

# Pharmacy...from Page 1A

mission of serving a growing local population with fast, friendly service.

Herrell is a Blairsville native who received her

pharmacy training at the University of Georgia before taking a job in South Pittsburg, Tennessee, though she and her husband have moved back to

the area to be closer to family.

"I want to serve the community," said Herrell. "I want to treat everybody like I would treat my little grandmother. I love her to death.

"That's how I've evolved over the years as a pharmacist working in different places. I want to treat everybody like I would treat her, just being patient and kind."

Added Kimsey, "We're not just processing cattle, in and out. You actually come in and you get conversation from my side of the counter to that side of the counter, and then you get both of us at the checkout."

In the brief time his pharmacy was open prior to his passing, Atkinson managed to introduce a number of key conveniences for his customers that will help the pharmacy to stand out in a competitive market.

For starters, Our Hometown Pharmacy price matches. Plus, they offer people the ability to synchronize all of their prescriptions to one day, which allows patients to have all of their medications ready for pickup on a single day each month.

Free bubble packing is also available at Our Hometown Pharmacy. Bubble packs help patients keep track of which medications they need to take and when by organizing pills in designated sealed compartments based on how they are prescribed.

Another unique feature of Our Hometown Pharmacy is the free home delivery of prescriptions, and customers with mobility issues can even stay in their cars when picking up medications at the store.

People can also get vaccinated against the flu, shingles and pneumonia at Our Hometown Pharmacy.

For her part, Kimsey said she is thankful to be able to carry on Atkinson's dream moving forward.

"We've gotten a lot of new patients after everything's happened, and it's stressful at times, but I just want to keep it going for him and for his family, and for everybody around here, because I'm not going to send anyone out to stand in long lines," said Kimsey.

Customers will certainly miss Atkinson's smiling face, friendly demeanor and willingness to go above and beyond. But Kimsey is confident that people will take to Herrell, and she has a message for her customers and the people of the community.

"Thank you for your continued support through all of this," said Kimsey. "We will continue to keep taking care of you the way that we always have. Our vision for the future is to keep going with the same customer service that you get every day."

Our Hometown Pharmacy is located at 178 Bracketts Way, Suite 7, in Blairsville. For more information, please visit the Our Hometown Pharmacy Facebook page.

## Allegheny Masonic Lodge

Allegheny Masonic Lodge #114 meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. Dinner 6:30 PM and meeting 7:30 PM.

# Lee...from Page 1A

Hammond, a patrol deputy, attempted to pull over a vehicle on Old Blue Ridge Highway, said Osborn.

A short vehicle chase ensued before the driver, Lee, made a run for it on foot, said

Osborn. Sgt. Hammond was injured during the foot pursuit, and he will be recovering off duty for some time, said Osborn.

At this time, the case is

still under investigation, and Lee is facing multiple felony charges in connection with three alleged vehicle thefts, said Osborn.

# S.A.V.E...from Page 1A

have had this training.

Most people are aware of what CPR is but aren't trained to perform CPR properly, and few people outside of paramedics and first responders know what an AED is, let alone how to use one safely and correctly.

"I'm really excited," said Hartley. "I've been in school nursing for six years. I've been a registered nurse for almost 25 (years), and when I came to Union County, there weren't first responder teams. It was just the school nurse.

"With the health concerns students have nowadays, I think we need to step it up a notch and get more first responders, get more people trained to handle emergencies."

Hartley said that more in-depth first aid training would be offered down the road, but that "the basic thing we need to get down is getting people trained in CPR and cardiac arrest."

Lamphier brought 32 CPR training mannequins with him on Jan. 3, and the schools held four classes back to back to train over 100 people throughout the day.

"This is an amazing opportunity for the schools," she said.

After getting all the mannequins assembled and the demo AEDs made ready for the class, Lamphier began his presentation.

"This school year, we've had nine cardiac arrests in Georgia schools," said Lamphier. "What we're going to do today is a heart-saver class."

Lamphier's stated goal with the class was to make sure that the faculty and staff were prepared for a cardiac emergency on campus.

And so the teachers became students on that rainy Thursday morning. They learned the correct CPR technique as well as how and where to place AED pads on a patient, how to activate the AED, and how to defibrillate a



Clinical Program Manager of Project S.A.V.E. Richard Lamphier and Union County Schools Lead Nurse Leigh Ann Hartley. Photo by Mark Smith



Richard Lamphier showing faculty and staff of Union County Schools how AEDs work. Photo by Mark Smith

victim of cardiac arrest without shocking themselves.

Lamphier and his assistants circulated among the participants, giving instruction and answering questions. At the end of the day, Lamphier sent certifications to each of the faculty and staff that participated and completed the training.

Hartley said Union General Hospital, through Leslie Daniel, had partnered

with Union County Schools to provide "jump bags" containing AEDs to each of the schools within the system.

Students, faculty, staff and parents can now rest easier knowing that the school system has the equipment and 130 trained individuals around its various campuses who can respond immediately to a cardiac emergency, possibly saving a life.

Lamphier said that, through Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, he is available to come back to Blairsville and teach the Project S.A.V.E. program to other entities, like church congregations, businesses and other schools, at no cost to them.

For more information, contact Richard Lamphier via email at Richard.Lamphier@choa.org.

## Roe introduces the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019



Washington, D.C. - Rep. Phil Roe, M.D. (R-Tenn.) Ranking Member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs introduced the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019.

"The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 would ensure that our Vietnam Veterans receive the benefits they deserve. This bill mirrors the language of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018, which passed the House 382 - 0 during the 115th Congress. One of my final acts as Chairman in 2018 was holding a bipartisan press conference to urge the Senate to pass H.R. 299. Needless to say, despite the endless efforts of Senate Veterans Affairs' Committee Chairman Isakson and Ranking Member Tester, the Senate never passed the legislation. This is why I have introduced this bill that mirrors the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018 and I encourage my colleagues in the House to once again swiftly pass this bipartisan piece of legislation.

"Currently, Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans are unable to receive the presumption of exposure to Agent Orange because VA's presumption policy extends only to those who served on land in Vietnam or in Vietnam's inland waterways. This legislation would extend the presumption of exposure of Agent Orange to our Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans. I hope that my colleagues in the House and Senate waste no time in passing this bill and sending it to President Trump so we can ensure that Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans receive the benefits they deserve."

Background: Agent Orange is a herbicide used during the Vietnam era that has been known to be associated with certain health issues in people who have been exposed to the chemical. The Agent Orange Act of 1991 said that if a veteran served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975 and has a disease that has been associated with exposure to Agent Orange, they are automatically presumed to have been exposed to it and therefore qualify for disability compensation. The Blue Water Navy Veterans Act of 2019 would extend the pre-

sumption of exposure to Agent Orange to veterans who served in the Blue Water Navy.