

Opinions

Everybody has one...

Inspections, Testing and Maintenance

Earlier this month, FBI Director Wray testified before the House Judiciary Committee. Yet despite the hours-long hearing, Wray ducked and dodged his way out of answering critical questions related to numerous scandals surrounding the weaponized agency.

More than two years have passed since January 6th, 2021, yet Wray provided little to no insight on the matter. For example, Wray failed to provide transparency amidst ongoing concerns regarding the FBI's involvement in the Capitol riot on January 6th. After telling a Committee Democrat that it was "ludicrous" to suggest that FBI agents orchestrated an operation on J6, Wray later refused to answer straightforward questions about whether the FBI had confidential human sources present that day. Even when pressed by a Republican on information related to the two pipe bombs left at both the RNC and DNC, Wray stonewalled — hiding behind the active status of the investigation.

United States Congressman
Representative
Andrew Clyde



But Wray's efforts to evade basic questions extended beyond the topic of January 6th.

Numerous Committee Republicans grilled Wray on the agency's brazen double standard in the treatment of President Trump and President Biden, with additional questions zeroing in on Joe Biden's corrupt behavior. Due to his lack of interest and answers, Wray was directly asked if he protects the Bidens.

Wray, of course, replied: "Absolutely not. The FBI has no interest in protecting anyone politically."

Give me a break. While Wray will never publicly admit to the FBI's increasingly politicized and weaponized actions, the American people know good and well that this ongoing behavior is rotting the agency from the inside out.

And these nefarious efforts aren't just aimed at high-profile Republicans. Everyday Americans continue to bear the brunt of the FBI's dishonorable and unlawful behavior. From targeting concerned parents at school board meetings to punishing pro-life activists and surveilling religious Americans, the FBI has undoubtedly overstepped its bounds. Despite legitimate concerns about these widely reported activities, Wray largely sidestepped related questions during the House Judiciary Committee hearing.

Ultimately, the vast majority of questions directed at FBI Di-

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Grace Pictures #3

I was so naïve. I assumed moving European country boundaries by force was a remnant of the last century's ideological horrors. But history is repeating itself with trenches, cannon fodder, and tactics reminiscent of the 1914 war. My heart hurts for the Russian and Ukrainian mothers who would gladly give away the conquered territory in return for their sons' lives.

We yearn for peace because we value life and the tranquility that makes life worth living. That's why war, surrender, and peace form such an emotional picture of God's grace toward us. "Have you made your peace with God?" is a question that points to God's love and mercy.

How is one at war with God? Here's one way: "Whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (Jas. 4:4). Let those who would reinvent God to reflect modern sensibilities take note. British author Dorothy Sayers writes, "I believe it to be a grave mistake to present Christianity as something charming and popular with no offence in it... We cannot blink the fact that gentle Jesus meek and mild was so stiff in His opinions and so inflammatory in His language that He was thrown out of church, stoned, hunted from place to place, and finally gibbeted as a firebrand and a public danger. Whatever His peace was, it was not the peace of an amiable indifference."

It's a peace that is settled on God's terms as revealed in the Bible. It's you and I who must surrender our trenches, wave the white flag, and sue for peace. "Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 5:1). In the inimitable words of C.S. Lewis, "Fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement: he is a rebel... Laying down your arms, surrendering, saying you are sorry, realizing that you have been on the wrong track and getting ready to start life over again from the ground floor—that is the only way out of our 'hole.' This process of surrender—this movement full speed astern—is what Christians call repentance."

Surrender in the form of repentance and faith leads to reconciliation between you and your Creator. It's not a way of restoring your version of a tenuous, uncertain truce. Rather, it's beginning new life in Christ. "While we were enemies, we were

All Things New

Wayne Fowler



See Fowler, page 5A

Commissioner's Questions

This week's questions and answers focus on the Union County Senior Center. Kathy Hill is the Director and in charge of participation and activities at the Senior Center. These questions are some of the most common questions we receive, and the answers contain general information. If you have further questions you can call the Union County Senior Center at 706-439-6105.

Q. Where is the Senior Center located?

A. The Union County Senior Center is located at 95 Senior Center Drive. If you are traveling west on Highway 515, you turn right on Meeks Avenue as if you were going to North Georgia Technical College. The first road immediately to your left is Senior Center Drive, and the Senior Center is at the bottom of the hill on the left. The Senior Center is available for Seniors who are 60 years old or older.

Q. Who do I contact about getting an elderly family member signed up for Meals on Wheels?

A. You can call the Senior Center at 706-439-6105 to get your family member signed up for the program or for additional information. The Meals on Wheels program provides home delivered meals to qualified seniors. There is no cost for this program, however everyone is allowed an opportunity to donate toward their meals if they are able to do so.

Q. What type of programs does the Senior Center offer?

A. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. They offer a wide variety of programs throughout the day which includes various exercise programs, quilting, acrylic painting, crafts, Bingo, Wii Bowling, and even line dancing. Each day at 11:30 there is a congregate meal provided at the Senior Center also. This is a great way for seniors to get a hot meal and socialize at the same time.

Q. Are there any activities for senior citizens who have Alzheimer's?

A. On Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:30 to 3:30 the Alzheimer's Respite Program is available. To participate in this program the individual must be approved prior to participation. The Senior Center staff recommends calling and bringing the individual by for a visit to see if the program will be a good fit for them.

Q & A from Union County Commissioner

Lamar Paris



See Paris, page 5A

Letters to the Editor

Walking on Roadways

Dear Editor,

The people of Blairsville and Union County will have to excuse me for writing another Op/Ed so soon after the last one I wrote. I'm not writing this for myself. I'm writing this for a friend who is a good person and who had an altercation with two pedestrians the morning of July 12th of this year. Upon hearing his story, I was stupefied.

As my friend was going to run some errands, he was coming up a hill close to his house. Once reaching the top of this hill he started around a corner, and to his surprise, he saw two pedestrians and a dog on his side of the road. The pedestrians turned around and upon seeing my friend started waving their arms in the air. My friend stopped and rolled down his window, at which time the pedestrians started to berate him for speeding. According to him they said the speed limit is 25 mph. To which he replied, I was going the speed limit and Y'ALL are on the wrong side

See Rains, page 5A

On Rep. Andrew Clyde

Dear Editor,

In response to a recent missive to Representative Andrew Clyde stating he should be "actually helping his constituents" and "advancing the betterment of Georgia District 9," I offer the following:

Representative Clyde is an elected United States Representative. He is responsible for representing the citizens of Georgia Legislative District 9 in the Federal Legislature in Washington, D.C. He does this by advancing legislation and supporting or rejecting legislation that affects all citizens of the United States. He is to represent the views and feelings of the constituents of District 9 on the federal government legislation that appears before the House of Representatives.

See Peterson, page 5A

Re: "Eat Mor Chikin"

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to clarify the Southern Poverty Law Center's present status.

Between 1980 and 2000 the SPLC brought 17 "Landmark Cases" famously fighting the KKK and other problem children. Between 2000 and present day they have brought only three cases, the most recent in 2016.

Their M.O. now is to drum up funds by making lists of "hate groups" for the Left to circulate.

Among the "hate groups" are Catholic nonprofits such as Ruth Institute and the Church Militant website, both espousing traditional family values.

See Tarter, page 5A

Citizens Rights

Dear Editor,

The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America reads: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

By now, everyone knows there is a petition circulating to give the citizens of Union County a voice and a choice whether they want to continue with a Sole Commissioner form of government or move to a Board of Commissioners. The petition allows the citizens the opportunity to choose what form of government they want. The government is supposed to work for and serve "We the People."

We have gone to several different locations to meet with citizens to get their signatures. What I am about to describe next is quite troubling. We have been harassed by some employees that work for the county and our elected officials in our local government. The people I am referring to have tried to intimidate and threaten us by being rude and disrespectful. I won't repeat the profanity and

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Inner Power - Part II

You and I have the right to exercise our power. Owning our own thoughts without being harassed, experiencing our emotions without being condemned, and carrying out our ethical actions without being persecuted is what our inner power is all about.

On the flip side of the coin is the person who tosses away their inner power to just anyone. Why would an individual wish to remain a victim?

Why would the person prefer feeling self-pity? What does the person achieve from being a victim rather than exercising one's inner power?

Being victims not only brings forth negative attention, but it also permits the person to blame everyone else for their shortcomings, problems and failures. Victims are blamers. They believe that everything happening badly in their lives is someone else's fault. "Others are at fault for my topsy-turvy world," is the attitude that they have... and actually believe.

The victim becomes so accustomed to being in a subservient role that the cause of one's negative emotions are attributed to others. It's like pulling a life blanket over one's head and hiding away from responsibilities, routines and relationships. They can become a victim and can escape from accountability and live a life of denial and pity. The victim soon becomes a shadow of a person, of what one was, surrounded by controlling family members, friends and authoritative persons.

It doesn't take long before the victim turns into a co-dependent, self-contained figure in society. Tragically, the victim succumbs to those he has bestowed the power to. And the controllers in turn instruct the victim how he should think, feel and believe.

We can actually hear people giving up their power in their conversations:

"He made me so mad."

"She made me furious."

"They ganged up on me and made me discouraged."

"I used to think it was crazy, but she told me I was wrong, so I guess I believed her."

"I had no intentions of going there, but he said I was being foolish, so I went."

"I haven't been to church lately, and they made me feel guilty."

If you can't stand yourself, Neither can anybody else.

- Sid Caesar

No one but no one has the power to make you feel any emotion. We choose that emotion. It is always our choice. We find conve-

See Ashurst, page 5A

Successful Mental Health

Dr. James Ray Ashurst PH. D.



Rock Bridge

The Rock Bridge had always intrigued me. Mom had told me stories of the place since I was old enough to remember. It was a place of natural beauty and it also had a reputation with a dark past. I visit the place in my dreams often, and every now and then I go back to visit. Even today it is beautiful and yet mysterious at the same time.

Bill and Delphia Adams owned a small piece of land at the top of a ridge just above and west of Little Bear Creek. Just to the east of the creek and halfway up the next ridge, the Rock Bridge was located along with a saddle-shaped rock called Saddle Rock. Hiram Baker had settled this area in the 1850s, and after his death the land had passed from one Baker to another for three generations until mine. But, even before my ancestors came to the area, the Rock Bridge had a dark past.

I have always been told that a family of Cherokee Indians lived under this bridge and their ancestors had lived there for generations before Christopher Columbus. Then two things happened which would change the way these people lived. First, Andrew Jackson was elected as President of the young United States. And second, gold was discovered in Dahlonega, Georgia. This was the excuse President Jackson was looking for which led him to sign an executive order leading to the removal of the Cherokee and Creek nations from their homelands in Alabama and Georgia. The soldiers came to the area around the Rock Bridge and rounded up the families and forced them on to the infamous "Trail of Tears." When the soldiers came to the "Rock Bridge," a young Cherokee woman screamed as she ran. In her attempt to evade the soldiers she slipped and fell from the top of the bridge, resulting in her death. It has been told many times that if you visited the area at midnight you could still hear the screams of the young woman as if she were running from the soldiers.

Fifteen years after the removal, my 3X great-grandfather settled in the area. He and his wife, Mandy, built a log home not too far from the Rock Bridge. Mandy loved the area and spent many a day with her children exploring the area. She and her children swam in the creek and found a large rock from which they could jump into the creek. They built fires under the bridge to cook their lunch and even found a rock close by where they could sit and watch the creek below. It is said that Mandy haunts the Rock Bridge to this day. If you visit the bridge at midnight you can see her sitting there in a rocking chair rocking and singing her favorite songs.

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Around The Farm

Mickey Cummings



Is It Ripe?

One question that people will call me with is how to tell if a fruit or vegetable is ripe or not. Different plants ripen differently. Some will continue to ripen after they've been picked, others need to ripen attached to the plant. Let's talk about what causes plants to ripen and how to tell if some common fruits and vegetables are ripe or not.

Fruits and vegetables are divided into climacteric and non-climacteric. The difference between these groups is their response to the hormone ethylene. Ethylene is a hormone that plants produce to induce ripening. Climacteric fruits and veggies will continue to ripen after they have been picked. Non-climacteric fruits and veggies won't continue to ripen. Instead, they will soften and rot as they age. Some crops are sensitive to ethylene and so shouldn't be stored with climacteric crops that produce ethylene.

Apples, pears, peaches, plums, potatoes, and tomatoes are some examples of climacteric plants. Blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, cherries, cucumbers, grapes, strawberries, peppers, squash, and watermelon are all examples of non-climacteric crops. Some examples of plants that are sensitive to ethylene and so shouldn't be stored with climacteric crops are asparagus, broccoli, cucumbers, green beans, kale, onions, peas, peppers, squash, and watermelon.

Now that we know a little more about the ripening process let's talk about how to tell when the best time to pick some of the most commonly grown crops around here are.

Tomatoes are an easy one to tell when they are ripe because they start to turn red. You can pick tomatoes before they are fully ripe on the vine. Because they are climacteric, they will continue to ripen. I've put tomatoes up in the kitchen windowsill so that they'll ripen. Sometimes it is advantageous to pick something before it's fully ripe so that you make sure critters don't get it before you.

Apples and pears can be a little more challenging to tell when they are ripe. Different varieties will ripen at different times. In addition, the entire tree may not ripen at the same time. If the apple or pear stem breaks away easily from the tree then it's ripe. Turn the fruit sideways to see if it pops off. Depending on the variety, you can use color to tell if the fruit is ripe. If you cut an apple open and the seeds are dark brown, it's ripe.

Blueberries will be plump with a deep blue color. They also have a white powder on the skin that keeps them fresh longer.

Squash and zucchini should be harvested when they're 4-8 inches long. They'll both grow

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Chamber of Commerce

For those of you who have always loved attending our Buy Local Extravaganza, it's back, revamped, and better than ever and now called the Blairsville Business Expo! Years ago many of the businesses that attended would sell their products, so calling it the Buy Local event was fitting. But now the event has become more of a show 'n' tell for the businesses with an invitation and hopes that you will visit them for a more in-depth showcase of what they offer.

This one-of-a-kind experience, the Blairsville Business Expo, features over 80 vendors showcasing the best products and services and food all in one convenient location. Bring your family and join in on the excitement of the touch-a-truck event, where kids can get up close with various vehicles, from mail trucks to fire trucks and boats. Plus, take advantage of the opportunity to network and potentially land your dream job or career, with employers on-site. Don't miss out on exclusive giveaways, refreshing drinks.

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Blairsville - Union County Chamber President

Steve Rowe



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Once approved the Alzheimer patient can be brought on the above days and dropped off to participate in the programs that are tailored to their needs. There are volunteers and employees available to help them with their basic needs and lead the programs. They offer music activities, hand/eye coordination exercises, a flexibility program, and bingo. Refreshments are also served during this time.

Q. Is transportation available to and from the Senior Center?

A. Transportation might be provided to and from the Senior Center in certain situations. For details concerning the service area contact the Senior Center. On certain days during the week the Senior Center Transportation will also take seniors to do their grocery shopping.

Q. What is the cost for a

Senior Citizen to participate in the activities and benefit from the services provided?

A. There is no fee to join the Senior Center. If you join you can participate in most of the activities and programs that are offered on a regular basis. If individuals are able to donate or make contributions for their participation or for their use of the services, they are welcome to do so, but there are no required fees. Also, if you are not a member and you just want to participate in the Silver Sneakers Exercise Program, there is a fee for that. Art classes are not open to non-members.

Meals on Wheels and the Union County Senior Center – A great resource provided by local donations and the Federal Government. Thank you Kathy Hill & staff for everything you do!

Clyde... continued from Page 4A

Director Wray went unanswered – prompting swift criticism and fueling frustrations.

Yet no matter Wray's attempts to obfuscate the truth, House Republicans are committed to delivering transparency and justice to the Ameri-

can people. Please know that as a conservative appropriator, I look forward to assisting my Republican colleagues in this effort through the appropriations process and utilizing every congressional tool to hold the corrupt FBI accountable.

Vandereedt... continued from Page 4A

ugliness being used. A couple of examples are:

“Why don't you get the f--- out of here.”

“Why don't you go back to where you came from.”

“You are going to look good in cuffs because I am going to call the sheriff.” (That comment was by a county employee whose salary we pay.)

There have also been some citizens who seem to think that unless you were born and raised in Union County you should not have a voice. All citizens who reside in Union County and pay taxes and are law-abiding citizens should and do have a voice in what happens in the county.

I would like everyone to think about our God-given rights and what our First Amendment right says. I don't care if you are a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or a Libertarian. This should bother everyone when people want to take away our freedoms.

Whether you agree or disagree with the petition, I would like everyone to remember our men and women who fought for the rights and freedoms we have today. We are losing our respect and dignity for one another. Let's be respectful of each other's rights. If we lose our rights, we have nothing left as a country.

Cindy Vandereedt

Peterson... continued from Page 4A

It is my feeling that Representative Clyde, in his campaign for his seat, stated very well his positions on the major federal issues facing our country. After stating his positions, the voters decided that he should represent them in Washington. Further, Representative Clyde has held true to those positions and voted on legislation and presented legislation that followed those positions. He has strongly supported the Constitution of the United States, defending First Amendment rights, Second Amendment rights, among others.

I do not understand what the letter writer is asking Representative Clyde to do in order to actually help his constituents. Defending the Constitution is helping the constituents of District 9 and all the citizens of the United States. What better help can we expect from Representative Clyde than defending the culture and freedom of our country from those

who would remove our freedoms, our independence, and destroy the great country which we have inherited.

If the writer has a specific problem with a federal agency or a federal issue, he can, as a citizen of District 9, contact his elected Representative Clyde and he will do what he can to “actually help” his constituent. If he has a problem with a state agency or a state issue, he can contact his elected Georgia State Representative Stan Gunter or Georgia State Senator Steve Gooch. If he has a problem with a county agency or county issue, he can contact his elected County Commissioner Lamar Paris.

Representative Clyde is doing what he was elected to do, he is representing the people of Georgia Legislative District 9, who elected him, in the Federal Legislature in Washington D.C.

Vince Peterson

Rains... continued from Page 4A

of the road. My friend told me it just went downhill from there.

One thing he did tell me is this. He tried to inform the pedestrians that there is a Georgia state law that says, and I'm quoting my friend, “You can walk on any public road in the state, with the exception of an Interstate Hwy, as long as you walk on the left side of the road facing traffic.” My buddy is a smart guy, and I know he's walked for exercise around Blairsville and other areas of our state for many years. I decided to see if he was correct about that state law, and what I've found is 2010 Georgia Code 40-6-96 - Pedestrians on or Along Roadway. Now, that law doesn't say exactly what my friend said it did, but Section D does state this, and I quote: “Where neither a sidewalk nor a shoulder is available, any pedestrian standing or striding along and upon a highway shall stand or stride as near as practicable to an outside edge of the roadway, and, if on a two-lane roadway, shall stand or stride only on the left side of the roadway.” These pedestrians were on a two-lane road at the time this altercation happened, and since they were on the right-hand side of the road, THEY were in violation of the law.

We have so many NEW people moving up here. More and more of them will be using our roadways for exercise. A lot of them don't take the time or effort to find these things out for themselves before they put themselves in that dangerous position. Don't get me wrong, there are also a lot of Georgia natives that don't know the law. As far as my friend being accused of speeding by the pedestrians, he was coming up a hill. Anyone who understands how

vehicle engines work knows that an engine under the load of pushing the weight of that vehicle up a hill is going to sound like the vehicle is going faster than it is because the engine is under a load and working hard. Yes, it's as simple as that.

The last thing I have to say about this is, if you don't know whether what you're doing is or isn't against the law, the best course of action is to NOT do that thing until you clearly find out and understand what the actual law says.

Claude Rains Jr.

Williams...

continued from Page 4A

longer if left on the vine, and you can still eat them if they're big, but they get tougher as they age. You should be able to push your fingernail into the skin.

Sweet corn is ripe when you can puncture a kernel with your fingernail and milky fluid comes out. As soon as corn is picked, it starts to lose flavor. Refrigerate it to retain flavor.

Pick peas when the pods have plumped out. If they start to wrinkle, they're getting over-ripe. You can always open a pod to see if the seeds are swollen, but still tender. Beans are ready when you can see the seeds bulging through the sides of the pod.

Pick peppers when they are shiny green. If you let them sit on the bush longer and they start to change to orange or red and they're getting hotter. If that's what you're looking for, let them sit.

If you have questions about when plants are ripe contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Cummings...continued from Page 4A

The rock formation where she and her children would visit is located 100 yards from the bridge. People can actually sit on the “saddle rock” and view Little Bear Creek located a quarter mile away in the hollow below. This area must have been quite a nice place to gather for young folks because there are many initials carved into the limestone. I am familiar with many of the initials because they belong to old friends and loved ones which have long since passed.

As a young boy I listened to stories about Rock Bridge and Saddle Rock. I was told they were beautiful places, but, danger lurked there as well. One evening I was at Maw maw's house and none of my cousins were there with me. After supper I was bored so I went outside. It was late summer and there was a muscadine vine down in the woods toward the creek. I decided to walk the short distance to see if any were ripe yet. As I was standing at the bottom of this tree scanning the top of the tree and vine for any ripe muscadines I heard something that made the hair on my neck stand up. Judging the location of the sound I figured it was coming from up close to the Rock Bridge. I was sure the sound came from a woman. It sounded like something you would hear on a scary movie. I could just imagine the scene of a Cherokee woman running along the edge of the Rock Bridge and falling to her death. The screams would begin and then stop for a time and begin again.

It didn't take me long before I decided to go back home. I didn't run. But, I kept a lookout. I didn't want that Indian woman slipping up on me. I told my Maw maw about the screams and she assured me the sound was not a haint. But, what she told me scared me even more. She explained the sound was being made by a “painter.” She said, “I'm not sure the color of this big cat. Could be he is brown. But, he is probably black with green eyes.” She further explained that these black panthers were mean and sneaky. They had been known to kill humans. She told me it was best that I stay inside for the rest of the evening.

Baker Rock sits in a

Tarter ...

continued from Page 4A

ily and Catholic opposition to abortion and transgender damage of minors.

Appearing on the SPLC rolls often mean loss of contractors or financial services by companies afraid to be perceived as supporting “hate” groups.

This business plan makes the current SPLC a valuable tool for Left Wing groups to shut down their opposition.

The Ruth Institute lost its donation page without notice. Vanco, Card and Wells Fargo canceled their contracts after the SPLC listing.

Church Militant lost its web-hosting contractor and had to scramble to remain online with its daily productions and services after an SPLC listing. The Leftists infiltrating some ranks in the Catholic Church hierarchy applauded this.

Like the ACLU, the Southern Poverty Law Center has wandered from it laudable Civil Rights Era origins. One of the original two founders, Morris Dees, had to resign in 2019 after credible claims of sexual harassment.

The SPLC is a tool for the Marxist Leftists and should be ignored in the future. George Soros' “Open Society Foundations” contribute to the SPLC in case you need more.

Don't take my word, look it up.

J. Murray Tarter

Chamber...

continued from Page 4A

and delicious treats from all vendors. Mark your calendars for September 14th and join us for a night where you can discover and support local businesses all in one place.

Workforce Development Board Meeting

The WorkSource Georgia Mountains, Workforce Development Board (WDB), will hold its regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, July 27, 2023, at 4 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Diner at the Rabun County Civic Center located at 201 W. Savannah Street, Clayton, GA 30525.

Ashurst... continued from Page 4A

nient scapegoats for our negative feelings, always blaming someone else. The simple truth is that we selected that particular feeling. Someone says something that we don't particularly like, so in turn, we stick that person with a particular feeling. “He made me furious.” In reality, no, the person didn't. We chose being furious rather than choosing not to be. That person does not have that supreme power to make us feel anything.

No one but no human being has that kind of power! We have the freedom to choose our personal feelings, thoughts and actions. We may not particularly like to own such a concept because we have to be accountable for our emotions, our actions, and our thoughts, which in turn means to stop blaming others.

It is not easy at times to maintain one's inner power. There may be moments when we would rather throw up our hands, quit, and deny our power. Let someone else be in charge of our life for a little while. Feeling this way is quite normal and even ex-

pected at times.

There may be times when we are placed into situations that are not of our choosing. However, by maintaining our inner power, we are free to choose how we will respond.

No matter what, the important lesson is not to give away one's power just because one is involved in circumstances due to someone else. You and you alone have the power to react or to respond in the manner you choose.

Fowler...

continued from Page 4A

reconciled to God through the death of his Son...Having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life” (Rom. 5:10).

One of the apparent outcomes of the war in Ukraine is that churches (over there and here) are growing with new Ukrainian believers who have seen the devastations of war and are finding their peace with God. Perhaps that's because the picture of grace is so powerful and real.