

Ebony Dots & Dashes

by Katie Smith



Last Sunday was a gloomy day for me. I felt sorry. I had intended to try to make it to church but my spirit wasn't that strong. But thanks to the man upstairs, He let me live to see another day.

Mrs. Georgia Jaye and her mother, Mrs. Jemima Bush worshipped with their brother and son in Albany last Sunday. Rev. Bush is a good product of Miller County. His mother and a lot of his Miller County family are still here in Miller County.

Hopefully my son will have a God blessed travel to Georgia. He is planning to come home for Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Vickie Dunnell is expecting her daughter, April and family from Virginia to spend Thanksgiving. So most of our family will be together once more.

I am thankful for being alive in 2009. Didn't know if I would make it or not. But thank God I did. After a heart attack a while ago, I really know that God loves

me. I wish for everyone on this Thanksgiving Day, joy, hope, love, peace, and everyday goodness. Learn to practice giving thanks everyday and make everyday Thanksgiving Day in your lives.

Mrs. Clara Crockett came by Monday morning. She checks up on me often. She's a jewel.

It looks like rain today. If it rains and turns cold, it will seem like the old times.

Happy Thanksgiving to all my readers!



----The Proposal----

submitted by Lindy

When a company falls on difficult times, one of the things that seems to happen is they reduce their staff and workers. The remaining workers must find ways to continue to do a good job or risk that their job would be eliminated as well.

Wall street, and the media normally congratulate the CEO for making this type of "tough decision," and his board of directors gives him a big bonus.

Our government should not be immune from similar risks.

Therefore: Reduce the House of Representatives from the current 435 members to 218 members.

Reduce Senate members from 100 to 50 (one per state). Then, reduce their staff by 25%.

Accomplish this over the next eight years (two steps/two elections) and, of course, this would require some redistricting.

Some Yearly Monetary Gains Include:

\$44,108,400 for elimination of base pay for Congress. (267 members X \$165,200 pay/member/yr.)

\$97,175,000 for elimination of their staff. (estimate \$1.3 million in staff per each member of the House, and \$3 million in staff per each member of the Senate every year)

\$240,294 for the reduction in remaining staff by 25%.

\$7,500,000,000 reduction in pork barrel earmarks each year. (those

members whose jobs are gone. Current estimates for total government pork earmarks are at \$15 Billion/yr.)

The remaining representatives would need to work smarter and improve efficiencies. It might even be in their best interests to work together for the good of our country!

We may also expect that smaller committees might lead to a more efficient resolution of issues as well. It might even be easier to keep track of what your representative is doing.

Congress has more tools available to do their jobs than it had back in 1911 when the current number of representatives was established (telephone, computers, cell phones to name a few).

Note: Congress did not hesitate to head home when it was a holiday, when the nation needed a real fix to the economic problems.

Also, we had three senators that were not doing their jobs for the 18+ months (on the campaign trail) and still they all have accepted full pay. These facts alone support a reduction in senators and congressmen.

Summary of opportunity:

\$ 44,108,400 reduction of congress members.

\$282,100, 000 for elimination of the reduced house member staff.

\$150,000,000 for elimination of reduced senate member staff.

\$59,675,000 for 25% reduction of staff for remaining house members.

\$37,500,000 for 25% reduction of staff for remaining senate members.

\$7,500,000,000 reduction in pork added to bills by the reduction of congress members.

\$8,073,383,400 per year, estimated total savings. (that's 8 billion just to start!)

Big business does these types of cuts all the time.

If Congresspersons were required to serve 20, 25 or 30 years (like everyone else) in order to collect retirement benefits, tax payers could save a bundle.

Now they get full retirement after serving only one term.

Back in the "Old" days, Rome was known as the best nation in the world at collecting taxes from who they were over.

The United States of America has surpassed the ability to tax their people that the USA would make Rome look like a kindergarten student against a PhD graduate.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Don't wear a pink ribbon during breast cancer awareness month next October, Congressman Bishop. You didn't just vote for a government takeover of medicine; you celebrated it with parties at your district offices. Less than one week later, we see what life will be like under your plan. An Obama administration task force just announced that the age for mammograms should be increased from 40 to 50, and no one over 75 should be screened unless risk factors are already known. This panel did not include a single oncologist (cancer physician) or radiologist. These bureaucrats decided that the number of early detections caught in screening a 40-year-old did not justify the cost. Tell that to the grieving little elemen-

tary school age son and daughter and husband standing at the graveside of a 42-year-old mother and wife. Welcome to Sanford Bishop's government health care. Sanford Bishop ignored the people of his district. He represented Nancy Pelosi instead. If you think that Sanford Bishop is going to support your particular area of interest, then you need to check with Nancy Pelosi first because he is acting more like her congressman than he is yours.

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FHA loan in New Orleans approved

submitted by Patti Dozier

Getting a loan may be a bit more difficult these days, but not impossible as the following illustrates:

Part of rebuilding New Orleans caused residents often to be challenged with the task of tracing home titles back potentially hundreds of years. With a community rich with history stretching back over two centuries, houses have been passed along through generations of family, sometimes making it quite difficult to establish ownership. Here's a great letter an attorney wrote to the FHA on behalf of a client: You have to love this lawyer

A New Orleans lawyer sought an FHA loan for a client. He was told the

loan would be granted if he could prove satisfactory title to a parcel of property being offered as collateral. The title to the property dated back to 1803, which took the lawyer three months to track down. After sending the information to the FHA, he received the following reply.

(Actual reply from FHA):

"Upon review of your letter adjoining your client's loan application, we note that the request is supported by an Abstract of Title. While we compliment the able manner in which you have prepared and presented the application, we must point out that you have only cleared title to the proposed collateral

property back to 1803. Before final approval can be accorded, it will be necessary to clear the title back to its origin."

Annoyed, the lawyer responded as follows:

(Actual response): "Your letter regarding title in Case No.189156 has been received. I note that you wish to have title extended further than the 206 years covered by the present application. I was unaware that any educated person in this country, particularly those working in the property area, would not know that Louisiana was purchased by the United States from France , in 1803 the year of origin identified in our application. For the edification of uninformed FHA bureaucrats, the title to the land prior to U.S. ownership was obtained from France , which had acquired it by Right of Conquest from Spain . The land came into the possession of Spain by Right of Discovery made in the year 1492 by a sea captain named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the privilege of seeking a new route to India by the Spanish monarch, Queen Isabella. The good Queen Isabella, being a pious woman and almost as careful about titles as the FHA, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope before she sold her jewels to finance Columbus's expedition...Now the Pope, as I'm sure you may know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God, it is commonly accepted, created this world. Therefore, I believe it is safe to presume that God also made that part of the world called Louisiana . God, therefore, would be the owner of origin and His origins date back to before the beginning of time, the world as we know it, and the FHA. I hope you find God's original claim to be satisfactory.

Now, may we have our loan approved?"

The loan was immediately approved.

Brains

submitted by: FC Garrett

In the hospital the relatives gathered in the waiting room, where their family member lay gravely ill.

Finally, the doctor came in looking tired and somber.

"I'm afraid I'm the bearer of bad news," he said as he surveyed the worried faces

"The only hope left for your loved one at this time is a brain transplant. It's an experimental procedure, very risky, but it is the only hope. Insurance will cover the procedure, but you will have to pay for the brain yourselves."

The family members sat silent as they absorbed the news. After a great length of time, someone asked, "Well, how much does a brain cost?"

The doctor quickly responded, "\$5,000 for a male brain, and \$200 for a female brain."

The moment turned awkward. Men in the room tried not to smile, avoiding eye contact with the women, but some actually smirked.

A man unable to control his curiosity, blurted out the question everyone wanted to ask, "Why is the male brain so much more?"

The doctor smiled at the childish innocence and explained to the entire group, "It's just standard pricing procedure. We have to mark down the price of the female brains, because they've actually been used."

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Birthdays: Ray Henry, Tamie T. Regan, Lenovus Benton, David Hunter, Susan S. Cowart; Anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ray, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Clearman, Mr. and Mrs. J.C. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Roger W. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Powell

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Birthdays: Amanda Jones Hayman, Chip Cannon, Kaycee Varnum, Emily Santos, Daniel Varnum, Peggy Chambers, Cheryl Ford, Ryan Keeter, Laverne Hudson, Vicki King, Betty Cross; Anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Sloan, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Broxton

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Birthdays: Vic Fleet, Pat Holzkecht, Rachel Carter, Angela King, David A. Rue, Melissa Hurst, Lane Wilson, Horace Loving Sr., Lonnie Broxton, Brandon Chambliss; Anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. Jerry W. Roland, Mr. and Mrs. Parks Callan, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Williams

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28
Birthdays: Janice Grant, Sandra East, Lisa Milnes, Gail Fulghum; Anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. James Burch, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meredith, Tony and Karen Josey

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Birthdays: Michelle Daniels, Mildred Johnson, Lyn Cook, Mandy Roland, Ashley Burke, Gina Cobb, Carson James, Terri Johnson; Anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Busby, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Merritt, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Joiner

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Birthdays: Stevie Warren, Joyce Wells, Allene Harris, Doyle Cobb, Isaac Taylor Bush, Melissa Amerison, Kathy Kimbrel, Wilma Young, Mark Twain (1835)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1
Birthdays: Brandi Everson, Andy Stewart, Ethell Cook, Shaun Franklin, Sandy Brown Rentz, Jenny Bodrey, Jill S. Brown, Jay Funderburke, Dana Williams; Anniversaries: Charlie and Bonnie Kirksey

If you would like to add your name or some family members name to our calendar, please mail or e-mail it to us. If you see anything that needs to be corrected, such as a death, a divorce, marriage or etc., please call us at 229-758-5549, or it may stay in our master file forever. We at the Miller County Liberal wish you all much happiness on your very special day.

Call or write your Congressman

Saxby Chambliss - 202-224-3521 Fax: 202-224-0103 (Washington) 770-763-9090 (Atlanta) Address: United States Senate, 416 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-1005

Johnny Isakson - 202-224-3643 Fax: 202-228-0724 (Washington) 770-661-0999 (Atlanta) Address: United States Senate, 120 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-1004

Sanford Bishop - 202-225-3631 Fax: 202-225-2203 (Washington) 229-439-8067 (Albany) Address: 2429 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515-1002

AS YOU SEE IT

It doesn't say much for our community when you ride around the square and there are beer bottles sitting on the tables in front of the local bar!

How come the 911 operators can keep such detailed records for the paper to publish each week, but they can't get the ambulance to the right address?

It was great to see all the people in town Sunday even though the weather put a small damper on the crowd. It was still GREAT!!!!

Why come the citizens on the west side of the county never see the GSP on our roads?

If you get caught doing drugs while in jail, you should still be in jail and so should the jail employees who let you get away with it!

The Mayhaw show was great! We have so many talented people in our town who give of their time to make Colquitt an even better place in which to live.

Yes, it was a long way to Savannah Friday night, and yes we did lose -- but there are other teams who would have love to had the opportunity to be in our shoes!! Go Pirates on a winning season!! And thanks to the coaches!!!

The opinions or suggestions in this column come from the public and are not those of this newspaper. They are printed as we receive them (sic). The word limit per insertion is 35 words. Over 35 words will be edited or not printed. It can be sent e-mail, FAX, U.S. Mail or brought by the Liberal office. We welcome signed Letters to the editor, with 250 word limit.