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lijay, GA and Chim-Safe Chimney Services in Cleveland, TN.

Q. What type of wood heat works best in the mountains?

A. It really does not matter where you are, but a wood furnace or wood heater offer much greater heating than a fireplace.

In the old days, the fireplace was the only way to heat a home. But over the years wood heaters and furnaces are so much more efficient and will put out a lot more heat with much less wood than a fireplace. Any more, burning a fireplace is more of an aesthetic

use which gives off a nice glow in the room, but not a lot of heat.

Please remember to make sure your smoke alarm is in working order and if not, you may contact the Union County Fire Department to assist you. Make this a safe and healthy winter and please be careful. If we do get snow, remember that you need a shoe or boot that has a good tread so that it will minimize your slipping and falling. Injuries from slipping and falling in winter weather are very common in the mountains since we are usually among the coldest counties in Georgia.

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chants that are always willing to help you pick out that special gift. We hear time and time again that people love our area, but in the end, it's the people that make it special.

If you have not had a chance to get your tree for the Tour of Trees be sure to call Shelia and reserve yours today. The trees get more festive and creative each year! You won't believe the talent we have in our community.

Also, be sure to make plans for Breakfast with Santa to be held on December 5th this year. Things will look a little different, but Santa will still be here to complete those Christmas lists.

And when you leave the Community Center be sure to check out the other activities around town and on the Square.

Have a great week and bundle up!

Cummings... continued from Page 4A

it. Harold Dyer, Fred Woodward and I tried the first time. We left the parking lot at Bald Mountain one morning around 8:30 and walked out the Jack's Gap Trail. After a ways, we turned west off the trail and began walking alongside the mountain.

We soon found ourselves in an ivy thicket. We crawled on our hands and knees for what felt like miles, though I think it was only half a mile or so. We soon popped into the edge of a clearing and found the largest birch tree I have ever seen -- one that I have never been able to find again.

Soon we made our way back to the trail and traveled until we found a lead going off the mountain, which we followed. Our group found some really large trees and some of the steepest ground I have ever walked upon. An old clear-cut soon forced us down off the ridgetop, and we sat down underneath a tree at an old sawmill site. I leaned against the tree and felt a prick in my hip. I sat up and realized I was sitting on a chestnut burr. The old burr was from a hybrid chestnut set out in the 1980s. We were able to see some beautiful sites, but, did not find the rock house with the soapstone furniture.

Another time Tom Starrett, Harold Dyer and I made

the same trip, but, we walked off of another lead. Once again, we traveled through ivy and laurel thickets. We found some really nice ledges of stone, but, couldn't find anything resembling a rock house. We have made two to three other trips off the rocky lead looking for this place and have yet to find it. So, we keep looking. Who knows? We may find it yet.

On one such trip Harold and I became separated from Tom in yet another thicket. We came to a slick wildlife trail going almost straight up and followed it into an unknown rock house.

The vegetation was so thick you couldn't see more than 10-15 feet, and all at once we found ourselves under this rock overhang.

We looked down and noticed fresh bear scat all around our feet. Harold looked at me and said, "I once knew a lady hiker that asked me what should we do if we seen a bear. I looked at the lady and asked if she could run fast. She told me no. So, I looked at her and replied, 'I can run faster than you, so I do not have anything to worry about.'" So, Harold asked me, "How fast are you, Mickey?" I said, "Fast enough." He just grinned, and so we keep looking for our rock house.

Williams...

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pen this year with a couple of freezes in April and then one on May 10.

Evergreens will continue to need water throughout the winter. If the soil freezes for long periods, the roots can't take up the water. Deciduous trees, trees that lose their leaves, will not need as much water. Roots in trees will continue to grow as long as soil temperatures are over 40 degrees. Soil temperatures are warmer than air temperatures in the winter because they are insulated.

If you have questions about trees and dormancy contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.edu.

Fowler...

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is broken you can restore, or what is evil you can resist. Find alignment there, and you'll find fulfillment. Theologian Frederick Buechner wrote, "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

What do you do now? Cherish friendships, invest your life in people, and wherever you go, take an awareness of the presence of God. He restores and redeems. He draws people to Himself. And He calls you to share in that work.

Lord, I pray thou forever wouldst see, thy calling ever persisting in me.

Fire...

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can happen in just a few minutes or even seconds. It can be a very demanding process.

The citizens of Union County should be proud to know that they have an Enhanced 911 Communications Center with advanced technology. They also have highly trained and competent dispatchers who are dedicated to their job, their fellow public safety employees, and the citizens of Union County. Union County Fire Department

~Our Family Protecting Your Family~

Lyle...

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at the store because someone is "offended" about wearing a mask? Seriously? We as Americans most certainly can make a small sacrifice to help protect our fellow citizens from getting this virus. it is such a small yet gracious thing to do for each other. No one is asking you to wear it at home, in your car, or for 24 hours day by day -- just when you are around others who may be diabetic, immune deficient, or going through chemo for cancer.

Second, masks DO help to prevent the spreading of this virus. A recent study conducted in Tennessee by Vanderbilt University found those who wore masks were less likely to have to be hospitalized if they caught COVID. Dr. Graves concluded that "mask mandates work." I gathered most of my intel from CDC and The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluations (not a political site like yours). According to IHME, should people choose not to wear masks, the DAILY death toll in America could reach as high as 6,000/day by Feb. 1, 2021, with a possible 779,441 new infections per day! How do like those numbers?!

I don't know about you, but I feel it my American duty, a duty to my family and people I've never met, to wear a mask for the short time I am in a store, or out in a public place. The sooner we combat this COVID, the faster our economy and lives can get back to normal. It is ALL of our duties, as Americans, to protect each other from this COVID Invader.

Just remember the huge sacrifices made during World War II and maybe it won't bother you so much. May God continue to bless the United States of America.

Michelle Lyle

O'Brien...

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Therapy Dogs, visited nursing homes once a week since 1994 -- until COVID -- having seen a pretty fair number of care facilities, I can say UCNH is the best I've ever visited. It is not the sad horror most people envision. The staff are caring and attentive and it's pleasant, and most of all, clean and fresh. Believe me, a good number are not!

Moving forward, please give this kind of good news a more prominent place in our newspaper than the back of the B Section.

Jane O'Brien

Tornabene... continued from Page 4A

system is warming and that the warming is due to human activities." Many deniers claim that CO2 is trivial to climate change and that water is the most important greenhouse gas. Data clearly show that the CO2 in the atmosphere has steadily increased and correlates with the use of fossil fuel. In some circles CO2 is considered to be more of a threat than water vapor because it is in the atmosphere for a longer time period before moving to the next stage of its cycle. The American Chemical Society was misunderstood when it reported that water vapor accounts for an average around 60% of the warming effect. It was already accepted that water vapor is responsible for keeping the Earth's temperature warm enough for human development. ACS later clarified their statement by stating that water vapor does not control Earth's temperature, but it is instead controlled by the temperature.

Global Warming creates climate changes by the increased frequencies of: the wobbling of the polar vortices -- massive frigid cyclones; glacial melting -- changes in

tide levels; regional increased/decreased rain falls -- flooding and erosion/fires from dry forest and grass lands; strong winds associated with warmer oceans -- hurricanes/tornados; erratic changes in seasonal temperatures - migrating species shifting where, when and how they thrive.

Whether Global Warming is real or not isn't the critical issue. The critical issue, at present, is the surplus of CO2 and its potential negative effect on sustainability of Earth's environment. The majority of the surplus CO2 comes from the use of fossil fuels. Fortunately, the CO2 level can be adjusted by burning less fossil fuel or by improving efficiency and/or replacing the fossil fuel. We must also reengineer the global economy toward zero greenhouse gas emissions. It's doable, but it will take a Global commitment.

The deadline for making the adjustments is slipping away. This can only be accomplished if we have solidarity, around the world. If it is going to be done, it has to be us that do it.

Thomas G. Tornabene

Huber... continued from Page 4A

methods of organization, and scientific discovery to name a few. Societies chose innovation and respected well-defined property rights, a method for free exchange and a belief in the individual. And then from 900-1450 came government leaches and the Feudal Period. Terms of exchange were now set by law and not the free market. The form of government was called the Manor system. Also existing at the time was the Guild system a close cousin to the Manor system of governing. Heavy-Wheeled plows, the use of horses, and crop rotation were introduced during this period but invention was very slow with no individual incentive. Certainly not even close to Daniel's prophecy.

In 1367 German cities formed the Hansa, a form of government that ensures freedom of trade and promotes Comparative Advantage and

the understanding of Opportunity Cost principles of doing business. The Industrial Revolution would soon follow and America is born with the greatest form of government ever created for mankind to live by.

With the individual freedom allowed by the Constitution knowledge increased faster than all the past combined. So, what was the greatest invention? Was it the Automobile? The Airplane? Heart transplants or cell phones? No, not even close. Was it a 2020 presidential election where the dead voted in droves? We're getting close.

The greatest invention ever is my uncle Gus. He was 75 when he died and that was 90 years ago. He voted Republican his entire life but on November 3, 2020 he voted Democrat. Daniel's prophecy has been fulfilled.

Ed Huber