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ers. At the end of this process, a whole new brand was expressed in a new logo, tagline, and new mission statement.

Q. Where did the "Believe It!" tagline come from?

A. It came from the five consultants with the Carl Vinson Institute. Every time they came up for a visit during the rebranding process, they could not believe what all we had available in our county. Facilities like the Community Center, our Library, new Fire Station, Horse Arena, Health Dept, Farmers Market and Cannery, Historic Courthouse, Senior Center, water and sewer infrastructure, Airport, Industrial Park and Meeks Park to name a few. On top of that, you can add our Top 5 School System, exceptional medical facilities, Union General Hospital and North Georgia Technical College. Then on the outdoors, Vogel State Park, Appalachian Trail, Lake Nottely, Brasstown Bald, many miles of clear and cold trout streams, many miles of other walking trails and a Dog Park. With all of this and more, the lead consultant, Stacy Jones, actually came up with the Tag Line, "Believe It!" based on the fact that they all could not believe we had such amazing things happening in our county, with so many nice facilities and the many outdoor recreation opportunities. In addition, we (City, County, School, UCDA, DDA, and other organizations) are unique in that we all work together, get along, and are united in helping to make this the best community anywhere.

Q. How will this new branding help the County?

A. The results of the study was to continue our concentration on tourism, but at the same time reach out to new and younger families who have either just started a new business or who would like to move their business to Union County/City of Blairsville. Because of all our area has to offer, with the proper promotion, we could attract some of these folks to expand business here in the mountains. All organizations within the county and city will be using the logo, tag line, and mission statement to promote unity within our community and make our organizations more united than they already are.

Q. How is this plan being implemented?

A. The implementation has already begun with print media, a unified web presence, television advertising, and outdoor advertising, such as billboards. We are targeting other areas within a 200 mile radius of Blairsville and Union County and hope the entire community will get behind this campaign to help promote new businesses and tourism.

Q. Why do we need any more people in our community?

A. A community that does not grow will go into decline. We are not looking at large industrial growth, but small industry and business similar to what we already have. We feel that for our children and grandchildren, we have an obligation to help some of them to be able to stay in Union County, make a decent living and raise their families here, and promote more jobs for those already living here.

Cummings... continued from Page 4B

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.

If you enjoy the consumption of ramps as much as I do then you should come to the Farmers Market this Saturday, April 30th, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Many of our regular vendors will be with us and we will have many different types of ramp dishes for you to enjoy.

And yes, we will have some breath freshener for anyone asking to help alleviate the smell. I do not want any of you to get into trouble at home due to your consumption of ramps.

Also, do not forget that each Friday is our "Trash to Treasures Yard Sale" at the Farmers Market. Each Friday you can find old coins, pocketknives, tools, yard art, clothing, kitchen tools, etc. at the Yard Sale. We are open from 7:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. The only Friday we will not be open is May 20. The Women's Enrichment

Center will be holding it's annual Yard Sale on that date.

The Farmers Market will hold our annual "Strawberry Day" on May 7th at the market.

Everyone loves the springtime treat of strawberries. There is an ancient Cherokee story about the very first couple on earth. It is said that the couple quarreled over something and the maiden decided to leave home. Her husband was heartbroken and asked God to bring her back home.

So, God made the huckleberry. The maiden stopped and looked at the huckleberry, but then kept going. Next, God made the blackberry and the same thing happened. Next God made the strawberry and the maiden stopped and picked the strawberry. After eating the delicious fruit she remembered her husband and turned from her anger and went back home.

The story reminds us that it will soon be time for fresh strawberries and these will be at the Union County Farmers Market on May 7th. I hope to see you there.

Mattee... continued from Page 4B

located at the ends of branches. Tent caterpillars can be more difficult as they are sometimes found at major branch unions. Manual removal should always be your first course of action, but if the nest is out of reach or on a major branch that cannot be removed, pesticides may be required. If possible, damage the nest and crush what caterpillars you can before spraying to make the nest as vulnerable as possible to the insecticide. The silk of these tents is so tightly woven that it can be difficult for sprays to penetrate, so opening the webs will help ensure the pesticide comes into contact with the caterpillars. Apply the insecticide after the nest has been compromised. Carbaryl and acephate are two solutions that have been proven

effective not only against both varieties of tent caterpillars, but also fall webworm and other pests such as bagworm moths.

Though tent caterpillars and webworms seldom cause enough damage to completely kill a tree, they do feed on the leaves and cause a significant loss of foliage. This can greatly stress a tree and when coupled with adverse conditions, such as drought, can contribute to a tree's decline. By diligently removing and treating nests before these caterpillars mature and repopulate, you can save your trees from unneeded stress and unsightly damage.

If you'd like to learn more about these pests and how to control them, contact our office for a comprehensive publication.

Fowler ...

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To incorporate Scriptural prayer into your devotional life, I suggest you select a Psalm chapter, and as you read

each verse let God lead you to a related prayer. Let us join together in appealing to God for mercy on the U.S.A.

Allison ...

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test last year. As I listened to each of these young men and women, it was hard to believe they were high school students. Each of them made passionate arguments for their points and they spoke with a great deal of knowledge about the subject matter. I was so proud of these students; they represented Union County well.

The contestants this year

were just as eloquent and diligent in their preparation and knowledge of the subject matter. Thank you to each of you for participating and congratulations to this year's winners. Each of you makes Union County High School proud!

Thank you to Cherie Martin for heading up this year's contest and providing our young people with the opportunity to speak on issues dealing with politics, government and the Constitution.

Elder ...

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have to walk. It's 11 miles from Hiawassee to Dicks Creek Gap where the trail crosses US-76 and its all along that busy road with little or no shoulder to walk on and on top of that it was late in the day and they would not have been able to get back to the trail by dark. If this is the official policy, it needs to be changed immediately! This is AT country and we need to accommodate the hikers not mistreat them like this. I'm a Georgia Native and that was not the way I was brought up to treat guest. While I don't encourage you to just pick up any hitch hiker you see, in this

area if they are carrying a large backpack they're probably an A hiker so give them a ride!

Lue Elder

Beal ...

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traffic? Will the speed limit be reduced to 45 along that stretch? If neither of these actions is taken, I foresee serious problems, possibly endangering the lives of local motorists.

Realizing that 129 is controlled by the state, I'm hoping that Mr. Lamar Paris can use his contacts there, as he did at the Pat Colwell intersection and the Walmart ramp onto 515, to get this situation addressed timely. I'd also appeal to Mr. Paris to get in front of this issue in the *North Georgia News* via his weekly column on the editorial page.

Best Regards,

Roger Beal

Chief ...

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getting shorter. Protect you and your family by being prepared for a possible home fire. Make sure that smoke alarms are installed and working. Have an escape plan and practice it. Keep fire extinguishers in areas that are more likely to have a fire. These suggestions will help save you and your family in the event of a home fire. Union County Fire Department ~ Our Family Protecting Your Family ~

Fox... continued from Page 4B

Ed and Marvin all went above and beyond their duties to see that we were as comfortable as possible in the situation; acted with decorum; and did our duty. They were courteous, friendly and helpful.

We certainly didn't help them by planning to bring in a pound cake. I think that was talked about every day. It was also threatened to push the red button (which actually is for the emergency sprinklers.) We wondered just how deep some of the lady jurors' purses really were. They had anything you might need for any emergency, such as: super glue, lotion, toothpicks, dental floss, gum, cough drops, Tylenol of course and we're not sure what else.

Thankfully, none of us went out the door that would have set off alarms. It is marked "this is not an exit" but the bailiffs said someone goes out that door and sets off the alarm, almost every time there is court. We were praised for all of us always being on time, being attentive and moving quickly when requested.

Before our job was done, I realized how lucky I was to be "working" with this group of selected jurors. They were intelligent; had common sense; deductive reasoning; conscientious; honorable; astute and had respect for the law; all while being courteous, friendly, very attentive and at times courageous.

It was an unforgettable experience, but I'll be just as happy if I never have to do it again.

Iris Fox

Duncan... continued from Page 4B

a prejudiced bone in my body. I'm open-minded and I believe in the Bible; Jesus Christ is my personal savior.

I am a descendent of Civil War veterans. I'm just as proud of that fact as any other fact in my life.

UCHS Drama and Ensemble presents



The Union County High School Choral and Theater Departments would like to invite you to our production of Disney's Beauty and the Beast on Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30 at 6:30, Sunday, May 1 at 2:30 at the Union County Schools Fine Arts Center. Doors will open at 5:45. Saturday evening, the departments will be recognizing their graduating class of 2016. Sunday's performance we would like to invite children to dress in their costumes and take pictures with the cast after the show.

Tickets are \$5 for adults, Union County students and children are free. You may purchase tickets at the door.