

North Georgia News

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Legal Organ of Union County

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Littlefield tells of hope through Christ

By Charles Duncan
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They came to pray on bended knee.

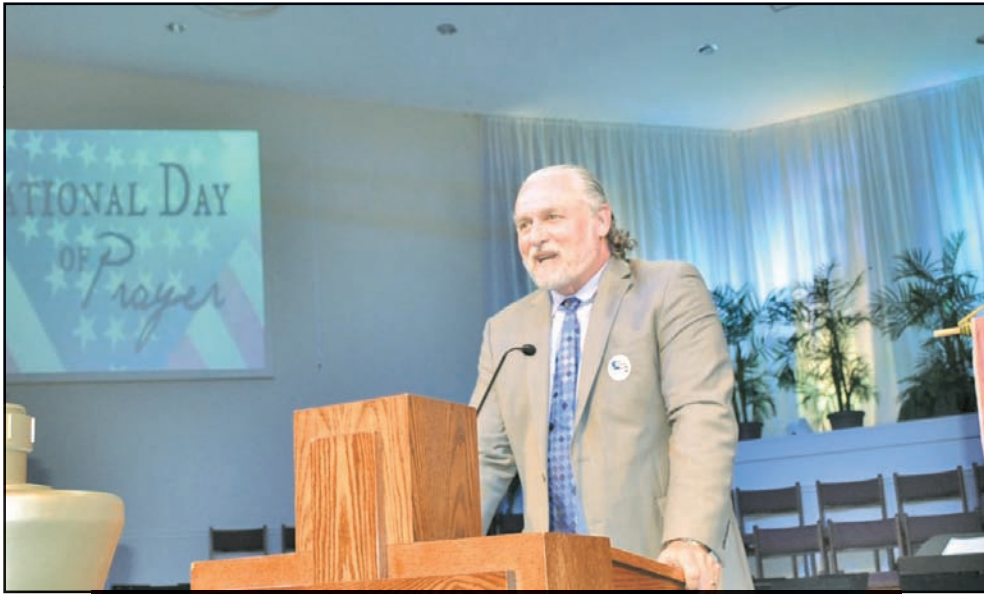
The annual National Day of Prayer Service at Blairsville's First Baptist Church offered prayer for our nation, prayer for state officials, local officials, law enforcement and emergency services, businesses, families, our youth, and a prayer of thanks.

The more than 100 attending the event prayed for a nation that continues to struggle to the law of the Lord.

They also came to hear a testimony.

Dr. William Littlefield, of Cumming, offered his personal testimony that being a professional success means nothing without the reward of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Dr. Littlefield was the "Hawkeye" Pierce of his family.



Dr. William Littlefield gives his Christian testimony at the National Day of Prayer ceremonies at Blairsville's First Baptist Church. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

He decided he wanted to be a physician at age 14 and an orthopedic surgeon at age 15.

He attended Ohio University, on a scholarship to play basketball, where he was an Academic All-American

selection, selected to Phi Beta Kappa, a Rush Elliott Academic Scholar, and captain of the basketball team.

"I was standing here listening to my introduction, and I thought add, I was rather impressed," Dr. Littlefield said.

"It's hard to believe I did all that."

Dr. Littlefield did much, much more.

After graduating Summa Cum Laude as the top

See *Testimony*, 2A

TVA's Barnett: 'Lake Nottely nears full pool'

By Charles Duncan
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Lake Nottely could soon be at full pool, according to TVA River Forecast Center Manager Tom Barnett.

Nottely currently is at 1,773.69, with full pool just around the corner at 1,777, said Barnett, who schedules and monitors all of TVA's 49 projects.

"We've got some really good news. Nottely is still a little bit below normal, but we've been able to release only the minimum flows," he said. "Nottely is filling slightly ahead of schedule. It's about a half-foot above the current guide curve."

"It's four feet below normal summer pool at 1,777," Barnett said. "We still need four feet to be at June 1 full pool elevation. We expect to be able to do that with just a little bit of help from Mother



Tom Barnett Nature."

"It's a good story here, but not so much for the northern portion of the Tennessee Valley," he said. "Nottely, Chatuge and Hiwassee lakes are major contributors to the Tennessee River."

Barnett works to ensure

See *Nottely*, 3A

CCC Boys Reunion Saturday at Vogel



By Charles Duncan
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On Saturday, Vogel State Park remembers its history. Beginning 81 years

ago, the CCC boys built history, clearing the grounds for a fledgling Vogel State Park, planting trees, working the trails, creating a 20-acre lake and building the structures

that make the second oldest today in Georgia so popular today.

The events begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the Park and in-

See *Reunion*, 3A

Sheriff swears in two new deputies

By Charles Duncan
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Two new deputies have been added to the Union County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Mack Mason said.

Tom Mangifesta and Logan Daniel are now certified Union County deputies, Sheriff Mason said.

Mangifesta comes to the Sheriff's Office with almost 30 years of law enforcement experience.

"Tom's field training officer told me that he learned quite a bit from Tom," said Union County Chief Deputy John George.

Mangifesta has worked the road as a patrol deputy, worked with tactical units in plain clothes, served as a detective working burglaries, robberies, white-collar crimes and homicides.

He's also served as



Sheriff Mason swears in Daniel and Mangifesta as deputies.

president of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge, with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

He's also patrolled the waterways in Fort Lauderdale, FL - inland and offshore

in the Atlantic Ocean.

His law enforcement experience prior to his arrival in Union County comes from Florida.

See *Deputies*, 2A

Lodge serves up a Big Country Breakfast

By Charles Duncan
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Saturday was a time for fellowship and big appetites at the annual Allegheny Lodge No. 114 Big Country Breakfast on Rogers Street.

More than 70 people broke bread at the Lodge as they enjoyed a feast of biscuits, gravy, sausage, bacon, eggs, grits and pancakes.

It was an all-you-can-eat affair, and you couldn't beat the price, \$6.

The four-hour event is one of the Lodge's big fundraisers each year.

It's a bit different from most breakfast fundraisers because it's all-you-can-eat, said Brother Bert Baumgardner.

"It's definitely a bargain," said Baumgardner. "We had a good turnout. We want to thank the folks

See *Breakfast*, 3A



The Brothers at Allegheny Lodge #114 in Blairsville spent Saturday cooking, serving and cleaning during the Annual Big Country Breakfast. Photo/Lowell Nicholson

Farmers Market ramps it up at festival

By Charles Duncan
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More than 3,000 people visited the Third Annual Ramp Festival on Saturday.

Folks tested their taste buds as vendors cooked up hot dogs, hamburgers and offered several different recipes featuring the mountain ramps, also known as spring onions, or wild garlic.

The patrons quickly learned if you take a bite of a ramp, cooked, or uncooked, you'd know it pretty quick.



The smell stays with you for a while.

"A lot of people have

tried a lot of different recipes

See *Ramps*, 2A

Leadership Union project begins



North Georgia News
News Special

Leadership Union's most recent graduating class was tasked as each class is with a community project that not only is befitting of Union County but will benefit the same.

Jim Brown III of Edward Jones, Jack Lance of the Lance Law Firm, Dana Nelson of Coldwell Banker and Pam Worden of the Union County Commissioner's Office were unceremoniously placed together as each of the other groups were, based on personality traits and differences.

Tossing around ideas the four agreed to focus on our community's reliance on tourism while at the same time utilizing the community's historic Native American ties.

The original thought was to place a brass plaque, detailing the ancient battle that took place centuries ago, in the shadows of

Blood Mountain and Slaughter Gap.

However, taking the idea a step further, the group decided to invite the five elected chiefs of the Creek and Cherokee Nations into our community to unveil the plaque in the spring of 2015.

The project has now taken on a mind of its own. It is believed that no one has ever taken on an endeavor of this magnitude any where in the nation.

The five tribes, the Poarch Creek Band of Indians, the Muscogee (Creek) Indians, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, the Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians are all sovereign nations, self governed.

In short, the tribal nations' governments are recognized by the government of the United States and have a nation to nation relationship with the United States government and only congressional authority su-

perseded tribal authority.

The project encompasses so many different facets as there are so many layers of red tape and sensitive issues that must be addressed. Barnett said, "that it isn't as simple as sending a written invitation on card stock to each of the five elected chiefs. With each of the five being sovereign heads of state, it is a very delicate issue to invite them to Blairsville. Certain protocols must be addressed and adhered to in the invitation process alone. The official invitations themselves have to be received from a government level much higher than what we have here in the county.

No disrespect intended, but we are dealing with heads of state and the official invitations have to come from a source that is cognizant of the power that is effused by these five elected of-

See *Project*, 3A

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