

Paris...continued from Page 4A

Q. What information do these boards require to hear my appeal?

A. It cannot simply be a statement that, "I do not think my value is correct because it is too high." You need to have some type of evidence or proof. Adjacent property values and different properties in the general neighborhood help. An appraisal can also be used. Sometimes they may have a basement as finished when it is not. The intent of all county offices is to be fair to the taxpayers and treat everyone equally and be sure their records are as accurate as possible.

Q. What is the Commissioner's role in the tax collection process?

A. My job is to keep your property tax rate (millage rate)

low so that no matter what your values are, we hope you feel that you receive a good value for the money you spend. We make every effort to be fiscally conservative with your money and we always try to provide the best possible services and facilities at the lowest possible cost.

Q. How do our property taxes compare with other counties in the state?

A. Out of 159 counties in the State of Georgia, Union County has the fourth lowest millage rate. Some people try to say this is really not the case, but they are wrong. It is a simple calculation. If your home has a market value of \$160,000, the assessed value would be \$64,000 (net of any exemptions), which is 40 percent of the market value.

Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

weaning-off house" which must have been around 1941.

This past weekend we honored three men by inducting them into the Union County Agricultural Hall of Fame. Zed Seabolt was inducted because he was a master of making syrup. He grew his own sweet sorghum cane and then turned it into syrup. People came from at least four or five states to purchase his syrup. Zed was known far and wide for his ability to make syrup. But, even more important was that he was also known as a kind and gentle man who cared about the people around him.

Clyde Collins served as a teacher, principal and School

Superintendent in Union County for many years. Clyde's contribution to Agriculture was his support of the Vocational Ag Program and the Union County Canning Plant. Clyde purchased new equipment and helped resurrect the canning plant during his tenure in education.

Francis Eugene Dyer came home from WWII and purchased a country store about 5 miles south of Blairsville on U.S. 129. This store provided credit to farmers to help them to put in a crop each year. He was also instrumental in helping to bring the Mancini and Campbell's Pepper Plants to Blairsville. Congratulations to all of our inductees.

Williams... continued from Page 4A

dents to gain trail experience.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy has planned a Family Hiking Day event for Saturday, September 26, 2015. Families are encouraged to spend time in the great outdoors along the Appalachian Trail or any of our other great trails. For resources, guidelines, and ideas for kids' activities along the trail, go to www.AppalachianTrail.org.

Saturday, September 26 is also National Public Lands Day. Vogel State Park will be hosting an event for volunteers to help keep Vogel beautiful. Projects will include the maintenance of the Byron Herbert Reece Trail. Volunteer activities will take place from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The United States Gov-

ernment has recently launched their "Every Kid in a Park" program. Fourth graders around the country can go to www.EveryKidInAPark.gov and download a paper pass that gives them free access to all national parks, lands, and waters through Aug. 31, 2016. Included on the site are trip ideas and additional resources to help your family enjoy our country's wildlife, history, and great outdoors.

With so many ways to enjoy the trails right here in Union County, why not plan to hike this fall? For more information on these programs or details on how to best plan your next hiking adventure, please contact the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce at (706) 745-5789.

Fowler ... continued from Page 4A

tragedy. He said, "The darkness cannot overcrowd the light." Remember, Jesus is "the Light of life" (John 8:12). He added, "God brings much good from our disasters." The fact is, after the tragedy Wedgewood experienced such a great ingathering that it grew 50% in five years. He concluded, "God only uses broken people and broken

things." After all, Jesus said, "He who has lost his life for My sake will find it" (Mat. 10:39).

Where is God in your tragedy, your suffering? He is with you. He loves you. He is in control and can bring good from evil. He calls you according to his purpose. You can believe and trust Him, as the people of Wedgewood still do.

McKechnie ... continued from Page 4A

got young Kate Steinle killed by an illegal in San Francisco in July.)

Dax Lopez says he is a Republican. But when he ran for election in 2012, he was supported and endorsed by Democrats Jason Carter and Roy Barnes. He should be described as "a Jerry Gonzalez, Jason Carter, Roy Barnes Republican."

Neither Lopez or anti-enforcement GALEO should be considered "in the mainstream" by our Republican senators and Dax Lopez's nomination

should be blocked. Already, several Georgia sheriffs and state legislators have sent letters of vehement opposition to further consideration of Lopez for the federal bench.

Georgia's U.S. Senators Isakson and Perdue can stop the confirmation process before it starts and end any danger of rewarding GALEO's Dax Lopez with the lifetime title of "federal judge." We should all be calling their offices with that demand. Respectfully submitted,
Jack McKechnie

Leone... continued from Page 4A

we were. He calls my name. "Leone, get out here and show them your march." Me? The little orphan thrown into the royal family is being chosen to show them how to march? I've never suffered from stage fright so I moved right into the center of the circle. He had the drums hit the beat and I proudly marched in place. I lifted my legs high, keeping my back as straight and stiff as a mahogany board. When the drums stopped, Mr. DiRusso bellowed across those holy walls, for the angels to hear, "That's exactly how you don't want to do it!"

I should have been humiliated for life. Honestly, I had such remarkable self esteem that once the redness left my cheeks and ears I was over it without the aid of a Tony Robbins self help CD. So, where do the scars come from?

I continued to show up for all the rehearsals. Then one Friday night in late September, under the intense lights overlooking the turf, donned in my magnificently ornate band uniform, I marched out onto the field. We were playing the Monarch fight song which was adapted from Notre Dame University's famous melody. The overwhelming joy that flowed through me was metabolically converting my blood to purple and gold.

I played with the Cardinal Mindszenty High School band every game, home and away, for two football seasons and two basketball seasons. I was a Monarch. Then it came time to register for high school. It was a no brainer for me. I went and was measured for my Catholic school uniform. My parents had a different idea. They wanted me to experience something more than just that pre-Vatican dogma. They asked me to attend the public school for just one year. If I still wanted to go back to the Catholic school for my sophomore year I would have their blessing. I

agreed, but certainly not with my whole heart.

I packed the clarinet away. I had no intentions of learning the Dunkirk High School fight song. I was now trying to pretend to be a Marauder, needing a blood transfusion; because there was no way I was going to naturally ooze maroon and white. I attended all DHS games pretending to be engaged. The end of the school year I headed over to Cardinal Mindszenty to order my books and get measured for my uniforms. Then that summer, at the County Fair, my friends begged me to come back to the public high school. I acquiesced. My junior year, I went once again through the registration process, yearning to leave my adopted family to be with my Monarch blood. I once again conceded. And that has left a scar or two.

Cardinal Mindszenty closed a few years after my graduation from Dunkirk High School. When I was home this July, I drove past slowly, out of a deep respect. Friends said it was now an independent living facility for the elderly. Maybe I'll spend my late years there, decked in a purple robe and fluffy gold slippers, marching proudly down the hall with my walker. I might even take up playing the clarinet, once again. (Reprint from Sept. 2013)

Kerr...

continued from Page 4A

thermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?" Our parents on earth made our bodies. Our parents in heaven made our spirits.

Paul further emphasized our relationship to God when preaching about idolatry. He stated in Acts 17:29, "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold..." Again in the Crampon Bible in French, translated directly from the earliest Biblical texts, "Etant donc de la RACE de Dieu, nous ne devons pas croire que la divinite soit semblable a de l'or..." In the King James Bible in Spanish, "Siendo, pues, LINAJE de Dios, no debemos pensar que la Divinidad sea semejante a oro...". So in three languages, Paul's words telling about our relationship to God are translated into English as: we are his offspring, we are of the same race, and we are of the same lineage. Our relationship seems to be clearly stated.

Some ideas that Christians find in the Bible, and believe, that scientists do not believe is the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. It is my opinion that Adam and Eve were in the garden for a long time before they committed a transgression and fell from grace and become mortal, as were the animals that developed outside the protected area. The animals included primitive man who developed into the human race divided up into White, Black, Oriental, Brown, and mixtures of those colors. They had different skin pigmentation as well as other varied physical differences, not likely to have evolved in the 7,000-year period which most Christians accept as the time of the fall of Adam. Regardless of how it happened the male and female humans of the earth can procreate and multiply.

Biblical back up of the scientific idea that there were men on the earth that were not descendants of Adam, but who were of the same kind as Adam, is from Genesis 6 where intermarriage took place between sons of God (Adam's descendants), and daughters of giants and daughters of sons of men, who were attractive to the sons of God.

Someday religious truth and scientific truth will agree.

Walter B. Kerr

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	Every Monday: GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
A Course in Miracles	UC Comm Cntr., Rm 101	2 pm
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Tri State Bus. Women	Every Tuesday: Blairsville Restaurant	8 am
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
Spiritual Living Group	UC Comm Cntr., Rm 101	6:30 pm
Butternut Ladies Golf	Every Thursday: 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
Shape Note Music	Third Monday of each month: Old Courthouse	6:30 pm
High Country Artisan	U.C.Bank Com Room	6:30 pm
Exp Aviation Assoc #1211	Blairsville Airport	7 pm
UC Homemakers	Third Tuesday of each month: Dooley Chapter	Noon
Am. Legion Post 121	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
American Legion, Aux	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
Chatuge Gun Club	Senior Center, Hia.	7 pm
Compassionate Friends	UCB Community Room	7 pm
Blairsville Garden Club	Third Wednesday of each month: Location not listed	1 pm
Friends of the Library	Library Com Room	2 pm
Beta Sigma Phi, Iota Iota	So. Bank & Trust	7 pm
Kinship Care	Third Thursday of each month: Civic Center	Noon
Commissioner's Meet.	County Courthouse	6 pm
Good N'bers Auto	Ingles Cafe	6:30 pm
UT Home Builders	Moschetto's	6:30 pm
Cub Scouts Trp. #101	United Methodist Ch.	6:30 pm
Tip-off Club	UC High School	7 pm
UC Saddle Club	Arena Clubhouse	7 pm
Jaycees	Fort Sorghum	7:30 pm
No activities listed	Third Friday of each month:	
UC Republican Party	Third Saturday of each month: Civic Center	10 am
Goldwing Road Riders	Daniels Steak House	11 am

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