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ceptions may be necessary. In some instances, we can accept a slightly narrower road width if the road is totally built out, meaning there is no other vacant property that can access the road in the future, which would assure the traffic count could never increase.

Q. What are the normal requirements for a road to be accepted as a county road?

A. Again, there are some exceptions, but mostly it requires a 60 foot right of way, but sometimes we can accept down to a 40 foot right of way if the road has a gentle terrain. Also, on very steep terrain, we sometimes need more than 60 feet to go over a "fill" area. The road must have 6 inches of compacted base and 3½ inches of asphalt, which includes a 2

inch binder and 1½ inch top coat.

Q. Is there ever a case where you can accept a private road as a county road?

A. Yes, in fact we recently accepted a paved subdivision road that had been a private road for several years. It has adequate right of way, even though we had to have some additional forms signed, the road was not too steep, and it was built to county specifications, meaning it had a minimum width of 18 feet of pavement and adequate base. We often core drill the pavement surface and subsurface to confirm adequate depths of gravel and paved surface. Sometimes an additional layer of asphalt or patching is required prior to our acceptance.

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and follow an easy to remember; "S-S-T-A-R" formula: S - Space - 25+ feet between fire and woodlands; S - Space - 50+ feet between fire and structures; T - Time - sunrise to sunset; A - Attendance - Person responsible on-site until the fire is extinguished; R - Reasonable precautions - Tools/measures in place to prevent escaped fire.

Beginning May 1st and ending September 30th, EPD's Open Burning Ban will be enforced in 54 Georgia counties. The Open Burning Ban prohibits citizens and businesses from burning yard and land-clearing debris. This rule is in addition to the year-round state ban on the burning of household garbage. Open burn rules in Georgia don't restrict you from never making a fire outdoors.

There are several legal ways to burn outdoors; thirteen ways in fact. These are types of legal burn activities as outlined by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division: 1. Reduction of leaves on premises, 2. Agricultural procedures for production or harvesting of crops (if land tract is 5 acres or less), 3. Burning vegetative

material for agricultural operations (if land tract is greater than 5 acres), 4. Prescribed burning, 5. Recreational purposes and cooking, 6. Fire-fighting training, 7. Acquired structure burns, 8. Vegetative debris from storms, 9. Weed abatement, disease, and pest prevention, 10. Open flame devices, 11. Land clearing, construction, and right-of-way maintenance, 12. Disposal of packaging materials for explosives, and 13. Land clearing with an air curtain destructor.

And though these are legal ways to burn in Georgia, some of these types of burning require permits or special equipment. Burning manmade materials like tires, plastics, lumber, or household garbage is never legal in the state of Georgia.

For more information on burning in Georgia or if you are in doubt about what you are allowed to burn, contact your local Georgia Forestry Commission office or go to www.gatrees.org or check us out ChestChat RC&D on Facebook at Chestatee chatahoochee RC&D.

Walters-Taylor... continued from Page 4A

concert to entertain us. And most towns and cities across our nation put together programs for Memorial Day. I would contend that, in addition to memorializing those we lost, the ceremonies of the day should also bring light to how we may serve those who put themselves in harm's way, and returned safely to us.

There are about a billion organizations, for profit and nonprofit alike, that serve veterans just like the Gary Sinise Foundation Avalon Network, which provides transformative care to veterans and first responders experiencing post-traumatic stress, brain injuries, and substance abuse. Fisher House provides for housing so families may be near recovering veterans. Pets for Vets helps heal emotional scars and reduce the shelter population. Project HERO is a nonprofit dedicated to helping vets and first responders achieve rehabilitation and recovery from

the trauma related to their duties. Another is VALOR Foundation, a hand up on the home front for veterans transitioning from active service to civilian life, and programs such as Veterans Unstoppable to aid veterans in coping with some of the same issues as the Sinise Foundation. And VALOR is located right in your community.

I urge you to pick one that is dear to your heart. It might deal with physical injuries, PTSD, Veteran Suicide, first responder support, or support for families of soldiers lost. It is probably true that most of us are not as well off financially as the Sinises or the Mantegnas; but you know that a little plus a little plus a little makes a lot. Let's show our veterans and first responders that they are not forgotten and that we do care - and that we support them to the best of our ability.

Until we muse again, I bid you "At Ease!"

Combs... continued from Page 4A

that would include sending His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to earth to die for the world's sins so that we could be reconciled back to our heavenly Father, God.

What kind of love shows such compassion, kindness, forgiveness, mercy, and grace all wrapped up in the Trinity, 3-in-1. Folks, you will never go wrong if you put your whole trust and faith in a God who will never let you down, but wants to lift you up on high in His glorious place called

heaven.

Does not more dying sound good to you? If it does, don't ponder the thought of coming as you are, but run to Jesus Christ and fall at His feet and invite Him into your heart by confessing and repenting of your sins and become a new creature, old things passed away, all things made new.

It will be an eternal blessing on you for all of eternity, and the rewards are out of this world.

Frank F. Combs

Weekly Patriot Reflection



Government Can't Be Maintained Without Religion

Most Americans today have little understanding of what motivated the Founders as they struggled to form our Republic. Unfortunately, less and less is being taught in our schools today about their heroic battles to be free, in a society unlike any other on earth.

One of the driving forces, of utmost importance was the role of religion to this unique part of civilization.

Read what outsider Alexis de Tocqueville, from

France, observed about religion in America: "Religion in America takes no direct part in the government of society, but it must be regarded as the first of their political institutions. I do not know whether all Americans have a sincere faith in their religion -- for who can search the human heart? -- but I am certain that they hold it to be indispensable to the maintenance of republican institutions.

This opinion is not peculiar to a class of citizens or to a party, but it belongs to the whole nation and to every rank of society."

At the 2016 Democrat Convention for President there was fierce determination expressed by many on the floor who shouted loudly "Take all mention of God out of the Democrat Platform!!" May God continue to bless America, in spite of those who would want to remove all mention of Him.

A Patriot Reflection is presented weekly by www.joshuaswarriors.org.

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

at the new sports center.

If you want to be entertained, be sure you take your family and friends to the Tenth Annual Blairsville Pro Rodeo. This year's rodeo will be June 18th and 19th at the Union County Saddle Club Arena. Check the Chamber's website to see all the great events including Bull Riding, Barrel Racing and be sure to check out the Union County Saddle Precision Drill Team or sign up for the Steer Dressing Contest.

Don't forget to go to the Chamber's website where

Cummings...

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riculture to farming for a profit on his Alabama farm.

The next day Aunt Mabel brought the book and the solved problem, written down on paper, back to Mr. Isom's Math Class. She demonstrated on the blackboard how her daddy solved the problem and the answer agreed with the answer in the book. Mr. Isom sat in his chair and was stunned that he was bested by a sawmill operator. But he was also wise enough to realize that he had been wrong. His lesson to his students that day was that even educated people can learn new things if they will open their minds.

Like many in his generation, Lon Cummings received just enough education to allow him to read. But he used his education along with a good helping of common sense, and if you couple those two with a good work ethic, the result will show up in your everyday life. Many in that generation demonstrated similar aptitudes.

Williams...

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any Japanese beetles.

Using milky spore to kill the grubs doesn't mean that you won't have any Japanese beetles the following year, but you can significantly reduce the population that is present in your area. Some people will use traps to kill Japanese beetles. I try to discourage people from this practice because traps with pheromone lures will bring beetles in from five miles away, meaning that you have more beetles.

If you have questions about Japanese beetles contact your county Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Fowler...

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ing and each doing what's right in his or her own eyes. Pray they know the truth and the joy that accompanies those who walk with Jesus. Pray that God will orchestrate the circumstances of your children's lives so that they have an anchor for their souls in such a time as this.

What does George Muller's life say to fathers? It is the man of prayer who can best love, support, and guide the children in your life.

Dyer...

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calls when a person was performing CPR before we arrived. It is that important and it makes a difference.

CPR is truly a lifesaving skill and is extremely easy to learn. Learning CPR can be one part that you can do to make Union County more prepared and resilient.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Brownhill...

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with alcohol readily available at least one lakefront location.

The outcome will be headlines in a future NGN edition: "TRAGEDY on NOT-TELY."

Big money, fast boats and rude boat operators are fast replacing common sense and common courteousness. Slow down. The life you save may be your own.

Paul Brownhill

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.