

Paris...continued from Page 4B

balance arriving. It just made me feel good to know that our county employees made this horrible incident so much more tolerable. The lady was taken to Atlanta by ambulance and is successfully recuperating and doing well.

Q. Is there any way to get center turning lanes along 19/129 North to reduce the number of accidents due to stopped traffic turning across traffic?

A. Again, this is not a county issue. We nor the state have any information to confirm that there are daily accidents or near accidents on this highway. We have asked for the data on the number of actual accidents along this highway from Georgia State Patrol and will report that information in an upcoming Question and Answer section. We have made a request with GDOT regarding a red light request for the Pat Colwell/Murphy Highway intersection, and as of yet, the traffic county has apparently not been sufficient to justify this. We are in hopes that this

will happen soon.

Q. I would like to know if there is any plan in the works to widen 19/129 from Blairsville to the state line?

A. This is a State Highway and the county does not have any jurisdiction over the decisions of GDOT. However, we have been very active for years in asking that Highway 19/129 North be widened. A couple of years ago the Young Harris Highway was given priority over the Murphy Highway. However, we now understand that GDOT has made a decision to once again begin some surveying work on this highway. Right now GDOT is beginning the evaluation process for 19/129 North from the red light in Blairsville to the intersection of Highway 325 and Ivylog Road. They will be evaluating the existing roadway for capacity and safety issues and development improvement such as adding lanes, turn lanes, medians, intersection control, access control, improving geometry and sight distance, and upgrading to current design standards.

Allison... continued from Page 4B

along with select Under Armour, Columbia, Woolrich, Ruby Road, and Erin London.

Other participating businesses include: Alpha Drug Testing Services; American Catch Seafood Exchange; Blairsville Tech Support; Blairsville Waffle House; Blimpie Subs & Salads; Cabin Coffee of Blairsville; Candles by Jean; Copperhead Lodge; Crushed & Corked; From Me 2 U; Granddaddy Mimm's; Huddle House Blairsville; Jerae's Unity Alpacos; Logan Turnpike Mill; Made with Love Marketplace; Mary Kay Cosmetics - Roberta Ford; Michaellee's Italian Life Caffe; Mountain Crossings at

Walasi-yi; Natural Treatments for Brain and Body; Pat's Hallmark Shop; Pigs Gone Amuk Mini Golf; Premier Designs Jewelry by Alysia Hargus; S.A.F.E. Thrift Store; Sage Wax Boutique; ShutterSmith by Interior Solutions; Sign Makers of FL/GA; Sundance Gallery; Sunflower Antiques and Interiors; The Aviator Café; The Loft Boutique; The Vacuum Store; and Tropical Beach Tanning Salon.

For more great deals running this weekend and throughout the year, check out the hot deals link on our Chamber website at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com.

Mattee... continued from Page 4B

rust spots will appear on the upper surface of the leaves. These spots increase in size throughout the summer and eventually become stippled with tiny black dots. These dots are actually reproductive parts of the fungus that produce "spermatia" and release an odor that attracts insects. The insects visit the infected leaves and transfer the spermatia to other spots on the leaf, fertilizing the fungus and allowing it to reproduce. After fertilization, the fungus grows through the leaf and produce hair-like "aecia" on the underside of the foliage. These structures produce spores that will infect cedar needles to begin the entire process all over again.

Though the galls it forms on cedar trees are unsightly, very little damage occurs on these trees from cedar-apple rust. Because of this, it is not

necessary to protect cedar trees from a fungicide, though the galls should still be pruned out. However, since the fungus can cause malformed fruit and damage foliage in apples, it is important to protect trees with fungicides throughout the growing season, starting as soon as new shoots form.

It is always easier to prevent a problem than correct it. Scout your property and remove any cedar trees that are close to apple trees. If you have a large stand of native cedars, consider planting fungus-resistant apple varieties such as Red Delicious, Liberty, or McIntosh. Golden Delicious apples are especially susceptible to this disease.

For a publication with pictures of symptoms and a list of resistant and susceptible apple varieties, contact the extension office.

Cummings... continued from Page 4B

Hoover jumped to the tree from the rock and climbed up the tree to where the raccoon was located. His idea was to use a stick to poke the coon out of the tree. Hoover stood on 1 limb and was holding to the limb on the other side of the tree. He was poking the coon with a long stick in his free hand. The raccoon was not moving any so Lon Steele decided to help Hoover. He raised his gun and began shooting. Dad said both men were laughing and Hoover was encouraging Lon to shoot the coon. Lon was so drunk he couldn't even see what he was

shooting at. But, he did shoot the limb on which Hoover was standing. The limb cracked and broke. Hoover crashed more than 50 feet to the ground. Dad was scared to death. He claimed that was the only time he saw a man get shot out of a tree.

The coon got away while Hoover lay on the ground laughing. Dad quickly and quietly gathered his dogs and left the two men still lying on the ground laughing. Later they said that was the most fun they'd ever had. Dad refused to go hunting with anyone he didn't know again.

Chief ...

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flooding that may be associated with these thunderstorms.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Fowler...

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As Christians our identity is Jesus Christ. He said, "Blessed are you when people insult you... because of me," prescient and encouraging words since nowadays politically correct culture accepts almost any claimed identity but ours.

Riley...

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the Old Ben Fields. A Georgia Tech alumni who loved the outdoors, Charles Smithgall (Jr.) moved to Gainesville after graduation and began WGGA, a local radio station, in 1941. Six years later he founded today's *Gainesville Times*.

From this point Smithgall began to acquire other media companies and a small piece of property in north Georgia, now a part of the park that bears his name. As he disposed of his media properties he purchased more land adjacent to the White County property, eventually purchasing some 5,500 acres and spent more than \$20 million dollars of his own money on a restoration project.

Smithgall was well-known for his generosity throughout north Georgia. He has funded three chairs at Georgia Tech, provided funding for Lambdin Kay Professorship for the Peabody Awards (his wife Lessie had worked with the legendary broadcaster), a major supporter of the Gainesville Arts Council and Zoo Atlanta, among others.

In 1994, Smithgall donated the 5,555 acres to the state of Georgia to protect, preserve, and restore the land. The state has taken its stewardship seriously, only permitting limited access by car and minimizing the impact of visitors.

Inside Smithgall Woods are five beautiful mountain homes that the park uses in a bed and breakfast style arrangement (totaling 14 guest rooms). Each of the "cottages" comes with a fireplace or wood-burning stove, cable television, telephone, private baths and central air. They are finely appointed, all in traditional rustic lodge theme. A conference center is available for large groups.

The true story of Smithgall Woods is the effort at preservation. Walk or ride on its 22 miles of hiking and biking trails and you can see that the efforts of Smithgall and the state have paid remarkable dividends. From the trophy trout that now call Dukes Creek home, to the abundant wildlife and native flora, Smithgall Woods is a wonder to behold.

For more information on Smithgall and Hardman Farms, or programs by Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council, go to www.ChestChattrecd.org.

Drugs...

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conversation with them is important. It's not about "the big talk," it's about being there for them when the issues come up on TV, at the movies, on the radio, news events about celebrities or sports figures, about their friends or in conversation. Don't miss your opportunity to teach your kids. If you do, they will get their information about alcohol and drugs from friends and acquaintances, the media, the internet or other sources that misrepresent and actually glorify substance abuse.

Here are some basic guidelines to assist with that conversation. First, really listen before you talk, and encourage more conversation. Sometimes we are so anxious to share our wisdom or our opinion that we don't take the time to listen. For kids, knowing that we are really listening is the most important thing we can do to help. Talk to your child and ask open ended questions about their feelings, friends, activities - and listen to what they have to say. As much as you can, try to avoid questions that have a simple "yes" or "no" answer.

Next, be involved in your child's everyday world. Get to know your child's friends and continue to educate your child about the importance of maintaining good health - psychological, emotional and physical. Set expectations, limits and consequences: Make it clear that you do not want your child drinking alcohol or using drugs and that you trust them not to. Talk about possible consequences of drug and alcohol use, both legal and medical, and be clear about what you will do if the rules are broken.

Be honest and open and show that you care about what your child is going through as they make decisions that will affect their lives now and for the future. Many parents have discovered that talking about alcohol and drugs with their children has built bridges rather than walls as those children learn to make healthy, mature decisions on their own. If you have a family history of problems with alcohol or drugs, be matter of fact about it, as you would any other chronic disease, such as heart disease, diabetes or cancer.

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	Every Monday: 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	298 School Circle	2 pm
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Tri State Bus. Women	Every Tuesday: Blairsville Restaurant	8 am
Tuesday Strippers	Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	9:30-2:30 pm
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
BINGO	Every Wednesday: Civic Center	7 pm
Butternut Ladies Golf	Every Thursday: 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
Lockheed-Martin Ret.	First Monday of each month: Blairsville Restaurant	9 am
Volunteers/Handicap	First Baptist, H Bldg.	6 pm
CERT	St. Francis of Assisi	6:30 pm
Allegheny Masonic Lodge #114	Masonic Lodge	6:30 pm
Brownie Scouts	First Tuesday of each month: United Methodist Ch	3-5 pm
Blairsville City Coun.	City Hall	6 pm
Amateur Radio Club	Branan Lodge	7 pm
Gaddistown Hmakers	Woody Gap	7 pm
Knights/Colum. #2563	place TBA	7:30 pm
Enotah Ch. #24 RAM	Masonic Temple	7:30 pm
Exercise class	First Wednesday of each month: Senior Citizens Center	10:30 am
Tri-Cty Wom. Lunch	Monet's Rest.	Noon
Better Breathers	UGH Classroom 2nd Fl.	1 pm
Quilts of Valor	First Thursday of each month: Coosa Methodist Ch	9:30 am-2:30 pm
MMQG	Mtn. Presbyterian Ch	10 am-3 pm
Awake America	City Hall	11:59 am
NAMI Fam. Support	New Hope Counseling	12-1:30 pm
Blairsville Sorghum Fest.	Fort Sorghum	6:30 pm
Open Road ORV	Civic Center	8 pm
"Nailed" Book Club	First Friday of each month: G-N-G Bakery	10:30 am
UG Hospital Aux	UC Nursing Home	Noon
Cruisers Block Party	Farmer's Market	5 pm (Apr-Oct)
Feel Good Friday	Wellness Center	7 pm
Cruise-In	First Saturday of each month: On the Square	4 pm (Apr-Oct)