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the issues they are having on their road. Adding gravel when it is not needed can sometimes cause more problems. Just scraping the road can often times do away with potholes, ruts, and smooth the road up by pulling some of the existing gravel back to the surface. Our Road Department works very hard to make sure all our roads are kept in good condition without spending money unnecessarily.

**Q. Who do I talk to re-**

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heaven with God. All of his family died, but Enoch pleased God so much that he never died. He just walked into glory. This happened before the Great Flood took place. Before the judgment of the Flood, God removed Enoch. We believers in Christ who are here on earth when the Rapture of the church comes will at that time be removed as well, before the Great Tribulation Period starts, and we will not experience death, either. Like Enoch, we will be translated into heaven by the grace of our Lord, God. I know some folks will never be-

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traffic flow;  
City of Blairsville water and sewer system improvements;

Blairsville-Union County Public Safety Equipment, including 911 dispatch equipment and digital radios, for improved coverage and response;

Ambulances for Union General Hospital;

Library upgrades, including books and equipment;

Assistance with Spec buildings in response to requests for much needed space for retail, service industries and manufacturing.

Each of these projects will benefit both residents and visitors to our area. As we all know, visitors bring dollars to our community. In its simplest form, these projects matter because they create jobs, improve our quality of life, and save us money.

Visitors come to Union County and spend money in local businesses. These businesses collect and remit sales tax. The sales tax helps to pay a significant portion of the important and necessary services

## Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

ate cookies and muffins laced with marijuana that a coworker brought in.

In 2016, gummy rings laced with marijuana and distributed at a party in California sent 19 people (including a 6-year-old) to the hospital. Shortly after the incident, authorities were still trying to figure out who brought the candy to the party.

Unfortunately, eating marijuana is more dangerous than smoking it. The effects from smoking marijuana only take minutes. Edibles, however, take between one to three hours, because food is absorbed into the bloodstream through the liver. The amount of THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, is very difficult to measure and is often unknown in food, making overdose (especially if you don't know you're consuming weed-laced food) more likely.

If you're nervous about your teens accidentally consuming drug-laced foods at a party, make sure you share the quick tips below with them before they head out:

Think about how well you know the host. Close friends or family who are aware of your desire to be drug-free are less likely to knowingly expose you to laced goods. People you don't really know, though, might not be as considerate.

If you're suspicious, don't eat the candy or baked goods. Edible marijuana most commonly comes in these forms. Stick to the Doritos or other well-known packaged goods. Ask questions. Finally,

## AARP Smart Driver™ Class September 13 at North Georgia Tech

AARP Smart Driver™ – the new and enhanced driving refresher course from AARP Driver Safety will be offered at the North Georgia Technical College Conference Center in Blairsville. The college is located at 121 Meeks Avenue (off Highway 515). The class will be from 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 13. The class will be taught by certified volunteer instructor John Daniel.

Since 1979, AARP Driver Safety has helped over 15 million older drivers stay safe, educated and confident behind the wheel. AARP Smart Driver Course participants will learn: valuable defensive driving skills; proven safety strategies; how to stay current with the latest driving technologies; the

## garding getting my private road accepted into the county-maintained road system?

A. The first step would be to contact the Road Department to see if your road would even qualify. There are specific conditions that the road has to meet in order to be considered for county maintenance. The Road Department can come out and look at the road and see if these conditions or right of way requirements have been met.

lieve that people back in ancient times lived to be that old, but the Bible tells us that Enoch's first child, Methuselah, lived the longest of anyone to the ripe old age of 969 years.

We have to remember, with God, all things are possible, and we who are going to live in heaven with Jesus Christ will never die, but will for eternity live on. Even after a million or so years, life in heaven will have just begun.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Amen.  
**Frank F. Combs**

that all residents and businesses enjoy, such as quality roads and bridges and safety services. Additionally, it allows for other county projects that we all enjoy but would not otherwise be available, like the Farmers Market and Meeks Park. These items then no longer have to be paid for strictly out of property taxes, and everyone can appreciate lower property taxes!

The decision to vote "yes" or "no" for the continuation of the SPLOST is yours. I encourage you to ask the appropriate questions that will lead you to an informed decision. I also want to remind you that while the current SPLOST is in effect, your purchases in local businesses are one of the easiest and best ways to show your support for your neighbors, for your own community.

I'm always available for any questions. I can be reached via email at president@blairsvillechamber.com or by phone at 706-745-5789. Be sure to check our website regularly for a full listing of upcoming events at [www.VisitBlairsvilleGa.com](http://www.VisitBlairsvilleGa.com).

chat with other partygoers. Get the vibe of the crowd, learn more about the host (if you don't know him or her), find out who brought which dish – and if you're still not sure, don't be afraid to pass.

Let your teen know that it's OK to go out and have fun! But there's nothing wrong with taking a little extra precaution if you find yourself in unfamiliar surroundings.

Brownies are among the most common food products infused with marijuana, however, almost any food product may be infused with marijuana and eaten. In addition to placing marijuana directly in food, marijuana-infused cooking oil can be used when frying or searing food, and marijuana-infused butter can be spread directly on prepared food.

The amount of THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, is very difficult to measure and is often unknown in these food products. If the user has other medications in his or her system, their body may metabolize different amounts of THC, causing THC levels in the bloodstream to dangerously increase five-fold.

Overdose symptoms from eating marijuana are often more severe than symptoms of an overdose from smoking marijuana. Negative effects of marijuana edibles are psychotic episodes, hallucinations, paranoia, panic attacks and impaired motor ability. Seek immediate medical help if symptoms from drug-laced edibles are suspected.

current rules of the road, specific to your community, and how to manage and accommodate common age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time.

Participants are encouraged to check with their insurance agent to see if they are eligible for an insurance discount. There are no tests required to pass the course.

The course is open to drivers of all ages and costs \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Lunch will be on your own. If one has AARP-United Healthcare Supplementary Insurance, the cost is \$10.

Participants need to preregister, as class size is limited. Call John Daniel at 706-400-9957.

## Cummings... continued from Page 4A

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. Loughter 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 Loughter, get down from there or I am gonna have to shoot ye." He refused, so our policeman raised his .38 special and shot the boy through the soul of his foot. Just like an old opossum,

## Fowler...

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the God of the Bible exists, then every good endeavor pursued in response to God's calling, can matter forever." A famous tentmaker said the same: "Your toil is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58).

"Wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well" (Psa. 139:14). You may never know on this side how He uses your time to recreate a world that points people toward Him. But it is wonderful to know that He does, and that makes life worth it.

## Dyer...

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and how to be prepared, visit [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov).

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

## Williams...

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transplanted into the soil. The nematodes were removed, and the hedges, named "Hedges II" now, resumed growing like a weed. Which is what many fans of opposing schools claim the hedges to be, saying that they are from an invasive species of privet.

As we enter this new football season, maybe take a moment to reflect on the team that you pull for and the traditions that they have. Agriculture has played a role in our sports and traditions for many years, and I hope that continues. If you have any agricultural questions, please contact your local Extension Office or email me at [Jacob.Williams@uga.edu](mailto:Jacob.Williams@uga.edu).

## Sowers...

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A closed mind cannot learn. Closed minds have been the enemy of mankind throughout history.

**Charles Sowers**

## Buck...

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Now, I am well aware that normal county costs and SPLOST money are two separate things, but if our taxes are going to go up by over 15 percent, then why on earth should we have to pay for SPLOST every time we go to town. Just remember that, for years, we have been told not to worry about it, that most of the SPLOST taxes are paid by people visiting the area. If you believe that, I have some oceanfront land for you in downtown Blairsville.

Being a fairly elderly person, I will most likely not be paying for all this excessive spending when it catches up with whoever is running the county 20 or so years from now. Just take a warning now and think very carefully when you go to vote. And be sure you do vote.

**Andy Buck**

## Derrick Whittle Memorial Scholarship Fund

Smoked Boston Butts by Jimmy Combs - September 22nd - \$35. Proceeds will go to Derrick Whittle Memorial Scholarship Fund. These scholarships will be awarded to Union County graduating seniors in May 2019. Call 706-781-7581 to place your advance order! Don't forget about the huge yard sale on September 21 and 22 at the Union County Civic Center!

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 figured that the local bank was run by a bunch of hillbillies who didn't know much, and he was sure he could get in there, steal the money, and be gone before the police knew what hit them. Trouble was, he didn't know our policeman. 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 is 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 that 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.