# Opinions

# Everybody has one...

#### **Some Details**

As you open up the North Georgia News each week, you turn to the section with arrest reports and fire reports and you read down the list of the fire department incidents. You read about medical calls, structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, search and rescues but have you wondered what these calls involve. Here is a breakdown of the calls listed each week.

A medical call is a call to assist Union General Ambulance Service on various types of medical emergencies ranging from major trauma to possible heart attacks. The medical calls take about one hour to complete. The fire department assists the EMTs and Paramedics with assessment, loading



and treatment. At times, the firefighters either ride in with the crew or drive the ambulance to the hospital if the patient is more critical.

Medical calls make up a majority of our calls. A structure fire is a major incident and requires a great deal of time and resources. The time can range from two hours to eight hours or longer depending on the fire. The work at a structure fire is very demanding. Firefighters must wear turnout gear

and self-contained breathing apparatus weighing up to 50 lbs. During firefighting operations, the turnout gear gets wet which increases the weight. Firefighters must work until all fire is completely extinguished. Once completed, the trucks and equipment must be cleaned,

restocked and placed back in service. The post-fire clean up can add an additional hour of work after the fire.

Motor vehicle accidents (MVA) are common calls for the fire department. A MVA can be simple or very complicated depending on the number of victims and the need for extrication from the damaged vehicle. Firefighters must wear turnout gear and work to free people from the wreckage. They also assist Union General Ambulance in treatment and transport of the patients. Time spent on a motor vehicle accident can range from 30 minutes to hours depending on the severity of the call.

Search and Rescue has become a major category of the department's response. A search and rescue can take a multitude of resources in some challenging terrain, difficult weather and can be spread over very large areas. The time factors range from

See Dyer, page 5A

#### He Is There

Buffalo Bills football player Damar Hamlin suffered a heart attack during a game. Millions of TV viewers and stadium fans were shocked at the scene as emergency medical staff rushed in. Players gathered on the field in a circle weeping and praying while Bills trainer Denny Kellington performed CPR.

ESPN personality Dan Orlovsky prayed on live TV. "We

All Things

New

Wayne

want answers, but some things are unanswerable," he said. "We just want to pray, truly come to You and pray...for Damar." Later he posted on Twitter, "Where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst" (Matt. 18:20).

The automatic response appealing to God to intervene is not uncommon. Remember the surge in church attendance after 911? What does this tell us? The secular worldview is not large enough to encompass the human experience. An awareness of God's existence and even His proximity erupt into your consciousness even if you are not believing or seeking. Helplessness and desperation will test your worldview. I know of an avowed atheist who kept pleading "Oh God" at the scene of his serious car accident. The philosophers can debate if there really is such a thing as an atheist. Nietzsche argued, "God is Dead." He also went insane while holding that thought.

The Bible says, "That which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them" (Rom. 1:19) It cannot be easy to suppress that internal knowledge since evidence for God abounds. It will not be suppressed when helpless

painting, "Saying Grace." The grandmother and child pray at the diner while fellow patrons stare at them. But make no mistake. A curiosity about God and prayer,

#### **Commissioner's Questions**

Last week we talked about plastics recycling at the Union County Transfer Station and Convenience Centers. Today I will answer the questions that we received concerning the other types of recycling that we do.

Q. I read about plastics recycling but what other types of materials do you accept at the Recycle Centers?

A. The Union County Recycle Centers can accept mixed paper and from Union paperboard, corrugated packing box-County es, and aluminum cans. Commissioner Q. What constitutes mixed

A. Mixed paper by definition Paris

is - different types of paper mixed together. Mixed paper is our catch-all category for paper. If the paper tears and is not contaminated with food or oil, it can be placed in the paper recycling bin. Examples include phone books, magazines, junk mail, office paper, newspaper, and paperboard packaging. Cereal boxes and gift boxes are generally made of a lower valued paper called paperboard. In this case, empty the box completely, including food, plastic inserts, or packaging material, flatten, and place in the paper recycling bin. To clarify, any kind of paper that doesn't fall into the category of corrugated cardboard is mixed paper including newsprint. If you work in an office environment or any environment in which different types of paper are used and need disposing of, this is the perfect situation for mixed

Q. When mixed paper is recycled, what happens to it? A. One fact you may not know is that recycled mixed paper is used to make the hard covers of the books we read, the game boards that adorn our tables on family game nights, and it also makes up the cereal boxes that our favorite cereal is packaged in. Paper can be recycled 6-7 times before its fiber strength becomes too degraded to be recycled anymore. Paper recycling reduces the need for raw material and uses less energy and causes less pollution than producing a new product with virgin material. Paper makes up approximately 38% of U.S. solid waste.

Q. Can you tell us about the cardboard recycling? I see a bin that says, Corrugated Cardboard.

A. There can be some misunderstanding about what types

Chamber of Commerce

night was a casino-style night of entertainment

taking risks, playing the odds, and winning big!

tion donors, many of our guests went home with

some incredible prizes from casino gym mem-

evening of fun at Brasstown Valley Resort!

Megan Kimsey – Ambassador of the Year; Jim's

Smokin' Que - Business of the Year; Safe Pet

Project - Community United Award (Sponsored

by United Community Bank); and Mickey Cum-

all night and won \$62,000 - funny money, that

is. It was such a fun night. Be ready for a bigger

and better event next year; the Chamber staff al-

Our Chamber Annual Banquet Friday

With the help of our generous silent auc-

Blairsville

County

Chamber

Steve Rowe

Congratulations to our award winners:

Congratulations also the big casino winner, Morgan Williams! She kept her poker face

See Paris, page 5A

berships and over-

night stays to luxury

ful to everyone who

took a gamble on us

and joined us for an

We're grate-

mings - Person of the Year.

#### Habitat for Humanity

"A World Where Everyone has a Decent Place to Live.'

Habitat for Humanity Towns Union Counties is a 501(c)(3) faith-based, charitable organization dedicated to helping those less fortunate within our community. Our community continued to be gra-

cious, and because of your support, the lives of 26 families have been blessed to be a part of our home repair program this past year.



Our 25th home build will be completed for a well-deserved Towns County family within the coming weeks. For May of 2023, our 26th Habitat home is scheduled to be completed by our partners at Union County Schools. UCS began an extensive construction training program, where students build one Habitat house a year for our local affiliate. Habitat would not be able to accomplish these strides if it wasn't for your support to our Mission. Due to inflation and rising building costs,

See **Habitat**, page 5A

#### Letters to the Editor

#### That Highway Curve in Jacksonville

Dear Editor,

Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Orlando Lara ... followed by a question for the Georgia DOT. If that curve on US 76 in Jacksonville is a notorious scene of accidents, why did the state RAISE the speed limit there from 45 to 55? I well remember the change being made some eight to 10 years ago. The speed limit used to drop from 55 in Union County to 45 at the county line bridge. Having driven through that curve weekly for two decades, I can state that negotiating that curve at the posted 55 limit is pushing your luck.

Roger Beal

#### **More on Immigration**

Dear Editor,

Reluctantly, I must take strong exception to some of the statements made by one of your readers in a recent letter to the editor. I do agree with a number of points he made toward the end of his letter, but those comments had nothing to do with immigration.

1. He states we have no legal authority to order Mexico how to handle their immigration policies, etc. Who said we need legal authority? Our history is replete with our illegal activity south of the border. Does he remember the Spanish American War; the Mexican War; the creation of Panama; the removal of the leader of Panama (Noriega), or do I need to continue? As for Noriega, it is my recollection he was taken down because of his activity involving drugs. His drug activity was miniscule compared to that of the Mexican cartels. As for the need for farm workers, the last time I checked there is a LE-GAL way for these people to work in this country. And how many farm workers do you think are included in this present and illegal invasion?

See White, page 5A

#### Re: "Too Preachy"

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to a recent editorial in which the writer felt like recent editions were "too preachy" and if she "wanted to be preached at, she would go to church."

Well, my question is, do you? Because if you do, and you are a true follower of Christ, you must know we all are missionaries to the Gospel... and we ALL can benefit from other Christ followers when it comes to walking The Walk. The gentleman that I believe you are referring to has enlightened and blessed me and countless others many times by his faithfulness to spread the Gospel.

See Bishop, page 5A

#### millions watch a young man dying on a football field. Humans are hard-wired to know there is Someone beyond ourselves. That doesn't mean prayer comes naturally, but it can incite curiosity. Norman Rockwell captured that curiosity in his

an awareness of God, even a prayer in crisis are not enough. That same God has revealed Himself through nature, in the written word, and by stepping into human history. He has a high moral standard, which you cannot meet. But all is not lost, because He died on the cross to make you blameless, even holy. By faith in

See Fowler, page 5A

# SO, WHATS THE PROBLEM? DRAIN DICE DISNOW DOOLD DISLUSH D

#### Walter S. Brown

North Georgia has many true pioneers, but one of Towns County's own is Walter Scott Brown who was born in Waynesville, North Carolina, in 1889. His family moved to Towns County in 1891 and settled on a farm down on the Hiawassee River. He grew up loving the

mountain life while farming, fishing the mountain streams and listening to his favorite fox hounds hunt. The hours he spent in the woods fox hunting gave



him time to think and plan for the future.

It was this mountain childhood and pioneer spirit that developed his strong work ethic, leadership skills and common sense approach to life. He possessed a great desire for education, ideas and a better way of life. He saved enough money to enter the University of Georgia in 1913 when he was 24 years old by farming, teaching school, and doing odd jobs. He entered college when there was not much encouragement for a person to seek an education but he found education an exciting experi-

During his college years when he came home to visit family, he would ride the train from Athens to Robertstown and walk over the mountain to get home (tell a kid to do that today!). He graduated from UGA in 1917, and his first employment was serving as the County Agent in Towns County in 1917, just three years after the creation of the Cooperative Extension Service. He was sought after for this position by the people of Towns County which was an indication of his reputation among those who knew

He was promoted to the position of District Agent in the Atlanta district in 1919. In 1921, he was given the challenging assignment of influencing the County Commissioners of forty counties in Southeast Georgia to employ county agents. All forty counties responded and the Cooperative Extension Service spread throughout the state and became a force for change in those difficult agricultural times of the depression years and beyond.

As a result of his love for the youth of Georgia in the Cooperative Extension Service 4-H program, enrollment grew from 61,000 to 117,000 under his leadership, and he was a driving force in the creation of the Rock Eagle 4-H Center. He served as the chairman of the Georgia 4-H Foundation which raised \$2,000,000 in funds for construction of the 4-H center near Eatonton. Walter became the Director of Extension in 1937 and guided the development of the Cooperative Extension Service through-

See Riley, page 5A

#### Rock Bridge

The Rock Bridge had always intrigued me. Mom had told me stories of the place since I was old enough to remember. It was a place of natural beauty, and it also had a reputation with a dark past. I visit the place in my dreams often, and every now and then I go back to visit. Even

today it is beautiful and yet mysterious at the same time.

Bill and Delphia Adams owned a small piece of land at the top of a ridge just above and west



of Little Bear Creek. Just to the east of the creek and halfway up the next ridge the Rock Bridge was located along with a saddle-shaped rock called Saddle Rock. Hiram Baker had settled this area in the 1850s, and after his death the land had passed from one Baker to another for three generations until mine. But, even before my ancestors came to the area, the Rock Bridge had a

I have always been told that a family of Cherokee Indians lived under this bridge and their ancestors had lived there for generations before Christopher Columbus. Then two things happened which would change the way these people lived. First, Andrew Jackson was elected as president of the young United States. And second, gold was discovered in Dahlonega, Georgia. This was the excuse President Jackson was looking for which led him to sign an executive order leading to the removal of the Cherokee and Creek nations from their homelands in Alabama and Georgia. The soldiers came to the area around the Rock Bridge and rounded up the families and forced them on to the infamous "Trail of Tears." When the soldiers came to the "Rock Bridge," a young Cherokee woman screamed as she ran. In her attempt to evade the soldiers she slipped and fell from the top of the bridge, resulting in her death. It has been told many times that if you visited the area at midnight, you could still hear the screams of the young woman as if she were running from the soldiers. My 3X greatgrandmother Mandy lived close by as a little girl, and she told her grandchildren she had heard the maiden screaming. Those screams haunted her the rest of her life.

Fifteen years after the removal, my 3X great-grandfather settled in the area. He and Mandy built a log home not too far from the Rock Bridge. Mandy loved the area and spent many a day with her children exploring the area. She and her children swam in the creek and found a large rock from which they could jump into the creek. They built fires under the bridge to cook their lunch, and they even found a rock close by where they could sit and watch the creek below.

See Cummings, page 5A

#### ready has a great idea they are working on! Apple Tree Pruning

Deep winter is prime apple tree pruning time. Pruning apple trees is important early in the tree's life so that it gets started off right. Later on, if you properly prune the tree each year the tree will be more productive, more disease resistant, and have a longer life. Keeping all these

talk about apple tree pruning today. The

tnings in mind, let's

general advice that I give people when it comes to pruning apple trees is



to prune as much as you feel comfortable, then go back and prune a bit more. Most of the time people are afraid of damaging the tree if they cut too far back. However, if trees are pruned at the right time of year and the right branches are cut off, it will be better for the long-term health of

If you have a tree that has not been pruned regularly, and you're trying to get it back into shape you'll want to start out by pruning out and dead or diseased branches. Second, you'll want to cut out any crossing branches. Crossing branches create open wounds that can be easily infected. After you've pruned out dead, diseased, and crossing branches you want to try to open up the canopy. An open canopy will allow airflow. That's going to reduce the humidity, and therefore reduce the severity of disease occurring. The saying is that you want the canopy to be so open that a bird could flying through it without hitting any branches. A tree that has too many branches will not be as productive. An apple tree is only able effectively produce a certain amount of fruit. Adding fertilizer can boost the productivity. Therefore, pruning might affect the number of fruit you tree produces, but you'll have better quality and they'll be more likely to make it all the way to maturity.

Trees that have been properly pruned their whole lives will have more a Christmas tree shape than a teardrop shape. If you have a newly planted tree, you'll need to prune it as well. If you have planted an unbranched whip, you'll need to cut it back to 24 to 30 inches above the ground. This is going to encourage the new tree to branch out. If you don't prune an unbranched whip, you'll probably end up having a 20-foot

tall tree that doesn't have any branches on it. Sometimes people will plant a seed from an apple core that they've eaten. This can be a fun experiment for kids to see an apple tree grow. An issue that you may run into with this is that there is no telling what kind of apple tree will come up. If you plant a seed from your favorite apple, that fruit could have been pollinated by a different variety, leaving you with an unknown

See Williams, page 5A

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#### Paris... continued from Page 4A

of cardboard can be recycled. We don't want to confuse paperboard (described above) with cardboard. Fortunately, unlike some other items, recycling cardboard is pretty straight forward. Almost all of it can be recycled. It is a highquality material capable of being recycled multiple times. Recycling boxes also reduces processing pollution by 95% because the fiber has already been processed.

Q. Some of my boxes are very large. How do I handle that?

A. Be sure to remove any plastic packaging, bags, and/or tape from your boxes. Then, break down or flatten your boxes to allow for more recyclables in the bins.

Q. My family eats a lot of pizza, so this is the perfect way for us to handle these

A. As long as your corrugated cardboard is clean and dry, it can be placed in the recycle bin. Wet or greasy cardboard, like pizza boxes or fast-food boxes, are considered a contaminate and belong in the garbage. Here's why: wet or contaminated items can jam sorting equipment at the recycle processing centers and it can ruin good, clean material. Just one greasy pizza box can contaminate an entire bin of cardboard. Please do not place these in the bin for recycling. Instead, these need to be grouped with bagged trash.

Q. That leaves aluminum cans. If I want to recycle, what do I do with these?

A. Here is a bit of related trivia: Aluminum is a sustainable metal and can be recycled over and over again. An aluminum can is generally turned into a new can and could possibly be back on store shelves within 60 days. In the United States, a staggering 105,784 aluminum cans are recycled each minute — leading to an overall recycling rate of nearly 50 percent, the highest recycling rate for any beverage container. Additionally, due to the infinite recyclability of aluminum, 75 percent of all aluminum produced is still in circulation. (Greenbiz.com) To prepare your aluminum cans, make sure all cans are clear of liquids or foods that could be left in the container. You can do this by rinsing the can when you're finished with it. The same applies to aluminum cans in that foods or liquids left in cans might contaminate the bin. The Union County Recycle Station also asks that you flatten the cans if possible.

Q. Will there be anyone available to help us if we have

A. Yes, if you have questions about this process, you can ask the recycle center attendants on duty.

#### ${f Dyer}$ ...continued from Page 4A

a few hours to days. Firefighters, law enforcement officers, and various other organizations can be involved.

When these calls are completed, the firefighters must then complete a report which takes about an hour or longer. Nothing is ever done until the paper work is done. The department responds to various other calls. Keep in mind that firefighters must also find time to check-off trucks and equipment, perform hydrant maintenance, test fire hose, test pumpers, perform pre-incident plans, perform training, and yes ... the department tries to eat when they can. So when you read the fire department incidents add in the time, effort and commitment that goes into each call reported.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

#### White...continued from Page 4A

2. Of course I would not deny citizenship to anyone who has served in our military. This is non- controversial. At the rate the present administration is going, we may not have any native born citizens willing to serve in our military.

3. As for the number of miles of wall created by Trump, my records show this was 457 miles, and while the majority of these walls replaced existing and ineffective barriers, they proved to be an effective deterrent wherever they were constructed. I don't know where the writer is getting his information but I have seen nothing that would suggest half of these walls were blown down

by wind. Perhaps the writer is spending too much time watching the "chuck & duck" press conferences held almost daily by the White House press secretary. How pathetic.

4. Trump did divert funds from the military for border construction, but I thought ONE of the purposes of the military was to defend this country from invasion. Maybe I was wrong.

5. As for states' rights, I am not sure of the point the writer was making, but for the record, I believe strongly in AMEND-MENT X of the U.S. CONSTI-TUTION and deplore its erosion by the U.S. Congress. Peter W. White

## Riley...continued from Page 4A

out the state, and he retired in 1954 after his career of 37 years. He received numerous awards including Man of the Year in Agriculture in 1942 by the Progressive Farmer and was inducted into the UGA Agriculture Hall of Fame.

I found the UGA 1917 Pandora yearbook and this is what it said about Walter S. Brown: "Walter Scott Brown B.S.A. – Member of the Agricultural Club, Graduate of the Hiawassee High School, Captain Company "B"; Editorin-Chief of the Agricultural Quarterly; Member of Alpha Zeta. Brown comes from Hiawassee, lost in the mountains of North Georgia. If you don't believe it is there, just catch the Gainesville, North western and Narrow Gauge Railroad going toward Helen, GA. Brown's savage and warlike instincts have been developed here to the extent that the commandant was afraid to refuse him a captain's commission. Besides being an irresistible ladies man, "W.S." is also a student of social needs. He has specialized in animal husbandry for the purpose of breeding an animal whose legs on one side are shorter than those on the other. The value of such a creature lies in the ability to plow on the steep mountain sides. Brown heaves here with the good wishes of the student body, and we trust that his life's pathway might be as smooth as his native land is rough."

After 48 years of service to family and agriculture, Walter S. Brown died on December 5, 1965. He was a true pioneer with the same spirit of adventure possessed by those who settled the lands of this country. His understanding of hardships, gained through his childhood in the mountains of Towns County enabled him to make significant contributions to the development of a richer, fuller life for the farm families and youth of Geor-

My times with "Granddaddy Brown" in these mountains; fishing trips on Corbin creek, fox hunting on Owl creek, duck hunting, working in his garden, and the lectures that I got about always being a gentleman still stick in my mind today. These memories have been an inspiration to me all thru my career, and I

am proud to be his Grandson. Frank M. Riley, Jr, is Executive Director Chestatee/ Chattahoochee RC&D Coun-

#### YHC presents "PLACE Reunion" Art Exhibit January 26 - February 23

<u>Young|Harris</u> COLLEGE

vites the community to attend upcoming Fine Arts events on the YHC campus, which is located at 1 College Street, Young Harris, GA 30582.

On Thursday, January 26 at 6 p.m., the Opening Reception for the art exhibit, "P L A C E reunion," by YHC's Campus Gate Art Gallery Director Becky Miller, will be held in the Campus Gate Art Gallery. The exhibit will be on display weekdays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. through Thursday, February

Young Harris College in- 23. Miller's work features artifacts made with dirt, soil clay, crop residue, and found The artist's mission is

to preserve and perpetuate the story undergirded by the idea that the earth is your historian. Admission is free and open to

For more information, please contact Assistant to the Division of Fine Arts Victoria Henderson by calling (706) 379-5182 or emailing her at vahenderson@yhc.edu.

### Cummings...continued from Page 4A

It is said that Mandy haunts the Rock Bridge to this day. If you visit the bridge at midnight, you can see her sitting there in a rocking chair rocking and singing her favorite songs.

The rock formation where she and her children would visit is located 100 yards from the bridge. People can actually sit on the "saddle rock" and view Little Bear Creek located a quarter mile away in the hollow below. This area must have been quite a nice place to gather for young folks because there are many initials carved into the limestone. I am familiar with many of the initials because they belong to old friends and loved ones which have long since passed.

As a young boy I listened to stories about Rock Bridge and Saddle Rock. I was told they were beautiful places, but, danger lurked there as well. One evening I was at Maw maw's house and none of my cousins were there with me. After supper I was bored so I went outside. It was late summer and there was a muscadine vine down in the woods toward the creek. I decided to walk the short distance to see if any were ripe yet. As I was standing at the bottom of this tree scanning the top of the tree and vine for any ripe muscadines, I heard something that made the hair on my neck stand up. Judging the location of the sound I figured it was coming from up close to the Rock Bridge. I was sure the sound came from a woman. It sounded like something you would hear on a scary movie.

#### Fowler... continued from Page 4A

Christ you receive forgiveness and new life. "With the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness" (Rom. 10:10).

Jesus once explained that a man was born blind "so that the works of God might be displayed in him" (John 9:3). That's not easy to contemplate. But as Damar Hamlin is now at home recovering after over a week in the hospital, he can fairly claim that same result. God is there and is at work in the world, and in you.

#### Habitat... continued from Page 4A

our affiliate is facing its greatest challenge to keep up the ability to continue our dedication to our Mission.

Our local Restore is our largest funding source for our projects. The Habitat Restore accepts gently used items to include furniture, housewares, clothing, appliances, building materials, and sellable items that contribute to our Mission. We offer free donation pickups Monday to Friday during busi-

ness hours. Habitat for Humanity Towns Union Counties is grateful to our partners and friends. By supporting our local Restore, vou will continue

to contribute to our Mission. Contact us at www.townsunionhabitat.org to schedule a free donation pick up, or inquire about our programs and partnership opportunities.

#### Williams...

#### continued from Page 4A

cross. Another issue is that nowadays most trees have been grafted onto a rootstock. The grafted rootstock will provide more protection from root diseases and may dwarf the tree, which cuts down on the diffi-

culty of managing the tree. If you have questions about pruning apple trees, contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

#### Bishop... continued from Page 4A

I am so thankful to live in a country where the Gospel can be in editorials, and preached far and wide, instead of in hidden rooms with fear of

persecution, or death. Thank you North Georgia News. Respectfully submitted,

#### **UC Historical** Society's **Brick Walk**

**Carol Bishop** 

The Union County Historical Society is still running a special price of \$50 on Memorial Bricks. These bricks make great gifts to honor someone or a memorial for loved ones.

We also have bell ringings for celebration of special occasions and memorials at cost \$50 each.

For more information contact the Union County Historical Society at 706-745-

I have many fond memories of the Baker Rock swimming hole

Through the years I have experienced fear, sadness and great joy at the Rock Bridge.

But, the cool waters of Little Bear Creek and the beauty of the Rock Bridge are places which I cherish and love because my family history is so linked to the place.

I could just imagine the scene of a Cherokee woman running along the edge of the Rock Bridge and falling to her death. The screams would begin and then stop for a time and begin It didn't take me long before I decided to go back

home. I didn't run. But I kept a lookout. I didn't want that Indian woman slipping up on me. I told my Maw maw about the screams and she assured me the sound was not a haint. But what she told me scared me even more. She explained the sound was being made by a "painter." She said, "I'm not sure the color of this big cat. Could be he is brown. But he is probably black with green eyes." She further explained that these black panthers were mean and sneaky. They had been known to kill humans. She told me it was best that I stay inside for the rest of the evening. Baker Rock sits in a

bend of the creek next to a waist-deep hole. The rock takes its name from my ancestors. It has been used for generations as a swimming hole by Bakers, Adams, Cummings, Weeks, and many other families of the area. My cousins and I could walk there in 10-15 minutes. Each year we would build a dam of rocks across Little Bear Creek to deepen the pool of water to chest deep on a 10year-old. After the water got deep enough, we would climb the living-room sized rock and jump from it into the cool waters of Little Bear Creek. An Olympic-sized swimming pool with high diving boards cannot compare to Baker Rock on a hot July day. My cousins and I all learned to swim in that creek.