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Q. How will CodeRED benefit me?

A. The CodeRED system allows Union County EMA to provide notifications that may require immediate action (such as a boil-water notice, a missing child, a weather emergency or an evacuation notice). The system delivers text, emails, and phone calls to cell or home phones. Union County EMA also uses CodeRED to send EMERGENCY notifications to keep citizens informed of emergencies such as evacuation notices, fires, floods, chemical spills, or other emergency situations. CodeRED Weather Warning is a unique service that automatically notifies citizens in the path of severe weather just moments after a warning has been issued by the National Weather Service.

Q. Is CodeRED an improvement over the previous system that was being used?

A. Yes, the CodeRED system is a great improvement in our communications. It will keep people informed of community events and emergencies. This information can help everyone make better decisions. For more information about CodeRED please visit www.unioncountyga.gov or call Union County EMA at 706-439-6091.

Q. Is there a cost to register for CodeRED?

A. No, registering for CodeRED phone calls, texts, and emails is free to you. The cost is covered by the county. If you need assistance or have additional questions you can call Union County EMA at (706) 439-6091.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

One day, Prince Albert made a mistake while in the gin, and his boss man was railing away using the foulest language that Papa had ever heard. Skeeter looked at the boys and grinned. Then he eased up behind Prince Albert and poked the big man in the ribs while he said, "Punch him." The big man punched his boss, causing his feet to leave the ground. While their boss man was unconscious, the crew closed the mill waiting for their inevitable dismissal. Eventually, the boss woke up with two blackened eyes and afterward was very nice. He never used profanity toward his crew, and they were always paid on time.

During my father's time, he also experienced and made memories at the gin. Dad said it was so cold one fall that his mother had buried him up to his

neck in the cotton to keep him warm. Papa stopped the wagon just beyond Uncle Dan's house to take a bathroom break in the woods. While Papa was in the edge of the woods, the mules began walking. Papa said, "Whoa mules," to no avail. Again Papa spoke, but, the mules did not stop. Mind you, Dad was still in the wagon buried up to his neck and couldn't move. Papa was crouched over in the woods taking care of business. Dad said, "One of the funniest memories I have is of Papa running from the woods with his overall gallsus dragging the dirt while he was trying to catch those stubborn mules. By the time I came along, the gin was on its last legs. It closed when I was very young, but, I remember it well and its impact on four generations of my family.

Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

never used substances, while others suspected that their kids might be drinking or using other drugs.

Over the next several weeks, I will share highlights from the focus groups in hopes of starting a discussion in this community among parents about early prevention. This week highlights cover substance use and teen health issues and how teens should receive education about alcohol and drugs.

Many parents were surprised to learn that 90 percent of people with addictions started in their teen years — sometimes even earlier. From the time kids are about 10 years old and through their mid-20's, the brain is undergoing massive changes, developing important capabilities for adulthood. These include the ability to regulate emotions, weigh the pros and cons of risk-taking, understand what consequences might be before they happen, and problem-solve. Using substances like drugs or alcohol during this critical time can hurt teens' brains. In fact, some teens who

have heightened risk factors are even more vulnerable to adverse impacts than others. These risk factors include a family history of problematic substance use or other addictions, underlying mental health problems (such as depression, anxiety, or ADHD), childhood trauma (such as witnessing or undergoing school shootings, abuse or neglect, or violence) and being bullied.

Parents were split on how their kids should be educated about the risks around substance use. Some parents felt schools should take the lead. Once their kids have been educated about the topic, parents would reinforce the information. Not wanting to count on the school, other parents felt that they needed to have an ongoing conversation with their kids about substance use, as well as lay down the rules. These parents were worried that if they didn't take the lead, their kids would learn about substance use from the internet, social media, pop culture and their more adventurous peers.

Williams... continued from Page 4A

of older leaves between the veins. Copper shortage will show up as young leaves wilt but remain green.

Nutrient deficiency leads to plants that are more susceptible to disease because they are stressed. Diseases can cause a nutrient deficiency because the plant isn't able to operate properly. Therefore, we can have a chicken or the egg type situation. Both issues will need to be addressed to make the plants healthy again.

The best way to avoid a nutrient deficiency is to do a basic soil test. It costs \$10 and you can bring your soil sample to the Extension Office. The report that you get back will have instructions on when to fertilize and how much to use. If the plants you are growing have a unique nutrient requirement that in-

formation will be included as well.

If you have questions about nutrient deficiencies in plants contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Fowler...

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any evil they replaced."

I hope my fellow citizens consider carefully where we go from here. Change may well be needed, but make sure change is for the better. Heed the call of Jesus, "If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36). Then call for cultural change in a way that uplifts all. Your life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness are at stake.

Oh, and by the way: Happy Birthday, America. Enjoy your freedom.

Braddy... continued from Page 4A

offensive.

Why is it so offensive and frustrating to me and other Caucasian Americans? The vast majority of us have been living our lives in wonderful racial harmony, working with and for people of every color and background, including zero incidents or even zero hints of racist behavior. But, all of a sudden in the year 2020, these few public "judges" are throwing the first-ever verbal stones at me and my family, or you and your family, just for being born with "white" skin; therefore, you and I somehow share in the shame and guilt of slavery, oppression and denying the civil rights of primarily black people. There is every reason to believe that none of us would approve of anyone being abused by law enforcement or be discriminated against by anyone in authority.

I have never met nor even known anyone who was not disgusted and shocked at the horrible offenses that have been inflicted on African Americans during slavery and since then, including suffering from any abuse or inequality. However, it is clear that no one living today had any part in owning slaves, nor did the vast majority of us even have ancestors who did, although I

do have relatives who actually were slaves. (Yes, I have some Black DNA). Are these same people, who seem to hold attitudes of pretentious superior sanctity, becoming equally verbal when just the other week-end in Chicago, more than 100 people were shot and 14 killed, with five of those 14 being children? One of those children was only a 3-year-old.

If you or I happen to be "Caucasian," then we seem to be guilty of "white privilege," which is a mystery to me, since I have financially struggled every day of my life, continuously working very hard to have my family's basic needs met and periods of time being poor as well. And it is clear to me that I have not received absolutely any passes from traffic law enforcement officers, ever! (And I shouldn't have either).

Adding insult to injury, most of my close friends, family and fellow Christians, white, Black or Hispanic, have served for years in food banks, missions to Africa, poor areas and communities around the world, volunteering to build churches and provide clean water in poorer American communities and nations. They've stood for and supported oppressed people of color, fought and died in wars to protect the freedom and

civil liberties of every American, taught children of every color, and have even served in positions of government to fight for everyone's Constitutional rights. Of course, I am far from perfect, as some people who know me well would freely and quickly agree.

There is no doubt that I am a sinner, albeit saved by the grace of God through Jesus. But those accusers are also sinners and far from perfect. But hopefully you will understand why I and most of my fellow Caucasian brothers and sisters choose not to be punching bags for those liberal-minded, stone-throwing, self-appointed, self-righteous judges, regardless of how well-meaning they may be. To add to their direct attacks and insinuations, a number of them even have the audacity to inform us how we should make amends. The goal of these accusers seems to in-

clude instilling fear in us — that we can expect harsh retribution if we do not bow to their verbal hate-filled bullying, or if we dare say anything that even borders on disagreement with their false assessments of our character.

Many Americans have succumbed to that fear and will not even say something like "every human life matters." So, are we supposed to be governed by fear and snobby anger, or should we be governed by the truth and the equitable, just rule of law for everyone as found in the U.S. Constitution?

And one last thing: may-be some of those bullies should stop declaring "black lives matter" if (or when) they support abortion where millions of tiny, beautiful black unborn babies do not seem to matter in the least to them?

David Braddy,
Blairsville

Chamber... continued from Page 4A


early and enjoy all the extra activities for the family and find your perfect place to watch the show. Interested in purchasing a special parking space at North Georgia Technical College? Contact Mandie Spivak at 706-745-5789 to learn more. We want to especially thank the sponsors of this year's fireworks: the City of Blairsville, the Union County Government, Woodmen Life, and Cabin Coffee. We can't wait to join our wonderful community to celebrate our country's independence.

We will also be revealing the winner of our Sun & Fun Mountain Raffle on the evening of our fireworks event at Meeks Park, so if you have not purchased your raffle ticket yet, call the Chamber and get yours today. You do not want to miss out on this year's incredible raffle which includes a tent, hunting chairs, two pairs of Costas sunglasses, a Marin bicycle, a charcoal grill, a Longhorn gift-basket and more! Thank you to our raffle sponsors: Woodmen Life and Dixie Confexions, as well as all of the businesses who contributed such wonderful prizes: Sears Hometown Store, Longhorn Steakhouse, Nelson's Feed and Hardware, Hughes Outdoor Merchandise, United

UC Historical Society's Brick Walk

To show our appreciation for the overwhelming community support for the Union County Historical Society's Brick Walk, we are extending the current price of \$50 per brick. Please call the Historical Society at 706-745-5493 or come by the old courthouse to purchase one in memory or in honor of a loved one.

**Bell Ringing Union
County Old Courthouse**



July 10, 2020
In Memory of
Dr. William T. Meeks, Sr.
on the anniversary
of his death
By: Terry & Ginger Meeks

**Bell ringing information
at 706-745-5493**