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guide for development policies and capital improvement projects for the future. It indicates where we are now and what direction we would like to be headed over the next 10 years. It is not a definite plan of things that are guaranteed to occur, but where we hope to be in the near and distant future.

Q. Is this survey something I should do?

A. We would ask that you complete the survey if you have time. The public's participation is very important for this project. By completing the survey, you are telling the organizations involved in updating the plan what you think will improve the community you live and work in. The survey can be completed online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZHDRFQQ> or a hard copy is available at the Blairsville/Union County Chamber of Commerce.

Q. Who is involved in up-

dating the Comprehensive Plan?

A. There are a lot of people involved in this and hopefully I don't leave anyone out. The Blairsville/Union County Chamber of Commerce, Union County Government, the City of Blairsville, the Downtown Development Authority, Economic Development Authority, the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, local business owners and the citizens by way of public meetings and the survey.

Q. How useful is the Comprehensive Plan to local government entities?

A. It is very useful as it gives us, public officials and leaders, an idea of what direction our county and city needs to be headed in. While no plan can always satisfy everyone, it certainly gives those who will be helping to direct the future a direction to be planning for. Thank you for any assistance you can provide.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

the sentry and exploded part of the cliff face. When viewed from the East, Standing Indian Mountain looks like the face of the sentry who was supposedly guarding the village at Hayesville from the Giant Bird.

I don't know if the story is true or not. However, there are mountains around our area where primitive forts have been found and there is no explanation of why they were built. There is such a fort on Fort Mountain above Chatsworth and there is another fort in the Owl Town area of Union County. You can still see the foundations of the walls and the

rooms of the fort in Owl Town. I have heard the Spanish built these forts or maybe the English. Some have said that the forts could've even been built by the Cherokee to protect the gold in this land from outside intruders. This is doubtful to me because the Native Americans didn't seem to value gold as much as the colonists and later the Americans. I have no idea who built these forts. But, the ancient stories of Cherokee or maybe the ones before them built forts and created bald spots on mountains to protect themselves from giant predatory birds.

Mattee ... continued from Page 4A

ways have a moist root ball. If the soil is cracking, the root ball has become too dry and the tree will likely decline after planting. When selecting a container grown tree, check to see that the roots have not circled two thirds of the trunk. If this is the case, it has become pot bound and will have trouble establishing in the landscape.

When planting, disturb the root ball by making two to four vertical cuts into it. Untangle some of the roots and allow them to incorporate them into the backfill soil. Make sure the roots of the trees are moist at all times, but never in standing water.

For a list of trees appropriate to our zone, contact your local extension office.

Don't forget about our soil health field day on Febru-

ary 17th at GMREC. Registration and refreshments begin at 9 a.m. and presentations begin at 10 a.m. Topics include ideal soil profiles, improving soil health, federal conservation programs, and soil testing and interpretation. Lunch is provided and the program concludes at 1 p.m.

Union and Towns County Extension will hold the Annual Northeast Georgia Corn Production meeting Wednesday, February 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center. There will be pesticide credit available at this meeting: one hour for private applicators and three hours for commercial applicators in category 21. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. Friday, February 17th to the Union County Extension Office at (706) 439-6030. Lunch will be provided!

Crawford ... continued from Page 4A

a smidgeon of corruption in the IRS.”(in an interview with Bill O'Reilly). “The Benghazi attack was due to a vile video.”

As for his “military strategy”, his goal was to get us out of war, which he did, at the expense of creating such a vacuum in Iraq. ISIS was born and now brutally killed hundreds of thousands of people, some in the most atrocious ways: beheading, burning alive and put in cages to drown. They also operate in more than twenty countries and according to our own government in every state of our nation.

The “inclusive policies... in keeping with our American values.” I hardly think same-sex marriages and gender identifying bathrooms are in “keeping with our American values”, and certainly not Christian values.

The “nuclear deal” with the largest state sponsor, or of terrorism in the world was the

worst deal for not only us, but the rest of the free world. The Iranians have thumbed their noses at all United Nations sanctions gives me peace at night knowing they are closer to making a nuclear bomb than ever.

As former military, I thank you for your service, but I think even you were embarrassed by the capture of our sailors and our Secretary of State thanking them for being so kind to them.

Finally, our enemies are no longer afraid of us and our allies aren't sure they can depend on us. We have become the laughing stock of the world as proved by political cartoons I've seen from at least six countries.

Don't forget President Obama created more debt for America than all forty-three before him, combined.

Chris Crawford

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they get securely employed, before they enter the insurance market.

Both of these provisions are much discussed in the press, but the provision that concerns me the most has received little attention. It involves lifetime caps on care. If insurance companies are allowed to return to the practice of capping insurance because a condition is extremely costly, then all but the very rich are vulnerable. Certain illnesses are so expensive to treat that they can bankrupt the entire family! A member of my family requires regular costly infusions which can cost up to \$2500 per dose so this one is personal to me. We, of course, would give up everything if caps were imposed again and she broke through her limit, but it's a real fear of both my wife and me that the loss of this provision will put our whole family in jeopardy.

I am resigned to the fact that Congress will repeal the ACA, but I'm cautiously hopeful that we can eventually find a better

system. We all want Trump Care to be as “beautiful” as the President says, and we count on his business savvy to find a way to pay for it. But without these three provisions—protection from pre-existing conditions, children remaining on the plan to age 26, and, above all, the continued elimination of lifetime caps—Trump Care will be a dangerous step down from the ACA leaving us all vulnerable. Another possibility is that we repair rather than repeal the ACA. I urge you, of course, to call our members of Congress—Johnny Isakson, David Perdue, and Doug Collins—but I also ask that you talk about these important provisions and other benefits of the ACA with your friends and neighbors, teachers or students, shopkeepers in town, the person in line with you in the grocery store, and above all with your doctors, pastors, and priests. We need to understand what is at stake and to fight for the health care system we need.

Steven Harvey

Fowler ...

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close confidant. Dr. Black urged prayer that God's hand would be on those who govern us, to which he received a hearty applause. “The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes” (Prov. 21:1).

Our prayers are founded in hope. From Edward Mote's hymn, “My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness. On Christ the solid rock I stand.” Dr. Black's message is well-timed, that your hopeful voice can be heard in heaven!

Mitchell ...

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Were they all subjected to “extreme vetting”? How does that “vetting” compare to today's “extreme vetting”? What, exactly, defines such examinations, such evaluations, as “extreme”? Color me curious.

George A. Mitchell

P.S. In 1924, my dad graduated from the Dental College of the University of Louisville, Kentucky. He had mastered the English language. He received no largesse, was made no promises, was offered no guarantees.

He practiced Dentistry for 55 years and became a pillar in his community and church.

Adams ...

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should be an embarrassment. When they interview a conservative they frown and slump. When they interview a liberal its all smiles and giggles like they are having an orgasm on set.

You should also change the name of your Red and Blue program to All Blue and No Red. A great example would be your recent coverage of the recent extreme vetting order. You went out of your way to show every single protest and left wing liberal spoiled brat Hollywood type you could find without even trying to show both sides of the story.

Perhaps Donald Trump should just show the Bill Clinton speech from 1995, link shown below, and say I approve this message. The main stream media's heads would explode.

Clinton 1995 immigration SOTU | User Clip | C-SPAN.org

John Q. Adams III

Dyer ...

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Search and Rescue. Firefighters were trained on how to ventilate a burning building to reduce the smoke and toxic gases created by the fire. The firefighters were then taught the latest technique on how to enter and search for victims. This training also incorporated the use of the Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC). The TIC is a hand held device that uses thermal imaging technology developed by the military. This technology enables firefighters to locate heat signatures such as the body heat of a victim through the smoke. Although the TIC is expensive, the department has a couple of these lifesaving devices. It is a very valuable tool to quickly search for victims.

Being a firefighter requires knowledge and skill. Firefighters train to maintain that knowledge and skill to better respond to your emergency.

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

Chandler ...

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February 25th and everyone is invited! Festivities will include bluegrass music from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., a gear raffle, hot dogs on the grill with all the fixin's, a S'more making station, face painting and a scavenger hunt for the kids, unique photo ops, gear rep booths and much more! Proceeds from the gear raffle go to funding the Appalachian Trail History Project in Union County as well as Disaster Relief Efforts in Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge and Sevier County, TN. Raffle tickets are only \$10 and enter you into a chance to win gear or bundles of gear ranging from daypacks, t-shirts, Keen hiking shoes, water bottles, stickers and much, much more. Tickets can be purchased at Mountain Crossings in advance and on the day of the event or at the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce. Tip: car pool with your friends and family, parking is limited.

For more information about your business becoming an AT Community supporter or to pick up a Union County History or Hiking Trail Guide please stop by the Welcome Center located in the Union County Community Center at 129 Union County Recreation Road, call 706-745-5789, or visit us online at www.Visit-BlairsvilleGa.com.

Trippe ...

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it's also a scare tactic. Smoke and mirrors, if you will. While our GDP didn't rise above 4%, 40 million people on food stamps, and a national debt of \$20 trillion (more than tripled from the Bush presidency, after Obama called him unpatriotic for driving the national debt to \$8 trillion) during Obama's 8 year reign, his supporters run around screaming about the 1%. Woeful and willful ignorance.

The real reason Trump got elected is that people are tired of being called racist/bigot/sexist/homophobic/fascists for not agreeing with the left's policies. You want to see what real fascism is? Look at all the riots going on across the nation from people that hate Trump: fire bombs at Berkley to protest Milo Yiannopoulos who was to give a speech on free speech (ironic), conservative speakers getting kicked out of federally funded universities by a vast minority of students, celebrities threatening to blow up the White House, celebrities calling for a military coup, and the list goes on and on. Totalitarianism at its finest.

And to the Trump supporters. Y'all aren't off the hook. If you spent 8 years screaming that Obama was ruling by fiat by using executive orders to pass his policies instead of actually legislating laws, don't praise Trump for doing the same thing. Or the next Democrat president is going to just come in and ex-

ecutive order away Trump's executive orders.

I think we all need to calm down and wait at least a

year before proclaiming that Trump is the worst president ever, or the best president ever.

Alex Trippe