

## Paris... continued from Page 4A

days looking for lost, sick or injured hikers. Hospitals and local units simply do not have the extra manpower or time to attend to those on the trail during the current State of Emergency. They need to wait until things are back to normal to begin a trip on the Appalachian Trail.

### Q. Is the Transfer Station still open?

A. The Transfer Station is classified as an essential

business and will remain open for the time being. If you have any questions about the Transfer Station or if it has closed you can call Advanced Disposal, who runs the Transfer Station, at 706-632-6519. Keep in mind the Transfer Station is extremely busy right now since so many people are staying home and doing spring cleaning. So, someone may not be able to answer the phone every time someone calls.

## Cummings... continued from Page 4A

Also during the Revolutionary War, ancestors on my mother's side of the family were working as gunsmiths in Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, the British Army forced my ancestor, Robert Baker, to make ammunition for the Redcoats. Unknown to the British was the fact that his own sons were also serving in the Continental Army. I have often wondered the internal struggles he faced knowing that one of these bullets could kill his own sons. Also, unknown to the British was the fact that he was making and supplying Baker Rifles to the militias of the colonies. Here is another example of a person enduring extreme hardship for a greater cause.

Less than 100 years later, our country became embroiled in a great conflict. One that would have far reaching effects for many years. Wyatt Cummings and his brother Abssolem had recently purchased property in Winston County, Alabama. They were settlers, not plantation owners, in north Alabama. At that time, the real political power in Alabama resided with the large planters of south Alabama. After Lincoln was elected and South Carolina declared its independence, the state of Alabama called a secession convention in Montgomery. Winston County elected a representative to the convention. He was to go to Montgomery and let everyone know that Winston County was opposed to war and secession. Upon entering the building where the convention was held, this man was thrown into jail and beaten. He was not released until after the convention was completed.

You know the rest of the story. Alabama seceded from the Union and war came to the South. People were sent to Winston County to encourage local residents to join the cause of the Confederacy. Encouragement to those thugs meant forcing people to join the Southern army. People's livestock was stolen. Young men were beaten until they signed up. Crops were stolen, all for the Southern cause. One man in the community was hung twice because he refused to join the South. Yet his son found him each time and

cut him down, saving his life twice. This kind of behavior and the fact their great-grandfather fought with Washington to create the country caused Wyatt and Abssolem to join the Union cause. Wyatt endured to survive the war, while Abssolem gave his life for something bigger than himself. He died not from a bullet but from dysentery.

Fifty-four years after the war, the country faced another crisis. The Spanish Flu swept across our land. The evidence is still with us. Go to any old graveyard and you will find many gravestones with people buried in the year 1919. I have found them where couples lost seven to 10 of their children in one year. Wyatt lost two grandchildren in my family. My grandfather had two aunts to die from this flu while he was a toddler. These two young ladies were only teenagers. Our family was fortunate to have only lost two people. Once again, I cannot imagine the agony of losing children.

All of my ancestors experienced unspeakable hardship and the agony of losing loved ones. However, they endured to do great things. Isn't that like all of our ancestors? These people went through battles with Indians to create a colony. They fought against tyranny and won a revolution to create a country. They endured an influenza epidemic to fight in Word War I and immediately entered a Great Depression of which they endured again to fight another Word War.

As I write this article telling you about what my ancestors experienced, a couple questions come to my mind: "What will our descendents think about our time on this earth? Will they examine our lives and say we endured troubling times to do something great for this country?" The answer to that question is up to us. I would encourage each of you to trust God and do the right thing. There are people all around us which need help. Kindness is needed in this world now more than ever. Let it be said by our descendents, "Our forefathers got through the pandemic of 2020 to see great things happen in this country."

## Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

use substances, lack of interest in school participation and frequent alienation of others. Prevention programs that address substance use and high-risk sexual behaviors are proven to be more effective than programs that just focus on substance abuse or just focus on high risk sexual behaviors. These programs include individuals, peers, families, schools and communities.

Prevention strategies that are successful in reducing teen risk include multiple prevention activities in different areas of the teen's life. School based programs that focus on social skills and emotional awareness are fundamental to teaching students how to manage peer pressure. Peer led drug and alcohol resistance programs like Students Against Destructive Decisions, offers a safe social circle that practices low risk behaviors. Parenting programs that offer support and skills for dealing with difficult teen

behaviors and programs that encourage parental engagement is another invaluable tool in reducing engagement in substance use and high-risk sexual behavior. Finally, family support programs that address the needs of each family member. When students have a supportive school environment and their parents are actively engaged in their lives, they are less likely to engage in high risk behaviors.

## Sutton...

continued from Page 4A

By accepting this appointment, Judge Levins continues to demonstrate his commitment to serving the public and the justice system. His fellow members of the State Bar of Georgia wish him well in this new capacity of judicial leadership. Sincerely,  
**Darrell Sutton**  
President, State Bar of Georgia

## Riley... continued from Page 4A

research and extension work on the condition that those funds are matched by state funds. Like the credit and rural development titles, the research title first started appearing as part of Farm Bill reauthorizations in the 1990's.

In 2008, a substantial change was made to consolidate certain USDA research functions into the National

## J. Williams...

continued from Page 4A

tilizer. For some crops, there are recommendations for establishment and maintenance. An example is lawns. You will get a recommendation for putting in a new lawn or what you need to do you to keep your already established lawn healthy.

Sometimes the fertilizer recommendation includes a fertilizer that you can't find. In that situation, approximate with another fertilizer that you can find or use the fertilizer calculator link on the report if it was emailed to you.

If you have questions about interpreting your soil report, email or call me. Currently (3/26/2020) the Towns County Extension office is closed. The Union County Extension office is open by appointment only. You can call me there at 706-439-6030 or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

## L. Williams...

continued from Page 4A

ola. In 2018, Trump disbanded this pandemic office and fired all of the global health care professionals there.

By the first week of March 2020, there were 110 known cases of coronavirus in the U.S. and six known deaths from it. There were 90,000 confirmed cases worldwide. By the second week of March, there were 200 cases in the U.S. Trump said in his speech, "There are 15 coronavirus cases in the U.S., and in about two days, numbers will be close to zero." Other countries were doing massive testing of the virus and quarantining their people while Trump was calling it a Democratic hoax.

Fox News and its followers were choosing to believe Trump instead of world renowned epidemic and pandemic scientists and doctors. Most people I talked to here in Union County were still calling it a hoax.

When credible news outlets were reporting that the novel coronavirus disease known as COVID-19 was declared a pandemic, and Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said the virus is 10 times more deadly than the regular flu, and when the stock market was in freefall, FINALLY Trump admitted that coronavirus is bad. The U.S. had wasted precious time and was way behind other countries on testing and preparing for this disaster.

This is a severe health care and economic crisis -- a double whammy for us. Millions of businesses are closing and millions of people are losing their jobs and their health care.

Now, here we are with so many cases and deaths in the U.S. so far, with numbers rising exponentially. There are insufficient amounts of tests, medical supplies, health care workers, hospital equipment and rooms.

Congress has been deadlocked on trillion dollar stimulus bills. Democrats want a Workers First stimulus bill, which would give most of the money to households of working families and to small businesses. Trump especially wants to give massive bailouts to big industries and corporations -- billions to airlines, hotels, resorts, casinos and the cruise industry.

**Lucy Williams**

Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA), which coordinates and funds research and extension among the land grants and other qualifying research institutions. In the 2014 Farm Bill, a program was established to provide training, education, outreach and technical assistance to beginning farmers and ranchers.

Title VIII: Forestry The 2002 Farm Bill created the first forestry title. The Agriculture Committees have jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service, which is part of USDA, but the Department of the Interior has jurisdiction of most federal land and forestry programs. The forestry title is a small part of the Farm Bill, but other forestry programs appear in other titles, especially conservation. Forestry programs are subject to appropriations.

Title IX: Energy Increased interest in renewable and domestic sources of energy led to the creation of the energy title in the 2002 Farm Bill. The U.S. ethanol industry, which produces around 15 billion gallons per year, was facilitated by different laws, including the Clean Air Act, certain tax provisions, and the Energy Policy Act of 2005, but the Farm Bill energy title has played a significant role toward the development of advanced biofuels, as well as promoting energy efficiency and carbon capture.

Some mandatory funds have been used in the energy title, but today all programs in this title are subject to appropriations.

These programs are important tools for farmers, as often conservation practices do not translate to profit. From its desperate beginnings in the Dust bowl, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has worked with farm families to create the most sustainable and efficient agricultural industry in history.

For more information on the Farm Bill check it out on [www.chestchattrec.org](http://www.chestchattrec.org) or [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov).

## Fowler...

continued from Page 4A

Of all that is packed into those three words, His tone is clear. He is compassionate about your plight in this moment. He made it clear that this world is not all there is to reality, and He has prepared a place for you away from the troubles of this world.

The good news is that if you follow all the coronavirus guidelines, stay home alone, and miss some church services, you can still enjoy the Lord's presence and His peace.

## Fire...

continued from Page 4A

The Union County Emergency Management Agency is continuously working with everyone on this event. We still strongly recommend following the CDC and Georgia Department of Public Health guidelines on how to slow the spread of COVID-19, social distancing, and what to do if you become ill. Please visit [www.unioncountygga.gov](http://www.unioncountygga.gov) or call GDPH Hotline at (844) 442-2681.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

## UC Historical Society's Brick Walk

To show our appreciation for the overwhelming community support for the Union County Historical Society's Brick Walk, we are extending the current price of \$50 per brick.

Please call the Historical Society at 706-745-5493 or come by the old courthouse to purchase one in memory or in honor of a loved one.

## Chamber... continued from Page 4A

can purchase products over the phone or online.

Other ways you can support local businesses while still following all health and safety guidelines include:

Buy Gift Cards Now...

Use Them Later: Buying gift cards is one easy way to support businesses you know you'll visit in the future. These purchases help infuse a little cash into the business now and provide assistance with paying employees, rent, utilities and more. Perfect for gifts too!

Tip Extra/Donate When You Can: While tipping is certainly optional -- now is a great time for anyone able to add a little extra in support of those in the service industry who are losing income.

Share on Social: The Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

Chamber, in coordination with the Union County Commissioner's Office and the Downtown Development Authority, is working to provide an updated list of closings and changes in hours of operations for our local shops, restaurants and government offices. Please visit the following websites for the latest information: <http://www.unioncountygga.gov/id/>; <http://www.visitdowntownblairsville.com/visit/>

itblairsvillega.com/covid-19.

We will be updating these pages frequently regarding the novel coronavirus as it pertains to Union County, so be sure to check back often.

For the most up to date information on COVID-19 in the United States, please visit the Center for Disease Control's website.

Please adhere to the CDC for guidelines and best practices during this time. While being outside can help improve your mood, it does not decrease your chances of getting or spreading the virus. To keep yourself and those around you safe, please adhere to the CDC's best practices for preventing the spread of disease including:

Wash your hands frequently with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds; Use a hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol; Avoid close contact with people who are sick; Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth; Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or into your elbow; and Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our community and with all of those who have been affected by this.