

Opinions

Everybody has one...

The Summer Heat

We have seen some very high temperatures so far this summer and it only seems to be getting worse. Temperatures have climbed up into the high 90s and I suspect we may see 100. These high temperatures combined with exposure to the sun can take its toll. Union County Fire Department would like to provide some safety tips to stay cool and to prevent heat related illnesses.

The best way to avoid the summer heat is to stay indoors if possible. When available, stay in air conditioning. If you must be outside, dress in loose-fitting, lightweight, and light-colored clothes that cover as much skin as possible. Protect your face and head by wearing a wide-brimmed hat.

The summer sun can be brutal and limiting exposure is a good practice. Always remember the sunscreen. Drink plenty of water and other drinks designed to keep you hydrated. These tips can help you stay cool and safe during high temperature days.

The main concerns associated with extreme heat are heat exhaustion and heat stroke. These conditions are treatable but can be deadly if allowed to progress. Heat exhaustion is usually the first to appear. People who are in the extreme heat can begin showing symptoms after only a short amount of exposure.

Heat exhaustion symptoms include confusion, dizziness, fatigue, headache, muscle or abdominal cramps, profuse sweating, cool, pale skin and high heart rate. Treatment for heat exhaustion is to first remove the person from the heat. Then if they are alert, have them drink plenty of non-caffeinated fluids and then cool the person. The symptoms usually resolve themselves. If the person doesn't recover from treatment or gets worse, call 911 for medical attention.

Heat stroke is a true emergency. The body has attempted to deal with the extreme heat but is no longer able to keep the body at a normal temperature. Heat stroke can lead to organ damage and death if untreated. The symptoms of heat stroke include the same as heat exhaustion except the person may become unresponsive, extremely confused, and their skin may be hot, dry, and flushed. Persons who are suffering from heat stroke should be evaluated in the emergency room. Call 911 if the person is showing symptoms or if you suspect heat stroke.

See Dyer, page 5A

Fire Dept. from Union County Fire Chief
David Dyer



The Good Fight

"I don't have any idea how I did it," Woody Williams said. PTSD must have something to do with his lack of memory about the day he was in the fight of his life.

It happened in 1945 in the black sands of Iwo Jima. The Marines had trained him as a weapons specialist. When tanks failed to open a lane for the infantry to advance, he volunteered to eliminate a network of concrete pillboxes and mines. Carrying special weapons meant he could not carry a rifle, so four Marines accompanied him.

For four hours, he attacked and returned to replenish his weapons. He faced small arms fire and a bayonet surge. His courage and success allowed his company to reach its objective. Two of his protectors died that day, the same day the Marines raised the American flag on Mount Suribachi. Later that year, President Truman presented Williams the Medal of Honor. He was 21.

Williams was a tormented hero. What he had done in battle and the loss of those two men left him with a burden of guilt. He suffered recurring, fiery nightmares. He had suicidal thoughts. Yet he wanted to remain self-sufficient. "I didn't need God in my life," he said. He was in a new fight - to survive his memories.

When he was 38, Williams reluctantly attended an Easter service with his family. When the preacher mentioned the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus who takes away sin and guilt, Williams remembered the Marines who sacrificed their lives. He realized his own need. That day he placed his faith in Jesus, the God who sacrificed His life. "That day, my life changed," he said. The nightmares stopped.

Williams had a long career serving his fellow veterans. He served as chaplain of the Medal of Honor Society for 35 years, and was not ashamed of his Christian faith. He could say with Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith. In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day" (2 Tim. 4:7-8).

What is the good fight? For Williams it was the fight against the guilt of what he had done, of surviving when others didn't. It was confronting selfish pride, which would limit his

See Fowler, page 5A

All Things New
Wayne Fowler



Commissioner's Questions

This week's Q & A continues to address questions that I receive about the styles of County Commissions you might find in the State of Georgia. Last week I answered questions about the Sole Commissioner type of county government. This week I will talk about how a Commission Board could impact our county governance.

Q. Commissioner, I was approached by a group of people asking me to sign a petition to change our form of county government to a 5-person board. Why would I want to do this?

A. Changing a form of government is a significant undertaking, and it can be challenging. Add to that task 5 brand new Commissioners with limited to no experience, and the result will not likely be what you expect. Change for the sake of change is never a good idea. Residents have only to look around our beautiful county to see what an incredible living environment we have formed over the past 22 years. Meeks Park, the Farmers Market, Senior Center, Recreation Dept offerings such as the pickleball courts, the walking trails, tennis courts, dog parks, Sports Center, etc., these things don't happen by themselves. They are the result of 22 years of planning and development as well as anticipating future infrastructure needs. This is all important to the future of Union County and its residents.

Q. Are you against a commissioner board style of county government in Union County?

A. Yes. Remember that we are talking about 5 people who are more than likely inexperienced individuals who will cost the county times 5. We are talking matching staff, benefits, office space, vehicles, phones, travel expenses, training expenses, etc. These people have never worked together, and they likely have no plan or ideas as to how they will accomplish their individual goals.

Q. Can new Commissioners learn all the duties required of the job?

A. Certainly they can with a few years experience and taking a lot of classes. They would have to do quite a bit of traveling all over the state of Georgia as this type of training is done

See Paris, page 5A

Q & A from Union County Commissioner
Lamar Paris



Habitat for Humanity

We have a lot going on here at Habitat for Humanity this week, here are all the details!

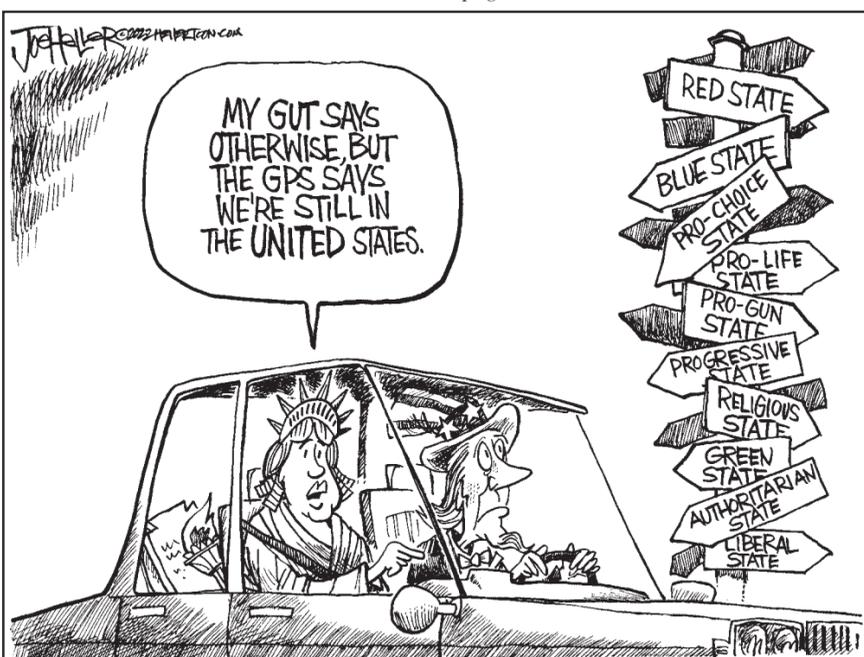
This week is the long-awaited Christmas in July Sale at the Habitat ReStore! Between July 11th - July 15th we will be selling our usual ReStore items, but for one week only we are dedicating a whole

section of our store to Christmas. We hope you stop by and check out all things Christmas. You won't want to miss out on these great deals. Get your Christmas décor needs in July and save big! All our profits in the ReStore go towards our Helping Hands projects and Home Builds here in Towns/Union Counties.

We will be announcing a surprise sale on different Christmas items everyday throughout the week. In addition, if you shop at our ReStore July 11th - July 15th wearing anything Christmas, whether it be an ugly Christmas sweater, Christmas earrings, Christmas socks, etc., show your Christmas spirit at the register and receive

See Habitat, page 5A

Habitat Happenings
Madelyn Bailey



Letters to the Editor

1=1

Dear Editor,
I read my North Georgia News today and of course I turned to the editorial page.

Looks like a lot of people are interested in changing the way that Union County is governed and by that I mean who is the chief operating officer.

I am not a Union County native. I have lived lots of different places. My wife is from Union County. From what I have seen most of the time it comes down to one vote. So if you have a commissioner you have to have a commissioner that represents the people that live on the lake, you have to have a commissioner that represents the people that live in the mountain part of the county, you have to have a commissioner that represents the people that live in the city, and then you have to have a chairman. So at the

See Cosner, page 5A

Multi-Commissioner Salaries

Dear Editor,
The average commissioner salary in the seven counties in Georgia whose populations average 26,900 was \$10,700 or \$53,600 for a five-person board in 2021. Entry level salaries for county managers in this same population group ranged from \$60,000 to \$120,000 for an average of \$90,000 for 2021. Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

The combined salaries for the Union County sole commissioner and county manager are \$218,000 for 2022. Source: Open Records Request ~ 2022 county employee salaries

So a five-person multi-commissioner board with a new county manager who are paid at a combined salary of \$143,600 would be a considerable savings (\$74,400) to the county budget and taxpayer.

Zeb Blanchard

Tired of Being Lied To

Dear Editor,
In the June 29 edition of the newspaper, I read with interest the article "School Board talks Projects after ESPLOST passage." I noticed that the list given to the voter was not mentioned but that the standard bait and switch has started.

Yes, the new Elementary School tops the list, but the fine print sports facilities has moved up close to the top. The information at the meetings before the ESPLOST vote never mentioned a new sports facility.

Since the Union County Board of Education states they pay as they go, those who voted for ESPLOST need to contact School Superintendent

See Burch, page 5A

Letters to the Editor

Dear Gunny Gun Control

Dear Editor,
Saw your rebuttal and I have a few questions. First of all, you now say that you were talking about there was NO FEDERAL MILITIA for the defense of the states before the Second Amendment was written. My question is this: What was the Continental Army then? OH! That's right. It was a Militia for the defense of the states. Its founding date was June 14, 1775, and it lasted as the Continental Army until 1783. After 1783 it became the United States Army because after 1783 we were the United States. Oddly enough if you look at the founding date of the current Army of the United States and the Continental Army it's the same date! So, a Federal Army or "Militia" of the United States has been in continual existence since 1775. So, what was the name of that Army that defended this country against the British in the War of 1812? And what was the name of that Army which was led by Winfield Scott and invaded Mexico taking Mexico City winning the Mexican-American War? Oh right! They were both the United States Army.

Oh, and as far as "the Right to Keep and Bear Arms" only being afforded to that "Federal Militia," wrong again. The Founding Fathers had just fought a war of independence against a country that doesn't allow its SUBJECTS to own personal weapons. Once again, a law-abiding armed resident of a country is a citizen; a law-abiding unarmed resident of a country is a SUBJECT!

See Rains, page 5A

The Tax Man Cometh

Dear Editor,
According to the NGN article in the Wednesday, July 6, edition, countywide property value assessments went up 22%. Commissioner Paris was quoted as saying, "Our goal is for the majority of property owners to have little or no property tax increase," because he plans to roll back the millage rate. No quote from the school board yet on what they're going to do (we'll see if one is forthcoming).

Well, I examined the assessment records for all 28 homes on my road and found that the smallest increase was 29% and the biggest increase was 31%, far above the 22% quoted by Lamar. If the millage rate is rolled back based on 22% (you do the math), the homeowners on my road will experience a substantial increase in taxes this year.

I would urge all who read this to do the same research. It's easy. Go to www.pubic.net/ga/union, click on "Search Records" under

See Bernthal, page 5A

Recipes

In my grandfather's younger days, the social events around the community revolved around the local churches. People worked hard, usually six days per week, and after the work was done on a Saturday the young folks attended church singings in the evenings. We need to understand there were no cars, so everyone walked or rode a horse when they went somewhere.

Sometimes after these church singings a bake sale would be organized. These sales would be organized to help raise funds for the building committee and as a supervised social event for the kids who were courting. This helped girls to meet potential suitors. A girl would place a pie or a cake in a bake sale and the young man who purchased the cake would get to spend a little supervised time with the young lady.

One particular Saturday my grandfather and his friend Russell were on their way, with some other young men, to a Singing and Bake Sale at Saint Paul Church. They decided to swing by the James place to try out Mr. James' new recipe for Elderberry Wine. The boys consumed the bottle of wine before they got to the church and concluded the new recipe was quite tasty. About halfway through the singing the Bake Sale was held. Papa had been saving his money and purchased a Red Velvet Cake baked by Susan Lauderdale, the prettiest red head he had ever seen. They sat at the picnic table on the outside of the church and ate part of the cake under the watchful eyes of Mrs. Lauderdale.

When the singing started again Papa sat with Susan and her mother in the front of the church. Papa said, "At about 8:45 p.m. my belly began to rumble, and by 9:30 I was hurting and sweating." The service ended at 9:45, and Papa ran out the door to the woods without even saying goodbye to Susan. The boys who were with him had also consumed some of this Red Velvet Cake. All of the boys were sick that night, and it took them a while to get home. Papa said, "I don't know if it was the cake or the wine, but, I have not eaten Red Velvet Cake since 1930. And I have been a 'teetotaler' since August 28, 1930." To this day a new recipe scares my grandfather.

But we red velvet are not always bad. I have tried many over the years and have found some of them quite good. For example, 10-15 years ago my son and I went fishing on Lake Michigan and came home with 30 pounds of frozen salmon. Later in the summer we went to Hendersonville, North Carolina, to spend the weekend with some friends coming up from the Low Country of South Carolina. For breakfast on Sunday, we had shrimp

See Cummings, page 5A

Around The Farm

Mickey Cummings



Chamber of Commerce

Congratulations to Clayton Reeves of Full Throttle Ministries, the winner of this years July 4th "Blairsville Ultimate Adventure Raffle." Clayton purchased his tickets at Red, White & Blairsville - July 4th Fireworks at Meeks Park and literally, to his surprise, he took home over \$4,700 worth of goods and prizes. Thank you, Clayton, for all you do for the community, and again, congratulations! We also want to thank all of our first responders that helped us during the event and kept us all safe during this busy holiday weekend. We had many sponsors that helped to make this event possible for our community, and we are so very thankful.

While speaking on WJRB 95.1 FM Thursday morning, Steven Phillips and Packy were giving me a hard time about everything going on the week of the 16th. But it's true! There is a lot going on:

-The Butternut Creek Art Festival will be at Meeks Park both this Saturday and Sunday

See Chamber, page 5A

Blairsville - Union County Chamber President
Steve Rowe



Yellow Jackets

Yellow jackets will become the most active during the late summer and fall. I've received a few calls from people saying that they have encountered some around their homes. I have a few around my own house, so I know they're out there! Yellow Jackets can look similar to wasps. Wasps are usually unaggressive unless threatened. Yellow jackets have a thicker waist, shorter legs, and wings that press more flatly against the body when resting than wasps.

Wasp's nests are usually under eaves or beneath porch railings and have hexagonal cells. Yellow jacket nests are usually built in old rodent holes or cavities that have been left behind by a small critter. They can build nests in wall spaces, although this is less common. Yellow jacket nests will die out over the winter and start anew with a new reproducing female each year. This means that yellow jacket nests will be the easiest to eradicate in the spring while the nests are still small. The flipside is that the nests will be harder to find in the spring because they only have a few individuals in them at that time. Nests can grow up to 5,000 yellow jackets, and will grow larger in years with a long dry spring.

Solitary yellow jackets can often be seen foraging for food for the colony. Yellow jackets feed on a variety of insects pests. They will also eat meat and like drinking coke. They will also attack bee hives. Yellow jackets are able to discern at a pheromone level which hives are weak. They'll choose those hives to attack, making them more of opportunistic pests to bees than actual predators. If they are able to get inside past the guards, yellow jackets can take out the entire hive killing bees, eating larvae, eggs, pupae, and honey.

The longer before you start to control a nest the more difficult it becomes because the nests control in size. Pyrethroid insecticides that you can buy at the store will be effective at killing yellow jackets, but only when you make contact with them when you are actively spraying. If you can block the hole that they use as an entrance you may be able to eradicate them this way too. Yellow jackets aren't diggers, they use holes other critters have made, so they can be trapped inside if there is only one entrance. There are yellow jacket traps that can be effective at controlling them too. Another method of control is to use hot water mixed with dish washing soap and pouring it down the hole. Whenever you are working with yellow jackets the safest time will be at night. They will be less active at nighttime, so your chances of being stung de-

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UGA extension watching and working
Jacob Williams



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Paris... continued from Page 4A

in a wide variety of places. But why change the county government that has worked in Union County so well for over 50 years.

Q. Are all commission boards a problem?

A. No, but the quality of people who serve on boards is extremely important. It comes down to background, experience, and knowledge about this community. If it turns out they are not qualified, the result can be disastrous. The decision to change the Union County Government form should not be taken lightly. Ask questions and verify the information you are given. Don't be fooled.

Q. What are some problems nearby counties have faced with a 5-person Commission Board?

A. It would appear that problems come when commissioners attempt to work with other commissioners to resolve very tough issues. Hypothetically, decisions made on these boards often fall on a 3/2 vote. The deep division can lead to lawsuits as we saw most recently in a neighboring county to the North of us. This type of back-and-forth indecision in a governing body not only frustrates the Commissioners – it also frustrates a constituency awaiting resolution or decision on specific matters. Another point to consider, the current Sole Commissioner form of government gets along great with the Blairsville Mayor and City Council. Other nearby counties sometimes face hostilities between the Board of Commissioners and the City Councils and/or mayors. This relationship is important – especially when projects require partnerships.

Q. How expensive is it to maintain a 5-member board of commissioners?

A. Very expensive. First, most individuals who serve on a board of commissioners earn money for their service and for travel. These stipends can increase the budget significantly. Training is also expensive. Every commissioner has to take specific certification classes through the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) and through the Carl Vincent Institute of Government from the University of Georgia. New Commissioners are required to pass the initial certification test as well as other related certifications. These certifications are costly. I have probably taken well over 100 classes through-

out the years. ACCG offers three different conferences each year: Capitol Connection Conferences, in Atlanta, which focuses on issues before the Georgia General Assembly; the Annual Conference, in Savannah, which provides a forum to take leadership, government-related, and governmental accounting training; and the Legislative Leadership Conference, in Athens, Macon, etc., as it moves around the state, which allows Commissioners to approve the legislative positions and priorities for the upcoming legislative session. It is imperative that all Commissioners attend these events in order to remain current on local issues. Training, travel, and accommodations can be very expensive for a 5-person Board of Commissioners.

Q. I reluctantly signed that petition asking for a 5-person Commission Board. I would like to rescind my signature. How do I do that?

A. At any time prior to the date a petition is filed for verification, an elector who has signed the petition form may request withdrawal of his or her signature from the petition by executing and filing an affidavit with the election superintendent. Any signature so withdrawn shall not be counted in determining the legal sufficiency of the petition.

Q. How many of these new folks that have moved here in the past few years really know you or really know how rural county government functions?

A. As your current County Commissioner, I want what is best for the people of Union County. My job is simple. Union County taxes are some of the lowest in the state and we have no debt. This is evidence of success in our current form of government. The very fact that this many people are moving here would indicate that they really like and appreciate what Union County has to offer. It is very rare to hear anyone indicating they do not like Union County and for that reason alone, changing our form of government is a total waste of time and effort. The Sole Commissioner form of government has been working well in Union County for many, many years.

Some specific questions have been raised about how Union County spends its money and addresses its projects. Next week I will discuss some of these concerns.

Habitat... continued from Page 4A

10% off your purchase!

Furthermore, on July 16th Habitat for Humanity is partnering with Downtown Blairsville for the Art in the Park Event on 62 Blue Ridge St. Blairsville behind City Hall between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. We have called on local artists to paint the new picnic tables that Habitat for Humanity of Towns Union Counties and Rotary Club donated to the Blairsville Park. If you're out and about around Blairsville be sure to stop by and watch artists paint this park into a fun and beautiful destination location for our community to enjoy.

Are you looking for employment? Habitat for Humanity is hiring! We are looking for a part-time ReStore Associate and a full-time Pick-Up Driver. Stop by the Habitat ReStore at 225 Wellborn St. Blairsville to fill out an application.

Pick-Up Drivers must have a valid driver's license, a clean driving record and must be able to lift 75lbs or more.

Our ReStore Associate position requires excellent customer service skills, knowledge on running a register and organizational skills.

We are eager to hire associates who not only are diligent in their work and are ready to learn but individuals who value our mission here at Habitat for Humanity of ensuring that our community has safe and affordable housing to call home. Everything we do here at Habitat is to benefit others. We want our team to have the mindset of helping others through the work they do here at Habitat.

If you have any questions, be sure to contact us at 706-745-7101.

As always thank you for supporting your local Habitat for Humanity through ReStore purchases, donations, sponsored events, volunteering, and more. We are so thankful for the support of our community; without your help we wouldn't be equipped to help those in need.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

and grits with a little bit of salmon mixed in, and I almost cried. It was outstanding.

Another recipe of which I was quite fond was prepared by our neighbor a few years ago. If you know me you know I love ice cream. Vanilla, Butter Pecan, Black Walnut or Peach, it matters not; I like it all. My neighbor Krista Miller made some Cantaloupe Ice Cream, and believe me, it was good. It would make a puppy pull a freight train. But, one experience I had a few years ago with a recipe contest made me less fond of trying new foods. I was invited to judge a baked goods contest at a fair not too far from where I had to look at the item and then taste it. The category was brownies, and I tasted of one which still gives me nightmares. When it comes to fairs, I think I'll stick with Livestock Judging.

There was one instance I witnessed which should have taught me a lesson. All of my cousins were at my Grandmaw's house and one of my cousins, Sonya, found Pawpaw's stash of Hershey's Bars. He soon noticed that his candy bars were disappearing at an astonishing rate.

Really, they were being depleted much faster than he was eating them. He knew that one of his grandkids was eating them. So, he decided to act.

Back then there was a laxative called Ex-Lax that came in a chocolate bar, and it looked similar to those Hershey Bars. Pawpaw took three Hershey Bars out of their wrappers and replaced them with the Ex-Lax Chocolate Bars. I will not go into detail, but, Sonya and the rest of us grandkids learned a good lesson about getting into our Pawpaw's candy.

Fowler...

continued from Page 4A

service to others. Ultimately it is a fight to trust not yourself, but the God who loves and forgives, the God who grants righteousness to those who believe. "I am not ashamed of the gospel...for in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith" (Rom. 1:16-17).

Woody Williams, the last living WWII Medal of Honor recipient, left the land of the dying for the land of the living in 2022. He was 98.

Rains... continued from Page 4A

Now I really loved the comment you made about when I pointed out that there were weapons, in that time period, that were very advanced. They could fire as fast as moving a lever to load new ammunition and had high-capacity internal magazines. I believe you called it "inconsequential." Really? Just for the record, I never said it was used by any of our forces in combat with the British. Funny thing since most of the muskets and canons used by our army were either confiscated from the British or were gotten from the French since the Colonies at the time had a very limited arms industry. In other words, most of their weapons came from Europe, which is exactly where that weapon I referred to came from. Advances in technology up to about the middle to late 19th century moved from East to West. Meaning, it was only a matter of time until advanced weapons got here. Regardless of where it was made and which army used it, it still existed and the Founding Fathers knew about it. Knowledge of weapons such as this leads one to think of what other weapons of the same type or of a more advanced design may be coming in the future. Our Founding Fathers were not idiots and they did their "homework," so to speak. Think about David Bushnell's "Turtle" as one example. Turtle was the world's first submersible vessel with a documented record of use in combat. It was built in 1775. If you for one moment think the Founding Fathers had no idea about what new weapons technology was out there, you'd be wrong.

Dear People of Blairs-

Dyer...

continued from Page 4A

Summer extreme heat can take its toll on a person. Remember the tips for staying cool. Be aware of the symptoms of heat exhaustion/heat stroke and seek emergency treatment if needed.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Williams...

continued from Page 4A

crease. It is still a good idea to wear protective clothing. If you have a serious yellow jacket problem it is best to call a professional to control them.

If you have any questions about yellow jacket identification or control please call your local Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Chamber...

continued from Page 4A

with live music and over 65-70 craftsman and artist.

-Pop-up shops will be downtown for the Sweet Summertime Downtown Market hosted by Keen Creations as well as the Blairsville Cruisers Car Club. You'll find about 20 local vendors under tents doing demos, selling their goods, and snacks, too!

-After all the activities in town during the day, head over to Vogel State Park in the evening for their weekly live music starting at 7pm. Vogel is undergoing some major upgrades to the park, so this is a great time to go out and check it out.

This column isn't big enough to list all of the exciting events going on in Blairsville so, please, visit our website for the full lineup, www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com. Mark your calendar for the Mountain Music & Moonshine Festival, this new festival in downtown Blairsville is going to have you "Pickin' Wildflowers."

Thanks to y'all, Life is Better in Blairsville!

Burch...

continued from Page 4A

tendent John Hill at 706-745-2322 and tell him not to short change the new Elementary School facility so they can put the ESPLOST funds toward a new state of the art sports complex.

George Burch

Bernthal...

continued from Page 4A

"Related Information" on the right-hand side, and type in the pertinent information for your property. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and compare last year's assessment with this year's. Check some of your neighbors' assessments while you're at it. You may be as surprised as I was. A trip to the commissioner's meeting may be in order when budget discussions begin. It ain't over yet!

Steve Bernthal

Cosner... continued from Page 4A

minimum you're talking about four people and they gotta be paid. But you can't have four people because that would allow for a tie vote, so the minimum is really five.

All of the folks that have been researching this stuff have not told us what the average number of commissioners is in Georgia or the South or the United States, but I'm guessing five is probably a pretty low number.

No one wants to pay taxes. We look at our property values and we want them to go up; we want our houses and the land to be always worth more. Well, the services that go with that always cost more.

We all need to ask what do we want... low taxes, nice place to live, good honest government.

The sole commissioner system is not the problem or the answer.

If you are not satisfied with Lamar Paris' leadership, what could be simpler? Vote against him in the next election!

I enjoy my quality of life in Union County. There is no free lunch. If you think multiple commissioners is what you want, move to Rabun County, or Fannin, or White, or Cherokee.

If it's not broken yet, don't break it.

William Cosner

ville and Union County, imagine yourselves as Founding Fathers of a new nation. Are you gonna take the time and do the research to find out what weapons are out there and being fielded by other nations that could pose a threat to your young nation, or are you just gonna say, hey, we don't need to worry about those trivial things, we'll be fine. I think you'd want to know. NO, I think you'd have to know exactly what other nation's armies are using as to best prepare and equip your army against them. I guess that's just me and not Gunny Gun Control.

In conclusion, I have one last question for you. Why is it when some maniac takes a gun and misuses it to kill innocent people do people such as yourself always call for more restrictions on law-abiding and legal gun owners? Seems to me you should be trying to get the guns out of the hands of CRIMINALS. When someone uses a weapon for such a ghastly act, they are a CRIMINAL!

The gun does NOT pull its own trigger!
Claude Rains Jr.