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Community Center, the new Union County Arena. Amphitheater design, Old Chamber building renovations, Meeks Park ball field improvements, playground improvements, bleachers, bridges, walking/jogging trail improvements, shooting range property acquisition along with Meeks Park additional property purchases, Library Renovation, Expansion, and Books.

Also, Public Safety Facilities, Vehicles, and Equipment (includes various sub-projects, including Sheriff's Office cars and equipment, Fire Department building and equipment, payoff of fire trucks, and some ambulance payments); Solid Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Center Renovation and Expansion study along with a future property purchase; New Farmers Market, Livestock Arena, Cannery and additional property acquisition.

Also, Civic Center Complete Renovation; Multi-Use Building for Economic Development Offices, Chamber, Community Center, Recreation Department and

Pro Shop financed through bonds, but to be repaid with SPLOST funds; Renovations to Old Courthouse with new elevator; Choestoe two-room school house renovation as Choestoe Voting/Community Center.

The Old red roof gym renovation study and new roof replacement; Byron Herbert Reece facilities and improvements; Animal Control facility site improvements; City of Blairsville Projects including sewer and water improvements and expansion and street improvements.

This is not a complete listing as I am out of town while completing these questions.

SPLOST III funds were utilized either in all or a portion of the above listed projects, none of which could have been accomplished without SPLOST.

Thanks again to you, the public, who have continued to vote for and support our county and city government SPLOST projects through continuing to pass the 1-penny sales tax.

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idle. The USA was at war and there weren't men looking to lease land to farm. He decided he needed to farm it himself, in his spare time, for he was still commuting back and forth to his job in the city.

Initially he raised corn, but not too successfully. And there was too much competition in the market place for corn. He switched to squash. The gooseneck squash was long and awkwardly shaped, not easy to transport. The Hubbard Squash was huge and the skin, as well as the flesh, was so tough. Leggett decided to cross the two of them, with the idea of designing a smaller, more compact squash, more regular form and with more tender flesh. (Two out of three, isn't bad.)

He took this hybrid over to Waltham Field Station in 1945. The folks there were enchanted with this new variety and told him that it could become very popular if it held up to repeated plantings. With that in mind, they encouraged him to name it. In their reviews of the squash they had said that it was "as smooth as butter" and "as sweet as a nut." Hence, the moniker as we now know it.

Here's my easy Butternut Squash Soup recipe. It's easy and it's delicious on a cold autumn evening. Here's what you need.

Two 20-ounce packages (2-1/2 pounds) pre-cut butternut squash (if using fresh

squash, you'll need one large squash or 7-8 cups cubed but then it will no longer be "easy," 1 red bell pepper, roughly chopped; 1 medium yellow onion, roughly chopped; 3 cloves garlic, smashed and peeled; 7 cups water; 1 tablespoon salt; 1 teaspoon of white pepper; 1 teaspoon of nutmeg; 2-4 tablespoons of dark brown sugar; 1 cup heavy cream (not half & half or milk!); 2 tablespoons of butter.

Combine all of the ingredients except for the heavy cream and butter in a large soup pot. Bring to a boil, then cover and simmer for 35 minutes. Using a hand-held immersion blender, purée the soup until silky smooth. (Alternatively, cool the soup slightly, then purée in a blender in batches, making sure to leave the hole in the lid open to allow the steam to escape.) Stir in the heavy cream and bring to a simmer. Taste and adjust seasoning (depending on the sweetness of the vegetables, you may need up to a tablespoon more sugar). Just before serving, stir in the butter to make the soup silky smooth. Ladle the soup into bowls and garnish with toasted pepita seeds. That's it for this week. Oh, does anyone know how Butternut Creek got its name? The first person to e-mail me the correct answer wins a Union County Farmers Market t-shirt. E-mail your answer to UCFarmersMarket@gmail.com.

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have been sitting long enough and need to be unseated. To use an old, World War II expression, many of them have been "running the government's business by the seat of their pants" far too long. What they really need is a swift kick in the seat of their pants to unseat them from the front seat. Some of the present seat seekers who think they are in the driver's seat will be disappointed on Election Day because they will wind up as losers in the backseat. God have mercy on all of us voters. We need to buckle up our seat belts and prepare for a bumpy ride for the next few days.

It seems to me that I have read something in the Bible about those who seek the

upper-most seats, positions and places of recognition. Does the Bible not say that "to whom much is given, much will be required?" And does it not say that those who occupy places of leadership will be judged with greater severity?

In this writer's opinion our political system needs a re-vamping. We do not need seat seekers we need service seekers. Our generation desperately needs men and women who are not seeking to pad their pockets with perks and pensions but who are committed to serving their families, friends and fellow citizens in honesty and integrity, even if they lose in the process. Well, It's On My Mind!

Cummings...continued from Page 4A

man pretty good and then tied the Newell boy with leather thongs and forced him to walk three miles back to Dad's home place at Gray Rock. Upon reaching the home place they locked him up in a corn crib made of chestnut logs. Newell stayed locked up in the corn crib for 21 days and was fed nothing but corn bread and water.

About a month later Sue began complaining about a headache and laid down to rest. She died later that evening and lost the young baby she was carrying. All of this as a result of the beating she received from the Newell boy. Once again all the Baker brothers visited the Newell boy and this time Newell was beat severely. He survived and lived a long life. But, he never beat on another Baker girl.

About the incident my grandmother was asked, "Why didn't the boys call the sher-

iff?" Grandmaw said, "Back then the law wouldn't come to Ray Mountain. We were our own law and we took care of our own."

During this time of year we need to remember to take care of our own. We have people in our community with which we should do business with instead of taking our business elsewhere. Christmas is not very far into the future and you have a chance to purchase gifts from local craftsmen and produce from local farmers. You will have the chance to purchase these gifts at the Kris Kringle Market at the Union County Farmers Market on Dec. 5th and 6th. Please come out and enjoy our Christmas get together at the Farmers Market. If you would like to participate in the market as a vendor you may send us an e-mail at farmersmarket@uniongov.com to request an application.

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a much larger purpose for the local community. We are glad to share information with local residents and make suggestions as to great places to eat, play, or buy your next gadget. Bring us your "Flat Stanley," come pick up an events calendar, check our website for the latest happenings, send us your visitors who are looking for something to do, or sign up for email updates and local coupons. There are many ways for non business owners to interact with the Chamber, and we welcome the opportunity.

Myth 10: If you've seen one Chamber, you've seen them all.

Reality: As I travel the state meeting other Chamber Execs and learning about the operations of various Chambers of Commerce, I have found one thing to be certain - no two Chambers are alike. Chambers differ in their organizational structure, their staff's personalities and experiences, their programs and services offered, and their ability to positively impact their local community and members. I am proud to say that the Blairsville-Union County Chamber is made up of a dynamite staff of knowledgeable employees, a Board of Directors who is in touch with the needs of the local community, and a membership of close to 600 entrepreneurial individuals who care about the greater good. Many times we have received compliments from others who have experienced

Dixon ...


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was by far the largest climate change march in history. It was wonderful to be a part of such a movement that we hope can help to preserve a livable world for future generations.

Most people are totally unaware of the dire consequences that can happen if strong action is not taken soon. Despite what many people think, 97 percent of scientists throughout the world who specialize in climatology believe that climate change is real and very serious and demands immediate strong action. I have investigated this thoroughly, and I am convinced this is true. We must act on this, not for us, but for our children, our children's children, and children for many generations to come. Once the changes have happened, they will be irreversible.

Thank you,
Vernon Dixon, MD

Bell Ringing Union
County Old Courthouse



Bell ringing information
at 706-745-5493

Chamber of Commerce events

For details and future events see events calendar at www.VisitBlairsvilleGA.com

Wednesday, October 29

1 pm Knitters Knitch Class - 64 Brackets Way, Ste. 6
5:30 pm Trunk or Treat - House of Prayer Church Family Life Center
6 pm Bingo Every Wednesday - Haralson Memorial Civic Center

Thursday, October 30

8 am Mountain Networking Referral Group - Blairsville Restaurant
1 pm Open Drawing & Painting Class - Inspire Art Studio 51 Earnest St.
12 pm Rotary of Union County Meeting - 706-745-5565
6:30 pm Trivia at The View Grill - Union County Community Center

Friday, October 31

8 am American Security Shred Day - Union County Farmers Market
10 am Cool Season Gardening Seminar - GA Mt Research & Education Center
6 pm Halloween On The Square - Downtown Blairsville
7 pm Friday Night Concerts "The Skillet Lickers" Historical Bluegrass - Downtown on the Square

Saturday, November 1

1 pm Blacksmith & Fine Craft Auction - John C Campbell Folk School
6 pm Paul Constantine - The Copperhead Lodge

Monday, November 3

12 pm Blairsville Kiwanis Club Weekly Meeting - Steve's Steakhouse
1:30 pm Misty Mountain Model Railroad Tours MWF & S - 16 Misty Mtn. Lane
6 pm Alzheimer's Support Group - Cadence Bank

Tuesday, November 4

8 am Tri-State Business Women's Meeting - Blairsville Restaurant
10 am Crochet Class - 64 Brackets Way, Ste 6
6:30 pm Smokey Mountain Melodies Chorus - First UMC of Union County

Wednesday, November 5

1 pm Better Breathers Club - Union General Hospital
5:30 pm Women & Wine Series - Paradise Hills Resort, Spa & Winery
6 pm Bingo Every Wednesday - Haralson Memorial Civic Center

UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Every Monday:		
Garden Tours	GMREC (May-Oct)	9 am - 1 pm
Boy Scouts #101	United Methodist Ch	7 pm
Children's Story Time	Union County Library	11 am
Kiwanis Club	Steve's Steakhouse	Noon
Civil Air Patrol	Blairsville Airport	6 pm
Every Tuesday:		
Smoky Mtn. Melodies	First UMC	6:30 pm
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
Hi Country Harmonizers	Branan Lodge	6:30 pm
Every Thursday:		
Masonic Luncheon	Cooks Restaurant	11:30 am
Rotary Club	Cadence Bank	Noon
Get Fit	First UMC	5:15 pm
First Monday of each month:		
Volunteers/Handicap	First Baptist, H Bldg.	6 pm
CERT	St. Francis of Assisi	6:30 pm
Lockheed-Martin Ret.	Blairsville Restaurant	9 am
Allegheny Masonic Lodge #114, off the square		6:30 pm
First Tuesday of each month:		
Blairsville City Coun.	City Hall	6 pm
Brownie Scouts	United Methodist Ch	3-5 pm
Enotah Ch. #24 RAM	Masonic Temple	7:30 pm
Gaddistown Hmakers	Woody Gap	7 pm
Business Women	Cook's Restaurant	8 am
Knights/Colum. #2563	place TBA	7:30 pm
Amateur Radio Club	Branan Lodge	7 pm
First Wednesday of each month:		
Tri-Cty Wom. Lunch	Moner's Rest.	Noon
Exercise class	Senior Citizens Center	10:30 am
First Thursday of each month:		
Awake America	City Hall	11:59 am
Blairsville Sorghum Fest.	Fort Sorghum	6:30 pm
Open Road ORV	Civic Center	8 pm
NAMI Fam. Support	New Hope Counseling	12-1:30 pm
First Friday of each month:		
UG Hospital Aux	UC Nursing Home	Noon
Feel Good Friday	Wellness Center	7 pm
"Nailed" Book Club	G-N-G Bakery	10 am