

## Paris...continued from Page 4A

stream buffer, and provided that such clearing is not in violation of local or state law. If you are in any doubt as to whether or not you should get a permit you should call the Building & Development Department at (706) 439-6045.

### Q. How long is a building permit valid?

A. Building permits are valid for one year from the date of issuance for new structures and six months for a mobile home. Building permits are not renewable and if the permit expires prior to completion of the project a replacement building permit must be purchased.

### Q. What are the penalties for failing to get a building permit?

A. The ordinance states that any person violating any provision of this ordinance is guilty of violating a duly adopted ordinance of Union County and upon conviction such a violation is punishable as a misdemeanor, and subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and subject to imprisonment

for no more than 60 days or both. Each day during which the violation or failure or refusal to comply continues shall constitute a separate violation. The Building and Development Department has the authority to issue stop work orders when violations are discovered.

### Q. We had a neighbor tear down an existing structure and left it in a mess for several months. Does debris from a house being torn down require removal from the site?

A. Yes. It is illegal to burn the remains unless they have been carefully separated into legal items that can be burned. When destroying any existing building, the safest and most legal means of disposal is to have the debris hauled to a certified disposal facility for construction debris. The only certified facility is located off Hayfield Road.

For any additional information on similar issues, please call the Building and Development Office at (706) 439-6045.

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about their success. Representatives from the Georgia Department of Agriculture, the Georgia Agritourism Association, and the Georgia Department of Economic Development will be in attendance and presenting material. Speaker of the House, David Ralston will give the keynote address at lunch.

For a complete and up-to-date list of vendors as well as a full agenda and registration forms, go to [www.gafarmtrail.com](http://www.gafarmtrail.com).

## Cummings...continued from Page 4A

there long when this tall, lanky, young man came running down the street with nothing on but a paper bag over his head. Everyone in town was cheering and clapping their hands. None of us knew that the person under the bag was Bob. Well, most of us didn't know.

As Bob ran through town he ran by the spring to pick up his clothing and made his way back home. Upon arriving at his house Bob found the Chief of Police sitting in his driveway. By this time Bob was fully clothed so he walked up to the car and asked, "Mr. Steele can I help you?" Mr. Steele looked up at Bob with a grin and said, "Bob, you are under arrest for indecent exposure". Bob asked the policeman, "How did you know it was me?" "Well Bob, you are the tallest kid in Chickamauga," replied the officer.

The Farmers Market is completing our reservation process for this season. Our regular season will open on

[com/symposium](http://www.gafarmtrail.com). Registration is required and open to anyone who has an interest in the North Georgia Farm Trail. The \$25 registration fee includes a farm to table lunch provided by The Sawmill Restaurant. Those interested in being a vendor should contact the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce at 706-745-5789. I would like to say a special thanks to our Union County break sponsor, Joe Garner of Southeastern Farmers Co-Op.

June 6, 2015. Our annual Ramp Day will be held on May 9 and our Strawberry Festival will be held May 23.

The Trash to Treasures Day will begin on April 9 and just like last year we will be open on both Thursday and Friday. But, unlike last year we will be holding a drawing for those vendors present on Thursday. This drawing will be done each Thursday through the end of May. Each vendor's space number will be placed into a hat and one number will be drawn from the hat at noon. The winning number (vendor) will receive up to half of Thursday's earnings. So, vendors will receive as much as \$150. The amount of money will depend upon the number of vendors present. For example, we charge \$10 per space each day. Therefore, if 30 people show up the event makes \$300 and the vendor would receive \$150. See you at the Farmers Market!

## Fiser ... continued from Page 4A

cut Ms. Maloney mentioned was Obama's extension of the Bush tax cuts.) Of course some of these are probably bipartisan and good for the country. That's a necessary ruse if one is going to keep the majority of the people fooled so the real agenda can be put in place. In other words, "Throw them a fish but hide the hook!" For the \$8 trillion national debt increase during his six year tenure, Obama must have bought something worthwhile, even though his very expensive "shovel ready" jobs were nonexistent and no one seems to know where the \$825 billion went. But his administration's legislative activities and his executive orders, excepting the Obamacare fiasco passed by secret negotiations, deception and lies to the voters and his recent executive order "legalizing" some 5 million illegal immigrants, are to me sec-

ondary. My primary concern is the decline of our historical culture and of the status of the United States in the eyes of the world, declines produced by or that will likely be produced by his personal domestic and foreign social and political policies and associated activities. Most frightening is his apparent unconcern for and/or ignorance of the potential increase in our physical danger. Many of us may be, to coin a phrase, "cremated equally!" In that event, many may, as Ms Maloney suggested that I do, "look on the bright side." Many more won't see the flash at all. The Mullahs could care less so long as they kill Jews and Christians. Surprisingly, the self proclaimed erudite and the social elite seem to be those most easily led by promises of Utopia and "Peace in our times!"

**Richard Y. Fiser**

## Henderson ...continued from Page 4A

a student enrollment multiplier rule.

Ten private schools won 26 percent of the 1,826 sports championships that took place during 1995-2014 (excludes sports that split). What was the GHSA doing while this was occurring? Well, they did have a 1.5 multiplier rule in place during 2001-2008. This approach to parity failed. During this period, private school wins continued to rise.

The following private school statistics are for the years 1995-2014. In 2A and 3A boys' and girls' cross country combined, private schools won 67 of the last 79 championships (85 percent). In 2A and 3A boys' and girls' soccer combined, private schools won 35 of the last 44 championships (80%). In 2A and 3A boys' and girls' tennis combined, private schools won 73 of the last 80 championships (91 percent). In A/AA and 3A volleyball combined, private schools won 26 of the last 29 championships (90 percent).

During 2012-2014, in 2A, 3A, and 4A boys' and girls' soccer combined, there were 207 playoff games in which private schools played public or city schools. Private schools outscored public and city schools by a combined total of 793 to 65.

I encourage those interested in competitive balance in GHSA sports to go to the GHSA website at <https://www.ghsa.net/champions> and look at the various sports that have been dominated by private schools for decades. Send an email to the GHSA and let them know that public and private schools do not need to be competing in regional play, nor do they need to be competing against each other in the state playoffs. Contact information for the GHSA Executive Director and Associate Directors can be found at <https://www.ghsa.net/office-staff>.

**Alan Henderson**

Parent of a public school athlete

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each delicate blossomed bud, marveling how they didn't get stuck once they got up in that folded petal.

Our color palette could now discern between rose and carnation pink; lilac and lavender. When I chose the colors for my bedroom, I had a specific color in mind for the shag carpet- sunflower yellow. Not daisy or jonquil, but sunflower. We grew to appreciate the depth of colors in fabrics, wanting a periwinkle dress for Easter, not bluebell. Fuschia, cornflower, mauve, orchid and violet became our favorite crayons, replacing the primary colors we were first introduced to.

Our biggest thrill was when we got permission to go in the garden and harvest. We'd bring in huge bouquets to fill the flower vases. To this day, my favorite vase for summer flowers is a quart Ball jar. And I'm still captivated by the colors, shape and grace of the snap dragon.

If you love the colors of

## Fowler ...

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death, then read that He "for the joy set before Him, endured the cross" (Heb 12:2). Yes, joy! People may have carried out the death sentence, but it was God's plan all along. Why? For us, for love. Before the foundation of the world, God knew we would fall into sin; in love He prepared a sacrifice to bear our sin and offer forgiveness. His call is believe Him and accept what He has done for us. It's life-changing.

What became of Lee Strobel? He was convinced by the evidence, and believed that Jesus lived and died on his behalf. Might you also need to consider that you are the reason for the sacrifice? ([www.christophile2u.wordpress.com](http://www.christophile2u.wordpress.com)).

## Elder...

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tax cuts for large corporations and the ultra wealthy. Of course, these tax cuts will be financed by cuts to Social Security, Medicare and other social programs which we all paid for and which affect all of us in the middle and lower classes. Next you mentioned the dangers of transporting oil by rail and I wholeheartedly agree with that but pipelines frequently rupture too and the consequences are even worse. What I advocate is getting away from oil and gas entirely and going to alternate fuels - I personally drive a hybrid and when charging stations become common, I will switch to all electric. Next you misunderstood what I said about clearing thousands of acres of forest, I wasn't talking about when the pipeline is being built, I was referring to the way tar sands oil is mined and not pumped. Sorry you got crossed up on that. Lastly, you mentioned the 9,000 high paying jobs associated with the pipeline and while many temporary jobs will be created during construction of the pipeline it is estimated that less than 100 permanent jobs will be involved in the operation of the pipeline.

**Luther Elder**

## Gray ...

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ville to come join together on Thursday, April 2 at noon, at Blairsville City Hall. Allowing the jihadists to act in the name of their religious leader—and not countering that in the way Christians are called to act (pray corporately and fervently) is not an option.

Last month, the Blairsville group's attendance nearly filled the entire room. That is the beginning of good news! I envision that if our community takes its rightful place of uniting across denominational lines in prayer, and joining people all across this nation, we will soon have to find a larger venue, and this countrywide movement will have an impact on our nation. Not everyone who attends prays out loud; but hearts are joined as one.

Christ tells us observers will know we are Christians by our love, and if we cry out for mercy and justice for the victims of this horrendous ISIS-cleansing, He will hear. If we think this doesn't affect us, we are fooling ourselves. God will not be mocked. Recall that 1Chron 7:14 tells us: If my people will humble themselves... and pray... Then I will hear...and heal their land. It is a promise dependent first on action on our part.

Pastors and congregants alike: Come, and also mark your calendar for every first Thursday of the month! The Lord awaits evidence of our faith, and the world is watching how we respond.

Respectfully submitted,

**Arlene M. Gray**

the garden, consider registering for the seminar sponsored by the Blairsville Garden Club. It is being held on Wednesday, April 22 at the Haralson Memorial Civic Center, 165 Wellborn Street, Blairsville, GA, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The program will include the following speakers and their subject: Program Encore Azaleas In The Garden-Mark Maher, Regional Representative Flowerwood Nurseries, Mobile, Ala; Southern Living Plant Collection - Mark Maher, Regional Representative; Flowers, Fragrance & Medicine-Dr. Bodie Pennisi; From The Garden Associate Professor and Extension Landscape Specialist Co-Editor-in-Chief, Scientia Horticulturae Department of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Griffin Campus Mobile Planters In The Landscape-Dr. Bodie Pennisi (A new look at hanging baskets, pots, and planters); Conifers In Georgia - Dr. John Ruter Professor of Horticulture, UGA Director of UGA Trial Gardens.

The cost for the seminar is \$25 and it includes morning coffee and goodies as well as lunch for all participants. Go to this link to get your registration form <http://gardenclub.uga.edu/pdfs/landscapeseminar.pdf>.