

Paris... continued from Page 4A

valued too high. How can I appeal their assessment?

A. Each year around the end of April, the Tax Assessor's Office sends out to all property owners what is called an Assessment Notice, which informs you of the valuation of your property. You have 45 days from the date the notice is mailed to file an appeal if you feel the valuation is incorrect. The appeal must be in writing and your appeal should be based on one of the following areas:

Taxability: Is the property taxable or does it qualify for certain exemptions?

Uniformity: Does the property value compare with the value of similar properties?

Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

the creek below. It is said that Mandy haunts the Rock Bridge to this day. If you visit the bridge at midnight, you can see her sitting there in a rocking chair, rocking and singing her favorite songs.

The rock formation where Mandy and her children would visit is located 100 yards from the bridge. People can actually sit on the Saddle Rock and view Little Bear Creek located a quarter mile away in the hollow below. This area must have been quite a nice place to gather for young folks, because there are many initials carved into the limestone. I am familiar with many of the initials because they belong to old friends and loved ones who have long since passed.

As a young boy, I listened to stories about Rock Bridge and Saddle Rock. I was told they were beautiful places, but that danger lurked there as well. One evening I was at Mawmaw's house and none of my cousins were there with me. After supper I was bored so I went outside. It was late summer, and there was a muscadine vine down in the woods toward the creek. I decided to walk the short distance to see if any were ripe yet.

As I was standing at the bottom of this tree scanning the top of the tree and vine for any ripe muscadines, I heard something that made the hair on my neck stand up. Judging the location of the sound, I figured it was coming from up close to the Rock Bridge. I was sure the sound came from a woman. It sounded like something you would hear on a scary movie. I could just imagine the scene of a Cherokee woman running along the edge of the Rock Bridge and falling to her death. The screams would begin and then stop for a time and begin again.

It didn't take me long

Value: Is the property value too high or too low?

Q. Who reviews my appeal?

A. The Board of Tax Assessors reviews your appeal and determines whether a change in the valuation is warranted. If no change is made, it will then go to the next level of appeal, which is the Board of Equalization. After hearing both the assessors and the taxpayer's position, the Board of Equalization renders a decision on the valuation. If either side disagrees with this decision, they may then proceed to the next level of appeal, which is the Union County Superior Court.

before I decided to go back home. I didn't run. But, I kept a lookout.

I didn't want that Indian woman slipping up on me. I told my Mawmaw about the screams, and she assured me the sound was not a haint. But what she told me scared me even more.

She explained the sound was being made by a "painter." She said, "I'm not sure the color of this big cat. Could be he is brown. But, he is probably black with green eyes." She further explained that these black panthers were mean and sneaky. They had been known to kill humans. She told me it was best that I stay inside for the rest of the evening.

Baker Rock sits in a bend of the creek next to a waist-deep hole. The rock takes its name from my ancestors. It has been used for generations as a swimming hole by Bakers, Adams, Cummings, Weeks, and many other families of the area. My cousins and I could walk there in 10 or 15 minutes.

Each year, we would build a dam of rocks across Little Bear Creek to deepen the pool of water to chest deep on a 10-year-old. After the water got deep enough, we would climb the living-room sized rock and jump from it into the cool waters of Little Bear Creek.

An Olympic-size swimming pool with high diving boards cannot compare to Baker Rock on a hot July day. My cousins and I all learned to swim in that creek. I have many fond memories of the Baker Rock swimming hole of my youth.

Through the years, I have experienced fear, sadness and great joy at the Rock Bridge.

But, the cool waters of Little Bear Creek and the beauty of the Rock Bridge are places which I cherish and love, because my family history is so linked to the place.

Mitchell... continued from Page 4A

regulates the lower and only the lower. So, in the 3D-printing world, the idea is to make a lower of strong plastic, then affix it to a metal upper and barrel that are identical in composition to any metal upper and barrel that you might see on any other AR-15.

The pressures within the

gun are contained within the upper, which is metal, while the trigger and hammer are set in a plastic lower.

Is the gun undetectable? By no means. Is the gun safe? Most certainly (because the plastic is used in places where pressure is not an issue).

George Mitchell

Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

Behavior Surveillance Survey) where students (grades nine through 12, in both public and private institutions) answer questions related to their health. Almost 15,000 young people participated in the 2017 survey, which is conducted every two years.

While the drop in illicit drug use among young people is good news, the report also sheds light on where young people get drugs, what they're using the most, and much more.

About 20 percent of students reported being offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property during the past 12 months before they were surveyed.

Almost 20 percent of students surveyed admitted to using marijuana at least once during the last 30 days.

Thirteen percent of students surveyed admitted driving when they used marijuana within the last 30 days.

It's good news that overall drug use among youth is declining. But parents, caregivers

and educators still need to stay focused on prevention. Here are some tips on how to talk to your teens about drugs.

Choose the right time to talk. When talking to your child, be sure your child is sober or has not been using drugs before talking about drugs and alcohol. Voice your suspicion. Begin by expressing your concerns without making accusations.

Be specific. Explain what you observed to make you concerned. For example, you found missing pills or an empty pill bottle, or other drug paraphernalia. Or your child's appearance indicates a problem.

Be prepared for strong reactions. Your child may accuse you of snooping or say you're crazy. Stay calm. Reinforce what you think about drug use. Tell them how much you care for him or her. Get help from the experts. Contact the school counselor, school nurse, or family doctor about your concerns.

Crawford ... continued from Page 4A

clear threat to us and our allies. Have you ever heard the expression, "Keep your friends close and your enemies closer?"

The Obama administration never reached 3 percent GDP. Last quarter, the GDP reached 4 percent. We now, for the first time in history, have more jobs available than people to fill them.

"Each of Trump's heroes (Putin, Kim Jong Un...) has a record of killing his opponents." You had better look back at the Clintons.

You said Trump wanted to load the Supreme Court with Conservatives to overturn Roe

v. Wade. I hope so, personally. I looked up the statistics from 2016 and there were almost 900,000 babies killed in the USA. As a Christian, I am appalled and quite disturbed.

These babies could have potentially been doctors, researchers, regular laborers this country needs so much of, and maybe even an editor of a newspaper.

Lastly, I'd like to point out that the Rasmussen poll just announced President Trump's approval record is 50 percent.

Am I happy as a hog in slop? You bet I am!

Chris Crawford

Riley ... continued from Page 4A

B-29, B-25, Mustangs, Corsairs, Spitfires, ME 109s, P40s, T6s, Tigercats, Bearcats, Wildcats, and many others), to the most modern airplanes the world has to offer (F-16, F-35, KC135, C5 Galaxy, DC10, B1B, and many others). The Blue Angels even flew over during my stay.

I have attended this "Aviation paradise" for the past four years, and I attended with my son Jason back in 1997. At that event, we had VIP passes, so we sat in the VIP section with some of the icons of the aviation world like Chuck Yeager, Tex Hill, Bud Anderson and others. I have a picture of Jason and Chuck Yeager, who was the first to break the sound barrier.

The annual event is held at Wittman Field in Oshkosh, which is the home of the sponsoring Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) that is an international organization of aviation enthusiasts.

Since its inception, it has grown internationally, with over 200,000 members and nearly 1,000 chapters worldwide. The EAA was founded in 1953 by veteran aviator Paul Poberezny, along with other aviation enthusiasts. The organization began as more or less a flying club. Paul Poberezny explains the nature of the organization's name: "Because the planes we flew were modified or built from scratch, they were required to display an EXPERIMENTAL placard where it could be seen on the door or cockpit, so it was quite natural that we call ourselves the Experimental Aircraft Association."

Homebuilding is still a large part of EAA, but the organization has grown over the years to include almost every aspect of aviation and aeronautics. The EAA Aviation Center at Wittman Field also includes the EAA Aviation Museum with more than 200 aircraft, approximately 130 of which are on display at any given time. To help ensure that all amateur-built aircraft are well-constructed, safe aircraft, the EAA organizes a group of volunteers, known as Technical Counselors, who will visit the construction

Williams...

continued from Page 4A

water? Are the roots turning black or are there mushrooms growing around the base of the tree? These are all questions that will help you determine if your plant is in decline. A basic soil test may be recommended, which would tell us what kind of nutrients are in the soil. A nutrient-deficient plant will be stressed, causing an opportunity for lichen to develop. There are many factors that could be part of why lichen is growing. If you are unsure or are interested in more information, contact your local County Extension office, and we can help you figure it out.

Fowler ...

continued from Page 4A

him to full surrender. C.S. Lewis was just riding in a motorcycle sidecar to the zoo when Jesus became believable. Zaccheus was just a Jericho paparazzi, but Jesus saved him that day. See the pattern? They were seeking something in their own way, and were startled by living Truth writ large.

The Zaccheus story concludes with, "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Just like that, you realize yours isn't the only pursuit, since He was searching for you long before you were searching for Him.

Maloney...

continued from Page 4A

needed services? Or that government-paid inspections ensure that we have clean water, safe food, medicines, air travel, roads and bridges? We contribute to Social Security and Medicare, and seniors are therefore guaranteed not to be in poverty in retirement. How about the beautiful national parks and forests? Who among us doesn't benefit in some way from government spending?

The cartoon would have us believe that just doesn't happen. How irresponsible. I, for one, am glad that my tax dollars go toward those services and the many more not listed.

Michelle Maloney

Allegheny

Masonic Lodge

Allegheny Masonic Lodge #114 meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. Dinner 6:30 PM and meeting 7:30 PM.

project to identify any areas of concern.

Technical Counselors are EAA members who volunteer their time and who have met at least one of the following criteria: have built an experimental category aircraft; have restored an antique/classic aircraft; hold an A&P, IA, DAR, DER or Aerospace Engineer rating in the United States, an equivalent international rating or have the qualifications for those ratings. There is no charge for this on-site review. The program is strictly voluntary. The recommendations of the Technical Counselor are advisory only.

The EAA recommends a minimum of three Technical Counselor visits over the course of construction. These homebuilt airplanes are among the safest flying due to the EAA's strict technical oversight, because when something goes wrong up in the air, it's a one-way trip down. Each summer, EAA presents the largest annual general aviation event in the world, "EAA AirVenture Oshkosh."

During the event, the city's airport, Wittman Regional Airport, is the busiest airport in the world (in terms of traffic movements). The weeklong event annually attracts around 10,000-12,000 planes and a total attendance of more than 500,000 people. The event also attracts more than 800 exhibitors, hosts nearly 1,000 forums, seminars and workshops, and welcomes more than 700 journalists each year.

The annual fly-in was first held in 1953 at what is now Timmerman Field in Milwaukee. In 1959, the growing event moved to the Rockford, Illinois, airport. Attendance at the fly-in continued to grow until the Rockford airport was too small to accommodate the crowds, and so it was moved to Oshkosh in 1970.

A study conducted in 2008 by the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh determined that the 500,000 annual fly-in attendance generates \$110 million of tourist income for the three counties surrounding the airport.

I encourage anyone interested in flying to attend next year, because it's the biggest and best in the world. In

keeping with my RC&D agricultural work, I always make sure to cruise the beautiful farms between Two Rivers

and Oshkosh every day to and from the airshow. For more information, check out EAA AirVenture 2018.