

Editorial page

Nolia's Notes

Guests at the table in history, who knew?

by NOLIA BIGGERSTAFF



She stands nineteen and a half feet, looking like the beautiful princess she is with an eagle on top of her head. Her right hand rests on the hilt of a sheathed sword wrapped in a scarf; her left hand holds a laurel wreath of victory and the shield of the United States with thirteen stripes. She stands on a pedestal topped with a globe encircled with the motto, "E Pluribus Unum" (Out of Many, One).

Care to guess where this statue is or what it is all about? My guess is that most of you are like me and had no idea about her significance.

You see, most Americans figure that our Founding Fathers were a bunch of brilliant European white guys sitting around a table creating our Constitution from scratch...not so.

Today, we hear a lot of talk in the news about actions taken that are in the Constitution or are not constitutional. Where did our constitutional rules come from, anyway?

When our Founding Fathers were creating our constitutional democracy they had very special guests at the table. Care to guess who they were?

Well, they were 40+ Iroquois Native American Chiefs! It was deemed important to include them because, at that time, half of the economy depended on trading with the Native Americans.

What is even more interesting is that the Iroquois Confederacy already had a Great Law of Peace. This was a verbal agreement of the Native Americans for a long time

and later written down, but some historians say that this Great Law of Peace was the first model of our Constitution!

You see, the Iroquois Nation was made up of the Mohawk, Onondaga, Oneida, Cayuga, Seneca, and Tuscarora, tribes. They had control of areas much like our states of today. So, our Founding Fathers got a lot of ideas and information about what worked in a democracy from the Native Americans before they even sat down to brainstorm about our Constitution!

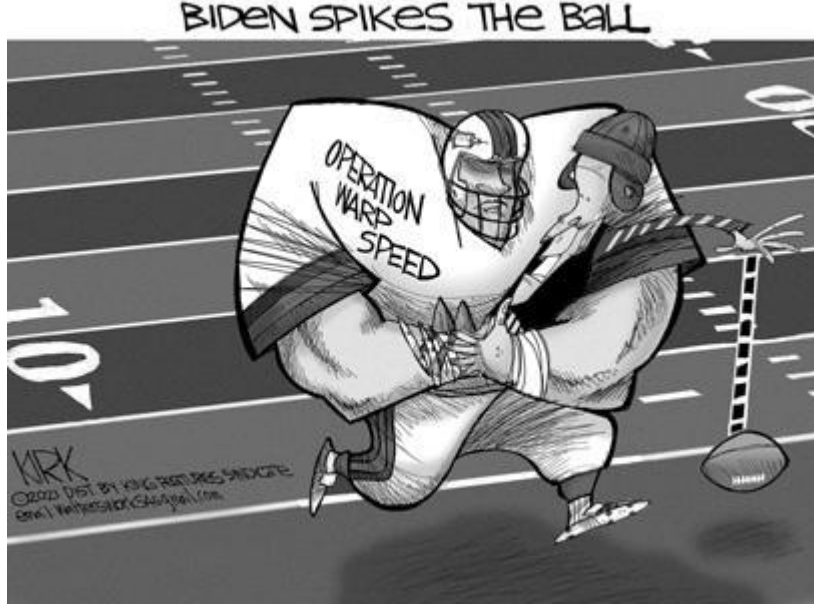
This statue that I mentioned is actually a statue of a Native American princess. She stands on top of our United States Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.! She was created by the artist, Thomas Crawford, and installed in 1863, to honor the contributions of those Native American Chiefs.

I imagine many folks visiting Washington, D.C. look up and see this statue and have absolutely no idea of the significance. Some probably think it is another Statue of Liberty.

No, it is actually a tribute to the Native Americans and their contribution in forming our United States Constitution.

What a history lesson to know that the Native Americans played such an important part in developing our nation. Valuable guests at the table, indeed! Who knew?

Right now I am wondering if we might all be better off today if those Native Americans were still in charge of this land! Just a thought, dear friends! Just a thought!



Consumers get answers from Ga. Department of Agriculture

Consumer Q's is a weekly question-and-answer column by Arty Schronce at the Georgia Department of Agriculture. Please share your thoughts, questions and suggestions with him by phone, mail or email.

Q: Will rain lilies grow in Georgia?

A: Many rain lilies will grow in Georgia. The most common is the white rain lily (*Zephyranthes candida*). This late summer to fall bloomer is beautiful as well as easy to grow. Two other popular species are the yellow *Zephyranthes citrina* and the pink *Zephyranthes rosea*. They are available from finer bulb suppliers and garden centers. Some garden centers and mail-order sources may sell them potted instead of as dormant bulbs. For an extensive description of *Zephyranthes* and other bulbs, check out Garden Bulbs for the South by Scott Ogden.

Q: What is the difference between the chestnut rose and the chinquapin rose?

A: They are both common names for the same rose: *Rosa roxburghii*. The names come from the bristly hips (fruits/seedpods) of the rose which resemble the bur of a chestnut, horse chestnut or chinquapin. Chestnut/chinquapin rose comes in a single-flowered form and a double flowered form, with the double being more common. The flowers are pink. Some people detect a slight fragrance. The double ones look like tissue paper constructions while the single form resembles a wild rose. It is a pretty and undemanding rose - no spraying is needed. Although bristly hips may not sound appealing, even those are interesting and attractive when they turn pale greenish yellow.

Q: I have been reading about bed bugs, and I am concerned. I am traveling abroad this summer. How can I prevent an infestation, and what should I do if my house becomes infested?

A: Although bed bugs have not been a serious problem in the United States since the 1940s, the past few years have brought a resurgence in the insect's population, especially in hotels and other areas where many people use the same beds.

Bed bugs can best be treated by pest control companies, but the insects are very resilient and often require extensive, and perhaps multiple, treatments. If you suspect a problem it is best to consult with a professional.

Because extensive treatment

can be expensive, it is best to take preventative measures when traveling or staying where beds may be infected.

Here are a few tips to keep bed bugs out of your home: While staying in a hotel, check mattresses, headboards, box springs and other upholstered furniture for spotted stains that could be dried blood or bug excrement. Any hotel - from four-star to flophouse - could have bed bugs. If you suspect a problem, immediately ask to change rooms.

- Unpack/check luggage outside after a trip before bringing it into the house.
- Do not keep luggage stored underneath a bed.
- Use mattress covers designed to protect against bedbugs.
- Avoid bringing used furniture, particularly mattresses, into the home.

Q: What is a bumper crop?

A: "Bumper crop" is a term used to describe a particularly large harvest for a given year. "Bumper" is sometimes defined as something "unusually large." The term "bumper crop" originated as 1700s slang, used to describe the way results from a large harvest would swell the containers used to carry it to the market.

Q: My new home has a retaining wall in the front yard. What are some plants that will spill over the wall and have a cascading effect? The wall gets full sun.

A: Try thrift (*Phlox subulata*), creeping raspberry, winter jasmine, creeping rosemary, candytuft and weeping lantana. Visit your local nursery or garden center to learn more about these plants as well as other possibilities. Take along a photograph of the wall and surroundings to assist the horticulturist at the nursery in making recommendations.

If you have questions about agriculture, horticulture, food safety or services or products regulated by the Georgia Department of Agriculture, write Arty Schronce (arty.schronce@agr.georgia.gov) or visit the department's website at www.agr.georgia.gov.

Planning, zoning meetings

The City of Lincolnton Planning & Zoning Board meetings for 2021 are scheduled as follows: March 30, April 27, May 25, June 29, July 27, Aug. 31, Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 30, Dec. 28. These meetings will be held in City Hall at 5:30 p.m. each month if there is an agenda.



Georgia Agriculture Awareness Week

By Robyn Stewart
Lincoln County Extension Service



Did you know that agriculture is the number one industry in Georgia? Agriculture and related industries represent over 359,220 jobs and over \$70.1 billion dollars in output to Georgia's economy. There are over 42,439 farms in Georgia on 9.9 million acres of property. This week (March 22-26th) was selected as the Georgia Agriculture Awareness Week, with National Agriculture Awareness Day on March 23rd. In celebration of agriculture industries in Georgia, I wanted to share some industry facts with you this week.

The top agricultural industry in the state of Georgia is broiler (meat chicken) production, with an economic contribution of \$22.9 billion. The poultry industry provides over 100,000 jobs to Georgia residents and each poultry farm can feed 22,000 people per day. Total poultry production for the state is around 7 billion pounds of chicken annually. In Georgia, 3 of every 4 counties are involved with poultry production.

The second industry in Georgia is our row and forage crops, representing 20% of our total commodities or an economic impact of \$12.8 billion. Row crop industries provide over 88,000 jobs and \$12.8 billion to the state economy. Our top crops include cotton (37.9%), peanuts (25.5%), corn (12.4%), hay (11.8%), and silage (3%).

Our third industry, and one near

Festival entries wanted

The American Legion Post 194 and Classic South Quilt Guild is looking for entries for their upcoming quilt, craft and sewing festival scheduled for June 12-13. If you have quilts, sewing crafts, or toys, novelty items, ceramics, paintings, jewelry, etc., please contact Linda Buesching at 706-359-1572 or Al Ewing at 661-666-3749 for more information on entering your items.

Sit, Sew classes

The American Legion is hosting additional classes: "Sit & Sew" classes, meet monthly on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday morning, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

"Quilting Classes" are monthly, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7-9:30 p.m. Call Linda Buesching/Instructor at (706) 359-1572.

Sewing and quilting stations are appropriately spaced and masks are required.

All levels of quilting welcome. The cost is a "donation" to the American Legion.

Divorce care group

Are you divorced or separated? Need Godly guidance with others who are struggling also? Faith Community Church is starting a Divorce-Care group starting on Sept. 2 that will meet for 13 weeks. It will be on Wednesday nights from 7-8 p.m. Childcare is available. Please email Lee.haskins7@gmail.com for more information or see church's website.

BOE meeting dates

The Lincoln County Board of Education 2021 meeting dates are follows: May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14, and Jan. 11, 2022.

The meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at the Board of Education Administration Offices Building at 423 Metasville Rd.

and dear to my heart, is the livestock and aquaculture industries. This commodity has an economic impact of over \$8.4 billion and provides jobs to 34,000 people. Our livestock industry is primarily focused on beef cows (33.6%), dairy (20.9%), horses (16.8%), and beef stockers (8%). Other segments included in this are honeybees, fisheries, small ruminants (sheep and goats), and more.

Coming in fourth place is Georgia vegetable production at over \$2.6 billion in economic impact. The Georgia vegetable industry produces over 33 different types of vegetable including but not limited to watermelon (15.3%), sweet corn (12.3%), onions (11.3%), bell peppers (10.8%), and cucumbers (6.4%).

There are a few other industries that are essential to Georgia agriculture. Ornamental horticulture contributes \$7.9 billion to the economy each year and provides 62,000 jobs. Of this, 47.6% is greenhouse production, 18.2% are field nurseries, 17.8% are container nurseries, 12.6% is turfgrass, and 3.9% is other production types.

Georgia forestry and timber industries provide over 65,000 jobs and \$14.1 billion in economic impact to the state. Segments of the industry include timber (81.2%), pine straw (12%), and other (6.2%).

Our fruit and nut industries are worth \$2 billion to the state economy with pecans (42.4%), blueberries (35.5%), and peaches (11.6%) leading the charge.

Finally, agritourism and other is a growing category with a Farm Gate Value of \$966.15 million. Things that are included here are government payments (59.3%), crop insurance (17%), ag and nature-based tourism (13%), and hunting leases (10.6%).

Agriculture is an essential industry in our state and will undoubtedly continue to be so for many years to come. What industry are you most interested in?

Questions or comments can be directed to uge3181@uga.edu or 706-359-3233

Mail in tithes

Price Grove Baptist Church members are reminded that they are able to mail in their tithes to Price Grove Baptist Church, P.O. Box 916, Lincolnton, GA 30817.

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Letters to the Editor TO THE EDITOR

Brothers say, 'thank you'

TO THE EDITOR

Thank you Lincolnton for your hospitality!

My brother, Jerry Cullars, and I came to Lincolnton to research the history of our family and our most fortunate discovery was the hospitality of the good people of your town. We arrived late Sunday evening on the 14th and we stopped at Papa's Pizza on Peachtree St. for something to eat. We were told that they were closing, but they offered to make us a pizza anyway.

We spoke with two young men who probably had lives to get back to, but they extended a kindness to two strangers instead. My brother and I were staying at the Cullars Inn and we also found the manager, Sam Patel, to be kind and very helpful. He gave several suggestions of people to see and places to visit to gather information on how we fit

into the history of the Cullars family. His best suggestion was to speak with Kevin Beggs of the Beggs Funeral Home (I would later find out that he was our cousin).

Kevin Beggs was gracious and generous with his time. He drove us to gravesites and various homes of our relatives that are, or were, so central to your local history.

We would also like to thank the gracious librarians at the Lincolnton Library. Their Genealogist, Jean Lenderman was very helpful and we credit her with enabling us to connect our branch of the family tree from LaGrange, Georgia to the trunk of the family tree in Lincolnton.

We must return home to Orlando, Florida, but we will return when we can. Know that you are fortunate to live in such a lovely town.

Kim Cullars

Consumer Ed answers questions

Dear Consumer Ed: Can an apartment complex force tenants to pay for "valet" trash pickup in front of their apartment door versus letting us just take care of it and throw it away in the dumpster for free?

Consumer Ed says: When you sign an apartment lease, it is important to understand who is responsible for paying the utilities (gas, electric, water, garbage collection). The lease needs to be clear about which utilities are included in the rent (paid by the landlord) and which utilities are to be paid by the tenant.

As far as the valet trash pickup, the terms in your lease will likely determine whether or not you are required to pay this fee. If the lease states that the tenant is responsible for paying for valet trash pickup, there is not much you can do once you have signed the lease. You will not be able to negotiate this provision until your current lease has concluded. However, if your lease does not mention trash collection or if you agreed with your landlord that you would handle the trash collection on your own, the landlord cannot begin charging a fee under the lease agreement, nor can they force you to begin paying a fee under the current lease agreement.

Brought to you by the Georgia Department of Law's Consumer Protection Division.

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The Lincoln Journal

Established in 1893
The Official Organ of Lincolnton and Lincoln County
(USPS 313-660)
Published every Thursday in Lincolnton, Georgia
Peachtree Street, by Wilkes Publishing Co., Inc.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

One year in Lincoln County - \$26.00
Wilkes, Taliaferro Counties - 26.00
Outside three-county area - \$41.00
(includes 8% state and local sales tax)

Periodicals postage paid at Lincolnton, Georgia
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Lincoln Journal, P.O. Box 399
Lincolnton, Georgia 30817
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Email us at: journal@nu-z.net
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