

Opinion

I have confidence in the people to make their voice known

Free and fair elections, everyone should understand what that means. The U.S. Constitution is pretty clear about who runs the elections in this country. Apparently, the United States Supreme Court can't read. Our founders spoke plainly. The individual states are in charge of the process of voting in their individual states.

The President doesn't like that very much. He wants to control how elections are held and more importantly whose vote will count in those elections. So, he signed an executive order to limit voting by mail. In a move that saddens me, the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld this egregious affront to the Constitution.

I can tell you there are lots of people who live here who really like being able to mail in a ballot they filled out at home. Elderly people, people with medical conditions and other restraints on their travel and ability to stand in line, or walk from their car to get inside the voting booth, like being able to vote by mail.

The President votes by mail himself, but he doesn't trust anyone else to be able to do



Northwest Passage
By Loyd Ford

so. Frankly right now it appears as if the President and his followers are a little worried about the November General Election. There are also many people who are worried that the President may try some kind of end run around the election results. Should that happen there will be a bigger problem than we have right now.

If the President uses force to circumvent the outcome of the General Election there could be a test of our government. A test of the Constitution and the protection it gives all of us against tyranny.

I am going to stand firmly in the defense of the Constitution. If we as a people do not like what it says there is a legislative process to make changes and cor-

rections. No one person is empowered to enforce the parts of the constitution which are favorable to them and ignore the parts that are not favorable to them. For the President to do this creates lawlessness among us. If the President ignores some of the law, or uses the law to harass and intimidate people he does not agree with, all of us can be harassed and intimidated by who ever is in power. When this happens a country of free people becomes

a country of enslaved people, who must bow down to one man.

We did not want a king in 1776 and we don't want one in 2026. The President famously said he would be a dictator on day one when he returned to office, He has kept his word. Any time when he couldn't get something changed, he just ignored laws and regulations and did what he wanted. It was easy for him to tear things down, but not so easy to build anything back. He excels

in late night ranting on social media and petty name calling, in which he indulges as if it were a sport. Frankly he is a president in name only, there isn't a single thing about him that seems presidential to me.

It seems a created barrage of created crisis emanate in a constant stream from the President and his administration. It apparently is better to alienate our neighbors or make war with Iran than for people to think about unre-

solved topics like the Epstein files, trashing the White House or putting his name on the Kennedy Center. Even the price of gas and groceries need to be pushed off the news of the day and if an official denial of the problem won't work, a conflict with someone or plan to trash our federal lands will work just fine.

We are in a mess, but I have faith and confidence in the people to make their voices known. I believe that will happen in November.

We aren't in charge so let Him take control

There was a commotion in my church at the end of last week. Of all things the air conditioning in the sanctuary building went out. The usual doers of the congregation set up chairs, hymnals, pew bibles, attendance pads, and even our meager audio video equipment in the fellowship hall building in slightly cooler conditions. My friends and I were set to sing. We supervised the rolling out of the piano. That's when we noticed a row of folding chairs lined up blocking the path



By Emily Morrison

of travel. Upon closer inspection I realized it was done to stop people from tripping over all the cords that had to be stretched out along that section of floor. It would

seem there wasn't an extra rug to spread over them. I simply looked at my soprano support team and said, "We are not in charge".

I must admit, I find myself saying something along those lines fairly often these days. It's August, I'm either hot, tired, bothered, or a combination of the three all the time. School fund raisers, automobile maintenance, health-care, you name it there are things taking up an unreasonable amount of my headspace. None of which do I really have

any actionable or impactful control over.

The chairs served as an intentional barricade. I fully approve. As what passes as a lively service for Presbyterians commenced, I realized the truth of the matter. I am not in charge. None of us are. Our free will is limited to our own actions. It's my own self that wastes time and energy over the things that I need to let go. It helps to remember who it is that is truly in charge and let Him take control.



Our View

Farmers need our support

If you are not connected to the farming industry in Kentucky, you probably do not know that Kentucky has the largest number of beef cattle east of the Mississippi. Cattle farmers have been beat up pretty bad by the weather over the past few years. They along with cattle farmers across the United States have struggled with drought and high input cost.

To keep afloat our cattle farmers have been forced to reduce the size of their herds. The number of beef cattle in the United States has dropped significantly.

The President's announcement on the importation of tariff free beef has struck a raw nerve in the beef cattle industry. Dumping duty free beef is a slam on them they do not need. Some of them may question whether or not they need to stay in the cattle business.

For American farmers the cost of producing beef cattle is significantly higher than in other countries. If almost everything we produce here it cost more to turn out the high-quality beef we consume.

America is already far to dependent on foreign countries to supply us with the products we need. The absolute last thing we need is to be dependent on foreign producers to supply our food. But that is what is happening.

Farmers need the support of our government, not more competition.

Public Notices

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The Lake News

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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

I'll keep walking through the coming years

Three days ago, I had a birthday. I am now well past 60. I have no idea how that happened.

I often wonder what the next years will hold. Will this be the time when my mind wanders away? Will I repeatedly lose my wallet, my cell phone, or the Fisher-Price keys my children will give me when they take away the set that starts the car?

Although I question what the next years will bring, I disagree with people who say they would like to go back to life in their earlier years. To which decade would I return? Perhaps to my childhood. But I remember spending those years wanting to grow up. That seems counterproductive. My teenage years held



Tales of Grace
By Leigh Ann Northcutt

braces, acne, awkwardness, and self-confidence issues. There is no way I would go back to that time.

Most of my 20s were spent having and raising babies. I think I got 10-12 nights of uninterrupted sleep during that decade. I considered the day to be a success if all my kids were fed and

my teeth got brushed. It was during those years that I learned God was perfectly happy with my state of imperfection. I don't want to return to a time before I had that knowledge.

In my 30s, I had two babies, two teenagers, and a high-maintenance middle child. The majority of those days, I wanted to pinch off my kids' heads and tell God they died. I had no idea how to lead those little imps to be acceptable members of society. It was then that God told me He would be leading my children, and I learned to relax in His love for my kids. I'm not going to give up that place of rest to be 30 again.

I could be tempted to go back to my 40s. They

were flat-out fun. But it was during that decade that I began to see God everywhere I looked and became overwhelmed by His presence. If going back in time means I lose that experience, I'll pass.

In my 50s, God introduced me to Christians who walk a path unlike mine. I listened to their stories and saw Him through their eyes. He looked just a little different after that, bigger perhaps. How could I choose to erase those years and, as a result, see less of Him?

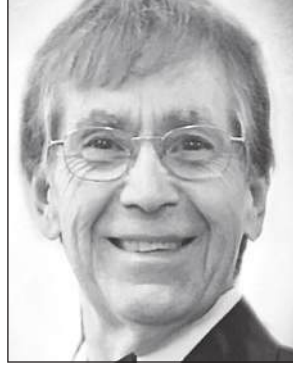
So, it looks like I'm going to have to accept my age and keep going. After all, it could be that God is saving His best stuff for the coming years.

A few fun facts from an article about police

I don't even want to talk about the weather after last week. You know what? I'm not going to discuss the highs, lows, humidity or anything else. I hope your day is the way you like it. Oh, I will make one comment on the seasonal change. Have you noticed some trees are already changing colors and others are dropping their leaves?

I have several friends that are police officers in the city, county and beyond. So, when I ran across a fairly large article about police, I decided to share some of it with you.

Do you remember who Ken Osmond was? He played Eddie Haskell on "Leave it to Beaver". The story circulated that he grew up to be Alice Cooper. Nope. He became one of Los Angeles' finest police officers. On three different occasions he was shot.



My Side of the Fence
By Mike Harrell

His bullet-proof vest saved him.

In a town in India, police officers are given extra pay if they grow a mustache. They believe facial hair commands more respect. I knew several teachers in the 1970's that couldn't convince their boss to let them grow one.

Remember actor Sean Connery? He was pulled over by a British police officer for speeding. The officer's name was Sergeant James Bond.

Speaking of speeding, Estelline, Texas is known to have one of the worst speed traps in the U.S. I kind of thought it was U.S. 51 from Union City to Memphis. However, Estelline takes the prize. The town only has 165 people and one police officer. On an average day he writes 23 tickets. The town collects more than \$300,000 every year. OK, no ideas Wes.

You know I have to mention stupid criminals. Johnny Carson had a segment on them ever so often. I missed this in my childhood and only know of it from TV commercials. Police were able to find and arrest a guy using this children's game. They thought he was hiding in a large, vacant building. They stepped in and yelled "Marco", yep, he responded with "Polo". Donald Pugh was another brilliant criminal.

He didn't like his picture posted on his police report, so he sent them a selfie saying, "here is a better picture, that one is terrible."

So much for the criminal mind.

This week is a special week for many celebrating either a birthday or anniversary. I have a few listed below and if you see them out and about this week, wish them a very Happy Birthday or Anniversary.

Those getting older, I mean celebrating their birthdays are Kay Lambert, Amber Joiner, Gleen Davis, Shane Solomon, Chris Harrington, Ben Noles, Steve Harrington, Gayle Hall, David Smith, and Anthony Vasseur. You guys have a great day and eat the cake.

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

Letters to the Editor

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