

Paris... continued from Page 4A

value of an excellent mountain course. It provides an enormous amount of beauty to our town. Being right in the edge of the city limits of Blairsville, it gives our town and county a unique feel. With our Community Center, View Grill, Conference Center and the breath-taking views from the Golf Course, it is one of the economic engines that helps drive the economy of our area. Many people come from other cities and towns just to play our course, but as stated above, it is a driving factor in some people moving here.

Q. Do only adults play at Butternut Creek Golf Course?

A. Certainly not. Many kids play golf here and we have an active youth and high school golf team that play on Butternut Creek Golf Course. The course being so close to town and the school, makes it easily available to the golf team and kids who are just interested in golf as a past time.

Q. Does the county make

money on the golf course?

A. As evidenced of so many golf courses closing around the state and nation during the recession, all courses experience difficulties. In the case of our course, our goal is to always break even. During the recession we fell short of this goal. However, those numbers are improving as the economy continues to improve. Once the irrigation system is installed with the expense coming out of SPLOST, the golf course will be in excellent condition for years to come and we hope to be able to continue improving revenues over the next several years.

Q. How many rounds of golf are played in a year?

A. 17,000 rounds of golf were played in 2017. There are 200 individual memberships and 115 family memberships, which totals approximately 450 members. If you are interested in joining a sport that offers relaxation, exercise, and keeps your mental faculties sharp, golf is a great game.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

tion". So, I carefully explained the process of photosynthesis to my 5 year old son. He carefully listened to all I had to say and when I had finished he said, "Okay" and went back to bed.

The next fall my boys and I went camping with some friends. We camped out at Little Rock Creek within a short distance of a waterfall. Wade has always loved waterfalls. I explained to him about the importance of avoiding slick rocks and watching where he walked. I told the boys to stay away from the waterfall until I finished unloading the truck. As I was setting up our tent I heard a scream and ran to the waterfall. Not only had Wade been at the waterfall he was in the creek above the waterfall and was swept over the ledge. The waterfall was only few feet high, but, he was only a few feet tall. He was soaking wet but unharmed. I reached out and pulled

him from the water. I grinned as I asked if he were okay.

As I was drying him off I looked into his big brown eyes and thanked the Lord for his safety.

A few years ago Wade and I went rafting on Section IV of the Chattooga River. Our first white water was a waterfall called Seven Foot Falls. As we went over the falls the raft tipped and guess who went out of the raft. As I came back to the surface of the river my head hit the bottom of the raft. I worked my way from underneath the raft and looked up to notice a big rock fast approaching. I turned to pull myself into the raft and there extending his arm was my youngest son. I noticed the same grin and the same look in those big brown eyes I had noticed nearly 20 years ago as I had dried him off after he was washed over the waterfall.

Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

A person who sexually assaults another person uses these drugs because they're easy to slip into a drink. They're tasteless, odorless, and colorless. Also, these drugs act fast and leave the victims' system quickly, so if the assault isn't reported right away, it may be too late to test for the drugs. And the drugs aren't part of a routine screening, so unless the doctor knows to test for these specific drugs, they won't show up in the results. All of this makes it difficult to conduct a criminal investigation.

Because these drugs can affect a victims' memory, they may not remember the details or even be able to identify the person who assaulted them. In some cases, victims don't know what happened until much later.

What precautions should teens take? Before a night out, give your teen the following tips to ensure they have a fun and safe time: Don't drink from a can or bottle that you didn't open yourself. Don't take a drink from a punch bowl. Don't drink from a container that's being passed around. If someone offers you a drink from

the bar at a club or party, don't take it. Instead, go to the bar to order your own drink, watch it being poured, and carry the drink yourself.

Don't leave your drink unattended while talking, dancing, using the restroom, or making a phone call. If you realize that your drink has been left unattended, throw it out and get a new one. Don't drink anything that has an unusual taste or appearance, like a salty taste or unexplained residue.

Don't mix drugs and alcohol. Even over-the-counter drugs like cold medicine can react with alcohol and other substances in negative ways. Watch out for your friends and ask them to watch out for you. Have a plan to periodically check up on each other.

If your friend appears very intoxicated, gets sick after drinking a beverage, passes out and is difficult to wake up, seems to have trouble breathing, or behaves in unusual ways, do what you need to do to make sure your friend is safe. Call 911 if necessary.

For advice specifically for TEENS on what to do if they've been drugged, go to JustThinkTwice.com.

Henderson... continued from Page 4A

Georgia high school athletes and communities cannot count on GHSA to improve competitive balance. So what has the Georgia legislature been doing? This past fall in Class A, four public schools made the state volleyball playoffs. One of these schools was Gordon Lee High School in Chickamauga. Unfortunately, Gordon Lee lost to a private school. Not unusual since no Class A public school has won a state championship in volleyball. Since 2012, two of the Class A sports not split into both public and private playoffs are soccer and volleyball. GHSA recently decided to split the playoffs for these two sports.

The first legislative session after Gordon Lee lost to a private school in the volleyball playoffs, Sen. Jeff Mullis (R-Chickamauga) sponsored Senate Bill 456, which requires GHSA to split all sports in Class A. Gordon Lee is in Sen. Jeff Mullis' district. High school sports reporter Todd Holcomb

Confederate Memorial Day

The annual Confederate Memorial Day ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2018, 10 AM, at the Union County War Memorial in Blairsville. It will be conducted by the David W. Payne Camp #1633, Sons of Confederate Veterans. There will be a guest speaker, and a cannon firing is tentatively planned. The public is welcome to attend.

was the first to report this. During the 2016 reclassification, Gordon Lee moved down from Class 2A to 1A. Senate Bill 456 can be found at legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20172018/174279.pdf.

On November 30, 2017, the Alabama High School Athletic Association approved a new competitive balance plan that only affects private schools. This plan is based on a private school's success rate, by sport, in state tournaments and was adopted by a bipartisan group of public and private school administrators. If a private school has significant success in state tournaments during a three-year period by sport, that school will move up a classification in that sport.

On March 14, 2018, the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) voted to completely split public and private schools into separate divisions. This applies to all competitions. Twenty-one years ago, the TSSAA took the first step by placing private schools into a separate division if these schools offered need-based financial aid. The March 2018 TSSAA proposal to completely split public and private schools was submitted by Memphis private school Harding Academy. The proposal passed unanimously and will go into effect during the 2019-2020 school year.

For Georgia 3A and 4A public schools in 2018, it will be wash, rinse, and repeat.

Alan Henderson

Riley... continued from Page 4A

utes, and she may mate with several male drones on each flight. Over several matings, possibly a dozen or more, the queen receives all stores enough sperm from a succession of drones to fertilize hundreds of thousands of eggs. If the queen does not mate and produce eggs, the worker bees will kill the non-performing queen and produce another. Without a properly performing queen, the hive is doomed. Mating takes place at some distance from the hive and often several hundred feet in the air; it is thought that this separates the strongest drones from the weaker ones, ensuring that only the fastest and strongest drones get to pass on their genes and then they die.

Female worker bees, typically 30,000-50,000 in number: Most of the bees in a hive are female worker bees. At the height of summer when activity in the hive is frantic and work goes on non-stop, the life of a worker bee may be as short as 6 weeks; in late autumn, when no brood is be-

ing raised and no nectar is being harvested, a young bee may live for 16 weeks. For the first few weeks of the worker bee's lifespan, they perform basic chores within the hive: cleaning empty brood cells, removing debris and other house-keeping tasks, making wax for building, or repairing comb, and feeding larvae (sounds like a good wife), later, they may ventilate the hive or guard the entrance. Older workers leave the hive daily, weather permitting, to forage for nectar, pollen, water, and propolis, up to a mile away.

Male drones, ranging from thousands in a strong hive in spring to very few during the cold season: Drones are the largest bees in the hive at almost twice the size of a worker bee. They have much larger eyes than the workers have, presumably to better locate the queen during the mating flight. They do not work, do not forage for pollen or nectar, are unable to sting, and have no other known function than to mate with new queens and fertilize them on their mating flights (sounds like my brother-in-law). A bee colony generally starts to raise drones a few weeks before building queen cells, so they can supersede a failing queen or prepare for swarming. When queen-raising for the season is over, bees in colder climates drive drones out of the hive to die.

Bees are our little friends and without them a lot of us would go hungry so don't swat

Harper...

continued from Page 4A

There will be an Open House/Community Appreciation and Ribbon Cutting at America's Home Place on April 28 from 10 AM to 4 PM. They are located at 167 GA-515 in Blairsville, next to Zaxby's. Stop by to see the new remodel and enjoy food, live music and fun. Bring the kids too. www.americashomeplace.com

The final Ribbon Cutting in April will be for DeYoe Wellness on the 30th at 11 AM. They are located at 47 Commerce Drive, Suite 1B in Blairsville. Come and visit the office of Dr. James DeYoe and learn about the benefits of acupuncture, massage therapy and other services to help you achieve a higher quality of life. www.deyoehealth.com

There is a Ribbon Cutting scheduled on May 17 for our newest restaurant, The Flying Trout. They are located at 171 Copperhead Parkway in Blairsville. Their number for reservations is 706-745-8000. www.flyingtroutrestaurant.com Come on out for a real treat.

Thank you for your support of your Chamber of Commerce. If we can be of help to you please let us know. 706 745-5789; www.visitblairsville.com.

Dyer...

continued from Page 4A

that the fire department learned from this fire were gather as much information as possible, to call for help early, and to have a backup system for everything, even your backups. The citizens learned to follow Fire Wise practices by having defensible space, clean around the house, and be prepared for wildland fires in similar conditions.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Fowler...

continued from Page 4A

Bunyan offers an invitation. "This book will make a traveler of thee; if by its counsel though wilt ruled be. It will direct thee to the Holy Land, if thou wilt its directions understand." Jesus gave us pilgrims this travel guide: "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness but will have the Light of life" (John 8:12). Are you making progress that way?

McGinnis...

continued from Page 4A

for families who are trying to make ends meet and struggle to pay their bills, those of us on fixed incomes and do not drive around in fancy cars or live on the Mountain Tops. So, from that point of view, "It's only a Penny" for the SPLOST and SPLST but they both add up to be extremely expensive for your back pocket or pocket-book. "It's only a Penny" if all you spend in Union County per year is \$1.

Sue McGinnis

Dementia caregivers support group

Please join us for our support group for caregivers of loved ones who suffer from dementia. Meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month at the First United Methodist Church of Union County, Room M7 in the MAC at 3 p.m., meeting will last about an hour. Please contact Kathy Fain at 706-969-6549 if you would like to attend or if you would like further information. Hope to see you there!

the bee on your picnic table, just be glad that they're on the job working hard to keep food on our tables.

For more information on bees and pollination contact Frank Riley at www.info.cccred@gmail.com.