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A. We will be limiting the number of shoppers, but market staff has not decided on what that number will be as of yet. They are looking at state and federal guidelines in the coming days to determine what a safe number of shoppers in the market area at one time will be.

Q. Will the Farmers Market still be open on Tuesday afternoons like it has been in the past?

A. Yes, it will be. The hours on Tuesdays will be 2-5 p.m. This is another opportu-

nity to visit the vendors and get your fresh produce.

Q. Do you have any other recommendations of how we can be safe while shopping at the Farmers Market?

A. As everyone has heard hundreds of times, maintain social distance and wash your hands. Be mindful of the vendors and remember to not crowd them. Everyone still has to purchase food, and a great option during this time is an open-air market just like the Farmers Market. Wear a mask and be patient.

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them two-three times per week. This will prevent your kids from going on dates, because nobody will want to get close enough to your kid due to the smell of their breath. Another reason for eating ramps is in regard to your health. I have heard their consumption helps to lower cholesterol.

Clyde Collins is a retired Union County School Superintendent. He tells me that back during the 1960s, kids used to eat ramps this time of year just to get sent home from school. The kids smelled so bad after eating the ramps the teachers could not tolerate them in the classroom. This was especially true after getting hot and sweaty on the playground and then coming back into the classroom. You could always tell when the ramps were ready simply by the smell of the kids after recess.

Many people want to know where and how do you find the ramps. You've got to be willing to walk. Most of the ramp patches that I know of are high up in north-facing coves. The slope leading up to the ramp patch is usually "steeper than a mule's face," as one old timer told me. You know you are in a good spot when the ground is rocky and the soil is rich and black in color.

The ramp is in the onion family. The plant comes from a small bulb and has two leaves. I have found some with a purple-red bulb and some are white. A big one will be a little larger than a thumb nail. Each year I enjoy going to dig a few for my own consumption.

If you know of a patch, you should keep its location to yourself.

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always being there whenever we need them.

We would also remind everyone that just because Mother's Day has passed, that does not mean you have to stop showing your appreciation to your mother, especially as we continue to work through this ordeal together. It never hurts to keep supporting local businesses and purchasing an additional gift for Mom when she would least expect it!

If you have been around our town square, you may have noticed all the signs that are congratulating our 2020 graduating senior class. These seniors have had their traditional final months in school taken away from them due to the virus, but they have worked very hard, and we hope the signs bring a smile to all of their faces and that they feel recognized for their great academic accomplishments.

As more businesses continue to reopen, please go to our website VisitBlairsvilleGa.

com for a working list of all our Chamber member businesses to see what their current status of operations are. As usual, we encourage both business owners and community members to exercise caution when being in a public space, which includes social distancing, wearing masks, and washing your hands vigorously and often.

It is our hope that our community can start to recover from this ordeal, but that will only happen if everyone continues to do their part to stop any additional spread of this virus. This is also a time where we can all support each other in whatever ways we are able.

Our town is a beautiful and wonderful place to live, but what makes it truly great are the people who live here who go out of their way to take care of their friends and neighbors, as we have seen time and time again throughout the last couple of months. We are, and always will be, #UnionUnited.

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for those with anxiety disorders, worry may be all-consuming. For those with schizophrenia, the concern that people are infectious may contribute to paranoia. And for those with depression, lack of social engagement and disruption in routines could increase symptoms.

If you need support coping with the events of the last few weeks, there is advice and help available. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a webpage with information on dealing with fear, anxiety, and stress brought on by the coronavirus pandemic. A section of this CDC page is specifically geared toward those of us with children, as they can be particularly sensitive to uncertainty.

For those with mental illnesses, be sure to continue your treatment regimens. Consider developing a plan for telehealth sessions with your provider if you (or your provider) are quarantined or must avoid exposures to the public for any reason. And, reach out to friends and family for support, virtually if necessary.

This last piece of advice is really important for all of us. It is important to realize that social distancing does not have to mean social isolation, especially with modern technologies available to many of us. Connecting

with our friends and loved ones, whether by high tech means or through simple phone calls, can help us maintain ties during stressful days ahead and will give us strength to weather this difficult passage.

Fowler...

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what the world seeks, and what the church of the Lord Jesus Christ offers.

Churches report increased attendance for online meetings. The technology helps, but it's not like being in proximity to one another. But the day will come soon when we can assemble together. We miss the folks that help us hold fast to our hope and faith, and spur us on toward love and good deeds. If we are to "not forsake" something, let's not forsake those Biblical reasons for our gatherings.

Fire...

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need to get through these trying times and reach the final stage of this event, recovery. And we will. We want to again, thank you all for your support and for the help during this season.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

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ward to visiting those places and meeting new people and our network members, but due to COVID-19, this year we had to cancel our meeting in Salt Lake City and meet online with three 3-hour Zoom meetings.

Zoom is one of the new online meeting technologies that is available for anyone who needs to meet, but not in person. Our meetings had over 100 participants, and each could talk and participate in the meeting, plus everybody could see each other.

Most of our group was sheltered at home so there were kids bouncing in the background and popping up on the screen. It was actually very comfortable and easy since we were in our home or office where we could move around and relax. It saved a lot of money since we did not have to buy airline tickets, pay for hotels, and eat at restaurants.

I hope we do not completely do away with all that, but I am afraid we have set a precedent and will hold many of our meetings this way in the

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and neighbors about buying an animal 'on the hoof' and taking it to a local processor. Some of our local farmers have stores at their farm. That way you can buy directly from the farmer, and have fresh products. Shop at the Farmers Market. Products sold at the farmers market come straight from the farm. You can also start your own garden. If you have questions about how to do that, ask me. There are few things more rewarding than eating produce that you have grown.

If you have questions about where to find local agricultural products contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Rains...

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is an incredible lack of faith. Life is a precious and wonderful thing, but the Bible tells us that true rewards are not of this earth. Yet everyone is running around like scared rabbits acting like this life is all there is and trying to cling to it like two opposing velcro strips. Why let something that may or may not happen in the future ruin your happiness today? My Mama used to say, "Worrying is like a rocking chair. It gives you something to do but gets you nowhere!"

A letter to the editor last week said that we should all wear masks and trust the scientific community. If that's what you want to do, fine, but it won't help. Let's see, I'm pretty sure, due to the amount of disinformation coming from them, that Chinese scientists are the ones who modified this thing. I don't think or I would like not to think that they released this virus on purpose, but at this point, they won't say one way or the other. Are not Chinese scientists part of the whole "Scientific Community" that this letter writer last week said we should trust? I think they are. Science has its place, but it's not all there is.

Listen: life is a crapshoot. No one except God knows when each of us is going to die. A lot of People die everyday. That's life, and life ain't fair! Stop being a bunch of scared rabbits! You are stronger and better than that! Don't let anyone tell you different. Face life head on, live it to the fullest, and don't run from it. Most of all, have faith! If it ain't your time, it ain't your time, so why worry about it? Maybe that's something our elected officials should think about.

Claude Rains Jr.

**Editor's Note: Facial coverings are recommended in part to decrease the chances of infected wearers spreading the disease.*

future. Zoom will save a lot of time with our Appalachian RC&D FAC Coalition for our monthly meetings.

It takes Kim and I three hours one way to go up to North Carolina and have a two-hour meeting with our team, but now that we are Zoomers (ordered it tonight) the team can sit in our offices, or sometimes in my truck, and accomplish the same goals and get updates, saving a lot of time and money. We are having our Sunday School class on Zoom during our stay-at-home time so we do not lose contact with each other.

Zoom Video Communications, Inc. is an American communications technology company that provides video-telephony and online chat services through a cloud-based peer-to-peer software platform and is used for teleconferencing, telecommuting, distance education, and social relations.

Zoom is one of the new video communications platforms, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audioconferencing, collaboration, chat, and webinars across mobile devices, desktops, telephones, and room systems.

Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done. I do not understand all of that but as an old timer once said after a technical meeting, "I don't understand it boys, but By George it works!"

I guess we will be Zoomers until the next latest and greatest technology comes along or we can transmit ourselves into a virtual meeting room on the Cloud platform, wherever that is. I still miss the banquets and "going out on the town." Those were the good ole days!

For more information on what we are doing at RC&D check out Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D Facebook and www.chestchattred.org and www.Appcofac.org.