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the amount we are granted from the state, we all have to sit down again and make some tough decisions. The roads that are in the most need are first, and then the list will grow from that point. Unfortunately sometimes we will have to make a decision to do a partial pave in order to get high traffic areas in need of repair some attention, or in order to get the most areas possible some attention. There is never an easy answer but we try our best to be fair.

Q. When you do a partial paving on a county road how do you decide what part of the road gets partially paved?

A. Obviously, if part of the road is in worse condition than the other, you want to pave the worst part first. However, this year most of the partial paving was done on county roads that were in about the same condition, so in that case, we begin the paving on one end of the road or the other, unless part of the road has significantly more homes and use.

Q. Can't the county put more money into the paving budget so more roads can get done?

A. Managing the budget is similar to what you do at home. We have less revenue than we have needs and wants in the county and we try to disperse the tax funds to cover all areas of county operation adequately. This includes everything from public safety to playgrounds in Meeks Park. Could we take all the tax money and spend it all on roads. We could, but common sense has

to come in to play.

Q. Why can't you resurface all the roads and not use the patching material the county puts on our roads? It doesn't look as good as all asphalt and it is not as quiet to ride on.

A. We utilize surface treatment (tar and gravel) patching on most of our county roads. We do this for one reason and one reason only. Safety. We simply cannot afford to resurface all the roads needed in the county and this allows the road surface to last several years longer. It is not as pretty as asphalt and it does not always look the best with the square patches on the roads, but it serves a very useful purpose, and saves a tremendous amount of money.

Q. Why do you utilize patching of the roads instead of complete resurfacing like GDOT does?

A. This is a very good question. There is simply too much traffic on state highways and using surface treatment patching would not work. Their roads receive a lot more heavy truck traffic. However they do use patching material, but it is done with tar wands that squirt tar into every crack in the highway. If you look closely at Hwy. 515 coming through Blairsville (asphalt portion) or the Gainesville or Murphy highway, you will see miles and miles of small strips of tar that meanders all over the highway, but mostly in the tire tracks, and it makes a noise when you ride over it.

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

wouldn't be possible without our vital local businesses and involved community presence.

As the Fourth of July approaches, the Chamber will continue to sell \$10 raffle tickets for our Tailgate Package valued at over \$1000! And while they're going fast, we still have a few "Red, White and Blairsville" T-shirts. The proceeds will go towards the fireworks display that happens every year in Meeks Park, where hundreds

of people gather to watch. By purchasing a raffle ticket or a T-shirt, you are investing in this community's progress and prosperity. You can come by the Chamber office or purchase your T-shirt at United Community Bank. Finally, we want to thank our supportive local event sponsors: Woodmen Life, United Community Bank, Sears Hometown Store, Union General Hospital, Walmart, and Wet N Wild Carwash.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

and knew she was going to die. She made Wahsega promise to take her back to the Porter Springs area for her burial. He buried her at a place we now call "Stone Pile Gap." There is a pile of stones located at the junction of Highways 60 and 19. Lake Trahlyta is named for this Cherokee Princess and the 4-H Camp Wahsega is named for the Cherokee Brave.

When the very first settlers came across Tesnatee Gap and looked at the beautiful cove in front of them it is said they exclaimed, "Lord A Mercy" and the Name stuck. This cove is now called "LORDAMERCY Cove." Many of our gaps and mountain tops are named for early settlers and their families. For example, the Gumlog and Ivylog areas have names like Jenkins Gap, Ross Gap, Atkins Knob, Stevens Ridge, Hullender Knob and Queen's Knob.

A favorite name of mine is Juber Knob and it is my favorite because of a story about the mountain name. Juber Hicks once lived on the 3,250 foot mountain. He had a steer which was used to plow his fields and snake logs from the woods. The man was particularly fond of the old steer and bragged to everyone about the animal's strength.

During those times people would keep bells on their livestock to help them keep track of where they were located. It was said that a couple of local boys snuck up to Juber's barn in the middle of the night and took the bell off of his steer. They ran around in his yard and even through the bell over the house. Then they went back to the barn and tied the bell back on the

steer. The next day Juber was telling everyone about how his steer jumped over his house the previous night.

The name Stink Creek derived its name from the fact that people living around the creek were always fighting and in a "stink" about something. Years ago the gap through which U.S. Highway 129 now passes was called Walasiyi Gap. The Cherokee word means place of the big frog.

After WWI Little Ed Dyer was coming home from the war. He rode a train through Gainesville and up to Helen, Georgia at which point he began walking and was intending to walk through Tesnatee Gap (meaning turkey in Cherokee) to his home in Choestoe. As he began the climb up the old toll road a car pulled up and offered him a ride which he gladly accepted. The soldier climbed into the car and the driver introduced himself as Warren Rabun Neel. He was the highway engineer which was designing a new road into Union County. This road would be called Highway 129 would end up going through Walasiyi Gap. That name was changed to honor Warren Rabun Neel for his efforts in building the new road into Union County.

All the preceding information came from three sources. First, my friend Harold Dyer provided some of the stories. Second, the book called "Sketches of Union County History."

And last but not least, another friend, Sheldon Henderson, who was co-author of a book entitled, "Kith and Kin of John Calvin and Mamie Isabell Ledford Hood."

Crawford...

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By the way, it seemed the most vehicles without lights were dark in color, making it very hard to see in a pouring rain.

Please, for your sake and the driving public, turn on those headlights (not running lights) when it's raining!

Chris Crawford

Barnes...

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For Life group about my experience with cancer. We met some fine people and wanted to thank them for allowing me to share my story. A quick update for those who are interested, I just got back from MD Anderson for my checkup. I am clear and I don't go back for a year!!! Just wanted to share that great news.

Sincerely,

James Barnes

Lance...

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will no longer be able to hunt in that general area, hikers won't feel welcome anywhere near there, same for bird watchers. And tourists visiting our area will be left wondering what all the ruckus from the shooting is. I don't think it's fair for a part, and a fairly large chunk at that, of public land to go into private use by a private for-profit organization. And it's not fair to other forest users to no longer have real access to that beautiful (currently) area.

No other forest use causes all others to have to forgo enjoyment of the site: hiking doesn't (since many people from hikers to hunters can use the same trails), not fishing, not hunting -- nothing, save maybe dumping radioactive waste, so ruins an area for the enjoyment of others.

Like I said, do it on private land, but leave the public land for the public!

William Lance

Riley... continued from Page 4A

was established in 2002 in a regional effort to encourage the exchange of information, techniques, and experience among practitioners. Down in that part of the state prescribed fire is a common yearly event.

In January of 2007, the steering committee, working with all partners, decided to expand and become the Georgia Prescribed Fire Council. This platform allows the council to be engaged in prescribed fire advocacy across the state. Forest lands constitute significant economic, biological and aesthetic resources of statewide importance.

Frequent fires, set by lightning strikes, Native Americans, and my ancestors here in north Georgia have shaped Georgia's ecosystems for thousands of years.

Our forest ecosystems evolved with fire and continue to need the strategic application of fire that mimics this natural cycle that we have interrupted by building in the forests. Fire is as natural as sunshine, rain and wind in many plant communities, and fire also benefits many of the rare animal species in our state that are declining in some cases almost totally by fire exclusion.

Prescribed burning is carried out by experienced, trained, and certified land managers on both public and private lands throughout Georgia. These professionals assess forest conditions, determine the type of fire needed, and then write a "prescription" for the application of fire.

Prescribed burns are permitted by the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) District

Williams...

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You'll want to use three pints of ordinary bleach for 100 gallons of water in the well.

Annual testing of the water in your well will start to build data on what your well normally is like. If you do run into problems with the well then you'll have data to look back at to see what's changed. It's best to test in the spring, because that is generally when our aquifers are recharging.

If you would like to test your well water contact your local Extension Office. We can assist you by providing the resources to test.

On July 25th the Union County Extension is putting on a Well Water Program. It will be at 5:30 in the Union County Civic Center.

If you would like to attend please RSVP with Union County Extension Office at 706-439-6030 or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Drug Free...

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ciability, and alertness instead of sedation. However, kratom can also cause uncomfortable and sometimes dangerous side effects.

Reported health effects of kratom use include itching, sweating, nausea, hallucinations, seizures and even psychosis has been reported in some users. Kratom is not illegal but it is also not harmless.

Fowler...

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multi-generational family, both in rejoicing and in trials. "If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it" (v.26).

To borrow Maeterlinck's livelier fashion, here's what we might conclude. The Christian is above all part of the body of Christ. She can thrive only in that community. Isolate her and however busy or successful, she will suffer from lack of spiritual nurture and purpose. From that body she experiences unity, belonging, diversity, and caring that is as necessary as air, food, and water. By faith, we are one body.

Dyer...

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as the meetings develop.

The main take away from the meeting was that we need to work together and continue to help each other during a major incident or emergency. Union County Government, the City of Blairsville, the various departments of each and public safety all work well together but we are always looking for ways to improve. Attending these emergency preparedness meetings and conducting these exercises will provide an avenue for improvement and better prepare us for major incidents and emergencies.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

office.

Check our website www.chestchattrcd.org or [\[pcofac.org\]\(http://pcofac.org\) for information on our programs.](http://www.ap-</p>
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