

# Wall...from Page 1A

countless hours on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans of America Blairsville Chapter 1101, which conceived of the idea as a new chapter just a year ago under the leadership of VVA 1101 President Mike Priven.

Others still helped to make The Wall a reality in Union County by coming together as a community at large in support of the cause, be it through donation of funds, resources or time, such as the Union County government, Union County Sheriff's Office, the Blairsville Home Depot, and everyday residents of the county.

But The Moving Wall is named such because it can never stay in one place for too long, as recognized in a closing ceremony that Monday, Oct. 12.

Bill Honaker of Blairsville, who served two tours in Vietnam as part of the U.S. Army specializing in the recovery of fallen heroes from the battlefield, led the closing ceremony.

"The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington and this Vietnam Moving Wall stand as symbols of America's honor and recognition of the men and women who served and sacrificed their lives in the Vietnam War," said Honaker. "As we take part in this closing ceremony, it's important to remember the purposes for bringing the Vietnam Moving Wall to Blairsville.

"First, we wanted this to be a Welcome Home for any Vietnam-era Veteran who served and was never recognized for his or her service during the war. When our Vietnam Veterans came home, they were treated horribly. They were spit on, they were called terrible names. They were never recognized or thanked for coming home. They came home with physical, mental and emotional trauma that was not recognized or treated."

Reciting the VVA motto, "Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another," Honaker called attention to the overwhelming support that Vietnam Veterans extend to each other today, as well as to the veterans of today's wars.

Honaker's moving remarks touched on his personal experiences in Vietnam and his understanding of the war all these years later.

"I have been to the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington and now this Moving Wall, and it's like opening a time capsule and being projected back to that distant land all over again," said Honaker. "The sense of camaraderie, brotherhood and loss is very real. I have touched the names of those that I remembered, and I have sensed the connection of so many more as I paused at the panels that represented those who died during my two tours in Vietnam.

"I have wept, I have remembered and I have once again silently thanked them for their sacrifice. And I

promised that I would do my part to preserve that for which they fought and died. I have honored their memory, and I have once again connected to my need to make their sacrifice mean something. God's word in Jeremiah 29:11 has been my steadfast confidence and wisdom over the years, and it grows in understanding and truth more every day of my life."

For Honaker, speaking to his fellow Vietnam Veterans at that closing ceremony, they all came home from war for a reason.

"I think that what we have to do now that we understand that we're home is we need to seek out and fulfill that purpose that God has for each one of us here, now," said Honaker. "I am older, and hopefully wiser - there are those that would debate that - but I've learned this much: death leaves a heartache that no one can heal, but love leaves a memory that no one can steal."

Like so many of the brave service members who live on in the spirit of memory upon the face of that reflective Vietnam memorial, The Moving Wall, too, had reached its time to move on.

And like those brave soldiers who never got to leave Vietnam in this life, The Moving Wall will never in this life leave the hearts of those who saw it in Blairsville.

VVA Chapter 1101 Chaplain Fred Freeman led the ceremony in an invocation and benediction, Senior Airman Rhiannon Clayton of Blairsville, who is currently stationed at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, NC, sang the national anthem, and Vietnam Veteran Richard Dreher read the poem "Late Afternoon," by Jim Cain.

House of Prayer Church Ensemble sang an arrangement of "Mansions of the Lord," and as the North Georgia Honor Guard opened with the Posting of the Colors, they also retired the Colors following a playing of "Taps."



Pledge of Allegiance lead by James Gorman



WWII, Korean War and Vietnam Veteran Leon Davenport recognized at closing ceremony for Moving Wall

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for SPLOST III," said Commissioner Paris. "This is an archaic law that is still on the state books. The Financial Statement is on our audit and also available in our office and online as part of our audit."

According to state law, the county's Financial Statement must be posted in the Union County Courthouse twice each year for a period of not less than 30 days, and must also be published in the local newspaper, the North Georgia News, once each year.

Fortunately for Union County residents, the county's Financial Statement is available year-round in Commissioner Paris' office, and is also made available in the county's annual audit in both the commissioner's office and online.

Commissioner Paris also closed a couple of bank accounts that are no longer in use.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for the General Obligation Bonds in 2004, since those bonds have been paid off," said Commissioner

Paris. "These were bonds that were sold to secure payment on the Union County Community Center a few years ago."

The other closed bank account dealt with SPLOST III funds.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for SPLOST III," said Commissioner Paris. "SPLOST III ended on April 30, 2015, and we will no longer be receiving money or revenue for SPLOST III."

In his Commissioner's Comments portion of the county meeting, Commissioner Paris discussed Meeks Park and the Vietnam Veterans Moving Wall, which spent five days at Meeks Park and brought thousands of people to the county from all over the region.

He also talked about work that the Union County Road Department currently has underway, as they continue to patch and repair culverts to prepare for some additional paving prior to the end of the year.

posting of Financial Statement per O.C.G.A. 36-1-6," said Commissioner Paris. "This is an archaic law that is still on the state books. The Financial Statement is on our audit and also available in our office and online as part of our audit."

According to state law, the county's Financial Statement must be posted in the Union County Courthouse twice each year for a period of not less than 30 days, and must also be published in the local newspaper, the North Georgia News, once each year.

Fortunately for Union County residents, the county's Financial Statement is available year-round in Commissioner Paris' office, and is also made available in the county's annual audit in both the commissioner's office and online.

Commissioner Paris also closed a couple of bank accounts that are no longer in use.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for the General Obligation Bonds in 2004, since those bonds have been paid off," said Commissioner

Paris. "These were bonds that were sold to secure payment on the Union County Community Center a few years ago."

The other closed bank account dealt with SPLOST III funds.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for SPLOST III," said Commissioner Paris. "SPLOST III ended on April 30, 2015, and we will no longer be receiving money or revenue for SPLOST III."

In his Commissioner's Comments portion of the county meeting, Commissioner Paris discussed Meeks Park and the Vietnam Veterans Moving Wall, which spent five days at Meeks Park and brought thousands of people to the county from all over the region.

He also talked about work that the Union County Road Department currently has underway, as they continue to patch and repair culverts to prepare for some additional paving prior to the end of the year.

posting of Financial Statement per O.C.G.A. 36-1-6," said Commissioner Paris. "This is an archaic law that is still on the state books. The Financial Statement is on our audit and also available in our office and online as part of our audit."

According to state law, the county's Financial Statement must be posted in the Union County Courthouse twice each year for a period of not less than 30 days, and must also be published in the local newspaper, the North Georgia News, once each year.

Fortunately for Union County residents, the county's Financial Statement is available year-round in Commissioner Paris' office, and is also made available in the county's annual audit in both the commissioner's office and online.

Commissioner Paris also closed a couple of bank accounts that are no longer in use.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for the General Obligation Bonds in 2004, since those bonds have been paid off," said Commissioner

# Domestic Violence...from Page 1A

them to use their innate talents and abilities to the fullest and to become responsible and contributing citizens," said Commissioner Paris. "Retired educators possess valuable knowledge, and they continue to be a major source of insight and direction for our state and our nation."

Also in the meeting, Peggy Deyton was named to the Union County Public Library Board for a three-year term to end June 30, 2018. Deyton will be replacing Debra Kendrick, and Commissioner Paris added that he appreciated Kendrick's years of work on the board.

"I am pleased to appoint Peggy Deyton, who was my executive assistant for many years and who is now retired but willing to continue to help support the work of our public library," said Commissioner Paris. "Peggy also served on the committee when we rebuilt our library a few years ago."

Another part of the meeting dealt with a state law requiring the posting of the county's Financial Statement.

"I hereby approve the removal of the 30-day

posting of Financial Statement per O.C.G.A. 36-1-6," said Commissioner Paris. "This is an archaic law that is still on the state books. The Financial Statement is on our audit and also available in our office and online as part of our audit."

According to state law, the county's Financial Statement must be posted in the Union County Courthouse twice each year for a period of not less than 30 days, and must also be published in the local newspaper, the North Georgia News, once each year.

Fortunately for Union County residents, the county's Financial Statement is available year-round in Commissioner Paris' office, and is also made available in the county's annual audit in both the commissioner's office and online.

Commissioner Paris also closed a couple of bank accounts that are no longer in use.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for the General Obligation Bonds in 2004, since those bonds have been paid off," said Commissioner

Paris. "These were bonds that were sold to secure payment on the Union County Community Center a few years ago."

The other closed bank account dealt with SPLOST III funds.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for SPLOST III," said Commissioner Paris. "SPLOST III ended on April 30, 2015, and we will no longer be receiving money or revenue for SPLOST III."

In his Commissioner's Comments portion of the county meeting, Commissioner Paris discussed Meeks Park and the Vietnam Veterans Moving Wall, which spent five days at Meeks Park and brought thousands of people to the county from all over the region.

He also talked about work that the Union County Road Department currently has underway, as they continue to patch and repair culverts to prepare for some additional paving prior to the end of the year.

posting of Financial Statement per O.C.G.A. 36-1-6," said Commissioner Paris. "This is an archaic law that is still on the state books. The Financial Statement is on our audit and also available in our office and online as part of our audit."

According to state law, the county's Financial Statement must be posted in the Union County Courthouse twice each year for a period of not less than 30 days, and must also be published in the local newspaper, the North Georgia News, once each year.

Fortunately for Union County residents, the county's Financial Statement is available year-round in Commissioner Paris' office, and is also made available in the county's annual audit in both the commissioner's office and online.

Commissioner Paris also closed a couple of bank accounts that are no longer in use.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for the General Obligation Bonds in 2004, since those bonds have been paid off," said Commissioner

Paris. "These were bonds that were sold to secure payment on the Union County Community Center a few years ago."

The other closed bank account dealt with SPLOST III funds.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for SPLOST III," said Commissioner Paris. "SPLOST III ended on April 30, 2015, and we will no longer be receiving money or revenue for SPLOST III."

In his Commissioner's Comments portion of the county meeting, Commissioner Paris discussed Meeks Park and the Vietnam Veterans Moving Wall, which spent five days at Meeks Park and brought thousands of people to the county from all over the region.

He also talked about work that the Union County Road Department currently has underway, as they continue to patch and repair culverts to prepare for some additional paving prior to the end of the year.

posting of Financial Statement per O.C.G.A. 36-1-6," said Commissioner Paris. "This is an archaic law that is still on the state books. The Financial Statement is on our audit and also available in our office and online as part of our audit."

According to state law, the county's Financial Statement must be posted in the Union County Courthouse twice each year for a period of not less than 30 days, and must also be published in the local newspaper, the North Georgia News, once each year.

Fortunately for Union County residents, the county's Financial Statement is available year-round in Commissioner Paris' office, and is also made available in the county's annual audit in both the commissioner's office and online.

Commissioner Paris also closed a couple of bank accounts that are no longer in use.

"I hereby approve this resolution to close the bank account with the Office of the Treasury for the General Obligation Bonds in 2004, since those bonds have been paid off," said Commissioner

# LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

**SalonTru**  
Excellence in Organic Hair Care  
706-781-3015 • 417 Blue Ridge Street  
Book Online at [www.vagaro.com/salontru](http://www.vagaro.com/salontru)  
Susan Anderson • Glory McGinn  
Lindsey Gaylord  
Valorie Carter • Sasha Watson

**ODOM SPRINGS VINEYARDS**  
Please come and enjoy a glass of wine with us on our deck.  
Wine List: Earl's Reserve, RoDawg Red, Homemade Sin, They Lord, Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon, Just Loafin', and Sharptop Seyval  
Wednesday - Saturday 11 a.m. til 6 p.m.  
Sunday 1 p.m. til 5 p.m.  
Directions from Blairsville: 515 West to Nottely Dam Road, North to Odom Road, West to Winery at the end of Odom Road #637  
706-745-3094  
odomspringsvineyards.com

**SHAWN'S HOME FURNISHINGS**  
Mattresses, Porch Rockers & More!  
"From the Front Porch to the Back Door We've Got You Covered!"  
568 Blue Ridge St. • Blairsville, GA  
FREE DELIVERY! 706-835-1209  
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm • Sat 9am-4pm • Closed Sun

**THE Mountain Life TEAM**  
Call us today - (877) 633-8186  
TheMountainLifeTeam.com  
**KW KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY PARTNERS**

**10% OFF**  
All Menu Items & Buffet  
with coupon, limit 1 per check, excludes alcohol  
BUFFET HOURS: THURS - SAT 11A-9P, SUN 11A-8P  
51 Earnest Street, Blairsville, GA  
706-745-0837

**Trackrock Stables**  
TIME TO SIGN THE KIDS UP FOR HORSE CAMP CHECK TRACKROCK.COM FOR DATES  
TRAIL RIDES, LESSONS, BOARDING \$5 LOCAL DISCOUNT  
For reservations call 706-745-5252

Declare your financial independence. Call today.  
Flip Varney  
Financial Advisor  
178 Brackets Way Suite 2  
Blairsville, GA 30512  
706-835-1385  
www.edwardjones.com  
Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING Member SIPC

**WAZOO! QUILTING**  
Longarm Quilting  
Commission Quilts  
Quilt Restoration  
Quick Turn Around  
Located in Blairsville, GA  
706-781-1423

**SC PAVING DIVISION INC.**  
706-400-2988  
DRIVEWAYS  
PARKING LOTS  
SUB DIVISIONS  
TAR/GRAVEL  
Commercial • Residential

**PONTOON RENTALS NORTH GEORGIA JET SKI RENTALS**  
WATERSPORTS  
MARINA COMING SOON!  
PONTOON BOATS - JET SKIS - KAYAKS & MORE!  
Leasing Boat Slips Now!  
Rental Center: SALES - SERVICE - RENTALS - PARTS & ACCESSORIES Sales & Service: 1133 Murphy Hwy 2132 Murphy Hwy (706) 835-1222  
UNION COUNTY RESIDENTS RECEIVE 10% OFF WEEKDAY RENTALS WITH THIS AD!  
NORTHGEORGIAWATERSPORTS.COM

**MORTGAGE FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.**  
If you are looking for Great Service, Competitive Rates and Fees, Look No Further!  
JENNIFER JOHNSON, Branch Manager NMLS#190999  
253 E. Hwy 515 Suite D • Blairsville, Ga 30512  
706-745-LOAN (5626) • 706-897-2406 (Cell)  
jennifer@mfglends.com • www.MFGLends.com  
Licensed Mortgage Lender NMLS#219650

**Affordable HEARING AID SOLUTIONS**  
706-896-0051  
Debra D. Spaulding  
Hearing Instrument Specialist  
71A BERRONG STREET • HIWASSEE, GA  
411D HIGHWAY 515 • BLAIRSVILLE, GA

**TOTAL RECOVERY PAINT & BODY**  
(706) 745-9703  
391 BLUE RIDGE HWY  
ALL INSURANCE ACCEPTED

We're banking on OUR community.  
**SOUTHERN BANK & TRUST**  
706-754-0001 • Clarkesville  
706-745-5588 • Blairsville  
www.sbandt.com

**Essence of Rose**  
706-994-1497  
44 Chevy Drive, Suite C  
Blairsville, GA 30512  
Hwy. 515, Next to Ware Chevy  
FAIR TRADE • NATURAL • ORGANIC  
MADE IN AMERICA • GIFTS THAT INSPIRE!

UPHOLSTERY REPAIRS BY  
SEAMS SEW SIMPLE UPHOLSTERY  
seamsssewsimplega@gmail.com  
Furniture Boats and More  
235 Old Farm View Blairsville, Ga 30512 239-963-7166 Joseph Janicki