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Vietnam Veterans Rev. Bill Honaker, Ron Schott and Mike Priven at the Maj. Leon Davenport Veterans Center flagpole dedication on Friday, July 29. Photo/Lily Avery



Maj. Leon Davenport attended the flagpole dedication ceremony with Barbara, his wife. The Veterans Center is named after Mr. Davenport. Photo/Lowell Nicholson



Dale Bell with the Georgia Department of Veterans Service, Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris, District 51 State Sen. Steve Gooch, with Union County Sheriff Mack Mason, a Vietnam-era Veteran, at the July 29 flagpole dedication.

Guard presented a gun salute, followed by Appalachian Saint Andrews Pipes and Drums, with their bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace."

At the end of the ceremony, Schott and Mike Priven, president of Vietnam Veterans of America Blairsville Chapter 1101, presented a plaque that will stand as a lasting tribute to all the different organizations that assisted in the process of getting the flags and flagpoles.

"We had a lot of help from WoodmenLife with getting the poles," said Priven. "This building has been the veteran's center for a while, but you could never tell it was a veteran's center."

"This seemed to be the best way to show it. This is a landmark now for anyone coming into Blairsville. You can look to the seven (flagpoles). This is important to every veteran. It's amazing what these flags can do."

Organizations involved in this event are as follows: Ira Weaver American Legion Post 121; Disabled American Veterans Woodrow Wilson Chapter 11; Brown-Davis-Elliott-Woody Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7394 Blairsville; VVA Chapter 1101; Unicoi Detachment #783, Marine Corps League; North Georgia Honor Guard; Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-3 Blairsville; Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1101; American Legion Auxiliary Unit 121; Old Unicoi Trail Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution; and Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

Many officials were present that Friday morning, and dedication organizers offered special thanks to Sen. Steve Gooch, Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris, Union County Sheriff Mack Mason, Towns County Sole Commissioner Bill Kendall, State Rep. Stephen Allison, Blairsville Mayor Jim Conley, Blairsville Chief of Police Johnny Carroll, Union County Fire Chief David Dyer, Enotah Judicial Circuit District Attorney Jeff Langley, and Maj. Leon Davenport himself, for whom the center is named.

# 4-H'ers team up with Friends of NRA



The Union County 4-H Shotgun Team will be hosting a banquet with Friends of NRA on Saturday, Aug. 13, in the Haralson Memorial Civic Center at 6 p.m.

## North Georgia News News Special

Union County 4-H Shooting Sports Teams are working with Friends of NRA to hold a banquet at the Haralson Memorial Civic Center on Saturday, Aug. 13, at 6 p.m.

This banquet helps to raise money for grants given by Friends of NRA to organizations like the 4-H teams and church shooting sports organizations in counties all over Georgia.

Money raised from last year's banquet helped Union and Towns County 4-H Shooting Sports archery, BB and shotgun – to buy targets, ammunition, BB guns, sights, kneeling mats, as well as hearing and eye protection.

Friends of NRA banquets boil down to one goal: fundraising for the future of the shooting sports.

Plus, there's something for everyone at a Friends of NRA banquet.

From the moment you walk in, the atmosphere is brimming with excitement. Whether you're keeping an eye on that unique item in the silent auction, trying your luck at one of the game tables, or just dining on something delicious, you'll be sure to have a good time.

It's a family-friendly

event that is chock-full of exclusive, limited edition merchandise – firearms, knives, art, jewelry and more. Not to mention all the great people you're sure to meet along the way.

Whether attending a Friends of NRA banquet for the fun, the fellowship, or simply for the fundraising, you can be confident that you are helping safeguard programs across the nation that prepare today's youth to be tomorrow's guardians of the Second Amendment.

Foundation grants provide essential program funding, ensuring the availability of quality training and educational opportunities nationwide.

Grants benefit programs such as youth education, law enforcement training, hunter education, conservation, firearms and marksmanship training and safety, and much more.

Through its grant support of eligible educational programs, the NRA Foundation carries out its important educational mission across the country.

Foundation grants allow shooting sports-related programs to develop, expand and enhance their educational curricula to deliver valuable

services to millions of Americans.

The banquet will feature a scrumptious barbecue pork and grilled chicken dinner with all the fixings, a live auction, silent auction and many games of chance to win guns, ammo and more, during this "dinner and a show!" combo.

Banquet tickets are available at the Union County 4-H office for \$30 apiece, or if you want to by a couple's ticket you can save some money at \$50 for two!

If you plan to attend, tickets need to be purchased by Wednesday, Aug. 10, so that the caterers can obtain a head count for the evening.

However, individual tickets will still be available at the door Saturday night! Tickets can be purchased by check, cash, or credit/debit card.

For more information or for tickets you can call Jammie Murphy at the Union County Extension/4-H office (706) 439-6030.

Please come out and help support the Friends of NRA as well as the local Shooting Sports Teams!

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