

ing the horn. Then, one was not about the other out me. After all, we can't r people, only ourselves. self, what is a 65-year-old ing like this?

anged my driving experi- — no more tailgating or n. I let the "squeezers" go hich frequently results in e one doing the same.

get annoyed, I refocus on tell myself the offending e some emergency to go to e right down. After all, nutes out of our lives?

one pet peeve and that is s. I really think we should all intersections to catch

n, I will continue to focus ourteous — but defensive

for your column.

**Mary Oliver
Jensen Beach**

COURSE

knowledge er we find it

ed the movie "An Incon- am a conservative and I al warming is true. How ve believe that? Can a lib- oth a mother and a father family are better than a eithier one? No, because here to their essentials of an't conservatives admit stayed our welcome in

knowledge truth wherev- ur political parties don't. ed for political parties to ious truths? It's because he battle lines. We have d they have theirs. We ator. They worship the ects of worship differ — facts interrupt our wor-

t and deserves to be wor- e anathema this creates et God also created the billion years ago) and Republicans should then vironment and not stick

liberal to admit that a conservative (or vice versa) has a valid point is to empow- er your opponent. And we must fight at all costs — even at the cost of truth. This should not be so.

Let's change our political discourse and make it constructive once more. To both conservatives and liberals: Truth matters more than political parties.

**Roger & Allison Elliott
Stuart**

ALIMONY

Readers should be aware of pitfalls in court system

Recently, I was visiting with family in Stuart and met someone involved with an organization called "Alliance for Freedom from Alimony Inc.," a nonprofit organiza- tion. I knew nothing about alimony and have met many other people who have ex- pressed the same. The only understanding I do have is that a friend of mine has gone through a divorce and is required to make monetary payments called alimony to the ex-spouse.

I now have learned more about alimo- ny — and what I have discovered appalls me. From what I read, understand and see taking place, especially in the state of Florida, it reveals to me a very unfair sys- tem being forced on divorced parties in- volved in the court system.

Florida Statute 61.08 needs attention and revision. I have had the opportunity to read letters titled "cries for help," which definitely reveal inequities and in- justices in the statute. Readers of this let- ter should be aware of alimony pitfalls.

A divorce situation is difficult enough and can be very detrimental to parties in- volved should the court system be allowed to continue making decisions in the man- ner it is at present. The victims of the al- imony scam need assistance.

**Lucille E. Fussell
Gates, Ore.**

IRAQ WAR

President should consult crystal ball, tell us the truth

If George W. Bush is stubborn and fool- ish enough to send 20,000 or more troops to Iraq, then Congress should use its pow- er of the purse to stop this. Bush is about to ask for additional money to continue this war: \$90 billion is the number band-

we want to bring our troops home and end this fiasco.

Change is not moving the generals around. Change is withdrawing the troops expeditiously and training the Iraqis as best we can. But staying the course until the next president is elected is wrong. Wake up, George W. Bush. You can't write a wrong by asking others to lay down their lives and others to suffer hor- rendous injuries to give you a legacy.

We know your *modus operandi*. Do I believe we will have a balanced budget in 2012? Give me a break!

Why don't you take another look at your crystal ball and tell us the truth.

**Harold W. Lanzner
Palm City**

FORT PIERCE TROLLEY

Devise new routes, change hours or scrap the venture

If the Fort Pierce trolley has cost the city \$236,000 since October, and 12 riders per day have used it, this means that each ride has cost the city about \$328.

The route goes from the community center to the house of seven gables to the courthouse/Sunrise Theatre to a parking lot to the library/marina, then back to the community center. How many of these places are open at 7 a.m.? Well, maybe someone drives to the parking lot and hauls his fishing gear over to the marina at that hour.

Any private enterprise would have done a feasibility study before launching a new service. It would have identified like- ly users, assessed their needs and devised a route accordingly. American Airlines doesn't fly from Fort Pierce to Melbourne. Why? There aren't enough customers to cover operating costs. They don't start a route and hope that people use it.

If people aren't using the trolley, it's because the trolley doesn't serve their needs.

The market is speaking. Devise new routes, change the hours of operation or scrap the venture and sell the trolley on eBay.

If you build it, they don't always come.

**Donna Joyce
Sewall's Point**

READER INPUT

Some readers' views on matters of public interest. Letters must be include full names and a daytime telephone number and street ad- or verification. Letters may not exceed 300 words, must be original d will be edited. Seven letters per year, per writer may be printed.

O: Letters to the editor, The News, P.O. Box 9009, Stuart, FL 34909 FAX: Editor, 772-221-4246 E-MAIL: tcnletters@scripps.com

RICH CAMPBELL

... did not write a Thursday column this week. His weekend Sunday column will appear this weekend as usual. Look for his Thursday column again next week.