

Opinion

Who is going to save America? It's us, no one else will.

Over the past month and a half, we have been witnessing mindless attacks on the federal government. Services to veterans, the elderly and the poor have born the brunt of the attack by an unelected bureaucrat. In the most recent days, the administration of President Donald Trump has ignored multiple judicial orders on deportations and to unfreeze spending on federal programs that were approved by Congress.



Northwest Passage
By Loyd Ford

President Trump and his administration has solidly aligned itself with Russian dictator

Valdimir Putin. A truly unthinkable act just a few weeks ago. It now appears President Trump is fully prepared to divvy up Ukraine in what ever manner Putin may wish. How this will help the United States is beyond the comprehension of reasonable thinking people.

In addition to this, the President and his administration are in full destruction mode on several Federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection

Agency, Department of Education, Veterans Administration and soon the United States Postal Service. The President has been in a full-blown purge since taking office, and is removing anyone or anything that may stand in the way of anything he wants to do.

The President has turned our closest allies into adversaries. His attempts to further the notion of annexation of Greenland and adding Canada as the 51st state is no longer the

subject of humor. He is completely serious. The same is true of re-taking the Panama Canal, which is land we took control of originally after our government at the time helped to foster a revolution to create Panama.

All of these things are bad. Particularly ignoring judicial orders. The system of checks and balances we as a nation have always relied on to rein in unlimited power is being circumvented by someone who seeks

unlimited power.

Yes, all of these things are bad, but none of them are as bad as the chasm that has been built between us as Americans which is keeping us from having deeply needed conversations on what America should stand for. Who is going to save America? No calvary is going to come charging in to save us. It must be us, no one else will. No one else can.



Our View

We have a right to know

The limiting of the people's right to know and make comments on bills that are being fast tracked through the Kentucky General Assembly must stop. The use of so-called shell bills in the Kentucky General Assembly which are then used as place holders for legislation that is dropped into them in the dead of the night has become common place in Kentucky.

In a 2023 study by the non-partisan Kentucky League of Woman Voters "The League's analysis found that fewer than 5% of bills that became law 25 years ago used four fast-tracked methods. In 2022, 32% of House bills passed and 24% of Senate bills passed were fast-tracked in ways that exclude the public, the report found."

This practice has flourished and is denying the public the ability to comment on legislations offered up by the Republican super-majority in the Kentucky General Assembly. During this session of the General Assembly once again middle of the night legislation was adopted without a full airing of the contents of the bill, and in fact opposition to the bill by Democrats was shut down.

It does matter what these bills contain, what the intent of the legislation is and who it affects. The General Assembly must allow for open and fair debate on legislation that could become law because the law applies to everyone of us. We have a right to know.

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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.

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Doers earn compound interest

The world is hurting. In our neighborhoods, families are struggling with the cost of living. In our government, leaders are struggling to choose empathy over dollars. A compassionate heart feels heavy in times such as these.

In the past couple of weeks, two people dear to me have been grappling with the question, "What can we do?" We can feel impotent



By Emily Morrison

when facing the world's problems. We must remember, none of us

is without power, the power to do good. The prolific theologian, C.S. Lewis, explained the effects of both good and evil increase in the world at a rate of compound interest. Yes, there is a tremendous amount of evil out there in the form of greed and hate. But, with love we can out do them.

We are called to be doers. In the Bible, James 2:16 tells us that faith

without works is dead. Individually we may not be able to solve the world's problems, but we can change the context. By doing good. By being engaged. By making right.

So let us start in our immediate circle. Be a doer and watch the ripples of goodness spread. It's these consistent deposits of good that set the stage for powerful change.

Jesus has always called the Church to serve

In 1836, the streets of Bristol, England, were teeming with destitute children living uncared for by family or society. George Muller, the pastor of a small chapel in Bristol, became aware of the many ragged orphans running wild in the streets, and his heart went out to them.

With the help of Christian donors, Muller and his wife opened a home in Bristol for orphaned girls, followed by a house for orphaned infants. A year later, they opened a home for boys. Over the years, the orphan houses grew in size and number until the Mullers cared for and educated over 10,000 orphans during their lifetimes.

In the 1850s, China was embroiled in a civil war that was characterized by extreme brutality on both sides. It ranks as one of the bloodiest wars in human history.

James Hudson Taylor was born in Yorkshire,



Tales of Grace
By Leigh Ann Northcutt

England, to a Methodist lay minister. By the time he was 17, Taylor was deeply concerned for the Chinese war refugees and studied medicine to prepare to work among them. At age 22, Taylor moved to China and was immediately faced with the horrors of civil war.

Hudson spent his life serving the people of China and teaching them the love of God. He is now considered to be one of the greatest missionaries of all time and one of the most influential foreigners to work in

China.

In 1901, a seven-year-old Indian girl named Preena escaped a Hindu temple where she served as a temple prostitute. Abandoned by her mother, Preena was taken in and loved by a young Irish woman named Amy Carmichael. Carmichael's love for God fueled her with a life-long call to rescue, educate, and disciple trafficked children like Preena.

Mary Teresa Bojaxhiu had such a burden for the poor and abandoned people of India that she spent much of her life living among them. Becoming Mother Teresa, she gave her hands and her heart to (in her own words) "the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the

society and are shunned by everyone."

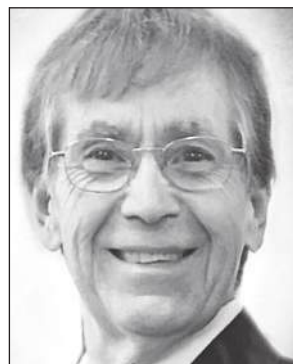
Since the time of the first Christians, the Church has served. We have cared for the poor, the orphans, and the outcasts. We have fed the hungry, given medical aid to the sick, and taken in refugees. We have done it because Jesus asked us.

Over the last few decades, the American government has taken on that task, and we have become complacent. Whether good or bad, right or wrong, the government is ending that work. We can stand back and complain on Facebook. Or, we can step up and do the work of the Church again. Our hands and hearts can serve the poor and rejected again. All in the name of Jesus. Because, even in our complacency, He never stopped asking us to do it.

Some writers have based success on dreams

Honestly, I do want more spring-like weather. Unfortunately, I had pushed the memory of spring storms to the back of my mind. This past week those came to the front of my mind, especially Friday night.

I tend to be a weather nerd. I was in my basement watching Trent but really going to sleep, when suddenly my watch, phone, landline, weather radio and Trent were all shouting at me that a tornado was headed to Calvert. I was already in my basement wearing my bicycle helmet. As many saw on Facebook. However, I looked at the radar and immediately saw it was not heading to Calvert but towards Smithland.



My Side of the Fence
By Mike Harrell

So you know what I did? Removed the helmet and rushed upstairs and out on the patio to see if could get a glance of the tornado. I don't recommend this being a former tornado/earthquake awareness person for the school. I think a lack of sleep messed with my judgement.

Speaking of sleep, there have been so many sleep stories you just can't get your head around. Studies have shown that 70% of us have nightmares at least once a month. I'm not sure I do, but I do have them on occasion. My niece says when she does, she just tells herself it is a dream and not real. I've never been able to do that.

I've never been a computer game person but maybe I should have been. Gamers don't have that many nightmares and when they do they see it as a game and try to defeat it so they can win the game.

"The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" came from a dream, so Robert Louis Steven-

son said. In a dream he battled his conscious and unconscious mind.

There are several more books, movies and events that came from dreams. Most not so nice. Pleasant Dreams!

Happy Birthday wishes are extended this week to Marilyn Majors, Isabella Barrett, Lois Cunningham, James Dillion, Marilyn Wysock, Gayle Bash, Rachel Lewis, Ryan Boatright, Denecia Hatfield, Dax Myhand and Mandy Cramer. Celebrate your day and by all means, eat the cake.

Happy Anniversary wishes go out to Mr. & Mrs. Andy Todd and to Mr. & Mrs. Jay Siener. Celebrate your day.

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

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