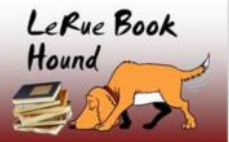


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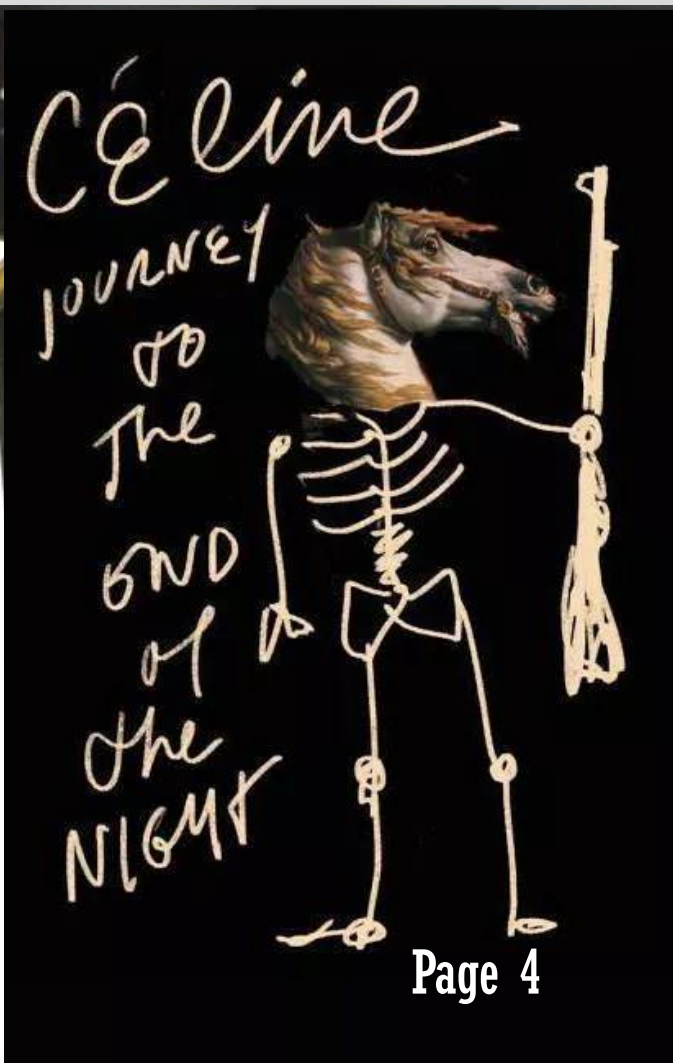
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Paperback Exchanges Are Available



Page 10

Bookstore



Page 4



In Politics: Registration I.D. vs Voting I.D.

Page 8





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Reno, Sparks, Carson City, Charleston, Jacksonville...is your city next?

Plus:



What's Inside?

Cover Story: Paperback Exchanges Are Available

Janice Hermen10

LeRue Press Services and Social Media Contact Info2

BTS Entertainment Corner: Dennis Aloia, The Amazing Dennis! Brian T. Shirley3

Journey to the End of the Night by Louis Ferdinand Celineo (Book Review)

John Loranger 4

Blues 'N Kids: Music & Entertainment Bobby Joe Holman7

OPINION

Topic: Registration I.D. vs Voter I.D. Political Contributors.....8

The Depth of Heartfelt Moments (Walk the Turtle)

Mike Aloia9

Military Matters: The Space Force Is Hiring

RG Cruise14

Take the Quiz17

What's Cookin'?

Ruth VanDyke18

Take the Quiz AnswersBack Page

What's the Story?

News, Articles, Entertainment, Politics, Business, Arts and Culture

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Brian T. Shirley

Dennis Aloia
The Amazing Dennis!

BTS
ENTERTAINMENT
CORNER

I want to welcome my good friend and someone I have performed with many times, "Magician/Comedian" Dennis Aloia (The Amazing Dennis) to The BTS Entertainment Corner. Dennis is a US Navy Veteran and former Chicago Cop. Dennis combines magic and comedy to deliver a truly unique and fun magical experience for audiences of all ages. He has performed for corporate events and at birthday parties as well as theaters and a variety of other venues! He also hosts a Web TV Show on AHRWEB TV Network called "Keeping It Real."



BTS: How did you get started on the road to being a magician and how/when did you incorporate comedy into your show?

DA: Magic found me in the early 1970's. My best friend at the time had been doing magic since he was 10 years old. He asked if I would be interested in partnering with him in opening a bar in Chicago with entertainment being

provided by local magicians. I agreed and learned the art of close up bar and table magic. We added a great deal of humor to the show and were very successful.

I eventually added a stage type magic and comedy show to my resume and started performing at

(Continued on page 5)

Brian T. Shirley (BTS): Thanks again Dennis, can you give the readers a brief background on your naval and law enforcement careers.

Dennis Aloia (DA): Brian, thank you for asking. I joined the Navy at 17 and after boot camp I was assigned to the Amphibious Forces in Little Creek Virginia. I served on two amphibious command ships, the USS Mt. McKinley AGC 7 and the USS Taconic AGC 17.

I was part of a task force in Europe for a year and also served on a destroyer, USS Pritchett. I was extended for one year during the Cuban Missile Crisis. After leaving the service at 21, I applied for the Chicago Police Department and served several years earning 14 commendations..





John Loranger

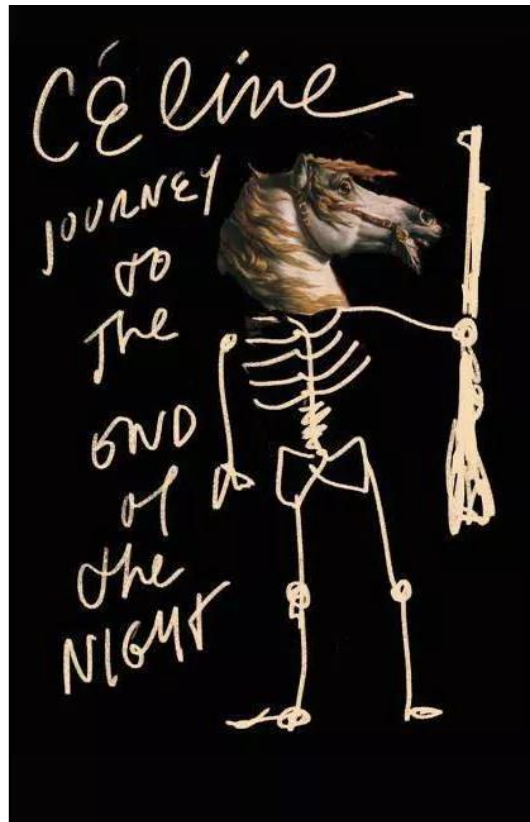
Journey to the End of the Night

Book
Review

by Louis Ferdinand Celine

Though I have read a fair number of French authors—Camus, Sartre and Mauriac, to name a few—only Céline has made me laugh; and only in this particular book of his: *Journey to the End of the Night*.

Published in 1932, it is an autobiographical novel that is told in first-person by a character named Ferdinand Bardamu. He is a doctor but talks like a criminal, and his slangy, vulgar voice is generally gripping and sometimes uproarious. It can also be quite disturbing, as when he describes his combat experiences during World War I. Bardamu's caustic voice during these episodes carries a definite potency. The prospect of losing his life in battle induces in him a general state of panic. His girlfriend at the time, a woman named Lola, says to him that only people who are insane or cowardly could reject war when their country is in danger. "If that's the case," Bardamu



replies, "hurrah for the crazy people!" He does admit at certain points that he may not be right in the head.

After the war, he goes to Africa and provides the reader with fresh descriptions of injustice and despicable cruelty. But it is here where he encounters a spark of goodness in the world—in the person of a man named Alcide. This fellow has consigned himself to years of loneliness and drudgery for the sake of an orphaned niece whom his income supports. "Motivated by nothing but his good heart," Bardamu observes, "he had set no conditions and asked nothing

in return. To that little girl far away he was giving enough tenderness to make the whole world over..."

Though the novel's overall tone is pessimistic and corrosively cynical, these flashes of plain goodness sometimes appear. Bardamu's tender, sad affair with an American woman named Molly also comes to mind. Such moments in the rambling narrative do not result in a redemptive outcome, but they make the journey more agreeable than it otherwise would be. Henry Miller's "Tropic of Cancer", which may have been partly inspired by "Journey", contains nothing comparably humanizing.

(Continued on page 7)



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(Continued from page 3)

many events including private parties, corporate events, kids shows and conventions. Since I started performing, I have done thousands of shows in various area's of the country.

Being able to master this skill has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. I am going to enter my 77th year on this planet on March 3rd and I perform an average of three shows a week.

BTS: Your son, Mike Aloia, is the CEO of AHR WEB TV network (he also writes *Walk the Turtle* for *What's the Story?*) and you have had a show called *Keepin' it Real* on the Network. How did the show get started? How did you get the moniker of "The Godfather of WEB TV" and thanks for having me on BTW!

DA: Approximately 8 years ago my son, Mike, started an internet radio station, American Hearts Radio. Shortly after that I was asked to appear as a guest on an Internet TV show, which I did. I suggested to Mike that he expand to internet TV. We offered the public a way to have their own TV show at a low cost. The formula was and is successful.

I started my TV show *Keepin' It Real* about 6 years ago and have interviewed guests from all walks of life. One of my favorite interviews was an Army veteran in

his 80s who jumped into Normandy the night before the D-Day invasion June 6 1944. He was 17 at the time. He wore his 82nd Airborne Uniform during the interview.

It has been a great experience. As far as being labeled as "The Godfather of Internet TV". I wore a black shirt on one show and everyone said I looked like The Godfather from the movie so it stuck.

My son, Mike, and his producer, Bruce Shepard, create some wonderful effects for each TV show and I am very proud of the work they have done. In recent years Mike has branched out with a local ministry, The Hands and Feet Foundation. He has helped them spread the word of God and helping others thru American Hearts Radio and TV Network. He lives in Jacksonville, Florida and I am very proud of him in this effort.

BTS: One of the episodes of *Keeping it Real* has been turned into a documentary with your buddy Hal Burke. I watched this amazing episode about The Sullivan Brothers and The Kissing Sailor, which was a finalist in the NSAEN International Film Festival. How did this come about? What does the future hold for your Web TV career?

DA: My good friend and shipmate Hal Burke and I met while we were both in the Navy. After Hal retired from a career as a sales director for a company, he started researching military history. He eventually came upon the story of the 5 Sullivan Brothers who all lost their

(Continued on page 6)



Whitfield Moore Photography 770 609 7173

(Continued from page 5)

lives while serving on the same ship, the USS Juneau during the battle of Guadalcanal in November 1942.

He also discovered the connection between the ship he served on, The USS Sullivan's and the famous "Kissing Sailor Photograph" taken of VJ Day in New York's Time Square. He met the man in the photo George Mondonza and members of the Sullivan family. It is a great story and I did an entire show with Hal telling his story.

Recently he has been involved in the story of several Medal of Honor Winners from his local area. Hal is a great speaker, interesting guest and a true patriot. I am anxiously awaiting his book regarding his stories. Our TV interview is a finalist in the NSAEN documentary film festival category and we are excited to be selected. My TV show is currently on hold but I expect to restart in the near future with a more focused theme.

BTS: I've had the pleasure of sharing the stage with you several times and we even have done a few improv games together that usually bring the house down. How

do you feel working with other performers onstage? Do you prefer performing alone or does it matter?

DA: I have only shared the stage with you and an Elvis impersonator in my entertainment career. Desperation causes strange associations. Just kidding. I do really enjoy working with you. We always have a great time and a lot of laughs. Our audience interaction is magical and funny. Our improv skit with the audience being the judge and jury is extremely funny and to see you dressed as a "Southern Gentleman Lawyer" with a lousy accent and a cheap suit makes my day. My closing question to you is "Will you ever work with me again?"

Brian T. Shirley has the look of a Don Rickles, the comedy of a George Carlin with a *touch* of Robin Williams but when you roll it all together, it is pure and unique and something only Brian T. Shirley can deliver.

Brian has toured the USA, Canada, The Bahamas and Japan for 25 years. He combines menology, character driven material, story telling and has worked well known comedy clubs, country clubs, resorts, cruise ships, special events, military installations and private events! Check out some of his upcoming shows, promo videos, videos from his webs series and other projects at www.briantshirley.com.

(Continued from page 7)

31st - August 2nd, 2020 - This is also Rising Blue's first opportunity to perform at this historic event! They will take to the Food Truck Stage, Sunday August 2nd at 11:00 a.m.!

These three concerts and a host of many others, are examples of Utah's commitment to the development of young talented people, by giving them the opportunity to perform in the music concert arena!

Next month, will talk to a couple of Utah's talented youth!

"A Place Where Young People Learn from Young People!"

Bobby Joe Holman is the Director of Blues in School Program hosted by the Utah Blues Society and a well-known blues and harmonica player who has traveled throughout the United States.



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Everyone Has a Story

If you have been thinking about leaving your family history for your kids and grandkids, or if you just have wonderful memories to share, there is no better time to start writing than now.

A new local writing group will be starting in January. There is no cost for this class and everyone is welcome. We will meet at the Sparks Senior Center, 97 Richards Way, Sparks, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM on the first and third Thursdays of each month.

Please join us: just bring paper, pen or pencil or favorite electronic device and a friend if you'd like. All are welcome! For more information contact Pam at: pamdurio@gmail.com

(Continued from page 4)
 Journey

I have never finished anything else by Céline. I started *North and Castle to Castle*, but quickly lost interest. It's doubtful that he ever topped *Journey to the End of the Night* anyway; least of all when he became an anti-Semitic crackpot and wrote a series of racist essays. Given Céline's support of Nazism, I'm surprised that his literary status has stood firm. I'm glad, however, because I always try to separate the given work of art from the artist. For me, a novel always stands or falls according to its own merit, independent of the goodness or badness of its creator. So if the devil himself writes a good piece of fiction, I will give him his due.

John Loranger was born in Butte, Montana in 1961 but has spent most of his life in Nevada. He served in the United States Navy from 1983 to 1987, then worked for the telephone company before retiring in 2011. He has always enjoyed reading fiction and has published two novels of his own: "The Odyssey of Art O'Hara" and "Lions and Souls: the Story of St. Mary of Egypt", available at LeRue Press and Amazon.

His approach to fiction is best summed up by a quote from Walker Percy: "The first rule of thumb, of course, is pleasure. A good book gives the reader pleasure,

A sign of the times?



Photo by Janice Hermesen

Visitors to Renown Medical Center in South Reno, Nevada were directed to the emergency room entrance and only "cleared" individuals were permitted to enter.

The message to visitors? *Call your loved ones.* Don't come in to visit.

In the interest of caution due to outbreak recently of Coronavirus, the hospital implemented new standards.

Cities across the country are deciding how to deal with the outbreak.



Bobby Joe Holman "Rising Blue" Takes to the Concert

Music & Entertainment

Hi: this is Bobby Joe, and welcome to Blues"N"Kids, a monthly entertainment column that focuses on young musicians from Salt Lake City and surrounding northern Utah communities!

"Rising Blue" Salt Lake City's Premier Youth Blues Band, is scheduled to perform at three major northern Utah concert events!

- The 6th Annual Utah Blues Festival - June 12th & 13th, 2020! This is Rising Blue's second year,

scheduled performance on Salt Lake City's Gallavan Center Stage, and will perform on Saturday June 13th at 12 noon!

- Murray City's, Annual "Arts in The Park" Summer Lunch Concerts - June 30th, 2020! This will be Rising Blue's first opportunity to perform at The Murray City Pavilion on Tuesday June 30th, beginning at 12 noon!
- The 40th Annual Park City Kimball Arts Festival - July

(Continued on page 6)

OPINION

TOPIC: Registration vs. ID at the Ballot Box

The People's Perspective

It has been a volatile period in history with dramatic splits between people and parties. Rather than maintaining silence, What's the Story™ would like to contribute some down to earth, people-focused *OPINIONS*. These do not reflect our view necessarily; they reflect the views of people who identify as one of the parties listed. If you belong to one of these parties, your view might be different than what is expressed. That is to be expected.

Writers share their perspective independently and without discussion between them.

WHAT WE ASKED: If most, if not all, states require identification to REGISTER to vote, why do many people object to voter I.D. laws being implemented? Isn't it important to know that the person representing themselves as a voter provide identification? How would you feel if someone voted in your place and you were refused your rightful vote? Most government programs require identification to be eligible (such as welfare*). Doesn't that dispel the argument opponents of Voter I.D. have that lower income individuals cannot always get photo identification? Where do you stand on the issue vs where your party stands?

*<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/7-things-the-us-government-requires-ids-17503>

Democrat View

THE GOAL

The goal of WTS (What's the Story) is to have, at a minimum, perspectives from a Democrat, an Independent and a Republican. Unfortunately, Dennis Whitehead was unable to continue writing for WTS, so we sought other Democrats to take his place.

We are pleased to announce that we have 2 writers that have expressed an interest in sharing their perspectives. Looking forward to the April issue and the Democrat 's side being represented.

"Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it."

-[Charles R. Swindoll](#)

Independent View

Voter I.D. Laws (An Unnecessary Evil.)

Having years of electioneering experience, I am ok with needing ID's to register to vote and am ambivalent to voter ID's per se, but I am opposed to the way that they are used to suppress voters. Quite often the changes to which ID's are acceptable to register, change with little opportunity for the public to prepare. Usually shortly before the election cycle that the changes will affect. Let's cut to the chase. (No, not Chevy. No, not Dr. Meridian. Definitely not steeple!) I mean the fact that most people who are seeking justifications for voter I.D laws, cite frequently disproven reasons like preventing voter fraud. (This is not the same as election fraud. Election fraud is the systemic stealing of votes from an entire group of people.) Voter fraud is when an individual attempts to cast a vote that they are not legally

(Continued on page 13)

Republican View

Another Democrat Talking Point... Disenfranchisement!

In 2016 while in line to vote, I was talking to another gentleman about voting (we were both Trump supporters). An older lady (pollster) approached and admonished us for talking about politics while in line. I replied with, "Instead of worrying about what we are talking about, you should be worried about how we *don't* check identifications...illegals could be voting!" Then she hit me with *another* Democrat talking point: "We don't want to disenfranchise anyone." What in the hell is she talking about? I told her that we *must* show ID to *register* to vote, so why not show the same ID to vote?

The Democrat Party is inherently corrupt and *oppose* voter ID laws (I wonder why). They argue that the poor *can't* afford ID cards, they *don't* have the underlying documents or that travel to obtain an ID card is a *hardship*. Really? I don't believe that this is truly the Democrats reasoning. Their arguments fall flat with me mainly because I see the Democrat Party for what it really is...corrupt and power hungry! Unless I'm mistaken, the poor

(Continued on page 13)



Mike Aloia The Depth of Heartfelt Moments

"Walk the Turtle"



brilliant ambience of enchanting memories dance inside the depths of the heartfelt

moments we have shared with certain significant souls during our course set forth by the ever changing currents of time.

An emergence of passive intuition is given through our insight within the vortex of our genetic form. Compiled by waves of sincerity and the humbleness of sorrows endured, we give all of ourselves to love as we place a commitment to another's heart.

A spiritual thread of fabric that is woven into the tapestry of our life is created during each second we have existed. Among these, images and faces that linger during our reminiscence and daydreams gives us the perspective and understanding of fate as we strive towards wisdom in faith.

Inspiration and encouraging words by those that truly care give birth to the essential essence for the comforting to one's heart.

Held by the tranquility of stillness we can feel God's grace as we walk the turtle with grateful thoughts to those in our life.



Photo by [Jan Wetherill](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Inspired by the love of Brittany Danielle Withers, Justine Sue Haley Acevedo, and Brittany Nichole Casey.

Mike Aloia is a father of two daughters and a proud grandfather. He lives in Jacksonville, Florida. Mike is multi-talented: a cartoonist, comedian, musician, songwriter, actor, columnist, and the CEO of American Hearts Radio, LLC Entertainment Network. He has experience in web V, radio entertainment production, artist management, and other aspects of entertainment.

His column "Walk the Turtle" are his thoughts on slowing down, taking it easy, and enjoying life. Mike's work can be found in the following places:

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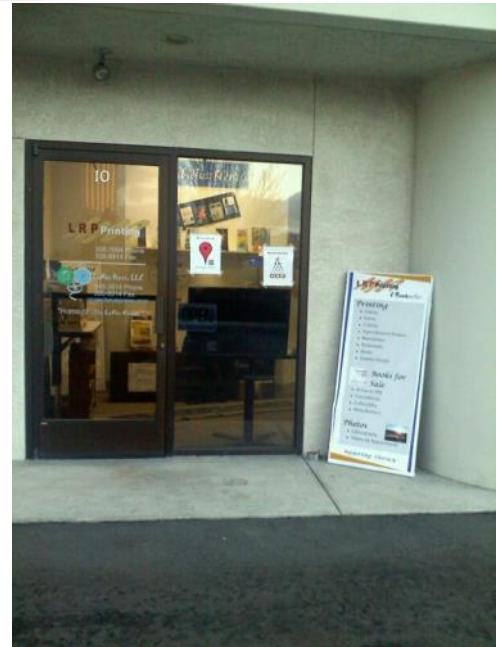
Cover Story

The Book Gallery, a 26 year old used bookstore in Sparks, closed in February. Though the owner, Joe Chiappetto wanted to sell it and maintain this long-standing and much-loved store; it was not in the cards.

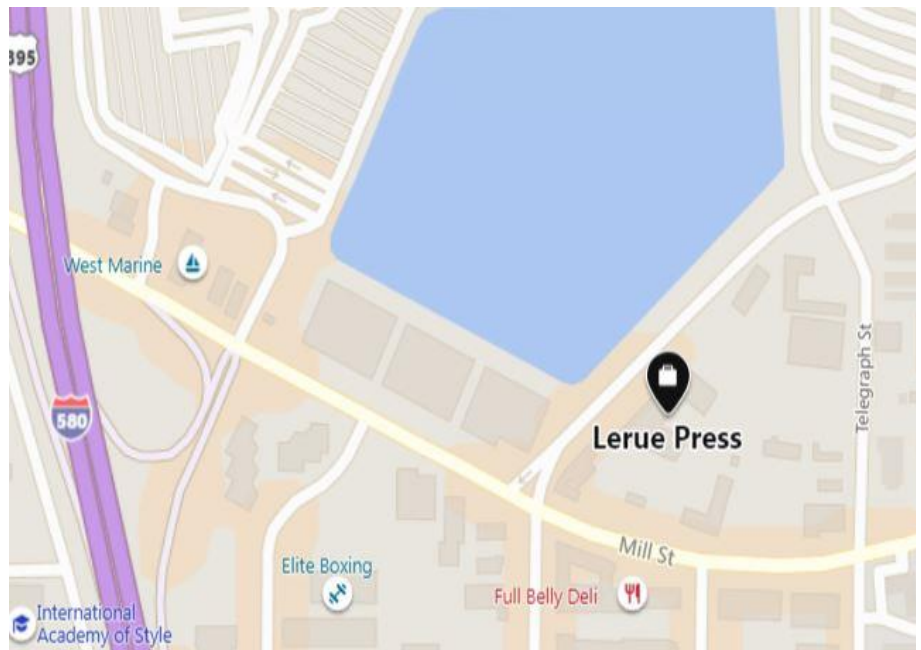
But paperback exchanges have been adopted with the same policy at the **LeRue Press Bookstore in Reno**. LeRue has long been a bookstore, but with the closing of The Book Gallery, it is ready to take up the mantle and provide services to the customers who love to read and exchange their books.

In the same spirit as The Book Gallery, most paperbacks can be exchanged one for one plus a dollar. Hard covers are also available at reasonable prices as well as new books by local and self-published authors from across the country. No book to exchange? No problem. Most paperbacks without exchange are only \$2.

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What Deepest Remains

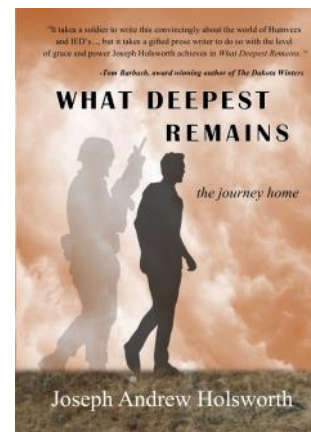
By Joseph Andrew Holsworth

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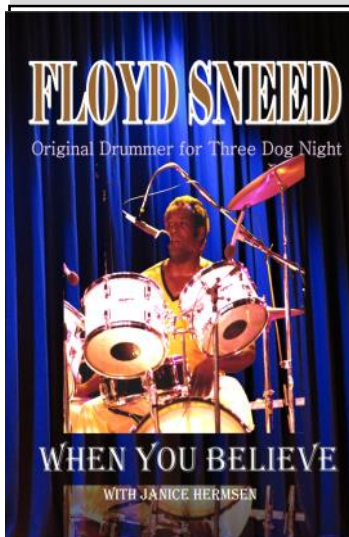
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When You Believe by Floyd Sneed with Janice



WHEN YOU BELIEVE: FLOYD SNEED, ORIGINAL DRUMMER FOR THREE DOG NIGHT

From drumsticks
to paintbrushes

Creative and
inspired

Classic Drummer Hall of Fame and Pop Music Hall of Fame inductee (Three Dog Night), Floyd Sneed tells his story in his book *When You Believe*. It is a witty, entertaining and insightful book full of stories told by original Three Dog Night drummer, Floyd Sneed, with perspectives from people who know him. A look at life in the 60s and 70s from one of the first black drummers in an all white band. How he took his creativity to another level with his own personal imagery that is joyful and inspired by his sense of humor. Published by LeRue Press, LLC.

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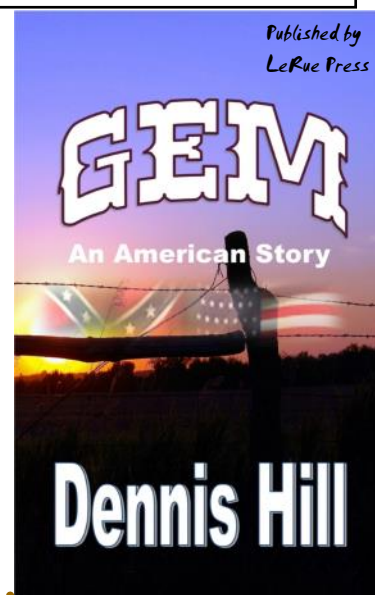
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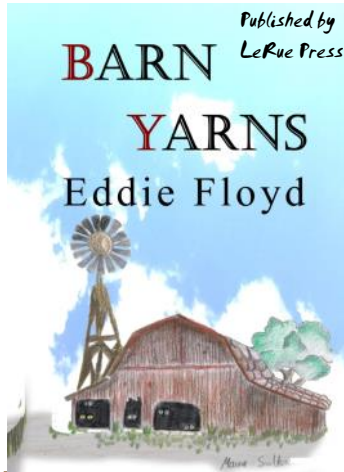


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For additional information contact D.J. Jones 775-626-6651 or email Jones.Richard@yahoo.com



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Enriching lives by providing essential in-home caregiving services for qualifying senior citizens and veterans at no cost, and offering senior focused programs to enhance the communities in which we serve.

As a nonprofit organization the Hart Foundation relies on the contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations to provide in-home care to those who cannot afford it. Our mission is to provide essential in-home caregiving services for qualifying senior citizens and veterans at no cost. We know our cause is just and it is enough for some gift givers just to know they are helping our veterans and seniors who are so often neglected.

We rely on donations and grants to provide the extras that

(Continued on page 19)

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(Continued from page 8) (Independent)
OPINION

entitled to cast. The penalty for this is up to 5 years in prison and/or up to a \$10,000.00 fine. (Just to cast ONE vote.) This happens so rarely that, (There have been 31 documented cases of people being charged with voter fraud in the U.S. between 2000 and 2014.) statistically speaking, it is virtually nonexistent. We do not need voter ID laws to prevent in person voter fraud and voter ID laws do nothing to prevent impersonating another voter using absentee ballots. (Which is more likely to occur.) So why are so many GOP controlled states pushing this "solution in search of a problem"? (Like passing a law preventing people from eating Tide pods, as if people would voluntarily, bad example.) Frankly, it is used to suppress voters. PA State House Leader, Republican Mike Turzai, stated in a press conference that the new PA voter ID laws did their job in suppressing Obama voters.

New voter ID laws in N. Dakota, require a street address (as opposed to a P.O. Box which had always been

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 8) (Republican)
OPINION

and disadvantaged *must* present an ID to receive federal and state benefits.

Being that Democrats support open borders and *illegal* migration and driver's licenses for the undocumented (we are the *only* country that offer driver's licenses to people who are residing illegally), its only a short stretch of the imagination (connect the dots... remember that game?) that they would want these people to vote *illegally* as well. The Democrats have taken a strong stance to support illegals simply for their votes and illegals are *pawns* in their strategy to obtain a *new* voting base. The Democrat Party is active in *all* 50 states to pass laws for illegal immigrants that would benefit the Democratic Party. The Democrats want to give them: *free* healthcare, *free* education, *free* social benefits and *free* money all in the name of power. Hell, if I was an illegal and the Democrats are offering me all of this *free* stuff, I'd vote Democrat too! Get it?

If you have to show an ID to register to vote (which should be the case for every state), why not show your ID to vote? What's the story here? This is the *only* logical way to assist in keeping our elections *pure*. Do you honestly think that the Democrats would cry foul if they knew that illegals would vote Republican? I think not. This is their

(Continued on page 15)



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Military Matters

The Space Force is Hiring!

Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy and now Space Force are all looking to contract good young men and women.

Establishing our country's Armed Forces is as follows:

- On June 14, 1775 the United States Army was established.
- On October 13, 1775 the United States Navy was established.
- On November 10, 1775 the United States Marines was established.
- On August 4, 1790 the United States Coast Guard was established.
- On September 18, 1947 the United States Air Force was established.
- On December 20, 2019 the United States Space Force was established.

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 2020, redesignated the Air Force Space Command as the U.S. Space Force, an independent branch of the United States Armed Forces.

The newest branch of our military is currently hiring and has some open positions for program analysts and intelligence specialists. Right now, there are approximately 16,000 personnel assigned to Space Force with General Jay Raymond sworn in as the first Space Force leader. With adversarial countries targeting space for a military advantage, out of necessity, the United States was proactive in future defense of our country as space is considered the *ultimate* high ground and offers a *definite* military advantage.

President Trump, in his infinite wisdom, recognized the *critical* need for a specialized dedicated branch of the military to act as a deterrent to the bad behavior of China, North Korea and Russia, which are rapidly advancing in a space race for dominance. The primary role for the Space Force, under the Department of the Air Force, is space warfare. Other responsibilities will include: all major space acquisition programs, create a career path for military and civilian space personnel and to organize, train and equip space forces.

(Continued from page 16)

- 8 states have more registered voters than actual voting aged people.
- The PEW Research Center stated that 24 million voters are registered in the United States Which is either "invalid or significantly inaccurate".

Those opposed to voter identification, never offer any solutions, they just fall back to an overused, and worn-out idiom, you're prejudiced against lower income voters, or worse yet, they use their trump card, you're a racist!

The are 17 states that require *no* Identification to vote at ballot box: Our beloved Nevada is one of those states. In 2016, our neighbor, the state of California, one of the states with more registered voters than citizens, became the first state to legalize the practice of "*ballot solicitation*"; the collection and delivery of ballots by third parties. This is called "ballot harvesting." The practice consists of an individual, or party affiliate, to go to areas of large population bases, usually rest homes, or churches, and collect ballots from those with no formal identification. There is

(Continued on page 15)



Combat utility uniform of the U.S. Space Force
Image in Public Domain

(Continued from page 14)

no guarantee the cast ballots will arrive at the polling precinct completely unaltered. There is no watchdog or oversight for this practice.

With the present system rife with voter fraud, and with overwhelming evidence that something is drastically wrong, hasn't the simplest of solutions for voter identifications time come? *Require photo ID before you can vote!*

The cornerstone for a magician is deception. They keep your eyes focused on one hand, while all along they are manipulating objects with the other. This is the best description of the political debate regarding for voter identification. While the democrat party has the public focused on voter identification, there true and deceitful goal is voter registration. In a recent pole, 53 percent of democrats support granting illegal immigrants the right to vote.

Starting on April 1, 2018, illegal aliens in California who have recently obtained state driver's licenses legally or obtained them previously by lying about their immigration

(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 13) (Independent)
 OPINION

acceptable.) This new law disenfranchised mostly Native American citizens who live on reservations and generally vote democratic. Why change the law? In 2012, N. Dakota elected a democratic Senator. Heidi Heitkamp narrowly beat her republican opponent thanks to the Native American voters. So, in 2018, the law was changed, affecting mostly Native American voters and giving the republicans an additional Senate seat.

I could go on about so many states like Georgia, Florida, Texas, Wisconsin, etc. but here's the rub. (And not as in "-a-dub" or "and tug".) Voter ID laws, like the poll taxes before them, are designed to suppress the will of targeted people. When you can't win them over with your arguments, you run them over with unjust laws.

Trump set up a panel to investigate the so called 3.5 million fraudulent votes that were allegedly cast in the 2016 election. After finding nothing to support his claim, the panel disbanded without fanfare. He still speaks of voter fraud as if it were a real thing (like his hair color or his stable genius).

To sum up: Voter fraud-fake news. Election fraud - real threat. Until we are ready to fix the second, voter ID laws are an "unnecessary evil".

Guest Political Contributor, **GD Fenderson**
 GD Fenderson is a Certified Forensic Humourist out of Maryland.

Go to www.SoGDFunny.com

To see a second Independent's opinion, go to page 12.

(Continued from page 13) (Republican)
 OPINION

latest strategy to obtain power for corrupt purposes. They want children (as young as 16), felons, illegals and even dead people to vote! See where this is going? You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure this all out!

Wake up America! Let your *Republican* Representative or Senator know that you *strongly* support voter ID laws! I'm of the opinion that's its crucial for our government to ensure that *only* those that have a right to vote...vote, and if you *can't* obtain a *legal* ID card, then you don't deserve to vote anyway. Shouldn't we err on the side of caution and require a *real* ID?

Guest Political Contributor, **R.G. Cruise**

RG Cruise is the author of
Operation: Omega
www.RGCruise.com

Editor's Note: We ask our three guest contributors to provide opinion. Sometimes, those opinions contain information that may have been contradicted or additional information added at a later date. Please keep that in mind as you read their columns.



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Another Independent Opinion

Voter Identification

Being able to verify the identity of an individual is important in many aspects of our lives. Otherwise, what would keep someone from impersonating someone else?

In the attached link provided with this question, several activities are cited that require identification, and rightfully so. One that should require identification is when an individual votes.

Voting is one of the most fundamental acts we do as an American, and anything that tarnishes our trust in this process will erode and could destroy this most important right. If I knew a politician was properly voted in by eligible voters, then I wouldn't have an issue with it, even if I didn't agree with the results. Requiring voters to prove they are who they say they are, gives me a higher level of comfort that politicians are legitimately voted into office.

I don't understand why there are some people who are so against voter I.D. laws. It makes me think they support illegal activity in regards to voting. The argument that low income or minorities have a harder time getting identification is completely false. In fact, I think it's degrading and insulting to these groups to cast a broad statement like that on them, making them sound either stupid or incompetent. I don't have a party affiliation, but I would agree with Republicans on this argument. People should be required to show valid identification to vote.

Guest Political Contributor, Reinhold Becker grew up in Dallas, Texas. Becker has a degree in Finance/Accounting and is a CPA for an accounting firm.

Another Republican Opinion

Voter Identification, a Must

During my career, I always had to laugh when someone would come into my office, present a dilemma, then summed it up by saying, "It's simple, all you have to do is..." Life has taught me, there are no simple solutions. Voter identification falls squarely into this category. Politics only serves to cloud the issue, but facts still remain facts, and if you peel back all of the layers, a correct answer lays just beneath the surface. In reviewing all the specifics, the answer could be truly simple.

Where you stand on a subject, depends on where you sit. The democrat party has a vested interest in allowing constituents to vote, even if they cannot prove their identity. The mainstream media declares that corrupt voting practices don't exist or are so minor that they don't matter.

Everyone is aware of the multitude of localities which require ID, however it is easier to list locations that *do not* require identification, than do.

The following, I believe, are some of the best justifications for requiring voter identification.

- Voter ID is required in almost every other democracy in the world,
- 141 counties across the United States have more registered voters than people legally eligible to vote,
- 29 states have counties with more registered voters than legal residents,

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 14)

Against the advice of his Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis, on June 18, 2018, President Trump, through an executive order, directed the Pentagon to begin creating a Space Force. When the President asked General Dunford to carry out this assignment, he responded in the affirmative with, "We got you."

Space Force *may* be officially headquartered in Colorado where the U.S. Space Command already has a presence. The NDAA authorized \$148 million to begin construction.

President Trump, in a tweet one month after our newest military branch was officially signed into existence, revealed its official seal. The seal contains the words, "United States Space Force" and "Department of the Air Force" along with the Roman numerals: MMXIX (2019).

The Space Force will serve under the oversight of the Department of the Air Force similar to the Marine Corps falling under the Department of the Navy.

By **R G Cruise, U.S. Navy Vets**
 RG Cruise is the author of **Operation: Omega**
www.RGCruise.com

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.

-Albert Einstein

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Take the Quiz: You May Know More Than You Think!

1. Which 1954 novel by William Golding focusses around a group of British schoolchildren, attempting to govern themselves after they find themselves stranded on a tropical island?
2. The Thing and The Human Torch are members of which superhero team, who made their Marvel debut in a comic of 1961?
3. Which French designer is well-known for popularizing the "Little Black Dress" during the early 20th century?
- 4 Which Apollo mission of 1972 saw the last of the 12 NASA astronauts (as of 2019) land on the moon?
5. Henry Jones Jr. was the real first name of which swashbuckling archaeologist, first appearing on movie screens in 1981?
6. The name of which type of appetizer is derived from the Spanish verb meaning "to cover", rumored to started when Andalusian drinkers used small dishes to cover their glasses of sherry to prevent flies from getting in?
7. Which creature, native to a few small islands in eastern Indonesia, is the largest living reptile, reaching lengths of up to 3m and weights of up to 70kg?
8. The wife of which biblical figure was supposedly turned to a pillar of salt upon looking back at the destruction of Sodom?
9. Which friar, born in modern-day Czechia in 1822, is often described as the Father of Genetics, following his experiments cross-breeding different forms of pea plant?
10. Who performed a rock version of *The Star Spangled Banner* at the closing of Woodstock in 1969, which subsequently became a symbol of the 1960s era?

A variety of questions this month. Thanks to
<https://www.businessballs.com/quiz/>
 (Answers on back page)



Ruth VanDyke

Ruth VanDyke What's Cookin'? "It's a Great Day for the Irish"

Growing up in Butte, Montana, I recall St. Patrick's Day as being one of the biggest celebrations

of the year. The "wearing a' the green" was the dress of the day, and if you weren't Irish, you wished you were.

According to a 2010 census Butte is the most Irish city in America, with a 23.6 percent Irish population, compared to Boston's 19.8 percent. Just flipping through the local phone book seems to confirm that statistic, with pages and pages of Kelly, O'Connor, Sullivan, O'Brien and O'Neill's.

St. Patrick's Day of 1979, a neighbor appeared at my door with a large platter of something that looked like midget potatoes. As I gazed at her offering, I thought of an old Irish Proverb that my grandfather use to say, "You must take the little potato with the big potato." I never understood the meaning of it, as with many of his other Irish proverbs, but I smiled as I accepted her gift.

She explained to me that these were Irish Potatoes, which she made every St. Patrick's Day. What looked like dirt turned out to be cinnamon, and after just one bite, I couldn't stop eating them. The recipe was passed down from a Mister Otto Glaser, who was the

president of Dairy Maid Confectionery Company in Philadelphia in the 1950's.

The following recipe was transcribed from Mister Glaser's own hand written recipe

CINNAMON IRISH POTATOES:

Pour one and a half pints of water into a kettle. Add three pounds of granulated sugar and eight ounces of white corn syrup. Stir over flame until sugar is dissolved and mixture starts to boil and then stop stirring. Wait ten minutes and then drop a small amount into cold water. When it forms a soft ball (softball stage is 235 to 240 degrees), take mixture off heat. Set kettle in cold water to cool and then beat until creamy. Remove from kettle and fold in one and a half pounds of shredded coconut and one teaspoon of vanilla extract. Roll mixture on table, cut into small pieces shape into balls, and roll in cinnamon.

Place on wax paper and let set two hours. Makes five pounds.

This takes a lot of beating to get the creamy consistency and a lot of self-control to let set for two hours. Every bite is delicious.

I would like to share this Irish Blessing that my grandfather, who was from Meath County Ireland, taught me for a school play when I was nine years old.

May the leprechauns be near you To spread luck along your way. And may all the Irish angels, Smile upon you St. Patrick's Day.



Ruth VanDyke is the mother of seven, grandmother of 16, and boasts of 10 great-grandsons. The heart-warming true stories of her life are seasoned with humor and tantalizing recipes from her travels over six decades.

She is a published poet and has been writing short stories for a number of years, as well as editing newsletters for various organizations. Her style of writing and wit have been compared to the late Erma Bombeck.

You can join her daily as she posts recipes, short stories and poetry on her popular BLOG, 'Ruth's Food for Thought' and pick up a copy of her book, *Memories with Recipes* online and at LeRue Press, 280 Greg Street #10, Reno, NV.

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(Continued from page 15)

status, will automatically be registered to vote. This new law immunizes illegals against any state criminal penalty for registering and voting. Allowing citizens of other countries vote in California would illegally "dilute" the votes not only of Californians, but of all American citizens by giving foreigners political power in selecting American lawmakers and presidents.

We as conservatives need to wake up and keep our eyes on the true issues. Voter Identification is only the tip of the iceberg!

Guest Political Contributor, Doug Ashby

*Doug Ashby is the author of
 Heroes and Giants*

*Retired Los Angeles County
 Fire Department Battalion Chief*

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*"F-E-A-R has two meanings: '
 Forget Everything And Run' or '
 Face Everything And Rise.'
 The choice is yours."*

-Zig Ziglar

(Continued from page 13)

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 have served for us so we
 can be free.

Honor our Veterans



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|-----------------------|--------------------|
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| 2) The Fantastic Four | 9) Gregor Mendel |
| 3) Coco Chanel | 10) Jimmi Hendrix |
| 4) Apollo 17 | 11) Herman Munster |
| 5) Indiana Jones | |
| 6) Tapas | |
| 7) Komodo Dragon | |

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