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gives local artists and craftsmen the opportunity to sell and share all their hard work and talent with the public. You also need to remember there is no admission fee and the parking is free!

Q. Who puts on the Butternut Creek Festival?

A. The festival is put on by High Country Artisans, Inc., which is a non-profit organization that is committed to promoting and preserving traditional arts and crafts. If the general public is able to see the craftsmanship and hard work that goes into these arts and crafts they will gain a greater appreciation for them. This group works together with the Union County Recreation Department and Meeks Park to make the Butternut Creek Festival a success each year.

Q. How long has this festival been going on?

A. The first year for the festival was in 1998 and has

been increasing with popularity ever since. The festival in 2007 had over 8,000 visitors on that Saturday. I signed a Proclamation back in 2008 naming the Butternut Creek Festival as Union County's official Arts and Crafts Show. This is an excellent event to attend and brings many people into the county for the weekend. Hopefully the attendance will continue to grow as the years go on.

Q. Where can I get more information on this event?

A. The festival has a website, which is www.butternut-creekfestival.com, where you can get more information about the festival and High Country Artisans, see the vendors and entertainment for this year, and also see about signing up to be a vendor for next year. You can also send an email to butternut-creekfestival@gmail.com if you have a question that is not addressed on the website.

Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

when Lon asked them to level up the bank.

A few miles down the road from Lon lived his older brother Will Cummings. Within a few weeks after the incident with Lon the Road Construction crew reached Will's house. Once again a man appeared at Will's door to ask about a road right of way. Will went through the same negotiations as Lon and was promised the same thing as Lon. Finally, the construction began at Will's place. When the dozer began cutting down the bank in front of Will's house he took matters into his own hands. Uncle Will raised up his old rifle and began shooting at the dozer. The operator ran for his life as the muffler of the dozer was shot away. The foreman of the crew tried to negotiate, but, Will refused to talk to him.

Finally, the Superintendent of Roads for the State of Alabama made the trip from Montgomery to Trapptown, AL. Before visiting Uncle Will the fellow stopped at the store above Cummings Creek and

asked, "What kind of man is Will Cummings?" The storeowner replied, "He is honest. If he tells you he will do something then count it done." The Superintendent visited with Uncle Will. All Will asked was that the hill in front of his house not be cut because it would create a bank that would be hard for him to climb up and down as he aged. He further stated, "Any man that tries to cut down that hill will be shot." The road in front of Will Cummings house was built over the hill in front of his house and there is still not a road bank there even today. Uncle Will was a "real char'acter."

If you would like to meet some other real char'acters come out to the Farmers Market this Saturday and tour the Canning Plant. You will be able to learn about food processing and preservation, learn the tricks of using the facility and meet some might nice folks who will tell you all about our facility. Tours will be offered between 9:30 and noon at the Canning Plant.

Mitchell ... continued from Page 4A

son, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to order his cannons to open fire. The home was destroyed and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife and

she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their thirteen children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year, he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children, vanished.

George Mitchell

Chavis... continued from Page 4A

Yes, the flag is merely a "symbol" and not the thing itself. But, what exactly does the thing itself look like to you? To me, it looks a lot like men in white sheets, burning crosses, lynching Africans, and waving their Confederate flag as a "symbol" of their hatred.

Maybe the Confederate battle flag is not the root, as the heart of racism reaches deep into the very psyche of this society and is based predominately on the way we think, (which, by the way, stems from our history and culture). But you

are correct... it is definitely a leaf...a poisonous one at that. Until we can strike at the root of racism; until we can change perceptions, the leaves will have to do.

At least the governor recognizes that this particular leaf is one that stems from poisonous roots and has chosen to take a stand. Bravo! I think it was Edmund Burke who said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men [and women] to do nothing."

Jan Chavis

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daily to the public.

This magnificently landscaped park has both Butternut Creek and Nottely River running through it, for fishing, nature walks and great family picnics. This spring, the red ribbon was cut on the new Canoe/Kayak Launch Ramp. The entrance is located off Blue Ridge Highway on the right hand side coming from Blairsville.

Dispersed throughout the park are eight kinetic sculptures created by native son and artist Al Garnto, all part of the Appalachian Sculpture Project. Al's studio is located just 2 miles from Meek's Park at 87 School Street. Just the grounds of his studio is worth a visit when driving through town. You'll often find Al launching his kayak in Meeks Park on these summer evenings, as well.

Did you know that Meeks Park also includes 4 baseball fields, 2 softball fields and 4 batting cages? Other features include disc golf, dog park, skateboard park, tennis courts and seasonal swimming pool. Yes, I said swimming pool. It always surprises me when I meet with residents who have no idea that we have an outdoor swimming pool, fully staffed all summer, seven days a week, open to the public. There is a small fee for each time you use the facility, or you can purchase a seasonal membership. On Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:30 - 11:30, there is adult lap swimming. On Monday-Wednesday and Friday from 10:30 till 11:30, it's water aerobics. This is where you'll find me all summer. I love this class. It's a great workout for all adults, and I'm humbled by the women who are over 80 years old that work it as hard as I do, three days a week. Come on out and join me and a couple dozen other ladies. We have a great time exercising to the music of the 50s-70s.

In addition to the Tate Grist Mill, the Park also has a fully functioning Sorghum Mill where sorghum syrup is made. You can see it in its production glory during the Sorghum Festival, the second and third weekends in October. The upcoming Butternut Creek Arts Festival, later in July, is one of the South's most visited Art events. The location along the creek, shaded

by century old trees, is a major part of the allure.

If you hate to leave the mountains for a summer vacation, but you want to do something "different" for a change, spend a few afternoons or early evenings exploring Meeks Park. Bring a bag lunch and sit at a picnic table watching the wildlife scamper all over the creek bed. Take a gentle stroll and view the art sculptures. Take your dog on a vacation walk along the riverwalk; the entrance behind the Senior Center on the north side of 515. Bring your grandkids and let them wade in the shallow waters trying to catch minnows with their hands. Show them the water wheel and tell them the story about Clark Dyer and his flying machine.

If you'd like more details about the Dyer Flyer, don't Google it. Instead, visit the Historical Society at the Old Courthouse at the Square. You'll find a whole area dedicated to this amazing part of Union County history. For more information about Tate Mill, Meeks Park and information on the pool and tennis facilities, visit www.UnionCountyGA.gov. And for all your fresh produce, organic meats, fresh baked goods, crafts and gifts, be sure to visit the Union County Farmers Market every Tuesday and Saturday.

Fowler ...

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people and families and civilization itself, the gospel doesn't need "family values" to flourish. In fact, the church often thrives when it is in sharp contrast to the cultures around it." It thrives because we have more work to do. For sure, the more culture rejects Biblical morality, the more likely will there be refugees from the chaos. It won't be the first time.

Chesterton explained that God wrote "a play he had planned as perfect, but which had necessarily been left to human actors and stage-managers, who had since made a great mess of it." We can be happy we are in the play, but honest in our review of it. We are on the right side of history as we have the truth, the Holy Spirit, and divine Providence. We can be optimistic that even if we become cultural outcasts we can still be part of the narrative today, and will be citizens of heaven forever.

Williams...

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That was the first car I ever owned and my brother had one identical to it. The only difference was his had a 3 speed and mine had a 4 speed. Of course, mine was faster!

What does the future hold for Mulkey Garage & Wrecker Service?

"I have recently acquired property on Highway 76 at the Towns/Union line. My sons and I are working on construction of new facilities to house our operations. One son owns North Georgia Sign and the other runs the day to day at Mulkey Wrecker Service. My oldest son lives in Kennesaw and works at Georgia Tech Research Institute. We hope to be operating in the new location by the end of August."

Is there anything you would like to say to your customers?

"I would like to thank all the people in Towns, Union, and the surrounding counties for 35 years of successful business. It is my intent to continue to serve the residents who have become not only customers but friends. I would just like to extend a personal thank you to each one of them."

If you would like to know more about the products and services offered by Mulkey Garage & Wrecker Service you can reach them at (706) 379-3190 or visit them on the web at www.TimMulkey.com.

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	Every Monday: GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Tri State Bus. Women	Every Tuesday: Blairsville Rest.	8 am
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
Butternut Ladies Golf	Every Thursday: Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 am
Masonic Luncheon	Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club	So. Bank & Trust	Noon
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Shape Note Music	Third Monday of each month: Old Courthouse	6:30 pm
High Country Artisan	U.C.Bank Com Room	6:30 pm
Exp Aviation Assoc #1211	Blairsville Airport	7 pm
UC Homemakers	Third Tuesday of each month: Dooley Chapter	Noon
Am. Legion Post 121	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
American Legion, Aux	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
Chatuge Gun Club	Senior Center, Hia.	7 pm
Compassionate Friends	UCB Community Room	7 pm
Blairsville Garden Club	Third Wednesday of each month: Location not listed	1 pm
Friends of the Library	Library Com Room	2 pm
Beta Sigma Phi, Iota Iota	So. Bank & Trust	7 pm
Kinship Care	Third Thursday of each month: Civic Center	Noon
Commissioner's Meet.	County Courthouse	6 pm
Good N'bers Auto	Meeks Park, Pavilion #1	6:30 pm
UT Home Builders	Moschetto's	6:30 pm
Cub Scouts Trp. #101	United Methodist Ch.	6:30 pm
Tip-off Club	UC High School	7 pm
UC Saddle Club	Arena Clubhouse	7 pm
Jaycees	Fort Sorghum	7:30 pm
No activities listed	Third Friday of each month:	
UC Republican Party	Third Saturday of each month: Civic Center	10 am
Goldwing Road Riders	Daniels Steak House	11 am