



**Carmage Walls**  
**Commentary Prize**

**2018 Entry Form**

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**Please give a brief explanation of issues discussed and the results achieved. (This space will expand as you type in your comments.)** This editorial was a plea to stop the hateful rhetoric between people of opposing views/both sides of the aisle. Following the shooting at a baseball field of members of Congress and congressional staffers, we felt the need to speak out about the name calling and personal attacks all over social media, in letters and elsewhere on the internet. The political divisions bubbled over to violence and we called for civility and courtesy to our fellow man.

# OPINION

## Voice your opinion

The Daily Sentinel welcomes letters on any subject that might be of interest to our readers. Keep letters to 350 words or less. Letters will be edited for length, clarity or possible libel. Unsigned letters will not be published. Include a daytime phone number for verification.

### How do I send a letter?

**Email:** Send to Debi Ryan at [dryan@daily sentinel.com](mailto:dryan@daily sentinel.com);  
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## OUR TURN

# Stop the Summer of Hate

You can help halt 'political rhetoric terrorism'

A half century ago, America was plunged into the Summer of Love, whether it wanted to be or not. Now it appears our great country is headed instead toward the Summer of Hate.

But you have the power to help stop it, even from this small piece of the Pineywoods.

On Tuesday morning, Rep. Steve Scalise, R-La., was among five — including a Texas congressional staffer — shot at a baseball field in Alexandria, Va.

This heinous attack — not by any member of a foreign political power or Islamic terrorist organization but by a disgruntled American — is, we hope, the final act of violence that bubbles over from this politically tumultuous time.

"This is the result, I believe, of political rhetorical terrorism. That has to stop," U.S. Rep. Rodney Davis, R-Ill, told Fox News of the attack.

Davis is correct.

Hateful rhetoric on both sides of the aisle has to stop, and that's within your power. Republicans, Democrats and independents don't have to agree or get along, but they do have to respect each other and treat one another with dignity. Though issues divide this nation at times, Americans should all be focused on working together for the common good, not on spewing hate at those with whom we do not agree.

That means stopping name calling and personal attacks — on social media, in letters to the editor and elsewhere — just because someone doesn't agree with your view. It also means looking at objective news and considering both sides of an issue. It is a step away from the comfortable, yes, but it's something that must be done.

It seems that largely, in part due to the Internet, debate has become a thing of the past among the public.

"We've seen ourselves engulfed by the spirit of division and oppression, and we have to find a way to crawl our way out of this hole," Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C. said.

It hasn't been much better between lawmakers. State Rep. Matt Rindali, R-Irving, is accused of saying he would put a bullet in the head of one his colleagues during a heated argument on the floor of the Texas House.

Remarks like that do nothing but stoke the flames of hatred.

One of the most harrowing accounts of Tuesday's shooting came from U.S. Rep. Steven Palazzo, R-Miss.

"It's surreal we are having this conversation," Palazzo told The Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Miss. "My good friend, my fellow Congressman Trent Kelly, who's been awarded two Bronze Stars and served in Iraq on two different occasions — someone was shooting at him ... But this was a baseball field in a quiet suburb at 7 in the morning, when people are walking, jogging, walking dogs, drinking coffee."

Suddenly, political divisions and heated rhetoric had turned this ballpark into a battlefield like the ones Kelly had seen in Iraq. It has to stop, and it's up to all of us to change it.

No one else should suffer because of the divisions of this nation. Innocent people's lives should not be put at risk because of political affiliations. We're all Americans, and simple courtesy toward our fellow man will go a long way.

# On Father's Day, pull out the comics

BY MARK I. WEST  
The Charlotte Observer

Many children bond with their fathers during camping trips or sporting events, but I bonded with my father over the reading of stories. Throughout my childhood, my father read aloud to my siblings and me. In addition to reading books aloud, he regularly read the Sunday comics to us. Every Sunday morning, before our mother got up, one of us would hand Dad the comics section from our paper, and he would start reading.

One Sunday, when I was around 8, I decided to play a trick on him. I dug through the stack of old newspapers next to the fireplace, found the comics from the previous Sunday, and slipped them inside the current week's comics. Then, after Dad woke up, I handed him a double dose of comics to read aloud. He began by reading Blondie, and then he turned the page and found another Blondie. To my glee, he also read the second one. He went on to read both weeks' worth of every strip, never letting on that something was not

quite right. I came away from the whole experience elated. The thought that I had actually tricked Dad helped me feel closer to him. I now understand that he knew that he had been tricked, but he played along. It was a loving thing to do.

My father's decision to read the comics to us stemmed from an experience he had growing up in New York City. In June of 1945 the newspaper delivery drivers in New York went on strike, which meant that most people in the city did not have access to the popular comic strips published in the papers. Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia responded to this situation by reading the comics aloud during his regular radio show called Talk to the People. He continued to read the Sunday comics throughout the strike, and my father was one of the people who always tuned in to hear the Mayor read the comics.

Like Mayor LaGuardia, my father read the comics in a dramatic fashion. Also like LaGuardia, he would often comment on some aspect of a particular comic strip. Just as LaGuardia's reading of the Sunday comics left an indelible impression on my

father, my father's reading of the Sunday comics left an indelible impression on me.

Literacy experts extol the importance of reading aloud to children. In the words of Munro Richardson, the executive director of literacy initiative Read Charlotte, "Reading with your child — asking open-ended questions, identifying new words, and talking about the characters, storyline and ideas — is one of the simplest yet most powerful things we can do to prepare children for a lifetime of learning."

As an English professor who specializes in children's literature, I appreciate the value of reading stories aloud to children in terms of their literacy education. However, as a son and a father, I also know that reading aloud to children can help parents and children form lasting bonds. On this Father's Day, I urge all fathers to take out a little time to read aloud to their children even if it's just the Sunday comics.

Mark I. West is chair of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte English department. Readers may send him email at [mwest@unc.edu](mailto:mwest@unc.edu). He wrote this for The Charlotte Observer.

## YOUR TURN

### Don't believe there's a dark cloud over Trump

When I was growing up we used the saying "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Now we hear that all words matter, but do they? I listen to the Senate hearings with James Comey, and all I heard was that the president (I was going to say our president, but I realize that he is not everyone's president) has done nothing that the media has accused him of. As you listen to the commentaries I have to wonder, did they not listen and comprehend what has been said?

My take is that the president hasn't done anything that should lead to a demand that he should be impeached or that he had

a role with the Russians and our recent elections. There is no dark cloud over him. Now there is a dark cloud over Hillary Clinton and Loretta Lynch when Comey testified that the former attorney general asks Comey not to say investigation, but did the term matter when it came to the investigation of the use of a private server while Mrs. Clinton was the secretary of state? How can there be any doubt that classified documents on her server were not compromised?

Many have called for the president to stop his Twitter responses. My take is that they want to shut down his free speech and ability

to speak directly to the American people, so let him tweet. I read the same effort to stop the free speech of Max Walton when Max received a verbal slashing by one of the opinion writers. My words to Max are to keep on writing and to all of those who want to express their thoughts and opinions.

I love being an American and a Boy Scout. I am writing this from Camp Arrowhead, located near Springfield, Missouri. So as you can read, I am keeping up with the local news from The Daily Sentinel website. I am thankful to the editor of The Daily Sentinel for reading and for often publishing my thoughts and opinions, thus helping to protect my free speech.

Robert Ault, Nacogdoches.

## BRIEFLY

### Death toll rises to 12 in London apartment building inferno

LONDON (AP)—They banged on windows, screamed for help, dropped children from smoky floors in a desperate attempt to save them. Terrified residents of the Grenfell Tower said there was little warning of the inferno that engulfed their high-rise apartment building and left 12 people dead — a toll that officials said would almost certainly rise.

The blaze early Wednesday in the 24-story building in west London's North Kensington district also injured 74 others, 18 of them critically, and left an unknown number missing. A tenants' group had complained for years about the risk of a fire.

More than 200 firefighters worked through the night and were still finding pockets of fire inside later in the day. Up to 600 people lived in 120 apartments in the Grenfell Tower.

### Cosby jury reviews accuser's testimony amid deliberations

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—Jurors in Bill Cosby's sexual assault trial reviewed portions of his accuser's testimony Wednesday as they deliberated for a third day over whether the 79-year-old star drugged and molested her at his suburban Philadelphia estate.

Jurors made the request to have portions of Andrea Constand's testimony read back to them after deliberating about 21 hours without reaching a verdict in a case that has already helped demolish Cosby's nice-guy reputation.

Constand, 44, who spent seven hours on the stand last week, was in the gallery as the jury scrutinized her story.

### Four dead in shooting at Calif. UPS facility

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A UPS employee opened fire at one of the company's package delivery facilities in San Francisco on Wednesday, killing three co-workers and then himself as officers closed in and workers ran frantically into the streets, police and company officials said.

Fleeing a barrage of gunfire, some workers sought refuge on the roof of the 4-story facility and others ran outside and pounded on the windows of a public bus, witnesses said.

Two other United Parcel Service employees were wounded in the shooting that prompted a massive police response in one of the city's industrial neighborhoods, about 2 miles from downtown San Francisco, Assistant Police Chief Toney Chaplin told reporters.

### Southern Baptists condemn 'alt-right'

PHOENIX (AP)—Southern Baptists on Wednesday formally condemned the political movement known as the "alt-right," in a national meeting that was thrown into turmoil after leaders initially refused to take up the issue.

The denomination's annual convention in Phoenix voted to "decry every form of racism, including alt-right white supremacy as antithetical to the Gospel of Jesus Christ" and "denounce and repudiate white supremacy and every form of racial and ethnic hatred as a scheme of the devil."

Tuesday night, Southern Baptist officials who oversaw the resolutions had refused to introduce a different repudiation of the "alt-right," which emerged dramatically during the U.S. presidential election, mixing racism, white nationalism and populism.

## HEALTH

# Medical providers remain essential, almost unknown

The healthcare law contemplates that a number of medical services, now provided by physicians, will be delivered by medical providers other than physicians.

The purpose of this article is to provide information about highly trained medical providers whose duties, although essential, are virtually unknown to the general public. A great deal of information is available on the web. One example is Medline Plus.

The first type is a "nurse practitioner." This is a person with an advanced degree in advanced practice nursing. A nurse practitioner will primarily serve in primary care, family medicine, pediatrics, adult care and pediatrics. A nurse practitioner is authorized to take a person's medical history, perform a medical exam, and order tests and procedures. Depending upon the laws of each state, the nurse practitioner is also authorized to diagnose, treat, and manage diseases, as well as write prescriptions and perform certain procedures. Some nurse practitioners will work in clinics without doctor supervision. Some nurse practitioners

receive advanced training and are referred to as "clinical nurse specialists." CNL's (as they are called) have advanced training in cardiac, psychiatric, and community health. In most states, a licensed medical midwife is also a nurse practitioner who has successfully completed additional training.

The second type is a "physician assistant." This is a person with at least two years of college experience but today, with increasing competition, most physician assistants have college degrees, usually in some medical field. The first program for physician assistants was started in 1965. Originally, the first such persons were military medics. Physician assistants serve under the supervision of a doctor, but the supervision may be by telephone and periodic site visits. They may write prescriptions, and perform certain diagnostic, therapeutic, and health care services. They are regulated by the state in which they practice and also receive national certification by a national organization.

The third type is a registered nurse referred to as a "RN." This is a graduate from a traditional nursing program, passed a state board examination, and licensed by the state wherein he/she practices. Some RN's have additional advance training

women's healthcare needs and are referred to as "certified nurse midwives." There are also registered nurse anesthetists who are trained in the field of anesthesia and may put a patient to sleep for surgical procedure.

The fourth type is licensed practical nurse referred to as a "LPN." This is a person who is licensed by the state to care for the sick.

Although not discussed in this article, there are a number of other healthcare providers performing essential functions within the healthcare system. To mention but a few, there are doctors of medicine or osteopathy, podiatrists, dentists, chiropractors, clinical psychologists, optometrists, nurse mid-wives, clinical social workers, medical support technicians, therapists, pharmacists, diagnostic medicine sonographers, clinical lab technicians, emergency medical technicians, radiologic technologists, and office staff assistants. Anyone desiring additional information may access [www.topmedicalassistantschools.com](http://www.topmedicalassistantschools.com).

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