

Dyer ...from Page 1A

Championships in Colorado over the summer, but since he qualified just two weeks prior to the national event, he chose instead to compete in competitions a little closer to home.

His love of shooting extends beyond just sport, however.

"I love to hunt and fish, and shooting has to do with hunting – it's just something I really enjoy and something I'm good at and take pretty serious," said Dyer. "I'd like to go to college to shoot. I've talked to Emmanuel College and they've talked to me a little bit, and we're in that stage.

"I hope to go and shoot more outside of 4-H once I graduate from high school, and go to different shoots around the United States, though if I have the opportunity to go anywhere in the world, I will."

Archery is another 4-H program Dyer has benefited from over the years, and he said he's thankful for the opportunities Union County 4-H has afforded him.

"4-H has gotten me to where I am today and gotten me into shooting, and the coaches have taught me a lot," said Dyer. "It teaches gun safety and



Here is Austin with one of his biggest supporters, his mom, Donna Dyer.

helps me meet new people."

Dyer looks forward to another season of 4-H shotgun, and worked all summer landscaping to afford a new gun designed specifically for trap.

Donna Dyer, Austin's mom, said she couldn't be more proud of her son.

"For some people, it's their kid getting a touchdown or scoring that winning basketball

goal," said Dyer. "For me, shooting 25 at state, I didn't care if he placed or not – just to see him shoot that 25 was – I went running to him, gave him a big hug and probably embarrassed him to death.

"It's just like any other sport, but you get more than one football game. This, you get that one day, that one chance. I'm very proud."

BRMEMC ...from Page 1A

By Shawn Jarrard
North Georgia News
Staff Writer

Every year, a good portion of the membership of the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC gathers at the Anderson Music Hall in the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds to take part in the Annual Meeting.

Members listen to live music – this year, it's Southern Vantage – hear all kinds of reports, ask numerous questions, and wait patiently to see if they are winners of the yearly raffle of prizes.

But probably the most important part of the Annual Meeting is the election of candidates to the BRMEMC Board of Directors. Directors, after all, make up the governing body of the EMC, deciding everything from who will run the EMC to which direction the EMC will go in the coming years.

This year marks the first time in three elections that the BRMEMC has named all of its candidates out of the Nominating Committee. Thanks to the work of the people elected during the last two election cycles, there was no need for any potential candidate to raise petitions to become nominated this go round.

The membership will be electing the following candidates, one from each county, to serve three-year terms on the board of directors: Ray Cook of Cherokee County, NC; Cory Payne and Gary Reffit of Clay County, NC; and Patrick Malone, Gene Mason and Andrew Smith of Union County.

Members may vote in each county race, regardless of where they live, and there is still time to vote.

Voting can be done three ways: by mail, online, or in person at the Annual Meeting.

Paper ballots were mailed to members on Aug. 10, and if voting by mail, must be mailed back and received no later than Sept. 8 in order to be counted ahead of the Sept. 10 Annual Meeting. The ballots themselves contain instructions on where to mail, which is to Survey & Ballot Systems, and not to Blue Ridge Mountain EMC.

To vote online, visit the website directvote.net/brmemc/, and use the information from the paper ballot to log in and vote. Online voting ends at 4 p.m. on Sept. 8.

In-person voting can be done the day of the Annual Meeting, and registration begins at 8 a.m. that day, on Sept. 10., and will end promptly at 11 a.m.

The actual meeting will begin at 10 a.m., and the emcee this year will not be the EMC lawyer, as in years past. This year, the EMC emcee will be none other than BRMEMC Board Chair Steven Phillips.

"People can expect the chairman of the board, which is going to be me, to run the meeting – like it should be done – and the board members being involved with the meeting, like it should be done," said Phillips. "It should be a completely different board meeting than they've ever had."

Jeremy Nelms, the new permanent general manager hire for BRMEMC, will also be in attendance.

"We're very lucky to have gotten Jeremy," said Phillips. "He's up and coming

to talk about some of the policy updates."

Roy Perren will also be talking about the process the board went through when searching for the new general manager, and Chris Logan, head of the Finance Committee, will go over the EMC's financials and figures.

Anyone who has attended one of the several BRMEMC Town Hall Meetings since the beginning of the year will likely recognize the same meeting style in the Annual Meeting, and the board will take any and all questions from the floor.

The 2016 Annual Report can be found in the latest edition of the "Georgia EMC" magazine, and will be discussed in the annual meeting, and the big forensic audit, which was just recently completed, will be discussed in the annual meeting as well.

State Route 348 closed for repaving in Union County

The Georgia Department of Transportation has announced:

Closure of State Route 348 in Union County. From the White County line to state Route 180. Both lanes will be closed to traffic to allow repaving of the roadway. Local traffic will be allowed through.

When: Beginning Monday, August 29, 2016 through Thursday, September 1, 2016

6:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Why: State Route 348 was evaluated and is in need of resurfacing due to the age and condition of the current asphalt's surface. The regular monitoring and systematic preventative maintenance helps extend the life of Georgia's roads. Resurfacing state Route 348 will enhance the safety and be cost effective.

N/Aug31.M1)gg