

## Cummings... continued from Page 4A

opened the door, and as Alfred walked through the door, the man latched the door from the outside.

Immediately, the bull charged Great Grandpaw West. The man and the bull went round and around in the stable. The bull nearly got the upper hand at one point by butting Alfred and knocking him into the wall of the stable. His body hit the wall hard enough to crack and break one of the rough sawed planks into two pieces. Alfred nor his 17-year-old daughter ever panicked. Each had a job to do. He eventually worked his long bony fingers into each nostril of the bull and twisted its nose until the bull stopped and began emitting a long, low and pitiful groan from its throat.

When the bull stopped, Laura opened the door and walked into the stable with her father. She reached into his doctor bag and handed him the instrument he needed to correct the bull's problem. When she and her father finished the job, Alfred let go of the bull, and the pair walked out of the stable leaving the bull in a calm and peaceful state. The owner of the bull stared in amazement at the father and daughter team. As the man stared, my great-grandfather reached up and punched the man square in the nose, knocking him to the ground. Alfred West left that day with two things: the man's respect and a country-cured ham. It all started with a chestnut bur and Alton.

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

the image that comes to mind? Do you feel these people are morally bankrupt or just bad people? Do you think all drug addicts are criminals? Now ask yourself, "How do I know what I believe about drug addiction is the truth?" Have you ever researched the biology or psychology of addiction or are all your opinions based on what you believe is morally right or wrong?

Society sends a message to those who use, abuse or are dependent upon a substance that says you are morally wrong. This message creates shame and shame breeds stigma. A stigma 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.

## Geer... continued from Page 4A

In fact, while the British were searching Concord looking for Patriot munitions, one British officer was quoted telling a resident of Concord that "we do not injure private property." Also, prior to the British troops leaving Boston in the early hours of April 19, it was well known among the citizens of Boston where the troops were going and what their intentions were. One British officer heard a Bostonian on Boston Common say that "the British have marched, but they will miss their aim." When someone asked what their "aim" was, the Bostonian replied, "Why, the cannon at Concord."

Understand the writer's feelings about our current political climate, we do ourselves a disservice - on either side of the political debate - by playing fast and loose with historic facts or mythicizing the story of our Revolution. This is dangerous, shallow and does not truly honor the sacrifices made by those brave individuals who fought for and won our independence. As John Adams, our second president, eloquently stated: "Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence." Respectfully,  
**Drew Geer**

## Weekly Patriot Reflection



of treasure and blood. It will bring a mark of everlasting infamy on the present generation - enlightened as it is - if we should suffer them to be wrested from us by violence without a struggle, or to be cheated out of them by the artifices of designing men."

Shortly after this he wrote: "Nil desperandum, -- Never Despair. That is a motto for you and me. All are not dead; and where there is a spark of patriotic fire, we will rekindle it."

It would be easy to despair when we realize the deterioration of our liberties and the dismantling of all that our ancestors fought to preserve and protect. If we call ourselves patriots we must stand and use every means possible to protect what almighty God has bestowed on our great nation.

A Patriot Reflection is presented weekly by joshuas-warriors.org.

## Riley... continued from Page 4A

across the Southeast region.

The curriculum, designed and developed by the 50-member Steering Committee, offers more than 50 unique courses, allowing attendees to design their own personalized curriculum by selecting nine educational breakout sessions, while receiving approved continuing education credits. With the combined efforts of the state's leading environmental organizations, the Annual Georgia Environmental Conference has proven to be a valued educational requirement focused on Sustaining the Future for the People of Georgia and the Southeast region.

The conference will be held at the LEED Certified Jeckyll Island Convention Center. LEED Certification refers to buildings that have been designed, built, and maintained

living and way of life. For more information on RC&D programs check out [www.chestchattred.org](http://www.chestchattred.org) or email at [info.ccrd@gmail.com](mailto:info.ccrd@gmail.com).

using best practice strategies for green building and energy efficiency. The mission of the GEC conference is "To create and effectively operate an annually occurring Georgia Environmental Conference providing fresh, new, high value, well-balanced, diverse and relevant educational content with positive impact on current and future practitioners and the environment of Georgia and the Southeast region."

The conference offers a Student Scholarship Poster Competition that is intended to provide students the opportunity to present their research on timely environmental issues to a wide range of environmental professionals. These are our future "keepers of our environment" and are all well qualified to do so.

In 2018 there was a presentation about the massive island of plastic floating in the Pacific Ocean, and as I listened, I looked at our table and we had plastic water bottles and plastic bags to give away. I felt that the message was directed at me, so when we got home, I immediately ordered Boxed Water (paper cartons made from renewable resources - trees) and paper bags to give away. Now we are doing our part to reduce the plastic trash problem.

The 2018 GEC was one of the best events we have attended and helped build support for our programs, and we expect 2019 to be even better. Our RC&D events are all designed to help farmers and citizens improve their standard of

## Chamber...

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restaurants. Bring the entire family and enjoy cooking demonstrations, and good ole fashion Southern Charm. Make plans to stay for the Concert on the Square with "Modern Vinyl" beginning at 7:30.

If you miss out on the Taste of the Mountains or want to know more about our local businesses, be sure to join us on Oct. 3 at North Georgia Tech for the "Buy Local Extravaganza." The Extravaganza was rescheduled from earlier in the year, but now it's time to come out and see our local vendors showcase their wares. Don't miss out!

## Williams...

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phyte so they will be healthier. An issue with this is that fescue is more persistent than orchardgrass under grazing conditions. It will usually thin after 2-3 years and need renovation. Orchardgrass is best established on a prepared seedbed. The varieties of orchardgrass that UGA Extension recommends are Olympia and Benchmark Plus.

Another strategy is to dilute fescue stands with legumes. Clover provides excellent forage quality, so it is able to balance out negative effects from fescue endophyte. White clover is a perennial that can be used. The UGA Extension recommended varieties are Durana, Patriot, and Renovation.

UGA does not test plants to see if the endophyte is present. You can send samples to the labs at The University of Tennessee for testing. However, as I said before, unless you know that you have recently planted novel type endophyte fescue, my money would be on it being infected.

If you have more questions about fescue toxicosis go to [georgiaforages.caes.uga.edu](http://georgiaforages.caes.uga.edu), contact your county Extension office, or email me at [Jacob.Williams@uga.edu](mailto:Jacob.Williams@uga.edu).

## Dyer...

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to a digital format is the most profound advancement in radio communications since we started using radios. We now have more capable radios both in the field and at Union County 911 Dispatch; all purchased with SPLOST funds. The radios and the digital format provide more clear communications with greater range, which improves the safety and job capabilities of the public safety personnel who serve our county.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

## S.A.F.E. Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of S.A.F.E. (Support in Abusive Family Emergencies, Inc.) will be August 20, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. Call 706-379-1901 for location.

### Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



**August 26, 2019**  
In memory of  
**Dr. William T. Meeks, Sr.**  
**Birthday**  
by Ginger and Terry Meeks  
**Bell ringing information**  
at 706-745-5493

## UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	<b>Every Monday:</b> 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.
Tri State Bus. Women	<b>Every Tuesday:</b> 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.
Kiwanis Club	<b>Every Wednesday:</b> Skillet Cafe	Noon
BINGO	Civic Center	7 p.m.
Butternut Ladies Golf	<b>Every Thursday:</b> Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 a.m.
Masonic Luncheon	Cook's Restaurant	11:30 a.m.
Rotary Club	NGTC	Noon
MMQG Sewcials	<b>Fourth Monday of each month:</b> Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Blue Ridge Comm.	McCaysville Lodge	7:30 p.m.
Compassionate Friends	<b>Fourth Tuesday of each month:</b> 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.
No activities listed	<b>Fourth Wednesday of each month:</b>	
Lions Club	<b>Fourth Thursday of each month:</b> Cook's Restaurant	6:30 p.m.
Cruisers Club Meeting	Sr. Center pavilion	6 p.m.
UT Homebuilders	YH College	7 p.m.
Eastern Star #471	<b>Fourth Friday of each month</b> Location not listed	7:30 p.m.
Youngcane Lodge #597	<b>Fourth Saturday of each month:</b> Lodge Hall	7:30 p.m.