

Memorial...from Page 1A

out is expected with a sincere display of patriotism.

Chuck Honaker, a decorated Iraq War Veteran, will be at the event.

Honaker was seriously wounded Aug. 20th, 2003 when an improvised explosive device detonated near the Humvee driven by Staff Sgt. Bobby Franklin.

Honaker was manning the turret, or mounted weaponry.

Franklin, of Mineral Bluff, died from injuries sustained in the explosion.

Honaker suffered numerous shrapnel wounds, and his hearing was damaged.

Honaker expects a large turnout for the event.

"I'd like to thank each of you for taking the time to honor the memory and sacrifice of those that have given their lives to defend our freedom," Honaker said. "One of

the ways that we can honor those veterans who have paid the ultimate price for freedom, is to live our lives to the fullest; to live our lives serving, and serving others."

Our community has a large veteran population and remembering those that gave the ultimate sacrifice is the proper thing to do.

Also, bring a lawn chair just in case the crowd is larger than expected.

Expo...from Page 1A

lard, a member of Tri-State Business Women, had her lovely pottery on display and for sale at the Expo.

Pollard has a studio at the south end of Blairsville.

"The Expo has been good, I have had some good sales," Pollard said. "I have made some connections with other business owners. I have collected a lot of email addresses to add to my newsletter list.

"I am thankful for this opportunity," she said. "In a small town, I think all of these small business owners need to come together and help each other out, build relationships, share tips, tricks and ideas. I enjoyed it, and I'm glad I did it."

To join this group of dynamic businesswomen, simply stop by The Blairsville Restaurant any Tuesday morning at

8 a.m. for one of their weekly meetings.

"It's a great organization, and we truly encourage any woman who wants to learn more about how to have her own business, has her own business, has retired from her own business - come check us out, you are always welcome," Fink said. "We try to make everyone feel welcome."

Jim's...from Page 1A

best," said Brooke Ferencsik, director of communications for TripAdvisor. "Offering a smorgasbord of the country's finest barbecue styles, Georgia is a traveler favorite and features more than 500 smokin' spots on TripAdvisor."

Open Thursday through Saturday, the Union County smokehouse advises guests to arrive early, as their succulent meats - including ribs, brisket, pulled pork, chicken and turkey - often sell out.

Those lucky enough

to score a meal also can enjoy their choice of satisfying sides, from Brunswick stew to banana pudding.

A TripAdvisor reviewer said, "The only problem is choosing what to order since it's all so good."

The Massachusetts-based website lists Georgia as the top barbecue state in the country.

Three of the nation's top barbecue sites were listed from Georgia, including Wiley's Championship BBQ in

Savannah, and Joe BBQ in Blue Ridge.

Franklin Barbecue in Austin, Texas came in at No. 1.

The TripAdvisor ranking of top barbecue restaurants is based on establishments that have a minimum of 100 reviews and were ranked by quantity and quality, giving more weight to reviews written in the past year.

Chain restaurants with more than 10 locations were excluded.

Elections...from Page 1A

At the conclusion of the race, Bentley was quick to offer best of wishes to Hunter.

"I called Tony and congratulated him," Bentley said. "I would like to thank the people who supported me. We have a very good school system and would like to see it be the best that it can be. I hope that over the next few years we can expand the opportunities for our students of all ages."

In the Republican Primary, Stephen Allison is headed back to Atlanta as the House District 8 state representative. Allison collected 4,297 votes (65.6 percent) from his constituents.

Meanwhile John Crumpton, a White County Republican, received 2,251 votes (34.4 percent).

Rep. Allison's numbers were slightly higher on his home turf, collecting 69.7 of the vote in Union County. Allison expressed his gratitude late Tuesday evening on Facebook.

"I know its late but I wanted to say a heartfelt thanks to the residents of this district for giving me the honor of representing you in Atlanta for another two years," Allison said. "Campaigning is exhausting work and it is nonstop till it's over. I cannot say thanks enough for all the encouragement, prayers, support and friendship that has been shown to Regina and I these last few months. I live in the best part of Georgia and although the mountains are special, the people who live up here are even better."

Another incumbent, U.S. Rep. Doug Collins defeated challenger Bernard Fontaine of Suches with 49,843 votes (80.2 percent) to 12,282 (19.8 percent) in the Republican Primary for the U.S. House 9th Congressional District seat.

Fontaine, a retired brigadier general in the Georgia National Guard, fared slightly better in his own back yard, gathering 25.7 percent of the vote in Union County.

In February, the National Journal identified Rep. Collins as the most conservative member of Georgia's Congressional Delegation and overall the 16th most conservative Member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

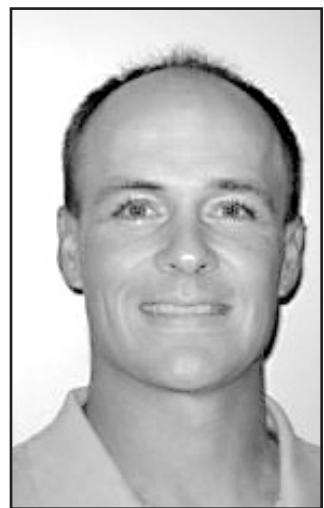
In the race to fill retiring U.S. Sen. Saxby Chambliss' seat, David Perdue and Jack Kingston are headed for a runoff after drawing 30.2 percent and 26.7 percent respectively statewide in the Republican Primary. In Union County, Perdue earned 45.3 percent to Kingston's 15 percent.

Michelle Nunn ran away from the competition on the Democratic side by collecting 75.4 percent of the vote statewide and 87.1 percent locally.

Gov. Nathan Deal took 72 percent of the vote statewide and 76.4 locally in the Gubernatorial Republican



Tony Hunter



Keith Potts



Primary.

Democratic Secretary of State hopeful Doreen Carter is headed to the November General Election with 68 percent of the statewide vote. Carter will face Republican incumbent Brian Kemp.

In the Republican race for the State School Superintendent, Mike Buck and Richard Woods appear headed to a runoff with 19.8 and 17 percent of the vote, respectively.

On the Democratic side Valarie Wilson received 32 percent and Alisha Morgan 25.6 to force a runoff on both sides of the State Superintendent race.

Lauren "Bubba" McDonald will defend his Public Service Commission District

4 Northern seat in November after collecting 62.4 percent on the Republican ticket.

In the uncontested races, Dahlongega Republican Steve Gooch is getting sent back to the Gold Dome.

Enotah Judicial Circuit District Attorney Jeff Langley was unopposed along with Superior Court Judges Raymond George and Stanley Gunter.

The Lieutenant Governor's race will feature Republican incumbent Casey Cagle and Democratic challenger Connie Stokes in November.

Incumbent Republican Attorney General Samuel Olens and Democratic challenger Gregory Hecht were unchallenged on their respective parties' ticket.