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store and get out so you will be away from others.

2. It is not good to go to any organized group gathering which includes churches, sporting events, including fishing tournaments, any type ball game or organized sport practice.

3. It is not good to come to Union County to rent a home or bring an RV or to rent a campground spot.

4. It is not good to come to Union County from any other state or county or for Union County residents to go to another state or county. All counties in Georgia are under the Shelter in Place Order by the Governor so no one should be leaving their place of residence to go anywhere that is not essential or approved by the Governor.

Q. What if I want to go camping?

A. Wait until the virus is over. Camping should not be an approved activity unless you and your family are camping at home on your property. All camp sites in Union County are to only be utilized if you have already been there in place, then you can stay. You must Shelter in Place. However, if you have not been at the campsite prior to this week, you can not violate the State Executive Order by traveling to go camping. If you Shelter in Place in your state or county, then you CAN NOT go to another county or state for any reason other than those listed on the Governor's website.

Q. Is Meeks Park going to be open?

A. It is open for walking or jogging exercise for Union County Residents only. You

MUST keep 6' apart and no groups greater than 10 people.

Q. Can we play Tennis at Meeks Park?

A. Only two people per court and only two courts can be used (every other court). Competitive games are not allowed, but hitting practice is ok so long as social distancing is maintained.

Q. Can we play Pickleball at Meeks Park?

A. No, because it requires closer contact and is not feasible to maintain strict social distancing of 6 feet between each person.

Q. Can we play basketball or skateboard at Meeks Park?

A. No, because adequate social distancing is not possible.

Q. Are the campgrounds and rental cabins going to remain available for rent by outsiders?

A. Not unless they are already in use and rented. No new rentals are allowed nor are any rentals allowed to be extended. This included VRBO, etc.

Q. Am I allowed to drive my family in the area to visit waterfalls and trails?

A. It is not recommended. We do not control many of these areas as they are part of the State Park System or the National Forest. The point is this, we are trying to slow the spread of the deadly Coronavirus and the ONLY way to do that is for us to keep as many people from outside our county from coming into our county and the people in our county need to stay in place as much as possible. This is all in an effort to NOT spread the Coronavirus.

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suddenly shut out of their daily routines? Or the great many single mothers who can't afford childcare during school closures? How about the millions more citizens newly out of work due to illness or layoff?

Unsurprising only in the age of coronavirus, more than 10 million Americans have filed for unemployment in recent weeks, and that record number will undoubtedly increase as the U.S. battles to gain ground against the disease that has infected her.

As with any national struggle requiring top-down coordination, keeping an eye on costs for individuals will allow us to maintain focus and more easily navigate the path ahead; the goal should not be an eventual return to normalcy, but the forging of a stronger, more resilient America that will be better prepared to meet future threats.

The insistence of every freedom lover out there should be that our rights, including our ability to assemble peaceably, access firearms and gather for worship, be encroached upon only insofar as any encroachments remain short-term and minimally modified to curb the pandemic.

In this unprecedented time, many of the temporary measures being undertaken nationally certainly seem vital and necessary in mitigating the impact of the virus. But how long is temporary? No one knows, and COVID-19 models as forecasting tools are

only useful to a point.

Tellingly, the president and his team of health experts acknowledge that the worst is yet to come, though they have expressed a firm belief that we will turn the corner in this epidemic; they just don't know when.

Amid so much daily uncertainty, what can we as Americans do for our families, friends, neighbors and fellow countrymen? We can wash our hands, stay home, physically avoid others, not panic, and keep on the lookout for big and little ways to continue making a difference from a distance.

We must reach out in our isolation to comfort one another — the virus victims and their families, the lone senior, the mental health patient, our exhausted health care workers and first responders, the struggling addict, our out-of-work neighbors unable to pay their bills, victims of domestic violence — and we must do so without spreading this deadly disease.

Let us find strength in purposeful solitude and carry with us the resolute reminder that, though we may surrender to some extent our liberties to engage this unique threat now, we must reclaim the full extent of our natural rights as soon as the smoke clears from this battlefield.

"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance." — Thomas Jefferson, Founding Father, Declaration of Independence Author, and Third U.S. President

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

ladies were overheard saying, "They'll be along anytime now." Mom thought company was coming and asked who it might be. She was told to go over to the barn and take the other children with her. Then, around the curve in the road came three wagonloads of people and furniture. The children all recognized the people as the family from the old house down at the creek. When they arrived at the Baker place, all the children waved at each other. However, the adults in the wagon refused to even acknowledge the Baker women. They kept their vision directly in front and would not look to either side of the road. Later, Mom found out that Mommy Baker had laid down the law to her husband, telling him to make these bad people leave their farm. So, her husband told them they would need to leave, and Mommy also talked to the local police to ensure that someone with authority paid a visit to these folks.

Shirley's favorite person in the world was her cousin Athel. Athel had been dealt numerous bad hands during her life. Her mother's first husband suddenly decided he wanted someone else and left the lady while she was pregnant with Athel. The fellow's first name was Thomas, and he was also a preacher. After the divorce, the man never supported or even acknowledged Athel as his daughter. So Dad and Mommy Baker took Athel in and raised her as their own. The whole community knew that Athel was the daughter of this Thomas fellow. She so wished for a Daddy, and one day upon encountering the man, she asked if he were really her Daddy. The child never received an answer.

Everyone loved her and knew that she was the most gentle

Baker in the clan. Later, when she was in the seventh grade, she had a new teacher who was bad about treating kids with no parents different than other kids. Some of the boys in school put a live crawfish in his lunch. When he opened, it all the kids laughed at his response. His response was to beat Athel Motes and Curt Taylor until the blood ran down their legs. Athel never complained. However, her cousin, my mom, told her Baker Uncles. Uncle T.D. Baker had a talk with the teacher, and the man soon resigned his position.

Some of her favorite memories are of her mother, Delphia Adams. She always knew her mother would protect her at all times. She knew this because of an incident which happened while her Mother was on the way home from work. Flora Smith was an unhappy person which complained about everything. It was almost as if she had a dark cloud over her at all times. One day on the way home from work in Haleyville, Flora began talking about all the problems of the world. Soon she shifted her talk to people she looked down upon. Finally, she settled on making fun of one of Maw Maw Adams' sons. I know of no reason why she would ever make fun of Uncle Ralph. But, she did. Aunt Toodler told us, "You could see the knuckles of Delphia's hands turning white." Later, Maw maw said, "I was so angry I was a choking my purse really hard." Upon crossing the Little Bear Creek, she said, "Toodler, stop this car. I aim to whip Flora's rear end." The two women got out of the car, and when the dust settled, Flora Smith was laying on the ground. Delph had got the best of her, and the grouchy woman never said another word about any of the Adams kids.

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He practically referred to it as a win-win situation. I read HR 763, and here is some of the normal nonsense we have come to expect from our politically elite.

"First emission target reduction will be for the year 2022. The emission for each year thereafter shall be the previous year's target emission minus a percentage of the emission during the reference year in accordance with the following table: year emission reduction target 2016 reference year. 2020 to 2024, no emission reduction target, 2025 to 2034, 5 percent of 2016 reference year, 2035 to 2050, 2.5 percent reduction."

Focke...

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while those Georgians flooding our small towns buy up our groceries, order our to-go food, fill their vehicles at our stations and quite possibly also fill our tiny hospitals if they fall ill while here.

We are communities of responsible people, sheltering in place for weeks now and who will have to travel hours to make it to a trauma level hospital for care. Many of our County Commissioners closed all camping areas in their respective counties in order to protect their residents.

Your Declaration beginning Friday, April 3, at 6 p.m. overrode those closures, filling our state campgrounds with a majority of Atlanta-area residents who hail from the worst hot spot in our state. All camping areas, short-term rentals of any kind and hotels should be closed again ASAP!

Please, please, please put the safety of your rural Georgia residents at least at the level of the boredom or entertainment of city dwellers and close all state parks, cabins, hotels and campgrounds. When does "shelter in place" become travel to another county? COVID-19 doesn't move itself, PEOPLE MOVE THE VIRUS! We all need to "stay home" in our county of residence.

Governor, you had many, many votes from Georgia's rural areas... don't forget us now! Save us all, please! It's not too late... yet. Do your part, Gov. Brian Kemp.
Susan Walker Focke
Hiawassee

Hofmann...

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Georgia currently has 5,444 cases with 176 deaths. That is a mortality rate of 3.23 percent. Sadly for Georgia, it appears WHO's mortality estimate is more accurate than President Trump's.

I completely agree COVID-19 will go away, but it will leave many deaths behind. We ALL better be prepared for it. It's going to get much worse before it gets better.
James Hofmann

Fire...

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to close. One quote from the order sums up the state of mind that everyone should have by stating that people should be "taking every possible precaution to limit social interaction to prevent the spread or infection of COVID-19 to themselves or any other person". The complete order can be viewed on the Governor's website www.gov.georgia.gov.

What we recommend is that people should stay at home over the next few weeks unless it is necessary to get out. Every activity that takes you from your home and is not necessary, can put you, your family, and your community at risk.

The Union County Emergency Management Agency is continuously working with everyone to meet this threat. We still strongly recommend following the CDC and Georgia Department of Public Health guidelines on how to slow the spread of COVID-19. Please visit www.unioncountyga.gov or call GDPH Hotline at (844) 442-2681.

Union County Fire Department ~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Union County 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.

Chamber... continued from Page 4A

scheduled. This is subject to change and will be updated on an as-needed basis.

Both the Union County Government and City of Blairsville have provided ordinances that identify what individuals and businesses can and cannot do during this critical time. These documents and any updates can be found on our website VisitBlairsvilleGa.com or on Facebook. Most of these ordinances mirror those requirements issued by the State and Federal governments and are provided to keep us safe and to slow the spread of the virus. If we all adhere to the guidelines and those issued by the CDC and Georgia Department of Public Health, hopefully, we can begin returning our lives and businesses back to normal sooner rather than later.

Supporting our local businesses while maintaining the health and safety of the community is of the utmost importance to the Chamber. Many business-

es are offering amended services during this challenging time to accommodate new guidelines. Other ways to support local businesses include purchasing gift cards, shopping online, or following them on social media. If you are not sure how to support a particular business, give them a phone call, email them, or connect with them on social media, and they may be able to inform you of ways you can help. You can find additional updates at UnionCountyGa.gov, VisitBlairsvilleGa.com, or VisitDowntownBlairsville.com. We will also be providing updates from the SBA and Georgia Department of Labor as they become available. If you have any questions or concerns in the upcoming weeks, you may contact the Chamber of Commerce on Facebook or by email and we will do our best to assist you or point you in the direction of someone who can assist you as quickly as we can. Remember, we are all in this together.

J. Williams...

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enough water. You want to water plants deeply and thoroughly. Overwatering plants leads to problems as well. The ideal time to water is in the morning so that plants have time to dry off throughout the day. Sending plants into the nighttime with wet leaves is a recipe for disease.

If you have questions about getting your garden started contact your County Extension Office. At this time, Towns County Extension Office is closed. The Union County Extension Office is going to be closed for the duration of the shelter in place order. In both offices, we are checking voice-mail periodically. The best way to contact me, any day of the week, regardless of where I am is by email. My email is Jacob.Williams@uga.edu. If you need a site visit email me, and we can work out the parameters to protect our health.

Fowler...

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unscientific era or a timeless beacon of truth? If Christians are blamed for something, let it be for holding these simple truths: God created the world and you. Because of mankind's sin, the world is not as it should be. The remedy is Christ Jesus, the Savior, who came to set things right. By repentance and faith you become alive to God as you wait for Him to make all things new, even as He promised. Could the NYT blame you for believing that?