

AHS 'War Years' classes to meet

The Ashland High School 1940s classes, the "War Years," are having a gathering on Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at JJ Restaurant on 13th Street. Remember how much fun we had last year? Well, we're doing it again! We hope everybody comes out. Lunch will be Dutch treat.

The speakers are Mark Maynard, editor of The Independent, and local marathon runner Amy Compston, who has run in the past two Boston Marathons.

Mark and Amy are co-founders of a mission, Amy For Africa, that has raised more than \$50,000 in the past year.

It's sure to be interesting and entertaining so come out and visit with us!

Lew Dunn
Class of 1948

A question about taxes on vehicles

I returned the registration renewal bill for my previously owned vehicle to Don Blevins, Fayette County Clerk.

The bill was returned with a note. The vehicle was registered in my name on January 1, 2014. Therefore, I must pay the property tax for all of 2014.

Forced to pay tax on property I no longer owned did not sound like I was living in a democracy. I wrote Blevins for an explanation. He did not respond. His non-response promoted some research.

KRS 134.805 (5) confirmed that I owed the tax. An owner of a vehicle on January 1 must pay the tax on it for the whole year even if the owner trades it on January 2. Moreover, the traded-in vehicle parked on a lot for resale is also subject to ad valorem tax to be paid by the car dealer. When that vehicle sells, like the previous owner, the new owner must

also pay a 6 percent highway usage tax on it, and then there is the tax at the gasoline pump.

In FY 2012, the Department of Revenue in Frankfort collected \$107.8 million in ad valorem vehicular property tax, \$416.9 million in highway usage tax, \$790.2 million in gasoline tax, making a grand total of \$1,314.9 million and politicians cannot make ends meet without forcing citizens to pay tax on property they no longer own.

Conscientious politicians would stop forcing citizens to pay tax on property that belongs to someone else, who is also paying tax on that property.



Shafter Bailey
Lexington

Golden Oaks gave family special care

In today's world we are bombarded by ads for services by companies promising that they are the answer to your need; but sometimes you need something that you really don't see advertisements for such as a cemetary.

Sadly, in January, my family had that need. Thankfully my parents had thought enough into the future to purchase plots so the first need was met.

We had no idea how any of this process worked (most people are oblivious to cemetaries until they know someone buried there).

The rest of the questions are the reason I am writing this letter.

The people that worked with us from Golden Oaks were so very kind and patient and considerate and professional. I realize it is a business but they called and checked on us even after several weeks had passed and the check had cleared. They still called and asked if there was anything we needed.

Debbie called and kept us informed when the headstone ar-

rived, when it would be set and later called to make sure we were pleased with it.

I just want to say thanks for making a very difficult time a little easier.

Dana Hennecke
Ashland

Equal protection under the law

Charles Phipps' recent letter seemed to me to be well-thought out.

Though I agree with most of what he said, I would not/could not, myself, perform a wedding rite for persons of the same sex.

Orthodox priests are not allowed to do that. As one of my former neighbors said, with reference to same sex marriage: "The Lord says that is an abomination."

I told him: "There are dozens of things which the Jewish priests of the Temple in Jerusalem said are an abomination to the Lord. One of those is mixing flax with cotton, in the same bolt of cloth."

I don't see why the Lord troubled himself with such a picayune problem. He also found that taking reward against the innocent, by taking interest on loans is an abomination.

I added: "But if the Lord says same sex marriages are an abomination to Him, he would be well-advised to read the 14th Amendment." That's the one that offers equal protection under the law; several Justices see no way around it.

Blame the radicals who founded this nation.

"He must upward still and onward who would keep abreast of truth," as an old Episcopal hymn used to say.

Father Andrew James
Grayson

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