

Veterans...continued from Page 1A

You are heroes worthy of remembrance.

"Today, you have before you the most crucial evidence of understanding the importance of serving in the Armed Forces, the youth of the United States, of our Blairsville, Georgia.

"Without you, our nation's children would not have the same opportunities available to them now: access to an education to enrich our lives, a chance to pursue our lives in a free country, the right to liberties that continue to be secured by those who clothe themselves with our

flag, representing the values of equality and justice wherever they may go.

"Your effort and commitment made our lives possible. And for this blessing, we thank you. Veterans, you have served us beyond any measurable standard. Your unwavering loyalty has maintained and spread the core values of America. You are the reason we can participate in this wonderful society, the reason I can stand before you today."

Also in the ceremony, students Madison Yost, Coleson Daniel, Kanon Hemphill and

Brian Smith presented U.S. Air Force veteran Misty Chavers with a Quilt of Valor worked on by their fellow students.

"We hope that when you need a hug, you'll wrap up in this quilt and let it provide you that warmth and comfort," said Yost.

U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Jesse David led the tribute to honor the fallen with the Missing Man Table, explaining the meaning of each item in the display.

Also during the ceremony, several high school students received recognition for their



These students were recognized in the Nov. 9 ceremony for having committed to joining the U.S. Armed Forces after high school. They are: Jonah Vetere, USMC; Justin Wheeler, USA; Dakota Dyer, USA; Michael Leonard, USA; Mark Cecci, USN; and Anastasia Grubbs, USN.

commitment to joining the U.S. Armed Forces following graduation.

They were Jonah Vetere, U.S. Marine Corps; Justin

Wheeler, U.S. Army; Dakota Dyer, U.S. Army; Michael Leonard, U.S. Army; Mark Cecci, U.S. Navy; and Anastasia Grubbs, U.S. Navy.

As a finale, teachers Alicia Covington, Chris Adams and Will Stafford performed an incredibly beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace."



SFC David Chovan performing the national anthem in the Nov. 9 Union County Schools Veterans Day Ceremony. Photo by Mark Smith

Community Council of the GMREC thanks employees



The Community Council of the Georgia Mountain Research & Education Center treated the hard-working employees to a Thanksgiving feast. We are so grateful for the dedication these men and women provide to research and agriculture. The station grounds cover 415 acres of orchards, test plots, pasture land, specimen and preservation gardens, historic sites and forests. Learn more about the work at the Farm by going to www.gmrec.uga.edu. N/Nov14/217/CA

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