

Paris...continued from Page 4A

Q. Will federal and state income taxes be required for property that is condemned and paid for by GDOT?

A. The property owners or the public should seek advice from their personal accountant regarding any income taxes that may be owed. Of course the Department does not withhold any money from the proceeds that is due to the property owner for any type of income taxes, either for a closing or settlement of a condemnation action.

Q. Will adequate precautions be made for drainage so that property owners do not receive the possibility of additional flooding and will concrete ditches be used to prevent erosion?

A. Flood studies will be conducted for all culvert crossings to ensure no flooding occurs as a result of this project. Concrete ditches and other appropriate measures will be used to prevent scour and erosion.

Q. Will the value of tons of gravel and/or pavement/concrete/culverts that have been placed on driveways

within the Right of Way be considered in the value of the property?

A. During the acquisition meeting with the property owner, specific property details will be discussed regarding the valuation of each property individually.

Q. Will adequate measures be taken to replace city waterlines, power, cable, and Internet with new connection to remaining property?

A. All utility companies will be responsible for the relocation of their utilities and GDOT will assume that all existing utilities will be replaced in kind.

Q. When will Georgia Department of Transportation be having a public meeting to give all the property owners required information to help them make solid decisions on the future of their property?

A. A Right of Way Public Information Open House will be held once all required Right of Way has been determined. This will take place before any contact with property owners is made.

Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

and was enjoying pouring them onto the floor. Exxie was the kindest, gentlest woman I have ever known.

A little later her younger sister Fayrene became my second grade teacher at Trapptown Elementary School. During her class we were learning about magnification. Larry Dalton was the local bully and I was the brunt of many of his actions. So, when he fell asleep in class I set his shoelaces on fire with a magnifying glass. I can still hear Mrs. Fayrene Cummings, "Mickey Paul, do I need to talk to your daddy?" She never told Dad. I guess she didn't like bullies either. The Brooks girls sure were nice ladies.

Next week is our Tractor Parade at the Farmers Market and our Hall of Fame Ceremony. The Hall of Fame Cer-

emony will begin at 10:30 a.m. Then our Tractor Parade will begin at 11 a.m.

I wish to thank the Union County Historical Society for their help with the Hall of Fame activities.

See you Saturday!

Fowler...

continued from Page 4A

your world, even your job, and that work is nothing less than sacred.

Was that Sunday class sacred work to Manno? Sure. But just as sacred was his work at the poultry barn for the nearby hospital, as he displayed Christ in his joyful and indomitable way with his co-workers and passers-by. If this poor Haitian Christian can find purpose and meaning in his life's work, you can too.

Barnes... continued from Page 4A

rades! We did a Bicentennial Parade through Blairsville on the 4th of July 1976 and I was in Atlanta with my cousin at the time when my brother called and said I would have to come home for that. I was deeply disappointed and heart broken but the parade was incredible - along with blistering heat too. I always wondered why we never had sufficient weather related uniforms to wear, cooler for hot temps and warmer for cold temps.

Any way, I remember the Sorghum parades and even though there are those who think these type of parades never existed but they honestly and truly did - there would be at least three other bands participating in the Sorghum Parade and we would compete for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies for the best street drill performance. I guess the other schools got burnt out and stopped coming because they got mad because Union County always won first place! LOL! Now the parades are absolutely nothing! No bands, no street drills, no clowns or Ronald McDonald, no floats, no Dahlonga Honor Band, no American Legion leading off with the flags etc... nothing like it once was back

then. It went on forever!

And the parade route was basically consumed to "in-town" because the bypass was not even thought of at that time. I wish it would still remain "in-town" and go by the old route it use to be. We always remained as quiet as we could passing by Akins Nix Funeral Home as well as the old hospital and nursing home. I am sure by passing by the Cochran Funeral Home that can still be arranged and respected to the deceased.

But any way the High School Band always started with the 7th grade and that was what made it appear so big. I don't know what grade it starts at now but it doesn't seem to have as many as we had back then, and I don't know about if they have a Flag Corp or Drill Team or even majorettes any more. We had a bunch of them back then.

I also remember the Christmas concerts we always had in the old High School gym as well as the Spring Concerts. Do they still do that any more? I am so looking forward to going to our reunion next month. I know I will laugh and cry at the same time.

Thanks again for having this wonderful article!
Delores Seabolt-Barnes

Thibodeaux ... continued from Page 4A

Politicians who have no fear at the ballot box have no reason to listen to us. That is the truth. They have no reason to listen to us. The only thing we have to offer is our vote, and we've demonstrated it's easy for them to get that if they have an "R" by their name. Now the money, that's what talks. We don't have that. The Chamber of Commerce and corporate lobbyists have that to offer.

If you have challenged a representative's bad vote, you have more than likely heard an excuse. We don't understand how hard it is, they tried, they really did. They wanted to, but just couldn't get any support. The President/Governor would veto it. Things just move so fast. And on and on. Ask yourself, when the Chamber of Commerce or large corporate

contributor calls them, do you think they get the same routine?

Thomas Jefferson said, "When government fears the people, there is liberty. When the people fear the government, there is tyranny." It is high time that we elected representatives who are ever mindful of whom they represent - the People, not the Chamber of Commerce crony capitalists.

The way to effect that change will be at the ballot box. We must accept no more excuses. We must seek out candidates who we believe will represent us. We must watch them, and be prepared to replace them if they cease to represent us. We must once again become a fully engaged electorate. No time like the present to begin.
Pat Thibodeaux

Hughes... continued from Page 4A

dedicated staff, that despite furloughs, and no raises from the state or county, continued to do what they love to do, which is to teach.

I also noticed the year from which the data was taken for the award, which was 2012-13. This was the last year that Ed Rohrbaugh was Principal. I mention this not as a slight to our current Principal John Hill, who I respect very much, but as a tribute to Ed, who was a close friend and who loved UCHS and the teachers and students.

Having spent 27 years teaching in this system, I know first hand of the quality work done by all the employees of our school system, which I think is the best in the state. I am sure that this Bronze Medal is just the beginning for our system and am thankful for Ed Rohrbaugh, and all the teachers and staff who have been involved in achieving this award. I am sure the current staff, administration, and students will continue the quest for excellence.
Jim Hughes

Williams...

continued from Page 4A

field International Airport Terminal Addition in Atlanta, with its cost around \$1.3 billion. I was in a Quality Control role, identifying and resolving major design issues during the documentation phases of the project."

3. *If you had to pick one building in the world that you think has the best architectural design, what would it be and why?*

"I am a "less is more" architect, and design with a Form Follows Function approach. I have a great appreciation for well-designed architecture. Your question isn't easily answered though with such a broad historical parameter. To pick one building is very difficult, since there have been many over the ages that suited the purpose very well and were designed with great innovation and creativity, accomplishing innovation and surpassing their program scope.

Architects that I am driven to as design mentors include: Marcel Breuer, Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe, Le Corbusier, Frank Lloyd Wright, Gehry, Sullivan, and so on.

I am drawn to a great appreciation of Wright's *Falling Water*, and the *Disney Opera House* in LA by Frank Gehry. Both are very complex designs, one on rectilinear shapes and over an existing stream; while the other designed of curved metal, having a music feel, that brings the interested in and provides an incredible acoustically correct facility.

Knowing how documents are produced and the current innovation in this effort, the documents for both and their construction had to be challenging."

4. *When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?*

"I saw myself as an artist first, then an architect. This is what I do best and always have. As an artist, I have exhibited constructions and sculptural pieces, graphics, and photography. In the 80s and 90s, I exhibited multiple blended black and white images. This being an approach to satisfy my creative spirit, and as a result won several awards.

As an architect, it was my desire to continue my artistic focus, while making a living. I initially worked in a very non-design related role in which I struggled to enhance the design in everything I worked on. I have since designed many structures and have owned my own firm, on two occasions.

Great design and its appreciation is a focus of mine, in art, architecture, and life itself."

5. *Have you ever met a famous person? Who and where?*

"When I was about 5 years old, I shook Harry Truman's hand. We were at a car wash in Independence, Missouri in the early 60s, visiting family. My dad obviously saw him first being a WWII veteran and then introduced my brother and me to him. No secret service or security issues back then. He was a very down to earth individual."

To learn more about Goodspeed Architects, call (706) 838-0331 or email david@goodspeed-architects.com. The website is www.goodspeed-architects.com.

Ravenhall...

continued from Page 4A

gate and owner Sheila Labasco of Blairsville Pickers Barn who leased us the apartment on the spot. Without their immediate intervention we would've been sleeping under a bridge to stay dry from the downpour of rain that night. Thank you for your skill and kindness, you also will not be forgotten. Also, Devon at Persaud Jewelers.

The following out-reaches and agencies need mention for their assistance in answering the call as Cornerstone Thrift Store, so aptly put it on their business card - "Families Helping Families," thank you Director Linda Gilmer, Manager Diane Pike and Mr. George for supplying urgent items - baby clothing, food, etc., you guys rock! Founder Richard Rivera of Neighbors Hand; the Catholic Church, as well as many others need to be thanked for helping to make this "tiny miracle happen."

To all who have lended me assistance during my life crisis: Randy at Bikes and Hikes; Glow, A Hair and Nail Salon; Seasons Motel owner; Avita and Mental Health Court team; and Honorable Judge Murphy Miller - thank you all for your skill, expertise, and benevolence. May God bless you all, may God keep you all and may His face shine upon you always. Peace!
In regards,
Susan M. Ravenhall, RN

P.S. I would like to thank all, Nurse Christie and others at Union General Hospital ER for their good medical care I received on Aug. 15.

Leone... continued from Page 4A

Ingredients: 2 cups white cornmeal; 1 teaspoon baking soda; 2 teaspoons sugar; 1/4 teaspoon salt; 2 cups buttermilk; 1 cup cracklins, broken into pieces*; 2 tablespoons shortening.

Directions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Sift dry ingredients into a mixing bowl and stir to combine. Add milk and stir to combine. Fold in cracklins. Form batter into oblong cakes the size you desire and then roll in shortening. Bake in a greased baking dish for 30 minutes. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Cracklins are little pieces of pork fat, fatty meats, or ham skin which are left crisp and brown after the lard or fat has been rendered from them.

You can buy them at local grocery stores. Stop and see Ricky or Marty over at Foodland and you'll get a whole education on pork products, including cracklins, for the price of a smile. Now, you can also create your own substitute by rendering 12-15 strips of bacon real slow until it gets that caramel color, though it isn't quite as good as the real rendered pork rind.

"Farmin' just ain't for sissies," some old gent told me, while I was shopping for those cute little seed packets at the local hardware store a dozen years ago. I often won-

der how our local farmers deal with the weather roller coaster as their nemesis and their best friend. Other times I find myself calculating how many baskets of green beans they must produce and sell to pay nearly six figures for a new tractor.

Crop farmers grow grains, fiber, fruits, and vegetables. They till soil, fertilize, plant, spray, and harvest. They fight bugs and blight. Then, they make sure the crops are properly packaged and stored. The hours are long, often sunrise to sunset. During planting and harvesting seasons, crop farmers rarely have days off. The rest of the year, they sell their crops, maintain machinery, and plan for the next year.

Farmers are carpenters, machinists and jerry riggers, fixing barns, pens, and other farm apparatuses. Livestock farmers choose which animals to breed and sell. On the livestock ranches, work goes

on all year. Animals, unless they are grazing, must be fed and watered every day. Dairy cows must be milked every day. Poultry farmers gather and test eggs. Keeping the animals healthy, especially parasite control, is nearly a full time job, in itself.

Do farmers like their jobs? It isn't really a job. It's a lifestyle. It's a passion. It's a heritage for many, with hopes of leaving a legacy for the next generation. Most farmers work for themselves and that independence is important to them. They tussle with the bank and lose too many good hands on a bet with Mother Nature. They don't wear sunscreen and they keep their britches up with a rope when their belt is used to hold a piece of equipment together till after the next harvest.

So, raise a glass of milk to the wonders of anti-inflammatories and to cracklin' bread. Farmers, we salute you.