

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

America Needs the Marines

No better way to start our New Year, 2022 than to comment on our "The Proud, the Few", Marines.



Our unique United States Marine Corps is a small determined service we simply cannot do without. They are specialized because of their history, training, and dedication to America, our Constitution INCLUDING what I do here, our First Amendment Rights.

Recently I received an article written by a Captain in the Marine Corps Reserve who seemingly advocated some sort of "progressive" idea of absorbing the USMC into the Navy and Army.

Our USMC needs to be autonomous and remain a small, ready, willing and able dedicated fighting group just as they were originally created to be.

My utmost respect and regard for our Marines is understated with my use of a capitol "M" when I spell Marine. Just as I use a capitol "V" for Honorable Veterans.

Working together as liaison services has always been a success. But our fine Marines just need to remain Marines!

Semper Fi/Semper Paratus

Letters to The Editor

Mass Resistance

"No one saw it coming," Joe Biden lied in interview on ABC news, 12-23-21. This blatant Biden lie from the Executive Branch, can only mean one thing, the administration is protecting Big Pharma profits.

The science is well known that says: until the whole world is vaccinated, no one is safe from Covid 19 infection and that the variant viruses will continue to mutate and spread.

"When Big Government leaders lie, the truth becomes a traitor," says ex-Governor Jesse Ventura. Capitalist, corporate control of our economy and politics is the number one cause of 800k U.S. Covid deaths.

Lance Jobson

Thank You, Towns County

On behalf of the residents of Clay County Care Center, I would like to thank the community of Towns County, who became their secret Santas and made their Christmas so very special.

Rosemary Harvey, CCCC Community Life Coordinator

Changes to Hamilton Gardens

As one of the many volunteers who worked at restoring and enhancing Hamilton Gardens since early 2016, I'm devastated by what Georgia Mountain Fair has done to the Gardens in the two short months they have been in charge of the management.

That being said, to rip out the Children's Daffodil Memorial Garden that was dedicated to the children murdered in the Holocaust was criminal. The list of atrocities goes on and on, from ripping out mature perennials, to removing all plantings from the herb garden, and removing the sundial.

Linda Jones



Cousin Eddie

Sometimes on a Saturday evening in the winter months, when it was too cold to play outside or perform dangerous experiments in my secret underground laboratory disguised as our basement, the television would be left on and Hee Haw would catch my attention.

I remember one skit in particular. It went something like this: "Jack and me went to the circus. Jack got hit by a bowling pin. Jack and me got even with the circus. We bought a ticket but we didn't go in!"

It starts with a sip and then you come to hours later, tired and angry and your head hurts, thinking, "I just sat down; why is it dark outside?"

Back to the "circus." We've been under the big top for at least a year, perhaps much longer, and everyone is mad at the circus and longing to get even with it. We're outraged. We're "fiery but mostly peaceful protest" mad.

Of course, most of us are too busy to actually climb a wall, break a window or burn a neighborhood business, and those things are wrong, especially when they are done by people we don't like.

Then the professional pixel pushers will gather up our contributions and repackage them with images of the people who were desperate or dumb enough to let their outrage take the wheel.

Those people are relatively few in number, but the professionals will broadcast their antics over and over until everyone has a chance to see them, and express their outrage about them, which inspires more outrage and leads to more burning and breaking, which leads to more outrage.

It's an effective business model, this self-perpetuating outrage circus, and it generates billions in revenue. The best part of it is that the people who traffic in outrage, politicians, pundits, media companies, news networks, social media platforms, apocalypse bloggers, don't have to create or produce anything.

Left to our own devices, we're easy marks. We're wired for anger. It's a survival mechanism rooted in the amygdala, the higher brain's "Cousin Eddie" (as in "Christmas Vacation") who shows up at the most inopportune moments to embarrass the rest of the family.

A good portion of human history involves our efforts to overcome the influence of Cousin Eddie. Religion, philosophy and government are all necessary to help us cope with it, and to minimize the damage we do when we can't cope.

Civilization itself hinges on how successful our beliefs and institutions are in elevating our better angels over the fear and anger that can issue forth from those two little almond shaped clusters in our heads, and we've seen what devastation we can cause when they fail.

We've all heard the term "rageaholic," and somewhere in the back of our heads where memories are stored, we remember that "some" people seem to be addicted to getting angry. Not us, though. We don't go around shooting people on the freeway or destroying property or threatening government officials.

But hold on. If arson is the crime, is the one who strikes the match more guilty than the ones who carry fuel to the fire, or the ones who throw gasoline on it? After all, we're about to impeach a president for allowing his own Cousin Eddie to take over his social media accounts.

In our defense, as thin as that might be, one might say that we have an addiction. As it turns out, anger really can be addictive. Cousin Eddie is a pusher.

His handing out neurotransmitters known as catecholamines, and little dime bags of dopamine, adrenaline and noradrenaline, and though we may hate ourselves in the morning, it feels good to feel bad, at least for a moment, so we do it again.

You might think we would be better off without these little brain buttons inherited from the dinosaurs, but our relationship with Cousin Eddie is more complicated than that. The amygdala is also involved in emotional learning and the process of forming memories. Which makes it prime territory for anyone who wants to manipulate us by feeding our addictions.

As it turns out, our righteous anger is about as valuable to the process of building a better world as Jack's unused circus ticket. Where it does have value is in creating revenue for media giants, and for keeping us all so thoroughly distracted that we miss what's happening to our economy and our national character right under our noses.

Outside The Box By: Don Perry worldoutsidethebox.com

Apple Tree Pruning

Deep winter is prime apple tree pruning time. Pruning apple trees is important early in the tree's life so that it gets started off right.



Later on, if you properly prune the tree each year the tree will be more productive, more disease resistant, and have a longer life. Keeping all these things in mind, let's talk about apple tree pruning today.

Some times people will plant a seed from an apple core that they've eaten. This can be a fun experiment for kids to see an apple tree grow. An issue that you may run into with this is that there is no telling what kind of apple tree will come up.

Let's talk "Habitat History". Most of you reading this column have heard about Habitat for Humanity, and know that it's a worldwide organization that builds houses for people who normally don't qualify for a conventional home mortgage.

Habitat History



In 1942, some members of the Rehoboth Baptist Church, near Americus, GA, decided to pool their resources and create a community farm. Clarence Jordan owned some land, so he and several other members of Rehoboth Baptist Church started Koinonia Farm, where all people were treated equally, resources were shared, and they acted as caretakers of the land and stewards of the natural resources.

In 1965, Millard and Linda Fuller joined the farm. It was around then that the concept of "partnership housing" was developed. Houses would be built by volunteers, and sold for no profit. Mortgage payments from housing partner families would be combined with no-interest loans provided by supporters, along with money earned by fundraising, to build more homes.

Habitat Houses have been built in all 50 states and more than 70 countries, providing housing for more than 39 million people! In 1984, former President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn joined Habitat for Humanity as volunteers. They have worked with over 100,000 volunteers around the world to build and repair over 4,000 homes.

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