

# Opinions

Everybody has one...

## Remembering September 11th

September 11th is Patriot Day. It is a day dedicated to remembering the events of September 11, 2001, and the impact that those events had on our country and our world. It is a day to remember the terrorist attacks, the loss of life, and the sacrifices made in the attempt to save lives.

It has been 23 years since that fateful day. If you were alive at the time, the images, the sounds, and the feelings are unforgettable. Just the mention of the date will bring everything back to the forefront of your mind. For those who were too young or not even born, the events of that day are being taught as history and relived by those who were there, all in the hope that these events and the actions of all involved will be remembered.

The attacks on America were horrific and shown live on TV around the world. To see the Pentagon, a symbol of our military, severely damaged by a plane created a concern over our vulnerability. To see two of the tallest buildings in the world, a symbol of America, hit by planes was shocking, but to see them collapse was more than the senses could comprehend.

Most remember this terrorist attack as an attack on America; not just on our soil, buildings, and people but on our peace and our way of life. As firefighters, we view that attack the same as any American but with the added feelings of increased loss, sacrifice, and pride. We honor and remember the 343 firefighters who lost their lives doing everything that they could to save as many lives as possible. We are proud to be associated with these brave people and the firefighting profession.

After this attack, the war on terror was started and there were many battles in several countries and on the Homefront. Military personnel were deployed and performed their duties to protect and defend our great nation. Many have suffered and bear the scars of these battles. Some gave the ultimate sacrifice.

We have heard for many years "Never Forget." It has been 23 years since that historic day. We have mourned our losses. Now it is time to remember and to celebrate the heroism and the sacrifices that were displayed by the people, the military, and the firefighters. We must keep our promise to never forget

See Dyer, page 5A

**Fire Dept. from Union County Fire Chief**

David Dyer



## Attractive To You

Before Mike Ducker retired as CEO of FedEx Freight, I heard him speak to business professionals. In his talk, he offered ideas about managing adversity. But it was his opening statement that I found memorable.

Ducker had an impressive run at FedEx. In 1975, he accepted an entry-level position. Decades later, Fred Smith, chairman of FedEx, talked Ducker into delaying retirement by offering him the CEO position. One executive said Ducker "has the utmost integrity, he's an outstanding leader and exhibits courage in the face of adversity." Another said he "has a phenomenal gift of motivating people." Here's what Ducker said that motivated me. "My purpose is to encourage you if a believer, and if not, make Christ attractive to you."

Something about that statement invites you to look beyond the foibles of church folks and distinctives of denominations. It invites you to consider that if God exists, could He not have preserved a record of His work on earth in order to attract you to Himself? Take a fresh look at the story of Jesus and you might be surprised.

In "The Everlasting Man," Chesterton explores the story someone might read as "an imaginary man from the moon to whom the New Testament is new." He writes, "He would find a number of very startling pieces of advice; a number of stunning rebukes; a number of strangely beautiful stories... a number of very daring simplifications of the difficulties of life." He would not find meek and mild platitudes meant for bobbing heads and knowing smiles. He would find a complex Christ who amazed His hearers and angered His critics. He would witness sacrificial love, uncommon wisdom, and focused courage. This Jesus healed the sick, confronted the pious, and stayed on message. "How suitable (Jesus' ideas) were to His time," Chesterton writes, "is perhaps suggested in the end of His story."

At the human level, Jesus' life ended because His ideas ran afoul of the religious power brokers. But at a deeper level, far more was at play. "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from

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**All Things New**

Wayne Fowler



## Commissioner's Questions

**Q. What is the story behind the green 911 signs at the end of all Union County driveways?**

A. Prior to 2009, home addresses in Union County were not consistent. Delivery trucks and delivery services struggled to make sure that packages and mail were delivered to the right residences. Similar issues existed for emergency vehicles. Those challenges were brought to my attention. In 2009, the county was re-mapped, and every road was plotted. A number was assigned for every 5.28 feet on both sides of the road. The 911 mapping department physically visited every road in the county and recorded a GPS point at the beginning of each driveway.

**Q. Is it true that our green address number signs tell us how far our driveway entrance is along a particular road?**

A. Yes, it is. Every numbering of 1000 equals 1 mile. So for example, if your address is 5200, you are 5.2 miles from the beginning of your road. Another way your address is helpful is that even numbered residences are on the right side of the road and odd numbered residences are on the left side of the road. This makes it easier for public safety & delivery personnel to find your home. Once they arrive at your road or street, they instantly know when to start looking for your address marker and they know on which side of the road you are located.

**Q. Why do I have a green address marker at my driveway if I have my address posted on my mailbox?**

A. The 911 address markers make it easier for emergency services to locate your home in an emergency. The markers are used by the fire department, ambulance service, and law enforcement. They are also used by the delivery services such as FedEx and UPS. Often times the postal service request you to place your mailbox in a designated area, which may not be located at your driveway.

**Q. Do all counties use the same 911 addressing system that Union County uses?**

A. No, we are one of the few rural counties in the State of Georgia to have this. It was something I saw in one of my Commissioner classes many years ago as a suggestion. While it

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**Q & A from Union County Commissioner**

Lamar Paris



## Overcoming Toxic People

Someone has said that the only difference between a toxic person and a vulture is that the vulture at least waits until its victim is dead before it begins its attack. Not so with toxic people in one's life.

Is there a way to erase harmful people from your celebration of life? The answer is YES. One method of steering away from toxic individuals is to associate totally with optimistic friends who have proven their trustworthiness. They have proven to be devoted with no strings attached, their honesty is a guide world, they have a never-ending faith in the relationship, and they are as reliable as one can possibly be.

If a friend begins to separate from the toxic person, the dangerous individual will possibly use conniving means to conspire against the non-toxic friend through backstabbing and by maligning personality traits of the innocent individual. Toxicity can be contagious. While ruling a person's life, the toxic individual can manipulate the innocent person to the same level as the toxic

See Ashurst, page 5A

**Successful Mental Health**  
Dr. James Ray Ashurst  
PH.D.



## Letters to the Editor

### Neighborliness vs Socialism

Dear Editor,  
I recently heard a political candidate state, "One person's socialism is another person's neighborliness." I think he either doesn't understand socialism or doesn't understand neighborliness. Or, perhaps, both.

When one sees a neighbor in need and reaches out with practical or financial aid, that's neighborliness. If the need is greater than one person can provide, perhaps one might invite and encourage the other neighbors to join in the cause as they are able. That's neighborliness.

When one sees a neighbor in need and uses government force to get all the other neighbors to join you in providing for that need, without giving them a choice in the matter, that's socialism.

It's all about choosing to do the better thing or having that choice taken away from you. Just saying.  
Carol McKechnie

### Don't Holler So Loud

Dear Editor,  
"Patriot: the person who can holler the loudest without knowing what he is hollering about." ~ Mark Twain. I'm usually a pretty quiet person. I don't understand why some people talk so loud in public. Is it because if they spoke normally then nobody would listen? When I watch TV news (any network), I always keep my finger near the mute button. When a loud person or fast-talker begins, I silence them quickly with a touch to the remote. Unfortunately, that doesn't work in public.

It has been my observation that political discourse has devolved into the same condition. The louder somebody speaks the less they are listened to. For me it's the same with vul-

See McKinney, page 5A

### We Are Not Thugs

Dear Editor,  
A recent writer to your paper said he was sick of the Republican Party, the Democratic Party, the media, judges, politicians and bureaucrats (I guess that includes everyone who works for Union County, the State of Georgia, Social Security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the FBI, the civilians in the Department of Defense, the Drug Enforcement Agency, the Centers for Disease Control, the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Energy, etc.), claiming they are all thugs.

I've observed in my four score years that about 95% of Republicans and 95% of Democrats are decent people. They are not Nazis nor

See Levine page 5A

## Letters to the Editor

### Intent of Politicians

Dear Editor,  
This question should come to mind at each election cycle: what is the true intent or purpose of those running for public office? In a perfect world, I would like to think that someone entering politics would be interested in serving the people, upholding the Constitution and serving a term or two and then passing the baton to carry on what's best for the people. Going back to when our Constitution was being created, this subject probably never crossed our Founders' minds, or else they would have written term limits similar to the limit they placed on the presidency. Those in office back then were interested in doing their civic duty for a limited period and then returning home to care for their family, business or farm.

Unfortunately, this doesn't appear to be  
See Richardson, page 5A

### Democracy?

Dear Editor,  
It's interesting to see our Democratic politicians suddenly taking a strong interest in protecting "democracy," even though our system is technically a representative republic. This is the same democracy that brought us a presidential candidate who was installed without a single vote. Sure, there was a vote in 2020, but Kamala folded before the Iowa primaries, walking away with zero delegates and clearly no grassroots support, much less talent.

This is also the democracy that excluded RFK Jr. from participating in the 2024 Democratic Party nominations, all while rolling a sitting president who, according to official records, received more votes than any other in history.

See Murauskas, page 5A

### Please Explain!

Dear Editor,  
Someone needs to explain to me the mind of a liberal.

Everyone knows that Biden's elevator doesn't go all the way to the top and Kamala is ultra-liberal, and up until she was anointed, it was obvious she was ultra-liberal and not the smartest cookie in the jar. I say anointed since no one was given a choice to choose after the Biden coup...

When confronting a few of my liberal associates, they tell me it doesn't matter if he/she are not up to the task of being president because they have good advisors to tell them what they need to do.

Then those very same liberals tell me that  
See Priven, page 5A

## Hospitality

Fourteen years ago I began a journey with some other County Agents. A journey which led us through the most beautiful parts of our country. We have walked more than 1,300 miles of mountains and hollows, fields and forests as well as lakes and streams. We have experienced tropical depressions, snow storms, tornadoes, as well as extreme cold and heat. I would not change any aspect of our journey thus far and must say the one thing that sticks out about our hike has been the hospitality of those we have met along the way.

When we first began our trip on the Appalachian Trail there were only three of us. Fred Miller from North Carolina, Henry Dorough from Alabama and myself from Georgia began walking from Springer Mountain in the summer of 2010. Harold Dyer, a good friend, drove us to the parking area and dropped us off during a light drizzle which soon turned to a downpour that totaled 7 1/2 inches of rain falling on us during the first 24 hours of our adventure.

A friend, Stan Moore from Michigan, soon learned of our hike and decided to tag along with us. His trail name became "Sunshine" because the first few years he hiked with us were free of precipitation. He also brings a lot of positivity to our group. Sunshine always finds ways to perk us up when the going gets tough. His first night camping with us we stayed in Low Gap Shelter. Our heads hit the pillow around 8 p.m. We slept fitfully that night due to low-flying military planes, bats pooping on us, mice crawling on us and barred owls calling out loudly right next to the shelter. The next morning Sunshine awoke at his usual time of 5:30 to begin making coffee, and in his very good mood he told us that he'd slept soundly and never heard a thing all night. And my good friend, Tom Starrett, placed vehicles for us at the end of our Georgia portion of the hike.

In Robbinsville, North Carolina, another friend helped us. Roger Hyatt, a retired County Agent, led us park at his house and transported us to the trail. He was about the same age as Neal Moon, who was the County Agent here in Blairsville before I moved here. Roger and Neal were good friends and would get together at the Mountain Branch Experiment Station from time to time for Ag trainings. As we traveled through the Smokies people would ask us how we met and began hiking. One of us would explain that we were all County Agents from around the country and we all served as officers in our professional organization called NACAA. The comradery that we enjoy on our hikes was also enjoyed by those which came before us. The evidence of that was demonstrated in the stories that Roger told us concerning

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**Around The Farm**

Mickey Cummings



## Streambank Stabilization

We are very fortunate to live in a part of the country that has plenty of water. Water is important for a number of reasons. Today I want to write on how individuals can protect water that flows through their property.

The biggest thing that property owners can do is to establish a buffer. On trout streams in north Georgia there are restrictions on building or clearing land within 50 feet. The purpose of this

is to reduce the sediment that gets into the water. The bigger you can make your buffer the better it will do at trapping and filtering materials that would otherwise get into the water. Sediment getting into the water is very detrimental to the quality of the water. Sediment can carry all kinds of things from fertilizers to pesticides to litter. Anything that enters the water ends up downstream. Sediment will make the water cloudier and affect the availability of oxygen in the water. Cloudy streams with no rocks in the bottom do a very poor job of supporting the insects and bugs that live in the water. Fish rely on those critters as a food source.

So how do you create a buffer? At its best a buffer consists of trees and brush alongside the river. It's best if those plants are native plants and not invasive. Native plants do a much better job fitting into the ecosystem that surrounds and supports the stream. Some plants that make for a good buffer are red maple, pawpaw, elderberry, river birch, and nine bark. You want to plant things that are well adapted to wet soils. Fall is a great time to plant these trees and shrubs. Planting in the fall and winter allows those plants to set their roots and get established before the summer. In the summer, the plant's root system will be taxed to draw up the water needed by the plant, so any lead time we can give plants to prepare for that will benefit them. Even in the mountains plant roots will still grow some during the winter, enabling them to become established.

There are some plants that can be live staked into stream banks. Nine bark and elderberry are some examples. To live stake, you just take cuttings in the fall that are 6-12 inches long and put them in wet banks. These plants have the ability to root and grow from a simple cutting. After they have grown for a couple of years you can take cuttings from them to spread around.

Grass does not work well as a buffer. It is better than nothing, but does not slow water to help with water infiltration near as well as trees and shrubs. Most grass roots are not deep enough to hold a bank in place. It also does not help nearly as much to support the ecology of the stream.

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**UGA extension**  
**Watching and Working**

Jacob Williams



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is seemingly a small thing that not many people notice, it is something that is particularly important for the safety of the public as well as for vehicles attempting home deliveries. Public safety is always number one for our citizens and this is a large, silent contributor to that. Additionally, Union County is often praised for our 911 Mapping System during 911 Mapping and GIS Conferences.

### Q. What do I need to do if my green address marker is missing or damaged?

A. The green address markers are especially important for aiding public safety personnel in finding your home quickly and efficiently in cases of emergency. Delivery vehicles also find these markers helpful. If your address marker is damaged or missing, please call the Union County 911 Mapping Office at 706-439-6056. They will place it back in the correct spot, and if it is damaged, they will bring a new one and replace the damaged one. The mapping department stays extremely busy. In the last year, the department has made 335 address markers for new homes, replaced 431 address markers within

the county, which is a total of 766 address markers in a year. The 911 mapping department also assigns new addresses and makes replacement road signs for the county.

### Q. Who do I notify if my road sign is missing?

A. Road signs are just as important as the green address markers for public safety personnel. If your road sign is missing, immediately report it to the Union County 911 Mapping Office at 706-439-6056. Once it is reported, a new sign will be made and installed. However, while there is no sign, 911 Dispatch can notify emergency personnel of the missing road sign in the event of an emergency on your road.

These markers serve as one example of the small things that we do for our citizens and residents that can make life a little more pleasant and safe. I would like to give a special "thank you" to Steve Goines of Goines Industrial Printing who passed away recently. He was responsible for working with me and Union County 911 in planning, producing, and installing the address markers that you see today.

## McKinney... continued from Page 4A

gar language. The more that it is used the less attention I give. So why are loud, obscene politicians considered by many to be "strong," while calm, thoughtful ones are deemed to be "weak?"

When I was 7 years old I watched the Nixon-Kennedy debate on our little black and white TV set. I didn't understand any of the issues but did notice that Mr. Nixon looked mean, and Mr. Kennedy looked nice. Even as a child, I liked Ike – so there was no preconceived bias toward Nixon. He just appeared to be an angry man. So, I guess I haven't

learned much since 1960 because I don't even need to be rational to select Kamala Harris and Tim Walz as my leaders. To be honest, though, I am a rational person and there are countless good reasons to select the Harris-Walz team.

Simply put, I reject the anger, lies and divisive language of the current Republican Party. Someday, if they return to reality, they may once again be a reasonable choice. For now, though, a vote for the Democratic Party is a vote for Democracy. Even if they don't holler the loudest.

**Frank McKinney**

## Murauskas... continued from Page 4A

Funny how he went from being "at the top of his game" and "mentally sharp as ever" to being deemed too old and asleep at the wheel – in just one news cycle. Yes, this is the same democracy that has tried to remove a leading presidential contender from ballots in several states and filed multiple criminal charges against him for actions nearly identical to those of his predecessors.

This democracy worked hand-in-hand with Big Tech and Silicon Valley billionaires to silence dissenting views, manipulate elections, spread outright lies like "Russiagate," cover up criminal activities within political families (the laptop?), and censor Americans who dared to speak to the contrary.

This democracy jailed citizens over a so-called insurrection, claiming that hundreds of untrained men and women nearly overthrew the world's largest military without a single firearm. It's also the same democracy that consistently enacts unconstitutional measures, ranging from forced vaccinations and lockdowns

to saddling our youth with trillions in unfunded liabilities and endless wars.

If we're not careful, we could end up like Ukraine, where billions of U.S. dollars spent "to save democracy" have resulted in the elimination of presidential elections, persecution of specific religions, and the decimation of an entire generation of men – all after overthrowing their government and ignoring the Minsk Agreement over the previous decade. Meanwhile, we're engaged in a proxy war with a nuclear superpower, while also fueling conflicts with China, Iran, and other bad actors around the globe.

We could say plenty about our neocons and RINOs, like Mitch McConnell, Lindsey Graham, and Mitt Romney, as well as the endless list of warmongers and corporate-funded actors on the other side of the aisle. But let's not fool ourselves with the constant gaslighting from the Harris campaign about democracy, freedom, and "joy" bouncing around our media-fueled echo chamber.

**Josh Murauskas**

## Richardson... continued from Page 4A

the case now or for previous decades. I have to think that politicians, for the most part, enter politics with good intentions to do the right thing; but for many, something happens along the way – they never seem to go away and keep seeking reelection, term after term. I have to question why! Is it greed for power? Could it be for financial gain? Worst of all, could it be for the intent of bringing down the Republic as a personal hatred for this country or influencing from external forces? Looking at some of the politicians now and in the past, it could be all three, which is a scary thought. Political office should not be a lifelong career.

Please understand that I'm not trying to finger point at any particular person or office, but when a political figure, whether it's local, state or federal, is around for over two or three terms, I have to think they are far beyond just being there for the good of the people. There are likely other intentions involved, and this is something that each and every one of us needs to be focused on during this election (selection) year. What is their true intent on staying around for so long? I really hope they are still wanting to do the best job possible for our good. However, I'm not so sure about that anymore. Compare the "talk" with their "real walk." Follow the money trail and how they live. Just these two points can tell you a lot about their intent.

Sadly, what this Republic has turned into lies at the feet of political greed with no

regard for our rights. I pray that things could change and change soon. From what I see today, we are beyond a slippery downward spiral. We're at ground zero, not that we can't come back and recapture what's been stolen. It's going to take a strong burning desire from the people to be willing to do their chores and assume the responsibilities endowed to us by the Founders and written in our Constitution. We gave ourselves the responsibility to enforce these laws and oversee those who serve us through Constitutional County Grand Juries and well-trained and regulated County Militias. These two entities are required in the Second and Fifth Amendments, and we already had these two bodies in place until Lincoln's war. It's our right and duty! Sadly, many don't even have a clue as to what's happening across this country or what we're supposed to do. Only 1% to 2% of us will eventually save the country for the others. Very similar odds happened during our revolution.

Please read our Constitution as many times as you need to. Comprehend what it says, word for word, without misinterpreting it like the Supreme Court often does. Above all, when you are picking a candidate to vote for, pay close attention to how long they've been in office, and if it's more than two or three terms, that should raise a big red flag. God bless each of you and this great Republic, not a democracy.

**George Richardson**

## Cummings... continued from Page 4A

his friendship with Neal Moon. And he extended that comradery to us by treating us like long lost friends.

The Smoky Mountains were beautiful and we had some interesting experiences while hiking through them. We hiked halfway through them on one trip and then finished on another trip. During our first leg we hiked from Fontanna Dam to Newfound Gap, and along the way we stayed at Molly's Shelter. Temperatures dipped down to 19 degrees that night, causing our water to freeze in some of our water reservoirs, and the next morning on our way out we found that we could not drink because of the frozen water bladder. Later we came out at Clingman's Dome parking lot to find my wife Lauren waiting on us with some hot Chicken and Dumplings which we all enjoyed. As we ate in the parking lot, people began coming up to us asking if they could try the dumplings. A couple of Japanese people made sign language to us indicating they would like to try the dumplings. I think there were about 15 people that tried her homemade chicken and dumplings up there that day. The next year we were caught in a shelter with 26 others while riding out a bad storm. The next morning we found trees downed and realized we'd slept through tornado warnings all night.

Although the Smoky Mountains were beautiful, I believe the Roan Highlands may have been prettier, and then the area around Hot Springs was just as wonderful. We finally made it to the Old Dominion and walked into Damascus, Virginia. I thought that we'd come a long way, and yet we would spend a number of years trying to get through the state of Virginia. The place was historically and botanically rich. And yet another County Agent was there to help us with logistics. Andy Overbay lives in Smythville and helped us place our vehicles. He even came to meet us at a trail crossing to check on us. He, his wife and daughter met us in Bristol to take us to a restaurant which was probably an inn in the late 1700s.

We kept up our pace and finally made it to Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, where once again we found another County Agent to help us with logistics. As a matter of fact, Paul Craig helped us on more than one trip when we moved out of Maryland and into Pennsylvania. He also took us to a nice restaurant and helped us with transportation needs.

## Fowler...

### continued from Page 4A

the wrath of God through Him" (Rom. 5:8-9). Jesus did not come just to be a moral teacher with new ideas. He came to set things right between you and God. Yes, His teachings are worth admiring, but it's His resurrection that demonstrates His power and His grace that makes Him attractive.

Mike Ducker's career at FedEx was molded by a certain habit. "In my everyday life, I read the Bible" he said. "That's an important part of my day." Somewhere along the way, he found Christ attractive. www.mountainchristian.net

## Ashurst...

### continued from Page 4A

person and eventually turn the non-toxic individual into a full-blown toxic monster.

In order to keep from getting into a relationship with toxic individuals, one has to be continually aware of one's choices of friendships. To have a relationship that lasts through thick and thin requires being in an honest, respectful, genuine relationship of unconditional love and with absolutely no strings attached.

*People inspire you, or they drain you – pick them wisely. (Hans Hansen)*

## Williams...

### continued from Page 4A

In the same regard rocks or rip rap don't work as well because they don't slow water down or assist with infiltration.

On September 18 I will be hosting a Streambank Stabilization workshop at the Reece Farm Pavilion from 2:00 – 3:30, with Tony Ward from Mountain True. If you are interested in attending call 706-439-6030 or email Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

## Priven...

### continued from Page 4A

Trump is a threat to democracy.

What greater threat to democracy is there than to elect a secret group of people to run the country? Not knowing who is running our country IS the greatest threat to democracy I could imagine.

**Mike Priven**

While in one state we met a fellow that looked at my knee brace and asked if we had plans to hike Maine. We told him that eventually we would make it there probably when we were in our 80s. He never cracked a smile and suggested we change our course and hike Maine and New Hampshire while we still could. So a few years ago we went to Maine for the first time and hiked the 100 Mile Wilderness and Katahdin. The man was correct! Maine is the toughest hiking I have ever experienced, and yet it is also one of the most beautiful places I have ever been. And once again we needed help. Kathy Flanders was an entomology professor at Auburn before retiring. She is from Maine originally and spends the summers there on her family farm that she and her sister, Gale, still maintain. The Flanders sisters opened their home to us and helped us with transportation needs on two separate trips. They have a wonderful farm in Dover-Foxcroft that has been in her family for many years.

During this last trip I lost a pair of brand-new glasses. I had placed them in a pocket while crossing a river. Later, I tried to retrieve them and they were not in the pocket. I posted that I had lost them on a social app that hikers use, and a few days later I received a text that they'd been found. A young lady found and then left them at a place called Shaw's Hostel in Monson, Maine, where Kathy retrieved them and mailed them to me.

The help and hospitality of these people made it possible for us to walk more than 1,300 miles on the Appalachian Trail in eight different states. We are on course to finish the trail in nine more years. But, for me, walking the Trail is not about finishing. The walk is about seeing new country and meeting new people along the way!

## Levine... continued from Page 4A

White Nationalists nor Socialists nor Communists. They love their God and try to be good neighbors. They will even bend over backwards to help a stranger in distress as the Good Samaritan did. Both groups want a good home, a decent job, a fair wage and, above all, a chance for their kids to do better than they did. People from these groups are where most of the media, judges, politicians and bureaucrats come from. They had common sense enough to cross party lines to elect people like Ronald Reagan and Barack Obama. We are good Americans and should NOT be painted with the writer's wide brush as thugs.

On a side note, relating to this writer's metaphor about hiring someone to come into his home to get rid of raccoons or whatever, he may not care if the person he is thinking of hiring is (as the letter writer

describes him) crude, insults people, married three times or is an egotist among other unkind descriptions. However you, your spouse and children should very much care if the potential hire had been found by a court to have committed sexual abuse and then defamed the woman, if he bragged on recorded tape about how he assaulted women, if he had been convicted of directing an illegal payment to silence a porn star for their adulterous act and if, perhaps worst of all, as a Commander in Chief, to have violated his sacred oath of office to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States by directing a mob towards the Capitol Building to fight like hell to overturn the legitimate vote of the Electoral College where they assaulted police officers and threatened to hang the Vice President of the United States.

**Richard Levine**

## Chamber... continued from Page 4A

took off our shoes, I rolled up my pant legs, and in the creek we went. The water could not have been a better temperature, and the surroundings were as if they had come from a magazine. The four-course dinner, paired with a perfect beverage, made for a very memorable evening. The dinner was the brainstorm of Megan Kimsey of Granddaddy Mimm's and Zach Edmonds of Jim's Smokin Que after hearing of a similar event; and the addition of the settings by A Touch of Gray Events made the evening like none other, while Alysia Hargus Photography got to take this all in. Thanks to all involved with "Dinner in the Creek," and we are looking forward to next year's event. If someone asks you to have dinner in a creek, you should jump

right in. It may turn out to be a very memorable evening.

You don't have to wait long to attend another great event. The 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony will be at 8:30 at the Fine Arts Center, and the Blairsville Business Expo is on September 12th at the Sports Complex. Visit the Chamber website to see a full calendar of events.

Thanks to all for helping make events memorable in Blairsville.

## Dyer...

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and pass it down to the next generations.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~