

## Riley... continued from Page 4A

Some of the benefits of Wildland Fire Prevention Education Teams are that they can: help reduce the loss of human life and property; help reduce resource losses; reduce the cost of suppression; and improve interagency relations. Increasingly, people in the wildland/urban interface zone are feeling the effects of wildland fire.

Every year, families are evacuated and structures are destroyed as the result of wildland fires all around the world, and extra help is needed to assist these families to plan and survive the fires. National Fire Prevention and Education Teams, or NFPETs, are tools that can assist professionals and homeowners in mitigating the risk of damage from wildland fires.

The prevention team processes and analyzes risks, hazards and values; outlines an operational plan for the protection of resources from wildfire; and develops wildfire prevention program implementation costs.

They can take over the details for community protection plans during a fire or before a fire while the local emergency agency is tied up managing the fire. A team consists of a Team Leader, a Public Affairs Officer, Prevention Specialist(s), and an optional trainee or other team members as the situation dictates, i.e. Finance Officer, Logistics Specialist, etc.

Trained interagency personnel can be mobilized through normal dispatch channels to assist in fire prevention/education at any level of an organization.

The individuals ordered for prevention/education teams must have the skills required to fill the position for which they have been ordered.

The mission of NFPETs is to provide unit and agency managers with skilled and mobile personnel which can supplement or enhance ongoing local wildfire prevention and education activities, where hazard or risk is, or is expected to be, elevated above normal.

Teams are highly effective in their ability to reduce unwanted human-caused wildland ignitions and are equipped to rapidly complete on-site prevention assessments and plans, initiate implementation of such plans, and to begin immediate prevention and education activities.

The teams are not "firefighters" in the normal sense of the word, but they are fire "preventers," coaching residents in how to prepare their homes and businesses when a wildfire threatens. Wildfire prevention and education is mostly common sense that we already know, but sometimes it takes a team of "experts" from the outside to show us the obvious ways to save our property and lives.

Our ancestors had to know how to protect their homes from wildfires because they did not have a fire department to call on when a fire threatened, and when one did, they could lose everything they owned and their way of life.

For more information on prevention/education teams or wildfires, contact Chest-Chatt RC&D at info.ccrd@gmail.com, or contact your local state Forestry agency.

## Combs... continued from Page 4A

later, but Jesus Christ died and arose victoriously over death and the grave.

Those who know Him as their Lord and Savior need not fear death, but embrace it with great rejoicing as we enter into the presence of Almighty God with praise and worship for what Christ did for us on that old rugged cross we all sing

about.

Don't ever think God doesn't care about you and love you with an everlasting love into all of eternity.

Do you know Him as your Redeemer and Savior? The mystery of death is no mystery at all when God is in it.

**Frank F. Combs**

## Blanchard... continued from Page 4A

those whom I counted (interrogated), bordered on invasion of privacy and a violation of the Fourth Amendment. And could this "invasion" not be the root cause of non-compliance with the census?

Then-Congressman Nathan Deal, on one of his constituent days in his Gainesville office, agreed. The census questions expanded for the 2010 census but excluded the citizenship question.

What persons are to be counted and the citizenship question of who the "respective Numbers" are is answered in the text of the 14th: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States ..." In other words, count citizens.

Representation is actually accomplished by gerrymandering, and the amount of taxes returned to the states is in total control of the central government bureaucrats, neither of which is really based on the apportionment gained from the

census. But the commercial interests get a virtual windfall of data from the "census" at taxpayer expense — \$4.5 billion in 2000, \$13 billion in 2010.

But be a conscientious citizen and comply with the law of the Constitution to provide the "number of persons residing in your dwelling unit," as there will be benefits to the community in doing so. The "rules and guidelines" of the Census Bureau have never been tried in a court of law, for obvious reasons.

**Zeb Blanchard**

## McGinnis...

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There is also a large variety of veggies available at the Farmers Market, plus, there are Crafts and Trash & Treasures in the second shed, so there is something for everyone on Tuesday afternoons.

See you at the Farmers Market!

**Joe McGinnis**

## Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

marijuana has three times the concentration of THC compared to 25 years ago. The higher the THC amount, the stronger the effects on the brain — likely contributing to increased rates of marijuana-related emergency room visits. While there is no research yet on how higher potency affects the long-term risks of marijuana use, more THC is likely to lead to higher rates of dependency and addiction.

Risk of marijuana use include permanent loss of IQ

## Williams...

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such as the peak of a roof.

Honeybees are a very important nativized part of our ecosystem. We certainly want to do what we can to protect pollinators, but if they are inside your home, they can present a hazard. If you have questions about honeybees inside your home, contact your county Extension Office or send me an email at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

## Fowler...

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difficult words: "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thes. 5:16-18). You can be thankful that disease and death have no final authority over you. To view health and earthly life as your standard of peace and reality is to obscure eternity. The Psalmist says, "Lord make me to know my end and what is the extent of my days; let me know how transient I am" (Psa. 39:4). By faith you're passing through this life saying, "Thank you!" not "Why me?"

## Cummings...

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R.C. and Polly Weeks were good people. Later in life, they gave me my first job. I served as a stock boy in their clothing store. Although I never apologized to R.C., I am sure he forgave me for my violence on that day in 1962.

## Dyer...

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jobs easier in these high stress environments. The dispatchers have become extremely proficient at using each system and have improved the already wonderful job that they do every day. The Union County E911 Communications Center is a vital part of the emergency services and serves as a communication hub for multiple agencies. We are proud to have such dedicated employees and this upgrade of equipment.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~


## Chamber...

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able to be enjoyed by the public. You're invited to come and join us in thanking the McAfee family.

If you have not secured your booth for our Buy Local Extravaganza on Oct. 3, contact Laure Fellows as soon as possible. Call 877-745-5789 to make sure your business is represented at one of Chamber's biggest events of the year. The Buy Local Extravaganza is a great opportunity to network and showcase the best of your organization to our community. If you don't have a small business, be sure to swing by and enjoy giveaways, raffle prizes, and special discounts. Not to mention, you're supporting our fabulous local businesses and contributing to healthy growth in Union County!

**Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse**



**July 10, 2019**  
In memory of  
**Dr. William T. Meeks, Sr.**  
**Anniversary**  
by Ginger and Terry Meeks

**July 16, 2019**  
In Memory of  
**JoAnn Mayhew**  
Who passed away on  
July 3, 2019  
by Ginger and Terry Meeks

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

<b>UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR</b>		
Garden Tours	<b>Every Monday:</b> GMREC (May-Oct)	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 a.m.
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 p.m.
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 p.m.
Tri State Bus. Women	<b>Every Tuesday:</b> Cabin Coffee	8 a.m.
Tuesday Strippers	Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	9:30-2:30 p.m.
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 p.m.
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 p.m.
Kiwanis Club	<b>Every Wednesday:</b> Skillet Cafe	Noon
BINGO	Civic Center	7 p.m.
Butternut Ladies Golf	<b>Every Thursday:</b> Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 a.m.
Masonic Luncheon	Cook's Restaurant	11:30 a.m.
Rotary Club	NGTC	Noon
Lockheed-Martin Ret.	<b>First Monday of each month:</b> Blairsville Restaurant	9 a.m.
Volunteers/Handicap	First Baptist, H Bldg.	6 p.m.
CERT	St. Francis of Assisi	6:30 p.m.
Allegheny Masonic Lodge #114	Masonic Lodge	6:30 p.m.
Brownie Scouts	<b>First Tuesday of each month:</b> United Methodist Ch	3-5 p.m.
Blairsville City Coun.	City Hall	6 p.m.
Amateur Radio Club	United Methodist Ch	7 p.m.
Gaddistown Hmakers	Woody Gap	7 p.m.
Knights/Colum. #2563	place TBA	7:30 p.m.
Enotah Ch. #24 RA.m.	Masonic Temple	7:30 p.m.
Exercise class	<b>First Wednesday of each month:</b> Senior Citizens Center	10:30 a.m.
Better Breathers	UGH Classroom 2nd Fl.	1 p.m.
Quilts of Valor	<b>First Thursday of each month:</b> Coosa Methodist Ch	9:30am-2:30pm.
MMQG	Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Awake America	City Hall	11:59 a.m.
NAMI Fam. Support	New Hope Counseling	12-1:30 p.m.
Blairsville Sorghum Fest.	Fort Sorghum	6:30 p.m.
Open Road ORV	Civic Center	8 p.m.
"Nailed" Book Club	<b>First Friday of each month:</b> Ingles Cafe	10:30 a.m.UG
Hospital Aux	UC Nursing Home	Noon
Cruisers Block Party	Farmer's Market	5 p.m. (Apr-Oct)
Feel Good Friday	Wellness Center	7 p.m.
Amateur Radio Exams	<b>First Saturday of each month:</b> UC Comm Cntr	9 a.m.
Cruise-In	On the Square	4 p.m. (Apr-Oct)