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Q. Would it be helpful to donate money? Can we donate money so that items can be purchased?

A. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make your check out to the Union County Food Pantry and you are welcome to mail your payment to the Union County Commissioner's Office, C/O Food Bank, 65 Courthouse Street, Box 1, Blairsville, GA 30512, or come by our office in the courthouse. Any money received is used to purchase food items needed.

Q. What other Union County resources are available to address food insecurity?

A. Various churches provide dry pantry goods to those in need. The Family Connections program also provides a weekend backpack for children as well as addresses short term emergency food issues for children. Additionally, the Union County Senior Center offers a meals on wheels service for those 60 and over, and they accept donations for a free lunch for this age group Monday – Friday at 11:30 a.m.

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said, "You best treat her right."

The old man loved to watch his grandson, Paul, play baseball so much that each of my Dad's games were attended. He loved to brag to his neighbors about how his grandson could play the game. However, at one game the boy struck out three times. After the first game and before the second game, he went to his grandfather to ask if he wanted anything. The old man replied, "Yes, would you mind sitting with someone else? You see I don't want anyone to think you are related to me. I never struck out three times in one game."

Dad would go to his Grandfather Clifford's house each Saturday morning to take him to get a haircut. Afterwards the pair would end up at the Phil Campbell Pool Room to play a few games of 8-Ball. On most Saturday mornings, he would also meet his friend, the Chief of Police. Looney Kent was always busting a still somewhere around town and managed to confiscate a few bottles of moonshine to give to his friends, of which Clifford always received one. On one particular Saturday while at the Pool Hall, he pulled out a small bottle which he'd received from his friend the Chief of Police. A newly hired deputy observed the old man pulling out the bottle and tried to confiscate it. Needless to say this act did not sit well with Clifford Hyde. Paul jumped in between his grandfather and the deputy. His back was facing his grandfather when he heard a "whoosh." The old man's cane whizzed by his grandson's ear and struck the deputy in the top

of the head. Fortunately, Looney Kent walked in just at the right time to explain things to his young deputy.

Clifford and Doc Underwood were the best of friends. The two were part of a trio which were called the "Grand Old Men of Phil Campbell." The two of them played dominoes together each Thursday morning. My Great Grandfather was a good dominoes player, but, it was rare for him to get the best of Doc Underwood. He may have won one of five games with his best friend. It has been said that old Doc could be heard laughing at the top of his lungs each time he won a game. On the other hand, Paw Hyde could be heard ranting and raving about losing a match of dominoes. He always accused his good friend of cheating.

After losing, he would pile up the individual dominoes in the empty box and toss them into the wood fired stove. He would then look at old Doc and exclaim, "Doc, you get your cheating self out of here and don't come back unless you turn honest." His friend would slowly rise from his seat and walk toward the door with a laugh and respond, "I'll see you next Thursday, Clifford." My great-grandpaw expected to win each and every game and never learned to be a good loser. Each Saturday morning he would always walk down to Isom's Store and buy a new box of dominoes. He probably spent a small fortune on dominoes during his life. He lived until he was 96 and continued to play dominoes every Thursday with Doc Underwood.

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pests have become resistant to pesticides due to reliance on individual pesticides. Pesticide resistance means that pests present an even larger problem than they did before.

The companies that manufacture these GMO crops have patent rights to the seeds, which means that farmers can't keep the seed from the crop they grow. Some farmers have gotten in trouble and taken to court because their neighbor planted GMO and it cross-pollinated with their crop. GMO crops are a tool that farmers can use to feed and clothe the world, but just like any tool, if it's used

improperly it will be broken. Therefore, the responsibility is on people to be good stewards of the resources that we have, to achieve the goal of feeding and clothing the world.

If you have questions about GMO's contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

On Thursday, Nov. 18, I will have a program on Septic System Management for homeowners in the Union County Civic Center at 6 p.m. Contact the Union County Extension Office at 706-439-6030 or email me for more information.

Ripma... continued from Page 4A

perfect, never has been, and never will be, but it is the best version of a perfect nation the world has ever seen. If woke-ness is to stay in our vocabulary, and the Oxford English Dictionary includes it in its lexicon, perhaps we should make certain the word is defined completely.

"By the mid-20th century," says the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), "woke had been extended figuratively to refer to being 'aware' or 'well informed' in a political or cultural sense."

Okay, let's go with the OED definition. Being aware

and well-informed cuts two ways, therefore the phrase is neither liberal nor conservative, right? And conservatives, or anyone else, can use it just as much as liberals. Here is one example:

Woke, adjective. To have or be marked by an active awareness of societal injustices and prejudices, especially injustices and prejudices aimed at the traditional American values of self-reliance, hard work, and a need for God to point our way.

Maybe a new wokeness definition like that is one we can all get behind.
John Ripma

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

to reserve your wreath, small tree or large tree and display your decorating talents.

Remember to thank a Veteran and help us keep life better in Blairsville!

Habitat... continued from Page 4A

Habitat Staff and Volunteers will talk about what it takes to qualify to become a Habitat Homeowner.

Until next time, join us in carrying out Habitat's Mission of "Putting God's Love into Action," creating a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Food Pantry closed on Thanksgiving

The Ecumenical Food Pantry (Mountain Presbyterian Church in Blairsville) will be closed on Thursday, 11/25/21, for Thanksgiving.

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a mismanagement of county monies, not a need. Having supervised the County for 20+ years and allowing the roads to deteriorate is a direct reflection on leadership and management.

County monies have been spent on preferred wishes

with little, if any, public input in the past. A county should never put real estate purchases and non-essential development before servicing the needs of the County, in this case roads. From my perspective this movement has been in play for way too long.

On a SPLOST vote ALL counties overestimate the money to be collected. This is because once a county reaches the projected SPLOST amount estimated, the county must stop collecting the SPLOST tax. Conversation regarding this issue of falling short of the SPLOST money projections is the reason for not completing projects promised could be a falsehood. SPLOST falling short of estimated revenue is the norm and a goal of each county. Using this as an excuse is to cover for mismanaging projects promised. Why are projects promised not completed in the designated time-frame!

Doy Lively

Combs...**continued from Page 4A**

when the ears of those who have rejected Christ are sent into hell to never leave for all of eternity, and perhaps these departing words from Christ will ring in their ears forever.

Folks, it is going to happen just like the sun rises in the morning and sets in the evening, but there is a way out before you die, if only you will believe upon the Name of Jesus Christ and be saved. It is a choice that we all have to make.

No one can pray you into heaven, because you have to do it yourself by believing in the cross of Calvary. God so loved you that He gave His best, His son Jesus Christ, so that you could live with Him in glory forevermore.

Frank F. Combs

Weekly Patriot Reflection**Principle 1-Natural Law**

Did you know that our Founding Fathers had 28 guiding principles that they lived by? They believed that every person who desired peace, prosperity and freedom needed to understand and perpetuate these principles. Listen to Principle #1: The only reliable basis for sound government and just human relations is natural law. This sounds good but how did they arrive at this conclusion? Thanks for asking!

The Founders were well educated men who read voraciously over a broad spectrum of authors. One of their favorites was Roman Political Writer Marcus Cicero, and it was he who helped them understand the precepts of Natural Law. The bottom line of his reasoning was this: Natural Law is the understanding that God is the Creator and sustainer and that His Laws are the True Law. Once this is understood it stands to reason that government, justice and human relations laws MUST conform to the laws of the Creator God. Cicero believed that the building of a society on principles of Natural Law was nothing more nor less than recognizing and identifying the rules of "right conduct" with the laws of the Supreme Creator of the universe.

The Founding Fathers envisioned just such a commonwealth of prosperity and justice for themselves and the model society which they hoped to build.

Don't you think the Founding Fathers would be distraught to see how far our country and government has moved, away from the rule of Natural Law? When is enough going to be enough?

A Patriot Reflection is presented weekly by www.joshuaswarriors.org.

Fowler...**continued from Page 4A**

domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God...all things have been created through Him and for Him" (Col. 1:13-14,16).

That is a "meta verse" that is not beyond reality, but is reality. To associate with Christ by faith is to embrace reality and be truly human, just as your Creator intended.

American Red Cross Volunteers

Make a difference in your community! As a volunteer with the American Red Cross, you can help families recover after a home fire, train individuals in first aid and CPR, support America's military families, or take on any number of other roles that make our communities safer, stronger and more resilient. Get started at <https://www.redcross.org/local/georgia/volunteer.html> or call your NWGA chapter office to ask about volunteer opportunities 844-536-6226. NT(Nov10Z)ICA

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse

October 27, 2021

in memory of

Kelsey Elizabeth Bowles on her 30th Birthday
By: Kim, Barry, Abby, and Brady Bowles

November 17, 2021

In memory of

Alex Lawson

on his birthday "Forever 32"
By: Mannetta Tucker

Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493