

## Chamber... continued from Page 4A

ing his last position as CEO of Dodge County Hospital, Kevin will most assuredly provide the leadership needed to continue the vision of providing unparalleled service to Union County, as well as, surrounding counties.

The Chamber would like to invite everyone in our community to attend a drop-in reception to welcome both Kevin and his wife Cindy to our community. Please join us in the ballroom of the Union County Community Center on Thursday, March 14th, from 5 PM – 7 PM. Refreshments will be served.

Earlier in the day on March 14th, is the Chamber's Spring Fling Fashion Show from 12 PM – 1 PM. Every-

one is invited to participate as Alexander's, Blue Ridge Cotton Company, From Me 2 U, and Pat's Hallmark showcase the latest fashions to complete your Spring wardrobe. Anyone in the community interested in attending should call the Chamber at 706-745-5789 to reserve their spot. This event includes an all-inclusive sandwich style buffet with all the fixins' for \$12, provided by The View Grill.

For all of us who work at the Chamber, let me say that it is an honor to continue to positively impact our community by facilitating tourism, economic, and cultural development. If we can ever be of service to you, please contact us at 706-745-5789.

## Cummings... continued from Page 4A

their departure to Oklahoma. They also knew they would not be allowed to take much with them. He said they had about 100 pounds of gold that had been hidden a few days before the soldiers arrived. The old man related the gold had been hidden in a rock face above the Turkey's foot. This place was called the Turkey's foot because it was a place where 3 creeks came together to form one creek. From the top of the rock face the place looked just like the track of a turkey.

Clifford and his sons looked for this gold for 40 years without ever finding an ounce of it. Clifford went to his grave longing to find the gold at the Turkey's foot.

How does this story relate back to Ausborn and Elizabeth Mabry? When this couple migrated to Oklahoma they settled in a place called

Briartown. Ausborn was some kind of minister. We have not determined whether he went to Oklahoma to be with family or did he go to serve the Cherokee on the mission field. Briartown is in Muscogee County and is a part

of the reservation of the Western Band of the Cherokee Nation. We still do not know for sure that either Ausborn or Elizabeth were Cherokee. But, Clifford Hyde told my Dad, "I am a Cherokee Indian and my ancestors came out of North Carolina." And the old Cherokee that came to the Hyde House in the 1920s told Clifford and his family that he stopped at their house because he knew they were of Cherokee descent.

It's a mystery my family has never solved. But, one thing is certain, Clifford never found any gold.

## Rashid... continued from Page 4A

We surveyed over 55 participants in one of the large food lines in Blairsville. Yes, a few, very few had bills in the \$200 to \$300 range that the co-op reviewed above. The average was \$150, with the lows below \$100 and the highs in the range quoted above. Obviously, to have an average of \$150 meant that the majority were in the \$150 or less range. (Remember, those bills have a built-in customer charge of \$21.37 plus sales tax of \$9, so the usage is approx. \$120.)

Many of those in the line were highly concerned and some actually cried discussing this proposed increase over time.

Would you consider a different approach?

It is obvious there are many new residences being built in our area such as those built in the 1300 development and The Highlands and many other locations. Surveying the owners, it is obvious the majority of these are part-time, many weekends only, or summer for the most part. The co-op must provide the amenities mentioned above, i.e. transformers, power lines, etc., this according to their statements why they need to raise the fixed charge.

Here's an idea that would be more equitable to all, as our full-time residents should not subsidize the new part-timers (and especially those full-timers that can't afford it):

Why not institute a minimum customer charge for each bill offset by the total usage

bill? The amount would have to be determined to reach the necessary goals, but the minimum charge wouldn't affect the needy, as their usage bills would be in excess of, let's say for example, a minimum \$55 charge for those not using their power because they are not here a majority of the year.

We have a neighbor who is very part-time, and he confirms when he is not here his bill is normally less than \$30, which is the current customer charge plus tax.

Hopefully, that proposal is clear.

Oh, by the way, I had an hour conversation recently with a retired co-op executive in another area that confirmed that what I have laid out here is used by many co-ops to achieve the same goal.

Please reconsider your approach.

I'm sure many, many others would agree that would be commendable.

**Roger Rashid**

## Free AARP tax preparation

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offering a free in-person tax preparation service at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 7 Ewing Street, Blue Ridge, GA every Friday from February 1 - April 12, 2019, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Call or text (706) 455-8023 for an appointment. Walk-ins welcome, first come, first serve.

## Riley... continued from Page 4A

and property by: Defining the risk and responsibility. Fire is a natural process and plays an important role in our environment. However, while wildfires are inevitable, loss of homes to wildfire is not. Once residents understand what causes homes to ignite, they have a better understanding of their role in protecting their families, homes and property from wildfire – all year round. Empowering individual action, Ready, Set, Go! and Firewise provide residents with specific guidelines for reducing risk within the home ignition zone –which includes the home and extends out to 100 to 200 feet. This includes clearing property of debris and maintaining the landscape, as well as recommendations for fire-resistant home design and construction, such as Class A roofing and tempered glass windows. Encouraging community-level engagement by taking a fire-adapted community approach to wildfire preparedness, communities can greatly reduce their wildfire vulnerability. The Firewise Communities/USA Recognition Program facilitates this process with a framework for communities to work with partners including state forestry and local fire departments to organize, plan, and conduct activities each year that make a difference in community wildfire safety. Furthering firefighter and resident safety during a fire event, a fire-resistant property enables firefighters to focus on containing the wildfire itself, rather than defending individual structures. Ready, Set, Go! also bring fire departments and residents together to build important understand-

ing, preparedness, and action. Our Firewise programs here in Northeast Georgia are making a difference by making our residents aware of the wildfire risks all around them and the numbers prove it. We have held full scale Ready Set Go evacuation exercises in 2015 in Towns County and in 2016 in White county with very good results. The emergency responders practiced what they do best, protect property from wildfires under controlled conditions and residents experienced what it would be like under a real fire threat. To learn more about how to be Firewise and how to develop a personal "Ready, Set, Go!"

## Fowler... continued from Page 4A

It is a logical fallacy to doubt Darwin because many scientists have. Nor should you believe in the God of the Bible because in the span of human history millions have. But if you investigate and find the evidence convincing, you may well join with the Psalmist: "Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture" (Psa. 95:6-7). Meet your Maker: "There is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live" (1 Cor. 8:6).

## Williams... continued from Page 4A

One thing to keep in mind when applying mulch is the carbon to nitrogen ratio. Most mulches are very high in carbon. For the microbes in soil to decompose mulch they need nitrogen. So, if you apply a lot of wood chips as mulch, those microbes in the soil will need all the nitrogen to break down the mulch, meaning your plants aren't going to get as much nitrogen. So adding some extra nitrogen to the soil will be beneficial to the mulch and your plants.

Most mulch should be applied 3 to 4 inches. 5 inches for pine needles and 2 inches for wood chips. If you have any questions about mulches contact your local Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

## Dyer... continued from Page 4A

as a major incident or fire, can last for hours or even the entire shift. So, if you have ever wondered about the job of a firefighter, this is just a glimpse of what the firefighters do each shift.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

## Paris... continued from Page 4A

706-439-6039, and it is recommended that before you do any type of building or remodeling to your home you should call or go by and see if you need a Building Permit.

## Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

that often causes people to avoid admitting they have a problem. Stigma can prevent people from seeking treatment for their destructive habits. This stigma is the reason that some parents avoid or deny their child has a drug problem and it even remains after a person loses their life due to overdose or other drug related causes.

Now consider what happens if we change how we look at others. What if you could see a person as someone's mother, or someone's child? What happens if you allowed yourself to look at another person and see their pain and their struggle rather than their shortcomings? What if we held these people accountable for their actions but rather than passing judgement, we offered empathy? What if we adopted the belief that everyone deserves the opportunity to recover their lives and what if as a community, we came together to help them receive the treatment necessary to do just that? Approaching addiction in this manner would cost the community less financially and emotionally. Support an acceptance increase the likelihood of positive treatment outcomes and everyone benefits when those in active addiction find recovery, but no one recovers alone.

action plan contact Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council at info.ccrd@gmail.com or go

to www.wildlandfireRSG.org or www.firewise.org or www.appocafac.org.

# UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Children's Story Time	<b>Every Monday:</b> Union County Library	11 a.m.
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 p.m.
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 p.m.
Tri State Bus. Women	<b>Every Tuesday:</b> Cabin Coffee	8 a.m.
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 p.m.
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 p.m.
Kiwanis Club	<b>Every Wednesday:</b> The Griddle	Noon
BINGO	Civic Center	7 p.m.
Masonic Luncheon	<b>Every Thursday:</b> Cook's Restaurant	11:30 a.m.
Rotary Club	NGTC	Noon
Shape Note Music	<b>Third Monday of each month:</b> Old Courthouse	6:30 p.m.
High Country Artisan	U.C.Bank Com Room	6:30 p.m.
Allegheny Lodge #114	Masonic Lodge	6:30 p.m.
Exp Aviation Assoc #1211	Blairsville Airport	7 p.m.
UC Homemakers	<b>Third Tuesday of each month:</b> Dooley Chapter	Noon
Healthy Hearts Support	UGH 2nd Floor Class	2 p.m.
Am. Legion Post 121	Veteran's Center	6:30 p.m.
American Legion, Aux	Veteran's Center	6:30 p.m.
Chatuge Gun Club	Senior Center, Hia.	7 p.m.
Compassionate Friends	UCB Community Room	7 p.m.
Quilts of Valor	<b>Third Wednesday of each month:</b> Coosa Methodist Ch	9:30 a.m.
GA Mtn. Writers Club	Grinds & Glazes (G&G)	10 a.m.
Blairsville Garden Club	Location not listed	1 p.m.
Friends of the Library	Library Com Room	2 p.m.
Beta Sigma Phi, Iota Iota	So. Bank & Trust	7 p.m.
MMQG	<b>Third Thursday of each month:</b> Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Kinship Care	Civic Center	Noon
Commissioner's Meet.	County Courthouse	6 p.m.
Good N'bers Auto	Rib Country, Murphy	6:30 p.m.
UT Home Builders	Moschetto's	6:30 p.m.
Cub Scouts Trp. #101	United Methodist Ch.	6:30 p.m.
Beta Sigma Phi	Civic Center	7 p.m.
Tip-off Club	UC High School	7 p.m.
UC Saddle Club	Arena Clubhouse	7 p.m.
No activities listed	<b>Third Friday of each month:</b>	
UC Republican Party	<b>Third Saturday of each month:</b> Civic Center	10 a.m.
Goldwing Road Riders	Daniels Steak House	11 a.m.