

# Opinions

## Everybody has one...

### Recruit Live Fire Training

A structure fire is one of the most difficult and dangerous incidents that a firefighter will respond to. There are multiple factors that influence the fire and the way it is fought. These factors are constantly changing, requiring firefighters to evaluate, react, and re-evaluate. Firefighters must know how a fire will react in a building; how ventilation and fire streams change the fire; and, most importantly, how to safely apply these techniques to extinguish the fire. It takes knowledge, experience and practice.

During the week of April 17th, Recruit Class 106 got to learn firsthand these important lessons during the recruit class's "Hell Week." This week is dedicated to hands-on, live fire training at the Union County Fire Department training facility burn building. The week is extremely demanding but a great opportunity to apply all they have learned.

Prior to each training that week, students and instructors prepared the building and completed a training plan for the training evolution. These plans are essential for operations and safety. Although the training is in a controlled environment, the evolutions are still dangerous. There are elements of heavy toxic smoke, heated gases, and extremely high temperatures. Recruits and instructors must wear all personal protective equipment while inside or near the burn building.

The first training was a demonstration of how a fire starts and how it progresses through all stages. There was a demonstration of fire behavior and thermal layering of heat and smoke reinforcing the need to stay low. Recruits were shown how a fire reacts inside a building and how the environment changes when water is applied.

Recruits were then placed in groups to make interior attacks. This is where they practiced the skills they have learned. Teams of three to four recruits were given scenarios where they had to make entry into the building, find the fire, extinguish the fire, and then move throughout the building, searching for more fire. This training is very valuable for Recruits to understand the lack of visibility, the high-heat environment, and the way in which a fire behaves in the building.

Recruits had to make these attacks on different levels of the building, utilizing the stairs to make a simulated upstairs attack and

See Dyer, page 5A

**Fire Dept. from Union County Fire Chief**

David Dyer



### Homeward Bound

Have you noticed that certain human yearnings transcend our mortal existence? Such a yearning saved the life of one of the last century's noted journalists.

Malcolm Muggeridge introduced the world to Mother Teresa and her work among the poor. Before becoming a renowned journalist, he was a soul adrift. He tried living among the religious people of India. After living in the former Soviet Union, he lost interest in communism. He was a maverick, rejecting the validity of most forms of authority. He simply felt like he didn't belong. "I have always felt myself, perhaps to an abnormal degree," he wrote, "a stranger in a strange land."

During World War II, the British army rejected Muggeridge's enlistment. But he did land an assignment with the British Intelligence Corps only to be sent to Mozambique, far from the action. There, one night, hopelessness caught up with him. "Alone in the universe, in eternity, with no glimmer of light in the prevailing blackness," he wrote. "Deprived of war's only solace, death, there was one death I could still procure. My own."

So, he went to a deserted beach along Africa's east coast, and swam out into the cold, inky darkness. In what might have been his last thought, his wife came to mind. He glanced back. In the distance he recognized the glimmering lights of a restaurant by the coast. He was transfixed by the sense the light was calling him home. "There followed an overwhelming joy such as I had never experienced before." He swam back.

It was the sudden yearning for home that saved his life. If there is one thing that can change suicidal ideation, it is the sense of belonging, meaning, and love. Muggeridge knew that such a joyful yearning must have originated beyond himself. It signaled the beginning of his quest to know its source.

A few years later by his own account, Muggeridge "re-discovered" Jesus and became a Christian. In retrospect, it is no surprise that the lost man who found his home in Christ Jesus would be the journalist who noticed a little nun making a home for Calcutta's most lost and desperate people.

You know that yearning for hearth and home. Tired from

See Fowler, page 5A

**All Things New**

Wayne Fowler



### Commissioner's Questions

**Q. The ditch in front of our county road prevents me from keeping the front of my roadway in neat condition. Any Suggestions?**

A. When possible, the Road Dept tries to keep the ditches wide with gentle sloping sides so they can be mowed by homeowners; however, this is not always possible because of different weather and terrain slope issues that may exist on a piece of property.

**Q. Why can't all road ditches be designed the same with gentle slopes?**

A. There are so many variables with the biggest problem being steep roadways that usually require deeper ditches. Depending on the steepness and the amount of road right of way, it may require large rocks to be placed in the ditch to prevent it from eroding or from washing away the banks. This kind of erosion can also put mud runoff and silt into our streams. Most ditches are grassed to help prevent these problems.

**Q. Once a ditch is prepared, is it easy to keep them in good condition?**

A. The main problems we face concern how much it rains; how much land is adjacent to a ditch; run off into a ditch; and the length of a ditch.

**Q. Why do we even need roadside ditches?**

A. We need roadside ditches so that we can keep as much water off the roadways as possible. Puddles on the roadways can cause accidents - specifically when our vehicles can more easily hydroplane and lose control.

**Q. I would like the Road Dept to fill in the ditch in front of my home so that I can mow all the way to the edge of the roadway and make it look so much better.**

A. The reason this is usually not possible is because if the ditch was not there, the water could run directly into the roadway or be directed into someone else's home or property. The slope of the land can cause this problem - especially if the slope is fairly steep. We have had to move or change ditches in the past because of water runoff that has flowed directly into someone's garage.

**Q. Are ditches the largest problem with roadways?**

A. No, grading and paving of roadways are more critical.

See Paris, page 5A

**Q & A from Union County Commissioner**

Lamar Paris



### Limit, Save, Grow Act

As our nation inches closer to a dangerous potential default on its debt, lawmakers in Washington are grappling with the best path forward. Americans are counting on us to act - and to no one's surprise, House Republicans are doing just that.

Recently, Speaker Kevin McCarthy unveiled House Republicans' sensible debt limit resolution to strengthen our economy, protect hardworking Americans, and save taxpayers \$4.5 trillion over the next decade. Our plan, the Limit, Save, & Grow Act, provides reasonable measures that avoid defaulting on our nation's debt and get our economy back on track.

The first critical piece of our legislation tackles the out-of-control spending problem that continues to burden you and your family with soaring inflation. Our plan would revert back to pre-inflationary Fiscal Year 2022 spending levels while also allowing for 1% growth per year

See Clyde, page 5A

**United States Congressman**

Representative Andrew Clyde



### Chamber of Commerce

What a great community we live in. Thanks to all the groups that participated in the Union County Cleanup Day. There was over 3,000 pounds of garbage collected to help start the spring clean and green. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Appalachian Wealth Management and United Community Bank collected the most bags and received the top prizes. Thanks to all!

Every great community needs a robust health care system. We are incredibly fortunate to have Union General Health System looking after our health. UGH provides excellent treatment for all kinds of medical conditions and has a significant impact on our economy. For instance, according to the Annual Economic Impact Report by the Georgia Hospital Association for the year ending April 30, 2022, the hospital and other health care services provided 2,586 jobs in our community. That's an impressive number and a testament to the strength of our health care system.

See Chamber, page 5A

**Blairsville - Union County Chamber President**

Steve Rowe



### Letters to the Editor

#### So You Don't Like Politics

Dear Editor,  
There are a lot of people who want to sit on the sidelines when it comes to politics. My question is, how can you sit on the sidelines when hundreds of unborn babies are murdered every day; when illegal drugs are killing people in unbelievable numbers; when our school children are being indoctrinated in the ways of Satan; when the government allows a myriad of people to come into our country illegally who commit serious crimes, who have radical political and religious beliefs, and who have diseases that we haven't had in decades, who are dealing in human trafficking; when your friends are suffering from the financial effects of destructive government economic policies; and most importantly of all, when we are being persecuted for our religious and political beliefs.

Almost everyone knows the quote of Edmund Burke: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing...." which is just the first part of what he said. The second part of his statement is, "...as they must if they believe they can do nothing. There is nothing worse because the council of despair is declaration of irresponsibility; it is Pilate washing his hands."

There is a man I know who once told me that it didn't matter if Biden, Trump, or the Tiger King won the election. If you didn't vote at

See Brookins, page 5A

#### Pay It Forward Blessing

Dear Editor,  
I woke up Monday, April 24, in a grumpy mood, feeling tired and under-energized for all the tasks I needed to complete that day. I put my clothes on quickly and drove up to Dunkin' Donuts for a large coffee to get me ready for my long list. After I ordered and was waiting to receive my coffee, I'm embarrassed to say that I was having negative thoughts about the car in front of me. My small and grumpy little brain was thinking that they needed a carwash; however, before I got too far, I remembered last year when my own car was so nasty that my uncle sneaked out to wash it as a surprise. So, let those among us without any sin throw the first stone. I thought. I mentally head-slapped myself and started getting my coffee money together so I was ready when I hit the window. And out popped my coffee with a smile and the message that the person in front had paid for me. Of course I was stunned and asked how much the person's bill behind me was and paid it. The employee said the chain was now four people long.

What a powerful morning and reminder

See Brogden, page 5A

### Another Legend is Gone

The Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program was created in the Agricultural Act of 1962 to assist local people in planning and carrying out activities that conserve natural resources, support economic development, enhance the environment, and improve the standard of living for all citizens.

All programs and assistance of the RC&D Council are available without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. RC&D Councils are 501(C)3 not-for-profit corporations. They are not governmental entities, so the typical policies and constraints of local, state, and federal government programs do not limit the types of issues they address or the means they use for economic development in their work areas.

The RC&D Council that serves the Towns/Union area is the Chestatee Chattahoochee RC&D that covers the 13 counties in Northeast Georgia. RC&D Councils have a high degree of independence to carry out activities that will achieve their most important goals. RC&D Council volunteers are leaders and community stakeholders involved in multiple roles in local government, school boards, churches, and other civic activities. These leaders identify unmet needs in their communities and create solutions that work.

The folks who make up an RC&D council are neighbors. At RC&D Council meetings, they draw from their professional expertise and community connections to determine the needs of their RC&D Council areas, address those needs, and make their communities better places to live, work, and play. They know how to blend government programs with local needs to produce results. In essence, they know how to speak the government's language, and yours.

Ten and a half years ago, I didn't know what RC&D was, but I was soon to find out the hard way. I interviewed for the position of Executive Director of Chestatee Chattahoochee Resource Conservation & Development Council and low and behold I guess they were desperate because they hired me. There was one lone survivor still working there for a while and then she suddenly quit so I was totally alone trying to figure out what we did and how to do what I needed to do to survive. It was to survive or go hungry, so I dug in and slowly pulled the organization out of its slip-

See Riley, page 5A

**RC&D Executive Director**

Frank Riley



### Dynamite...

Dynamite Comes in Small Packages - One summer in my childhood I was at my grandparents' home in Trappstown, Alabama. Papa had just come in from cultivating his cotton for lunch when into the driveway pulled an older model Ford Falcon. First the parents and then four small children piled out of the car. I didn't really know their names, but, I recognized them from our community church. I soon learned the names of the parents

were Roy and Myrtle Jean. Roy was a tall, lanky individual while his wife, Myrtle Jean, was less than 5 feet while wearing her high heel shoes.

The family sat down to dinner with us and we all listened as Papa and Roy discussed the Bible. Each time Roy would declare his views on the Holy Scriptures, Granny would roll her eyes. Later, after Roy and his wife left, I asked Granny about the reason for her rolling her eyes. She said, "We'll talk about it when you are older." Later in the fall Uncle Bud went hunting and came up on Roy in the woods. For some reason unknown to me, Uncle Bud had punched Roy in the nose and took a gun away from him. Uncle Bud then took the gun to his friend Kenneth. I listened to Uncle Bud tell part of the story, but, I only heard part of it because Granny made me leave the room. Again I asked her about what happened and she said, "We'll talk about it when you are older."

Time went by for me and we all grew older. I never got around to asking my grandmother to explain things to me. But, the other day the memories came back to me and I talked with my mom about Roy and Myrtle Jean. This is their story. Myrtle's mother was Myrtle Evans, one of many daughters in a poor but proud family. Myrtle had a difficult time finding a husband, so, she ordered a mail-order groom from Czechoslovakia. Her new husband was hardworking and honest. These individuals raised a tiny little girl they called Myrtle Jean. She married this unscrupulous character by the name of Roy. He claimed to be a preacher, but, when Myrtle Jean was not around he loved to drink and was bad about borrowing things and not bringing them back. Remember Uncle Bud punching Roy in the nose and taking a gun away from him? That gun was owned by Uncle Bud's good friend, Kenneth.

Roy and Myrtle Jean left North Alabama and moved to Chicago to find work just like many other Southerners did in the '50s and '60s. Mom and Dad were living and working in Chicago at the time. Mother was working at an embroidery plant sewing the Boy Scout Emblem on uniforms. One day Mom told her boss about

See Cummings, page 5A

**Around The Farm**

Mickey Cummings



### Snakes

As the temperatures continue to rise, plants are blooming, leaves are expanding, and life is rustling in woods again. Some of the life includes snakes. I've already heard a few stories of encounters that people have had with snakes early this spring. Snakes are a natural part of the landscape that we're going to have to learn to live with. So, it's not going to be possible to completely eliminate all encounters with them. There are some things that you can do to make those encounters less frequent and safer for you and the snake.

Most of the snakes that live in Georgia are non-venomous. There are 46 species of snakes in Georgia of which 6 are venomous. Of those 6, we have 2 of them in Union and Towns counties. Copperhead and Timber Rattlesnake are the 2 that we have in our area.

Copperheads can grow to be 4.5 feet long. They are usually light brown with dark brown hourglass shapes on the back. The narrow part of the hourglass is along the spine with the wide base on either side. They are mostly found in forested areas. They like spots with logs, leaf, and rocks for cover. They are capable of living in suburban areas with people around.

Timber Rattlesnakes can grow to be about 5 feet long. They have a color range from yellow to black. Their backs are covered in brown or black chevron shaped crossbands. They like to live along wooded streambanks. They like old debris piles, old burrows and rock crevices. They will also have the iconic rattle on the end of their tail.

Most people will talk about being able to tell if a snake is venomous from looking at the shape of its head. Generally speaking, venomous snakes will have a triangular shaped head. However, this can be difficult to determine in the wild without getting close and handling the snake, which is never advised. Non-venomous snakes can flatten their heads and appear to have more triangular heads too. Some of the markings on non-venomous snakes can be confused with copperheads.

To lessen the chance of having snakes around your home make sure that your dryer vent is covered with a screen to prevent snakes from wandering inside. Remove piles of debris, leaf piles, or wood piles, because those create habitats for snakes. Thick ground cover like tall grass or ivy can create hiding spots for snakes or the rodents, frogs, and insects that snakes like to eat. Keeping the space around your house clear will decrease the likelihood of a snake being present.

Most of the time people are bitten when

See Williams, page 5A

**UGA extension watching and working**

Jacob Williams



### North Georgia News

Published since 1909 • Legal Organ of Union County

**Kenneth West** Publisher/Owner **Shawn Jarrard** General Manager/Editor **Derek Richards** Advertising Director **Todd Forrest** Sports Editor **Lowell Nicholson** Photographer  
Website: www.nganews.com • Email: northgeorgianews@hotmail.com • Mail: P.O. Box 2029, Blairsville, GA 30514

The North Georgia News is an independent and nonpartisan publication. As such, third-party views contained herein are not necessarily the opinions or positions of this newspaper, e.g. advertising, press releases, editorial content, perspectives expressed in articles covering local events, etc.

Publication No: 001505

Advertising, News deadlines Friday at 4 p.m. • Mail Service for all subscriptions except 30512, 30514 & 30572 (Union County) - One Year \$45 INCLUDING UNION COUNTY CUSTOMER REQUESTS MAIL SERVICE. In county, carrier delivered subscription is \$10. All subscriptions must be paid in advance. NORTH GEORGIA NEWS is published weekly by NGN/TCH, Inc., 266 Cleveland Street, Blairsville, Georgia, 30512. Entered as Second Class Matter as of Dec. 24, 1988, at the Post Office in Blairsville. NORTH GEORGIA NEWS is not responsible for errors in advertising beyond the cost of the actual space involved. All advertisements are accepted subject to the Publisher's approval of the copy and to the space being available, and the Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.  
Phone: 706-745-6343 Fax: 706-745-1830 • P.O. Box 2029, Blairsville, GA 30514



## Riley... continued from Page 4A

ping and sliding down. It's amazing what you can do to keep from going hungry! We receive grants from USDA Forest Service and USDA NRCS. We write the grants and if successful, organize the work and pass out the funds and then go for another one and start all over again. The lady that hired me in 2012 was Jeanette Jamieson from Toccoa, GA, who was the ChestChatt RC&D President, The Southeast RC&D President, and the National RC&D Vice President. You might say Jeanette was all things RC&D. Jeanette had political and governmental contacts from Washington to Toccoa and all places in between. Some of you Georgians who are old as I am probably remember Jeanette from her days as a House floor leader for the House Speaker Tom Murphy. Jeanette knew where the skeletons were buried so when she needed a favor from the Gold Dome, she got it. Sadly, all good things must come to an end and Jeanette passed away on Tuesday April 25. Here is her obituary. Ms. Mary "Jeanette" McCollum Jamieson, age 81, of Toccoa, passed away Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at her home. Born on November 28, 1941 in Kings Mountain,

NC, she was the daughter of the late Robert Clarence and Modena Garland McCollum. Ms. Jamieson was a veteran public servant serving six years as a Stephens County Commissioner, 24 years as an elected member of the Georgia House of Representatives and had served as a City Commissioner and Mayor since 2014. During her time in the Georgia House of Representatives, Jamieson was the first woman to chair a major committee and the first woman in Georgia's history to serve as the Governor's Floor Leader. She received the "President's Award for Innovative Government" from President George W. Bush for her role in Rural Development. She served and currently serves on several Boards: Stephens County Soil & Water Conversation District, Toccoa-Stephens County Humane Shelter, and Resource Conservation & Development. She was a member of Confidence United Methodist Church, and she owned and operated Jamieson Accounting & Tax Service. We will miss you, Jeanette. All of that knowledge is gone forever. I'm just glad that I had the privilege to learn from one of the great-est, Jeanette Jamieson.

## Williams... continued from Page 4A

they try to kill a snake. Non-venomous snake are protected by state law. If you are bitten 1) stay calm; 2) Get competent medical help as quickly as possible; 3) Keep the affected limb level with the body; 4) Do not cut, suck, or apply ice or a tourniquet to the wound. Wear closed toed shoes when walking in areas where snakes might be present. There are no chemical poisons or effective repellents

for snakes. Mothballs are not registered for use as snake repellent. They also can't hear, so any kind of repellent that uses sound isn't going to work. Make sure that the area around your house is kept clear and your house is sealed to that snakes can't enter your home. If you have any questions about snakes please contact your local Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

## Clyde... continued from Page 4A

over the next 10 years. By reinvesting in Washington's runaway spending, House Republicans' bill will help save Americans roughly \$3.6 trillion and provide an essential first step in restoring fiscal sanity to the federal government. Additionally, our Limit, Save, Grow Act claws back some of the most expensive policies enacted by President Biden and Congressional Democrats. These include reclaiming unspent COVID funding, defunding Biden's IRS auditing army, repealing Green New Deal tax credits from the so-called "Inflation Reduction Act," and blocking the President's student loan transfer scheme. All of these misguided policies come with hefty price tags that inevitably afflict American taxpayers, which is precisely why we must use this opportunity to deliver much-needed relief. For example, prohibiting President Biden's egregious executive action to "cancel" student loan debt will save Americans approximately \$465 billion. Undoubtedly, any plan to address the debt ceiling must also work to grow our broken economy that has been beleaguered by President Biden's Big Government Socialist agenda. Our plan includes es-

sential provisions, such as strengthening workforce requirements for welfare programs, which work toward this goal. In addition, the Limit, Save, Grow Act includes two major pieces of legislation already passed by House Republicans, the REINS Act and the Lower Energy Costs Act. These policies will limit the Biden Administration from implementing costly executive actions and unleash domestic energy production. Together, these measures will help grow our economy by pulling millions of Americans out of poverty, reducing inflationary unilateral actions, and diminishing our dependence on foreign adversaries. Clearly, House Republicans have a plan to address the debt ceiling. Meanwhile, the White House and Senate Democrats continue to play politics, as they appear more interested in recklessly inching toward financial ruin than negotiating in good faith with House Republicans on a fiscally responsible, sensible solution. Please know that I will continue working with my colleagues on this matter. (The Limit, Save, Grow Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Wednesday, April 26).

## Brookins...continued from Page 4A

all, that would be the same as voting for the winner – because you didn't vote for somebody else. And of course anyone who is deeply rooted in their religion will respond by saying that they pray for each of these issues every day. I agree that prayer is always to be considered first. As David watched over his sheep, he was always in prayer for the protection of his sheep and his country. But one day, he left his sheep to go see his brothers in the army, who were fighting the Philistines, a great enemy of God's people. When he got there, he asked why all the army was just standing there on the sidelines and not fighting the enemy. Then he picked up a rock and killed Goliath. Maybe you haven't registered to vote. Maybe that's your rock – to register and ac-

tually go vote. If you don't like the politicians who are running for office and the solutions that they offer, then you have high moral and political standards. People with high moral and political standards are the kind of people that we need in office. That means that you shouldn't laugh when people tell you that YOU should run for office. Is that your rock? I know we believe in prayer, but are we willing to physically show that we have faith in those prayers? Get involved in the political process in your county, and pick the rock that suits you best, so that we can say that we truly have a government of the people, for the people, and by the people. There are so many ways to get involved, or do you want to wash your hands? **David Brookins**

## Alcoholics Anonymous meetings/times

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope, in order to solve their common problem and help others to recover from Alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Blairsville: Monday 7 p.m. O/BB Blairsville Group, Mountain Presbyterian Church, 3801 Highway 515 East, Blairsville. Tuesday: 7 p.m. C/W/SS Blairsville, Tuesday Evening Ladies Meeting, Mountain Presbyterian Church, 3801 Highway 5515 East,

Blairsville. Wednesday: 7 p.m. OD Blairsville Group, Mountain Presbyterian Church, 3801 Highway 515 East, Blairsville. Friday: 12 noon W/OD Sisters in Sobriety Group, Lutheran Church, 83 Earl Shelton Road. Saturday: 8 a.m. OD Blairsville Group, Mountain Presbyterian Church, 3801 Highway 515 East, Blairsville. Sunday: 7 p.m. BB Hiwassee Group Red Cross Building, 1298 Jack Dayton Circle, Hiwassee, GA 30546. 24 Hour AA Hotline: 828-837-4440.

## Cummings...continued from Page 4A

Myrtle Jean, and her friend was hired. But, about a week later, Mom's boss came back to her and explained that someone had to tell Myrtle Jean about regular bathing and deodorant, and that person was going to be Mom. So, Mom explained to Myrtle Jean that she was no longer in the country with just a few people. Therefore, she needed to bathe every day and

use deodorant. Mom gave her a list of items she could use. Myrtle Jean was appreciative and thanked Mom for her advice. Mom's boss thanked her as well. Later that week Myrtle Jean and Roy came to the house to grill some hot dogs. Also, Dad's longtime friend William Shelnett was there with his wife. At that time my Dad and William were not churchgoing people and they enjoyed drinking beer. Roy and Myrtle Jean showed up to the event where upon Roy was offered a beer. Myrtle Jean said, "Oh, my Roy don't drink, you know he is a preacher." Dad exclaimed, "Well, he had some the other night." Roy's face became red and he sat down on the edge of an armless sofa. He tried to explain that he only drank a little every now and then. William asked, "Roy, what about that six-pack you borrowed from me the other day?" Myrtle Jean had endured enough. She drew back her tiny hand and slapped Roy across the face. The impact knocked him off the couch and into the floor. Dad and his friend William were taken aback by the power she exhibited. He told me that she was full of dynamite. Then my mind went back to a time when I was very young and as I listened to Roy expound upon the Biblical principals which he and my Papa were discussing I saw Granny roll her eyes when she heard Roy proclaiming to everyone about his knowledge and virtues. I now understand what Granny was thinking all those years ago. I guess that Myrtle Jean was what Roy needed. A fist full of dynamite to keep him somewhat in line.

## Paris... continued from Page 4A

but without proper ditches, nothing is going to last. **Q. Is it OK to blow or rake our leaves into the roadway ditches?** A. No, it would be much better to keep any debris in the woods if possible. Leaves and branches in ditches contribute to stopping up culverts - which causes the washing of debris into the roadways.

## Dyer... continued from Page 4A

a basement attack. These evolutions are extremely difficult and demanding due to the need to crawl and move the charged firehose through the building. The "Hell Week" part of the class lasted several evenings and all day Saturday. All Recruits did an amazing job, and we are extremely proud of their progress. Union County Fire Department ~ Our Family Protecting Your Family ~

## Fowler... continued from Page 4A

a long trip, rest. Nameless among fellow travelers, identity. Hungry for the familiar, recognition. A place to belong, a place of peace, a place of love, that's home. Jesus is calling you to believe and find your home in Him. "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way where I am going...I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me" (John 14:3-6).


## Brogden... continued from Page 4A

that was for me. We have a limited time on this earth, and when it all boils down to it, I think we'll be remembered for how well we love our families but also how well we love our neighbor as ourselves. Remember the golden rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. And to the person driving the lovely champagne Cadillac that ordered the iced coffee and paid my bill, I'd be honored to pay it forward and wash your car. Life is busy and we have to prioritize, and sometimes car-washing comes in low, as I know. Thanks for making my day. Now, you all feel free to pay it forward the next time you're in the drive-thru or a restaurant or anywhere else, really. Less sniping and more kindness=true happiness. **Lytic Adamson Brogden**

## Chamber... continued from Page 4A

A clean community and a sound health care system are the pillars of a healthy and prosperous community. The Union County Cleanup Day and Union General Health System are perfect examples of how our community is strong, engaged, and active in building a better future. We cannot thank the groups that participated in the clean-up day enough, and we must celebrate Union General's exceptional work in providing quality health care services to our community. Let's all do our part in keeping our community clean and healthy, and make Union County an even better place to live in. Thanks for making Life Better in Blairsville!

**Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse**



**Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493**