

Paris ...continued from Page 4A

Then we go to the secondary roads, and actually do not apply salt on roads that are paved with tar and gravel (surface treatment) because the salt will eat the tar out of the road with time and ruin the pavement. However, we do apply sand and gravel to those roads. After they get everything around town, the smaller trucks go out to each of the precincts and the 2 big trucks handle the larger roads like Blue Ridge Hwy., Loving Road, Pat Colwell, Town Creek School Rd, etc.

Q. When you say you use a salt mixture what is this exactly?

A. You are right; it is

not pure salt but a mixture of salt and what we call 89 gravel (small diameter, size of pea gravel). On March 6th for instance we used approximately 60 tons of salt mixture for a total material cost of \$1,950. Again, a special thanks should go out to our Road Department, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and to the City of Blairsville, all who coordinate and work together to make sure the public has as safe of road conditions as possible. We hope that for this winter, we are in the clear and can begin the process of prioritizing our paving projects for the spring and summer.

Parris ...continued from Page 4A

Calvary's tree. After we had crucified God's only Son, God offers us pardon from every horrible, despicable, heinous sin of life.

Can you believe that we can have a defining moment that will change our life here, and our destiny for all eternity? It can happen. That's what the crucifixion of Christ, His death, burial and resurrection is all about.

In the next few days the churches of our community will be presenting Easter pageants, Easter plays, Easter cantatas, special Holy Week services, sunrise services and

ministers will be preaching special messages proclaiming New Life through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ more than 2,000 years ago.

You should take advantage of these opportunities by attending some of these services. You will be blessed. If your life is messed up, confused and without hope, you need to experience a Divine defining moment that will change your life forever.

Ask Christ to forgive your sin, receive Him into your heart and He will bring to you His peace and joy that will be with you forever.

Cummings ...continued from Page 4A

was entertaining the younger folks with his stories. He reached into his coat pocket and pulled his flask from the pocket. He took a swig about the time the young deputy walked by the front door.

Clifford had just placed the flask back into his pocket when the deputy walked in to the Pool Hall and directly toward my great grandfather. The deputy looked at Clifford and asked him to pull the flask from his coat pocket. The old man told the deputy "The contents of my coat pocket are none of your business". The deputy reached toward Clifford's coat and the old man struck his arm with a walking cane. The deputy drew his Billy stick and my Dad jumped in between his grandfather and the deputy. Try to picture a teenage boy standing between a Deputy and an old man swinging a cane over the shoulder of my Dad.

Dad tried to explain to the Deputy, but, Clifford kept swinging his cane trying to hit the young police officer. The Deputy also lost his cool and took a couple of swings at Clifford. My Dad, Paul, was stuck in the middle of the two men which caused him to catch the brunt of each of their swings. He caught the blows of the Billy sticks from the Deputy and the blows of the cane from Clifford. He kept telling my Dad, "If you'll swing at that sorry Deputy we can take him." Eventually, Chief Looney walked in and hollered out, "What is going on in here?"

The Deputy screamed, "This old man is....." But, he didn't finish. Chief Looney grabbed his arm and dragged him out the front door. The Chief was heard to say, "Do you know who that is and do you know what his sons will do to you if you hurt the man?" The Chief explained that he provided Clifford's whiskey to him and he also explained there was not a jury

in the county which would find his sons guilty of assault on a young police officer, especially if that assault was committed in defense of their father. I guess the deputy got the message, because he never confronted Clifford again about his flask. As a matter of fact you could find the Deputy regularly hanging around Clifford just to hear his stories.

At the age of 90 Clifford still enjoyed shooting pool and visiting the Phil Campbell Barber Shop. All the world's problems could have been solved in this barber shop if the leaders of the world would have listened. The "Grand Old Man" of Phil Campbell regaled younger listeners with his own view of history and brand of philosophy.

It was the early 1960's and the space race had just begun. The area around North Alabama was in the middle of a moderate drought. Clifford was at the barber shop and some young fellow was voicing his concerns about the drought. Clifford knew the young man depended upon the weather to make his cotton grow and he could see the anguish in the young man's eyes. Finally, Clifford spoke up and told the audience the reason for the drought.

"Boys" Clifford began, "I know the reason for this drought. It began with that thing, called Sputnik, them Russians launched into space. Now, Mr. Kennedy wants to put one of them space ships into orbit and eventually land a man on the moon". Clifford believed the launching of rockets into space was having an ill effect upon the climate of earth. Clifford finished his philosophical speech by predicting dire consequences for earth's weather if this space race was not stopped. Clifford died at the age of 96, but, I wonder what he would say about the weather if he were alive today.

Williams ...continued from Page 4A

er in our community.

These short, but relevant interviews, offer the opportunity for listeners to "meet" a local business or community leader and gain valuable insight on a variety of topics.

Past guests have included Chad Lariscy with The Mountain Life Team, who shared insight regarding "Our Future In The Housing Market" and James Wood, owner of The Aviator Cafe, who discussed business strategies and branding for small business.

You can hear past and future episodes by visiting www.BlairsvilleConnect.com.

For the more tech savvy readers, our podcasts will also

be available on iTunes.

No matter which way you choose to listen, we hope you will plan to join us each week and connect with the people who make our community so great.

Blairsville Connect is a collaborative effort of Ben Boykin with Emergent Interactive and the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce.

If you would like to learn more about podcasting or have a particular topic you would like us to discuss, please contact the Chamber at (706) 745-5789 or me directly at President@BlairsvilleChamber.com.

Leone ...continued from Page 4A

such a magical story. It's a lot like our Farmers Market. Almost overnight, we've grown a huge beanstalk.

It takes so many more volunteers, bright ideas, hard workers and even donations to continue to make each season better.

There isn't a skill that you have that we can't use. Yes, even if you can just sit and string beans, we would like you to volunteer. If you only want to donate one morning throughout the whole summer, we want you to join us.

Henry David Thoreau wrote, "One is not born into the world to do everything, but to do something."

Ronald Reagan said "No matter how big and powerful government gets, and the many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers."

Please consider joining us this year, and help plan, develop and execute the events that happen every Saturday as well as the classes taught on

Tuesday nights.

If you play an instrument, offer to entertain. If you like to cook, help us with our recipe events.

Local businesses, we need your support with a volunteer to man the kiosk each week.

Just one week, one volunteer you get to promote your business in front of at least 3,500 people that day while helping us capture their attention to our kiosk.

If you love children, then help with the apple bobbing. If you want to sit home and make some phone calls for us, we can use your willingness to help.

It's easy to let us know that you're willing.

Just e-mail us at UCFarmersMarket.com, message us on Facebook at Union County Farmers Market or call (706) 439-6030 and say "I want to volunteer" and leave your contact information.

We'll get back with you and see how you can help Jack climb his beanstalk.

Mitchell ... continued from Page 4A

than Union County's. In that system, in addition to teaching a full load, I also drove a school bus and served lunches.

I've worked in systems where there were 1,500 graduates from a single high school out of more than 150 high schools; I have written curricula for a county which enrolled more than 300,000 students.

Time and again, I've witnessed great and troubling profligacy in the name of a "good education."

I have yet to see a published, item-by-item, specific, clearly identified, list of priorities from the Union County school board.

I think that such a list would be revelatory.

The question remains: What is first on the list to be accomplished for the sake of Union County students? What is last? What is absolutely necessary? What isn't?

An attendant question: As financial resources wax and wane, where and when have property taxes for schools ever been rolled

back proportionate to the ebb tide of financial availability? Thirteen years ago, properties were selling at much higher rates than what they're selling for now. Have school taxes declined in proportion? And, as properties begin to sell again, will this school board begin to spend as if there will be no time in the future when the economic tide will recede again? At some point in the future, will we hear the same song: That the schools "need" more money?

Property taxes are always available to government while sales taxes wax and wane with the seasons.

To repeat: over the past 13 years, our property taxes have doubled and to say that the rising of property taxes is inevitable without the passage of ESPLOST causes me to wonder if there has been a careful accounting of what is absolutely necessary to the education of Union County students.

George Mitchell

Riley

... continued from Page 4A

makes these products more marketable in our communities.

The RC&D's mission is "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 in the 13 counties that we serve. Buy Georgia Grown Products!

Frank M. Riley, Jr, CF is the Executive Director of The Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council, based in Demorest, Ga.

BBQ and Yard Sale at Women's Enrichment

The Women's Enrichment Center will be sponsoring a BBQ and yard sale on April 5th and 6th at the Union County Farmer's Market from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Donations needed: lawn mowers; push mowers; weed eaters; leaf blowers; vehicles; bicycles; scooters; skateboards/skates; toys; tools; home furnishings; canned goods; good quality used clothing; knick knacks; and anything that you have and would like to donate.

All donations can be left at the Blairsville Center on Jones Street Tuesday thru Thursday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. You can call us at 706-897-1829. When dropping off donations please price them for the Treasure Sale.

For large items pick-up please contact the following: James Bridges, 706-897-0217; Darin Bridges, 706-897-1829; or Darrell Bridges, 706-897-4294.

Chamber of Commerce events	
For details and future events see events calendar at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com	
Wednesday, March 20	
11:30 am	Chamber Ribbon Cutting for Origami Owl-Union County Community Center
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane
2 pm	Friends of Union County Library Meeting - North Georgia Technical College
6 pm	Bingo - Union County Community Center View Grill
Thursday, March 21	
8 am	Mountain Networking Referral Group Meeting - Cooks Country Kitchen
12 pm	Rotary Club of Union County - Cadence Bank, 2nd Floor
5 pm	Awesome Spaghetti Dinner - St Clare's Episcopal Church
5 pm	Trivia Night & Tacos - The Union County Community Center View Grill
6:30 pm	Good Neighbors Auto Club Monthly Meeting - Call for Location 706-835-9010
6:30 pm	Woodmen of the World Lodge Meeting - Steve's Cookie Jar Restaurant
6:30 pm	Shape Note Singing - Union County Historical Courthouse
Friday, March 22	
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane
9 pm	Unlimited Bowling - Galaxy Bowling of Union County
Saturday, March 23	
10 am	5th Annual Trackrock Trials-Trackrock Campground & Cabins
10 am	Good Neighbors Auto Club Event-Call for Location 706-835-9010
12 pm	The Blairsville Egg Drop - Meeks Park Ball Park
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane
5 pm	Karaoke with Lori Pluger - Union County Community Center
7 pm	North Georgia Idol - The Copperhead Lodge
Sunday, March 24	
10 am	Sunday Brunch - The Copperhead Lodge
10 am	5th Annual Trackrock Trials-Trackrock Campground & Cabins
Monday, March 25	
12 pm	Blairsville Kiwanis Club Monthly Meeting - Steve's Cookie Jar Restaurant
Tuesday, March 26	
8 am	Tri-State Business Women's Meeting-Cooks Country Restaurant
11 am	Veteran's Group Monthly Meeting - Old Chamber Building
Wednesday, March 27	
6 pm	Bingo - Union County Community Center View Grill