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Center and the interest rate we are currently paying is 4.66 percent, which was the norm at the time. So instead of spending all the new SPLOST IV funds on new projects, we will use the majority of the borrowed funds to pay off our Community Center bond indebtedness. Doing this will reduce the loan from 15 years down to just under 6 years and also lower the interest rate from 4.66 percent down to just 1.69 percent. This will save the county about \$1.6 million dollars. This reduction will help balance out the "interest only" payments we have been making over the past three to four years.

Q. How much will the interest rate be on the new SPLOST loan (bond) we are borrowing?

A. It will only cost us 1.69 percent per annum. Union County has such an exceptional financial record and because we

have successfully managed our money over the years, we have an excellent credit rating. That is why we will be able to borrow the money at such a low interest rate.

Q. Will it be necessary to raise property taxes to repay the loan?

A. Certainly not anticipated. Our very conservative SPLOST revenue projections show that anticipated revenue will be more than twice the amount of the bond payments. We will utilize the SPLOST sales tax receipts each month, with the SPLOST bond payment being taken out before any other funds are released for other SPLOST projects. At the end of this 6-year SPLOST period, the county will have paid off all the bond indebtedness, just like we recently did for our last SPLOST that ended on March 31.

Williams... continued from Page 4A

is now available in our office. The 3rd edition offers more agritourism destinations in a newly designed format with an even larger area map for easy travel. Additionally, the cover features our very own, Shawn Kight, owner of The Sawmill Place, who offers a true farm-to-table experience!

Visitors to our area love to explore the North Georgia Farm Trail and you will too. Now is a great time to get out

and experience all that this great county has to offer. Please stop by the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center located at 129 Union County Recreation Road to pick up your copy.

If you have any questions regarding the North Georgia Farm Trail or other offerings by the Blairsville-Union County Chamber of Commerce, you may call us at 706-745-5789 or visit the website at www.Ga-

Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

identally shot as a boy. There were some old graves close to the spot. As Papa walked by these old graves he saw a scary sight. Papa saw what he thought was a ghost. This ghost rose up from behind one of the grave-stones and began to wail like a banshee. This time Papa felt no anger, instead, he felt pure fear. He began to run. However, the ghost was following him still wailing, but also laughing. Soon the wailing stopped and the laughter became hysterical. Once again Papa's fear left him and he turned around to find the ghost was actually his future brother-in-law, Hollis Wehunt. The two boys sat down by a spring and enjoyed a long cool drink of water.

All the characters in this

story are long gone, including Papa. But, I remember all of his friends through his stories. Papa is a connection I have with the past that will live in my memory as long as I walk this earth.

Don't forget Millie and Alley are now running the Food Trailer at the Farmers Market. Next Saturday we will have hot buttered biscuits for sale for \$1. For your enjoyment and taste we will place some different homemade jellies and jams at the pavilion. Take your choice of jam and spread it on the biscuit. That is some good eating. If you like the jam or jelly then buy it from one of our vendors at the market. Have a nice week.

Leone... continued from Page 4A

ward Snowden -- now cooling his heels in Russia -- revealed the extent to which the NSA is spying on Americans, collecting data on phone calls we make, it's not as if we should have been surprised." I know what I can do with a Google search. My 84-year-old mother, late one night during an insomniac state, decided she wanted to know more about her "cyber thumbprint." She invested \$19.95 and then started pressing the keys. A few hours later she knew every private detail of the lives of everyone whose name she could still remember. So much for hiding any unpaid library fine from her.

If my Mom, who has slim to no competence executing even a phone call on her "smart phone," can report that her next door neighbor lies about her age, and she has a copy of the lady's birth certificate to prove it, I can believe that the likes of the NSA can tell me if I have a wart between my toes.

Science fiction is no longer fiction, it is science, and that is true in the agricultural world, as well. Remember Jack and the Beanstalk? In 2009, the massive "tomato tree" growing inside the Walt Disney World Resort's experimental greenhouses in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. may be the largest single tomato plant in the world. The plant has been recognized as a Guinness World Record Holder, with a harvest of more than 32,000 tomatoes and a total weight of 1,151.84 pounds. It yielded thousands of tomatoes at one time from a single vine.

Back in 2150 BC, China had to control the Yellow River's annual flood, saving waterlogged crops. Today China's rulers face the opposite problem-water scarcity that threatens farms. So instead of the Yellow River, the Chinese government is controlling the rain. By "cloud-seeding," the slang term for rocket-launching chemicals into clouds, acceler-

Fowler ...

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ing. It doesn't change God -- it changes me." When I am changed by God's answer to prayer, I can be God's answer to my neighbor's prayer.

The Bible is not a primary proof of the faith to the modern skeptic who can't countenance the circular logic of proving the book by quoting from it. But it is still sweet to remember the children's song from Sunday school: "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so." That's the epistemology that convinced me.

I invite you to join me for an All Things New devotional thought at Cabin Coffee this Friday at 7 a.m.

Students named to NG Tech's Honor Roll and President's List

Dr. Mark Ivester, Acting President of North Georgia Technical College, has announced the Honor Roll and President's List for Summer Semester 2015. The President's List recognizes full-time students with a 4.0 GPA. The Honor Roll recognizes full-time students with a 3.5 GPA. Full-time students are those taking at least 12 credit hours with no developmental courses. Approximately 25 students were named to the Honor Roll, and 17 students were named to the President's List.

Union County resident named to the President's List was: Jessica King, Cosmetology.

Union County residents named to the Honor Roll were: Kristina Cahill, Culinary Arts; Aleisha Gilreath, Health Care Science; Amy Miles, Cosmetology; Micayla Pocius, Accounting; Brandon Sargent, Accounting. NT(Aug12,Z4)CA

The Peacock is looking for actors

Resident Artistic Director Laurel Adams is looking for three men and two women for the last play of the season at the Peacock Performing Arts Center in Hayesville. *A Sting in the Tale* is a glorious send-up of almost every mystery thriller written for the stage. A team of well-known mystery writers has hit a slump and needs to come up with a slam-dunk winner - they're looking for the "perfect crime" with the "perfect victim" and seemingly they've found it in a nagging wife. But are they writing a really good play or planning a real murder?

Men needed are the two writers (30s-50s) opposites in every way: one is cultured, charming and a snappy dresser, the other looks as though he's come straight from a rummage sale - and a bit neurotic

to boot. The third man is a detective (late 20s+) who's come to investigate the case, stage-struck and a real fan of the two writers, in fact, he'd like to be the model for a character in their next play.


The women needed: the bitter, disenchanted wife of the snappy dresser, Ann (30-45) and Jill (mid-20s+) their bright, efficient, attractive secretary who handles them amazingly well despite being owed a month's pay.

Auditions are Saturday, August 22 and 29 (10-1 p.m) and Monday and Tuesday, August 24, 25 (6-8 p.m.) at the Peacock, 301 Church Street in Hayesville. Scripts are available now from 10-2 p.m. M-F at the office, 828-389-2787. Detailed audition information is posted at the theatre. NT(Aug12,Z7)CA

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Garden Tours	Every Monday: GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
A Course in Miracles	UC Comm Cntr., Rm 101	2 pm
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Tri State Bus. Women	Every Tuesday: Blairsville Restaurant	8 am
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	United Methodist Ch	6:30 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
Spiritual Living Group	UC Comm Cntr., Rm 101	6:30 pm
Butternut Ladies Golf	Every Thursday: 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
Shape Note Music	Third Monday of each month: Old Courthouse	6:30 pm
High Country Artisan	U.C.Bank Com Room	6:30 pm
Exp Aviation Assoc #1211	Blairsville Airport	7 pm
UC Homemakers	Third Tuesday of each month: Dooley Chapter	Noon
Am. Legion Post 121	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
American Legion, Aux	Veteran's Center	6:30 pm
Chatuge Gun Club	Senior Center, Hia.	7 pm
Compassionate Friends	UCB Community Room	7 pm
Blairsville Garden Club	Third Wednesday of each month: Location not listed	1 pm
Friends of the Library	Library Com Room	2 pm
Beta Sigma Phi, Iota Iota	So. Bank & Trust	7 pm
Kinship Care	Third Thursday of each month: Civic Center	Noon
Commissioner's Meet.	County Courthouse	6 pm
Good N'bers Auto	Ingles Cafe	6:30 pm
UT Home Builders	Moschetto's	6:30 pm
Cub Scouts Trp. #101	United Methodist Ch.	6:30 pm
Tip-off Club	UC High School	7 pm
UC Saddle Club	Arena Clubhouse	7 pm
Jaycees	Fort Sorghum	7:30 pm
No activities listed	Third Friday of each month:	
UC Republican Party	Third Saturday of each month: Civic Center	10 am
Goldwing Road Riders	Daniels Steak House	11 am

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



August 2nd
In memory of
Charlie McGraw, Jr.
by Charles and Allyson McGraw

August 30th
In honor of
40th Wedding Anniversary
Charlie and Allyson McGraw

Bell ringing information
at 706-745-5493