

Willette Hooper Celebrated 100th Birthday



On September 14th, Mrs. Willette Hooper celebrated her 100th birthday at the Union County Nursing Home. She celebrated with balloons and her family visiting with her. She was all smiles, hair freshly fixed at the beauty shop, and in a wonderful mood.

Mrs. Hooper is now one of three residents age 100 and over currently residing at the Nursing Home. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Willette Hooper.

Birth Announcement



Annabelle Grace Jones

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Jones are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Annabelle Grace Jones, on September 11, 2015 at Union General Hospital delivered by Suzanne Nunn, M.D. The birth weight of the baby was 7 pounds 5 ounces and she was 19½ inches long. Mrs. Jones is the former Jennifer Ritz. NSep23,27CA

Birth Announcement



Ollie Annabeth Ruff

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Ruff are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ollie Annabeth Ruff, on September 10, 2015 at Union General Hospital delivered by Cynthia Mercer, M.D. The birth weight of the baby was 6 pounds, 13 ounces and she was 19½ inches long. Mrs. Wilson is the former Suesie Cook. NSep23,27CA

Birth Announcement



Graham Truett Harvey

Seth and Kali Harvey of Cleveland, GA announce the birth of their son, Graham Truett Harvey, born Monday, August 10, 2015. Graham weighed 6 lbs., 8 oz. and was 20 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Jeff and Angie Graham of Gainesville, GA. Maternal great grandparents include Charles Thorough and the late Ann Thorough of Blairsville, GA, Bill and Judy McLees of Blairsville, GA and David and Beth Spivey of Oklahoma City, OK.

Paternal grandparents are Jamie and Julie Harvey of Demorest, GA. Paternal great grandparents include Jenelle and the late Truett Thompson of Clayton, GA and Lucille and the late John Harvey of Monticello, GA. NSep23,28CA

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2015 Union County Historical Society's Christmas Hand Painted Ornaments
\$15 (plus tax)



Vets...from Page 1A

rise. "But I want to reach out to the community for the disabled veterans to know that there is an organization for them that can help them," said Ruback, who intended for any disabled American veteran of Union County to attend the free luncheon.

The DAV is a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization that goes above and beyond to provide many support services for disabled veterans, including help navigating the Department of Veterans Affairs for benefits, as well as transitional support for veterans returning to civilian life following years of service.

At the barbecue, which took place in the pavilion across from the Union County Senior Center, local leaders spoke words of thanks for the service of veterans in attendance.

Union County Sheriff Mack Mason, Blairsville Mayor Jim Conley and Larry Garrett from the Union County Commissioner's Office expressed their appreciation for veterans, before Rev. Richard Hoibraten delivered the invocation leading into the meal.

One of the younger faces in the crowd of veterans was Jonathan Clonts, whose attendance at the luncheon marked the first time he had taken part in a DAV gathering.

Clonts, who moved to

Union County last year with his wife Jessica, served eight and a half years in the Army, including two tours in Iraq and one in Haiti after that country's catastrophic earthquake of 2010.

His service included time with the 1st Cavalry Division of Fort Hood, Texas, followed by the 82nd Airborne Division out of Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

"I think I just need to be around more veterans," said Clonts on why he decided to go to the luncheon.

The atmosphere that Saturday was one of camaraderie and high spirits, as veterans from all walks of life and service shared stories and caught up with one another over delicious barbecue provided by Jim's Smokin' Que of Blairsville.

Laurie Reid was the sole female veteran at the luncheon, and hoped to bring awareness to women veterans within the community that they, too, are veterans and every bit as welcome in the DAV and other veterans organizations as their male counterparts.

Reid joined the Navy straight out of high school, becoming one of the first women to serve aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln in the Persian Gulf during the Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm era, and she worked with F-14 fighter planes before moving to personnel.

"Why I joined the

Disabled American Veterans is I'm also a licensed therapist and certified addictions professional, and I've noticed, working with individuals that are coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan, there's a lot of services that are missing for them when it comes to mental health," said Reid. "As well as for couples, and how to adjust to what's going on when someone comes back and they're totally different, and how to adjust during that period, and I think that that's missing."

Military service is something that runs in Reid's family, as her father is a Vietnam veteran and her grandfathers also served. She is the first woman in her family to have signed up for service, and with her unique perspective as a veteran specializing in therapeutic care, Reid wants to assist as many veterans as she can to get the help they may need.

"You're now having these individuals come back, and those that served prior to, like in Vietnam and other wars, they're now getting retriggered," said Reid. "So, I wanted to kind of come here and be a part of the DAV to help out families, help out individuals. And then also to help out women veterans, because I think that they're a missing piece in these organizations."

Don and Joyce Wyckoff Celebrate 65th Anniversary



Don and Joyce Wyckoff celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on September 5, 2015. A party to celebrate this milestone was hosted by Flip Varney of Edward Jones at his office on Bracketts Way.

Several friends, including Blairsville's Mayor Jim Conley and Union County Commissioner Lamar Paris, dropped by to congratulate the couple.

Kiwanis...from Page 1A

said Jimmy Nichols.

There are other ways to support the tournament, such as, choosing to become one of the six different levels of sponsors, beginning with a donation of less than \$100 or a door prize. Then for \$100 you can become a Bronze Level Sponsor, which includes your name mentioned on the brochure and a hole or tee box sponsor sign.

Silver Level Sponsorship

is \$250, which includes one player's fee, plus signage at the clubhouse.

You can become a Gold Level Sponsor for \$400. It includes your foursome with eight mulligans, a hole or tee box sign, as well as logoed sponsor advertisement on the brochure.

Platinum Level Sponsorship is \$500 and includes your foursome with eight mulligans, logoed

advertisement on tournament handouts, hole sponsor sign and mention in the newspaper article.

Finally, you can become a Refreshment Cart Sponsor for \$250 and get your name displayed on the refreshment cart to be driven throughout the tournament.

To register or learn more about sponsorships, please contact Jimmy Nichols at (706) 781-9075 or Mary Colwell at (706) 781-8489.

Birth Announcement



Isaac Colt Teesateskee

Mr. and Mrs. Nickalas Teesateskee are proud to announce the birth of their son, Isaac Colt Teesateskee, on September 14, 2015 at Union General Hospital delivered by Kevin Davis, M.D. The birth weight of the baby was 7 pounds and he was 19¾ inches long. Mrs. Teesateskee is the former Autumn McClure. NSep23,21CA

Birth Announcement



Kane Curtis Henry Marcott

Mr. and Mrs. Zachary Marcott are proud to announce the birth of their son, Kane Curtis Henry Marcott, on September 15, 2015 at Union General Hospital delivered by Kevin Davis, M.D. The birth weight of the baby was 7 pounds and he was 20½ inches long. Mrs. Marcott is the former Kaley Power. NSep23,21CA

SAR presents Blue Star Banner



(L-R): Todd Smith, Jennifer Smith and SAR V. P. Sid Turner

The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution presented a Blue Star Banner to Todd and Jennifer Smith in recognition of their son Todd Smith, II serving in the United States Marine Corps. The presentation was made at the September 15 chapter meeting. Pvt. Smith has completed his basic training at Parris Island

and his advanced training on September 16, 2015.

The Blue Star Banner is the official banner authorized by the Department of Defense for display by families who have members serving in the Armed Forces. The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter is proud to have presented the Blue Star Banner to Todd & Jennifer Smith. NT(Sep23,21)CA

UC Republican Party's Debate Watch a success

The Union County Republican Party sponsored its first ever Debate Watch featuring the Republican Presidential Debate – second in a series of political debates leading up to the 2016 Presidential Election. The event was held in the Community Center's large conference room.

"We're so pleased with the turnout for this event especially by members of the Union County Tea Party as well as our fellow Republicans and other interested members of the community," said Dale Allison, Party Chairperson. "Viewing the debate together sparked vibrant conversations about each of the 11 candidates featured. I now realize

it's much more stimulating and fun to watch the debates with others! As for which candidate I personally support – I feel it's too early to decide. I'm glad I don't have to cast a vote yet. I'm looking forward to the other debates!"

Jeff Langley, Union County District Attorney, joined Allison in welcoming everyone to the event. "We're so glad you're all here and love your enthusiasm!"

Pat Thibodeaux, Tea Party Chairperson and Union County resident, mirrored Allison's enthusiasm for the event. She said, "We think the Debate Watch was a great idea and perfect forum for Conservatives to get together. How-

ever, I was a bit disappointed in the questioning done by CCN which established a he said/she said climate for the first stage of the debate."

Discussions are underway about hosting another Debate Watch later in the Fall, possibly in November. "Stay tuned to future announcements," said Linda Hill, Union County Republican Party Secretary, who along with Cherie Martin, District 2 Chairperson, set up and coordinated the event for the Party. "We can't think of a better way to highlight the political process and stir up interest. Our goal is to get people involved. Every vote counts!"

Submitted by Cherie Martin

NSep23,21CA

Appleseed...from Page 1A

meeting with vendors and customers, before heading over to the pavilion to tell his tale.

As children gathered to listen to the fabled countryman, Johnny told them of his life spent spreading apple seeds and his Christian beliefs throughout much of the North Central and Northeastern United States.

Dwayne Patterson, who works at the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center, portrayed Johnny Appleseed on Saturday. The experiment station's Community Council offers the Johnny Appleseed program to area kindergartners each year, and Patterson has been playing Johnny Appleseed for the past few years.

He and a few of his coworkers take turns dressing up as the legendary gardener and missionary for the young schoolchildren as part of the program, taking them around the eight acres of apple trees at the experiment station.

And Johnny Appleseed is well-received by the children, as one girl raised her hand Saturday at the market just to tell Johnny that she loved him.

"I really enjoy it," said Patterson. "There's nothing like it, like the little girl saying I love you – that was the sweetest thing. I like to see the kids smile."

Patterson became involved in the Johnny Appleseed program at the experiment station because of his ministerial background, which helps him to better embody the famously pious character.

"They said, 'You're a preacher, you should try to do it – you're used to talking in front of people and all,'" said Patterson. "So I did, and it turned out really good and I



Union County Commissioner Lamar Paris, Market Assistant Kristy Peney, Dwayne Patterson - Johnny Appleseed and Market Director Mickey Cummings

really enjoyed it. And the kids seem to enjoy it, so I've been doing it ever since."

With 19 more years before he retires at the station, Patterson said he plans to continue in the educational Johnny Appleseed program for years to come.

"And who knows, it might spread farther," said Patterson. "I might do it other places if asked. I'm just volunteering, which Mickey talked to me about it and I volunteered to do this."

This year marked the first year for the Farmers Market to host a Johnny Appleseed Day, which also featured free jars of apple butter given out to the first 125 customers in line at 11 a.m. at the market's Canning Plant.

Market employee Kristy Peney and many volunteers – including Union County Sole Commissioner Lamar Paris – made the apple butter in the Canning Plant from a Ruby Collins recipe, which Market Manager Mickey Cummings said was his favorite.

The recipe calls for apples, brown and white sugars, dark Karo syrup, apple cider vinegar, and limited amounts of spices including cinnamon, allspice and cloves.

"Apples are getting ripe right now," said Cummings on why Saturday had been selected to showcase apples. "You can go to local farms and buy them over in Blue Ridge and Ellijay, and people are making apple butter. This past three or four weeks, we've probably made something like, I'm guessing somewhere around 1,000 jars of applesauce and apple butter."

"Now's the time of year to do it, so we centered this in here today. And we want to give kids and other people a feel for the heritage of the apple-growing area up here in North Georgia. We don't grow apples much in Union County – the experiment station has some – but most of the apples that are grown in Georgia come from Fannin, Gilmer, Rabun and Habersham counties."

To all Veterans and Active Service members

Wanted: Veterans in military attire to march or ride in the Sorghum Parade, Saturday, October 10th. Meet at the old Elementary School by 9 AM to get into parade muster. Contact Shari Spears at 706-781-9331 or SFC Gordon Spears at 706-994-4811 to confirm and for more info. Veterans are the focus of this year's parade, and a healthy showing of Veterans would be appreciated. NSep23,27CA