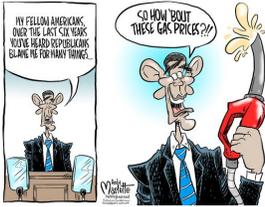


Thursday's letters to the editor, Jan. 22

mailbag@news-press.com 8:17 p.m. EST January 21, 2015



Theater performance great

Aren't we lucky that Community Theater is alive and thriving in Fort. Myers? In this season where good live theater is a veritable banquet in town, there is a fine, promising, young actress, Jennifer Koch, shining in her first starring lead in the challenging role of Agnes in a brilliant production of John Pielmeir's "Agnes of God" currently getting standing ovations at the Laboratory Theater of Florida.

Not only is this a tour de force performance delivered Koch but also for the other two cast members (Joann Haley, Mother Superior, and Lori Riti, Dr. Livingstone). They were equally riveting in their roles.

Kudos to founder/artistic director Annette Trossbach for her inspired direction, casting and mounting of this thought provoking play.

Bottom line if great live theater is your bailiwick, then this production of Agnes of God is a must see. Start the proceedings by phoning the Box Office at (239) 218-0481 or email www.laboratorytheaterflorida.com.

Marsha Wagner, Sanibel

More on the theater

•Recently, I attended a performance at the Laboratory Theater on Second Street in downtown Fort Myers. This, Agnes of God, was the fifth show I have seen there. I have been amazed and astounded by the quality of the productions; the daring of some of the topics; and their ability in many of the shows to make me laugh and cry, and always to think.

I have also been disappointed at the lack of newspaper coverage of this innovative theater and the multitudinous volunteers who manage to keep it going in spite of the small number of people attending. For those of you whose brains did not retire when your bodies did, check out this theater. You won't be sorry, but you will be challenged mentally!

Arlene R. Foreman, Fort Myers

•What a stunning performance of Agnes of God at The Laboratory Theater on Jan. 16. If you see one play this year, this is the one to see. Lori Siebert Riti, Joann Haley and Jennifer Koch were brilliant in the cast. Director Annette Trossbach and stage manager Deb Rode Kik created a stunning and gripping production. Special effects by Nykkie Rizley enhanced the drama.

The minimalist set was perfect, complete with candles in the theater and the scent of incense wafting throughout. The lighting created by SWFL Theatrical Lighting set the mood perfectly without intrusion. The selection of music and the volume at which it was played pulled the audience right into the convent. BRAVA to all involved.

Our local theater community relies on word of mouth and local reviewers to encourage theatergoers to see these productions to which so many people on the stage and behind the scenes dedicate much of their time, talent, energy and money.

James Recca, Cape Coral

•I attended the opening night at the Laboratory Theater of "Agnes of God," a stunning production. Agnes (Jennifer Koch) and Dr. Livingstone (Lori Riti) were excellent in their roles. Joann Haley as Mother Superior was a standout — that nun we were afraid of in school. The set was simple and not distracting. When walking into the theater, I was immediately taken back to my Catholic grade school by the faint smell of incense. Kudos to Annette Trossbach as the director.

Norma Kay Dansby, Fort Myers

Poor observations

Some of my favorite letters to the editor are written by authors who regard the Bible as nothing more than a collection of myths, unless they think they can use it as a cudgel — then they are Bible experts! Jay Custa's letter is the latest example.

After first admitting he has only read a sample of the Bible, then admitting he did not understand what he read, he treats us to 5 column inches of his wisdom on the God of the Old Testament. I would expect he and his friends think he is witty and clever. Thanks for the chuckle.

Michael Beal, Naples

Medical abuse?

The medical profession abuses its patients.

Their time, that is.

I had an appointment recently at 8:40 a.m. I saw the doctor 1½ hours later, at 10:10 a.m.

There is a reason they call it a waiting room. For there you will wait, and wait, and wait. The presence of magazines, coffee and cookies are a clear sign that you should make yourself comfortable for the long haul. And now, clever that they are, many offices move you from the big waiting room to a smaller one, giving you faint hope that nirvana lies nearby. You wait yet again. And finally, hallelujah, to the examining room, which really is just another waiting room, for the doctor is never there yet.

And when the doctor arrives, you meekly succumb rather than ripping him/her as deserved. How can you risk angering someone to whom you entrust your health?

Talk about the perfect setup. The medical profession has it. Nothing short of abuse.

Would someone from the profession please step forward and defend your abuse? And please, no tired rhetoric about unexpectedly needing more time for a patient or an emergency. If I hear nothing, your silence confirms your abuse. Then again, why should you respond?

Ted Crawford, Fort Myers

Voting gives you power

The righteous struggle for racial equality has escalated into the same vicious cycle of fear, racial hatred and violence. Every death feeds the violence and reinforces racism.

The victims of racism don't always know what tremendous power they have to break this cycle. The power of your vote and the power of your educated mind are real. Why do you think so many politicians try to make voting as difficult as possible, especially for minorities?

They are afraid of your power.

Vote as soon as you are old enough and please don't drop out of school.

Use your mind to understand the issues in each election and use the power of your vote to help break the cycle of fear, hatred and violence and to bring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream for equality closer to reality.

Phyllis Brewer, Fort Myers

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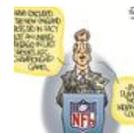
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Jan. 29, 2015, 12:13 a.m.



Wednesday's letters to the editor, Jan. 28

[\(/story/opinion/readers/local/2015/01/28/wednesdays-letters-editor-jan/22431369/\)](/story/opinion/readers/local/2015/01/28/wednesdays-letters-editor-jan/22431369/)

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Jan. 28, 2015, 12:12 a.m.



Cabinet needs to deal with Scott's FDLE deception

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