

# Opinion

## We must act now, because now is when it counts

The man who is a suspect in the murder of Minnesota Democratic floor leader Melissa Hortman and her husband, along with the shooting of Minnesota state Senator John Hoffman and his wife was taken into custody Sunday evening. Vance Boelter, 57, was captured in rural Sibley County in Minnesota after a nearly two-day manhunt.

That we are not shocked speechless by such a despotic series of events is truly a measure of our loss of understanding about what should be right in the world. Perhaps we do not expect any particular act of violence, but our response to these events when they happen is certainly no



Northwest Passage  
By Loyd Ford

longer one of surprise. We have come to expect them. We have become desensitized to these horrific acts.

There is more to consider. Thinking and viewpoints I once considered the loose talk by people who struggled to find appropriate words to express their feelings have entered the thinking of people who I once

thought would never use the term civil war.

At least two people I know to be level headed civic minded people, with long track records of doing the right thing and who work to make our community a better place have expressed their belief to me that our country is headed to a real war with itself. I hope and pray that this not true.

There is a very real divide in viewpoints in our country today. It is undeniable that a substantial segment of our citizens believes their views are the only right views and they have a right to use force to seat a government based on their views. I disagree.

We have reached a point where political

assassinations and attempted assassinations have become frequent, far too frequent. The attacks on President Donald Trump and former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's husband and now these murders and attacks in Minnesota are pushing us into an environment ripe for extremists. Extremism in any form, no matter whom it is directed, is an enemy of democracy.

It is incumbent on me and I believe each of us as we are able, to speak the truth, share your opinion, but do it with out malice or in particular seek to dehumanize those we disagree with. We must learn to use our democracy as it was intended, or we will surely lose it.

These are not easy times. The road that lays ahead offers trials that we as a nation have not faced in more than a century. I believe that each of us must, if we are truly loyal citizens of this country, insist on following our constitution, insist on the rule of law and do so in a way that values humanity.

The United States of America needs patriots now, people who realize that their country needs them to stand up for the constitution and the inalienable rights it proclaims to the world. We must use the power of the ballot box, and our right to peacefully protest and bring our grievances before our government.

The United States of

America, a land of which I am very proud, is far, far better than this. We are the land of opportunity. We are the land of opportunity and the land of equality. Still if we listen can hear, from our past, the shackled groans of the oppressed. We can not make our past right, but we are obligated to stand for what is right in the present moment.

Democracy has always been difficult and hard to learn and it demands that those who love it participate. We can't sit on the couch, and voice withered concern, everyone has to get in the game. There are no sidelines, no time outs or redoes. We must act now, because now is when it counts.



## Our View

## Tourism is a big deal for us

Fishing is back for Kentucky Lake. We don't believe it ever left but that is a discussion for another time. KY Lake CVB Director Elena Blevins told Marshall County Fiscal Court Tuesday morning that fishing is back on at Kentucky Lake after a fantastic four-day bass pro tour tournament on Kentucky Lake. The event collected 10 million impressions on social media according to Blevins. That is a lot of notice from others.

This was by any measure a very successful event for both Marshall County and joint sponsor Calloway County Tourism. It was indeed a great effort.

Part of the reason this is such a big win is the renewed emphasis on fishing. You can go a lot of places to send a vacation but there aren't many places that offer the quality fishing found on Kentucky Lake or for that matter just the massive expanse of water that offer so much.

Our lakes are a massive resource for our local economies. We never need to forget that. Sometimes it is easy for us to overlook the wonderful natural asset we have, Kentucky Lake. It brings us jobs and income but it also brings us peace and tranquility, not everyone has this.

Tourism is a big deal for us and we need to do what it takes to take care of this important resource.

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## The Lake News

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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

## Racers take us out to the ballgame

Our nation is hurting. Not just on a macular level, but deep in the fibers of our being. At just shy of 250 years old, The United States is in the throes of adolescences. As a country we are struggling with Erikson's crisis of identity versus role confusion. Saturday's political violence in Minnesota, the No Kings demonstrations and the 250th US Army birthday parade showed our angst on full display. But there was also a window of a few hours where we were able to set these challenges



By Emily Morrison

aside and play baseball.

I'm sure that there are those who will see this as trivial. But I will argue for the restorative power of play. There is

a time and a place to set differences aside, see one another as human beings and just have a little fun. Our Murray State Racers gave us just that. Their trip to the College Men's World Series was what we all needed. More than a Cinderella story, theirs is an American story of hard work, determination, team work and a chance at glory. They held their own against the Goliaths of college baseball. They beat Duke! They're our boys from our communities,

and they done good!

We needed the Racers to take us out to the ballgame. We needed a breather Saturday afternoon to see a sunny field and people coming together to enjoy a game of baseball. We the people need one another. What makes us strong as a nation is our connectedness to each other. Murray State gave us something to connect with this season and that's worth a lot of Cracker Jacks.

## The awful trouble with cellular telephones

When I was a child, my family shared a telephone. It was a large, beige phone with a rotary dial that cradled a handheld receiver and sat on a table in our family room. It was a simple device. It couldn't direct us across the country, order our groceries, or launch a nuclear weapon. But it could make a phone call, and that was good enough.

When it rang, that telephone did not trigger a frenzied "Where can it be?" hunt. We didn't run from room to room to find it. We didn't rummage coat pockets, empty purses, or throw the cushions off the couch. We simply walked to the table, picked up the receiver, and said, "Hello."



Tales of Grace  
By Leigh Ann Northcutt

That phone, unlike its contemporary counterpart, didn't trouble my life.

Jesus told his disciples, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28, NIV)

I'm fairly certain that, if He were speaking to

today's culture, his instruction would be more like, "All of you who are stressed and looking for rest, put down your cell phones, smart watches, laptops, iPads, and gaming devices and come sit with me for a while."

Why? Because He also said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33, NIV)

Most of my days are full of stressors. Some are big. Some are small.

In response, I can pick up a cell phone to distract myself from the annoyance or anxiety they cause. I can open a screen and step into

a false world where my mind is not my own, and I can't breathe deeply.

Or, I can open my front door, step onto my porch, where the sun is bright and the breeze blows softly, and sit with Jesus. I can set my mind on the goodness of God and breathe in the peace of the Holy Spirit. I can do that literally, or my heart can do it when my body cannot. Either way, I can find rest.

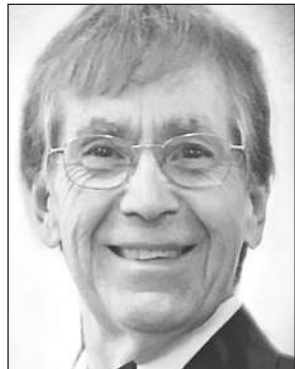
My cell phone is a useful and necessary tool for life at this point. But if I want peace in the midst of a stressful day, I'm pretty sure Jesus would suggest I drop it in a bag by the door and enter into his presence.

## Gardening experiments don't always work out

I guess maybe we have finally gotten into summer weather. The weekend is looking pretty good. I know rain is good, but I think even the farmers could use a little dry time. Like I've said, we will be wanting rain later on this summer.

Keeping my fingers crossed that our Kentucky schools can pull it out this week. I guess we will see on Monday (I'm writing this on Sunday). Of the five teams that I yelled for, two lost in the sectionals and three have lost in Omaha. Only time will tell.

How is your garden going? Between Walmart, Kroger and Food Giant, mine is very productive. I have had house plants for years. I really need to divide and



My Side of the Fence  
By Mike Harrell

repot several. However, there is that word divide. Sounds like math to me, so I may not do it.

I had two plants that I got some forty years ago. One was \$1.25 and the other \$2.50. Both were very small. One was a Banana Tree and the other a Pony Tail Palm. Needless to say, they didn't stay small. I packed them in and

out religiously. I have to tilt the palm to get it through the door. The Banana tree was about as bad, but it never really grew large or had bananas. Last spring I decided to set it free and planted it by my patio. Being free it grew by leaps and bounds (still no bananas). Last fall I managed to get the palm inside. I cut off the banana tree and placed a 40-pound bag of potting soil over it. Hoping for the best, when everything was greening I removed the bag and there was a green shoot coming up. I was thrilled. Then you might remember we had a nasty cold snap. Experiment failed, no bananas (refer back to my garden comment).

If you have a garden, I hope it is doing well

and if you pick a lot from its bounty, I will gladly come by and share in your pickings.

Happy birthday greetings are extended to this fine group of people getting older. Kay Story, Janet Moore, Pam Jarrett, Janice Chittenden, Ethan Shelton, Melissa Orr, Ben Capps, Oral Sickling, Logan Davis, Rebecca Purdue, Raeann Davis, Jody Hayden and Judy Hendrickson. Celebrate your day and eat the cake.

Special shout out to a special friend who is recovering from some medical problems.

Happy Anniversaries to Mr. & Mrs. Scott Shelton, celebrate your day. Cake would be good.

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