

## Paris ...continued from Page 4A

firemen?

A. Absolutely. They are a very important component of our Fire Department. Not only do you have access to the paid firemen, we also have more than 80 well trained volunteers ready, willing and able to respond. All of our fire stations are fully equipped, and each of the five main stations have a new pumper/tanker truck. Our Fire Department and volunteers also handle all search and rescue operations in the county.

**Q. What does it mean to be NPQ Firefighter 2 certified?**

A. To be NPQ certified means that a firefighter has met the job performance and education requirements established by the National Professional Qualifications Board (NPQB). The firefighters that have obtained this national certification have been tested by both written and a "hands-on" practical test that complies with *NFPA 1001: Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*. This certification is recognized not

only in Georgia, but all of the United States. For a firefighter there are two levels, Firefighter 1 and Firefighter 2.

**Q. In a previous Q & A, you mentioned that Fire Station 1 (all paid firemen) is expanding. How is that progressing?**

A. Exceptionally well. As I write this, the new building addition located on Shoe Factory Road off the Gooch By-Pass, is finished and the Fire Department is in the process of moving.

All moving will hopefully be completed in time for the Open House on July 23rd from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. If you have not been to Station 1 recently, you will really be surprised. The new building blends in seamlessly with the existing building and looks like it was designed that way from the beginning. We hope you will come for a visit on July 23rd to see your SPLOST sales tax dollars at work.

**UCFD to be continued.**

## Leone ...continued from Page 4A

I just nod in agreement. What's her point?

"Does it say cooked rice?" she says in a non-rhetorical tone. I'm thinking, does it have to? Have you ever tried eating raw rice?

"Cooked rice would absorb all the liquid and then it wouldn't be as creamy," she instructs me. I realize that the glimmer of light I thought I saw in her eyes was actually a caution light.

Now, a month later, I caught her smirk at me as she dished out my plate, giving me an extra generous portion of this putrid podge. I'm resolved not to eat it. I don't want the pizza either, but I'll suffer through that and the beans, drowning them with swigs of milk.

It's time for my penance. I walk slowly to the designated area where we stack our dirty plate and silverware. There's also a large trash can decouped from top to bottom with pictures of pagan children. It is to remind us that there are starving children in the world who would give their eye teeth for raw rice swaddled in goo. By the looks of most of their smiles, they obviously had made that decision when faced with this same recipe.

Today, Mother Superior is standing next to the "Receptacle of the Wrenching Heart," spatula in hand. She's not

much taller than I, with dark, deeply lined olive skin with age marks in the pattern of some celestial constellation. I've always been too intimidated to look close enough to determine which one. She is a power to be reckoned with and today is my reckoning day.

I gather my courage and turn the plate over the open mouth of all these rickets ridden children. She takes a look at my hash. It is adhering to the plate with the same force as a cat on your skin as you try to dip it in water. Mother Superior takes the spatula, and I wince, eyes shut tight, knowing that she is going to rap my hands hard. Instead I feel a tug on the plate as this merciful woman scrapes hard to release the glob from my plate. The heavily starched wimple that surrounds her face puckers as she breaks out into a big grin. She winks at me. "Miss Leone, don't you think this dessert would be more appealing if they would cook the rice?"

If you would like to see if I can cook any better than Mrs. Fote, join Mickey Cummings and me at the Union County Farmers Market on July 6th for our EGG-stravaganza event. From 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. we'll be cooking with eggs, and we will have samples for all! Maybe I'll tell you more stories of growing up Catholic, too.

## Williams ...continued from Page 4A

Union County Sheriff's Office, Union County Fire Department and Union County Recreation Department for providing event support in the form of fire and public safety, traffic control, and parking.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday. We look

forward to your company on Thursday night. For additional holiday events and celebrations, check out our website at [www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com](http://www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com) or call us at 706-745-5789. I can be reached directly at [President@BlairsvilleChamber.com](mailto:President@BlairsvilleChamber.com).

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most famous and revered bell is the Liberty Bell, which can

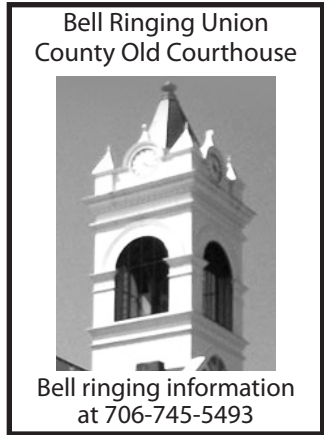
## Cummings

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Daniel's house and borrowed his truck. Clifford soon found himself sitting at the controls of a knuckle boom loading the statue of the Rebel Soldier onto the log truck.

The next morning the good people of Dawsonville found their brand new statue missing from the courthouse lawn. They found their beloved statue on the lawn of Shoal Creek Baptist Church. Nobody ever found out that Clifford had stolen the statue. But, Clifford told me that my great-great Grandfather had fought in the "War of Northern Aggression." So, Clifford figured that his grandfather deserved that statue at his resting place there at Shoal Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. Clifford said, "None of them town boys had folks to fight in that war anyway."

Let me remind each of you that the Canning Plant opens next Tuesday, July 9th at 6:30 a.m. and closes at noon. Participants at the Canning Plant need to bring their own jars and lids as well as the ingredients which they will can. People are there who will help you prepare your items and then you will place the ingredients into the jars. The staff at the Canning Plant will then process the jars for you. The cost for processing is .35/quart and .25/pint. The Canning Plant will be open the following dates in July. Please notice that we will be closed on July 23rd. I will be at the National Wildlife Judging Contest in Indiana on that day with our state winning Union County Team. July Dates of Operation for the Union County Canning Plant Tuesday, July 9th, 16th and 30th; and Thursday, July 11th, 18th and 25th.



Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493

## Cancer freezing procedure

Freezing procedures available for breast, lung, liver, and prostate cancers. These procedures have been around for years, yet so many people do not know about them. Research information under [www.radiologyinfo.org](http://www.radiologyinfo.org) and look up procedure by name, Cryotherapy

Chamber of Commerce events	
For details and future events see events calendar at <a href="http://www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com">www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com</a>	
<b>Wednesday, July 3</b>	
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane
<b>Thursday, July 4</b>	
8:30 am	Independence Day - Vogel State Park
11 am	Lake Nottely Independence Day Boat Parade -Lake Nottely
12 pm	Rotary Club Monthly Meeting - Cadence Bank 2nd Floor
3 pm	Fourth of July Celebration - The Copperhead Lodge
5 pm	Bike Night - The Copperhead Lodge
5 pm	Trivia Night - The Union County Community Center View Grill
6:30 pm	Blairsville Sorghum Festival Meeting - Cooks Restaurant
7 pm	Star Spangled Cook Out - Brasstown Valley Resort
8 pm	July 4th Fireworks Show - Brasstown Valley Resort
9:30 pm	Independence Day Fireworks Celebration in Blairsville-Meeks Park
<b>Friday, July 5</b>	
8 am	Trash and Treasures - Union County Farmers Market
7 pm	Concert - Union County Historical Courthouse
7 pm	Danny Rhea - The Copperhead Lodge
<b>Saturday, July 6</b>	
7 am	Union County Farmer's Market - 148 Old Smokey Rd
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane
6 pm	Steve Bryson Band @ Back In Time On Hwy 129 - 127 Pappy's Plaza
7 pm	NEIGHBOR'S HAND "The Gathering" - 307 C Cleveland Street
7 pm	High Noon Band - The Copperhead Lodge
<b>Monday, July 8</b>	
9 am	Garden Tours - The GA Mountain Research & Education Center
11 am	Union County Public Library presents "Dig into Reading" Programs - U.C. Public Library
12 pm	Blairsville Kiwanis Club Monthly Meeting-Steve's Cookie Jar Restaurant
<b>Tuesday, July 9</b>	
8 am	Tri-State Business Women's Meeting - Cooks Country Restaurant
3 pm	Union County Farmer's Market - 148 Old Smokey Rd
4 pm	Habitat Diners Club-Monet's Café, Bakery, Coffee House & Garden Room
<b>Wednesday, July 10</b>	
2 pm	Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad-16 Misty Mountain Lane

# UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

	Every Monday:	
Garden Tours	GMREC	9 am - 1 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6:30 pm
<b>Every Tuesday:</b>		
Sweet Adelines	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
<b>Every Thursday:</b>		
Masonic Luncheon	Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Butternut Ladies Golf	Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 am
Rotary Club	Cadence Bank	Noon
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
<b>Second Monday of each month:</b>		
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild	Hayesville	10 am-3 pm
Disabled Am Veterans	UC Annex, Rm 116	Noon (Jan-Oct)
<b>Second Tuesday of each month:</b>		
Historical Society Bd.	Old Courthouse	9:30 am
Beta Sigma Phi	Kappa Alpha Chapter	7 pm
Eastern Star #304	Location not listed	7:30 pm
Mtn Laurel Arts/Crafts	Union County Library	10 am
Mtn. Reg. Arts/Crafts	Library - Young Harris	7 pm
NARFE	Grinds & Glazes	Noon
FPL Retirees	Hole in Wall Rest.	9 am
Mtn. Sounds Dulcimer	Sr. Citizens Center	1:30-3:30 pm
<b>Second Wednesday of each month:</b>		
Parkinson's Sup. Grp	Cadence Bank	3 pm
UC Interagency Grp.	UC Civic Center	Noon
GA Mtn Writers Club	St. Francis of Assisi	10 am
<b>Second Thursday of each month:</b>		
Sons Confederate Vet.	UCB Community Rm	7 pm
Appalachian Shriners	Allegheny Lodge	6:30 pm
Knights of Columbus	Marian Hall	7:30 pm
Lions Club	Steve's Cookie Jar	6 pm
Democratic Party	UC Senior Center	6:30 pm
Trout Unlimited	Cadence Bank	6:30 pm
UC Tea Party Patriots	UC Civic Center	7 pm
<b>Second Friday of each month:</b>		
Eastern Star #471	Location not listed	7:30 pm
<b>Second Saturday of each month:</b>		
His Victory Riders	Blairsville Restaurant	8 am