

## Paris ... continued from Page 4A

### Q. What does this membership cover?

A. When you sign up for the membership with Air Methods/Airlife GA 14, you are signing up for a membership and not a service. This membership covers a medically necessary helicopter transfer to another hospital.

### Q. Since Union County government and Union General Hospital paid the membership fee for almost 5000 people and families last year. Will we have to pay the fee this year?

A. No. Union County Government and Union General Hospital have agreed to provide this service free to the public for one more year. There will be no cost for you to

sign up, but you must sign up to be eligible. We know of a few helicopter flights and patients that were charged and all they had to do is sign up for this free service. There will be no cost to you to sign up.

### Q. How and where do we sign up for the Emergency Medical Helicopter Membership?

A. If you were a member last year, you can simply fill out the form when you receive it in the mail. For those who have never signed up before, the company will be providing details in the near future and when they are available, we will let you know in this space here and it will be publicized in the *North Georgia News* and on Facebook as well.

## Cummings... continued from Page 4A

everything through the washer with detergent and then rinsed them. To dry the clothing she had to run each item through the ringer and then take them to the clothes line to hang for drying. She noticed that Bill's Liberty Overalls wouldn't go through the ringer for some reason. So, she felt of the chest pocket and sure enough something was left in it. She opened the pocket and pulled out the asphidity bag. Bill had forgot the bag and left it in his chest pocket.

You must remember that these asphidity bags smelled to the high heavens. As Annie stared at the bag a panic began to well up inside of her. She reached into the washer and smelled of the other garments. Her husband had overalls in this wash as well as her sons. Annie sat on the steps of her back porch and began to cry. There were 4 other pairs of overalls in her washing machine and each pair smelled terrible. She washed everything in the machine 4 times to no avail. She had to burn all the clothing in her washer. And it took another 5 rinses to rid the washing machine of the smell.

Twenty years prior to this event an influenza epidemic swept through the eastern United States and many people died as a result. In the graveyard at the 1st Baptist Church of Phil Campbell, AL there are graves of twin sisters, my papa's aunts. These young ladies died during their teens as a result of influenza. You can find many graves like this

spread throughout Appalachia. During the 1920s - 50s parents were desperate to ward off disease. As a result these asphidity bags became very popular. Dad told me that his mother made he and his brother wear them every day during the winter and early spring. Granny sent her sons to school wearing these stinking bags. But, they weren't the only ones. Granny had Paul and Bud wearing bags filled with Fennel, Ginseng and Goldenseal. Paul said, "The smell of the stuff would cause me to become nauseous". One day while riding the bus Tommy hit on a good idea. Dad told me, "Tucker suggested we tell our parents, "The older boys ripped them bags off our necks and threw them out the window". Tommy, Paul, Bud, William, Jimmy and the rest of the bunch of 10 year olds from Trapptown School House threw away their asphidity bags and continued to do so until warm weather came to North Alabama. Nobody ever suspected they were telling a story because they all said the same thing and I know some of the older boys got whippings because their folks thought they were picking on the smaller boys. I know the teachers really appreciated those young boys not wearing their asphidity bags to school.

If you are interested you can do an internet search on asphidity bags and I even found a place that you can still purchase them. But, please do not wear them in public.

## Mattee ... continued from Page 4A

results by mail or e-mail. When you get your results, call me with any questions or concerns you may have and I'll be happy to go over your soil profiles with you!

If you want to learn more about soil management, Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center and UGA Extension are conducting a soil health field day on February 17th at GMREC. Registration and refreshments begin at 9 a.m. and presentations begin at 10 a.m. Topics include ideal soil profiles, improving soil health, federal conservation programs, and soil testing and interpretation. Lunch is provided and the program concludes at 1 p.m.

Union and Towns Coun-

ty Extension will hold the Annual Northeast Georgia Corn Production meeting will be Wednesday, February 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center. Topics will include best management practices in corn production, corn disease identification and management, pest management, and nutrition requirements. There will be pesticide credit available at this meeting: one hour for private applicators and three hours for commercial applicators in category 21. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. Friday, February 17th to the Union County Extension Office at (706) 439-6030. Lunch will be provided!

## Hummel ... continued from Page 4A

an, who most know as Caesar Augustus, are today designed much as they were then.

Briefly, care for those in need supported by taxes. Those programs partly supported but not fully funded by the government are not true social programs. Social Security is not a social program because it is funded by the contribution of participants over their working life time. The Veterans Administration is also not a social program. It is not designed to provide for the disadvantaged. It is first a part of the contract signed by the participants stating that they would give their lives for their country in times of war. The VA bills the participant's insurance company and requires co-pays for treatment. Care for veterans and those with a service related disability is a fulfilment of the contract. I know this because I am a Veteran (Submarine Service) and have a service related disability. It is the price a citizen pays for freedom and

the price many servicemen pay with their lives.

Nations are founded on principles. We are not called a Christian Nation because the country is full of Christians. America is the biggest mix of religious beliefs in the world which is due to our nation's principles which happened to have their foundation from a Christian origin. America does not require one to be a Christian. It asks only that those coming in assimilate into our society by adopting the principles of our nation.

And lastly, the debacle called The Affordable Care Act (Obama Care). Is it a medical utopia that wishes to give all things to all people including those, primarily the young, who do not want all things? Why has it not succeeded? Is it because it is not affordable? It may be possible to make it workable. However, first those who signed it into law might go back and read what they signed.

**Christian Hummel**

## Fowler...

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By faith, we can know our eternal destiny (1 Jn. 5:13).

**Q: What is sin?** A: Being out of alignment with my values.

Sin is coming short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23), something we all do. "The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 6:23).

Dr. Ed Stetzer said, "People like to believe in a generic Christian-ish god with cafeteria doctrines." What do you believe? Christians believe a Person revealed in Scripture, not eclectic spirituality common in popular religion.

## Dyer ...

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County. Over the next 20 years, he worked to improve readiness of Union County. He enacted several plans to improve our response to major emergencies. He helped obtain several county certifications in order to qualify Union County for a higher percentage of Federal funds in the event of a disaster. In short, we are better prepared to respond and recover from major disasters.

These are just a glimpse of the many accomplishments that are the result of Charles Worden during his long career. His dedication, hard work, and accomplishments are something that he can look back on and know that he made a positive impact on Union County. We are very proud to have worked with him and for him. We would like to congratulate him on a successful career and thank him for a job well done.

~Union County Fire Department – Our Family Protecting Your Family~

## Allison...

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STAR nomination, high school students must have the highest score on a single test date on the three-part SAT and be in the top 10 percent of their class based on grade point average. Each high school STAR student is asked to name his/her STAR teacher.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Joey Swanson and Amy Harper of WoodmenLife for sponsoring this event. We appreciate all that you do for the Chamber and our community.

Last year's event was certainly memorable event and the 2017 Evening with the STARS will be equally exciting. Registrations will go fast and seating is limited so don't delay. You may register online at <http://www.blairsvillechamber.com/> or call our offices at 706-745-5789 to reserve your spot.

## Gray ...

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However, this morning when I called her daughter-caregiver, I was told she was alert and didn't remember anything about the day before. I hastened over there and loved how her eyes lit up when she saw the feminine bed jacket – her favorite color, too, she said. It was put over her hospital gown and she said she felt like a princess. How could one not appreciate and revel in that moment of sheer joy?! It takes such little effort to reap such incredible reward.

Anyone wondering where they could do some volunteer work would discover a myriad of blessings, and since there is a minimal amount of time each month, I cannot recommend it highly enough. Call Helen, the volunteer coordinator at Pruitt Hospice, 706-632-0027, tell her I told you to call and ask for info about training. I guarantee that the rewards far outweigh any time you may invest. Everyone's life will end one day, and to be in the presence of those who face their end with peace and comfort is a reward not to be missed. Respectfully submitted,

**Arlene M. Gray**

### Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493

## Drugs ...

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Teens are aware that ventures such as drinking, smoking, drug use, sex and criminal activity are risky, but they mistakenly believe they can steer around those risks and slide by unharmed. What they fail to see is the bulk of the danger—addiction, overdose, pregnancy, accidents, criminal records, prison, death—hidden beneath their surface actions.

What we've learned over the years is that raising a healthy, happy, drug-free and smoke-free child goes far beyond just telling our kids, "Hey—don't do that." Helping teens to say "no" to risky behaviors is a process, not a one-time conversation.

We can help our teens make the decision to turn away from drinking and smoking, medicine abuse and other risky behaviors by:

Building courage and self-esteem; outlining coping mechanisms for peer pressure; fostering communication; instilling responsibility and discipline.

Parents should know the importance of talking to teens about not engaging in unhealthy behavior (and role-playing scenarios where your child is offered a drug or cigarette, so they have a rehearsed script and know what to say). The emphasis these days is on making sure that we are actively engaged in our kid's lives. This is easier said than done in an age where work creeps into our private time via laptops and phones, and family over-scheduling is a chronic issue. But

there simply is no other way.

Communicating with tweens and teens, showing them respect and offering them independence while still having boundaries are learned skills. Take the time to research what

works. Engage in new strategies and behaviors to reach your teen. This will help keep the lines of communication open with your child, which will in turn help them steer clear of dangers.