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Magistrate Judge / 706-439-6008
 Probate Judge / 706-439-6006
 Recreation Department / 706-439-6074
 Butternut Creek Golf Course / 706-439-6076
 Registrar / 706-439-6016
 Road Department / 706-439-6062
 Senior Center / 706-439-6105
 Sheriff's Office / 706-439-6066
 Tax Appraiser / 706-439-6011
 GIS Department / 706-439-6014
 Tax Commissioner / 706-439-6017
 Transfer Station / 706-439-6102
 Transportation / 706-439-6050

Q. Do you think the Coronavirus will soon be a thing of the past?

A. We certainly hope so, but according to most of the experts, it is very possible that we will continue to face it during the winter months.

Q. How are the county numbers of infected people looking now?

A. We are currently feeling positive that our number of cases has only gradually increased. More importantly, the number of people requiring hospitalization has continued to decrease. Earlier this week, we only had one infected person in the hospital. So far so good and we can only hope this continues. Below is a list of dates and the corresponding number of cases reported on those dates.

April 1, 2020 – 0 cases
 April 8, 2020 – 4 cases
 April 15, 2020 – 8 cases
 April 22, 2020 – 18 cases
 April 29, 2020 – 34 cases
 May 13, 2020 – 36 cases
 May 27, 2020 – 44 cases
 May 28, 2020 – 43 cases

Q. Is it still important for us to wear masks when we are out of our home?

A. The experts say it is best to wear a mask in public - especially when you go to a store or restaurant with people that you are not related to. However, it is not required by state law but it is strongly suggested by the health experts and most State Governors.

Q. Are the older and vulnerable population still on Shelter in Place?

A. Believe it or not, we are. The Governor just extended it yesterday from June 12, 2020 to July 12, 2020. This means that if you are over 65 years old and/or considered vulnerable to infection because of medical conditions you may have, it is strongly suggested that you stay home. This is mostly for your protection, but if you have to go out it is recommended that you wear a mask.

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guidance allowing professional sports teams and organizations to begin practicing and return to in-person operations.

For those parents that are wondering what the future of our schools looks like, beginning next month schools and districts can hold summer school but must meet 11 mandatory criteria.

Amusement park rides, traveling carnivals, water parks, circuses and other temporary amusement rides cannot open for operations until June 12, 2020.

Two other important topics covered by the Governor

were, one, the fact that many churches are beginning to reopen their doors to traditional services. We are pleased to see in-person services resume but ask that everyone heed public safety advice. And second, for Georgians NOT to hold off on important medical appointments. Postponing necessary check-ups, screening and procedures can be just as dangerous as COVID-19.

Please remember the shelter in place order for Georgians who are 65 and older or medically fragile will continue through June 12, 2020.

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needy, and the depressed and who insist on moral responsibility want to take prayer out of schools. What do they think we pray for?

Of vital concern to a nation is their immigration policy. Its purpose is to bring assets into a country that support through contribution to the society. It is also an avenue for those who need protection from oppression. It is not an open door to all who wish to take advantage of our prosperity. Its greatest strength is providing a level of flow that allows those coming in to assimilate into our culture and become productive members who contribute to, not take from, our society. Its greatest weakness is an influx of non-productive people that overwhelms capacity for assimilation and places a financial burden on the taxpayer. Though all Americans have a responsibility to humanity, they are not responsible for the actions of other countries.

Those who relish power hate those who have it. Some allow special interests to blind them to the voice of reason. Those who pass moral judgement by making the poor victims and the prosperous evil do not understand the origin of both. Those who wish to take from the rich to give to the poor do not understand that the way to distribute wealth is through jobs that create purchasing power, which is the hedge against inflation and the

path to wealth. The strength of our economy when the virus hit us is probably the leading factor in keeping us from falling into a depression. The administrative performance of the past three years has taken us to a prosperity not seen here for generations. So, the question is, are you voting for an individual or for performance? Of the two current candidates, which one stands out based on performance and results? Considering the economy, which is the heartbeat of America, which one has provided the strongest economy? For the eight years before this administration, our economy saw no growth and our spending was the greatest in history. We experienced the effects of socialism.

Our Founding Fathers drew a line in the sand that they would not allow anyone to cross, which is our Constitution. It said we are a Christian nation - not in the religious sense but in the moral sense, because we welcomed all faiths and all who would defend our freedom. It was designed to protect us from the enemy without and the enemy within. What is good for a nation is good for all in that nation. The greatest word in the term "United States of America" is "united." One nation never to be divided which thrives on the individual freedom that cannot be taken away by a government that is not by the people and for the people.

Christian Hummel

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most about this trip was that on one of the nights we were camping, a bear visited our camp. I don't think any of us boys slept the rest of the night.

A few years later found me and two friends in college at UGA. We took a trip to the Smoky Mountains and hiked on the Appalachian Trail. One evening, a bear interrupted supper, running us all into the shelter. But, what I remember most about this trip was sitting on a rock outcrop called Charlie's Bunion looking out over the vast Blue Ridge Mountains. Uncle Bud's words "Way in Yonder" rang in my ears as I watched the slowly sinking sun changing the sky to a beautiful pink color.

Early in my career, I was fortunate to be able to take some time off to go antelope hunting in Wyoming. As my hunting partner and I sat on a ridge looking for antelope, I looked across the prairie and once again the words of my Uncle rang in my ears. We were there before daylight, and as we watched the sun come up, the place around us was indescribably beautiful.

Then my career brought me to Blairsville, where I began to take my sons, Will and Wade, on rambles through our mountains. We found all kinds of things of wonder out in the woods. One particular place I love and continue to go back to each year is a long lead coming off Slaughter Mountain. I have taken a few deer at this spot. However, the place is important to me not because of the deer, but, because it is the place where my sons and I used to hunt together. Getting there is not for the faint of heart. It is an hour's walk from the road, and the terrain is steeper than a mule's face. I can remember my son telling one of his friends that the

Fire...

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tional; to achieve future goals; and to respond to emergencies throughout the county. Any support that you can provide for these volunteers stays in your community to better equip and train these firefighters. The continued support from the citizens, business owners and the community is greatly appreciated by the dedicated volunteers and the department.


Union County Fire Department ~ Our Family Protecting Your Family ~

UC Historical Society's Brick Walk

To show our appreciation for the overwhelming community support for the Union County Historical Society's Brick Walk, we are extending the current price of \$50 per brick.

Please call the Historical Society at 706-745-5493 or come by the old courthouse to purchase one in memory or in honor of a loved one.

Bell Ringing Union County Old Courthouse



June 15, 2020
 In Memory of
Paula Paris Johnson
 on the occasion of
 her birthday
 By: Terry & Ginger Meeks

June 19, 2020
 In Memory of
Bill Meeks
 on the anniversary of
 his death
 By: Terry & Ginger Meeks

Bell ringing information at 706-745-5493

place was "Way in Yonder."

After my boys moved away for their own rambles, I found others to ramble with around in the mountains. People like Harold Dyer and a host of others. Together, we have found some glorious sites. We visited Lemon Gap and its ancient carvings, Spaniard's Mountain with its large Ash and Carolina Silverbell Trees, Fort Mountain and its old stone fort, Bower's Cove containing some gold mines, and Cass Mountain with its mica mines.

Another group of men with which I ramble around are County Agents from all across the country. Fred Miller is from North Carolina. Henry Dorough is from Alabama and Stan Moore is from Michigan. Last summer, this group hiked the last 125 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Maine. Hiking in Maine is difficult. However, climbing Mount Katahdin is the most difficult thing I've ever done. As I stood on top of the mountain, I looked toward Canada and again heard the words that have been driving me all these years.

A few years ago, my son Will and I went on a Jeeping trip to Yankee Boy Basin in Colorado. I have never been on a road at an altitude of 11,000 feet. At one beautiful spot, we pulled over and parked. I got out of his jeep to take pictures. As we gazed out over Colorado, I pointed at some golden-colored Aspen trees. They must have

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home and be struck by a vehicle. Relocation is a last resort.

If you do encounter a bear in the open make yourself look big and wave your arms and shout while backing away slowly. Do not get between a mother bear and her cubs. If you are attacked fight back aggressively with anything you can get your hands on. Bears can be dangerous, but know that there are no recorded fatalities in Georgia.

If you have questions about bears in our area contact your local Extension office for more information or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Fowler...

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had a way of simplifying truth for the rest of us. He said, "The Christian faith, simply stated, reminds us that our fundamental problem is not moral; rather, our fundamental problem is spiritual. It is not just that we are immoral, but that a moral life alone cannot bridge what separates us from God. Herein lies the cardinal difference between the moralizing religions and Jesus' offer to us. Jesus does not offer to make bad people good but to make dead people alive."

Now in the land of the living, Ravi Zacharias (1946 - 2020).

been 5-10 miles away. But, their colors were gorgeous. I said, "Look at those Aspens, Way in Yonder." I realized that my Uncle had given me something with his words. He gave me a

desire to see what was over the next mountain and a desire to see a big tree in some north-facing cove. Thanks, Uncle Bud! I love seeing what is "Way in Yonder."