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will continue to grow and bring money into our community.

Q. How does the County manage the Farmers Market so efficiently?

A. It could not be done without the people who work there all season at the Farmers Market and the Cannery. Mickey Cummings is the Market Manager who oversees operations, meets with vendors, and verifies that their products are actually hand crafted or locally grown. Then Kristy Peney, the Assistant Market Manager, does a great job of advertising, coordinating with the vendors, and organizing the events. Bobby Burch is there during Market hours to help any way asked by the Market Manager, Assistant Market Manager, or the vendors. On days the Market is not open they are working hard in the cannery, assisted by Patrick Fix. The Farmers Market and Cannery are successful, in part, because of all their hard work and dedication and the support of the public.

Q. What days are the Trash to Treasures Sales held at the Farmers Market?

A. Trash to Treasures is open every Friday from now until the end of October. There is one day coming up, May 19th, that Trash to Treasures

will not operate. This is due to the Women's Enrichment Center Yard Sale, which is their annual fundraiser. They will have a lot of unique items for sale, along with things that would normally be at Trash to Treasure. Otherwise, you can figure it will be operational all the other Fridays.

Q. What items can be sold at the Trash to Treasures sales?

A. Anything can be sold including new items for resale and gently used items. There are a few things which cannot be sold. These items include home canned foods, produce, and other food items unless you represent a non-profit organization. If you wish to sell produce, talk with a Farmers Market representative to see about renting a booth for Tuesdays and Saturdays at the Farmers Market. Also, people selling plants must obtain a live plant license from the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

Q. What are the hours of operation for the Trash to Treasures Sale at the Farmers Market?

A. It is open to customers from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vendors can begin to set up at 6:30 a.m. and must be packed up and exited the market by 3 p.m.

Drugs... continued from Page 4A

other drugs? Here are the facts.

Fact: Alcohol and drugs are the leading causes of crime among youth. Fact: Alcohol and drugs are the leading factors in teenage suicide. Fact: More than 23 million people over the age of 12 are addicted to alcohol and other drugs, affecting millions more people... spouses, children, family members, friends, neighbors and colleagues at work. Fact: Marijuana and Grades: 19.3% of students ages 12-17 who receive average grades of "D" or lower used marijuana in the past month and 6.9% of students with grades of "C" or above used marijuana in the past month. Fact: Not everyone is using drugs.

One reason some teens decide to start smoking marijuana, drinking alcohol or using other drugs is because they think "everyone is doing it." And, since they think that the majority of their peers are using drugs, they draw the conclusion that it must be okay. If most of the people that you are hanging out with are drinking alcohol or using drugs, it's easy to think that "everyone is doing it." But statistics don't back up

that claim.

Most teens aren't using drugs. Most students go all the way through high school without ever doing drugs or getting drunk. The annual Monitoring the Future (MTF) nationwide survey of thousands of 12th grade students asks seniors about their use of alcohol and drugs during their lifetime: 53.3% never used any illegal drug; 58% never smoked marijuana; 90.5% never did inhalants; 90.7% never did tranquilizers; 91.8% never did barbiturates; 93.5% never did ecstasy; 94% never did cocaine; 96.1% never did LSD; 97.6% never did methamphetamine; 98.8% never did heroin.

Make your own choices. Given the above statistics, if you are hanging out with a group of kids that are using drugs to get high, you may want to think about making some new friends. You may be headed toward an alcohol and drug problem if you continue to hang around others who routinely drink alcohol, smoke marijuana, abuse prescription drugs or use illegal drugs. You don't have to go along to get along.

Mattee ... continued from Page 4A

a gall on your plant, prune out the affected portion as soon as possible. Diseased portions of plants may be bagged and immediately brought to your local extension office for diagnosis. Without knowing what is attacking your plant, it can be nearly impossible to successfully treat. However, by identifying the disease, exploring treatment options, and proactively pruning your plants, you can keep your ornamentals in great condition year after year! If you would like a publication on ornamental pruning or disease management, contact your

local extension office.

Union and Towns County Extension will be holding a Master Naturalist Class in August and September this year. This is a nine week course that meets once a week and covers wildlife management, tree and insect ID, invasive species, Georgia natural history, and many other topics!

If you are interested in signing up, please contact your extension office. Specific dates and registration fees TBD. Please call your local extension office if you are interested!

Allison... continued from Page 4A

We appreciate your dedicated service!

The second person that I wanted to recognize is Martha Cone. She will be greatly missed in the community. She was a dedicated public servant in her role on the City Council. She always wanted to fully understand the measures being voted on as she would listen to discussion and weigh in on the benefits and possible issues that would come from whatever topic the Council was addressing.

She was a woman of strong faith that she shared with many others. What I remember her for most of all was her work with the Child Enrichment Center of First United Methodist Church. When our oldest son Thomas was old enough to attend, we enrolled him and Nathanael followed the year after. As parents of young children at that time, the issues with 2 and 3 year olds would emerge and there was Miss Martha as we called her always there with a hug, an

encouraging word or a word of wisdom as was needed. I always admired her love for working with young children. It takes a special person with a special gift to work for over 20 years with 2,3, and 4 year old children-just ask any parent! For her it was simple, as soon as you dropped off your kids with Miss Martha, they were her children while they were in her care and she loved every single one of them. I truly think what she was most passionate about was teaching them the Bible and sharing with them just how much Jesus loved them. She would have chapel time with each grade and they would learn songs and Bible verses. Even though she will not be able to see the full impact she has had on hundreds possibly thousands of lives in this community-those lives she has touched will always hold her close in their hearts.

Thank you Miss Martha for helping so many children and families in this community-you will be greatly missed!

Holden ... continued from Page 4A

because honestly, I knew very little about the school. I prayed about it though, and God directed me to put my children there. I am so glad that I did. The CEC not only changed my children's lives, but it also changed mine.

Coming to Blairsville was a little hard for our family. My husband would be gone all week, which left me with the child rearing until the weekend. I had no friends in Blairsville, let alone a good church (yet). I was pretty much a loner for

nine months until school time came around. It was a little hard getting to know the parents, but Ms. Martha warmed right up to our family and treated us just like the families that had been in Blairsville their whole lives. I came to look forward to my talks with Martha, Mary, Brenda, Doris and Carrie, all of the CEC. They were my first Blairsville friends. I could find Ms. Martha after school and talk to her about anything. When I would come to her with things that

Esposito ... continued from Page 4A

quette for the day). And while there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

In 1968, the US Congress, against the wishes of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and numerous unaffiliated Americans, changed the official observance of Memorial Day from May 30 to the last Monday in May (this year, Monday, May 29), in order to create a three-day weekend. Some veterans service organizations, and other Americans across the country were, and continue to be, offended because this change diluted the significance of what Oliver Wendell Holmes called "our most sacred holiday." As a result, several American Legion Posts, VFW Posts, and individual patriots, continue to commemorate the day on the traditional

date of May 30, and we invite you to join us.

Oliver Wendell Holmes also urged that "we not ponder with sad thoughts the passing of our heroes, but rather ponder their legacy – the life they made possible for us by their commitment and pain." General George S. Patton Jr. expressed a similar sentiment when he opined, "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived."

I am going to follow General Patton's advice, and I invite you to join me, in a simple prayer (author unknown):

Dear Lord, For food in a world where many walk in hunger; For faith in a world where many walk in fear; For friends in a world where many walk alone; And for the life made possible for us by those in uniform who sacrificed all, We give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.

Chuck Esposito

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

"John" had another reputation.

John was a prominent man. He served in several capacities to the English Throne. He served as the Undersecretary of London in 1520, the Recorder of London, the Attorney General of England, Cabinet Minister, and Speaker of the House of Commons. Sir John "Bloody" Baker acquired this nickname by helping the King of England, Henry VIII, persecute Catholics and protestant dissidents. It is my understanding that Henry VIII's wife hadn't born him any male heirs. So, he sought to divorce this woman. When the Pope refused to grant

Dyer ...

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Being a firefighter is an unusual experience. It is an adventure. Whether you are a volunteer or a career firefighter, you must have the unique training and knowledge to respond to these emergency situations. You must be a jack of all trades.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Webb ...

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asphalt faceplant.

Everything after that became a blur. I was bloody, bruised and embarrassed. When I was finally able to sit up there were so many people helping me, but I didn't really see their faces. As I sat there, on the ground, all I saw were hands. Hands that were handing me paper towels, soaked with cold water, to wash the blood off of my bleeding elbow. Another set of hands putting antibiotic ointment on my cuts. Hands wrapping gauze around my arm. Hands putting tape on the gauze. Hands holding a first aid kit. In my dazed state, all I really saw were so many caring, kind hands.

I wanted to thank all the dear people who came to my aid, along with the lady who pulled my dog aside and expertly and patiently held her leash, while everyone was helping me. I don't know your names, but you know who you are. I also want to thank Dr. Kessinger DVM and Vet Assistant - David, who kindly went to my car, to administer the Rabies shot to my "wild child". Every one of you make me so grateful and proud to live among such wonderful, caring people in Blairsville.

Debra Webb

Combs ...

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another with these words in I. Thessalonians 4:18. It not only means to comfort in the usual sense of the word, but also to instruct and to exhort one another in love.

My friend as I live and breathe Christ is going to take us out of this imperfect world and put us into a perfect world, then we shall come back with Him with glorified bodies like Christ has to the earth to reign with Him at the time He sets up His Kingdom. To God be all the glory for great things He is going to do for those who believe on the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Frank F. Combs

were really weighing on my mind, she would ask me about them in the following days and weeks. She was so much fun, but yet took teaching and her faith, very seriously. My children always knew Ms. Martha and all the teachers at the CEC loved them.

I hope that the Methodist Church will carry on Ms. Martha's amazing legacy with the CEC. They not only provide a great education, but what they teach our children about God's love is a far-reaching, eternal legacy.

Shelah Holden