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Spring. As everyone knows, this is an estimated time of completion which will depend on the weather this winter and into early spring.

Q. Is the substation expansion the only improvements being made to the power grid around Blairsville?

A. Absolutely not. There are power pole replacements and rebuilds going on all over Blairsville. There are very large poles being replaced on the West and South side of the Courthouse and in many other areas around town. The new power grid has also allowed the BRMEMC to remove the main poles that have always been in front and on the lawn of the Historic Courthouse on the square. The new appearance of the structure will be enhanced greatly and will allow the historic square area to be much more photographic. In addition, the new lines are now going just behind the Hole in the Wall Restaurant and along the property purchased by the Downtown Development Authority adjacent to Hwy 515. This will further clean up the appearance of the street approaching the Historic Courthouse and make reliable power readily available to this new commercial property.

Q. Why Is the Blue

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

Poggy gave up this dangerous activity and looked at tickling their young nephews. They began chasing Dad and Uncle Bud around the house during which the 2 young boys were screaming at the top of their lungs.

Uncle Johnny Blalock lived down the road a few hundred yards. He'd heard the screaming coming from the Cummings home. So he grabbed his 12 gauge and ran up to Papa's house. He found

Richard EMC doing this work and spending this money?

A. We should all remember that no matter our opinion of different management decisions in the past, the core mission of BRMEMC has never changed, which is to provide the most reliable power to this area possible. Their employees have stayed focused on their mission all through the upheaval with the Board and have continued to do a stellar job for all the members and residents, both full and part time, in their six county/two state region.

From my viewpoint, Union County is very lucky to have the BRMEMC as our power provider. They have many outstanding employees that are dedicated to all the service area, and while they are spending a lot of money to complete these upgrades, it will put our area well ahead of many others with not only the reliability of our power, but also the fiber network as it grows over time. "Thank You" Blue Ridge Mountain Electrical Membership Corporation (BRMEMC) and all the dedicated employees and Board Members that are continuing the long tradition and mission of providing our rural mountain area with reliable power.

Poggy and Dennis trying to tickle their nephews. Uncle Johnny stepped from behind a tree, raised the gun and said, "You get your paws off them boys or I'll blow your brains out".

Uncle Dennis and Poggy sobered up in a hurry and never came back to Papa's while they were under the influence. So, now our family abides by the rule "No drinking allowed".

Allison... continued from Page 4A

food pantry. They also assisted the Good Neighbor's Car Club with their annual show during the Sorghum Festival.

This past weekend, they worked hard to help the Union County Sheriff's office with the Shop-With-A-Cop and Sheriff's Give-A-Gift Programs. They also volunteered at the Chamber's Annual Holly Jolly Christmas Event. Thank you, Cruisers, for all your help with the Event to make it a huge success!

On December 16th, the Cruisers will host their annual Shop-With-A-Cruiser Event. Each member of the group is paired with a child to go Christmas shopping at Walmart. The Cruisers are proud to provide gifts for families in need during this holiday season. They could not do it without the help and support of the community. The Blairsville Cruisers would like to say a special thank you to Chick-fil-A of Blairsville for donating biscuits for the volunteers and helping with the program. If anyone would like to volunteer for Shop-With-A-Cruiser or donate, stop by Walmart at 8 a.m. on December 16th.

The Blairsville Cruisers were started back in 2007 and have grown by leaps and bounds since their inception. They now have close to 45 members with new ones joining all the time. They often have past members that still come out to events, from time to time, to show their support as well. They are probably best known for their Cruise-Ins on the Square. These are held during the months of April through October; the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Old Courthouse and the first Friday of each month at the Union Coun-

ty Farmer's Market.

We are proud to have the Blairsville Cruisers as Chamber Members. I enjoyed visiting with their President, Pete Barley, to find out more about him and how he got involved with the Cruisers. His love of cars is what drew him to the group. Pete worked for GM for over 40 years, starting out as a technician and eventually working his way up to the District Service Manager. Throughout his career, he always enjoyed working with people and of course, on their cars! Back in the 90s Pete owned his own hot rod shop in Lawrenceville, GA; it was called Pete's Rod Shop. Besides running his own shop, Pete also drove a school bus for 5 years in Lawrenceville. He and his wife Karen decided to move to Blairsville over 4 years ago, and he quickly found a group who shared his passion for automobiles, and as they say... the rest is history.

If you are interested in finding out more information about the Cruisers, becoming a sponsor, or joining the organization, you can reach Pete at 678-773-5934. The Blairsville Cruisers currently have Gold, Silver and Corporate Sponsors. Pete shared with me that a lot of people in the community donate items to help others in the community and for that he is very grateful. He is grateful for the generosity and support of so many businesses and individuals who have supported the Blairsville Cruisers throughout the years.

For a complete list of all the Chamber Members and community events you can visit our website at VisitBlairsvilleGA.com.

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This precious gift will be with you through this life into the next eternal life to come. This miracle gift comes with all the promises that will fill your Christmas stocking to the brim and overflowing. Ephesians 2:8-9 says: For by grace are ye saved through faith and not of yourselves; it is a gift of God, not of works,

least any person should boast. None of us are promised tomorrow, just today.

What better time of the year to receive this miracle gift of eternal life than at Christmas time. His gift is waiting for you to receive and begin living a new life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Frank F. Combs

Adams ... continued from Page 4A

Even then we tend to overlook and excuse our party's failings because we believe the other party still to be the greater evil in all things.

There was a time in this country where we could depend on our newspapers, radio and TV to just report the news in an unbiased manner, but today we can no longer do that. ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC and many of the major newspapers and so called news magazines are all pushing the Democratic agenda while Fox news and several talk radio shows push the Republican agenda. We

listen to the jokes, comments and opinions on the late shows, *the View* and various other talk shows which are intended to mold and form our opinions based on their agenda. Don't think for a minute these shows are spontaneous! These shows are carefully written, choreographed and planned with an agenda to push our buttons and influence our thinking.

Please vote responsibly! We are not electing a popular celebrity. We the people are hiring an employee to be our representative and the leader of the free world.

John Q. Adams III

Drugs ... continued from Page 4A

erance to heroin; Experiencing withdrawal or feeling "junk sick".

Needing escalated doses of heroin to get high, or starting to inject the drug, are also strong indications of an addiction. Once addicted, what may have once seemed like a cheap way to have fun, becomes a necessary habit to function in day-to-day activities.

Not all heroin looks the same. It comes in several different forms and can be abused in several different ways, including snorting, smoking and injecting. Fine white powder is the purest form of heroin. Brown or black powder gets its color from additives and is more common than pure heroin. Black tar heroin comes as a black sticky gel.

Heroin users have described the drug's high as an intense feeling of well-being. When someone injects heroin, they often experience a "rush" from the drug reaching the brain so quickly, which lasts about two minutes. As heroin travels through the bloodstream, the remaining high lasts for four to five hours. The general effects of using heroin include contentment, reduced anxiety, relieved tension, drowsiness and apathy.

The effects of heroin can seem harmless to those who are experimenting with the drug. Although it may produce some

dizziness and drowsiness, these effects feel enjoyable. Unlike substances such as alcohol or ecstasy, there generally isn't a hangover or comedown from

initial heroin use, which is an attractive benefit to new users.

What may seem like "harmless" or occasional heroin use often devolves into addiction because tolerance builds quickly. Eventually, the

user cannot feel normal without taking the drug because their brain cannot produce natural amounts of dopamine on its own. As the user increases their doses, they are at a greater risk of fatal heroin overdose.

Dyer ...

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day festivities. Union County Fire Department would like for everyone to have a safe and Merry Christmas.

~Union County Fire Department – Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Lam ...

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ols. These familiar and sacred Christmas carols lifted the hearts and spirits of Christians throughout the ages. And when we sing these carols today, we lift up our voices in kindred spirit with those who have sung them in years past.

We have been hoodwinked by apostate Christian leaders into throwing out reverent and sacred Christmas carols, and replacing them with irreverent "Christian" Christmas rock 'n' roll. Undoubtedly, secular humanists rejoice because we are destroying our own Christian culture.

Karen Pansler Lam

Fowler...

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Exit polls in 2016 indicate that evangelicals do not agree on politics. But we do agree that in Christ "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male, nor female" (Gal. 3:28). No democrat or republican. Our unity is not in our politics, but this: When we consider what Jesus alone has done for us as described in the Bible, it lifts our hearts heavenward, and compels us to share that good news with anyone who will listen. Such is the life and belief of an evangelical.

Mattee...

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frost crystals forming and hold in heat absorbed by the soil. Leave the cloth loose and let it hang all the way down to the ground. Do not tie the cloth to the trunk of the tree or shrub, as this cuts the foliage off from the heat being released by the ground. Remove the cloth in the morning to prevent too much heat from building up, causing the plant to exit dormancy.

Though sensitive greenery does need to be protected during severe temperatures, it is important not to overprotect on milder nights. Exposure to some cold temperatures can actually aid in cold-hardening plants. For more information on how to protect your plants against frost or what varieties may be susceptible, contact your extension office.

Friday night fundraiser dance

A family friendly dance will be held at Bill's Roller Rink, 7795 Blue Ridge Highway, Friday nights with Do A Lil Pickin Band at 7:30 p.m. Now through December will offer \$1 off admission of \$8 for your donation of non-perishable items for the Family Connection Food Pantry. Also any items for local nursing homes. Come join us in helping our community while enjoying a nice dance floor, great country music and friendly people. Any questions please call 706-374-5026.