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children could have been, those 1.5 million children.”

Earlier in the year, Weinroth, with Blairsville resident Steve Mack, approached Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris about the possibility of planting a garden at Meeks Park.

“We’re really proud to be a part of this—it’s a great turnout today, thank you all for coming,” said Commissioner Paris. “We will all be excited to see those daffodils

as they come up in the spring, and how that will remind us of the Holocaust and what the children went through back in those days.”

The Children’s Daffodil Garden is situated near the Children’s Memorial Garden, which is dedicated to the memory of those departed from the local community.

“Children Talking to Children” was the theme of Blue Ridge’s daffodil garden, for the proximity of the garden to the playground, and Weinroth saw a parallel of the theme in Blairsville’s Meeks Park.

“As we were editing the program from last year and I saw that theme, I thought, wait a minute, we have children who are memorialized right next to where our garden is going to be,” said Weinroth. “I think that theme is as applicable here as it was for Blue Ridge.”

Several Holocaust survivors were present for the dedication and planting, including Atlanta residents Albert Marx and Ben Walker. Walker, a native of Romania, spoke on his experiences and how he survived the horrors of World War II.

When Walker was 6 years old, in 1941, Romania allied itself with the Germans and took on the task of eliminating its Jewish population.

Walker and many others were transported via cattle cars on a two-day train ride from Hell, where there was no room to move and the air was stifling.

The prisoners were let off at the Dniester River in Ukraine and crossed to enter the town of Mogilev, where the ghetto and death awaited them at the hands of their own countrymen.

“They figured out that if we pack a bunch of people in a place with no food and no medicine, that they will die anyway, so why waste any bullets or gas or do all kinds of industrial killings, when we can do it naturally,” said Walker.

Walker and his family were eventually moved



to a makeshift concentration camp in Kopigorod, where conditions were so bad that his father and little sister succumbed to death.

“My mother came to me and said, ‘You know what? I’m going to put you in an orphanage. If I survive, I’m coming to get you. If I don’t survive, you do the best you can,’” said Walker. “I was about 8, 9 years old, and I went in an orphanage, and that was the happiest day of my life, because I was with my own age group, number one. I didn’t sleep in filthy straw with lice crawling all over, and I even had a bed—a bed with a sheet that I could sleep on. We even had one good meal.”

Walker’s mother was eventually able to find work and raise enough money to bring him home, and the two survived the war and the Holocaust. After emigrating first to Israel and later to the United States, he never returned to his native Romania.

“I have no desire to go back because that brings back bad memories,” said Walker. “My father, my uncles—my uncles were actually shot walking home from work. They were shot on the spot. My father died, my sister died, my uncles died, my grandparents died—they’re all dead. All I have there is cemeteries in Romania.”

Walker volunteers and shares his story of survival at The Berman Jewish Heritage and Holocaust Museum in Atlanta. But it wasn’t until recent years that he decided to speak publicly on his experiences and the Holocaust.

“I didn’t want to speak about it at all—only after 9/11, what happened on 9/11/2001, when the Twin Towers fell down,” said Walker. “And my daughter, with my two little grandchildren, came running to our house being very much afraid with what was going on—that’s when I started speaking about the Holocaust. I didn’t want to speak about it. It’s a nightmare that I didn’t want to talk about. That compelled me to speak.”

The shared experience of remembrance Sunday in a community coming together to plant daffodils in the name of murdered children was a powerful one, and Walker was happy to have been a part of the dedication.

“It is so beautiful,” said Walker. “I’m very touched by all these people, volunteers, to come and do good deeds and memorialize these 1.5 million innocent children who had no reason to die. They could have been doctors, lawyers, engineers. And I’m touched by the goodness of these people, I really am.”

Veterans...from Page 1A

rus, UCHS BETA Club, and UCHS FFA. All Veterans, their families, and community members are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be special seating for Veteran’s on the field. Parking for all visitors will be available in the Elementary School park-

ing lot. In case of inclement weather the ceremony will take place in the UCHS Gym.

The Woody Gap School Student Council would like to honor the local community veterans for their service to our country during our Veterans Day Ceremony on Tues-

day, Nov. 11th.

If you are a veteran and you and a guest would like to attend, please contact Althea Cantrell at (706) 747-2401, ext. 1619 or e-mail acantrell@ucschools.org. The service will begin at 9 a.m. in the Woody Gap School Auditorium.

Symphonic band Tara Winds in concert at YHC

Symphonic band Tara Winds will present a special concert on Sunday, Nov. 9, at 5 p.m. in Glenn Auditorium of the Clegg Fine Arts Building on the Young Harris College campus. Part of the annual “Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag Concert Series,” the performance is free and open to the public.

Under the direction of Dr. Andrea Strauss, the group is composed primarily of musicians from metropolitan Atlanta. YHC Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land will serve as guest conductor.

Organized in 1985, Tara Winds commitment to music as a source of lifelong enjoyment is evident through the giving of their time, energy, and talents in order to prepare and perform quality musical presentations for their audiences.

The program will feature several works that pay homage to the fall season, including “Festive Overture” by Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich and “Harvest Hymn” by Australian-born composer Percy Grainger and American composer Joseph Kreines.

The distinguished group will also perform famed march composer John Philip Sousa’s “Foshay Tower—Washington Memorial March,” contemporary composer Donald Grantham’s “Southern Harmony” and neoromantic composer Vittorio Giannini’s “Symphony No. 3.”

The “Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag Concert Series” is an endowed fund established in 1975 by YHC alumni to honor the late Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag, ’33, wife of a College president and an alumna who was a central member of the community for more than 80 years.

For more information, call YHC’s Division of Fine Arts at (706) 379-5182.

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Chamber of Commerce events	
For details and future events see events calendar at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com	
Wednesday, November 5	
1 pm	Better Breathers Club – Union General Hospital
1 pm	Knitter’s Knitch Class – 64 Bracketts Way, Ste. 6
5:30 pm	Women & Wine Series – Paradise Hills Resort, Spa & Winery
6 pm	Bingo Every Wednesday – Haralson Memorial Civic Center
Thursday, November 6	
8 am	Mountain Networking Referral Group – Blairsville Restaurant
11:30 am	Living Will Workshop – Union General Hospital
1 pm	Open Drawing & Painting Class – Inspire Art Studio 51 Earnest St.
12 pm	Rotary of Union County Meeting - 706-745-5565
4 pm	Chamber Ribbon Cutting for From Me 2 U – 6B Town Square
6:30 pm	Trivia at The View Grill – Union County Community Center
Friday, November 7	
1:30 pm	Misty Mountain Model Railroad Tours MWF & S-16 Misty Mtn. Lane
7 pm	Friday Night Concert The Skillet Lickers – Old Historic Courthouse
Saturday, November 8	
6 pm	Writers’ Night Out – Union County Community Center
6:30 pm	Outdoor Movie Night – B&T Trading Post 4903, Hwy 515E
Monday, November 10	
12 pm	Blairsville Kiwanis Club Weekly Meeting – Steve’s Steakhouse
1 pm	Knitter’s Knitch Class – 64 Bracketts Way, Ste. 6
1:30 pm	Misty Mountain Model Railroad Tours MWF & S-16 Misty Mtn. Lane
Tuesday, November 11	
8 am	Tri-State Business Women’s Meeting – Blairsville Restaurant
10 am	Crochet Class – 64 Bracketts Way, Ste 6
5:30 pm	Preventing Diabetes – Union General Hospital 2nd Floor
6 pm	Mt Regional Arts & Craft Guild Monthly Meeting – Daniels Steakhouse
6:30 pm	Blue Ridge Mt. Jeepers Monthly Meeting - Steve’s Steakhouse
6:30 pm	Smokie Mountain Melodies Chorus – First UMC of Union County
Wednesday, November 12	
1 pm	Knitter’s Knitch Class – 64 Bracketts Way, Ste. 6
6 pm	Bingo Every Wednesday – Haralson Memorial Civic Center

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Boy Scouts #101	Every Monday:	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Children’s Story Time		Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club		Steve’s Steakhouse	Noon
Civil Air Patrol		Blairsville Airport	6:30 pm
	Every Tuesday:		
Smoky Mtn. Melodies		United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Get Fit		First UMC	5:15 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers		Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
	Every Thursday:		
Masonic Luncheon		Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club		Cadence Bank	Noon
Get Fit		First UMC	5:15 pm
	Second Monday of each month:		
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild		Hayesville	10 am-3 pm
	Second Tuesday of each month:		
Historical Society Bd.		Old Courthouse	9:30 am
Band Boosters		UC Middle School	7:30 pm
		(Aug through May, except Dec)	
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
Active/Retired Fed Emp.		Grinds & Glazes	Noon
FPL Retirees		Hole in Wall Rest.	9 am
Mtn. Sounds Dulcimer		Sr. Citizens Center	1:30-3:30 pm
Mountain Coin Club		N. GA College-Blv.	6 pm
Blue Ridge Mtn Jeepers		Steve’s Steakhouse	6:30 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		Cadence Bank	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
	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