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keep all the ditches cleaned. We work on some each year so that over a three year period we usually can get around to most of them. This fall we will try to notify the public and remind those of you who can to keep the leaves out of ditches around your home. Often, we find home owners rake their leaves into the county road ditch, which only makes the problem worse. We will try to do a better job of keeping the ditches clean, but would also ask the public to help out where you can.

Q. We want the county to take over maintenance of our road. What is the process for doing this?

A. After the heavy rain we had many, many calls and visitors about this issue. Here again, it is not a simple answer. In 1994 the county ordinance was changed and from that date forward, all roads that were built as coun-

ty roads had to be paved and follow certain construction guidelines. If you live on a gravel road and the property was developed prior to 1994, there is a possibility the road can be accepted as a gravel road even though it does not meet current standards. However, the road must have adequate R/W and road surface, slopes not to exceed 15%, and have a minimum of 3 permanent residences. If it is a newer road, the property owners are required to make improvements to the road to bring it up to county standards prior to acceptance.

The Road Dept. or my office has all information on what is required and will be glad to offer you advice on getting your problem solved. You are welcome to call the Road Department at (706) 439-6062, or the Commissioner's Office at (706) 439-6000.

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some laboratory. Shellac is a sticky material derived from secretions of the female Kerria lacca, an insect native to Thailand and India. Essentially, gender based bug secretion is smeared on your candy corn. Really, really?

I know some of you are feeling very haughty right now because you scrub your fruits with one of those 50 cent an ounce special veggie washes (which calculates out to \$64 a gallon, by the way. Paint thinner is just \$10 a gallon). And I'm sure you are going to tell me you only indulge in jelly beans at Easter. Well, you can kiss your pompous attitude goodbye, because that time release pill you take twice a day to keep your moods from swinging (even your daily multi-vitamin) is coated in shellac. Really!

Shellac is thoroughly impervious to acid, but breaks

down in alkaline solutions. Imagine if you coated half the medicine in a tablet with shellac. Your mouth and stomach are acidic environments, but your intestines are alkaline. The uncoated medicine starts dissolving immediately in your mouth and stomach, but the coated portion only starts to work after it makes its way down into your intestines, some time later. Hence, time release medicine.

I've now reached into my container of almonds three more times for a total of 25 almonds. The sesame seeds are glued on the almonds with sugar, even though they are called sesame honey almonds. I don't eat sugar. It's not healthy. I instead eat shellac covered fruit and printed labels. That is, until June 8th, when the Farmers Market opens and I get fresh from the garden/orchard fruits and veggies.

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sity named James Tracy who states on video that the Sandy Hook massacre was a hoax.

Even Michael Moore the ultra-left wing socialist film maker suggested that the bloody crime scene photos of murdered children should be leaked to the media so as to finish off the NRA for good. A while back Rahm Emanuel, former White House chief of staff, went on TV and stated that "no crisis should go to waste" and so far the President has not missed a step to take advantage of the people's emotions over the Sandy Hook massacre in order to push his anti-gun agenda.

Where was President Obama's outrage for strict gun control when Representative Gabrielle Giffords and 17 others were shot in Tucson, or when the theater shooting occurred in Aurora Colorado? Oh Yeah, he was busy campaigning and did not want to ruffle the feathers of voters that might own guns.

However, once he was re-elected, the gloves came off and he took full political

advantage of the Sandy Hook "crisis of the day" in order to push his anti-gun agenda.

After all, wasn't it Professor Barack Obama at the University of Chicago Law School who stated "I don't believe people should be able to own guns?"

Based on what he does and not what he says, I do strongly believe that President Obama wants to do away with the Second Amendment and eventually confiscate all guns from private citizens.

Now, does that make me a conspirator theorist or just a suspicious realist?

In order for the anti-gun crowd to succeed in their efforts to kill the second amendment they must first destroy the NRA and make every effort to discredit it's leaders and members.

I have never been a member of the NRA but thanks to Mr. Lowes letter, I just joined. I believe it is our commander in grief Barack Obama and not the NRA who has done the most to boost gun sales.

John Q. Adams III

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mings and Saturday mornings. I was talking to one of the nurses for a moment and she told me that if every small church could give \$50 and every large church \$100 a month they could almost be opened every day. I wondered about businesses, and individuals; why couldn't they give this small amount of money every month if they had it?

This is a place where if a person qualifies under Georgia income laws are not turned away. They serve patients from surrounding counties as well; most are from Union, Towns, and Fannin counties. All funding must come from donations. They have clinics like this in Cleveland and Gainesville opened most of

the week. These clinics see people with everything from the flu to having a terminal illness. Put yourself in their shoes. One day you have a job, insurance, a place to live, and the next day the job is gone. I know of one place you would be very thankful for!

I have seen enough to be able to report, this is one place God's money should go. If you need to become a patient or want to help others and be a donor I guess the best way is to call (706) 994-6768.

This place is for real and as I went out the door that morning after observing the people waiting for help I left with a few tears.

James Sharrock
Retired Teacher UCS

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ourselves as a unique getaway which provides designated, paved cycling trails throughout Union County. The planning, execution and generating awareness of my proposed, designated cycling trails would generate jobs for residents possessing a variety of skills from environmental impact to design to building to marketing to cycle rental shops to home/hotel rentals... the list of job opportunities is long and varied!

Lake Nottely is a lovely lake which would create many and varied jobs/small business for our residents, as well. For example, fishing/fillnetting/cooking, fishing boat rentals, kayaking including lessons/rentals. Personally, I'd fallen in love with "padding" in the calm waters of the North Sea in the fjords

of Oslo, Norway. Our quiet Union County lake reminds me of the serene kayaking experiences I'd enjoyed while living there. My kayak is a long, skinny sea kayak which is perfect for Lake Nottely.

I've a plethora of ideas for making our county a different kind of getaway, a healthy getaway. Union County has the natural elements to create a healthy getaway. In the process of this new implementation, which would create loads of jobs and loads of small business opportunities, we Union County residents can take full advantage of the cycling trails and lake activities, thereby creating a healthier and even happier community.

Thank you. I look forward to your thoughts regarding my ideas.

Debra Anderson

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sible to be immersed in a new culture and not leave changed in some way. For me, I brought home a lifetime of memories, a stronger bond with many of fellow Chamber Executives, and several valuable lessons. First, I developed a deeper allegiance to the United States and a greater love for our country as I felt proud to be an American. I too, however, realized that American's have a tendency to be ethnocentric and unaccepting of many culture differences. Granted, it was hard to stomach the thought of webbed goose feet as a delicacy, but "When in China..." I am more grateful for everyday luxuries that we enjoy in the United States but are not available to many in China. These include the right to drive my car every day of the week, own my own land, use an unlimited amount of electricity, and have more than one child without penalty. I should point out though that these limitations on the Chinese people did not seem to make them unhappy, therefore reaffirming my belief that money, wealth, and luxury, are not the secrets to happiness. I realized that Americans quite

frankly could learn a lesson or two from the Chinese in customer service. There was not one place that we stopped that we did not encounter smiling faces, warm receptions, helpful attendants, and genuinely nice people. Finally, I learned that one actually can survive on a diet of rice and vegetables and feel amazing very healthy doing it.

When I left China, I left with a realization that the world, though large in mass, is smaller than we think. We are all just a plane ride away from any part of the world we want to explore, and for many, it's simply a matter moving from dreaming to doing. The Chamber will be offering a leisure travel trip to Ireland in November of this year for anyone interested in group travel at unbelievable prices. If you are ready for an experience of a lifetime, contact the Chamber for details at 706-745-5789 or me directly at president@blairsvillechamber.com. If you would like to see pictures from my China excursions, please visit the Chamber's facebook page at www.facebook.com/blairsvillechamber.

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Paul and Bud were awakened the next morning by the familiar booming voice of Old Man Newell screaming out the words, "Your boys put my wagon on top of my barn." Papa called his sons into the kitchen for breakfast and asked them about Newell's claims. The boys couldn't lie to their Daddy considering the fact that they had not cleaned the wagon grease from their hands from their escapades of the night before. The boys confessed their crimes to their Daddy and explained why they had committed them. Their Daddy listened and stated that he understood. However, they were told to go and take the wagon down from the top of the barn. They were also told to go and get the other boys to help the old man.

When the boys drove up the old man began screaming. He stood at the bottom of the barn and watched to make sure the job was done to his satisfaction. Tommy Trapp asked the other boys, "How are we going to do this?" The old man screamed, "The same way you got it up there." So,

Jordan

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paged two times. Finally a lady moving slow, because she was more concerned with talking on her telephone emerged from the stoe. The Chief talked to her. I did not hear anything he said to her. He went to his car.

I walked toward her and she said to the person she was talking to, that she had to hurry because the police would be waiting for her by her car. I went on with my shopping and we crossed paths, oh how I wanted to tell her that even if she was comfortable outside of her car, it only takes a very few minutes for it to be very hot in a car with the sun shining right down on it. I noticed that she had a small child with her, and I am sure she would never leave her child in the car and go shopping, or would she?

My point is, it is the time of the year that your dog or cat needs to be left at home no matter how much they want to go with you. If you truly love your pets, leave them at home.

If you can't do this, then find them good homes with people that have the sense God gave a gnat. I am sure they would leave these animals at home.

All Animals were created by God and I know that people that abuse children, the elderly and all animals, will have to answer to Him. I know this because He left Adam in the Garden of Eden to name them and watch over them. Adam did not have to worry about them hurting him, at least until sin came into the world.

Barbara Jordan

Gray

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These men have differed in some doctrine, but were united in purpose and commitment to their God and their country. There was some disappointment as the list was read of local officials who were being lifted in prayer - and many were not present. I hope they will all attend next year.

If the radical Jhadists could observe the peaceful and committed manner in which our Christian brethren conducted themselves, perhaps they would be moved to change their mode of operating, rather than killing innocent people who disagree with them. And that is a further subject for prayer.

Arlene Gray
Blairsville