

Chamber of Commerce events

For details and future events

see events calendar at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com**Wednesday, August 15**

2pm Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad

Thursday, August 16

12pm Rotary Club of Union County – Cadence Bank

Friday, August 17

8am Union County Farmers Market - Trash To Treasure Sale

7pm Friday Night Concert Barker Brothers - Historic Union County Courthouse

7pm You can be the Star Karaoke – Lodge at Copperhead

Saturday, August 18

7am Union County Farmer's Market

Monday, August 20

12pm Blairsville Kiwanis Club Monthly Meeting – Steve's Cookie Jar Restaurant

6pm Free Texas Hold 'em Tournament – Lodge at Copperhead

Tuesday, August 21

8am Tri-State Business Women's weekly meeting – Cooks Restaurant

3pm Union County Farmer's Market

Wednesday, August 22

2am Friends of Union County Library Monthly Meeting – Union County Library

Duncan...continued from Page 4A

adventure on the High Seas, and a book I took to heart, *Better A Dinner of Herbs*.

It was written by a man of local legend, a man who died two years before I was born. He was a man so talented that he taught at universities, the one I remember most was UCLA; I followed the Bruins' sports teams.

He was my Granny's cousin, Byron Herbert Reece.

My Granny had all his books, all signed with a personal passage "Special for Doll." Hub was her favorite writer, and it was her hope that someday, I too might become a writer. She once told me that I had all the tools.

My sweet Aunt Alice Hayes always kept me inspired. She was always full of life, and ready for a challenge, most notably, the 764-page book that came out this week. Much of the information comes directly from Aunt Alice's studious efforts. Twenty-

nine years after her passing, her vision of a Reece Family history is alive thanks to Bill.

My connection to the Reece Family is one I'll cherish forever. When I look at the family photos, I see a close resemblance to the Reece line.

My memories of the Reece Family will continue until the day they lay me to rest in Duncan Cemetery.

And I must admit shamefully, some memories, I'd rather forget. Aunt Alice beat me in a foot race when I was a young boy.

Of course one must keep it in perspective, she had 68 years on me. I began to cry after I lost, mainly because my siblings were laughing so hard. Aunt Alice came back to me, hugged me and whispered in my ear, "Baby, I know you let me win."

I take this time to say that when the Dog Days of August arrive, the Reece within me begins to stir.

Paris...continued from Page 4A

current SPLOST III program in March 2015. The current balance is \$2,595,000.

Q. Are there any other debts associated with SPLOST?

A. There is only one, other than vehicle and copier leases, and that is the new Union County Community Center. (\$5.5 million) This facility was originally scheduled to be paid for with a U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) 20 year low interest loan from federal stimulus funds. However, once the county began the design process, we saw that the red tape and additional cost that would be involved with using a USDA loan and building a project under federal stimulus guidelines, would be cost prohibitive, so we used other financing.

Q. Did you change the financing method in order to complete the Community Center?

A. Yes. We made the decision to stop the USDA financing process dead in its tracks because of its complexity and tremendous extra cost. Knowing the value of this project to our economic development future, we chose to continue with the project and fund the cost for the project with future SPLOST IV proceeds. This will save us a tremendous amount in interest payments since we will be able to pay this debt off in only ten years instead of 20 years. In addition to saving us money on interest cost, getting away from the federal guidelines probably saved us several hundreds of thousands of dollars while speeding the project up by at least a year and maybe two.

Cummings...continued from Page 4A

steal their paddles. We stole every paddle in the school and hid them in our gym bags. Next, we walked outside to the burn barrel where Mr. Keebler was burning trash. He knew we were up to something because he grinned as we walked up to the barrel. As he walked away we opened our bags and filled the burn barrel with those tools of punishment. After school ended I walked toward the bus, but, before I boarded I heard Miss Cummings say, "Mickey Paul, I need a word with you". I looked at Debbie and Rambo and said, "Don't worry about a thing". I know for certain Miss Cummings remembered me until her dying day.

Last week I wrote an article about the Green Bean Festival and its committee members I failed to mention three people. Ray Grafman was the person who arranged the layout of the all the craft vendors. Joe Garner, another committee member, worked all day at the festival and stayed until late in the evening. Bobby Burch was with us all day and worked into the evening cleaning up. He worked the day before setting signs and then helped pick them up. These men stayed late and helped clean up The Market. The folks at the festival appreciate the work of every volunteer.

There is a group of people from our county we need to appreciate and remember. Each year the Union County Historical Society accepts nominations for the Union County Agricultural hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame inducts new members each year in mid-September at a formal ceremony at The Market. Past inductees include Farmers and persons involved in Agriculture in Union County. If you wish to nominate someone for the Union County Agricultural Hall of Fame you can go the UCFarmersmarket.com website and get an application.

You can also pick up an application from the Extension Office and at The Market or you can get one from the Historical Society. Fill out the application and turn it in to the Historical Society, Extension Office or The Market by Sept. 8th.

The Market now has T-shirts and hats with The Market Logo which can be purchased at The Market.

The Farmers Market Educational Session on Tuesday will be Pond Management.

Two sessions will be held. The first will begin at 4:30 p.m. and the second will begin at 5:30 p.m.

See you at The Market.

Parris...continued from Page 4A

I believe that we have placed in office some leaders that are insultingly arrogant, cocky and feel they are accountable to no one. They have no concept of servant leadership. I realize that we still have a few honest men and women who are servant leaders, but they are in the minority. We are over balanced to the bad side which has put our nation on a dangerous slope. We certainly don't need to be intimidated by elected officials and jump in bed and pull the covers over our heads like frightened children who have heard a ghost story. We need to stand firm in our Christian teachings and voice our concerns without pulling any punches. We have too many politicians that are "Pull hitters". They want to pull everything to their advantage without considering

their constituents.

I have always believed in pulling my own weight and helping as much as possible those who are not able to pull their weight. But the "weight pullers" seem to be growing less and less which is going to break down the wagon.

Friends, it is not time to pull up stakes and forsake our convictions. Politicians are not going to pull some magic out of a hat to solve this world's problems. If we pull through, we must pull together and pull rank on anyone who tries to pull a fast one on America. I am not trying to pull strings, or pull your leg, but if we pull up to a higher level it will be like pulling teeth. Let me pull on your heart strings and ask you to pull on God's heart strings. Jesus alone ever lives to make intercession for us.

Leone ...continued from Page 4A

tor--Union County, will offer for sale the newest Edition of my book "Native Plants of North Georgia." A Photo Guide for plant enthusiasts. There will be seating for everyone, and many will have screen presentations, as well. Tuesdays at the Market are well worth the visit for so many reasons.

Isn't it time you got some new clothes? We have three new trendy colors for this year's Farmers Market shirts; deep coral, deep sapphire blue and blackberry. Our hats come in mesh, denim and in ladies caps, we've got a rainbow of colors! We have

kids shirts this year, and we still have Green Bean shirts in every size. Stop by the office on Market days, or email us at UCFarmersMarket.com. To see our selection online visit www.UCFarmersMarket.com. See you at the Market!

Cooking for a Cure BBQ

Cooking for a Cure BBQ, Bob Dorton's BBQ, August 24th, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., United Community Bank Brackett Room. BBQ sandwich, chips, coleslaw, drink and dessert only \$7.

All proceeds benefit Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure, advance orders welcome and encouraged. Please contact Shannon Foster at 706-781-9583 for questions or additional information.L.N/Aug15ZJCA

Rashid

continued from Page 4A

try. The flags are hung without true pride. The flags hang torn without concern. I remember when that flag could only be hung with perfection and pride, because it belonged to people in a country that stated itself "One Nation under God", not One Nation under GOVERNMENT!

Carol Rashid

Barnes

continued from Page 4A

off your kids and letting them go their own way. Although a child might be 5-, 6- and 7 years old, they are still dependent.

Many Kindergarten students still don't know how to open their own milk, go to and from breakfast and lunch, as when my daughter was in school they all lined up and went and left as a class, NOT individually. And they had teachers there to help them, exactly what a teacher is getting paid for and their job to do!

When they were dropped off, if they rode the bus or dropped off by a parent, they had a teacher of their class or an assigned person for each bus/drop off area to have a designated area for the children, and then when the time came, took them to their classrooms, which I have said, they all went together as a class to and fro.

I can understand the importance as well of parents walking to and fro the classrooms to pick up or drop off their child, but problems that were revolving last year doesn't need to be taken out on all people. This should have been addressed by the student(s), parents, teachers and principal itself and resolutions made then. So long story short and in closing, if these issues aren't resolved and better arrangements made, then I think we should all just go way back to simpler times when they all just walked to school and gathered together in one little room.

Mrs. D. Barnes

Sims

continued from Page 4A

wide vote, (should have been Statewide to begin with) with a plurality of the State vote deciding the outcome.

If the Governor and the state insists on implementing the tax within those three regions and also implementing the 30 percent penalty on the other nine regions for matching transportation funds, which voted no; then the only thing left for the voters to consider is whether our elected officials are serving the voters or serving special interest.

The people are tired of taxes, as I have expressed in my Letters to the Editors.

If those who we elect insist on penalizing the Regions who voted no, and now have to pay the 30 percent penalty of matching funds, the result will be the voters will decide to get newly elected officials into office who will listen to the people. I encourage everyone to write their elected officials from County level to State level.

Mike Sims