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County?
 A. I hear this question often and simply try to explain that there are many restaurants in our city and county and they are all very good. You have to decide if you want seafood, steak, fried chicken and family style, hamburgers, Mexican, Italian, Chinese or Pizza. After that, you then can pick from several serving each type of food. Having lived here all my life, it is hard to believe that we would ever have so many restaurants or that they would all be so good. If you live in Blairsville or Union County and go to one of our many restaurants and fast food restaurants and you are still hungry when you leave, it is simply your own fault.
Q. When will the Convenience Center open near the Horse Arena for us to take our bagged garbage and recyclables to?
 A. There should be an article in this week's NGN about the facility. We chose to do a "soft opening" on Monday, October 29 (last Monday) while we will have the official opening announced in the paper this week. Since it is new, we did not want to have it overwhelmed

with too many customers until the staff and equipment are tested. So it is now open and you are welcome to begin using it. It is located at the intersection of Hwy 515 and Hwy 325, about 8 miles West of Blairsville.
Q. What will be the operation hours of the new Convenience Center?
 A. The hours of operation will be the same as that of the current Transfer Station. Mon thru Friday, 7 till 4 and Saturday 7 - 12. This could be adjusted based on usage, but we hope to be able to keep this center busy enough to maintain these hours.
Q. What is the purpose of having a Convenience Center out in the county?
 A. As its name implies, it is to make garbage disposal more convenient for the public. We feel this location where we already own the property, will allow a large portion of the county to use it easier than having to drive all the way to Blairsville and then go wait in line with all the cars and commercial vehicles at the Transfer Station. This should be faster and will certainly be cleaner.

Crawford ... continued from Page 4A

to the right as there was a group of motorcycles off to the right at the intersection. My focus was on the crossways car blocking my lane and how I could avoid hitting it. I slammed on the brakes. Smoke, squalling tires, fishtailing and some wrestling with the steering wheel brought the car to a stop just short of the left rear end of car. All traffic on the west bound came to a stop. Had I been a second later, I would have had to either T-Bone the car near its rear end or hit the motorcycle group to the right. Which would you have chosen?
 I sat still to compose myself and in 10 -15 seconds, the motorcycles that were to the right in the intersection started across all 4 lanes of 515 and proceed straight ahead. It came to me then, this was their method of crossing the four lanes on 515. Pull out, block and stop traffic on 515 and then cross.

In theory, this might work if they gave the high speed traffic on 515 enough time to react to the crossways car blocking the lane ahead. There simply was not enough time provided in this case. Police and state patrol stop oncoming traffic effectively with blue lights and sometimes uniformed officers clearly waving for you to stop. A car that has stopped in the road and no other indication is not a clear sign that you want all traffic to stop.
 It seems to me that if your group is taking control of the 515 Right Of Way, then your group is responsible for making the crossing of 4 lanes safe for your group and all other travelers on 515. Clearly, the crossing of 515 by this group on this day was not done well. Who is responsible for the safety of a group of motorcycles crossing 4 lanes on 515?
Jim Crawford

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

stick and said, "Mister, since you can't say anything I am gonna whop you with this stick. I bet you'll have something to say then". Coon drew back the stick and took four steps toward the man. Just as he was about to swing he looked closer. The man turned out to be nothing more than a 6 foot tall burned out stump. The white shirt was actually the gray ashes and of course the black part appeared

to be a black coat.
 Let me remind each of you that on Halloween Day our vendors will be giving out candy to Trick or Treaters. So, bring your children to the Farmers Market and let's end the year with a great day! Also, the canning plant will be open on November 12 and 17. We call these "Meat Days", but, you can process anything you like.

McMurry ... continued from Page 4A

focused on driving.
 DriveAlert ArriveAlive implores drivers to take responsibility for their driving behavior... buckle up ... just 39% of fatality victims are identified as wearing seatbelts; stay off the phone and no texting ... 74% of fatalities are attributed to driver behavior; drive alert ... do not drive drowsy or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
 While DriveAlert ArriveAlive seeks to reduce crashes through changes in behavior, GDOT continues to use a number of innovative measures that contribute to safer driving - like a safety edge that shapes the pavement edge to enable drivers who drift off the highway to safely return to the road; and rumble strips that help reduce roadway departure by alerting drivers through noise and vibration when their tires make contact. Where there is a high potential for crossover crashes, GDOT installs center median cable barriers. Other safety measures include high friction surface treatments, reflective signage and striping, and pedestrian countdown tim-

ers.
 Each morning, the Georgia DOT daily fatality report lists the deaths reported in the past 24 hours on Georgia's roads. It is a somber account. After all, these are not just statistics. They are people whose families are torn apart by tragic loss. That's 138 more people killed on Georgia's roads compared with the same time last year.
 You can help turn the tide on preventable crashes and deaths by taking responsibility for your driving behavior. Be the driver you want your kids to be. By setting an example, not only will they be safer when they're in the car with you, but they'll also be safer drivers.
 Do it for yourself, for your passengers, for other motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. Do it for the ones you love!
 DriveAlert ArriveAlive. With your help, we can save lives!
 Sincerely,
**Russell R. McMurry, P.E.,
 Commissioner of the Georgia Dept. of Transportation**

Leone... continued from Page 4A

en, and on my way to solicit for candy. In those days, we walked at least two neighborhoods, door to door, probably covering over a mile, houses one right next to the other. The bags of candy would be so heavy, it took all our strength to carry them that last leg of the journey, up the front steps of our own abode, collapsing on the floor in the family room, where we emptied the stash and then began our sibling negotiations.
 I would take all her chocolate and purple Necco wafers in exchange for my tootsie rolls. I would give her my Smoothie cups (prehistoric Reece's Peanut Butter cup) for her Mallo Cups. She could have the caramel and vanilla sections of my Sky Bar and I would get her peanut and chocolate sections. No one touched my kit kats or my bonomo taffy. If I wanted to entice my sister into a game of cards later in the week, I saved a few Hershey bars to tempt her into a scrimmage.
 The second costume I remember fondly was when I was 27 years old. I was over 250+ lbs and I dressed like a

ballerina, in a tu-tu (which was dubbed a 4-4 by my friends, after a few drinks at Bennigan's) with toe shoes, pirouetting all over as I made my rounds from the costume party at work (where I won a trophy for best "all around" costume... no pun intended) and to the local watering holes where I won lots of laughs and several rounds of drinks. I had outgrown the need to be a saint...
 This is the last weekend of the Union County Farmers Market regular season, and for the very first time, the season takes us all the way to Halloween. We want to invite all the children to wear their costumes on Saturday. Our vendors will be handing out candy, there will be coloring, live music and Brenda will be there to paint faces for those that want to enhance their costume. Please visit her in Building Three. Later in the morning, we will have a parade of costumes around the perimeter of the buildings. Bring your cameras and have fun with all of us.
 No, I probably won't wear my Tu-tu, though I still do have it. Someday...

Barnes... continued from Page 4A

Like the Halloween on The Square event. What if the weather is inclement on that Halloween evening? It will have to be canceled and well, it is not the same after Halloween. I think it should be scheduled either the Saturday night before Halloween Night or one night through the week with the exception of Wednesday nights for church, and any other night they have football practice and etc.
 Even if the weather is nice on Halloween night, this will leave it open for the traditional house-to-house.
 Same with the Sorghum Festival Parade. Really no one wants to stand out much less participate in the rain and bad weather. Now this Saturday would have been for a much

better parade with its forecasted sunny skies and warmer temps. If the first weekend is bad and rainy, there is always the next weekend even if it is the last weekend. If it is bad that Saturday too, just cancel altogether and hope for the best for the next years parade.
 I hope they schedule a make-up evening for The Christmas parade in case of inclement weather. I know last year me and my family about froze to death and blew away too even though we were all very well dressed. But still it was just way too cold and the kids ended up with ear infections, and we left before it was even over with too. I also hope to see this year's Christmas Parade be Christmas themed as there weren't one thing last year that made it a true Christmas parade, just celebrating Disney!

Fowler ... continued from Page 4A

created? If "all things" includes culture and the world He created, should we not seek ways to join in that divine reconciliation? Our example is Jesus, a friend to sinners. Our challenge is to love people and work to reconcile a fallen world with its Creator. Here we stand; we can do no other.
 Christianity is a coherent worldview unlike any other. It is believed privately, but lived publicly. The church house doesn't contain it and the courthouse doesn't frighten it. C. S. Lewis wrote, "I believe in Christianity as I believe the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else." Such a worldview offers plausible answers to ultimate questions and, as we have seen in the news, it inspires courage to stand for what is true.

I don't mean to go on the warpath here, but there can be better arrangements if just thought out and planned.
 We can't help the weather like I said, but we can help ourselves by preparing make-up days just in case!
 Thank you and blessings to all and have a great day!
D. Barnes

Williams... continued from Page 4A

number of partial scholarships will be available.
 Are you ready to gain a broader understanding of community? Are you prepared to use the information and skills that you will gain from this experience to be a leader in our community? If so, contact the Chamber at 706-745-5789 or email Linda Lawrence at membership@blairsvillechamber.com for a complete schedule and application.

Mitchell ... continued from Page 4A

of them spectacular.
 The Waynesville bypass, Highway 276, was widened, became a heavily-traveled four-lane. The County Sheriff was forced to hire new deputies. So was the Fire Department. Small, local schools closed because of consolidation. Septic tanks became a thing of the past, replaced by sophisticated, but mandatory, centralized filtration systems. Property taxes rose because all those new residents demanded more services.
 Many of the "locals," born and raised, couldn't afford to stay. Those who stayed, kept old friends, hesitated to make new. There are no Haywood County "locals" on the school board. Friends who still live there tell me, "The money is good but..." They leave the sentence unfinished.
 All I can say is, "Yes, I know."
George A. Mitchell

Retired Firefighters Breakfast

The Retired Firefighters Breakfast is held the first Friday of each month, 9 a.m. at Hole in the Wall Restaurant, Blairsville, GA. NT10a28.21)CA

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