

# Car Fire...continued from Page 1A

you'll have somebody say they thought they saw smoke. But a lot of times, that's from the air bag. That air bag is packed with talcum powder or cornstarch, and that's a lubricant to get that air bag out.

"So, people see that, or steam from radiator fluid, and think they see smoke. But most of the time, when we're going to a car wreck, our main objective is to go there and do the extrication, the rescue part, and assist the EMS with the patients.

"When we have a fire, that's our primary job, is fire, so that changed the whole dynamic of the situation, and we had

to go into firefighting mode before we got into assisting the EMS."

These kinds of fires are different from structure fires in that many things inside a car have the potential to explode or burn hotly.

"There's several other dangers you've got to look at," said Dyer. "There's fuel, there's gas-containing shocks you've got to look out for. So, you've got to approach it a lot different than you would a structure fire.

"It just burns. It'll really, really burn when it gets to the gas tank. They don't really blow up like the movies anymore. It's

just, when it gets to that point with the gas, it's going to start burning."

A car on fire will usually spew extremely dense, black smoke due to all of the foam and plastic burning inside the vehicle. Because of the potential for exposure to harmful gases, firefighters wear full gear when responding to car fires.

At the end of the day, Chief Dyer is just thankful that everyone made it out okay, especially since things could have gone much worse.

"If those people hadn't had seat belts on and they'd have had more significant injuries, then it would have been difficult for them to get out," said Dyer. "So, be careful, slow down, and make sure



The scene of the July 31 accident on Gainesville Highway after the car fire was put out.

you've got those seat belts on."

Engine-1, Rescue-1 and Tanker-3 responded to the scene to put the fire out, and all first responder agencies in the county arrived to help the team of 11 firefighters.

Several bystanders also attempted to assist at the scene, including a worker with the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC, who used a fire extinguisher from his truck.

## Union County School System Child Find Procedures

The Union County School System has a mission, mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), to locate, identify, and evaluate each child from birth through 21 years of age with a suspected disability, and to provide appropriate educational services to these children throughout our county. This is for all children, whether in public, private, or home school, incarcerated, homeless, migrant, etc., as long as they reside in Union County. We need your assistance to find these children so they can receive the help they need to enjoy a more

successful life experience.

Once a child's disability is identified and evaluated, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) can be created to meet that child's specific and unique educational needs. For more information and assistance with free educational services that are available for children with disabilities, call the Union County Schools Special Education Department at 706-745-2322. \*Refer to State Board Rule Child Find 160-4-7-03

Babies Can't Wait (BCW) is Georgia's statewide interagency service delivery

system for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. BCW is established by Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which guarantees all eligible children, regardless of their disability, access to services that will enhance their development. This program serves children from birth to age 3. For more information visit <http://health.state.ga.us/programs/bcw/>.

Many children are born with or acquire physical and/or mental conditions, which handicap their normal growth and development. Fortunately, many of these conditions can be helped or completely corrected if parents and others recognize the problem early and seek help. You can prevent an unnecessary life-long handicap by recognizing and dealing with a child's problem as early as possible. Anyone can help us identify children with special needs, including parents, foster parents, grandparents, teachers, doctors, nurses, counselors, social workers, day care providers, and community members. If you know of a child in Union County from birth through age 21 who has special needs, please let us know so we can get them the help they need to enjoy a brighter future. Contact the Union County Schools Special Education Department at 706-745-2322.

## Free training: Civilian response to an active shooter

Free training: Civilian response to an active shooter by instructor John G. Henson; First Baptist Church of Blairsville, 296 Blue Ridge Street, Blairsville, GA; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Saturday, August 11, 2018. Registration required: Betsy Ramsey 706-379-1901 or [bramsey@safeservices.org](mailto:bramsey@safeservices.org). Hosted by: S.A.F.E. and North Enotah Domestic Violence Task Force. N(Aug8,22)CA

## August lecture at Hamilton Gardens

On Friday, August 17, Sharon Griffith, Fannin County Master Gardeners, will be speaking on Japanese Maples.

These free gardening lectures take place at the Paris Pavilion at Hamilton Gardens at Lake Chatuge beginning at 11 a.m., lasting 45 minutes to an hour and they are open to the public.

The Gardens are in Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds on Hwy. 76, just outside of Hiawassee.



Once inside the Fairgrounds you just follow the signs to the top pavilion at the Gardens. NT(Aug8,A1)SH

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 Who is Tom Taylor?  
 Tom has been in the insurance business 36 years since his medical retirement from the US Army as a LTC. He has numerous awards, such as LUTCF, LILJ AIA, Lifeleaders of GA & SC, Instructor for new agents. His awards for the Army include Silver Star, Bronze Stars, Meritorious Service Medals, Army Commendation Medals, Combat Infantry Badge, Airborne Wings, Air Crew Wings, Air Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, Good Conduct Medal, Reservest National Guard Achievement Medal and National Defense Medal recipient.

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