

## Paris ... from Page 4A

multi-purpose activity room. The large room will be used for line dancing and ballroom dancing, exercise classes as well as other activities. The smaller room will be primarily used for our Alzheimer's Respite program, which we will be expanding to two days a week when the room is completed. We are in our third year with a very successful Respite Program. This program allows the caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients to have a few hours to shop for groceries, go to the doctor or just have some free time for themselves.

### Q. Is the Senior Center just another government program that is not needed?

A. Absolutely not!! It is a fine example of what is good about Federal and State government, which is providing a service to those who need it and who are unable to provide it for themselves. It allows many seniors to retain their dignity and grace, keeps their minds focused on something besides sitting at home and staring at four walls, and most of all, it is an example of some of the most wonderful people you will ever be around enjoying life.

### Q. Are there volunteer opportunities for the

## Leone ...from Page 4A

try or physics class. With that said, I still remember reading somewhere that "what goes up, must come down". That's not evident in Lucca. You are always ascending here. There are 35 ancient steps, designed for a gate much different than mine, leading to the apartment. You climb the steps to go into shops, you climb the wall to walk the promenade (that you had to walk to in order to walk some more). I keep looking at my legs to see if they are transforming into Betty Grable's gams. It's not going to happen.

We decide we need a bus schedule. We take two steps up to the entrance of the bus station. The clerks in attendance are behind glass, consulting with you through a vent, in what seemingly is the size of a bung hole. We try to not assume that everyone speaks English, though most have a comprehension of the language. This time we didn't ask, but plowed ahead, arrogant Americans, asking the middle aged frumpy woman behind the protective shield, for a bus schedule. "Naw, Naw, Naw", shaking her head vehemently. She points in the direction of the Information Center, from whence we just came. We explain that they sent us to her. She now delivers us a diatribe she spits out in Italian, faster than the speed of light, and with all the sourness of a bag of lemon drops.

We head back over to the Information Center, feel-

## Derflinger ...from Page 4A

it was an "unjust war," but when the decision was made in 1946, it seemed to be the right thing, and each administration continued to believe it was the right thing to do, who is to say it was an "unjust war." I believe that our government was wrong in trying to fight a limited war. If we had allowed our military leaders to direct the war and not the politicians, the war would have had a different outcome and much sooner than it did.

And really, Bob Dylan? Out of all the folks to quote this is a strange one. This is a man who in his autobiography stated he was a male prostitute and a heroin addict. But if you believe that Vietnam was the only war that people made money on, I suggest you research what happened to the iron ore U.S. Steel sold to Switzerland during World War II. (It was transshipped to Germany and was returned to us in the way of bombs and bullets.) Or why did the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor even though their leaders knew by doing so they would awake a tiger and lose the war. Do you think the U.S. government didn't know what was going to happen when it placed an embargo on oil, iron ore, and other goods vital to Japan? Let's not be naïve, someone always makes money on war.

### public?

A. There certainly are. They are always looking for people interested in leading or teaching new exercises, new games, or new programs. They have a championship Wii computer game bowling league that is awesome and has won many tournaments. Their crafts and art are amazing. And if you really want to feel good and appreciated, either volunteer to help or take a shift of delivering meals on wheels and I can guarantee you that you will be blessed by the experience - even if you only go once.

### Q. Does the Senior Center have enough staff to cover the duties they have?

A. They could always use more, but staffing levels are partly based on participation. We are blessed to have had Ruth Murrell, who ran the center for many years, and now Kathy Hill who is doing a fantastic job. The employees who work there are all exceptional people who are very dedicated to the successful operation of the program. The new addition to the facility will be a blessing for the center, the employees and our community. This is a prime example of your tax money being well spent!!!

ing violated. The center has now cleared of tourists, and both attendants, who willingly sit behind a counter without protective glass, give us their full attention. We spill our story of the verbal battering we just incurred and they were sympathetic, explaining that we had the misfortune of meeting up with the "not so pleasant" clerk. I then used an Italian expression that my family would tease one another with when one was in a nasty mood. "Faccia brutta" I called her. Ugly face is the translation. Both the tourism ladies laughed out loud. I've been practicing my Italian at home for months, but my "level one" expertise has been of little use to me, here. I've been discouraged, until this moment, in this turismo centre. I realize that I have garnered enough skill to entertain someone. I will keep practicing, moving on to level two.

Unfortunately, I do not have the luxury of enjoying Lucca for the entire month. I will be back to the Union County Farmers Market this weekend, in time to oversee the "Chef's Cook-off". Five local chefs will each be presenting two dishes. One dish must feature potatoes from our market, and one will be prepared with our local sweet green peppers.

Join the fun between 9:30 and 10:30 as these culinary celebrities try to outdo one another. Please visit our Facebook page and "like" us.

Or if you want a clear example on how the U.S. government and you and I made money from war, just reflect on what our government, in our name, did to the Native American Indian.

So what does this all boil down to? A writer voiced his opinion about a movie starring Jane Fonda. Another writer wrote we should not boycott the movie, and that it was time to forgive her for giving aid and comfort to the enemy during wartime. Myself, and others took exception on the request to forgive Fonda for betraying her country. By the way, I do not watch CNN because I don't like the way they choose to present the news, and I have never seen an Atlanta Braves game. I stopped following baseball after the strike and I don't watch the other Turner-owned channels. It's just the way I am. Now we have a person who says because we can't or won't forgive Fonda, we are not Christians. I am glad you decided to join the conversation, and I respect your right to your views, but I really wish you had not played the religion card. It's sort of like playing the race card. Wouldn't it be great if we could just stick to issues and not pass judgment on people we don't know?

**James Derflinger**

## Parris ...from Page 4A

what we weren't able to get at the first store. I checked the display which contained several different models of the item I wanted. My wife and I began searching for an employee to help us without any luck. By now the devil tempts this preacher to make a scene. My thoughts were that if I push over a big display several people might show up. Of course, my sweet wife wouldn't let me make a stink. She reminded me that I needed to make a good impression. In time I did find a gentleman to assist me, but again he hadn't attended any classes on how to make friends and influence people. The selection I made was exactly what

I was looking for. But you guessed it! They didn't have it in stock. As we left, my wife said, "Some days it's just hard to spend money."

No matter if it is a church, a business, a club or whatever; people want to feel appreciated and treated with respect. I do try to make allowances when people are not friendly and tend to be a little irritable. They may be having real difficulties that I am not aware of. People who serve the public need to understand that you don't have a second chance to make a first impression. It is not how many come into your place of business or to your church but - how many come back!!

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the health benefits of reflexology. A lot is happening on Blairsville Connect. Are you listening?

You can hear past and future episodes by visiting [www.BlairsvilleConnect.com](http://www.BlairsvilleConnect.com) or by liking the Chamber on facebook at [www.facebook.com/blairsvillechamber](http://www.facebook.com/blairsvillechamber). For the more tech savvy readers, our podcasts are also available on iTunes. No matter which way you choose to listen, we hope you will plan to join us each week and connect with the people who make our community so great.

Blairsville Connect is a collaborative effort of Ben Boykin with Emergent Inter-

## Cummings

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Uncle Johnny is long gone. But, the story can be used to illustrate a good point. Sometimes we just don't understand something until we have all the facts.

So, here we go. We are opening the Farmers Market each Wednesday and Friday for the Trash to Treasures Sale from 8 am until 1 pm. If you have yard sale items, flea market items, crafts or other oddities you can come to sell them on Wednesdays or Fridays. The cost for Friday sales is \$10. However, since the event is new to Wednesdays we will not charge anything on Wednesdays during the month of September. So, come on out on Wednesdays and sell your stuff for free during the Trash to Treasures Sale each Wednesday at the Farmers Market in Blairsville.

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the race, both in runner participation and more importantly, in sponsorship. In order to make this happen, we will need a lot of help.

If you are interested in joining this effort, your contributions are welcome. They can be mailed to: The Run Above The Clouds, PO Box 35, Suches, GA 30572. More details are available on the Suches Website [www.suches.com](http://www.suches.com) or via e-mail at [cloudrun10k@yahoo.com](mailto:cloudrun10k@yahoo.com).

**Jim Miner**

## Class of 1960

Class of '60 and friends! Annual picnic, Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 12 noon until? Location is Meeks Park Pavilion #1, Blairsville, GA.

### Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



In memory of Revonda Lee Phillips April 4, 1948 - August 28, 2013

by Patti Everett  
September 10  
In memory of Jane Berry Thompson  
Birthday by Laura Higgins and Family

September 12  
In memory of John J. Meeks  
by Ginger and Terry Meeks

September 17 - 23  
In observance of U. S. Constitution Week  
by Old Unicoi Trail Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution

September 23, 2013  
In memory of Heather Dyer  
11/02/76 - 09/28/12  
by Craig Dyer

Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493