

Paris... continued from Page 4A

rabies vaccinations.

Q. What does Animal Control do when they do a wellness check?

A. An officer will ensure that the animal is humanely cared for. Food, water and shelter must be provided.

Q. Dogs in my neighborhood are constantly barking. Is there anything I can do about it?

A. You can call Animal Control at 706-439-6052. An officer will make contact with the owner and discuss the complaint with them. When you make the complaint, please be sure to give the actual physical address of the dog that is barking so that Animal Control knows where to respond. You should also be aware that what

is a loud noise to one person is not even a bother to another. If you sit around and focus on the sound, then sometimes it will be a problem for you but no one else. Animal Control just requests that you give the issue some time before reporting so it can be fair to everyone.

Q. My dog is missing. How can I get help finding him/her?

A. Please feel free to contact Animal Control. They stay on top of posting any missing or found animals on their Facebook page with great success in reuniting the pets with their owners.

You can also contact the Humane Society Mountain Shelter at 706-781-3843 to see if they have any information.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

Papa never had pizza until he was about 35 years old.

I can remember my family raising their own hogs for processing into varied cuts for consumption later in the winter and spring. But first, the hogs had to be raised. A couple of sows were kept for breeding purposes. From these, we usually kept four to feed out. The excess pigs were sold as feeder pigs. When the young shoats reached 40 pounds, they were castrated and dewormed. Papa, Uncle Bud and Dad worked all the pigs on a summer day. To castrate the males, a 50-gallon drum was used to position the young pigs in an upside down fashion. After all the males were treated, Uncle Bud hollered out, "Okay, Mick, you are next." I didn't want anything to do with those barrels and took off screaming toward the house.

After the pigs were treated, we fed them for a time to fatten them up. Then the hogs

were processed. My grandfather would dispatch his hogs quickly with a .22-caliber rifle. The hogs were then lifted off the ground with a hoist and the internal organs were removed. Next, they were dunked into scalding water to help remove the hair. All the fat was used to render into lard. Back in those days, people depended upon fat from hogs, so the fatter the hog, the more desirable it was for people. They canned sausage, then cured hams and bacon with salt and in the smoke house. The tenderloin was kept whole to cut into slices to fry. The intestines were even used for chitlins or sausage casings.

I know Papa's diet was high in fat and cholesterol, but he farmed until 92 and died at 98. The difference in his lifestyle and ours? Hard work and lots of exercise. I wonder what would happen today if we were forced to live as my Grandparents lived?

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

The auction will include 25 chairs painted by local artist, which will be auctioned at 7 p.m. Bidding will begin at 5:30 p.m. with Barbecue Dinner at 6 p.m. The chairs can be seen around town at many local businesses.

Christmas will be here soon, so be sure to get a jumpstart on your holiday shopping at the 18th Annual Mistletoe Market. There will be arts and crafts for sale as well as homemade soups, sandwiches, goodies, and more!

The event is being held at the Blairsville Campus of North Georgia Technical College on Nov. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Artworks at 706-896-0932.

The Chamber of Commerce will again be hosting the Tour of Trees during the month of December at the Union County Community Center.

This annual event is a lot of fun for our local businesses and civic organizations to show off their creative side by decorating a large tree, small tree, or

a wreath. We already have had quite a few businesses and organizations sign up to participate again this year, so be sure to secure your spot by contacting the Chamber Office today! It is a great way to advertise your business or organization, as we had over 1,200 visitors to the Community Center throughout the month of December last year!

We will also have the Gingerbread Village again this year during Holly Jolly Christmas. There is no fee to participate in the Gingerbread Village and it is a lot of fun to see what you can create! The Gingerbread Houses will be displayed in the Community Center from Dec. 8 through Dec. 31.

Please remember that when you have a chance, stop and shop at our local merchants. They work hard year-round to make Blairsville-Union County an awesome place to live and work!

For information about upcoming Holiday Events in our community, go to our website at www.VisitBlairsvilleGa.com.

Drug Free... continued from Page 4A

Disease Control and Prevention, said. "Any form of cannabis or tobacco product use is unsafe among youth, irrespective of whether it's smoked, smokeless or electronic".

The rapid spread of e-cigarettes, which work by heating a liquid until it vaporizes, was flagged in a 2016 report by the U.S. surgeon general, which cited a 900 percent increase in e-cigarette use by high school students from 2011 to 2015. E-cigarette use declined for the first time in 2016 but held steady the following year.

The surgeon general's report warned back then that e-cigs were a possible vehicle for drugs like marijuana, but at the time, it was "unclear and understudied" how often that happened.

One of the studies that did exist at the time was an anonymous survey of high school students in Connecticut. It found that 5.4 percent of them had vaped cannabis -- less than half of the 12.4 percent cited in the new report.

Perhaps this has to do with the types of students surveyed and where they lived, but the numbers could simply reflect the fact that vaping cannabis is more popular now than it was in the past. Why?

It may have something to do with more relaxed laws around marijuana, a perception that the drug is less harmful than in the past, the increasing popularity of vaping products and how discreet some of these devices are.

One of the most popular vapes, Juul, looks like a flash drive, and the kids can just tuck it away when they're done. Even if teachers and parents know that it's an e-cig, they may not know what's inside.

A study published in August also found that teens who used e-cigs and hookah were up

to four times more likely to use marijuana later on. Other studies have drawn a link between vaping and cigarettes, suggesting that vaping is a first step towards becoming an established cigarette user.

A lead investigator for a separate nationwide survey called Monitoring the Future found that 4 percent of eighth-graders, 9.8 percent of 10th-graders and 11.9 percent of 12th-graders have ever vaped marijuana. This study also found 24 percent of students had used marijuana over the previous year, up 1.3 percent from 2016.

Some students are more likely than others to put cannabis in their e-cigs, according to the new report -- males, tobacco users and students who live in the same household as a tobacco user. Among students who had ever used an e-cig, nearly a third had used one to vape marijuana.

E-cigarettes have been the most popular tobacco product among both middle and high school students since 2014, according to a CDC report. The billion-dollar question is, where is this trend going and what's driving it?

Fowler...

continued from Page 4A

woman asked Jesus for help, but Jesus refused twice, as though to draw out her faith. The disciples wanted her gone. But Jesus said, "O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish." (Matt. 15:28). Both women needed to be known and loved.

Jesus stepped out of his perfect home into the horrifying conditions of a fallen world only to endure the agonizing, costly process of making you his own. He knows you. He loves you. You are the apple of his eye, the one He adopts into his forever family.

Riley... continued from Page 4A

and continue to need the strategic application of fire that mimics this natural cycle. The plants and animals of the pine woods are accustomed to frequent fires and depend on these fires for their survival. Fire is as natural as sunshine, rain and wind in many plant communities, including upland pine, wet flatwoods, marshes and wet prairies. Fire also benefits many of the rare animal species in our state that are declining. Some of these declines are caused almost totally by fire exclusion. Frequent fires prevent the build-up of flammable fuels in the forest that set the stage for destructive wildfires when ignition does occur.

"Prescribed burning means the controlled application of fire to existing vegetative fuels under specific environmental conditions and following appropriate precautionary measures, which causes the fire to be confined to a predetermined area and accomplishes one or more planned land management objectives, or to mitigate catastrophic wildfires." Georgia Prescribed Burning Act, 1992.

Prescribed burning is carried out by experienced, trained and certified land managers on both public and private lands throughout Georgia. These professionals assess forest conditions, determine the type of fire needed, and then write a "prescription" for the application of fire. Prescribed burns are permitted by the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) District Offices, depending upon predicted weather conditions and safety measures to be used. GFC also offers a Certified Burner Manager Program that serves to enhance the skills of land managers and acquaint burners with regulations and offer opportunities for more advanced training.

Smoke from prescribed fires is a sign that certain lands are being cared for properly. Great care is taken by prescribed fire managers to minimize any temporary inconveniences created by smoke. Smoke management plans for prescribed burns are designed so that smoke-sensitive areas like roads and residences are

Williams...

continued from Page 4A

lar. This is more effective than hunting with dogs. The bait will draw in the wild pigs, and then you can remove them from a tree stand or on the ground at a distance. Trapping is the most effective means of removing wild pigs. Corral traps with drop doors are the most popular. Some of these traps are quite high tech with you being able to activate them from your phone. These are effective, but also expensive. Once you have trapped the wild pigs, you must kill them. It is illegal to transport wild pigs. Please abide by hunting and firearm regulations to make sure that you are hunting in a way that is in compliance with the laws.

If you have more questions about wild pigs, please contact your local Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Porter...

continued from Page 4A

soul. Thank Jesus for His new covenant He put within our hearts for today, purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ, the lover of our soul. There is so much praise from my heart as I write this that I have forgotten I was ever going to pray this morning! It all turned out to just praise. I thank Him for what He put in my heart and my thoughts this new morning, and for His holy presence!

I am writing from my breakfast tray again! This is my special tray, for food, tears, all my Bible readings. It's love that overfills my "heart tray," as I call it. What a wonderful feeling, please try it. Put it to the test for yourself. You won't need my word. His love is sufficient! I feel like it is just "me & Jesus" at this special hour that I put aside every morning for this time. A time to just be quiet and listen to Him! You can also try it for yourself.

This praise brought me to a time I didn't need anything! I just want to talk with you, Lord. This praise made me forget my needs.

When we have Jesus, we now have everything.

Irene Porter
Suches

S.A.F.E.

Board meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of S.A.F.E. (Support in Abusive Family Emergencies, Inc.) will be November 15, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Call 706-379-1901 for location.

Jasper on Feb. 7, 2019. Anyone interested in forest health and prescribed fires is welcome to attend.

Check our website www.chestchattrcd.org for registration information.

not negatively affected by the burn. Smoke from prescribed fires does not contribute appreciably to air quality issues since the practice typically avoids times of stagnant summer air. However, uncontrolled wildfires usually occur during the summer when there is already a bad urban air quality problem. We can reduce the risk of wildfires and the resulting smoke or air quality problems with well-timed prescribed fires. No other tool can so effectively remove the hazardous buildup of woodland fuels and help maintain our forests.

Since some land management professionals don't want to drive to Tifton for our meetings, we will have a North Georgia Prescribed Fire Council meeting at the Chatahoochee Technical College in