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The only thing you and I and the Roger Beals of this state could do was go to the polls and say “no.” We did in overwhelming numbers. In the Mountains Region, T-SPLOST was defeated 76 percent to 24 percent. T-SPLOST supporters (our state folks) should have saved those valuable ad dollars that they spent to promote T-SPLOST to spend on roads. They didn’t spend any T-SPLOST ad dollars with the *North Georgia News*

or *Towns County Herald*. I wonder why? Could it be because that we stood up for the people of our two communities and asked residents of both to vote ‘no’ regarding T-SPLOST? All-in-All, the defeat of the regional T-SPLOST penny at the hands of the people sends a message to state lawmakers that they can’t slip a tax increase past us. We’ll line up at the polls again and we’ll let them hear it one more time loud and clear – “NO!”

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circumstances where time does not allow, like right now, and I send it in to the NGN without anyone else reviewing it. While recently doing this, an ole (not in years, well maybe) English teacher told me last week that I was not using the apostrophe correctly in some of my Q & A. I know she is correct because that part of English grammar just never stuck with me. First, I had to use the spell check to tell me how to spell “apostrophe”.

There was a statement in a letter that I made using the term, “Taxpayers Funds” apparently incorrectly. So I added an apostrophe to “taxpayers(’)” because it is plural (more than one taxpayer) but possessive since it is the taxpayers own money. Therefore it should require an apostrophe after the “s” (taxpayers’ funds). At least I think that is correct. I will see if she reads this question and lets me know if I got it right or not.

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with file sharing, security and organizing. These are specifically focused on helping small businesses work smarter according to www.openforum.com and Associate Editor Jennifer Van Grove. Programs and services to help you start, grow and succeed are described in detail at www.sba.gov. Planning calendars, business plan details, finding a mentor, start-up finances, franchise information, locating your business, and leasing equipment among other topics are described at this site. Employee management, marketing and price, taxes, insurance, legal concerns, and technology also are just a click away. Finally, if needing to regroup for another opportunity, information regarding selling your business, transferring ownership and liquidating assets can also be found. The Chamber works closely with a group called SCORE, small business counselors throughout the United States who work under the auspices of the Small Business Administration. SCORE, located at www.score.org, has seasoned professionals that can give you help based on their experience of working with small businesses that have succeeded and failed. That experience along with the SCORE reputation and registered trademark make them a proven winner. Often

referred to as “Counselors to America’s Small Business,” SCORE is the premier, free business counseling and advice service found in the United States. For more than 40 years, SCORE’s retired and working business professionals have volunteered to help a new generation of entrepreneurs start and succeed. Webinars, business licensing information, business guides, financial information, franchise information and ways to grow your business are located at www.gachamber.com/smallbusinessresources/. Additionally, a 2012 Georgia Small Business Resource Guide can be found at http://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide_3110.pdf. It is a one stop shop for getting a generous amount of information on starting your small business. Last, I want to reference the UGA Small Business Development Center located at www.georgiasbdc.org who also offers complimentary business assistance in a variety of areas. The Chamber is ready to help you make your small business more successful. Please visit them to stay informed or phone the chamber at (706) 745-5789 for additional information. I may be reached anytime at Chair@BlairsvilleChamber.com.

| Chamber of Commerce events | |
|---|--|
| For details and future events see events calendar at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com | |
| Wednesday, August 8 | |
| 2pm | Tour Misty Mountain Model Railroad |
| Thursday, August 9 | |
| 12pm | Rotary Club of Union County – Cadence Bank |
| 7pm | Theatre at the Farm The Complete Works of William Shakespeare – Herbert Byron Reece Farm & Heritage Center |
| Friday, August 10 | |
| 8am | Union County Farmers Market - Trash To Treasure Sale |
| 9am | 4th Annual Union County Farmer’s Market Community Flower Show – Haralson Civic Center |
| 9am | Huge Book Sale & Bake Sale Friday & Saturday – Union County Library |
| 10:30am | Ribbon Cutting for Blimpie Subs & Salads |
| 7pm | Friday Night Concert, Jeff Bauman Family - Historic Union County Courthouse |
| 7pm | You can be the Star Karaoke – Lodge at Copperhead |
| Saturday, August 11 | |
| 7am | Union County Farmer’s Market |
| Monday, August 13 | |
| 12pm | Blairsville Kiwanis Club Monthly Meeting – Steve’s Cookie Jar Restaurant |
| 6pm | Free Texas Hold ‘em Tournament – Lodge at Copperhead |
| Tuesday, August 12 | |
| 8am | Tri-State Business Women’s weekly meeting – Cooks Restaurant |
| 3pm | Union County Farmer’s Market |
| Wednesday, August 13 | |
| 2am | Friends of Union County Library Monthly Meeting – Union County Library |

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

| Every Monday: | | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|
| Garden Tours | GMREC | 9 am - 1 pm |
| Boy Scouts #101 | United Methodist Ch | 7 pm |
| Children’s Story Time | Union County Library | Noon |
| Kiwanis Club | Steve’s Steakhouse | Noon |
| Civil Air Patrol | Blairsville Airport | 6:30 pm |
| Every Tuesday: | | |
| Mtn. Woodcarvers | Senior Center | 6 pm |
| Sweet Adelines | United Methodist Ch | 6:30 pm |
| Every Thursday: | | |
| Masonic Luncheon | Cooks Restaurant | 11:30 am |
| Butternut Ladies Golf | Golf Course (Apr-Oct) | 8:30 am |
| Rotary Club | Cadence Bank | Noon |
| Third Monday of each month: | | |
| High Country Artisan | U.C.Bank Com Room | 6:30 pm |
| Exp Aviation Assoc #1211 | Blairsville Airport | 7 pm |
| Allegheny Lodge | Masonic Temple | 7:30 pm |
| Prostate Cancer Sup. | U.C. Cancer Center | 5 pm |
| Third Tuesday of each month: | | |
| UC Anti-Drug Coal. | Conference Room | Noon |
| American Legion, Aux | Civic Center | 7 pm |
| Chatuge Gun Club | Senior Center, Hia. | 7 pm |
| UC Homemakers | Dooley Chapter | Noon |
| Third Wednesday of each month: | | |
| Blairsville Garden Club | Location not listed | 1 pm |
| Friends of the Library | Library Com Room | 2 pm |
| Beta Sigma Phi, Iota Iota, Cadence Bank | | 7 pm |
| Third Thursday of each month: | | |
| Jaycees | Fort Sorghum | 7:30 pm |
| Good N’bors Auto | Meeks Park | 7 pm (May-Sep) |
| Tip-off Club | UC High School | 7 pm |
| UC Saddle Club | Arena Clubhouse | 7 pm |
| Commissioner’s Meet. | County Courthouse | 6 pm |
| UT Home Builders | Moschetto’s | 6:30 pm |
| Shape Note Music | Old Courthouse | 6:30 pm |
| Kinship Care | Civic Center | Noon |
| MOPS | First Baptist Church | 6 pm |
| Third Friday of each month: | | |
| No activities listed | | |
| Third Saturday of each month: | | |
| Blairsville Cruisers | On the Square | 4 pm (Apr-Oct) |
| Goldwing Road Riders | Daniels Steak House | 11 am |

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personally thank each one of them for being a real character in my opinion. We as a committee recognize that we had parking and transportation issues regarding the festival and we will make changes like moving the venues of the crafts, race and kids areas away from the Farmers Market for the 2013 festival. Many of you are wondering about the when the Canning Plant will open. After a delay the boiler for the

facility should be delivered this week. So, hopefully, we will proceed with getting approved in a couple of weeks and therefore try to open by the end of August. Our educational sessions will begin on Tuesday evenings at the Farmers Market on Aug. 14th. Our first session will be tours of the Union County Canning Plant beginning on August 14th. Those tours will start at 4 p.m. and will be held every 30 minutes until the end of the

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twenty of them left town. What if you got such a note today? Would you run or relax? It seems to me that a great majority of our generation responds to their conscience like the man who consulted with his doctor. He said, “Doc, I’ve got this terrible problem. Lately, I’ve been misbehaving and it is getting worse. My conscience is troubling me very deeply, and I was wondering if you could

prescribe something to help me?” The doctor said, “Oh, I see, you want something to strengthen your will power.” “No,” said the patient, “You don’t understand. I want something that will weaken my conscience.” While conscience reminds us when we have done wrong, it is not adequate to make us do right. To do right conscience must be submitted to God’s Word and the Holy Spirit. (John 14:16-17).

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case the gardeners like my Mom. This coming Friday, Aug. 11, from 9-3 and Saturday, Aug 12, from 9-2, take a leisurely and eyelicuius stroll through Harelson Memorial Civic Center, 165 Welborn St. in Blairsville, and enjoy this horticultural collection. Don’t forget to stop by and

see me at the Farmers Market on Tuesday or Saturday and tell me what your favorite cut flower happens to be. I’ll be selling Farmers Market shirts, hats and shopping bags. Visit www.UCFarmersMarket.com for all the latest market news and events.

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debt we have — that both are responsible for the corrupting influence of special interests and giant corporations — that both have supported expensive foreign adventures and wars without constitutional legitimacy, and they know they will have a third choice when they step into the voting booth in less than 100 days. They know that although Governor Romney is masquerading as a fiscal conservative, during his four years in government service he increased taxes, increased spending, increased the size of government, and wrote the blueprint for Obamacare. They know that President Obama has driven spending, debt, borrowing, and government expansion to levels beyond the obscene levels established by G.W. Bush (e.g., by the end of this month debt will have risen from \$10T to \$16T!). They realize that both of the “major party” candidates support the war in Afghanistan.

whereas Gary Johnson favors ending the war and bringing the troops home now; that both support the current tax system, whereas Gary Johnson favors abolishing the IRS and moving to a consumption tax; that both support current legislation that allows the indefinite detention of a US citizen without charges or trial (in violation of the Constitution); that both support the failed “war on drugs”; that both are offering us more of the big government, big spending, intrusive government that has created the very problems we face today; whereas, Gary Johnson who is fiscally conservative and socially tolerant, would dedicate himself to cutting spending, balancing the budget, getting government out of the boardroom and the bedroom, and he would respect his oath of office to “preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.” Something that most recent occupants of the Oval Office have blatantly ignored. Cordially,
Chuck Esposito

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deep into the bone. It would basically privatize Medicare, cut Medicaid by \$800 billion, drastically cut Veterans Administration, FEMA, disaster relief, satellites and weather forecasting, nearly wipe out Food Stamp programs, and be the biggest cut in infrastructure in 60 years. A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby called Network has sent petitions to Ryan telling him that his budget plan is against the true teachings of Christianity. Also, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has sent him letters saying his budget hurts the poor and takes away their safety nets, and is antithetical to the teachings of Jesus which say we are to take care of the least of the brothers and we will be judged in how we do it. The Nuns on Bus agree that it is a very immoral budget.

This is a case of a pure reverse Robin Hood plan that takes from the poor and gives to the rich. It would be the largest redistribution of wealth in American history. Romney wholeheartedly endorsed this budget.
Barbara Seal

no one cared about the money. Every caller, email, person commiserated with my heart-break. This morning at 3:30 am a good citizen found and placed Deuy back in our yard behind a closed & locked gate. No easy feat considering he weighs 125 lbs. No name was left, no call wanting the reward. Just a wonderful citizen returning my dog. I never in a million years expected the out pouring of support, prayers, & help I received from perfect strangers and friends alike. We are so blessed to live in a community that still behaves as a community, loving & supporting each other. We get so much bad news every day that I wanted to share my story of a community that came to the aid of myself and my best friend. Thank you,
Angela Heyer

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market. On Aug. 21st Steven Patrick will discuss Sportfish Pond and Ornamental Pond Management. On Aug. 28, I will conduct some sessions on Native

Plant Identification and offer the first 100 participants a chance to purchase the newest edition of “Native Plants of North Georgia.” For more information please visit our website at UCFarmersMarket.com.