

Opinions

Firefighters, Why Do They Do It?

This is a column that I wrote a few years ago but the message still rings true to this day. It asks the question, “Why do they do it; why do people become firefighters?” It is a good question and has been a mystery to many people, including some firefighters.

The answer to the question cannot be compressed into one magic statement that explains a person’s desire to become a firefighter. The reason “why” is different for many people. Most people think that firefighters are a bunch of adrenaline junkies who like to run into a dangerous situation or burning building. Others may think that firefighters are trauma seekers who want to see devastating motor vehicle accidents.

Although fires and accidents are exciting, the desire to become a firefighter goes beyond such things.

For the most part, firefighters have three universal traits. Firefighters are problem solvers, knowledge seekers, and they always want to help. This is what makes them different. When they see an emergency, they see a problem that must be solved, and they jump into action.

Firefighters love to learn. They want to learn the latest information and skills to be able to handle just about any emergency. They train constantly to learn a skill in order to be prepared when minutes count. The fire service is a great environment for learning. Where else can you learn to put on turnout gear and SCBA; go into a burning building; extinguish a large fire; cut the door off a wrecked car; repel off a building; and the list goes on and on.

Firefighters love a mystery. We have stated many times how a firefighter must be a jack-of-all-trades because we have no idea what we will be called to next. Each scene can be different, and firefighters love the challenge of using the knowledge and skills they have learned to solve the problem with the best possible outcome.

At the end of the day, the best part of being a firefighter is knowing that you did something that day to help someone. Firefighters have the knowledge and skills to help on what may be the worst day of someone’s life. There is no other feeling like knowing that you can make a positive difference.

Union County Fire Department is always in need of more volunteers, and applications are open today! We need people who

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Letters to the Editor

Re: “Shooting the Messenger”

Dear Editor,

To the individual who penned the very well-written rebuttal - Shooting the Messenger - last week. The gentleman protests too much, methinks.

John Ripma

Re: Rep. Clyde Column

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to U.S. Rep. Andrew Clyde’s column in the April 30 edition of the North Georgia News.

Kilmar Abrego Garcia was wrongfully deported by the Trump administration’s own admission (they referred to it as an “administrative error”), and the Supreme Court ruled 9-0, with not one of the justices dissenting, that the administration must facilitate his return to the United States. So far, the Trump administration has resisted this ruling and, like Rep. Clyde, has done what they can through media posts to justify why they have refused to comply with the Supreme Court’s decision.

Mr. Clyde states it is a “false claim” that

See *Fronek*, page 5A

Reality

Dear Editor,

A letter to the editor in the April 23 edition of the newspaper states, “We are now beginning to enforce our laws, support our police, build up our military, respect our public officials, value our children, defend our borders, and save our democracy.” Spoken like a member of the Trump cult. The reality is:

FACT – Trump pardoned nearly 1,600 people convicted of crimes for January 6, including those with past criminal convictions for charges such as rape, sexual abuse of a minor, manslaughter and drug trafficking.

FACT – Trump recently pardoned a Nevada politician who was found guilty of paying for her plastic surgery and her daughter’s wedding.

See *Hudon*, page 5A

Your Choice, Your County!

Dear Editor,

Vote for the Union County Referendum! The people of Union County deserve to decide how we’re governed. Should we keep our sole commissioner system or switch to a five-person commissioner board? This referendum lets YOU choose!

Why vote for the referendum? Decide between a single commissioner or a five-person

See *Phillips* page 5A

More Regional Relevance

Dear Editor,

As a resident of Union County, I appreciate reading the weekly columns from our local representatives in the North Georgia News. It’s important to hear directly from those who serve us in Blairsville, Atlanta, and Washington. I’m grateful that Congressman Andrew Clyde takes the time to share his perspective with our community.

His efforts on behalf of veterans and to protect rural Georgians’ interests are essential. Our elected officials are co-pilots and navigational en-

See *Rollings*, page 5A

Referendum - Facts to Consider

Dear Editor,

Our State Representative, Stan Gunter, has agreed to put a referendum on the ballot in November 2026 to allow the citizens of Union County to vote on whether they want to stay with the Sole Commissioner form of government or move to a Board of Commissioners. Here are some facts and figures to consider when making your decision:

There are 3,143 counties in the United States of America.

See *Vandereedt* page 5A

The Great Communicator

I stood alone on the hilltop. It was a cool, Spring morning. I enjoyed the distant vistas. I also envisioned the large crowd of mourners who once gathered here for a sunset ceremony to remember and bury Ronald Reagan.

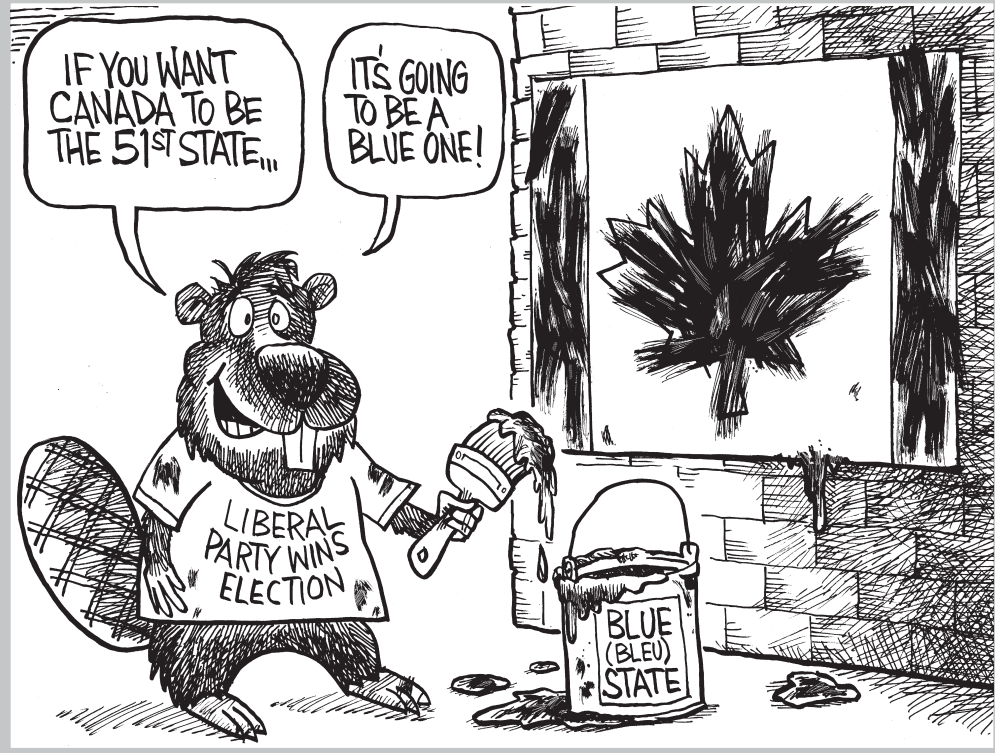
The other early birds at the Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California, prioritized the display of the Dead Sea Scrolls on loan to the museum. That’s how I found myself alone outside. I reflected on Reagan’s words carved in granite at his tomb. “I know in my heart that man is good, that what is right will always eventually triumph, and there is purpose and worth to each and every life.” Reagan was known as an optimist with a quick wit and sunny disposition. His words affirm that reputation.

Reagan was known to be a Christian. He professed faith as a boy of 11 years and received baptism. As a teenager, he taught a Sunday school class at the First Christian Church in Dixon, Illinois. As president, his faith permeated his policy positions and prompted him to pray before cabinet meetings. He brought his morality to the world stage when he called the Soviet Union an “evil empire.”

Which brings me back to Reagan’s epitaph. When he said man is good, he surely didn’t have in mind the murderous ideologies of the last century. Perhaps he thought that given the opportunity, people would come around to doing good things. His friend, Russian President Gorbachev, did by moving his country away from Marxism. Another Reagan contemporary Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, a Russian dissident, was closer to Biblical truth when he said, “The line separating good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either -- but right through every human heart.”

The Christian faith confirms the world as we experience it. It’s easy to see the evil out there. It’s not as easy to recognize the immorality that lurks within me. It helps to see it from the perspective of a good and holy God. “There is none righteous, not even one... There is none who does good.” The good news is that you receive “the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ.” That is God’s grace to you (Rom. 3).

See *Fowler*, page 5A



100 Days of Winning!

April 29 marked President Trump’s 100th day back in office! In honor of this exciting milestone, here are some of the major wins President Trump has achieved for the American people in just 100 days:

- ✓ Illegal border encounters are down by 95%
- ✓ Illegal alien “gotaways” are down by 99%
- ✓ More than 135,000 illegals have been deported
- ✓ Over 151,000 illegals have been arrested
- ✓ Deported criminal illegal aliens, including members of MS-13 and Tren De Aragua
- ✓ Secured +\$5.2 trillion in new U.S.-based investments
- ✓ Gas prices keep dropping
- ✓ Inflation fell last month
- ✓ Executing plan to lower egg costs and combat avian flu
- ✓ Signed The Laken Riley Act into law
- ✓ Secured the release of Americans held hostage in Gaza, Russia, Venezuela, and more
- ✓ Reciprocal tariffs forced over 75 countries to the negotiation table
- ✓ DOGE has identified \$160 billion in savings
- ✓ Terminated catch-and-release

See *Clyde*, page 5A

United States
Congressman
Representative
Andrew Clyde



Second Chances ...

*Second Chances:
Finding Your Way Back Home*

By Yonatan Hambourger and Tzali Reicher

Johnny Cash once said, “You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone.” The legendary musician knew this truth intimately. Before becoming the “Man in Black” beloved by millions, he battled severe drug addiction, destroyed his first marriage, and nearly ended his career. Yet through faith and determination, he found his way back, becoming not just a country music icon but a powerful symbol of redemption.

Consider Chuck Colson, once known as President Nixon’s “hatchet man” during the Watergate scandal. After serving time in federal prison, this former White House counsel could have disappeared into obscurity, crushed by shame and public disgrace. Instead, he founded

See *Hambourger*, page 5A

Echos
from Sinai
“Torah for
Everyone”
Rabbi
Yonatan
Hambourger



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All Things New

Wayne
Fowler



From Your Commissioner

Recently, I was asked, “When the Commissioner states that he was elected to stop growth, does your office believe that this is the will of the majority or the minority? Does this ‘stop growth’ stance encompass potential industry that may create jobs in the community and provide a sustainable economy for the next generation. Please express your opinion on tourism and the impact you believe it has on our area.”

What I have been discussing with people would be better described as managed growth, as there is no way to stop growth. The growth is coming, and the best thing we can do as leadership and citizens here is to plan for the incoming growth.

Planning should include everyone in the community or at least people from all different walks of life. Planning for this growth and what we see our community as in the future should not just be unmanaged building, large developments, businesses that don’t fit what everyone wants Blairsville to be, etc. There has to be a common ground between those that want no growth at all and those that want just off the chart, unhinged growth that will put an unnecessary strain on our county funds, city funds, city and county infrastructure, as well as a burden on the school to accommodate in influx of new students as well as the Recreation Department that already needs a fourth and fifth gym as well as probably eight additional ballfields. Also, I want all businesses to succeed as they have been succeeding for years.

While I am and have been looking at ways to decrease the budget, I am not looking at doing anything that will adversely impact local businesses.

As far as expressing my thoughts on Tourism: I am like a large part of people that are annoyed by the traffic on weekends when I try and come to town to run errands or when I try and go to lunch on a Tuesday, but I am not bothered at all by tourism from a revenue standpoint. I would much rather people come here and visit for the weekend or for a week, spend money in businesses and restaurants, and leave their sales tax dollars here for us to put toward LOST and SPLOST.

I do have a problem with the lack of planning for growth. Tourism is good. SPLOST is good, along with SPLOST Projects. Growth is OK, as long as it is not unchecked growth.

Union County Commissioner

Harold
Collins



Chamber 2025

I know people will use the expression that “spring has sprung,” but I would say that is a true statement for Blairsville-Union County. Thanks to Sharon Keen for the Spring Downtown Market, Matt and the Historical Society for an awesome Seafood Festival and to all the vendors and volunteers that participated. As I write this column, we are preparing for our Shoot for the Stars Golf Tournament, which not only provides funds for the Chamber, but also supports scholarships for local high school students and their STAR Student Banquet. We also want to give a shoutout to United Community Bank for celebrating 75 years. I hope you enjoyed some hometown fun with hot dogs and a tomato plant. We enjoyed a number of tomatoes from our plant last year.

I would like to thank the Commissioner for asking us to be on the panel at the recent Town Hall meeting. There were a number of topics covered, but I think the main takeaway was

See *Chamber*, page 5A

Blairsville -
Union
County
Chamber
President

Steve Rowe



The Smartest Son...

The Smartest Son I Ever Raised

After the “War between the States,” Wyatt Cummings left his home in North Alabama and moved to West Tennessee. However, within less than 10 years his eldest son, John, moved back to Franklin County to raise his young family. John established a sawmill and grist mill on Cummings Creek near Phil Campbell. To John and Martha, the following sons were born; Will, Riley, John, Lon and Howard. The boys grew up playing in the woods and swimming in the creeks. They also spent a lot of time working the farm and operating the mill down on the creek.

John was also a blacksmith and had business dealings in western Tennessee and in Corinth, Mississippi. So, as his sons grew he became more dependent on their taking care of business in his absence. He began to notice the intelligence of his son, Lon. Lon had a way with the mill. He could discern a problem with the sawmill simply by listening to sounds it made during operation. Lon could stand on the hill above the mill and tell whether the blade was sharp by listening to the sound of the timber being sawed. He could also discern if the blade was warped simply by the sound of the blade cutting through a Chestnut log.

One day John’s business dealings took him to Tishomingo County, Mississippi. He called for Lon at the Mill. John introduced his son as being in charge during his absence. Before John left he told Lon that the Mill had some problems. “Things are just not right, and I want you to fix the problem and oversee this crew,” John Said. John looked at his crew and said, “My boy is in charge while I am gone.” With that statement John left for Mississippi.

Many times I have wondered what this day must have been like for my Great-Grandfather. He was only 18 and yet he was put in charge of a crew of middle-aged men. If Lon was intimidated he didn’t show it. He told the men to go on about their usual work, and he walked up to the top of the hill and listened to the mill running. After listening to the mill for 20 minutes, Lon came back to the mill and told the workers to come back in the morning.

Lon went to work. First he took the blade off the mill. He heated the blade and then put it in a big vice and laid it over an anvil. He pounded on the blade with a hammer until he straightened the blade. Next, he worked on the carriage of the mill until it was working properly. The next morning the crew was astonished at the efficiency of the sawmill. They began cutting lum-

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Around The Farm

Mickey
Cummings



Big Hornets and Wasps

There are a couple of different species of hornets and wasps that cause alarm for people. Since the Asian giant hornet (murder hornet) was found in Washington state in 2019 people are concerned when they find a big hornet or wasp. The Asian giant hornet has not been found in Georgia, but we do have a couple of other insects that people find and think that it might be.

When someone finds a really big hornet most of the time it is a European hornet. These are really big. They can be 1.5 inches or larger. Sometimes they are confused with Giant Asian Hornets, because both are very large in size. The Asian giant hornet was only found in Washington state in the U.S. and as of December 2024 has been eradicated from the U.S. European hornets have black and yellow stripes, and sometimes a reddish color on their head.

They will defend their nest by stinging if anyone gets too close, and can sting repeatedly. They build large paper nests that are about 6 feet off the ground. Sometimes they will raid honeybee hives. A unique feature about them is that they will continue to work at night. Most hornets and wasps will decrease in activity at night, but that is not necessarily the case with these guys. They will be attracted to light at night. Usually they feed on large insects like grasshoppers, flies, and bees. They have even been seen tearing the wings off of butterflies and eating the body. If food becomes scarce they may move to fruit hanging on trees. They will also take bark from trees. If they take enough bark they will girdle a tree, which results in the tree dying.

European hornets are not native to North America. If you encounter European hornets it’s best to have a pest management company handle them. They are difficult to remove if you can’t find the nest.

Another big wasp is the cicada killer wasp. These are native to here. They can grow to be 1.5 – 2 inches long. Unlike the European hornet these wasps will make their nests in the ground. Cicada killers have a much darker abdomen. They are unlikely to sting, unless they are directly handled. Cicada killers will target cicadas and sting them. Once the cicada is paralyzed, it is carried back to the cicada killer’s nest. The nest will possibly be used for a couple of years. Cicada killers are solitary, but you can get over a hundred nesting in the same spot. Generally, treatment of a cicada killer nest is not needed.

Hornets and wasps both belong to the Vespidae family. Wasps tend to have a slenderer body and hornets are thicker. Most species of wasps are solitary, but the ones that we are more familiar with tend to be social wasps. Social wasps don’t seek people out to sting them, but they will defend their nest if they think they are under attack.

If you have questions about European hornets contact your county Extension office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

UGA
extension
COUNTY

Watching
and Working

Jacob
Williams



North Georgia News

Published since 1909 • Legal Organ of Union County

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The North Georgia News is an independent and nonpartisan publication. As such, third-party views contained herein are not necessarily the opinions or positions of this newspaper, e.g. advertising, press releases, editorial content, perspectives expressed in articles covering local events, etc.

Publication No: 001505

Advertising, News deadlines Friday at 4 p.m. • Mail Service for all subscriptions except 30512, 30514 & 30572 (Union County) - One Year \$45 INCLUDING UNION COUNTY CUSTOMER REQUEST MAIL SERVICE. In county, carrier delivered subscription is \$10. All subscriptions must be paid in advance. *NORTH GEORGIA NEWS* is published weekly by NGN/TCH, Inc., 266 Cleveland Street, Blairsville, Georgia, 30512. Entered as Second Class Matter as of Dec. 24, 1988, at the Post Office in Blairsville. *NORTH GEORGIA NEWS* is not responsible for errors in advertising beyond the cost of the actual space involved. All advertisements are accepted subject to the Publisher’s approval of the copy and to the space being available, and the Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.
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Cummings...continued from Page 4A

ber, and by the time John came home from Mississippi the men had sawed several thousand board feet of lumber. Actually, they had completed their contract a few days early.

Later in his life John moved to Missouri and began operating a sawmill close to the Mississippi River. Once again John developed some problems not only with the operation of the mill but, also with the book-keeping and records of the operation. John sent for his son, and Lon came to help his dear old Daddy. Lon took apart the

mill and revamped everything. Next, he tackled the books of the operation. By the time Lon left for Alabama the mill was operating as smooth as silk.

Late in life John knew he'd made some grave mistakes that estranged him from most of his family. However, he was always close to Lon. A few days before his death he was heard to say, "I think I'll call Lon. Lon can fix anything, and he'll come and take me away from all these problems. You know, Lon was the smartest son I ever raised."

Fronek...continued from Page 4A

Garcia was wrongly deported. I ask Mr. Clyde, if this is a false claim, why did the Trump administration call it a "mistake," and why would the Supreme Court rule that his return must be facilitated? There is no evidence that Kilmar Abrego Garcia has ever been convicted of any crime. Mr. Clyde may not be aware of the fact that the word of an immigration judge is not the same as a criminal conviction. In fact, the claim that Garcia is an MS-13 member appears to rest almost entirely on the word of a confidential police informant who has since been discredited. Mr. Clyde neglects to report that a later order from another immigration judge said that "Abrego Garcia is not a member of or has no affiliation with Tren de Aragua, MS-13, or any other criminal street gang." Garcia won an order in October 2019 prohibiting the government from removing him to El Salvador due to possible persecution from Salvadoran gangs. In fact, he initially left El Salvador in 2011 to flee gang

violence.

Mr. Clyde also says court documents and police reports identify Garcia as a "violent domestic abuser," but conveniently omits the fact that Garcia's wife has explained that her filing stemmed from her "acting out of caution" after an argument. She said she had been in a previous abusive relationship and feared escalation after the argument, but that escalation never happened. She did not pursue the protective order, and the couple attended marriage counseling that she said enabled them to work out their problems. She claims their marriage grew stronger in the years that followed and that he is a loving partner and father. The White House to date has provided no credible proof (don't count those obviously photoshopped tattoos on Garcia's hand) that Abrego Garcia is an MS-13 gang member.

Rep. Clyde's column was misleading, and, as one of his constituents, I am disappointed.
Elise Fronek

Clyde...continued from Page 4A

- ✓ Shut down CBP One App & launched CBP Home App to incentivize self-deportations
- ✓ Reinstated Remain in Mexico
- ✓ Ended Joe Biden's electric vehicle mandate
- ✓ All military branches met or exceeded February 2025 recruitment goals
- ✓ Refocused Pentagon on warfighters, not wokeness
- ✓ Eliminated DEI from government agencies
- ✓ Banned biological males from women's sports
- ✓ Re-opened 625 million acres for offshore drilling
- ✓ Withdrew from the disastrous Paris Climate Agreement
- ✓ Terminated the garbage Green New Deal
- ✓ Saving taxpayers billions by eliminating woke USAID funding
- ✓ Explosive March jobs report
- ✓ Taking steps to dismantle the Department of Education
- ✓ Signed more than 140 executive actions

Promises made, promises kept. Isn't it remarkable that President Trump has accomplished more in 100 days than Joe Biden managed to do in four years?

Since his inauguration on January 20th, President Trump has worked at lightning speed to get our country back on track by implementing his America First agenda. But folks, it's just the beginning. There's still more work to be done and wins to look forward to as my conservative colleagues and I work with the Trump Administration to codify executive orders, slash government spending, and deliver historic tax cuts to the American people.

Rest assured, the next 100 days will be filled with advancing more conservative priorities and commonsense policies in our shared goal to make America stronger, safer, and more prosperous once again.

Hudon...continued from Page 4A

ding using funds meant to honor a slain police officer.

FACT – This administration has announced military cuts totaling \$800 million, and it is widely recognized that the Pentagon is in disarray with the Secretary of Defense using unsecure communications.

FACT – This administration has ignored rulings from several judges, including those on the Supreme Court, and has recently arrested a judge and threatened the judiciary.

FACT – This administra-

tion has just deported a two-year-old U.S. citizen without due process.

The last sentence of the letter cites a growing intolerance for the Christian principles upon which this nation was founded. Ignoring the inaccuracy of this statement, I opine that if Jesus Christ showed up in the U.S. today, this administration would immediately deport him to a foreign supermax prison without due process and then brag about it on social media.

Tom Hudon

Rollings...continued from Page 4A

gineers in the cockpit of democracy. The president may steer, but Congress must monitor the instruments of government, interpret data, and speak up when the course veers off. That kind of leadership serves the whole district, not just one side of the aisle.

Since Congressman Clyde represents Georgia's 9th Congressional District, home

to more than 770,000 people across 20 counties, it might be helpful if he also used this column to update us on legislation that directly benefits our region. A little more attention to legislative wins for North Georgia would go a long way in building trust and helping our diverse communities thrive.

Robert Rollings

Vandereedt...continued from Page 4A

There are 159 counties in Georgia, governed by the following number of commissioners: 1 Sole Commissioner in 7 Georgia counties; 3-Member Board of Commissioners in 10 Georgia counties; 5-Member Board of Commissioners in 108 Georgia counties; >5 Members on a Board of Commissioners in 34 Georgia counties.

Some say the Sole Commissioner form of government is outdated and there is little accountability with only one person making all the decisions. Others say it is more efficient with one person making all the decisions.

Facts to consider before we vote: The estimated population of full-time residents in Union County is about 27,000 people. There are 108 counties in Georgia that have a 5-Member Board of Commissioners. Counties comparable in population to Union County are: Peach County, 28,805 – Board

of 5 members; Stephens County, 27,228 – Board of 5 members; Grady County, 26,066 – Board of 5 members; Franklin County, 24,782 – Board of 5 members; Banks County, 19,789 – Board of 5 members; Rabun County, 17,442 – Board of 5 members.

(Data: Association County Commissioners of Georgia, U.S. Census Bureau)

The majority of Georgia counties have boards of five or more members. Union County already has a 5-Member Board of Education, as does the Blairsville City Council and the Board of Elections.

We already have five districts established in Union County. The citizens would have a board member in their respective districts to communicate and discuss their concerns, although board members would represent all county citizens.

Consider these facts and make an educated decision.

Cindy Vandereedt

Hambourger...continued from Page 4A

Prison Fellowship, the world's largest Christian nonprofit serving prisoners, becoming one of the most influential evangelical leaders of our time and touching millions of lives.

These transformations aren't just stories of career comebacks – they're testimonies to the power of genuine redemption. For every public figure who found their way back from the abyss, there are countless others whose stories never make headlines but are equally miraculous.

Take Michael, who spent decades building a successful family business, only to betray his brother's trust by secretly diverting company funds for his own ventures. When discovered, he lost not just the business, but his relationship with his siblings and his standing in the community. The shame drove him away from his faith entirely. For years, he couldn't even walk into a church, convinced he was beyond forgiveness. Today, after a long journey of repentance and reconciliation, he and his brother run the business together, their relationship stronger than ever, their story a testament to the power of forgiveness.

Or consider Rachel, who grew up in a devout household but turned away from her faith during college. She spent fifteen years actively mocking believers, including her own family, and taking pride in what she called her "liberation" from religious constraints. But an unexpected crisis left her feeling empty and searching for meaning. Even after she felt the stirring to return to faith, shame kept her away – how could she face the same community she had so publicly rejected? Yet when she finally found the courage to return, she discovered welcome rather than judgment, grace rather than condemnation.

This pattern of divine mercy isn't a modern phenomenon. In fact, it's deeply rooted in biblical truth. The Book of Numbers tells us of the Second Passover, a remarkable institution that speaks directly to G-d's infinite capacity for giving second chances. When Moses excused some members of his flock from celebrating the first Passover in the desert because they were fulfilling another divine precept, they could have simply accepted their exemption. Instead, they pleaded for another opportunity to observe Passover, even though they were fully excused. Their persistence was extraordinary – they weren't satisfied with a

Fowler...continued from Page 4A

As for the remainder of Reagan's final words, it is God who triumphs as He guides creation to His intended purposes. Every life indeed has worth because we are equally created in God's image. Perhaps a bit of theology may have inspired Reagan's words carved in stone.

That chilly morning, I realized Reagan's words are a great conversation starter. He was nicknamed "The Great Communicator," so it's not surprising that even his epitaph would cause us to reflect on great truths.

Dyer...continued from Page 4A

are willing to learn new skills; who are problem solvers; and who are wanting to help their community by responding during someone's hour of need. For more information on how to become a volunteer, contact Headquarters Station @ 706-439-6091.

Union County Fire Department ~ Our Family Protecting Your Family ~

Phillips...continued from Page 4A

board. A five-person board could bring diverse voices and greater accountability. Keep the sole commissioner if you prefer streamlined leadership. YOUR vote shapes Union County's future. Vote to have your say!

This isn't about picking a side – it's about giving YOU the power to choose what's best for Union County.

Ed Phillips

Chamber...continued from Page 4A

that if we all work together, we can continue to maintain a strong, thriving community. That does not mean that we will all get what we want, but if we work for the good of Union County as a whole, we can continue to be successful. Thanks to all those that work to make Life Better in Blairsville.

for anyone who needed a second chance, regardless of their reasons for straying.

This isn't about making excuses for our past actions. Chuck Colson had to face the full weight of his misdeeds before his transformation could begin. Michael had to acknowledge the depth of his betrayal before reconciliation with his brother was possible. Rachel had to confront the pain she'd caused before she could fully embrace her return to faith. But each of them discovered that genuine repentance opens doors they thought were forever closed.

The road back isn't always easy. It requires humility to admit our wrongs, courage to face those we've hurt, and faith to believe that redemption is possible. But the Second Passover stands as an eternal testament that G-d's patience extends far beyond our human understanding. He doesn't just tolerate our return – He celebrates it, establishing permanent pathways for us to find our way back to Him.

Even if this message doesn't apply to you, perhaps you know someone – a friend,

a family member, a colleague – who feels they've exhausted all their chances. Maybe they've betrayed sacred trusts, turned their back on everything they once held dear, or strayed so far from their values that they can't imagine finding their way back. Share with them this eternal truth: as long as they're drawing breath, it's not too late to begin again.

In G-d's infinite wisdom and mercy, there is no expiration date on redemption. Every moment carries the potential for transformation, every day offers the precious gift of a new beginning. The Second Passover teaches us that G-d's capacity for giving second chances is limitless – He built it into the very fabric of His law. The only question that remains is: Are you ready to take that first step home?

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