DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

Impeachment Inquiry

United States

Congressman

Representative

peachment Inquiry Begins: Accountability is finally

After discovering mountains of evidence against the

Andrew Clyde

Biden Crime Family, House Republicans recently launched an impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden. While I believe Speaker McCarthy's decision to begin an impeachment inquiry is certainly overdue, I fully support his move, as it will give the House Judiciary, Oversight, and Ways & Means Committees additional tools to investigate

As expected, the White House is having a complete meltdown over this new development. Biden's Press Secretary even claimed that it's "actually an actual fact" that there's "no evi-

dence" to back up House Republicans' impeachment inquiry. Delusional!

So far, House Republicans have uncovered texts, emails, bank records, wire transfers, suspicious activity reports, critical eyewitness testimony, and the FD-1023 - all of which reveal that Joe Biden was aware of and involved in the Biden Crime Family's corruption. Yet the White House is determined to conceal every

shred of evidence from the American people. In fact, the Biden Administration sent a letter to top U.S. news executives urging them to "ramp up scrutiny" of our impeachment inquiry. claiming that it's "based on lies." This is not only completely inappropriate, but it is false and flies in the face of reality. But don't just take my word for it. You can easily ac-

cess and view all of the evidence that House Republicans have gathered on my website (clyde.house.gov/BidenCrimeFamily). Please share this website with your friends and family. and don't hesitate to contact my office if you have questions, comments, or concerns about its content.

As our impeachment inquiry into Joe Biden moves forward, please know that we will leave no stone unturned in our pursuit of truth, transparency, and justice. The American people demand – and deserve – nothing less.

Leaf Color

With the cooler temperatures arriving, Fall is on everyone's mind. A big part of that is the change in leaf color. Our peak leaf color time is usually in mid-October. In the mountains the colors can make a beautiful sight. But why don't





evergreens lose their leaves, and why are there all the different colors? Let's talk about it so that as the leaves change this year you can show off your scientific knowledge to your friends!

Firstly, leaves can change color for a variety of reasons. Disease, drought, nutrient deficiency among other things are all reasons why leaves can change colors. In the plants cells there is a chemical called chlorophyll. Chlorophyll is crucial to the plant. Chlorophyll converts the light energy into chemical energy in a process called photosynthesis. That chemical energy is used by the plant for growth and reproduction. If you eat a plant then you're ingesting that energy too. If you eat an animal that has been eating plants you're still ingesting that energy. Photosynthesis is an amazing process that is one of the biggest building blocks of life.

The chlorophyll can absorb many wavelengths of light. However, the green wavelengths are not absorbed but reflected. This gives leaves the green color that we see. Next to the chlorophyll in the plant leaves there are other chemicals that serve as a buffer to protect the chlorophyll. These other chemicals are pigments and they absorb the wavelengths of light that would be dangerous to the chlorophyll. These pigments vary in the color that they reflect from yellow to orange to red.

As the temperature starts to drop and the days get shorter, chlorophyll will start to break down in the leaves and stop converting light energy to chemical energy. During the growing season, there is so much chlorophyll in the leaves that the green color overpowers the pigments yellow to orange. However, with the chlorophyll beginning to break down, the pigment's coloring begins to show through. Different species of plants will have different levels of chlorophyll. The mixing of chlorophyll and pigment will result in the different colors of leaves that we see in the fall. The weather can affect the intensity of the leaf color. Colors will be more intense with rainy and overcast days.

While the leaves are changing color, the tree will also begin to create a special layer of cells at the point of attachment for the leaf to the tree. This layer of cells will seal the tree off from the leaf so that an open wound is not left when the leaf falls by its own weight.

Not all trees lose their leaves in the fall. Evergreens such as pines, hemlocks, hollies, and rhododendrons have a thicker coating of wax around their leaves. All leaves have a thin coating of wax that is used to protect them from drying out. On evergreen trees, the wax coating is thicker and can protect the leaves through the winter. Evergreens will still lose leaves, but they don't lose them all at one time. They'll completely replace all of their leaves over a period of 2-4 years.

If you have questions about leaf color contact your County Extension Office or email me at Jacob.Williams@uga.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SHOULD **BE E-MAILED OR MAILED TO:**

Towns County Herald, Letter to the Editor PO Box 365, Hiawassee, GA 30546. Our email address: tcherald@windstream.net.

Letters should be limited to 200 words or less, signed dated and include a phone number for verification purposes This paper reserves the right to edit letters to conform with

Editorial page policy or refuse to print letters deemed pointless, potentially defamatory or in poor taste. Letters should address issues of general interest, such as politics, the community, environment, school issues, etc. Letters opposing the views of previous comments are welcomed; however, letters cannot be directed at, nor name or ridicule previous writers. Letters that recognize good deeds of others will be considered for publication.*

Note: All letters must be signed, and contain the first and last name and phone number for verification.

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FALL COLORS MAP # 37

Season High Tunnels

It's that time of year when our thoughts turn to Fall with the flowers and our gardens coming to an end after a long hot summer and now is time to plant the fall and winter greens in our Seasonal High tunnels. Traditional gardens are at the mercy of the

RC&D **Executive** Director Frank Riley sun, rain, wind, and sudden drops in temperature when the

High tunnels have many uses on the farm. In cooler climates, their main purpose is to elevate temperatures a few degrees each day over a period of several weeks. These covered structures are constructed in the field in order to protect crops from the weather (rain, wind, cool or warm temperatures), as well as in some cases, pests. This typically results in faster

plants have started to bloom. High tunnels, also called hoop

houses, are temporary structures that extend the growing sea-

plant growth and higher yields. A high tunnel protects plants from nature's destructive forces and extends the growing season at both ends of the season by at least a month. Regardless of the region, high tunnels help growers produce crops outside of the normal season, thus meeting consumer demand on either end of the production curve when competition is lower, and prices are higher. The modified climate inside the high tunnels also creates the opportunity to produce crops that can't normally grow if unprotected, diversifying the farming system.

By helping protect crops from weather-related damage, such as sun scalds, wind bruises, and hail spots, and from pest damage, high tunnels can provide a higher percentage of top-grade fruits and vegetables at harvest. High tunnels or hoop houses are unheated, with sides and doors that roll up for ventilation during the warm months and roll down when the temperatures drop. These structures maximize vegetable, fruit, or flower output from a small area since the plants are protected from wind, rain, sun, and animals.

In 2016 Chestatee-Chattahoochee RC&D, received \$15,000 from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority The guidelines for how to use these funds were for most anything that would enhance the RC&D's mission in the counties they serve. Chest/Chatt RC&D's mission is to" Assist local people in planning and carrying out activities that conserve natural resources, support economic development, enhance the environment, and improve the standard of living for all citizens in the 13 counties of Northeast Georgia". The goal is not only to help people improve their way of life in these counties but to help teach young people how to provide for themselves in the real world.

Chest/Chatt decided to use the funds to donate Season al High Tunnels to each of the 13 counties in our work area. These growing houses are placed in public places and schools where they can be a benefit to the community by demonstrating to people how they can produce their own locally grown food, flowers, or fruits. We think this is a worthwhile use of your hard-earned tax money as it circles back into the community from the Gold Dome through the RC&D. We have put tunnel houses at Senior Centers, local colleges, elementary, middle, home school groups and high schools.

These high tunnels are easily installed in a couple of days and materials are delivered as a complete kit to the site along with our experienced crew to install the structures. These projects provide students who don't have a garden spot at home, a controlled learning environment where they can have a garden and grow fresh food to give to the school lunchroom where it will be prepared and fed to them. Training can be provided by experts on tunnel houses so the citizens who use the structure can maximize their yields with minimal cost and produce vegetables with the most nutrition for their families.

The goal of this project is to show people where food comes from, how it is grown, and to encourage citizens to get back to the basics and grow some of their food for a healthier lifestyle.

These tunnel houses have been approved by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) for the EQUIP cost share program in Georgia and Alabama, so the design and quality meets the standards set by the USDA NRCS

The Seasonal High Tunnels also require an irrigation system since it is covered with plastic and rain can't get in. Growers use drip tape to effectively keep the plants moist

I have 2 - 30' x 75' plastic covered metal houses on our farm "down on the river" where we grow vegetables and cut flowers in the controlled environment. We collect rainwater from gutters on our house and barn and pipe it into 2 - 1,000-gallon underground storage tanks and then pumped up to 4- 300 gallon above ground holding tanks where it is fed by gravity into the drip tape in the houses. This natural watering process works very well, and the operating costs are

There are high tunnels in Union and Towns counties; one at the Union Agricultural center and one at Woody Gap School, one at the Towns County Senior Center in Hiawassee and another at Towns County comprehensive school. Chest Chatt RC&D has built and donated 65 of these structures around North Georgia since we started in 2016 and we are adding more to our list every day.

For more information on Seasonal High Tunnels or the Chest/Chatt project, contact ChestChatt RC&D Council at info.ccrcd@gmail.com or www.chestchattrcd.org.

Our Responsibility

year-old Davey came home from school and found his mother in bed. He asked if she was sick. "As a matter of fact, I don't feel too well," she said.



Well," Davey replied, "don't worry a bit about dinner, Mom. I'll be happy to carry you down to the stove.'

Responsibility for others is a core principle in any moral society. Two prominent figures in human history, Noah, and Abraham, each faced a test in this department. The way in which these two virtuous men reacted offers valuable lessons to those who fear that society is in a state of moral decline and feel powerless to stem the tide. By

78% of respondents say that morals are getting worse in the U.S. Further, respondents cite that "lack of consideration for others" is the top problem by over a 2:1 margin. The Torah (Bible) tells us that ten generations after Adam, G-d said to Noah, "I've decided to put an end to hu-

manity, for the earth is filled with robbery because of them,

way of example, A Gallup Poll conducted last year cites that

and I am destroying them from the earth. Make for yourself an ark...' Noah did everything just as G-d commanded him" (Genesis 6:13-14, 22). With not a body of water in sight, Noah spent the next 120 years building a 440-foot-long "super ark." Why did G-d give him a task that took so long? One of His purposes was to elicit curiosity from passersby. When they would

ask Noah about his ark, he would warn them that G-d planned to destroy the world, but there was still time to repent. Notably, no one took him up on his offer. Although Noah diligently followed G-d's directions to the letter, he focused on the safety of himself and his loved ones. If the rest of humanity was beyond redemption, he thought he needn't take any responsibility for them. But G-d actually wanted Noah to intercede on their behalf, which could explain why the prophet Isaiah alludes to the deluge as "the

sulted in him sharing some responsibility for their demise. Fast forward ten generations to the time of Abraham. G-d told him, "The outcry from Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If it is, I will destroy them..." (Genesis 18:20-21). Unlike Noah, Abraham who felt a deep personal responsibility for others,

waters of Noah." Noah's lack of interest in his fellow men re-

says to G-d, "Will you even destroy the righteous with the wicked? What if there are fifty righteous people in the city; will you destroy it and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people who are in it?" He then goes on to negotiate with the Almighty getting G-d to agree that if even ten righteous people could be found, he would spare the entire population. We might see Abraham here as pleading for the lives of the righteous, but in fact, he was also hoping to save the wicked along with them.

Sodom and Gomorrah's inhabitants were notoriously cruel. Hostility toward visitors, sexual assault, murder, theft, adultery, idolatry, power abuses were considered normal behavior. Nonetheless, Abraham harbored a deep sense of personal responsibility for these individuals, and his persistent attempts, though unsuccessful, were ultimately rewarded by G-d. As stated in Genesis 18:18-19, "all nations on earth will be blessed through him" for following the path of G-d and doing charity and justice."

While both Noah and Abraham stand as acclaimed figures in world history, Abraham's approach was favored by G-d Considering this contrast, what, then, might be an effective approach today to help the growing number of people who suffer from loneliness, family issues, psychological struggles, addiction, and so forth. Who couldn't benefit from your compassion. support, and moral clarity at a time in history where morality is becoming untethered from the one G-d, and is fast becoming relative concept based on convenience or social agreement?

Carrying on Abraham's legacy is possible for everyone by serving as an ambassador of light. Seize the opportunity to suspend judgements and connect with each person you encounter based on the fact that they are also created in G-d's image and thus deserve your causeless love and kindness. So, if Davey's mother ever takes ill again, hopefully Davey reads this column and will serve his mom breakfast in bed!

I would love to hear your thoughts on this week's column. Please email me at yonatan@chabadruralgeorgia.com. Wishing you G-d's abundant blessings, Rabbi Yonatan Hambourger

Letters To The Editor

Biden's Elder Abuse Continues

Dear Editor,

Joe Biden visited Vietnam this month, where he met with the nation's communist leader and then held a a press conference where he appeared, as usual, very confused. Biden stumbled over names, lost his train of thought, admitted he was just "following orders" and mumbled on to the extent where his handlers decided to bring out the hook and close the press

conference before it got ugly. As reported, the purpose of the trip was to address China's threat of regional expansionism. However, Biden stated, "I don't wanna contain China." Say what? What a disaster. Biden then flew off to Alaska in order to commemorate the victims of 9/11. For the record, this was the first time the sitting president failed to show up to any of the 9/11 crash sites to commemorate the victims of America's worst terror attacks. However, given Biden's press conference disaster in Vietnam, the reason for his no-show seems rather obvious. Apparently his staff simply can't trust him to be able to appropriately attend to such matters.

Tim Groza

Guest Columns

From time to time, people in the community have a grand slant on an issue that would make a great guest editorial. Those who feel they have an issue of great importance should call our editor and talk with him about the idea. Others have a strong opinion after reading one of the many columns that appear throughout the paper. If so, please write.

Please remember that publication of submitted editorials is not guaranteed.

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