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A. The Georgia Legislature passed a law this past legislative session legalizing the sale of fireworks. The law allows counties to adopt their own ordinances related to certain parts of the new law, all of which we do not fully understand yet. We were able to purchase a draft ordinance from a law firm (much less expensive than having our own drafted by attorneys) that will be providing this information to many counties. This resolution that we adopted is to notify the world that we will be adopting an ordinance in the near future, but we cannot adopt it until after the new law takes effect July 1. At this point, the state still has regulations that it must adopt. Then our ordinance will take a minimum of two months after that date to pass because of the statutory time requirements in adopting a new ordinance.

### Q. What is the best way to dispose of alkaline batteries?

A. Battery manufacturers

have eliminated all the added mercury from alkaline batteries. This makes them safe to be thrown away with household garbage and taken to the transfer station. They should not be disposed of by fire because there is a big chance of them exploding. You also have to be careful if the batteries are leaking potassium hydroxide because it can cause chemical burns. Also, be cautious of putting 9 Volt batteries in with your household trash. If the positive and negative ends come in contact with metal or with another battery, a spark can occur, causing a fire. The best practice is to throw away old batteries in the small package you received the new ones in, or tape them together with the tape covering the terminals.

If you have any additional questions you want answered, call at (706) 439-6000, write us a letter at 65 Courthouse St, Blairsville, GA 30512, or email us at unioncounty@uniongov.com.

## Golnitz ...continued from Page 4A

planted 75 tomato, 50 pepper, 48 lettuce, 36 cabbage, and 200 feet of sweet potato plants! My hat is off to these young men who are assets themselves and assets to our Community: Ryan Fortenberry, Nicholas Klopschinski, Ethan Plott, and Caine Brewer. In addition, donations from the UCHS Green-

house, Bud's & Butterflies Nursery and Garden Center, Home Depot, Nelson's ACE hardware, and a man named Steve who donates heirloom sweet potatoes, helped connect assets of young men into assets of our Community. Thank you!

**Darrell D. Golnitz**

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first start, and to suppress big fires in the most critical and high risk areas. Helitack Crews "Helitack" crews are specially trained in the use of helicopters during fire suppression. Some of the crew are trained to rappel from the helicopter to reach fire in remote locations quickly.

Because they can be rapidly deployed, they are often the first to respond to a wildfire.

Smokejumpers - These airborne firefighters parachute from planes to attack wildfires in remote and inaccessible areas when the fire first begins. They are often supported by para-cargo drops of personal gear, food, water, and specialized equipment to help suppress fires.

Engine Crews - Engine crews, which range in size from 3 to 10 firefighters, use 250 to 750 gallons of water and several hundred feet of hose to directly attack wildfires. Some engines carry special equipment to spray foam and chemicals on homes, and other structures to help them resist fire.

Incident Management Teams - These teams consist

of fire experts whose primary responsibility is to develop and implement strategies to suppress wildfires. Members of the team are in charge of providing the food, equipment, transportation, and other goods and services that wildland firefighters need.

Wildfire "management" is a calculated process where the crews try to move the fire away from things that don't need to burn to places where it can burn things that don't matter and eventually run out of fuel and go out. They don't "put out" those big fires out west, they just manage them into places where they will run out of fuel and stop. Unfortunately homes are sometimes lost, but think of what would happen if these highly trained crews were not between you and the fire.

Thank a firefighter for what they do for all of us. For more information on Wildfire contact your local State Forestry Office, US Forest Service office or Chatstatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council.

## Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

were fighting in the Continental Army with George Washington. Also, unknown to the British, Caleb and his brothers were making Kentucky Long Rifles for the Continental Army. So, this new generation of Bakers had reputations of patriots and inventors. Yet, they also made money for selling firearms to both sides during the Revolutionary War.

Later, Robert's great grandson migrated south to North Carolina. But, he didn't stay long. Hiram Baker is listed on the 1850 census as living in Union County, Georgia. But, once again he didn't stay long. Just a couple of years later Hiram is listed as purchasing property in Franklin County, Alabama. Hiram settled in Franklin County. Later his grandson, Charlie Newton Baker, became my Great Grandfather. As you can see my family, like yours,

is full of saints, sinners, rogues, patriots, healers, inventors, explorers and settlers.

Please do not forget the Canning Plant is open. The Canning Plant will be open on June 25th and July 2nd and then we will be open every Tuesday and Thursday beginning July 7th. The cost is 35 cents for quarts and 25 cents for pints. We are open at 6 a.m. and close at noon.

On a different note there is a group from FBC Blairsville headed to Israel for a tour of the Holy Land next February. If you enjoy history and seeing new places you might consider going on this trip with us. We will be seeing places like the Garden Tomb, the Mount of Olives, Jerusalem and the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. For more information call the First Baptist Church.

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fortunate in our community. He contacted Mickey Cummings, the County's UGA Agriculture Extension Officer and founding father/director of the Union County Farmers Market about the possibility of farming some of that community garden to share the harvest with local food pantries and food banks.

That first year he planted and harvested 5 rows. This year he has planted 75 tomato plants, a few dozen sweet potato plantings, rows of cabbage, squash and peppers. Just as the school year came to a close, some of our FFA students came to help get this year's garden started. But for the most part, Darrell toils alone in his efforts to bring goodness to the tables of those less fortunate. His efforts are subsidized by donations of plants from local nurseries and farms. There's no expense in chemicals, because the garden is organic.

I share this information with you because as a community, we are generous with our time, our patronage and our hearts. We live here, not just because of the mountain's majestic beauty, but we thrive on the goodness of the people we share life with here in Union County. The Community Garden is an opportunity to grow your own or help Darrell grow nourishing, fresh veggies for those less fortunate. It's not a life long commitment. It could just be one early morning this summer you make it over there to till some morning glories out of the garden or pick some squash and tomatoes. Later in the season, he'll need help canning tomatoes at the Canning Plant, all to be donated. The sign outside the garden reads "God's work.....Our hands". Darrell Golnitz's phone number is on the sign. (706) 897-6920. Call him and share with him if you and your family are in need of fresh veggies. Or if you'd like to donate a morning to helping, call and let him know when and he'll meet you there to work with you.

Some folks have thought that the Community Garden means "help yourself", but that's not the case. There are "U-Pick em" places up and down the corridors of these highlands. But for those in need, a simple request is all that is necessary. You can also stop at the Union County Food

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cause to them we can't be sure what Jesus actually claimed. They would dismiss the gospel of John as a fabrication of his followers. If so, skeptics need also explain why his followers, knowing it to be a lie, would suffer persecution for a myth of their own making.

I'm convinced of John's narrative of how Jesus self-identified as God the Son. "I Am," he said, and he still is. Identify with him, believe him, and live!

## Williams... continued from Page 4A

visit and let their imagination run wild with possibilities and leave with thoughts and excitement to build their own Fairy worlds."

4. Tell us a bit about your background. Where did you work before opening Sleepy Hollow?

"I worked for the Walt Disney World Company for 15 years. I started out selling popcorn on Main Street. I introduced myself to the artists and their departments and was given the opportunity to show my skills as an artist. They trained me in all the arts, from drawing and sculpting to welding and being able to build whatever you could dream up. I eventually worked my way up to Senior Artist and was in charge of the 3 Dimensional art departments. I then left Disney to go work for a very good friend, Michael Jackson, to help him build his dream, Neverland Valley Ranch. It was my job to build his magical theme park and help him bring magic to all that visited his home.

5. What would people reading this be surprised to know about you?

"During my travels I have been fortunate to meet, work and do art commissions for many famous people including Michael Jackson, John Glen, Jane Goodall, David Copperfield, and Jim Henson just to name a few."

Are you ready to let your imagination roam? The studio, enchanted gardens and gift shop are open to the public from Monday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sleepy Hollow is located at 5279 Hwy 515 East, Blairsville, GA. You can also reach them by calling (706) 379-9622 or visiting their website at [www.whimsicalfairygarden.com](http://www.whimsicalfairygarden.com).

Pantry Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week, June through the first of September, to pick up fresh foods donated by the Community Garden and other generous gardeners/farmers.

The Union County Food Pantry is located at the Harelson Civic Center, 185 Wellborn St., Blairsville. Stop by and duck your head in to say "hey" to Ann Sullivan, who does great work for the 9th District. For those of you who have bounty to share this summer, the Pantry takes donations every Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This Saturday at the Market, we'll be featuring Ornamental Plants and the local growers will be on hand to discuss these plants and how they will best grow with your specific garden needs. And this Tuesday, the Market picks up as more produce starts to be harvested. Remember the new hours are 2-6 p.m. on Tuesdays. After you've scoped out the Market, meander over to the Locavore Café for some great vittles and then set up a chair at the Auction from 5-8 p.m. This week's Auction should be particularly fun. It's a tailgate auction, and John Thomas will be auctioning off items that you, the public bring to him by 4 p.m. that day. See you at the Market!

# UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	<b>Every Monday:</b> GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
	<b>Every Tuesday:</b>	
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
	<b>Every Thursday:</b>	
Butternut Ladies Golf	Golf Course (Apr-Oct)	8:30 am
Masonic Luncheon	Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club	So. Bank & Trust	Noon
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
	<b>First Monday of each month:</b>	
Lockheed-Martin Ret.	Blairsville Restaurant	9 am
Volunteers/Handicap	First Baptist, H Bldg.	6 pm
CERT	St. Francis of Assisi	6:30 pm
Allegheny Masonic Lodge #114	off the square	6:30 pm
	<b>First Tuesday of each month:</b>	
Business Women	Cook's Restaurant	8 am
Brownie Scouts	United Methodist Ch	3-5 pm
Blairsville City Coun.	City Hall	6 pm
Amateur Radio Club	Branan Lodge	7 pm
Gaddistown Hmakers	Woody Gap	7 pm
Knights/Colum. #2563	place TBA	7:30 pm
Enotah Ch. #24 RAM	Masonic Temple	7:30 pm
	<b>First Wednesday of each month:</b>	
Exercise class	Senior Citizens Center	10:30 am
Tri-Cty Wom. Lunch	Monet's Rest.	Noon
	<b>First Thursday of each month:</b>	
Awake America	City Hall	11:59 am
NAMI Fam. Support	New Hope Counseling	12-1:30 pm
Blairsville Sorghum Fest.	Fort Sorghum	6:30 pm
Open Road ORV	Civic Center	8 pm
	<b>First Friday of each month:</b>	
"Nailed" Book Club	G-N-G Bakery	10 am
UG Hospital Aux	UC Nursing Home	Noon
Cruisers Block Party	Farmer's Market	5 pm (Apr-Oct)
Feel Good Friday	Wellness Center	7 pm
	<b>First Saturday of each month:</b>	
Cruise-In	On the Square	4 pm (Apr-Oct)