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do not fall under the definition of a junkyard.

Q. I understand household trash in people's yards does not fall under the Junkyard Ordinance, but who do I contact for this problem?

A. Household trash that is left out in the open can be a health hazard and should be directed to the Environmental Health Office at (706) 781-3824. Household trash, such as rotting food and diapers, may cause disease from rodents and pests getting into it and cannot be allowed in the open without being confined or in a secure

container.

Keeping our county in a neat and clean condition should be important to all citizens. So, if we all do our part, it should be simple. The same can be said for noise issues. We should all be considerate of our neighbors and how our loud sounds could negatively impact them. When common sense and decency are not part of your thought process, that is what causes government to have to step in with intrusive regulations. Please help keep government out of your business where we do not want to be. Thank you.

Cummings ... continued from Page 4A

feet tall with nothing but other sharp boulders below him. Finally, he found himself above the pothole. He noticed there was no soil around this waterfall, only the wet blue granite. As he stepped onto the wet rock he remembered his dad's words, "That blue granite is too slick for my liking."

As Patrick's foot touched the rock he slipped and fell launching his body into the pothole. It was only a 3-foot drop and he thought he would be able to catch himself before going into the chute. But, the water was too fast and immediately he found himself cascading down the long s-shaped

chute into a rhododendron tunnel. At the end Patrick was launched over a 10-foot drop and into the hole his dad was fishing.

He let out a war hoop and hit the water with a huge splash. As he popped out of the water he noticed his dad looking at him while a "Winston" cigarette dangled from his lips. All was silent for a moment. Finally, Bill said, "Patrick Fix, I have had you in the woods since you were 3. I have trained you in all the ways I know about these mountains and just look at you. Sometimes I wonder if you could have possibly come from my loins."

Coalition ... continued from Page 4A

Drug usage among "safety-sensitive" professions, (truck drivers, pilots, ship captains, subway engineers, and other transportation workers), increased from 1.7 percent to 1.8 percent.

While modest, that incline should "be of concern to employers, especially those with safety-sensitive employees," Barry Sample, director of science and technology for Quest's employer solutions business, said in the study.

Although positive results are thrown out if a worker has a prescription for a legal drug, the survey still reflects illegal use, mainly driven by drugs like amphetamine, cocaine, and heroin.

The study also found that positives for marijuana increased 26 percent since 2011, and almost half (45 percent) of those who had a positive drug test for any substance in 2015

showed evidence of marijuana use.

Positive test rates were at a 3.5 percent annual low until 2012, when they began to climb — the same time when initiatives to legalize marijuana use in states like Colorado and Washington were approved.

The most shocking detail from the study is its finding on heroin usage.

Heroin positives increased 146 percent in the general workforce between 2011 and 2015, and 84 percent in the safety-sensitive workforce.

But as more workers tested positive for heroin, fewer tested positive for opioids such as oxycodone, which is sold under brands like oxycontin and Roxicodone. With increased crackdowns, obtaining prescription opioids has gotten harder, pushing drug users toward heroin, which is more easily accessible.

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business, and safety, whether we agree with them or not.

I hope my neighbors will think the next time they are in a hurry, or simply think that a 4-way stop does not apply to them. Because sooner or later, there will be an accident there, innocent people may be injured

or worse. The same applies to our once great country... we need to stop thinking and reasoning for ourselves, and repent and follow God's rules and laws. The end result will not be favorable if we ignore them.

C.A. Siegel

later escaped to South Korea via China. She still carries a burden for her fellow North Koreans since she knows the evil they face.

Kim represents a victory in the spiritual battle for the lives of a people brutalized by a totalitarian kingdom. Let us pray the Lord send a new revival to Korea, to deliver them from evil and make Pyongyang once again the Jerusalem of the East. That's the real battle.

Allison ... continued from Page 4A

The Vacuum Store, she shared that she has always helped in the store, but officially started working full time here at the end of 2001. She was running the GED center in Blairsville, and on September 11, 2001, when the Twin Towers fell, that was the defining moment when she decided life was too short for her to spend 28 more years at her current job. John was having trouble finding people to work at The Vacuum Store, so she resigned as GED Administrator, and joined The Vacuum Store.

When asked about her background, she shared that she was born and raised in a tiny little town called Hurlock, MD. After graduating from High School in 1982, she and John married at the end of that year. She went to a community college where she got an Associate Degree in Secretarial Science (yes, they used to have that!). During the time she was in school, she worked at a seafood market in the office, as a Court Transcriptionist, and with a Temporary Employment Agency.

They ran a produce market and craft store out of their house. After their first child was born in 1982, she decided she no longer wanted to work outside of the home, and got a job as a word processor, typing medical manuscripts onto floppy discs for publication in medical journals. They had three more children, and when she was 29, she decided to go back to school for a Bachelor's Degree in English, Secondary Education. Her first job in that field was teaching Middle School English in Salisbury, MD. In 1998, they decided to move. John was working with Electrolux at the

time, and transferred to the office in Murphy, NC. Once they were settled, she took on various jobs. She worked at Direct Appliance as the Customer Service Manager, was a substitute teacher, a legal secretary, and then ran the GED program until she started working at The Vacuum Store.

When asked about something that would surprise people about her, she said this, "believe it or not, I am very shy and quiet. Since I stayed home with my children for 11 years, and worked at a job where I never saw a human, I didn't have to get out in the public for a very long time. It was a huge struggle to force myself to interact with adults! Nobody who knows me, who is reading this, would believe this!" Yes Cathy, I am one of those people as you never meet a stranger.

When asked what she enjoyed best about her job, she shared that she loved the marketing aspect. As the Chairman of the Ambassadors, on the Board with Habitat for Humanity, and working with the Downtown Development Authority, she has had the opportunity to spread the word about The Vacuum Store daily. Running their Facebook Page, sending out introduction letters, attending meetings and Ribbon Cuttings, takes up a large part of her days, and she is always looking for new opportunities to introduce The Vacuum Store to new customers!

Thank you, Cathy, for everything you do! If you would like to visit Cathy and John at The Vacuum Store, you can find them at 92 Pruitt Circle in Blairsville or give them a call at (706) 781-1050.

Riley ... continued from Page 4A

ognize the dangers all around where we live and want to do something to reduce these risks. Think of the money that this reduction has saved, not to mention property and lives!

The Firewise USA Recognition Program is a process that empowers neighbors to work together in reducing their wildfire risk. Using a five-step process, communities develop an action plan that guides residential risk reduction activities, while engaging and encouraging neighbors to become active participants in building a safer place to live. Neighborhoods throughout the United States are embracing the benefits of becoming a recognized Firewise Community. Our local Citizens Firewise Coalition, along with the emergency agencies that protect us, work with community leaders to development the action plans, home risk assessments, and the necessary paperwork so all citizens must do is organize their community and have annual Firewise event to demonstrate and educate the citizens about what they can do to withstanding a wildfire. Most of our communities are protected by volunteer fire departments and the Firewise mitigation efforts around our homes will buy time until the fire department gets there.

Our successes here in Towns has attracted national attention and we were recently asked to by the Forest Service to duplicate our Towns County model and spread it thru Appalachian Mountains in western North Carolina and into Virginia. We have engaged 5 other RC&Ds in this area and are now beginning to see the same interest there that we have seen here in Northeast Georgia... we have had 4 community meetings in North Carolina in the past week.

My National FAC liaison recently asked me why I worked so hard at this and I told her without hesitation that these projects are pieces of my life's puzzle that I need to make my life complete one day. I believe that everything we have ever done is a small piece of our life's puzzle and makes the picture of who we really are. Some of the pieces are dark and not so good and we would like a do-over. Some are bright and shining examples and we are proud, and some don't quite fit but we try to make them anyway and eventually get rid of them to be replaced with one that fits.

As we put each piece in place every day, our life's picture slowly begins to take shape and eventually when the last piece goes in, will see who we really are. Will we be proud or disappointed? I know that if I can make a difference in someone's life by helping them improve their situation, I will be satisfied with the picture I see.

Mattee ...

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an inch of soil to make sure your pile has enough microbes to break down what you add to the pile. Finally, add a nitrogen source. This can be fertilizer such as ammonium sulfate (1/3 cup per 25 square feet) or a standard 10-10-10 (1 cup per square foot) . Organic options include an inch or two of fresh grass clippings, blood meal and lake plants.

Another important factor to keep in mind is the carbon to nitrogen ratio. The C:N ratio is 30:1, and if you layer your material appropriately, you should have no problems. If the compost starts to smell foul, turn it a few extra times for a month or two to make sure there is enough air. A damp, sweet smelling heap that is still not decomposing can indicate a lack of nitrogen, and if the pile is warm only in the middle, you need to add more material.

For more information on composting, visit the extension office.

Duncan...

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Atlanta. Add in 23 home runs, 468 hits, including 106 doubles, and two triples.

Blackmon has driven in 291 runs, in the last three-plus years in Colorado. Add in 94 home runs, 291 RBIs, 702 hits, including 121 doubles, 31 triples, and 100 stolen bases in that span.

It makes Blackmon one of the ultimate Fantasy Baseball players.

Actually, it doesn't matter how many hits, home runs, Gold Gloves or All-Star appearances for either, the point is, they are both YHC Mountain Lions, Shirley Miller says.

Communities or any other community improvement programs, contact the Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council, by our web sites www.chestchattrcd.org & www.appfacco.org or info.ccrd@gmail.com.