

## Paris...continued from Page 4A

**Q. Does the county have any additional debt other than the new SPLOST IV bond?**

A. No, except for a few copier and equipment leases and the Community Center, and that will be paid off in full from the SPLOST IV bond proceeds on Aug. 27th, 2015. Very few counties have as good of a financial record or owe as little as we do. It is amazing at all we have been able to accomplish with SPLOST sales tax revenue for the past 14 years and thanks to all of you for trying to spend as much money as you can at home. We are also thankful for

all the folks not living here that come here to shop and visit.

**Q. Do you anticipate any future problems with county finances?**

A. Absolutely not. I have been in office since Jan. 1st, 2001 and for nearly 15 years, we have always had very sound financials and we will continue to because in tough times, we tighten things up and in good times we also tighten things up. We always are fiscally responsible with your money and we thank you for the support and appreciation we receive for all the excellent county projects we all enjoy.

## Williams... continued from Page 4A

model, please contact Chillipics Photography at 800-895-7203. For more information about this exciting project, go to [www.chillipicsphoto.com](http://www.chillipicsphoto.com) and click on Projects.

I'm also excited to announce that Blairsville has been chosen as one of only 16 small towns in the Top Towns Triple Crown 2015 competition sponsored by *Bold Rock and Blue Ridge Outdoors* magazine. We are competing for the title of Top Town 2015, but we need your help! You can vote online and daily. There are no registrations required, so it is very easy. At the time this article is being submitted, we are competing against Sylva, NC in the small town competition for the first round vote. Winners will be announced in the

November issue of the *Blue Ridge Outdoors* magazine. Information about this competition has been posted on the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce Facebook page with a link taking you to the voting site. You can also go to [www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/top-towns](http://www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/top-towns) for more information and to cast your vote. You can start voting immediately and can do so once every 24 hours.

I hope that everyone in our community will participate in one or both of these projects. We are so very proud of this place that we call home, and what better way to show our enthusiasm, pride, and town spirit than supporting our community together as one voice and many votes.

## Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

gan to worry when I saw bubbles coming from the water. Robin yanked up Dewayne's head and said, "Say Uncle." Dewayne said, "No." This happened four times until Dewayne popped out of the water and screamed "UNCLE." He sat there for a moment to catch his breath. Soon he got up and walked over to our dam and began piling rocks. Then we all went swimming and nothing else was ever said about the big fight. However, Robin did accidentally fall head first from

Baker,' Rock into our swimming hole.

The next adventure at the Farmers Market will be our annual "Watermelon Day." We will serve sample size slices of watermelon next week at the market beginning at 10:30 a.m. and when we run out of melons we'll stop serving. Our local melons are just beginning to ripen and hopefully we will have a great day and you will be able to enjoy some Union County raised watermelons. See you next week.

## Gray ... continued from Page 4A

In the words of James Madison, the architect of the U.S. Constitution, "...the States who are parties thereto (parties to the U.S. Constitution), have the right, and are in duty bound, to interpose for arresting the progress of evil."

Consider the recent illegal Supreme Court decision to "legalize" homosexual marriage across the nation: That is not a role they are authorized to assume. Justices are not members of Congress whose role is to pass laws; they are Judges to consider issues to see if the matter shines back as legal or not!

Have you been duped into believing that the Supreme Court's decisions can-

not be challenged? Do you think the Supreme Court has the right to make laws? If so, you'd be mistaken on both counts. It is time for this land to revert to being a land Of the People, By the People, and For the People. That was not frivolous wording in our Declaration of Independence; it was the thought-filled and considered language that indicated the specific form of government being formed. We are faced with an illegal matter to bring to the attention of the Lesser Magistrates of our State. Get involved—ask local and state elected officials if they plan to uphold this "law" or if they will stand firm on our Constitution and refuse to take unethical, illegal and over-reaching orders from the Feds? Report the replies you receive to your political party, your friends and your neighbors. And make note about which elected officials to put on your list to find another career if they are unresponsive.

I am not interested in what individuals do in their private life. My concern is that we are allowing sorts of issues that anyone wants to legitimize to be renamed "legal," and to be celebrated and taught in schools to children as young as first-graders. Let States Rights rule, and let The People choose the laws and rules they are willing to live under.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Arlene M. Gray**

## Leone... continued from Page 4A

nothing to look forward to, and someone treats you to a milkshake with whip cream and a cherry on top, you'll have all that you ever needed in the world at that moment. It's all about the moments.

Ok, I wanted to flush my heart from my brain. I still was dealing with the triad of loss, so I then Googled the derivative of the adage "bad things happen in threes." Seems it might make for an interesting column. My research led me to some fascinating theories, based on everything from religious connotation – the trinity – or a baby. Folklorist Claudia de Lys writes that it springs from the basic observation about the mystery of birth. "If lucky, the contact of two persons brought forth life, so that three meant life or action in everything," de Lys writes in a "Treasury of American Superstitions." Honestly, the answer that rung as most feasible was that whether it's three good things or three bad things, we want them to end at three. Too much of a good thing is difficult to accept with grace. With too many trails to accept at once, one's hope for a better tomorrow wanes.

When all subject ideas for my column fail me, I turn to the next event at the Farmer Market. After all, I eventually have to tie my thoughts into the Farmers Market by the end of the column, so why not start there? Let's see, next week is our annual salute to the watermelon. That big green capsule that weighs more than a two-year old child, takes a meat cleaver to permeate, and choosing the right one is more of a crap shoot than accurately betting this week's winning Mega Million numbers.

I decide to write the greatest watermelon recipes. Yes, we can grill it, make kabobs with cheese as an appetizer and we can mix and match it with nearly every other seasonal fruit and vegetable, toss in some mint and name it a summer salad. I'm not going to bore you with the melon balls or melon cubes argument nor do I have all the answers as to how to pick out the appropriately ripe cantaloupe or melon. I will tell you my secret for getting the best one at the Market. I put the onus on the vendor. I say, "I'd like this to be ripe in three days. Pick it out for me". Or, "I want to take it home and eat it. I don't want it to be mealy. Pick it out for me." This works really well. Come to the Union County Farmers Market this Saturday, and get your free watermelon. Fun starts at 10:30 a.m. Who can spit the watermelon seed the farthest?

Well, I'm just an hour away from deadline, and I still haven't decided what to write in my column this week. Maybe I need to confer with my pug, Cubby, to see what he thinks. He sometimes is instrumental in releasing my writer's block. Diane loved my Cubby boy. She was a great aficionado of canines in general. My Aunt Betty was a cat person. The last

## Fowler ... continued from Page 4A

plan. For those who marry, His plan is that "a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one flesh" (Matt. 19:5). Two people created differently yet complementary with the hope that they can "be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth" (Gen. 1:28). God designed marriage, and it preceded not only nations, but history itself. It is good, holy, and celebrated as a picture of Christ and his church (Eph. 5:32).

Now the story of Fred and Lorraine is told in a six-part video available on YouTube. Search on their names. Seek and you shall find.

ate not one, but two blueberry pies while they were cooling on the counter. Neal loved the neighbor's cat more than any-

thing else in the world...at least at the moment that he was in its company. There we go. Happy memories come in threes.

### NOW AVAILABLE

**2015 Union County Historical Society's Christmas Hand Painted Ornaments**  
**\$15 (plus tax)**



## UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	<b>Every Monday:</b> GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
A Course in Miracles	UC Comm Cntr., Rm 101	2 pm
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
	<b>Every Tuesday:</b>	
Tri State Bus. Women	Blairsville Restaurant	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
Spiritual Living Group	UC Comm Cntr., Rm 101	6:30 pm
	<b>Every Thursday:</b>	
Butternut Ladies Golf	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
	<b>Fourth Tuesday of each month:</b>	
Compassionate Friends	Grinds & Glazes	Noon
Misty Mtn Quilt Guild	Blairsville UMC	12:30 pm
VFW Post #7394	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
Eastern Star #304	Location not listed	7:30 pm
	<b>Fourth Wednesday of each month:</b>	
No activities listed		
	<b>Fourth Thursday of each month:</b>	
Lions Club	Steve's Cookie Jar	6 pm
Cruisers Club Meeting	Sr. Center pavilion	6 pm
UT Homebuilders	YH College	7 pm
	<b>Fourth Friday of each month</b>	
Eastern Star #471	Location not listed	7:30 pm
	<b>Fourth Saturday of each month:</b>	
Youngcane Lodge #597	Lodge Hall	7:30 pm

### Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



August 2nd  
In memory of  
**Charlie McGraw, Jr.**  
by Allyson McGraw

August 26th  
In memory of  
**William T. Meeks, Sr. Birthday**  
by Ginger and Terry Meeks

August 30th  
In honor of  
**40th Wedding Anniversary**  
Charlie and Allyson McGraw

**Bell ringing information**  
at 706-745-5493