

**Paris ... continued from Page 4A**

footings and the two layers of block that had already been laid. I then had to take about \$250,000 and have the whole area behind the jail graded again so as to make more room and find a way to stabilize the bank from caving in on the jail once it was completed.

Part A4. It was impossible to build the jail for the \$2 million dollars as we had to add kitchen appliances, updated water heating systems, sewer upgrades, cameras, parking areas, and other equipment that had been omitted. In the end, I think we ended up with \$3.5 million in a jail that was built too small, built on a side of the mountain with no expansion room and has continued to provide one problem after

another for several years.

Part A5. Within a few months of the jail being completed there was another major issue. The jail was built mostly on a fill slope since it was stuck on the side of the mountain. So, the dirt had been inadequately compacted and the front NW corner of the jail's foundation started to crack. The fill dirt started to slide out from under the corner of the jail. This time I think we spent about \$300,000 having to haul in hundreds of loads of dirt to fill in enough to stabilize the front of the jail.

I will continue with more information next week about the jail and its operation and the answer to the question above in Part II.

**Riley ... continued from Page 5A**

he had an older sister who made sure he had the correct labels showing, but we just threw dirt clods at him anyway. Butler was so small that the only ball games that we had was basketball because we didn't have enough kids to have a football team. We didn't have anywhere to hang out after the ball games, so everybody gathered at the Riley house.

My parents, Sarah, and Frank Sr. (PaPa) were very involved in their kid's activities especially when my two sisters, Sissy and Judy, were state basketball champions 5 years in a row, PaPa liked that. I grew up being known as Sissy's brother because she was famous in our town and I wasn't. Our friends would bring their dates over to our house after ballgames to play ping pong and Sarah would serve lemonade and cookies and we would play into the wee hours of the night. Nobody got into trouble or fights and the only arguments that we had was whether the ball was over the line or not.

When we tell kids today about how we grew up, they just roll their eyes and think that we are just old fuddy dud-

dies and we make these things up to make a good story like they have seen on reruns of Mayberry RFD. They can't listen long because they want to look at their I-Phone to see the very important, urgent text they have missed in the past 60 seconds from someone much more important and interesting than us with boring old stories. When we suggest that they use the phone to actually talk to someone, they think that we really have lost our minds and when we tell them that we used to put our fingers in a hole and rotate a dial to make the phone work, they are ready to put us in a home. We don't dare tell about how our phones did not have cameras and were wired to the wall!

I can remember a lot of these things from 50 years ago when I grew up, but now I can't remember where I left my keys. Wish I could go back to those carefree, good ole days! My youngest just turned 40... where did the time go?

Frank M. Riley, Jr, CF, is the Executive Director of the Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council and one of the vanishing Good Ole Boys! frank.ccrd@gmail.com.

**Allison... continued from Page 4A**

and Corporate Sponsors Blue Ridge Mountain EMC, Budget Blinds, Mountain Elegance, North Georgia Technical College and WJRB 95.1 & WJUL 97.7 FM Radio.

With Memorial Day weekend only a few days away, I want to take a minute to honor the men and women in uniform who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom. We owe them a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid. If you see a member of the military, whether active or retired, please remember to stop and thank them for their service.

Memorial Day weekend is always a busy one in Union County with the many events taking place in the community. The weekend kicks off with the annual Memorial Day Parade which begins Saturday, May 27th at 10 a.m. Remember to get your spot on the parade route early as the streets close 15-20 minutes prior to the parade. Following the parade, the annual Memorial Day Ceremony will be held at the War Memorial.

The Spring Arts, Crafts, & Music Festival will be held on the square in downtown Blairsville. There will be over 60 vendors on sight with a wide variety of items for sale. The festival will be an all day affair running from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. In addition to the many vendors,

musicians will be performing Bluegrass and Country Music for everyone to enjoy. Thank you to the Union County Historical Society & The Blairsville Downtown Development Authority for sponsoring this annual event.

Be sure to come out and support Relay For Life after enjoying your time at the festival on Saturday, May 27th. This annual event is always a lot of fun and helps support a great cause. It is being held this year from 4 p.m.-10 p.m. at the Union County Farmer's Market. The evening is packed full of activities with DJ Dez, a BBQ cookoff, a scavenger hunt for the kids, the musical group Raven and Red and much, much more! As always, you will not want to miss the Carlton Shaw Memorial Bare Legs Contest and the Women's Straw Hat Contest. This year's kids' corner activities will include a Bounce House, Train, Games, Tattoos (stick on), Face Painting, Raffle, Scavenger Hunt, and Wet Sponge in Face Game. Thank you to all the volunteers and those who have contributed in any way to this event.

For more information about upcoming events visit our website at visitblairsville-ga.com or contact the Chamber office at 706-745-5789. Have a great weekend!

**Mitchell ... continued from Page 4A**

their Servants." That's why the Founders included Article V of that document which, if Congress abandons us, one last resort remains to return, to force, our "representatives" back under our control.

It's called a Constitutional Convention.

The Founders added this article to the Constitution because they recognized that never in history has a central government ceded power back to its people. This is their safety check.

We are \$144 trillion in debt and "unfunded liabilities." For every taxpayer, that is a million bucks. For Millenni-

als, it's \$1.7 million each that they're going to have to come up with over the next 50 years.

Eleven state legislatures have committed to a Constitutional Convention. Thirty four are needed to call a C.C. into session.

At that C.C., representatives of the States would amend the Constitution as they deemed necessary and appropriate.

The core around which the C.C. would convene requires a balanced budget, reduces the federal regulatory burden on the States, eliminates federal grants and the mandates which go along with them (witness the Georgia / Union County public schools as a case in point), and allow a two-thirds majority of the States to override Supreme Court decisions, federal laws and attendant regulations.

Then there's the most desired amendment of all: Term limits for each and every Senator and Representative.

Reaching the goal of 34 states might not happen but, what if 25 states signed on?

Talk about put "the skeer" in 'em! There'd be feathers in the air as our "representatives" tried to find another thicket to hide behind. **George A. Mitchell**

**Cummings... continued from Page 4A**

ing to Union County in 1990. As I recall he was a deacon at 1st Baptist Church and although he was a leader he was never outspoken. He led by example. For example, he demonstrated his love of people by visiting the sick and those confined to the Nursing Home. He loved helping those in need and demonstrated his faith by sharing it with and helping other people. God's Word tells us that we should serve others and "Fight the good Fight". Leon was the type of person that placed others' needs in front of his needs. The people of First Baptist Church honored him with the title, "Deacon Emeritus" upon his retirement from serving as an active Deacon. It needs to be made clear that he and Barbara placed Christ as the head of their family and at the center of their lives.

Upon his retirement from the military in 1972, Leon, became the Administrator of Union General Hospital. "Mr. D." is what many former employees of Union General Hospital affectionately called him. During his tenure the hospital grew and experienced many successes.

But, anytime he was congratulated he always gave the credit to the employees of the hospital.

He retired in 1993, but, before retirement Union County experienced the "Blizzard of '93". The area received 18-24 inches of snow during this storm. There were reports of drifts up to 8 feet deep. For 3-4 days the temperature stayed below freezing and for 3 straight nights the temperatures dipped below zero. Most of the roads were impassable. A little snow didn't stop this warrior. He walked each day from the south side of Blairsville to the hospital and never missed a day of work.

He served in and saw action in WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War as well as the Cold War. He rose through the ranks from the level of private all the way to major. He served with the famed 24th Infantry Division "Taro Leaf" as the first American unit to see action in the Korean War. He received a battlefield commission in Korea during 1953.

**Fowler ...**

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firmly held my hand and loudly plunged into a conversation with someone he knew well. "Thank you for those who came to our village to help the sick. For this man I pray you would protect him and give him the force to live and do what you ask him to do. I pray this for my brother in Jesus' name."

This old saint was not poor. He generously shared from the treasure of his heart. Thomas offered, "That was like the blessing of Jacob." My vision was blurry. I think the dust got in my eyes.

"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

**Combs ...**

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I know one thing for sure that the God I serve is in charge of it all and I am excited to see what God is up to in the days and years ahead. God's ways and thoughts are much higher than ours and if the truth be done that is a good thing for all of us to believe in. Amen **Frank F. Combs**

**Mattee ...**

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garden. This also works well for deer and other nuisance wildlife.

Bears are known to occasionally trespass onto farmland. To discourage this, keep well mowed buffer zones around crops, beehives and livestock. Black bears hate to be out in the open with no cover, so without tall grass and weeds, they often feel vulnerable. Guard dogs are also recommended for livestock to keep away predators, and their barking almost always scares away even large black bears.

If you have followed all these suggestions and still have bear problems, it would be worthwhile to look into aversive conditioning. This includes motion-activated startle devices such as noise makers and sprinklers, airhorns, emergency whistles and water guns. By making your house a stressful environment to bears, you can make sure they won't come back to visit.

**Free fuzzy hugs**

Castoff Pet Rescue Adoption Day will be held at Blairsville Town Square across from Foodland on Saturday, May 27th. Come and get-um!

Abrams wrote these 3 words to describe him. "A True Warrior" were the only words he used to describe Major Leon

Davenport. The man is truly a hero and a person we can all emulate.