

# McHenry County RESPONSE



## Buehler calls for Franks and Acosta resignations County Chair Candidate says Franks protected political ally

### PRESS RELEASE

"(Board Member) Carlos Acosta needs to resign – NOW!" said Mike Buehler, Candidate for McHenry County Board Chairman. "And (County Board Chairman) Jack Franks needs to follow suit and resign as well."

Acosta was arrested Thursday, along with his former supervisor at the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Andrew Polovin. The charges against the pair include two counts of felony endangering the life of a child and one felony charge of reckless conduct each.



Carlos Acosta



Jack Franks

The charges are related to the widely perceived mishandling of the DCFS case that should have protected 5-year-old AJ Freund who was forced to take a cold shower as a punishment, beaten on the head until killed and then

had his body dumped by his parents on April 15, 2019.

Acosta and Polovin were initially placed on desk duty after their mishandling of the case came to light. In December, they were both fired from DCFS.

Many feel that, as an ally, Franks stood in the way of calls for Acosta's resignation.

"Just recently, Franks called Acosta a model board member," said Buehler. "Franks should have asked Acosta to resign a long time ago. But the chairman put politics ahead of justice or decency. With Franks, politics always come first."

Buehler said that Franks' approach to cases of improper behavior depend on where those involved stand politically. If it's a case related to a Franks ally, the chairman simply seeks to weather the storm. Franks is currently under investigation for sexual assault, sexual harassment and stalking a young lady while serving in Springfield as the representative of the 63rd District.

Applying the same standards as Franks, his ally, Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan ordered an investigation into the accusations which reported that the accusations were "credible."

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## Ives calls out Casten Campaign for Vile Vandalism in 6th Congressional race

### PRESS RELEASE

Using possibly the most vile word in the English language, in early September, a supporter of Illinois 6th District Rep. Sean Casten, a Democrat, tagged campaign signs belonging to Republican Challenger Jeanne Ives. The Ives campaign received numerous reports of vandalized yard signs in Wheaton, Naperville and Glen Ellyn. The signs were painted with a single word - C\*\*\*. In each case, a police report was filed and the Ives campaign reported the attacks on social media.

In one such post, Ives wrote, "It doesn't matter that Sean Casten issued a CYA response about those vandalizing our signs with the most vile possible language. This is the kind of division and hate he has stoked from the moment he stepped foot in the political arena."

Ives said that Casten cites as his ideological North Star Dan Savage, who has said that "all

Republicans should be F\*\*\*ing dead."

Casten said what voters think should not matter. He has made wildly unsubstantiated charges implying that his Republican colleagues in the US House are Nazi Sympathizers.

He also mocked a Bible verse on Twitter and told a climate expert – Michael Shellenberger- who has drawn different conclusions than Casten, that questioning him was a "waste of time."

Casten called Dan Crenshaw, a combat Veteran and Navy Seal, a racist over a policy disagreement. He also referred to gun owners as people with small genitals.

"Is it pretty clear who this

guy is yet?" Ives asked. "Is it any surprise that profanity was spray painted on his opponent's sign? If you disagree with Sean Casten, he characterizes you in the most insulting, dehumanizing possible terms."

She referred to Casten as a divisive, toxic partisan who has no interest in making American bet-

Vandalism continued on Page 4



This is one of the signs defiled by a Sean Casten supporter recently. Jeanne Ives, Republican Candidate for the 6th District of the U.S. House, condemned the hateful tactic.

**BLM Protesters Block Emergency Room after 2 Police Ambushed - Page 2**

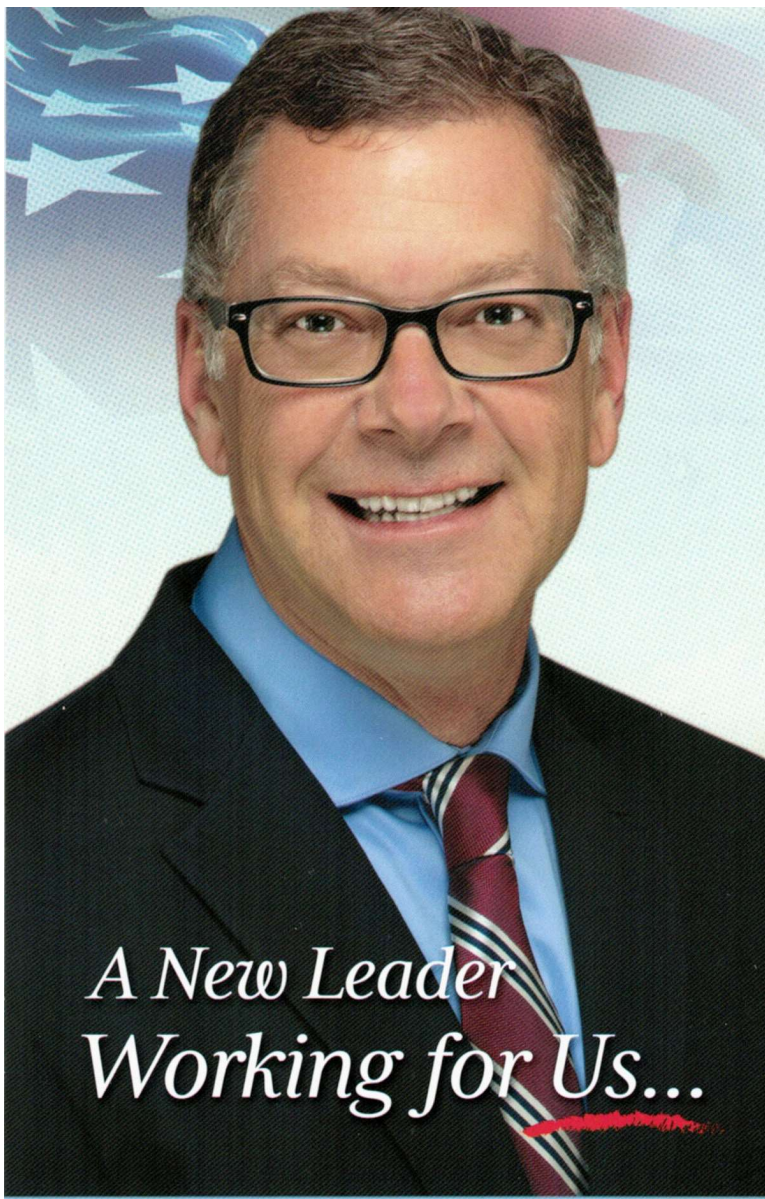
**Retired IDOT engineer speaks highly of Candidate Buehler - Page 5**

**Manufacturer thanks President Trump for taking on China - Page 6**

**Oberweis calls out Underwood's silence on riots - Page 8**

**Billboard questions Jack Franks' moral qualifications - Page 11**

**McHenry County artist brings creativity to life - Page 14**



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## Protestors block Emergency Room

Chant "We hope they die" as ambushed deputies rushed for life-saving care

An ambush in Compton, CA, Sept. 12, left two Los Angeles County Deputies, a 24-year-old male and a 31-year-old mother, in critical condition, clinging to life. Pouring salt on the wound, protestors had to be cleared from the entrance to the local hospital Emergency Room.

As the deputies were wheeled into the hospital, protestors chanted, "WE HOPE THEY DIE!" and "Death to Police!"

The deputies were ambushed in their squad car outside a Compton metra station when a lone gunman walked up to the vehicle and opened fire.

"Moments ago, 2 of our Sheriff Deputies were shot in Compton and were transported to a local hospital," the Sheriff's Department tweeted. "They are both still fighting for their lives."

ABC News has reported a 28-percent increase in the number of police shot in the line of duty in 2020 compared to 2019.

The rash of violence against police is seen as a response to claims of police violence against blacks following the death of George Floyd at the hands of four Minneapolis Police Officers on May 25.

Protests that have swept the country for going on four months have been led by Black Lives Matter and Antifa members who

have called for the defunding of the police.

Though data does not support the claim that police are randomly killing black men, Democrats have only recently spoken out against the violence in the streets. Prior to that, even members of Former VP and Presidential Candidate Joe Biden were posting bail for rioters arrested for committing acts of violence.

Even local Rep. Lauren Underwood has spoken in defense of the rioters and the notion of diverting funds away from the police.

While the death of Floyd was condemned by virtually everyone, and from both sides of the political aisle, many have pointed out that the data does not support the idea that the police are randomly killing black men in the streets.

"The violence and radicalism we are seeing in our cities has gone too far," said IL Sen. Jim Oberweis, who is running against Underwood in the 14th District. "Blocking the entrance to hospitals in an effort to delay medical treatment for police officers is despicable behavior. I unequivocally condemn these actions."

We must come together as a nation but that can only happen when those who would perpetuate violence are stopped."

### McHenry County **RESPONSE**

McHenry County Response is published by the McHenry County Republican Party as a response to the absence of a free and fair press.

Mail comments and Letters to the Editor to:

Attn: Editor Rich Rostron

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## McHenry County Response provides perspectives you're denied by other print media

Why are you receiving this newspaper? And, yes, we believe this is a 'newspaper.' Though provided by the McHenry County Republican Party, we believe it is as much a newspaper as virtually any other print publication. From the NY Times, to the Chicago Tribune, the LA Times, and the Washington Post, we feel the media has thrown off the veil of impartiality and embraced 'journalistic activism.' We believe this is also the case in McHenry County.

Journalistic bias is what we believe gives this publication its validity. Media bias exists. It's absurd to deny it.

As conservatives in McHenry County, we have tried to receive 'equal time' – or a rough comparison – from the only daily newspaper in the county. Many of the press releases we submit die ignominious deaths in an editor's 'Inbox.' When a press release is accepted, and a story done on the subject of the press release, we find the tenor of the story spun to favor the Left.

For instance, if that daily runs a story about Mike Buehler, the Republican candidate for McHenry County Board Chairman, the current Board Chairman, Democrat Jack Franks, is called and given the final word in the story. But the opportunity is not reciprocal in stories that originate with Franks or the Herald.

In light of the bias of print media favoring the Left, and lacking a fair chance to share our perspectives within their publication, we have determined that the only reasonable solution is print our own newspaper. In this way, we provide our perspective with the expectation that this publication will, when compared with the Leftist media, provide the balanced coverage otherwise absent in journalism today.

We do not pursue this effort out of a lack of appreciation for honest journalism. Rather, we believe that a free press is essential to a free society. But whether the media is

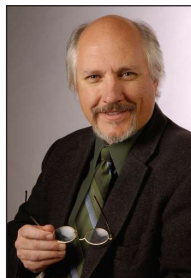
caged against its will, or enters the cage of censorship by choice, the result is the same. Truth dies when it is confined to the shadows. That means that the media has a responsibility – a vital role to play in our constitutional society. To our mutual detriment, whether Republicans or Democrats, Leftists or Conservatives, the media has abandoned its duty – has gone AWOL in defense of liberty.

This is a harsh charge to make. But is it untrue? Hasn't the media joined the 'Cancel Culture' where ideas are expected to fit within a particular 'Narrative'?

Journalists have publicly referred to themselves as "activists." Our contention is that one is an activist or a journalist but once they become one, they cannot be the other. Activism suggests that journalists are qualified to determine what is right. Instead of providing you with the unvarnished evidence, they filter it through their personal perspective, almost always suiting the Left, and provide you with a story where the conclusion is already drawn.

It's as if they don't trust you to arrive at the 'correct' conclusion (correct from their perspective). This shows a lack of confidence in their own conclusions. If they were truly confident in their convictions, they wouldn't fear providing you with the evidence and allowing you to draw your own conclusions.

You should also know that this publication is largely comprised of press releases or otherwise written by non-professionals. Though edited for journalistic style, most of these stories are provided by simple citizens. America is known for its Citizen Soldiers. We hope you will see these writers in the same light.



Rich Rostron

## Mark Curran slams Durbin Incumbent poses a threat to liberties

IL Senate Candidate Mark Curran, a former Lake County Sheriff and Special Prosecutor with the Lake County State's Attorney's office, is calling out his opponent, incumbent Sen. Dick Durbin, as one of the "career politicians (who) are destroying the country."

He said that Durbin and other Democrats have brought America to a crossroad. That crossroad includes a process where the wealthiest Americans and richest corporations have access to Congress to the point where they can virtually write rules that benefit themselves at the expense of the middle class.

"You look at Durbin and all he's done is stand by and watch jobs leave Illinois as the state falls into ruin."

Curran said his intention is to go to Congress as a warrior for the middle class and small businesses.

"I'm not going to be someone just asking what's in the best interest of my party, but rather the state and the country. So many politicians get to Washington and lose their connection with their constituents. Durbin is the No. 2 Democrat in the Senate. His primary objective has become appeasing other Democrats as citizens and businesses get lost in the mix."

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# Do you trust Springfield with unlimited tax authority?

By CAL SKINNER  
McHenry County Blog

They call it 'The Fair Tax.' But is giving politicians more taxing authority really about 'fairness'? The referendum was placed on the ballot by Democrats who have sufficient power in Springfield that they didn't need help from Republicans to get it there. And there was nothing the Republicans could do to stop it.

Politicians like to put warm-fuzzy names onto legislation the way ad men use words to sell products. But buyer beware.

Republicans are recommending that you vote against the proposed Constitutional Amendment that would, in the future, give the state the authority to raise income taxes without going to the voters for approval. In the last ten years, Springfield Democrats have raised income taxes on Illinois residents twice.

"Does anyone think they are better off now because they are paying higher income taxes?" asked Cal Skinner, a Republican and a staunch opponent of higher taxes who served in the IL House from 1993 to 2001. "And you may find the timing of the referendum rather peculiar."

As voters find the referendum on their ballots this fall, numerous Democrat legislators are under Federal investigation, including House Speaker Mike Madigan. He supports the amendment giving

politicians greater taxing authority. But he is under investigation for taking bribes and favors from ComEd in exchange for support of rate increases and legislation favorable to the utility company.

Supporters of the proposal take the "Trust us" approach when trying to sell it to voters. They argue that only the wealthiest three percent will see their taxes increase. They say, "Trust us" not to increase tax rates on anybody else.

But the tax rates are not in the Constitutional Amendment. They are in state law and state law can be changed.

The amount of money the new tax rates bring in isn't nearly enough to bring Illinois out of the financial pit Democrats buried the state in after almost 20 years of unfettered spending.

Increased pressure to tax lower incomes is also coming from lost taxes caused by Democrat Gov. JB Pritzker's shutdown of the Illinois economy in response to the coronavirus.

The higher income taxes target entrepreneurs and job creators. Many of these people have already left the state. With the new tax, the pace of the exodus is liable to increase.

"So, if you trust Springfield politicians, by all means, Vote 'Yes,'" said Skinner. "But if you think it's a little foolish to trust Springfield again, you might just want to vote 'No.'"

## Vandalism continued from Page 1

ter. "He is too busy trying to make America bitter. That is who he is. Is that what you want in 2020?"

In another post on social media, Ives wrote, "We are not going to hide the hate that Sean Casten stokes anymore. We issued a soft statement on the vandalism and theft we were dealing with in an August 26 post. Now we are just going to show you."

She said she prefers civility in politics. But returning civility to Casten's political attacks just doesn't work.

In her latest post of an additional vandalized sign in Wheaton, also painted with the C\*\*\* word, while addressing Casten personally, Ives said, "This report and photo was sent to our office

today and was reported to Wheaton PD.

"I have lived in Wheaton for 28 years. I have raised a family here and my daughter is still in high school here. I have served this community as a volunteer from coaching cross country to working with the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

"And I stood up for your family and to protect the lives you were trying to build (while you were in the legislature working with) politicians who view you as an ATM for all of their waste, fraud, corruption and abuse of public systems."

Ives concluded that the hate Sean Casten has stoked is out of control. And it is not representative of this community.

## Resignations continued from Page 1

But instead of following through on the matter, Madigan's office buried the report and Madigan merely required Franks to have a State Police escort any time he was on State Capital property.

"This is the political two-step we see in Illinois politics," said Buehler. "Politicians do a little dance to protect each other when they get in trouble rather than putting justice and the public interests first. Enough already. It's time for these people to start doing the right thing. And the right thing for Chairman Franks is to resign, not to mention that Acos-

ta has got to go."

Recently, at a Special County Board Meeting, Board Member Chuck Wheeler called for Franks' resignation due to the allegations against the chairman.

"It's unacceptable that we allow this type of individual to roam freely in our midst," said Wheeler. "We have employees who expect security and safety in their work environment."

Franks called Buehler's call for his resignation political. But Buehler said, "Politics are what kept Jack from doing his job in the first place.

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## Katherine Keefe Announces Re-Election Bid

### PRESS RELEASE

Kathy Keefe is seeking re-election to a fourth term as McHenry County Circuit Clerk. She has worked in the office for 33 years, serving the last 12 as the elected Circuit Clerk.

"During my first 3 terms, our primary focus was improving public access to court records, while also increasing use of technology to improve customer service and reduce costs," Keefe said. "We were successful in putting court records online my first year in office and gradually, by not filling vacant positions, allowed for a reduction in staff by 21 positions saving county taxpayers \$1.2 million annually in personnel costs."

The Circuit Clerk position is a constitutional office serving as the court's record keeper.

"While some wonder why a clerical office like the Circuit Clerk is an elected position, I see the biggest reason being fiscal accountability to the taxpayer," said Keefe. "Poorly run offices can cost taxpayers a lot of unnecessary dollars. Not only have we reduced personnel cost, we also have cut our printing expenses by more than 50 percent. As an elected official I take my responsibility to the taxpayer very seriously."

Under Keefe's leadership the McHenry County Circuit Clerk's office has been a leader in technology usage in the state.

"We provide text and email court-date reminders with a free program developed in-house, and an Attorney Access Portal to allow attorneys to electronically view their case files," Keefe said.



*Katherine Keefe*

"We introduced electronic filing years before it was mandated, and with the cooperation of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Circuit's progressive judiciary were able to eliminate use of paper files in all courtrooms."

When asked why she's seeking another term, Keefe said, "While we have accomplished so much, there is still work to be done."

Some of the projects currently under development include an integrated electronic criminal complaint program and online scheduling software for attorneys. Keefe says goals during the next term will include expansion of electronic orders.

"Electronic orders are the next frontier for efficiency and cost savings in the court system," she said. "We have pilots in some courtrooms but have expansion plans for the coming months."

She further points out that years of working in the office is one thing, but a proven track record of improved transparency, customer service and budget reductions while leading the office is another, and reason to support her over her opponent in the coming election.

## Retired IDOT inspector describes County Board Chair Candidate Buehler

**"Kind of guy you'd like to have a beer with."**

By **RICH ROSTRON**

You want to know what a politician is like, just ask him or her. They'll tell you the answer they want you to hear. But if you want to really get to know them, you need to ask someone else – someone who has known them long enough to give you an unbiased perspective on what makes this candidate tick.

Neil Joslun, of Lake Zurich, is a retired IDOT Senior Proportioning Inspector. He worked with IDOT for 35-and-a-half years and retired in December of 2018. During his time with IDOT, Joslun got to know McHenry County Board Chairman Candidate Mike Buehler rather well.

He's known Buehler for about 30 years. Joslun worked closely with contractors who calibrated scales. As Joslun put it, the scales are used to ensure taxpayers get what they pay for with road projects. In other words, Joslun worked with Buehler to ensure that road contractors weren't overcharging or under delivering on the material used in road projects.

Joslun said that Buehler was probably in his early 20s when they met. He described him as very enthusiastic, hardworking and gregarious. At the time,

Buehler was an employee with Eadys Scale Service. But, in 1994, he and his twin brother Tim purchased the company and changed the name to D&M Scale Service Inc.

"We would do Scale Calibrations together," said Joslun. "I had to sign off on the calibrations and Mike would put his certification number (registered with the state) on the calibrations. He was diligent and concerned with maintaining his company's reputation ... fiercely guarded their reputation."

Joslun said that the Buehlers were so successful guarding their reputation that D&M was calibrating scales at about 80-percent of the plants where Joslun worked.

"Mike made sure things were done right," said Joslun. "If there was a problem, he got at it right away."

Joslun said he was impressed with the way Buehler worked with his employees. "He would trust the guys, after they were properly trained, to do their job. He didn't lord over them."

From Joslun's perspective, this resulted in a positive working environment with D&M. "It seemed most of his guys were with him quite a while ... longer than some of the other companies I worked with."

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# Who has the better record on handling COVID-19?

## Sweden shows the way

By **EVERT EVERTSEN**

While the federal government can suggest to states how they should handle virus outbreaks, controls are primarily the responsibility of States. They can ask for assistance, and the record shows that the Trump administration has done a marvelous job of responding to such requests. But it's still up to the states.

Considering, the facts don't stack up well for the Democrats.

- States totally controlled by Democrats: COVID-19 deaths

- States with a divided State Government: COVID-19 deaths per thousand – 732
- States totally controlled by Republicans: COVID-19 deaths per thousand – 474

As testing increased, the number of cases increased. That's not a big surprise. Let's ignore the fact that literally hundreds of positive tests have later been proven false.

Let's compare the number of cases reported per day to the number of deaths (which we also

know is greatly inflated by attributing deaths to coronavirus when other causes were responsible) reported per day as displayed in these two graphs.

Democrat Gov. JB Pritzker has kept a heavy hand on opening the economy in Illinois based on the number of positive tests. Would a more accurate indicator be the number of deaths?

Note the inconsistency in deaths. The higher numbers are good for headlines. The lower numbers of deaths are ignored by the governor and the media.

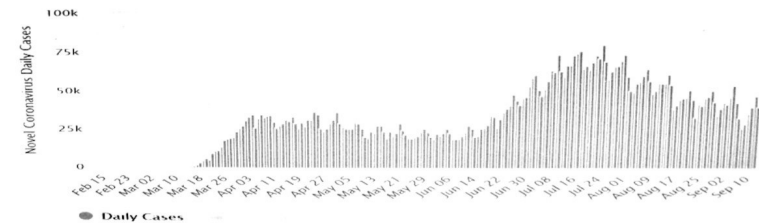
Insofar as shutting down the economy, the only means of judging the success or failure of such a measure is consideration of Sweden, which didn't shut down its economy. Sweden's death rate stands at 578 per thousand

while the U.S. rate stands at 598. Which country now has greater immunity to an explosion as we approach winter when people in the northern states again closet themselves for the frigid season or move south?

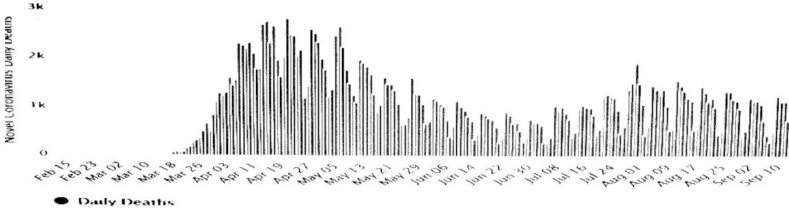
One country used the 'herd immunity' approach to the pandemic. The other country invoked ridiculous 'Sanitary Mary' laws (no offense to Mary intended). One has herd immunity and the other doesn't. One stayed calm. One was incited to panic by shrill and hourly reports from the mainstream media.

- Sources:
- <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/us/>
  - [https://ballotpedia.org/Partisan\\_composition\\_of\\_state legislatures](https://ballotpedia.org/Partisan_composition_of_state legislatures)

Daily New Cases  
Cases per Day



Daily Deaths  
Deaths per Day



## End of an Era in McHenry County Government Recorder Office ceases to exist December 1

No County Recorder campaign signs by the roads? You won't see those anymore. The position is slated for elimination Dec. 1.

When Joe Tirio ran for Recorder in 2016, he promised to eliminate the position, and he kept his promise. He got behind a measure, approved by the County Board, for a binding referendum to eliminate the position. It passed by a 4-1 vote.

Tirio said his goal was to eliminate the cost, nepotism and patronage associated with the position altogether.

In 2018, Tirio ran for Clerk and won. He promptly renounced all pay and benefits as Recorder from that point until the office no longer existed. He handled the duties of both positions at the cost of one. He was doing two jobs for the price of one and two years earlier than promised.

"By December 2020, the Recorder's team will have saved \$1.9 to \$2.1 million dollars as

compared to the budget for 2016," Tirio said. "In other words, the office could run for two years on the savings our team created."

### More than financial benefits

When someone requested a document from the Recorder's office, it used to take more than four days before it was available.

"Now, it's often available within minutes," said Tirio. "We're doing that with a staff of 13 rather than the 26 people that did both jobs when I took office."

Tirio's office also implemented the "Honor Rewards Program" that encourages veterans to register their DD214 with us in exchange for benefits at local businesses and strong Property Fraud Alert subscriptions.

"Today's Recorder's office provides more benefit to the community, at a lower cost, than ever before," said Tirio. "You can thank the remarkable people I work with in the Recorder's office for that."

**DAMON HILL**

**McHENRY COUNTY BOARD 2020**

- ✓ Resident of McHenry County for over 30 years
- ✓ 2012 Delegate to Illinois State Convention
- ✓ Constitutionally-minded & fiscally conservative
- ✓ Avid supporter of 2nd Amendment, law enforcement, and conceal-carry defenders

*"Involvement, not advancement"*

Answers from  
*Who Said That?*  
on Page 13

1. George Washington
2. Patrick Henry
3. Thomas Jefferson
4. Rosa Parks
5. Martin Luther King, Jr.
6. Henry Aaron
7. Yogi Berra
8. Clara Barton
9. Abraham Lincoln
10. Winston Churchill
11. Ronald Reagan
12. Susan B Anthony

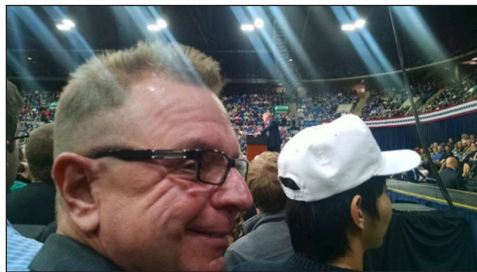
## American manufacturer thanks Trump for taking on China

By RICH ROSTRON

Running a business for more than 35 years, Richard K. Gelscheit, the owner and operator of Methods Manufacturing of Northern Wisconsin (previously Fox Lake) has witnessed a lot. He's often wondered if it was worth all the effort and worry. Thinking about the alternative, however (working for someone else), kept him hanging in there no matter what.

"To me, that is what being American is all about," said Gelscheit, "independence, ambition, goals and the economic climate to achieve them".

Gelscheit said he's seen many changes to the tool and die industry since he started out. One such change is the unfair competition brought to the market by the Chinese. He felt this personally as a manufacturer of parts in the U.S. A woman from the massive Chinese owned competitor met him in Fox Lake and tried to buy him out. When he refused, she promised to sell Chinese parts at a loss for as long as it took to put him out



Rick Gelscheit at a Trump event in 2016.

of business. She and China and other such intangibles. Gelscheit succeeded, but not until Gelscheit described this as ignorance waged a valiant battle.

"The razor of Chinese competition at our throats was pained of then Candidate Donald and is the biggest challenge Trump. When Gelscheit heard we face in business today," Trump talk about bringing manufacturing jobs back to the U.S., tangible goods. There is little Gelscheit described it as "music debate but that manufacturers got hit the hardest" when

China was welcomed into the World Trade Organization and was the beneficiary of TPP, the Trans Pacific Partnership trade agreement with the U.S. and other Pacific rim nations.

At first, when the door started cracking open to Chinese outsourcing years ago, Gelscheit took it in stride as part of our foreign policy strategy. He assumed that someone somewhere, who knew what was good for America's global "well-being" had decided that we needed to bleed a little on behalf of the world.

"Someone decided we, you and me, should provide opportunity to those who had none," he said. "How naïve we can be when we are young. Everyone I knew or talked to saw the truth eventually. There was no altruism at work here only avarice and ignorance".

Gelscheit said he spent the better part of a career watching jobs, hopes and dreams destroyed through outsourcing. Incredibly cheap labor, Chi-com subsidized materials and government kickbacks to Chinese firms shipping to the U.S. decimated the production of virtually all tangible goods in America. The proposed solution, after the 2008 economic crash was "re-education."

Those who made their livings in manufacturing were told to jump into the techy world of code crunching, personal services

Along came 2016 and the campaign of then Candidate Donald Trump. When Gelscheit heard we face in business today," Trump talk about bringing manufacturing jobs back to the U.S., tangible goods. There is little Gelscheit described it as "music debate but that manufacturers got hit the hardest" when

China continued on Page 9

## Media ignores Pres. Trump's second Nobel Prize nomination

By VL STUART

Though the mainstream media doesn't seem interested, Donald Trump was recently nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize (the second such nomination). The nomination was based on the treaty he negotiated between Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in mid-August. Though it followed his nomination, Trump negotiated an additional treaty in the Middle East – a treaty between Israel and Bahrain.



### What is the Nobel Prize?

From the will of Alfred Nobel: "... and one part [of the estate to establish an annual prize] to the person who has done the most or best to advance fellowship among nations, the abolition or reduction of standing armies, and the establishment and promotion of peace congresses"

Nobel's intention is clear: to bring leaders of different nations together, reduce regional tensions, enable nations to establish a foothold for regional peace, reduce their armies, and redirect that portion of their national funds spent on war preparedness to helping their own people. Unfortunately, many feel the prize has been subverted by the Nobel Committee to fit a 'Politically Correct' narrative.

If the committee were to strictly adhere to Nobel's Last Will and Testament, we might see years when no peace prize was awarded at all. A strict adherence to Nobel's Last Will and Testament could eliminate dozens of Nobel Laureates at a glance. Helping indigenous peoples, removing land mines, and promoting women's rights are worthy goals, but do

not fit the original intent of the award.

A strict application of the intent of the award would probably not have allowed for former President Barack Obama's Nobel Prize

in 2009. Many felt he received the award simply because he was the first black man elected president of the United States, an award that was really earned by the American voters who elected him.

Others who have received the award for reasons that differ from its original purpose include: Martin Luther King, Malala Yousafzai (women's rights), and Shirin Ebadi (Woman's rights), Al Gore (the environment). In spite of their worthy accomplishments, none of these renowned individuals received the award for the reasons Nobel envisioned.

In the year 2020, more than 300 people have been nominated for the Peace Prize but, since nominations are supposedly secret, we have no idea if those nominations truly follow the guidelines set down by Alfred Nobel.

Are they humanitarians, environmentalists, advocates for women's rights? Or have they actually accomplished something in the international field that promotes peace, reduces armies, and advances fellowship among nations.

We know of at least one man who has done all of those things. His name is Donald J. Trump.

## Oberweis calls Underwood's silence on riots "deafening"

IL Sen. Jim Oberweis has expressed stunned outrage while watching his opponent in the race for Illinois' 14th Congressional District, Lauren Underwood, ignore the riots that have torn American cities apart all summer.

Unless you're living under a rock, or you only watch the 'mainstream' media, it's impossible to ignore the violent riots that have been happening all over America for close to four months. Neighborhoods in cities like Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis, Chicago, and more have suffered looting almost nightly while rioters burn businesses to the ground. At the same time,

people are being murdered. And if Democrats mention the riots at all, they refer to them as "peaceful protests."

"Lauren Underwood is an elected official, yet her silence on the violent mobs is deafening," said Oberweis. "As a leader in Congress, it is her job to stand up to the raging mob, fight for the rule of law and defend our police. That's exactly what I will do after I defeat Lauren this November."

Underwood not only refuses to condemn the mobs burning down parts of Chicago and threatening to move into the suburbs, she has actually called to defund the police.

## Skillicorn, Prim and Kenneally receive thanks

### for persistent pursuit of justice for AJ

### Franks and Pritzker fail the same acid test

By **BILL MATTESON**

Sept. 10, Carlos Acosta and Andres Polovin were arrested for negligence in the death of AJ Freund. The 5-year old was killed in 2019 at the hands of his parents. In December, DCFS Inspector General Meryl Paniak recommended that three DCFS employees involved in the case be fired for mishandling the matter.

One of the workers, Kathleen Gold, retired from DCFS last October. We are still waiting to see if she is charged along with Acosta and Polovin.

Immediately after AJ's death, Acosta and his supervisor, Polovin, were placed on desk duty for falsification of records and conducting sham investigations. Acosta is a member of the McHenry County Board.

There were frequent calls for his resignation before his arrests. Many feel that Board Chairman Jack Franks defended Acosta. But, with his arrest, Acosta appears to have stepped beyond the protective reach of his benefactor.

Prim, Kenneally and Skillicorn all deserve praise for their persistent and determined pursuit of justice for AJ.

From the time that the story first hit the news, IL Rep. Allen Skillicorn, (R-66th District) worked tirelessly in the pursuit of justice for AJ Freund. Behind the scenes, he petitioned Gov. JB Pritzker to intercede in the case. But Pritzker wasn't interested or simply wouldn't help.

McHenry County Sheriff Bill Prim and McHenry County States Attorney Patrick Kenneally also patiently pushed for justice. They conducted a thorough investigation only acting when they felt they had properly built the case against Acosta and Polovin. All three of these public servants deserve our thanks and appreciation.

Of course, there are still some questions remaining:

- Have Acosta and Polovin been fired from the agency?
- If not, are they still on paid administrative leave?
- If they have been fired, are they collecting Unemployment?
- If convicted, will they collect their county pension?
- Is Kathleen Gold collecting her pension?
- Has Jack Franks finally called for Acosta's resignation from the County Board?

## The Case for Term Limits

By **TIM BECK**

We've all heard "Power Corrupts, and Absolute Power Corrupts Absolutely". The quote is from 19th Century British politician Lord Acton. And it's still true today. Polls show that 67 to 80 percent of Americans, on a bipartisan basis, support Term Limits at the state or federal level.

There is a significant difference towards Term Limits by the two parties. Chicago's Democrat machine has a long history of corruption. Illinois House Speaker Mike Madigan, the longest-standing speaker of a state house in U.S. history, is under investigation in the ComEd bribery case.

Former VP and Democrat presidential candidate Joe Biden first took federal office in 1973. House Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) arrived in 1981, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) in 1987.

The Founders opposed the concept of career politicians. George Washington pledged to serve no more than two terms and kept his promise. In Federalist No. 1, Alexander Hamilton wrote of "the perverted ambition of men who will hope to aggrandize themselves" and who "will flatter themselves with fairer prospects of elevation..." American politicians have a long history of precisely that.

A group called U.S. Term Limits ([www.termlimits.com](http://www.termlimits.com)) proposes limiting members of the House to a maximum of three terms (6 years) and Senators to a maximum of two terms (12 years). This requires a constitutional amendment.

There are two ways to amend the constitution. One is for Congress to pass a proposed amend-

ment, which is then sent to the states for ratification. The other, under Article V, is a Convention of States, where the states meet to prepare a proposed amendment. Any proposed amendment needs to be ratified by three-fourths of the states.

Any proposed amendment needs to be ratified by three-fourths of the states. On the US Term Limits site, some members of Congress have signed the Term Limits pledge: 17 Senators, all Republicans, and 54 House members (52 Republican, 2 Democrat).

Unfortunately, the "congressional route" is effectively blocked by the leadership of the Democrat party. Both the Senate and the House have pending Term Limit legislation. But many Democrats claim elections are the way to limit legislative terms. Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-14) is among them.

On the other hand, many Republicans believe we need a "structural" (constitutional) fix to the problem, similar to ratification of the 22nd Amendment, which limits the president to two terms.

The US Term Limits site allows citizens to sign in support of the Term Limits pledge. Candidates can also take the pledge on the site. Jim Oberweis, Republican candidate for the 14th Congressional District, has signed the pledge.

"Career politicians vote in ways they believe will help them get reelected, but term limited politicians vote in ways they believe are in the best interest of our state and our country, then return home," said Oberweis while noting his opponent's objection to the proposal.

When I was young, folks used to say, "We protect the most vile speech to ensure free speech for everyone."

It didn't mean we agreed with everything everyone said but we knew the cost of telling them they couldn't say it was too high a price to pay.

— *Richard Rostron*



### China continued from Page 7

to my ears.”

“I could not believe it! I was so excited I drove hundreds of miles to hear the future President at five events in three states. Finally, someone really knew, cared about and understood what was happening from the standpoint of the average citizen and, in my case, the small business owner”.

Gelscheit said he used the title of President Trumps book NEVER GIVE UP as motivation in his own life.

“I’m just about finished reading it and so needed what it offers,” he said. “One of the reoccurring themes is having the PATIENCE to take a long-term approach to achieving goals. Another theme is EXPECTING RESISTANCE.”

He said that, in his view, President Trump has set an example of taking on so much from the opposition in America while holding the line on China as he does every day.

“A president does not have a lifetime to achieve goals,” said Gelscheit. “At best, they have only 8 years. Trump has made so much progress in the first four he’s earned the right to another four. China truly hates the prospect of President Trump winning another term. Pulling the rug out from him and us now would be a train wreck for thousands of manufacturers and other producers across this land.”

Gelscheit worries about the kind of message America will

send the Chinese if Former VP Joe Biden is elected President.

“In all of Biden’s ads, do you ever hear the word ‘manufacturing?’ I haven’t. Achieving a balanced economy that is NOT critically dependent on foreign manufacturers is in every Americans’ best interest.”

Gelscheit said that the pandemic provided clear evidence of this. The back orders from a stricken China were largely responsible for much of the economic slowdown here in America. He asked how many times people have heard the words “Out of stock,” “Parts not Available,” or “On back order?”

Gelscheit’s fear is that, if we elect Biden, we’ll go back to the

old ways and start bleeding jobs and dollars to China again.

“However, if we give Trump another four years to finish building our foundation for a balanced economy, American self-reliance and balanced trade, we can continue the manufacturing growth we’ve seen since he took office,” said Gelscheit. “Barack Obama said we would need a ‘magic wand’ to bring back manufacturing jobs to the U.S. Well, we got one. Our ‘magic wand’ is called Donald Trump and his attitude to ‘NEVER GIVE UP.’”

To learn more about Rick Gelscheit and Methods Manufacturing, visit: <https://methodsmanufacturing.com/>

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## McHenry County GOP and donor fund Trump “Promises ...” billboard



*The McHenry County Republican Party and Evert Evertsen were responsible for the two-sided President Trump, "Promises Made, Promises Kept," billboard West of McHenry.*

## The evidence shows that Biden always changes for political convenience

### Radical flip-flops of Biden's long, long career in D.C. Swamp only make sense in light of politics

Richard Nixon was president when Joe Biden first went to Congress as a U.S. Senator from Delaware. He was in that position for 36 years until he became vice president under Barack Obama for eight years. During all those years, this is the third time that

he has run for president. Prior to the current election, Biden was a primary loser in 1988 and 2008.

Times change and Biden's longevity in Congress is, no doubt, attributable, in no small measure, to his ability to recreate himself to fit the times. The transforma-

tion has been dramatic and erratic.

Consider that, with the 2020 primary behind him, Biden has recast himself, in the course of just 102 days (as of this writing) for the general election. It was only in March that he bragged, "I have the most progressive record of anybody running for the (presidency) ... anybody who would run." But, with the primary behind, he must have woke up June 7 and realized, "On second thought, I'm a moderate."

Change of convenience appears to come easy to Biden. Consider the following associations and positions he's had in the past:

Only 10 years ago, he called his former Democrat Senate colleague the late Robert Byrd as "a friend ... mentor ... and guide," a peculiar thing to say an "Exalted

Cyclops" of the KKK.

While he claims to have worked with anti-segregationist in Congress, in 1975, Biden successfully co-sponsored legislation prohibiting the use of Federal funds for busing saying he didn't want his kids growing up in a "racial jungle."

While, today, he claims to support plans to virtually empty prisons, in 1994, he supported 'three-strike' legislation and said, "Lock the SOB's up."

In the primary, he said of fracking, "... we'll make sure it's eliminated." But, with the primary over, he went to Pennsylvania where fracking is a big part of the economy and said, "I am not banning fracking. Let me say that again, I am not banning fracking, no matter how many times Donald Trump lies about me."

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# The Pandemic and Civil Unrest have kicked gun sales into high gear Price of ammo increases as availability suffers

By NEIL JOSLUN

Governor JB Pritzker issued a "Stay at Home," order that took effect March 21, to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. One result related to the COVID-19 pandemic was that many items were in short supply, including toilet paper, hand sanitizer, face masks, some food, firearms and ammunition.

One gun owner leaving Bass Pro Shops in Gurnee, said, "I experienced this shortage in mid-March while attempting to locate 12-gauge ammunition for home defense. After visiting a number of local gun shops in Lake and McHenry counties, I finally found what I was looking for here at Bass Pro Shops, although it wasn't the exact type I was looking for."

Then, at the end of May, George Floyd died at the hands of police in Minneapolis triggering close to four months of civil unrest, so far. Some of the protests were peaceful but, even when that was the case, inevitably, they devolved into, looting, rioting and violent attacks on citizens and law enforcement. Watching all the violence, many Americans felt uneasy; they felt the need to arm themselves. Vastly increased

sales of ammunition caused shortages. And with the shortages came sizeable increases in ammunition prices. Why is ammunition more expensive and in short supply? Simple supply and demand.

In late July, a McHenry County Sheriff, who also serves in the U.S. military, received a welcome home celebration after returning from Afghanistan. Though preferring to not go on the record, the deputy spoke about the effect the unrest is having on recruits joining law enforcement.

The Deputy said there's usually a pool of around 700 applicants to join the Sheriff's department. But, with all the unrest and animosity expressed against the police, when the deputy returned from serving overseas, they found that there was only a pool of 200 candidates for the department.

The nationwide "Defund the Police" movement, along with at-



same period last year. It's also widely reported in the media that there are more than five-million new, first-time gun owners in the U.S. this year.

As ammunition prices are skyrocketing, the sale of popular firearm calibers, such as the 9mm handgun and .223 rifle, have also exploded.

Prior to the riots, a Marengo Guns email flyer from March 6 listed 9mm ammo at \$15.99 per 100 or 16 cents per round. The price for

.223 ammo was \$13.79 for 50 or 27.6 cents per round with no shortage of supply. But a Sept. 9 flyer shows 9mm ammo running 70-cents per round and .223 at a dollar per round. Self-defense ammo is even higher. In six months, 9mm has increased 337 percent and .223 has increased 262 percent, and some with limited quantities.

The obvious conclusion is that widespread civil unrest and a diminishing police presence will lead to increased purchases of firearms and shortages and price increases of ammunition.

tacks on law enforcement, has officers resigning and retiring at an alarming rate. As a result, many citizens see the need to take responsibility for their own safety and self-defense.

NICS (National Instant Criminal Background Check System) checks are a strong indicator of firearm purchasing activity. For Illinois, from January through August of 2019, the total number of NICS checks was 2,989,803. For January through August of 2020, the total number of checks is 5,179,673. This is an increase of more than 42 percent over the

## #MeToo billboard at 31 and 14 questions Franks' moral qualifications



# Underwood's exaggerations some might call something else

By RICH ROSTRON

Most of us are familiar with the photos of Lauren Underwood, our representative in the 14th Congressional District, wearing a nurse's scrubs with a stethoscope hanging around her shoulders. The photo conveys a message that Underwood is a nurse and has the experience to speak empirically about the issue of healthcare. But it turns out that, while Underwood has a nurse's certificate, she's never actually worked as a nurse.

Some might call the image of her in scrubs something of an exaggeration. Some might say that it's more than that. It conveys a message that isn't exactly true.



Lauren Underwood

Of course, staging is a big part of politics. Some may remember how, during the Obamacare (Affordable Health Care) debates, the Obama administration setup a photo op in the Rose Garden of the White House for doctors and health care professionals who supported the legislation.

The problem was that doctors and nurses don't wear scrubs everywhere they go. For an event at the White House, they might even be inclined to dress in attire that fits the location and occasion. Suits and dresses are the order of the day. But that, of course, didn't fit the obvious photo op the Obama administration was seeking.

Accordingly, staffers for the Obama administration had scrubs

and stethoscopes on hand for each of the medical professionals that were expected. That way it didn't matter how they dressed for the event; the photogenic props were on hand so that the event could be staged as intended.

"Intended" refers to the purpose of the photo opportunity. The purpose in that case was to tell Americans that these medical professionals supported the president's legislation. A successful photo conveys its message without requiring explanation.

In other words, the photo falls on its face if people see it, don't make the intended connection, and then fail to follow through and read where it says, 'These are healthcare professionals.'



Jim Oberweis

They need to know that without reading.

The problem with Underwood's photo op for her campaign material is that it says 'Experienced Healthcare Professional' where the reality is short on the actual experience. Of course, reading her campaign material also failed to point out her limitations in this regard.

Now, it appears that exaggerating is standard operating procedure for Underwood. For instance, she advertises that she is leading a "Back to School" panel. That may give readers the impression she is pushing for safely opening schools again. Not so fast. She's merely talking about adjusting to further virtual classroom experiences.

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*Paid for by Citizens for John Reinert*

*"One of Jim (Oberweis') favorite ideas to solve our nation's health care crisis is to increase portability of health insurance plans. If we want to increase access and coverage, a great start is by allowing individuals to keep their insurance even when they switch jobs. In addition, if we want to bring down overall healthcare costs for our country, we need transparency in pricing and competition among providers."*

*From Jim2020.com - Issues*

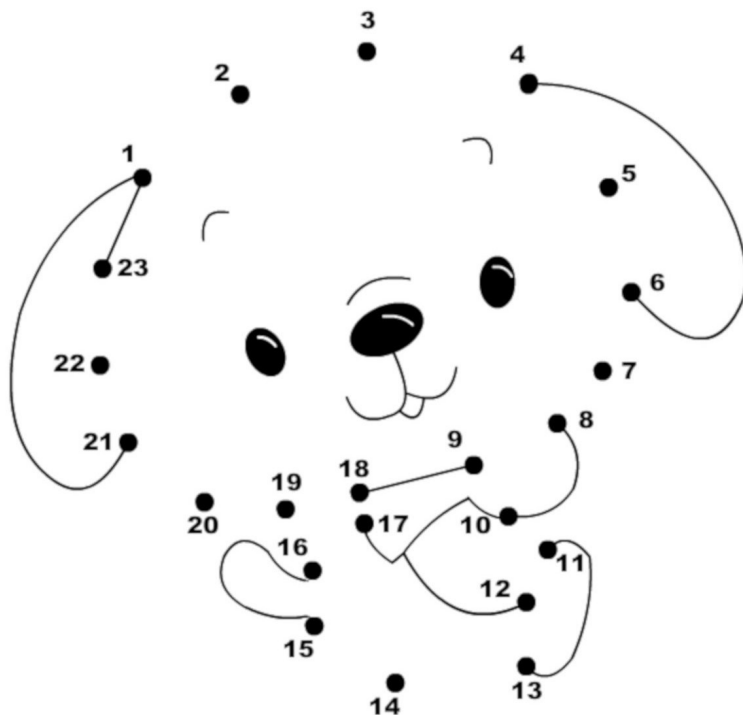
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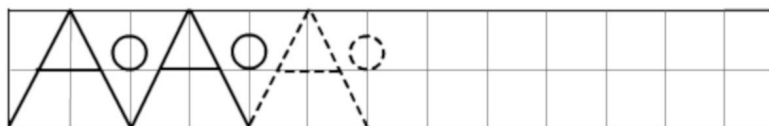
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Continue the Pattern



## Who Said That?

Can you guess who said that famous quote?

1. My first wish is to see this plague of mankind, war, banished from the earth.
2. Give me liberty or give me death.
3. The man who reads nothing at all is better educated than the man who reads nothing but newspapers.
4. All I was doing was trying to get home from work.
5. We must live together as brothers or perish together as fools.
6. Failure is part of success.
7. It's like deja-vu all over again.
8. The patriot blood of my father was warm in my veins.
9. How many tails does a dog have if you call his tail a leg? Four. Saying that a tail is a leg doesn't make it a leg.
10. An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile hoping it will eat him last.
11. The future doesn't belong to the fainthearted. It belongs to the brave.
12. Independence is happiness.

Match these Answers with the Famous Person

### Who Said That?

- Clara Barton
- Thomas Jefferson
- Winston Churchill
- Abraham Lincoln
- Yogi Berra
- Ronald Reagan
- George Washington
- Susan B Anthony
- Patrick Henry
- Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Henry Aaron
- Rosa Parks

(See Answer Sheet Page 6)

# McHenry County artist brings creativity to life

**Gabe Karagianis explores his passion for his craft**

By RICH ROSTRON

Gabe Karagianis, a professional artist with an art studio in Harvard, has many of his works on the walls of Ethereal Confections, the café on The Woodstock Square owned by his life partner, Mary Ervin, her brother Michael Ervin and Sara Miller.

"I don't see myself as just an artist," said Karagianis. "I'm a working person. I create paintings and designs on speculation and commission. Some I sell after the fact. Some are sold before I first take brush to canvas, etc."

He does oils on canvas but he also does three-dimensional art. This includes building things out of wood and custom furniture that you'll often find in his house and studio.

"I think the part of my character that is drawn to art also expresses itself in other ways," he said. "For instance, I enjoy learning new things, solving problems in the physical world.

A couple years ago, he picked up a recurve bow and practiced shooting arrows in his backyard. He loves skateboarding and doing

yoga. In the winter he goes out in freezing weather and stands in his shorts to practice breathing exercises.

"I think of myself as a primitive man. But I also appreciate our modern conveniences though I try not to take things for granted.

"I remember to humble myself before my Creator and give thanks for the life I've lived so far. I ask for the courage and strength to endure what is to come.

A Midwesterner, he considers Woodstock the countryside. Big cities tend to get all the press, he says, and people in them tend to believe that country-folk are illiterate or unambitious. Making art in a 'fly-over' state certainly isn't economically advantageous, but Gabe doesn't usually make decisions based on material reward or fame.

"There isn't a cohesive 'art scene' in the area," he said. "The talented artists here are generally loners who are happy living a low-key, simple life.

"Don't get me wrong, I do enjoy taking trips to see family and explore new places - going to art

museums and restaurants - but there's nothing like returning to my favorite cafe or getting back to work in my studio in Harvard."

His studio is in the Starline Building, an old factory built in 1883. He describes it as like working in a castle and believes it has always had a subtle influence on his work.

In that regard, he tries to maintain an awareness of the past - to stretch his imagination back centuries and millennia of the ancient world.

"I live in a world of symbols which aren't confined to linguistic or even cultural restraints. The symbols I draw on for inspiration are universal and archetypal, and the work that I produce is an effort to add to that universal and timeless visual tapestry.

"We think of ourselves as separate from those who forged the way and sacrificed their beliefs and traditions laying the groundwork for the world we know today. Unfortunately, many today seem to reject their spiritual exist-



Artist Gabe Karagianis in his Harvard Studio.

Left: He calls this work, "El Decidido."

tence and tradition because they believe they've advanced beyond what they consider superstition.

He said he thinks we've exchanged 'superstition' for the superficial.

"I think that we need meaning in our lives and, for me, it's important to integrate my existence with everything that came before me."

Aside from all that, he said it's just such a pleasure to spend time dreaming up colors and shapes and molding them into something that feels complete and real.

"Finishing a piece from inception to sketch to finished product is incredibly satisfying. I'm grateful for every opportunity.

Gabriel's work can be seen at [gabrielkaragianisartwork.com](http://gabrielkaragianisartwork.com).

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# COVID or not, it's time to let student athletes play

By RICH ROSTRON

At one time, I was a sports editor with a local newspaper. There were times when the local high school team, or players on the local team, had a bad game.

As a journalist, I couldn't just write that they had a good game.



Journalistically, I had to tell the truth. This didn't always go over well with their parents.

On several occasions, I received calls from an irate parent who pointed out that the negative coverage in the story I wrote and/or edited was a problem.

"You do realize they could lose their scholarship because of this."

I would never want to deny a young athlete a chance to earn a scholarship but, as a journalist, I didn't have what I considered a viable alternative.

### The Pandemic of Scholarships

Some schools are having sports, to some degree, in spite of the pandemic. But that's not the case across the board.

Just last week, students and parents held a "Let US Play" rally in Springfield.

According to a story in the local daily newspaper, "Illinois is the only state in the Midwest that is not currently participating in or has an upcoming date set for the return to play for all sports, though some fall sports are being contested including golf and cross country."

Not a big deal for some folks: "Hey, it's just a game." But for others, a lot of money and opportunity rides on their ability to show their stuff on the field. Scholarships hang in the balance.

Of course, it's not all about scholarships. Athletics allow stu-

dents to work off energy, let off some steam and learn team-building skills that will serve them well in the future.

Athletics also provide opportunities for social interactions that help teenagers to develop their social skills.

None of this means that we don't want children to be safe. But the data shows that young people really don't have a lot to worry about in terms of the coronavirus. They are about at the same risk with COVID-19 as they are with the annual flu.

From e-learning to social isolation to the economy, it's not too difficult to see that we will pay a price for the way we've shut down our society and we'll pay that price for years to come.

Human beings are social animals and virtual socializing just doesn't measure up. Even with something as serious as a virus, we need to weigh the pros and cons of our decisions.

Looking at the coronavirus that way, it's difficult to see why Gov.



JB Pritzker and other state officials would choose to deny students the opportunity to compete in sports.

There are precautions athletic departments and coaches could take to reduce the risks. But the problems with not playing aren't risks; they're realities. The only question is how harmful they'll prove to be over the long haul.

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Joe believes in Facts, Not Fiction.

**FACT:** Since 2017 McHenry County wasted \$96,000 a year on a Lobbyist contract that Produced zero results. Joe's efforts put that contract on hold indefinitely.

**FACT:** Joe voted to permanently reduce the County's portion of property taxes. Since becoming a Board Member, property taxes have been reduced by \$30,000,000.00.

**FACT:** Joe supported the 2019 rebate given to McHenry County homeowners totaling \$8,000,000.00.

**FACT:** Joe met with and secured funding from the Tollway Authority and Illinois Department of Transportation to create the first Interstate access in McHenry County between Rt. 23 and Interstate I - 90.



*"With respect to rioting and looting, you know, I think that we have seen many instances of **beautiful protests this summer**, as people have stood up for this cause of justice and equality."*

**– Lauren Underwood**  
**Chicago Sun-Times Endorsement Interview**  
**September 1, 2020**

*"As anyone with eyes and access to the news can see, we are having a crisis in America.*

*This crossroads, put simply, is the difference between riots in the streets and law and order.*

*Lauren Underwood refuses to defend our men and women in blue.*

***I STAND with our brave law enforcement officers**, and I am fighting to defend the police and let our men and women in blue end this lawlessness – I will fight against any effort to defund them and sink our streets into further lawlessness."*

**– Jim Oberweis**



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**It's time to retire Lauren Underwood and her mentor Nancy Pelosi.**  
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