

## Paris ... from Page 4A

with just the one penny of sales tax?

A. It was careful planning, many hard working employees and our local vendors and companies who did such an outstanding job constructing these projects. We will be just as careful with our next SPLOST funds as we were with these.

**Q. Will the current SPLOST III pay for all of**

**these many projects that have been built in the past few years?**

A. It will pay for all of the projects except the new Community Center, which we have planned on all along to pay for with SPLOST IV funds. At the end of the current SPLOST in March 2015, all the projects listed above will be completely paid for except for the Community Center.

## Cummings ...continued from Page 4A

Uncle Mack was hollering, "get the dogs." Sam was howling because the coon was still biting his ear.

Lou finally had a good hold on the coon and she was trying to pull it off Sam's back while it was still biting his ear.

In the meantime Rufus and my Dad were lying on the creek bank laughing so hard they were crying.

Uncle Mack finally found his teeth and made his way up the bank of the creek.

He looked at my Daddy and said, "You have some

pretty good dogs, but, you ain't much help in finding teeth."

There's a little more than 30 days left to visit the Union County Farmers Market. The Fall produce is in and the days are numbered for putting up a stash of winter vegetables.

The Canning plant is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays until middle October.

The plant opens at 6 a.m. and closes at noon. Saturday we salute our Honeybee producers. Join us from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Leone ...from Page 4A

language, (of course, Italian). It comes slower than losing a pound, but I try to learn a word a day, an expression a week. This trip to Tuscany, Italy, I was surprised by how many times I was able to hunt and peck my way through a question when I needed information. I definitely was more cordial to the Italians this go around than I was this past spring in Rome and Sicily.

It took better than five decades for me to come to the revelation that baby steps lead you on lengthy, satisfying journeys. And with this understanding, I was more attuned to a short "TED" talk that I heard on the internet this week. It was given by Matt Cutts, an engineer from Google. It was called "Try Something New for 30 Days." In his lecture, he suggests that we each find something we always wanted to do with our life and do it. Do it for just 30 days.

Write every day for thirty days. Try a new French recipe every day for a month. Quit drinking Red Bull. For four weeks.

Forty-five days ago I stopped watching TV. I was finding that there wasn't enough time in the day to accomplish all I wanted to accomplish, yet I found time to sit in front of the television every night, just to be enter-

tained. I have to tell you, I haven't missed it. I use to be a news junkie. Now I rarely even look at Huffington Post Online, any more.

Think about what you'd like to change in your life. What do you want to subtract or to add? Decide to do it for 30 days. If the expense of the venture has stopped you in the past, just invest in 30 days worth. You can find the funds for that. Maybe it means renting (or even borrowing from a friend) a great camera to take a picture of the sunset every day for 30 days. Borrow the language books from the library. Quitting smoking, even for thirty days, saves you at least \$150. It may also save your life. I encourage you to take the leap, just for one month, 720 hours. You just never know what will result. I've learned it is never too late to teach an old dog new tricks.

For those of you that have never made it yet to the Farmers Market, you've got a little more than 30 days left to make that part of your weekly shopping experience. Autumn produce is in and you will be hard pressed to find better entertainment for free in these parts. This Saturday we salute our Honey Bee producers. Join us and help spread some sweetness.

## Ramsey ...continued from Page 4A

media and much of the Christian religious community. The pro-Israel lobby was and still is our Trojan Horse, ready and willing to do Israel's bidding, no matter what.

But, back to the present. Israel's timetable for the Middle East seems to have hit a snag of sorts (just a momentary one, to be sure) for which, Russia will be blamed. By this time, Syria was to be in ashes and Assad assassinated - another possible threat to Israel eliminated and others to be "tended to." Next on the "to do" list is Lebanon and its dratted Hezbollah faction; and then the biggest prize of all - Iran. And, just think! We Americans will do it all, while

the Israelis won't have to lift a finger, spend a shekel or lose any of their extensive entitlement programs. Nor, will one Israeli soldier have to suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome. What's not to love about all this!

There will be, naturally, a bit of mopping up to do (when we Americans get around to it) ridding Egypt of the Muslim Brotherhood, then on to Pakistan, Turkey, Indonesia and infinitum, until there is not one Muslim left on this earth who might prove a threat to poor little Israel. (Hmmm, let's see... Iran cannot be allowed to have nuclear weapons, but Israel can have a huge stockpile and was never

## Berkman ...continued from Page 4A

while we have been faced with a raft of information (or in some cases disinformation), most of which, after great painstaking and time consuming research, turns out to be pure fiction. Examples include such notions as "we will be subject to the decisions of death panels under ObamaCare", "under ObamaCare we can only get comfort care after the age of 70", "the cheapest plan under ObamaCare will cost us \$20,000 a year", "our Medicare benefits will be reduced if we support ObamaCare", "under ObamaCare the government is going to implant chips in us when we access health care", "ObamaCare forces abortions and contraceptives", "ObamaCare rations health-care", "ObamaCare will take away our ability to choose our own physicians" and the ubiquitous "ObamaCare is an unconstitutional Socialist plot to enable the government to control my health-care decisions". All of this is both untrue and unhelpful and, what's worse is that this list just barely scratches the mythological surface.

The facts are that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is the law of the land and that each of us has the responsibility to learn about the law and

make our own health care decisions in light of that law. The facts are that individuals and businesses need easily accessible, unbiased and accurate information so that they can make important decisions as to how they wish to go about fulfilling their health care needs. From a business perspective, the tax accountant says "go this way" while the insurance broker says "go that way" and the lawyer tells us to "take a different route" as the ideologues demand that we spend our time and money fighting the whole thing instead of figuring out how to make it work.

Personally, I have had enough of this hemming and hawing. The complaining and bickering has become disgusting. Isn't there some organization or institution in this county that will step forward and help citizens to fully grasp the facts, understand the alternatives and make meaningful decisions that will enable us to plot our health care futures successfully, given the laws we now have? No ideology, no mythology, just a clear and realistic look at the law and the strategies available to us to make the most of our health care dollars.

**Michael Berkman**

## Parris ...from Page 4A

A bumper sticker reads: "I owe, I owe, so off to work I go." You can go to work, earn money and pay off your financial obligations but you can never work hard enough or long enough to pay off your sin debt. Our sin debt has been Paid in Full by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. You can be DEBT FREE

SPIRITUALLY this very day! Accept His payment for your sin debt. The Psalmist shouted with joy, "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile" (Psalm 32:1-2). Are you DEBT FREE?

## Williams ...continued from Page 4A

ing incoming payments and had separated my check pile from my "stub" pile. As I was shredding all the stubs, I accidentally picked up from the wrong pile and shredded a \$2,000 check! Eeek! Ever since then I have been terrified of shredders!

**Q:** What would people reading this be surprised to know about you?

**A:** Some people might be surprised to know that my favorite hobby is crochet. I cannot tell you that I'm very good at it, but I still love it! For me, crochet is a great way to relax in the evenings and I really enjoy seeing my fin-

ished projects.

**Q:** When you aren't working, what do you like to do?

**A:** When I am not working my passion is my family. Having a young daughter is like the whole world being new again. Just walking down our dirt road is an adventure through her little eyes which makes it an adventure to me too! Wherever I am and whatever I'm doing I am a happy woman if my daughter and husband are accompanying me.

**Q:** How can our readers reach you?

**A:** I can be reached by phone at 706-745-5789 or email at admin@blairsville-chamber.com.

## Mitchell ...from Page 4A

prevented this act of savagery. Surely Aaron Alexis would have read the warning in English -- or Thai -- and would have realized the horror of what he proposed and he would have turned away.

Since Alexis "heard voices," perhaps digital speakers, placed all around the Navy Yard facility, should have been playing soft, calming, "elevator" music underlying spoken commands which might have dissuaded his attack. You know, substitute other, rational voices for the voices that Alexis was hearing.

If one life could be saved, if one act of "workplace violence" could be forestalled, wouldn't such "preventive" measures have been worth it?

That's the rubric that Senators Feinstein, Boxer, Schumer, Durbin, Manchin, Gillibrand, Landrieu, Leahy, Mikulski, Murray, Nelson, Reid, Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Vice-President Joe Biden, President Barack Obama -- like almost all other Democrats -- would have us believe.

To hear them tell it, saving one life is worth more than the Second Amendment.

P.S. Let's call him what he was. Alexis was an assas-

sin, a murderer, a terrorist, executioner, killer, butcher, savage. He wasn't a "shooter."

**George Mitchell**

### Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



September 17 - 23  
In observance of  
**U. S. Constitution Week**  
by Old Unicoi Trail Chapter  
Daughters of the  
American Revolution

September 23, 2013  
In memory of  
**Heather Dyer**  
11/02/76 - 09/28/12  
by Craig Dyer

Bell ringing information  
at 706-745-5493