

## Growth...from Page 1A

It was a wake-up call for Union County and spawned the realization that too much growth can be as bad as no growth.

And that begs the question: How does Union County control growth?

One way would be to add more rules and regulations and institute zoning and lot size restrictions and expensive impact fees, said Paris.

“But my belief is that government shouldn’t have the right to totally control

somebody’s property,” said Paris. “I struggle with that all the time. At what point does protecting the people, the county, become unfair control?”

Paris said he wants Union County to be an affordable place for young people to live and raise a family. That means Union County needs to attract jobs that families can sustain themselves on, and that means growth, but smart growth.

That Union County is growing now in a sustainable way, both Paris and Griggs agree.

Randy Day and Nora Lawn of Union County Building & Development have confirmed that, as of Sept. 20, there have been 32 more permits issued for single-family homes this year over the same time last year, which definitely seems more in line with controlled growth.

Griggs said there is a need in Union County for quality multi-family housing – apartments, duplexes, townhomes, etc. – that young couples starting out or folks who can’t afford or don’t want a single-family home can afford. And this would also attract industry.

The last economic indicator that is tracked is SPLOST revenue. In 2011, the average monthly revenue

from the 1-cent sales tax was \$280,000.

Serving as yet another example of growth here in Union County, the average monthly SPLOST revenue for the first six months of 2018 has been \$355,000.

With the growth of population and business

in the county comes a corresponding growth in the cost of infrastructure – law enforcement, fire, traffic control, road repair, water and sewer maintenance, bridge and dam maintenance, and all the other things that this community runs on.

SPLOST is a way to

## Windsor...from Page 1A

Please just keep praying for our Lassiter to get his full quality of life back.”

Resulting from his injury, Lassiter experienced an initial period of intense pressure in his brain due to swelling, and health care professionals decided to put him in a medically-induced coma to combat the swelling, according to family posts.

And now, nearly two weeks after his accident, Lassiter is awake and working hard every day to recover from his injuries, according to family posts.

Currently, there’s a GoFundMe account under “Lassiter Windsor and family” to help offset expenses associated with Lassiter’s

hospital stay in Atlanta, and the Panther Youth Football Team and Cheerleaders will be hosting a Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A Blairsville on Tuesday, Oct. 9, from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

“Mention Lassiter when ordering and money will be donated to him and his family!” reads the Spirit Night invitation.

The Georgia State Patrol investigated the accident that occurred on Georgia 325 shortly after 7 a.m. on Sept. 20,

Along with GSP, first responders with Union General EMS, the Union County Sheriff’s Office, Air Life Georgia medical helicopter and the Union County Fire

spread some of those costs over the total population of Union County, including visitors, and this lightens the load on property owners.

It also allows Union County to have public services and facilities that attract people, and therefore growth.

Department responded to the scene.

Over the last two weeks, Lassiter’s mother has made a number of posts to her Facebook page, updating people daily on her son’s condition.

One such post from Saturday, Sept. 29, illustrated the continued importance of Green and her family’s Christian faith during this time of healing for Lassiter.

“PRAISE JESUS!!!” wrote Green. “Lassiter opened his eyes! He squeezed my hand and blinked his eyes when I asked him if he knew who I was! I told him mommy, his family, church family, his football team, class, friends, and the whole community and beyond were praying for him.”

## Voter...from Page 1A

Office will be open for voting Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., through lunch, and on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Registered voters may also choose to vote by absentee ballot, and Nichols said they have mailed out around 170 absentee ballots in Union County so far and will continue to do so until a week before the election.

Any registered voter may request an absentee ballot, though the Registrar’s Office must receive a request for an absentee ballot in writing from the voter. Application forms are available at the Registrar’s Office and may be returned either by mail or personal delivery by the voter.

Absentee ballot applications may also be requested online from the

Georgia My Voter Page.

A U.S. citizen may register to vote at any time. However, the last day to register to vote in the upcoming Nov. 6 General Election will be Oct. 9, and that goes for name and address changes as well.

The Registrar’s Office will be closed on Oct. 8 for Columbus Day.

“I just encourage everybody to come out and vote,” said Barbara Anderson, who works in the Registrar’s Office.

## Thomas “Hunter” Brantley receives ceremonial “White Coat”

On September 15th, Hunter Brantley was presented a white coat by the faculty and administration of Tufts University School of Dental Medicine (TUSDM) in a private ceremony conducted at the Marriott Copley Place Hotel in Boston, MA. The coats were presented to 203 students comprising the Class of D2022. The presentation of coats formally recognizes students as they embark



Thomas “Hunter” Brantley

on their journey to becoming future health care professionals and welcomes them into the profession of dentistry as junior colleagues. Founded in 1868, Tufts is one of the oldest U.S. dental schools, and its 15-story dental facility in Boston is ranked second by the total

number of students served and graduates about 5% of the nation’s dentists annually.

Brantley is the grandson of Richard and Bonnie Stephens of Blairsville, and the son of Tom & Kathy (Stephens) Brantley of Tallahassee, FL. He is a 2011 graduate of Tallahassee’s Lawton Chiles High School, 2013 graduate of Tallahassee Community College (Biology), 2015 graduate of Florida State University (Biological Sciences/Chemistry) and a 2017 graduate of Mississippi College (Biology - Masters of Medical Sciences). Brantley shadowed in general dentistry at the Leon County “Molar Express” under its founder, Dr. Ed Zapert, worked in endodontic dentistry under Dr. Briano Allen and Dr. Jamie Sykes, and received a brief exposure to oral and facial surgery under Dr. Russell Walther.

## Attention: Public Notice Of Scam

News Special  
North Georgia News

In the last couple of weeks, multiple people in the area have complained to law enforcement about phone calls from individuals pretending to be local officers and sheriff’s deputies.

Already, there have been verified instances of this occurring in Union, Towns and Rabun counties.

Impersonating an officer or deputy, the scammer will call an unsuspecting resident to say that he or she has a warrant out for their arrest.

The scammer will identify him or herself as a member of a local law enforcement agency – perhaps even using the identity of a real local officer or deputy – and will inform their victim that he or she has a failure to appear warrant.

The scammer will go on to say that the warrant is for not showing up for jury duty, a grand jury summons or something similar.

The scammer will likely provide some identifying information about their potential victim, such as birthdate and home address, to convince the resident that the call is legitimate.

Then, the conversation will turn to a request for money to have the warrant taken care of.

Law enforcement officers will never request money over the phone to settle up a warrant.

Should you receive a phone call of a similar nature, do not divulge any personal or financial information such as Social Security number or credit card information, and do not give the caller any money to clear up a warrant.

## Blairsville PTO meeting

The Blairsville PTO would like to announce the upcoming monthly meeting being held Monday, October 8 at 6 PM in the Union County High School Media Center. All are invited to attend this meeting to support our youth. Please come out and be a part of the Blairsville Parent Teacher Organization.