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Q. Can I reserve a pavilion at Meeks Park?

A. The pavilions in the park are a great place for birthday parties, reunions, family get togethers or just a picnic. The Recreation Department can give you information about reserving a pavilion, and can be reached at 706-439-6074. They will be able to schedule this for you and answer any questions you have.

This year a new pavilion will be open and is located past the pool. This pavilion will be for "Reservations only" and should be open by June 10th. It will be our largest pavilion and is also suitable for weddings. It is complete with a fireplace, sound system, restrooms and large deck overlooking the Notely River. Please call the Recreation Department at 706-439-6074 to make reservations.

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

old. Within the first year, they signed up 126 children. Since then, the program continues to grow. There are currently 441 children registered to receive children's books at no cost to the parents or grandparents. The non-profit program relies solely on donations to allow them to purchase and distribute books to kids in Union County. Please support this worthwhile charity and get your concert tickets today! They can be purchased for \$20-\$30 at the Chamber or Granddaddy Mimm's distillery. Free refreshments at intermission will be provided by Chick fil A in Blairsville. Or to make a donation to FESRT, please contact Mitch Griggs at the Union County Development Authority. It cost \$36/year per child, which is only \$3 per book delivered to provide these children with a bright future. As a community, let's show our

support for early childhood literacy.

You may have seen the new "Red, White & Blairsville" Chamber tee shirt and 4th of July raffle tickets being sold around town. The sale of these items helps defray the cost of the Annual 4th of July fireworks show at Meeks Park. This year, the winner of the raffle will win a Tailgating package worth over \$1,500. United Community Bank has donated two chairs and a gazebo tent to provide shade while you grill burgers on the large gas grill donated by Sears. The package also includes a kayak and paddle supplied by Walmart, and a large Yeti cooler and tumbler set provided by Union General Health System. For the fitness minded, a Fit Bit is also included in the package. Stop by the Chamber and get your tickets and tee shirts today!

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

resist the possible target presented by the mule's rear quarters. The boy drew back the flip and let the round stone fly. It found its' mark and the mules lit out like they had a fire under their belly. Early took off after the mules a hollering at the top of his lungs.

The next two mornings Early stopped in the same location and the exact same thing happened. After the last incident he stopped at the Cummings place on the way home late in the afternoon. After a long drink of water he told Papa, "Sha Coon. I do believe their must be a hornet's nest next to that big Spanish Oak down by the Carpenter place." He told Papa all about him stopping to refresh himself and he told about the mules running away each time. Papa told him that he would go down to have a look see and would kill'em with some coal oil.

After his friend left Papa called the boys and the three of them left to look for the hornets. Look as they did they no hornets were ever found. So, Papa sat down on a log and asked, "Which one of you is the hornet?" Dad just new he was in trouble. But, all the punishment he received was a good talking to about treating animals and people as you wished to be treated. A few weeks later Early was on his way home from the cotton patch after a long day of chopping his cotton. He was walking the road in front of the Cummings house and was evidently in a very good mood, because he was a-whistling "Oh! Susanna." Papa and his young

family were sitting on the front porch enjoying the cool evening wind. As their friend drew within ear shot Papa said, "Early, come over here and get you a drink of cool water. You can then sit with us a spell." He never broke stride and said, "Can't today Coon. You see I heard that Mag was gonna get pregnant tonight and I want to be there when it happens." Papa almost fell off the porch laughing. Dad and Bud just looked at each other not understanding what he meant. After he got out of sight Granny looked up at her smirking husband and said "Coon Cummings, if I ever here that you said such as that I'll knock you in the head." Papa quit smiling.

Later when Dad was in his teens the family moved to Chicago for a short time. The few years they were gone Early Weeks tended the farm of my family and it was in good shape when they returned home. Shortly after their return Papa came down with a malady which Dad called a bone fellow. He was down for some time and could not work the field of cotton. Dad was only 14 and was worried. He knew that he could not work the 30 acres of cotton by himself. He didn't have to worry long because one morning the family awoke to Early Weeks using those old mules to cultivate the cotton on the Cummings place. Later his wife Maggie came to help the family chop the weeds from the cotton. The family didn't even have to ask for help. Early and his family just showed up. Early Weeks was a good man!

Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

most important conversations you may ever have with your children about underage drinking. The app provides parents and caregivers of children and teens ages 9 to 15 with the tools and information they need to start talking with their children early about the dangers of alcohol. It includes a suite of materials that helps reinforce the underage drinking prevention campaign's messages.

If you are interested in using the "Talk. They Hear You." App it can be downloaded from

<https://store.samhsa.gov/apps/talk-they-hear-you>. I hope you take the time to explore this easy to use and free resource. Talk. Your children do hear you.

Dyer...

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feelings knowing that you are equipped, trained and able to do this.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Riley... continued from Page 4A

ton, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Atlantic Counties.

This vast region is 45 percent, or about 493,000 acres and publicly owned. It looks a lot like west central Georgia, where I grew up, with sandy soil, scrub oaks, pitch & Virginia pines, and dirt roads. The soil in the area will not grow crops or trees very well so it is just miles and miles of small pine and oak trees, just land holding the world together. Pines throughout this area live in a mutually beneficial relationship with oaks. The oaks grow tall, eventually blocking out the sun to the pitch pines, causing them to weaken. Fire is a friend to the pines. With the intense heat of the flames, the pine cones "pop", allowing the seeds to sprout, thereby bringing about new growth. Driving along Route 539 south of Route 72, you can see the site of the forest fire of 2007 that burned over 16,000 acres of Pinelands. Here stand hundreds of pines, some of which are dead, but others have sprouted new branches after their old ones were burned. Pine saplings are now growing, as are other species of flora indigenous to the Pine Barrens.

In March, this year, they experienced a 11,000 acre fire that swept around one of the New Jersey Fire Service air bases. The Fire Service took me on a helicopter tour of the pine barrens where we could see the sites of many fires, most were prescribed but some were wild ones. The 11,000-acre fire was only stopped from sweeping through a 1,300-home community by a recent controlled burn by the NJ Fire Service between the community and the approaching wildfire. Good timing for the burn and shows the advantage of reducing fuel with prescribed fire. Many cedars can also be found in the region. The wood of the cedar was once a valued commodity in building. Red cedars were

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to take effect. The ideal way to apply either of these insecticides is by soil injection. Soil injection will mean quicker uptake by the plant and reduce the chance of off target drift. If the trees are near open water a trunk injection of insecticide is necessary, which will require a professional. Whenever applying a pesticide it is important to familiarize yourself with the label before using the product.

The Union County UGA Extension office has a soil injector that is available to be checked out. Checking it out requires a \$250 dollar deposit that will be returned with the injector is brought back. You must provide your own insecticide.

Contact your local Extension Office or send me an email at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu if you have any questions about HWA.

Fowler...

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faith" (2 Tim. 4:7).

In that same essay, Emerson writes, "Every mind must know the whole lesson for itself,--must go over the whole ground. What it does not see, what it does not live, it will not know." Might I dare to differ? We need not live another's life to know and rely on that life's lesson. That is the premise of another Wiersbe book, "50 People Every Christian Should Know." Add The Pastor's Pastor to make it 51.

Fire Station #4 Open House

Union County Fire Station #4, Ivy Log, Gumlog and John Smith area, will have an Open House on Saturday, May 18th at 93 Moccasin Road from 11 AM - 2 PM. For more information contact 706-994-0724.

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	Every Monday: GMREC (May-Oct)	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 a.m.
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 p.m.
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 p.m.
	Every Tuesday:	
Tri State Bus. Women	Cabin Coffee	8 a.m.
Tuesday Strippers	Mtn Presbyterian Ch	9:30-2:30
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 p.m.
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 p.m.
	Every Wednesday:	
Kiwanis Club	The Griddle	Noon
BINGO	Civic Center	7 p.m.
	Every Thursday:	
Butternut Ladies Golf	Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 a.m.
Masonic Luncheon	Cook's Restaurant	11:30 a.m.
Rotary Club	NGTC	Noon
	Fourth Monday of each month:	
Blue Ridge Comm.	McCaysville Lodge	7:30 p.m.
	Fourth Tuesday of each month:	
Compassionate Friends	Grinds & Glazes	Noon
Dead Theologians Soc.	Cabin Coffee	Noon
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild	Blairsville UMC	12:30 p.m.
VFW Post #7394	Veteran's Center	6:30 p.m.
Eastern Star #304	Location not listed	7:30 p.m.
	Fourth Wednesday of each month:	
No activities listed		
	Fourth Thursday of each month:	
Cruisers Club Meeting	Sr. Center pavilion	6 p.m.
UT Homebuilders	YH College	7 p.m.
	Fourth Friday of each month	
Eastern Star #471	Location not listed	7:30 p.m.
	Fourth Saturday of each month:	
Youngcane Lodge #597	Lodge Hall	7:30 p.m.