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A. The Recreation Department offers many different programs for children such as football, basketball, baseball, softball, tee ball, cheerleading, swimming, and wrestling. Adult programs include zumba, aerobics, and adult water aerobics. There are also groups of adults who meet for pickleball and tennis throughout the week. Other activities available at Meeks Park include skate boarding, walking/jogging, fishing, kayaking, dog

walking, picnicking, swinging, playgrounds, wading in the river, feeding the squirrels and birds, and disc golf.

Q. How much maintenance goes into keeping Meeks Park so beautiful?

A. It is fairly extensive and under the guidance of Meeks Park Director, Larry Conley, the staff at Meeks Park do a phenomenal job at providing you one of the best recreation parks anywhere.

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

raging in the hills around Coker Creek in 1974 and Mike worried that I would get caught up in it. But, for all the bad things happening around us those hills and hollows around the Hiwassee River were and still are one of my favorite places on earth. And Mr. Mike will always remain etched in my memory as a Mountain Man that took the time to take a boy fishing.

This past week our Farmers Market Vendors kicked off the 2016 season with our annual Vendors Meeting. At the meeting we discussed our evaluation of 2015 and our plans for 2016.

In the evaluation we talked about the economic impact of the Farmers Market. This economic impact was determined by asking vendors about the amount of money they collected each week at the Farmers Market. We have about 84 vendors at the market each week. These vendors collect about \$19,300 per week. We are open for about 20 weeks. Therefore, our ven-

dors collect about \$386,000 per year at the Farmers Market. Remember, the people coming to our market also go out to eat or maybe they go to the store to purchase gas. They may even stay in town at a hotel or rent a cabin for the weekend. As you can see the Farmers Market has a tremendous impact upon this community.

Hopefully, this year that trend will continue. Next Saturday, an Antique Tractor Show and Swap Meet will be held at the Market from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Come on out to see us and bring your tractor or your old antique tractor parts. The annual Ramp and Plants Day will be held on April 30th and the annual Strawberry Day will be held on May 7th. And don't forget about our Trash to Treasures Sale each Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Our goal for the Farmers Market is to continue to impact Blairsville and Union County in a positive way. Come out to see us at the Farmers Market.

Mattee... continued from Page 4A

During this time, cows should be fed to a BCS of 5 and heifers to a BCS of 6 to ensure optimum pregnancy rates. Finally, checking the body condition at breeding helps to shed light on any reduced pregnancy rates or issues.

If your cows are not in a condition that you would like them to be, it's important to choose the correct supplement to get them to an optimum BCS. There are a wide range of supplements to choose from which can help cows and heifers to gain the weight needed for successful pregnancies.

Because minerals and vitamins play little role in BCS, protein and energy need to be the top considerations in choosing nutritional supplements. Testing forage quality to determine any nutrient deficiencies will help you decide which supplements to feed your herd to keep your animals in the best possible condition.

If you would like literature that includes examples of the different BCS and suggestions for supplements, please contact the extension office and we'll be happy to provide it!

Chief... continued from Page 4A

duty to help you.

Chief Jonas and his crew had that feeling of duty that day. They start up stairwell B, one of the three stairways in the building. They realize that they have to go up maybe 80 flights with full gear consisting of turnout gear and SCBA along with their equipment. They are carrying approximately 60-70 extra pounds.

Chief Jonas devises a plan to go 10 flights at a time and rest. The stairwell is crowded with people going down to get out as the Ladder 6 crew starts up. As they get to the 27th floor, the entire building shakes and rumbles. Chief Jonas stops his crew and goes on that floor to look things over. He finds that the south tower has just collapsed. He realizes it's time to get out.

He returns to his crew and tells them they are getting out. They hesitate. They want to keep going but Chief Jonas knows the building may come down any minute. As they move out, Chief Jonas describes finding Josephine Harris sitting on the stairs. She is crying and says she can't go any further.

The Ladder 6 crew, firefighters who want to help, begin to assist her down the steps. It is painstakingly slow. As they reach the 4th floor, the building rumbles, the power goes out and Chief Jonas describes a tornado like wind starts down the stairwell. They are all thrown to the floor and the entire building shakes.

When it finally stops, they are in the dark, covered with dust and debris. They check on each other and find out that they are all alive. They look for ways to keep going but no way is found. Chief Jo-

nas calls for a MAYDAY. After several attempts and a span of time that Chief Jonas describes as "an eternity", they are answered. Firefighters, even in a big department, know each other. His friends get on the radio and want to know where he is and they keep saying, "I'm coming for you brother".

Chief Jonas tells them their location, "Stairwell B, 4th floor". They keep asking and he keeps telling them. They then ask him to describe how he got into the building. Chief Jonas is confused and wants to know why they keep asking. They tell him that they are having a hard time finding stairwell B in the almost 6 stories of rubble. They all realize that the tower collapsed. Eventually, after 4 hours of searching and digging, they find a way to the surface and they get out with the help of the other firefighters.

One of the things that Chief Jonas explains is how proud he was of his crew. They did their duty. They helped Josephine.

They didn't know who she was; all they knew was that she needed help. He said that he overheard some of this crew calming her down and saying things like, "as long as we are here, nothing will happen to you."

The story is amazing and it was great to hear it from Chief Jonas, the person who lived it.

When it comes to the 9/11 attacks, as American citizens, we think of our country attacked by terrorists and many lives lost. As a firefighter, we think of "343," the number of firefighters who lost their lives that day and "Never forget" because the sacrifices made that day should never be forgotten.

Duncan... continued from Page 4A

I was thankful to all my friends back at the *North Georgia News*. They kept me in their prayers, and sent care packages to me via my family members.

I stared outside, it was a dull site, and I longed for home.

The news kept getting worse. After the results of an echocardiogram came back with more bad news, it became apparent that I would be having open heart surgery in January.

So much for the bowl season. I did catch Georgia playing Penn State in the Tax-Slayer Bowl. It seems that after the Bulldogs defeated the Yellow Jackets in the season finale, Georgia dismissed Head Coach Mark Richt.

I hate to be the one to break the news to the Georgia faithful, but Coach Richt had a higher career winning percentage than Vince Dooley.

The only thing Coach Dooley had that Coach Richt didn't was a National Title to his credit.

I told myself that the only thing that the Bulldogs could do now was see if Kirby Smart was available.

As it turned out, he was. I watched the Bulldogs' G-Day game on this past Saturday and it appears that Bulldog Nation is sold on Kirby. After that event, so am I. And I'm also sold on our true freshman quarterback.

As I continued to recover,

Blanchard...

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the State may be entitled in the Congress:..." My math is not good but last I checked that number was 535!

And lastly the Constitution is pretty clear on who isn't to be appointed a presidential elector and that would be your handlers and other elitists in that club: "... but no Senator or Representative, or person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector". It would include your friend Harry Reid and most of the "super-delegates." How do you allow that?

So Mr. Ream-us here's the conundrum; the SCOTUS has determined that crimes against the Constitution are deemed to be treason. Have you not committed treason for being the Prince of the charade that you will direct in Cleveland? Do you think that the descendants of those pilgrims who fled tyranny in the eighteenth century will sit still for more tyranny? Do you think that Americans will allow a once thriving country to continue its spiral into the third world or will they advocate for America to be great again?

So you and the rest of the GOPers have lost your way and are headed for the dust bin of history but you can still save the country from a potential disaster by preventing a contested convention.

Zeb Blanchard

Fowler ...

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have been common to nearly all Christians at all times." Yet despite the common appeal, it can convince a brilliant, highly-trained scientist. Most compelling to Collins was "the argument about the existence of moral law. How is it that we, unique in the animal kingdom, know what's right and what's wrong?" That could only come from God.

Mere Christianity is a book for the ages. Hinting at its purpose, Lewis writes, "Look for yourself, and you will find only hatred, loneliness, despair, rage, ruin, and decay. But look for Christ and you will find Him," which is indeed mere Christianity.

Allison ...

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while providing the highest quality products and service." Cabin Coffee is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; they are located at 44A Town Square.

To nominate your favorite business to be honored with the Business of the Quarter designation, please call the Chamber offices at 706-745-5789, stop by the Welcome Center located in the Union County Community Center, or print out a nomination form at www.VisitBlairsvilleGa.com. As always, please feel free to email me at president@blairsvillechamber.com.

Combs

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It probably makes Him a little sad at humanity. In the long run nothing really matters except having faith in God. Everything else can run its course, all the lying, cheating, back stabbing, greed, fame and money, for you see God knows the outcome of this election and every one before it. Nothing surprises our heavenly Father. So don't space out and get all bent out of shape of what is going on in the coming days ahead.

Don't be afraid or fearful of the outcome for God Almighty is still in complete control of all things, if you just have faith in a loving and caring God that will see His children through yet another presidential election. When you fear God, then fear of man is nothing.

**Frank F. Combs
Blairsville**

I had the opportunity to watch the new *Star Wars* movie *The Force Awakens*.

It was nice to see Han Solo, Princess Leia and Luke Skywalker again.

It was nice to walk again on Saturday. The sun was shining, I enjoyed my back porch again, and for the first time in a long time, I began to feel stronger.

It disturbs me everytime I hear about someone who has lost the will to live and taken their life.

As spring is clearly upon us, I thank the Good Lord that I still have a strong will to live.

After all, I sure don't want to miss Kirby Smart's coaching career in Athens.