

Paris... continued from Page 4A

ment Authority). In turn, all the donations go directly to the Humane Society Mountain Animal Shelter located here in Union County, covering Union and Towns counties.

Q. We have been to this recycle event and appreciate it very much. Can you tell us how much the Humane Society collects from these donations?

A. Over the last four years they have collected over \$3,200 to support animals un-

til they find their “forever” homes.

Q. Who actually handles this recycling?

A. Working through NGRMA, Atlanta Recycling Solutions and Document Destruction Services are the businesses that donate their time and employees to provide these services. Volunteers from the Mountain Shelter will collect all donations. For any additional information you may need, please call 706-318-5448.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

close enough to the boulder so Hoover was able to jump to it from the rock. He then climbed up the tree to where the raccoon was located. His idea was to use a stick to poke the coon out of the tree. Hoover stood on 1 limb and was holding to the limb on the other side of the tree. He was poking the coon with a long stick using his free hand.

The raccoon was not moving any so Lon Steele decided to help Hoover. He raised his gun and began shooting. Dad said both men were laughing and Hoover was encouraging Lon to shoot the coon. Lon

was so drunk he couldn't even see what he was shooting at. But, he did shoot the limb on which Hoover was standing. The limb cracked and broke. Hoover crashed more than 50 feet to the ground. Dad was scared to death. He claimed that was the only time he saw a man get shot out of a tree. The coon got away while Hoover lay on the ground laughing. Dad quickly and quietly gathered his dogs and left the two men still lying on the ground laughing. Later they said that was the most fun they'd ever had. Dad refused to go hunting with them again.

Combs... continued from Page 4A

my dad and mom were selling their 15 acres and the buyers were going to demolish our home and I was able to secure a loan and have the home moved about a half a mile onto a corner lot. Total price for moving it and setting it up was \$5,000. My payments were \$75 a month. I now not only had my first love of a car, but now my first love of a home to call my own. If you are wondering why my payments were low on these two loves of mine, because this was in the 60s when prices were low, but so were wages. My first paycheck after taxes, take home was \$47.50 a week. Life was great and I never felt poor, just blessed to have a car and home I loved.

Now I want to share with you about the time I met Jesus Christ, my first and only spiritual love of my life. A love that not only is unconditional, but also everlasting into eternity. A love that changes one's heart from self to serving others in need. A love that has existed far back into eternity and a love that still today stirs the hearts of people who are willing to take a leap of

faith and trust in someone they have never seen, yet serve faithfully, because of their belief in a God of pure LOVE. We live in a world of great turmoil and fear as never before and we wonder daily what the outcome will be for the future, for our children and our grandchildren and the only answer is Jesus Christ, my friend and Redeemer of my soul. You see I have the blessed hope of a better tomorrow, no not here in this sinful world, but in a place where peace reigns. Where love, not hate lives. Where pain and suffering and death cannot enter. Where wars and rumors of wars are a thing of the past. A place called heaven where those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Master will reign with Christ forevermore. I thank my God for my first love of a car and home, but more than all my possessions I value my first love in the One who came and died for my sins, so that I could live in freedom and peace for all of eternity. Amen.

Frank F. Combs

Riley... continued from Page 4A

time Executive Assistant and the EPD contract coordinator both quit, and I was alone with an organization I knew nothing about. I was like a pilot in a steep dive with no way to slow down, but with help from our partners and many long hours at meetings we finally started pulling out of the dive. We scraped the ground a couple of times but began to pull up and now are on a slow steady rise. Hard work, dedication, a hard head, and never giving up have always been my strong points and it is working.

CCRCD has been awarded NRCS out-reach grants and contracts to facilitate events and programs, hire employees, facilitate EQIP contracts, and other services about agriculture, forestry, water, and other subjects. We were able to hire an Executive Assistant a couple of years ago and have facilitated 33 NRCS events and programs in the past 18 months using local partners to make the programs successful. We have built 21 Seasonal High Tunnels in the 13 counties at schools, senior centers, and community gardens. CCRCD is the Firewise Liaison for the state of Georgia administering the Firewise program for all the state.

CCRCD developed and administers the Appalachian RC&D FAC Coalition, a group of 6 RC&Ds in Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia whose purpose is to spread the Firewise program through the Appalachian Mountains. The

purpose of the program is to educate citizens living in these communities about the wild fire risks all around them and what they can do themselves to minimize these risks. In the first 10 months of the project, our group has presented 311 programs to 6,345 people, and we have only just begun! This Appalachian project was developed from a request from the US Forest Service to duplicate the very successful Firewise program we developed in Towns County and spread it up the Appalachians and the Towns program is the pattern we use.

CCRCD is one of the original 8 national Fire Adapted Communities pilot hubs. We use local citizens to spread the word through their grass roots chain of communication from neighbor to neighbor which is a lot more effective than a power point. I don't live in these communities, so the face of the program must be local to make it be successful. I have presented our wild fire programs to many audiences across the country in the past 5 years, in Colorado, New Mexico, California, Tennessee, Idaho, Oregon, Virginia, Nebraska, North Carolina, Georgia, and later this month in Reno, NV (4th time). CCRCD is here to help our citizens and we always welcome suggestions for new programs and events that will draw a crowd. Contact us for more information at: www.chestchattred.org, www.appcofac.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Union County Mentor Program

A mentor is simply a volunteer who can be a supportive friend with a listening ear. They may spend 30 to 45 minutes each week reading, playing games, or simply talking to children. Children who have mentors have been found to be less likely to use drugs and alcohol. They also have better attendance, often improve their grades, and have more self-confidence.

In the Union County Mentor Program now, there are around 40 students working with mentors but there are many more referrals to the program. There is currently a waiting list of students who have been recommended but a trained mentor is not available to match with them. The Program strongly encourages each person to consider work-

ing with a student to give them a consistent, stable adult that they can depend on.

Children might be referred to the program for such reasons as a death in the family, a divorce in the family, poor attendance, or maybe they are shy and withdrawn. Union County has a lot of single-parent families. Many of these families lack a father figure. The Program especially has a need for male mentors who can help influence children who need a male role model. We would like to have a mentor for every child that is in need of one.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, Pam Pauley can be reached at the Union County Elementary School for more information, 706-745-9615, ext. 4408. NFeb14,22:CA

Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

is the focus of continuing research, particularly regarding its impact on brain development, which continues into a person's mid-twenties. Some studies suggest that the effects of heavy use that begins as a teen can be long lasting, even many years after use discontinues.

When people smoke marijuana, they feel its effects almost immediately. THC (marijuana's psychoactive ingredient) rapidly reaches every organ in the body, including the brain, and attaches to specific receptors on nerve cells. Activation of these receptors in the brain affects pleasure, memory, thinking, concentration, movement, coordination, appetite, pain, and sensory and time perception.

Because of this system's wide-ranging influence over many critical functions, it's not surprising that marijuana can have multiple effects—not just on the brain, but on a person's general health. Some of these effects last only as long as marijuana is in the body while others may build up over time to cause longer-lasting problems.

Fowler...

continued from Page 4A

Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: ‘Mine!’”

Why do you work? When you apply yourself as employee, tradesman, contract labor, or boss, you are participating in the Divine plan. Your work contributes in some way, at some level, to human flourishing. This is your calling, to be about your Father's business, expressing His love and creative energy to your fellow workers, customers, or clients. Clergy or laity, blue or white collar, corner office or cubicle-dweller, paid or volunteer, your high calling is to work as an act of worship.

Breece...

continued from Page 4A

need more oversight in spending rather than more taxes. We really don't need more taxes in a county made up of a large percentage of retirees and a high poverty rate in the general population. Union County taxpayers are the ones being hurt by more taxes.

Jim Breece

Mattee...

continued from Page 4A

Union and Towns County Extension will be hosting two production meetings over the next month. We have our North Georgia Vegetable Production Meeting on February 28th at the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. We will also be hosting the Northeast Georgia Corn Production Meeting March 13th, from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center. Pesticide credit will be available for license holders, and dinner provided at both of these events, but only to those who pre-register by calling Union County Extension at 706-439-6030 to reserve a plate. Both of these events are free of charge courtesy of the sponsorship by Blue Ridge Soil and Water Conservation District.

Dyer...

continued from Page 4A

ing vehicle. Please help us stay safe on these accident scenes so that we can help the people involved.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Porter...

continued from Page 4A

to fight His battle with Satan! He made this world “by the stroke of His hands”, just a stroke! He will remove Satan from our homes, and our lands! God will “bless us” again! When we turn our “hearts and life” to Him!

He will take “His children” to a place, we have never been! He calls it Heaven, the place not made with human hands! We call it home! The home of the free and the brave! Go tell it on the mountains. Everywhere, tell your families, friends, and loved ones to be ready. He is coming back, like He said He would do! As God asked Satan, “Where art thou?” He is asking His people the same, “Where art thou?” Do we know, where we are today, should He ask? Go find those - your children, friends and “lost” loved ones! You ask them “before” Satan finds them! Satan is seeking their souls. He asks, “Where are you?” Answer - was lost but now I am found! Heaven bound! God bless us all.

Irene Porter

ijuana adjust for the increase in potency by using less.

including addiction.

Potency—determined by the amount of THC contained in the marijuana—has received much attention lately because it has been increasing steadily in the past few decades. So, what does this mean? For those more experienced with marijuana, higher potency may mean a greater risk for addiction if they are exposing themselves to high doses on a regular basis. However, the full range of consequences linked with marijuana's higher potency is not well understood. It is unknown how much people who use mar-

The effects of smoked marijuana can last from 1 to 3 hours. If consumed in foods,

the effects come on slower and may not last as long. However, because edibles containing marijuana are often unlabeled or poorly labeled, teens can use too much waiting for the “high” and end up in the emergency room with side effects.

For someone new to the drug, it may mean exposure to higher concentrations of THC, with a greater chance of a negative or unpredictable reaction. In fact, increases in potency may account for the rise in emergency room visits involving marijuana use.

Harper...

continued from Page 4A

Logan Turnpike Polenta, and Balsamic Glaze or Springer Mountain Chicken Breast with Bacon Pepper Gravy, Wild Rice, and Grilled Asparagus.

At the Chamber of Commerce, our goal is to provide support to grow and strengthen our local businesses. By promoting excellence in education, we believe we are investing in our current and future community leaders and business owners. It is also important for us to provide our Chamber membership with an opportunity to endorse the incredible educational programs offered through the Union County public schools.

If you are as enthusiastic about education as we are, please register online at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com, or call the Chamber of Commerce at 706-745-5789 to reserve your spot. Tickets for the event are \$30 and include salad, dinner, and dessert. Seating is limited and will go fast.