

## Fly-In...from Page 1A



EAA Chapter 1211 always does a chili lunch for guests of its annual fly-in.

Photo by Jarrett Whitener

itself has an annual get-together which is a really big deal, and it is incredible.”

For Cornett, flying is a hobby that allows him to have a sense of freedom and work on the planes that he has grown to love.

“I’m retired, and I have to have something to do,” Cornett said. “That is a lot of the stuff I like to do, so the EAA is great. For flying, it is really just a freedom. You can leave the ground, and the countryside here is really pretty, especially this time of the year. There’s

nothing else like it.”

Many pilots, such as attendee John Wooderson, felt the same as Cornett, that flying is a singular experience that most people should partake in at some point in their lifetimes.

“I’ve been flying for about 20 years,” Wooderson said. “It is just something that has been part of the family. My dad would take me up in his small plane, and it just became something that I really loved to do.

“Everyone should go up at least once. It might be a

little scary, but there is nothing that can compare to it. I’m glad these guys got to put on this event; it is a really nice thing for them to do. It is nice to be a pilot and have a gathering with people of the same interests. This is just great for that.”

Pilots and aviation fans alike enjoyed the morning talking about planes and sharing stories from the sky, as well as digging into lots and lots of chili. For more information on the local EAA chapter, visit EAA1211.org.

## Voting, COVID-19...from Page 1A

isn’t going away either and is something we need to live with. COVID is everywhere and it will always be there.”

No matter people’s concerns, Alec Windle of Murphy, North Carolina, encourages everyone to focus on family and the upcoming holidays.

“I just want everyone to spread some positivity,” Windle

said Saturday on the Blairsville Square. “It has been so long since we have had good and pure positivity in our country. I think that is a goal for us with the coming months.

“It is Halloween and people are so happy and joyous, and that is just wonderful. Let us do the same for Christmas and Thanksgiving. We have had a really rough year, all of

us. If we could just show some compassion for our neighbors and friends, then we could go miles together.

“I would tell people to turn those TVs off every now and then and enjoy the people around you, because all those stations do is show the bad in the world right now. We get enough bad.”

## Veterans...from Page 1A

Legion Auxiliary Unit 121, the Vietnam Veterans of America Blairsville Chapter and various veteran service organizations, the Blairsville Cruisers, and Union County Schools.

The Maj. Leon Davenport Veterans Building on the corner of Old Blue Ridge Highway and Georgia 515 will host two such Veterans Day events, a morning ceremony and a dinner, sponsored by the collective effort of local VSOs.

People may begin arriving at the Veterans Building at 9 a.m. for refreshments and tours, with an Armistice Day ceremony to begin at 10 a.m. in the parking lot. The event will feature history, memorials and a flag demonstration, and will close with a prayer at 11:11 a.m.

Then, at 7 p.m. on Nov. 11 at the Veterans Building, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 121 will be welcoming veterans to “put on their best patriotic shirt and hat and come get dinner on us. The menu is Italian baked casserole, green beans, salad and dessert.”

“Please follow the signage when you arrive in order to be directed to the curbside pickup location,” the Auxiliary said. “There will be limited dining on site for those who are to eat in. Masks and social distancing will be observed as much as possible.”

For more information, call Auxiliary President/Chaplain Janice Walters-Taylor at 706-745-1954.

In the leadup to Veterans Day, the Blairsville Cruisers Car Club will be hosting its Third Annual Salute to Veterans Car Show and Fundraising

Auction at the Union County Farmers Market on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“In addition to the great vehicles, there will be booths featuring local veteran organizations,” the Cruisers said. “One-hundred percent of proceeds from this event go to local veterans in need and to local veteran organizations in Blairsville, Hiwassee, Hayesville and Murphy communities.”

The event will feature an auction, a 50/50 raffle, food and participation by area Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters, VFW posts, American Legion posts and other vet organizations out of the North Georgia and Western North Carolina areas.

All vehicles are welcome, and the Cruisers are asking people to fly the American flag on their vehicles. Registration will begin at 10 a.m., and there will be “Top 20” and “Best of Show” awards handed out that afternoon.

On Nov. 11, the Union County School District will be releasing its Eighth Annual Veterans Day Presentation, a student-led program honoring veterans of the community and abroad.

Due to COVID-19, the presentation had to be filmed for release online this year instead of being performed live in Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium.

As always, student participation remains a focus of the presentation, with high school seniors volunteering for the program. Hannah Todd will be Master of Ceremonies; Ellene “Edie” Donaldson will be keynote speaker; and Noah

Underwood will assist with the Quilts of Valor Ceremony.

“I don’t have to say anything – kids walk into my office and ask if they can be part of the ceremony,” said retired U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Arthur J. McCann III, who serves as high school administrative assistant. “It shows a lot there, and everybody gets involved and excited.”

With all the negativity surrounding the pandemic and so much else on the national and international stage, McCann said he and the schools were looking forward to projecting “this positive thing out there. And hopefully we’ll have a lot of people watch the video.”

The production will be made available via the “Union County Schools” Facebook page and website starting at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, and the schools will also be sharing it with all area veteran service organizations.

“We hope that next year we will be able to provide a better morning of festivities for our veterans,” the schools said. “The students and staff of our School District work hard every year to provide a quality performance. (2020) is no exception.

“This year’s ceremony will include the High School Chorus led by Alicia Covington and the High School Band led by Will Stafford. They are recording all the music throughout the ceremony.

“We will include photos of our students and veterans from previous ceremonies, along with photos of our own Union County students who chose to enter the military over the years.”

## Union County Schools 2020 Veterans Day Presentation



On November 11, 2020 at 11 AM Union County School District will release their 2020 Veterans Day Presentation. Unfortunately due to the COVID 19 Pandemic we will not have a live show this year. Our concern is the health of our Veterans, Staff, and Students.

We are putting together a ceremony on video that will be played throughout the School District. We will also release the program to Veteran

Organization web pages, local news, and sites throughout the country.

We hope that next year we will be able to provide a better morning of festivities for our Veterans. The students and staff of our School District work hard every year to provide a quality performance. This year is no exception.

This year’s ceremony will include the High School Chorus led by Alicia Covington and the High School Band led by Will Stafford. They are recording all the music throughout the ceremony.

We will include photos of our students and Veterans from previous ceremonies along with photos of our own Union County students who chose to enter the military over the years.

Our students’ speakers will be Hannah Todd and El-

lene Donaldson. Noah Underwood will also assist in the ceremony.

We will incorporate the Quilt of Valor ceremony and will award a deserving Veteran the Quilt of Valor Sewn by the ladies of the local Quilt of Valor organization.

Mrs. Amy McCombs will provide the finishing touch on the video to ensure your enjoyment. Our Veterans deserve the recognition and our School District takes pride in the presentation of this great event.

The P.O.C. for this year’s ceremony is Art McCann. If you have any questions or if you would like to provide us with your Veteran’s photo, or to send you the Ceremony online please contact Mr. McCann at 706-745-2216 ext. 1112 or you can contact him at amccann@ucschools.org.