

Paris...continued from Page 4A

age rates in Georgia, which is a big incentive for businesses to locate here. Union County also offers businesses 100 percent Freeport, meaning raw materials, goods in process, and finished goods bound for out-of-state shipment being held in factories and warehouses here in the county are exempt from the County ad valorem taxes. The Development Authority is able to issue Industrial Revenue Bond Financing for project-related costs of land, facilities, machinery and equipment and some property tax abatements may also be available.

Q. What can a county offer to a new business besides incentives?

A. On a case-by-case basis, the Development Authority may provide site improvements to a Union County property for the location of a new business, and they may also offer infrastructure improvements through local, state, and federal resources. The State of Georgia also offers incentives such as, the Child Care Tax Credit, Small Business Tax Relief, and the Sales and Use Tax Exemption on equipment and electricity used directly in manufacturing, to name a few.

Q. Are there natural incentives for a business to move to Union County?

A. Absolutely! Besides having the third lowest property tax rate in the state of Georgia out of 159 counties, we have a low cost of living,

low transportation costs, and a well-trained and disciplined work force. We also have a strategic location being only two hours from Atlanta, Chattanooga, and Greenville. Also, the quality of life here is hard to find in a major, industrialized city.

Q. What are some of our key quality of life issues we have to offer?

A. The scenic beauty of our area and all outdoor recreation activities is one. Having one of the top performing school systems in the state of Georgia is another. A third is having some of the best health-care facilities, staffs and doctors. Finally is the advantage of having a very functional government and community that all work together. The City, County, School, Chamber, Hospital and all utility companies work together, hand-in-hand, for what is best for the county and our taxpayers. This is unique and very few communities have this type of unified support.

Q. Are you satisfied with the progress of our Economic Development efforts?

A. Our Development Authority does an excellent job, as well as our Chamber, in promoting our county and city. However, none of them ever rest. We are always looking toward the future leaving no stone unturned in an effort to improve the economic well-being of our community.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

not a good repellent for snakes. The bottom line is that we have developed snake habitat in and around our yards and now we must live with them. You can control the number of snakes around your house by modifying their habitat. For example, move the firewood pile further away from the house. Trap and remove rodents from the area. Keep vegetation away from the foundations of the house and remove weeds from around the house. There are many snakes that are good to have around.

King snakes are a deterrent to poison snakes. Rat snakes and Black Racers kill rats and rodents. For more information call (706) 439-6030.

Finally, this next week we'll have our Strawberry Festival and hand-made crafts at the Farmers Market from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Also, don't forget the Trash to Treasures sale each Thursday and Friday at the Farmers Market. For more information please visit the website at ucFarmersmarket.com.

Aubrey Atwater at Folk School

Folksinger, banjo player and percussive dancer, Aubrey Atwater will be featured in a free concert on Thursday, May 21 at 7 p.m. at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC. The concert, which will be held in the Keith House Community Room, is free and open to the public. Donations are appreciated.

Aubrey Atwater presents a captivating program of original and traditional folk music performed on the guitar, mountain dulcimer, tin whistle and banjo. An accomplished free-style clogger, Atwater includes some dancing in her shows, often simultaneously accompanying herself on banjo. She has taught mountain dulcimer, banjo, clogging and ballad singing at the Hindman Settlement School in Kentucky, the Ozark Folk Center, the Swananoa Gathering at Warren Wilson College and at the Folk School. She has recorded two solo albums, ten CDs with her husband Elwood Donnelly and has published three books of poetry.

Upcoming Folk School concert performers include Brasstown Morris Dancers (June 5) and Guy & Sherrrie George (Thursday, June 11).

The Friday night concert schedule is available on the world wide web at: <http://www.hopehouse.org>

Hope House

Hope House is a faith-based, non-profit benevolence center to help those in times of critical need. Hours of operation: Monday 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & Thursday 1 p.m.-4 p.m., located at 178 Brackett's Way, Blairsville, (706)781-3090.

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



May 29th
in memory of
Scott, Erin and Lance Malone
by Patrick & Kathryn Malone

May 20th
in loving memory of
Ray Payne
Love - your family

May 20th
In memory of
Ronald E. Robson
by Cathy Robson

April 28th
In memory of
Dolly C. Meeks Birthday
by Ginger and Terry Meeks

Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493

Leone... continued from Page 4A

Hal was too young to retire at 66 years old. Aren't we all? He put an application in at Speedling Inc., one of the world's largest producers of containerized (trans)plants. He didn't go home that day until after he put in a day's work, for they hired him on the spot. In 2008, at 72 years old, he followed his heart into the garden.

You've met Hal. He's held permanent residency in Booth 29 at the Union County Farmers Market, catty corner to the office, at the end of Building One. For years he pushed day lilies that he had propagated. Because of Hal, I chose day lilies over an impressive stock portfolio, and now I pay homage to this man every June when my garden buds. When I asked Hal how he happened to become involved with this plant with a bud that has a 24-hour life span, he said he was drawn to something so pretty that he didn't have to work hard at growing. I guess that's what I like best about them, too.

Back in 2012, Hal found a mentor. His name was Randall

Williams ...

continued from Page 4A

sor, Community & Southern Bank. Located at 271 Hwy 515, Blairsville, GA, their team can take care of all of your financial needs. Stop by or call them at 706-400-3002.

Please make plans to join us as we welcome Frank Norton, Jr. to Union County. Due to limited seating, all reservations must be made on or before Friday, May 22 by contacting the Chamber office at 706-745-5789. The cost is \$25 for Chamber members and \$35 for the general public. Attendees may also register and make payment online at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com.

Fowler ...

continued from Page 4A

Okinawa as a missionary, and later ministered in Norfolk, VA.

In his latter years he served as chaplain at Vinson Hall Retirement Community for Navy and Marine Corps Officers in McLean, VA, not far from the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial depicting the iconic flag raising at Iwo Jima.

This "Legend" died in 2001 at the age of 85 and is buried with our nation's heroes at Arlington National Cemetery. In his memory, the Navy created the John H. Craven Servant Leadership Award, given to the chaplain that "exemplifies the essence of the chaplain for whom it is named," honoring effective spiritual leadership.

I am grateful to my college roommate, U.S. Navy Captain Terry C. Gordon who is also a USMC Chaplain, for informing me about this Legend. Join me in remembering the legacy of CAPT John H. Craven, CHC, USN, a true American hero. On this Memorial Day, let us remember all who died for freedom.



Aubrey Atwater

folkschool.org. For further information call the Folk School at 828-837-2775 or 1-800-FOLK-SCH.

Riley ... continued from Page 4A

FLN communication takes many forms. Regional network workshops bring partners from several landscapes together once or twice a year for peer review of products and learning exchange. Field learning exchanges and topical workshops on specific aspects of planning or implementation are also used to address particular local or regional needs. The national Fire Learning Network also convenes workshops at which landscapes can share knowledge, restoration tools, products and ideas across regions. In addition to workshops and learning exchanges, a bi-weekly newsletter, several

other short publications, and an annual Field Guide to the network are distributed both within and beyond the network.

The Fire Learning Network, launched in 2002, is a joint project of The Nature Conservancy, the USDA Forest Service and several agencies of the U.S. Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Fish & Wildlife Service and National Park Service).

For more information on TNC/Fire Learning Network go to: www.nature.org or contact Frank Riley - frank.crcrd@gmail.com

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Every Monday:		
Garden Tours	GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Every Tuesday:		
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
Every Thursday:		
Butternut Ladies Golf	Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 am
Masonic Luncheon	Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club	So. Bank & Trust	Noon
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Fourth Tuesday of each month:		
Compassionate Friends	Grinds & Glazes	Noon
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild	Blairsville UMC	12:30 pm
VFW Post #7394	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
Eastern Star #304	Location not listed	7:30 pm
Fourth Wednesday of each month:		
No activities listed		
Fourth Thursday of each month:		
Lions Club	Steve's Cookie Jar	6 pm
Cruisers Club Meeting	Sr. Center pavilion	6 pm
UT Homebuilders	YH College	7 pm
Fourth Friday of each month		
Eastern Star #471	Location not listed	7:30 pm
Fourth Saturday of each month:		
Youngcane Lodge #597	Lodge Hall	7:30 pm