vickie Johnson Bradshaw

Max and Jean Johnson

The staff of Johnson's Inn: Connie, Fonda, Richard, Judy, Lisa, Robin, Cathy, Dean, Trevor, Robert and Bryan