

Under the Constitution it is the Congress that declares war

One of the things you see as an old man, and I am an old man, is how life really is, the veil of nonsense gets pulled away. So, when I learned that we were at war with Iran, just as I predicted in this space last week, I didn't think about all the arguments for and against taking military action. In my mind I could see young faces of young men and young women who are going to be fighting this war.

As of this writing there are three American soldiers who will not be coming home to their families and five or more others who will carry reminders about the true cost of war forever with them. These soldiers and their families are the people I am thinking of now.

My generation's war was Vietnam. A deadly conflict justified by a political ideology called the domino theory. The fear was these southeast



Northwest Passage
By Loyd Ford

Asian countries, most people couldn't find on a map, would fall under the grip of China like dominos. Looking back on those times I can't believe someone didn't stand up and say these countries have been under China's grip for at least 2,000 years. It's nothing new.

When the war card was pulled on Iraq we were told, by military leaders I trusted, the Iraqis had weapons of mass destruction. So, we fell for it again and sent hundreds of thousands

of young men and women to prosecute a war against an aggravating and evil dictator. Almost 4,500 of those young people never made it back to the United States alive.

The President has said Iran posed a nuclear threat the United States. This is the new line after telling us that Iran's nuclear facilities were completely and totally destroyed in an earlier US attack. Now we are told the attack on Iran is justified because soon Iran will have long-range nuclear missiles with the ability to strike the United States. So, in a

matter of just months, we have gone from the threat has been totally destroyed to they can hit main land United States with nuclear missiles.

It is impossible to say this again without sounding like a broken record, but the United States Constitution requires the Congress to vote on a declaration of war. I don't care who is President, what political party they are a member of, or if they are the smartest and most clear-thinking person on earth no one person is empowered to send our soldiers into a war. But that is what has hap-

pened. There is no defensible reason for the Congress not to have made this decision. They did it prior to WWII. If we are going to commit our military and in particular put our soldiers in such grave risk the decision to do so must come before Congress.

The children of regular people, like you and me, are the ones who always fight Americas wars. The least we owe our military people is full disclosure about the need for war, not weapons of mass destruction that are never located, domino countries or because a

really bad person taunts us on television. The consequences are too great for the political aims of the President and his appointees to make decisions about when we go to war. The founders of this country knew that, people in Congress know that, and frankly anyone willing to read the US Constitution can know that.

I do not see how the President will be able to declare victory in four weeks and walk away from a decision that will keep us at war for generations. But that is probably what will happen.

It's time for Shabbatin in a world full of troubles

"It's like taking out the fancy dishes for Thanksgiving, except we do it every week." This was the narration a Jewish woman provided for her Shabbat table on social media. As a self-respecting granddaughter of Ruthie Johnsonius, I was struck with inspiration. Pulling out the fine china and linen is a treasured event. As a child of God, light and prayer and bread and wine anchor me.

A Shabbat dinner checks all the boxes for how I like to spend my free time. Family, food and a little fancy are all I need. I began considering my own Shabbat practice. Then I realized I grew up with



By Emily Morrison

one. Shabbat, the Friday evening meal practiced for millennium, is the Hebrew version of Southerners' Sunday Dinner.

Both traditions begin with families gathering at a prescribed time and place. Jewish families abide by sundown on Friday. While southern

folks may vary their timing from family to family, each has an undisputed time and place. The Ford family custom of holding family meals at 2:00 pm is so deeply engrained in our DNA, my brother and I can't even question that there would be any other time to eat. When planning a get together, we don't even discuss the time. It is understood. It is law.

Shabbat dinners also feature challah, bread. Across the south the bread may vary from cornbread to sourdough. In our family, my grandmother Ruth made yeast rolls. For every occasion there were individual miniature rolls for everyone to enjoy.

Ruthie was a baker of bread. She would braid her own loaves of rye. There was a while when she had a bread making machine. I do not believe the manufacturers factored in Ruth Johnsonius levels of industry when designing a domestic product. No matter the custom, bread binds us.

In a world full of troubles, we need to remember that we are all the same when we get right down to it. We need one another. We need the goodness of our maker. We need bread that nourishes our bodies and souls. We need to Shabbat.



Our View

Support your newspaper

Just this past week we were reminded once again about the many roles local newspapers play in their communities. We had more than one person contact us last week about back issues. Yes, each person who contacted us about issues they wanted, wanted them because they or their children were in those papers.

We have a room full of back issues and can generally supply them to people who want them.

But the real question is what happens to a community when it doesn't have a community newspaper and there are no back issues. We can tell you because this is happening more and more across America. The sad truth is the history of an entire community is lost. No one, not the library, not the chamber of commerce, no one keeps the history of a community like the local newspaper.

50 years from now we can't be sure the picture files we have now will be good enough to see or if the devices we have will be able to read them. But one thing we can assure you, you will still be able to see a print copy of a newspaper, that is if they are still around.

Support your local newspaper. They do much more for the communities they serve than people really know.

Public Notices

Scan the QR Code below to access Kentucky Public Records. With one quick click you will be directed to a website supported by newspapers all across the state where public notices can be found.

Public Notices

Scan the QR Code at right to access Kentucky Public Records. With one quick click you will be directed to a website supported by newspapers all across the state where public notices can be found.



The Lake News

Loyd W. Ford-----Editor & Publisher
Teresa J. Ford-----Publisher
Emily Morrison-----Staff
Mary Larson-----Staff
Founded-----May 29, 1984

The Lake News is published by Loyd W. Ford, Owner, 153 East Fifth Avenue, P.O. Box 498, Calvert City, Kentucky 42029. Publication number - ISSN - 87503698. Telephone (270) 395-5858. E-mail to news@thelakeneews.com Fax number (270) 395-5858. Periodicals postage paid at Calvert City, Kentucky 42029.

Published weekly on Wednesdays. Publication schedule may be altered during holiday weeks. The publishers reserve the right to accept or reject any material submitted for publication.

Subscription rates: Marshall County, Livingston County, Lyon County, Calloway County, Graves County, McCracken County and Trigg County: \$29.95 per year. Elsewhere in Kentucky and out-of-state: \$39.95 per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to: THE LAKE NEWS, P.O. Box 498, Calvert City, Kentucky 42029.

Letters to the editor policy

The Lake News welcomes and encourages original letters to the editor about issues of community interest. Letters should be limited to 400 words or less. Letters must be signed and contain the name and address of the author. The Lake News reserves the right to edit letters. The Lake News also reserves the right to reject letters for publication.

Kentucky Press Association Member

When Christians want to do big things for God

Nicholas Herman was a seventeenth-century soldier who, after experiencing a life of poverty as a child and the ravages of war as a young man, found solace as a monk in a Carmelite monastery in Paris. Known there as Brother Lawrence, he was assigned to perform menial kitchen tasks because his lack of education excluded him from the more significant monastic duties.

In his kitchen, Brother Lawrence found God in every cake he stirred and every pot he washed. The spiritual joy and peace he found in the common business of life were so evident to the priests around him that, when he died, they compiled a collection of his thoughts, drawn from letters he had written



Tales of Grace
By Leigh Ann Northcutt

and notes taken during interviews with him. It is known as "The Practice of the Presence of God" and is now considered to be a classic Christian reading.

When talking about his simple domestic tasks in the kitchen, Brother Lawrence said, "The time of business does not with me differ from the time of prayer;

and in the noise and clatter of my kitchen, . . . I possess God in as great tranquility as if I were upon my knees at the blessed sacrament."

All of us, at one time or another, want to do big things for God. We have personal visions of grandeur. We want to walk with God in places that make significant impressions in His kingdom. We want to know that the things we do matter. And it never hurts to know that the people around us see and appreciate our service.

I confess that I, personally, have a vision of furthering the Kingdom by writing a Christian book that becomes a best-seller and sends me on a nationwide speaking tour where I meet and become best buds with Amy Grant

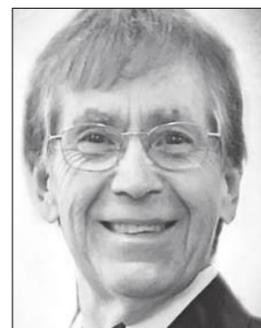
and shine a light on the love of God to millions of people who write letters to tell me how much my words ministered to them. But I have found that, like Bro. Lawrence, my spiritual eyes best see God in the common places of life, where I can take them completely off me. When my hands are busy with menial tasks, my brain is quiet. When my brain is quiet, my mind is more likely to find its way to the feet of Jesus.

Possessing God in the midst of our tasks is what matters in the Kingdom, not their perceived importance. When done with our minds set on Jesus, stirring cakes and washing pots are holy labors.

Wouldn't it be great to hear there is peace everywhere

Being a history teacher that loves to comment about "stuff", I am in a bit of a quandary about what is happening here and there. However, I am not commenting one way or the other. I just hope that I'm not going to be thinking about that poem, "when they come for us" someday. I pray for peace, here and there. Wouldn't it be great one morning to turn on the news and hear that there was peace everywhere in the world?

I, as well as other retired teachers, have had a change of insurance companies. Not sure what the price will be. I do know now that not all doctors take my new company. My last appointment with the one that doesn't was kind of funny. I was sitting there looking at him and he



My Side of the Fence
By Mike Harrell

said "what?" and I responded with I'm trying to figure out if you are going to be worth cash out of the pocket? I guess I decided he was. I went back last week.

Still waiting to see what my prescriptions are going to be, up or down. I have already been told by one person hers doubled in price. Again, if you watch those drug com-

mercials, which were not allowed when I was a child, you might have second thoughts. Don't say they didn't have TV then. I grew up with TV.

There is one commercial that I see often and I bet you have also. It revolves around a child ballerina and she plucks a lighted star from the sky. She proceeds to go into the audience and gives it to (her grandmother?). The strange thing, to me anyway, is the people on either side and directly behind grandma do not even glance at the girls, much less the star. They stare straight ahead and don't look at the girl. Really? I don't think so.

While we are talking about drug commercials, besides the endless side effects and the last one mostly being "may cause death", makes me recon-

sider how much I want to take this drug. The other is being told not to take their drug if you are allergic to it. Seriously, how do you know until you take it? Then it is a little late.

Just a reminder to get that old fruit jar out to catch some sunlight in, well it is Day Light Saving Time this weekend.

Wishing Happy Birthday greetings to Donna Provine, Charity Laster, Brian Vanvactor, Matt Aikins, Kerry MacGowan, Tom Weis, Sue Weis (I know how old you are Sue, I was there when you were born), oh yes, and me. I'm trusting all will celebrate their day and yes, eat the cake.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. James Conn.

Stay safe, stay well and as always, stay in touch.