

OPINIONS, Too

A year of chaos ahead

What is one to think of 2019? The New Year is starting now. I for one am very nervous about 2019.

With the Democrats now in control of the U.S. House of Representatives and the way they are talking is getting me concerned.

For starters, the Dems in the House have already introduced a bill to impeach President Trump.

House Speaker, Democrat Nancy Pelosi, has announced that congress will not approve "one dollar" for the wall President Trump wants to build. As Pelosi said last Thursday, "We're not doing a wall. Does anyone have any doubt that we're not doing a wall?"

The partial government shutdown has no end in sight as the Democrats are refusing to negotiate over immigration. Nothing. Nada.

President Trump has said that he will not sign any legislation to reopen the government without some money for a border barrier. He is willing to abandon a concrete wall and will accept a steel-slatted wall or enhanced fencing along the border. The Dems are saying no to anything being put in place to counter the onslaught of illegals crossing our southern border.

The southern border with Mexico has become a real crisis. At least 2,000 illegals are crossing the border every day.

It appears the Democrats in the House have no interest in working with President Trump on anything. All they wish to do is fight him at every

turn. It doesn't appear there will be any serious quality legislation coming from Congress to the desk of the President. Too bad.

The new class of House Democrats has a few dozen avowed socialists among their ranks. Those on the extreme progressive left in the House want to see a revolution. Democrats did not waste any time this week after taking the majority in the House, electing Nancy Pelosi as speaker, passing several high-profile bills, and driving some spirited news cycles beyond just the chamber floor.

The liberal progressive Dems want to see "Medicare for all". In essence, a complete federal government takeover of health care in America. The thought of free health-care for all Americans is intriguing. The cost is a problem.

One Democrat socialist newly elected congresswoman has suggested a 70 percent top income tax rate to pay for it. Hang on to your hats over the push for a new national health care program. It will be fun to watch. What do you think? Should the federal government pay for all the healthcare needs of Americans? From cradle to grave?

The thought of a national healthcare program like the British healthcare system is scary indeed. In England, the wait for a total knee arthroplasty is

up to a year. The wait for cataract surgery in England is even longer. Same for the Canadians. The Canadians have a national healthcare program and many Canadian doctors stop practice in the beginning of November as they

have maxed out what the government is willing to pay them by that time of the year.

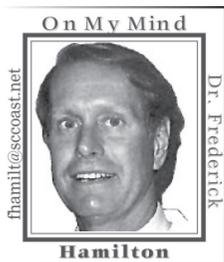
You can find thousands of Canadian doctors in Florida for November and December. What about their patients? Too bad and tough luck.

A similar National Health Care System for America? I am not sure the public would want to put up with the waiting time for care.

New bills from the liberal left introduced in the House permit the wearing of religious headwear in Congress, forbidding sexual relations between members of Congress and their staffers, require presidents to release all their tax returns, eliminate the Electoral College, write a code of ethics for the Supreme Court, forbid a president from pardoning himself or any family member. Just the beginning.

Stay tuned. That does not even include issues of foreign affairs and wars around the globe. 2019 is going to be a year of chaos I am afraid.

Say a prayer for the nation, the Democrats in the House are on the prowl.



hamilt@seacoast.net

On My Mind
Dr. Frederick Hamilton

Tabor Talk

Cynthia Nelson,
Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce

Join us as we view the year of 2019 as the year of many possibilities.

We envision all things good as possible.

During the holidays, we challenged you to think of at least one way you could "give back" to our community...your community.

Write down at least one thing you would like to help accomplish by volunteering. Please mail your idea to us at 103-D East Fifth Street, put it in the mailbox next to the office door, or give us a call at 910-377-3012.

Don't forget to include your contact information. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Attention Chamber Members: Our Directors terms run from February 1 - January 31 so we are in the process of preparing the slate of nominations from which you will choose.

Expect to receive your voting ballots soon. Once you receive yours, please take a few minutes to review the candidates, vote, and return the ballot promptly.

Save the date of Tuesday, Feb. 19, as the date of the Greater Tabor City Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet.

More information will be provided in the weeks ahead. Should the date change for any reason, it will be noted in this column so keep reading.

Please listen to WTAB Radio at 1370 on your AM dial for Public Service Announcements regarding Chamber activities and events. Thank you, Eric Sellers and staff, for your awesome year-round support.

Remember that "Working Together Makes Us All Better"! Thanks to Marylou Molina, our President Elect, for that quote.

Marylou Molina looks forward to serving as President for the upcoming year. Please support her when she needs your input or calls on you for an extra pair of working hands.

Marylou and her husband, Robert "Mole" Molina are the owners and operators

of Sunnyfield Equestrian Farm. They love Tabor City and are very active in the community.

Events our Chamber organizes take a lot of dedication and may require hours of hard work. Please know that it is some of the most rewarding work one ever does.

I can personally speak to the truth in the statement in the previous paragraph since I'm going on 23 years of employment as the EVP here at the GTC Chamber of Commerce. What wonderful working relationships and friendships that have developed within our county and state as a result of being known as "The Chamber Lady" for a third of my adult life.

I look forward to serving a little longer.

GTC Chamber of Commerce would very much like to have you as a member. Give us a call to discuss the various opportunities available.

Our hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Tuesday through Thursday.

(Continued From Page 4)

Smaller school districts

and New Jersey (2,300) for not understanding the need to combat educational disparities isn't going to cut it. Disadvantaged students in those states perform very highly by national standards. And even among Southern states, North Carolina's districts are significantly larger than those in Virginia (9,700), Georgia (9,400), South Carolina (8,800), and Tennessee

(7,400).

Here's a fundamental reality progressives have yet to accept: regardless of how big the district may be, the days of busing larger numbers of kids around according to race- or income-based school assignments are over. Most parents, of all backgrounds, do not support it.

A more constructive approach would be to get ahead of the trend. Subdi-

vide the largest districts thoughtfully, minimizing any disparities, while ensuring that state and local funding formulas send more money to districts with higher rates of poverty or special needs.

Still, I am under no illusions. Prudence is both praiseworthy and rare. - John Hood (@JohnHoodNC), chairman of the John Locke Foundation

Word Search sponsored by: Loris Chamber of Commerce



Cluck Norris says join us for the Loris Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Thursday, January 24, 2019

Tickets on sale now
Call 843-756-6030

ANSWERS ON PAGE 9

DIET PLAN WORD SEARCH

H I G C S P L A N T B A S E D N A G E V
H C Z A N T I O X I D A N T S C D V O N
F N O I T I S O P M O C G M I E P T O U
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WORDS

- AEROBICS
- ANTIOXIDANTS
- BODY
- CAFFEINE
- CALORIES
- CASCARA
- CATECHOLAMINE
- CHOLESTEROL
- COMPOSITION
- DIETICIAN
- DIURETIC
- EPHEDRINE
- FAT
- GASTRIC
- GLUTEN-FREE
- KETO
- LIVE-FOOD
- LOW-CARBOHYDRATE
- MACROBIOTICS
- MACROS
- MEDITERRANEAN
- METABOLISM
- NUTRIENTS
- OBESITY
- OMNIVEROUS
- PLANT-BASED
- PROTEIN
- RAW
- RESTRICTION
- SUGARS
- SUPPRESSANT
- VEGAN
- VEGETARIAN
- WESTERN ZONE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Letter to the Editor

Thanks to the TCFD

To the editor,

I just want to thank the Tabor City Fire Department and chief, Jeff Fowler, for com-

ing out to the home of my dad, Jerry Watts.

I want to thank them for cleaning up the yard and making it look good for the

visitors we had following his death on New Year's Day.

Michael Watts
Plant City, Florida



Words from the Mayor

Royce Harper, Mayor,
Town of Tabor City

two local residents who were very close to us.

Our Town Clerk's husband, Charles Ward, passed away after a brief illness. We certainly wish the very best for Diane and her family as they go through this period of adjustment after such a great loss.

Mr. Charles was well known in Columbus County for the many years he put in as an employee of the County Soil and Water agency. If you see Diane, I know she would appreciate your words of comfort and encouragement.

Former Fire Chief and Town Councilman Jerry Watts also passed away last week. Mr. Watts was a fireman and Chief for decades and he answered literally thousands of emergency calls during his career with the fire department. He also served two separate terms on the

town Council—once in the 1980s and once in the 1990s.

Jerry has many friends and family in our area, and we also offer our sympathy and condolences to all of these loved ones.

Recent wet weather has put a tremendous amount of water on to the ground over the past several weeks.

Although the weather has been unseasonably warm, it really has been too wet for construction to take place. As a result, there are many road repair projects that have fallen behind schedule. The Town has contracts out for street resurfacing, street repairs in the western portion of town associated with a sewer line project, and we also have some street repairs associated with the apartment utility project near the athletic complex.

All of these projects now go into the winter months where it is possible that it might be

too cold for the asphalt plants to operate. We have asked our contractors to monitor the weather and be prepared to put down pavement as soon as it is realistic to do so.

Last week, I attended a retirement party for our going Fire Chief Jerry Hodges. At that occasion, the town announced that we will be naming the Sandy Plains satellite station in honor of Mr. Hodges.

Several years ago, we agreed to name the downtown fire department headquarters building in honor of former Assistant Chief Don Hughes. Council felt it was only fitting to name a station building after our first full time Chief, Jerry Hodges.

Folks in the Sandy Plains area can expect to see signs being put up on the side of the fire station building there in the next month or so. This is just one way of saying a word of thanks to Chief Hodges for a job well done.



Chamber Chatter

Samantha Norris
Loris Chamber of Commerce

Happy New Year! It has been a while since I wrote a chamber column and I am happy to be back. I hope everyone had a great holiday season and is looking forward to a fantastic 2019.

Our first line of business for this year is the Annual Awards Banquet that will be held on Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Center for Health & Fitness located at 3207 Casey Street, Loris.

Social Hour will begin at 6 p.m. with wine and cheese. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and will be catered by Backstreet Cafe.

The awards ceremony will begin around 8 with Jack Murphy as the host for the evening. Awards to be presented are the Community Service, Merchant of the Year, Public Safety, Citizen of the Year, Robert Brooks Entrepreneur Award, Outstanding Youth and Lifetime Achievement Award.

Banquet sponsors are McLeod Loris Seacoast, HTC, Loris Rehab and Nursing Center, Loris Chamber

of Commerce, Southeastern Timberland, Tyler Financial, Carolina Food Service of Loris and Senator Gregory Hembree. Thank you all for your sponsorship for this year's Annual Awards Banquet.

Tickets for the banquet are on sale at the Loris Chamber of Commerce located at 4242 Main Street, Loris. Tickets are \$25 per person.

This event is fun, a great opportunity to network, socialize with business owners and residents plus see friends that you may not have seen in a while. So please make plans to join on there.

Our annual talent show is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 16 at Loris High School. Please make plans to join us and look for more details to come.

For any information about the banquet or talent show you can contact the chamber at 843-756-6030.

I hope you all have a great week and I look forward to providing you with all of the chamber news coming up this year.