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roduce themselves and say something about themselves or someone hanging on the wall if they wished.

Roy Hamby opened with a story about his uncle, Loy Allison Hamby, who was wounded by enemy fire in World War II and had his life saved by a German doctor after lying in the snow with his feet frozen.

Loy Hamby had been listed as Killed In Action. After veterans began returning home, Loy's mother fainted as she saw him walking home on the road leading to their house. He had been a Prisoner Of War, not Killed In Action.

Others told stories about Union County's decorated veterans from the Civil War through the ongoing War on Terror.

Retired Major Leon Davenport, who was in attendance, was mentioned many times by his fellow veterans.

Davenport, the most decorated man to ever come out of Union County, earned three Silver Stars, one Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart. He served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

"I want to thank all of those that put this room together," Davenport said. "I know they put a whole lot of work into it and I believe it will be honored forever."

Davenport, Evan Legg and Larry Prather have a special section on the wall for being the most decorated veterans hailing out of Union County.

The BR's roots can be traced back to the 1930s when Margie Henson started selling sandwiches out of her truck, that allowed her to purchase property from Pat Haralson, where the current Hole In the



A veteran of 24 years in the U.S. Military, Eric England talks about the Veterans' Walls at the Blairsville Restaurant last Wednesday as fellow veterans and well-wishers look on. Photo/Todd Forrest

Wall Restaurant sits today.

The BR moved to its current location in 1985.

If you're a veteran, or know of a veteran, that hailed out of Union County, there's still room on the Walls.

"If you know of anyone whose picture should be placed on this wall, please let us know as soon as possible," Nichols said. "Just remember we have limited space and we don't know what will happen after that."

The requirements to be on the Walls include being from Union County, and in the picture, the veteran must be in uniform, dress or fatigues.

"The reason we are only taking Union County veterans on the Walls, well, it's space constraints," Nichols said.

"We've got more than 330 veterans on the walls now. We'd love to have more; we just don't know how many more we can put up there," Nichols said.



Photos by Todd Forrest

## Forest Service waives day-use fees for Veterans Day

The U.S. Forest Service is waiving fees at most of its day-use recreation sites over the Veterans Day holiday weekend, Nov. 10-12. The fee waivers - the fourth this year - are offered in cooperation with other federal agencies under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Day-use fees will be waived at all standard amenity fee sites operated by the Forest Service.

"This is our way of saying thanks to the brave men and women - past and present - who put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe at home," said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. "We encourage veterans, their

families and all visitors to take time out over the holiday weekend to enjoy the benefits that nature provides at forests and grasslands throughout the country."

In the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests, recreation areas participating in the fee waiver will indicate this at the fee stations. Concessionaire operated day-use sites may or may not be included in the waiver. Forest visitors may check with their local Forest Service office to find out in advance whether waivers will exist at specific sites.

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