

THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



Wicker Underscores Critical Role of Family Caregivers During Alzheimer's Awareness Month

Millions of Americans Provide Care to Loved Ones With Dementia

We are all too familiar with the debilitating effects of Alzheimer's disease. We know the disruption that its symptoms of progressive forgetfulness and confusion, leading eventually to helplessness, can cause in daily lives, and the major challenge we still face in finding a cure. Alzheimer's remains 100 percent fatal.

Not to be overlooked, however, is the profound impact that Alzheimer's disease has on entire families. Loved ones not only have to bear painful witness to their family member slipping away, but they also often carry the weight of arranging assisted living and special care. Alongside the serious emotional toll is a tough financial reality, in which families endure years of additional costs or are

forced to leave the workforce to provide the extra care themselves.

Billions of Hours Devoted to Care

This month is an opportunity to shine light on the devotion displayed day in and day out by family caregivers, who often deal with their own health issues as they try to take care of their loved ones. According to the Alzheimer's Association, there are more than 16 million caregivers in the United States who lend billions of hours to those suffering from Alzheimer's or other dementias. Fittingly, November is recognized as both National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and National Family Caregivers Month. The two are closely intertwined.

In 2015, I authored the

"EUREKA Act" to help accelerate federal efforts to treat and cure Alzheimer's disease. That law, which supports the development of prize competitions for research breakthroughs, is also aimed at helping caregivers. Earlier this year, a EUREKA competition was launched by the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health calling on innovators to come up with technology-driven improvements in patient care.

Efforts to Strengthen Caregiver Support and Training

Lawmakers have followed the "EUREKA Act" with other legislative initiatives that focus on critical outreach to caregivers. One of these bills would support a nationwide infrastructure for understanding and treating Alzheimer's disease. That infrastructure would include new centers of excellence and state public health departments to help identify caregivers' unique needs. Another bill would encourage more comprehensive strategies for managing a patient's care over time as well as innovative ways to deliver caregiver support and

training. I am a cosponsor of both of these bills and hope to see their passage in the Senate soon. In the executive branch, training for caregivers has been a priority of both the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Administration for Community Living. These efforts coincide with support for strong research funding. Congress was successful in increasing funding for Alzheimer's research this year, exceeding the \$2 billion in funding put forward as a goal by the "National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease."

ableng in which an adult helps a child construct a justification of one sort or another for an offense. The assignment of blame must be avoided at all cost because, theoretically, the perpetrator is as much a victim as the actual victim. He's wrestling with "issues," supposedly. Restorative justice – offender-victim reconciliation – is the logical outgrowth of that counter-productive process. Mind you, restorative justice is the default approach even when the victim is a teacher. In the Brave New World of the American public school, teachers and students are equals and students rate their teachers based largely on how well they succeed at being liked. Eventually, ideologies run out of new ideas and begin recycling old ones under new nomenclature, and so it is with this supposedly cutting-edge approach to school discipline: it is nothing more than a new spin on the "I'm okay, you're okay" silliness that took America by storm in the late 1960s. Combine restorative justice with academic relativism – there being several equally correct ways to spell "alphabet," for example (red ink lowers self-esteem, doncha know?) – and the inevitable result is ever-increasing classroom (and intellectual) anarchy.

This explains why so many people who were once very good teachers are now working in the private sector, where the meritocracy and common sense continue to prevail, albeit hanging on for dear life.

Family psychologist John Rosemond: johnrosemond.com, parentguru.com.



November 15 - Tommy Buford, Patty Branch Wigginton, Molly Ables, Mike Pierce, Jacob Ashley, Faizah Clark, Jenette Moore

November 16 - Matt Meeks, Kathy Gilmore Killgore, Barbara Jordan, Crystal Belk, Melba Dean Davis, Daquaveion Cross, Marlee Tate

November 17 - Rose K. Cheatham, Jeffrey Jones, Jr., Sara N. Martin, Cynthia Marshall, Willie Gary, Joshlyn M. Winstead, Delaney Smith, Burton Atkinson, Cyndi Wallace

November 18 - Steve Newton, Deborah Bishop,



November 15 - Daniel and Amanda Carnathan, Darren and Martha Lloyd

November 16 - Robert and Kathleen McKennie, Kristin Durff, Vegan Dilmore, David Dilmore, Harlee Grace Pierce, Lyndsey Flynn, Amanda Bevill

November 19 - Betty Smith, Christy Randle, Dacey Jo F. Holland, Brenna Casey, Stephen Joe, Kamren Joe, Shay Alford Blaylock, Lexie Edwards, Janis Clayton, Kinley Killebrew

November 20 - James Edward Killebrew, Sophie Bilsky, Ashley Dixon, Dana Pierce

November 21 - Anna "Libby" Hill, Mollie Caldwell, Patrick Self, Fredrickia Jordan, Jimmy Montone, Nancy

Helen Wooten
November 17 - Roderick and Latoya Cox, Art and Wendy Sweeney, Shannon and Dee Dee Davis

November 18 - Donnie and Michele Holder

November 19 - Howard and Barbara Harrison

November 21 - Chris and Betsy Nelson

To add your birthdays and anniversaries to our list, please send your information by mail to P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095; fax 662-834-1074; email hcherald@gmail.com; or stop by our office at 308 Court Square in Lexington. No phone calls, please.

Barrett, Johnny Allen, Mary Flowers, Donna Rogers, Jarvis Whiteside, Lanie Davis



Living With Children

By John Rosemond

Copyright 2017, John K. Rosemond

For the record, I believe in the concept of public (aka, taxpayer-funded, government, "free") schools. I attended public schools and obtained an excellent education that challenged my intellect and imparted a broad understanding of the world and my place in it. I am forever grateful to my teachers. Some were more likeable than others, but they were all dedicated to their craft and mission.

I began having misgivings concerning public education during my kids' school years. The schools they attended were less than challenging and often driven, it seemed, by educational fad (e.g., outcome-based education, open classrooms, new math). In addition, parents and teachers – the latter, mostly – were beginning to tell me stories of classroom discipline debacles of a sort that I never saw or even heard of when I was a student. Since then – over the past forty years, that is – the discipline problems teachers are expected to deal with have only gotten worse, by much.

The further problem is that over that same time, teachers have been slowly but surely stripped of permission to punish. According to educational and psychological ideologues, punishment is demeaning, lowers self-esteem, leads invariably to resentment, and other things it is and does not. Research

done by social scientists who possess an abundance of objectivity – increasingly hard to find – contradicts all the politically-correct propaganda pertaining to punishment.

In a nutshell, the best research finds that mild-to-moderate punishment works far better than any alternative (rewarding, ignoring, talking) at correcting misbehavior; that the most obedient kids are also the happiest; and that the highest student achievement is associated with teachers who employ moderate criticism and create teacher-centric classrooms.

Characteristic of an ideology-driven institution is a blind eye to facts that do not affirm the ideology in question. Concerning America's public education system, that description seems to fit. Consider the following statement from a teacher, who echoes the complaint of nearly every public-school teacher to whom I've spoken of late:

"We are told we need to 'understand their behavior' and use 'restorative justice' to help a student through a bad behavior episode....NO consequence should be given for the behavior because it is a 'teaching moment.' How do we get the education system to realize that coddling kids is not the answer?"

First, the attempt to "understand" the circumstances and motives surrounding a child's misbehavior is a form of en-

Fish Day!

It's Time To Stock Your Pond!

**Delivery Will Be:
Tues., November 27**

**Winona 1:00-1:45 @
Hi-Grade Farm Supply**

**Lexington 2:45-3:30 @
Lexington Farm Supply**

**Benton 4:15-5:00 @
CPS Crop Prod Services**

"LIKE" us on Facebook!

FISH WAGON

To Place an Order Call
1-800-643-8439
www.fishwagon.com

ATTENTION HOLMES COUNTIANS LOGISTIC & ACCURACY TESTING

You, the citizens of Holmes County, are invited to attend the Logistic and Accuracy Testing a/k/a (L & A) for all voting equipment to be used in the upcoming November 27, 2018 Run-Off General/Special Elections on November 19 and 20.

The Mississippi State Law requires a Logistic and Accuracy Testing at least five (5) days before an election on all voting equipment.

The Logistic and Accuracy Test provides certification of the accuracy of the Voting System along with the opportunity to discover any issues that may exist with the voting equipment. Logistic and Accuracy Test will be performed on all Accu Vote-TSX and Accu Vote-OS Units, the GEMS Server, and GEMS Election Database to ensure that:

- Each voting unit is fully functional and free from mechanical problems.
- Results are tabulated properly
- Results are uploaded accurately
- Each voting unit contains correct ballot styles

For additional information, please call
The Circuit Clerk's Office
662-834-1957