

Paris ...continued from Page 4A

Q. What is the date of the Scottish Festival and Highland Games?

A. The date is June 8th and 9th. In fact, if you are reading this week's article, this week, then you better hurry and get ready. The Ceilidh (pronounced kay lee) Dinner at the Community Center and the golf tournament at Butternut Creek Golf Course are both this Friday and the Festival and Games begin Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon. If you have not been, you are really missing a treat. One of the highlights on Saturday is the Opening Ceremony with the Parade of the Tartans with the mass bag pipe bands. It will send chills up your arm and is a very impressive event. This begins around noon, so try to arrive no later than 11 a.m.

Q. We enjoyed the Veterans Parade but were a little disappointed in the crowd and number of floats. Is there a way in the future to improve things?

A. Actually, it was not a lot smaller than last year but had a lot of quality. Unfortunately, the Memorial Day weekend is when many families are either out of town or attending family events including cookouts. However, do not think that a small parade diminished the quality. It was an awesome event with Clyde and I.T. Harkins from Suches being the Grand Marshals. They are two of six siblings in the same family that served in WWII and that is an amazing statistic. Hopefully, in the future, more folks will be able to attend the parade that honors the memory of those soldiers who gave the ultimate sac-

rifice.

Q. Did you attend the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Veterans Park?

A. I surely did and it was a very moving program.

Chuck Honaker was the emcee and the program was given by Retired Lt. Col. William "Whitey" White of the Georgia Air National Guard. It was very touching.

In addition, retired Lt.Col. Allen Marlin Hansen, who just moved to Union County to live with his family, was there with his family, Jeff and Dorothy Hansen. His P-51 Mustang was shot down by the Germans and he ended up in their prison camp. It is an honor having him move to our community. As usual, Leon Davenport, the most decorated soldier from Union County was in attendance along with many other veterans and their families and guests. This is a program you do not want to miss in the future.

Q. We drive by the Byron Herbert Reece Heritage Center but have not had time to stop and visit. How has it been received by the public?

A. The reception has been tremendous. Those attending are astonished with the exhibits, photos and artifacts from the Reece

family and the local area. Dr. John Kay, Chair of the Board of Directors and Advisory Council, stated that they are very pleased with the response so far to the Heritage Center. The Center is listed on the Southern Literary Trail which is an organization celebrating writers of classic Southern literature in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia so that should draw many visitors. Along with Blairsville, other Georgia Trail Towns are Atlanta (Margaret Mitchell & Joel Chandler Harris), Columbus (Carson McCullers), Clayton (Lillian Smith), Milledgeville (Flannery O'Connor & Alice Walker), Moreland (Erskine Caldwell), Savannah (Flannery O'Connor).

If you have not visited the Center please plan to do so this summer and learn about the mountain farming methods of our ancestors, Byron Herbert Reece, his poetry and his difficult farming life in the southern Appalachian Mountains. There are many exhibits that children and adults alike will enjoy learning about the farm. Visiting hours for the center are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. This is a hidden gem in our county and located one mile North of Vogel State Park.

Williams ...continued from Page 4A

In addition to the remarkable stops on the tour, Collette Vacations is including a variety of services to make this trip one of pure leisure. Transportation will be provided to travelers from Blairsville to the Atlanta airport. Collette will handle all flight and hotel arrangements as well as luggage transfers between hotels. Nine total meals are also included in the tour pricing which starts at \$2,699 per person for double occupancy

if you book before July 1, 2013. Those wishing to use accumulated sky miles can purchase a land only package. This trip is open to the entire community – business owners, families, retirees, etc. For more information about the Irish Splendor tour or to reserve your spot, please call the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce at (706)745-5789 or email travel@blairsvillechamber.com.

Cummings ...continued from Page 4A

the Voting Delegates Session. During that speech I told the stories of the escape of the Grissom brothers and about my grandfather purchasing a new Ford Truck from Grissom Ford in 1967. I like to think our ancestors would be pleased that the Grissom Family and Cummings family are still acquainted through 3 generations.

During my time as a County Agent I've had the opportunity to meet many people and as a result I have acquired many friends. I moved to Union County in 1990 I became acquainted with Ruth and Hoyt Murrell. As you may know Hoyt passed away last Thursday. He will be missed. Over the years I have called upon Hoyt and Ruth for vari-

ous reasons and have always found them to be very supportive. Hoyt and Ruth are the type of people which would give you the shirt off of their back if you needed it. Hoyt was a long time vendor at the Farmers Market. He came and sold his wooden chairs and benches each Saturday. Hoyt will be missed and I wish his family the best.

Remember the Farmers Market will open next Saturday, June 8th at 7 AM. Then we will open each Saturday morning and Tuesday evenings. Also, please remember the "Trash to Treasures Yard Sale and Flea Market each Friday morning. Finally, the Union County Canning Plant will open on July 9, 2013.

Parris ...continued from Page 4A

Paste you did with glue. A web was a spider's home, And a virus was the flu. I guess I'll stick to my pad and paper, And the memory in my head.

I hear no one's been killed in a computer crash, But when it happens, they wish they were dead. Sources unknown

Chamber of Commerce events	
For details and future events see events calendar at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com	
Wednesday, June 5	
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane
Thursday, June 6	
8 am	Mountain Networking Referral Group Meeting – Cooks Country Kitchen
12 pm	Union County Rotary Club Meeting – 2nd Floor Cadence Bank
5 pm	Trivia Night & Tacos – The Union County Community Center View Grill
Friday, June 7	
8 am	Trash and Treasures – Union County Farmers Market
9 am	Seniors Fishing Rodeo – Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery
10 am	Kilted Golf Classic-Blairsville Scottish Festival-Butternut Creek Golf Course
4 pm	Spring Artists' Reception at The Art of Gold Gallery – 5010 Hwy 76E
7 pm	Ceilidh Dinner, Blairsville Scottish Festival-Union County Community Cntr.
7 pm	Alex Thomlinson, violin/fiddle – Union County Historical Courthouse
Saturday, June 8	
7 am	Union County Farmer's Market – 148 Old Smokey Rd
8 am	Kids Fishing Rodeo - Vogel State Park
9 am	Family Fishing Festival - Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery
9 am	10th Annual Blairsville Scottish Festival & Highland Games-Meeks Park
10 am	Nature Inspire's Garden Tour-GA Mountain Research & Education Cntr.
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane
Sunday, June 9	
9 am	10th Annual Blairsville Scottish Festival & Highland Games-Meeks Park
Monday, June 10	
9 am	Week Long Summer Horse Camp – Trackrock Stables
9 am	Guided Tours - GA Mountain Research & Education Center
11 am	Union County Public Library presents "Dig into Reading" Programs – U.C. Public Library
12 pm	Blairsville Kiwanis Club Monthly Meeting-Steve's Cookie Jar Restaurant
Tuesday, June 11	
8 am	Tri-State Business Women's Meeting – Cooks Country Restaurant
3 pm	Union County Farmer's Market – 148 Old Smokey Rd
Wednesday, June 12	
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane

N(Jun5,Z6)CA

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	Every Monday:	
Boy Scouts #101	GMREC	9 am - 1 pm
Children's Story Time	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Kiwanis Club	Union County Library	11 am
Civil Air Patrol	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
	Blairsville Airport	6:30 pm
Sweet Adelines	Every Tuesday:	
Get Fit	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
	First UMC	5:15 pm
Masonic Luncheon	Every Thursday:	
Butternut Ladies Golf	Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club	Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 am
Get Fit	Cadence Bank	Noon
	First UMC	5:15 pm
	Second Monday of each month:	
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild	Hayesville	10 am-3 pm
Disabled Am Veterans	UC Annex, Rm 116	Noon (Jan-Oct)
	Second Tuesday of each month:	
Historical Society Bd.	Old Courthouse	9:30 am
Beta Sigma Phi	Kappa Alpha Chapter	7 pm
Eastern Star #304	Location not listed	7:30 pm
Mtn. Laurel Arts/Crafts	Union County Library	10 am
Mtn. Reg. Arts/Crafts	Library - Young Harris	7 pm
NARFE	Grinds & Glazes	Noon
FPL Retirees	Hole in Wall Rest.	9 am
Mtn. Sounds Dulcimer	Sr. Citizens Center	1:30-3:30 pm
	Second Wednesday of each month:	
Parkinson's Sup. Grp	Cadence Bank	3 pm
UC Interagency Grp.	UC Civic Center	Noon
GA Mtn. Writers Club	St. Francis of Assisi	10 am
	Second Thursday of each month:	
Sons Confederate Vet.	UCB Community Rm	7 pm
Appalachian Shriners	Allegheny Lodge	6:30 pm
Knights of Columbus	Marian Hall	7:30 pm
Lions Club	Steve's Cookie Jar	6 pm
Democratic Party	UC Senior Center	6:30 pm
Trout Unlimited	Cadence Bank	6:30 pm
UC Tea Party Patriots	UC Civic Center	7 pm
	Second Friday of each month:	
Eastern Star #471	Location not listed	7:30 pm
	Second Saturday of each month:	
His Victory Riders	Blairsville Restaurant	8 am

N(Jun5,Z1)CA

Leone ...continued from Page 4A

in tomato wine sauce. Here's the kicker. Besides being prepared in a family kitchen by true Sicilians, the seafood had been caught early morning! Fanio went to the docks to get the seafood right off the boats at 7am. The squid were still alive when they brought them home. (They saved the ink for a pasta dish later.)

My sister and I were in heaven. The lemons we spritzed on the seafood were picked from the tree as we came to the table, the juice still warm from the sun beating on the tree. Then we had fresh cherry tomato salad, tossed green salad, green bean salad and orange salad. The wine was a white Italian Sauvignon, a perfect mate to the fresh seafood. (Don't be fooled by this – I know nothing about wine. I either like it or I don't. I liked it.)

I wish I could do justice in my description of the flavors in these dishes. Fanio explained that the seafood caught off the shores of Catania are incredibly better because of the minerals strewn into the waters by Mount Etna. The calamari salad was exquisite. The mussels will never be replicated on my palette in such a masterful way, again. They were cooked just an hour or two out of the Ionian Sea. They melted on your tongue then disappeared leaving many layers of flavors on one's very appreciative tongue.

The family was delightful; so proud to have us at their table and animated with the delight. Their 11 year old daughter, Christina, came home from school with a friend and joined us late. They were just learning English, I was just learning Italian and we practiced the days of the week on each other. The language barrier was so unimportant. We communicated with hands and some words. We laughed and somehow shared thoughts and opinions.

Though this was a very metro residential neighborhood with spacious homes built on walled postage stamps of land, the whole feeling was that of a Mediterranean farm in the country. This sense was escalated when we heard a rooster crow loudly for 10 minutes straight. The doors were all open without the benefit of screens and the fresh sea breeze was more intoxicating than the wine.

For dessert we had cantaloupe that had probably been picked in the last 24 hours, ripened on the vine. It was the variety my father grew in his garden. Magnifico!

We had to scoot out hours before we were ready. We had made friends over that shared meal. Double kisses on the cheek are placed with invitations to visit us in the States. We headed across town, back to the chocolate palace. There we were treated to perfect cappuccino and fresh pistachio gelato before moving on to the music academy.

I'm sitting, listening to my sister masterfully teach each student. They play their piece and then she works with them to bring out the best in their musicality. I'm so proud of her. It is hard to contain my tears of overwhelming emotion. She is a sensitive adjudicator with the ability to share her knowledge in such a picturesque, yet discernable manner. They refer to her as maestro, and she lives up to the title.

All this in the shadows of the smoked filled cavity of Mount Etna.

Next week I'll tell you about the open markets of Rome and Sicily, but only after you join us for our grand

opening of the Union County Farmers Market this Saturday, June 8th, 7am-1pm. Put the Market as your Tuesday evening destination, too.