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County?

A. I could go on and on, but until about three years ago, ISO had always given a better (lower) rating for citizens that lived within a 5-mile radius of a properly equipped fire station. In most rural areas, this meant a volunteer fire station. So rural fire departments all across this country started a process to establish a fire station within a 5-mile radius of as many homes as possible in a county or city. This was done over several years and at a significant expense. We have built the final four stations in Union County since I have been in office with a total of 12 now.

Inexplicably and without warning, about three years ago, ISO, after most every fire department in the country used this 5-mile radius, they decided to change the designation to 5-road miles. And where before if a subdivision entrance was located within the 5-mile radius, the entire subdivision received the better rating. Now all of a sudden we have homes all over the county that are not covered any longer and have higher insurance premiums.

Q. Is there anyone to complain to about the new ISO rating system?

A. No, but I can tell you who gets those complaints and it is me and other commissioners across the state and nation.

Q. Have you done anything to help correct this problem?

A. Well, I called an ISO representative about three years ago when they first changed this guideline and guess what they said? They told me that they were only a data collection company who collected data from counties and cities. I later found out that they sell this data to insurance companies. They further stated that the Insurance companies did not have to use their ISO data nor adjust their premiums because of it. It was totally up to the insur-

ance company whether they use it or not.

Q. Did it impact premiums when they first made the ISO changes?

A. Some, but not much. When people have called us over the past three years with higher insurance premiums, we simply told them to call another insurance company because the company they were dealing with was taking advantage of them. So we figured that this might not really be a problem. However, that seems to have changed now. It appears that several other insurance companies realize if they use the new ISO guidelines, it will allow them to charge much higher premiums for those people who fall through the cracks between the 5-mile radius and five road miles. I am working with the Association of County Commissioners (ACCG) to see if we can find a solution.

Q. What can the county do to help those of us who are "in between" and have increased premiums?

A. Please see Fire Chief David Dyer's column in this week's newspaper to get some more details. Basically, the Fire Department has a five-year plan to try to include more of these areas that have received higher ratings because of the new ISO guidelines. It will involve possibly four more fire stations having to be built in strategic locations in Union County and all the equipment required. However, the area that will include the most homes, nearly 200, will be a new station at the new development mentioned above on Hwy 19/129 North. The sad thing is that these new stations are not needed for better fire protection, but to satisfy an industry that I am suspect of the real need of all these changes.

If you have other questions, please let us know at (706) 439-6000 or e-mail at union-county@uniongov.com.

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his head holding him at bay.

Deputy Looney Kent was eating lunch just down the road at the B&G Cafe and by the time he got to the scene the little man had pulled out a "Hawk Billed" knife and was still swinging at Mack. Looney's siren was screaming as he drove right up to second base. He told the man to put his knife away. The man immediately turned on Looney and swung the knife at him. Looney backed away and pulled out his revolver. In a high pitched almost squealing voice Looney screamed at the man to put down his weapon. Although Looney used that type of voice when he became agitated everyone knew he meant business so things calmed down in a hurry.

Ebb then whispered in Dad's ear, "Let this be a lesson to you. Always be in control of your emotions." The very next week the Trapptown men traveled up into Leomi, Tennessee to play a game. Dad was playing shortstop when a fellow dressed in overalls ripped a line drive into right field. The right fielder picked it up at the fence and threw the ball to my father

at second base. The runner was sliding and eased his feet into the dirt causing him to quickly come off the ground and into Dad's chest. At the same time his elbow caught Dad in the chin. The older man called Dad a little boy and a fight quickly ensued. Dad said, "I was getting the best of the older man. Yes sir, my nose was really beating on the man's fists." Ebb calmly walked up to my father and grabbed him by the shoulder. Paul reacted by turning and drawing his fist. He thought someone else was about to get into the fight.

But, before he could strike this new opponent Ebb slapped his face. That stopped the fracas. That evening as the men were driving back to Trapptown, Ebb looked at his young friend and asked if he had learned anything. Dad said, "Yes and there will not be another fight in which I am involved." Ebb said, "Well, you can tell your Daddy about it if you like." Dad knew that if he told Papa he would get a whipping. Ebb and Papa were friends and he was to treat Papa's kids as his own. So, Dad said no and Ebb grinned.

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God has allowed each one of us a free will to do whatever we see fit with our life, whether good, bad or ugly, but there is coming a day in eternity when we all when stand before a righteous and Holy God who will judge us for our actions.

There will be many who have chosen the right path and have served God faithfully and then there will be those who chose to reject God and His laws, then Jesus the judge will tell the latter group of unbelievers, depart from me, I never

knew you and for all of eternity these words will haunt the minds of those who have been separated from a loving God forevermore.

You see God has let each one of us choose our own destiny to live with Him in heaven or be tormented in Hell. Don't let the devil drag you downward. Look upward and receive the gift of eternal glory from God.

**Frank F. Combs,
Blairsville**

Smith... continued from Page 4A

the Byzantine town of Nicaea, it was a council of the many different religions calling themselves Christians or followers of Yeshua, and the apostle Paul.

There were over 1500 of the apostates, preachers, teachers and just plain charlatans with different pieces and portions of writings supposedly written by the apostles. None of them would preach to the educated or the learned because they said that only the poor and uneducated could understand what they were talking about.

The Catholic prelate Sylvester and a few of his followers at the orders of Constantine, some way or another lost or destroyed all writings that had been brought by the other preachers or teachers. At this time, there was no Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. The four Gospels were written in the fourth to the fifth century AD.

Yeshua taught the WAY, an Essene religious way of looking at the world. There was no Christians until around late 100 AD. The first Kristians were the followers of Krishna, a virgin-born son of God in India according to their history about 2000 years

before Yeshua. The Christus or Anointed one was applied by the Greek writers to Yeshua. A title, not a name. And who anointed him? Mariam Magdala the Magdalene. Io Anna; spoken in Greek as YHON or John. Io Anna means Priestess, goddess.

Conversely, there was no Son of God or prophet known as Jesus until the 16th century AD. There was no J until that time. He was known in Hebrew as Yehoshua, pronounce Joshua, in Greek it was Iesus, Latin was Inoous. The later two was pronounced as Zeus.

As to the early church fathers, many of them wrote that it was okay to tell a lie as long as it benefited the church and was for the good of the people. In the Catholic encyclopedia these include, St. Jerome, who also accused Paul of lying to further his own creed, taking items from other written documents to justify his ways, Chrysostom, Origen, Hilary of Poitiers; John Cassion; Hugo Grotius and Martin Luther.

A great lie is understood by GOD but a small lie is not!
**Lester Smith,
Blairsville**

Fowler...

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of the Cross by our own ill humor, but let us show our love to the Cross by loving and trying to bless those who have been offended with it."

Karl Barth once advised young theologians "to take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible." A good place to start is, "The word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1:18). Take heart, Christian, and embrace the power.

Mattee...

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in your water and what toxins are being released.

If your pond needs treatment for an algae problem, there are several options. The most common chemical treatments for algal blooms are copper based chemicals and sodium precarbonate. Copper has its advantages because it is inexpensive and can even be used to prevent blooms. However, because it kills so many algae so quickly, it could cause a mass release of algal toxins. Before applying copper to your pond, test the hardness of the water in your pond. If the water is too soft, treatment with copper may actually be harmful to fish. Rainbow trout, koi and blue catfish are especially sensitive to copper treatment, so be sure to explore all options before treating. An alternative to copper is sodium precarbonate, which not only kills algae but also helps to get rid of toxins that are released during treatment. However, toxins will eventually degrade on their own with exposure to more sunlight as the algae dies off.

To prevent future blooms, be sure to maintain grass buffers that will prevent excessive nutrients from entering the pond. Also, if you have livestock around the water source, limit their access to only a few points. This prevents mass contamination of the water with manure that could otherwise feed algae and other pond weeds, as well as preventing erosion and damage to buffers. Always be careful when applying fertilizer near bodies of water as contamination with nitrogen or phosphorous may also encourage algae growth.

If you would like our publication on pond algae management, please contact the extension office.

Allison ...

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Remember to also check out our new TV show, The Chamber Connection, on Windstream Channel 4. Our first show will air for two weeks beginning Tuesday June 21st at 10 a.m. The complete schedule for the show is as follows: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am, 5pm and 8pm and Saturdays at 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.. Be sure to also watch Pam Roman with the Clay County Chamber of Commerce and Candace Lee with the Towns County Chamber of Commerce as they highlight people and events in their respective counties. I want to thank Mark Mote and Windstream for giving us this opportunity. This is a great way for us to highlight our communities.

If you need to reach us at the Chamber office, you can give us a call at 706-745-5789 or stop in at the Union County Community Center. The Chamber office is open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. We are also open on Saturdays through October from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Chief...

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will have a quicker response to emergencies in that area due to the station location.

The new fire station will be a great asset to the department and the citizens of Union County. It will enable the home and business owners to lower their insurance premiums and it will also increase the capabilities of department to respond to emergencies. Union County Fire Department ~ Our Family Protecting Your Family ~

Retired Firefighters Breakfast

The Retired Firefighters Breakfast is held the first Friday of each month, 9 a.m. at Hole in the Wall Restaurant, Blairsville, GA.