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A. It really does not matter where you are, but a wood furnace or wood heater offer much greater heating than a fireplace. In the old days, the fireplace was the only way to heat a home. But over the years wood heaters and furnaces are so much more efficient and will put out a lot more heat with much less wood than a fireplace. Any more, burning a fireplace is more of an aesthetic use, which gives off a nice glow in the room, but not a lot of heat.

Abernathy ... continued from Page 4A

Union County. Robert W. Jones was also well known here as a farmer and insurance man. Max Colwell earned a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine, and a PhD in microbiology.

He taught college, then became an industry leader and served on the board of trustees of a college. My sister who graduated with a BS from Berry at age 18, and her husband Sam Vickery, also a Berry graduate, became teachers.

At age 35, Sam entered medical school and became a much-loved physician in Commerce.

While I was a Department Head at Purdue University, I observed at high school and Berry College reunions, the successful lives and accomplishments of many other of my formerly poor classmates and spouses.

They had moved into middle class with great families. Some professions listed by my formerly poor classmates were military careers, college professors and dean, several industry leaders and a county school superintendent and several teachers. My favorite success story from my college class was that of a friend, Urban Bird, who dropped out of Berry to join the Navy, but later completed a BS degree in Chemistry at Georgia and became the head chemist at a small chemical plant in Tennessee. When the Navy first put out a request for a bid to commercially make fuel rods for atomic submarines, his company was the only one in the country able to do so at the time. He told me that he took his bed and stayed at his plant 24 hours a day to watch over the development process.

I am convinced that if childhood poverty had any influence on my high school and college classmates, it was positive.

What then were the factors of our childhood in Union County and rural Georgia that

Please remember to make sure your smoke alarm is in working order and if not, you may contact the Union County Fire Department to assist you. Make this a safe and healthy winter and please be careful. If we do get snow, remember that you need a shoe or boot that has a good tread so that it will minimize your slipping and falling. Injuries from slipping and falling in winter weather are very common in the mountains since we are usually among the coldest counties in Georgia.

protected us from the ill effects of poverty?

The following is my list from the Union County antidote:

1. We gained valuable lessons from our financially poor, but loving parents that helped throughout life. Among these were the value of hard work and commitment, of delayed gratification, of loving God and our neighbors, of relying on God and self and not blaming others, of education, and of hope and self-worth.

2. Population density was lower. Concentrations of poverty and crime are higher in urban areas.

3. There was less variation in income.

4. The negative influences of "the war on poverty" were not there. The welfare system rewards many actions that keep people in poverty and punishes efforts to move out of poverty.

5. There were fewer opportunities to be led astray.

6. The high percentage of children having two loving parents at home teaching biblical values and going to church may be a key.

I know that having my father and mother love and teach me the most important lessons in life was far more valuable than any amount of money they could have had.

One of these lessons was that the winners in life are not the ones who gain the most wealth, power, or prestige, but the ones who gain eternal security.

In my opinion, society's move away from God-centered family lives focused on love and His teachings has done much more damage to our children than that caused by financial poverty. I long for the return of more God centered family lives.

Paul Abernathy, is a PhD and 1948 Union County High School graduate.

Dr. Abernathy is Professor Emeritus, at Purdue University.

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master that will dramatically improve their interactions with customers and each other.

Join us at the Union County Community Center conference room A&B from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8th.

This month's program will be led by Patrick Malone, Business Advisor and Leadership Mentor.

Come with your lunch

and be ready to get your questions answered at this free training!

This free training is just one of your many benefits of your Blairsville-Union County Chamber membership. No registration is required. Just show up and get ready to learn.

For details about Chamber Members and upcoming events be sure to visit our website at VisitBlairsvilleGA.com.

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toward the end, Phil Campbell was leading. Phil Campbell was closing in on a victory with 4 seconds left in the game when Bobby Joe stole the ball and went to the basket for a lay-up. The young man missed the shot, turned toward his friend Paul, and cursed because of his missed shot.

Paul the referee, called a technical foul because of the cursing. Hackleburgh made 2 foul shots and received the ball at half court with 3 seconds left in the game.

The arch rival of Phil

Campbell won the game with a long jump shot from the top of the key. All of Paul's friends and family refused to talk to him for two weeks. He was even ostracized by his parents and brother.

So, once again the young man was down in the mouth about his circumstances.

However, he wasn't down for long. After all he still had his girlfriend. So, Paul didn't care what others thought as long as Shirley, who would become my mother two years later, thought well of him.

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acorns for the next few months until they've had time to decay. Also, try to remove what acorns you can by shoveling or raking at least weekly. Finally, always make sure your cattle have adequate hay and supple-

ments if your pasture does not have a healthy stand of fresh green grass for them to graze. This will greatly reduce the urge to eat things that they are not supposed to and prevent a costly visit from the vet!

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itary service and accomplishments, although there's no telling how many lives he saved from his sniper perch.

Sen. Miller, author, news commentator, former Marine and former governor of Georgia, has had nothing but glowing words to say about England throughout their long lives.

"Eric England was my career inspiration. By modeling after him, I achieved every success I have had in life."

England was touched by the Hall of Fame honor - "I am deeply honored," he said after hearing the news that he was to be inducted into the GMHOF.

England enlisted in the Marines in 1950 and his career spanned several tours, including combat as a scout/sniper in Vietnam, for which he currently holds the record as one of five American service members with the highest number of confirmed combat kills.

Also during the Vietnam War, England's proficiency with a rifle earned him a job as a tactical weaponry instructor, and he trained his fellow Marines.

England holds several world marksmanship records, including the men's National Marksmanship Unit record at Fort Benning, established in 1968.

England also represented his country by participating on two Olympic shooting teams.

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ment. On a golf course, he was looking up at clouds "as a profound and otherworldly awareness began to grow in me. He is!" In embracing Jesus Christ, his faith is "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1).

As we chatted, Barsky

told me, "America has stopped thinking. It's all about feeling now. Young people need to be de-programmed and taught how to think critically."

His quick smile and warm manner hint that he's been de-programmed from lies and loneliness. Love and faith can do that to a man.

Chief ... continued from Page 4A

do. After all, how many people can say they are a firefighter?

If you are interested, please contact Headquarters at (706) 439-6091 or visit our

Facebook page "Union County Fire/Rescue & EMA."

Union County Fire Department ~ *Our Family Protecting Your Family* ~

Blue Ridge Mountain Cattlemen October meeting



The Blue Ridge Mountain Cattlemen met on October 31, 2017 at the Georgia Research Center. The steak dinner was sponsored by the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC. Guest speaker was Terry Chandler from Stillwater Farms of Danielsville, GA. Terry is a past winner of the Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award. He spoke to us about grazing management. He is the reigning Forage Spokesperson for Georgia. NT(Nov8,29)CA