

Opinion

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

STAND UP FOR ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT

U.S. law requires immigration to be legal. The Democratic Party under Joe Biden opened our borders to millions of illegal immigrants and disregarded our legal immigration laws. The duty of ICE is to keep our borders safe and to remove illegal aliens. Law-abiding citizens support ICE doing its job. Most Democrats and anarchists do not want illegal aliens removed. Illegal aliens have cost U.S. taxpayers millions of dollars. Fighting ICE or any law-enforcement officers is not only illegal but immoral.

This country needs to follow the law and dismantle all sanctuary cities and states and arrest all officials who refuse to support legitimate law enforcement such as ICE. We cannot permit federal laws to be ignored by anyone.

Either you are for law enforcement which protects all of us or you are not.

Common sense you would think would require Congress to pay all federal employees on time and not withhold pay from law-enforcement officers doing their job. What Congress should do is not permit any member of Congress to be paid while any federal employee is not paid.

The Democratic Party is hurting America's security during a time of war.

Common sense tells me that the Democratic Party today is the party which harms us and does not help us. Schumer and all his pathetic cronies should be under the jail.

I suggest you read an excellent book "The Revolution of COMMON SENSE: How Donald Trump stormed Washington and fought for Western Civilization" by Scott Jennings, known as the black sheep of CNN. Scott carries the conservative banner superbly. Read his book.

Vote Republican and save our country. God bless America.

Jim Weise
Elizabethtown

FORGO PETTY POLITICS AND MERGE CITIES

I don't know which candidate is riding whose coat-tail and could care less. I do

know it is immature to post it on Facebook. I don't know who had their sign there first and who placed their sign right next to it but candidates need to know that we not voting for signs and shouldn't be voting for most popular.

One does an excellent job of helping animals but that is no reason to vote for that one. This city has gone to the dogs since Sheila Enyart retired as mayor after three terms.

The everybody-invited large cookouts (the way to get a person's vote is through free food) and a lot of charisma. Putting your name on a semi-truck with your picture, parades help too. You got them on the hook, just like bating a dumb fish with a worm or a mouse with a piece of cheese.

The smartest thing we can do is merge with Elizabethtown and Vine Grove — One big city named Elizabethtown. One mayor instead of three; six council member instead of 18.

I suggested this years ago and people laughed. But now it is getting attention. Please don't kill me. It's just an opinion.

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Jerry Cooke
Radcliff

PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS MULTIPLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

On Jan. 12, *The Washington Times* listed 11 good things that President Trump has done for the country in his first year since returning to office. In the first quarter of his second year he has ousted two dictators, er, kings. What other president has done that?

Let's hope the Democrats come up with 11 or dozen good things for the nation and plan for the ouster of couple of more dictators instead of howling howling at the moon as in the No Kings protests.

Joseph Armstrong
Bardstown

ELECTION: LETTERS POLICY

The May 19 primary election is approaching. The News-Enterprise welcomes letters of support or challenge for candidates in upcoming election. To be considered for publication, a letter must contain the name and city of residence of its author, which will be published. A telephone number or email address where the writer can be reached for questions or confirmation also are required but are not printed.

All letters must be 350 words or less and are subject to editing for accuracy,

grammar, spelling and matters related to libel or fairness.

The deadline for receipt of an election-related letter is May 1. No letters will be published after May 5 to prevent the letters column from being used for last-minute attacks. Candidates may be afford opportunities to respond after that date at the discretion of the publisher.

Submissions should be sent by email to letters@thenewsenterprise.com.

TODAY'S QUOTE

"A lot of people give up just before they're about to make it. You know you never know when that next obstacle is going to be the last one."

— **Chuck Norris, American actor (1940-2026)**

ABOUT THIS PAGE

Opinion pages are intended to provide a forum for discussion of issues of local interest. If you have a question, call 270-769-2312 or write 408 W. Dixie Ave., Elizabethtown, KY 42701. Letters to the editor may be submitted by mail or sent

by email to letters@thenewsenterprise.com

TODAY'S HEADLINES



R.J. RICO/Associated Press

Crime scene tape is tied around a pole near the site where Lauren Bullis was killed in Panthersville, Ga. Police say it was one in series of deadly attacks in the Atlanta area.

Series of deadly attacks around Atlanta connected

BY SARAH BRUMFIELD, R.J. RICO AND JULIE WATSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — A man has been charged in a string of attacks near Atlanta that left two women dead and a man in critical condition, drawing the Trump administration's attention after one victim was identified as a Department of Homeland Security employee who was walking her dog.

The killing of the DHS worker, Lauren Bullis, and shootings of the two other victims on Monday led Homeland Secretary Markwayne Mullin to issue a statement raising concerns that the 26-year-old defendant, U.K.-native Olaolukitan Adon Abel, was granted U.S. citizenship in 2022, when Democrat Joe Biden was president.

"These acts of pure evil have devastated our Department and my prayers are with the families of the victims," Mullin wrote in a statement posted on social media, cataloging a litany of the defendant's previous alleged crimes but not specifying whether they happened before he was granted citizenship.

Court records show that Olaolukitan Adon Abel, whose name appears in different variations in court and government records, pleaded guilty in California in October 2024 to assaulting two police officers with a deadly weapon and attacking another person when he was stationed at Naval Base Coronado.

Authorities have said they believe at least one victim in this week's shootings was targeted at random and possibly more.

The first victim was found with multiple gunshot wounds near a restaurant in the Decatur area at around 1 a.m. Monday. She was taken to a hospital but died, DeKalb County Police Chief Gregory Padrick said at a news con-

ference. Police have not publicly identified her.

About an hour later in Brookhaven, an Atlanta suburb about 12 miles northwest of the first attack, a 49-year-old homeless man sleeping outside of a grocery store was shot multiple times, Brookhaven Police Chief Brandon Gurley said. The man, whose name hasn't been released, remains hospitalized in critical condition.

"It is apparent to us that it was a completely random attack on a member of our unhoused community," Gurley said.

Just before 7 a.m. and more than 10 miles away in the suburb of Panthersville, officers responding to a call found Bullis with gunshot and stab wounds, Padrick said. She died at the scene.

Investigators in Brookhaven determined that the three attacks were connected, Gurley said.

Adon Abel was taken into custody later Monday during a traffic stop in Troup County, which borders Alabama. He is charged with two counts of malice murder, aggravated assault and firearms counts, court records show. He waived an initial court appearance Tuesday, and a public defender listed as his attorney did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

Toyin Adon Abel Jr., the defendant's brother, said he did not want to talk about his brother when reached by phone but expressed sympathy for the victims. "I feel terrible for the victims, their families and their connections," he said. "It's a horrible thing."

Bullis served in multiple roles at DHS Office of Inspector General, including as an auditor in the Office of Audits and as a Team Leader in the Office of Innovation, DHS posted on social media, saying she brought "warmth, kindness, and a genuine sense of care to her colleagues each day."

Relatives said in a statement, that she loved her family, running, reading and traveling, and "her warmth and generosity touched everyone surrounding her."

Fellow DHS auditor Ashley Toillion of Denver said she met Bullis at a work conference last year. The two became fast friends as they bonded over running and quickly made plans to do a race at Walt Disney World.

"You couldn't meet her and not be her friend," Toillion said, choking back tears. "She was just the nicest, sweetest, most encouraging person I've ever met."

Military records show the defendant enlisted in the Navy in 2020, last serving in the Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron in Coronado, California, and as a petty officer received a Navy "E" Ribbon for superior performance for battle readiness.

But in 2024 he was arrested and charged with assaulting two Coronado police officers and attacking another person. He pleaded guilty, court records show, and he was kicked out of the Navy in September of that year.

Mullin said Adon Abel has a criminal record that includes a sexual battery conviction.

Online court records show that someone listed with a similar name and the same birth date pleaded guilty last June in Chatham County, Georgia, to four misdemeanor counts of sexual battery.

Mullin also noted that since President Donald Trump took office, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, which DHS oversees, has worked to ensure that people with criminal histories don't attain citizenship. But the U.S. has long barred people convicted of most violent felonies from becoming citizens, and it wasn't immediately clear if Adon Abel had a criminal record that predated him becoming a citizen in 2022.

BRIEFS

From wire reports

SHORTAGE OF JET FUEL WOULD DISRUPT GLOBAL TRAVEL

A looming jet fuel shortage in Europe and Asia sparked by the Iran war and the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz could upend world travel within weeks if oil doesn't start flowing again soon. It is expected to bring higher airfares and flight cancellations as the summer travel season approaches.

International Energy Agency Director Fatih Birol said Europe has "maybe six weeks" of remaining jet fuel supplies and said the global economy faces its "largest energy crisis."

In general, some European countries hold several months' worth of jet fuel inventory at a time, according to an IEA report released this week.

Jet fuel — a refined kerosene-based oil product — is airlines' biggest cost, making up about 30% of overall expenses, according to the International Air Transport Association. And jet fuel prices have roughly doubled since the war began. Shortages could start next.

"Every passing day that the Strait of Hormuz remains shut, Europe is edging closer to supply shortages," said Amaar Khan, head of European jet fuel pricing at Argus Media. "The strait accounts for around 40% of Europe's jet fuel imports, but no jet fuel has passed the strait since the war broke out."

FIRST LADY MAKES PITCH FOR FOSTER CARE ON CAPITOL HILL

Melania Trump made a rare appearance on Capitol Hill on Wednesday to push Congress to pass bills broadening access to services for young people in foster care, calling it a "moral imperative."

The first lady began working on foster care issues after President Donald Trump's first term ended in 2021. Her trip followed a similar and successful lobbying effort last year to get Congress to approve legislation to protect women and children from online sexual exploitation.

On Capitol Hill, she said youngsters in foster care face barriers to housing, transportation and education and other challenges outside the classroom that affect their academic performance.

"We can close this gap," Melania Trump said. "New legislation for the foster care community is a moral imperative."

She met Wednesday afternoon with members of the House Ways and Means Committee who introduced the new legislation.

PARENT COMPANY OF TV SHOPPING NETWORKS SEEKS BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION

The owner of home shopping network pioneer QVC is planning to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

According to an annual report filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the company intends to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court after reaching a restructuring agreement with creditors.

A filing about imminent bankruptcy protection by parent company QVC Group, which also owns HSN, formerly the Home Shopping Network, arrives as long-running TV shopping networks struggle to adapt to the rapid shift by consumers now tuning in to livestreams on TikTok or online marketplaces like Shein.

Its goal is to emerge from bankruptcy protection before the summer is over, but the Pennsylvania-based company warned that its access to funding is difficult to predict. It noted significant fees and other costs in connection with the preparation for the bankruptcy protection.

"We cannot assure that cash on hand, cash flow from operations will be sufficient to continue to fund our operations," the SEC filing says.

U.S. promotes trade over aid

BY FARNOUGH AMIRI AND MATTHEW LEE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is urging other nations to back a "trade over aid" initiative at the United Nations as part of the Trump administration's broader shift away from donor-focused development assistance and toward greater private investment.

The U.N. is warning against privatizing a global aid system that delivers crucial assistance to some of the world's most vulnerable populations.

Ahead of the initiative being formally introduced at the U.N. at the end of April, Secretary of State Marco Rubio has ordered all U.S. diplomats to deliver a call to

action to high-level foreign officials to sign on with their support by Monday, according to a diplomatic cable obtained by The Associated Press.

According to the directive, the "Trade Over Aid Initiative" is meant to encourage U.N. member states to "make pro-business reforms" to their aid processes by facilitating conversations between governments, the private sector and international organizations.

The proposal also calls for "free market" policies to attract foreign trade that include "limited regulation, low taxation, multiple energy sources, private property rights, sanctity of contracts, and a trusted judiciary."

"The idea that trade and free market capitalism is the

surest path to prosperity has been proven by the facts and by history," said Tommy Pigott, a State Department spokesman. "The U.S. remains the most generous country in the history of the world, but those arguing for 'aid not trade' are really arguing for lining the pockets of a corrupt NGO industrial complex."

While signing on to the proposal is nonbinding and does not create obligations or require changes to national laws, it would reflect global opinion on the increasingly dire global aid situation as powerful countries like the U.S., the United Kingdom and others have decreased funding for humanitarian aid and increased their nations' defense spending.