

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Appropriation Amendments

Over the last four months, the Left has launched an unprecedented crusade against President Biden's top political opponent: President Donald J. Trump.



United States Congressman Representative Andrew Clyde

This effort has resulted in four indictments across four jurisdictions, plunging our nation into dark and uncharted waters. The ultimate goal of these politically-motivated prosecutions is quite clear.

This overt election interference continues to undermine both our Republic and our fair system of justice. I refuse to sit on the sidelines while this sinister scheme unfolds - especially as your hard-earned tax dollars are being used to fund it.

Therefore, I recently announced that I intend to offer two amendments during the ongoing appropriations process in order to stop this election interference in its tracks.

Together, Jack Smith, Alvin Bragg, and Fani Willis have shamelessly led the political persecution of President Trump. It's reprehensible that their prosecutorial misconduct is being rewarded by receiving taxpayer dollars, which is why I'm proud to lead the fight to defund their dangerous election interference efforts.

We simply cannot allow the sitting President of the United States to weaponize our justice system to take down his political foe. Regardless of one's views of President Trump, we must ensure that the American people decide who wins the White House - not Joe Biden, not radical left-wing prosecutors, and not left-wing juries in Democrat districts.

It's imperative that Congress use its power of the purse to protect the integrity of our elections, restore Americans' faith in our government, and dismantle our nation's two-tiered system of justice. Please know that I'm fully committed to helping lead this effort, and I look forward to sharing more with you as the upcoming funding battle unravels when members return to Washington this week.

Rebuilding Humanity

Who doesn't know the story of Noah, the famous ark builder? We read in the book of Genesis (6:9-11:32) how humanity had sunk into an abyss of moral depravity.



Echos from Sinai "Torah for Everyone" Rabbi Yonatan Hambourger

The one notable exception was Noah ("perfect in his generations" 6:9) who was tasked by G-d to build an ark to save his family as well as every species of animal from the coming deluge.

What you may not know is that even after G-d decided to flood the Earth, he gave everyone ample opportunity to change their ways and live. The sages tell us that even after the downpours started people could have transformed the destructive storms into rains of blessing, but they remained hard-hearted.

When they left the ark, Noah and his family were charged with re-building humanity based on G-d's original plan for Adam and Eve. They were provided with a set of ethical laws for all human society, for all time. These laws established universal codes of decency including the acceptance of and accountability to a single Creator who cares about what human beings are doing: the establishment of the family framework; the enforcement of law and order; and prohibitions against murder, theft, and cruelty. These G-d given laws are compatible with every belief system and religion and provide a blueprint for how all of humanity can dwell together as brothers.

The Sages of the Torah point out that there are destructive rains in every generation representing various anti-spiritual influences. These rains may appear harmless, even beneficial, at first but ultimately can destroy the very fabric of society. This is why each person, each family, each community must make sure that their ark is watertight, by embracing G-d's wisdom as established in these laws.

But it's not enough to keep darkness out. Each one must encourage the light within to shine outward and transform the surrounding darkness into G-dly light. All that's missing is to embrace the common ground found in G-d's message of humanity's purpose.

I would love to hear your thoughts on this week's column. Please email me at yonatan@chabadruralgeorgia.com. *Wishing you G-d's abundant blessings, Rabbi Yonatan Hambourger*

Guest Columns

From time to time, people in the community have a grand slant on an issue that would make a great guest editorial. Those who feel they have an issue of great importance should call our editor and talk with him about the idea. Others have a strong opinion after reading one of the many columns that appear throughout the paper. If so, please write. Please remember that publication of submitted editorials is not guaranteed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SHOULD BE E-MAILED OR MAILED TO:

Towns County Herald, Letter to the Editor P.O. Box 365, Hiawasse, GA 30546 Our email address: tcherald@windstream.net

Letters should be limited to 200 words or less, signed, dated and include a phone number for verification purposes. This paper reserves the right to edit letters to conform with Editorial page policy or refuse to print letters deemed pointless, potentially defamatory or in poor taste. Letters should address issues of general interest, such as politics, the community, environment, school issues, etc. Letters opposing the views of previous comments are welcomed; however, letters cannot be directed at, nor name or ridicule previous writers. Letters that recognize good deeds of others will be considered for publication.* *Note: All letters must be signed, and contain the first and last name and phone number for verification.*

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INGRAINED

How to Use Chainsaws Safely

Chainsaws are one of the most lethal weapons we use all of the time and take the danger for granted. They are a very sharp blade spinning very fast very close to our tender parts that can come in contact with the chain in a fraction of a second.



RC&D Frank Riley Executive Director

Chainsaws are the perfect tool for cutting up fallen trees and large branches. But figuring out where to start and how to go about the job safely is a challenge. Of course, safety is the most important consideration when you're using a chainsaw.

However, there's one spot on the bar that you should carefully avoid. This spot, called the kickback zone, is the top half of the bar's tip. If the kickback zone comes in contact with something while the chain is moving, the saw will kick up and back toward you.

The most common chainsaw injuries to the thigh and left arm can be virtually eliminated with just a few simple precautions.

First, always wrap the thumb of your left hand around the front handle while you're cutting. This encircling grip keeps the saw under control in the event of a kickback.

Second, when you move from place to place with the saw running, even if it's only to the next branch, always remove your right hand from the back handle and carry the saw to your side with your left hand holding the front handle.

The first step in chain safety is to wear the right protective gear ... ear protection, eye protection, full leather boots, gloves, and saw chaps.

When my son was 15, he was helping me do some cutting and I told him to put on the saw chaps and being a good 15-year-old, he argued with me, but I insisted, and he wore them. A few minutes later he came back with cuts across his thighs with the Kevlar hanging out from the chaps. I still have them as an example! If it wasn't for the chaps, it would be his legs cut open.

Never operate a chain saw with complete protective gear! The legs you save will be yours! Now that you're dressed, fill the saw tank with gas that's premixed with two-cycle oil. Then fill the oil tank with bar and chain oil. After the saw is filled, move it at least 10 ft. away from the filling area to a spot cleared of any ignitable debris. To start the saw, engage the chain brake, turn on the ignition switch, pull out the choke and lock on the fast idle. With the saw sitting on the ground, put the toe of your right boot into the back handle loop and grasp the front handle with a stiff left arm. Pull the starter handle to fire up the engine. Push in the choke and take it off fast idle, then pull the chain brake back toward the front handle to release the chain brake for cutting. Never do the drop start method! When the saw starts it is not under control.

Get a feel for how your saw responds to the throttle. Cut only when you are in a comfortable, well-balanced position with your feet about shoulder-width apart. Stand to one side of the saw, never directly behind it.

You'll feel different forces when cutting. When cutting with the bottom of the bar, the saw will pull you into the work. When cutting with the top of the bar the saw will tend to push you away from the work. This second force is called a pushing chain. When cutting with a pushing chain, brace the back handle of the saw or your arm against your thigh to gain more control of the saw and reduce fatigue.

Cut trunks that are supported at both ends by making a downward cut one-third the diameter of the trunk. As you cut branches out from under the trunk, it will settle to the ground. Finally, the trunk will either rest entirely on the ground or hang suspended. If it's suspended, cut the trunk loose from the stump and carefully roll it to the ground. If you try to cut straight down through a trunk that's supported on both ends, the weight of the trunk will pinch the bar and stop the saw.

The saw can also become pinched if you cut too far through a branch that supports the trunk. If this happens, stop the engine, and use a stout branch as a lever to lift the trunk and free the saw. Pick a spot on the trunk that has about a 3- to 6-in. gap under it. Otherwise, your chain will hit the ground and quickly dull it as you finish the cut.

Keep the bar parallel to the ground as you near the end of the cut, and finish with the bottom of the saw engine resting flat on the ground to prevent the chain from accidentally hitting the dirt.

Don't take chainsaws for granted, respect them like you would a loaded gun. They can both hurt you permanently in the blink of your eye. Treat chainsaws like the dangerous tool they are, once you are cut things will happen fast. Never cut alone!

Ticks

Ticks are very common in the wooded mountains. Let's talk about some of the different species that are out there and the dangers that they can pose.



Watching and Working Jacob Williams

Ticks have life cycles that last 2 to 3 years. There are many things that factor into tick population including temperature, rainfall, humidity, and available hosts (deer, mice, and other animals.) Ticks start in an egg mass of approximately 6000 eggs. After hatching they are called seed ticks, they have 6 legs and will climb up a blade of grass and wait for an unsuspecting host to come along. After feeding the seed tick will drop off and shed its skin, resulting in a nymph that has 8 legs. The nymph will feed, drop off, and shed its skin reaching its final form as an adult tick.

There are two main species of ticks that are found in Georgia: Lone Star tick and American Dog tick. The Lone Star tick can be identified by a small white star on its back and does not cause any known diseases. The most common tick disease in Georgia is Rocky Mountain Spotted-Fever, which is primarily carried by the American dog tick. A spotted rash appears 2 to 4 days after the onset of fever. The Lone Star Tick is the most commonly found tick in Georgia. They are more active in warmer months. Black-legged tick can still be active in the winter, but they are not as common in Georgia. They are more often found in the Northeast of the U.S., and can carry Lyme disease.

Red meat allergy can be caused by the Lone Star Tick. There is not a lot of information on why this allergy occurs because it has come about in the last 10 years. Not everyone has an allergic reaction after receiving a bite. Research is ongoing to find out more about how red meat allergy is caused.

The best way to avoid ticks is to avoid areas where vegetation is over ankle height. If that's not possible then make sure that you wear long pants and tuck your pants into your socks and shirt into your pants. You won't look glamorous, but hopefully you'll be tick free! Repellents that contains DEET are the most effective. Spraying DEET on your skin and clothes will help keep them away. Permethrin can be used on clothes to kill ticks and insects that crawl over your clothes. If you go out hiking or are working outside check yourself when you come back inside. The longer an infected tick feeds, the higher the likelihood of them transmitting to you. If a tick does bite remove the tick with forceps, grabbing it as near to the point of attachment as possible. Pull it firmly and steadily so that the mouthparts won't be broken off in the skin. Disinfect the bite and wash your hands.

There are products that can be used on pets as a collar to keep ticks away. Some of them are expensive, but products like Seresto last up to 8 months.

There's no way to tell if a tick is carrying a disease, but knowing the species will help eliminate possible diseases. If you have tick questions contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Letters To The Editor

Making Good Choices

Dear Editor,

I hate to admit this but I am a senior citizen, never thought I would say it. Recently I have had a few medical procedures like cataract surgery and thyroid removal. Thank goodness for Medicare and my supplement. I was able to choose my surgeons and did not pay a dime. I received excellent treatment as well.

So when I hear people complain about so-called socialism and the democrats are socialists, listen to what you are saying. Thank goodness for Medicare and Social Security, there is no boogie man. All citizens should be able to be entitled to medical care. We are the richest country in the world yet we have people who can't even receive basic health care, and many are children.

The Biden administration has passed bills so Medicare can negotiate for drug prices. Most of our Republican reps had voted against it. Why should we pay two, three, or even four times what the same drug costs in most countries?

So please think about who you want to represent you and your families. Don't look for a D or R. Look at who is going to stand up for what you deserve.

Respectfully, Candy Retter

Towns County Community Calendar

Table with 3 columns: Event Name, Location, Time. Includes School Board, Storytime for Children, City Council, etc.

The Towns County Herald

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