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tical possibilities, we did not want to spend the money to make this change. Working with Advanced Disposal Company, we are now convinced that the new process will be better for everyone. It will cost more for some who have been having their garbage bags weighed, thus receiving a drastically reduced price. But we are not blaming them for what they were able to do, but it should have never been allowed to happen. They can now look at it that they got a very good deal for a long time, and now will have to pay what most are already paying, which is a fair price of \$1 per bag for small bags and \$1.25 for large garbage bags. This price has been in effect for several years.

Q. Does the lost revenue from mistakes at the

Transfer Station operation cost the county?

A. Not directly because we bid the operation out and Advanced Disposal has had the contract. But where it could cost the county is in contract extensions or renegotiations in the future. If the company is making less money, they will be less willing to make concessions to assist us in future facility expansions and improvements and in reducing the county's own garbage rate.

Thank you for understanding that these changes at the Transfer Station are necessary to continue to have an efficient and safe operation, and to gradually earn the name, Transfer Station, and eliminate the term that has been used for so many years by many, "THE DUMP".

Cummings... continued from Page 4B

swimming. Mommy Baker was surprised to see her girls wearing nothing but their birthday suits standing behind the hen house. Mommy Baker was a woman who loved to laugh. When she saw her girls she began to laugh. Soon she was laughing so hard she lost her balance and leaned back against the hen house to keep from falling. Delphia and Lucille told her of the events of the day and they soon realized their brothers had pulled the wool over their eyes. My grandmother

never forgot this event and she laughed each time she told it to her family.

Years later my Maw maw was visiting with me and while here we took a group of 4-H Members tubing down a local river. My 65 year old grandmother had a great time. On a slow stretch of river she told me her story and laughed until she nearly turned over in her tube. So, get out enjoy the hot weather and go skinny dipping. Just make sure you remember where you hid your clothing.

Riley... continued from Page 4B

during a fire event, a fire-resistant property enables firefighters to focus on containing the wildfire itself, rather than defending individual structures.

Ready, Set, Go! also bring fire departments and residents together to build important understanding, preparedness, and action. They may be called Wildland fires, brush fires, grass fires or forest fires, yet the threat remains the same.

Our Firewise programs here in Northeast Georgia are making a difference by making our residents aware of the wildfire risks all around them and the numbers prove it.

We held a full scale Ready Set Go evacuation exercise in early 2015 to test our firefighters and residents to see if what we have developed in our Firewise programs over the past 3 years actually worked, and it did very well.

We learned things that

will help our firefighters better defend your property from an escaped fire safely and efficiently. Plans are in the works to hold a similar exercise in White County in Fall of 2016. The first goal of a fire incident commander is to keep firefighters and citizens safe because if someone is injured, that takes firefighter resources away from controlling the fire and with that things can quickly get out of hand. Protecting property is secondary to protecting lives. Our firefighters are trained very well to protect you and your stuff, but you have to help them by making your property Firewise!

To learn more about how to be Firewise and how to develop a personal "Ready, Set, Go!" action plan contact Frank Riley, Executive Director, Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council, go to www.wildlandfireRSG.org or www.firewise.org

Allison ... continued from Page 4B

Chamber of Commerce. We were very humbled and honored to receive a beautiful shadow box display with an American Flag and certificate that reads as follows: "So That All Shall Know That in your honor and with great pride, this American Flag was flown on June 6, 2016, during a Combat Mission over Iraq and Syria in direct support of Operation Inherent Resolve and the fight against ISIS, ISIL and other Terrorist Organizations; symbolizing the Sovereign Power of the United States of America and the unshakeable resolve to keep our country safe. This flag is presented to: Union County Chamber of Commerce This flag is a shining beacon of light that represents the American resolve and bears witness to the destruction of the Terrorist Forces threatening the United States of America and the Free World." Signed by Jack Martin Pilot in Command, Jason Eagley Second-in-Command and Dan Hunter Sensor Operator.

We had over 70 in attendance for Commissioner Carr to speak about the impact tourism and the film industry is having in Georgia. Commissioner Carr remarked that Georgia's economy is strong and we still hold the designation of the #1 state to do business. One of the biggest impacts for businesses across our state and our community is tourism. With Blairsville-Union County being a camera-ready community, we too have been impacted by this through television shows, movies, and commercials being shot in our backyard. If your business is more tourism related, Commissioner Carr's office has staff members that primarily focus on that area of economic development that we work with on a daily basis. Cheryl Smith is the Senior Project Manager for the Northeast Georgia Mountains for the Georgia Department of

Economic Development. She does an outstanding job and is always keeping us abreast of trends in tourism to help us promote our local businesses.

As Commissioner Carr notated in his presentation, tourism impacts the regions across the state more than it does individual counties. Visitors do not stop at the county line when they are exploring our area. I have found this to be true as we also are the Welcome Center for the Blairsville/Suches area. We have quite a few visitors that are passing through and will stop in to find out about attractions, shopping, restaurants, events, and accommodations in the area. We are always glad to serve our members and help promote them. We were pleased to hear Commissioner Carr remark about several of our local businesses such as Panel Built, Inc., Jim's Smokin' Que, Granddaddy Mimms Distillery and Paradise Hills Resort & Spa just to name a few.

Finally, Commissioner Carr spoke about local companies becoming exporters as a way to grow their businesses in Georgia. If you have been thinking about expanding your business globally, this may be a great time to consider such. We will be scheduling a tour of our community in the near future with Alice Carson, Senior International Trade Manager, who will be meeting with business owners who have an interest in the international market. Please be sure to contact our office if you have an interest in this very exciting project.

If you currently are not a Chamber Member and would like to find out more information about Membership, give us a call at 706-745-5789. For a complete list of our current Chamber Members and events happening in the area, visit our website at VisitBlairsvilleGA.com.

Mattee...

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ter (GMREC), and your local UGA Cooperative Extension Office are hosting a forestry field day. SepTIMBER Forestry Ag Day will take place on September 28th at GMREC in Blairsville from 9 a.m. to 1:45. Admission is \$5 and will include lunch and a chance to win door prizes. Topics covered will include native tree identification, nuisance wildlife management, invasive species control, tree disease and pest management, and fire prevention. This program will offer three hours of commercial pesticide credit in categories 23, 24, and 27, as well as one hour of private applicator credit. To RSVP, please contact GMREC at 706-745-2655 by September 14th to ensure your spot.

Fowler...

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ies. Wherever we go we either bring people nearer to Christ or we repel them from Christ." God determines our appointed times and boundaries, whether athletes or not. God has given us "this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves" (2 Cor. 4:6). Your life has its own platform to display this powerful treasure of greater value than gold, silver, or bronze.

Chief ...

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provide valuable information to the UCEOC and perform functions as assigned by the Incident Commander. CERT members also provide help for non-essential duties during a major disaster or other events. These duties can include administrative work, damage assessment, shelter work, communications, or staffing of the UCEOC. There are many areas where CERT members can be a great help to the overall response to an emergency.

Volunteering is rewarding and when it comes to emergency preparedness and response; there is a job for everyone who would like to volunteer. To become a Union County CERT member, please contact Union County Fire Department at 706-439-6091 for more information.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Combs...

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kind's sins. Christ is not just a person who shows the way. He personally is the only way to get to heaven. Jesus Christ is the source of all truth and life and if you put your trust in Him, He promises you eternal life with Him when you die.

No man, no woman or child comes to the Father in heaven, except by Christ. Jesus made a dead-end street of all the cults and "isms." Some folks may say I am dogmatic about my relationship to Christ and rightly so, for being dogmatic means being positive of what I believe in. I leave you with a question to ponder: What if you are wrong about your belief and I know for sure that my belief is spot on. Test the Scriptures and see for yourself what Jesus said about the only way. What a waste of a life not to believe in the truth of God's Word.

Frank F. Combs

Barnes...

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(Name of player) please escort Miss (Name of girl selected as queen) to the podium please." They then made their way to a stand which had an arch, and decorated up with purple and gold paper flowers and ribbons. The queen received a purple velvet cape, a crown and a bunch of roses and then the player leaned over and they shared a sweet kiss.

I don't know when or why this was ever changed but I always enjoyed this way of doing Homecoming better than ever!

And I don't know if each High School grade does the float decorating contest any more either but that was always an enjoyment too and the float that was voted the most on was announced during the game too. They were always lined up on the track across the field.

I got wind too that the Alumni Band members from the Culpepper Years 1972-1979 have been requested to be there too. I sure hope so. Would be nice if we even performed just a little bit too.

Any way, just a thought and suggestion to make a great Homecoming this year and years to come.

Delores Barnes

Drugs ... continued from Page 4B

"It is important to educate the public about this now," said NIDA Director Nora Volkow. "Kids who start using drugs in their teen years may never know their full potential. This is also true in relation to the risk

for psychosis. The risk is significantly higher for people who begin using marijuana during adolescence. And unfortunately at this point, most people don't know their genetic risk for psychosis or addiction."