

# Written Thoughts from my Soap Box



By  
Steven Donald Graves

*Words can powerful tool to educate and enlighten.  
They can also be terrible weapons of destruction.*

*A picture may paint a thousand words, but a single  
word of prejudice will paint a thousand pictures.*

*Words left out shade the truth when a beacon of  
understanding should be the goal.*

*The chasm that seperates us is bridged through the  
insight that is achieved through the power of love.*







## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### When will 'Free at last' ring true in America?

I wasn't quite five years old when Martin L. King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech on the National Mall. The closest I had come to experiencing the racist bigotry of color was a few years earlier at the "colored only" bathroom in the Kansas City railroad station, not really knowing what that meant.

The wisdom of judging a person on their character still rings true. When I hear someone say, "they look like me," I can't help but wonder, "So you act like them? Did you sell drugs at school or bring a loaded weapon onto campus?" Using color in a sentence or statement exemplifies one's own bigotry and racism sinking one further into the quicksand of injustice.

America's promissory note of tolerance has been returned "insufficient funds." We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!" When will it ring true?

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

November 26, 2016

### Nation's promise lost along the way

Immigration to America started long before the end of the 16th century, before the Spanish brought disease to the Tequesta Indians of Florida, before Jamestown, maybe even before the Bering Sea ice bridge brought people from Asia.

The pilgrims came looking for religious freedom but it wasn't long before intolerance brought the Salem witch trials. Famine and starvation brought others. Violence from drugs, human trafficking, religious oppression and discrimination around the world have brought many to our shores because we represent that guiding light of hope. Now that violence dogs us at every turn.

Disease, intolerance, discrimination and violence. The 21st century had such promise.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

November 29, 2014

### Questions linger on impact of Bahia plan

Should the Bahia Mar property be developed? Probably. Other proposals have included building a casino but the issue of expanding gambling in the state was not approved by the voters.

I do have some questions though. The traffic issue is a concern. Can more lanes be added in front? Will the state help pay for it since AIA is a state road? The extra height for the condos would be a significant resource for property tax revenue. Can it be earmarked for our new aquatic center? Would the county commissioners agree to do so? Keeping the economic engine of the boat show in place is important to many businesses here. Is their commitment a "done deal?"

Some of the stuff seems to be just fluff. A grocery store? If the residents and vacationers would use it, sure. The offerings would most likely be expensive though. Other things such as the wind tunnel blowback from the east and how it might influence the Tortuga country music concert, now a cultural staple for us, should be part of the overall discussion too.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

February 2, 2016

### Musician-former cop confrontation tragic

The information released about the death of Corey Jones is disturbing and has the elements of a terrible tragedy. A police officer still in the 90-day probationary period

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Preserve statues and our history

For me, removing Civil War statues seems similar to ISIS and the Taliban destroying artifacts from the past; the Roman city of Palmyra and the Buddha statues at Bamiyan — getting rid of anything found personally offensive. Visit the Vatican Museum and see first-hand the marble sculptures with pieces of their privates chopped off because a previous pope found them vulgar and insulting. The writings of ancient scholars were lost when the Great Library in Alexandria, Egypt burned to the ground. Cause unknown.

The history I see is one where wealthy plantation owners (the 1 percent) became colonels and commanders safe in the rear ranks as the poor white sharecroppers were forced into conscription to become cannon fodder on the battlefields. These soldiers were given no courtesy or respect. Without these relics, would our children seek out the Andersonville POW camp and learn about the conditions there even though it is a national museum?

These symbols connect us to the horrors at the Battle of Antietam, Gettysburg, and Shiloh, to name just a few. They should not fade into the shadows and become an inconvenient truth of our past.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

April 17, 2017

### People in path of weapons deserve safety assurances

Shooting a rocket straight up almost eight times higher than the orbit of the International Space Station is quite different than launching a guided missile to a faraway target. Geo-spatial targeting is not the same as the point-and-shoot demonstrations that fell into the Sea of Japan.

Launch failures from the early days of America's space program and errant trajectories should give Russia and China pause as they too could be in the landing area. Especially if more powerful rockets to deliver a heavy payload (nuclear) are tested. China's concern over refugees is well-founded since many/most North Koreans live in absolute abject poverty according to several "not fake" news sources. The international community needs to assure them that assistance will be gladly given should the need occur from regime change.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

July 19, 2017

leaves the area he was assigned. A musician leaves his nightclub gig and his car breaks down going home. The musician is on the phone when a nondescript white van stops near him. The audio is being recorded by the roadside assistance operator. Then Nouman Raja makes a rookie mistake; tactically unsound, unsafe and grossly negligent. But he was not a rookie. A few moments later the musician is dead.

The forensics as reported: the policeman was not wearing his vest nor announced himself as one. The musician had a permit for his gun, the chamber was empty and the safety was on. One of Corey's wounds was from the back.

I find the "stand your ground" defense a most deplorable and disgraceful shadow upon our men and women that serve and protect our community with honor and distinction. The apples to oranges comparison of the Corey Jones-Nouman Raja confrontation to a person carrying a very realistic looking air rifle with earbuds, blocking the commands of a uniformed officer who exited a clearly and distinctly marked vehicle is impertinent and irrelevant (And the height of insolent rudeness. You think we're idiots?).

When the dust clears, one will still be dead and the other disgraced. It is indeed a tragedy.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

February 2, 2018

### Immigration debate raises tough questions

If an individual has immigrated here illegally for employment and has a job, give them a work permit and let them stay. If they are fleeing political or religious persecution, should temporary refugee status be extended and access to federal and/or state entitlement programs granted?

The woman in Colorado seeking sanctuary from a church did not help her cause by not communicating in English, having been in America for 20 years. Many view it as an insult since it does not promote tolerance but rather exclusion; a refusal to coalesce, to fuse and unite into a whole.

Immigrants annihilated the Tequesta Indians through their diseases, and are responsible for the Trail of Tears as indigenous people were resettled once and then again when their land became valuable. Many were indoctrinated into a religion not their own, and a way of life for the plains inhabitants was destroyed as the buffalo were driven to the edge of extinction. Not something to have pride in. Should we be wary since history has a way of repeating itself?

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

February 18, 2017

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Iran on a path to war

History seems to be repeating itself, as it usually does, and politicians seem to be practicing the definition of insanity over and over again.

How can we really be certain that Iran doesn't have "the bomb" already? Was the stuxnet computer virus that successful? How many centrifuges do they actually have? The inspection process lends itself to speculation and doubt.

If we could show their citizens the burned-in shadows of Japanese people vaporized at Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the blisters, deformities and eventual painful deaths of the firefighters at Chernobyl, or even the consequences of war on the civilian population, maybe the leaders of Iran might take a step back from nuclear development.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

August 26, 2015



File photo/John Curry

John Birch State Park, looking north from Sunrise Boulevard.

July 6, 1991

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Concerned about foreign workers

Common ground might be found in the land of fantasy, or more likely it has been swallowed up by the rising tide of climate change (global environmental pollution). He said, she said — literally — has yet to touch on a big concern for me: the use of third party contractors to circumvent H-1B legislation and replace American citizens with foreign workers (e.g. Disney). In so many incidences, they train their replacements. So wrong.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

September 8, 2016

### Port not an ideal spot for convention center

I can't understand all this confusion about the location for our convention center. Why would a visitor want to look at rusty steel or an electric power plant, hear the roar of jet planes or smell petroleum products?

Port Everglades is not known for its esthetic beauty. It is a commercial center that will grow as the economy expands. Careful planning is needed to accommodate this growth so that another fiasco comparable to the airport runway-hotel location disaster does not occur again.

The parking situation can be remedied with tiered garage facilities. And how much worse will the traffic really be anyway? People don't drive A1A to get somewhere fast. They want to view the beach and that is where we should focus our attention.

Let some developer lose his shirt building a hotel that won't sell in the port, not the taxpayers of Fort Lauderdale.

S. D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale

date unknown

### No end to gun-control debate

"Here we go again" is a phrase we should get used to hearing now. The talking heads will lament over the cancer overtaking America's humanity. Gun violence is everywhere — from the inner cities of the gang drug wars to the rural outposts of our smallest communities. Excuses will be made for the legislative inaction as the regulation/control debate wanders through the halls of Congress. Bill Murray "sings" it best — When will we ever learn? It's all about the Benjamins.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

November 10, 2017

### Beach redevelopment has been a huge disaster

I would like to say a few words about the beach redevelopment situation in Fort Lauderdale. So the beaches "escape plan" to pay for a five-year delay and millions wasted in fees is dead. Gov. Chiles stopped it with his veto. I'm not surprised, because everything that has been done with this project has courted failure.

Lost opportunities, such as the face-lift and room expansion for the Oceanside Hotel by a group of interested investors, torpedoed because it didn't fit into the "master plan." A Norwegian businessman wanted to build a 300-room hotel next to the Bonnet House but he was turned down, too, due to someone's "aesthetics." Similar poor management has brought about the possibility of losing Birch Park to an Ohio college's hotel development plan.

This is a classic example of a government project gone out of control. Strong interest from investors of medium size was "driven away" while a colossus was chosen who began asking for concessions which prompted the added tax.

The "our way or no way, feet in cement mentality" has not allowed the possible success from the "Art of the Deal." The ability to join together and create a coalition of interested small pieces was foiled by the "buy it, bulldoze it, then completely rebuild it for a billion dollars plan." Instead, establish a theme of the area and let free enterprise help achieve the prosperity for us!

I'm glad the tax for a total 10 percent on rooms failed. Even at 9 percent, tourists are selecting "cheaper" accommodations elsewhere. A strong dollar hurts European business that has sustained many businesses after the loss of "Spring Break." We don't need another tax.

We need to rationalize our conception and a solution. Eventually, when the redevelopment has matured, the owners will gross over a billion in sales. Surely that interests someone willing to work for it, not demanding it be brought to them on a silver tax platter.

S.D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale



## Service to Country



A collage of newspaper photos during the Gulf War with photographer, newspaper, and copyright credits.



# Service to Community



A collection of items received from donating blood

23 years- prime number    last donation- Pi day to 5 digits    total donations 84- biblical reference



# Inspiration for us all

***To dream the impossible dream;***

a world where Truth, Honesty, and Love  
for each other is the norm, not the exception

***To fight the unbeatable foe:***

Bigotry, Racism, and Hate

***To bear the unbearable sorrow;***

Murder, Rape, Starvation

***To reach the unreachable star;***

an age of Enlightenment for all

**This is humanities quest, no matter how hopeless or  
far it may seem to be.**

It has been 50 years since the Broadway Musical - Man of La Mancha - introduced the song, "The Impossible Dream", to the world.



## Public discourse of our disagreements

Dear Reader,

The opinion section of the newspaper is exactly that, a forum to submit our thoughts to be considered by the editorial staff for publication. The gatekeepers of professional journalism. A place to share a point of view and address our concerns over current events; local issues, the environment, and politics but maybe not expressed in the form of venom we see in Twitter, Facebook, and other sites where we can fully expose our backside. They can exist forever. Sleep on it first before opening your mouth and removing all doubt of who and what you are, stand for and represent. There are many shades of grey today. Let's not become the purveyors of the lyrics of Don Henley's song "Dirty Laundry". Kick 'em when their up, kick 'em when their down, crap is king, and spoken with a gleam in their eye."

Sincerely,

Steven Donald Graves



## Letters to the Editor 2018- 2005

**Sent:** Saturday, December 15, 2018 2:57 PM  
**To:** letters@latimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** China 2025

Dear Sir,

Made in China; plaster board that corrodes electrical wiring, manufactured flooring that releases toxic fumes, and heart medication that contains cancer causing chemicals. Consider that the country is number one in global pollution (soon to be seen from outer space) and produces a significant amount of the dangerous illegal drugs our kids consume too. China leads in cancer fatalities and 500 million lack safe and clean drinking water.

Made in China by 2025? Buyer beware.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Letters <Letters@latimes.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 15, 2018 2:57 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

Submissions should be no longer than 150 words and must respond to stories that have appeared in The Times; please include the title of the article, preferably in the subject line.

We do not accept letters that are part of letter-writing or petition campaigns. We also do not accept letters that appear to have been sent to more than one publication (including websites, web message boards and e-mail distribution lists). Note that you may have received this autoreply message as a result of signing an online petition or group letter.

We require a name, a city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification. If you have not included this information with your letter, please send it now to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com). Please include the subject and/or text of your original letter as well. We will publish your name and city of residence only.

Our e-mail system cannot process attachments. If you have sent your submission with an attachment, it will be deleted automatically. Please resubmit your letter in the body of an e-mail message to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

Letters become the property of The Times and may be edited. They may be republished in any format.

We will send another e-mail if your letter is under consideration to appear in the newspaper or on the website.

Because of a quirk in our e-mail program, some letter writers have received messages reporting that their submissions to The Times were deleted without being read. In fact, we review every submission. We apologize for any confusion these messages may cause.

Thanks again for writing to the Los Angeles Times.

**From:** The White House <noreply@whitehouse.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 07, 2018 1:41 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** We Have Received Your Message

**THE WHITE HOUSE**  
WASHINGTON  
December 7, 2018

Thank you for contacting the White House. We are carefully reviewing your message.

President Donald J. Trump believes the strength of our country lies in the spirit of the American people and their willingness to stay informed and get involved. President Trump appreciates you taking the time to reach out.

Sincerely,

*The Office of Presidential Correspondence*

If you wish to receive regular email updates from the White House, please [Click Here](#). You may also follow President Trump and the White House on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

[White House Website](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact the White House](#)

**Sent:** Friday, December 07, 2018 12:38 PM  
**To:** janderson@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Thank you  
**Expires:** Friday, December 14, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. Anderson,

First I would like to thank you and the editorial staff for considering and then publishing my letter to the editor today. The editing, while disappointing concerning the internment of individuals of Japanese descent faded as I realized my opinion was printed on December seventh. Criticizing a war time president on a national day of remembrance is never cool. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 05, 2018 4:01 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Presidential decisions  
**Expires:** Wednesday, December 12, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

From the beginning of our Republic, America's Presidents have made tough and controversial decisions. The Whiskey Tax to pay off the war debt and support the fledgling federal government was vehemently rejected and many western Pennsylvania farmers rebelled against it (Thomas Jefferson was against the tax). George Washington as Commander-in-Chief personally led the militia to resolve the dispute. He declined a third term, "We are not a country of kings or emperors but of free men."

The Monroe Doctrine of 1823 became the cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy toward European affairs (noninterference). Abraham Lincoln suspended the writ of habeas corpus during the civil war to maintain order (arrest and detain without trial), and FDR was able to pass the Lend-Lease act despite opposition from members of congress, public opinion and the Neutrality Act. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, individuals of Japanese descent were interned in isolation camps from 1942 to 1945. Given the examples of today's violence, FDR's decision while controversial yet popular in the day by many may have save a few lives from angry extremists. George H.W. Bush ended the first Gulf War after 100 hours. Many disagreed, especially after the systematic slaughter of Iraq's own citizens under Saddam Hussein outside the no-fly zone.

The closing of the southern border will be just the latest example of a tough and controversial decision made by an American President.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### History is full of unpopular presidential decisions

From the beginning of our Republic, America's presidents have made tough and controversial decisions. The Whiskey Tax to pay off the war debt and support the fledgling federal government was vehemently rejected and many western Pennsylvania farmers rebelled against it (Thomas Jefferson was against the tax). George Washington as commander-in-chief personally led the militia to resolve the dispute.

The Monroe Doctrine of 1823 became the cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy toward European affairs (noninterference). Abraham Lincoln suspended the writ of habeas corpus during the Civil War to maintain order (arrest and detain without trial), and FDR was able to pass the Lend-Lease Act despite opposition from members of Congress, public opinion and the Neutrality Act. George H.W. Bush ended the first Gulf War after 100 hours. Many disagreed with ending it, especially after the systematic slaughter of Iraq's own citizens under Saddam Hussein outside the no-fly zone.

The closing of the southern border will be just the latest example of a tough and controversial decision made by an American president.

**Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale**



**Sent:** Sunday, November 11, 2018 9:18 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Elections  
**Expires:** Sunday, November 18, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

One of the first opportunities to "Voice My Choice" was in 1980, a solemn duty to honor the sacrifices of so many generations of Americans. My candidate lost but it did not discourage me from voting every chance I had.

My point of view – memory – of the "hanging chad" controversy referenced today is quite different from the narrative presented to us. The punch cards seemed more firm and difficult to make my selection that year. It is our responsibility to check our ballot. Dimples? Voter intent? Really? I'm sure that the citizens that mailed their ballot this election cycle intended for it to be counted. For Al Gore to not support the counting of the overseas military ballots in 2000 was beyond belief for someone seeking to be Commander-in-Chief.

The butterfly ballot compared to the confusion over the placement of Senator choice should never be an excuse by the electorate, us the voter, to check our work. Proof read! The ho-hum laissez-faire attitude is not worthy of the effort many make to keep our republic the home of the free and the land of the brave.

*"Spectators in the Coliseum pushed forward, enthralled by the carnage below as red meat is thrown for the excitement of the crowd."*

(Confused? We are the spectators, the carnage is the result this election cycle, and the red meat is the media commentary from all sources.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

(ref: Pittsburg Synagogue Shooting)

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 30, 2018 5:56 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Current events  
**Expires:** Tuesday, November 06, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The first word that bubbles up to the surface of my mind is "WHY". Why would someone do such a thing? Followed by "HOW". How does someone reach the decision/conclusion that their action(s) is a correct and justified option/event? And then "WHAT". What happened in their life, what experiences framed their thoughts and opinions to lead them down such a horrible path of destruction? I wish I could point it out but I'm afraid I don't have enough fingers.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Friday, October 19, 2018 10:25 AM  
**To:** O'Hara, Rosemary (rohara@sun-sentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** The river of grass  
**Expires:** Friday, October 26, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. O'Hara,

This morning on CBS, Nora O'Donnell said, "... things that get our attraction versus things that need our attention...". It is unfortunate that the "River of Grass" is not front and center this election cycle. Maybe next time.

Respectively Yours,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Friday, October 12, 2018 12:19 PM  
**To:** 'dflesher@sun-sentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Red tide  
**Expires:** Friday, October 19, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Flesher,

Thank you for your reporting on the toxic algae. Here is my opinion of what to expect will happen. I sent it to the letters to the editor staff for consideration.

Has the toxins, green algae and red tide, now on both coasts, reached/created the tipping point of action the Florida legislature needs to do something about it? Probably not.

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 09, 2018 1:57 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Everglades  
**Expires:** Tuesday, October 16, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Has the toxins, green algae and red tide, now on both coasts, reached/created the tipping point of action the Florida legislature needs to do something about it? Probably not.

A study done under Gov. Lawton Chiles in the 1990's suggesting serious concerns for our states growth languished until the CERP – Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan passed into law in 2000. Political maneuvering in 2003 extended the deadline for the mandated decrease in chemicals by 20 years while the federal role left unfulfilled promises. By June 2008 only 400 million of the 7.8 billion was spent. A proposed penny(s) tax on sugar was defeated at the polls. The effort to purchase tens of thousands of acreage around Lake Okeechobee to filter the runoff by products from farming during the great recession under Gov. Charlie Crist did not happen either. (Raising the water level of the lake will not promote the good vegetation – grass – beyond a certain depth).

We (the voters) have a unique opportunity this election cycle to demand solemn campaign promises to address the Everglades and Lake Okeechobee situation before any other legislative priority.

Yeah, not going to happen.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

This is the response I received after filling out their form. My thoughts are below.

**From:** Everytown for Gun Safety <info@everytown.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 12, 2018 12:23 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Thanks for contacting us

Thank you for contacting us.

Due to immense email volume we are unable to reply to all messages.

If you would like to Volunteer or Take Action: Please reach out to the leader in your state via email, [yourstate@momschapterleaders.org](mailto:yourstate@momschapterleaders.org) (for example: [arkansas@momschapterleaders.org](mailto:arkansas@momschapterleaders.org))

For upcoming events: [Find an Event](#)

If you are a reporter/media/news company, please send inquiries to [press@everytown.org](mailto:press@everytown.org).

Here are some frequently asked questions and answers:

#### 1. How do I sign up to volunteer or join a local chapter of Moms Demand Action?

The speediest way to get plugged into exciting volunteer opportunities is to [sign up to join a local chapter of Moms Demand Action](#). Everybody is welcome -- dads included!

You can follow Moms Demand Action ([@momsdemand](#)) or Everytown ([@everytown](#)) on Twitter or like us on Facebook on [Moms Demand Action FB page](#) or [Everytown for Gun Safety FB page](#). You can also [sign up for important email updates and local alerts via text message](#).

#### 2. Do you accept donations by check?

Thank you for your support. The quickest and easiest way is to [make a donation through our secure website](#). If you'd prefer to send a donation by mail, please send it to Everytown for Gun Safety; PO Box 3886; New York NY 10163.

#### 3. I am a survivor of gun violence, how can I get more involved?

There are lots of great ways to get more information about the Everytown Survivor Network. Please connect with our team by emailing [survivors@everytown.org](mailto:survivors@everytown.org) or take a look at our [Survivors FAQ page](#)

#### 4. How do I unsubscribe from your email list?

We're sad to see you go! You can opt out of email [here](#).

If your message concerns a recent donation, a media inquiry, a tech issue, or a request to be removed from another list, someone will try to get back to you as soon as possible.

**To:** wsj.its@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Roundup of views  
**Expires:** Friday, August 26, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The following is a roundup of some of the political issues the voters may be concerned about. I hope you will consider it for publication.

#### Religious doctrine:

It should be branded radical religious terrorism since no faith has exclusive ownership of the horror from fringe members of their flock. Anger and hate have led to violence at public buildings, churches, women's centers, murdered physicians, policemen and the innocent.

A point of view/perspective (religion) warns not to judge the path of others reasoning that the individuals journey to enlightenment is unknown. Furthermore, there will be no Imam, no Clergy/Priest, nor Rabbi in front advocating for forgiveness because of their personal interpretation of texts transcribed from the Almighty.

A maelstrom of damnation awaits the uninformed, the ill-advised and the snake oil salesmen pandering to them all.

#### Political spin:

Listening to what we hear said by the Presidential candidates and understanding what we read from the columnists, politicians, and other pundits over the cacophony of static is difficult.

The prospects of a wall on our southern border carries with it the horrors of the East Berlin wall soaked in blood and the ghosts of those entombed in the Great Wall of China. In the sixties, a woman could not serve on a jury, attend an Ivy League school, and if she was not married get a credit card in her name nor get birth control pills at a pharmacy. It doesn't take a person who experienced it to know it. (Woman card?) Rebuild our military: cavalry as the mechanical infantry developed (Poland 1939), battleships as carried air power moved to the forefront (Yamato – commissioned late 1941 and sunk April 7, 1945), and fifth generation aircraft at over two hundred million each as cyberwarfare (banking, power, and water) can bring a country to its knees without firing a shot?

Consider the short simple response to all of the political spin(s) coming our way. Example – Loose cannon? Versus a cannon that does nothing at all (Benghazi firefight lasting more than eight hours). The people living in glass houses should not throw stones.

#### First Amendment:

One of the rights in the first amendment of America's constitution is the freedom of the press. It does not have to be truthful nor honest. Slanted, opinioned, half observant, and outright lies are not prohibited. Some reporting takes full advantage of this latitude going as far back as William Randolph Hearst's yellow rag newspaper syndicate; populist, left wing, and sensational. Video editing and misleading photo's enflame the passion of the masses and frame our judgement of events.

"We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred is a wedge designed to attack our civilization"

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1940.

Some letters are sent multiple times to different newspapers after waiting a brief period for a reply.

**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2018 11:46 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** My opinion concerning the Constitution of the United States (addl thoughts for consideration)  
**Expires:** Monday, October 08, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

At first, the debate concerning the Supreme Court nominee was about the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973. Some in the audience were disruptive and had to be removed. Unfortunately, for me at least, the judiciary committee did not ask the question(s) about the issue(s) important to me.

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 4:03 PM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** My opinion concerning the Constitution of the United States  
**Expires:** Tuesday, October 09, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Please forward this to Ms. Margaret Sullivan. It is not a lifetime appointment to the Supreme court.

At first, the debate concerning the Supreme Court nominee was about the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973. Some in the audience were disruptive and had to be removed. Unfortunately, for me at least, the judiciary committee did not ask the question(s) about the issue(s) important to me.

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 4:15 PM  
**To:** letters@nytimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** My opinion on the Constitution Of the United States  
**Expires:** Tuesday, October 09, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

At first, the debate concerning the Supreme Court nominee was about the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973. Some in the audience were disruptive and had to be removed. Unfortunately, for me at least, the judiciary committee did not ask the question(s) about the issue(s) important to me.

**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2018 11:00 AM  
**To:** letters@latimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Mt opinion on the Constitution of the United States  
**Expires:** Thursday, October 11, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

At first, the debate concerning the Supreme Court nominee was about the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973. Some in the audience were disruptive and had to be removed. Unfortunately, for me at least, the judiciary committee did not ask the question(s) about the issue(s) important to me.

**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2018 12:01 PM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Re: Ben Franklin who?, the Kavanaugh inquisition, and the Constitution of the United States  
**Expires:** Thursday, October 11, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

At first, the debate concerning the Supreme Court nominee was about the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973. Some in the audience were disruptive and had to be removed. Unfortunately, for me at least, the judiciary committee did not ask the question(s) about the issue(s) important to me.

The 4th amendment gives us protection from unreasonable searches (abortion – "I'm not pregnant, I'm fat") until the evidence is clear. Reproductive biology accepts miscarriages but the complex hormones may dispense a consequence for deliberate termination. Our taxes should not be used thereby clearly connecting the moral responsibility. A 2nd amendment - firearms, and state rights – regulation; how it can be carried outside the home (concealed weapons permit ),where it can be carried outside the home (libraries, hospitals, and schools), and variety (semi-automatic, magazine capacity, firepower), again – outside the home or for that matter imported into the states – question was not succinctly put forward either. The limitation of the federal courts, the 11th amendment, the 1st amendment (the Colorado baker was given a business license, not a Christian business license nor a Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, etc. one), and article 1, section 8 - uniform taxation were also overshadowed and not addressed.

It is not a lifelong appointment, article 3 section 1, "shall hold their Offices during good Behavior". The founding fathers were smarter than that. The separation of powers is the perfect example of their wisdom.

Maybe the 17th amendment should be repealed and remove the partisan politics out of the Senate.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, September 03, 2018 9:53 AM  
**To:** 'insight@orlandosentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** letter to the editor  
**Expires:** Monday, September 10, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

It is disappointing that Florida's two Gubernatorial candidates, one focused on luxuries and the other refusing to accept the responsibility, are not fully concerned about Lake Okeechobee; the heart, life blood, and economic engine of our state while it continues to be the septic source of toxic sludge poisoning our future. (Fix the lake !).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 4:15 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: My opinion on the Constitution Of the United States

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. **We regret that because of the large number of submissions we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.**

Here are some guidelines:

Letters should ideally be 150 to 200 words and may be shortened to fit allotted space. They must be exclusive to The Times (no prior publication in other news outlets, except for [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)). They should generally refer to an article that has appeared within the last seven days.

**We reserve the right to edit all letters, and to trim to fit allotted space.**

To be considered for publication, letters MUST include the writer's name, address, current location (where you are writing from) and daytime and evening phone numbers at your current location (for verification, not publication). We do not accept anonymous or open letters.

We generally do not publish more than one letter from the same writer within any 60-day period, but reserve the right to be flexible. (This applies to the daily letters page, but feel free to submit letters to the weekly sections.) If we select your letter for publication, you consent to our right to republish it, in any and all media, and to license third parties to publish it as well.

If you submit your contact information as a result of this automated reply, please re-send the letter with it. (In the subject line, please indicate the headline of the article you're responding to, and delete "automated reply.") You will receive an auto-reply only once every four days.

**Because of computer security concerns, we do NOT accept attachments; they will NOT be opened.** Please re-submit your letter pasted into the body of an e-mail message.

**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2018 1:40 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** What do you see?  
**Expires:** Friday, September 21, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Psychology has a quiz/test where an individual is shown a picture and then asked what they see. "A vase." "Do you see the silhouette of the two profile faces?" "Oh yes, I do now."

The same can be said about Nike's new slogan – Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything. - Just do it. Could a different point of view see it as a recruiting ad for terrorism? The kneeling during the National Anthem by millionaire players (protected by their union) is said to be about social injustice, blue on black violence. Others see it as an insult to our servicemen and first responders. Could it also include the volunteers that feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and the many other things Americans do? The anthem is for all of us.

Do you see the vase or the face?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** OSC IA Insight <OSC\_MB\_IAInsight@orlandosentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 03, 2018 9:53 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE:

Thank you for writing to the Orlando Sentinel. We value your opinion. We receive hundreds of letters and guest columns by email every week and can't answer each one individually. But we do read all email we receive, and we consider each letter and column for publication.

Letters intended for publication must be sent exclusively to us and include your full name, full address and phone number. If yours did not, please resend it with that information. We publish only your name and home city. You may or may not receive a call from us if your letter is chosen.

Here are a few more requirements:

1. Your letter should be embedded in the email; we sometimes cannot open attachments.
2. The word limit for letters is 250, and they should be written with clarity, accuracy, focus and timeliness.
3. Letters responding to news stories or opinion-page content should include a reference to the headline and date of publication.
4. You may write as often as you like, but you are eligible for publication once every 30 days.

If you've mistakenly sent a press release to this email box, it may not be forwarded.

Again, we appreciate your writing to the Sentinel.

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/OrlandoOpinion](http://www.facebook.com/OrlandoOpinion)  
And follow us on Twitter [www.twitter.com/OrlandoOpinion](http://www.twitter.com/OrlandoOpinion)

Sincerely,  
The Letters/Op-Ed Editor



**From:** Herald Ed, MiA <heralded@miamiherald.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 12:11 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Stand Your Ground

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

We welcome letters that are exclusive to The Herald, that include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. If you did not include this information, please re-send your entire letter along with the required information. There is no need to resubmit the letter if it has these requirements.

Because of space limitations, we edit those letters selected for publication.

Although we are unable to acknowledge or print all letters that we receive, we do value your comments.

**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 12:11 PM  
**To:** HeraldEd@MiamiHerald.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Stand Your Ground  
**Expires:** Sunday, August 05, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Aggression will not be tolerated. That was the message from the Florida Legislature when it passed the "Stand your ground" law. It was a message to the bullies and the violent to think twice before initiating a conflict. It is a tool to be used sparingly. In a world where cameras are everywhere, you never know who is watching.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Sunday, July 22, 2018 4:13 PM  
**To:** O'Hara, Rosemary (rohara@sun-sentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Sunday Newspaper  
**Expires:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. O'Hara,

I was happily surprised this morning when I saw my latest submission not only considered but also published in the Sunday paper. I don't blog or tweet since, for me at least, I look at it as "bitching" these days. I prefer to use the newspaper journalist "gatekeepers" to help with spelling, punctuation and clarity – computer A.I. is lacking in those respects. I write for myself to get things off my mind while trying not to rant on about the issues and appreciate your staffs discernment.

On CBS Sunday Morning today they has a segment about civility in the discussion. I aspire to achieve that level of maturity.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:23 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** The Perfect Storm  
**Expires:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The Presidential election of 2016 could be viewed as the perfect storm of American politics. A well-known, seasoned politician is unable to overcome personal baggage of actions. One party is financially strapped and a candidate uses that for influential bias to secure the grey area of nomination delegates.

Hacked e-mails are released suggesting a point of disdain toward the voter coupled with public "nasty" words. Bent up frustrations that have been glossed over again and again are addressed by a politically incorrect novice candidate that inspires many and the main stream opponents fall by the wayside.

The disruption of the status quo, after effects of the storm, continues.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

P.S. Congratulation to Rosemary O'Hara for her award. In our Republic, good journalism is an important voice and a valuable asset for democracy.

**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 8:50 AM  
**To:** (aman@sunsentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Sat July 13 reporting  
**Expires:** Friday, July 20, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Man,

Thank you for you report concerning Congresswoman Frankel. The following is a letter to the editor I sent for consideration.

The lines that divide us; red, blue, green, etc. should not be the ones we let define us. Placards that say "We are all Muslim now", or "Immigrants now", or any other dissenting discord of opinion is not helpful. The discussion, debate, argument, fight, brawl, take no prisoners – scorch the earth venom has made many tone deaf and no longer trying to listen as well as we hear. "A house divided against itself cannot stand," by Abraham Lincoln and "A Republic if we can keep it," by Benjamin Franklin are as true today as ever.

The 4th amendment gives Americans hope that just cause is given to investigate us. Concerning Roe v. Wade my reply would be, "I'm not pregnant – I'm fat," until it may become obvious. Coat hanger "medical" instruments and back alley "operations" resulting in sepsis or death should never become the only option for the young and the desperate. The consequences of late term abortions and cancers have become clear through our knowledge and understanding of science. The real issue is who should pay for it. Taxes collected from all of us should not. That does not prevent it but clearly draws the line of moral responsibility. Those concerned should establish a nonprofit charity to fund the Doctors and hospitals willing to take on the pathos.

I thought this was the twenty first century of enlightenment not the dark ages of our past.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Herald Ed, MiA <heralded@miamiherald.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Current Events

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

We welcome letters that are exclusive to The Herald, that include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. If you did not include this information, please re-send your entire letter along with the required information. There is no need to resubmit the letter if it has these requirements.

Because of space limitations, we edit those letters selected for publication.

Although we are unable to acknowledge or print all letters that we receive, we do value your comments.

**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 2:30 PM  
**To:** HeraldEd@MiamiHerald.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Current Events  
**Expires:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The lines that divide us; red, blue, green, etc. should not be the ones we let define us. Placards that say "We are all Muslim now", or "Immigrants now", or any other dissenting discord of opinion is not helpful. The discussion, debate,

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 6:18 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** opinion update/corrections  
**Expires:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The lines that divide us; red, blue, green, etc. should not be the ones we let define us. Placards that say "We are all Muslim now", or "Immigrants now", or any other dissenting discord of opinion is not helpful. The discussion, debate, argument, fight, brawl, take no prisoners – scorch the earth venom has made many tone deaf and no longer trying to listen as well as we hear. "A house divided against itself cannot stand," by Abraham Lincoln and "A Republic if we can keep it," by Benjamin Franklin are as true today as ever.

The 4th amendment gives Americans hope that just cause is given to investigate us. Concerning Roe v. Wade my reply would be, "I'm not pregnant – I'm fat," until it may become obvious. Coat hanger "medical" instruments and back alley "operations" resulting in sepsis or death should never become the only option for the young and the desperate. The consequences of late term abortions and cancers have become clear through our knowledge and understanding of science. The real issue is who should pay for it. Taxes collected from all of us should not. That does not prevent it but clearly draws the line of moral responsibility.

I thought this was the twenty-first century of enlightenment not the dark ages of our past.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## 2016 election was the perfect storm

The 2016 presidential election could be viewed as the perfect storm of American politics. A well-known, seasoned politician is unable to overcome personal baggage. One party is financially strapped and a candidate uses that for influential bias to secure the grey area of nomination delegates.

Hacked emails are released suggesting a point of disdain toward the voter, coupled with public "nasty" words. Pent up frustrations

that have been glossed over again and again are addressed by a politically incorrect novice candidate, which inspires many and causes mainstream opponents to fall by the wayside.

The disruption of the status quo, after effects of the storm, continues.

**Steven Graves,  
Fort Lauderdale**

**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2018 11:08 AM  
**To:** letters@usatoday.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** The lines in the sand  
**Expires:** Saturday, July 14, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The lines that divide us; red – conservative, blue – liberal, green – environment, and religion should not be the ones we let define us.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: The lines in the sand

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the hundreds of letters we receive weekly, we are unable to do so. If no one from USA TODAY has called you within two weeks, it is probable that your letter has not been selected. Don't give up; try again.

Those letters that are published are selected for their timeliness, clarity, accuracy and length, as well as for the insight and perspective they provide. Letters of 175 words or fewer are the most likely to be published.

Our goal is to put together a daily package of diverse opinions reflecting views from people representing all walks of life and different areas of the country.

Again, thank you for your interest in USA TODAY. We look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

Bill Sternberg  
Editor of the Editorial Page

**Sent:** Sunday, July 08, 2018 10:17 AM  
**To:** 'david.savage@latimes.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court Vacancy  
**Expires:** Sunday, July 15, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Savage,

Here are my thoughts,

Until the Senate body of the United States Congress finds its' constitutional backbone, more poor choices may be confirmed to the Supreme Court.

**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2018 2:42 PM  
**To:** 'henninger@wsj.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court Vacancy  
**Expires:** Saturday, July 14, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Henninger,

Here are my thoughts,

Until the Senate body of the United States Congress finds its' constitutional backbone, more poor choices may be confirmed to the Supreme Court.

**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2018 11:56 AM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court Vacancy  
**Expires:** Saturday, July 14, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Until the Senate body of the United States Congress finds its' constitutional backbone, more poor choices may be confirmed to the Supreme Court.

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2018 9:55 AM  
**To:** 'mcgurn@wsj.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court Nominee  
**Expires:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. McGurn,

I must disagree with you column of July 3, 2018.

Until the Senate body of the United States Congress finds its' constitutional backbone, more poor choices may be confirmed to the Supreme Court.

**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2018 5:11 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court Nominee  
**Expires:** Monday, July 09, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

I don't know but hope that my previous submission considered may be published. Here is another thought for your staff.

Until the Senate body of the United States congress finds its' constitutional backbone, more poor choice may be confirmed to the Supreme Court.

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2018 12:55 PM  
**To:** O'Hara, Rosemary (rohara@sun-sentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Request for your opinion  
**Expires:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. O'Hara,

Please excuse this correspondence. Both issues concerning the immigrants/refugees and the Supreme Court vacancies are important. I am uncertain which of them are of greater value to the discussion today for your consideration to publish. The following concerns the Supreme Court.

Until the Senate body of the United States Congress finds its' constitutional backbone, more poor choices may be confirmed to the Supreme Court.

The 4th amendment gives Americans hope that just cause is given to investigate us. Concerning Roe v. Wade my reply would be, "I'm not pregnant – I'm fat," until it may become obvious. Coat hanger "medical" instruments and back alley "operations" resulting in sepsis or death should never become the only option. The consequences of late term abortions and cancers have become clear through our knowledge and understanding of science. The real issue is who should pay for it. Taxes collected from all of us should not. That does not prevent it but clearly draws the line of moral responsibility. Business records sold to a third should not require a warrant, (cell phone information, Facebook postings, etc. since they are no longer private).

The 1st amendment gives us the freedom to worship the religion we choose but it will not have any influence in the operation nor standing in the Federal Government. The gentleman baker in Colorado has a business license, not a Christian business license nor a Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, etc. one.

The 2nd amendment supports a militia's right to keep arms in the home and nothing about traveling around with a weapon. That is up to the Individual States.

The 11th amendment seeks to modify Article 3 concerning the Judicial power of the United States. (There's the rub).

My last concern involves the 16th amendment – that Congress "has the power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration". Article 1, Section 8 declares that taxes shall be uniform. Does that make the progressive income tax structure and unequal deductions illegal?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2018 12:11 PM  
**To:** 'O'Hara, Rosemary'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: current events  
**Expires:** Thursday, July 05, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. O'Hara,

Thank you again for considering my thoughts on the issues. Yes, I sent the letter.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

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**From:** O'Hara, Rosemary [mailto:rohara@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:48 AM  
**To:** 'Steven Graves'  
**Subject:** RE: current events

Double checking that Steve Graves sent us this letter.

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**From:** Steven Graves [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2018 7:23 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

The discussion, debate, argument, fight, brawl, take no prisoners – scorch the earth venom has made many tone deaf and no longer trying to listen as well as we hear. Are they immigrants or refugees? After WWII the communist Soviet Union demanded they be sent back. Eleanor Roosevelt advocated for the refugees and prevented the humanitarian crisis. Are they coming here to escape abject poverty or are they just looking for work? Can right to work states issue them a work permit as long as no state boundaries are crossed invoking the commerce clause in our Constitution such as the coastal states of Florida or Texas, maybe not California nor New York).

**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com

**Cc:**

**Subject:** current events

**Expires:** Wednesday, July 04, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The discussion, debate, argument, fight, brawl, take no prisoners – scorch the earth venom has made many tone deaf and no longer trying to listen as well as we hear. Are they immigrants or refugees? After WWII the communist Soviet Union demanded they be sent back. Eleanor Roosevelt advocated for the refugees and prevented the humanitarian crisis. Are they coming here to escape abject poverty or are they just looking for work? Can right to work states issue them a work permit as long as no state boundaries are crossed invoking the commerce clause in our Constitution such as the coastal states of Florida or Texas, maybe not California nor New York).

Harass, abuse and fail to serve because someone is different from our perspective and point of view. I thought this was the twenty-first century of enlightenment not the dark ages of our past.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

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**Sent:** Wednesday, June 13, 2018 8:46 AM  
**To:** letters@latimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events - opinions  
**Expires:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The proverb says, "Opinions are like horses asses, everyone has one." Today we have more ways than ever to expose our backside. Modern technology can allow anyone with an electronic device to vent, bitch and complain about

**To:** letters@usatoday.com

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Current events

**Expires:** Sunday, June 10, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The proverb says, "Opinions are like horses asses, everyone has one." Today we have more ways to expose our backside. Modern technology can allow anyone with an electronic device to vent, bitch and complain about anything on

**Sent:** Friday, June 08, 2018 11:24 AM

**To:** wsj.letters@wsj.com

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Opinions are like horses asses

**Expires:** Friday, June 15, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The proverb says, "Opinions are like horses asses, everyone has one." Today we have more ways than ever to expose our backside. Modern technology can allow anyone with an electronic device to vent, bitch and complain about anything on their mind as crude or as vulgar as they want. The adult reasoning to "sleep on it first," or "keep your mouth closed to maintain ones appearance of intelligence" has vanished into the internet ether.

Wisdom has left the building, please turn out the lights when you leave.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

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**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 03, 2018 4:06 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Current events

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the hundreds of letters we receive weekly, we are unable to do so. If no one from USA TODAY has called you within two weeks, it is probable that your letter has not been selected. Don't give up; try again.

Those letters that are published are selected for their timeliness, clarity, accuracy and length, as well as for the insight and perspective they provide. Letters of 175 words or fewer are the most likely to be published.

Our goal is to put together a daily package of diverse opinions reflecting views from people representing all walks of life and different areas of the country.

Again, thank you for your interest in USA TODAY. We look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

Bill Sternberg  
Editor of the Editorial Page

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**From:** Letters <Letters@latimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 13, 2018 8:46 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

Submissions should be no longer than 150 words and must respond to stories that have appeared in The Times; please include the title of the article, preferably in the subject line.

We do not accept letters that are part of letter-writing or petition campaigns. We also do not accept letters that appear to have been sent to more than one publication (including websites, web message boards and e-mail distribution lists). Note that you may have received this autoreply message as a result of signing an online petition or group letter.

We require a name, a city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification. If you have not included this information with your letter, please send it now to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com). Please include the subject and/or text of your original letter as well. We will publish your name and city of residence only.

Our e-mail system cannot process attachments. If you have sent your submission with an attachment, it will be deleted automatically. Please resubmit your letter in the body of an e-mail message to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

Letters become the property of The Times and may be edited. They may be republished in any format.

We will send another e-mail if your letter is under consideration to appear in the newspaper or on the website.

Because of a quirk in our e-mail program, some letter writers have received messages reporting that their submissions to The Times were deleted without being read. In fact, we review every submission. We apologize for any confusion these messages may cause.

Thanks again for writing to the Los Angeles Times.

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 02, 2018 12:08 PM  
**To:** 'shawn@insidesources.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hilarie Bass Opinion in my local paper The Sun-Sentinel  
**Expires:** Wednesday, May 09, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

While I appreciate Ms. Bass point of view, the legislative branch – House and Senate – was also divided in how the representatives were elected, (to help prevent a one political party rule dominance). Senators now have the possibility to serve beyond a possible two terms of six years each (State government changes) with the perks of seniority and incumbency that go with it. I believe that difference has taken us to the partisan divide we find ourselves in today.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 8:58 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Currency events  
**Expires:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The Constitution of the United States began as a well vetted discussion over the issues that the colonists had experienced under the government of the British Crown. A form of governing of, by, and for the people with checks and balances upon the executive, legislative, and judicial branches to prevent abuses of power was established with a bedrock foundation of the first ten amendments; unreasonable searches and seizures, freedom of the press and religion, and the need for a well-regulated militia are just a few of them.

Some changes were quickly reversed - prohibition - while others such as voting rights were clarified. The "all taxes are to be equal" was subverted to a progressive design to feed the ever increasing appetite of the federal largess, the change for the selection of Senators by the states has increased the dysfunction at our capital and entrenched partisan politics.

Ben Franklin was right, "A republic, if you can keep it." – at the close of the Constitutional Convention of 1787.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

(Also, wsj.ltrs@wsj.com; letters@latimes.com; letters@usatoday.com; HeraldEd@MiamiHerald.com)

**Sent:** Friday, April 20, 2018 2:22 PM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Economics 101

Dear Sir,

Economics 101 – in one hand is the money from taxes, fees, penalties, assessments, fines, etc. in the other hand is all the other outlays; Social Security and Medicare, Cabinet department funding, federal pensions, grants/research etc., and the legislative initiative of entitlements. Even with a pass/fail option Congress would fail the course. They couldn't even get an acceptable grade on the final exam.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018 11:11 AM  
**To:** Simms, Elana (ESimms@sun-sentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Thank You  
**Expires:** Tuesday, May 01, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. Simms,

Thank you for publishing my submission concerning the Southwest Airline flight. However, I had hoped that the staff would have noticed and corrected my misspelling of the word "descent" not decent. Spelling and grammar review unfortunately is the not the cure all for my lazy writing.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Southwest Airline Flight

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please include your city of residence and phone number for verification.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:49 PM  
**To:** 'Simms, Elana'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Southwest Airline Flight  
**Expires:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. Simms,

Thank you for the consideration. Yes, I sent the letter.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Simms, Elana [mailto:ESimms@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Southwest Airline Flight

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please include your city of residence and phone number for verification.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:49 PM  
**To:** 'Simms, Elana'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Southwest Airline Flight  
**Expires:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. Simms,

Thank you for the consideration. Yes, I sent the letter.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Simms, Elana [mailto:ESimms@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Southwest Airline Flight

**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 10:53 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Southwest Airline Flight

Dear Sir,

The engine failure on a Southwest flight that <sup>blacked</sup>pitched the jet over 40 degrees could have become much worse very quickly; a barrel roll, an inverted dive, or an almost unrecoverable death spiral powered by the thrust from only one side of the aircraft. A quick <sup>descent</sup>without knowing the damage to the wing and how much speed and stress it could handle is another factor. A successful crosswind landing requiring pitch correction from a single engine already providing yaw at high speed that did not blow out the tires is proof that miracles happen and that there are heroes among us.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Safely landed flight is proof heroes exist

The engine failure on a Southwest Airlines flight (piloted by Captain Tammie Jo Shults) that sent the plane into a 40 degree bank could have become much worse very quickly; for instance, a barrel roll, an inverted dive, or an almost unrecoverable death spiral powered by the thrust from only one side of the aircraft. A quick decent without knowing the damage to the wing and how much speed and stress the plane could handle is another factor.

A successful crosswind landing requiring pitch correction from a single engine — already providing yaw at high speed that did not blow out the tires — is proof that miracles happen and that there are heroes among us.

**Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale**



**Sent:** Sunday, April 22, 2018 12:00 PM  
**To:** 'leogrimm@gmail.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** FW: Sunday 04/22 opinion

Dear Sir,

Please check your e-mail address in today's paper.

---

**From:** Steven Graves [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 22, 2018 11:57 AM  
**To:** 'fredgrimm@grimm\_fred.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Sunday 04/22 opinion

Dear Mr. Grimm,

Here are my thoughts concerning your Sunday, April 22, 2018 opinion "State officials regard medicinal pot as 'reefer madness'". It was not published.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

---

**From:** Steven Graves [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 19, 2014 9:10 AM  
**To:** 'Cumella, Michael'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: letter to the editor

Dear Michael Cumella,

I am happy to confirm my submission. The information concerning Uruguay and other references is from Science, 13 June 2014 - volume 344 issue 6189 page 1217. I hope this helps. Call me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

---

**From:** Cumella, Michael [mailto:MCumella@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 18, 2014 5:46 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: letter to the editor

Could you please verify by email that Steven Graves sent the Sun Sentinel this letter to the Editor?

---

**From:** System Administrator  
**To:** Fred Grimm (Grimm@grimm\_fred.com)  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 22, 2018 11:54 AM  
**Subject:** Undeliverable: Sunday 04/22 opinion

Your message did not reach some or all of the intended recipients.

Subject: Sunday 04/22 opinion  
Sent: 4/22/2018 11:54 AM

The following recipient(s) cannot be reached:

Fred Grimm (Grimm@grimm\_fred.com) on 4/22/2018 11:54 AM  
Server error: '553 5.1.3 Syntax error in recipient address'

Clearly defined e-mail addresses in the newspapers would be helpful - maybe they really don't want to hear you opinion.

---

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2018 3:38 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Gun Regulation

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the hundreds of letters we receive weekly, we are unable to do so. If no one from USA TODAY has called you within two weeks, it is probable that your letter has not been selected. Don't give up; try again.

Those letters that are published are selected for their timeliness, clarity, accuracy and length, as well as for the insight and perspective they provide. Letters of 175 words or fewer are the most likely to be published.

Our goal is to put together a daily package of diverse opinions reflecting views from people representing all walks of life and different areas of the country.

Again, thank you for your interest in USA TODAY. We look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

Bill Sternberg  
Editor of the Editorial Page

---

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <heralded@miamiherald.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2018 11:47 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Gun regulation

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

We welcome letters that are exclusive to The Herald, that include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. If you did not include this information, please re-send your entire letter along with the required information. There is no need to resubmit the letter if it has these requirements.

Because of space limitations, we edit those letters selected for publication.

Although we are unable to acknowledge or print all letters that we receive, we do value your comments.

---

**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2018 11:47 AM  
**To:** HeraldEd@MiamiHerald.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Gun regulation  
  
**Expires:** Friday, April 20, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

History, sometimes speaks in a quiet whisper, drawing us in to see things through the passing of time. On other occasions it is a shout, a cry from the wilderness but like a tree that falls with no one to hear, it appears that it  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 2:16 PM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Gun Regulation  
  
**Expires:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

History, sometimes speaks in a quiet whisper, drawing us in to see things through the passing of time. On other occasions it is a shout, a cry from the wilderness but like a tree that falls with no one to hear, it appears that it does not  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Roundup of views  
  
**Expires:** Friday, August 26, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The following is a roundup of some of the political issues the voters may be concerned about. I hope you will consider it for publication.

Religious doctrine:

It should be branded radical religious terrorism since no faith has exclusive ownership of the horror from fringe members of their flock. Anger and hate have led to violence at public buildings, churches, women's centers, murdered physicians, policemen and the innocent.

A point of view/perspective (religion) warns not to judge the path of others reasoning that the individuals journey to enlightenment is unknown. Furthermore, there will be no Imam, no Clergy/Priest, nor Rabbi in front advocating for forgiveness because of their personal interpretation of texts transcribed from the Almighty.

A maelstrom of damnation awaits the uninformed, the ill-advised and the snake oil salesmen pandering to them all.

Political spin:

Listening to what we hear said by the Presidential candidates and understanding what we read from the columnists, politicians, and other pundits over the cacophony of static is difficult.

The prospects of a wall on our southern border carries with it the horrors of the East Berlin wall soaked in blood and the ghosts of those entombed in the Great Wall of China. In the sixties, a woman could not serve on a jury, attend an Ivy League school, and if she was not married get a credit card in her name nor get birth control pills at a pharmacy. It doesn't take a person who experienced it to know it. (Woman card?) Rebuild our military: cavalry as the mechanical infantry developed (Poland 1939), battleships as carried air power moved to the forefront (Yamato - commissioned late 1941 and sunk April 7, 1945), and fifth generation aircraft at over two hundred million each as cyberwarfare (banking, power, and water) can bring a country to its knees without firing a shot?

Consider the short simple response to all of the political spin(s) coming our way. Example - Loose cannon? Versus a cannon that does nothing at all (Benghazi) firefight lasting more than eight hours). The people living in glass houses should not throw stones.

First Amendment:

One of the rights in the first amendment of America's constitution is the freedom of the press. It does not have to be truthful nor honest. Slanted, opinionated, half observant, and outright lies are not prohibited. Some reporting takes full advantage of this latitude going as far back as William Randolph Hearst's yellow rag newspaper syndicate; populist, left wing, and sensational. Video editing and misleading photo's enflame the passion of the masses and frame our judgement of events.

"We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred is a wedge designed to attack our civilization"  
Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1940.

**Sent:** Sunday, April 08, 2018 7:02 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Change  
**Expires:** Sunday, April 15, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

To be brief, here is the change I want; to get a gun you need a permit, to get a permit you have to be cleared to own one, and to keep it you have to pass training and be recertified every so many years.  
Done.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Friday, April 06, 2018 6:42 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Russia  
**Expires:** Friday, April 13, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The tit-for-tat expulsion of diplomats for an ex-double agent spy poisoned in England shadows the larger concern of the safety and security of Soviet era weapons of mass destruction in Russia. Spending hundreds of millions of currency to develop and field a new MIRV nuclear missile is even more alarming coupled with the military build-up at the Arctic Circle. Surely the oligarch's that have been inferred to pull the strings at the Kremlin see this as a dangerous precedence, or maybe they are fiddling with their luxury and wealth as the world burns into the dark ages. (Mutual Assured Destruction).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2018 10:29 AM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** February 14  
**Expires:** Thursday, March 01, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The murders on Wednesday in Parkland is a symptom of the disease of hate infecting America today. The voices of extremism raging against our differences are the carriers. We, as adults, must work harder to build

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:30 AM  
**To:** letters@latimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Feb 14  
**Expires:** Wednesday, February 28, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The murders on Wednesday in Parkland is a symptom of the disease of hate infecting America today. The voices of extremism raging against our differences are the carriers. We, as adults, must work harder to build

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:28 AM  
**To:** letters@usatoday.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Feb 14  
**Expires:** Wednesday, February 28, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The murders on Wednesday in Parkland is a symptom of the disease of hate infecting America today. The voices of extremism raging against our differences are the carriers. We, as adults, must work harder to build

**Sent:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 9:20 PM  
**To:** HeraldEd@MiamiHerald.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** February 14  
**Expires:** Saturday, February 24, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The murders on Wednesday in Parkland is a symptom of the disease of hate infecting America today. The voices of extremism raging against our differences are the carriers. We, as adults, must work harder to build the bridges over the chasms that divide us.

"History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake." James Joyce

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <heralded@miamiherald.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 9:20 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: February 14

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

We welcome letters that are exclusive to The Herald, that include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. If you did not include this information, please re-send your entire letter along with the required information. There is no need to resubmit the letter if it has these requirements.

Because of space limitations, we edit those letters selected for publication.

Although we are unable to acknowledge or print all letters that we receive, we do value your comments.

**From:** Letters <Letters@latimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:30 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

Submissions should be no longer than 150 words and must respond to stories that have appeared in The Times; please include the title of the article, preferably in the subject line.

We do not accept letters that are part of letter-writing or petition campaigns. We also do not accept letters that appear to have been sent to more than one publication (including websites, web message boards and e-mail distribution lists). Note that you may have received this autoreply message as a result of signing an online petition or group letter.

We require a name, a city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification. If you have not included this information with your letter, please send it now to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com). Please include the subject and/or text of your original letter as well. We will publish your name and city of residence only.

Our e-mail system cannot process attachments. If you have sent your submission with an attachment, it will be deleted automatically. Please resubmit your letter in the body of an e-mail message to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

Letters become the property of The Times and may be edited. They may be republished in any format.

We will send another e-mail if your letter is under consideration to appear in the newspaper or on the website.

Because of a quirk in our e-mail program, some letter writers have received messages reporting that their submissions to The Times were deleted without being read. In fact, we review every submission. We apologize for any confusion these messages may cause.

Thanks again for writing to the Los Angeles Times.

For more information, please visit [www.latimes.com/letters](http://www.latimes.com/letters) (letters submission form and FAQ in right-hand column) or write us at [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:29 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Feb 14

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the hundreds of letters we receive weekly, we are unable

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2018 4:38 PM  
**To:** 'tracy.wilkinson@latimes.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** U.S. Embassy  
**Expires:** Tuesday, March 06, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the reporting. Here are my thoughts I have sent to my local newspapers Letter to the Editor page.

Peace process? What peace process. History suggests that many in that region were aligned with the Nazi's in WW Two. After the six day war when the aggressors were soundly defeated, they wanted a mulligan, a do over. Israel's response; land for peace. Anwar Sadat accepted and Egypt received the Sinai Peninsula. He was murdered for this concession. The confirmation of the "slay for pay" policy by the Palestinians should have ended all financial transfers immediately. It did not. Now they go running to their "mommy", the U.N., complaining that the U.S. is not being nice to them (Jerusalem).

Their intransigence to seek peace will keep their children in the grips of poverty living in the rubble from the destruction of war.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 10:44 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Current events  
  
**Expires:** Monday, January 22, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Ink on paper is a pretty good source of information, unlike the internet wisps of data that can change or disappear in an instant from the touch of a finger on a keyboard. These written words can be read again and again to

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 9:52 AM  
**To:** Simms, Elana (ESimms@sun-sentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Media talking points  
  
**Expires:** Tuesday, January 23, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms Simms,

Please excuse the resending of my submission, proof reading is not one of my strengths.

Ink on paper is a pretty good source of information, unlike the internet wisps of data that can change or disappear in an instant from the touch of a finger on a keyboard. These written words can be read again and again to glean insight into the issues that concern us.

TPP, the Trans-Pacific Partnership of twelve countries that border the Pacific Ocean, was promoted as a way to counter China's influence. The discovery that Chinese parts could be included with the imported products diminish the economic benefits to those countries and counter tariff penalties for "dumping" manufactured goods. The Paris Climate Accord is a "commitment to mobilize \$100 billion in climate finance". Rumors of hard currency transfers to the worst polluting countries to "help them address the situation" is either a noble cause or a fool's errand - "I'd gladly pay you Tuesday for a hamburger today" (the Wimpy character from Popeye). Climate Change and/or Global Warming advocates seem to ignore the consequences of their solutions; the cleaning of solar cells (wind cleared the sand on the Mars rover bringing it back into service) and wind turbines - "Avian Cuisinart's" - that kill many tens if not hundreds of thousands of migratory birds every year. The Iran nuclear deal where the U.S. government released billions of frozen assets that included real cash and yet hardship for their citizens still exists is a puzzlement. Suggestions that it was used to foster terrorism is certainly plausible.

The description of impoverished countries through the news sources is not as direct as our Presidents but a similar image is presented none the less; Cholera from raw sewage in the streets, single room tin shacks on a dirt floor, a single water source to provide for a community of hundreds, with civil wars, gang rape and murders, starvation and ethnic cleansing of the civilian population rampant. (e.g. Tutsis and Hutus genocide).

Governing by executive fiat seems to be the point of the DACA and Dreamers proponents. Kick the can down the lane and solve it later. Responsibility; if not now -- then when, if not you -- then who?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

Undeliverable? You cannot send an email. You must fill out a form then add your message. Many newspapers are following this trend. I don't care for it myself. I prefer to have a cc: copy sent to me so I know what my opinion was.

**From:** MAILER-DAEMON@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 28, 2018 3:58 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Failure Notice

Sorry, we were unable to deliver your message to the following address.

<president@whitehouse.gov>:  
550: #5.1.0 Address rejected.

— Below this line is a copy of the message.

DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; b=relaxed/relaxed; d=att.net; s=s1024; t=1519851475; bh=48lo/1tHtjpburw3ajKUJ2OzDY9bVDt51smsNITcl=; h=From:To:Cc:Subject:Date:From:Subject; b=wlR5G8T0m70PDSL19i12pFHzjK1r7uQglo8smTfIS9eWUN4KCRS+lh2wotriHxq12UyUIP3ahGx74xNKJepemvgKwP1/6 o5lyncM2zG0J5fTz0lh3GpvNp2AcAlbOMownAKAOI+uQ6iTBkakC+ylvYZH1zngL1xD0ZAUjeB=X-YMail-OSG: c\_ 5Y9K4VM11c2UYBKi0d8dW\_ x7JzGvmyGhG3NRHnDB3xNHO00RhhESoKba0 nDymC5yeH2c0QQRWY\_zggO63nplRl6ru30gEevfD2hthtokOEVCJDF5Xag9lVleV0XfeFtwKenL Sy6u3se2sc2hdJ9Kcx0x6wL5GvsaC4naU95\_ VEmzHQ2txg24qZoMP8FUbvzxQvUuifZllyqNao2 oAdxN8xcCvUpNqP6Vz3FMMEuHfH\_EkCjNlIdem0sIOHKWJcfVb9YlmmwOv3pxSTuV5lF0uEn85C xTpLxVfVRe\_ D9CyAYSVLU48pua\_c4ztmP07L9J5CvWftrpYghsukd85huxOzmhUoF88bOIQJVBuJ uIH42upLviSKQvkoWCYP\_wMlCa8L52CaEKX6aR24nfsfuaPB8BaGYUXX7YZFn01HGwdfptwuT kpgEaGH3tUllf\_eAPX72TPHy4VAbRqoUtelcUa3DkkoCJz1oE2j7OZ5CLf4xOXdksfgrT0gF7MHQ jgpZ2qr.nFVGHuKSwYjtyM92gtC

Received: from sonic-gate.mail.ne1.yahoo.com by sonic316.consmr.mail.bf2.yahoo.com with HTTP; Wed, 28 Feb 2018 20:57:55 +0000

Received: from smtp101.sbc.mail.bf1.yahoo.com (EHLO StevenPC) ([98.139.228.106])  
by smtp414.mail.bf1.yahoo.com (JAMES SMTP Server ) with ESMTPA ID c2c0556493cb9d823c0279a8e722e9ea;  
Wed, 28 Feb 2018 20:57:51 +0000 (UTC)

From: "Steven Graves"  
To: <president@whitehouse.gov>  
Cc:  
Subject: Opinion on current events  
Date: Wed, 28 Feb 2018 15:57:50 -0500  
Message-ID: <000001d3b0d65cc23bb205646b31605@att.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_0001\_01D3B0AC.E34F39C0"

X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook 14.0  
Expiry-Date: Wed, 7 Mar 2018 00:00:00 -0500  
Thread-Index: AdOw1YmAJ5U/jzVcR3+d7Hm+JzLgag==  
Content-Language: en-us  
X-Antivirus: Avast (VPS 180228-6, 02/28/2018), Outbound message  
X-Antivirus-Status: Clean

This is a plain text message in MIME format.

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 28, 2018 3:58 PM  
**To:** 'president@whitehouse.gov'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Opinion on current events  
  
**Expires:** Wednesday, March 07, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. President,

These are some of my opinions on some of the issues facing America today that I had sent to my local papers' Letter to the Editor page. They were not considered for publication. I hope your staff will forward them to you.

Peace process? What peace process. History suggests that many in that region were aligned with the Nazi's in WW Two. After the six day war when the aggressors were soundly defeated, they wanted a mulligan, a do over. Israel's response; land for peace, Anwar Sadat accepted and Egypt received the Sinai Peninsula. He was murdered for this concession. The confirmation of the "slay for pay" policy by the Palestinians should have ended all financial transfers immediately. It did not. Now they go running to their "mommy", the U.N., complaining that the U.S. is not being nice to them (Jerusalem).

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The description of impoverished countries through the news sources is not as direct as our Presidents (yours) but a similar image is presented none the less; Cholera from raw sewage in the streets, single room tin shacks on a dirt floor, a single water source to provide for a community of hundreds, with civil wars, gang rape and murders, starvation and ethnic cleansing of the civilian population rampant. (e.g. Tutsis and Hutus genocide).

Governing by executive fiat seems to be the point of the DACA and Dreamers proponents. Kick the can down the lane and solve it later. Responsibility; if not now -- then when, if not you -- then who?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 28, 2018 11:00 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Corey Jones

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please include your city of residence.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

**Sun Sentinel**  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**Sent:** Sunday, January 28, 2018 11:42 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Corey Jones  
  
**Expires:** Sunday, February 04, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The information released about the death of Corey Jones is disturbing and has the elements of a terrible tragedy.

A police officer still in the 90 day probationary period leaves the area he was assigned. A musician leaves his nightclub gig and his car breaks down going home. The musician is on the phone when a nondescript white van stops near him. The audio is being recorded by the roadside assistance operator. Then Raja makes a rookie mistake; tactically unsound, unsafe and grossly negligent. But he was not a rookie. A few moments later the musician is dead.

The forensics as reported; the policeman was not wearing his vest nor announced himself as one. The musician had a permit for his gun, the chamber was empty and the safety was on. One of Corey's wounds was from the back.

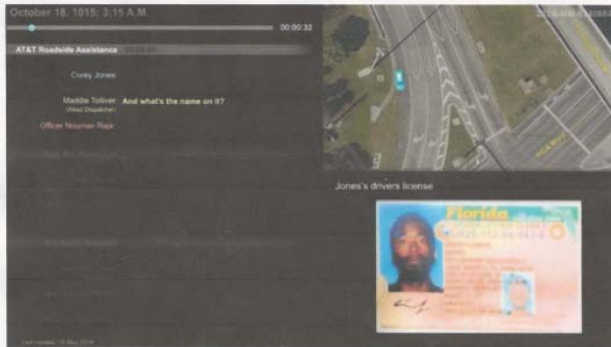
I find the "Stand your ground" defense a most deplorable disgraceful shadow upon our men and women that serve and protect our community with honor and distinction. The apples to oranges comparison of the Corey Jones -- Nouman Raja confrontation to a person carrying a very realistic looking air rifle with earbuds on blocking the commands of a uniformed officer that exited a clearly and distinctly marked vehicle is impertinent and irrelevant. (And the height of insolent rudeness, you think we're idiots?).

When the dust clears one will still be dead and the other disgraced. It is indeed a tragedy.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Corey Jones, ex-officer confrontation a terrible tragedy | Letters



A recording from a roadside assistance call captured sounds from the 3:15 a.m. Oct. 18, 2015 confrontation between stranded motorist Corey Jones and then-plainclothes Palm Beach Gardens Police Officer Nouman Raja.

JANUARY 29, 2018, 3:05 PM

The information released about the death of Corey Jones is disturbing and has the elements of a terrible tragedy. A police officer still in the 90-day probationary period leaves the area he was assigned. A musician leaves his nightclub gig and his car breaks down going home. The musician is on the phone when a nondescript white van stops near him. The audio is being recorded by the roadside assistance operator. Then Nouman Raja makes a rookie mistake; tactically unsound, unsafe and grossly negligent. But he was not a rookie. A few moments later the musician is dead.

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I find the "stand your ground" defense a most deplorable and disgraceful shadow upon our men and women that serve and protect our community with honor and distinction. The apples to oranges

comparison of the Corey Jones-Nouman Raja confrontation to a person carrying a very realistic looking air rifle with earbuds, blocking the commands of a uniformed officer that exited a clearly and distinctly marked vehicle is impertinent and irrelevant (And the height of insolent rudeness. You think we're idiots?).

When the dust clears, one will still be dead and the other disgraced. It is indeed a tragedy.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

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This article is related to: Corey Jones

## Musician-former cop confrontation tragic

The information released about the death of Corey Jones is disturbing and has the elements of a terrible tragedy. A police officer still in the 90-day probationary period leaves the area he was assigned. A musician leaves his nightclub gig and his car breaks down going home. The musician is on the phone when a nondescript white van stops near him. The audio is being recorded by the roadside assistance operator. Then Nouman Raja makes a rookie mistake; tactically unsound, unsafe and grossly negligent. But he was not a rookie. A few moments later the musician is dead.

The forensics as reported: the policeman was not wearing his vest nor announced himself as one. The musician had a permit for his gun, the chamber was empty and the safety was on. One of Corey's wounds was from the back.

I find the "stand your ground" defense a most deplorable and disgraceful shadow upon our men and women that serve and protect our community with honor and distinction. The apples to oranges comparison of the Corey Jones-Nouman Raja confrontation to a person carrying a very realistic looking air rifle with earbuds, blocking the commands of a uniformed officer who exited a clearly and distinctly marked vehicle is impertinent and irrelevant (And the height of insolent rudeness. You think we're idiots?).

When the dust clears, one will still be dead and the other disgraced. It is indeed a tragedy.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

leaves the area he was assigned. A musician leaves his nightclub gig and his car breaks down going home. The musician is on the phone when a nondescript white van stops near him. The audio is being recorded by the roadside assistance operator. Then Nouman Raja makes a rookie mistake; tactically unsound, unsafe and grossly negligent. But he was not a rookie. A few moments later the musician is dead.

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Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

Printed in the newspaper

## Musician-former cop confrontation tragic

The information released about the death of Corey Jones is disturbing and has the elements of a terrible tragedy. A police officer still in the 90-day probationary period

Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 7:29 PM  
To: letters@nytimes.com; wsj.letters@wsj.com  
Cc:  
Subject: Peace process  
Expires: Friday, December 22, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Peace process? What peace process. History suggests that many in that region were aligned with the Nazi's in WW Two. After the six day war when the aggressors were soundly defeated, they wanted a mulligan, a do over. Israel's response; land for peace. Anwar Sadat accepted and Egypt received the Sinai Peninsula. He was murdered for this concession. The confirmation of the "slay for pay" policy by the Palestinians should have ended all financial transfers immediately. It did not. Now they go running to their "mommy", the U.N., complaining that the U.S. is not being nice to them (Jerusalem).

Their intransigence to seek peace will keep their children in the grips of poverty living in the rubble from the destruction of war.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

Also, tracy.wilkinson@latimes.com on February 27, 2018



**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 09, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Gun Violence

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please provide your city of residence.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 07, 2017 5:45 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Gun Violence  
**Expires:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

"Here we go again", is a phrase we should get used to hearing now. The talking heads will lament over the cancer overtaking America's humanity. Gun violence is everywhere, from the inner cities of the gang drug wars to the rural outposts of our smallest communities. Excuses will be made for the legislative inaction as the regulation/control debate wanders through the hall of congress. Bill Murray "sings" it best - When will we ever learn. It's all about the Benjamins.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

### No end to gun-control debate

"Here we go again" is a phrase we should get used to hearing now. The talking heads will lament over the cancer overtaking America's humanity. Gun violence is everywhere - from the inner cities of the gang drug wars to the rural outposts of our smallest communities. Excuses will be made for the legislative inaction as the regulation/control debate wanders through the halls of Congress. Bill Murray "sings" it best - When will we ever learn? It's all about the Benjamins.

*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

**Sent:** Saturday, November 04, 2017 1:54 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Perspectives  
**Expires:** Saturday, November 11, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

I try to aspire to the wisdom in the saying, "Don't point out the splinter in a person's eye when you can't see past the timber blocking your own view", (expletive). When a newscaster misspeaks when reading the teleprompter (e.g. the price of the new iPhone or the years since the civil war), email addresses misprinted in the newspaper, and cut and paste printing errors abound; they are laughable if they didn't present themselves as so informative and correct.

Judgement is a double-edged sword. President Kennedy was a philanderer yet those thirteen days in October prevented a nuclear catastrophe. J. Edgar Hoover may have enjoyed dressing in women's lingerie and yet the FBI became an institution that many strive to join. President Lyndon Johnson probably used the Gulf of Tonkin incident to start the Vietnam War but the civil rights legislation passed during his term is without parallel.

I don't believe that Reverend King would say, "your sins are forgiven, go and sin no more", but rather "Let you who has'n't sinned cast the first stone", (Intolerable crime and just punishment.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2017 10:22 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** California Wild Fires  
**Expires:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

If the California wild fires weren't so tragic and the stories of uncommon heroism and valor so inspiring, it might be easier to question the political leaders of that state. There is a specially equipped 747 designed to fight forest fires that our National Forestry Service decided not to use, as reported on the news. A program titled "Innovation Nation" from the Henry Ford Museum featuring Mo Rocca highlighted an eco-friendly foam that could extinguish a flame in seconds. The cost to replace the homes that were lost is easily into the tens of millions of dollars. The loss of businesses and the multiplying economic impact of payroll dynamics surely equals that and more. I can't help but wonder why every tool and option available hasn't been used in the effort to stop such devastation and destruction upon the people in that great state of our union.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, September 25, 2017 1:12 PM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Dreamers

**Expires:** Monday, October 02, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Their route north may have been littered with empty water bottles showing them the way or scattered with the remains of those who perished, forgotten on the trail. Some might have been able to pay the "coyote" to guide them. They sought freedom; from economic poverty or drug/gang violence, and of course they would not leave their families behind to face an unknown future without them. They hid in the shadows and raised their children in America. They became Americans not by birth but by the culture they lived in. The arching question is should we "let" them stay. If not for the nanny/entitlement state of unbridled benefits, would we be asking that question?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <heralded@miamiherald.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 26, 2017 5:47 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Current events

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

We welcome letters that are exclusive to The Herald, that include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. If you did not include this information, please re-send your entire letter along with the required information. There is no need to resubmit the letter if it has these requirements.

Because of space limitations, we edit those letters selected for publication.

Although we are unable to acknowledge or print all letters that we receive, we do value your comments.

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 16, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: North Korea

Could you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

Please include your city of residence.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**Sent:** Saturday, July 15, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** North Korea  
**Expires:** Saturday, July 22, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Shooting a rocket straight up almost eight times higher than the orbit of the International Space Station is quite different then launching a guided missile to a faraway target. Geo-spatial targeting is not the same as the point and shoot demonstrations that fell into the Sea of Japan. Launch failures from the early days of America's space program and errant trajectories should give Russia and China pause as they too could be in the landing area. Especially if more powerful rockets to deliver a heavy payload (nuclear) are attempted. China's concern over refugees is well founded since many/most North Koreans live in absolute abject poverty according to several "not fake" news sources. The international community needs to assure them that assistance will be gladly given should the need occur from regime change.

The drumbeat for action is oh too/similar to the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand (WW1), the Gulf of Tonkin (Vietnam), and weapons of mass destruction ("W").

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

### People in path of weapons deserve safety assurances

Shooting a rocket straight up almost eight times higher than the orbit of the International Space Station is quite different than launching a guided missile to a faraway target. Geo-spatial targeting is not the same as the point-and-shoot demonstrations that fell into the Sea of Japan.

Launch failures from the early days of America's space program and errant trajectories should give Russia and China pause as they too could be in the landing area. Especially if more powerful rockets to deliver a heavy payload (nuclear) are tested. China's concern over refugees is well-founded since many/most North Koreans live in absolute abject poverty according to several "not fake" news sources. The international community needs to assure them that assistance will be gladly given should the need occur from regime change.

*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

Here is another incidence of poorly spelled e-mails printed in the newspaper - capital “H”, not small “h” and “z” not “s”. HSaltz Sun-Sentinel publisher and editor-in-chief.

**Sent:** Saturday, August 26, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** HSaltz@SunSentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** undeliverable email address

**Expires:** Saturday, September 02, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Saltz,

Please excuse the forwarding of the returned email. Sometimes it is just very frustrating that the email references in the your newspaper are incorrect.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** postmaster@tronc.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2017 12:11 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Undeliverable: current events  
**Attachments:** details.txt; current events (17.9 KB)

**Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:**

[hsalts@sunsentinel.com](mailto:hsalts@sunsentinel.com)  
The email address you entered couldn't be found. Please check the recipient's email address and try to resend the message. If the problem continues, please contact your email admin.

Diagnostic information for administrators:

Generating server: FCWPINEXHY02.USA.TRIBUNE.COM

**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2017 12:08 PM  
**To:** 'hsalts@SunSentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

**Expires:** Thursday, August 31, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Saltz,

First, I would like to thank you and your editorial associates for considering and publishing my recent submission for the "Letters-to-the-Editor" page. I appreciate the grammar and punctuation revisions so that they read and flow better. There is disappointment from the things you leave out though such as the drumbeat for action concerning North Korea (a warning of the consequences) and George H.W. Bush's World War Two naval training here in response to the "Onion" criticism of Fort Lauderdale.

**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** 'gstein@sunsentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Current Events

**Expires:** Friday, August 25, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Stein,

First, I would like to thank you and your editorial associates for considering and publishing my recent submission for the Letters-to-the-Editor page. I appreciate the grammar and punctuation revisions so that they read and flow better. There is disappointment from the things you leave out though such as the drumbeat for action concerning North Korea (a warning of the consequences) and George H.W. Bush's World War Two naval training here in response to the "Onion" criticism of Fort Lauderdale.

Education matters could be viewed as the point in my letter about the destruction of artifacts from history (Preserve statues and our history – April 17, 2017) Instead of removing them I would add to them with images and information about Antietam, Gettysburg, and Shiloh and so many others from a conflict where nearly 620,000 died, 2% of the U.S. population. A missed opportunity in New Orleans. It has been put forth that if not for the prominence and statue of Robert E. Lee the surrender at Appomattox would never have happened and devastation far worse than Sherman's march to the sea might have happened. (Taking historical events to the extreme; would Sargent York and the impact from his birth have ever occurred?). I found it disturbing from the news that a memorial for a civil war soldier who had passed along side an angel reaching toward the heavens was defaced with red paint. To me, it was not about the confederacy but a remembrance for the fallen, a foot soldier who may not have had a choice but to serve. A minority perspective it seems. (In the north, the rich could pay for a replacement/deference.)

Does the divide we find ourselves in go back to ex-President Obama saying that Treyvon Martin, a high school drug dealer that brought a loaded gun on campus, looked like him? A statement of prejudice concerning race and color. Growing up I was taught that the character of a person is the measure of a person. A point I tried to put forward that your staff titled, When will "Free at last" ring true in America (November 26, 2016). Or Mr. Brown, the convenience store thug whose autopsy showed he was shot in the front after attacking a police officer. An inconvenient truth for ex-Attorney General Eric Holder prosecuting a suburb city of St. Louis. (Another is that the slaves from Africa were captured and sold to the traders by other "coloreds". Very inconvenient.) Where is the outrage for the murder of Corey Jones killed by the Palm Beach Gardens officer in plain clothes, an unmarked car, not in the area assigned to him, and on probation? Have they wasted their political capital defending the unjust and now find themselves morally bankrupt?

America's promissory note of tolerance continues to be returned "insufficient funds" from the deep, bitter hatred from the extremists on both sides, yes there is more than one, and neither is right nor should they point a finger at the other from their moral abyss with one side even putting forth the "original sin" argument (not Adam and Eve but the composition of America at its' birth) that has been used for millennia to enslave us all to someone else's point of view/perspective using the hammer of guilt.

Those of us in the middle, a hundred and fifty years after the civil war, fifty years after the civil rights movement who are now not judged on character but the fear of color, must try even harder to build the bridges across the widening chasm we find ourselves in today.

Sincerely,  
  
Steven Graves

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 10:11 AM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Earth's changing climate

**Expires:** Tuesday, June 20, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The discussion over Earth's changing climate borders on the absurd. Volcanic eruptions, the shifting of tectonic plates, and solar flares have had an effect and will continue to do so. But there are also visible signs of mankind's impact on the environment; deforestation – the clearing of the Brazilian rainforest and the death of trees above 5,000 feet, the toxic algae blooms caused by the water drained from Lake Okeechobee - something we would not have to do if we

**Sent:** Sunday, June 04, 2017 4:49 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Earth's changing climate

**Expires:** Sunday, June 11, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The discussion over Earth's changing climate borders on the absurd. Volcanic eruptions, the shifting of tectonic plates, and solar flares have had an effect and will continue to do so. But there are also visible signs of mankind's impact on the environment; deforestation – the clearing of the Brazilian rainforest and the death of trees above 5,000 feet, the toxic algae blooms caused by the water drained from Lake Okeechobee - something we would not have to do if we would fix the lake, and yes, carbon compounds released into the atmosphere.

However, wind power should be interpreted as an avian Cuisinart since they kill over half a million migratory birds a year and the manufacturing process of solar cells is nowhere near "clean". We have the scientific manufacturing capability to build power plants that eliminate 98% of coal pollution. We know that lightning scrubs the air suggesting we build high atmospheric "tinsel" lightning generators powered by electrical producing devices placed in orbital space, the theory behind the unsuccessful space shuttle power experiment (the line got tangled). How wonderful if found to be true.

It is beyond comprehension why we should send money to other countries to "voluntarily" reduce their pollution when there is so much needed here in the United States to address poverty, the sick and the disabled.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,  
  
Steven Graves

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 07, 2017 7:11 PM  
**To:** 'dglanton@chicagotribune.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** my reply to "Save your breath the racists aren't listening"

**Expires:** Wednesday, June 14, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. Glanton,

Change LeBron James's words around with any different color or nationality and it is also true. There is not a single person who will not find discrimination and unfairness facing them. Using a color as the word to decide whose "lives" matter set it up for ridicule with the perfect example being the young child murdered in Chicago from gang violence with nary a significant protest. Would Bill Maher have gotten a pass if he were black? The recent history of its usage suggests so. For me, it is never acceptable by anyone.

Is it the responsibility of the nanny state to address failing schools? Remember the disadvantaged gentleman from the south who overcame it all and invented the super-soaker and is now a millionaire? Could it be a personal choice and effort to overcome any obstacle in one's path, decide to ignore the peer pressure of behavior and find a way to prepare for their future?

Roadblocks are everywhere. If you can't go through you go around. If not that then over or under until you find the path forward. Look for the hand up not a hand out and many Americans are offering that help. Where voting rights are concerned, what organization has stepped up and said, "Fine, we will help you get the ID you need and we will help pay for it. You will not be disenfranchised", instead of saying it not fair. It is much easier to complain then to solve.

Lashing out at white people? So easy. How quickly one discounts the passage of time, more than one hundred and fifty years now. Even the progress gained since the 1960's before many in this generation were born is brought forward to condemn others.

On a personal note, I was asked to help a friends co-worker move some furniture and my religious beliefs answered sure. I learned later when I mentioned an odd "vibe" I had that I was told, "they don't like white people," having known nothing about me. I might have also received a discount on a take-out order because my last name, Graves, implies a certain image here in the south.

There is some truth in your column printed in my local Sun Sentinel newspaper today. I had my epiphany when I met Rosa Parks so many years ago and tried to thank her for all she had done to address the issues. She knew it will not end as long as a person is judged by their color and never by their character within.

Sincerely,  
  
Steven Graves

P.S. You might find some of my accepted submission to the Sun-Sentinel "Letters to the Editor" in their database.

Sometimes there is a need to push back from the “slanted” perspective opinions in the discussion. I didnot receive a reply nor did I expect one. It didnot fit their narrative.

**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2017 9:18 AM  
**To:** rohara@sunsentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Medical ins.

**Expires:** Friday, May 19, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Mrs. O'Hara,

I wanted to share my idea for medical coverage. I call it the affordable and usable graves healthcare whose acronym is "AAUGH", also known as Charlie Brownicare. I hope you and your staff get a chuckle over this.

Sincerely,  
  
Steven Graves



**Sent:** Sunday, April 16, 2017 12:42 PM  
**To:** 'content@richmond.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Civil War Monuments  
**Expires:** Sunday, April 23, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

For me, removing the civil war statues seem similar to ISIS and the Taliban destroying artifacts from the past; the Roman city of Palmyra and the Buddha statues at Bamiyan, getting rid of anything found personally offensive. Visit

**From:** Mellon, Diana <DMellon@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 5:36 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Top seven things in less than 250 words

Did you want this considered for publication?

Diana Mellon



500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394  
954-358-4817 (office)

Would you like to send us a letter to the editor that is no more than 250-words?

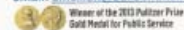
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Web: [www.SunSentinel.com/opinion](http://www.SunSentinel.com/opinion)

Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](https://www.facebook.com/SunSentinelEditorialBoard)

Twitter: @dianamellon

email: [dmellon@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellon@SunSentinel.com)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Preserve statues and our history

For me, removing Civil War statues seems similar to ISIS and the Taliban destroying artifacts from the past; the Roman city of Palmyra and the Buddha statues at Bamiyan — getting rid of anything found personally offensive. Visit the Vatican Museum and see first-hand the marble sculptures with pieces of their privates chopped off because a previous pope found them vulgar and insulting. The writings of ancient scholars were lost when the Great Library in Alexandria, Egypt burned to the ground. Cause unknown.

The history I see is one where wealthy plantation owners (the 1 percent) became colonels and commanders safe in the rear ranks as the poor white sharecroppers were forced into conscription to become cannon fodder on the battlefields. These soldiers were given no courtesy or respect. Without these relics, would our children seek out the Andersonville POW camp and learn about the conditions there even though it is a national museum?

These symbols connect us to the horrors at the Battle of Antietam, Gettysburg, and Shiloh, to name just a few. They should not fade into the shadows and become an inconvenient truth of our past.

*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

**Sent:** Saturday, April 15, 2017 5:20 PM  
**To:** [wsj.letters@wsj.com](mailto:wsj.letters@wsj.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Mr. Milken's opinion  
**Expires:** Saturday, April 22, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

I disagree with Mr. Milken's rosy assessment (WSJ opinion April 12, 2017). The automatic programs at the stock exchange caused huge swings in value "flash bang" and almost anything can be hacked that is connected to a wireless network. "Prosperity comes when financial technologies multiply the sum of human capital, social capital and real assets", like the financial crash of 2008 from a product no one could explain? Automated technologies are fine until they need repair. Software corrections with millions of lines of code?

Let's go back seventy years when the diode and the transistor allowed us to build the machines that allowed mankind to walk on the moon. A place we haven't been in for forty-five years. Darpa's communication evolved into today's global internet system. The vast new business opportunities I see are spoofing, hacking, and ransomware with bitcoin hiding nefarious transactions. More digital products are thrown away since replacement is cheaper than repair. Online education programs are great unless you get a nonaccredited nontransferable degree.

A meaningful life, the American dream? It depends on the challenges we face in the twenty-first century to harness this technology.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Thursday, April 06, 2017 11:33 AM  
**To:** [mmayo@southflorida.com](mailto:mmayo@southflorida.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Dear Mr. Mayo,  
**Expires:** Thursday, April 13, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Mayo,

Mr. Siebert authored a pamphlet titled "The Solution" outlining an economic plan and the magic circle of money. It is an interesting read. I hope you get the opportunity to do so.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Thursday, April 06, 2017 10:12 AM  
**To:** [letters@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:letters@sun-sentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court voices and opinions thursday April 6, 2017  
**Expires:** Thursday, April 13, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Your "well qualified" assertion (premise) concerning the Supreme Court nominee does not sail for me. (eg. Well qualified; Nixon – Watergate, Reagan – Iran contra, Eisenhower – U2 spy mission, and Kennedy's infidelity with Marilyn Monroe). If you believe that religion (Hobby Lobby example) any religion (Shira Law extreme example) should influence and determine the judicial outcome then the nominee should be approved. I do not. The excuses highlighted for rulings during the Senate Judiciary Committee are not acceptable.

I have concerns over abortion and the fourth amendment, judicial power and the eleventh amendment, and the extent of our independence from the tenth amendment from "settled precedents" the nominee may put into play for re-examination. If the senate continues to behave as the House of Representatives and fume as spoiled brats on the playground then maybe we should repeal the seventeenth amendment.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Thursday, April 06, 2017 10:12 AM  
**To:** [letters@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:letters@sun-sentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court voices and opinions thursday April 6, 2017  
**Expires:** Thursday, April 13, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Your "well qualified" assertion (premise) concerning the Supreme Court nominee does not sail for me. (eg. Well qualified; Nixon – Watergate, Reagan – Iran contra, Eisenhower – U2 spy mission, and Kennedy's infidelity with Marilyn Monroe). If you believe that religion (Hobby Lobby example) any religion (Shira Law extreme example) should influence and determine the judicial outcome then the nominee should be approved. I do not. The excuses highlighted for rulings during the Senate Judiciary Committee are not acceptable.

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**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:58 AM  
**To:** [letters@washpost.com](mailto:letters@washpost.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Supreme Court nominee  
**Expires:** Friday, March 31, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Re: Neil Gorsuch "Nobody is above the law" does not ring true to me. The Affordable Care Act was determined to be a tax from the majority decision of Chief Justice Roberts court (they punted) – taxes are to be uniform – legislative power Article One, Section Eight, (taxes) and Amendment One states our government will not respect (consider) any religion so why does Hobby Lobby have the right to deny birth control insurance coverage - the tax - for its employees? I'd like to have a choice in what taxes I pay by picking a religious point of view.

L.E.; no law "respecting"  
n. approval, aspect, attention, courtesy, duty, esteem, good terms, mental outlook, observance, particular, regard, relevance, viewing,  
v. approve, be considerate, observe, regard, relate to, or prohibiting the free "exercise"  
n. action, ceremony, exertion, lesson, music, operation, study, task, training, use,  
v. annoy, engross, exert, practice, train, use

(Roget's International Thesaurus – finding words for your ideas) of the First Amendment must have been particularly difficult due to the diversity of the immigrants that called America home.

Also, the fourth amendment protects all of us from governmental scrutiny without probable cause. How does that effect abortion concerns? (I'm not pregnant, I'm fat.) Horse and buggy days or the horrors of the last century? I put forth that the issue is whether we as a nation want to return to an era of coat hanger abortions and the butchering results from unsanitary back alley procedures of medieval punishment for the fragile and insecure among us. We can disagree but until we accept the obligation and demands of conscience the issue is moot. The "red" line should not be if but when we should become involved.

Finally, the eleventh amendment and judicial travel ban rulings.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 3:30 PM  
**To:** 'Steven Graves'  
**Subject:** RE: Immigration

Could you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

Thank you.

[We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.]

The Sun Sentinel  
100 E. Howard Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304-1019

**Sent:** Saturday, February 11, 2017 5:34 PM  
**To:** 'rohara@sunsentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Judicial Review  
**Expires:** Saturday, February 18, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Mrs. O'Hara,

I am forwarding an opinion I sent to the Wall Street Journal. You know my thought on the protests from a previous submission to your staff. Could it be that the judiciary really being played?  
I have a few questions for Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch. Except for the advice and consult duties of the

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 11, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** wsjltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Judicial Review

Dear Sir,

I have a few questions for Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch. Except for the advice and consult duties of the Senate in Article Two, Section Two, is the responsibility to conduct foreign policy fully vested in the Executive branch of the United States of America? The Affordable Care Act was determined to be a tax from the majority decision of Chief Justice Roberts court – taxes are to be uniform – legislative power Article One, Section Eight, (taxes) and Amendment One states our government will not respect (consider) any religion so why does Hobby Lobby have the right to deny birth control insurance coverage - the tax - for its employees? I'd like to have a choice in what taxes I pay. The second amendment sites the regulation of arms. How does that fit in the gun rights argument and ways for the legislature to prevent another situation like we had at the Fort Lauderdale airport? Just pick them up at baggage claim? Seriously? If nonprofits are allowed to spend my donations for political influence lobbying, why should I continue to give them money?

The fourth amendment protects all of us from governmental scrutiny without probable cause. How does that effect abortion concerns? (I'm not pregnant, I'm fat.) I put forth that the issue is whether we as a nation want to return to an era of coat hanger abortions and the butchering results from unsanitary back alley procedures of medieval punishment for the fragile and insecure among us. We can disagree but until we accept the obligation and demands of conscience the issue is moot. The "red" line should not be if but when we should become involved.

I believe that the judicial branch is currently being "played" by the Executive branch. A temporary halt for a review by an incoming administration of the actions and considerations of the previous executive should be warranted and expected no matter how crappy it is implemented. Think "Bay of Pigs" (Eisenhower/Kennedy) and the previously approved actions for Seal Team Six in Somalia (Obama/Trump). We have also now been informed that the seven countries were on the previous executive watch list.

Should/when/if a terrorist attack is successful have we not given an excuse and reason to execute the authority as Commander - In- Chief? The argument for security has already been put forth. The opposition should consider their actions before they have burned all their bridges.

Sincerely,

**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2017 10:22 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Autoreply Re: Protests

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

You can now follow Washington Post letters to the editor on Twitter at @PostLetters

Here are some tips on how to increase the chances of having your letter published in The Post:

1. Letters should be fewer than 200 words and exclusive to The Washington Post.
2. The letter should not have been submitted to or previously published by any other media or Internet outlet, including online comments or feedback posted to Web sites. If you have posted similar comments to a Web site, your letter cannot be considered.
3. The letter should include the writer's full name, home address, e-mail address and home, business and cellphone numbers. Anonymous letters will not be considered. The Post does not publish letters under pseudonyms.
4. Writers must disclose any present or past personal or professional involvement with the subject matter of their letters.
5. All letters are subject to editing and abridgment.
6. Do not send attachments; they will not be read.
7. We prefer letters that cite an article or item that has appeared in the print edition of The Post within the past three weeks. We do not publish letters in response to articles or other items that appeared only on The Post's Web site.
8. To make your e-mailed letter as easy to read as possible, do not send any graphics or digital letterhead, put the text of your letter in the body of the e-mail and cite the article or item about which you are writing in the body or subject line.

Again, thank you for sending us a letter.

Sincerely,  
The Washington Post letters staff

-----Original message below-----  
**From:**  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Subject:** Protests

## Immigration debate raises tough questions

If an individual has immigrated here illegally for employment and has a job, give them a work permit and let them stay. If they are fleeing political or religious persecution should temporary refugee status be extended and access to federal and/or state entitlement programs granted?

The woman in Colorado seeking sanctuary from a church did not help her cause by not communicating in English, having been in America for 20 years. Many view it as an insult since it does not promote tolerance but rather exclusion; a refusal to coalesce, to fuse and unite into a whole.

Immigrants annihilated the Tequesta Indians through their diseases, and are responsible for the Trail of Tears as indigenous people were resettled once and then again when their land became valuable. Many were indoctrinated into a religion not their own, and a way of life for the plains inhabitants was destroyed as the buffalo were driven to the edge of extinction. Not something to have pride in. Should we be wary since history has a way of repeating itself?

**Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale**



**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2017 10:21 AM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Protests  
  
**Expires:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Some media outlets have worked very hard to arrive in the place they find themselves today. Through careful editing of news events a gray area of doubt and suspicion help promote the descent from oratorical grandstanders and politically incorrect subversives. We are not the country of CaliforniaNewYork but the United States of America where each, large and small have a voice in how we choose our chief executive.

The sensational bias continues to badger us with the focus now on Roe vs. Wade. The fourth Amendment protects a woman's early indecision, prohibiting unreasonable searches and seizures and requiring any warrant to be  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2017 2:26 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** February 2 2017

Dear Sir,

Some media outlets have worked very hard to arrive in the place they find themselves today. Through careful editing of news events a gray area of doubt and suspicion help promote the descent from oratorical grandstanders and politically incorrect subversives. We are not the country of CaliforniaNewYork but the United States of America where each, large and small have a voice in how we choose our chief executive.

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Now the protest signs are asserting that we are all Muslims now? Some skirt on the edges that I cannot accept and will not support; honor killings, confinement unless escorted by a male relative, stoning, failure to advocate education for women, and the summary massacre of all who have differing beliefs. They may only be the beliefs of those on the fringe but a perception to all is inferred. No faith is exempt.

Our nation of immigrants annihilated the Tequesta Indians through European disease, is responsible for the trail of tears as the Cherokee and other indigenous people were resettled to Oklahoma and then again when oil was discovered on the land, and a way of life for the plains inhabitants was destroyed as the buffalo were driven to the edge of extinction. Not something to have pride in.

Common ground does not reside on easy street nor it seems on compromise avenue but it might be found from today's perspective on fantasy island as demonstrated by the radical anarchist at U.C. Berkley.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Saturday, February 04, 2017 5:30 PM  
**To:** (aman@sunsentinel.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Saturday column  
  
**Expires:** Saturday, February 11, 2017 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Man,

Thank you for your reporting this Saturday concerning our representatives view on Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch.

What I found most interesting was the same political party rhetoric buzz words; progressive, main stream, principles of original intent, invent new policies, women's health care choices, political gerrymandering, abortion and same sex marriage. Phew.

I hope that during the confirmation process they ask; the ACA has been determined to be a tax, taxes are to be uniform, and amendment one says we will not recognize any religion so does Hobby Lobby have the right to deny birth control for its employees? The fourth amendment protects all of us from governmental scrutiny without probable cause. How does that effect abortion concerns? The second amendment sites the regulation of arms. How does that fit in the gun rights argument? If nonprofits are allowed to spend my donations for political influence, why should I continue to give them money?

Lastly, my letter to the editorial staff seemed to grow to the point of excess where it did not fit in. It was too much. I am including it to add to my perspective of the discussions we see today.

Some media outlets have worked very hard to arrive in the place they find themselves today. Through careful editing of news events a gray area of doubt and suspicion help promote the descent from oratorical grandstanders and politically incorrect subversives. We are not the country of CaliforniaNewYork but the United States of America where each, large and small have a voice in how we choose our chief executive.

The sensational bias continues to badger us with the focus now on Roe vs. Wade. The fourth Amendment protects a woman's early indecision, prohibiting unreasonable searches and seizures and requiring any warrant to be judicially sanctioned and supported by probable cause. (I'm not pregnant, I'm fat). The issue is whether we as a nation want to return to an era of coat hanger abortions and the butchering results from unsanitary back alley procedures of medieval punishment for the fragile and insecure among us. We can disagree but until we accept the obligation and demands of conscience the issue is moot. The "red" line should not be if but when we should become involved.

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Common ground does not reside on easy street nor it seems on compromise avenue but it might be found from today's perspective on fantasy island as demonstrated by the radical anarchist at U.C. Berkley.

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2017 9:27 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Prorest signs

Dear sir,

A short random thought of counterpoint to the display of protest signs.

We are all Muslims now? I do not support; 1) Honor killings (murder) by the parents who have been shamed by their children. 2) Allowing a woman to leave her home to go to the grocery store, a doctor's appointment or some other errand unless accompanied by a male relative. 3) The failure to educate girls. 4) Death by stoning from adultery. 5) Summary massacre of all who do not believe as I do. The list of differences is long.

Our nation of immigrants (another sign) annihilated the Tequesta Indians through European disease, is responsible for the trail of tears as the Cherokee were resettled to Oklahoma, and a way of life for the plains inhabitants was destroyed as the buffalo were driven to the edge of extinction.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 3:20 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Media coverage of issues

Dear Sir,

The media has worked very hard to arrive in the place they find themselves today. We are not the country of CaliforniaNewYork but the United States of America. How we choose our chief executive was settled during the founding of our Republic. And yet the discussion over the popular vote continues resulting in viewer ratings and advertising dollars.

The sensational bias continues to run its course with the focus now on Roe vs. Wade. The fourth Amendment protects a woman's early indecision, (I'm not pregnant, I'm fat). The issue is whether we as a nation want to return to an era of coat hanger abortions and the butchering results from unsanitary back alley procedures. The "red" line should not be if but when.

Until we can get past who's life matters I fully expect the Randolph Hearst yellow rag example of reporting from the previous century to plague us at every turn. Common ground does not reside on easy street nor it seems on compromise avenue but it might be found from today's perspective on fantasy island.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Friday, December 16, 2016 11:32 AM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Karl Rove and Democratic party

Dear Sir,

Once again, Karl Rove's perception of the Democratic party is beltway politics. We are not all liberal lemmings, some are coastal conservatives. Many of us believe in the fiscal/tax policies of JFK and the four freedoms of FDR.

There are some things we won't tolerate. "If you like your Doctor you can keep your Doctor ", was a lie. Maybe "read it before you pass it" was a good idea.( Keep that in mind Republicans as you prepare the new and Improved Affordable Care Act.) Being so good at using the internet to win the previous election yet so crappy at web design for something the American people required so much was disappointing, failing to act as H1B legislation took away good paying jobs while touting low four-plus unemployment after many have stopped looking for work is depressing, and now the news is reporting that this generation will not do better than their parents is intolerable. Furthermore, don't lecture me EPA after you caused the Colorado river disaster from the Gold King mine spill and received a pass for your "oops".

The challenge for the President-elect is to achieve what he said in four years with no excuses because he can forget about an eight year run if he fails. By the way, Yes Ms Pelosi, double down and lose us forever.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 2:07 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** A sign of our times  
**Expires:** Friday, November 25, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

I wasn't quite five years old when Martin gave his "I have a dream" speech on the national mall. The closest I had come to experience the racist bigotry of color was a few years earlier at the bathroom in the Kansas City railroad station, "colored only" not really knowing what that meant. The wisdom of judging a person on their character still rings true. When I hear someone say, "they look like me," I can't help but wonder, "so you act like them? Did you sell drugs at school or bring a loaded weapon onto campus?" Using color in a sentence or statement exemplifies one's own bigotry and racism sinking one further into the quicksand of injustice. America's promissory note of tolerance has been returned "insufficient funds". We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence.

Free at last! Free at last! Thank God almighty, we are free at last. When will it ring true?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## When will 'Free at last' ring true in America?

I wasn't quite five years old when Martin L. King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech on the National Mall. The closest I had come to experiencing the racist bigotry of color was a few years earlier at the "colored only" bathroom in the Kansas City railroad station, not really knowing what that meant.

The wisdom of judging a person on their character still rings true. When I hear someone say, "they look like me," I can't help but wonder, "So you act like them? Did you sell drugs at school or bring a loaded weapon onto campus?" Using color in a sentence or statement exemplifies one's own bigotry and racism sinking one further into the quicksand of injustice.

America's promissory note of tolerance has been returned "insufficient funds." We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last." When will it ring true?

**Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale**

**Sent:** Thursday, October 13, 2016 12:22 PM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Local newspapers opinion  
**Expires:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

My local newspaper, like many across the U.S., have selected Hillary Clinton as their choice for President and giving a variety of reason for that decision. Then they invited their readers to weigh in with their thoughts. Here is my counterpoint.

**Sent:** Monday, October 03, 2016 12:55 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Sundays editorial

Dear Sir,

Here is my counterpoint to last Sunday's editorial.

Richard Nixon was a well-qualified candidate serving in both the House and Senate then Vice-President. He was reelected to a second Presidential term in an electoral landslide. His personal issues lead to the Watergate cover-up and we know how that ended. The missing minutes of taped recordings similar to thousands of missing e-mails infers a crime and a cover-up.

Calling the tax cuts "trickle-down economics" ignores the result from history of doing just that; JFK in the 60's and Reagan in the 80's. More deficit spending belies the fact that in 2001 the United States was five trillion dollars in debt with service on that debt consuming hundreds of billions of budget dollars and in 2016 it is twenty trillion dollars at zero interest (for now). Businesses zero base budget plan could be a starting point to end the continuing resolution by-product of partisan special interest squabbles threatening to shut down our Republic.

"Uncle Sam" may believe they know better but the results prove otherwise. The real estate collapse was caused from congressional legislation to loosen lending requirements and backed up by Fannie and Freddie Mae so that everyone could by a house.

Your other points:

- 1) The Iran nuclear deal has not helped quell the violence in the middle east nor with any certainty prevented a nuclear armed Iran and the Strait of Hormuz continues to be a testing ground for aggression.
- 2) Jimmy Carter was a scholarly, policy wonk. Those four years gave America double digit inflation.
- 3) The fourth amendment protects the rights of everyone to be secure in their persons, places, and things, the first amendment does not condone discrimination due to religious beliefs, and the second amendment advocates regulation not control.

And finally, the 2000 election and Al Gore, really? The one who would not count the votes of our servicemen and women overseas because they were late on arrival to the states?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, September 05, 2016 3:29 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** H1B

Dear Sir,

Common ground might be found in the land of fantasy or more likely it has been swallowed up by the rising tide of climate change (global environmental pollution). He said, she said (literally) has yet to touch on a big concern for me, the use of third party contractors to circumvent H1B legislation and replace American citizens with foreign workers (e.g. Disney). In so many incidences they train their replacements. So wrong.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2016 1:10 PM  
**To:** 'charlieroshow@gmail.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Pronunciation of words

Dear Mr. Rose,

Newscasters mispronounce words every day. David Begnaud pronounces the "t" in often and last Wednesday Jeff Pegues said morterdom instead of martyrdom concerning Mr. Rahami. My favorite is the items left on the moon by the Apollo astronauts referred as "derbus" not debris.

I ask that you start calling the terrorist group "is-is" (it depends on what your definition of is is reference quote twenty years ago) or "is-ill" but maybe not the extreme - da-sh't although I understand that the word is an insult also. Boo Coo Harem is another considering the kidnapping of the young girls from the school in Africa. They do not deserve any courtesy or regard.

It is a lot to ask from a professional newsman such as yourself. I hope that you will consider my request. It needs to start somewhere, maybe with you.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Concerned about foreign workers

Common ground might be found in the land of fantasy, or more likely it has been swallowed up by the rising tide of climate change (global environmental pollution). He said, she said — literally — has yet to touch on a big concern for me: the use of third party contractors to circumvent H-1B legislation and replace American citizens with foreign workers (e.g. Disney). In so many incidences, they train their replacements. So wrong.

**Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale**



**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2016 11:44 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Roundup of views  
**Expires:** Wednesday, August 24, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

From time to time Rosemary will print longer letters on the opinion page. The following is a roundup of some of the political issues the voters may be concerned about. I hope you will consider it for publication.

Religious doctrine:

It should be branded radical religious terrorism since no faith has exclusive ownership of the horror from fringe

**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2016 10:21 AM  
**To:** wsj.letters@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Roundup of views  
**Expires:** Friday, August 26, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The following is a roundup of some of the political issues the voters may be concerned about. I hope you will consider it for publication.

Religious doctrine:

It should be branded radical religious terrorism since no faith has exclusive ownership of the horror from fringe members of their flock. Anger and hate have led to violence at public buildings, churches, women's centers, murdered physicians, policemen and the innocent.

A point of view/perspective (religion) warns not to judge the path of others reasoning that the individuals journey to enlightenment is unknown. Furthermore, there will be no Imam, no Clergy/Priest, nor Rabbi in front advocating for forgiveness because of their personal interpretation of texts transcribed from the Almighty.

A maelstrom of damnation awaits the uninformed, the ill-advised and the snake oil salesmen pandering to them all.

Political spin:

Listening to what we hear said by the Presidential candidates and understanding what we read from the columnists, politicians, and other pundits over the cacophony of static is difficult.

The prospects of a wall on our southern border carries with it the horrors of the East Berlin wall soaked in blood and the ghosts of those entombed in the Great Wall of China. In the sixties, a woman could not serve on a jury, attend an Ivy League school, and if she was not married get a credit card in her name nor get birth control pills at a pharmacy. It doesn't take a person who experienced it to know it. (Woman card?) Rebuild our military: cavalry as the mechanical infantry developed (Poland 1939), battleships as carried air power moved to the forefront (Yamato - commissioned late 1941 and sunk April 7, 1945), and fifth generation aircraft at over two hundred million each as cyberwarfare (banking, power, and water) can bring a country to its knees without firing a shot?

Consider the short simple response to all of the political spin(s) coming our way. Example - Loose cannon? Versus a cannon that does nothing at all (Benghazi firefight lasting more than eight hours). The people living in glass houses should not throw stones.

First Amendment:

One of the rights in the first amendment of America's constitution is the freedom of the press. It does not have to be truthful nor honest. Slanted, opinioned, half observant, and outright lies are not prohibited. Some reporting takes full advantage of this latitude going as far back as William Randolph Hearst's yellow rag newspaper syndicate; populist, left wing, and sensational. Video editing and misleading photo's enflame the passion of the masses and frame our judgement of events.

"We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred is a wedge designed to attack our civilization"

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1940.

"Character matters more than color"

Martin Luther King Jr. - I have a dream, 1963.

Qualifications of an American President:

Richard Nixon was a qualified candidate. He served in the House of Representatives, the Senate, and two terms as Vice-President. In 1972 he was reelected President in a landslide. He ended the Vietnam war, opened trade with China, and accomplished the S.A.L.T. talks with Soviet Premier Brezhnev. John Kennedy also served in the House and Senate. As President he prevented Nuclear Armageddon during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Dwight Eisenhower served as the Supreme Allied Commander in World War Two. He was President during the tremendous economic growth in the 1950's.

However, they all exposed faults in their character that tarnished their administration. Richard Nixon's Watergate cover-up made him the first American to ever resign the office, John Kennedy's infidelity nearly lead him to divorce while in office, and Dwight Eisenhower's U2 spy flight cancelled the summit talks planned with the Soviet Union deepening the Cold War.

The examples go on and include Ronald Reagan's Iran-Contra affair so when the discussion (argument) mentions "well qualified" I have to pause and reflect on other things that concern me.

Supreme Court:

Justice Scalia may be missed, depending on your point of view of our Constitution for the uniting of our states. It is either a well thought out, debated and vetted set of principles or a living "suggestion" of ideas for today's society.

Laws that reference any religious behavior is invalid - Amendment One - no law respecting ... religion. The law concerning bathroom etiquette is invalid - Amendment Four - secure ... against unreasonable searches. The Affordable Care Act is a tax. Business arguments for exceptions are invalid - article one section eight number one ... lay and collect taxes ... shall be uniform. The right of citizens to vote cannot be denied; race, color, servitude, Amendment Nineteen - sex, Amendment Twenty-four - poll tax or any other tax, Amendment Twenty-six - age, eighteen or older. Having proof of citizenship is not mentioned (identification documentation) however Amendment Four may be considered.

These thoughts are all true unless they are ideas and not principles of our Republic. (Ted Cruz is ineligible to be President - Article Two Section One Number Four).

Foreign Diplomacy:

The historic visit by a sitting American President to the site of devastation in Hiroshima presented a unique opportunity to frame the militaristic adventurism of the last century to the situations we face today in the middle east, the Korean and Crimean peninsula and the territorial expansion in the China Sea.

Imperial soldiers in the islands of Guadalcanal, Leyte Gulf, Okinawa, and Iwo Jima as well as civilians became battle fodder as the warmongers refused peace until a second horrible weapon of mass destruction had to be used.

Today we are confronted and must face a splintering of our humanity from hate and such a long list of "-isms" that seem to never end. Efforts to bridge the chasm will be unsuccessful unless the other side desires it too.

Violence in the Middle East:

Secretary Kerry has asked for ways to communicate through today's media. Here is my story.

The middle east market, bazaar, began to bustle with activity as shopkeepers traded their wares to anxious customers. A man moves through the crowd, unseasonably dressed for such a warm day. Suddenly he yells and pushes the switch. At that moment time stops, freezes motionless, entropy.

A shimmering glow and then a bright light emerges next to him. The glow fades and a figure comes into view. He begins to speak. "I am an anthropologist from the future. My doctoral thesis concerns an examination of the turmoil at the beginning of the twenty-first century. This fixed point in time has been selected for my research and study.

I have questions.

The individuals around you whose time line you extinguished, you don't know anything about them, do you. Let me tell you what you have done. That one - a descendant would have been the first one from this part of the world to step foot on another planet. Over there and there, their descendants, chemists and scientists finding cures and vaccines for a malady of diseases that plague mankind. Great leaders and diplomats would have evolved over time from this place. This spot.

Why I ask you, why?

But wait, I almost forgot. That one way over there, one of your last final victims, truly innocent, would have led to the birth of someone who could finally join Shiites and Sunnis together in peace."

The visitors watch begins to beep. Time to go.

"Wait. I've changed my mind. Don't go."

"You've already activated the device. This moment cannot be changed. Good-by."  
Faded to black.  
Then , BOOM.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2016 12:45 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Expires:** Wednesday, July 27, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

One of the rights in the first amendment of America's constitution is the freedom of the press. It does not have to be truthful nor honest. Slanted, opinioned, half observant, and outright lies are not prohibited. Some reporting takes full advantage of this latitude going as far back as William Randolph Hearst's yellow rag newspaper syndicate; populist, left wing, and sensational. Video editing and misleading photo's enflame the passion of the masses and frame our judgement of events.

"We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred is a wedge designed to attack our civilization" - Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1940. "Character matters more than color" - Martin Luther King Jr. - I have a dream, 1963.

Where are the leaders and hero's for today's times?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, July 11, 2016 4:20 PM  
**To:** wsj.letters@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Qualification of an American President  
**Expires:** Monday, July 18, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Richard Nixon was a qualified candidate. He served in the House of Representatives, the Senate, and two terms as Vice-President. In 1972 he was reelected President in a landslide. He ended the Vietnam war, opened trade with

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, July 08, 2016 4:20 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Qualification of an American President

Dear Sir,

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However, they all exposed faults in their character that tarnished their administration. Richard Nixon's Watergate cover-up made him the first American to ever resign the office, John Kennedy's infidelity nearly lead him to divorce while in office, and Dwight Eisenhower's U2 spy flight cancelled the summit talks planned with the Soviet Union deepening the Cold War.

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Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Sunday, July 03, 2016 11:14 AM  
**To:** 'ageggis@sunsentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** FW: John Lloyd park  
**Expires:** Wednesday, April 27, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear A Geggis,

Michael Mayo wrote a column about the renaming of the park a few months ago. I can't decide if it is updating history, rewriting history, or erasing history.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2016 1:29 PM  
**To:** mmayo@sunsentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** John Lloyd park

Dear M. Mayo,

Your column on Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup>, keep Lloyd when renaming park, was an informative summation concerning our community's (SoFla) point of view. It made me yearn for Paul Harvey's "The rest of the story" that was on the radio years ago.

During his thirty years as the county attorney, a time when a "colored" person might be on the wrong side of the city after dark and lacking the fifteen dollars in his pocket, how did he behave and enforce the law? And later, during the "wade" in of the sixties at Las Olas (the beach north of sunrise boulevard was also a "colored" beach), what was his record of prosecution for the violation? His actions to save and consolidate the land for a park and then lobby for and accomplish the road to the hard to reach park, at least for me, gives an impression of a person working against the backward dynamics he lived in. I wonder if he did not undertake a tremendous risk to appear as an overt environmentalist while being a progressive reformer. We may never know.

Let's rename other things! The Walt Whitman bridge is now the Sylvester Stallone bridge. Rocky helped the city of brotherly love regain its image. The Holland tunnel could be called the Malcolm X underpass. (I'm not serious, just nudging the P.C. envelope.)

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2016 10:35 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Religion

Dear Sir,

It should be branded radical religious terrorism since no faith has exclusive ownership of the horror from fringe members of their flock. Anger and hate have led to violence at public buildings, churches, women's centers, murdered physicians, policemen and the innocent.

A point of view/perspective (religion) warns not to judge the path of others reasoning that the individuals journey to enlightenment is unknown. Furthermore, there will be no Imam, no Clergy/Priest, nor Rabbi in front advocating for forgiveness because of their interpretation of texts transcribed from the Almighty.

A maelstrom of damnation awaits.

Sincerely,

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2016 11:06 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: religion

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the hundreds of letters we receive weekly, we are unable to do so. If no one from USA TODAY has called you within two weeks, it is probable that your letter has not been selected. Don't give up; try again.

Those letters that are published are selected for their timeliness, clarity, accuracy and length, as well as for the insight and perspective they provide. Letters of 175 words or fewer are the most likely to be published.

Our goal is to put together a daily package of diverse opinions reflecting views from people representing all walks of life and different areas of the country.

Again, thank you for your interest in USA TODAY. We look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

Bill Sternberg  
Editor of the Editorial Page

**Sent:** Saturday, May 28, 2016 4:38 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hiroshima visit  
**Expires:** Saturday, June 04, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The historic visit by a sitting American President to the site of devastation in Hiroshima presented a unique opportunity to frame the militaristic adventurism of the last century to the situations we face today in the middle east, the Korean and Crimean peninsula and the territorial expansion in the China Sea.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2016 8:43 AM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hiroshima visit

Dear Sir,

The historic visit by a sitting American President to the site of devastation in Hiroshima presented a unique opportunity to frame the militaristic adventurism of the last century to the situations we face today in the middle east, the Korean and Crimean peninsula and the territorial expansion in the China Sea.

Hideki Tojo's Japanese Imperial soldiers in the islands of Guadalcanal, Leyte Gulf, Okinawa, and Iwo Jima as well as civilians became battle fodder as the warmongers refused peace until a second horrible weapon of mass destruction had to be used.

Today we are confronted by and must face a splintering of our humanity from hate and such a long list of "isms" that seem to never end. Efforts to bridge the chasm will be unsuccessful unless the other side desires it too.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, May 09, 2016 10:03 AM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Candidates and Columnists  
**Expires:** Monday, May 16, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Listening to what we hear said by the primary candidates and understanding what we read from the columnists, politicians, and other pundits over the cacophony of static is difficult.

The prospects of a wall on our southern border carries with it the horrors of the East Berlin wall soaked in blood and the ghosts of those entombed in the Great Wall of China. In the sixties, a woman could not serve on a jury, attend an Ivy League school, and if she was not married get a credit card in her name nor get birth control pills at a pharmacy. It doesn't take a person who experienced it to know it. (Woman card?) Rebuild our military; cavalry as the mechanical infantry developed (Poland 1939), battleships as carried air power moved to the forefront (Yamato - commissioned late 1941 and sunk April 7, 1945), and fifth generation aircraft at over two hundred million each as cyberwarfare (banking, power, and water) can bring a country to its knees without firing a shot?

Education is important. It can lift people out of poverty, providing skills for a better job and a better life. Public

**Sent:** Friday, May 06, 2016 2:37 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Political Spin - One More Thing  
**Expires:** Friday, May 13, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

Listening to what we hear said by the primary candidates and understanding what we read from the columnists, politicians, and other pundits over the cacophony of static is difficult.

The prospects of a wall on our southern border carries with it the horrors of the East Berlin wall soaked in blood and the ghosts of those entombed in the Great Wall of China. In the sixties, a woman could not serve on a jury, attend an Ivy League school, and if she was not married get a credit card in her name nor get birth control pills at a pharmacy. It doesn't take a person who experienced it to know it. (Woman card?) Rebuild our military; cavalry as the mechanical infantry developed (Poland 1939), battleships as carried air power moved to the forefront (Yamato - commissioned late 1941 and sunk April 7, 1945), and fifth generation aircraft at over two hundred million each as cyberwarfare (banking, power, and water) can bring a country to its knees without firing a shot?

Education is important. It can lift people out of poverty, providing skills for a better job and a better life. Public education offers that opportunity but many ignore its potential and fail to apply themselves. Free college? It should be deserving and entitled based on effort put forth. Good grades and Uncle Sam will pay the full time tuition for the next semester. Failure to achieve the requirements and the process starts over. A hand up not a hand out.

Consider the short simple response to all of the political spin(s) coming our way. Example - Loose cannon? Versus a cannon that does nothing at all (Benghazi firefight lasting more than eight hours with support aircraft within reach). People in glass houses should not throw stones.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2016 1:29 PM  
**To:** mmayo@sunsentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** John Lloyd park

Dear M. Mayo,

Your column on Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup>, keep Lloyd when renaming park, was an informative summation concerning our community's (SoFla) point of view. It made me yearn for Paul Harvey's "The rest of the story" that was on the radio years ago.

During his thirty years as the county attorney, a time when a "colored" person might be on the wrong side of the city after dark and lacking the fifteen dollars in his pocket, how did he behave and enforce the law? And later, during the "wade" in of the sixties at Las Olas (the beach north of sunrise boulevard was also a "colored" beach), what was his record of prosecution for the violation? His actions to save and consolidate the land for a park and then lobby for and accomplish the road to the hard to reach park, at least for me, gives an impression of a person working against the backward dynamics he lived in. I wonder if he did not undertake a tremendous risk to appear as an overt environmentalist while being a progressive reformer. We may never know.

Let's rename other things! The Walt Whitman bridge is now the Sylvester Stallone bridge. Rocky helped the city of brotherly love regain its image. The Holland tunnel could be called the Malcolm X underpass. (I'm not serious, just nudging the P.C. envelope.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Justice Scalia

Dear Sir,

Justice Scalia may be missed, depending on your point of view of our Constitution for the uniting of our states. It is either a well thought out, debated and vetted set of principles or a living "suggestion" of ideas for today's society.

Laws that reference any religious behavior is invalid - Amendment One - no law respecting ... religion. The law concerning bathroom etiquette is invalid - Amendment Four - secure ... against unreasonable searches. The Affordable Care Act is a tax. Business arguments for exceptions are invalid - article one section eight number one ... lay and collect taxes ... shall be uniform. The right of citizens to vote cannot be denied; Amendment Fifteen - race, color, servitude, Amendment Nineteen - sex, Amendment Twenty-four - poll tax or any other tax, Amendment Twenty-six - age, eighteen or older. Having proof of citizenship is not mentioned (identification documentation) however Amendment Four may be considered.

These thoughts are all true unless they are ideas and not principles of our Republic.

(Ted Cruz is ineligible to be President - Article Two Section One Number Four).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**Expires:** Monday, April 11, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

I find it amusing, after several years of the Obama (Kenyan) administration(s) something Bill O'Reilly put to rest, that the GOP establishment is now advocating that their nominee be a person born on foreign soil; not in an embassy, on a military base nor outpost, or in transit to America. Something highlighted by our local democratic legislators.

The positions of evangelical (Christians?) is equally as puzzling. The "good news" stories I have read say; let them come to me whomever they are, cast stones if you have not sinned but be prepared to be judged as rigorously, tend my sheep with a hand up not a hand out. (Give a fish and feed them for a day but teach them to fish and they can support themselves). Mostly though, your sins are forgiven. Try to not sin again because death is like a thief in the night and you might not get another chance to ask for salvation.

History may cast a long shadow of wisdom if we look close enough. Nature has its' own punishment for the early termination of a fetus unlike miscarriages where hormonal balances readjust to normal. Consequences include but not limited to cervical and breast cancers migrating to other sites developing to stage four fatality, infertility, and a life time of regrets and what ifs. Please, no more wire hangers.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** MAILER-DAEMON@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Friday, April 08, 2016 12:06 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Failure Notice

Sorry, we were unable to deliver your message to the following address.

<lmascaro@tribune.com>:  
Remote host said:  
550 #5.1.0 Address rejected.  
[RCPT\_TO]

--- Below this line is a copy of the message.

Received: from [66.196.81.166] by nm25.access.bullet.mail.bf1.yahoo.com with NNFPMP; 08 Apr 2016 16:06:29 -0000  
Received: from [98.138.226.243] by tm12.access.bullet.mail.bf1.yahoo.com with NNFPMP; 08 Apr 2016 16:06:28 -0000  
Received: from [127.0.0.1] by smtp114.sbc.mail.ne1.yahoo.com with NNFPMP; 08 Apr 2016 16:06:28 -0000  
X-Yahoo-Newman-Id: 916312.44936.bm@smtp114.sbc.mail.ne1.yahoo.com  
X-Yahoo-Newman-Property: ymail-3  
X-YMail-OSG: UccQ1cVM1mH4S0j9T0dipb8t7uYfxtq7dX6AikRkpGCmb6  
A6e4cpXGo44u9rVCRDkmhvDjgLOQKlxEBflnShAHvngkcjgRlu4gszIRnTT  
ShsasDufDoLTA33u445o3VTJTfSKUX\_QBrJLQ9T05y5JYWMF3mrKGODlknCb8  
QpmZz6lsbG9Mih\_Dq19CRfK.2Tn1w1JH6Us1O6buSedASBR4LT1y\_eLegL  
7bOGfOCrgtRHuqTp08cFZp5CWoAVJbWT3YaiR\_E6WpLIvoA1.18pEYXA\_VN  
H1Bn2KEBstScdYUJZC16.uTzmqoz1Oyw2eSF9MGMrMFWd8m7D7eaWR4bzx  
i9c7XnKzAK8c\_icFX91Djy\_Nvzv7T006Tj150bm7rSXlh\_j9FLDCZIVG0  
DS6KQbT49sIX28dSj.2T28roWM\_NNS511yzlq7YmJ35CtpLaylvFno4zxpil  
dnnKas6UCgHlghPDwl1TvmDmfingQwL8Xkv310Hjve2n5ZlfpQO\_Rt\_12xW  
L.morD3TWjg--  
X-Yahoo-SMTP: SxAQGxuswBA4nAjXgscDuuzNob7798NGjx0GrXDWeC\_m9Q--  
From: "Steven Graves"  
To: <lmascaro@tribune.com>  
Cc:  
Subject: Ted Cruz

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, April 08, 2016 12:06 PM  
**To:** 'lmascaro@tribune.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Ted Cruz  
  
**Expires:** Friday, April 15, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

I find it amusing, after several years of the Obama (Kenyan) administration(s) something Bill O'Reilly put to rest, that the GOP establishment is now advocating that their nominee be a person born on foreign soil; not in an embassy, on a military base nor outpost, or in transit to America. Something highlighted by our local democratic legislators.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:28 PM  
**To:** 'Barabak, Mark'  
**Subject:** RE: Ted Cruz  
  
**Expires:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 12:00 AM

Thank you for the suggestion.

**From:** Barabak, Mark [<mailto:Mark.Barabak@latimes.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 1:09 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Ted Cruz

Heya  
Thanks for reading. You might consider submitting your thoughts for publication at [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com)  
Bests  
mzb

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 5:14 AM  
**To:** Barabak, Mark  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Ted Cruz

Dear Sir,

I find it amusing, after several years of the Obama (Kenyan) administration(s) something Bill O'Reilly put to rest, that the GOP establishment is now advocating that their nominee be a person born on foreign soil; not in an embassy, on a military base nor outpost, or in transit to America. Something highlighted by our local democratic legislators.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Barabak, Mark <[Mark.Barabak@latimes.com](mailto:Mark.Barabak@latimes.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 1:09 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Ted Cruz

Heya  
Thanks for reading. You might consider submitting your thoughts for publication at [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com)  
Bests  
mzb

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 5:14 AM  
**To:** Barabak, Mark

**Subject:** Ted Cruz

Dear Sir,

I find it amusing, after several years of the Obama (Kenyan) administration(s) something Bill O'Reilly put to rest, that the GOP establishment is now advocating that their nominee be a person born on foreign soil; not in an embassy, on a military base nor outpost, or in transit to America. Something highlighted by our local democratic legislators.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 5:44 AM  
**To:** [wj.its@wsj.com](mailto:wj.its@wsj.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Cruz, Christians, and abortion  
  
**Expires:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

I find it amusing, after several years of the Obama (Kenyan) administration(s) something Bill O'Reilly put to rest, that the GOP establishment is now advocating that their nominee be a person born on foreign soil; not in an embassy, on a military base nor outpost, or in transit to America. Something highlighted by our local democratic legislators.

The positions of evangelical (Christians?) is equally as puzzling. The "good news" stories I have read say; let them come to me whomever they are, cast stones if you have not sinned but be prepared to be judged as rigorously, tend my sheep with a hand up not a hand out. (Give a fish and feed them for a day but teach them to fish and they can support themselves). Mostly though, your sins are forgiven. Try to not sin again because death is like a thief in the night and you might not get another chance to ask for salvation.

History may cast a long shadow of wisdom if we look close enough. Nature has its' own punishment for the early termination of a fetus unlike miscarriages where hormonal balances readjust to normal. Consequences include but not limited to cervical and breast cancers migrating to other sites developing to stage four fatality, infertility, and a life time of regrets and what ifs. Please, no more wire hangers.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Letters <[DoNotReply@tribune.com](mailto:DoNotReply@tribune.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:28 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

Submissions should be no longer than 150 words and must respond to stories that have appeared in The Times; please include the title of the article, preferably in the subject line.

**From:** Letters <[DoNotReply@tribune.com](mailto:DoNotReply@tribune.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:25 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

Submissions should be no longer than 150 words and must respond to stories that have appeared in The Times; please include the title of the article, preferably in the subject line.

We do not accept letters that are part of letter-writing or petition campaigns. We also do not accept letters that appear to have been sent to more than one publication (including websites, web message boards and e-mail distribution lists). Note that you may have received this autoreply message as a result of signing an online petition or group letter.

We require a name, a city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification. If you have not included this information with your letter, please send it now to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com). Please include the subject and/or text of your original letter as well. We will publish your name and city of residence only.

Our e-mail system cannot process attachments. If you have sent your submission with an attachment, it will be deleted automatically. Please resubmit your letter in the body of an e-mail message to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

Letters become the property of The Times and may be edited. They may be republished in any format.

We will send another e-mail if your letter is under consideration to appear in the newspaper or on the website.

Because of a quirk in our e-mail program, some letter writers have received messages reporting that their submissions to The Times were deleted without being read. In fact, we review every submission. We apologize for any confusion these messages may cause.

Thanks again for writing to the Los Angeles Times.

For more information, please visit [www.latimes.com/letters](http://www.latimes.com/letters) (letters submission form and FAQ in right-hand column) or write us at [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 27, 2016 3:51 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** A story for Secretary Kerry

Dear Sir,

Secretary Kerry has asked for ways to communicate through today's media. Here is my story.

The middle east market, bazaar, began to bustle with activity as shopkeepers traded their wares to anxious customers. A man moves through the crowd, unseasonably dressed for such a warm day. Suddenly he yells and pushes the switch... At that moment time stops, freezes motionless, entropy.

A shimmering glow and then a bright light emerges next to him. The glow fades and a figure comes into view. He begins to speak. "I am an anthropologist from the future. My doctoral thesis concerns an examination of the turmoil at the beginning of the twenty-first century. This fixed point in time has been selected for my research and study.

I have questions.

The individuals around you whose time line you extinguished, you don't know anything about them, do you. Let me tell you what you have done. That one – a descendant would have been the first one from this part of the world to step foot on another planet. Over there and there, their descendants, chemists and scientists finding cures and vaccines for a malady of diseases that plague mankind. Great leaders and diplomats would have evolved over time from this place. This spot.

Why I ask you, why?

But wait, I almost forgot. That one way over there, one of your last final victims, truly innocent, would have led to the birth of someone who could finally join Shiites and Sunnis together in peace."

The visitors watch begins to beep. Time to go.

"Wait. I've changed my mind. Don't go."

"You've already activated the device. This moment cannot be changed. Good-by."

Fade to black.

Then, BOOM.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Friday, April 08, 2016 12:11 PM  
**To:** 'av@pccs.va'  
**Cc:**  
**Expires:** Friday, April 15, 2016 12:00 AM

Dear Sir,

The positions of evangelical (Christians?) is equally as puzzling. The "good news" stories I have read say; let them come to me whomever they are, cast stones if you have not sinned but be prepared to be judged as rigorously, tend my sheep with a hand up not a hand out. ( Give a fish and feed them for a day but teach them to fish and they can support themselves). Mostly though, your sins are forgiven. Try to not sin again because death is like a thief in the night and you might not get another chance to ask for salvation.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 11:33 AM  
**To:** 'Cumella, Michael'  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to the Editor

Thank you for your consideration.

**From:** Cumella, Michael [mailto:MCumella@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016 6:29 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Subject:** Letter to the Editor

Thank you. Your letter was published today. You will be eligible to be published again in 60 days.  
<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/opinion/letters/>

The Sun Sentinel | Tribune Publishing Co.  
500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304-3019  
SunSentinel.com | 954-356-4500

**From:** Cumella, Michael <MCumella@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016 6:29 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Subject:** Letter to the Editor

Thank you. Your letter was published today. You will be eligible to be published again in 60 days.  
<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/opinion/letters/>

The Sun Sentinel | Tribune Publishing Co.  
500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304-3019  
SunSentinel.com | 954-356-4500

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2016 5:11 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Bahia Mar

Dear Sir,

Should the Bahia Mar property be developed? Probably. Other proposals have included building a casino but the issue of expanding gambling in the state was not approved by the voters. Furthermore, if the residents in Idylwild don't mind people looking in their backyard ...

I do have some questions though. The traffic issue is a concern. Can more lanes be added in front? Will the state help pay for it? A1A is a state road. The extra height for the condo's would be a significant resource for property tax revenue. Can it be earmarked for our new aquatic center? Would the county commissioners agree to do so also? Keeping the economic engine of the boat show in place is important to many businesses here. Is their commitment a "done deal"?

Some of the stuff seems to be just fluff. A grocery store? If the residents and vacationers would use it, sure. The offerings would most likely be expensive though. Other things such as the wind tunnel blowback from the east and how it might influence the country music concert, now a cultural staple for us should be part of the overall discussion too.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Questions linger on impact of Bahia plan

Should the Bahia Mar property be developed? Probably. Other proposals have included building a casino but the issue of expanding gambling in the state was not approved by the voters.

I do have some questions though. The traffic issue is a concern. Can more lanes be added in front? Will the state help pay for it since A1A is a state road? The extra height for the condos would be a significant resource for property tax revenue. Can it be earmarked for our new aquatic center? Would the county commissioners agree to do so? Keeping the economic engine of the boat show in place is important to many businesses here. Is their commitment a "done deal?"

Some of the stuff seems to be just fluff. A grocery store? If the residents and vacationers would use it, sure. The offerings would most likely be expensive though. Other things such as the wind tunnel blowback from the east and how it might influence the Tortuga country music concert, now a cultural staple for us, should be part of the overall discussion too.

**Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale**

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 24, 2015 8:40 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Recent events

Dear Sir,

If the news reports are accurate, then America's humanity failed three days before Christmas when a homeless woman with a three year old child was driven off parking lot after parking lot as she was attempting to get some rest and sleep. There was no holiday miracle. Security was doing its' best impression of Scrooge as mandated by their overseers and there were no shepherds watching their flock on a not so silent night in Sin City (Las Vegas).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2015 9:40 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Mondays gun RFP submissions

Dear Sir,

I looked forward to the responses of your RFP concerning gun violence. Your preface outlining the submissions received was disheartening, few if any proposed solutions and more battle lines of rhetoric.

The second amendment states – “A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” Regulated – not controlled.

After President Kennedy was murdered, congress passed legislation to keep weapons out of the hands of felons and the mentally ill. It was enhanced in 1993 with the Brady handgun violence prevention Act and created the National background check system. Today’s technology empowers us to determine the weapon that fired a specific bullet and all weapons should have that information. The registered owner must be held ultimately and completely responsible for the actions of that weapon; murder, terror and/or other acts of violence with all weapons having a registered owner.

I believe that the “straw man” purchases and gun show loophole would suddenly disappear if prosecution would become a consequence of individual actions. The waiting period should be modified so approval is needed for purchase. The young man who killed the South Carolina parishioners was not approved he was just not denied due to the failure of the database systems. The NRA could be a valuable asset and would have a vested financial interest in fixing it.

And finally, the consensus concerning assault type armaments is valid except for one glaring omission. If someone or many break into your home with threats of bodily harm, you would want to end the confrontation quickly. In your home, not on the streets.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 27, 2015 2:53 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Violence in America

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the hundreds of letters we receive weekly, we are unable to

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 25, 2015 8:48 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Violence in America

Dear Sir,

Bigotry and racism come in many different faces. Just because someone looks like another does not mean they think or will act the same. Something leaders, statesmen, and political pundits seem to have forgotten or maybe never

**Sent:** Friday, November 27, 2015 2:53 PM  
**To:** letters@usatoday.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Violence in America

Dear Sir,

Bigotry and racism come in many different faces. Just because someone looks like another does not mean they think or will act the same. Something leaders, statesmen, and political pundits seem to have forgotten or maybe never even learned. (The Syrian refugees).

Discrimination doesn’t have a color and yet today’s narrative is all about it. The hypocrisy is deafening; defending drug dealers, robbers, and the actions of other criminals while a murdered child’s own father refuses to be an advocate for justice and the streets are empty of protesters. (Confronting police violence vs individuals who will certainly murder them).

How fickle and manipulated are we, first French fries then freedom fries and now viva la France. All lives matter not just the flavor of the day. When someone is defined by anything other than the content of their character is that a solution or an example of the problem? (The wisdom of Rev. Martin Luther King and an inconvenient truth).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2014 5:12 PM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Keystone Pipeline

Dear Sir,

I may not be a bleeding heart liberal, a tree hugging conservationist, nor an ivory tower egghead but I know a bad idea when I see one and the Keystone pipeline is a very, very bad one. As one of the taxpayers footing the bill, I want to know why we need another route when there is already one that could be expanded – providing an answer to the jobs reasoning (excuse?). Where is the return on this investment besides the new states collecting a tariff fee?

The land above the Ogallala aquifer, the one that helps us feed the world, is slowly sinking so I question the integrity of the piping over the life span of this undertaking and the increasing maintenance costs/ expense. (The “small” spill in Arkansas was due to the aging infrastructure). Will the supply/demand drop the price of oil to such a level that it may never be needed/economically viable after all?

In forty years of scientific advancement will our economy still be based on oil or will we have moved forward to a different paradigm? Will this be another example of a bridge to nowhere?

(We sidestepped the problem/issue here in Florida by having the landowner in Collier County trade it for a city block in Las Vegas, Nevada.)

Sincerely,

**Sent:** Sunday, October 25, 2015 12:23 PM  
**To:** wsj.letters@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Benghazi

Dear Sir,

The thing to recall about Benghazi is that it was the “October surprise” of the last presidential cycle. The spin given to the network television circuit obscured the information of the event. There may be archive footage containing the responses; “there wasn’t time”, and “it was not requested” but the truth of the matter is that “someone” failed America by being asleep at the switch.

Sincerely

Steven Graves  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 5:08 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Nuclear Agreement

Dear Sir,

History seems to be repeating itself, as it usually does, and politicians seem to be practicing the definition of insanity over and over again.

How can we really be certain that Iran doesn’t have “the bomb” already? Was the stuxnet virus that successful? How many centrifuges do they actually have? The inspection process lends itself to speculation and doubt.

If we could show their citizens the burnt in shadows of people vaporized at Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the blisters, deformities, and eventual painful death of the firefighters at Chernobyl, or even the consequences of war on the civilian population; maybe the leaders of Iran might take a step back from any (peaceful?) development of nuclear energy.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Iran on a path to war

History seems to be repeating itself, as it usually does, and politicians seem to be practicing the definition of insanity over and over again.

How can we really be certain that Iran doesn't have “the bomb” already? Was the stuxnet computer virus that successful? How many centrifuges do they actually have? The inspection process lends itself to speculation and doubt.

If we could show their citizens the burned-in shadows of Japanese people vaporized at Nagasaki and Hiroshima, the blisters, deformities and eventual painful deaths of the firefighters at Chernobyl, or even the consequences of war on the civilian population, maybe the leaders of Iran might take a step back from nuclear development.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2015 11:24 AM  
**To:** letters@nytimes.com; letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Iran

Dear Sir,

If history repeats itself and people do things over and over again looking for a different outcome, the similarities between the then British Prime Minister Chamberlin’s (1937 – 1940) “appeasement” (Munich Pact in 1938) negotiations

**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2015 10:38 AM  
**To:** wsj.letters@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Iran

Dear Sir,

If history repeats itself and people do things over and over again looking for a different outcome, the similarities between the then British Prime Minister Chamberlin’s (1937 – 1940) “appeasement” (Munich Pact in 1938) negotiations to avoid war - accepting the actions of aggression (and underestimated ambitions) - should give us pause before accepting the current offer on the table from Iran. War weariness, domestic concerns, and economic issues echo from our past. When we listen as well as we hear what is said and see as well as observe their actions, then the decision before us should become clear.

To follow up on editorials advocating the “best deal we could get” ; Iran already has at least one nuclear bomb so don’t kid yourself. How many advanced centrifuges were actually obtained and how devastating was the stuxnet virus? Estimates and calculations of the time line are mathematically inaccurate, as they have been before; like polling statistic plus or minus a percent and rounding errors. President Obama stated that Iran was two months away from having “the bomb”. Before that it was a year and before that ... and before that, Iran will use the (24 DAY?)! Inspection process to shuffle around their weapons until Russia sells them the advanced missiles they need to blackmail Europe or destroy the relics of western civilization or renaissance Christianity they don’t like.

To quote (knowns and unknowns), “There are things we don’t know we don’t know”.

Prove me wrong.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2015 11:25 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Autoreply Re: Iran

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

You can now follow Washington Post letters to the editor on Twitter at @PostLetters

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2. The letter should not have been submitted to or previously published by any other media or internet outlet, including online comments or feedback posted to Web sites. If you have posted similar comments to a Web site, your letter cannot be considered.
3. The letter should include the writer's full name, home address, e-mail address and home, business and cellphone numbers. Anonymous letters will not be considered. The Post does not publish letters under pseudonyms.
4. Writers must disclose any present or past personal or professional involvement with the subject matter of their letters.
5. All letters are subject to editing and abridgment.
6. Do not send attachments; they will not be read.
7. We prefer letters that cite an article or item that has appeared in the print edition of The Post within the past three weeks. We do not publish letters in response to articles or other items that appeared only on The Post's Web site.
8. To make your e-mailed letter as easy to read as possible, do not send any graphics or digital letterhead, put the text of your letter in the body of the e-mail and cite the article or item about which you are writing in the body or subject line.

Again, thank you for sending us a letter.

**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2015 11:24 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: Iran

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. We regret that because of the large number of submissions (often 1,000+ a day), we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.

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To be considered for publication, letters **MUST** include the writer's name, address, current location (where you are writing from) and daytime and evening phone numbers at your current location (for verification, not publication).

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Other letters asserting factual errors will be sent to the appropriate editors.

To reach the [public editor](mailto:public@nytimes.com), Margaret Sullivan, the readers' representative: [public@nytimes.com](mailto:public@nytimes.com)

A 2004 essay by Thomas Feyer, the letters editor:  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/05/23/opinion/23READ.html>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 29, 2015 12:26 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Does anyone care?

Dear Sir,

To answer your question on the Saturday July 25 opinion page, "Another gun tragedy – does anyone even care?" I care very much. However, as I read the article, the rights and responsibilities given to us in the second amendment was referenced more than halfway down the page. Until one side of the political aisle removes the word "control" from their arguments and all the fear it entails and the other side accepts "well-regulated militia" (if you don't know what that means – look it up in a dictionary) as a starting point you should expect to find NO common ground and no solution.

Why not begin a serious discussion with the gun violence in Chicago where hundreds of kid have been murdered just this year in one of the strictest gun control states in our union? Surely they can rally around this. Taking the weapons away from criminals who shouldn't have them has never been a problem for the NRA. The gun legislation passed in 1968 already addresses the mentally ill, addicts and narcotic abusers. The act also has wording that could have helped the woman you referenced, Mrs. Houser. Common sense would be to enforce the laws on the books, not muddle the waters with more legalize.

Frustrated or manipulated? You decide.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** MAILER-DAEMON@p3plsmtp03-05.prod.phx3.secureserver.net  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2015 7:40 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** failure notice

Your mail message to the following address(es) could not be delivered.  
This is a permanent error. Please verify the address(es) and try again.

<rswan@evolutionslifecoaching.com>:  
child status 100...The e-mail message could not be delivered because the user's mailfolder is full.

— Below this line is a copy of the message.

Return-Path:  
Received: (qmail 9659 invoked by uid 30297); 27 Jul 2015 23:40:05 -0000  
Received: from unknown (HELO p3plsmtp01-09.prod.phx3.secureserver.net) ([72.167.238.225])  
(envelope-sender  
by p3plsmtp03-05.prod.phx3.secureserver.net (qmail-1.03) with SMTP  
for <rswan@evolutionslifecoaching.com>; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:05 -0000  
Received: from nm22-ym6.access.bullet.mail.gq1.yahoo.com ([216.39.63.170])  
by p3plsmtp01-09.prod.phx3.secureserver.net with bsmtp  
id xbg41q01Q3gPT8801bg5x4; Mon, 27 Jul 2015 16:40:05 -0700  
DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; c=relaxed/relaxed; d=att.net; s=s1024; t=1438040404;  
bh=OdSaBL+YGCvml8loty88Upok+O9poSICNAzscqymG0=; h=From:To:Subject:Date:From:Subject;  
b=5VdCwmQlsD9WYFT+OMWObVelaWwVvu7flveKTVyEZlbykrWojJEZnsE2xidFxb853OXG6/yLLYSErL+zMJRHNS/2g2kMeF  
Bur/CXhXcst/MqVdCsThZJ8bKHLCYZD6YphMngLJh7ECgU0ibp/Gi4rtAjmchPPqLSa6khrCLo=  
Received: from [216.39.60.176] by nm22.access.bullet.mail.gq1.yahoo.com with NNFMF; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:04 -0000  
Received: from [98.138.226.244] by tm12.access.bullet.mail.gq1.yahoo.com with NNFMF; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:04 -0000  
Received: from [127.0.0.1] by smtp115.sbc.mail.ne1.yahoo.com with NNFMF; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:04 -0000  
X-Yahoo-Newman-Id: 763328.4484.bm@smtp115.sbc.mail.ne1.yahoo.com  
X-Yahoo-Newman-Property: ymail-3  
X-Mail-OSG: dWZLioVM1nmpdr 5bHnZ32IMHWODYpENysAgg7aucycmX7  
NZI9xki8AMpB289x75yYhQhGhM64daUfonsGABFhIRK1kvY9mgyQJhwEASIDx  
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AZL4c17336fikuw\_UrdeApICwgUhwqVS\_JGPsmVZusMMoGowlQfmhAETJS  
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iVD\_wgpp3LC74o2OTWIKOAKWeup2mUkma4m07.O3nJ3sAdeRGluiYscqySj  
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X-Yahoo-SMTP: 5xAGQxusw8A4nAqXgscDuuzNob7798NgjX0GRXDWeC\_m9Q--  
From: "Steven Graves"  
To: <rswan@evolutionslifecoaching.com>  
Subject: SunSentinel Opinion page July 27  
Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2015 19:40:00 -0400  
Message-ID: <000001d0c8c558e8a5f905ab9f1eb05@att.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0

#### Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves <mrsugarcokie@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2015 7:40 PM  
**To:** 'rswan@evolutionslifecoaching.com'  
**Subject:** SunSentinel Opinion page July 27

Dear Mrs. Swan,

With respect, character matters more.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

Sdelcomm@att.com

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2015 4:55 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:** mmayo@sunsentinel.com  
**Subject:** Donald Trump

Dear Sir,

News flash for Donald Trump. I believe that a hero is someone who sacrifices for his fellow man, be it time, money or life. During war, many soldiers sacrificed their own life by covering a grenade so that their Brothers in Arms could survive. Captured prisoners of war who survived the Bataan Death March are hero's too.

Specifically, in John McCain's case, he refused a "get out of the Hanoi Hilton jail card" ( his dad was politically connected) so that others could come back home to America. Senator McCain suffers to this day from his injuries.

The VA problems are a separate issue. Fully funded (budgeted) does not mean fully staffed nor medically equipped.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**Sent:** Wednesday, July 08, 2015 9:40 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Firearm issue

Dear Sir,

The opinions and different points of view over many issues are as wide ranging and diverse as America herself.

The second amendment to our constitution does not use the word "control", but the phrase "well regulated". The government of King George III tried to control the access to gunpowder thereby making firearms impotent. After our successful revolution, the free colonists decided never again. Fearful of robbers and highwaymen, they formed the foundation of the belief that arms needed to be well regulated to keep them out of the hands of criminals.

A "lessoned learned" that some politicians have forgotten as we confront violence today.

Sincerely,

**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2015 8:58 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: Violence in America

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. We regret that because of the large number of submissions (often 1,000+ a day), we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.

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Other letters asserting factual errors will be sent to the appropriate editors.

To reach the [public editor](#), Margaret Sullivan, the readers' representative: [public@nytimes.com](mailto:public@nytimes.com)

A 2004 essay by Thomas Feyer, the letters editor:  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/05/23/opinion/23READ.html>

Letters submitted for publication in other sections may be sent directly to these addresses:

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2015 10:27 AM  
**To:** wsj.letters@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Violence in America

Dear Sir,

Faith trumped the racism fueled violence on Wednesday when nine parishioners were anointed from heaven to open our eyes to the utter hatred in our world today. They forgave.

**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2015 11:28 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Violence in America

Dear Sir,

Faith trumped the racism fueled violence on Wednesday when nine parishioners were anointed from heaven to open our eyes to the utter hatred in our world today. They forgave.

Some try to co-opt symbols of the past to further an agenda as others have done. For me, the confederate battle flag represents a failed economic model based on agriculture and cheap/free labor intensive work, benefiting the elite one percent of the old south. The freedom and innovation of the industrious union triumphed while millions of conscripted (coerced ?) confederates died.

How a young man, just 21, changed opinions over only a year and a half says more about the influences shaping America today than we may wish to know.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2015 2:38 PM  
**To:** wsj.letters@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** State Legislation

Dear Sir,

The snake oil salesmen were successful twice in Florida, unlike the Michigan peddlers. First, the lottery that was supposed to be for education and second, the Everglades land initiate that was to help fix our water woes. Other budgeted dollars were quickly, shell game shifted. Buyer beware.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 04, 2015 10:41 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** First Amendment

Dear Sir,

Elected representatives should tread carefully when considering religious legislation. The first ten amendments of our constitution is the result of the compromises needed for the original thirteen colonies to become a union.

The wording; no law "respecting"

n. approval, aspect, attention, courtesy, duty, esteem,  
good terms, mental outlook, observance, particular,  
regard, relevance, viewing,  
v. approve, be considerate, observe, regard, relate to,  
or prohibiting the free "exercise"  
n. action, ceremony, exertion, lesson, music, operation,  
study, task, training, use,  
v. annoy, engross, exert, practice, train, use

(Roget's International Thesaurus – finding words for your ideas) of the First Amendment must have been particularly difficult due to the diversity of the immigrants that called America home.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:36 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Iran's Nuclear Ambitions

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

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Again, thank you for sending us a letter.

Sincerely,  
The Washington Post letters staff

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:24 AM  
**To:** letters@nytimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Irans Nuclear Ambitions

Dear Sir,

I prefer to listen to what a person has to say before I rush to judgment. Our liberty and freedom gives us a right to an opinion and a personal point of view to discuss with others.

As a fifty – something I want to talk about the “old deal” concerning nuclear fission technology. I grew up with duck and cover, as if that could save me from the hydrogen bomb and the most certain death from the toxic radiation of its aftermath. I lived through the near meltdown of Three Mile Island and experienced the sadness as the brave firefighters rushed to contain the explosion at Chernobyl, knowing they were surly going to die. Then there was the consequences from a natural disaster on the Fukushima nuclear plant in Japan. Gen III reactors are not foolproof. Even today we have no place to safely store the waste by-products.

This history should show the Iranian citizens the folly of their leaders headlong pursuit of nuclear “adventurism”. Peaceful or not these known and other unknown outcomes of playing with fire should give them pause before playing the nuclear “game”.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

(Sent to the Washington Post on Friday March 06, 2015)

**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:36 PM  
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Again, thank you for sending us a letter.

Sincerely,  
The Washington Post letters staff

#### Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Grave:  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 7:51 PM  
**To:** 'Cumella, Michael'  
**Subject:** RE: letter - follow up reply

Dear Mr. Cumella,

Thank you for the quick reply. Yes, I wrote and sent the letter to the Sun-Sentinel. I hope it will be considered with little editing and correction of grammar.

Warm regards,

Steven Graves

**From:** Cumella, Michael [mailto:MCumella@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 5:23 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: letter

Could you please verify by replying to this email that Steven Graves sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

Thank you.  
(We are unable to guarantee either print or online publication. No calls please.)

The Sun Sentinel | Tribune Publishing Co.  
500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304-3019

**From:** Steven Graves:  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:32 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Irans Nuclear Ambitions

**From:** Cumella, Michael <MCumella@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 5:23 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: letter

Could you please verify by replying to this email that Steven Graves sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

Thank you.  
(We are unable to guarantee either print or online publication. No calls please.)

The Sun Sentinel | Tribune Publishing Co.  
500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304-3019

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:32 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Irans Nuclear Ambitions

**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:35 PM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Irans Nuclear Ambitions

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**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Irans Nuclear Ambitions

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Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** O'Hara, Rosemary <rohara@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 28, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Impossible dream

I will be out of the office until Monday, March 9. If you need immediate assistance, please contact senior editorial writer Gary Stein at [gstein@sunsentinel.com](mailto:gstein@sunsentinel.com) or 954-356-4616.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 10:10 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** An impossible dream

Dear Sir,

Please consider the following:

To dream the impossible dream; a world where truth, honesty and love for each other is the norm, not the exception.  
To fight the unbeatable foe; bigotry, racism, and hate.  
To bear the unbearable sorrow; murder, rape, starvation.  
To reach the unreachable star; an age of enlightenment for all.  
This is humanities quest, no matter how hopeless or far it may seem to be.

( It has now been fifty years since the Broadway musical - Man of La Mancha – introduced “The impossible Dream” to the world.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 26, 2014 11:17 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: current events

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. We regret that because of the volume of submissions (often more than 1,000 a day), we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.

Here are some guidelines:

Letters should ideally be no longer than 150 words (O.K., maybe a tad more) and may be shortened to fit allotted space. They must be exclusive to The Times (no prior submission to, or publication in, any other medium, including the web, except for [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)). They should generally refer to an article that has appeared within the last seven days. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

To be considered for publication, letters MUST include the writer's name, address, current location (where you are writing from) and daytime and evening phone numbers at your current location (for verification, not publication).

We generally do not publish more than one letter from the same writer within any 60-day period, but reserve the right to be flexible. (This applies to the daily letters page, but feel free to submit letters to the weekly sections.) If we select your letter for publication, you consent to our right to republish it, in any and all media, and to license third parties to publish it as well.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, December 26, 2014 11:16 AM  
**To:** letters@nytimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

Has the rhetoric brought us to the tipping point of vigilante justice? Should we be surprised that history is now at a place of unsuppressed anger, unrelenting aggression, and senseless violence?

Truly our hero's should be the stories of valor of the Red Tail fighter pilots of WWII, the words of wisdom spoken by Martin Luther King, and the nonviolent actions of Rosa Parks. Not the ones that today's "spin masters" their try to elevate.

Radicals (extreme change) or are they anarchist (violent overthrow of order) that refuse to offer a moment of remembrance and silence for lost loved ones exposing their stone cold hearts bring forth the recollections of dark times; the Inquisition, the Holocaust, and ethnic cleansing.

"We must remember that any oppression, and injustice, any hatred is a wedge designed to attack our civilization." Theodore Delano Roosevelt – 1940.

Sincerely,

**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Immigration

Dear Sir,

Immigration to America started long before the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, before the Spanish brought disease to the Tequesta Indians of Florida, before the greed of explorers died in Jamestown, maybe even before the Bering Sea ice bridge brought people from Asia.

The pilgrims came looking for religious freedom but it wasn't long before intolerance brought the Salem witch trials. Famine and starvation brought others. Mel Brooks "Blazing Saddles" exposed discrimination when the city of Rock Ridge would accept the railroad workers but not the Irish. Violence from drugs, human trafficking, religious oppression and discrimination around the world have brought many to our shores because we represent that guiding light of hope. Now that violence dogs us at every turn.

Disease, intolerance, discrimination and violence. The 21<sup>st</sup> century had such promise.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Nation's promise lost along the way

Immigration to America started long before the end of the 16th century, before the Spanish brought disease to the Tequesta Indians of Florida, before Jamestown, maybe even before the Bering Sea ice bridge brought people from Asia.

The pilgrims came looking for religious freedom but it wasn't long before intolerance brought the Salem witch trials. Famine and starvation brought others. Violence from drugs, human trafficking, religious oppression and discrimination around the world have brought many to our shores because we represent that guiding light of hope. Now that violence dogs us at every turn.

Disease, intolerance, discrimination and violence. The 21st century had such promise.

**Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale**

**From:** letters <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2014 5:15 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Thank you for writing to The Washington Post

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review.  
Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending us your letter to the editor. We review every letter that we receive, and we value the views of all those who take the time to send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we cannot respond to letters that we are unable to use. If we wish to publish your letter, we will contact you in advance of publication.

You can now follow Washington Post letters to the editor on Twitter at @PostLetters

Here are some tips on how to increase the chances of having your letter published in The Post:

1. Letters should be fewer than 250 words and exclusive to The Washington Post.
2. The letter may not have been submitted to or previously published by any other media or Internet outlet. This includes comments or feedback posted to Web sites. If you have posted similar comments to a Web site, your letter cannot be considered.
3. The letter should include the writer's full name, home address, e-mail address, and home, business and cellular telephone numbers. Anonymous letters will not be considered, nor does The Post permit the use of pseudonyms.
4. Writers must disclose any present or past personal or professional involvement with the subject matter of their letters.
5. All letters may be subject to editing and abridgment.
6. Do not send attachments; they will not be read.
7. We prefer letters that cite an article or item that has appeared in the print edition of The Post within the past three weeks. We do not publish letters in response to articles or other items that appeared only on the Washington Post Web site.
8. To make your e-mailed letter as easy to read as possible, do not send any graphics or digital letterhead, put the text of your letter in the body of the e-mail, and remember to cite the article or item you are writing about in the body or subject line.

Thank you again for sending us your letter.

Sincerely,  
The Washington Post letters staff

**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2014 5:12 PM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Keystone Pipeline

Dear Sir,

I may not be a bleeding heart liberal, a tree hugging conservationist, nor an ivory tower egghead but I know a bad idea when I see one and the Keystone pipeline is a very, very bad one. As one of the taxpayers footing the bill, I want to know why we need another route when there is already one that could be expanded – providing an answer to the jobs reasoning (excuse?). Where is the return on this investment besides the new states collecting a tariff fee?

The land above the Ogallala aquifer, the one that helps us feed the world, is slowly sinking so I question the integrity of the piping over the life span of this undertaking and the increasing maintenance costs/ expense. (The "small" spill in Arkansas was due to the aging infrastructure). Will the supply/demand drop the price of oil to such a level that it may never be needed/economically viable after all?

In forty years of scientific advancement will our economy still be based on oil or will we have moved forward to a different paradigm? Will this be another example of a bridge to nowhere?

(We sidestepped the problem/issue here in Florida by having the landowner in Collier County trade it for a city block in Las Vegas, Nevada.)

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2014 5:13 PM  
**To:** wsj.lets@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Keystone Pipeline

Dear Sir,

I may not be a bleeding heart liberal, a tree hugging conservationist, nor an ivory tower egghead but I know a bad idea when I see one and the Keystone pipeline is a very, very bad one. As one of the taxpayers footing the bill, I want to know why we need another route when there is already one that could be expanded – providing an answer to the jobs reasoning (excuse?). Where is the return on this investment besides the new states collecting a tariff fee?

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**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2014 5:12 PM  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Keystone Pipeline

Dear Sir,

I may not be a bleeding heart liberal, a tree hugging conservationist, nor an ivory tower egghead but I know a bad idea when I see one and the Keystone pipeline is a very, very bad one. As one of the taxpayers footing the bill, I want to know why we need another route when there is already one that could be expanded – providing an answer to the jobs reasoning (excuse?). Where is the return on this investment besides the new states collecting a tariff fee?

The land above the Ogallala aquifer, the one that helps us feed the world, is slowly sinking so I question the integrity of the piping over the life span of this undertaking and the increasing maintenance costs/ expense. (The "small" spill in Arkansas was due to the aging infrastructure). Will the supply/demand drop the price of oil to such a level that it may never be needed/economically viable after all?

In forty years of scientific advancement will our economy still be based on oil or will we have moved forward to a different paradigm? Will this be another example of a bridge to nowhere?

(We sidestepped the problem/issue here in Florida by having the landowner in Collier County trade it for a city block in Las Vegas, Nevada.)

Sincerely,

**Sent:** Monday, November 03, 2014 10:20 AM  
**To:** 'jwvcolum@gmail.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Global Warming

Dear Sir,

"Climate Change" is a misnomer which might be why the phrase is met with skepticism. Earth's climate has changed for millennia; the Sahara wasn't always a desert, Antarctica was once tropical, and there have been several ice Ages.

What we are facing is environmental pollution of our own making on a global scale. A swirling mass of plastic larger than Texas churns in the Pacific. Poisons from industrialization spew mercury, arsenic and other toxins leading to overuse of fertilizers and poor crop rotation (yield). We are removing the photosynthesis fueled filters of plants and trees, approaching the capacity of our oceans carbon sinks, and removing the ozone's protective radiation layer.

We have been warned. Acid rain is killing our trees, corroding our structures, and eroding our works of art. Insistences' of "red tide" are becoming more common. Skin cancer rates in the southern hemisphere are high and continue to rise. (South Africa has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world after Australia). Over dependency and use of fresh water for farming and ranching has bitten us in our wallets.

We have split the atom, sequenced our DNA and provided hope to the infertile. Now we can "change" the climate? The gall of our "Climate Change" ego will pay the price of our environmental pollution foolishness (consequences).

(The meek may inherit the Earth after the bullies are done mucking it up but would the want it?)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 01, 2014 4:18 PM  
**To:** 'wsjltrs@wsj.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Voting

Dear Sir,

With great power comes great responsibility; the vote and voting. To paraphrase John Kennedy's moon speech, We choose to go to the polls not because it is easy but because it is hard and because that goal of being counted serves the best of our energies and skills, a challenge we are willing to accept for the progress of all people.

There will be long lines. It will be hot, it may rain, and there won't be an available bathroom. There will be cases of fraud, identity theft, and same day corrupt registration.

Whether the election becomes a force for good or ill depends on us and our involvement in the process.

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 29, 2014 10:12 AM  
**To:** 'dsweeney@sun-sentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Amendment 2

Dear Sir,

Some may remember when bales of marijuana "skunk weed" rolled ashore with the morning tide. Others may recall when an elderly man, despondent over his wife's worsening condition, mentally and physically, shot her – twice. The debate over Amendment Two touches both of these examples; the demand for recreational use verses the benefits of medicinal use.

Uruguay has made it completely legal, hoping for research advances in marijuana's chemistry, genetics, medical uses, and side effects. Variations may ease post-traumatic stress disorder, curb seizures and have some effect on multiple sclerosis, though not with Parkinson's disease. (LSD "trip" studies have shown benefit for cancer survivors and ecstasy for PTSD – the slippery slope of gateway drugs.)

With the Fed "big brother" looking over the shoulder of the pusher getting the money aka State of Florida, and the street corner gang members aka Doctors, offering relief to the maladies of our aging population I wonder if Amendment Two goes too far or not far enough.

Sincerely,

**From:** Mayo, Michael <MMayo@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 21, 2014 9:18 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Children's Services Council

Mr. Graves –

It's a legitimate gripe, one I wrote about in a previous column...

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/fl-childrens-vote-mayocol-b092314-20140922-column.html>

as it was explained to me, despite this wording, the plug can still be pulled on the CSC by an act of the Legislature, or the Legislature could compel another vote at some point in the future. It's just that there will be no regularly scheduled vote (every 10 or 12 years). Like I wrote, that's a concern, and could trigger no votes from voters who'd like regular checks-and-balances.

But, you might want to ask why the Legislature has only targeted these Children's Services Councils around the state for re-authorization votes, and not for other tax-funded entities like water districts and hospital districts.

Thanks for reading (and voting)  
mm

**From:** Steven Graves [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 21, 2014 7:40 AM  
**To:** Mayo, Michael  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Children's Services Council

Dear Mr. Mayo,

The wording unfortunately forces me to vote no. The open ended proposal will never be reviewed by voters again. That is not acceptable.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Cumella, Michael <MCumella@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 18, 2014 5:46 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: letter to the editor

Could you please verify by email that Steven Graves sent the Sun Sentinel this letter to the Editor?  
Thank you.

Michael Cumella  
[mcumella@tribune.com](mailto:mcumella@tribune.com)

The Sun Sentinel / Tribune Publishing Co.  
500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304-3019  
[mcumella@tribune.com](mailto:mcumella@tribune.com) (954) 356-4500  
[mwh@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:mwh@sun-sentinel.com)

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 15, 2014 11:07 AM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Amendment Two

**From:** Sanchez, Mary <[msanchez@kcstar.com](mailto:msanchez@kcstar.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 18, 2014 8:55 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Hero's

Mary Sanchez is out of the office.

—  
Mary Sanchez  
Editorial Columnist  
The Kansas City Star  
1729 Grand Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
816-234-4752  
[msanchez@kcstar.com](mailto:msanchez@kcstar.com)  
[@msanchezcolumn](mailto:@msanchezcolumn)

**Sent:** Saturday, October 18, 2014 8:55 AM  
**To:** 'msanchez@kcstar.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hero's

Dear M Sanchez,

Some deserve the mantle of hero; the red tail fighter pilots of WW two, Jackie Robinson, and Rosa Parks. An expelled high school drug dealer/pusher whose aggression got him shot – not so much. A convenience store robber/thug who assaults a police officer – definitely not. He was not doing Christ's work. He laid in the roadway

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 04, 2014 8:02 AM  
**To:** 'wsjltrs@wsj.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Ferguson and Martin reference - 11/04/2014

Dear Sir,

Some deserve the mantle of hero; the red tail fighter pilots of WW two, Jackie Robinson, and Rosa Parks. An expelled high school drug dealer/pusher whose aggression got him shot – not so much. A convenience store robber/thug who assaults a police officer – definitely not. He was not doing Christ's work. He laid in the roadway because it was not safe for first responders in that neighbor "hood" – the ones that charge into harm's way to save a life, not take one.

Until we are judged by character – not color, we will be forever trapped in the 1960's, until we see through the media manipulation of today we will be held hostage to Randolph Hearst's yellow rag bondage, and until we overcome our opinions of exclusion we are on a dead end path of 21st century ignorance.  
(Beam me up Scotty, there's no intelligent life here on this planet.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Thursday, October 23, 2014 10:42 AM  
**To:** 'mpearce@tribune.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Ferguson shooting

Dear Sir,

Some deserve the mantle of hero; the red tail fighter pilots of WW two, Jackie Robinson, and Rosa Parks. An expelled high school drug dealer/pusher whose aggression got him shot – not so much. A convenience store robber/thug who assaults a police officer – definitely not. He was not doing Christ's work. He laid in the roadway because it was not safe for first responders in that neighbor "hood" – the ones that charge into harm's way to save a life, not take one.

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(Beam me up Scotty, there's no intelligent life here on this planet.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



## Steven Graves

**From:** Cumella, Michael <MCumella@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 18, 2014 5:46 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: letter to the editor

Could you please verify by email that Steven Graves sent the Sun Sentinel this letter to the Editor?  
Thank you.

Michael Cumella  
mcumella@tribuna.com  
  
The Sun Sentinel / Tribune Publishing Co.  
500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394-3019  
sun-sentinel.com / 954-356-4350  
mobile: sun-sentinel.com

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 15, 2014 11:07 AM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Amendment Two

Dear Sir,

Some may remember when bales of marijuana "skunk weed" rolled ashore with the morning tide. Others may recall when an elderly man, despondent over his wife's worsening condition, mentally and physically, shot her – twice. The debate over Amendment Two touches both of these examples; the demand for recreational use verses the benefits of medicinal use.

Uruguay has made it completely legal, hoping for research advances in marijuana's chemistry, genetics, medical uses, and side effects. Variations may ease post-traumatic stress disorder, curb seizures and have some effect on multiple sclerosis, though not with Parkinson's disease. ( LSD "trip" studies have shown benefit for cancer survivors and ecstasy for PTSD – the slippery slope of gateway drugs.)

With the Fed "big brother" looking over the shoulder of the pusher getting the money aka State of Florida, and the street corner gang members aka Doctors, offering relief to the maladies of our aging population I wonder if Amendment Two goes too far or not far enough.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, September 05, 2014 11:41 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hero's

Dear Sir,

Some deserve the mantle of hero; the red tail fighter pilots of WW two, Jackie Robinson, and Rosa Parks. An expelled high school drug dealer/pusher whose aggression got him shot – not so much. A convenience store robber/thug who assaults a police officer – definitely not. He was not doing Christ's work. He laid in the roadway because it was not safe for first responders in that neighbor "hood" – the ones that charge into harm's way to save a life, not take one.

Until we are judged by character – not color, we will be forever trapped in the 1960's, until we see through the media manipulation of today we will be held hostage to Randolph Hearst's yellow rag bondage, and until we overcome our opinions of exclusion we are on a dead end path of 21<sup>st</sup> century ignorance.

(Beam me up Scotty, there's no intelligent life here on this planet.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 10:09 AM  
**To:** 'aman@tribune.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** voting

Dear Sir,

With great power comes great responsibility; the vote and voting. To paraphrase John Kennedy's moon speech, We choose to go to the polls not because it is easy but because it is hard and because that goal of being counted serves the best of our energies and skills, a challenge we are willing to accept for the progress of all people.

There will be long lines. It will be hot, it may rain, and there won't be an available bathroom. There will be cases of fraud, identity theft, and same day corrupt registration.

Whether the election becomes a force for good or ill depends on us and our involvement in the process.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <heralded@canned.response@miamiherald.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2014 9:37 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Voting

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

We welcome letters that are exclusive to The Herald, that include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. If you did not include this information, please re-send your entire letter along with the required information. There is no need to resubmit the letter if it has these requirements.

We are unable to open letters sent as an attachment. If you sent it in this manner, please resubmit it in the body of the message. Because of space limitations, we edit those letters selected for publication.

Although we are unable to acknowledge or print all letters that we receive, we do value your comments.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 4:59 PM  
**To:** 'Mellion, Diana'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: voting

Dear Ms. Mellion,

I would like you to consider this submission if it would help increase voter participation above the projected nine percent turnout for the primary.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Mellion, Diana [mailto:DMellion@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 4:28 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: voting

Would you still like this considered for publication? Thanks

Diana Mellion

**SunSentinel**

500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394  
954-356-4677 (office)

Would you like to send us a letter to the editor that is no more than 250-words?

Send them to [letters@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:letters@sun-sentinel.com)

Web: [www.SunSentinel.com/opinion](http://www.SunSentinel.com/opinion)

Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](https://www.facebook.com/SunSentinelEditorialBoard)

Twitter: @dianamellion

email: [dmellion@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellion@SunSentinel.com)

Winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize  
Gold Medal for Public Service

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 10:10 AM  
**To:** aman@tribune.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hobby Lobby

Dear Sir,

The US Supreme Courts' ruling in the Hobby Lobby case had me reach for my pocket Constitution pamphlet. (You have one too, right?) Amendment One, ... no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof ... Pretty simple except that "Obamacare" is a tax. Section Eight of Article One, ... Congress shall have the power to lay and collect taxes (and) shall be uniform throughout the United States. Furthermore, Christians are to "render unto Caesar that which is Caesars".

The Affordable Care Act "may" be severely flawed with many conflicting issues finally coming into the light (read it before you pass it!). But it is currently the law of the land and America's citizens have to deal with it.

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 08, 2014 2:47 PM  
**To:** 'Mellion, Diana'  
**Subject:** RE: Hobby Lobby Ruling

Dear Ms. Mellion,

Thank you for the reply. Yes, I would like you to consider it.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Mellion, Diana [mailto:DMellion@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 08, 2014 12:20 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Hobby Lobby Ruling

Would you like this considered for publication? Thanks.

Diana Mellion

**SunSentinel**

500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394  
954-356-4677 (office)

Would you like to send us a letter to the editor that is no more than 250-words?

Send them to [letters@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:letters@sun-sentinel.com)

Web: [www.SunSentinel.com/opinion](http://www.SunSentinel.com/opinion)

Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](https://www.facebook.com/SunSentinelEditorialBoard)

Twitter: @dianamellion

email: [dmellion@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellion@SunSentinel.com)

Winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize  
Gold Medal for Public Service

**From:** Mellion, Diana <DMellion@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 08, 2014 12:20 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Hobby Lobby Ruling

Would you like this considered for publication? Thanks.

Diana Mellion

**SunSentinel**

500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394  
954-356-4677 (office)

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Web: [www.SunSentinel.com/opinion](http://www.SunSentinel.com/opinion)

Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](https://www.facebook.com/SunSentinelEditorialBoard)

Twitter: @dianamellion

email: [dmellion@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellion@SunSentinel.com)

Winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize  
Gold Medal for Public Service

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, August 18, 2014 12:01 PM  
**To:** 'gstein@sunsentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Aug 11 Buzz question

Dear Mr. Stein,

I looked at the Tuesday's Buzz site and was dismayed at the ranting of some of the postings. Where were the examples, the facts? Such as Chris Matthews stating publicly on his show that, "Racism is about white supremacy?" Or the discussion concerning U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder's failure to prosecute a New Black Panthers intimidation of a white voter in a minority district? It is also known that Zimmerman is Hispanic, not white as first reported. Instead they "disseed" you, "Latin" Grammy's, and the "Black" entertainment channel.

It's a war on those who are different; color, religion, and status. And the herd mentality.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 31, 2014 11:32 AM  
**To:** 'rgoudreau@sun-sentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Steven Graves

Dear Ms. Goudreau,

I hope my reply satisfied your question about my missile threat submission. After the e-mail from D Mellion on July 8th, considered does not mean published, I waited a few weeks to send another. One of the questions on the US citizens test concerns how to support our form of government; register and vote, sent letters to your congressman and local newspaper, and all of the above.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2014 7:42 AM  
**To:** 'Goudreau, Rosemary'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Missile threats

Dear Ms Goudreau,

I so miss the days of receiving a phone call. Who would know that Mr. Lowe has a low growly voice or that you also work on Sundays. I upgraded to U-verse and my old address is unable to send e-mail now ~ receive only ~ something about Yahoo DNS something. I am using my new att address to send correspondence. If you consider my missile threat submission, please correct the date I used for the Cuban missile crisis ~ 1962 not 1963.

Sincerely,  
Steven Graves

**From:** Goudreau, Rosemary [mailto:rgoudreau@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 28, 2014 6:09 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Missile threats

Can you please verify that Steven Graves sent us this letter? Thank you.

**From:** Steven Graves [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 26, 2014 10:20 AM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Missile threats

**From:** Goudreau, Rosemary <rgoudreau@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 28, 2014 6:09 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Missile threats

Can you please verify that Steven Graves sent us this letter? Thank you.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 26, 2014 10:20 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Missile threats

Dear Sir,

It could have been us.

The downing of a commercial airliner by a missile brought to mind thirteen days in October 1963 when we were threatened by missiles ~ nuclear tipped. Documents released after the fall of the Soviet Union revealed that if Fidel Castro had the ability, he would have overpowered the communist technicians and launched the missiles himself.

War maybe the ultimate definition of insanity; fighting over a dot on a map, a religious or political ideology, and killings of the innocent ending in the same result over and over: death and destruction.

Of all the things people fight about the one war we should not lose is the one for our humanity.

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 28, 2014 9:19 AM  
**To:** 'newsmanager@foxnews.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Global Pollution Consequences

Dear Sir,

"Climate Change" is a misnomer which might be why the phrase is met with skepticism. Earths' climate has changed for millennia; the Sahara wasn't always a desert, Antarctica was once tropical, and there have been several Ice Ages.

What we are facing is environmental pollution of our own making on a global scale. A swirling mass of plastic larger than Texas churns in the Pacific. Poisons from industrialization spew mercury, arsenic and other toxins leading to overuse of fertilizers and poor crop rotation (yield). We are removing the photosynthesis fueled filters of plants and trees, approaching the capacity of our oceans carbon sinks, and removing the ozone's protective radiation layer.

We have been warned. Acid rain is killing our trees, corroding our structures, and eroding our works of art. Insistences' of "red tide" are becoming more common. Skin cancer rates in the southern hemisphere are high and continue to rise. (South Africa has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world after Australia). Over dependency and use of fresh water for farming and ranching has bitten us in our wallets.

We have split the atom, sequenced our DNA and provided hope to the infertile. Now we can "change" the climate? The gall of our "Climate Change" ego will pay the price of our environmental pollution foolishness (consequences).

(The meek may inherit the Earth after the bullies are done mucking it up but would the want it?)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

#### Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2014 11:31 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Global pollution consequences

Dear Sir,

"Climate Change" is a misnomer which might be why the phrase is met with skepticism. Earths' climate has changed for millennia; the Sahara wasn't always a desert, Antarctica was once tropical, and there have been several Ice Ages.

What we are facing is environmental pollution of our own making on a global scale. A swirling mass of plastic larger than Texas churns in the Pacific. Poisons from industrialization spew mercury, arsenic and other toxins leading to overuse of fertilizers and poor crop rotation (yield). We are removing the photosynthesis fueled filters of plants and trees, approaching the capacity of our oceans carbon sinks, and removing the ozone's protective radiation layer.

We have been warned. Acid rain is killing our trees, corroding our structures, and eroding our works of art. Insistences' of "red tide" are becoming more common. Skin cancer rates in the southern hemisphere are high and continue to rise. (South Africa has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world after Australia). Over dependency and use of fresh water for farming and ranching has bitten us in our wallets.

We have split the atom, sequenced our DNA and provided hope to the infertile. Now we can "change" the climate? The gall of our "Climate Change" ego will pay the price of our environmental pollution foolishness (consequences).

Sincerely,  
Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2014 8:15 AM  
**To:** 'gstein@sunsentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hillary's Age

You should mention Reagan's reply ~ "... my opponents youth and lack of experience ..." when he was questioned about his age in a debate. (The Buzz site was not up to date when I went there Tuesday)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, April 04, 2014 11:01 AM  
**To:** 'Mellion, Diana'  
**Subject:** RE: Top seven things in less than 250 words

Yes, please consider this submission.

**From:** Mellion, Diana [mailto:DMellion@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 5:36 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Top seven things in less than 250 words

Did you want this considered for publication?

Diana Mellion

**SunSentinel**

500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394  
954-358-4817 (office)

Would you like to send us a letter to the editor that is no more than 250-words?

Send them to [letters@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:letters@sun-sentinel.com)

Web: [www.SunSentinel.com/opinion](http://www.SunSentinel.com/opinion)

Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](https://www.facebook.com/SunSentinelEditorialBoard)

Twitter: @dianamellion

email: [dmellion@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellion@SunSentinel.com)

Winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize  
Gold Medal for Public Service



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 29, 2014 6:16 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Top seven things in less than 250 words

Dear Sir,

- 1) Red light cameras are about revenue, otherwise the warning sign wouldn't be fifty feet behind you when you cross the intersection. If it's really about safety, the sign should be next to the traffic signal.
- 2) I wish there was enough educational money for everyone. The lottery/general tax legislation of the 1980's has proven there is not. Giving preferential treatment to one takes an available seat from another. Today's college system is all about the "Benjamin's" supporting their institutions.
- 3) I would love to accept the \$51 billion of medical dollars from D.C., but we will have to pay 10% of that eventually. (See previous concerning available tax dollars.)
- 4) Religious freedom (rights?) depends on what side of the gray line you're on. All faiths have their "correct" point of view.
- 5) Businesses are missing out on the experiences stay at home moms have when they reenter the work/corporate world. Resolving squabbles, petty differences, sharing, motivation, homework; the list is long.
- 6) It is sad that history has treated Ukraine and the Crimean peninsula so poorly. They gave up 1600 nuclear devices for world peace, they were a partner in commerce with Russia ( gas pipeline to Western Europe), and accepted the Black Sea naval base instead of tourist destination resorts. ("Ethnic" excuses? Really?)
- 7) I pray that when young people are faced with the choice of violent confrontation they remember Michael Jackson's song "Beat It" and live to see another day.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2014 1:40 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Soapbox Perspectives

Dear Sir,

Children need adult guidance, just like Congressmen; cooties – liberals vs. conservatives, homework – "We have to pass this Bill to find out what's in it, and cliques – Blue Dogs, Log Cabins, and over 250 other "special interest" groups. It can be difficult to explain to young kids how some are allowed to cut in line, bribe the gatekeeper, or simply sneak in and it is accepted. (For every "illegal" in America there are eleven others waiting for a visa to come here). History shows us a racist comes in all colors and a bigot of any ethnicity. And don't use the word fair. They're smart enough to know it's a four letter word beginning with "F". Instead, ask them what is the right thing to do.

Declarations of absolute truth should be met with complete skepticism. The sky is not blue because of Earth's oceans, the war on poverty has seen fifty years of progress not failure, and "gerrymandering" has been used successfully to allow all voices a seat in Congress, though dysfunctional ( uncivil, incompetent, parochial, hypocritical, egotistical – Robert M. Gates) it may be sometimes.

Someone needs to teach them how to herd cats.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 02, 2013 5:05 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Legislative impasse

Dear Sir,

Our representatives have reached a legislative impasse. I'm confused. Liberals are bullies and conservatives are tone deaf, or is it the other way around? Or both?

We know that congress has given themselves a pass to implement the health care law for their staff for a year, young citizens don't want to pay the "tax", and hourly workers are having their wages (time) cut by businesses that can't or won't provide health insurance. I don't recall social security being called Roosevelt Care or it being LBJ Medicare. (Those Presidents had really big egos). Prohibition was also once the law of the land.

It seems that one side of the isle is focused on the ills of poverty and the other on the consequences of bankruptcy (and never the two shall meet). Both admirable positions, but if you can't pay you don't go. (Pre-existing conditions anyone?)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 3:11 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Civil War

Dear Sir,

A Civil War is a bloody thing and America is very aware of the costs; Antidum, Gettysburg, and Shiloh to name just a few. A one day loss in the tens of thousands with a total killed or wounded of over a million (1.037 mil) without chemical weapons. Foreign powers did not intervene.

I have listened to the discussions, debates, and arguments. I have learned that women can be bought and sold as chattel, they can be stoned to death for having an affair, and parents can murder their own children if they embarrass them, all in the name of religion.

To lead is fraught with dangers. FDR found a way to help England through the Lend-Lease program as isolationists worked the crowds. JFK found a way to avoid Nuclear Armageddon through a missile disarmament treaty. The Berlin wall came down without us firing a shot. Listen. Learn. Lead.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 18, 2013 5:05 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Veterans

Dear Sir,

Everyday a member of our armed forces pass on to Valhalla; the greatest generation, weekend warriors called to duty, volunteers, and conscripts. Deployed far away from home with their families always close to their heart, they stepped up to teach English in a foreign land, share their rations with war weary locals, and found ways to find toys for children and see how a simple gift could give joy to their eyes.

Today we face the problem of honoring our soldiers that need and deserve the benefits promised from a grateful nation for their service. Wounds incurred may take a long time to appear, if they appear visible at all.

The current administration should be embarrassed at the current backlog of requests from our Veterans. "Work Flow" is not Rocket Science nor Nuclear Physics. Excuses given are just priorities ignored.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Reflecting on some issues of the day

- Some things on my mind:
1. Red-light cameras are about revenue, otherwise the warning sign wouldn't be 50 feet behind you when you cross the intersection. If it's really about safety, put the sign next to the traffic signal.
  2. I wish there were more educational money for everyone. The lottery and general tax legislation of the 1980s has proven there is not.
  3. Giving preferential treatment to one takes an available seat from another.
  4. I would love to accept the \$51 billion from Washington D.C. to expand Medicaid, but we will have to pay 10 percent of that eventually.
  5. Religious freedom depends on which side of the line you're on. All faiths have their correct points of view.
  6. Businesses risk missing out on the experience offered by stay-at-home moms trying to re-enter the workforce: Resolving squabbles and petty differences, offering motivation, supervising homework, and the list goes on.
  7. It is sad that history has treated Ukraine and the Crimean Peninsula so poorly. They gave up 1,600 nuclear devices for world peace. They were a

partner in commerce with Russia and accepted the Black Sea naval base, instead of tourist destination resorts.

8. I pray that when young people are faced with the choice of violent confrontation, they remember Michael Jackson's song "Beat It" and live to see another day.

*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2014 12:19 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Math -Science - History - and Social studies

Dear Sir,

Children need adult guidance, just like politicians; cooties – liberals vs conservatives, homework – "We have to pass this Bill to find out what's in it, and cliques – over 250 " special interest" groups in congress.

It can be difficult to explain to young kids how some are allowed to cut in line (wet foot – dry foot), bribe the gatekeeper (bring a lot of money and employ a lot of people), or simply sneak in and it is accepted (Ronald Reagan's 1986 amnesty deal). For every "illegal" residing in America there are so many others throughout the globe waiting for a visa to come here because of war, oppression, or religion.

Florida's "faulty" Medicare/Medicaid math doesn't tell us that the current expenditures "x" is 24 billion and the increase of a free 100% "y" could equal a five billion increase in costs "z". (Their estimate is only a few hundred million).

History shows us that racism exists for all colors and a bigot of any nationality. And don't use the word "fair", an overused word on all of the cable news talk shows. Instead, ask them what is the right thing to do.

Statements concerning truth should be met with great skepticism. The sky is not blue because of Earth's oceans ,it is the frequency of our atmosphere and Japanese snow monkeys are not washing their food in the ocean, they're flavoring it with salt. The war on poverty has seen fifty years of progress not failure, "gerrymandering" has been used successfully to allow all voices a seat in Congress, though dysfunctional (uncivil, incompetent ,parochial, hypocritical, egotistical – Robert M. Gates "Duty") it may seem sometimes, and "block" grants from the Federal government to the states will not be used in the way they are intended.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, June 03, 2013 10:31 AM  
**To:** rgoudreau@SunSentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Opinion page

Dear Ms. Goudreau,

Your staff's "What's relevant in Zimmerman case?" in Thursday's May 30 opinion page is certainly their sentiment concerning the tragedy. Emotions in your office must run to excess as the drum beat continues. Who 17 year old Martin was and the choices of the path he was traveling is important, especially as an example for other kids. Decision made because of youth, poverty, drugs, or a belief of physical empowerment lead to consequences. He will be inferred to in the trial as an up an coming thug ("gangsta").

The homeowners associations use of "security on the cheap through a volunteer neighborhood watch program" is an inexcusable way to fight crime as highlighted in this case.

I am including a letter I sent for consideration on 4/10, before my recent 5/16 "Fort Lauderdale is more, so much more" . I hope it gives your workers some perspective. Especially the words of Dr. King.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2013 10:51 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** The Onion

Dear Sir,

The Onions keen sarcasm of Fort Lauderdale might have had "legs" in the 50's when a poor "black" man on the wrong side of the tracks after dark and lacking fifteen dollars in his pocket would be taken to jail. Today, Fort Lauderdale is light-years beyond the "Where the Boys Are" debauchery.

Downtown began redevelopment after the Fort Lauderdale High School was moved and replaced with the "Landmark" building. Being less than one hundred years old, the locals were thrilled when trademark Coca-Cola gas line caps were rediscovered from the pioneer times. The Performing Arts Center, an IMAX (3D) theater, and Museum of Discovery were a mere dream thirty years ago.

For a city so young, it has deep roots with the military from the Naval Air Station training pilots such as a future President, to the Korean War fighter jet in front of the War Memorial auditorium. Inked refugees and the soldiers that liberated them call Fort Lauderdale home.

Fort Lauderdale has become more than miles of public beaches, culinary delights, and multinational cultures of social diversity. But those of us who live here know that.

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2013 7:56 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Color/Character

Dear Sir,

I pray that the truth can be found and justice given to Mr. Martin and Mr. Zimmerman, but I have my doubts. The chasm of extremists' views, such as Chris Matthews statement that racism is about "white" supremacy is alarming. Really? My Webster's dictionary say nothing if the sort! Activists like Reverend Sharpton, fool me once shame on you fool me twice shame on me, boasting how he stole his mom's blueberry pie further diminishes his status as a spokesperson.

Misinformation, Zimmerman is Hispanic and Martin was not twelve or fourteen, cloud the reasoning of the events leading to the tragic result. Aggression is a double-edged sword and it will bite you, one side taking your life and the other changing your life forever.

Have we forgotten the words of Doctor King, judge a person by their character not their color?

In 1972 I confronted a sign on a water fountain at the Florida welcome center showing me which one to drink from. In the 80's I met Rosa Parks and tried to thank her for helping my generation overcome the struggles of her past. But she knew something I didn't, every generation has to reaffirm the dream of peace and equality by thought and deed. When the opportunity came to suggest, because of Winnie's militaristic overtures, I said to free Mandela and divide them. Gandhi's example of peaceful protest won and bloodshed through violent terrorism was denied. When I met a man who knew Mr. Mandela and I asked him to say hi, he didn't even ask for my name. Maybe he couldn't see past my color.

Sincerely,

Steven

From:

Steven

Sent:

Thursday, April 04, 2013 11:26 AM

To:

wsj.ltrs@wsj.com

Cc:

Subject:

Gun legislation

Dear Sir,

Gun legislation may seem wonderful, as polling suggests, until the government loses/misplaces the paperwork, identity theft occurs, they merge the files and similar names are suddenly misspelled and you find yourself on a Do Not Fly list.

Why should we feel confident that they can administer the program when they can't even deliver benefits to our veterans?

Before our Representatives move on to the "next big thing" they should address the issues already on their plate.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Friday, April 05, 2013 10:04 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** gun legislation

Dear Sir,

Gun legislation may seem wonderful, as polling suggests, until the government loses/misplaces the paperwork, identity theft occurs, they merge the files and similar names are suddenly misspelled and you find yourself on a Do Not Fly list.

Why should we feel confident that they can administer the program when they can't even deliver benefits to our veterans?

Before our Representatives move on to the "next big thing" they should address the issues already on their plate.

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2013 1:17 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Words have power

Dear Sir,

Words have power, although their meaning can become confused by other nouns and verbs when used in a sentence. Is a "sequester" an adjustment to spending, a "fiscal cliff" a monetary premonition of lower GDP growth, or an "entitlement" a promise for ten years of giving part of your earnings to the government? Can you be a social liberal and a fiscal conservative at the same time? (I don't care what you do as long as I don't have to pay for it.) Powerful words include wisdom, knowledge, compassion and truth.

A picture may paint a thousand words but sometimes a single word will paint a million pictures. Poverty.

It seems the one thing words cannot change is voter apathy. (Of the people, by the people, for the people.)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

Fort Lauderdale is more, so much more

The Onion's keen sarcasm of Fort Lauderdale might have had "legs" in the 50's when a poor black man, on the wrong side of the tracks after dark and lacking \$15 in his pocket, would be taken to jail. Today, Fort Lauderdale is light years beyond the "Where The Boys Are" debauchery.

Downtown began redevelopment after Fort Lauderdale High School was moved and replaced by the Landmark building. Being less than 100 years old, the locals were thrilled when trademark Coca-Cola gas line caps were rediscovered from the pioneer times. The Performing Arts Center, an IMAX theater, and Museum of Discovery were a mere dream 30 years ago.

For a city so young, it has deep roots with the military — from the Naval Air Station training pilots to the Korean War fighter jet in front of the War Memorial

auditorium.

Fort Lauderdale has become more than miles of public beaches, culinary delights, and multi-national cultures of social diversity. But those of us who live here know that.

Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2013 1:24 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Legislation

Dear Sir,

With President Obama's lose the other day covering gun legislation, I was reminded of Lyndon Johnson's successes with the War on Poverty (1964), the Great Society Program (1965) and the Gun Control Act of 1968. The art of "horse trading" and the "Johnson Treatment" helped get bills passed. The Obama treatment that some may characterize as "my way or the highway" has not gotten the votes he needs to pass legislation. Blame/shame is not an effective tool. You can't "herd cats" that way.

Words have power to frame the discussion. Instead of gun "control" how about gun ownership responsibility and "standard" versus "universal" background checks building on the strengths of the 1968 legislation.

Governing by polling is a poor substitute for leadership.

Sincerely,



**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 26, 2013 12:43 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**

Dear Sir,

Words have power. A picture may paint a thousand words, but sometimes a few words will paint a million pictures. Political branding. Defined by whom? CNN, MSNBC or FOX commentators? What is an entitlement? Social security, Medicare/Medicaid, food stamps, free phones or sponsored housing? What is fair? FRD's four freedoms? (speech, religion, want, and fear)

Of all the "gates" and "wars" we have endured the one we still have a hard time using our words to help end is the scourge (*wide/great* affliction) of poverty.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2013 10:57 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** "adverse possession"

Dear Sir,

Re: adverse possession and Mr. Barbosa. Should the law be changed? No. Were taxes owed? 2012 property taxes are not due until the end of March. Did Bank of America fail to pay the 2011 bill? Did Mr. Barbosa pay the 2011 bill or any money for that matter? If no funds changed hands then it is clearly a case of trespassing. Simply putting up a notice is not enough and our law enforcement officials should be smart enough to handle this matter. Upkeep of the property is also required and one look at the pool ends that argument. This issue seems to be a solution looking for a problem.

Most of our county government services is funded through property taxes. Failure to pay results in a lien against the property that is usually purchased by investors. No taxes owed no adverse possession opportunity.

The absolute silliness of this issue is mind-boggling. If you go away for a long weekend and someone "takes possession" by putting up a piece of paper without paying any money – shoot 'em.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2013 9:00 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Age of Aquarius

Dear Sir,

The beginning of a Mayan long count "b'ak'tun" calendar is rumored to usher in a new age of enlightenment.

We live in a dynamic multicultural area so it is understandable that a high school football coach may communicate with a player in a language other than English. However, college is different and qualifying for an athletic scholarship would be much harder without fluency in our countries primary language. Forget about a career in the pros.

Some may claim that America is no longer the "melting pot" but rather a "salad" of multicultural flavors. Well some people don't care for raisins in their salad, have an allergy to nuts or shellfish, and can't stand certain dressings so I cannot support that analogy. We are all Americans.

Our ancestry does not define us. My great-great grandfather was awarded the congressional medal of honor for his service in the civil war. My great grandmother was a full blooded American Indian. Yet the "Trail of tears" is not a rallying cry for hatred nor are the divisions of 150 years ago. Those events have passed. Defined and connected from the blood and spirit from ancestors we have never met perpetuating racism and discrimination? No. It is our own actions that determine who we are.

Enlightenment may be in our future. I hope it comes soon.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2012 1:13 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** nuclear consequences

Dear Sir,

Sixty-seven years ago a nuclear device was dropped on a Japanese city in an attempt to end a bloody world war. The military rulers refused. A second one was dropped killing many thousands more and finally civilians won peace. The near melt down of the three mile nuclear energy plant in 1979, the mismanagement at Chernobyl in 1986 that created a "dead zone" and the unforeseen geological event in Japan last year (2011) has again warned the world of the terrible human costs associated with the pursuit of nuclear power. The ruling government of Iran seem unwilling to accept this possibility as they rush to build "Armageddon" and more than willing to accept the price of economic hardship for its citizens and the potential for a nuclear catastrophe.

Their argument is baseless, it's not about them it's about the civilians of the Earth that will have to deal with the results of their actions.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Monday, December 10, 2012 10:54 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Politics

Dear Sir,

First it was the robo-calls, direct mailings, and endless pitches on television, radio, e-mail and twitter; then the analysis of what ,why, and how it happened; and now the constant bickering about the fiscal cliff.

Barak is not an economist. His green initiative, "If you build it they will come", only works in the movies. Just ask the Miami taxpayers about their new Marlins stadium. Saving GM with federal dollars did not help those who had their retirement invested in the "old" GM blue chip. Underwater homes were foreclosed on when his administration's effort to help them refinance failed.

While most Americans may disagree with abortion, back alley sepsis and coat hanger devises are an unacceptable alternative. Giving public tax money to religious oriented schools is an intolerable excuse by elected officials for their poor performance. The gift of love does not recognize race, color, religion, or gender but its' responsibilities are firm.

The "fiscal cliff" moniker labeled for maximum effect is a Band-Aid remedy for fiscal denial.

Fair? Fair is a four letter word beginning with "F". The failing grade our government has worked hard to achieve.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 03, 2012 11:42 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Election debate

Dear Sir,

I watched the debates, listened to the questions and answers, followed by the analysis from the political talking heads and fact checkers. It was all so disappointing.

The tax rate for business may be high compared to other countries but that didn't stop one of America's largest corporations from writing off the billion(s) in losses through sub-prime speculation and paying nothing. You can't "push" green technologies. Consumers will "pull" it if they can afford to. With the passage of the American Health Care Act, we find out how this tax is applied to just about everything and how business can game the law to make it a profit center. (Cancel employee group coverage, pay the fine(s) and still spend less.) The Dream Act is a wonderful idea; have good grades and stay out of trouble. Fluency in English and a basic understanding of American civics are not part of the requirements. I do not want to return to a time of back alley sepsis and coat hanger devices. The Navy does have aircraft carriers, but is sending the battle group (they don't travel alone) to combat piracy, drug smuggling, and human slave trafficking efficient? Modernize and expand the Coast Guard. (Florida has the longest coastline after Alaska.) "Forward" reminds me of the poem, "Charge of the Light Brigade", and the line in the Pink Floyd song, "Us and Them", from the Dark Side of the Moon album.

Florida's job issue should consist of just one phrase; Fix the Lake – Save our State. Tens of billions were spent around New Orleans. After ten years only 500 million has been spent on Lake Okeechobee, an economic engine that propels Florida to the 4<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the US, 20<sup>th</sup> in the world. Water woes have effected agriculture and nursery's, estuaries, sport fishing, our reefs, and eco-tourism. Trends show that they are moving to our warm sunshine state and we won't be ready.

Fix the lake!

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 15, 2012 10:33 AM  
**To:** oreilly@foxnews.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** outsourcing

Dear Bill,

It occurred to me the other day that I've lost my job, outsourced to my uncle. It seems that he can do it better, bigger, and more efficient (or so he says) than I could possibly hope to achieve with my meager means ( he works for a big conglomerate). My Boss would always take the time to listen to me (you know how busy things can be), showing me the way to solve that days particularly hard problem while encouraging me to help the sick, feed the hungry, and cloth the needy.

Don't get me wrong, my uncle is a good man, though he tends to promise more than he can deliver, and he says he'll help me out later when (if) he can. It's just that the date keeps changing.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Nuclear energy

their actions.

*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

Sixty-seven years ago a nuclear device was dropped on a Japanese city in an attempt to end a bloody world war. The military rulers refused. A second one was dropped killing many thousands more and finally civilians won peace.

The near meltdown of the Three Mile Island nuclear energy plant in 1979, the mismanagement at Chernobyl in 1986 that created a "dead zone" and the unforeseen geological event in Japan last year, has again warned the world of the terrible human costs associated with the pursuit of nuclear power.

The ruling government of Iran seems unwilling to accept this possibility as they rush to build "Armageddon" and more than willing to accept the price of economic hardship for its citizens and the potential for a nuclear catastrophe.

Their argument is baseless. It's not about them, it's about the civilians of the Earth who will have to deal with the results of

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2012 9:34 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** technological advancement and economic prosperity

Dear Sir,

The talking heads (and editorial columnists) will banter back and forth about taxing and spending policy, citing historical references why their opinion is correct and their opponent is an idiot. They'll mention the institute of this or the organization for that and use hot button "buzz" words to promote their agenda.

Could it be that the diode, the transistor, and the integrated circuit advanced the prosperity of the 1960's? Shouldn't productivity enhancements from faster CPU's, better operating systems, instant information at our fingertips from the internet, (use responsibly) and the establishment of the virtual office also get some credit for last centuries successes?

Until we get past the great partisan divide of what is "fair", we will be mired in the pit of gridlock and fixated on inertia. (Remember that fair is a four letter word beginning with "F".)

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:13 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** energy independence

Dear Sir,

Clarity seems to be even more obscured than usual this election cycle by the fog of political sound bites and photo ops.

Energy Independence. Coal, gas fracking, deep water oil drilling and nuclear all have serious engineering challenges. Burning coal at higher temperatures can significantly reduce its' toxic output, the casings for fracking and deep water drilling are an essential part for environmental safety, and nuclear Gen III reactors have its' own long "laundry" list of scenarios before it can be considered safe. Solar and wind energy efficiency are nowhere near the cost effective replacement value yet.

Burying the Keystone pipeline on America's greatest natural resource, the Ogallala aquifer; the one that enables us to grow the food that feeds the world is so short sighted (corrosion, leaks, visual maintenance).

Long term problems (issues) occur when the "easy" answers to complex solutions are not fully vetted. Ecological accommodation is the new buzz phrase for climate change (global warming).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

Long-term problems occur when the easy answers to complex solutions are not fully vetted.  
Ecological accommodation is the new buzz phrase for climate change (global warming).  
*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

## Ecological accommodation is the buzz word

Clarity seems to be even more obscured than usual this election cycle by the fog of political sound bites and photo ops.

Energy independence, coal, gas fracking, deep water oil drilling and nuclear all have serious engineering challenges. Burning coal at higher temperatures can significantly reduce its toxic output, the casings for fracking and deep water drilling are an essential part for environmental safety, and nuclear Gen III reactors have their own long laundry list of scenarios before they can be considered safe. Solar and wind energy efficiency are nowhere near the cost effective replacement value yet.

Burying the Keystone pipeline on America's greatest natural resource, the Ogallala aquifer; the one that enables us to grow the food that feeds the world, is so short-sighted (corrosion, leaks, visual maintenance).

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 7:32 PM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** GOP's payroll tax fiasco

Dear Sir,

RE: Wed Dec 21 Opinion,

It is neither a tax holiday nor a tax cut; it is a tax theft from the Social Security Trust Fund. The 170 billion today could be worth 3 - 6 trillion tomorrow (back end). But then again, this behavior is normal. Obamacare already "stole" 500 billion from the fund to jump-start the plan and make the numbers "work".

Sincerely,

**Sent:** Friday, December 16, 2011 5:31 PM  
**To:** 'letters@sun-sentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** State of Israel

Dear Sir,

The back and forth "discussion" about America's current administrations friendship with Israel made me wonder how we got here.

The State of Israel arose from the ashes of the crematoriums, the corpses of the concentration "death" camps, and the inhumanity of Hitler's "final" solution.

Peace can be an illusive goal due to a deep, bitter hatred neighbors have against neighbors. Generations of youth have been lost from the rallying cry of religious differences with the eastern Mediterranean becoming a wasteland from the battlefield of war. Yet a door to peace opened when the Sinai was returned to Egypt and aggression from the Golan Heights ceased.

I want to live in a world of peace, prosperity, and enlightenment. Not a reality from aggression of nuclear annihilation or the prophesies of the four horsemen; the end of man on Earth going the way of the dinosaurs to extinction.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Stein, Gary  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 05, 2011 4:43 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: opinion on Wednesday September 28, 2011

Interesting. Thanks for your comments

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 05, 2011 7:26 PM  
**To:** Stein, Gary

**Subject:** RE: opinion on Wednesday September 28, 2011

Dear Mr. Stein,

After the comments by Mr. Santorum concerning the people serving in America's armed forces, I was surprised that no one addressed the elephant (or 500 lb. gorilla if you prefer) that suddenly appeared in the room. My response would go like this;

"Let's just say that you found yourself in ... Afghanistan, on an information gathering, diplomatic mission. The area you are visiting is attacked and you suddenly find yourself wounded. Not immediately life threatening but it could become worse without help. A platoon of American soldiers are close by but wait, some are not "straight" and they are relieved from duty. Not to worry, a helicopter can swoop in, suppress the enemy and medi-vac you out. Oops, again, she (the pilot) is not there for you. (reference 60 Minutes segment) Neither is a highly rated trauma nurse, booted out and residing state-side. Guess what, you didn't make it.

"Mr. Santorum, considering all of our kids who are now actually serving in a war zone, you know the ones who don't really give a damn they just want to get back home to their family's alive, would you like to change your opinion now?"

To paraphrase an old saying, "There are no Atheists in foxholes."

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2011 11:24 AM  
**To:** abreid@sunsentinel.com  
**Cc:** sdg1958@gate.net  
**Subject:** Gov Scott questions

Dear Mr. Reid,

I submitted a question by email to the Sun-Sentinel concerning Lake Okeechobee and south Florida's water supply. The paper's blog site only touches on the questions asked that were in the paper (gambling, immigration and drug testing for example). I was just wondering if my question made the cut.

The following is the question I submitted:

My greatest concern is a reliable water supply for Florida, the fifth largest economy in the United states and twentieth in the world. (Agriculture is ranked sixth nationally). The fiscal outbacks to repair the Hoyer Dike are alarming given that Lake Okeechobee's water level was below eleven feet last Wednesday. Continuing salt water intrusion into the coastal water supplies of our state's largest cities does not bode well for the upcoming tourist season and the larger effects it may have.

What are your thoughts and plans to stabilize this critical component of Florida's overall health, prosperity and continued economic growth?

Sincerely,



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 15, 2011 4:08 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Government Stimulus Bills

Dear Sir,

So, America's economy needs another "shot in the arm". In the seventies that referred to IV drug abuse. Now I understand. We are addicted to stimulus, the be all, do all "high" of the twenty-first century. The pusher, our government, claims we will feel good, just try it one more time. Everything will be better.

The other similarities are strikingly ominous. Steal from your neighbor to get it ( government safety net programs), buy it from the bad guys who hate you (foreign debt), and ultimately pay for it with your health ( a sunken/sullen lifeless expression of social and economic decline).

Then the pain of withdrawal.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 1:56 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Problem?

Dear Sir,

Is it a taxing problem if 47% pay nothing? Is it a spending problem when 13 million of America's children are going hungry or that 37 million of us live in poverty? Is it a health care problem when 45 million are uninsured, a homeownership problem when there were one million foreclosed homes in 2010 alone, or an immigration problem when 12 million are here illegally?

Or is it a solution looking for leadership?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, July 15, 2011 12:02 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Political Point Of View

Dear Sir,

I disagree with both sides of the political isle in the spin/speak debate. How quickly would the Republican revenue position change if an AMT (alternate minimum tax) of 10% applied to everyone? Can the Democrats allow spending cuts in programs involving their special interests constituents?

Shared sacrifice? For who?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, July 11, 2011 2:50 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** America's debt

Dear Sir,

I disagree with both sides of the political isle. The AMT (alternate minimum tax) should be changed so that everyone pays at least 10%. Everyone. If you have no "skin" in the game, why care that our congress is paying \$250 million dollars for each fifth generation fighter jet or that fraud, waste, and corruption is shredding the social safety net. It's not your money. Business should pay at least 1%. GE shouldn't get a break because of poor business decisions or their mortgage/derivative gambit.

Here in Florida spending should be increases not decreased with the Lake Okeechobee dike project. Florida is the 5th largest economy in the United States and 20th in the world. \$800 million dollars will be lost in the agriculture industry alone this year because of the drought. Damage to our coastal estuaries continue unabated harming other parts of our economy. Many areas of the United States are suffering significant hardships as well.

If the U.S. dollar loses its' status as the worlds' reserve currency and countries begin dumping dollars, a period of hyper inflation not seen since the end of WWII and the German mark will probably occur. Until both sides are able to view a perspective from the 50,000 ft level, our ship of state will continue to flounder in debt and economic decline.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2011 1:46 PM  
**To:** 'letters@sun-sentinel.com'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Nuclear dilemma

Nuclear energy and the environment will face even greater challenges in the near future then the ones coming from Japan. According to the NCR, nearly 30% of the nuclear plants in the U.S. currently fail to report equipment flaws that could pose a safety risk. The long term storage efforts for radioactive spent-fuel rods in Yucca Flats is also in disarray.

If nuclear power remains to be considered for America's future energy needs, more than a limited number of accident scenarios first envisioned by the commercial plants constructed in the sixties, like the Fukushima boiling water reactors, must be confronted and vetted.

Modern Generation III + designs use electromagnets to hold the rods above the core so that a power outage will release them and gravity will do the rest (unless they become misaligned and get stuck). Automatic pressure-release valves, (corrosion - blocked lines) a large "suppression " tank for escaping steam, (metal fatigue) water reservoirs above the reactor to support coolant levels, (earthquake damage cracking the reservoir and draining the water away) and convection to shift heat out of the reactor vessel into a massive tank of cooling water nearby (maybe, really?, are you sure?)

The costs of an accident are tremendous. 28 years later and 1.4 billion dollars after Chernobyl a steel and concrete "sarcophagus" will hopefully be completed. Three Mile Island's cleanup took 14 years, almost a billion dollars, and the removal of 150 tons of contaminated material to Idaho National Laboratory for "storage". Long term health concerns continue to be studied.

The world's appetite for energy is growing and natural resources such as oil are becoming increasing difficult to extract from the hard to reach deposits offshore. Monopolistic cartels strangle economic activity. A transition to use more natural gas for transportation has taken years to reach a consensus in Congress. Even now a cohesive, far reaching energy policy founders. Tax credits and guaranteed loans are not the easy answer to the complex energy question.

Steven Graves

**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2011 6:55 PM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** questions

Dear Sir,

What does it say about a country where one out of five children go hungry daily, more than forty million people are judged to live in poverty (over fifteen million in extreme poverty), and forty seven percent of it's citizens pay nothing to support their government?

How can we land a man on the moon and return him safely to the Earth, launch machines into the solar system that send back fantastic images of scientific discovery, and yet we are unable to overcome the challenges of climate change and solve pollution problems on this planet we all call home?

Why is it that the people we send to represent us in Washington arrive with the best of intentions yet legislate so badly? Housing bills resulted in sub-prime loans, mortgage backed derivative securities, and lending practices guaranteed through the Fanny and Freddy programs. There is the health care act taking assets from Medicare (because they can) to justify passage, and several federally backed jobs initiatives that seem to have no effect on unemployment.

Who will spend money if there is no tangible payback. Would rebuilding a home on stilts without reappraising the property motivate construction and real estate sales (taxes and insurance benefits)? Should we move transportation toward a natural gas basis to help with our balance of trade deficit and diversify our energy consumption (more dollars stay in the country)? Can rebalancing the depreciation schedule for businesses make money available to hire more workers?

Hard questions. No easy answers?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2011 3:56 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** USA TODAY - Editorial Department (KMM2030588V5749310KM)

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the 800 to 1,000 letters we receive weekly, we are unable to do so. If no one from USA TODAY has called you within two weeks, it is probable that your letter has not been selected. Don't give up; try again.

Those letters that are published are selected for their timeliness, clarity, accuracy and length, as well as for the insight and perspective they provide. Letters of 250 words or fewer are the most likely to be published.

Our goal is to put together a daily package of diverse opinions reflecting views from people representing all walks of life, different areas of the country and overseas.

Again, thank you for your interest in USA TODAY. We look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

Brian Gallagher  
Editor of the Editorial Page



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2011 1:33 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** America's leadership

Dear Sir,

The foundation for the qualities that define America's leadership begins with a Declaration of Independence. "When in the course of human events", by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. "We the People" elect the messengers and if we disagree with their direction, change is authorized on a regular interval providing hope for the future of our country. Advise and consent is not just a term for the Senate's approval of Supreme Court judges, but for all voting citizens.

The Constitution's first ten amendments, our "Bill of Rights", establishes the reach of liberty for all, solidified by the 14th amendment (born or naturalized in the United States, fortified by the 15th amendment (race, color, or servitude), including all with the 19th amendment (sex), regardless of economic circumstances by the 24th amendment (poll tax).

These are the examples of leadership that represent the ideals of our Republic to the world.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, February 25, 2011 2:02 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** How embarrassing

Dear Sir,

The daily newspaper used to be an important part of the educational process. School teachers would have their students use it to study sentence and paragraph structure, the proper noun/verb tense usage, and overall essay design. Geography, politics, and current events would be referenced in the classroom. Ink on paper doesn't change on the whim of a key stroke.

Unfortunately, most journalists today are publishing their work on a cut and paste, spell check level of incompetence that should embarrass them. Proof reading must be a lost art. I find it unacceptable that a Florida newspaper would mislabel the dates of the two space shuttle tragedies in a full color high profile graphic. Our commemorative quarter even has the shuttle on the "tails" side of the coin.

Has our country really fallen so far from excellence that mediocrity is now the norm for the printed page?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Trendsman@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 03, 2011 10:10 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: high speed rail

Mr. Graves--  
As I understand it, the \$2.4 billion is a grant. I did not mean to suggest that high-speed rail should cover the distances between Florida cities that I listed, just that the state is balkanized. This state desperately needs 21st-century transportation solutions. Other than to kill high-speed rail, the governor has no plan.  
All the best,  
Stephen Goldstein

In a message dated 3/3/2011 10:04:51 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, writes:

Dear Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Guy

My first question for the debate is whether the 2.4 billion is a loan or a grant because I have heard both. Only recently have I seen the word grant twice in my local paper associated with a cost of 2.7 billion, 300 million more. My second question is about the location of the rail stop(s?).

Stephen, your example from Key West is unrealistic. The environmental hurdles involving anything south of Homestead are prohibitive. Getting tourist (the reason for building in the first place?) to go visit other areas of our state have been tried before and are for the most part unsuccessful. Fast fuel-efficient transportation is a great idea but have you ridden tri-rail lately? Florida's history of roads includes the "bridge to nowhere" built during the Roosevelt administration to provide "jobs" and "whole communities" have contributed to the endangering or extinction of "whole" Florida species. The "eventual link" to Miami had been proposed to run along the Everglades. Do you think that someone in Palm Beach would (drive?) go to Miami to catch a high speed train then sit and wait for the next scheduled one to Orlando?

Kingsley, you need to do more research on the Washington to Boston corridor which I would never consider "high speed". You could fly round trip in the time evolved which might explain Amtrak's deficit. The Disney company offered a lot of money for the project but wanted a stop at their park. Universal complained. Airport to airport connections? They are outside the city hubs. And Jacksonville's airport? Forget about it.

I ask you both to look at the monorail system. Elevated, dual-track (expensive) and capable of achieving high speeds quickly for intra-city travel connections.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, February 28, 2011 11:21 AM  
**To:** wsj.ltrs@wsj.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** The economics of Lake Okeechobee for Florida's growth

Dear Sir,

The Everglades, Lake Okeechobee, and the underground aquifers are critical components of Florida's overall health, prosperity, and continued economic growth.

Local estuaries are damaged when polluted fresh waters are released from the lake for safety concerns during the "rainy" season. The water level of Lake Okeechobee during the current "dry" season is under twelve and a half feet according to the US Army Corps of Engineers, two feet below average. At ten and a half feet, pumps are used to support agriculture and South Florida's water supply discharging high levels of nutrients and dissolved organic material also (sludge).

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2011 12:22 PM  
**To:** abreid@sunsentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Thursdays article

Dear Mr. Reid,

Thank you for the article that appeared in today's paper. Water in a critical component of Florida's future. On Tuesday I set a letter to the editor for consideration in the forum section due to its length. I hope you find it interesting.

Sincerely,  
Steven Graves

The Everglades, Lake Okeechobee, and our underground aquifers are critical components of Florida's overall health, prosperity, and continued economic growth.

Local estuaries are damaged when polluted fresh waters are released from the lake for safety concerns during the "rainy" season. The water level of Lake Okeechobee during our current "dry" season is under twelve and a half feet according to the US Army Corps of Engineers, two feet below average. At ten and a half feet, pumps are used to support agriculture and South Florida's water supply discharging high levels of nutrients and dissolved organic material also (sludge).

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 15, 2011 8:48 AM  
**To:** wgibson@tribune.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Everglades - Lake Okeechobee

Dear Mr. Gibson,

Thank you for drawing attention to the situation in Florida. Please consider the following information. I hope you find it interesting too.

The Everglades, Lake Okeechobee, and our underground aquifers are critical components of Florida's overall health, prosperity, and continued economic growth.

Local estuaries are damaged when polluted fresh waters are released from the lake for safety concerns during the "rainy" season. The water level of Lake Okeechobee during our current "dry" season is under twelve and a half feet according to the US Army Corps of Engineers, two feet below average. At ten and a half feet, pumps are used to support agriculture and South Florida's water supply discharging high levels of nutrients and dissolved organic material also (sludge).

The original sand and muck embankments were started in 1915. It did not prevent over 2500 deaths in the 1926 and 1928 hurricanes when the lake overflowed its' banks. Congress authorized construction of the "Herbert Hoover" dike in 1930 and the levee's were constructed between 1932 and 1938, long before the environmental impact would be factored into the plan. The project was completed in the late 1960's, almost fifty years ago.

When water levels get too high in the lake, water seeps out. Even a small leak could eventually form large cavities resulting in a breach that would release large amounts of water (think Johnstown flood). Analytical studies have predicted failure at multiple locations at twenty-one feet with limited potential at seventeen. Some rainfall events will cause the Kissimmee Basin to fill six times faster than water can be released such as those in 1995 and 1998 when it was over eighteen and a half feet high. Hurricanes in 2004 and 2005 quickly raised the dike levels to imminent failure (think Hurricane Katrina and its' impact on New Orleans).

According to the 2009 World Bank and the CIA World Fact Book figures, Florida's GDP in relation to the worlds largest economies is ranked twentieth. Florida is the fifth most populous state in the union. Of the ten most populous states, Florida is first in total personal income and disposable personal income and first in per capita income and disposable capita income. Agriculture is ranked sixth nationally in GDP providing 420 thousand jobs and 103.6 billion dollars to the economy. Forty percent of the United States GDP comes from five states; California, Texas, New York, Florida (fourth according to Wikipedia, World Bank List 2008, and Econpost) and Illinois.

Florida, California, and Texas may account for nearly half (forty-six percent) of total US population growth between 2000 and 2030 (US Census Bureau). Three counties south of Lake Okeechobee (Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade) account for almost thirty percent of Florida's total population (18.5 million - US Census Bureau).

Current plans for Lake Okeechobee seem inadequate when considering this information. The proposal to inject treated sewage water deep underground to stave off the reality of salt water intrusion into coastal wells does not alleviate my alarm over the impact medications (blood pressure, cholesterol and a laundry list of others) will have that flow with it. The lack of leadership from our state representatives to purchase all of the land negotiated with the sugar growers to provide some long term environmental and economic stability is disappointing, to say the least.

We may need "shades" for Florida's sunshine but unfortunately our future prospects are not so bright (think Timbuk 3).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2010 10:13 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** The future's so bright you have to wear shades

Dear Sir,

The 19th century gave us the ability to communicate through radio and then television. The combustion engine gave us the freedom afforded by the automobile. Coupled with the Wright brothers ingenuity and followed by the invention of the jet aircraft, travel across the globe was reduced to hours instead of days. Advances in agriculture has enabled us to feed the world. New knowledge in metallurgy and electronics gave us miniaturization technology that put a man on the moon.

Today we can heal in vitro, provide synthetic limbs to the crippled, and solve a plethora of maladies. The internet provides information at our fingertips. Nanotechnology has allowed us to construct smaller and smaller devices at a micron scale. We are close to providing limitless energy by harnessing fusion power (the power of our sun), traveling the solar system with high energy plasma propulsion, and "see" the very beginnings of our universe.

The new millennium brings us to the cusp of a golden age of humanity. If we can just get past our prejudice of sex, race, and religion we can climb that mountain that leads to the promised land.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## People in path of weapons deserve safety assurances

Shooting a rocket straight up almost eight times higher than the orbit of the International Space Station is quite different than launching a guided missile to a faraway target. Geo-spatial targeting is not the same as the point-and-shoot demonstrations that fell into the Sea of Japan.

Launch failures from the early days of America's space program and errant trajectories should give Russia and China pause as they too could be in the landing area. Especially if more powerful rockets to deliver a heavy payload (nuclear) are tested. China's concern over refugees is well-founded since many/most North Koreans live in absolute abject poverty according to several "not fake" news sources. The international community needs to assure them that assistance will be gladly given should the need occur from regime change.

*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, October 25, 2010 4:32 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** elections

Dear Sir,

When one political party is able to control or even dominate the legislative process, abuse of this authority surely follows. The tax proposals during the 2000 campaign were quickly eclipsed by the winner and the common ground for medical reform in 2008 evaporated into the ether as back room dealing, coercion, and intimidation rode roughshod over the congressional lawmaking power.

One proposal to increase jobs would allow a homeowner to rebuild his house on stilts with no reappraisal until he sells the home. A great idea to promote hurricane protection but could our taxing authority live with it? Another idea is to raise the tax exemption from the sale of your home by \$100,000.00 and allow underwater homeowners to give it to their mortgage holder immediately it to lower their principle balance and stay in their home. That would have cost the Federal government ten billion dollars last month alone.

Good intentions rarely, if ever come without unseen consequences.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, August 09, 2010 11:13 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Voting

Dear Sir,

Any incident of voter fraud or intimidation should be investigated and fully prosecuted whether in the pan-handle of Florida, the City of Chicago, or the streets of Philadelphia. To the butcher who says to kill all the "white" babies; do you mean Harry Truman who integrated the armed forces, Dwight Eisenhower who integrated the southern schools, or maybe the four men whose bodies were discovered dead by the side of the road because they sought to register all eligible voters?

When a person paints with the brush of racism, bigotry, and discrimination some will inevitably splash on them and they may not like the image they see in the mirror.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2010 7:31 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

Other people's money for health care; seniors, the young and the healthy. Other people's money for deficit spending; China returning our dollars paid for their exports, but with interest due. Other people's money for abortions; washing clean the moral arguments of responsibility, racism, and slavery. Other people's money for unfunded political mandates; until the buck stops "here".

Other people's money?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2009 4:40 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** gun legislation

Dear Sir,

After the British were defeated at Yorktown, the thirteen colonies had a choice; join together as a federation of states with a central government or become individual countries. Fearful of either, the citizens demanded certain immediate rights that became the first ten amendments to their constitution superseding all laws that the federal or state's government might enact. The right to bear arms being central to the covenant of our union.

Should they (some states) succeed in their argument of the separation of powers and "state's rights" then, by reason state elections (non federal) would also not be bound to other constitutional amendments like voting rights and a return to poll taxes, gender and race limitations would, by that exception, surly follow.

It is indeed a slippery slope.

(Through the commerce clause, every gun barrel can be test fired, every bullet marking logged, and every criminal identified without trampling on every Americans constitutional rights).

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Limiting guns is folly

After the British were defeated at Yorktown, the 13 colonies had a choice: Join together as a federation of states with a central government or become individual countries. Fearful of either, the citizens demanded certain immediate rights that became the first 10 amendments to their Constitution, superseding all laws that the federal or states' governments might enact — the right to bear arms being central to the covenant of our union.

Should some states succeed in their argument of the separation of powers and "state's rights," then state elections would also not be bound to other constitutional amendments like voting rights, and a return of poll taxes and gender and race limitations would surely follow. It is indeed a slippery slope.

*Steven Graves, Fort Lauderdale*

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, September 07, 2009 9:51 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Health Care

Dear Sir,

Please consider this letter for your forum section. There is so much material concerning the health care debate it was difficult to pare it down.

Now that our summer of "health care reform" discontent comes to an end, it would seem to be a good time to review the he said/she said/they said/we said discussions (?) and determine our current legislative situation.

Will five billion dollars be transferred from the Medicare IOU treasury account to jump start national health coverage? That appears imprudent after our elected congress has reduced reimbursements in an effort to shore up the fund while participating doctors and many physicians are reducing or eliminating their reliance on the federal footprint.

Malpractice insurance costs have forced extensive tests and resulted in some practitioners going "bare". How can tort reform moderate judges/juries from overdoing a good deed and still protect us financially? Will "special interests" parties allow legislators to limit their compensation and "derail their gravy train"?

Will we be allowed to seek relief by suing the federal government (a right we have toward private insurers) for their health care decisions, denying coverage, changing out of pocket costs, and reveling IRS tax returns to determine eligibility for benefits?

We may never know the actual numbers of the uninsured; legal - illegal/undocumented, their respective ages, and why they're not covered such as personal choices, financial circumstances, or pre-existing conditions. However, the extent of the potential costs through taxation and unpaid debt upon our republic can be tallied. If we eliminate the top five percent of wage earners that pay a premium for their health care and add back the cost of affluent foreigners that come here to their respective countries, how does that skew the results of other countries total per person spending and world ranking?

Shouldn't we see the savings before it's spent, allow the self-employed and small business to assemble together to enable collective group rate discount benefits across state lines, and remove the restrictions on purchasing safe and reliable pharmaceuticals? Why can't they find a way forward with a bill that is less than a thousand pages, doesn't have any unrelated "pork", and fairly distributes the consequences to all of us?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2010 9:55 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

The view from the fifty thousand thousand foot level of our problems; jobs, health care, ecology and tax policy to name just a few is quite different from the perspective needed to connect the nuts with the bolts when your boots are on the ground, the rubber hit the road, and your caught between a rock and a hard place.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2009 2:00 PM  
**To:** feedback@foxbusiness.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Beer summit

Dear Sir,

Consider this, a beer was a daily ration for the soldiers at Valley Forge.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2009 10:19 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

America, we have a problem.

Similar to the words of the Apollo 13 commander describing the result of a manufacturing defect that occurred two years before his assignment to the mission, today we are facing comparative results from corresponding errors.

Yes, I would like everyone to own their own home. But legislative changes to mitigate known risks? Even though congress may enable such things as a "free lunch" we know it isn't true.

The battery in hybrid cars lose 20-25% of their storage capacity every year so in less than five years they need to be replaced. Besides the repowering dollar costs, the dangerous chemicals (finite resources) involved, and the lack of mileage efficiency when they are used up what happens next? Recycle? How many of the millions of "energy efficient" mercury filled light bulbs do you think are disposed of properly? Face it, they are crushed in our land fills and pollute our ground water.

We need to ask the hard questions and make people accountable to them.

Couldn't a cause of "global warming" be a result of deforestation and an increase in deserts around the world removing the Earth's own carbon filtration system. You want to repower America and create jobs? Start with water. You want to save social security? Go back to the basics: no SSI, no disability welfare, no aid to dependant kids going to college. Legislate it from the general fund. (Of course that will never happen nor would we want to happen. America is the most giving country on the planet.)

Lastly, the authorities tell us that the universe is thirteen billion plus years old and expanding. But that is based on what we can see by using our position relative to the speed of light.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2009 10:33 AM  
**To:** daragahi@latimes.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Iran

Dear Sir,

I realize that my question will age me a bit and you may not have the answer. When I attended college in the late 1970's there was a article about a fire in a movie house in Iran that killed hundreds of people. The doors were chained shut. That seems to me to be the work of Islamic extremists not the Shah. Your comments please.

Steven Graves

**From:** MSanchez@kcstar.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 21, 2009 8:52 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** RE: immigration issue

Thanks for sending;

Mary Sanchez  
Editorial Columnist  
The Kansas City Star  
1729 Grand Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
phone 816-234-4752  
fax 816-234-4940

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2009 12:44 PM  
**To:** msanchez@kcstar.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Immigration issue

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 30, 2009 5:55 PM  
**To:** oreilly@foxnews.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** obama racism meeting

Dear Sir,

I had an incident similar to Prof. Gates with a couple of significant differences. A neighbor saw me and my wife walking around our home at night with flashlights so she notified the police (we weren't recognized). The police responded. When I answered the door I was surprised to see two officers, one had his hand on his gun that was holstered. He asked to see some ID. I didn't consider it an unreasonable request. After it was established that I did live here we talked a little more (not abusive). I thanked him for responding, asked if they would like some water or a soda (they declined). If I had just arrived home and the policemen had told me about a possible burglary I would have asked them to come in and look through my house to ensure my safety, that's their job. It is too bad that some adults cannot see the forest through the trees.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

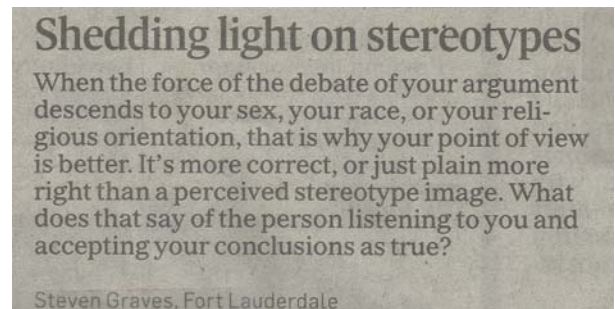
**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 31, 2009 3:58 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Sotomayor nomination

Dear Sir,

When the force of the debate of your argument descends to your sex, your race, or your religious orientation and that is why your point of view is better, more correct, or just plain more right than a perceived stereotype image what does that say of the person listening to you and accepting your conclusions as true?

Thank you,

Steven Graves



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 03, 2009 6:41 AM  
**To:** jonahscolumn@aol.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** AIG bailout

Dear Mr. Goldberg,

Could one of the reasons that Congress keeps giving AIG tens of billions of dollars of bailout money, our taxes, is because that's where their federal pensions are invested? Food for thought, huh.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 28, 2009 10:51 AM  
**To:** feedback@foxnews.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** cavuto on business Sat 2/28

Dear Sir,

I'm unsure about the timeline, but this is how it seems from here. At the end of the Clinton administration they produced a "on paper" surplus. They used various accounting techniques such as counting revenue and not figuring in expenses that at the least would get a CFO fired or in certain cases a stint in prison. This convinced the Fed Chairman to get on board the new Bush administration's tax cuts. Mr. Greenspan warned of the adverse effect on world financial markets if the five trillion plus American debt was paid off too quickly. Then the twin towers fell.

Economists say private spending is about eight times as effective as the governments. Forty trillion dollars is a tremendous economic engine. Where has it gone? The trade deficit accounts for several trillion and the five thousand point decline in the Dow accounts for trillions more. Illegal drugs and transfers of income to other countries from our foreign workers have further drained the benefits of private spending.

Where we find ourselves now involves more than greed, more than a lack of intelligence, and more than giving government the assignment to remedy the problems facing our country. Responsibility in a Republic of the people, by the people, for the people passes to us.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2009 6:01 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

I'm unsure about the timeline, but this is how it seems from here. At the end of the Clinton administration they produced a "on paper" surplus. They used various accounting techniques such as counting revenue and not figuring in expenses that at the least would get a CFO fired or in certain cases a stint in prison. This convinced the Fed Chairman to get on board the new Bush administration's tax cuts. Mr. Greenspan warned of the adverse effect on world financial markets if the five trillion plus American debt was paid off too quickly. Then the twin towers fell.

Economists say private spending is about eight times as effective as the governments. Forty trillion dollars is a tremendous economic engine. Where has it gone? The trade deficit accounts for several trillion and the five thousand point decline in the Dow accounts for trillions more. Illegal drugs and transfers of income to other countries from our foreign workers have further drained the benefits of private spending.

Where we find ourselves now involves more than greed, more than a lack of intelligence, and more than giving government the assignment to remedy the problems facing our country. Responsibility in a Republic of the people, by the people, for the people passes to us.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 13, 2009 5:57 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Airport Runway

Dear Sir,

Is a longer south runway the best solution to the necessary expansion for one of Broward County's prime economic facilities?

No.

There are currently three usable runways at the International Airport that will be reduced to two. The smaller, slower executive jets and propeller aircraft that already clog the arrival and departure schedules won't be relocating.

I watched our community voice their concerns and opinions as Commissioner Eggleston behaved unfairly to the many concerned, involved citizens that did not get their full allotted time. I listened intently as a veteran pilot warned of the dangers of a "raised" runway, and as many others spoke of the tremendous (outrageous) financial cost associated with the residential communities (sound proofing, buyouts, and lower real estate values).

The obvious choice is a parallel north-side runway, an honest expansion of capacity. The buildings could be moved to another location at the airport without diminishing the efficiency and productivity of the respective businesses. The impact to our sensitive wetlands that are consistently bargained away will remain minimal for a while longer.

There is still an opportunity to make the right decision. Otherwise our county commission will face the challenge of asking for more federal assistance when the expected benefits are much less and the detrimental consequences are much greater.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 06, 2009 11:36 AM  
**To:** sundays@cbsnews.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** space shuttle astronauts memorial for january

Dear Sir,

There is a short six and a half minute video at [video.google.com](http://video.google.com) called Shuttle Moments. Please consider it for your program.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** postmaster@isp.att.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2008 1:38 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Returned mail: delivery problems encountered  
**Attachments:** details.txt; Do we really want a Lincoln or FDR (2.12 KB)

A message (from < >) was received at 9 Dec 2008 18:37:53 +0000.

The following addresses had delivery problems:

<JohahsColumn@aol.com>  
Permanent Failure: 550\_MAILBOX\_NOT\_FOUND  
Delivery last attempted at Tue, 9 Dec 2008 18:37:54 -0000

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2008 10:38 AM  
**To:** JohahsColumn@aol.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Do we really want a Lincoln or FDR

Dear Mr. Goldberg,

I have reservation with both Coolidge, who did nothing to stop the excesses that preceded the Great Depression, and Eisenhower, who approved the fateful U2 spy mission on the eve on an important peace conference with the Soviet Union.

Thankyou,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2008 10:15 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Guantanamo terrorist

Dear Sir,

This is my reply to Ramzi Binalshibn, the 9-11 terrorist, blurted out at the end of his recent hearing.

At the "heart" of America is the Biblical "Good Samaritan". We give more aid and assistance than any other country in the world. While the oil exporting countries promise help while hording the 700 billion dollars in petro money from the U.S. alone, and in the case of Iran pursue an obsolete nuclear agenda that may destroy all humanity, we deliver food and medicine and work to clothe and shelter the needy giving hope for a better tomorrow - showing the world what the shining light of freedom can accomplish.

Strict adherence to Osama bin Laden's religious law prevent a woman without male escort from feeding her family and a victim of rape is stoned. (In one case, a father in Pakistan murdered his daughter.)

If Binalshibh seeks to cast a net to associate all Americans indistinguishable from each other and deserving common judgment of destruction, what does that say about the indefensible injustice of hatred from others because of our individual differences?

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 21, 2008 10:13 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

Life is full of choices. Home, family, and our security help us form our opinion. When did we as a nation decide to take a hand out rather than a hand up, representation without taxation? There is no money tree on the White House lawn. We, the people of the United States, through our efforts give our federal government our money to improve our country and keep us safe. (Iran has now acquired the technology to produce a nuclear detonator. Can the suitcase bomb be far behind?)

Will we become so far in debt and vulnerable to empty promises that we are incapable of meeting the challenges facing us? Has the greed and selfishness of Wall Street permeated the very marrow of Main Street?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 27, 2008 4:32 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** USA TODAY - Editorial Department (KMM5843139V39527L0KM)

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2008 6:47 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

I would like to respond to some of the "sound - bites" and "talking - points" for some of today's issues.

The arguments for not drilling along the coastlines of America are still valid. The devastating effect from spillage on our tourism and eco-structure would have far reaching consequences. Proponents would have to "pony up" the cash for a bond valued in the hundreds of billions of (non-taxpayer) dollars before I would even consider that option.

"Change" I could believe in would be a balanced and surplus federal budget. The "good ol' boy network" just doesn't get the undistorted meaning of the phrase "pay as you go, if you can't pay don't go" (except in times of war).

To solve the Social Security liquidity problem a first step would be to declare that elected officials in Washington are not federal employees and do not qualify for a federal pension. If they are limited to drawing an identical legislatively imposed maximum amount subject to the same reductive penalties, then maybe they will quit pledging the future with tax increases. Until they serve the public interest they should not be served at the public trough.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** R Patron [rachel\_patron@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 03, 2008 8:27 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Re: Dear Steven:  
I enjoyed your letter very much. After the creation of the bomb, Robert Oppenheimer, had severe doubts, nay, nightmares, about what might happen to his creation in the future. It seems to be unfolding ion our time. Most people are more interested in destrying their enemies, than building their own societies.

Keep writing.

All the best

Rachel Patron

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 8:29 AM  
**To:** rachel\_patron@yahoo.com  
**Cc:**

Dear Ms Patron,

Here are some of my view concerning a nuclear Iran that I submitted for consideration to my local newspaper, The Sun-Sentinel.

The level of communication between individuals and governments has fallen to a new low; resembling obstinate parents or obnoxious children rather than intelligent human beings.

One example is the way we respond to Iran's pursuit of obsolete, 60 plus year old nuclear science for "peaceful" energy in a known earthquake region with no plans for containment of the waste that lasts thousands of years. The threat of radioactive contamination carried on the wind to neighboring countries is very real. Remember Chernobyl?

The world has moved forward to ecologically sound, renewable energy resources to supply the requirements of the ever expanding populations. Advances in solar panels will be coming to market soon and the citizens of Iran are losing out on this "paradigm" shift of scientific discovery. Their leaders are following a path to impotency in the 21st century as their best and brightest fall behind in the sphere of academic achievement.

(It must really be about the bomb. Don't the 16 million people in the city of Tehran understand the consequences of MAD - mutually assured destruction?)

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** System Administrator  
**To:** 'singletarym@wash-post.com'  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 11:15 AM  
**Subject:** Undeliverable: Bogus gas saving promises

Your message did not reach some or all of the intended recipients.

**Subject:** Bogus gas saving promises  
**Sent:** 7/29/2008 11:15 AM

The following recipient(s) cannot be reached:

'singletarym@wash-post.com' on 7/29/2008 11:15 AM  
550 [PERMFAIL] destination not valid within DNS

**From:** postmaster@isp.att.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 10:08 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Returned mail: delivery problems encountered  
**Attachments:** details.txt; Bogus gas saving promises (2.43 KB)

A message (from < >] was received at 29 Jul 2008 14:07:59 +0000.

The following addresses had delivery problems:

<singletarym@washingtonpost.com>  
Permanent Failure: 550\_No\_such\_user\_-\_psmtp  
Delivery last attempted at Tue, 29 Jul 2008 14:08:03 -0000

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 8:19 AM  
**To:** singletarym@washpost.com  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** Bogus gas saving promises  
Dear Ms. Singletary,

I enjoyed your timely article that was printed in my local paper, The Sun-Sentinel. There is another fuel saving "rumor" that I have not been able to confirm about diesel engines. An add on device injecting hydrogen into the combustion chamber supposedly increases the efficiency of around town driving by as much as three hundred percent. If this is true and not "vapor-ware", the impact on public transportation (buses) could be tremendous.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 02, 2008 9:09 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** Discrimination  
Dear Sir,

Discrimination comes in many colors and flavors. It's nurtured in the fertile places of poverty and illiteracy. Envy and jealousy, doubt and mistrust feed its spindly-rickety web as it seeks to choke out honesty and thoughtfulness; obscuring the knowledge of facts and establishing the long shadow over insightful, discerning, intelligent counsel.

Evil triumphs when people of good character are found deficient in the foundations of humanity.

Don't look away. Think outside your expectations.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 15, 2008 9:09 AM  
**To:** mmayo@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** memorial day  
Dear Mr Mayo,

I recently tried to get a poster of a compilation of photo's that had been printed in the Sun-Sentinel in the past year about Iraq and Afghanistan displayed for Memorial Day. I went to the county governmental center first. Because I am a private citizen and not an organization I was told no, sorry. My collage had been displayed at the library when the high school kids had their letter essays there and Commissioner Lieberman attended. (Please keep that info confidential. I don't wish to see anyone get into trouble). I had the thought that maybe a commissioner trumps red tape and when I mentioned this I did finally get some help. After a few stops, I was able to speak to Judy Sorver associated with public cultural affairs. She was very polite. One of her concerns was that it might be too graphic to some of the people that enter the Governmental Center, such as young kids (would these be the same ones that cannot find either countries on a world map?). There is also a copyright concern. Things used for education have to be approved. (Different circumstances.) The fair use right of a private citizen to use something in the public domain is pretty straight forward, ... maybe. I'm not expecting approval from their legal department.

My efforts at city hall were just as fruitful. The very polite gentleman explained the the high emotions on both sides of war issue made a display of the art work in the lobby inappropriate.

If you would like to view the collage, I can drop it off in the form of a pdf file on a CD at the Sun-Sentinel building on Las Olas.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 15, 2008 5:10 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Water woes

Dear sir,

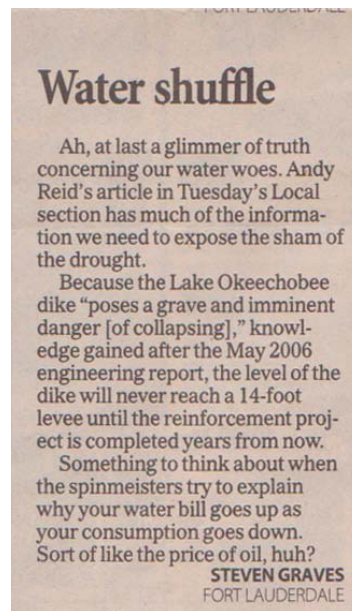
Ah, at last a glimmer about the truth concerning our water woes here in South Florida and the conditions at Lake Okeechobee. Andy Reid's article in Tuesday's local section has much of the information we need to expose the sham of the drought. The last paragraph is especially insightful, "I don't see a concern with [the dike] if they keep the level of the lake down."

Because the Okeechobee dike "poses a grave and imminent danger [of collapsing], knowledge gained after the May 2006 engineering report, the level of the dike will never reach a fourteen foot levee until the reinforcement project is completed years from now.

Something to think about when the politics of double-speak spin-meisters try to explain why your water bill goes up as your consumption goes down. Sort of like the price of oil, huh.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves





**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 09, 2008 5:51 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Presidential Candidates  
Dear Sir,

Please consider this for your daily editorial page.

It seems that the politicians just don't get it. I ask, where's the beef? Hope and change are good buzz words. I want more. Don't simply say we need to do this or that in broad terms, give me the details. Give me specifics on energy solutions (supply and demand), pollution (global warming), health care (more taxes), and illegal immigration woes (criminals?). Be elected president with the mandate to implement these answers.

The most important topic is for every eligible American to get to the polls and vote.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 22, 2007 8:07 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Presidential Politics  
Dear Sir,

Please consider this letter for your editorial page.

Presidential politics. The candidate's banter seeks to build themselves up and enlighten the voters as to why he or she is the best, most qualified individual at the detriment to the others seeking the same. The electorate needs to remain vigilant to pierce the smoke and mirrors obfuscating the truth.

Talk of the lack of executive experience will make the rounds. Consider this: Woodrow Wilson's (ex-governor) League of Nations fell apart and WWII ensued, Eisenhower (ex-supreme allied commander) authorized a U2 spy flight piloted by Gary Powers that was shot down on the eve of an important US - Soviet summit, Kennedy (ex-congressman of the House and Senate) did not invade Cuba where nuclear artillery shells waited, and Reagan (ex-governor) traded sophisticated weaponry in the Iran-Contra scandal.

The level of communication will fall even further, resembling obstinate parents or obnoxious children rather than intelligent human beings.

Foreign policy is usually a second term priority. However, we can't wait to emphasize our views toward Iran's pursuit of obsolete, 60+ year old nuclear science for "peaceful" energy in a known earthquake region with no plans for containment of the waste that lasts thousands of years. The threat of radioactive contamination carried on the wind to neighboring countries is very real. Remember Chernobyl? (It must really be about the bomb. Don't the 16 million people in the city of Tehran understand the consequences of MAD - mutually assured destruction?)

Domestic policy discussions should not be "pie-in-the-sky" promises with the belief that we don't need to worry how much it will cost or where the cash will be found. We're already so far in debt to foreign governments ...

Our next President needs to move us forward to ecologically sound, renewable energy resources. Countries not following this "paradigm" shift of scientific discovery (like Iran) will find that they are following a path to impotency in the 21st century as their best and brightest fall behind in the sphere of scientific achievement.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 05, 2007 9:39 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Nuclear Iran

Dear Sir,

The level of communication between individuals and governments has fallen to a new low; resembling obstinate parents or obnoxious children rather than intelligent human beings.

One example is the way we respond to Iran's pursuit of obsolete, 60 plus year old nuclear science for "peaceful" energy in a known earthquake region with no plans for containment of the waste that lasts thousands of years. The threat of radioactive contamination carried on the wind to neighboring countries is very real. Remember Chernobyl?

The world has moved forward to ecologically sound, renewable energy resources to supply the requirements of the ever expanding populations. Advances in solar panels will be coming to market soon and the citizens of Iran are losing out on this "paradigm" shift of scientific discovery. Their leaders are following a path to impotency in the 21st century as their best and brightest fall behind in the sphere of academic achievement.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 16, 2007 11:05 AM  
**To:** rdelacruz@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** blood donations  
Dear Mr. De La Cruz,

I would like to share my recent experience with the Community Blood Centers of South Florida.

Last month I donated my 48th pint of A negative blood (seven percent of the population), six gallons! I have earmarked some for a little girl at Joe DiMaggio's Children's Hospital and a Miami police officer. At a minimum, if a person gives every 58 days, it will take at least eight years to reach that milestone. That takes a hell of a commitment. My accomplishment took much longer.

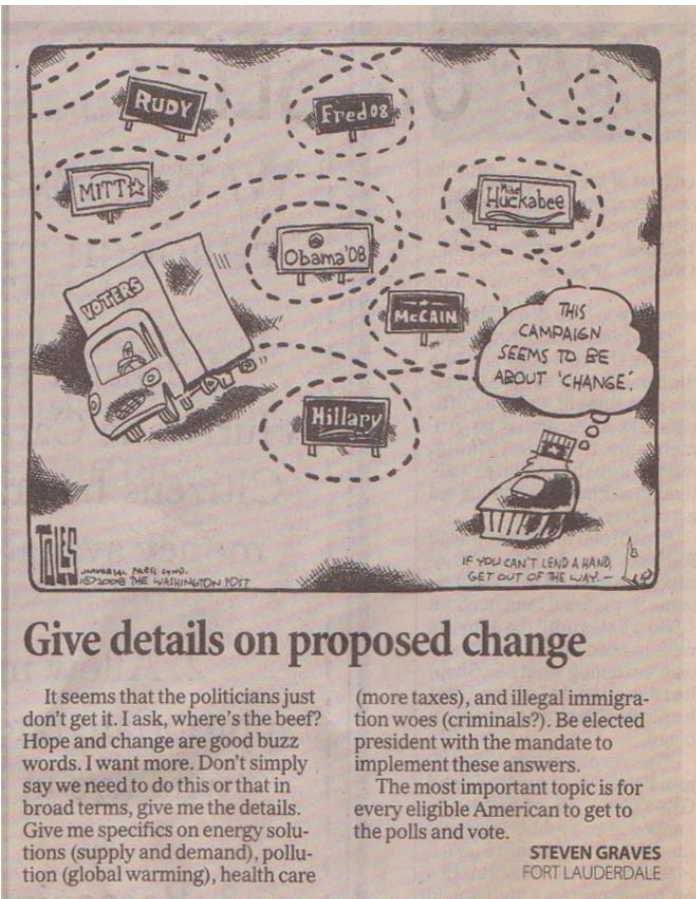
I have enough of the free t-shirts. I don't need the free cholesterol test since I don't fast before donating. The paper "Certificate of Appreciation" has been downgraded from shiny aluminum coating. Sometimes the lettering and spacing of my name looks like an afterthought. The blood drives offering a chance to win a prize often happens right after my donation. (That doesn't motivate me anyway.) If you give at a location besides the main branch the snacks and soft drinks they give you afterwards offer few choices. Believe it or not, the one thing I enjoy is the simple copper pin with the gallon number on it. Imagine my disappointment when I found out (rudely) from the receptionist at the main branch that they don't do that. You'll get the next one at ten gallons (four years minimum). I sent an e-mail to the webmaster that was never answered. I mentioned the pin thing to the phone solicitors for the blood bank and they said that would follow-up. That didn't happen either. Sometimes it is the simplest most insignificant thing that means the most to some people.

Officials have announced that there are 16 million fewer blood donors than they had estimated. Here in South Florida the available individuals who can donate is restricted by their sexual orientation (gay men), young people getting tattoos, and the elderly suffering from such ailments as diabetes.

I donate because I can but my motivation is waning. The "CBCSF" just doesn't seem to care.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



## Give details on proposed change

It seems that the politicians just don't get it. I ask, where's the beef? Hope and change are good buzz words. I want more. Don't simply say we need to do this or that in broad terms, give me the details. Give me specifics on energy solutions (supply and demand), pollution (global warming), health care

(more taxes), and illegal immigration woes (criminals?). Be elected president with the mandate to implement these answers.

The most important topic is for every eligible American to get to the polls and vote.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

**Sent:** Thursday, June 07, 2007 3:35 PM  
**To:** webmaster@cbcsf.org  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Blood Donations

Dear Sir,

I have given blood for many years now and always look forward to getting my next gallon pin. Imagine my surprise when my copper token for six gallons was not in the envelope with my certificate of appreciation (which has degraded from a nice silver memento to one that the average kid can replicate with an amateur knowledge of Photoshop and an inkjet printer). I went to the main branch on SR 7 and was told that you don't do that, you only get a pin for 1, 5, 10, etc. I then asked how I received a pin for 2, 3, and 4, to which the receptionist repeated her statement.

Surely this is a poor example of extreme budget cuts and that the management and directors of the Community Blood Center doesn't really feel this way about the many people that take the time and effort to donate blood regularly. This pathetic experience will not deter me from further contributions to help those like Rachael Rodriguez at Joe DiMaggio's Children's Hospital or the female police officer who was mentioned for my most recent donation but it does make me feel very unappreciated for the 48 pints I have given so far.

A reply would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves





**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 05, 2007 4:43 PM  
**To:**

My parents moved our family to Fort Lauderdale in 1972. My first flight was on an Air Florida propeller airplane.

You had to walk across the tarmac to board the aircraft. The city of Fort Lauderdale wasn't even listed on some maps.

You could find Miami and Palm Beach in big bold letters. Maybe they thought the college kids would get lost and go back home.

Today's full page ad in the Sun-Sentinel is a great example of a Who's who list of political financial contributors.

our local lobbyists.

The fact of the matter is that those opposed to the airport expansion do not vote for the majority of the commissioners to influence the outcome. Unless they plan on higher office and will need our vote later. Although we'll probably forget about it by then.

What can we do?

First, no local contractors may work on the expansion. Take away the self-serving financial incentive for the group

promoting this expansion and who plan on making big bucks off this project. I think the best solution would to

have the military Sea-Bees in charge.

Second, we must maintain the safety record of our airport. A longer southern runway dedicated for landings seems to be best solution. There are many, many example of pilots lining up on the wrong side: left - right. I believe that the raised I-595 roadway prohibits a northern runway for safety reasons when hot - fast landings are required because of weather conditions. The sound from jetliners using the southern runway to land are significant. Also, no aircraft under a specific size or weight. Our private millionairs will just have to use Fort Lauderdale executive. An expensive, significant fine should be imposed, including confiscation of the aircraft for violation of this policy.

The expansion should be attached to other transportation improvements. High speed mono-rail connections between the region airports - Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Palm Beach; cruise port transportation facilities.

Homeowners should be paid the retail value of their property and get to keep it. A deed restriction would prohibit further noise complaint litigation from future property owners. The full benefit of their homestead exemption being completely transferable.

Sounds great, huh. But who's going to pay for it? I don't want to pay for it. Do you? Do you want your taxes increased for decades?

The delays are simply a problem of scheduling. There are specific times that are in high demand. Travelers need to get

to their destination by a set time. Early morning flights for business commuters, connecting flights for leisure guests.

The bottom line for me is this; if the real purpose is to provide more cashflow for a minority of businesses, then vote for the expansion.

But if you really care about the qualitys the majority of the local residents enjoy, stop the expansion, cap the airport limits to a manageable

amount, and send the lobbyists home.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, May 14, 2007 9:06 AM  
**To:** swyman@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** Land deal near airport

Dear Scott Wyman,

I find it amazing that the county could consider buying the acreage. The noise conditions from a new southern runway should cause any developer to run, the current diagonal runway would hinder any height of a hotel, and the permit process would be a nightmare.

With all the outrage over property taxes. I believe it would be political suicide.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** trendsman@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2007 6:12 AM  
**To:**

**Subject:** Re: poverty and health care

Thanks for writing, Mr. Graves. I didn't go into detail about any of the broad issues I mentioned because, like you, I believe that changing minds precedes changing policies. We need a major mental overhaul in this state before things can change for the better. Again, thanks for writing.

All the best,  
Stephen Goldstein

-----Original Message-----

**From:**  
**To:** trendsman@aol.com  
**Cc:**  
**Sent:** Wed, 25 Apr 2007 10:00 AM  
**Subject:** poverty and health care

Dear Mr. Goldstein,

One of the things I look forward to in the newspaper is your opinion column. Today you focused on "War on Poverty". While I agree with you concerning home ownership, public education and job growth, I believe that a change of the mind-set is need in health care. The term "universal" health care infers that the sky is the limit and anything goes. I support "standard" care ( whatever that is finally decided to be.) Prevent the major problems before they occur with medication to lower cholesterol and high blood pressure. Ease access to diabetes materials for sugar control. Other, to-be-determined, needs included. Throw the widest net possible to assist the most people with the limited dollars available. Leave the expense of major surgeries, organ transplants, and cutting edge medical science off the table. Private medical insurance should be the path to pay for these. There are many doctors and medical professionals who provide these services for free for those who can't pay.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 01, 2007 6:34 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com

**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Property Taxes

Dear Sir,

There are many things wrong with the property tax reforms being proposed.

1) The Federal Government doesn't recognize sales tax as a valid deduction. 2006 was the last year available for Floridians with legislation to renew or extend not even put forward in Congress.

2) Increase the sales tax to send to Tallahassee and hope they send it back? How confident should we be over that?

3) If the annual income of a household is \$946,000 and the annual coast of a 2% sales tax hike (estimated - Sun-Sentinel, Feb 25, 2007) is \$4,033, then I say the people are probably living in a multi-million dollar home and are currently paying at least twenty thousand in property taxes, maybe have a water view and more than three thousand sq ft of living space under air.

4) The current situation we find ourselves in is the very reason we have the "Save Our Homes" protection. Just because your neighbor(s) wanted to sell their home(s) for a substantial profit to someone willing and able to pay doesn't mean that you want to move also or that the value of your home is worth as much. Many Floridians would have been forced out of their homes years ago. Is it fair for long term residents to pay more because property "flippers" and speculators have increased the supposed value?

5) We have become our own worst obstacle for less expensive homes. Developers are required to pay for the roads, set aside some of their land for public use (parks and community centers), and are delayed by seemingly endless litigation, although some of it is of their own doing.

6) The focus is on collecting NOT spending our taxes. There have been several instances in the last five years of wasteful and extravagant purchases (buildings and real estate - some not even used) with the extra 13 plus billion dollars statewide that we have entrusted to our public servants.

And now one of the biggest tax spenders is our tax collector?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 20, 2007 2:44 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Iraq situation

Dear Sir,

We are in Iraq. I do not wring my hands with worry over "was it the right thing". The events on the ground tell me it was to be.

A sand storm stopped the advance of our troops until a field of land mines could be exposed saving the lives of hundreds. Many individual acts of bravery, such as the one glaring example at the international airport, changed the tide of battle. Saddam was a tyrant who used every horrifying weapon at his disposal throughout his tenure of oppression and murder. I'm sure he had plans for others too.

My disappointment has been with all of the elected officials of both parties. From the failure to get used donated bullet proof vests that were collected by a Gainesville deputy sheriff over there because of a "tax" problem, to the efforts by the families of the Alabama National Guard to get steel covered Humvees over there only to find after the fact, with no guidance from responsible parties, that their modifications would make it prone to role over endangering the lives of those they were trying so hard to protect.

Even now as the debate rages through congress to cut off funding there are equipment shortages. Individual soldiers purchasing bullet-proof vests for their protection are no longer being reimbursed. Where will the money come from to invest in thwarting radio-signal IED's (improvised explosive device)? And do we really care who owns the patent to stop RPG's (rocket propelled grenade)?

Like all patriotic Americans, I want our troops home. It is neither cut and run nor stay the course that is important at the end of the day but how well we honor our country's foundations of freedom, justice, and individual liberties that we give to others that will define America.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

## Protect troops

We are in Iraq. I do not wring my hands with worry over "was it the right thing?" The events on the ground tell me it was to be.

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STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 06, 2006 10:43 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** foreign policy  
Letters to the Editor  
Sun-Sentinel  
200E. Las Olas Blvd  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Editor,

The foreign policy suit that seemed to fit H.W. Bush so well during the Desert Storm conflict in the 1990's appears to need substantial alterations or possibly a new tailor(s) for "W." to get the job done.

The failure of the six-nation talks to curb North Korea's nuclear proliferation threat; the inability to convince the European Union of Iran's increasing atomic missile threat (or Iran's citizens to plan for the disposal of their nuclear waste); and the absence of discussions with Turkey to find common ground for a lasting peace with their boarder along the Kurdish province of Iraq (providing some glimmer of hope for the region) are only the most glaring examples of our nation's diplomacy failures.

The Hamilton-Baker report released Wednesday advocating discussions with Syria ( a place the toxic gases and production facilities may have been moved to and an "expressway" for terrorists to enter Iraq), Iran ( a known financier of violent organizations such as Hezbollah) underscores our nations leaders current failures throughout the Iraq military campaign ( canvas coated humvee's at the start, antiquated National Guard equipment during deployment, and a lack of top-notch first rate body armor for our kids even today).

The prospects for democracy and renewed freedoms throughout the Middle East region aspiring our new millennia for world peace has become an abstract dream of goodwill for all mankind.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2006 6:53 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Election Issues  
Dear Sirs,

With so many issues zipping around now, which one should decide your vote?

Ron Klein delayed the Everglade's cleanup and put billions of federal grant money at risk. Clay Shaw's votes has put holes in our social safety net. Will a democratic house majority waste all its potential by investigating the past years of the Bush administration?

The FCAT has skeweded basic learning/teaching fundamentals', lottery money is replacing, not enhancing education funds, and Florida still remains at the bottom of national ratings.

The symptom is high appraisal values promoted the last several years by sellers, realtors, and banks. How will doubling the homestead exemption control governmental spending? Won't they just raise the millage rates? Hardships in housing, insurance, and taxes may never be corrected. Florida's "snowbird" economy is being crushed.

All politics are local but what about the global situation? I don't believe for a moment that Iran is seeking nuclear capabilities for peaceful energy development. Why aren't we asking them where they are going to store the toxic waste for thousands of years and how they will protect their people from an "accident"? ( Don't they care or is it really all about the bomb? ) I don't want America to "Cut and run" from a place we shouldn't have gone to in the first place because it is about more then just leaving. I really don't want to stay the course of canvas coated Humvees, garbage site scrounging for armor, our National Guards old and outdated equipment( with federal promises to replace it with the latest and greatest), and tax problems that keep donated vests here instead of protected our kids over there.

So many issues and only one vote.

Steven Graves

**From:** Mail Administrator <Postmaster@PostmasterDomain>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 10, 2006 7:56 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Mail System Error - Returned Mail  
**Attachments:** details.txt; CHARLOTTE RODSTROM - What Happened? (15.6 KB)

.net 007: This e-mail message was undeliverable due to the following reason:

.net 018: Each of the following recipients were rejected by a destination mail system.

Note: The reasons given by the destination mail system are included to help you determine why each recipient was rejected.

Solution:  
Attempt to resend, or contact the recipient by alternate means to let them know about the issue.

Recipient: <ft.lauderdale@comcast.net>  
Reason: not our customer



**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 09, 2006 4:42 AM  
**To:** CRodstrom@fortlauderdale.gov  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Nov 7 public meeting  
Dear Commisioner Rodstrom,

I was in the audience Tuesday afternoon and wish to thank you for your concerns about our district.

I do not want to see parking meters installed north of sunrise. The argument that the \$1.75 cost is cheaper than a movie is misleading. Most movies are at least two hours and when you factor in arriving early the expense is over five dollars. It is a "day at the beach", 8 x \$1.75 = \$14.00 that should be thought of as a true expense for families to go to and enjoy the beach. I also wonder how lifeguards would impact the surfers that use this area during bad weather and rip tide conditions.

I support a moratorium and I am very concerned how the increased density will have impact essential city services like water, sewer, and emergency response times. (Current projections say that there will not be enough clean water and recently efforts have tried to relax water treatment and dump it in the canals.) I do not support Mayor Nagle's position that a barrier island hospital is not needed and that hurricane evacuation plans are a reason to not have one. December through April is still our "season" and there are no hurricanes during this time. An emergency trauma center is needed to help save the lives of our winter residents. The projects approved by the commission in 2000 that are nearing completion have yet to prove their expectations and scope. I believe that a pause is justified while we see just what is really going to happen on the barrier island.

Sincerely,

**From:** Steven  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2006 11:09 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** November Election  
Dear Sirs,

The decisions in the voting booth this time will be difficult for me.

State Rep. Klein voted to extend the time period for the program to clean the Everglades putting billions of federal grant money at risk and increasing the overall cost to the citizens of Florida. He explains that Florida's environmental agency recommended it. If President Kennedy had listened to the generals during the Cuban Missile Crisis, we would all be irradiated and Florida would be a wasteland. Klein's direct mail flyers touting his leadership abilities are falling on deaf ears.

Congressman Shaw's voting record for unfunded mandates is all just "lip service" and empty promises. The money for the American-Mexican "Berlin" wall will no longer be used for construction only. Thanks to the weekly printing in the Sunday Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel I have found that I disagree with many of his choices' even though some could be seen as a effort curb the growth in federal spending.

Our educators are teaching to the FCAT not for knowledge and learning, lottery money is replacing education funds not enhancing them, and doubling the homestead exemption addresses the symptom not the problem. Unrealistic appraisal values that sellers, realtors, and banks have promoted the last several years are now causing hardships in housing, insurance and taxes that may never be corrected. The seasonal economy for some business will be effected when the "snowbirds" say that enough is enough.

I don't believe for a moment that Iran is seeking nuclear capabilities for peaceful energy development. Why aren't we asking them where they are going to store the toxic waste for thousands of years and how they will protect their people from an "accident"? ( Don't they care or is it really all about the bomb? ) I don't want America to "Cut and run" from a place we shouldn't have gone to in the first place because it is about more then just leaving. I really don't want to stay the course of canvas coated Humvees, garbage site scrounging for armor, our National Guards old and outdated equipment( with federal promises to replace it with the latest and greatest), and tax problems that keep donated vests here instead of protected our kids over there.

I'm glad I still have a few weeks to make the decision.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2006 11:58 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** immigration

Letters to the Editor  
Sun-Sentinel

Dear Sir,

We have a government program for H-1B workers. Why don't we have the same for migrant laborers? The diversity of America is one of our greatest strengths. I want people to come to America — the land of the free and the home of the brave; the world's great experiment in democracy that began in 1776. But don't sneak in like a thief in the night nor greet me at the back door like some indentured servant or slave.

The fact is all of America's ancestors came from somewhere else. Even the "native" Indians crossed the Bering Land Bridge from Asia during an ice age. According to anthropologists we're all Africans! To find an answer to handle the current wave of immigration we only need to look at our history.

Uncontrolled immigration through California for the building of the transcontinental railroad brought a culture of drug addiction and disease with the results being discrimination and a laissez-faire attitude over their deaths from the hard, dangerous work available to them. Gang violence was a common occurrence. Controlled immigration through such places as Ellis Island helped them assimilate into America and keep out the sick and criminals. It also helped instill a sense of pride to be an American. (An example of uncontrolled immigration would be the westward migration in the 1800's. It destroyed a buffalo based economy, native language was replaced by a foreign tongue, and now they inhabit small pockets of land called reservations that are in some ways similar to the "gated" communities we find across the country. Alcoholism and illiteracy are major problems.)

We should not cheapen the task to become an American nor give unwarranted benefits to those hiding in the shadows.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

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communities we find across the country. Alcoholism and illiteracy are major problems.)

We should not cheapen the task to become an American nor give unwarranted benefits to those hiding in the shadows.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

### Migrant workers could use H-1B

We have a government program for H-1B workers. Why don't we have the same for migrant laborers? The diversity of America is one of our greatest strengths. I want people to come to America — the land of the free and the home of the brave, the world's great experiment in democracy that began in 1776. But

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, June 23, 2006 9:20 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Immigration, Energy, and Iran

Letter to the Editor  
Sun-Sentinel

Dear Sir,

Immigration, Energy, and Iran

The fact is all of America's ancestors came from somewhere else. Even the "native" Indians crossed the Bering Land Bridge from Asia during an ice age. According to anthropologists we're all Africans! To find an answer to handle the current wave of immigration we only need to look at our history.

Uncontrolled immigration brought a culture of drug addiction and disease with the results being discrimination and a laissez-faire attitude over their deaths from the hard, dangerous work available to them. Controlled immigration through such places as Ellis Island helped them assimilate into America and also keep out the sick and criminals. (An example of uncontrolled immigration would be the westward migration in the 1800's. It destroyed a buffalo based economy, native language was replaced by a foreign tongue, and now they inhabit small pockets of land called reservations. Alcoholism and illiteracy are major problems.)

There is so much we can do to end our dependency on foreign energy. But do not be deceived by political "sound bites". When they say "clean coal", ask them how it works and watch them stammer and stumble. Raising the burning temperature from 3000 degrees to 5000 degrees lowers the emissions. This knowledge is twenty years old. It's just not easy to make a container that can easily burn coal at 5000 degrees.

Natural gas is already used as a substitute in many commercial and governmental automobiles.

Recent tests of semiconductor bits only a few nanometers in diameter have broken the "one electron per solar photon" barrier. Solar power conversion could be over 40% compared with today's 15-20% efficiency. The computer chip maker Intel already plans on delivering CPU's of 35nm before the end of this decade so the technology for mass production is within our grasp.

And finally, of course Iran will make nuclear bombs. They are known supporters of terrorists groups around the world funded by (our) petrol dollars. What I find amazing is how Russia and China accepts the "peaceful purposes" explanation when they are even more threatened by their "home-grown" terrorists who will use the "suitcase" bomb(s) made in Iran.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 10:11 AM  
**To:** wgibson@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** easy energy answers  
Dear Mr. Gibson,

Your headline "No Easy Energy Answers" is so wrong I can only think that you have been brain-washed by the words in the air surrounding our nation's capital. It is not the answers but rather the questions being asked that is clouding and confusing our response. Home generated solar energy can power electrical commuter cars; wave action will fuel stationary buoys electrical production; and microwave "filters" are able to clean up coals smoke exhaust. The embarrassing pittance called "funding" for alternative energy research is a national tragedy. We have had decades since the last energy crisis to solve our (lack of) energy situation.

Drill in Alaska? Why, so we can sell it to other countries (Japan)? (Oh yea, there is that federal debt thing). More nuclear power? We can't even safely dispose of the by-products we create more of every day! Technology is revealing answers every day (there is a bacterium that will convert ordinary bio-waste into a "diesel" fuel. We don't need to waste our food for it.) If we can spend billions (trillions?) on a foreign war to keep us safe, surly we can spend just as much to make us energy independent.

The answers are really simple -- do we want to do it?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** davidbroder Internet DropBox <davidbroder@washpost.com> on behalf of davidbroder <davidbroder@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2006 11:04 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Thank you for your e-mail

Thank you for your e-mail to David Broder. With the popularity of these columns, we receive upward of 1,000 e-mails a week. We regret that we cannot respond to all of them. If we did, there would be no column to e-mail about. But be assured that David Broder or one of his editors will read every e-mail. If you are responding to one of Mr. Broder's columns, we invite you to let us know in which newspaper you read the column (unless you have already done so in your e-mail) by replying to [davidbroder@washpost.com](mailto:davidbroder@washpost.com). Then we will share your e-mail with your local newspaper editor, who would also appreciate hearing your feedback.

Sincerely,

The Washington Post Writers Group

**From:** Gibson, William E. <WGibson@tribune.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 1:33 PM  
**To:** 'Steven Graves'  
**Subject:** RE: easy energy answers

Mr. Graves,

Thanks for your response and your thoughts on this matter.

Certainly alternative energy sources of the kind you mentioned pose a lot of intriguing answers, and probably that is the direction the nation will turn. I think even the most optimistic visionaries, however, would say it will take quite some time to make these conversions.

For now, we're examining a price spike, and people are looking for immediate relief. For that, there are no easy answers.

best wishes,

bill gibson

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 1:11 PM  
**To:** Gibson, William E.  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** easy energy answers

Dear Mr. Gibson,

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The answers are really simple - do we want to do it?

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 2:47 PM  
**To:** 'Gibson, William E.'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: easy energy answers

Dear Mr. Gibson,

Wow, what a quick response. Here are some thoughts for immediate relief. (They all cost government money but hey what's a little more red ink. The real deficit last year was over 700 billion dollars).

Free 30 day bus/tri-rail passes with heavy discounts available for the rest of the year. Instant tele-commuter work at home options through the summer months. No turnpike fees for commuters with three or more passengers. Instant income tax credits of 50% the first year for hybrid/electric cars. California already rebates 30% of solar powers expense and is projected to be energy independent by 2012. Dramatic reduction in consumption will lower the price.

If the spot market can charge 70 dollars per barrel of course domestic producers with a much lower cost basis are going to ask for just as much. That's why Exxon/Mobile is making so much money. Until we stop consuming all the gasoline they can make we're pretty much behind the eight ball. OPEC won't care until their tankers set in port for weeks and their oil fueled spending budgets turn into a train wreck.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

-----Original Message-----  
**From:** Gibson, William E. [<mailto:WGibson@tribune.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 1:33 PM  
**To:** 'Steven Graves'  
**Subject:** RE: easy energy answers

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 10:11 AM  
**To:** wgibson@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** easy energy answers  
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The answers are really simple -- do we want to do it?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2006 7:08 AM  
**To:** kkaye@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hurrican articles  
Dear Mr. Kaye,

Your two pieces concerning Hurricane issues was interesting. Here are some of my views.

Do I plan on evacuating? Not a chance and I live east of the intracoastal! After Wilma had past, even residents with valid proof of residency in the barrier island were not allowed to return for quite some time. The issue of public safety must sometime be trumped by common sense. It was the regulars who quickly cleared the road ways with their chain saws, not government employees.

I take every warning seriously and have put determined effort into preparing my home over the past years. Heavy gauge steel panels go up on the east side (the most serious threat although the islands of the Bahamas help deflect some storms) and aluminum fold-a-guard shutters surround the rest of the house. The roof has been inspected and even now thirty five years later passes the stricter building code for which I get an insurance benefit. While many lost some or all of their barrel tile, my concrete square tile roof that I had pressure cleaned and resealed performed superbly as did others of similar design and care. My home is solid concrete block with impact glass. The only loss I had with Wilma was some screening which I replaced myself (saves on my insurance premium). My neighbor had aluminum panels that were stolen (beer money). During Wilma a coconut broke through a window and he lost his roof!

Having lived here since 1972, I know about food and water storage and my wife and I prepare at the beginning of every hurricane season. I have a generator that didn't even get used for a while (no threats) but the relief of having it when it was finally needed is priceless. When I was filling up my many gasoline containers prior to Wilma I could overhear disparaging remarks and "if it's bad I'll get some *after* the storm". Because of my preparation I was able to help my neighbors save their perishables. I did forget to fill the bathtub with water to flush the toilet but a neighbor let me use their pool water for that.

The most serious threat is the storm surge. The problem is that the "official" measurement at sea is not an entirely realistic estimate of its true height as it comes ashore. This uncertainty is compounded by the actual point of landfall. In the Florida Keys it is required to build your home on stilts because of the flooding potential. If a building code exemption for taller buildings based on a raised first floor were enacted, I'm certain that many new construction projects would be built that way. And if homeowners could avoid the reappraisal nightmare, I'm sure the practice could become widespread!

I don't have to "get used to" hurricanes and I'm not worried about being "cut off on the barrier island". I'm more concerned about the inadequate construction of the schools used as shelters with roofs that can blow off and walls that could collapse; unseen mold, failing plumbing (New Orleans super dome) theft, violence, and rape. Until our elected officials have a better track record dealing with hurricanes other than their primed media posturing (how could the trucks that would be used for just such an emergency not have fuel?, oh yes "not my job mon") I know that I can only be safe if I count on myself.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2006 8:43 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events  
Dear Sir,

Please consider these thoughts on current events for you expanded Monday section since I have recently had a letter selected for printing. Thank you.

Immigration. Please, come to America, home of the free and land of the brave. But do not enter under the cover of darkness like a thief in the night or slip in the back door like some indentured servant. Take my hand at the front gate and let me show you what our country is all about. And let me tell you what needs to be done if you wish to stay and call the United States of America "home".

Abortion is a personal decision. A law is not the answer for those disagreeing with "the choice". Awareness of the options; adoption, no questions asked drop off, and (deeply) personal stories told by other women who have experienced the emotions is the key. That is where the time, effort and money should go; not to legislators election campaigns!

Energy concerns have real importance for our survival through the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Nuclear power is an obsolete 1950's icon of misplaced priorities. It is dangerous (3 Mile Island, Chernobyl) and expensive. The Nevada disposal site is still not online, many, many years late and tens (eventually hundreds?) of billions over budget. To anyone who believes the Iran's nuclear program is for peaceful power purposes only, a desert country where solar energy production could have a real impact, I know of an intracoastal bridge you could buy. Cheap.

The technology to produce our energy requirements is expanding by leaps and bounds even as government sponsored assistance collapses. A patent to produce hydrogen inexpensively using aluminum is a reality, a patent to manufacture microbes to use wasted bio-mass (not food) to create diesel fuel is a reality, and the economical benefit from the increased efficiency of solar cells challenges us to use it. Let's not risk our future by increasing oil exploration and drilling in sensitive areas such as the Gulf of Mexico. We have so many other options available to us now.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, February 20, 2006 3:30 AM  
**To:** georgewill@washpost.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** commander in chief powers  
Dear Mr. Will,

If the President believes that we are at war, then why doesn't the seal of the President in the oval office face in the direction of the arrows not the olive branch?

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**Steven Graves**

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2006 1:21 PM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
Dear Sir,

Please consider the following letter for your opinion page.

Imagine; a spec of dust on a grain of sand along the deep ocean within a small blue planet in an average solar system orbiting a common yellow star sitting beside the spindly edge of an obscure galaxy resting amongst one of the indefinite places in the known universe. And religion(s) believe that we are the linchpin to the entire cosmos? The interstellar void filled with our enormous ego is only exceeded by our capacity for ignorance.

Maybe, in a millennia, should we survive our current chaos, we will do something. But it will happen because of our capacity for love; not revenge, hate, or our propensity for violence.

Steven Graves

## Inflated opinion?

Imagine a speck of dust on a grain of sand along the deep ocean within a small blue planet orbiting a common yellow star sitting beside the edge of an obscure galaxy resting among one of the indefinite places in the known universe. And religion(s) believe that we are the linchpin to the entire cosmos? The interstellar void filled with our enormous ego is only exceeded by our capacity for ignorance.

Maybe, in a millennia, should we survive our current chaos, we will do something. But it will happen because of our capacity for love; not revenge, hate, or our propensity for violence.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

**From:** georgewill Internet DropBox <georgewill@washpost.com> on behalf of georgewill <georgewill@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2006 2:08 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Thanks for your e-mail

Hello,

This is a note to let you know that George Will received your e-mail. Even if you do not get a personal response, please know that Mr. Will or one of his editors will read your e-mail. Thank you for taking the time to write.

If you are responding to a specific column, we are interested in knowing where you read it (unless you already mentioned that in your email.) You can let us know by responding to [georgewill@washpost.com](mailto:georgewill@washpost.com) (although that will result in receiving this auto-response again! Sorry about that.) We like to be able to share feedback with newspaper editors.

Thank you again for writing.

Best,  
The Washington Post Writers Group

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2006 4:03 PM  
**To:** Nightly@NBC.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Is the US at war?  
Dear Sir,

Here is my question. My understanding is that the eagle faces the olive branches when the nation is at peace and will face the arrows when our nation finds itself at war. Your report last night showed several images of the eagle facing the olive branches. There are also special powers the President can assume as Commander-in-Chief during periods of war. What way does the eagle in the oval office face? Is the US really at war? The words say yes but the pictures say no.

Thank you,

Steven Graves

**From:** Kennedy\_Response@kennedy.senate.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2006 1:35 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Thank you

Thank you for your message. Hearing your views is important to me, because it allows me to better understand the constituents that I serve in the United States Senate. It makes me proud to know that my constituents take an active role in our government by corresponding with me, and I look forward to responding to your concerns in greater detail.

As you can imagine, my office receives a great number of messages every day regarding a variety of issues – this is particularly true of e-mails. In the meantime, I just wanted to let you know that your e-mail has been received, and to ask for your patience until I send you a more detailed response.

Again, thank you for writing. Please feel free to visit my website <http://kennedy.senate.gov> to follow my work in the Senate and to learn more about the services my office can provide to you.

Warmest regards

Ted Kennedy

## Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Monday, January 16, 2006 5:40 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** U.S. Constitution

Dear Sir,

Please consider these opinions on current events.

Concerning the challenge to executive orders creating the White House office of the faith based and community initiatives and similar centers in ten federal agencies; Article 2 of the U.S. Constitution vest executive power in a President of the United States. However, Article 1 Section 9 states that no money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law (through Article 1 Section 1) all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States (and, Article 1 Section 8) to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases what so ever. It seems to me that any funding appropriation made by the Executive branch not legislated through congress is wrong. How can a federal judge rule that taxpayers have no standing to challenge funding appropriation made by the executive branch when the Tenth Amendment states: " The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people" (us, the taxpayers).

There is no right to privacy as there is no right to an abortion but we do have the right through the Fourth Amendment to be secure in (our) persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures ... but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the person(s) or thing(s) to be seized. If "seizure" is invoked, by what probable cause I cannot imagine, then this "person(s) or thing(s)" (child!) becomes a possession of the State. It's starting to sound like a science fiction horror story to me. Imagine your parent being the Federal Government.

Finally, there are four amendments securing our right to vote; Amendment 15 (February 3, 1870) race, color ... servitude, Amendment 19 (August 18, 1920) sex, Amendment 24 (January 23, 1964) poll tax, and Amendment 26 (July 1, 1971) age. It seems like it is the one right someone is constantly trying to take away yet one that we fail to counsel fully.

Sincerely,

This is the automated response from the form I filled in on their website. I find it disappointing that it was all about "fill in the blanks" with no personal reference to what was discussed that disappear into the internet vapor. Something may newspapers are using today or at the worst use their "app", one of the most insecure coding "programs" today.

**From:** Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 10:45 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** USA TODAY - Editorial Department (KMM2531081V27041L0KM)

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the 800 to 1,000 letters we receive weekly, we are unable to do so.

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 7:39 AM  
**To:** editor@usatoday.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Islamic protests  
Dear Sir,

If the Islamic community is so outraged over Freedom's expression, through a caricature, of it's thoughts concerning violence, terror, and murder, then they should have their fellow Muslims stop it. However, it seems they have neither the leaders nor the fortitude to make it happen. The action by vicious mobs says it all.

Thank you,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2006 6:09 AM  
**To:** Boris FX, Inc.  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Iran's nuclear ambitions  
Dear Mr. O'Reilly,

You missed the mark this morning on the Today show. A blockade of Iran will not stop them. Sanctions have a failed track record also. I believe that education toward the Iranian citizens of the dangers of having nuclear items on there soil would be a better tact. In American we have a very open society that has worked well to protect us and yet we had a near catastrophic disaster with Three Mile Island and the "closed" ex-Soviet system suffered Chernobyl. There was a "broken arrow" incident in the sixties that fortunately turned out alright. I don't believe that the Iranian's currently in power can (or want) protect their people from such an occurrence and that if the common people knew the risks that they would accept it.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



# Letters to the Editor

## Amendments and our rights

Concerning the challenge to executive orders creating the White House office of the faith-based and community initiatives and similar centers in 10 federal agencies: Article 2 of the U.S. Constitution vests executive power in a president of the United States. However, Article 1, Section 9 states that no money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law (through Article 1, Section 1), all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States and (Article 1, Section 8) to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever.

It seems to me that any funding appropriation made by the executive branch not legislated through Congress is wrong. How can a federal judge rule that taxpayers have no standing to challenge funding appropriations made by the executive branch when the 10th Amendment states: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people" (us, the taxpayers).

There is no right to privacy as there is no right to an abortion, but we do have the right through the Fourth Amendment to be secure in (our) persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures ... but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the person(s) or thing(s) to be seized. If "seizure" is invoked, by what probable cause I cannot imagine, then this "person (s) or thing(s)" (child!) becomes a possession of the state. Imagine your parent being the federal government.

Finally, there are four amendments securing our right to vote: Amendment 15 (Feb. 3, 1870) race, color ... servitude, Amendment 19 (Aug. 18, 1920) sex, Amendment 24 (Jan. 23, 1964) poll tax, and Amendment 26 (July 1, 1971) age. It seems like it is the one right someone is constantly trying to take away, yet one that we fail to counsel fully.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

Steven Graves

From: Steven Graves  
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2005 6:10 AM  
To: letters@sun-sentinel.com  
Cc:  
Subject: Hurricane Wilma  
Dear Sir,

Here are some of my thoughts concerning Hurricane Wilma.

FPL. Let's see: 3 million customers' times 5 days (for a lot of us many, many more) times \$10 a day (more or less) equals \$150 million. I don't recall a shut down of Turkey Point from diminished demand. All of the power plants work at an optimum efficient capacity. FPL didn't lose any money; they just supplied power to the grid at a different profit margin. And don't tell me that our government, insurance agencies, and the power companies can't afford to bury the power lines. Developers do it and still make money.

Comcast. Don't expect a rebate or a good will credit. They don't have to! We pay by the month. Good weather, bad weather, sun spots ... it doesn't matter.

Synchronize the traffic lights? Get real. We have been trained for years to speed to make the lights that the traffic engineers will now adjust (again) to give us expensive tickets to support an inefficient, wasteful, and poor planning government apparatus that we have voted in.

Eventually we will be blamed for all of this because of global warming and our (selfish ?) desire to ride instead of walk, eat something besides wild berries, and enjoy life in air-conditioning (for a few more months, January/February for us Floridians is just around the corner) instead of ... Well, you get the message.

The buck stops here, but the finger points to us, not them.

Sincerely,

## Where to point finger of blame

Let's see: 3 million customers times five days (for a lot of us many, many more) times \$10 a day (more or less) equals \$150 million. I don't recall a shutdown of Turkey Point from diminished demand. All of the power plants work at an optimum efficient capacity. Florida Power & Light Co. didn't lose any money; they just supplied power to the grid at a different profit margin. And don't tell me that our government, insurance agencies and the power companies can't afford to bury the power lines. Developers do it and still make money.

Don't expect a rebate or a goodwill credit from Comcast. They don't have to. We pay by the month. Good weather, bad weather, sun spots ... it doesn't matter.

Synchronize the traffic lights? Get real. We have been trained for years to speed to make the lights that the traffic engineers will now adjust (again) to give us expensive tickets to support an inefficient, wasteful and poor planning government apparatus that we have voted in.

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The buck stops here, but the finger points to us, not them.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE



## Meet challenge

It doesn't matter that human waste cluttered the streets, that garbage filled the gutters or a shower/bath left you feeling dirty and wanting another after Katrina arrived. It doesn't matter that there were black-on-black crimes of rape and murder, roaming bands of armed thugs promoting anarchy and lawlessness, or that the situation has filled the heart with despair and anger.

What matters is how we reach out to those in need. What matters is how we face the faceless multitude crying for help. What matters is how we as a nation answer the call to action, to find the solutions, to meet the challenge that will define our greatness as Americans, as human beings, as citizens of the world.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

September 21, 2005

## Different faiths

The differences between Muslims and Christians boil down to this: One says God is great and the other says God is love.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

June 14, 2005

## Quick fixes for most problems

So many issues, so little space in the newspaper.

Concerning the looming water shortage: There is a viable solution patented by the U.S. Energy Department. It is Ocean Thermal, U.S. Patents 4,210,819 and 4,210,820.

Concerning the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport expansion: Give the problem to Miami International Airport by building a high-speed monorail between the two with the \$500 million. (Is that all it's going to cost?!) Concerning the Muslim terrorist murderers: If the Muslim communities are so outraged, where are the protest rallies against the beheadings?

Gay marriage? Sure. We've already seen how the Connecticut millionaire didn't want to divide his assets with his "life" partner. The separation of church and state is very clear in the Constitution. Just don't use religious differences as a hate crime.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

November 1, 2004

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 28, 2005 6:43 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Sen. Grassley Social Security Challenge

Dear Editor,

Okay, Senator Grassley, here's my plan!

Peg the total zero base social security tax up to \$100,000 dollars. Just do it! Have a secondary (lower) social security level start at a million dollars. I think they can afford it. Now, raise the tax rate for both at the same amount as the beneficiaries' cost-of-living adjustments. That should help moderate the lobbyists jargon on both sides of the issue. Have this total as a separate, you don't have to itemize, deductible from the federal income tax to prevent congress from raiding this "piggy bank". They already have almost TWO TRILLION dollars and will have over FOUR TRILLION dollars by 2017, the estimated mean water line for contributions/withdrawals.

Private investment accounts? Forget it. President Bush has already spent the transfer costs of two and a half trillion dollars (est.) through his deficit spending over the last five years, and that doesn't even count the trust fund surplus! Anyway, there are already plenty of government supported/sponsored savings plans; IRA, Roth IRA, 401K, 529 ... etc.

And finally, to the young kids who say their "entitlement" won't be there so why should they pay, here this: if you earn 25K your tax is \$1912.50, 40K - \$3060, 100K - \$7650. Get real; you spend more on beer and video games. If you're in your 20's and earning 100K, you're a very luck kid. It keeps the elderly off the streets and out of the soup kitchens so you can continue to ignore them anyway. Sure, they move too slow and drive down the street with their turn signal flashing but you owe them - just as the next generation will owe you. Think about it.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2005 5:18 AM  
**To:** letters@sun-sentinel.com  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Letters to the Editor  
Dear Sir,

I know that emotions are strong about this subject, but I believe that history may judge George Bush to be America's worst President.

The release of two trillion dollars (so far - not counting the infusion of money from Social Security that they are spending) of government debt into the world economy has depressed the value of the dollar (Euro vs. Dollar and still falling) and threatens its' status as the world's reserve note (money kept in foreign banks and out of circulation). The sudden release of these dollars could cause a world-wide depression and unimaginable consequences.

Our nation's recruitment for the all volunteer army is failing. The lies about our initial mission in Iraq and stealth "mission creep", inadequate equipment and supplies (armored Humvee's, signal jammers to prevent roadside bombs, and available replacement parts) and the sacrifices of our National Guard (bankrupt business, loss of homes, divorce due to multiple deployments, and almost nonexistent medical care for some when they return home) are all contributing to the realization of a "broken" force.

Finally, President Bush's solution to Social Security, a program that has reduced the poverty level of our seniors by over fifty percent could end it completely. The government has been "borrowing" money from Social Security since Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" initiative and hiding its overall spending costs. They trade our dollars for cheap paper IOU's that don't even keep up with inflation so they tax us some more and reduce the benefits. Of course it's a bargain basement exchange; the government is getting extra money from the government administered by the government. Here's an idea, liquidate all the trust fund assets for cash on the open market and renegotiate for a return that will keep pace with the "mysterious" 7.5% stock market average return. But it will never happen because the credit worthiness of the United States, already on the edge due to Bush's massive borrowing because of fiscally unsound tax cuts would be completely trashed.

Sincerely

Steven Graves

**From:** Mail Delivery Subsystem: <MAILER-DAEMON@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 15, 2005 1:04 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Returned mail: User unknown  
**Attachments:** details.txt; ATT00004.txt

The original message was received at Sat, 15 Jan 2005 13:03:26 -0500 (EST)  
from 207-172-205-211.c3-0.rdl-ubr5.trpr-rdl.pa.cable.rcn.com [207.172.205.211]

\*\*\* ATTENTION \*\*\*

Your e-mail is being returned to you because there was a problem with its delivery. The address which was undeliverable is listed in the section labeled: "----- The following addresses had permanent fatal errors -----".

The reason your mail is being returned to you is listed in the section labeled: "----- Transcript of Session Follows -----".

The line beginning with "<<<" describes the specific reason your e-mail could not be delivered. The next line contains a second error message which is a general translation for other e-mail servers.

Please direct further questions regarding this message to your e-mail administrator.

--AOL Postmaster

----- The following addresses had permanent fatal errors -----  
<coislingerb@aol.com>

----- Transcript of session follows -----  
... while talking to air-xj02.mail.aol.com...  
>>> RCPT To:<coislingerb@aol.com>

<<< 550 MAILBOX NOT FOUND  
550 <coislingerb@aol.com>... User unknown



## Citizens initiative stance expected

I was not surprised to read your opinions, "Constitutional amendments: Flawed process needs repair." At a time when very few registered voters participate in the process because their opinions are not heard or their vote doesn't matter, you advocate taking away another choice. Don't tell me that big bucks donors aren't influencing legislation. Remember the Everglades Restoration bill passed this year?

And why does every discussion seem to spiral downward to the unfunded mandate for a bullet train? Maybe we're tired of the asphalt expansion over our diminishing natural beauty that is Florida. Can you admit or even consider the benefits that fewer cars will have upon the health of Florida? When you quote the expense of the project, balance it with road dollars conserved and the health benefits from lower auto emissions. Auto fatalities would decrease if there were a bullet train between here and Naples.

The citizen initiative process yells, "We're not happy and we demand change." We vote for representatives to legislate, the power to write and pass laws. When they don't listen because we're the little people that don't have the time or money to influence the laws being passed, we must become the "squeaky wheel" to get the job done.

Your opinion of "legislative initiative" is just another way to muddy and delay the voting process and sweep us, the concerned citizens of Florida, under the rug.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

December 8, 2003

## Letters to the Editor

### Lack of concern led to Sept. 11

The commission investigating the events before the Sept. 11 horror seems to be a forum for the political harpies seeking traction for their favorites. A glimmer of the elements leading up to a connecting link to the terrorists' success and America's failure glosses over one vital aspect.

It tears at the very fabric of our free society. Reports have been made that many other nongovernmental individuals, through either rumor or complacent smugness, did not find the anxiety (an abnormal and overwhelming sense of apprehension and fear) their concern and were able to cope with their intimate knowledge of what might and indeed did happen.

This loss of caring and concern for our fellow human beings by whatever rationale they prescribed to themselves has exposed a much larger emotional deformity in our free society. The narcissistic tendency by a few has brought a foreboding evil upon us all.

"We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred is a wedge designed to attack our civilization." — Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1940.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

### The worst of the aggressive drivers

If you haven't driven west on the 17th Street

May 12, 2004

### Slow federal growth, reduce taxes for all

In January of this year, [Federal Reserve Chairman Alan] Greenspan speculated that current conditions envisioned paying off the debt in five years. That's \$3.5 trillion in five years (\$700 billion per year). He then warned about the consequences, the effect on the Treasury markets and suddenly having huge surpluses in year six. A premium would be required to retire outstanding debt before its maturity.

A \$1.6 trillion reduction over 10 years (\$160 billion a year) doesn't seem all that much when you consider the fact that real government spending is almost \$2 trillion this fiscal year. And why pay

more to retire the national debt than you have to?

Of course these numbers are not a fixed yearly amount divisible by five (debt reduction) or 10 (tax reduction). It is an ever-increasing curve to larger amounts based on productivity, unemployment and economic expansion.

Are President Bush's proposals fair? I think slowing the growth of government spending is a great idea. Many departments still increase more than the rate of inflation, and everybody should get some kind of tax relief. OK, a small percentage of a large number is still big, but success is still the American dream. Don't penalize hard work and discourage the desire for betterment.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

March 19, 2001

Causeway to Federal Highway (U.S. 1), you are missing a truly awesome South Florida experience. Some of the most rude, aggressive and dangerous drivers ply their road rage there.

The most interesting spectacle occurs at the intersection of Miami Road. Some drivers turn left here, thinking that they can beat the congestion to State Road 84 and quickly bypass others to Interstate 595. However, the area speed limit is 25 and the traffic enforcement there loves to hand out citations.

Then there are the drivers in the middle lane poised to pounce on the slow movers and unsuspecting ones with a quick lane change or a forceful "Let me merge in," usually without a turn signal.

In the late afternoon, as traffic backs up eastward beyond Publix, the really special people want their importance and righteous savings of a few moments given to them.

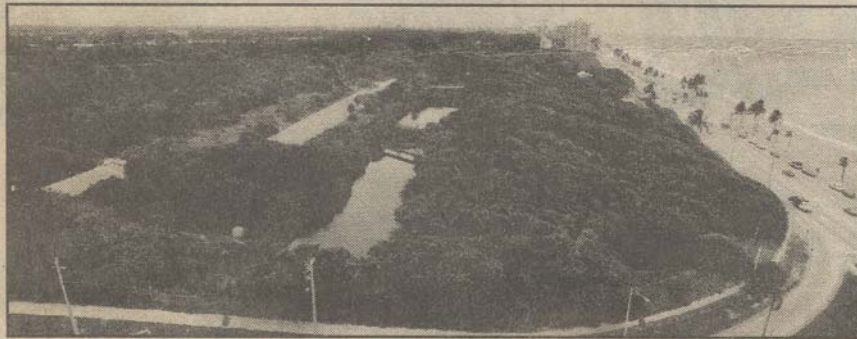
Don't miss the next exciting display of our finest example of "me-firstism." Coming again today.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

May 5, 2002



July 6, 1991



File photo/John Curry

John Birch State Park, looking north from Sunrise Boulevard.

## Right questions offer insights into candidate

Some may call it "ambush" journalism but in some circumstances it is a valid way to achieve a keener insight about a candidate.

If Edward Kennedy had stated that his desire for the presidency was "because the government of the United States is not doing its best for the people of the United States," could he have beaten Jimmy Carter for the Democratic nomination?

What if Lamar Alexander had answered the New England milk price question differently? What if he had demonstrated his knowledge about how the current price is achieved through regulation and monetary supports and then commented on his feelings toward them?

Our latest guerrilla exposure to a candidate's persona was the four-leaders question. I believe that Texas Gov. George W. Bush should have responded differently. Who a country's leader is today is not as important as an understanding of how those people live and the influence their culture and history plays, such a large part of their daily lives.

Yes, Pakistan's leader is "the general" but, to me at least, the how

## Berry's World



and the why he is now in power (historical military rule and civilian political corruption) is more important from a foreign policy standpoint than simple name "recalling."

A creative answer is needed for the 21st Century's situations of debt and taxes, not Donald Trump's quick fix.

Our next executive should be able to see, understand and verbally confer the "Big Picture" for all of the actions initiated from the executive mansion. We need a good leader in the White House.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

January 14, 2000

## Beach redevelopment has been a huge disaster

I would like to say a few words about the beach redevelopment situation in Fort Lauderdale. So the beaches' "escape plan" to pay for a five-year delay and millions wasted in fees is dead. Gov. Chiles stopped it with his veto. I'm not surprised, because everything that has been done with this project has courted failure.

Lost opportunities, such as the face-lift and room expansion for the Oceanside Hotel by a group of interested investors, torpedoed because it didn't fit into the "master plan." A Norwegian businessman wanted to build a 300-room hotel next to the Bonnet House but he was turned down, too, due to someone's "aesthetics." Similar poor management has brought about the possibility of losing Birch Park to an Ohio college's hotel development plan.

This a classic example of a government project gone out of control. Strong interest from investors of medium size was "driven away" while a colossus was chosen who began asking for concessions which prompted the added tax.

The "our way or no way, feet in cement mentality" has not allowed the possible success from the "Art of the Deal." The ability to join together and create a coalition of interested small pieces was foiled by the "buy it, bulldoze it, then completely rebuild it for a billion dollars plan." Instead, establish a theme of the area and let free enterprise help achieve the prosperity for us!

I'm glad the tax for a total 10 percent on rooms failed. Even at 9 percent, tourists are selecting "cheaper" accommodations elsewhere. A strong dollar hurts European business that has sustained many businesses after the loss of "Spring Break." We don't need another tax.

We need to rationalize our conception and a solution. Eventually, when the redevelopment has matured, the owners will gross over a billion in sales. Surely that interests someone willing to work for it, not demanding it be brought to them on a silver tax platter.

S.D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale



July 6, 1991

## Generating nuclear power in a safe way is a gamble

I feel compelled to answer R. Emmett Tyrrell's advocacy of nuclear power. Forgotten or overlooked is the fact that the cooling pipes in one nuclear plant were so clogged with tools and aluminum cans from the construction workers that entire sections had to be taken apart and replaced.

There is also the bankrupt project in the Pacific Northwest raising utility bills astronomically and the storage problems of spent nuclear waste. Remember the nuclear plant in California built near an earthquake fault center?

Radiation dangers are all too clear. Maybe Tyrrell should move next to one for 20 or so years and then tell us he doesn't have leukemia or cancer. Finally our government admits 30 years after the fact that it unfortunately contaminated the environment and we the taxpayers will have to pay hundreds of billions of dollars to clean it up.

Safe generation of nuclear power is a crap shoot and businessmen know it. That's why they are canceling construction orders and not seeking permits for new ones. France's blackmail prospects by terrorists have led it to reassess its dependency on nuclear power, too.

S.D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale

## Port not an ideal spot for convention center

I can't understand all this confusion about the location for our convention center. Why would a visitor want to look at rusty steel or an electric power plant, hear the roar of jet planes or smell petroleum products?

Port Everglades is not known for its esthetic beauty. It is a commercial center that will grow as the economy expands. Careful planning is needed to accommodate this growth so that another fiasco comparable to the airport runway-hotel location disaster does not occur again.

The parking situation can be remedied with tiered garage facilities. And how much worse will the traffic really be anyway? People don't drive A1A to get somewhere fast. They want to view the beach and that is where we should focus our attention.

Let some developer lose his shirt building a hotel that won't sell in the port, not the taxpayers of Fort Lauderdale.

S. D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale

Date Unknown

Steven

From: krugman@nytimes.com  
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2005 10:52 AM  
To:

Dear Reader,  
Thanks for your email. I do read all the letters and emails that are fit to print, but though I wish I could respond to all of them, that wouldn't leave me time to do anything else.  
Regards,  
Paul Krugman

From: Steven Graves  
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2005 7:51 AM  
To: krugman@nytimes.com  
Cc:  
Subject: Social Security Lessons  
Dear Mr. Krugman,

Thank you for your informative article that was printed in my local paper, The Sun-Sentinel. I have been searching for an answer to a specific social security question unsuccessfully that maybe you know. The "talking heads" like to spout off about the dwindling base of payee's for the system, now down to three to one and shrinking. What was the beginning tax rate to support the system at the twelve to one ratio? And when it changed to six to one, did the tax rate double? And now at a three to one ratio has it doubled again? And if so, isn't the tax rate and beneficiaries still the same?

Just wondering through the haze and fog of misinformation.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

From: Dodson, Mike (Bill Nelson) [Mike\_Dodson@BillNelson.senate.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2005 9:34 AM  
To: Steven Graves  
Cc: Shapiro, Dan (Bill Nelson)  
Subject: RE: Space Shuttle

Hello Steven,

Excellent video! You are very talented. I believe that some of the points that you made and some of the concerns that you have will be addressed in a Hearing tomorrow morning at 10:30 or during subsequent interaction between NASA and the Congress. The upcoming Hearing will be a Space Shuttle and Beyond Hearing, and should be on NASA TV - if not one of the C-SPAN channels should be covering it.

I was born in 1963, and am a member of the same generation as you. I am very optimistic about the future of our Nation's Space Program, because Senator Nelson is ranking on the Space and Science Subcommittee, and Dr. Mike Griffin is running NASA.

Thanks for contacting our Office, and thanks for the great video.

Respectfully,

Mike

Michael Dodson  
Legislative Fellow for Space, Science, and Technology Issues  
Senator Bill Nelson's Office

From: Steven Graves  
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2005 8:11 AM  
To: Dodson, Mike (Bill Nelson)  
Cc:  
Subject: Space Shuttle

Dear Mr. Dodson,

Having been born in 1968, I can truly say that I am a member of the "Space" generation. Growing up in the sixties with "Lost in Space" and "Star Trek" helped instill a desire to support the exploration of outer space. I was even lucky enough to meet the only scientist to go to the moon, Dr. Schmidt, who made the amazing discovery of orange soil there.

My letter to you hopes to convey the worries I have about the current space shuttle program and the plans for its future replacement. We both know that the space shuttles are highly complex machines and a technical marvel of our age. I believe that the space plane is safe, it is the launch structure that is risky and major changes need to occur.

Cost constraints have always been the bane of our current space program. After the Apollo missions, the money dried up. Columbia's cheap aluminum frame shook so badly on its first launch that it was described as a "beer can". Tons of water is now pumped in at launch to soften those vibrations. The beautiful flowing lines of the vehicle was overlooked and called a "space truck". The size of its cargo bay could suspiciously hold a Soyuz space capsule, a concession to the military's fiscal support.

I believe that a redesign with a first stage positioned under the space shuttle would eliminate many of the dangers that the shuttles encounter during the first two minutes after launch. Increased weight could be lifted with a vertical scenario. The tilt back and forth at launch would be eliminated and so would the need for the explosive

5/24/2005

Page 2 of 2

bolts holding the solid rocket boosters to the pad. Another safety concern that hasn't failed.

A reusable heavy lift vehicle is an important asset for us and I hope that a steady path of upgrade solutions will allow us to continue to use our fleet of shuttles for some time to come.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

P.S. I hope that you have had the opportunity to view my short film, "Shuttle Moments" that I have left with Senator Nelson's office.



Steven

From: letters@nytimes.com  
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2004 6:04 PM  
To:  
Subject: The New York Times - automated reply

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times. If your letter is selected for publication, we will contact you before printing it. But because of the volume of letters received, we regret that we are not able to respond to all submissions, other than by this automated reply.

Letters should be no longer than 150 words and may be shortened to fit allotted space. They must be exclusive to The Times and refer to an article that has appeared within the last seven days. Letters must also include the writer's address and daytime and evening phone numbers (not for publication). Please do not send attachments.

If you send us more than one message in any seven-day period, you will receive only one automated reply.

For a complete list of departmental e-mail addresses, please write to [directory@nytimes.com](mailto:directory@nytimes.com).

Sincerely,

The New York Times

From: Mail Administrator <Postmaster@mail.bellsouth.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2004 12:20 AM  
To:  
Subject: Mail System Error - Returned Mail  
Attachments: details.txt; product insurance (3.53 KB)

.net 007: This e-mail message was undeliverable due to the following reason:

.net 015: The destination mail system was not reachable within the allowed period.

Note: This error message is usually due to one of the following network problems:  
a. The recipient's mail system is turned off.  
b. The destination mail system is not currently running.

Solution:  
Attempt to resend, or contact the recipient by alternate means to let them know about the issue.

Your message was not delivered within 4 days.  
Host wswj.com is not responding.

The following recipients did not receive this message:

<lovemoney@wswj.com>

February 5, 2003

Letters to the Editor

Columbia's charmed life has ended.

She started life as the unwanted step-child of a space agency whose achievements took humans to the moon and back. Their golden age had ended and NASA was saddened over the prospects of becoming a backwater, under funded and fading government agency.

The technology hurdles were tremendous as congress nicked and dimed the expense. Columbia's frame was made of aluminum instead of the more costly titanium. On her initial mission the space shuttle shook and vibrated so violently that the astronauts were surprised it didn't fall apart on the launch pad. NASA's quick fix was to flush more water in to help deaden the sound.

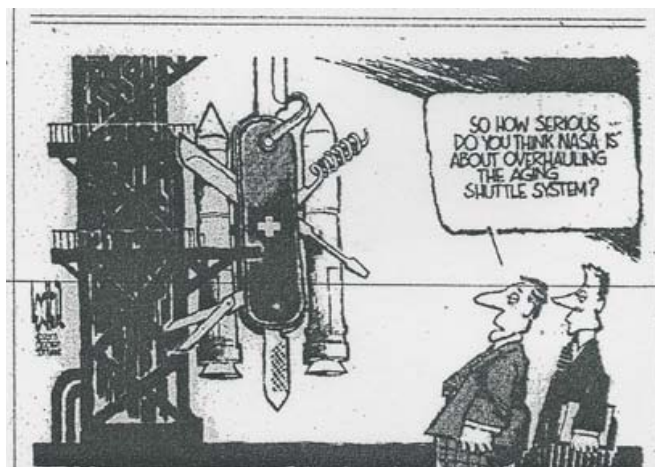
Weight soon became a factor in the newly labeled "Space Truck", a very unglamorous description of the space shuttle's sleek aerodynamic architectural lines. The external tank was no longer painted white and plans were started to run the main engines over 108% of specifications. (Did this contribute to the cracked fuel lines?) Spare parts became increasingly hard to find for the twenty-something year old. The promises made during her youth to get the funding for the program became impossible to achieve and admittedly were over opportunistic for such a complex reusable space launch vehicle.

Safety and sensibility were glazed over in 1987 with tragic results for Columbia's sister ship Challenger. Their have been other near misses involving the protection around the rocket engines cones that brought catastrophe within five seconds of happening one summer.

NASA has admitted that pieces of the external tanks foam insulation have fallen off before. The situation could have been addressed and fixed. But with a fiscal handicap from congress and protests for scientific achievements and human benefits for other programs constricting the available dollars for options, nothing was done. The life boat for the international space station at one point had been canceled. Without it only three crew members could be on the station at a time. Money for the emergency escape vehicle has been restored but the delay continues to limit options (especially for the doomed Columbia's crew.)

Many questions remain. Was the orbit for Columbia required for the scientific experiments or could an orbit that would have brought it closer to the International Space Station have achieved the same results? Did NASA simply not consider this because Columbia could not dock with the station? Could hi-resolution pictures from earth have shown the damage to Columbia from the broken off foam insulation? Was cost a factor in not undertaking the effort? Since it had happened before on this same shuttle and everything turned out "okay", why worry? Why is a manned maneuvering unit (MMU) not standard equipment on every flight? Is weight such an important and significant factor in shuttle operations that everything else is of secondary importance? Was the yaw effect used in the reentry program to protect the left wing from the extraordinary heat on the surface tiles a factor? Will congress fund the money to allow improvement to the space shuttles operations when changes are deemed necessary for this reliable though still a "work in progress" reusable space launch and recovery system?

Steven Graves



## Redesign shuttle's launch phase

The greatest achievement of mankind in the 20th century could be our achievement of space flight. Our ability to slip through our home's gravity and move through our solar system to explore and learn is truly a special accomplishment.

But the continuity of our success is at risk. While, indeed, the shuttle program has been a remarkable victory over 20-plus years, recently it has been found lacking. The safety of the orbital vehicle is not 100 percent. The launch phase of the project's design has failed and must be redesigned. The debris field of the solid rocket boosters and the liquid fuel tank should never, ever endanger the vehicle again.

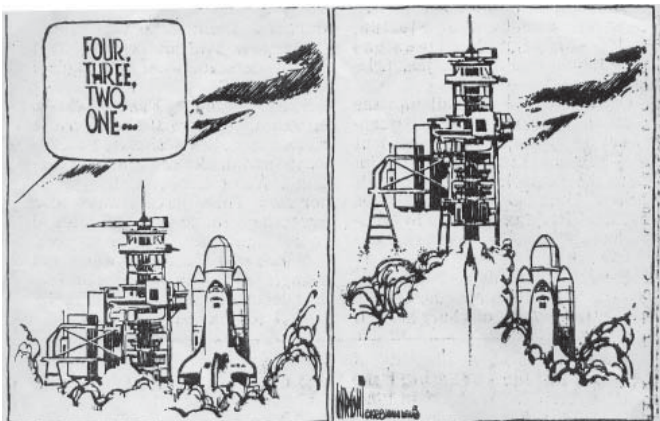
(There are more than 400 debris field hazards occurring in the first five minutes after lift-off. Most significant dangers involve the explosive bolts for separation from the launch pad, the solid rocket boosters, and the liquid fuel tank.)

The liquid-fueled rocket motors should be placed in a separate first-stage platform that can be recovered, inspected and reused. Additional lift-off thrust requirements would continue to use the solid rocket propulsion system. Yes, each flight's cost would be more, but this fundamental change must be achieved for a return to flight safety. The inherent dangers of space flight require it. The search for our astronauts' safety demands it.

STEVEN GRAVES  
FORT LAUDERDALE

Date unknown





## Space out there waiting for us to take advantage of it

Once again the shortsightedness of our nation's space program is stagnating the awesome dynamics of current scientific and technological achievements.

Breakthroughs in medicine, such as safer insulin for diabetics and more precise diagnostic equipment, are literally waiting in the heavens for us to reach out and use.

Americans have designed space-motors that will allow human access to other planets in weeks, not months. This could open a whole new field for the processing of space ma-

terial. From only these few ideas a boon awaits us in space.

Unmanned shuttle-clones must be constructed now to deliver the bulk required. As the *Discovery's* launch date slips further back, weather will become an increasingly important factor.

What is the launch status of our other shuttles? Has their necessary maintenance also been neglected for the past two years? Our tax dollars must not be squandered.

S. D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale

## Chinese students pressed for unrealistic outcome

I have derived a different portrait of today's China. An important state visit had taken place, easing Sini-Soviet tensions, but very demanding for Chairman Deng who is over 80 years old, ill and now in the hospital.

The Communist Party leaders of China wanted to achieve their own *perestroika* to help their modernization drive until the humiliation of the military through non-violence forced a resolve of will into the picture. Accommodation was their watchword because these men understand China's need for advancement.

The early success of the protesters at the expense of the military led to a situation of anarchy. As fear of the collapse of the Beijing government spread, controlling the situation became impossible. The students wanted to win.

Instead of consolidating their accomplishments and backing down when the tanks arrived, they pressed for complete victory — an

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"IF YOU SEE ANYBODY LIKE THIS, EXECUTE HIM AT ONCE"



unrealistic and impossible outcome. It was a bridge too far too fast.

The failure of the protest leaders to see this cost many lives and now the isolation of China — causing further regression of a society into the Dark Ages.

S. D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale

July 9, 1989

August 11, 1989

August 14, 1986



## America's shuttle program needs to push forward

I disagree strongly with your assertion that NASA is now on the right track. The O-ring and insulating putty setup for the Solid Rocket Boosters (SRBs) should be eliminated with construction of single unit SRB. The contention that reusing the pieces saves money is groundless. How much has been saved now?

The true problem with the SRBs was the need for increased thrust to propel heavier military satellites into orbit.

The deterioration of the O-rings became significant after this increase in main engine thrust to 104 percent with the additional aerodynamic stress and pressure applied; Lawrence Malloy's [manager of the solid

rocket booster program] famous "... risks are acceptable..." decision.

The space shuttle is not an all-weather launch vehicle. I support several launchings at the same time for optimal performing characteristics. Our country's space requirements demand not one, but seven new shuttles; \$25 billion should be budgeted for this in 1987.

Science-fiction possibilities of yesterday are manifested by today's technical ingenuity waiting for usage. The return to our society through curiosity, learning and hope, especially upon our youth, is tremendous. It deserves our support.

S.D. GRAVES  
Pompano Beach



Seminole Chief James Billie in traditional garb.

## Chief's urge to kill panther diminishes achievements

I am outraged over some of the circumstances of the James Billie case and would like to share my thoughts with your readers.

The heritage of the Seminoles is rich with the respect for and understanding of nature. The remoteness of Florida saved it from the rape of the white man until the beginning of the century and even then this influence was restricted until recent times. The fact that we have such a variety of wildlife and plants is directly related to the culture of the Seminoles.

Preserving the environment has

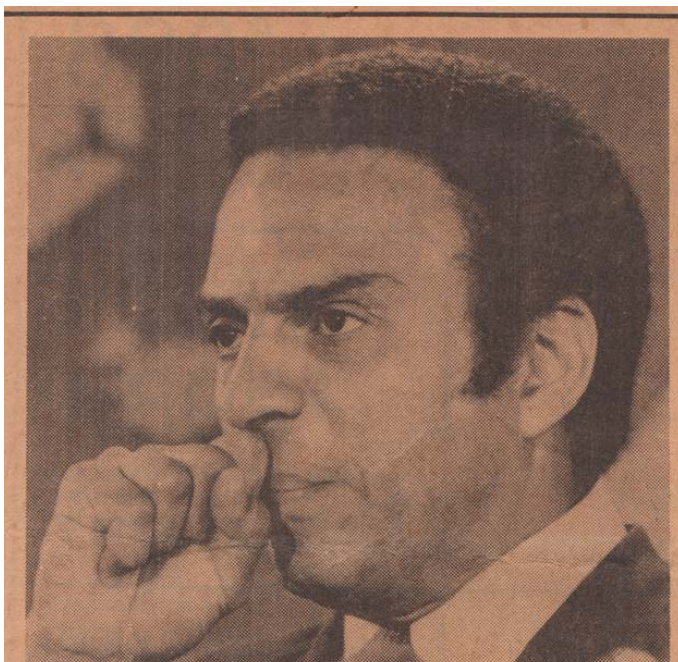
been the forte of the Indians throughout American history and is one area where they can truly shame the white man. Surely they want to protect the remaining aspects of their identity. I can't remember a chief before James Billie that felt the need to kill a Florida panther for religious reasons, for the personal gain.

The heights of their achievements is now somehow irreparably diminished in my eyes because of the slaughter of a beautiful, endangered creature in their custodial care.

S. D. GRAVES  
Fort Lauderdale

Date unknown





### *Andrew Young Supported*

Andrew Young resigned after being accused of hampering the peace process by meeting with a PLO representative. Andrew Young did not hamper the peace process through this meeting. The solution in the Middle East is not a cut and dried one; all factors must be considered, including the PLO.

He did violate U.S. foreign policy. So what? We have to remove the blinders that have been put on the eyes of our government. Andrew Young was a man that followed through with his beliefs and was not intimidated by Washington bureaucrats. Although he could have used a better approach in voicing his views on issues, he should not be remembered as a sore thumb to President Carter. He did not "pass the buck." Instead he met the issues head on.

"Was he good for our country?" Yes. I hope we get more statesmen like him.

Steven Graves  
Fort Lauderdale

Date unknown

### *Be thoughtful in vote*

I have made my decision. On page 12 of the November issue of *Omni* magazine, John Anderson advocates more aerospace development, my most important issue. We must strive to make our future; the future of our children, and their children's future, safe, exciting, joyful and beautiful.

However, this may not help other voters who cannot make up their minds. Let's examine the facts. The November, third quarter, statistics are out. The record losses by our great industrial corporations are staggering. How can an incumbent president run on this type of record? It has been said it is not his fault. Are they serious?

How can Reagan seriously suggest a separate, lower minimum wage for teenage blacks. I suggest that youngsters' paychecks not be taxed and the employers get certain tax incentives (breaks) by hiring teen-age youths.

We need a man of foresight, strength, courage, and wisdom capable of unifying and leading our country. I don't think it is either Carter or Reagan.

A vote is a very individualistic act. When you walk into the booth please pause for one moment to reflect, consider and pick your choice for the highest, most powerful, most honorable position we, the American citizens, can extend to a member of our society, the office of the presidency of the United States.

Steven Graves  
Fort Lauderdale

Date unknown

Date unknown

### *We need a man of vision*

Here we are well into October 1980 and the political blitz is underway. None of the candidates represents a majority of my views. So now I must decide which problem is the most important.

Abortion? If so, then I would vote for John Anderson. I don't believe that the government has a right to be in this area. Have we forgotten the lesson of coat-hanger abortions, of unwanted and abused children, of dead teenagers? Who would give the government the right to condemn them?

Defense? If so, then I would vote for Ronald Reagan. Our servicemen deserve a decent wage and our equipment deserves proper care. We deserve the strength and security that our technology offers. What a sad state we are in with archaic ships, tanks and planes. I advocate the M-1 tank, the B-1 bomber and the neutron bomb.

Social problems? If so, then I would vote for Jimmy Carter. That is the only thing he has done in his four years. The old, the hungry and the poor need our help. They deserve a chance. We all do.

I would lay emphasis on the \$4 billion Space-Energy program (the construction of a solar cell manufacturing plant on the moon). However, none of the candidates have. Do these men represent the vision and ideals of our country?

Just one more question please. In 10 years most of the third-world countries will have nuclear capacity. We live in a finite world with dwindling resources and a growing population. I believe the time for discussion is over. We must decide now.

Steven Graves  
Fort Lauderdale

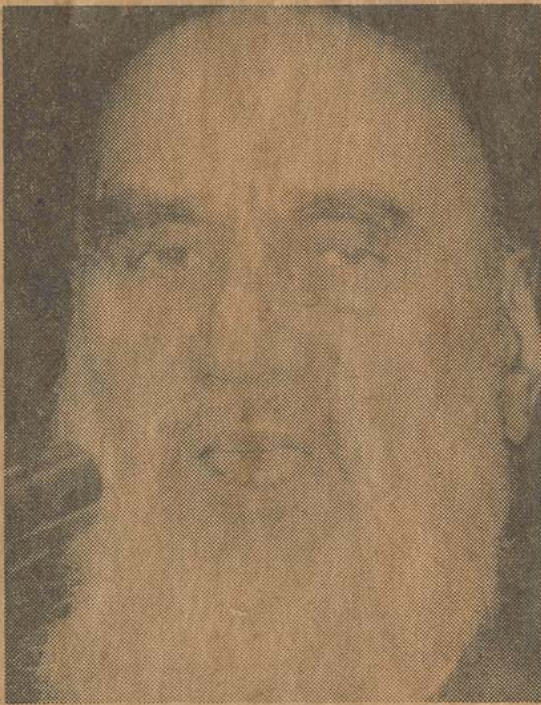
March 12, 1980

### *Neutron bomb a good defense*

Having read about recent developments in Afghanistan, I would like to make a suggestion to President Carter concerning the Soviet Communists. If they feel free to use chemical weapons against Afghanistan freedom fighters, then the United States must develop the neutron bomb for defensive purposes.

Steven Graves  
Fort Lauderdale





**Ayatollah Khomeini**

### *Students no better than shah*

I have been trying to understand the position of the Iranian students holding U.S. citizens hostage. I am now so built up with anger for them and their cause that I must express feelings.

They are asking us, the American people, to become partners in a cause that will mean certain death to a man. I could not ask a man to die for me. We are not unfeeling to their cause, but their actions lead us to believe they are a pack of bloodthirsty wolves full of hate, destruction, and revenge. To subject fellow human beings to such terror to accomplish a goal is, in my mind, unforgivable. They (the hostages) have done nothing wrong. Violent action can only hurt a righteous cause. I believe the shah was a mass murderer and deserves a trial by his peers, the countries of the world. But are the Iranian students, now, any better than he?

Steven Graves  
Fort Lauderdale

September 14, 1979

Date unknown

## Fort Lauderdale News

Published by  
**Gore Newspapers Company**

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**Byron C. Campbell**  
President  
**F.P. Pettijohn**  
Editorial Director

**Robert B. Holzkamp**  
General Manager  
**Gene Cryer**  
Editor

### *The goal of the Polish people is to find a new life*

I am deeply concerned for the people of Poland and would like to state some views concerning their present situation. I don't believe their purpose is to consciously overthrow the communist rule. They want a say in the way they live their life. They do not want to be machines but people with desires for advancement and the right to seek opportunity and better themselves through their own sweat and hard work. They want freedom to go and worship God in their own way and to seek the best education for their children. They want the right to become all that they can and to have the possibility to attain a way of life free from shortages and starvation.

This, however, means the attainment of personal freedom that the Soviets cannot allow, but will have no choice but to allow. They may be able to forestall the certain eventuality for a time, but the communist rule of oppression is following a path of certain failure. A government ruling the people cannot sustain itself, but a government ruled by the people shall be sustained because of itself.

The Polish people want the civil liberties civilization demands and will seek at all costs — even their lives. There is nothing but existence without freedom.

Steven Graves  
Fort Lauderdale



## Replies

### USA Today

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: The lines in the sand

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

Regretfully, although we would like to publish all of the hundreds of letters we receive weekly, we are unable to do so. If no one from USA TODAY has called you within two weeks, it is probable that your letter has not been selected. Don't give up; try again.

Those letters that are published are selected for their timeliness, clarity, accuracy and length, as well as for the insight and perspective they provide. Letters of 175 words or fewer are the most likely to be published.

Our goal is to put together a daily package of diverse opinions reflecting views from people representing all walks of life and different areas of the country.

Again, thank you for your interest in USA TODAY. We look forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

Bill Sternberg  
Editor of the Editorial Page

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2018 3:38 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Gun Regulation

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2016 11:06 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: religion

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

**From:** USAT ED Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 27, 2015 2:53 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Violence in America

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

**From:** Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2011 3:56 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** USA TODAY - Editorial Department (KMM2030588V57493L0KM)

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

**From:** Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 27, 2008 4:32 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** USA TODAY - Editorial Department (KMM5843139V39527L0KM)

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

**From:** Letters to the Editor <editor@usatoday.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2006 10:45 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** USA TODAY - Editorial Department (KMM2531081V27041L0KM)

Dear USA TODAY Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board of USA TODAY, thank you for the letter to the editor you submitted.

Your opinion is important to us. If your letter is one of those selected for publication, congratulations. The competition for space is keen.

### Washington Post

What I find most interesting from these automated responses is that previously submitted concerns/opinions to other newspapers - their competition - will not be considered and yet they advocate for the freedom of speech. Their freedom.

**From:** Letters To Ed <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2018 11:59 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Autoreply Re: Supreme Court Vacancy

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

You can now follow Washington Post letters to the editor on Twitter at @PostLetters

Here are some tips on how to increase the chances of having your letter published in The Post:

1. Letters should be fewer than 200 words and exclusive to The Washington Post.
2. The letter should not have been submitted to or previously published by any other media or Internet outlet, including online comments or feedback posted to Web sites. If you have posted similar comments to a Web site, your letter cannot be considered.
3. The letter should include the writer's full name, home address, e-mail address and home, business and cellphone numbers. Anonymous letters will not be considered. The Post does not publish letters under pseudonyms.
4. Writers must disclose any present or past personal or professional involvement with the subject matter of their letters.
5. All letters are subject to editing and abridgment.
6. Do not send attachments; they will not be read.
7. We prefer letters that cite an article or item that has appeared in the print edition of The Post within the past three weeks. We do not publish letters in response to articles or other items that appeared only on The Post's Web site.
8. To make your e-mailed letter as easy to read as possible, do not send any graphics or digital letterhead, put the text of your letter in the body of the e-mail and cite the article or item about which you are writing in the body or subject line.

Again, thank you for sending us a letter.

Sincerely,  
The Washington Post letters staff

-----Original message below-----

**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Subject:** Supreme Court Vacancy

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2017 10:22 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Autoreply Re: Protests

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

You can now follow Washington Post letters to the editor on Twitter at @PostLetters

Here are some tips on how to increase the chances of having your letter published in The Post:

1. Letters should be fewer than 200 words and exclusive to The Washington Post.
2. The letter should not have been submitted to or previously published by any other media or Internet outlet, including online comments or feedback posted to Web sites. If you have posted similar comments to a Web site, your letter cannot be considered.
3. The letter should include the writer's full name, home address, e-mail address and home, business and cellphone numbers. Anonymous letters will not be considered. The Post does not publish letters under pseudonyms.
4. Writers must disclose any present or past personal or professional involvement with the subject matter of their letters.
5. All letters are subject to editing and abridgment.
6. Do not send attachments; they will not be read.
7. We prefer letters that cite an article or item that has appeared in the print edition of The Post within the past three weeks. We do not publish letters in response to articles or other items that appeared only on The Post's Web site.
8. To make your e-mailed letter as easy to read as possible, do not send any graphics or digital letterhead, put the text of your letter in the body of the e-mail and cite the article or item about which you are writing in the body or subject line.

Again, thank you for sending us a letter.

Sincerely,  
The Washington Post letters staff

-----Original message below-----

**From:** m  
**To:** letters@washpost.com  
**Subject:** Protests



**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2015 11:25 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Autoreply Re: Iran

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

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3. The letter should include the writer's full name, home address, e-mail address and home, business and cellphone numbers. Anonymous letters will not be considered. The Post does not publish letters under pseudonyms.
4. Writers must disclose any present or past personal or professional involvement with the subject matter of their letters.
5. All letters are subject to editing and abridgment.
6. Do not send attachments; they will not be read.
7. We prefer letters that cite an article or item that has appeared in the print edition of The Post within the past three weeks. We do not publish letters in response to articles or other items that appeared only on The Post's Web site.
8. To make your e-mailed letter as easy to read as possible, do not send any graphics or digital letterhead, put the text of your letter in the body of the e-mail and cite the article or item about which you are writing in the body or subject line.

Again, thank you for sending us a letter.

Sincerely,  
The Washington Post letters staff

-----Original message below-----

**From:** letters@washpost.com  
**To:** <letters@washpost.com>  
**Subject:** Iran  
-----  
**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:36 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Irans Nuclear Ambitions

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

**From:** letters <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2014 5:15 PM  
**To:** m  
**Subject:** Thank you for writing to The Washington Post

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review.  
Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending us your letter to the editor. We review every letter that we receive, and we value the views of all

**From:** davidbroder Internet DropBox <davidbroder@washpost.com> on behalf of davidbroder <davidbroder@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2006 11:04 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Thank you for your e-mail

Thank you for your e-mail to David Broder. With the popularity of these columns, we receive upward of 1,000 e-mails a week. We regret that we cannot respond to all of them. If we did, there would be no column to e-mail about. But be assured that David Broder or one of his editors will read every e-mail. If you are responding to one of Mr. Broder's columns, we invite you to let us know in which newspaper you read the column (unless you have already done so in your e-mail) by replying to [davidbroder@washpost.com](mailto:davidbroder@washpost.com). Then we will share your e-mail with your local newspaper editor, who would also appreciate hearing your feedback.

Sincerely,

The Washington Post Writers Group

**From:** georgewill Internet DropBox <georgewill@washpost.com> on behalf of georgewill <georgewill@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2006 2:08 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Thanks for your e-mail

Hello,

This is a note to let you know that George Will received your e-mail. Even if you do not get a personal response, please know that Mr. Will or one of his editors will read your e-mail. Thank you for taking the time to write.

If you are responding to a specific column, we are interested in knowing where you read it (unless you already mentioned that in your email.) You can let us know by responding to [georgewill@washpost.com](mailto:georgewill@washpost.com) (although that will result in receiving this auto-response again! Sorry about that.) We like to be able to share feedback with newspaper editors.

Thank you again for writing.

Best,  
The Washington Post Writers Group

**From:** System Administrator  
**To:** 'singletarym@wash-post.com'  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 11:15 AM  
**Subject:** Undeliverable: Bogus gas saving promises

Your message did not reach some or all of the intended recipients.

**Subject:** Bogus gas saving promises  
**Sent:** 7/29/2008 11:15 AM

The following recipient(s) cannot be reached:

'singletarym@wash-post.com' on 7/29/2008 11:15 AM  
550 [PERMFAIL] destination not valid within DNS

**From:** postmaster@isp.att.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 10:08 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Returned mail: delivery problems encountered  
**Attachments:** details.txt; Bogus gas saving promises (2.43 KB)

A message (from < >) was received at 29 Jul 2008 14:07:59 +0000.

The following addresses had delivery problems:

<[singletarym@washpost.com](mailto:singletarym@washpost.com)>  
Permanent Failure: 550, No\_such\_user\_-, psmtpt  
Delivery last attempted at Tue, 29 Jul 2008 14:08:03 -0000

## New York Times

**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 4:15 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: My opinion on the Constitution Of the United States

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. **We regret that because of the large number of submissions we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.**

Here are some guidelines:

Letters should ideally be 150 to 200 words and may be shortened to fit allotted space. They must be exclusive to The **Times** (no prior publication in other news outlets, except for [nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)). They should generally refer to an article that has appeared within the last seven days.

**We reserve the right to edit all letters, and to trim to fit allotted space.**

To be considered for publication, letters **MUST** include the writer's name, address, current location (where you are writing from) and daytime and evening phone numbers at your current location (for verification, not publication). We do not accept anonymous or open letters.

We generally do not publish more than one letter from the same writer within any 60-day period, but reserve the right to be flexible. (This applies to the daily letters page, but feel free to submit letters to the weekly sections.) If we select your letter for publication, you consent to our right to republish it, in any and all media, and to license third parties to publish it as well.

If you submit your contact information as a result of this automated reply, please re-send the letter with it. (In the subject line, please indicate the headline of the article you're responding to, and delete "automated reply.") You will receive an auto-reply only once every four days.

**Because of computer security concerns, we do NOT accept attachments; they will NOT be opened.** Please re-submit your letter pasted into the body of an e-mail message.

**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2015 11:24 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: Iran

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. We regret that because of the large number of submissions (often 1,000+ a day), we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.

Here are some guidelines:

Letters should ideally be no longer than 150 words (O.K., maybe a tad more) and may be shortened to fit allotted space. They must be exclusive to The **Times** (no prior submission to, or publication in, any other medium, including the web, except for [nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)). They should generally refer to an article that has appeared within the last seven days. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

To be considered for publication, letters **MUST** include the writer's name, address, current location (where you are writing from) and daytime and evening phone numbers at your current location (for verification, not publication).

We generally do not publish more than one letter from the same writer within any 60-day period, but reserve the right to be flexible. (This applies to the daily letters page, but feel free to submit letters to the weekly sections.) If we select your letter for publication, you consent to our right to republish it, in any and all media, and to license third parties to publish it as well.

If you submit your contact information as a result of this automated reply, please re-send the letter with it. (In the subject line, please indicate the headline of the article you're responding to, and delete "automated reply.") You will receive an auto-reply only once every four days.

**Because of computer security concerns, we do NOT accept attachments; they will NOT be opened.** Please re-submit your letter pasted into the body of an e-mail message.

**From:** Letterstoed Internet DropBox <letters@washpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:36 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Iran's Nuclear Ambitions

[This is an automatic reply sent to all who send us letters for review. Please do not reply to this e-mail.]

Thank you for sending a letter to the editor. We review every letter we receive, and we value the views of all who send us comments. Because of the large volume of submissions, however, we do not respond to letters we do not plan to publish. If we are considering your letter for publication, we will contact you, probably by e-mail, in advance of publication.

You can now follow Washington Post letters to the editor on Twitter at @PostLetters

**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2015 8:58 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: Violence in America

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. We regret that because of the large number of submissions (often 1,000+ a day), we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.

**From:** Letters, NYT <letters@nytimes.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 26, 2014 11:17 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Automated Reply Re: current events

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times.

If your letter is selected for publication — in all editions (print and online) or only online, and possibly in The International New York Times as well — we will contact you within a week. We regret that because of the volume of submissions (often more than 1,000 a day), we are not able to respond to all of them, other than by this automated reply.

Here are some guidelines:

Letters should ideally be no longer than 150 words (O.K., maybe a tad more) and may be shortened to fit allotted space. They must be exclusive to The Times (no prior submission to, or publication in, any other medium, including the web, except for [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)). They should generally refer to an article that has appeared within the last seven days. We reserve the right to edit all letters.

To be considered for publication, letters MUST include the writer's name, address, current location (where you are writing from) and daytime and evening phone numbers at your current location (for verification, not publication).

We generally do not publish more than one letter from the same writer within any 60-day period, but reserve the right to be flexible. (This applies to the daily letters page, but feel free to submit letters to the weekly sections.) If we select your letter for publication, you consent to our right to republish it, in any and all media, and to license third parties to publish it as well.

If you submit your contact information as a result of this automated reply, please re-send the letter with it. (In the subject line, please indicate the headline of the article you're responding to, and delete "automated reply.") You will receive an auto-reply only once every four days.

Because of computer security concerns, we do NOT accept attachments; they will NOT be opened. Please re-submit your letter pasted into the body of an e-mail message.

For requests for corrections in news articles: [nytnews@nytimes.com](mailto:nytnews@nytimes.com)  
Other letters asserting factual errors will be sent to the appropriate editors.

To reach the [public editor](mailto:public@nytimes.com), Margaret Sullivan, the readers' representative: [public@nytimes.com](mailto:public@nytimes.com)

A 2004 essay by Thomas Feyer, the letters editor:  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/05/23/opinion/23READ.html>

## Steven

**From:** letters@nytimes.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 28, 2004 6:04 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** The New York Times - automated reply

Thank you for your letter to The New York Times. If your letter is selected for publication, we will contact you before printing it. But because of the volume of letters received, we regret that we are not able to respond to all submissions, other than by this automated reply.

Letters should be no longer than 150 words and may be shortened to fit allotted space. They must be exclusive to The Times and refer to an article that has appeared within the last seven days. Letters must also include the writer's address and daytime and evening phone numbers (not for publication). Please do not send attachments.

If you send us more than one message in any seven-day period, you will receive only one automated reply.

For a complete list of departmental e-mail addresses, please write to [directory@nytimes.com](mailto:directory@nytimes.com).

Sincerely,

The New York Times

## Steven

**From:** krugman@nytimes.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2005 10:52 AM  
**To:**

Dear Reader,  
Thanks for your email. I do read all the letters and emails that are fit to print, but though I wish I could respond to all of them, that wouldn't leave me time to do anything else.  
Regards,  
Paul Krugman

## Los Angeles Times - Tribune

**From:** Letters <Letters@latimes.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 15, 2018 2:57 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven

**From:** Letters <Letters@latimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:30 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

Submissions should be no longer than 150 words and must respond to stories that have appeared in The Times; please include the title of the article, preferably in the subject line.

We do not accept letters that are part of letter-writing or petition campaigns. We also do not accept letters that appear to have been sent to more than one publication (including websites, web message boards and e-mail distribution lists). Note that you may have received this autoreply message as a result of signing an online petition or group letter.

We require a name, a city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification. If you have not included this information with your letter, please send it now to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com). Please include the subject and/or text of your original letter as well. We will publish your name and city of residence only.

Our e-mail system cannot process attachments. If you have sent your submission with an attachment, it will be deleted automatically. Please resubmit your letter in the body of an e-mail message to [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

Letters become the property of The Times and may be edited. They may be republished in any format.

We will send another e-mail if your letter is under consideration to appear in the newspaper or on the website.

Because of a quirk in our e-mail program, some letter writers have received messages reporting that their submissions to The Times were deleted without being read. In fact, we review every submission. We apologize for any confusion these messages may cause.

Thanks again for writing to the Los Angeles Times.

For more information, please visit [www.latimes.com/letters](http://www.latimes.com/letters) (letters submission form and FAQ in right-hand column) or write us at [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com).

**From:** Letters <DoNotReply@tribune.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:25 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

**From:** Letters <DoNotReply@tribune.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:28 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Your letter to the Los Angeles Times

Thank you for your submission to the letters page of the Los Angeles Times. We have received your e-mail and will review it within seven days.

A reminder about our guidelines:

Submissions should be no longer than 150 words and must respond to stories that have appeared in The Times; please include the title of the article, preferably in the subject line.

We do not accept letters that are part of letter-writing or petition campaigns. We also do not accept letters that appear to have been sent to more than one publication (including websites, web message boards and e-mail distribution lists). Note that you may have received this autoreply message as a result of signing an online petition or group letter.

**From:** Barabak, Mark <Mark.Barabak@latimes.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 1:09 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Ted Cruz

Heya  
Thanks for reading. You might consider submitting your thoughts for publication at [letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com)  
Bests  
mzb

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 5:14 AM  
**To:** Barabak, Mark

**Subject:** Ted Cruz

Dear Sir,

I find it amusing, after several years of the Obama (Kenyan) administration(s) something Bill O'Reilly put to rest, that the GOP establishment is now advocating that their nominee be a person born on foreign soil; not in an embassy, on a military base nor outpost, or in transit to America. Something highlighted by our local democratic legislators.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves



**From:** Gibson, William E. <WGibson@tribune.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 1:33 PM  
**To:** "Steven Graves"  
**Subject:** RE: easy energy answers

Mr. Graves,

Thanks for your response and your thoughts on this matter.

Certainly alternative energy sources of the kind you mentioned pose a lot of intriguing answers, and probably that is the direction the nation will turn. I think even the most optimistic visionaries, however, would say it will take quite some time to make these conversions.

For now, we're examining a price spike, and people are looking for immediate relief. For that, there are no easy answers.

best wishes,

bill gibson

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 27, 2006 1:11 PM  
**To:** Gibson, William E.  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** easy energy answers

Dear Mr. Gibson,

Your headline "No Easy Energy Answers" is so wrong I can only think that you have been brain-washed by the words in the air surrounding our nation's capital. It is not the answers but rather the questions being asked that is clouding and confusing our response. Home generated solar energy can power electrical commuter cars; wave action will fuel stationary buoys electrical production; and microwave "filters" are able to clean up coals smoke exhaust. The embarrassing pittance called "funding" for alternative energy research is a national tragedy. We have had decades since the last energy crisis to solve our (lack of) energy situation.

Drill in Alaska? Why, so we can sell it to other countries (Japan)? (Oh yea, there is that federal debt thing). More nuclear power? We can't even safely dispose of the by-products we create more of every day! Technology is revealing answers every day (there is a bacterium that will convert ordinary bio-waste into a "diesel" fuel. We don't need to waste our food for it.) If we can spend billions (trillions?) on a foreign war to keep us safe, surly we can spend just as much to make us energy independent.

The answers are really simple - do we want to do it?

## Other Replies

**From:** Sanchez, Mary <msanchez@kcstar.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 18, 2014 8:55 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Hero's

Mary Sanchez is out of the office.

--

Mary Sanchez  
Editorial Columnist  
The Kansas City Star  
1729 Grand Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
816-234-4752  
[msanchez@kcstar.com](mailto:msanchez@kcstar.com)  
@msanchezcolum

**From:** MSanchez@kcstar.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 21, 2009 8:52 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** RE: Immigration issue

Thanks for sending:

Mary Sanchez  
Editorial Columnist  
The Kansas City Star  
1729 Grand Blvd.  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
phone 816-234-4752  
fax 816-234-4940

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2009 12:44 PM  
**To:** [msanchez@kcstar.com](mailto:msanchez@kcstar.com)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Immigration issue

**From:** R Patron [[rachel\\_patron@yahoo.com](mailto:rachel_patron@yahoo.com)]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 03, 2008 8:27 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Re:

Dear Steven:

I enjoyed your letter very much. After the creation of the bomb, Robert Oppenheimer, had severe doubts, nay, nightmares, about what might happen to his creation in the future. It seems to be unfolding ion our time. Most people are more interested in destroying their enemies, than building their own societies.

Keep writing.

All the best

Rachel Patron

**From:** Dodson, Mike (Bill Nelson) [[Mike\\_Dodson@BillNelson.senate.gov](mailto:Mike_Dodson@BillNelson.senate.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2006 9:34 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Cc:** Shapiro, Dan (Bill Nelson)  
**Subject:** RE: Space Shuttle

Hello Steven,

Excellent video! You are very talented. I believe that some of the points that you made and some of the concerns that you have will be addressed in a Hearing tomorrow morning at 10:30 or during subsequent interaction between NASA and the Congress. The upcoming Hearing will be a Space Shuttle and Beyond Hearing, and should be on NASA TV -- if not one of the C-SPAN channels should be covering it.

I was born in 1963, and am a member of the same generation as you. I am very optimistic about the future of our Nation's Space Program, because Senator Nelson is ranking on the Space and Science Subcommittee, and Dr. Mike Griffin is running NASA.

Thanks for contacting our Office, and thanks for the great video.

Respectfully,

Mike

Michael Dodson  
Legislative Fellow for Space, Science, and Technology Issues  
Senator Bill Nelson's Office

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2006 8:11 AM  
**To:** Dodson, Mike (Bill Nelson)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Space Shuttle

Dear Mr. Dodson,

Having been born in 1968, I can truly say that I am a member of the "Space" generation. Growing up in the sixties with "Lost in Space" and "Star Trek" helped instill a desire to support the exploration of outer space. I was even lucky enough to meet the only scientist to go to the moon, Dr. Schmidt, who made the amazing discovery of orange soil there.

My letter to you hopes to convey the worries I have about the current space shuttle program and the plans for its future replacement. We both know that the space shuttles are highly complex machines and a technical marvel of our age. I believe that the space plane is safe, it is the launch structure that is risky and major changes need to occur.

Cost constraints have always been the bane of our current space program. After the Apollo missions, the money dried up. Columbia's cheap aluminum frame shook so badly on its first launch that it was described as a "beer can". Tons of water is now pumped in at launch to soften those vibrations. The beautiful flowing lines of the vehicle was overlooked and called a "space truck". The size of its cargo bay could suspiciously hold a Soyuz space capsule, a concession to the militaries fiscal support.

I believe that a redesign with a first stage positioned under the space shuttle would eliminate many of the dangers that the shuttles encounter during the first two minutes after launch. Increased weight could be lifted with a vertical scenario. The tilt back and forth at launch would be eliminated and so would the need for the explosive

5/24/2005

## Miami Herald

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <[heralded@miamiherald.com](mailto:heralded@miamiherald.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 12:11 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Stand Your Ground

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <[heralded@miamiherald.com](mailto:heralded@miamiherald.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Current Events

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <[heralded@miamiherald.com](mailto:heralded@miamiherald.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 9:20 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: February 14

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <[heralded@miamiherald.com](mailto:heralded@miamiherald.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 26, 2017 5:47 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Current events

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <[heralded-canned.response@miamiherald.com](mailto:heralded-canned.response@miamiherald.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 20, 2014 9:37 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Voting

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

**From:** Herald Ed, MIA <[heralded@miamiherald.com](mailto:heralded@miamiherald.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2018 11:47 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Re: Gun regulation

Thank you for submitting your Letter to the Editor. This is an automatic response.

We welcome letters that are exclusive to The Herald, that include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. If you did not include this information, please re-send your entire letter along with the required information. There is no need to resubmit the letter if it has these requirements.

Because of space limitations, we edit those letters selected for publication.

Although we are unable to acknowledge or print all letters that we receive, we do value your comments.

**From:** Kennedy\_Response@kennedy.senate.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2006 1:35 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Thank you

Thank you for your message. Hearing your views is important to me, because it allows me to better understand the constituents that I serve in the United States Senate. It makes me proud to know that my constituents take an active role in our government by corresponding with me, and I look forward to responding to your concerns in greater detail.

As you can imagine, my office receives a great number of messages every day regarding a variety of issues – this is particularly true of e-mails. In the meantime, I just wanted to let you know that your e-mail has been received, and to ask for your patience until I send you a more detailed response. Again, thank you for writing. Please feel free to visit my website <http://kennedy.senate.gov> to follow my work in the Senate and to learn more about the services my office can provide to you.

Warmest regards

Ted Kennedy

## Undeliverable e-mails

**From:** postmaster@tronc.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2017 12:11 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Undeliverable: current events  
**Attachments:** details.txt; current events (17.9 KB)

**Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:**

[hsalts@sunsentinel.com](mailto:hsalts@sunsentinel.com)

The email address you entered couldn't be found. Please check the recipient's email address and try to resend the message. If the problem continues, please contact your email admin.

Diagnostic information for administrators:

Generating server: FCWPINEXHY02.USA.TRIEBUNE.COM

**From:** postmaster@isp.att.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2008 1:38 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Returned mail: delivery problems encountered  
**Attachments:** details.txt; Do we really want a Lincoln or FDR (2.12 KB)

A message (from < >) was received at 9 Dec 2008 18:37:53 +0000.

The following addresses had delivery problems:

<[sohahaColumn@aol.com](mailto:sohahaColumn@aol.com)>  
Permanent Failure: 550\_MAILBOX\_NOT\_FOUND  
Delivery last attempted at Tue, 9 Dec 2008 18:37:54 -0000

**From:** System Administrator  
**To:** 'singletarym@wash-post.com'  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 11:15 AM  
**Subject:** Undeliverable: Bogus gas saving promises

Your message did not reach some or all of the intended recipients.

**Subject:** Bogus gas saving promises  
**Sent:** 7/29/2008 11:15 AM

The following recipient(s) cannot be reached:

'singletarym@wash-post.com' on 7/29/2008 11:15 AM  
550 [PERMFAIL] destination not valid within DNS

**From:** postmaster@isp.att.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2008 10:08 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Returned mail: delivery problems encountered  
**Attachments:** details.txt; Bogus gas saving promises (2.43 KB)

A message (from < >) was received at 29 Jul 2008 14:07:59 +0000.

The following addresses had delivery problems:

<[singletarym@washingtonpost.com](mailto:singletarym@washingtonpost.com)>  
Permanent Failure: 550\_No\_such\_user\_-\_psmt  
Delivery last attempted at Tue, 29 Jul 2008 14:08:03 -0000

I couldn't believe that this one came back. Contacting whitehouse.gov has been replaced with a form.

**From:** MAILER-DAEMON@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 28, 2018 3:58 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Failure Notice

Sorry, we were unable to deliver your message to the following address.

<president@whitehouse.gov>:  
550: #5.1.0 Address rejected.

— Below this line is a copy of the message.

DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; c=relaxed/relaxed; d=att.net; s=s1024; t=1519851475; bh=48Jo/zlthspjburw3ajKU2OzDY9bVDt51smsNITccI; h=From:To:Cc:Subject:Date:From:Subject; b=wlvfSG8T0m70PdSL19i12pFhzjvK1r7uOglo8szmTfIS9eWUN4KcR5+lhZwotri0xq1ZUyUip3ahGG74xNkKjepemvgkPw1/6oslynM2zcG0j5FFizolh3GpvnP2AcAlbOMown4KA0I+wwQ6sTBkakC+ylvYZH1zogl1xDOZAUjeB=X-YMail-OSG: c\_5Y9K4VM1ic2UYBXIDilBdW\_x7JZGvmvGkl3NRRHnD83xNh0008hESoKba0nDymCSyeN2cr0QQRWY.zggQ63nplRi6hu30gEevfDZhthtokOEVCJDF5Xqg0VleVXXfeFtwKenL5y6J3se2sc2hdJ09cox04xRl5GvsaC4naU95\_VEzmRQ2txg24qZoMP8FUbvxzQvUuUfZllyqNao2oAsN8aXcvcUpNiqP6Vz3FMMEuhFh\_EkCjNIHidemOsIOHKJWjCFVb9YlmmwDv3pxStuV5f0uEn85CxtPULxVReJ\_D9CYAYSVLU48p24.c4ztnP0TL9J5CtWfpYGHsukc85hxbOzmhUoF88b0IQJVBjdUjH4ZupLvISXQvkoWCYP.wMlCaBL5ZCaEXK6sR24nfaiuaP88baGYXIX7YZFn01HgwdfptwuTkgpEaGH3lUfr\_eAPX72TPHY4VAbRqoUtelUa3DKkoCjz1oE2j7OZ5CLF4xOXdxsfgrT0gF7MHQjvzpZqr.nFVGhukSw7jltym92gtC  
Received: from sonic.gate.mail.ne1.yahoo.com by sonic316.consmr.mail.bf2.yahoo.com with HTTP; Wed, 28 Feb 2018 20:57:55 +0000  
Received: from smtp101.sbc.mail.bf1.yahoo.com (EHL0 StevenPC) ([98.139.228.106]) by smtp414.mail.bf1.yahoo.com (JAMES SMTP Server ) with ESMTPA ID c2c0556439cb9d823c0279a8e722e9ea; Wed, 28 Feb 2018 20:57:51 +0000 (UTC)  
From: "Steven Graves"  
To: <president@whitehouse.gov>  
Cc:  
Subject: Opinion on current events  
Date: Wed, 28 Feb 2018 15:57:50 -0500  
Message-ID: <000001d3b0d66cc23bb205646b31605@att.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="====\_NextPart\_0001\_01D3B0AC.E34F39C0"  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook 14.0  
Expiry-Date: Wed, 7 Mar 2018 00:00:00 -0500  
Thread-Index: AdOwLYmAJ5UjZvCR3+d7Hm+JzLGag==  
Content-Language: en-us  
X-Antivirus: Avast (VPS 180228-6, 02/28/2018), Outbound message  
X-Antivirus-Status: Clean

This is a multipart message in MIME format.

**From:** MAILER-DAEMON@p3plbsmtp03-05.prod.phx3.secureserver.net  
**Sent:** Monday, July 27, 2015 7:40 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** failure notice

Your mail message to the following address(es) could not be delivered.  
This is a permanent error. Please verify the address(es) and try again.

<rswan@evolutionslifecoaching.com>:  
child status 100...The e-mail message could not be delivered because the user's mailbox is full.

— Below this line is a copy of the message.

Return-Path:  
Received: (qmail 9659 invoked by uid 30297); 27 Jul 2015 23:40:05 -0000  
Received: from unknown (HELO p3plbsmtp01-09.prod.phx3.secureserver.net) ([72.167.238.225]) (envelope-sender by p3plbsmtp03-05.prod.phx3.secureserver.net (qmail-1.03) with SMTP for <rswan@evolutionslifecoaching.com>; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:05 -0000  
Received: from nm22-vml6.access.bullet.mail.gq1.yahoo.com ([216.39.63.170]) by p3plbsmtp01-09.prod.phx3.secureserver.net with bsmtp id xbg41q01Q3gPT8801bg5s4; Mon, 27 Jul 2015 16:40:05 -0700  
DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; c=relaxed/relaxed; d=att.net; s=s1024; t=1438040404; bh=OdSaBL+YGCrm8loty8BUpok+09poSICNAzscqymG0=; h=From:To:Subject:Date:From:Subject; b=5VDcwm0IsD9WYfT+0MW0bVeiaWwVvU7flveKTyfEZlbykzWojZEZnsE2xidFzb6S3OK6/yLLYSERL+zMJRHNS/2g2kMeF Bur/cKHxct/MqVdG5ThZJl8bKHLCYZD6YpkihMngLJh7EGcU0Bp/Gi4rtAjmchPqLSa6khrCLO= Received: from [216.39.60.176] by nm22.access.bullet.mail.gq1.yahoo.com with NNFMF; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:04 -0000  
Received: from [98.138.226.244] by tm12.access.bullet.mail.gq1.yahoo.com with NNFMF; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:04 -0000  
Received: from [127.0.0.1] by smtp115.sbc.mail.ne1.yahoo.com with NNFMF; 27 Jul 2015 23:40:04 -0000  
X-Yahoo-Newman-id: 763328.4484.bm@smtp115.sbc.mail.ne1.yahoo.com  
X-Yahoo-Newman-Property: ymail-3  
X-YMail-OSG: dWZLioVM1nmpdr\_SbHnZ3JIMHWODYpEYsAgq7aucycmX7NZI9xk8AMpB29gx7yYhQhGhM64daUfncGABFhRX1Kv9mgyQbwEASIDxgcoV3gb8lZ8.RIML8hMN12kWcYtMwyECw9rr.OkXijCs4YYBJ0jJhCwZAZL4c17336fIkwa\_UrdeAplCwgUHWqV5\_JGpSmVZLd5MMfoGcwLQfmhAEITISY4yAQDQClx\_jgrcAEcAOBISfBZMQ368m1F.FSGm5v2ECIGUYg32papkhq4DH P6RP6GlaZPDL4ulnBFse7Q6GIFvIA.REAgXVMeDwGTDTYNTtoG\_gRElqdnhV IVD\_wgpp3LC74o207WIKOAKWeup2mUKMa4m07.O3n11sA0eRGluYscfyqSjYsaCPGE.NC80x0zKp7k3kCspmaYNvZDDkv\_FhJ21sZDibUbkylzBIMoA Bjb3d1wMB8Au2Nv\_KwYfKHeryX4vm7EzP\_6A2vg7Zwtf5W3fVCBqWwKuaDp s7ysWgrVstwy6owlRcJNSM3X9S3SDNUNO-  
X-Yahoo-SMTP: 5xAQGXuswBA4nAJXgsDuuzNob798NGjXDGKDWec\_m9Q--  
From: "Steven Graves"  
To: <rswan@evolutionslifecoaching.com>  
Subject: SunSentinel Opion page July 27  
Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2015 19:40:00 -0400  
Message-ID: <000001d0c8c558e8a5f905ab9f1eb05@att.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0



**From:** Mail Administrator <Postmaster@PostmasterDomain>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 10, 2006 7:56 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Mail System Error - Returned Mail  
**Attachments:** details.txt; CHARLOTTE RODSTROM - What Happened? (15.6 KB)

.net 007: This e-mail message was undeliverable due to the following reason:

.net 018: Each of the following recipients were rejected by a destination mail system.

Note: The reasons given by the destination mail system are included to help you determine why each recipient was rejected.

Solution:  
Attempt to resend, or contact the recipient by alternate means to let them know about the issue.

Recipient: <P.Lauderdale@comcast.net>  
Reason: not our customer

**From:** Mail Delivery Subsystem <MAILER-DAEMON@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 15, 2005 1:04 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Returned mail: User unknown  
**Attachments:** details.txt; ATT00004.txt

The original message was received at Sat, 15 Jan 2005 13:03:26 -0500 (EST)  
from 207-172-205-211.c3-0.rdl-ubr5.trpr-rdl.pa.cable.rcn.com [207.172.205.211]

\*\*\* ATTENTION \*\*\*

Your e-mail is being returned to you because there was a problem with its delivery. The address which was undeliverable is listed in the section labeled: "----- The following addresses had permanent fatal errors -----".

The reason your mail is being returned to you is listed in the section labeled: "----- Transcript of Session Follows -----".

The line beginning with "ccc" describes the specific reason your e-mail could not be delivered. The next line contains a second error message which is a general translation for other e-mail servers.

Please direct further questions regarding this message to your e-mail administrator.

—AOL Postmaster

----- The following addresses had permanent fatal errors -----  
<olajlangerb@aol.com>

----- Transcript of session follows -----  
... while talking to air-xj02.mail.aol.com.:  
>>> RCPT To:<olajlangerb@aol.com>  
<<< 550 MAILBOX NOT FOUND  
550 <olajlangerb@aol.com>... User unknown

**From:** Mail Administrator <Postmaster@mail.bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 25, 2004 12:20 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Mail System Error - Returned Mail  
**Attachments:** details.txt; product Insurance (3.53 KB)

.net 007: This e-mail message was undeliverable due to the following reason:

.net 015: The destination mail system was not reachable withing the allowed period.

Note: This error message is usually due to one of the following network problems:  
a. The recipient's mail system is turned off.  
b. The destination mail system is not currently running.

Solution:  
Attempt to resend, or contact the recipient by alternate means to let them know about the issue.

Your message was not delivered within 4 days.  
Host wswj.com is not responding.

The following recipients did not receive this message:

<lovemoney@wswj.com>

## Sun-Sentinel

**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2018 12:11 PM  
**To:** 'O'Hara, Rosemary'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: current events  
**Expires:** Thursday, July 05, 2018 12:00 AM

Dear Ms. O'Hara,

Thank you again for considering my thoughts on the issues. Yes, I sent the letter.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** O'Hara, Rosemary [<mailto:rohara@sun-sentinel.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2018 11:48 AM  
**To:** 'Steven Graves'  
**Subject:** RE: current events

Double checking that Steve Graves sent us this letter.

**From:** Steven Graves [<mailto:>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2018 7:23 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** current events

Dear Sir,

The discussion, debate, argument, fight, brawl, take no prisoners – scorch the earth venom has made many tone deaf and no longer trying to listen as well as we hear. Are they immigrants or refugees? After WWII the communist Soviet Union demanded they be sent back. Eleanor Roosevelt advocated for the refugees and prevented the humanitarian crisis. Are they coming here to escape abject poverty or are they just looking for work? Can right to work states issue them a work permit as long as no state boundaries are crossed invoking the commerce clause in our Constitution such as the coastal states of Florida or Texas, maybe not California nor New York).

Harass, abuse and fail to serve because someone is different from our perspective and point of view. I thought this was the twenty-first century of enlightenment not the dark ages of our past.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Southwest Airline Flight

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please include your city of residence and phone number for verification.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 28, 2018 11:00 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Corey Jones

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please include your city of residence.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 09, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Gun Violence

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please provide your city of residence.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

The Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 09, 2017 11:02 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Gun Violence

Would you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

If you have not done so, please provide your city of residence.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

The Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 16, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: North Korea

Could you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

Please include your city of residence.

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

The Sun Sentinel  
333 SW 12th Ave.,  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

**From:** Simms, Elana <ESimms@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 3:30 PM  
**To:** 'Steven Graves'  
**Subject:** RE: Immigration

Could you please verify by replying to this email that you sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

Thank you.

(We are unable to guarantee publication, and you will not be contacted further. If your letter is published, you will be eligible to be published again in 60 days. No calls please.)

The Sun Sentinel  
500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394-3019

**From:** Cumella, Michael <MCumella@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016 6:29 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Subject:** Letter to the Editor

Thank you. Your letter was published today. You will be eligible to be published again in 60 days.  
<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/opinion/letters/>

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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394-3019  
SunSentinel.com | 954-356-4500

**From:** Cumella, Michael <MCumella@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 5:23 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: letter

Could you please verify by replying to this email that Steven Graves sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?

Thank you.  
(We are unable to guarantee either print or online publication. No calls please.)

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500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394-3019

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, March 06, 2015 4:32 PM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** irans Nuclear Ambitions

**From:** O'Hara, Rosemary <rohara@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 28, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** Automatic reply: Impossible dream

I will be out of the office until Monday, March 9. If you need immediate assistance, please contact senior editorial writer Gary Stein at [gstein@sunsentinel.com](mailto:gstein@sunsentinel.com) or 954-356-4616.

**From:** Mayo, Michael <MMayo@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 21, 2014 9:18 AM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Children's Services Council

Mr. Graves --

It's a legitimate gripe, one I wrote about in a previous column...

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/9-childrens-vote-mayorcal-b092314-20140922-column.html>

as it was explained to me, despite this wording, the plug can still be pulled on the CSC by an act of the Legislature, or the Legislature could compel another vote at some point in the future. It's just that there will be no regularly scheduled vote (every 10 or 12 years). Like I wrote, that's a concern, and could trigger no votes from voters who'd like regular checks-and-balances.

But, you might want to ask why the Legislature has only targeted these Children's Services Councils around the state for re-authorization votes, and not for other tax-funded entities like water districts and hospital districts.

Thanks for reading (and voting)  
nm

**From:** Steven Graves [<mailto:>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 21, 2014 7:40 AM  
**To:** Mayo, Michael  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Children's Services Council

Dear Mr. Mayo,

The wording unfortunately forces me to vote no. The open ended proposal will never be reviewed by voters again. That is not acceptable.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Cumella, Michael <MCumella@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 18, 2014 5:46 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: letter to the editor

Could you please verify by email that Steven Graves sent the Sun Sentinel this Letter to the Editor?  
Thank you.

Michael Cumella  
[mccumella@tribune.com](mailto:mccumella@tribune.com)  
  
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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394-3019  
SunSentinel.com | 954-356-4500  
[www.sun-sentinel.com](http://www.sun-sentinel.com)

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 15, 2014 11:07 AM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Amendment Two

**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 4:59 PM  
**To:** 'Mellion, Diana'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: voting

Dear Ms. Mellion,

I would like you to consider this submission if it would help increase voter participation above the projected nine percent turnout for the primary.

Sincerely,

Steven Graves

**From:** Mellion, Diana [<mailto:DMellion@sun-sentinel.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 4:28 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: voting

Would you still like this considered for publication? Thanks

Diane Mellion

**SunSentinel**

500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394  
954-356-4677 (office)

Would you like to send us a letter to the editor that is no more than 250-words?


Send them to [letters@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:letters@sun-sentinel.com)

Web: [www.SunSentinel.com/opinion](http://www.SunSentinel.com/opinion)

Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](https://www.facebook.com/SunSentinelEditorialBoard)

Twitter: [@dianamellion](https://twitter.com/dianamellion)

email: [dmellion@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellion@SunSentinel.com)

 Winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize  
Gold Medal for Public Service



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 29, 2014 7:42 AM  
**To:** 'Goudreau, Rosemary'  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Missile threats

Dear Ms Goudreau,

I so miss the days of receiving a phone call. Who would know that Mr. Lowe has a low growly voice or that you also work on Sundays. I upgraded to U-verse and my old address is unable to send e-mail now – receive only – something about Yahoo DNS something. I am using my new att address to send correspondence. If you consider my missile threat submission, please correct the date I used for the Cuban missile crisis – 1962 not 1963.

Sincerely,  
Steven Graves

---

**From:** Goudreau, Rosemary [mailto:rgoudreau@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 28, 2014 6:09 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Missile threats

Can you please verify that Steven Graves sent us this letter? Thank you.

---

**From:** Steven Graves [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 26, 2014 10:20 AM  
**To:** Letters to the Editor  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Missile threats

**From:** Mellion, Diana <DMellion@sun-sentinel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 08, 2014 12:20 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Hobby Lobby Ruling

Would you like this considered for publication? Thanks.

[Diana Mellion](#)



500 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 900  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33384  
954-358-4817 (office)

Would you like to send us a letter to the editor that is no more than 250-words?

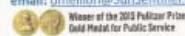
Send them to [letters@sun-sentinel.com](mailto:letters@sun-sentinel.com)

Web: [www.SunSentinel.com/opinion](http://www.SunSentinel.com/opinion)

Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](#)

Twitter: [@dianamellion](#)

email: [dmellion@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellion@SunSentinel.com)



**From:** Steven Graves  
**Sent:** Friday, April 04, 2014 11:01 AM  
**To:** 'Mellion, Diana'  
**Subject:** RE: Top seven things in less than 250 words

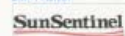
Yes, please consider this submission.

---

**From:** Mellion, Diana [mailto:DMellion@sun-sentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 5:36 PM  
**To:** Steven Graves  
**Subject:** RE: Top seven things in less than 250 words

Did you want this considered for publication?

[Diana Mellion](#)



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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33384  
954-358-4817 (office)

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Facebook: [SunSentinelEditorialBoard](#)

Twitter: [@dianamellion](#)

email: [dmellion@SunSentinel.com](mailto:dmellion@SunSentinel.com)

