

Our Readers Write

Concern for my children...

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter out of concern for my children regarding recent actions of radical republican conservatives. Let me state I am not against Republicans, I was raised a republican, but I fear the radical element of the far right of party. On today's news a local gun enthusiasts group led by A.J. Honore and Elliot Portar, in Arizona, announced they were giving away shotguns to prevent crime. Focus in on their picture, their lapel pins has a picture of James Earl Ray (the man who assassinated Martin Luther King) holding a tea cup with the caption, "We dream of a Higher Order." It quotes Elliot Porter as saying, "I'm sure that spoilsport Giffords will say something about this to criticize." This of course is related to republican conservative Jared Lougher, who killed 6 people, including a 9 year girl, in his attempt to assassinate Democratic Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.What is our country coming to? So many have lost respect for our flag and president. I was appalled when conservative republican Joe Wilson of South Carolina called the president a "Liar" during a presidential address. How many children must die before we ban assault weapons? To beat all we have people here (last week's Hodges' letter) in the county proclaiming they are proud to be ultra conservatives. What is next, the Young Republicans parading down town during the Bittersweet Festival in hoods and sheets?! Lord help us.

Julie Lynn Brock
Brodhead, KY

Amazed at ultra right conservatives...

Dear Editor,

It amazes me how ultra right Conservatives invoke the name of God as if he were one of them. This is a

narrow minded strategy used to prove their point. In others words , "If you don't believe me then you don't believe in God." The letter of Mrs Hodges where she states Republicans know the difference between right and wrong and that Democrats do not was just bazaar. In political debates, a format to exchange ideas, conservatives tend to lecture and talk down to others-very disrespectful. One thing you will never hear a conservative say is, "You may be right." Here's one to chew the fat on. Owsley, Jackson, and Rockcastle Counties are the most heavily Republican of all the counties in Kentucky. They are also the poorest three counties in the state. Is there a reason for that or is it just amazing coincidence? Webster's Dictionary defines Conservative as "Adhering to and tending to preserve the existing order of things; opposed to change or progress." My definition of Conservatives is: "Failing to plan is planning to fail!" And that is why Rockcastle County is in the shape it is.

R.G. Williams
Berea, KY

Troubled by last week's letter...

Dear Editor,

I was deeply troubled by the Hodges' letter in last week's *Signal*. She responded as a Christian and I personally think a true Christian, whether you agree or disagree with another's political views, would not respond in such a vicious way. The letters of the gentlemen were not mean spirited and made observations regarding their concerns over business closing in the county and the shrinking job market here; a concern everyone should have whether you are a Democrat or a Republican. Her letter made the one gentleman's point of how some people think their point of view is absolutely right and opposing views are absolutely wrong. Such

people create God in their image. I personally have political issues with both parties but slanderous personal attacks on a person's morals was totally uncalled for.

Perry Sizemore
London, KY

Thank you for help..

Dear Editor,

I want to take this opportunity to thank all my family and neighbors for risking their lives to save ours. You see, last Monday morning, our outside building, which is only a few feet away from our house, was deliberately set on fire.

But, thanks to God, who brought all these people together to help us, our home was saved.

We are so thankful to my brother, John Wesley Vanwinkle, our neighbors, Chris Couch and Clarence and Martha Owens, who were first on the scene and gave all they had to save our home Also, we want to thank the Mt. Vernon Fire Department who got there just in time.

May God bless each and everyone of you. You are our heroes. I thank God everyday my son, Brian Vanwinkle, became a volunteer firefighter for the Mt. Vernon Fire Dept.

Thanks to you all and God bless. Keep up the good work.

The Cheeks Family

“I See It”

(Cont. from A2)

was no way I could move on and live my life without forgiving Eric.”

Napier’s story of forgiving Smallridge reminded me of one of the most popular stories in the Bible about forgiveness.

In John 8, Jesus was teaching to a crowd when the Pharisees brought a woman to Him who was caught in the act of committing adultery. The Pharisees said that the law commanded them to stone those who commit adultery and they asked Jesus what He would do in this particular

situation.

So when they continued asking Him what He would do, Jesus looked at them and said the famous phrase “He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.”

Of course, the Pharisees were convicted by their own conscience and they left the scene one by one as they all knew they had sin in their lives as well. After everyone left, Jesus told the adulteress that He didn’t condemn her and told her to “go and sin no more.”

This chapter illustrates that the Pharisees wanted to use the law to condemn the adulteress but Jesus chose to bestow love and grace by forgiving her sin of adultery.

This famous biblical story coined the phrase that many use today when they say people should be careful not to “cast the first stone.” The phrase is so widely used that I have even heard atheist use the term in their conversations.

We have all committed acts that would require forgiveness from others. Maybe you have committed adultery and you are currently seeking forgiveness from your spouse or maybe you have neglected one of your children and you are seeking forgiveness from them as you are wanting to be a part of their life now. The list of examples can go on and on...

Truth is, no one has ever had the right to cast the first stone and I believe Napier understands this phrase in its entirety. She realized that Smallridge made the mistake of driving drunk and that if he could relive the scenario, he would have called a cab or found another way home.

Napier also realized that Smallridge needed forgiveness for his mistake just as much as she needed forgiveness for mistakes she had made in her life.

If Napier didn’t forgive Smallridge then the odds are he would have continued down a more evil path. However, by forgiving Smallridge he, in turn, has blazed a trail across the country by speaking to students about the dangers of drunk driving and urging them not to make the same mistake that he made.

Odds are Smallridge’s story has prevented others from making the same mistakes that he did and it has in turn prevented more DUI accidents from occurring. Without Napier’s forgiveness, none of this probably would have been possible.

I tip my hat to Napier and the lesson of forgiveness that she reminded us all about. It’s important for us to remember that the power of forgiveness can not only save the condemned but it can save the condemners as well.

“Points East”

(Cont. from A2)

could always claim it was against their religion to park anywhere other than a spot reserved for handicapped people so there went that idea.

One thing you can say about our General Assem-

bly is that they will do anything they can in the name of religion whether it’s constitutional or not. There’s more Bible thumping in our state capitol when the legislature is in session than you’d see at a convention of Southern Baptists.

Anyway, shortly after parking, I noticed an elderly couple slowly walking from somewhere way behind the handicapped spots. He was using a walking cane and she was making sure he didn’t fall flat on his rump. They’d take a few steps, pause to rest a bit, and then proceed while laughing and chatting up a storm.

They paused as they came through the handicapped parking section and the old fellow waved his cane at all the vehicles parked there. He was grinning and he seemed to be saying something like, “Look at that Martha. We’ll be keeping good company

when we get in the store!”

Good company indeed. Good company if you enjoy being around blatant, heartless crooks and scoundrels because that’s precisely the company you are keeping when you are around people who unabashedly steal parking spots lawfully reserved for folks who really need them.

I’m not saying here that every person using a handicapped parking spot needs to be in a wheel chair or on crutches. Walking distance can be a big burden to folks like me even though we don’t need props to get us from the lot to a wheel chair or buggy we can ride inside the store.

What I am saying is that if you lied to get a permit or if you are using your disabled Granny’s even if she’s not in the car, you ought to be ashamed of yourself. In fact, you ought to be arrested.

Email the Signal at
mvsignal@windstream.net

Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board

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Bookmobile Schedule

Mon., Apr. 8th: No service. **Tues., Apr. 9th:** Calloway, Red Hill, Livingston, Lameroy, Pine Hill. **Wed., Apr. 10th:** Maple Grove, Climax and Three Links.

Health Dept. Closed Apr 9th

THE ROCKCASTLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT will be closed Tuesday, April 9th for staff training.

Girls Have Fun Show

Owens Garden Club, Karen Hood Kuney and Kathy Hood Scott are sponsoring a Girls Have Fun Show on Sat., April 13th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Woodstock Community Center on Hwy. 39. Door prizes will be given every half hour (must be present to win). Featured at the show will be: Karen’s Confections, Avon, Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Thirty-one, Tupperware, Scentsy Candles and hand-made jewelry. Come, join the fun.

All God’s Children Consignment Sale

All God’s Children Consignment Sale will be held Friday, April 5th from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 6th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sand Gap Christian Church. There will be approximately 3,000 items for children on hangers and sorted by gender and size. Bring a friend and join us April 5th and 6th at the church on Hwy. 421 in Sand Gap for this sale.

Hot Rods Sign-ups

Hot Rod sign-ups for 3, 4 and 5-year-olds will be held April 6 and 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Godfather’s Pizza. Fee is \$35 (cash only) per child. Parent shirts will be available at ign-ups for \$13 plus \$1 extra per size. Season runs April 27- July 13.

Turkey Shoot

Livingston Fire and Rescue will hold a Turkey Shoot Saturday, April 6th at 10 a.m. at David Mason’s Garage, north of Livingston on US 25. 410-16-20-12 gauge shotguns only! \$2 a shot. Shells furnished lby fire department. Concessions will be sold.

Honor A Child

Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn is nearing completion in historic Frankfort Cemetery. You can engrave loving words honoring your baby on a beautiful granite wall too be dedicated on May 6, 2013. The cost is \$100 with two lines of engraving. Deadline is April 15th. Order your inscription now. www.kymemorialfortheunborn.org or call 859-255-2000.

Little League Sign-ups

Little League Sign-ups are being held every Saturday at Mt. Vernon Elementary from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost: Baseball, \$50 - each additional child is \$40; tee-ball, \$35 per child; girls softball, \$50. Contact Jerry Saylor at 606-392-1539.

VFW News

During the winter months, the post will be closed Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday.

Brodhead Lodge Meeting

The Brodhead Masonic Lodge #556 meets every third Saturday at 7 p.m. on Main Street in Brodhead above Brodhead Pharmacy.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

Kiwanis Club Meetings

The Rockcastle Kiwanis Club meets every Thursday at noon at the Teacup Cafe on Main St. in Mt. Vernon.. Everyone welcome.

Historical Society Hours

The Rockcastle Historical Society is open on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the RTEC garage building.

Sons of Confederate Veterans

The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV), Rockcastle Camp, meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. on the third floor of the county courthouse. For more information, contact David Owens at 606-256-9870.

American Legion Post 71

American Legion Post 71 meets the second Thursday at 7 p.m. of each month on the third floor of the courthouse. Commander David Owens invites all Rockcastle veterans to join this organization that honors American soldiers, sailors and airmen.



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