

Paris...continued from Page 4A

and is eligible for full or partial payments from the SPLOST funds. As a reminder, the Redevelopment Bonds were borrowed to build the Union County Community Center. We are also setting aside additional funds during our current SPLOST to pay toward that debt, in addition to paying the interest payments.

Q. Can the county afford to pay off the SPLOST Bonds as well as the Urban Redevelopment Bonds?

A. Yes. We would not have borrowed the money if we foresaw any problem in paying it back. Our final decisions will be, do we complete fewer SPLOST projects and pay more on the Redevelopment Bonds, or do we let our Redevelopment Bonds continue over the 20-year life (last payment is Aug. 1, 2030) they were financed under and complete more SPLOST projects. In the end it will be a decision based on many factors and involving many individuals.

Q. Why would you want to borrow money for the amphitheater and children's small water park instead of waiting to actually collect the SPLOST proceeds over a few years?

A. In the end, it becomes a decision on what will

be best for our community and its citizens. You can compare the interest cost as opposed to what will be the inflation factor moving forward. If interest rates remain extremely low as they are now and we can build a project before material prices start to inflate as the economy improves, in some instances we could actually save money by borrowing the money ahead of time. On the other hand, is it more important to pay the Community Center off in full and not complete all of the other SPLOST projects? These are all issues that will be dealt with in a very systematic manner and ultimately looking out for the best interests of the county.

Q. Why would we want to build an amphitheater and children's mini water park when we do not need either one of them?

A. It partly becomes a factor of economic development. Do we think that continually improving the quality of life for our citizens, which will ultimately draw more visitors and residents to our county, is the proper role for county government to play? Well according to the 70 percent who voted for our SPLOST projects, they think improving our facilities and quality of life is a worthy undertaking.

Leone...continued from Page 4A

schedule this year, and the first one that we have planned is on June 14th. That's our Trout Day. We'll be cooking up pounds of fresh trout along with hush puppies. We'll have displays talking about our trout streams and fly fishing demonstrations in Butternut Creek. Bring the kids this day. Children under 14 years of age will have a chance to fish that day along the creek's shoreline.

The third Saturday in June, the 21st, we will be paying homage to the cow. With the cooperation of the Local Cattlemans Association, we'll be putting on "Beef It Up" day at the Market. We'll be preparing different beef recipes, and we'll be handing out free Beef Recipe books. Association members will be there to answer all your questions on raising, breeding, butchering and eating the bovine species. We are also looking for the strongest of men (and women) to compete in the "Beef It Up" contests that day. You'll have your chance to stack hay bales against a competitor. Best time wins, and there will be several

categories of competition.

As July approaches, the area grill masters start to get their smokers a heatin' up. Beans are in the pots and rubs are being tested. Saturday, June 28th, just before the festivities of the 4th of July, we will be having one of our biggest cooking competitions of the season, "Bubba's BBQ Blast." This year there are four categories to compete. They are Ribs (beef or pork), BBQ Chicken, BBQ Pork – not ribs, and BBQ Beans. Now you have four weeks to start perfecting your recipes. You want to be at the Market that day with your entries.

For good food, good shopping and tons of fun, plan on staycationing with us every Tuesday evening from 3 p.m.-7 p.m. and every Saturday from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. from now through October. You can pick up your schedule for the season at the Farmers Market. You can also visit our website at www.UC-FarmersMarket.com. Imagine having this much fun and you didn't even have to pack a suitcase. Ain't life in the mountains just grand?

L. Williams ... continued from Page 4A

having numerous floods. The Florida Panhandle recently had 20+ inches of rain in two days with massive flooding. The Greenland Ice Sheet is melting at an accelerated rate along with the Antarctic Ice shelf, both major factors in sea level rise. Tropical storm Sandy is an example of how much damage rising sea levels can do.

Climate change is a threat to the environment and to U.S. National security, according to a report released this month by the Center for Naval Analyses (CNA) Military Advisory Board. The United States military will need to plan to help manage disasters and conflicts domestically and overseas that ex-

ist partly because of resource shortages and environmental disasters related to global warming.

With all the evidence available, there are still many people in the US who refuse to believe that global warming is real and that human use of fossil fuel is a major cause. It's foolish and reckless to ignore what's happening. What a shame so many of our representatives in Congress deny global warming and always vote to give the fossil fuel industry tens of millions in subsidies, but suppress funding for green technologies. When is Congress going to wake up and act!

Lucy Williams

Cummings...continued from Page 4A

to one of the prettiest days he had ever seen. He was really looking forward to going down to the ball field at Trapptown to play a community baseball game. A bunch of boys from Trapptown were to play a bunch of boys from over in a little community called Dime. Papa told Dad and Uncle Bud they could go after they finished planting the corn in the garden. Papa had heard the whip-poor-will's song the night before that April day.

The boys knew better than to argue, so, they went to work. Dad and Bud were trying to finish the planting of 15 rows of corn 200 feet long before 11 a.m. They were working at a feverish pace when Dad had what he thought was a great idea. He told his brother to begin dropping four kernels of corn instead of two. Pretty soon those four kernels developed into a handful. It wasn't

long until they finished all of seven rows of corn. The boys ran out of corn seed before they finished all 15 rows. Dad and Bud told Papa they were finished. Papa smiled and told his sons to go to the ball field and have a good time.

Dad and Bud played all day and had a wonderful time playing baseball on a nice day in late April. However, two weeks later the corn came up just where it had been planted. It never occurred to them that Papa would be upset at having only seven rows of corn. So, for the next three Saturdays there was no baseball. All they were allowed to do was plant corn, cucumbers, squash and when that was complete they had to muck out stables in the barn. Dad and Uncle Bud learned the proper way to plant corn.

This fall the Farmers Market will host a "Largest Pumpkin Contest." If you are interested in participating in this contest you should contact me at coosa@uga.edu to get more information regarding the "Largest Pumpkin Contest." Also, do not forget this weekend is the Grand Opening of the 2014 Farmers Market. I hope to see each of you at the market on Saturday.

Parris ...

continued from Page 4A

to vacations to enjoy the journey. Likewise, children of our Heavenly Father, let me encourage you not to get so heavenly minded that you become of no earthly good. Remember that God is awaiting us at the end of the trail, but remember also that He is with us every day. Enjoy the journey! There are many points of interest along the trail, but please don't just shoot for the high peaks. Between the highpoints there are a lot of joys. No, we are not there yet, but we will be soon enough. Until then, enjoy your children, your brothers and sisters, your schoolmates, your parents, your grandparents, your church families and your friends and neighbors. We are not there yet, so relax, release all that stress and rejoice on the way. God bless.

Cheves ...

continued from Page 4A

a weekend shooting class or plinking section." Mitchell says he couldn't find out the reason for these ammo and gun orders. All he had to do was go on line for a few minutes as I did, wade through the obvious right wing garbage, and find the above referenced *National Review* article.

Charles Cheves

Williams

...continued from Page 4A

meetings/conferences/family reunions and tour groups, and working with tourism partners to continuously build a stronger brand and a better experience for our visitors. Additionally, Tobie will provide support to local festivals and attractions to identify and synchronize efforts and oversee the county's Camera Ready status, a program to attract movies and films to our area.

Now as a team of five, the Chamber is poised for future growth and members can expect many exciting new opportunities. With an increased focus on healthy growth in tourism, local businesses, and therefore the community as a whole, stand to gain from our new addition. We look forward to serving Blairsville-Union County as the driving force behind tourism and business development for many years to come.

To congratulate Tobie in her new role, you may email her at tourism@blairsville-chamber.com or call our office at 706-745-5789.

Register now for Miss Georgia Mountain Fair Pageant

The Georgia Mountain Fair is taking applications for girls ages 17-24 to represent the fair in community events during 2014-2015.

The Miss GMF Pageant to be held Monday, July 21st will consist of evening gown, one-piece swimsuit, personal interview, stage question and overall presentation. After judging of regular pageant, an optional talent contest will be held.

No entry fee! Cash & merchandise prizes!

Residents or full-time high school/college students in the counties of: Towns, Union, Rabun, White, Habersham, Lumpkin, Fannin, Stephens in Georgia and Clay County and Cherokee County in North Carolina.

Single, never married, nor have children.

Applications should be received in office by Sunday, July 13th.

For more info & application: www.georgiamountain-fairgrounds.com, (706) 897-3107, lvcarter@yhc.edu.

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	Every Monday: GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Boy Scouts #101	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 pm
Sweet Adelines	Every Tuesday: United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
Masonic Luncheon	Every Thursday: Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Butternut Ladies Golf	Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 am
Rotary Club	Cadence Bank	Noon
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild	Second Monday of each month: Hayesville	10 am-3 pm
Disabled Am Veterans	UC Annex, Rm 116	Noon (Jan-Oct)
Historical Society Bd.	Second Tuesday of each month: Old Courthouse	9:30 am
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
Parkinson's Sup. Grp.	Second Wednesday of each month: Cadence Bank	3 pm
UC Interagency Grp.	UC Civic Center	Noon
GA Mtn Writers Club	Cadence Bank	10 am
Sons Confederate Vet.	Second Thursday of each month: 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
UC Tea Party Patriots	UC Civic Center	7 pm
Eastern Star #471	Second Friday of each month: Location not listed	7:30 pm
His Victory Riders	Second Saturday of each month: Blairsville Restaurant	8 am