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ward, all roads that were built as county 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 resi-

dences. 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 by the county.

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 Dept. at 706-439-6062, or the Commissioner's Office at 706-439-6000.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

apprehended they were half drunk and barely able to walk. They tried to fight, but there was not much fight in them. All it took was one blow and two of the boys woke up in the jail the next morning. The youngest of the brothers came to town the next day looking for his brothers. He snuck up to the jail and peered into the back window of the cell containing his brothers. His heart melted and his courage left him when he saw how bad his brothers looked after their run in with Kent.

This youngest brother was sitting and kneeling against the jail when he noticed the policeman approaching. Lougher began running with the officer hot on his trail. He was as good as caught and he knew it. So, like an old opossum, the young boy climbed up a newly installed telephone pole right there on Main Street. Loonie was still pretty banged up from the beating the boys had given him, and it hurt him to breathe. He stood at the bottom of the pole for a minute and said, "Garlan Lougher, get down from there or I am going to have to shoot ye." The boy refused, so the new policeman raised his .38 special and shot the boy through the sole of his foot. Just like an old opossum, the boy slid down the pole. Those boys served their time and never gave the people of the town any more trouble.

Some old boy from Detroit came into town one Friday looking to make some easy money. He deduced that the

local bank was run by a bunch of hillbillies who didn't know much and was sure he could get in there, steal the money and be gone before the police knew what hit them. The trouble was, he didn't know Loonie. The boy did rob the bank, and as he was jumping into his getaway car, the officer happened to be driving by the bank. Someone hollered out, "The bank was being robbed!" The boy and Kent locked eyes for a moment. The policeman's eyes were piercing, and the boy's courage faltered, so he stepped on the accelerator and slung gravel as he sped away with the officer in hot pursuit.

The boy's car was fast, but he forgot something important: gasoline. After a mile, he ran out of gas and jumped from the car, still holding the \$500 from the Bank of Phil Campbell. As he ran, he heard a high pitched, feminine sounding voice saying, "Stop or I'll shoot." He laughed, as he thought the voice sounded funny. The laughing stopped when he experienced the pain in his hand. Loonie Kent shot the boy's hand which held the money bag.

Legend has it that Loonie shot the boy at a distance of 100 yards. I am not sure about the distance but, the boy was running, and his hand was moving. It was a remarkable shot. But what was most important was that those hard-working farmers and merchants of that little town got all their money back. And Loonie Kent was now and forevermore a legend.

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

contributions to the evening. There is no greater joy than acknowledging the achievements of individuals who pursue excellence. We were honored to have Mayor Conley and state representative, Stan Gunter, joining us for the evening.

A check was presented to Union County Schools by Allan Glidewell of the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC for \$4,500 for scholarships for students, which represented a portion of the proceeds from last year's golf tournament. Butternut Creek Golf Course hosts this event where a portion of the proceeds go directly to student scholarships. While our teams are full for this year's tournament, there are still partnership opportunities available for the May 7th event. Businesses who

wish to give to the future of our community love partnering on this event knowing it impacts our local students.

It was also the Chamber's honor to join in the celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Union County Saddle Club's location off 515. A vital organ in our community promoting culture and history, the Union County Saddle Club continues to offer safe, family-friendly events and a place for horse and rodeo enthusiasts to hone their skills. Events like Evening with the Stars and the 30th Anniversary of the Saddle Club serve as pivotal reminders that we live in an incredible community where everyone has a chance to thrive just as they were made to. I for one, am truly grateful.

Rauber... continued from Page 4A

During the COVID shutdown, your fine city and county reported a positive financial surplus, whereas Fannin and Blue Ridge, including the city of McCaysville, whined and complained about the financial deficit and cut law enforcement personnel as a means of budgeting.

Consider the continual upkeep of parks and recreation of Union County to that of Fannin. Superior. Consider the minimal amount of litter lining the roadways across Union to that of Fannin. Cleaner. Consider the infrastructure, hospital health care system, EMS, etc., to the lack of same in Fannin. No Comparison.

I know 12 people who've moved from Fannin to Union because Commissioner Paris cares more for his county's residents than tourists who visit. Certainly, tourism generates income, but that income hasn't repaired the drainage

issue in downtown Blue Ridge wreaking havoc for homeowners and businesses for the past decade. How many times must residents have to boil water due to aging pipelines collapsing?

Now, if I could convince Lamar to move the border one mile further west, I could enjoy the benefits of Union County. I don't like property taxes any more than most, but at least homeowners and business owners can visually see their tax dollars at work.

Pam Rauber
Morganton, GA

Williams...

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tion or soil drench. Putting the insecticide in the soil will mean quicker uptake by the plant and reduce the chance of off target drift. If the trees are near open water, a trunk injection of insecticide is necessary, which will require a professional. Whenever applying a pesticide it is important to familiarize yourself with the label before using the product.

The Union and Towns County Extension Offices each have a soil injector that is available to be checked out. Checking it out requires a \$250 dollar deposit that will be returned when the injector is brought back. I also have a soil drench kit in each office, which are simpler to use, especially if you don't have many trees. You must provide your own insecticide. The organization Save Georgia's Hemlocks have a website that has lots of information too.

Contact your local Extension Office or send me an email at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu if you have any questions about HWA.

Riley... continued from Page 4A

bles already picked and ready to prepare and save a lot of money, but that's not as much fun as growing it ourselves and playing with my tractors. Local farmers need a place to sell their crops and this is where our local farmer's markets provide the place to sell what they grow so they can try to recoup some of their investment.

Farmers Markets are a throwback to earlier days when our ancestors had to grow their own food and then they would bring what they did not use to town to sell to the community. Today Farmers Markets are gaining popularity across the country from the metro cities to the most rural of our towns. Local Farmers Markets have become popular community events that are drawing people together on Saturday mornings and other days of the week all over the country.

These markets give us a place to meet and greet our neighbors and take-home local grown produce that is much better for us and a lot tastier than those products that are grown somewhere far away. Buying local also keeps our money in the community and helps turn us back toward at least a partial self-sustaining lifestyle.

It is a lot more rewarding to plant and harvest our own gardens or buy the local grown vegetables than it is to drive to the grocery store to buy stuff that we have no clue as to where it came from, how it was grown, what it has been treated with, how long it has been since it was harvested or what dread disease we might get by eating it.

Each generation that

passes moves further away from the days when our ancestors had to grow their food or go hungry and now most of our children have no clue as to where their food comes from except the grocery store.

The State of Georgia is blessed to have many thriving community farmer's markets scattered all over the state. The Georgia Department of Agriculture oversees these community farmer's markets and administers nine State Farmers Markets which form the network for sales of fruits and vegetables throughout Georgia and the Southeast. These state facilities maintain a viable market for Georgia farmers and farm products in the communities where they are located. The large State Farmers Markets are responsible for over one billion dollars in sales each year. Most local farmer's markets are often operated by non-profits or local governments and serve their local communities and surrounding areas.

In our area, Union County has a state-of-the-art farmers market with a new canning plant that is growing rapidly, Hayesville has a market on the square, and Towns County has its Farmers Market located next to the county beach north of Hiawassee. Come out on Saturday mornings and see what the local farmers have to offer or grow your own and come out and sell it. Visit your local farmer's markets and support your local farmers, it's good for us and good for the community. For more information on Locally Grown, Farmers Markets, contact us at: info.ccrd@gmail.com.

Walters-Taylor...

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military installations.

So, we thank the public, and our government, but we also thank the military, for their support of this very noble and worthwhile cause. The earth has always had the ability to heal its scars; a little help from its stewards is not only welcome, but imperative.

Until we muse again, I bid you "At Ease!"

Weekly Patriot Reflection



Sacrifice for the Preservation of Liberty

Just a few months prior to the death of Thomas Jefferson, with a sense of foreboding for our country, he wrote and pleaded with future Americans to sacrifice whatever it would take to preserve the charter of liberty for which he and the other founders had given so much. He said, "We owe every sacrifice to ourselves, to our federal brethren, and to the world at large, to pursue with temper and perseverance the great experiment which shall prove that man is capable of living and governing itself by laws self-imposed, and securing to its members the enjoyment of life, liberty, property and peace.

Should liberties so dearly won be cast aside so that we are once again controlled and limited in the liberties they established for us, and future generations?

A Patriot Reflection is presented weekly by www.joshuaswarriors.org.

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



April 18, 2021

In Honor of **Cathie Riggs** on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary
By Pat Riggs

April 19, 2021

In Memory of **Virginia B. Meeks** on the Anniversary of her death
By Ginger and Terry Meeks

April 28, 2021

In Memory of **Dollie C. Meeks** on her Birthday
By Ginger and Terry Meeks
Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493

Fowler...

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men most to be pitied" (1 Cor. 15:19). Christians have hope imprinted on our souls. The hope Christ offers is that you are more than a physical body and are not alone. Meaning comes from following Jesus into the sufferings of humanity and loving your neighbor. The basic problem is human brokenness, but by faith your hope is in the One who loves you, makes you whole, and offers you eternity.

The hope of America and the world is Jesus Christ, not increasing godlessness. But I agree with Professor Zuckerman on this: we should not fear what's coming. Not because secularism has solutions, but because Christians have hope.