

# Opinions

## Everybody has one...

### Guest Editorial

## Newsprint tariff proposals a threat to U.S. newspapers

By Susan Rowell  
President of the National Newspaper Association

There are two things you need to know about newspapers. Newspapers are important to community life and democracy. Always have been. We at the National Newspaper Association think it is important for all sorts of newspapers to survive for the sake of a free society—the very large and the very small ones, the liberal ones, the conservative ones, the middle-of-the-road ones, the ones with no viewpoint but just important news, all of them. Some are our members. Many are not. We defend them anyway. America needs them like we need oxygen.

The second is that even if your newspaper seems to be “online,” the digital copy that you may count on probably couldn’t exist if there weren’t a printed newspaper behind it. The newspaper in print supports all of the other versions economically. So, if the printed version disappeared, you can’t assume all would be well because it is online anyway. It won’t be.

These facts are important because the paper your newspaper is printed on is under attack.

One small paper mill in Washington State is trying to use the federal trade and tariff laws to make this paper—newsprint, or uncoated groundwood paper, in paper parlance—about 50 percent more expensive. This mill has complained to the U.S. Department of Commerce and International Trade Commission about international competition. If it succeeds, the prices of newspaper printing will skyrocket. The resources available for everything else your local newspaper may need or want to do for you will be strangled.

Canadian paper producers have supplied the U.S. for many years. They have some natural advantages over U.S. papermakers because of hydroelectric power and shipping costs. More than a dozen U.S. mills have stopped making newsprint in the last decade because demand for paper has declined. Today, even if Canadian paper disappeared because of high tariffs being proposed to the federal government, the U.S. paper mills could not supply newspapers with the paper they need. Mills cost hundreds of millions of dollars to build and can take many years to be safely situated in

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## Plan for the Great Escape!

Here we are again in the crazy weather season of the North Georgia Mountains. I am sure everyone is looking forward to warmer days where we can

plant some spring flowers and clean up the yard. Cleaning up the yard may involve burning all those sticks and leaves that have accumulated over the winter. Union County Fire Department would like to remind everyone of the requirements and safety considerations before burning.

Fire Dept.  
from Union  
County  
Fire Chief  
David  
Dyer



Before burning debris, homeowners must obtain a burning permit from the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC). It is illegal to burn without a permit. The burning permit is easy to obtain by calling 1-877-OK2-Burn or by going on-line to GaTrees.org. Homeowners provide some basic information and GFC issues a burning permit number. There may be times where burning is not allowed and, in those cases, permits will not be issued. Outdoor burning permits are for the burning of natural vegetative materials. It is also unlawful to burn man made materials such as tires, shingles, plastics, lumber, household garbage, etc. Permits are only good for the day they were issued.

Once the homeowner has a permit, it is time to prepare for safety and burn the debris pile. Check the weather to know conditions. Make sure that you have enough time to commit to burning the debris pile. Advise your neighbors that you will be burning to reduce 911 calls about smoke in the area. Prepare tools that may be needed to help control the fire such as shovels, rakes and a water hose. Wear the proper clothing including long pants, long sleeves, boots, gloves and safety goggles. When preparing the debris pile, make small piles and clear 25 feet or more around the pile. You should never use any flammable liquids to start the fire. Remain with the fire until all debris is burned. If small embers remain, extinguish them with the water hose.

Land owners who burn are responsible for fire safety, what they burn, the smoke, and maintaining the fire on their property. Always remember to get a permit and practice all safety tips. Knowing your responsibilities and using proper safety practices can keep you safe and may prevent wildland fires. For more information on burning safely or on the protection and conservation of Georgia’s forest resources please visit www.GATrees.org.

- Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

## Drug Free Mountain Life

### How Employers Can Prevent Drug Test Cheating

“How do I cheat on a drug test?” This is Googled thousands of times a day, and the query gets more than a million hits in less than a second.

With millions of tests being conducted every year, it is not surprising that some are trying to game the system. But there are ways employers can fight back.

How do people cheat on drug tests?

There are three main ways people cheat on urine-based drug tests. First, they can ingest something. Second, they can add something. Third, they can sneak something into the testing site.

Websites do their best to convince people that specially formulated drinks, mouthwashes or vitamins can help them beat the test. Others just say to drink gallons of water to dilute the evidence of drugs in the urine – or to even add detergent or bleach. Labs have gotten wise to these methods and have other tests that can show if a sample has been diluted in any of these ways. The craziest part of the cheating game is sneaking in clean

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The DRUG FREE MOUNTAIN LIFE campaign supports an overall safe community by providing information, education and support services to children, families, and community toward prevention of illegal substance abuse.

## He Lives!

Two guys walking, talking about the day’s stunning turn of events. A mysterious stranger falls in with them. He probes. They report. He then owns the conversation, holding them spellbound. They invite him to continue over supper. Suddenly they realize who He is.

It was the resurrected Jesus that made their hearts burn within them along the road to Emmaus. I wish I had heard His explanation from Scripture of why he had to “suffer these things and to enter into His glory” (Luke 24). Perhaps He explained that He had to be crushed as a guilt offering in order that “He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand. As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied” (Isa. 53).

Jesus’ first followers went to jail for proclaiming his Resurrection (Acts 4:2). Revisionist theologians today would explain it away as symbolic, but the first disciples experienced it as a startling, historical, bodily return from the dead. That is central to the gospel: “If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain” (1 Cor. 15:14). “If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Rom. 10:9).

What does Jesus’ Resurrection mean for you? It authenticates His claim of deity, such as “I and the Father are one” (John 10:30). Only God could accomplish this one-off feat, which means He can also keep His promises to intercede for you at the right hand of the Father (Rom. 8:34) and to come again for you (John 14:3).

If you visit George Washington’s tomb, you will see this inscription: “I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die” (John 11:25-26). When someone approached Jesus with a question about dead people, He made them refocus. “He is not the God of the dead but of the living” (Matt. 22:32). As John Newton lay on his deathbed someone nudged him. He said, “I am still in the land of the dying, but soon, I shall be in the land of the living.”

See Fowler, page 5A

All Things  
New

Wayne  
Fowler



## Commissioner’s Questions

The following questions are related to carrying a weapon in Georgia. Georgia laws are very complicated and for that reason these questions will be reviewed by a qualified member of the Sheriff’s Office. These questions also assume that you are NOT a convicted felon or any other individual who is prevented from having weapons by Georgia Law because of prior criminal or mental issues.

**Q. If we get a new gun club shooting range in Union County, do I have to purchase a Georgia Weapons Carry License in order to transport my gun from my house to the shooting range?**

A. No, you do not. In Georgia, your personal vehicle is considered an extension of your home. You can simply place your guns in the car and carry them with you, whether they are concealed or in the open.

**Q. Are there certain geographic areas where I CANNOT carry my weapon in an automobile?**

A. Yes. You are prohibited from carrying your weapon on a school, along with several State and Federal properties.

**Q. When can a minor legally carry a firearm?**

A. Minors may carry firearms when they are attending hunter educational and firearms safety courses, practicing target shooting at a range, or participating in competitions or performances that use firearms. With the consent of their parents, minors may also apply for hunting licenses and may carry firearms while on their parents’ property.

**Q. If I just moved to Georgia, where do I register my handgun?**

A. There is no handgun registration here. People are sometimes surprised to learn that only 6 states have handgun registration. Georgia is not one of them.

**Q. How long is the waiting period to buy a handgun, shotgun, or rifle in Georgia?**

A. There is no waiting period for purchasing a firearm in the state of Georgia.

**Q. Can I sell or purchase a firearm from someone other than a dealer? What about a background check in this instance?**

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Q & A  
from Union  
County  
Commissioner

Lamar  
Paris



## Chamber Events

On March 27 the Blairsville Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the North Georgia Hospital Auxiliary Association at the Union County Community Center. There will be 70 in attendance from 9 Auxiliaries around north Georgia. Hospitals

from as far away as Rome and Athens will attend. Susan Hahn, President of the Union General Auxiliary will be the President of the State of Georgia Auxiliary in 2019. Greg Owenby at Coosa Marketing Products will be sponsoring the event and will present the Union General Auxiliary with a check for a nursing scholarship at the meeting.

There will be a ribbon cutting for Alyssia Hargus, AFLAC Benefits Advisor on March 29 at 11 AM. The ribbon cutting will be held at the Chamber of Commerce office at the Union County Community Center. All are welcome to attend and learn more about Aflac’s supplemental insurance benefits.

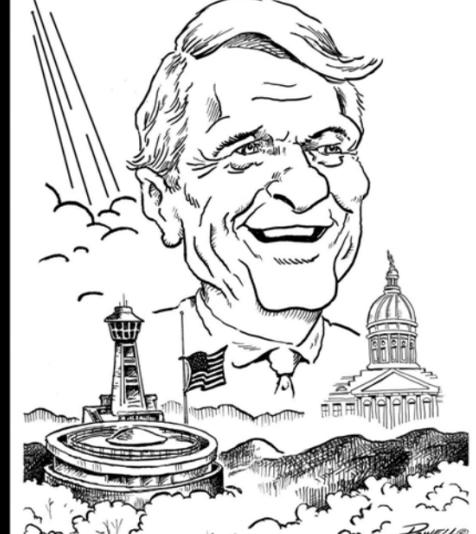
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Blairsville  
- Union  
County  
Chamber  
President  
Al Harper



## ZELL MILLER A LIFE WELL LIVED 1932 - 2018

MOUNTAIN BOY - MARINE -  
GOVERNOR - US SENATOR -  
LT. GOVERNOR - HISTORIAN  
- MAYOR - YHC PROFESSOR  
- NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER  
- RADIO STATION OWNER -  
BASEBALL FAN - MUSIC BUFF  
- BEST SELLING AUTHOR -  
SPEAKER - FATHER- HUSBAND  
- NEIGHBOR - FRIEND -  
FAITHFUL PUBLIC SERVANT...  
A MOUNTAIN OF A MAN



## Letters to the Editor

### It’s Time To Arm Ourselves With Facts

Dear Editor,

We all agree that no American should die in a mass shooting at a school, church, theater, concert, ball field, or any other place where people congregate. The disagreement comes on how to best prevent these tragedies, protect our loved ones, and keep our communities safe. Wise decisions about guns must be made based on facts, not what sounds good to make a point. This issue is too important to be based on political ideologies.

Matt Gurtler stated in his weekly column in the March 7 edition of the NGN: “Over the last 40 years, firearms per capita have fallen, while school shootings have risen.” I called Mr. Gurtler to ask him about this, and I appreciate the time he spent with me on the phone. He told me the source of his statement was an article by Christopher Ingraham of the Washington Post. Mr. Ingraham reported in his June 2016 article that the “percent of American households owning guns” [not “firearms per capita”, as asserted by Mr. Gurtler] “is at a near-40 year low”. Mr. Ingraham continued, “... but gun purchases, as measured by FBI firearm background checks, are at historic highs. And data from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms shows that gun manufacturers are churning out record num-

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### What is Truth?

Dear Editor,

One definition from Webster’s Dictionary says: Honesty. The body of real events or facts. Someone has said that if you saw the truth standing in front of you, you probably wouldn’t recognize it. Well this was true about the Pharisees and the Jewish leaders back when Jesus Christ walked upon this earth trying to convince them that He was the Messiah that they had been looking for, but they lost sight of what was the truth, because of their ignorance of the Word of God. Jesus Christ performed many miracles which a lot of these Jewish leaders saw, yet they couldn’t grasp the idea that this man called Jesus, was the son of a carpenter was also proclaiming to be the Son of God. Final facts are hard to deny. They are laid out in front of us and we are to try and disprove them, but even the Pharisees and the Jewish leaders were so wrapped up in their denial of who this man called Jesus was, they were blinded by their own selfish motives, instead of embracing the truth, they seek the more to have Him killed.

I once too was blinded by the truth of who Christ was, even though I was attending church

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## Letters to the Editor

### Local News

Dear Editor,

Thank you for printing and editing North Georgia News. I’ve always enjoyed reading the paper, and prefer newsprint over a computer screen.

Also, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Emmanuel Carrion of Carrion Tree Service, and his phenomenal crew for their professional job of clearing and cleaning my property. A mighty oak fell when Irma blew last fall. Pine trees were broken, and the top of the old oak tree was hanging in another white oak. An extremely dangerous condition that needed to be remedied. The lumberjacks had to cut a road to get to this mess.

Now my grandchildren can play in my yard, without me worrying about fallen limbs. I can see the stars at night, and the sunshine during the day. My peace of mind is priceless. Sincerely,

Sharon Brazie Coleman

### Trump is Trump

Dear Editor,

There are several reasons people don’t like President Trump: He is neither a liberal or conservative. He is not a polished politician. He tweets too much. While he probably should not attack people who attack him, he does. He’s as PC as a pig. He doesn’t make promises he doesn’t intend to keep. Think about and name one politician who went to Washington and fulfilled his campaign promises.

What is President Trump? He is a pragmatist. The definition of a pragmatist is someone who is practical and focuses on reaching a goal. He sees a problem as just that, a problem need-

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### Yard Signs

Dear Editor,

It’s that time of year! Yard signs are growing out of the ground faster than spring flowers. But it only happens every other year, usually, thank goodness, so we deal with it. And best of all our politician’s staff are really good about removing the signs after the campaign.

There are two things we need to pay attention to: one is not to place signs in the right of way as the mowing crew must remove them before mowing. The wires, if discharged, can injure someone. The other thing is that it is a misdemeanor to steal the signs. And that doesn’t make sense because that can lead to a contest of: “You take mine and I’ll take yours”.

So be patient, be decent, it will be over soon.

Zeb Blanchard

## Ransy Souther

Many of you know of Charles Jenkins and his knowledge of this area. Charles has told many stories concerning his travels and his ancestors. One such story is about his grandfather, Ransy Souther. You can also read about Ransy and his history in a book by

Ethylene Dyer Jones called “THROUGH MOUNTAINS”, Early Settlers of Union County Georgia, Their Descendants... Their Stories... Their Achievements... Lifting the Mists of History on Their Way of Life”. Charles provided the following story about Ransy and his way of life.

He was born and reared in the Choestoe District of Union County. Specifically, he was raised in the Trackrock section of the district. One of Ransy’s daughters, Evia Mae Souther married Charles Swinfield Jenkins. These were Charles Jenkins parents.

Frank Loransy Souther went to work with the U. S. Treasury Department of Alcohol and Tax Unit in December of 1920. Yes, this man was what many a mountaineer called a Revenue Agent. He knew that he would be dealing with his neighbors and even some of his kin folks that might have illegal stills hidden in the mountain coves throughout this area. He was concerned about the problems illegal alcohol brought to this area. He knew the area experienced some severe problems due to the over-use of illegal whiskey. His life was literally dedicated to busting up these hard to find stills.

Early in his career he knew of a still located on the land of a family member. Ransy told his kin that the still needed to be destroyed and that he would bust it up if his relative did not. He gave the man a couple of weeks to destroy the still and one day as a lawman Mr. Souther traveled up through the ivy thicket to the site and destroyed his relative’s still. The man was angry, but, respected Ransy for sticking by his word. But, word got out about the incident and he gained the respect of not only those in Choestoe but, surrounding counties as well.

This Revenue Agent never carried a gun. His tactic was to surround the still site and demand that the offenders surrender. If any of them ran Ransy would give chase sometimes running for miles before capturing the moonshiners. On one occasion Ransy and his posse busted down a site close to Turner’s Corner and one of the operators ran. A deputy gave chase and tracked the man down Bogg’s Creek to Dick’s Creek all the way to the Etowah River.

Eventually, the fellow jumped into the river and swam downstream to get away. The chase

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Around  
The Farm

Mickey  
Cummings



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