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missioner form of government in Georgia. They are Towns Co - Population 11,000, Union County - 24,000, Murray Co - 40,000, Bartow Co - 107,000, Chattooga Co - 25,000, Pulaski Co - 11,000, Bleckley - 13,000

### Q. What are the advantages of the Sole Commissioner?

A. These are some of the advantages of the Sole Commissioner form of government: 1) It is easier for area businesses and residents, and even state legislators, to deal with one individual than with a board made up of multiple people with multiple ideas, 2) It's efficient in that decisions can be made very quickly - as opposed to the possibility of heated debates between several commissioners who cannot agree, with decisions sometimes taking months, 3) The commissioner gets to meet and know community leaders, business people and the public personally through community meetings as well as through personal, telephone and email communication through his or her office, and 4) It costs less than a board of commissioners (administrative costs). Only one Commissioner has to be trained and go to meetings all over the state as opposed to paying to send an entire board.

### Q. What are the disadvantages of having a sole commissioner?

A. These are some of the disadvantages: 1) Being one person, the sole commissioner must (or should) be knowledgeable about everything related to all county departments and operations. That can be overwhelming without the right support staff, advisors, and consultants, 2) The sole commissioner places both the legislative and executive role into the hands of a single person

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1/4 mile or so across the field to their mailbox. As Paul was reaching into the box, he noticed some green paper on the ground at his feet. He reached down and picked up the paper. As he unfolded the crumpled-up paper, he almost gagged. It was covered in wet snuff, and immediately, the young boys knew it came from Judd. They almost threw it away, but something told them to continue unfolding the paper. The boys were 10 and 8 and had never seen a \$20 bill. Carefully, they cleaned the money with water to remove the snuff and laid it out to dry.

The two boys decided to keep the money for themselves and were already planning all the things that could be purchased. The family spent the rest of the hot day in the cotton patch chopping out the cotton, and late in the day, they looked up and watched as the Mailman's Car came down the old road to their house. Glenna and her sons left Papa in the field and walked back across the field to the cool shade of the oaks in their yard. Judd was waiting on them and greeted them all with a big smile. He explained that he had a habit of wiping his mouth with paper and that he thought he may have accidentally wiped off the snuff with a \$20 bill and threw it out the window of the Model T. He asked, "I don't guess y'ins have seen it, have ye?"

## Walters-Taylor... continued from Page 4A

afterlife. As many of the dead did not get a proper burial, the Vietnamese often thought some of the strange night noises coming from the woods, not all of which were nature-made, were ghosts praying on the dead.

So, what now? Of course, there is no way to go back and get a "do over." And we certainly cannot rewrite history with regards to the unglamorous welcome we uttered. But what we can do is move forward

with gratitude and thanks for the job those Veterans did. There is nothing wrong with identifying a wrongdoing or an injustice, and subsequently trying to make amends. If you see someone wearing a hat or T-shirt with Vietnam Veterans on it, give them a salute, thank them for their service, or place your hand over your heart, and mouth, "Thank You."

### Q. Why do people want to serve as County Commissioner?

A. Generally, what spurs people to become involved in local politics is a specific issue. Once they have become involved in an issue and learned how to work in the local political process, they often discover that they have something to offer the community and are interested in its future. County commissioners come from all walks of life. They can be teachers, nurses, lawyers, doctors, businesspeople, farmers, and homemakers. There is no best experience for elected office, but any experience that may have provided knowledge about finance, budgeting, communications, law, roads, and personnel is most beneficial. An effective county commissioner can leave a legacy of good works and make a positive impact on people's lives. It is the closest level of government to the people and one that provides the greatest challenge and encourages leadership for the future.

It is an honor to serve as your Sole County Commissioner for Union County, Georgia, for over 20 years.

Granny explained that they had not seen the money and sadly the mailman drove away.

Papa walked up and Granny explained the situation to him. Papa could always read his boys like a book, and when Granny walked toward the house to prepare supper, he asked his sons, "Have you two seen Judd's money?" The two little boys hung their heads and explained to their father what had happened. Papa grinned and talked to them about honesty. Then he asked if they wanted to have some fun. He then suggested a plan of action.

After a bit, Paul went to the kitchen and asked his Momma for a hug. As she was hugging her eldest son, Papa and Bud watched Paul slip the \$20 bill into the pocket of his mother's apron. They all sat around the table talking and Papa asked, "Glenna, do you think that just maybe you might have found that money and picked it up, and we've been so busy you forgot about it?" Her face flashed with anger and she started to say no. She slipped her hand into her apron pocket, finding the money, and slowly pulled it out. That evening they drove out to Judd's house and explained that she had found his money. It wasn't until years later when they told Granny the truth. She thought all along she'd found the money and forgot it.

ward with gratitude and thanks for the job those Veterans did. There is nothing wrong with identifying a wrongdoing or an injustice, and subsequently trying to make amends. If you see someone wearing a hat or T-shirt with Vietnam Veterans on it, give them a salute, thank them for their service, or place your hand over your heart, and mouth, "Thank You."

So - until we meet again in peace, I bid you, "At Ease!"

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most \$2 trillion spending bill has now become law with the dubious attempt at fighting the coronavirus; the bill has more pork than Smithfield can produce in a year.

And let's consider Biden's executive order to cancel permits for the Keystone Pipeline, which did a lot more than kill thousands of jobs. Thousands more people who invested in motels and services along the route have now lost their proverbial shirts. Also, have you seen the price of gas lately?

Whether you liked or loathed President Trump, he loves this country and did more for all Americans than I have seen in my 72 years. The construction of the border wall under President Trump stopped thousands of illegals, unaccompanied children now flooding the border - many of whom could have been brought here

for sex-trafficking - criminals, and hundreds of thousands of pounds of illegal drugs.

It's imperative that we do something to stop the Democrat Socialist agenda before it's too late. We've already allowed the government to take away our First Amendment, and Biden vowed to "...destroy the NRA and the gun manufacturers," stripping us of the right to bear arms, while re-instating the right to "sue" a gun manufacturer for the gun violence of a thug with a gun.

I personally don't do "social media," but I do have email and, at least for now, the right to express my opinion.

I urge, no, plead with everyone to check out the "Convention of States" granted by "our" Constitution and share it with as many people as you can.

**Chris Crawford**

## Riley... continued from Page 4A

to 10 feet (depending on their height) from the ground. Remove plants containing resins, oils, and waxes. Use crushed stone or gravel instead of flammable mulches in the Immediate Zone (0 to 5 feet around the house). Keep your landscape in good condition.

3. Roofing and vents: Class A fire-rated roofing products, such as composite shingles, metal, concrete, and clay tiles, offer the best protection. Inspect shingles or roof tiles and replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration. Box in eaves but provide ventilation to prevent condensation and mildew. Roof and attic vents should be screened to prevent ember entry.

4. Decks and porches: Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks and porches and between deck board joints.

5. Siding and windows: Embers can collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials; radiant heat from flames can crack windows. Use fire-resistant siding such as brick, fiber, cement, plaster, or stucco, and use dual pane

tempered glass windows.

6. Emergency responder access: Ensure your home and neighborhood have legible and clearly marked street names and numbers. Driveways should be at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet for emergency vehicle access.

Develop, discuss, and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home. Include details for handling pets, large animals, and livestock. No two ways out of your neighborhood and have a pre-designated meeting place. Always evacuate if you feel it is unsafe to stay - do not wait to receive an emergency notification if you feel threatened from the fire.

Conduct an annual insurance policy checkup to adjust for local building costs, codes, and new renovations. Create or update a home inventory to help settle claims faster.

Get the Reducing Wild-fire Risks in the Home Ignition Zone checklist/poster at Firewise.org. Talk to your local forestry agency, Firewise Coalition, Chest-Chat RC&D, or fire department to learn more about the specific risk where you are live. Visit Firewise.org for more details.

## Williams...

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both be used preventatively against CAR. If you have cedar trees right next to your apple trees you might consider removing them. But keep in mind that the spores can travel a couple of miles from cedar trees, so even if you remove all the cedar trees that you can see, you can still get this disease because we have a lot of cedar trees around.

Cedar-quince rust looks similar to CAR, but it infects pear trees instead of apple. This disease also forms gelatinous masses along its branches instead of balls like CAR.

If you have questions about cedar-apple rust contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

## Fowler...

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dust, he still stoops to breathe into us the breath of life - to bring to our wounds the balm of acceptance and love." Living by that good news is the best antidote to a world untethered to reality. To know and speak that truth is honest love.

"Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ" (Eph. 4:15).

## Chamber...

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sor and supporting our local students, the future of our community.

Remember to thank the workers from the Health Department, Union General Health Systems, and the Commissioner's Office for their continued work to keep us safe and giving everyone 16 and older the opportunity to be vaccinated. They have now administered over 12,000 vaccines locally, and we are truly grateful that their commitment to excellence has efficiently made it possible for anyone desiring the vaccine to have quick access.

In closing, please remember to pray for those that were affected by last week's storms. Weather is always a reality in our mountains, but we're so thankful to have a community of people who jump at the opportunity to help their neighbor. May you all have a blessed and happy Easter!

## S.A.F.E. Inc. is seeking volunteers

S.A.F.E. Inc. is currently recruiting volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering your time to help victims of Domestic Abuse, Sexual Abuse, or Child Abuse, please respond. The next Volunteer training session will be held April 7th & 8th from 9 AM - 5 PM. This is a two day training. If interested, please email Vicki Franklin at Vfranklin@safeservices.org or call 706-379-1901.

## 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.