

McHenry County News

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THURSDAY, OCT. 1, 2020

Local volunteer honored posthumously

McHenry County Conservation District Board of Trustees named the late Chuck Dubsy as the first recipient of the Conservation Legacy Award, which honors his passion for conservation, and recognizes his work as a volunteer site steward and his willingness to mentor others.

"In his role as volunteer, site steward, and citizen advisory committee member, Chuck truly left his mark and touched many lives that will be forever changed due to his passion to conservation and the important work he did on behalf of the McHenry County Conservation District," stated Executive Director Elizabeth Kessler. "While we most certainly appreciate everyone's efforts, there are a special few citizens who keep giving long after passing. McHenry County Conservation District is proud to recognize these individuals whose efforts have assisted our organization in preserving our county's beautiful and valuable natural landscapes for future generations."

Dubsy was a conservation district volunteer for 11 years and a site steward at Grundstrom Woods for six of those years, where he not only worked tirelessly to support his site, but assisting several other site stewards as well. He was generous with his time and volunteered wholeheartedly. He believed deeply in healing the land and giving back through his restoration efforts. He also truly enjoyed working with young people and passing on his knowledge and love of the land.

Over the years, he welcomed hundreds of high school and youth groups to restoration workdays to introduce them to the natural world. His interaction with teens was his specialty. By getting youth involved in restoring the land, he demonstrated to them the immediate impact they could have. He was a positive influence to all those students who participated.

Dubsy was also tireless in his

thirst for knowledge about nature and how to improve the environment around us. In environmental roundtable discussions never failed to ask thoughtful and probing questions.

To quote him from his volunteer interview: "My intent is to primarily preserve our heritage and open spaces, and pass it on."

In 2008, part of his homestead was placed into a conservation easement with the district. As a member of the Hebron Township Planning Commission, he assisted in the review process of the green infrastructure network and trails map, which became the McHenry County Green Infrastructure Plan, published July 2012.

Dubsy was also part of the district's Citizens Advisory Committee, as well as a plant monitor, seed collection volunteer and special event volunteer for the Festival of the Sugar Maples and Trail of History, where his energy, thoughtfulness, and humor was welcomed by staff and visitors alike. Those who had the opportunity to meet and work with Dubsy knew his love for the natural world and to make the world a better place.

The Conservation Legacy Award was presented to Dubsy's wife Ann Dubsy at the Sept. 22, Regular Monthly Meeting of the board of trustees.

Do you know a conservation champion?

McHenry County Conservation District is seeking nominations of individuals who are and have been conservation champions for the Public Open Space of McHenry County.

The Conservation Legacy Award recognizes contributions that transcend time. Whether the award winner dedicated 10 or 50 years toward the local environment, their work should live on well past their earthly lifetime.

Their legacy should be a gift to their community, as well as the

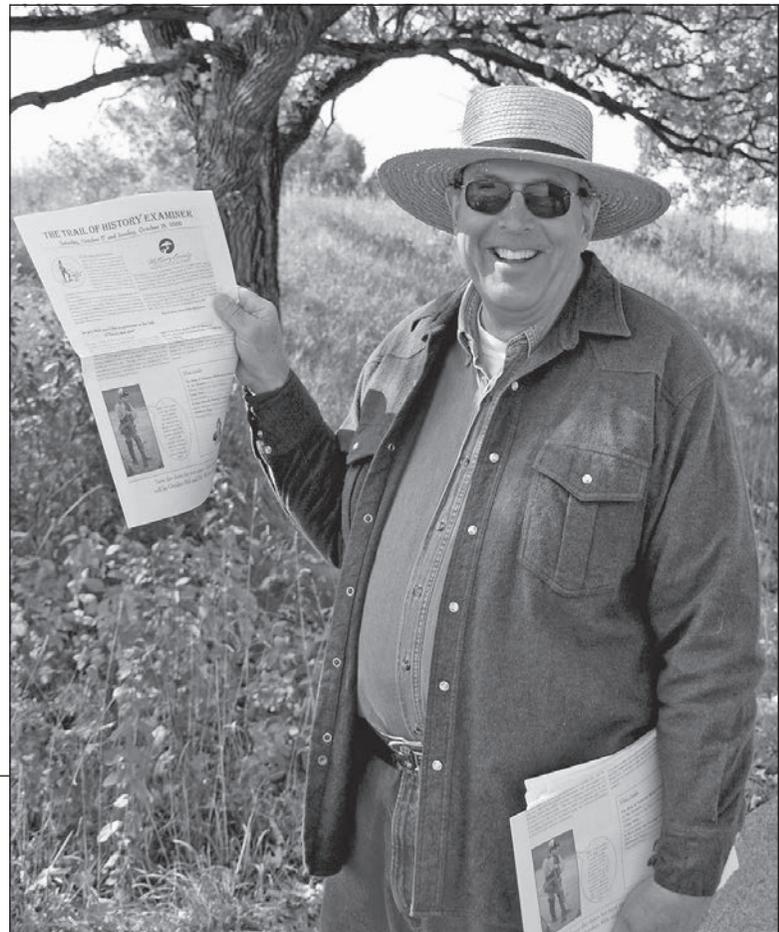
plant life and wildlife within it. Regardless of how many lives they touched, Conservation Legacy Award winners need to have inspired others to become stewards of the land.

The Conservation Champion Award recognizes individuals who have made one or more contributions of extraordinary significance or impact to the conservation movement through their continued dedication and support of the mission of the conservation district. Significant contributions can include leadership, innovation, environmental legislation, community building, restoration fieldwork, citizen science and volunteering, donations of money and land.

To nominate a Conservation Legacy or Conservation Champion Award, download and submit an electronic nomination form from the District's website (MCCD.me/ConservationAwards). Nominations are accepted through Dec. 31, 2020.

COURTESY PHOTO *McHenry County News*

Chuck Dubsy was honored posthumously by the McHenry County Conservation District for his volunteer work.



COURTESY PHOTO *McHenry County News*

Crystal Lake points to CDC guidelines for Halloween

Due to the uncertainties surrounding the COVID 19 pandemic, the City of Crystal Lake is receiving many inquiries regarding Halloween and trick-or-treating. Throughout this public health crisis the city has been following the lead of county, state and federal agencies and passing information along to our community from these reputable sources.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently drafted guidelines to help promote a safe experience for families and individuals who choose to participate in Halloween activities, including trick-or-treating. These guidelines available at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html. As of Sept. 24, neither the Illinois Department of Public Health nor the McHenry County Department of Public Health has issued guidance or restrictions about Halloween trick-or-treating. Should either of the agencies share public health information about Halloween,

the city will help publicize their message and comply with their public health guidance.

In the past, the city has established recommended trick-or-treating hours to help keep the community safe due to the increased number of pedestrians. If you choose to participate in trick-or-treating this year, the recommended trick-or-treat hours on Saturday, Oct. 31, are between the hours of 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

If you are uncomfortable with handing out candy, as a way to inform others, do not turn on your porch light until after the recommended trick-or-treat hours. The city asks parents to teach your children to not ring the doorbell of a home if a porch light is not on. As a reminder, it's important for everyone to practice social distancing (staying at least 6 feet away from other people) and to wear a mask in public settings where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

The city hopes you enjoy a fun and safe Halloween.

The 'Big Sit' Oct. 11

Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week at The Big Sit, an annual, international, noncompetitive birding event. The concept is simple: find a good spot for bird watching, sit in one spot for a designated time period, and count all the bird species you see or hear. The Big Sit falls in October when fall migration is in full swing. Sunday, Oct. 11, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Powers-Walker House—Glacial Park. Gather your closest bird-watching friends for a bird-a-thon, a perfect excuse to share good stories, meet new friends, enjoy the outdoors and appreciate our fine feathered friends. Stop by for a few minutes, stay a few hours or join the whole 10-hour sit. All ages welcome. Bring a lawn chair and your binoculars and layered clothing. For more information visit Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge—hackmatacknwr.org.

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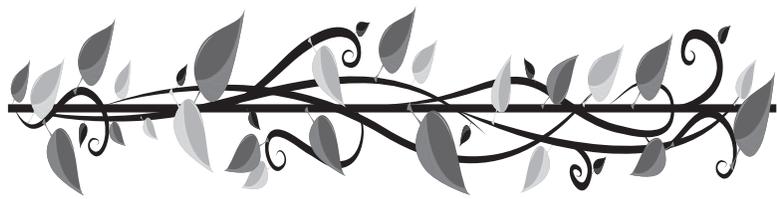
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Belvidere High School: fall sports



Girls Varsity Cross Country

Back row (left to right): Coach John Deery; Elly Heimer, Tikaya Jones, Journie Manzella, Brynn Kirkland, Katey Wallace; front row: Daisy Artega; Ella Scimeca, Ericka Flores, Jazmine Manzella, Kaleigh Inness, Desiray Beudet, Nina Fiore; not pictured: Denise Go dinez.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing

Boys Varsity Cross Country

Back row (left to right): Coach Salley, Xander Albano, Rob Bland, Owin Hunter; front row: Jake Koziol, Davian Islas, Dominic Moran, Octavio Lares, Caden Streff and Sebastian Zuniga.



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Boys Golf Co-op

Varsity and junior varsity, back row (left to right): Coach Jeremy Edwards, Jack Larson, Garrett Mickey, Asst. Coach Jordan Larson; center row: Garrett Frazier, David Bertolasi, Aiden Krup, Aaron Wolman, Jacob Fitch; front row: Parker Morris, Michael White, Izaac Palmer, Matt Borah, Jordan King and Matt Turnipseed.

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Girls Golf Co-op

Varsity and junior varsity, back row (left to right): Asst. Coach Kleckler, Megan Redig, Mya Potter, Danielle Sanchez, Kayle Mickey, Head Coach Binz, Alyssa Marshall; center row: Kylie Cipolla, Doriana Mierow, Charlie Andres, Hannah Hix, Karah Hook, Marissa Huisheere, Sierra Koller, Coe Walberg; front row: Eliza Guarnaccia, Abigail Houk, Sophie Campa, Emma Cordray, Sarah Muehlemer, Emma Walberg and Emily Filmore; not pictured: Jazlyn Bengston, Jaclyn McDonald and Faith Williams.

Belvidere boys golfers working hard on their game

By Anne Eickstadt
REPORTER

"In golf low scores are better than high scores," BHS Coach Jeremy Edwards explained to me. "A great score would be 35 to 39 shots in 9 holes. Any scores in the 40s are pretty good. Teams count up the best four scores from their six varsity golfers to get a total team score.

On Wednesday, Sept. 16, the BHS Bucs Boys Golf team played Boylan High School. Here is how the scoring turned out:

Aiden Krup, 52; Jack Larson, 46; David Bertolasi, 44; Matt Borah, 52; Jacob Fitch, 56; Aaron Wolman, 64; To-tal team score: 194

Bucs Junior Varsity Garret Mickey was also on the golf course scoring 53.

The Boylan team scored: Cooper Wyatt, 36; Nolan Brauns, 39; Austin Goukes, 44; Mark Larson, 44; Jack Osburne, 42; Michael Carlson, 44; Team Total: 161

On Monday, Sept. 21, the Bucs took on Guilford High School away at Elliot Golf Course. The results of that match were:

Aiden Krup, 45; Jack Larson, 48; David Bertolasi, 43; Matt Borah, 53; Jacob Fitch, 46; Aaron Wolman, 51; To-tal team score: 182

Bucs Junior Varsity scores were: Jordan King, 57; Parker Morris, 59; Garrett Mickey, 54; Michael White, 70

The Guilford High Varsity team scored:

Conner Knuth, 40; Luke Grall, 45; Andrew Carey, 43; Jake Shiels, 47; Ross Dunaway, 45; Jackson Bergsten, 43; Team Total: 171

On Tuesday, Sept. 22, they competed against Belvidere North High School at Timber Pointe Golf Course. The results were:

Belvidere High School: Aiden Krup, 49; Jack Larson, 48; David Bertolasi, 51; Matt Borah, 53; Jacob Fitch, 52; Aaron Wolman, 56;



BHS Teammates Aiden Krup and Jack Larson walking off #3 green at Ingersol golf course.

Team Total: 200

Belvidere North scoring looked like this: Nate Lendman, 38; Alex Sippy, 40; Noah Veruchi, 47; Carson Rowe, 44; Billy Sanchez, 50; Mason Westerberg, 47; Team Total: 169

The BNHS Junior Varsity team scored: Alex Huisheere, 48; Nate Bartz, 46; Kyle Williamson, 56; Eddie Alms, 59; Nate Binkley, 52; Luke McNeilly, 55; JV Team Total: 201

On Wednesday, Sept. 23, the Bucs were at home at Timber Pointe Golf Course facing East High School.

Belvidere High School: Aiden Krup, 43; Jack Larson, 59; David Bertolasi, 49; Matt Borah, 54; Jacob Fitch, 55; Aaron Wolman, 56; Team Total: 201

East High School: Ben Bathje, 44; Ben Compton, 43; Eli Parker, 49; Ben Gibbons, 44; Erin Gibbons, 51; Ben Jensen, 47; Total Team Score: 178

So far this season, the BHS Bucs

Boys Golf team has also played:

Monday, Aug. 24 vs. Jefferson High School, away, at Elliot Golf Course in Rockford for a win of 184 - 241.

Wednesday, Aug. 26 vs. Freeport High, here at home, at Timber Pointe Golf Course for a win of 175 - 203.

Auburn High School on the Ingersoll Golf Course on Monday, Sept. 14 for a loss of 182 to 174.

To date, they have also competed against Harlem, Guilford, North Boone, and East. A game against Hononegah was rescheduled and games with Marengo, Freeport, and the Brad Fowler Invitational were cancelled.

Upcoming games will be:

Friday, Oct. 2 vs. NIC-10 Conference, away at Elliot

Saturday, Oct. 3 vs. NIC-10 Conference, away at Elliot

Tuesday, Oct. 6 vs. IHSA Regional, location to be decided.



BHS PHOTOS Rock Valley Publishing
Freshmen David Bertolasi tees off on #4 at Ingersol Golf course.

Facade grants continue to help spruce up Belvidere's appearance

By Bob Balgemann
REPORTER

As city council considers spending money to make Belvidere more attractive through a variety of improvements, Mayor Mike Chamberlain reminds aldermen of the millions of dollars they've already invested in the downtown.

And it's being noticed. Here's what Alderman Daniel Arevalo said he's heard from others. "I've been getting a lot of feedback from people on how the downtown is changing, with its aesthetics," he said during a recent committee of the whole meeting. "They go to Geneva and they compare how we're doing a good job now."

The million-dollar improvements, such as streetscapes and attacking the flooding problem in residential areas, usually get the most notice. But a much smaller step forward dollar-wise, the downtown facade improvement grant program approved by council in 2019, is helping owners spruce up their buildings, some of which are part of the overall historic scheme that the city maintains.

That investment this year is \$18,300, which aldermen agreed to include in the 2020-21 budget. Almost all of the money will be spent despite the financial challenges

brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, which struck earlier this year.

Funding for that program comes from video gaming revenues, which was nonexistent for a few months this year as COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the state forced those establishments to close temporarily. But they re-opened in July and Community Development Planner Gina DelRose told the committee during that month, in-come for the city was "the highest since they (gaming machines) started in town."

So when it comes to recovery from COVID-19, at least in this source of revenue, she said, "I don't think the (in-come) numbers will be horrible when the fiscal year ends" on April 20, 2021.

City council approved grants for four property owners at its Sept. 21 meeting, in the amount of \$17,652, which is \$648 below the original budgeted amount for this year.

Planner DelRose said that with money the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has brought in through fund-raisers, and the dollars provided by city council, a significant number of buildings have been repainted and have had new windows put in.

See GRANTS, Page 10

Belvidere pursues rights of way for improvements to Logan Avenue

By Bob Balgemann
REPORTER

There are lots of factors involved in the \$1.9-million improvement to Logan Ave.

Among them are acquiring slivers of land along various rights of way at the edge of the road, to satisfy Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements tied to the project.

Public Works Director Brent Anderson presented Ordinance 505H to the Committee of the Whole, at its Sept. 14 meeting, which spelled out the reasons for buying those little pieces of land from property owners.

Before the 10-0 vote to recommend approval of the ordinance, Alderman Tom Porter asked if most of the acquisitions were going to be accomplished through eminent domain.

Most of the time a municipality is able to negotiate the purchase price with a property owner, who is paid fair market value for the land. But when the property owner balks at the idea of selling, eminent domain is allowed because the municipality has determined acquiring that land is in the best interests of the public.

In response to Alderman Porter's question, Director Anderson replied, "Yes, on this one because the property owner refuses to respond to our request to purchase it outright from him. Best practices allows for the city to adopt an ordinance saying the city is offering the fair market value of the land. If he refuses again, we get another ordinance to authorize eminent domain."

And that could necessitate a trip to court.

"I'm a little conflicted on this because I'm 100 percent for the city being ADA compliant," Porter responded. "I really believe in that.

But I have a problem with eminent domain and taking property that way. I don't agree with it."

He added, "That's what I was going to recommend, that we try a little harder to contact the property owner."

City Attorney Mike Drella said staff had made several attempts to do that. "Quite frankly, it's a property who we've had maintenance issues (with) in the past. So I don't know if he's avoiding us, or what have you. We're not talking about taking an entire parcel. It's a very small sliver of land."

Specifically, Anderson said in this case the amount of land was 113 square feet, or a foot, foot and a half along the front edge of the property. "We need this to create a 66-foot uniform right of way, for ADA-required clearances for that project."

"Is this the only property we're going to have to do this with?" Alderman Marsha Freeman asked.

"Yes," Anderson answered. "There are eight properties and we're in negotiations with the others. We have one agreement back that we have to bring to council (for action). I have contacted a relative of the other property owner, but have not been able to speak to the owner, proper."

Alderman Ric Brereton said he agreed with Alderman Porter and asked what methods of contacting the property owner had been tried?

"We've sent letters to the owner of record, according to land records," Anderson responded. "They were certified, if I remember correctly. There was no response. I did talk to a relative over the phone."

Drella said the purpose of the ordinance before the committee was to make one final try to contact the property owner. "Assuming he does

not respond, we will come back to council with another ordinance and ask to proceed with eminent domain."

P&Z chairman

Also Sept. 14 the committee recommended a new chairman of the city Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z), but it wasn't the one elected by that board.

That action was on the meeting agenda and Alderman Wendy Frank asked, "A couple of weeks ago, didn't we appoint Paul Engelman as chairman?"

"You can't appoint him," Mayor Mike Chamberlain replied. "He's my son-in-law."

Carl Gnewuch subsequently was nominated as chair. "I talked to Carl and he was happy to accept," the mayor said.

Which brought a question from Alderman Dan Snow. "Do we always approve the choice of the chairman?" he asked. "Seems to me that the board does that."

"Funny you should ask that," Attorney Drella said in response. "Before my time with the city - 17 or 18 years ago - the Planning and Zoning Commission adopted bylaws in which members would choose their chairman."

"That actually contradicts state law, which provides the mayor makes that appointment, with the advice and consent of city council. Now they (council) simply appoint whomever the P&Z elects. In this case the Planning and Zoning Commission had elected Carl Gnewuch to the vice-chairman's position. Given the (new) chair wouldn't take the position, it put him (Gnewuch) in that place."

City council on Sept. 21 voted unanimously to appoint Gnewuch as chairman of the P&Z board.

Death notices

Sept. 14
Gale Allen, 75
Sept. 21
Bruce Johnson, 81
Sept. 22
Gloria Verace, 86
Sept. 24
Daren Zons, 42

Sept. 25
Ruth Dovenmuhehle, 91
Sept. 26
Jeannette Knutson-Carter, 56; William Lewis, 72; Marsha Long, 77; Thomas Johnson, 59
Sept. 27
Charles Grosvenor, 77

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Kopp disclosure

When Christians are great in the eyes of God

By Dr. Robert Kopp
CONTRIBUTOR

If it's not worth saying once, it's worth saying twice.

If it's not worth saying twice, it's not worth saying once.

So I'd like to go back to my time at Toledo, Ohio's Grace Presbyterian Church over 30 years ago because, well, uh, it's worth repeating.

The church was about 60 percent black and 40 percent white when I left.

It was 100 percent black when I was called to be its pastor.

During the interview/interrogation for becoming pastor, a nice middle-aged woman asked, "So Dr. Kopp, how will you feel about being the pastor of a black church?"

I replied, "God doesn't like black churches... or white churches... or yellow, red, brown, or any other color churches. Our God inspired Paul to write, 'There is no Jew or Greek, male or female, slave or free in Jesus. If you are one with Jesus, you are one with all of God's children. If you ain't, you ain't!' Our God inspired our nation's Declaration of Independence to announce to a fallen world so it could get back up, 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'... Just like all true believers, I am with Martin Luther King, Jr. in saying, 'I have a dream - I have a passionate commitment - that all God's children will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.'"

Essentially, I was saying that people who love Jesus love like Jesus and Jesus cares about souls not skins.

We'll go a little deeper on that a little later.

Of course, racists come in "red and yellow, black and white,... [and brown]... They are not precious in His sight. Jesus doesn't like the racists of the world."

So it wasn't long after starting that I had some problems with black racists.

There was one woman who was especially nasty to me.

It happens.

My first nine years on the corner of Lincoln and Main were awful.

Only after we...

Well, that's not water under the bridge.

As Jose Saramago wrote, "They say time heals all wounds, but we never live long enough to test that theory."

Praise God all relationships are reconciled in heaven by grace through faith in Jesus.

Heaven is something to look forward to before the end.

We overcame, survived and are moving into the future with our greatest

ambition, highest goal, and most fervent prayer to honor Jesus by the book as enlightened by the Holy Spirit who never contradicts Jesus by the book.

When I was called on Father's Day and asked if I'd like to take a church in Florida, I said, "No, I've only been in Belvidere for 15 years and I'm only getting started. We've cleared out the tares, especially through this CCP COVID-19 thing, given the church back to Jesus and I believe God is sending reinforcements who don't care about politics or denominations or secular correctness or anything else but Jesus. Just Jesus. Knowing Him and making Him known. Belvidere is my home and the greater Rockford area is my mission field. I have more zeal and energy for my call than ever before. So let me recommend... to you."

Back to Toledo, I went to Judge Robert Penn, an elder in the church, and complained about a black woman hating me just because I'm white.

He said, "She's just like some white people who hate black people just because they're black. She's ignorant!"

She's ignorant. People who care more about skins than souls are ignorant.

Let us be clear about this with enthusiasm and without equivocation. All lives matter to God.

Black lives, white lives, yellow lives, red lives, brown lives, and any other color of lives that populate the planet.

All lives matter to God and all lives matter to people who love God; and anybody who doesn't believe that is just ignorant.

Heeeeeeeellllllloooooo!

Let's say it twice, three times, four times, or a billion times because it's the best news for all times: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

If you don't know that and aren't making that known, you're ignorant.

If you don't know God cares about all souls with no respect for the skins, you're ignorant.

For the trillionth time, here's why: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

Only the really thickheaded, dim-witted, dumb, and damned because they've been too ignorant to be intimate with Jesus by the book don't know that and make that known.

Only the ignorant haven't figured out there will never be any peace until God is seated at the tables of school boards, church boards, city councils and legislative and executive and legal branches of government.

Only the ignorant don't know no

lives will matter until all lives go through Jesus to each other.

Only the ignorant don't know there will never be reconciliation until we approach each other through Jesus.

Only the ignorant don't know there

will never be justice or peace until we see each other as Jesus sees everybody.

That's why people who know Jesus make Him known.

We want people to be saved.

We want people to be saved so they go to heaven after the last breath and live in harmony with everybody else going to heaven by grace through faith

See KOPP DISCLOSURE, Page 8

In my opinion

'We love you,' chant breaks out at Trump rallies

By Harold Pease Ph.D.
CONTRIBUTOR

An amazing event happened September 8, 2020 in a Donald Trump campaign rally in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The huge crowd broke into spontaneous "We love you" chants for the president. He was noticeably affected.

It happened again two days later in Freeland, Mich., Sept. 10. Ten chants in a row broke out 30 minutes into the speech after his comments about helping stop the violence in Minneapolis and his threat to use federal agents in Seattle if violence did not stop there.

He thanked the crowd after the first two chants but they would not stop until after another eight—"We love you. We love you." He interrupted, "Don't say that, I'll start to cry [pause] and that wouldn't be good for my image. You don't want to see me cry. I'll start to cry." This tender moment was followed by another five "We love you" chants before he was permitted to continue.

Why is this a big story, two reasons? First, because I do not recall any politician getting that chant in the history of this country. Not even George Washington, Andrew Jackson, or Franklin Delano Roosevelt, presidents said to be among the most popular. Second, in almost five years, I have yet to hear one favorable comment from Democrat news outlets. Because of this I am certain half of America, so influenced by the constant "hate Trump" spew, will never know that they lived through the administration of perhaps America's most popular president.

No public office holder has drawn the crowd sizes he consistently gets.

Remember this is the same presidential candidate who just four years ago was "piled on" seemingly by everyone: the establishment media, establishment Democrats, establishment Republicans, establishment bankers and corporations. Added to this was the globalist establishment special interest groups the Council on Foreign Relations and the Bilderbergers. No president has

endured more opposition than he—perhaps all put together. Imagine thousands now chanting "We love you" in unison to a politician in appreciation. This has never happened.

So why is he so popular with the American people? I'll not dwell on the greatest economy in over a century, the highest employment rate for Africans, Hispanics, Asians, women and youth in my lifetime. The lowest taxes for the middle class in decades. These are not even disputed by the left in the 2020 election.

He is loved because he took on the globalists who were turning this country into the military arm of what they call the New World Order. He started no new wars, ended nation building in foreign lands, and is pulling out of the no-win wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria. Our soldiers will no longer die in foreign lands for globalist causes.

Veterans love him because he treated them with dignity. He signed the VA Choice Act and VA Accountability Act, expanded VA health services, walk-in-clinics, and same-day urgent primary and mental health care.

Until the Chinese Wuhan Virus he lifted nearly 4 million Americans off food stamps. Against the advice of his opponents he shut down immigration from China early in the virus. He teamed with the CDC with daily reports and projected confidence by not overreacting to the virus by a nation-wide shut-down of the economy. He is viewed as most likely to restore his previous booming economy.

He gave America energy independence by encouraging fracking, opening ANWR and approving the Keystone XL and Dakota Access Pipelines. These blocked by his predecessor.

Border law enforcement agents love him because he is finally building a wall to stop illegal immigration that undermines the salaries of the American worker. It also slows drug trafficking that is killing Americans and greatly restricts the activities of drug gangs like MS-13 and other criminals. Trump has

done more than any other president to stop wide spread human trafficking.

Those who value the Constitution love him because he protects it as written, with two appointments to the Supreme Court and 214 Article III judges confirmations. He is viewed as most likely to hold to the restraints of the Constitution, especially the 2nd Amendment and 1st Amendment rights of free speech, assembly, and religion. Also he is most likely to do away with the double standard in justice including the probability of treason in high places.

Most Christians love him because, more than any predecessor for a lifetime, he values and protects religion. He is the most "Right to Life" president in American history. Stopping the annual killing of hundreds of thousands of America's unborn babies is widely supported by Christians.

Americans love him because he is perceived as being the most likely to stop the spread of socialism in the United States now fully embraced by the Democrat Party. Historically it has brought only universal poverty and misery.

Americans love him because he is most likely to deal with anarchists in our cities and arsonists in our forests. Most view these as insurrectionist attempting to remove their president and destroy the greatest most prosperous, for those willing to work, nation on earth. Safety is a human right.

But mostly he is loved because they trust him and believe that he really cares about them. He is the only second term president in decades that can run on "Promises Made, Promises Kept."

Dr. Harold W. Pease is a syndicated columnist and an expert on the United States Constitution. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He taught history and political science from this perspective for over 30 years at Taft College. Newspapers have permission to publish this column. To read more of his weekly articles, please visit www.LibertyUnderFire.org.

LETTER POLICY

We encourage readers to submit letters to the editor. To be considered for publication, all letters MUST be signed with the writer's full name. An address and telephone number (which will not be printed) must be provided for verification purposes. Letters exceeding 250 words may be edited for length. No potentially libelous letters or letters containing personal attacks will be printed. Writers are limited to one letter per month. Deadline is 5 p.m. Fridays. Send letters for the Belvidere Daily Republican to: Letters to the Editor, 130 South State Street, Suite 101, Belvidere, IL 61008, or fax to 815-547-3045.

223447



Alpaca Days popular in Boone County

By Anne Eickstadt
EDITOR

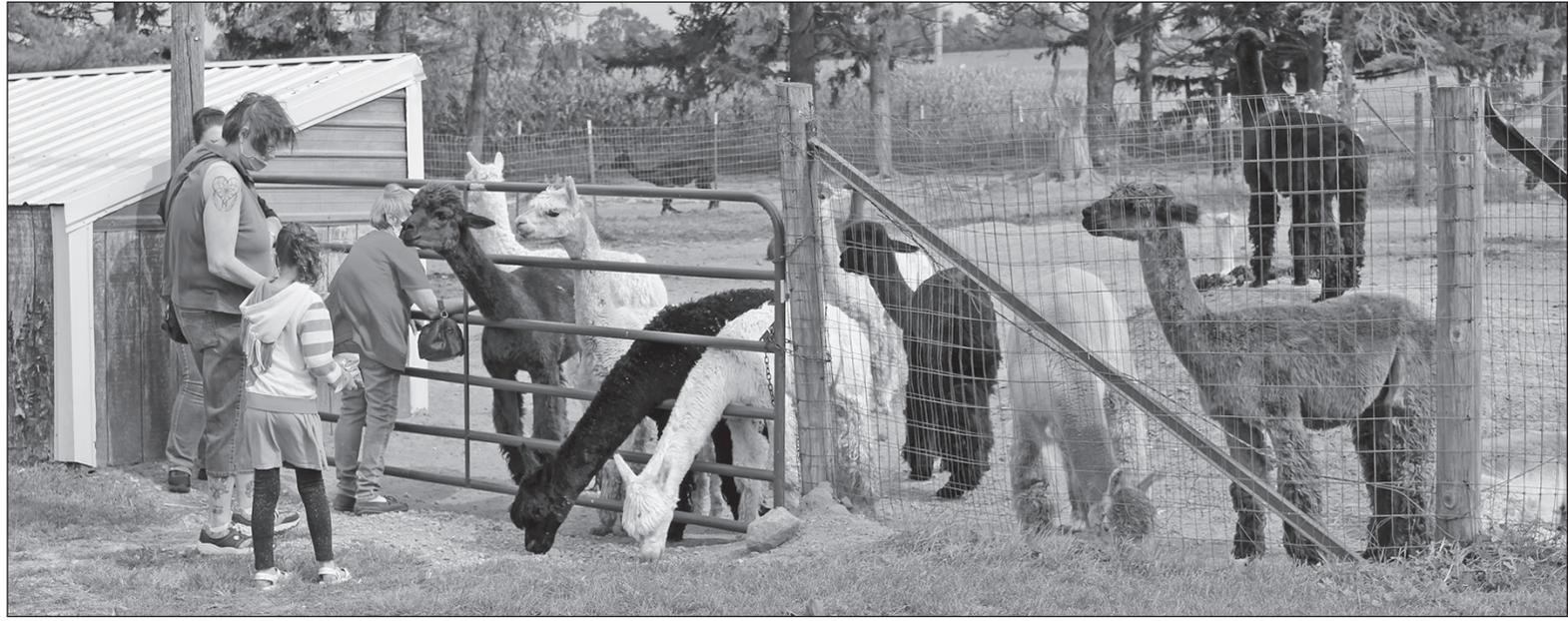
In 2014, the Alpaca Owners Association (AOA) founded National Alpaca Days to educate people about how lovable and soft alpacas are and how they contribute to the global economy. Each year, the AOA hosts events all over the North American region with cooperation with farm members to educate people about the alpaca farm industry. Visitors that come to these farms get the opportunity to meet their alpacas and learn about their alpaca products.

To celebrate Alpaca Day, one of the best ways to show your interest in alpacas is to visit a local farm near you that's a member of the AOA. On this holiday, you'll be able to pet alpacas, learn about your local farmers and see how alpaca fiber is used in so many of today's products.

"We began with two male Suri alpacas in 2011, a father and son," said Vicky Donley of Alpaca Pines. "We soon added 15 Suri Alpacas, and 2 Huacaya. The farm now has a total of 39 alpacas and one llama. "Our mill is open and we are in full swing. We provide personalized service to all our customers. We are family owned. Stop by and check out our yarn/gift shop. We carry roving, yarn, felted sheets and more processed at our mill. Items in the gift shop are made at the mill or are carefully chosen. We have beautiful items that are fair trade products. Open houses are offered throughout the year and we participate in Alpaca Days. Check our site for events. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We are happy to provide group tours, call for pricing and times available."

"I've been in llamas and alpacas for 25 years. I judge for ALSA, the Alpaca Llama Show Association, and ILR, the International Llama Registry," said Deb Yeagle, of Lindsey, Ohio. "I started alpaca 13 years ago. The first alpaca came to the U.S. in 1980 and only a few people had them. Now there are more alpaca in the country.

"I've been spinning fiber since 1979. With the two luxurious alpaca fibers - long, silky Suri fibers and full, puffy Huacaya fiber - more readily available, it has



ANNE EICKSTADT PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Visitors truly enjoying getting to meet and feeding the alpacas during Alpaca Days.

really impacted the fiber community. When you blend the different fibers, it's a whole new fiber world.

"The alpaca industry began here as 'exotic' livestock. Now it is domestic. To get anywhere in the US, we needed them to be domestic. They are great for 4-H kids. The kids can have them around all their lives so they can keep training the alpaca and do things with them. They are the easiest animals to take care of that I have ever had. They are easy on fences and pastures. They are very good pets as well as good industry. They are the whole thing.

"Alpaca originally come from South America, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, and Chile. They get sheared once a year. Their fiber is a huge moneymaker on the world market. They are induced ovulators so you can breed them year-round.

"In an alpaca show, we go over the entire body, making sure the bite, jaw, and palate all go together. Over the last few years the husbandry has improved the stock in the US. I do not see the angularities I used to find. People are being good breeders."

To learn more about alpaca shows, visit www.alsashow.org the Alpaca Llama Show Association or stop by Alpaca Pines, 21756 Beaverton Road, Poplar Grove, and see them in person.

Back in the saddle

Overabundance of produce can help end hunger

By Ann Marie Cain, FBCM
WINNEBAGO-BOONE FARM BUREAU
Fall Harvest too plentiful?

The Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau Young Leaders are helping to drive out hunger and have teamed up with the University of Illinois Extension-Winnebago County. We encourage gardeners who have an overabundance of vegetables from their gardens to donate their extra produce to help end hunger. Produce may be dropped off Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau office located at 1925 S. Meridian Road, Rockford. The produce is then donated to the Rock River Valley Food Pantry

in Rockford. Don't have a garden and would like to lend a hand? We are also accepting dry goods as well.

Tag Out for Safety

Now available at the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau are the Tag Out for Safety packets. These packets are available to farmers for use with grain bins, around augers and other machinery. Tag Out protects a worker by warning others not to turn on equipment while working inside bins, servicing augers or other machinery. It is a minimal safety procedure for farmers who are not subject to OSHA regulations.

The best practice is to both Lock Out and Tag Out equipment. Tag Out works by disconnecting all energy

sources and tagging the off position by the person working on the equipment. The tag warns others to prevent them from turning on equipment. No one else can remove the tag. Stop by Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau office located at 1925 S Meridian Road, Rockford to pick up your kit.

SMV Kits are available at the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau office. The SMV kits include one SMV emblem and a total of 10 yellow, red, and red-orange reflective strips and are \$11.50 for Farm Bureau members and \$13.50 for non-Farm Bureau members.

Wishing everyone a safe harvest.



Spectrum School of Rockford, a nonreligious prek-8 private general education school, has a few remaining seats for in-person daily instruction for 2nd and 5th graders. Contact Principal Dr. Mary Beth Cunat at 815-877-1600 for more information. Visit www.spectrumschool.org



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39th annual Autumn Pioneer Festival overcomes pandemic challenge, goes virtual

By Anne Eickstadt
EDITOR

Many people only make half-hearted efforts when it comes to virtual meetings (note commercials where some-one is only half-dressed) but in the case of the Boone County Conservation District's 2020 Pioneer Festival, it is awesome.

Why?

Because you don't have to pick and choose and miss something you

wanted to see. The demonstrations, displays, and explanations are all very clear and without interruptions. Granted, there are downsides to this – you don't get to eat fresh stew or take home bottles of your favorite root beer. No souvenirs of your day, wagon rides or pics of the grandkids traversing a rope bridge run by the local Boy Scouts. No chance to play games or make toys and crafts with the kids. You can't even ask questions of the ladies making bobbin

lace. However, you can take the time to watch any and every demonstration you wish and you will not miss any of them due to time constraints. The Pioneer Festival will be available to watch for at least a couple of weeks.

"Welcome to the Boone County Conservation District's 39th annual Autumn Pioneer Festival. We want to provide this virtual experience for our community to enjoy while we cannot

gather for a festival. We hope you can imagine the smell of the campfire and feel like you are at the Autumn Pioneer Festival watching one of our volunteer interpreters or staff members and that you learn a little bit more about life in the 1800s and Boone County. A hearty thank you to each of our volunteer presenters for taking the time to make this event possible."

The BCCD chose a good variety of demonstrations for their virtual Festival. BCCD Director Dan Kane welcomes everyone, "We hope that you will enjoy the event and appreciate all the skill and talent the re-enactors portray in all the work they did to put this together." The skills demonstrated were all used during the 1830s to the 1860s.

Joshua Sage, BCCD Director of Natural Resources discusses the natural history of Boone County from the glaciers that formed the land to the Native American tribes that inhabited the area and the natural habitats that still exist. He mentions that every Tuesday is Volunteer Day, what that involves, that everyone is welcome to volunteer and they will teach you what you need to know to help effectively.

Lloyd Bellows and Chris Hubbard demonstrate different aspects of the art of Blacksmithing.

Father and daughter Ken and Alicia Downey discuss the making of Pemican and Jerky. "Indians used every part of an animal. Nothing went to waste. If you have an elk, you might have 250 pounds of meat to preserve. Pemican is the ultimate survival food."

Tom Melville discusses and demonstrates how Cricket was played in the 1800s.

Norm Walzer shows how shoes were made in the 1840/50s with his Peg Shoemaking demonstration.

George Thomas discusses the history of the Dawson River Road Schoolhouse.

Diane Kane is the interpreter of the Murray Cabin. "This cabin was never intended to survive," she says and explains why.

Pam Stock interprets the Newhouse Cabin.

Don Clark demonstrates Native-inspired handiwork.

Corey Swanborg, descendent of the Little Traverse Bay Ottawa Indians, does a beadwork demonstration.

Scott Whitey portrays General Grant.

Rich Hamilton demonstrated the ancient craft of Flint napping.

Jack Engelsen is the Buffalo Man Storyteller.

The Kishwaukee Ramblers and February Sky groups offer musical entertainment.

The entire 2020 Virtual Pioneer Festival can be found online on the Boone County Conservation District website.

"We are delighted that you've attended our virtual Autumn Pioneer Festival, and hope that you found it interesting and informative. When this festival was held on the grounds of the Boone County Conservation District, we offered a way for you to assist with the cost of the festival."

There were costs involved with creating this virtual festival as well, so if you feel that you'd like to contribute, you are given the opportunity to support the BCCD and the Autumn Pioneer Festival at any time while you are online.

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COURTESY PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

Blacksmith Lloyd Bellows punches a hole through a piece of iron he is working on while the forge burns behind him.

Belvidere fire calls

The Belvidere Fire Dept. responded to 52 calls Sept. 21 to 27.

Monday, Sept. 21
BFD responded to 8 medical calls and the following fire/rescue calls.
N. State St./Hurlbut St. – motor vehicle accident
200 block of Hancock St. – unauthorized burning
1000 block of Autumn Dr. – assist police
400 block of W. 9th St. – assist police

Tuesday, Sept. 22
BFD responded to 3 medical calls.

Wednesday, Sept. 23
BFD responded to 7 medical calls and the following fire/rescue calls.
1600 block of N. State St. – call cancelled en route
800 block of E. Madison St. – unintentional transmission
2100 block of Tobyne Dr. – call cancelled en route

Thursday, Sept. 24
BFD responded to 5 medical calls and the following fire/rescue calls.
500 block of Pearl St. – public service

Friday, Sept. 25
BFD responded to 5 medical calls and the following fire/rescue calls.
3800 block of Eastwood Lane – assist invalid
300 block of Gail Ct. – call cancelled en route

Saturday, Sept. 26
BFD responded to 4 medical calls and the following fire/rescue calls.
900 block of Grover St. – call cancelled en route

Sunday, Sept. 27
BFD responded to 7 medical calls and the following fire/rescue calls.
700 block of W. Boone St. – motor vehicle accident
600 block of N. Main St. – smoke alarm

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COVID-19 metrics to guide learning models

Health department, superintendents working together

The McHenry County Department of Health (MCDH) has partnered with McHenry County school superintendents to develop interim guidance that uses county-level health metrics to assist McHenry County school officials in evaluating transitions between virtual, hybrid or in-person learning models.

While school officials and MCDH have a mutual desire for all students and staff to have a safe return to the classroom, it is important to note that there is currently no risk-free scenario or learning model that eliminates transmission from impacting schools.

The McHenry County School Metrics are intended to be used in conjunction with the June 23, 2020, Part 3-Transition Joint Guidance document developed by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

Before transitioning to an in-person learning model, schools are advised to first transition to hybrid learning. Additionally, it is recommended that schools remain in a learning model for at least 14 days with all thresholds met before transitioning to the next learning model.

Thresholds used to help guide

school officials are based on four metrics: COVID-19 incidence rate, the county's test positivity, and whether COVID-19-like illness hospital admissions and new cases are increasing or decreasing.

The transitions between the various learning models are recommendations based on the science to date to reduce COVID-19 transmission and community spread. However, it is possible for one school in a district to be in a different learning mode than another in the same district.

Superintendent Scott Rowe of Huntley Community School District 158 stated, "The metrics are intended to assist school district leaders as one piece of their decision-making process. School districts throughout the county vary in enrollment, building features, operational structures, class sizes and other measures that impact their decision making in response to the ongoing pandemic."

Schools are advised to continue virtual, or remote, instruction when:

- Incidence rate exceeds 14 per 100,000 population per day.
- Test positivity exceeds 8 percent
- COVID-19 like illness has an increase.
- Weekly case count has an increase.

Schools may consider switching to hybrid, or partial remote and partial in-person, instruction when:

- Incidence rate is between 7 and 14 per 100,000 population per day.
 - Test positivity is between 5 and 8 percent.
 - COVID-19 like illness is stable or decreasing.
 - Weekly case count is stable or decreasing.
- Schools may consider resuming in-person instruction when:
- Incidence rate is less than 7 per 100,000 population per day
 - Test positivity is less than 5 percent
 - COVID-19 like illness is stable or decreasing.
 - Weekly case count is stable or decreasing.

If any two metrics cannot be sustained, the matrix recommends returning to the previous lower-risk learning model. The MCDH will advise on potential mitigation strategies should any one measure meet the threshold criteria for the previous learning model.

Public Health Administrator Melissa Adamson said, "MCDH and McHenry County school officials will continue to work together to ensure

the safest possible learning environment for all students and staff during this unprecedented time."

MCDH expects to have McHenry County School Metrics Data available

to the public before Oct. 3.

For additional information about the Interim Guidance for the McHenry County School Metrics, visit bit.ly/MCDHSchools.

Free diabetes management classes

The current circumstances have put many things on hold, but managing chronic conditions cannot wait.

To continue to meet the community's needs during these trying times, the McHenry County Department of Health (MCDH) will begin offering diabetes self-management and prevention classes online.

Take Charge of Your Diabetes classes will be offered through Zoom to allow participants to attend from the comfort and safety of their own home. These no-cost classes are offered to individuals with diabetes, at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes, and to those who are caring for someone with diabetes.

Essential skills and tools learned during the six-week program will prepare participants to confidently self-manage and prevent diabetes. Classes are taught by certified facilitators who will cover a variety of topics including healthy eating, physical activity, medication management and

much more.

Classes are held once a week and are being offered in English and Spanish, and each two-and-a-half-hour session provides a supportive and interactive environment.

The self-management program was developed by Stanford University and has been identified by the American Diabetes Association as meeting the Diabetes Support initiative criteria for support programming. Diabetes self-management programs have been shown to prevent or reduce diabetes complications, lower A1C levels, improve quality of life and lower medical expenses.

Registration is currently open. English courses begin on Oct. 13 and are held from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Spanish courses begin Oct. 19 and are held from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Registration is limited and closes Oct. 5.

Register online or by phone by calling Elizabeth Goad at 815-334-1570 or Carol Waggoner, RN, at 815-334-4580.

McHenry County Sheriff's report

The following arrests in McHenry County were reported by the McHenry County Sheriff's Department. Suspects are considered innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Sept. 15

Randall D. Woody, 40, Woodstock, was cited for armed habitual criminal, del 5<15 gr LSD/analog, 3 counts of felon in possession of a firearm, delivery/manufacture cannabis 500<2000 gram, cannabis control act-over 500 gms not more than 2000 gms, 4 counts of possession of a controlled substance;

Thomas M. Stygar, 54, Wonder Lake, was cited for battery/make physical contact;

Sept. 17

Luis E. Escobar, 45, Crystal Lake, aggravated DUI 3, and driving on revoked drivers license;

Norman Brown, 32, Chicago, aggravated fleeing/2+ con devices, aggravated fleeing police/21 mph over, delivery/manufacture cannabis over 30 gm, reckless driving, driving on a suspended driver's license, improper passing on shoulder, and disregard stop sign;

William S. Benson, 40, Chicago, was cited for delivery/manufacture cannabis over 30 gm, and cannabis control act-over 30 grms not more than 100 gms;

Destiny M. Hall, 19, Freeport, was cited for delivery/manufacture cannabis over 30 gm, cannabis control act-over 30 grms not more than 100 gms, 2 counts of possession of a controlled substance;

Sept. 18

Karen E. Hoff, 48, McHenry, was cited for 2 counts of identity theft <\$300;

Sept. 19

Matthew D. Armbrust, 35, Cary, was cited for violation of bail bond/class A offense;

Sept. 20

Kenneth J. Keafer, 50, McHenry, was cited for contempt of court;

Alan E. Jasnow, 45, Beloit, was cited for 2 counts of violation of an order of protection;

Sept. 21

Amy K. Baucom, 45, Wonder Lake, was cited for domestic battery/bodily harm;

Jon M. Schmitt, 26, Woodstock, was cited for possession of meth <5 grams, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia;

Robert L. Roby, 33, Wauconda, was cited for 2 counts of receive/poss/sell stolen vehicle, possession of stole property >\$500 <\$10k.

McHenry County News

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Girl Scouts engage in activities through SnapShots

Recent health and safety guidelines affected many youth serving organizations, and Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois (GSNI) is no different. The organization turned to technology and safe, in-person outdoor events to provide girls with the necessary benefits of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

The organization started offering Girl Scout SnapShots—20-minute virtual activities for girls in kindergarten and grades 1–3 and their families who are interested in learning more about Girl Scouts. Girls meet new friends online in real time while choosing between activities like building an edible campfire, making a robot friend, crafting a bird's nest, or designing a fairy house. SnapShots are available in both English and Spanish.

After participating in a SnapShot event, interested families are invited to an online family meeting where they can choose to register their girl as a Girl Scout. Families can sign up for a convenient Girl Scout SnapShot that fits their schedule at www.girlscoutsni.org/snapshot.

GSNI kicked off their virtual recruitment campaign in mid-July 2020 and has hosted over 20 SnapShot events resulting in nearly 50 girls registering as first-time Girl Scouts.

"SnapShots give families the chance to preview Girl Scouts. We meet online and do virtual activities together in real time, but we talk about safe ways Girl Scouts can currently have adventures in-person and online. Then, as interested girls register, they're placed in new and existing Girl Scout troops in their area to start their own Girl Scout journey," says MaryBeth Markwell, GSNI Recruitment Resource manager.

The organization is also hosting safe, in-person Girl Scout Drive-Thru events for interested new members. These events take place outdoors where girls and their families can easily socially distance while playing outdoor Girl Scout games and meeting new friends. GSNI will follow all recommended health and safety practices, including asking participants to wear masks and providing enough space to maintain a distance of 6 feet between families. Hand sanitizer

will also be available.

Interested families can learn more and get started at www.girlscoutsni.org/snapshot or contact GSNI at 844-476-4463 or customer@girlscoutsni.org. **We're Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois**

We believe every girl can change the world. With us, Girl Scouts develop the independence and confidence to guide their own lives and build a better world. We put girls in the driver's seat and encourage them to customize their own experience. With programs focused on the outdoors, career and interest exploration, travel and global community, and practical life skills, in addition to community service projects, every girl can unlock her full potential and be amazing.

We serve 16 counties including parts or all of Boone, Carroll, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago. To volunteer, reconnect, donate or join, visit www.girlscoutsni.org or call 844-GSNI-4-ME (844-476-4463).

A Virtual SnapShot
look at Daisies & Brownies!
You're invited!
K-1st graders to make new friends
Tell us you are coming:
girlsoutsni.org/snapshot
or 1-844-476-4463

•Kopp disclosure

(Continued from page 4)

in Jesus in the mean times.

That's what we want because that's what Jesus wants... and commands.

Christians are great in the eyes of God when we trust and obey Him.

A very big part of trusting and obeying God is making Him known as Lord and Savior because we know Him as Lord and Savior.

Let me put that another way.

If we know Jesus as Lord and Savior, we make Him known.

That's when we're great in the eyes of God.

That's what His great commandment (Matthew 22:34-40) and Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:4-8) are all about.

Knowing Jesus, we make Him known.

Again, if we know Jesus, we make Him known.

The great commandment: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

This is the greatest commandment of all. You prove it by loving your neighbor as much as you love yourself to prove you love the Lord your God."

Christians are totally in love with God – emotionally, intellectually, spiritually, physically, and materially.

Every-thing we have is managed with Him in mind. We pray and try to love and honor God through all of our thoughts, creeds and deeds. We pray and try to love everyone around us with grace, mercy and forgiveness, seeking their best in all things no matter who, what, where, when or why without the need or expectation for response, regard or reward. We know the extent of our love for others measures the extent of our love for God. Partial

is not total. Moderate is not total. Lukewarm is not total. Christians love God totally and totally love others as much as they love themselves to prove they love God. Totally!

The Great Commission: "Spread the Word! Be my witnesses in all of the world! Make disciples of all nations! Preach the Word, teach the Word, and baptize people in the Word – in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! You know Me! Now make Me known!"

Do you notice the connection between the Great Commandment and Great Commission?

If we love God, we love people. That's the Great Commandment.

If we know God, we make God known.

That's the Great Commission.

If we are saved, we want people to be saved because God loves them, we love God and we love God by loving like God who wants everybody to be saved.

If we are saved by God, we are sent by God to save others because God wants them to be saved and we want to save them because we're of the same mind.

Are you catching the drift? Obviously, some don't.

We know that because some pulpites and pewsitters are not making God known outside the doors of their religious clubs because they don't know Him enough to make Him known because they would make Him known if they knew Him.

Or as an old missionary once told me, "You can't give away what you ain't got for yourself!"

Please don't insult God's

intelligence (omniscience) by saying you know Him when you're not making Him known.

Please don't insult God's intelligence (omniscience) by saying you love God when you're not loving people enough to tell them how to be saved – experience existential relief in the assurance of eternal life in heaven – by grace through faith in Jesus.

Keeping the gospel to yourself isn't love.

It's...

It's something that isn't good!

Let's go deeper.

We're great in the eyes of God when we keep the great commandment and great commission because they are inextricably woven together into the same fabric of faith.

You can't love God and love people without sharing God's love to prove you love God.

We are saved by God to be sent out by God to save the world because, remember, again, all lives matter to God.

Let's go deeper.

God doesn't want anybody to be left behind.

God doesn't want anybody to go to hell.

God wants everybody to be saved and go to heaven.

So if we love God and love like God, we want everybody to be saved and go to heaven and we make that known by heralding Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Let's go deeper.

People who know God make God known because they care about everybody's marriages and health and jobs and all of their other existential

needs but care most about what lasts forever.

Everything in life is temporary. Eternity lasts, uh, forever.

Yes, we're glad people come to church and we're privileged to pass out food boxes and we've got great dinners and will resume them once the penal colony of Illinois is liberated and we've had programs that were really cool and we'd like to have more and we've got great... but the greatest of these is love – the love that goes beyond the temporary satisfactions to eternal salvation.

That's why Peter said this to the man who asked him for some money: "I don't have silver or gold, but what I do have, I give you. In the name of Jesus, get up and walk!" (Acts 3:1-10).

We don't have enough food boxes to feed the world.

We don't have enough gas cards or this cards or that cards or enough of anything to satisfy the existential needs of the world.

That's all good stuff.

But it's never enough and not nearly enough in the end.

None of it lasts.

But we have Jesus and He is forever!

All of that good-deed-doing-feeding-bellies existential stuff is good.

It expresses our love through care and compassion; and Jesus wants us to do that. Check out Matthew 25 if you need a refresher on our social responsibilities.

But it's not the greatest expression of love.

The greatest love is to introduce people to Jesus as Lord and Savior.

That's the greatest because it/He lasts forever in heaven/paradise.

John 21:15-19 records an excruciatingly tough talk between Jesus and Peter that every Christian must consider to measure the authenticity of their faith.

Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love Me?"

"Yes, Lord," Peter answers, "You know I love You."

"Then feed My sheep," Jesus says.

A second time, Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love Me?"

"Yes, Lord," Peter answers, "You know I love You."

"Then shepherd My sheep," Jesus says.

A third time, Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love Me?"

"Yes, Lord, for crying out loud," an exasperated Peter answers, "You know everything. You're omniscient. You know I love You. C'mon, You know I'm all in with You."

"Then feed My sheep," Jesus says.

Essentially, Jesus is saying, "I won't be convinced you love Me until you prove it by loving Me by loving like Me with everyone everywhere all of the time."

Remember, Peter denied Jesus three times during His passion.

Jesus wants to make sure that Peter is with the program.

That's why Jesus is repeating the question.

If it's worth asking once, it's worth asking twice just to make sure.

Jesus labors the point because Christians are great in the eyes of God only when they know God and make God known as God commands in Matthew 22 and commissions us as officers in His salvation army in Matthew 28 and Acts 1.

The great commandment to love God by loving like God with everything that we've got and the great commission to make God's saving Lordship known as the greatest expression of love because heaven lasts forever is good news for a world trying to figure out which lives matter.

All of them.

The world.

You, me, them and all of the below by order of all of the above.

All lives matter to God and people who love God.

Now is a good time to read John 3:16-17.

That's the reason for the great commandment and great commission.

God loves the world.

All lives matter to Him.

You ought to be in pictures!

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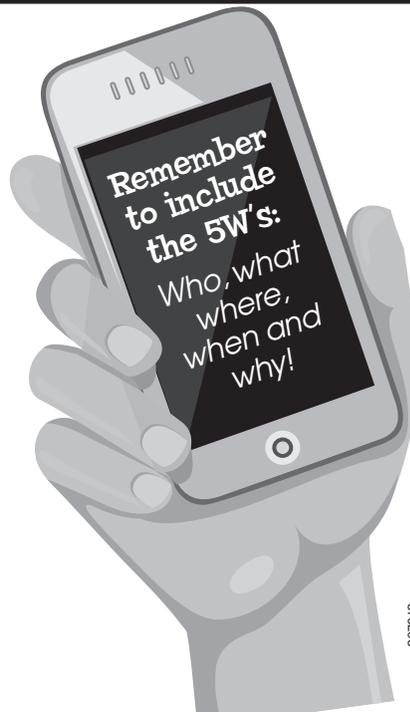
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▼ Tell us what's happening in the photo

▼ **Please do NOT crop your photos.**

▼ Tell us who took the photo and we will give them a photo credit

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LARGE PUBLIC AUCTION

SATURDAY, OCT. 3, 2020 • 9 A.M.

RUNNING TWO RINGS!

Lunch by: Relish the Dog • Comfort Station Available

LOCATION: Boone Co. Fairgrounds, 8847 Rt. 76, 1 mi. north of Belvidere. Located in the goat barn near south end. Plenty of parking!

VEHICLES, COINS, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES, HOUSEHOLD, YARD, TOOLS & MISC. 2015 Kia Soul; 2006 PT Cruiser; 2004 Nissan Quest van; 2003 Ford Ranger; 1997 Dodge Ram 1500. VEHICLES TO BE SOLD AT 11:00 SHARP!!

OWNERS: L. Robison, P. Spear, C. Gilman, J. Hill, C. Quinonez, G. Feldkamp, M. Olsen, G. Vlasak, J. Klock, S. Jones, J. Long, A. Reiss, R. Case & W. Kashub.

TERMS: See website.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: We will be following Health Dept. guidelines. Please wear a mask!

LEE AUCTION SERVICE

Belvidere, IL 61008 - Cell # 815-988-0249

AUCTIONEERS: LYLE LEE, IL State License #440.000200 /

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To the Electors of the State of Illinois:

The Illinois Constitution establishes a structure for government and laws. There are three ways to initiate change to the Illinois Constitution: (1) a constitutional convention may propose changes to any part; (2) the General Assembly may propose changes to any part; or (3) a petition initiative may propose amendments limited to structural and procedural subjects contained in the Legislative Article. The people of Illinois must approve any changes to the Constitution before they become effective. The purpose of this document is to inform you of proposed changes to the Illinois Constitution and provide you with a brief explanation and a summary of the arguments in favor of and in opposition to the proposed amendment. Proposed changes in the existing constitutional amendment are indicated by underscoring all new matter and by crossing with a line all matter which is to be deleted.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE IX OF THE ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION ARTICLE IX – REVENUE

SECTION 3. LIMITATIONS ON INCOME TAXATION

(a) ~~The General Assembly shall provide by law for the rate or rates of any tax on or measured by income imposed by the State. A tax on or measured by income shall be at a non-graduated rate. At any one time there may be no more than one such tax imposed by the State for State purposes on individuals and one such tax so imposed on corporations.~~ In any such tax imposed upon corporations the highest rate shall not exceed the highest rate imposed on individuals by more than a ratio of 8 to 5.

(b) Laws imposing taxes on or measured by income may adopt by reference provisions of the laws and regulations of the United States, as they then exist or thereafter may be changed, for the purpose of arriving at the amount of income upon which the tax is imposed.

EXPLANATION

The proposed amendment grants the State authority to impose higher income tax rates on higher income levels, which is how the federal government and a majority of other states do it. The amendment would remove the portion of the Revenue Article of the Illinois Constitution that is sometimes referred to as the "flat tax," that requires all taxes on income to be at the same rate. The amendment does not itself change tax rates. It gives the State the ability to impose higher tax rates on those with higher income levels and lower tax rates on those with middle or lower income levels. You are asked to decide whether the proposed amendment should become a part of the Illinois Constitution.

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Illinois' current tax system unfairly benefits millionaires and billionaires and this amendment will set things right for middle-class and working people. Currently, it is unfair that billionaires pay the same tax rate as regular people.

Voting "yes" on the amendment means that the State will enact a new tax structure where only those making above \$250,000 a year will see their taxes go up. This amendment is simply upgrading Illinois' old tax system to a graduated system which is how the federal government and the majority of other states do it.

This Amendment Would Make Illinois' Tax System Fair.

Approval of this amendment would enact a fair system that allows the state to tax wealthy people at higher rates and lower income people at lower rates, replacing Illinois' current unfair tax system, in which wealthy people pay the exact same tax rate as lower and middle income people.

Illinois' current tax system unfairly benefits millionaires and billionaires, and approval of this amendment will set things right for the middle class and working people.

This amendment will help small business owners by creating a stable economic environment for their businesses to thrive.

While others try to mislead you, under the current tax system in Illinois, policymakers already have the authority to set any tax rate and to change tax rates at their will. The current system forces policymakers to charge the same tax rate to everyone, regardless of how much money they make. If this amendment passes, the State will have the ability to tax higher income earners at a different rate. In fact, upon passage of this Amendment, a new tax structure will go into effect where 97% of taxpayers will pay the same or less, while only those making more than \$250,000 a year will see a tax increase.

This amendment does not tax retirement income.

The Federal Government and Most States Use the Graduated Tax System Proposed in this Amendment. Not the Unfair System Currently Used in Illinois.

Illinois is among a minority of states that do not utilize graduated tax rates because the Illinois Constitution requires a "flat tax" that penalizes middle-class and working people and benefits higher income individuals.

A majority of states and the federal government already use the kind of graduated income tax system proposed in this amendment to ensure that wealthy people pay their fair share of taxes.

Nearby states including Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin are among the majority of states that have graduated tax systems.

Illinois' Current Income Tax System Relies on Taxes from Middle and Lower Income Earners. While a Graduated System Would Lower that Burden and Fund Critical Programs such as Education and Human Services.

While some states have fair tax rates in which the highest income earners pay the highest tax rate, Illinois' "flat tax" rate continues to rely unfairly on taxes from middle and lower income earners.

Under Illinois' "flat tax" structure, a nurse making \$50,000 per year pays the same tax rate as an executive making \$4 million per year. A graduated tax rate would have the executive pay more.

Because of the way our current tax system is set up, the bottom fifth of Illinois taxpayers (those making below \$21,800) contribute 14.4% of their income to state and local taxes, compared to 7.4% for the top 1 percent of Illinois taxpayers.

If this Amendment passes, the State has already enacted a new graduated tax structure where 97% of taxpayers will pay the same or less.

Under the new tax structure, only the top 3% of Illinois income earners would pay more in income taxes. Everyone who makes \$250,000 or less a year would pay the same or less.

Over 95% of small businesses earn \$250,000 or less a year in profits, and their owners will not see a tax increase under the new tax structure.

This change will generate additional revenue each year that can help address Illinois' budget deficit and fund critical programs, including the State's education system, public safety, and social services like mental health and substance abuse treatment and domestic violence shelters.

After the COVID-19 Pandemic, We Need to Do All We Can to Help the Economy and Middle-Class and Working People.

Working people and essential workers like nurses, first responders, and grocery store clerks should not pay the same tax rate as the wealthy. Nurses making \$50,000 a year should not pay the same tax rate as an executive making \$4,000,000 a year.

Having wealthy people pay more would reduce the burden on working families. This is money that middle and lower income people need for housing, groceries, medicine, and essentials.

When the wealthiest people pay more, middle and lower income earners can pay less while the State funds critical services that our essential workers rely on.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

- 1) The Amendment gives the Legislature power to increase taxes on any group of taxpayers with no limits and no accountability and without any requirement to use the additional revenue to fund essential needs such as healthcare, education, or public safety.
- 2) Taxes and spending are out of control. The Legislature should not be allowed to keep raising taxes until they get their spending under control.
- 3) In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, now is the worst possible time for a massive tax increase.

The Amendment gives the Legislature power to increase taxes on any group of taxpayers with no limits and no accountability and without any requirement to use the additional revenue to fund essential needs such as healthcare, education, or public safety.

The proposed amendment would give the Legislature unlimited new authority to increase income tax rates on any group of taxpayers at will, including low-income and middle-income families and small business owners. There would be no limit on the number of tax brackets that could be created and no limit on how high tax rates could be increased on individual taxpayers. In addition, this proposed change will pave the way for a tax on retirement income.

Nothing in the amendment requires the Legislature to do anything to control spending. Nor does it require funds to be spent on essential needs such as healthcare, education, or public safety. It would simply give the Legislature a blank check to spend billions of dollars however they want, with no accountability.

Taxes and spending are out of control. The Legislature should not be allowed to keep raising taxes until they get their spending under control.

Illinois already has some of the highest property taxes and sales taxes in the nation. And the Legislature has increased Illinois income tax rates twice in the past decade to try to deal with the out-of-control spending in Springfield.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, our state had a huge and growing multi-billion-dollar budget deficit, and the unfunded pension liability skyrocketed to over \$137 billion. That's because the Legislature has continued to increase state spending instead of eliminating government waste, corruption, and abuse.

Because they refuse to control spending or pass major reforms, the Legislature will just continue to raise taxes on everyone in Illinois, and middle-class families will be their next target.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, now is the worst possible time for a massive tax increase.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused layoffs, unemployment, bankruptcies, and closures. As small businesses and local employers struggle to rebuild, this is the worst possible time to impose huge new tax increases. Even before the COVID-19 crisis, many residents and businesses were leaving the state because of the high tax burden. If the Amendment passes, it would be the last straw for thousands of small businesses, causing more jobs to leave the state, and making Illinois lose out on investments to rebuild our economy. This would mean fewer jobs and less opportunity for Illinois families.

YES	For the proposed amendment of Section 3 of Article IX of the Illinois Constitution.
NO	

FORM OF BALLOT

Proposed Amendment to the 1970 Illinois Constitution

The proposed amendment grants the State authority to impose higher income tax rates on higher income levels, which is how the federal government and a majority of other states do it. The amendment would remove the portion of the Revenue Article of the Illinois

Constitution that is sometimes referred to as the "flat tax," that requires all taxes on income to be at the same rate. The amendment does not itself change tax rates. It gives the State the ability to impose higher tax rates on those with higher income levels and lower income tax rates on those with middle or lower income levels. You are asked to decide whether the proposed amendment should become a part of the Illinois Constitution.

Due to COVID-19, all 2020 General Election voters are encouraged to cast a ballot prior to Election Day, either by mail or during early voting. Voting by mail is an easy option for voters and you can request a vote by mail ballot through email, mail, or in person. An application is available from your local election authority or at: <https://elections.il.gov/electionoperations/VotingByMail.aspx>. To register to vote or check your registration status, visit: <https://ova.elections.il.gov>.



Jesse White

**CAPITOL BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

I, Jesse White, Secretary of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Proposed Amendment, the Explanation of the Proposed Amendment, Arguments in Favor of the Amendment and Arguments Against the Amendment and a true copy of the Form of Ballot for this call as the regularly scheduled general election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, as set forth in compliance with the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the Great Seal of the State of Illinois,
Done in the City of Springfield, this first day of June, 2020

This voter information material is available in written format in English, Chinese, Hindi, Polish, Spanish, and Braille. It is also available in audio format in English. For more information, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com or write the Secretary of State's office at 111 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62756.

LEGALS

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)ss
COUNTY OF BOONE)
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 17th JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
COUNTY BOONE - IN
PROBATE
In the Matter of the Estate of
LEILA J. SIMAS,
Deceased.

Case No. 20 P55
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
- WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Leila J. Simas. Letters of Office were issued on September 1, 2020, to Krystle L. Simas, Administrator, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Nathan J. Noble, P.C., 504 North State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before March 17, 2021, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS 5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Boone County Circuit Clerk—Probate Division at the Boone County Courthouse, 601 N Main St, Belvidere, IL 61008, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office—Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to his attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Date: 9/11/20
Nathan J. Noble
Attorney for Administrator
Nathan J. Noble, P.C.
Attorney Nathan J. Noble
504 North State Street
Belvidere, IL 61008
815.547.7700
(Published in the
Belvidere Republican
Sept. 17, 24 & Oct. 1, 2020)
381283

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)ss
COUNTY OF MCHENRY)
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
THE 22nd JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY MCHENRY - IN
PROBATE
In the Matter of the Estate of
BARBARA R. BUCK,
Deceased.

Case No. 20 PR 145
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
- WILL AND CLAIMS

NOTICE is given of the death of Barbara R. Buck. Letters of Office were issued on September 2, 2020, to Heidi Pendleton, Administrator, who is the legal representative of the estate. The attorney for the estate is Attorney Nathan J. Noble, P.C., 504 North State Street, Belvidere, Illinois.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before March 24, 2021, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by 755 ILCS

5/18-3, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the McHenry County Circuit Clerk—Probate Division at the McHenry County Courthouse, 2200 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock, IL 60098, or with the estate legal representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the McHenry County Circuit Clerk's Office—Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to his attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Date: 9/14/20
Nathan J. Noble
Attorney for Administrator
Nathan J. Noble, P.C.
Attorney Nathan J. Noble
504 North State Street
Belvidere, IL 61008
815.547.7700
(Published in the
McHenry County News
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 & 8, 2020)
381397

ASSUMED NAME
CERTIFICATE OF
INTENTION
STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)ss
County of Boone)

This is to certify that the undersigned intend...to conduct and transact a website design business in said County and State under the name of ROSCHE DIGITAL MARKETING at the following post office addresses: 667 McCurry Rd., Caledonia, IL 61011 that the true and real full names of all persons owning, conducting or transacting such business, with the respective residence address of each are as follows:

Cade Rosche, 667 McCurry Rd., Caledonia, IL 61011
SIGNED:
CADE ROSCHE
Dated 9/21/20
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, this 21st day of September, A.D. 2020.
JULIE A. STAPLER
COUNTY CLERK
By SHERRY L. BLAUERT
DEPUTY
(OFFICIAL SEAL)
(Published in the
Belvidere Republican
Oct. 1, 8 & 15, 2020)
381932

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Slices of life

Lockdown recipes

We've been on lockdown (or semi-lockdown) for nearly six months. It's been interesting, to say the least.

I attempt to see my life as though the glass is half-full. What have these months of quarantine given me? In a word, time. Time to learn new things, or get back to the things I already knew, but didn't have time for in my very, awfully, totally busy pre-quarantine existence.

A few of my activities involve science experiments in the kitchen, aka food manipulation. It's interesting, how complex food items become simple when you discover how to make them yourself. And it feels good. Making something from scratch. It creates a feeling of sustainability in your life, and I think we could all benefit from a bit of sustainability just about now.

In the last two days I've made granola, yogurt, pesto, no-need to knead yeast bread, balsamic vinaigrette, mozzarella cheese, and catnip tea – and I didn't even break a sweat. Maybe there is an upside to COVID-19 after all.

The upside goes double for my bathroom scale, unfortunately. Speaking of bathrooms, I also made my own wet wipes (not a food item, but a recipe for success during these COVID-19 days of wet wipe shortages.) I've heard we won't get our hands on the pre-made items until 2021, but that's conjecture. I could tell you to use toilet paper or paper towels moistened with disinfecting cleaner, but TP and PT are in short supply as well.

Some of the most desperate among us have actually reverted to using cloth rags, which can be washed and reused after cleaning the toilet. My grandma would be proud.



By **JILL PERTLER**
Contributor

But back to the important stuff: food. Who cares about cleaning when you can eat?

I don't have room for all of my culinary discoveries and practices, but I can share a couple. Perhaps this tangent will warrant a second installment.

Let's start with granola. It's pretty obvious that you start with oats and nuts - I used walnuts. Here's my recipe: 1 cup oats, 1/3 cup walnuts, 1/4 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon, 2 tablespoons coconut oil, and 2 tablespoons honey. Place oats, chopped walnuts, salt, and cinnamon in a bowl and stir. Melt coconut oil and mix with honey. Stir into the oats mixture. Place on a non-stick sprayed cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees for about 15 minutes. Stir and continue baking for another 6 to 10 minutes or so. Check often to make sure you don't over-bake. Cool. At this point you can add other ingredients of your choice – dried fruit, chocolate chips etc. Store in the fridge in a plastic bag or (more environmentally friendly) a glass canning jar.

Granola is yummy with ... yogurt! Make your own with only two ingredients: milk and unsweetened yogurt with active cultures (most any yogurt from the store fills this bill.) Find a covered bowl you will use to store your yogurt. I use a large empty yogurt container. Fill nearly full with milk. Pour the milk into a pot and heat slowly on the stove until the

milk reaches 200 degrees Fahrenheit. Remove from heat and let milk cool to 100 degrees. Ladle about one cup milk from the pot into a bowl and whisk in about 1/2 cup yogurt. Pour the yogurt/milk mixture into the remainder of the milk and stir. Cover your pot and place in a warm spot (I use the oven) overnight. You will wake the next morning to yogurt. It's practically magic!

Confession: I'm a newbie yogurt fan. I learned recently (and the hard way) how important active probiotic cultures are for the gut. I've also learned you don't have to buy the most expensive "pro-biotic" labeled yogurt to get the positive results. Fancy, name-brand, Greek yogurt is often more than double the cost of regular yogurt, which has all the same probiotic benefits of the Greek stuff. Regular yogurt simply has more whey (liquid). Greek yogurt has more of the whey removed and is therefore thicker.

You can do the same at home by straining your yogurt through cheesecloth or even coffee filters. I used to spend \$4 for a tub of Greek yogurt before discovering the regular stuff for about \$2. Now I make my own for less than half that price. And there are no additives. It's the real deal.

We've been living in quarantine mode for six months. During this time, I've tried to stay positive. I've attempted to see the glass as half-full, except lately my glass isn't half full of water.

It's full of yogurt, with a spoonful or two of homemade granola. Yum.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

Think spring and plant those bulbs

As fall approaches, many perennial plants are ready to go dormant for the winter. Now is the time to start thinking about next spring's floral display and planting spring-flowering bulbs.

Since spring bulbs need a cold period during the winter in order to bloom, the best time to plant is late September through October to allow sufficient time for a good root system to develop, says Brittnay Haag, University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator.

"Investing a little time and money in the fall will pay off greatly next spring when you start seeing pops of color blanketing your garden," Haag says. "Depending on the location, spring bulbs, such as snowdrops, begin blooming in late February and continue until late June with alliums."

Bulbs should be firm and free of rotting spots or signs of disease. "When buying bulbs, keep in mind that larger bulbs will produce larger blooms," Haag says.

If the bulbs cannot be planted immediately after purchasing, store them in a cool, dry place away from eth-

ylene-producing fruits, such as apples, bananas, melons, pears, and peaches to prevent flowering disorders.

For the greatest visual impact, plant bulbs in groupings and large drifts or waves of color. Mix them in with other perennials and shrubs to screen the foliage after blooms fade. To produce maximum blooms, most bulbs will need at least eight hours of sunlight daily.

Most bulbs require fertile, well-drained soil to prevent the bulb from rotting. Poorly drained soil can be improved by adding organic matter such as compost or peat moss. The material should be incorporated into the soil before planting at a rate of four-parts soil, one-part organic matter. A balanced fertilizer, 20-20-20, can also be incorporated into the soil at this time.

"The general rule of thumb when planting bulbs is to plant them two to three times the length of the bulb, measured from the bottom of the bulb," Haag says.

Large bulbs, such as daffodils or tulips, should be planted 6 to 8- inches

deep. Small bulbs, such as snowdrops and crocus, should be planted 3 to 4 inches deep. Bulbs should be spaced 6 to 12 inches apart to allow for the spread and future divisions. Plant bulbs with the nose of the bulb facing upward and the root plate facing down.

After covering the planted bulbs with soil, water the area well to settle the bulbs into the soil and initiate root development. If there is little rain in the fall, continue to water weekly until the ground freezes. A light, 2-inch layer of mulch can be added after planting to minimize effects of winter temperature fluctuations and to help conserve soil moisture.

"Spring bulbs can vary in flower color, timing, height, and shape depending on the species and variety," says Haag. "Add a new type of bulb each fall to have a beautiful mix of spring bloomers in your garden."

Visit Illinois Extension's website "Bulbs & More" at extension.illinois.edu/bulbs for more information about selecting and caring for spring bulbs.

• Grants (Continued from page 3)

Some of the improvements have come about because of peer pressure, she continued. As buildings are improved, other owners step up and do the same thing with their properties. "If someone is looking to rent your space, or a neighbor's, they'll select the nicer one," she said.

These grants are only for exterior renovations for both businesses and homes.

For this round of grants, Del-Rose said four applications were received by the city. Two were for porch repairs, which would improve the safety and accessibility of those properties. One is for brickwork at a downtown business; one is for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant doors, also at a downtown business.

She said the HPC gave top priority to the two projects focusing on porch improvements because of their safety aspects. Third was the

brick and window work because of the aesthetic impact; last were the ADA-compliant doors, if funding was available.

The proposals

Here are the proposed projects, according to priority:

- First choice (tie), 519 S. Main St., Alexander House. "The property owner is trying to maintain the residential aesthetic of the property," staff stated. "However, the porch and accessibility is no longer safe and must be re-built."

- Overall cost of this project is \$22,758; the property owner requested \$7,500. Staff and HPC recommended \$5,000.

- First choice (tie), 227 Logan Ave., the Flower Bin. Improvements are being made to the porch, deck, stairs and ramp. Staff's comments for this applicant were the same as for the Alexander House.

Overall cost of the project is

\$15,750, with the property owner requesting \$7,500. Staff and the HPC also recommended funding of \$5,000.

- Third choice, 207 S. State St., Taft Insurance. Improvements include windows, lighting, doors, and paint. "This is the second year that the property has applied," staff stated. "Renovations meet the overlay district and will improve the building."

- Overall cost of the project is \$13,155; the property owner is requesting \$5,000. Both staff and the HPC recommended \$5,000.

- Fourth choice, 130 S. State St., PNC Bank. "ADA accessibility is always a benefit," staff stated. "The requested reimbursement is below the maximum amount allowed."

- Total project cost is \$5,303, with the property owner requesting \$2,652. Staff and the HPC recommended funding at \$2,652.

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