

**Paris...continued from Page 4A**

that would apply to explosives. However, it is illegal under federal regulations to mix the ingredients and then transport the exploding target to another location. If you transport the product mixed, you are breaking a federal law which comes with hefty punishments. Everyone needs to keep in mind it is NOT legal to use exploding targets on USFS land. They have their own regulations that were created in 2013.

**Q. Why is a potentially dangerous material like this**

**legal to use?**

A. I have no idea. Probably because there have not been reported instances of abuse. However, most people have no idea this product even exists or is legal. Apparently, when used in smaller amounts, it is actually fun to use with target practice. Based on the recent event here, when used in larger quantities, the explosion can not only be loud and scary but could be potentially very dangerous.

(Continued next week, Explosives, Part II)

**Cummings ... continued from Page 4A**

was tapped on the shoulder and told, "Mr. Cohen wants to see you". She jumped up and you guessed it. The back of her dress was ripped away and still tied around the desk.

First, Mr. Cohen took out his little brother, Milford. He was already squalling and said, "If you hit me Momma will beat you". The elder brother shut the door and told three young boys to scream like they were leaving this world. Milford squalled as the switch

made sounds of being slapped across a body. Next, it was William's turn. And then it was Dad's turn. Each time the class heard sounds from an awful beating. Each boy walked back into the room holding his rear end. Finally, Mr. Cohen called out "Tommy Trapp. Come here boy". Tommy walked into the hall and received the worst whipping of his life and yet he had nothing to do with Yvonne's dress. Remember, Tommy had a reputation.

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worked with The Ferst Foundation to insure those involved in this childhood literacy program have bookmarks for the books provided by the local chapter.

Through her involvement with the Union Towns Employer Committee, Roberta contributed to the recent Employment Summit held here in Blairsville. A consummate networker, Roberta is involved with a number of networking groups throughout our area.

When asked about Mary Kay, Roberta explained, "My passion and mission is to enrich my customer's lives. It would be an honor to be your friend and Beauty Advisor. I believe in the product, love the friendships and I love my job! Customer service is #1 and product guarantee is what makes this company the best. I've been using the products for 37 years and recently lost 126 lbs. My personal testimony is now the key

to show you how this product works. It's amazing! I'd love to meet with you and pamper you with a complimentary facial."

Her nomination for Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce Business of the Quarter included the words "well-respected", "customer focused", "enthusiastic", "marketing expert" and finally "kindhearted soul". Driven to succeed with a great affinity for her customers and the community, Roberta Ford serves as a role model for many aspiring business women. She is a worthy addition to those past recipients of the Business of the Quarter award.

Roberta can be reached at 706-897-0245 or at www.marykay.com/rford102.

If you would like to nominate someone to be our next Business of the Quarter, please contact the Chamber at 706-745-5789. #believeit

**Salvation Army... cont. from Page 4A**

turn to The Salvation Army for their basic needs.

Our fundraising goal for the kettles was \$69,000. This money will go far in our work to keep families intact with rent, utilities, and food year-round. Thank you for this gift. We pledge to be good stewards of your generosity.

This year 475 children woke up to a joyful Christmas morning because of your help with the Angel Tree program. Thank you for adopting Angels from Angel Trees, for placing

Angel Trees in your churches and businesses, and for hosting toy drives.

Surely this proves that we are able to provide hope and joy to those in need in our community as we work together.

I am privileged to work alongside you as a neighbor, and I look forward to what we can accomplish in the upcoming year.

**Lts. Shaning and Melody Moran, The Salvation Army of Toccoa, Northeast Georgia**

**AARP Smart Driver Course**

AARP Smart Driver course to be hosted by the Fannin County Blue Ridge Better Living Community Center in Morganton on Wednesday, January 27, 2016. Sign in time is 8:30 a.m. The classroom course starts promptly at 9 a.m. ending at 4 p.m. The Fannin County Blue Ridge Community Center is located at 527 Forge Mill Road, Morganton, GA.

The course fee is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non members. Pre registration is recommended to secure your place in the classroom. Telephone the instructor Rosemary Kerr at 706-745-7046 Monday through Friday from

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Please speak clearly when leaving your name and telephone number for call back confirmation.

You will learn defensive driving techniques, proven safety strategies, new traffic laws, rules of the road and new vehicle technology innovations. No test to pass or writing required. The AARP Smart Driver Course is opened to all licensed drivers. AARP is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all, as we age.

At the end of the course you will receive your AARP Smart Driving Certificate. You may also qualify for a multi-year discount on your automobile insurance.

**Mtn. Shelter Board meeting**

Humane Society's Mountain Shelter Board of Directors will be having their next Board Meeting January

27, 2016 at 5:30 PM. We are meeting at the UCBI Brackett Room.

**UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Children's Story Time	<b>Every Monday:</b> Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
A Course in Miracles	298 School Circle	2 pm
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Tri State Bus. Women	<b>Every Tuesday:</b> Blairsville Restaurant	8 am
Tuesday Strippers	Mtn Presbyterian Ch	9:30-2:30
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
Spiritual Living Group	UC Comm Cntr., Rm 101	6:30 pm
BINGO	<b>Every Wednesday:</b> Civic Center	7 pm
Masonic Luncheon	<b>Every Thursday:</b> Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club	So. Bank & Trust	Noon
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Compassionate Friends	<b>Fourth Tuesday of each month:</b> Grinds & Glazes	Noon
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild	Blairsville UMC	12:30 pm
VFW Post #7394	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
Eastern Star #304	Location not listed	7:30 pm
No activities listed	<b>Fourth Wednesday of each month:</b>	
Lions Club	<b>Fourth Thursday of each month:</b> Steve's Cookie Jar	6 pm
Cruisers Club Meeting	Sr. Center pavilion	6 pm
UT Homebuilders	YH College	7 pm
Eastern Star #471	<b>Fourth Friday of each month:</b> Location not listed	7:30 pm
Youngcane Lodge #597	<b>Fourth Saturday of each month:</b> Lodge Hall	7:30 pm

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just 5 years old. I do remember him being a very quiet, studious man who was so strong; he could boost me to his lap as effortlessly as if he was lifting a chick from its nest.

I've been living in the South for so long, I had forgotten that many mail carriers were still foot soldiers. I was visiting family in Butler, PA a few years ago and heard someone on the porch. I looked out the window and saw the mailman walk back down the steps, carrying a bag much like my grandfather's bag I remembered so well.

Recently I started to wonder why we still were using this archaic form of communication, the physical parcel, when we have the means to deliver messages worldwide in a megasecond via the internet. Amazon is introducing drone delivery of goods. How important is this institution?

Apparently, it's very significant to our economy and our commerce. In 2014, the USPS processed 155.4 billion pieces of mail and boasted 64.8 billion dollars in revenue. The USPS has nearly a half million career employees, and 130,000 non-career employees, making it the second leading employer in this country next to Walmart, paying out 1.8 billion dollars every two weeks in salaries and benefits.

For us as citizens, it continues to be an amazingly dependable and affordable communication tool. There are no monthly plans. No signal outages, no roaming charges. Regardless of our location anywhere in the US, its territories and US military and diplomatic

locations across the globe, anyone can send a letter for just 49 cents. And despite what we are led to believe, the USPS is not a government subsidized institution, in fact "zero" tax dollars were received in 2014 for operating the Postal Service. The Postal Service has relied on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. Yes, there is a decline in revenues, and certain government mandates regarding retirement funds and other future benefit trusts in the last decade have forced them into near bankruptcy, but they emerge into this second half of the decade still viable, if not stronger.

Most of us here in rural America don't have a chance to greet our mail carrier on a daily basis. Our mailboxes are located a distance from our front door, and unlike when my grandfather carried 75 years ago, most households have no one at home during delivery hours.

This week, the Union County Farmers Market would like to give a shout out to all our local mail carriers who ride up and down the mountains' narrow, gravel deprived roads. On the coldest, wet blustery days, your windows are down and your hands are chafed, but you manage to fill our mailboxes within the same 30 minutes each and every delivery day. This month, when our farmlands are frozen, our gardens earth is as solid as the rock beneath it, you carry our hope for the next growing season. You deliver to us the periodicals teaching us how to improve on our methods. We look forward to the seed catalogs that have us contemplating all that we can

**Dixon ... continued from Page 4A**

the green economy revolution. Most economists now agree that climate change is either now posing a grave threat to our economy, or will pose such a threat in the next generation. Many economic studies, including studies from such Wall Street companies as Citigroup, also show that switching to renewables will benefit America economically.

The Citizens Climate

Lobby's carbon fee and dividend plan is one such innovative idea. The well respected REMI study of this plan shows that a slowly increasing price on carbon, with all the money returned to the citizens of America, will both stimulate the economy as well as decrease greenhouse gas emissions by at least 53 % over a 20 year period. It would increase the spendable income of 2/3 of Americans, add 2.8 million extra jobs, increase the GDP by \$1.375 trillion, and save 227,000 American lives over those 20 years. This is certainly a WIN/WIN answer!

**Vernon Dixon, MD**

**Fowler ...**

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and it is man's fault that evil entered the world. Even so, God has provided the ultimate triumph of good over evil in Jesus Christ." As Scripture says, "The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil" (1 Jn. 3:8). His work is already done but the result is not yet fully realized.

So, provocative headlines notwithstanding, we pray. We thank God that He has defeated evil. We pray for compassion and civility in a hateful world. And may God deliver us from the evil of gun violence and terrorism. Victory in Jesus!

**Duncan ...**

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thing happens, we get a call from our Sheriff. The actions of the Sheriff's Office allows us to share information with our readers.

During my illness, the Union County Sheriff's Office has meant a lot to me personally. They constantly keep in touch with me, letting me know that they are there for me if they're needed. I know they keep me in their prayers and wish nothing but the best for me as I go through triple-bypass heart surgery on Jan.27.

Their compassion and professionalism are just two of the reasons we have the best Sheriff's Office in the state of Georgia.

**Crowder ...**

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of 350 words per letter might motivate more readers to write in. Our community flourishes when its citizens pull together and feel like their ideas and thoughts are being heard. NGN is a good place for this to happen, and it can happen if more thoughtful "letters" policies are put in place.

**Jim Crowder**

**Career Coach at UC Library**

Georgia Mountains Regional Commission's Workforce Development Career Coach is visiting the Union County Library on Tuesday, January 26th from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The library is located at 303 Hunt Martin Street in Blairsville, GA.

We will be helping local residents search & apply for jobs, write resumes & cover letters, and discern their career interests. We will also be providing information about tuition assistance & on-the-job training programs.

aspire to in the spring and summer. And soon you will deliver to us the tools, plants and seeds that will bring our planning

closer to fruition. This winter's day, with much appreciation, we raise a steaming cup of hot chocolate to salute you.