Opinions

Everybody has one...

All Things

New

Welcome, Fall

Every year about this time I recall my sister Sandi's long-observed holiday procedure. (She was devoted to Christmas, in fact, to most holidays.) Her tradition was to have the bulk of her Christmas shopping complete by Labor Day weekend because that weekend was when she wrapped presents. Yes, Labor Day weekend. Many years ago, she decided that schedule made it so much easier to have a really merry Christmas, free of

shopping except, perhaps, for a few small items. (Yes, it did help. She was at the center of great Christmases in Palm Beach County for many years.) So I'm looking forward to the fall holidays and remembering

Editorial

Maddock-Cowart

Guest

Christmases past. Just a year ago last Christmas, one of the younger couples in the Georgia Mountain and Piedmont branch of our extended family presented the rest of us with a most welcome surprise, and they did it with Christmasworthy ceremony. As we were all settled in Marie and Mike Reneau's just-so-perfectly decorated-for-the-holiday living room, Blue Ridge restaurateurs Brian and Taylor Cowart handed each of the other couples an envelope. Inside was a custom-designed and printed announcement informing us of some good tidings. Yes, they were expecting a baby. This most welcome and wonderful baby, Kai James Cowart, was born a year ago August 1st.

It's fun, too, as I remember from all the various stages of my personal experience of young motherhood and stories from friends, how memories are stirred and parents cannot only fill in some gaps from their own childhood, they can correct some things. Missed some classic children's literature? Choose some of those books as you read to your child. Wish you'd had a pet, but your mother said 'no"? You make those decisions now.

Over the months of anticipation and progress updates regarding this already beloved new family member, that remembrance thing kept happening for me. I recalled a program in Carrboro, North Carolina, a pilot program implementing some principles derived from studies of how to improve reading levels. Here's the magic formula. There must be books in the home (and other reading material is good, too, of course). The child should have his or her own books. Read to the child. Also, the child must see the rolemodel parent (at least) reading.

See Maddock-Cowart, page 5A

Not Walking Alone

It's Friday. The morning news images are apocalyptic. Massive rainfall floats houses and vehicles downstream. Hurricane winds collapse trees and powerlines onto roadways. Authorities search for victims and close highways. You must be on the other side of the destruction by Saturday. What do you do? That was the question facing David Jones, 64. He was in

South Carolina. His daughter's wedding was in Tennessee. Getting there meant navigating through Asheville North Carolina, and Hurricane Helene's debris field. By Friday evening, he made his decision. He had

"It was just a mangled mess a disaster zone beyond what I could describe," Jones recalled He drove until he reached a roadblock. He told the state troopers he had to continue. Walking. It was pitch dark. His only light was his phone. As he stumbled through debris, mud, and low visibility, he reminded himself, "My daughter's getting married at 11 a.m. and I'm going to walk her down the aisle." He walked 17 dangerous miles during the night. If a vehicle approached, he held up a round red reflector he found along the way. At one point a trooper offered him a lift. "We're all talking about you,"

Jones didn't just decide on that fateful Friday to have mental toughness. He had been a marathon runner, which requires lifestyle disciplines in order to reach the finish line. He is also a man of faith. "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13) is not an invitation to set impossible goals. The context is that you experience different circumstances in life. Whatever happens along your way, there is One who strengthens you with mental toughness for that moment. Trust God's love and presence in ordinary things, and you'll be ready when the time comes for your own treacherous walk in the dark. You'll

I would have been concerned about stepping on a live. downed power line. Invisible erosion can lurk under the pavement, which could collapse under the weight of a man. Weakened trees could fall just as you pass by. And to be walking when normally sleeping... fatigue contributes to trip and fall hazards. But

See Fowler, page 5A

Commissioner's Questions

We get many questions about our roads - especially in the Summer and Fall. This week's responses talk about Union County's roads, and I hope they will help you to understand how we respond to road service requests.

Q. Do you still get requests to accept private roads as County maintained roads?

A. Yes, and the Road Department carefully evaluates every request. Back in 1991, Commissioner Gooch set up standards for a road to be accepted into the county system. These standards included having 60 feet of right of way, paving the road, and placing a maximum slope for



roads. The Road Department has modified this in a few instances but tries to keep as close to these criteria as they can. There are so many private roads in the county that we could not possibly afford to maintain all of them. There are already almost 600 miles of county-maintained roads which would be the equivalent of driving from Blairsville to Washington, DC.

Q. How does the County pay for roadwork?

 A. Roadwork is paid through property taxes, through State of Georgia funding (LMIG Grants), and through Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). The TSPLOST option would allow us to double the amount of paving that Union County could do. However, the TSPLOST was placed on the ballot in Novem-

Q. Why does it cost so much more to maintain more roads if you already have the equipment and manpower?

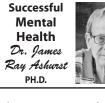
A. When people think of road maintenance, oftentimes, their thoughts go directly to paving; however, road maintenance is a much broader task if done well. Summertime requires mowing mowing the grass on each side of a road three to five times a year, mowing the brush on the road banks about every year, maintaining the gravel and paved surfaces, and scraping and spreading salt every winter. Speaking of mowing, it takes at least 2 passes to cover both sides of the road. If the shoulder is extra wide, it can take 3 or 4 passes. This doubles, triples, or quadruples the mileage for our mowers. Though paving is an important part of maintaining roads. you can see that it becomes a huge physical and financial burden.

See Paris, page 5A

The Death of a Pet

Owning a pet can be fun, exciting, and oftentimes challenging. They all add to our lives because their love is totally complete with no attachments. Simply just to love and be loved and cared for. An understanding of pure, genuine love attraction is the code of a pet. Because

of these qualities, it isn't easy to say "goodbye" to one - a trusted companion. Recently, I had to gaze into my treasured cat's dying eyes. Tigger,



my "Christmas cat," clung to every precious mo-

I labeled Tigger my "Christmas cat" because he appeared on my doorsteps during a frigid Christmas morning 16 years ago. The beige on his white body markings won me over instantly, plus his shivering body. No way was I going to leave him outdoors in the cold winter breezes. He immediately made himself at home in my house.

He was so independent and would of-See Ashurst, page 5A

Letters to the Editor

Byers Road Bridge

With regard to the bridge in our Byers Road community that you recently covered on the front page; while we appreciate the overdue the residents of our community are staggered by the \$8.5 million price tag assessed to the replacement project. This seems like a ludicrous amount to pay for a two-lane, slightly elevated bridge to span across a 20-foot-wide creek.

The current bridge isn't in any severe degree of disrepair. It is simply too narrow for more than one vehicle to cross at a time. It is also parallel with the ground on both sides of the creek, so flooding and debris blockage is almost certain during storms like we experienced last month.

See St. Lawrence, page 5A

Voting

Dear Editor,

I would urge everyone to check their ballot after they vote. Two years ago, I voted and just happened to look at the ballot. It had a vote for someone I did NOT vote for. I never really looked at it after I voted before but I check it now. The ballot was put in a special box to be

destroyed. Anne Parks

What's In A Name?

Dear Editor,

People change names for all sorts of reasons. If our names define us, what platform do we choose to reinvent ourselves? Should we opt for a catchy name to grab our audience or go with minor juxtapositions in our surname? For most of us, our last names spark a feeling of independence or a change in our personal and professional status. There is the hyphenated last name that you and your spouse may select or simply a change in a name because of marriage or divorce. Do we prefer Mrs., Miss, Ms. or Mister when being addressed or forego the formality in lieu of a first-name basis? Nicknames can also highlight our uniqueness and shorten full names. Red and Junior are just two out of the many

that come to mind. With the easy access of the podcast and the internet, any of us can be out there to be seen or heard. In doing our podcasts, I use my nickname while my son goes by his favorite Power Ranger superhero. In the world renowned entertainment industry, here are just a few AKA (also known as) singers/actors

See **Kramer**, page 5A

Kenneth West

Shawn Jarrard

Publisher/Owner General Manager/Editor Advertising Director Sports Editor

Letters to the Editor

Get Off Your P-E-W

Forty percent of America's Christians do not vote. Multiple polls over recent years attest to this abominable fact. This is frightening in light of the twisted social are being aggressively empowered by the amoral and twisted minority. They claim to represent the majority voice of the people, and who, rest assured, count on the fact that 40% of conservative Americans have their heads in the sand and sit on their apathetic backsides and stay home on

Many excuse themselves with the platitude: Well, God is sovereign, He'll just do what He wants. This "que sera, sera" attitude ignores the fact that in His sovereignty, He still chooses US to be salt and light in a darkening and corrupt

See Buckman, page 5A

Amber's Tragic Death

Dear Editor,

"There is a very real chance that if Amber Thurman had lived in Minnesota, she might still be alive today," said Tim Walz during the debate last Tuesday. It preceded a rare moment of agreement when both JD Vance and Tim Walz shared a fundamental belief: Amber Thurman should still be alive. But where they differed was in the root cause of her tragic death - specifically, whether Georgia's abortion law played

What Walz didn't mention, and Vance didn't address, is a crucial fact. Amber Thurman, a 28-year-old woman, had been given legal abortion pills in North Carolina, provided by that state, to induce her body to expel the fetus. After taking one of the two pills, she returned to her home in Atlanta and took the second pill. But something went wrong - her body didn't expel all the fetal tissue. Desperate for help, Amber went to Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta. It was clear she needed a DNC (dilation and curettage) procedure to save her life. Everyone – the doctors, her family, the system - knew this. But the procedure didn't happen. And Amber's life slipped away.

Georgia's abortion law does include an exception to protect the life of the mother, and Amber's doctors were monitoring her, intending to perform the DNC when it became necessary. But the care came too late. Amber developed a severe infection. Her organs began to fail. And then, tragically, she died. Could it be that her doctors, fearful of violating Georgia's abortion law, hesitated? We can't say for sure – because the hospital and her doctors have

See **Ripma**, page 5A

Derek Richards Todd Forrest Lowell Nicholson

The Cotton Gin

The old Cotton Gins of Phil Campbell, Alabama, are long gone, but, one of them influenced the lives of at least four generations of my family. One of the gins sat next to the railroad tracks of our hometown in Northwest Alabama. A team of mules pulling a wagon laden

with cotton could make the trip from Trapptown to Phil Campbell in 3½ to 4 hours. It's a 7-mile trip to town, and now it only takes 10-12 minutes, but,



Around

POPCORN

TACOS

ICECREAM

·COTTON CANDY

in the days of my great-grandfather, mules and horses were the modes of transportation.

Papa was nearly 7 years old when he made his first trip to the gin. He rode on the wagon seat with his father to the gin. Papa said they left the house at about 1 a.m. His father wanted to get in line early because the gin opened at 6 a.m. By the time they came to the gin at 4:45 a.m. there was a line of about 4-5 wagons waiting by the railroad tracks next to the cotton gin. Just before 6 there were 15 wagons behind Papa and his father, Lon. At 6 the gin opened and the train from Birmingham to Memphis made its stop in

Papa was new to the ways of towns and he'd never seen a train. He said, "The strange hissing sound and the black smoke coming from the front of this thing made me nervous. The big light on the front of the train reminded me of some kind of strange critter. So, I told Papa that this thing was some kind of one-eyed monster." Lon Cummings grabbed the reins of the mules and told his son to get down from the wagon. After Papa stepped down and walked to the side of his father, he said, "That one-eyed monster let out a shrill whistle and it started to move. Our mules and every other mule at the gin began to prance around." Lon held tight to the mules and his little boy until the thing had traveled down the tracks, and then he explained to his son that the monster was actually a train and it carried people and supplies from Birmingham to Mem-

As Papa made the transition from boyhood to manhood he realized he needed to make money to help him purchase land for a farm. So, Papa and some of his friends, including Skeeter Trapp and Russell Hutcheson, all got themselves a job at the gin. These three worked with a crew which included a fellow by the name of "Prince Albert Column." The young men worked long and difficult hours and made \$1 a day. Sometimes they would go without being paid for weeks at a time, and their boss was a hard man who used profanity often. Prince Albert was goosey, meaning that when you poked

See Cummings, page 5A

Chamber of Commerce Hurricane Helene has left its mark on

Georgia and Western North Carolina, causing significant challenges for many. In response, a variety of local businesses and organizations are stepping up to collect donations to support those affected by the storm. From food and clothing to monetary contri-

butions, every bit helps, and we are thankful to everycontributing to those in need. For an updated list organizations accepting donations, please con-

Blairsville County Chambei Steve Rowe



tact the Chamber at 706-745-5789. Feel free to drop off donations with us, or if you need assistance transporting goods, please reach out to the Chamber. Visit our website at https://www. visitblairsvillega.com/ to view the accepted do-As we head into the fall season, we may

see an influx of visitors seeking refuge from the aftermath. Let's open our hearts and show them the hospitality and kindness that our community

See Chamber, page 5A

Erosion Control

Georgia, along with much of the southeastern US, don't have a positive past with erosion. Repetitive cropping of cotton in the Piedmont resulted in seven inches of topsoil being washed away into the ocean. Soil takes hundreds of years to create, meaning that loss of soil is something

that is felt for generations. By 1950s, new policies and programs began to change Georgia from endless cotton fields to forestland and other uses that



are less susceptible to erosion. In the mountains, there is always a threat of erosion if we aren't proactive with protecting our landscape. Let's talk about why we should care about erosion and

your land isn't eroded away. Erosion can also lead to water quality issues. Not only does the topsoil muddy up our lakes and rivers, but also the nutrients that the topsoil is carrying can create algal blooms leading to decreased aquatic life. That is bad news for our lakes and the fish that inhabit them. Erosion can also create a hard pan that will repel water and increases surface runoff. Once top soil has

some things that you can do to make sure that

eroded away it is much more difficult to grow in So, what you can do to reduce erosion? First, construction makes soil very susceptible to erosion. Removing all the vegetation from the top of the soil leaves it open to the rainfall. In construction, surround the project site with hay bales and silt fences, preserve the already existing vegetation, and keep any piles of loose vegetation or gravel covered. Whenever you're clearing land try to leave as much of the existing vegetation as possible. This means you won't need to plant as much back once your project is

Planting permanent vegetation is the longterm goal for erosion control. Mulch can also be used temporarily while you are establishing vegetation. Trees are going to be the best for long term protection from erosion. The deep roots that they have means that they do a better job of holding soil in place than grass does. Grasses can help intercept runoff and infiltrate it back into the soil. Shrubs are good at creating cover and habitat for wildlife, and trees are best at block-

A lot of our soil in the mountains is most likely going to need lime and fertilizer before you can replant it with vegetation. A soil test is a great place to start to learn how much lime and fertilizer you need to add. The lime will raise the pH into the range for plant growth. Ground that has been cleared for new construction is most

See Williams, page 5A

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Paris... continued from Page 4A Maintenance rotates around the county. Our employees are constantly working on the next phase in the rotation of road maintenance.

Q. Are you strict on every decision to accept a road as a county road?

A. The guidelines are fairly strict; however, sometimes exceptions have to be made. For example, if a road was built prior to 1991 when the subdivision regulations were adopted, we can make a variance as to road width and right of way width if other factors are OK. Also, if a road is a school bus route, some exceptions may be necessary. In some instances, we can accept a slightly narrower road width if the properties along the road are totally built out - meaning there are no vacant properties. In these cases, the road can be consistently maintained as costs for wear and tear would

Q. Is there ever a case where you can accept a private road as a county road?

A. Yes, for example, a while back we accepted a paved subdivision road that had been a private road for several years. It had adequate right of way, even though we had to have some additional forms signed, the road was not too steep, and it was built to county specifications, meaning it had a minimum width of 18 feet of pavement and adequate base. We often core drill the pavement surface and subsurface to confirm adequate depths of gravel and paved surface. Sometimes an additional layer of asphalt or patching is required prior to our acceptance.

Costs for bringing a road up to County standards are the responsibility of the owners of the properties that border the

Maddock-Cowart... continued from Page 4A

Reading? Maybe you're an avid reader. Maybe not. Whatever, you'll probably agree that ability to read and perhaps even to find pleasure in reading provides an advantage for children as they progress through whatever educational system is available to them. A major plus, too, is anxiety reduction and confidence building. Reading is Fundamental. (So proclaimed a poster somewhere. Needless to say, it has my vote.) My husband and I were delighted to see that children's books were on a list of suggested gifts for a baby shower for the back-then soon-

to-be parents.
"I love to read," you say. "I do all my reading online or via audio books. What do I

Easy. Include the child. Show what you're reading. Read aloud from your iPad or laptop or other device.

A few years ago I heard a speech by a very successful man who mentioned that his father sat down at a table with his children every school night while they did their homework. His father sometimes had a book in front of him, sometimes was working on some small handwork project.

It was not until much later that he became aware that his father, beyond a few basics, could not read.

Maybe this father could not read, but he instinctively exercised the subtle power of

Buckman... continued from Page 4A

culture. You have a choice to hide your light, or make some privileged choices that will help restore justice, righteousness and light in these darkening days.

I hate politics. I always

have. However, when I learned that there is a difference between politics (man's way) and government (God's plan), the clear pathway forward was to stand up and exercise my responsibility and privilege to vote for leaders whose platform and policies most closely aligned with Godliness, truth and justice.

If you think the sovereignty of God allows only good things to happen, why do you buckle your child into a car seat, or put them in a life vest on the lake? Why hold their hand when you cross the street? It's because you have a responsibility to protect them! So, why don't you stand up and choose leaders who will promote their spiritual, physical and moral welfare rather than those who promote a whole litany of lifestyles that potentially mutilate their bodies and destroy their souls? Why not assume your protective role at the polls and vote for leaders who will not allow men to participate in women's sports, men in the girls' locker room and restrooms, and drag queen story hour for impressionable preschoolers, etc. etc.?

Dear Christian, if you think your children and the soul of America are worth saving and the conservative Judeo-Christian values that we grew up with are worth preserving, then get off your P-E-W and vote for a government standard that will support and not quash our liberties and will restore sanity, liberty and justice for all.

The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.

at state lawmakers with flawed

values when a tragedy like

this happens. That's what Tim

Anniece Buckman

Ripma... continued from Page 4A

remained silent. Would Amber it's all too easy to point fingers have survived if she'd lived in Minnesota? That's a question we will never have the answer

In the absence of clarity from those who were there those who could explain why Amber didn't get the lifesaving treatment in time – we are left with assumptions. Assumptions, especially in hindsight, are a dangerous game.

For those who believe Georgia's abortion law is too restrictive, it's not hard to assume that fear of legal repercussions made Amber's doctors pause – paralyzed by the possibility of prosecution, they waited until it was too late. In our polarized world,



UNION COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT Annual Title I Meeting October 10, 2024 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM Union County Board of Education

124 Hughes Street Blairsville, GA 30512

UNION COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Carnival STEM Night October 22, 2024 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

In the event of inclement weather it will reschedule.

UNION COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL **Meet the Academic Teams** October 25, 2024

6th grade 8:30 7th grade 12:05

8th grade 1:15

But what if Amber's doctors weren't driven by fear? What if they weren't heartless bureaucrats trapped by a law, but actually caring professionals who believed they could wait a little longer? If you're pro-life, like me, you might be more inclined to give them the benefit of the doubt, seeing this not as a failure of the law but a tragic accident in a nation where the states, and the people within the states, are free to shape their laws based on deeply held values.

like Trump and Vance defend. Yet, in moments like these, it's easy for politicians to reduce complex, deeply human situations into sound bites and sweeping generalizations. And we, the public, are often left to pick up the pieces of these narratives, believing what we're told without looking deeper. This is a disservice to the truth and the memory of people like Amber.

This is the view that leaders

The truth is, we don't know exactly why Amber Thurman died. But that doesn't mean we spin her untimely death to fit a political narrative. If you care about this issue, whether you're prochoice or pro-life, take the time to read Georgia's law for yourself. Don't let politicians, on either side, tell you what to think. Instead, honor Amber's memory by being informed, compassionate, and willing to dig deeper for the truth.

future depends on it. If you can spare 30 min-

In the end, our nation's

utes, whether pro-life or prochoice, read Georgia's law. Judge for yourself if it makes sense: https://dph.georgia.gov/ document/document/updatedwrtkbrochure/download

John Ripma

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

ally, the boss woke up with two

blackened eyes and afterwards

was very nice. He never used

profanity toward his crew and

they were always paid on time.

time he also experienced and

made memories at the gin.

Dad said, "We made the trip

to the gin and it was so cold

one fall that Mom had buried

me up to my neck in the cot-

ton to keep me warm." Papa

stopped the wagon just beyond

Uncle Dan's house to take a

bathroom break in the woods.

While Papa was in the edge

of the woods the mules began

his neck and couldn't move.

woods taking care of business.

Dad said, "One of the funniest

to catch those stubborn mules.'

my family.

By the time I came along

During my father's

him in the ribs he would punch whatever was directly in front of him, and the man was big and strong.

One day Prince Albert made a mistake while in the gin and his boss man was railing away using the foulest language that Papa had ever heard. Skeeter looked at the boys and asked if they were ready. All of them said yes. So, Skeeter eased up behind Prince Albert and poked the big man in the ribs while he said, "Punch him." The big man punched his boss, causing his feet to leave the ground. While their boss man was unconscious, the crew closed the mill waiting for their inevitable dismissal. Eventu-

Williams... continued from Page 4A

likely going to be very poor quality, even if top soil has been put back. In these cases, the addition of lime, fertilizer, and compost is best practice.

Minimizing meable surfaces such as the driveway or walkway on your property will also reduce erosion. Obviously, you will need some impermeable surfaces at your property, such as a roof for your house. For cases like that, it's important to design pathways for the water from those impermeable surfaces to travel so that they can be deposited in a place where they can soak back into the ground. Rain gardens collect water to infiltrate back into the soil instead of having it run downhill. Usually they have plants that are adapted to living in damp soils. Impermeable surfaces don't slow water down, and that velocity allows water to do more erosion damage.

If you have any questions about erosion or what you can do to prevent erosion at your property please contact your County Extension Office or send me an email at Jacob. Williams@uga.edu.

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

is known for. Together, we can make a difference during this difficult time.

Help make life better in Blairsville and support our neighbors.

Fowler... continued from Page 4A

as Jones walked, he enjoyed a Presence far more helpful than a simple red reflector.

He made it to the wedding. He gave the couple the reflector as a gift. "Continue to reflect God's goodness," he told them. It will surely remind them that God was with him on the night after Hurricane He-

lene. This legendry trek will no doubt become part of Jones family lore. For a moment, this story of resilience, love, and faith captures the imagination of the rest of us. Paul told certain believers, "Your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world" (Rom. 1:8). What a reason to be famous. www.mountainchristian.net

Ashurst... continued from Page 4A

ten disappear when company would come over for a visit. There was no way of finding him. He obviously knew where his secret hiding place was, and he certainly used it. As soon as the company left, Tigger would make himself known. To this day, I still do not know where his "safety net" is.

He recognized his name when I called for his morning and evening meals. He knew his name. And he would "talk" to me until his meals were in front of him. I'm going to miss his "talks" because my other two cats remain somewhat mute... but certainly not deaf. They definitely know when it is "feeding time" and what to do to get their meals. However, I'm going to miss giving Tigger his daily attention.

While I gazed into Tigger's dying eyes, my tears started. In his eyes, I saw my "Christmas" baby's eyes of the years of memories. The times that he would come for his meals, the moments he would disappear somewhere in the house, the arguments that he had with the other two, the many times he would hop up unto my lap to be given undivided attention. My crying was part of the gut-wrenching grief process. I'm not embarrassed or ashamed of the tears. I wanted Tigger to know that he would be missed deeply by means of my tears and my sad-

If you have a pet, give him or her an extra hug today in honor of my Tigger - my "Christmas baby."

St. Lawrence... continued from Page 4A

The plan going forward is "more study" to justify the \$8.5 million projected cost. Having discussed the bridge project with many of my neighbors, we conclude that \$8.5 million includes the typical graft we see in every government project: bribes, skid-greasing, kickbacks, and every contractor and sub-contractor unnecessarily marking up their costs along the way. And, let's face it; projects like this never finish at, or under, the initial budget. So, \$10 million, or more, is a distinct possibility or likelihood.

I, for one, would like to see a to-the-dollar accounting of exactly how such a small project requires such an enormous price tag. The residents of this community - as do all taxpayers of Union County deserve to know precisely how OUR money would be spent. **Gary St. Lawrence**

Kramer... continued from Page 4A

walking. Papa said, "Whoa mules," to no avail. Again you may recognize. Reginald Kenneth Dwight, aka Elton Papa spoke, but, the mules did John; Cherilyn Sarkisian, aka not stop. Mind you, Dad was Cher; Salvatore Phillip Bono, still in the wagon buried up to aka Sonny Bono; Prince Rogers Nelson, aka Prince; James Papa was crouched over in the Paul McCartney Junior, aka Paul McCartney; Michael Jagger, aka Mick Jagger; Richmemories I have is of my Dad ard Starkey, aka Ringo Star; running from the woods with Thomas Woodward, aka Tom his overall galluses dragging Jones; Mendel Berlinger, aka the dirt while Papa was trying Milton Berle; Mary Frances Reynolds, aka Debbie Reynolds; Edwin Jack Fisher, aka the gin was on its last legs. It Eddie Fisher; Julie Roberts, closed when I was very young, aka Julia Roberts; Michael but, I remember it well and its Andrew Fox, aka Michael impact on four generations of J. Fox; Elizabeth Allison

seph Aloysius Connors, aka Chuck Connors; Margaret Julia Thomas, aka Marlo Thomas; Nancy Ann Whitney, aka Whitney Blake; Marjory Ford aka Shirley Booth; Russell Craig Hamer, aka Rusty Hamer; and Norma Jeane Mortenson, aka Marilyn Monroe... just to name a few. Whatever your reason

McGraw, aka Ali McGraw;

Thomas Cruise Mapother IV.

aka Tom Cruise; Kevin Jo-

for a change, be yourself and highlight your talents. At the end of the day, that is what will be remembered. Lisa Kramer