

Remember the reason for the season

To the editor:

"I don't believe in Jesus," a beautiful young woman cried as she expressed her profound sorrow over the recent cancer-related death of her sister. The religious leaders who crucified Jesus did not believe him either when he claimed he was God. They proceeded to crucify him.

In a few days people around the world will celebrate in some fashion the one who has been called the Prince of Peace. He told his followers he would bring them peace. Via his words and his example he explained how to cope with the fear, sadness, hurt and guilt common to all humans.

"Happy holidays" has replaced "Merry Christmas" and schools have winter vacation instead of Christmas vacation, etc. The government has bowed to individuals who are uncomfortable with a Christian reference in any manner. They make laws to enforce their posture.

A study by the Pew Research Center revealed that in the last 15 years the percentage of adults who say they are atheist, agnostic or nothing has grown from 16% to 29%. The study stated the share of adults identifying as Christians has fallen from 78% to 63%.

There has been a rapid increase in suicide, substance abuse deaths, domestic abuse and various acts of violence. The media place causes of mass murder, etc., on a variety of causes, never the individual.

Life has always been difficult. The previously mentioned painful circumstances are common to everyone. They hurt and anger can be intense. Self-directed anger of responsible people can be equally

painful.

Most of us know followers of Jesus who experience a level of peace as they practice his command for forgiveness, trust his healing power, and try to obey another command, to love one another as he has loved us.

Scholars have guided seekers to the truth of Easter. Ignoring these facts has eternal consequences. Can one think of a more critical question to respond to?

Donald Enright
Mukwonago

Lifestyles

Church group knits for a good cause

By KAITLIN PHILLIPS
kphillips@jrn.com

"I come every week because I always wanted to be a hooker ..."

Kris Tiefert said with a sarcastic smile which answered with big belly laughs from the group. That sets the tone for a Monday afternoon meeting of the Highview Needles and Hooks, a group that was created in 2011 to get members of the Highview Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Dousman to enjoy fun, fellowship and some yarn.

"One reason I started this is because I was making so many (items) at home. I thought this is silly; I don't know that many people anymore. I'm not working. I'm just sitting at home. When I was working with the school I had teachers who were having babies and getting married and I would make them a baby blanket or afghan but after a while I thought well what am I going to do with these?" said Cindy Farnsworth, the creator of the group.

Needles and Hooks

The group decided to meet on Mondays and donate extra hats, scarves, mittens, blankets and anything else they made to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission, an organization that already had ties to the church.

Many of the women involved are retired, some carve out time on Monday afternoons for the occasion as often as they can. At the most the group has had 20 members though Farnsworth said that everyone's schedules keep the meetings closer to 6-14 each week.

"They are just all ladies that are just blessings to each other. They are so knowledgeable. If you don't know how to do something you just come in here and somebody can show you," Farnsworth said.

Sharyl Beranek labels herself as a "newer" member of the

church and said getting involved in the group was her way to get to know other members better.

"It's fun, we laugh and have a lot of people who are funny," Beranek said. "Plus, it's really nice to be able to do something where you can contribute. It's nice to give back a little bit."

"To me it is such a wonderful social group, especially since my husband passed away," Sally Lemke added. "It really warms my heart all of the good I can do. To think somewhere somebody is warm wrapped in my afghan is a good feeling."

A new mission

This past year Jeni Erdman, a church member, came back from a mission trip and did a short presentation to her congregation. She had been to Moldova an East European country located between Romania and Ukraine which according to Erdman has more than 100 orphanages.

"It's ground zero for sex trafficking because someone comes in and offers them a better life but they just take them to another country and basically make them prostitutes," Erdman explained. "We have teams that go to the orphanages and helps to open their eyes to the love of Christ and our love toward them."

The Needles and Hooks became part of that mission.

Erdman, who had a friend scheduled to go on the Moldova mission trip this winter, approached Farnsworth about possibly supplying homemade goods to send over. Farnsworth jumped at the opportunity.

"They were throwing them out like a machine. They were making them so fast. We have several ladies who use the new loom that you can weave on and they would make stylish hats. We knit, crochet everything," Farnsworth said.

Members of the church were also able to donate hats



Staff photos by Kaitlin Phillips

Church members (from left) Darla Enright, Jane Hausser, Sally Lemke and Nancy MacLeod chat and work on individual projects during a meeting of the Highview Evangelical Presbyterian Church Needles and Hooks.

and mittens but the homemade ones stood out. Thirty-eight hats, 19 hat-scarf sets, 17 scarves and one cowl scarf were carefully donated, with love, to the cause in Moldova.

"The (children's) main gift is hats, mittens, and scarves and they match them together to have a set and they also get a stocking," Erdman explained.

The ladies sitting around the fireplace at Highview evangelical Presbyterian just smile

though, making things is just part of what they do.

"I made tons of sweaters and everything for all my grandkids but now they are big and they don't want anything homemade. But I still like to knit!" said Darla Enright as she tugged at her yarn.

"You can make me a sweat-

er, Darla!" was shouted from across the room and the ladies continued their conversation and their projects with love knowing they are always going to a good cause.

For more information on the mission in Moldova, visit justiceandmercy.org/serving/moldova.



Sharyl Beranek holds up a mitten she completed with the Highview Needles and Hooks group. The group makes cold-weather gear to donate to shelters and most recently to a mission trip in Moldova.



Cindy Farnsworth of North Prairie, who started the Needles and Hooks group at Highview Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Dousman, stands proudly in front of a tree displaying the hard work of the group throughout the year. These items will be donated to a mission trip in Moldova.

People-Enright, David

ENRIGHT ^{People} DAVID
12-9-1965

Marine Private First Class David B. Enright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sterling V. Enright, Eagle, completed individual combat training, Dec. 1 with the Second Infantry Training regiment at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

The four-week course included over 200 hours of instruction under simulated combat conditions, small unit tactics in both conventional and guerrilla warfare, day and night combat, reconnaissance and combat patrolling, and the effective use of infantry weapons.

He is undergoing four weeks of basic specialist training in his military occupational field. These occupational fields include artillery, infantry, motor transport and supply. Marines assigned duties with infantry units will be taught infantry sub-specialties, such as the machine gun, grenade launcher, rifle or mortar.

Marines assigned to highly technical specialties have been sent to military technical schools for their specialist training.

The Leathernecks bound for the Pacific will receive additional training at the Staging Battalion

at Camp Pendleton, Calif. This training will emphasize jungle warfare, patrolling and civic action, based on experiences gained in Viet Nam.

HOOR CHANGE

Announcement was made this week in the change of hours at the Eagle post office, with the change being effective on January 3, 1966.

Hours will be 8 to 12 a.m., and 1 to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday and from 8 to 12 a.m. on Saturday.

Mukwonago Chief

People, Enright, Don

10-29-2008

Words are not enough

To the editor,

I agree with the majority that Sen. (Barack) Obama won last week's debate. Sen. (John) McCain, in my opinion, as with most, if not all, government officials, could not compete with the Illinois senator in this venue.

My greatest concern regarding the presidential election is the growing popularity of Sen. Obama. Most adults have been hurt by people whose conduct was inconsistent with their speech. It has been said, "you will know a tree by its fruit." Sen. Obama's record of achievements does not come close to his oratorical success.

In light of his promise, little recognition is given to his record of voting "present" on well over 100 bills that came before him. Appalling to me was his failure to support a ban on partial-birth abortion, which many in his own party supported. This is a powerful statement on his morality.

It is very disturbing to me how well received Sen. Obama's promises are that his government will be a significant factor in the quality of life in America. It is obvious to many that there is a growing dependence on government and less on personal responsibility.

Few seem to question how he can offer promises of many new benefits to the public and, at the same time, reduce taxes on 95 percent of our population.

Our 1040 form and check-book will verify that my wife and I strongly support the disadvantaged and needy, but we are very opposed to rewarding and thus encouraging irresponsible behavior. This conduct is not limited to the greed and dishonesty of Wall Street and corporate America, but to all who take advantage of their opportunities to their community and country.

Regarding foreign policy, it has been my observations that terrorists are not interested in debate nor are they influenced by oratorical gifts.

The selection of Joe Biden was interesting, as Sen. Obama selected a member of "old Washington," when he has been so effectively critical of "change" in his four-year campaign. No one has found fit to ask Sen. Biden how his running mate has become qualified to be president in a few short months. He stated as a candidate for the office that Sen. Obama was not qualified to be president of the United States.

I do not believe America's choice for president will impact the quality of my life. If I didn't think the selection would affect my children, grandchildren and this nation, I would not be writing this letter.

Don Enright
Eagle

People - Don Enright

Apr. 19, 2000

People
ENRIGHT, 2000

Mukwonago Chief, April 19, 2000,

letter to the editor

We must focus on underlying causes

Dear Editor,

If our schools are to be more effective in dealing with disruptive behaviors, substance abuse (prescription drugs included), permissive sexual conduct and other unhealthy activities they must focus on the underlying causes rather than the symptoms of the respective issues.

More extensive supervision, police officers in schools, video cameras and "just say No" programs are honest attempts to improve the educational environment, but they do not effectively cope with the fears, anger and confusion of a large majority of the student population.

Considering the limited amount of time many parents spend with their children, frequent stressful and broken relationships in the homes and the hypocritical conduct of many role models how can most students not be angry? Add to that not making the team, rejection of friends,

etc., etc., it is a wonder there is not a greater display of disrespect in our schools.

Thank God for educators dedicated to nurturing the pupils and fellow students who try to stand by their very needy friends.

In due respect to the "just say No" programs regarding use of alcohol and other drugs, pre-marital sex and other behaviors that schools are battling, I propose a question; when doctors, lawyers and other professionals are not saying "No" to their family and friends to the same issues, how do we expect juveniles to act differently?

What millions of intelligent and well-educated adults have discovered to help them recover from abuse of food, alcohol and other drugs is the 12-step program that essentially provides a plan to enable them to effectively cope with the emotional

continued on page 15

letters to the editor

We must focus on underlying causes of youth problems

from page 14

pain in their life.

Many people are concerned about the alarming rise in the number of children who are taking drugs prescribed by their physician or therapist. Many of us are also saddened by the large number of "good kids" and high achievers who take their lives or destroy them through substance abuse. It is clear to me that intelligence and knowledge are not the key elements in such decisions.

Added to the personal problems faced by all students is the content of much of the music, movies, videos, TV and internet attractions that tend to pollute their minds and encourage more self-centeredness and immediate gratification attitudes. Very few of us, if any, fully realize the damage caused by student choices in what they see and hear.

Most students have deep seated fears about their futures, given the very fragile family issues in our society and the impact of technology. The uncertainty of their futures is very disturbing.

The student anxiety level is increased by the heavy emphasis on academic achievement, many times at the expense of character development. I appreciate the value of a total education. I invested 35 years of my life as a teacher/coach in the Mukwonago school district.

My wife, a very successful kindergarten teacher for 30 years and our neighbor a teacher of the year and

dedicated professional, have expressed resentment on the heavy emphasis on test scores. Recent surveys reveal there is no correlation between SAT scores and becoming a millionaire.

Students aren't dumb. They see little personal value in how high test scores will effect their economic future and, more important, their relationships.

I would like to suggest two courses of action that has worked, is working, and will always be helpful in addressing the emotional state of the student. First, a K-12 focus on nourishing activities to build hope, confidence and self-esteem. Every form of media that produces what objective people would identify as "pollution" has programs and information available that can inspire one to be the best they can be.

All the schools and most teachers include this objective in their weekly planning. I believe it would bring great dividends if this became a priority with personal accountability for all educators. Generally, students will achieve better when the teacher demonstrates a care for the total development of the pupil by providing nourishing activities, listening to them and giving them the opportunity and responsibility for enriching the class.

My other recommendation is for the district to deal with the underlying cause of most problems the schools are attempting to tackle in a scattergun type of approach ... anger. I've seen the bewildered and seem-

ingly unbelieving look on some administrators as I've offered this suggestion ... like, "We can't do this," "We don't have time," "It's not our job."

I believe amazing results can be achieved with a K-12 program aimed at effective use of anger. It is approached like other issues; what works and what doesn't? What are the long-term consequences of various responses to anger?

What student or teacher would not be grateful for being helped with ways to identify their source of anger and appropriate responses that will strengthen them and their relationships?

It is my belief and hope that an enthusiastic and well-planned K-12 program on effective use of anger will relatively soon lead to better attendance, improved classroom concentration, less traffic in student management, higher student achievement and a more pleasant atmosphere to learn and teach.

Finally, I believe that the most valuable resource available to any school district in improving its educational programs is often overlooked. The creativity, energy and desire to help themselves and fellow students is frequently not included in the planning and execution of the curriculum.

Administrators need to evaluate the long-term as well as short-term value of people and programs that involve monetary costs and an investment in valuable time that come from outside the community.

Usually they have less interest and knowledge in the local situation than the resident professionals and students. It is not uncommon, in my experience, to meet students who appear to have a more realistic understanding of a problem and approaches to solving it than many professionals.

Sincerely,
Don Enright

People - Don Enright

Feb. 23, 2000

People

Mukwonago Chief, February 23, 2000,

Enright pushes for stronger marriages

On Wednesday, March 1, speaker and former teacher, Don Enright, will present to the Mukwonago Optimist Club ideas about a voluntary program to help engaged couples gain a realistic perception of marriage and the preservation of the family.

In a recent letter to the editor, Enright wrote about his concerns over the increasing divorce rate, and a new state law, originally proposed by Assembly Speaker, Scott Jensen (R-Waukesha), which earmarks funds for strengthening Wisconsin marriages.

"Family is the heart of society," Enright said in a recent interview.

"Can you think of anything more important to focus on - considering the condition of our society?"

He is hoping to reach not only engaged couples but also interested clergy, concerned citizens and model couples who would like to learn more about this program. The public is invited to attend this informal talk to be held at 7 p.m. at the Mukwonago Community Library.

The Optimist Club provides different community interest programs on the first Wednesday of each month at the library. Business meetings are conducted on the third Wednesday of each month. For further information call 594-2669.

People - Don Enright

Jan. 5, 2000

People

Mukwonago Chief, January 5, 2000

Letters to the editor

Support voiced to save marriages

Dear Editor,

It was disturbing to read last Saturday's *Journal* article headlined "Group Sues State over Attempt to Bolster Marriage."

I strongly encourage the community to support Assembly Speaker Scott Jensen's noble effort for hiring a Community Marriage Policy Coordinator to implement the plan modeled after Marriage Savers, a private faith based effort that has organized marriage policies in 117 communities nationwide.

I believe the cost to the taxpayers resulting from the high divorce rate has been vastly underestimated. Representative Jensen made reference to court caseloads, welfare and crime.

Alert and experienced people in law enforcement, education and mental health care programs would suggest that, although not proven, the consequences of the emotional pain frequently resulting from divorce go well beyond the obvious.

The sorrow, hurt, anger, guilt and fear so often accompanying divorce very often leads to alcohol and other substance abuse, physical health problems and great difficulties for youth to function effectively in school.

How can one evaluate the costs of class disruptions and the effect on the quality of education?

Some of the concern of the Freedom from Religion Foundation is understandable. There has been a considerable amount of hypocrisy in the religious community as the attitude and behavior of many members and leaders in their respective places of worship are contrary to what is taught in the churches.

It is my understanding that all the major religions hold as fundamental practicing The Golden Rule. Claims that the proposed program is unconstitutional are difficult to understand because they are open to all people.

It has been a common concern for many people that it is easy to get a marriage license and a simple legal

procedure to get a divorce. It is much more difficult to get a license to practice most trades and professions.

I am hopeful that citizens will support any and all programs that have merit in preparing people for the responsibility of marriage.

There is considerable amount of reason to get excited about "faith-based" programs particularly if it is a truly Christian approach. A solid Christian "education" would include the suggestion to not expect from your partner what only God can supply.

No human has the capacity to take away sins, remove many fears and accomplish all that God has done in the lives of those who have chosen to trust and obey God.

It seems all too common for many individuals to expect their partners to make them happy. When the importance of honesty is emphasized and its effect on trust and the necessity of forgiveness to the relationship, the prospects of a rewarding marriage are enhanced.

In a truly Christian marriage, both partners faithfully attempt to trust and obey Jesus and, consequently, place their spouse's needs and desires ahead of their own. Divorce is not an option and usually there is not a strong desire to break the marriage vows. These marriages not only "lower the costs to taxpayers" but also produce individuals who make it one of their priorities to use their time and talents to make this a better world to live in.

Sincerely,
Don Enright

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor MUST BE SIGNED. The letter writer's phone number should also be included on the letter, so that we have a method of verifying the letter. We ask that letters be typewritten or legibly printed. We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and length. LETTERS SHOULD BE NO MORE THAN 500 WORDS. Send letters to the editor at P.O. Box 204 Mukwonago, WI 53149 or e-mail:

mukpubs@add-inc.com

People

Enright a/cos.

People

Aug. 20, 2000

Mukwonago Chief, August 30, 2000,

letters to the editor

Story on cancer victim 'inspirational'

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to the *Mukwonago Chief* for the very inspirational story on cancer victim Renee Graziano. The decision to place Wayne Tryhuk's excellent account of Renee's experience on the front page deserves a hearty "thank you."

Mr. Tryhuk is to be congratulated on including many of the people who have given Renee a faith she is eager to share with the community. What a blessing to have Father Surges as her pastor.

Butch Raddolf's efforts with the fund raiser and the prayer of those offering them up to an all loving and all powerful God are most deserving of the communities' praise.

So often when media people interview people expressing their faith, the reporter changes the subject; Mr. Tryhuk didn't. One of his most significant quotes from Mrs. Graziano was: "I finally realized I needed to know what God wants me to do while on earth...for the first time in my life, instead of asking God to do, do, do for me, I found myself asking God what he wanted me to do for him."

The balance of the quote was heart warming but what a precious insight Renee shared with *Chief* readers with her discovery.

Thanks again for the manner in which you covered this story.

Sincerely,
Don Enright

People

People
Dan Enright

8-10-2001

8-12-2001

Let students excel the best way they can

I spent 35 rewarding and enjoyable years as a teacher/coach in the Mukwonago school system. I wrote my master's thesis regarding the effect of athletic participation on academic achievement. My experience brought me to the conclusion there was a common false premise among administrators, teachers and parents that sports frequently had a negative effect on the students' classroom performance.

Perhaps it's time to put band, athletics and drama in the curriculum as we have with computer classes and drop the extracurricular category.

Granted, there are after-school activities that fail in their attempts to teach and promote characteristics such as cooperation, sacrifice, perseverance, respect for authority and effectively coping with adversity and success. There are required courses that also fall short of the community's expectations.

Why should God-given intellectual talents have priority over those who are gifted in other ways to gain recognition and self-esteem? What are the qualities we nurture that benefit the community the most?

Because the "classroom" is in a gym, theater or athletic field does not make it less valuable to the student. When a student is having difficulty academically, why should wrestling or debate take a back seat to geography or geometry when it comes to limiting time in educational endeavors?

Schools demonstrating more respect for the student will get more respect from the student.

Donald Enright
Eagle

Mukwonago Chief, October 13, 2004,

Bush will receive my full support

Dear Editor,

It was not surprising to see Senator Kerry's jump in the polls last week as a result of their debate. I'm in the majority of those who felt John Kerry performed very well and President Bush was ineffective.

It has been widely accepted that our president and government was misled on the weapons of mass destruction issue.

In my opinion, the president has also been misled in certain areas of his educational policies and I have met with representative Paul Ryan and have had two-way correspondence with his Washington office on my concerns. In my twelfth vote for the chief executive on Nov. 2, George Bush will receive my full support. I am not voting for an individual's debate skills. I am voting for the most important position in the world.

Senator Kerry's closing "God Bless America" rang very shallow. How can the God of our Bible bless a nation that supports abortion and same sex marriage? Does a parent "bless" a disobedient child? I believe most, if not all, of our government leaders pray.

For many, it seems, it is one way communication. It is far more challenging and in the long run effective to listen to God which President Bush does with daily Bible reading. His efforts to be obedient to his creator has alienated millions.

It can be expected (Matthew 5:10) that many people will hate him which is quite different from disagreeing on various issues. Intelligent and extremely well educated people crucified the only perfect One who ever lived, largely

because they didn't like what He said and His behavior.

On the other hand, as a believer, President Bush is prohibited from hating anyone. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12) Observe that there is nothing in the command that says except those with different political views, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, etc. the president has been criticized for "wearing his faith on his sleeve." It is his job (Matthew 28:19).

President Bush is well aware that being straight with his values has cost him millions of votes. Trial lawyers want no restrictions on excessive law suits; abortion rights supporters see no value in protecting the unborn; the gay community avidly seeks government approval of their lifestyle; the ACLU fights diligently to remove any reference to God in every area of our lives; Hollywood, quite naturally, will strongly oppose anyone who endorses God's precepts; union leaders pour their resources into defeating the president.

Collectively, the power, influence and money these groups have will make it very difficult for the president to continue to his efforts to make this world a better place to live.

It would be good, I believe for those who are proud to be called liberals to remember the words of John Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country."

Sincerely,
Don Enright

Letters to the editor

There are consequences to choices that lie ahead

Dear Editor,

I want to respond to Mr. Ackerman's article and Ms. Penzkover's letter to the editor published in the May 11, *Mukwonago Chief*, as they address a common issue, the Mukwonago Area School's budget deficit.

In 1958, I was hired as the first elementary physical education teacher in the district, meeting with over 1100 students per week in Eagle, Big Bend, North Prairie and Mukwonago plus two one-room schools.

After a few years, I was transferred to the high school where I completed my 35 years in the district. I coached all 35 years in football, basketball, baseball and track, serving as head football coach for 15 years and head baseball for 10 years. I'm a lifetime resident of the district with three children graduating from MHS. Consequently, I feel qualified to comment on the aforementioned article.

My response to Mr. Ackerman's questions, "What other program gives you the kind of 'bang for the buck' that extra-curriculars do?" None, based on my experiences as a student/athlete and 35 years in the teaching business. It is obvious that there are a multitude of academically well educated and highly motivated people who are liabilities in their communities.

Daily we read about and meet individuals who physically, emo-

tionally and financially cause great harm to others. More of these names normally appear on the financial pages than in the sports section. One of the criticisms of our country's educational system, including colleges and universities, is that we teach people how to make a living but not how to live.

Most extra-curricular programs address this issue and attempt to reinforce the values of responsible parents by teaching life skills and building self esteem. Efforts are made to put others first, sacrifice your temporary well being for the team, family or friends; develop the ability to gracefully deal with failure as well as success; to persevere, hang in there when you feel like quitting; and by example, encourage one another.

Many young people do not have the God given academic talent but they are gifted in other areas where they can receive opportunity for recognition and success. I will refrain from going into great detail on this issue as many people are well aware of this viewpoint. Some simply do not care about the value of extra curricular programs.

Accepting a given that not all educators are effective, they are collectively no different than the medical field, clergy, lawyers, etc. From my somewhat biased opinion, however, the Mukwonago school system, with community support, has done an excellent job of hiring talented and caring staff. The results speak for themselves.

One of the unique aspects of education is that the profession more than almost all other vocations are daily challenged with trying to help

youth who come from absentee or ineffective parents. It is, of course, also a special opportunity for those who select this field of work.

It is difficult to take Ms. Penzkover's suggestions seriously: "1. Cut salaries. 2. cut benefits. 3. Require staff to contribute more to the cost of their benefits." How can we expect to attract and keep qualified people at current levels of compensation? As far as coaching salaries are concerned, I worked for much less than minimum wage and that has not changed for most coaches.

Coaches take their classroom before the public on a weekly basis, frequently the target of considerable criticism despite their best effort. I'm aware of many students who in less than 10 years after graduation received double the salary of my income after 35 years of experience.

It still angers me when I read and hear about people who are unwilling to pay public employees salaries that are competitive with many other occupations. When I observe what is spent on entertainment, luxuries and all kinds of stuff, it is very disturbing to accept these priorities.

I am grateful, however, that I taught in a district which supported building programs and where there are leaders who spearheaded support for students and staff. As virtually all schools districts are faced with budget deficits, there is a need for more folks to jump on this bandwagon. There are significant consequences to choices which lie ahead.

Sincerely,
Don Enright

Editorial was a public service

Dear Editor,

I want to thank and congratulate Jim Flaherty on his well researched and out standing editorial in the Sept. 28, *Mukwonago Chief* headed "Framers wanted freedom for religion - not from it. It was, in my opinion, a public service.

We need to be reminded, as you did, "if we don't start standing up to crackpots who are trying to use the Constitution to sap our society dry of any references to God" things could get worse. Jim, you did your research and unfortunately those who are so afraid of God and obedience to the God of the Bible fail to see the consequences of nations and individuals who trust and obey God

and those who refuse to place trust in our Creator and His Word. It is, of course our nature to be our own God.

Let me, with restraint, conclude my letter by quoting your final paragraph:

"My point is, rather than bending over backwards to make sure religion plays absolutely no part in our daily lives outside the walls of our churches, maybe it's time we took a stand against the tragic recipe mentioned above and come to the defense of the 90 plus percent of Americans who believe we're better off with more religion in our lives instead of the handful who will go to any lengths to remove it."

Sincerely,
Don Enright

P.S. I appreciate your attempt to clarify the myth of "separation of church and state." The evil one at work again.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Schools must take lead in teaching decision making

Dear Editor:

Two of the many tragic events that occurred recently have captured the attention of students and educators. In itself, this is a positive because it can encourage educators to evaluate their priorities, and, as a retired teacher of 35-plus years, I recognize the value of getting a student's attention. Without that not much can be accomplished.

The 15-year-old from Cazanovia who allegedly murdered the admired principal of the school was angry for many of the reasons a large number of students go to school inad. The man who allegedly destroyed five Amish students was apparently feeling guilty, hurt and -angry. Emotional pain, which to some degree is part of every person's life, is responsible for virtually every act of violence, bullying, substance abuse and deviant sexual behavior. I would suggest that severe emotional pain is the major deterrent to academic achievement.

I hope and believe that all schools have programs that encourage healthy self-esteem and appropriate decision making and many have opportunities for students who have acknowledged problems with substance abuse

and other destructive behaviors. When I've taken my proposal to those in authority in the Mukwonago School District to have a K-12 program dealing with "life on life's terms" or emotional pain, there seems to be a response of, 'It is not our job and/or we are not prepared to do that.'

When public education was founded it was with the intention to prepare youth to become productive members of society and I expect that is still the intent of most schools. However, in our earlier history, religion and family played a more significant role in character development. There is, I believe, a consensus that society is currently more complicated and intimidating. Young people have many fears that they are reluctant to acknowledge and frequently cope with them in unhealthy ways. There is statistical data to verify a significant decrease in the role of the church in our culture. It is common knowledge the positive impact of family has decreased because too often parents are unable or unwilling to help their children to mature emotionally. If the schools are to be successful they must help students deal with their fears and anger. It was my experience that students were receptive and enthusiastic when given the opportunity to be involved in something personally beneficial.

The opinion that emotional health is 'not our job' is false. It is probably true that 'we aren't prepared.' My plea is to get more prepared.

There are people in the community and probably in the classroom that can serve as models when dealing with fear and anger without hurting themselves and others. Indeed, they use their experiences to become stronger. In literature, social studies, health class and elsewhere students should analyze the choices people make.

Role playing, motivational speakers and inspiring movies are a few ways to encourage students to dialog on responsible decisions. I desire to see students spend more time and energy on developing healthy relationships and less time on their computer.

Don Enright

3-21-2007

**Pass school referendums
for students' well-being**

Dear Editor:

As a retired teacher with 35 years of service in the Mukwonago school system, I feel compelled to write in support of the referendums to increase funding for the education of our youth. I want to emphasize support for co-curricular programs. As our athletic director, Toby Ackerman, has pointed out, they are areas in which the taxpayer gets more "bang for the buck." While approximately 95 percent of my salary was for academic assignments, I believe my coaching responsibilities benefited the students' growth and value as a member of the community as much or more than classroom work. This is consistent with my experience as a high school and college student. I should add that from expressions of appreciation from students, parents and coworkers I was an effective classroom teacher.

In my opinion, properly administered programs in music,

drama and sports are at least as valuable as the academic departments in preparing students for their future. Many people of all ages appear to be on information overload and are having difficulty processing the data they possess. The "after-school classrooms" provide an opportunity for many students to experience success they lack the aptitude for in math, science, English and social studies. I have no lack of respect for the importance of these respective requirements, but they frequently lack the impact for character development offered by co-curricular activities.

I challenge school boards and administrators to offer valid reasons why a student should be taken out of volleyball class, etc., because of a low grade-point average. Students are not taken out of history class because they are failing math. Why take a student out of poms, the class play or the debate team?

There appears to be a consensus based on national statistics of social issues that the need to develop character virtues has

increased. Perseverance, self-confidence, respect for others and cooperation are a few of the qualities that are preventing many bright and knowledgeable people from realizing their potential. There are abundant testimonies of men and women who express the tremendous benefits from their "after school" activities.

Before a community decides which opportunities, if any, they would deny its students, it is necessary to evaluate which programs have the most value for students. Hopefully our community will continue to support its schools and pass the referendums so that no programs are reduced.

Don Enright
Eagle

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Indian logo not offensive to everybody

To the editor:
As a 1954 graduate of Mukwonago High School who taught and coached at MHS from 1958 through 1994, I want to express my gratitude to the school board and the two attorneys who are trying to prohibit a highly motivated and persistent minority from trampling the rights of the majority. It is all too common. We have witnessed how a very few people have eliminated many of our traditions in honoring the alleged birthday of our savior, Jesus Christ, even to the degree a "Merry Christmas" may be considered offensive.

While I have some resentment for those who quickly submit to the vocal minority, a major portion of my anger is directed at a Legislature that would write such a law, a governor who signs it and judges who interpret these laws. Think about it. Mukwonago must make emotionally painful and financially costly changes while the Menomonee Falls Indians

and the more questionable Muskego Warriors and Arrowhead Warhawks maintain the status quo because no one comes forward with hurt feelings.

I belong to the people who each day attempt to adhere to Jesus' command to love everyone unconditionally, following his example. That command would include the young man, Rain Koepke, who filed the complaint and those who passed and enforce the legislation. While I wish the best for them, I do not have to embrace their values.

It is amazing to me how little recognition is given to those with Native American blood who express appreciation and pride in the community's recognition of their heritage. Indian names abound in this state. Mukwonago has a museum which recognizes the contributions of the original Americans. The high school has altered the logo and presents a video to all incoming students in response to those who feel offended. What is the problem?

Normally in court, intent is a very big issue. It should be very obvious that there

never was any intent to offend anyone when these nicknames were established generations ago.

Regarding the bigotry issue, we will always find people who are biased and prejudice. You can't legislate morality. I have not met one person who supports the state's decision. It is a blessing to have many friends who spend a considerable amount of time, energy and money to encourage and support some of our most disadvantaged people, demonstrating more than a tolerance for people different than themselves but a compassion for them.

Don Enright
Town of Eagle

LETTERS POLICY: Letters should be typewritten, signed and include phone number and address so that we may verify authenticity. Neither phone number nor address will be printed when letters appear. We reserve the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Please keep letters to no more than 300 words. Generally, letter writers are limited to one letter every 30 days.
Send letters to: Editor, The Freeman, P.O. Box 7, Waukesha, WI 53187.
Or e-mail: letters@conley.net.

Chief

People Enright, Don
5-18-2011

From Indians to Orphans

To the editor,

It is obvious that the law banning race-based nicknames, mascots and logos has angered thousands of people. The legislation was allegedly based on expert testimony. What was the motivation and validity of the studies presented? Testimony of numerous people of American Indian heritage who approved and embraced the nickname and logo was ignored. How expert can you get than those who relate directly to this issue? Hartland Arrowhead Warhawks has an enrollment of 2,251 students, and the Menomonee Falls Indians has 1,538 students. There must be several young men and women with some American Indian heritage, yet no one has filed a complaint one year after the law was passed.

Does anyone believe that generations ago when the citizens named their communities with American Indian names and established appropriate nicknames intended to hurt anyone's feelings? Discrimination would imply to make a distinction between groups with perhaps a selfish motive. If there is any discrimination in this frightfully flawed

legislation, it is against the multitude.

The Mukwonago School District has gone the extra mile to address the concerns of those who felt offended by the nickname or logo. Partly as a result of recent student suicide they have demonstrated a genuine concern for all their students by establishing programs to deal with the inevitable emotional pain they experience. Hurt, sadness, anger, unwarranted fear and shame are a part of each student's life and when these emotions are not properly addressed, it frequently results in poor academic achievement, substance abuse, violence and other destructive behaviors ... Perhaps the author of the discrimination complaint, Rain Koepke, falls somewhere in this mix. Bullying is one of the issues Mukwonago High School (MHS) and schools nationwide are trying to prevent.

The district has an obligation to set an example by obeying the law. It is the hope of this writer that they will also set a good example by stepping up to the plate and make a statement regarding perseverance and a commitment to justice.

Let us not establish a new nickname with the hope and expectation that common sense will prevail and the law will be changed. In the meantime, we can root for old MHS and the gold and blue. A new nickname will create hurt feelings because their suggestion was ignored. If they pass a law mandating a nickname, I will support "The Orphans" as our new nickname.

At some point, perhaps

the elected representatives will carefully examine the motives behind a very motivated, loud and determined minority before they create

a law that discriminates against a too-often-submissive majority.

Don Enright
Eagle

People - Enright

Quill

Fri Oct 10 1930

Harry Smart and H. M. Loibl visited Waukesha, Saturday afternoon.

Miss Katharine Lane, teacher in the public schools at Janesville, spent the week-end at Eagle.

Miss Mary E. Enright has resigned as operator at the Eagle office after many years of efficient service. Miss Enright was chief operator and many regret that she severed her business relations with the company. Mrs. Harvey Smart also resigned. This leaves Mrs. Arthur Stocks and Miss Vida

SOCIETY MEMBERS CARD PARTY

Tuesday evening the members of Golden Eagle Camp, No. 5964, gave a public card party at the opera hall, which was enjoyed by all. There was the usual attendance notwithstanding the heavy rain during the afternoon and evening.

Cook: "Yes, ma'am, I'm leavin' in exactly three minutes."

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FRED CUR

Muk. Chief

People
Enright, Don

10/12/2011

Right is right

To the editor,

Congratulations and an expression of gratitude to James Schoolcraft and Craig Vertz who prevailed in a courageous effort to retain the integrity of the Mukwonago community by retaining the culture-based nickname of the Mukwonago High School Indians. Recognition is also due to Circuit Judge Donald Hassin Jr. in recognizing and acting on a piece of ridiculous legislation. Too often the majority has failed to defend their rights, and government officials cave into a motivated, loud and

determined minority.

The village name, Mukwonago, is of Native American origin, with a park, a museum and the village newspaper adding positive recognition to the original Americans. Mr. Schoolcraft is not the only individual with Native American blood that has pleaded to retain the nickname. In view of these facts, how can a legislature pass a law saying it is raced-based? What proof do they have? How absurd. Can they find the individual that named the village and created the high school nickname and prove to the court that they were racists?

It is time for the Legislature to step up to the plate and reverse their silly law and protect other communities before they suffer the expense and turmoil experienced in Mukwonago and other schools.

Don Enright
Eagle

FREEMAN
7-30-2013

PEOPLE - ENRIGHT, DON

Indians logo decision troubling on several levels

To the editor:

The recent decision to enforce the law that forbids the Mukwonago schools from using the nickname of Indians and banning the use of its logo should concern everyone as it has implications on several levels.

Why would someone want to return to office a legislator who would vote for a law that defies reason? When one individual can dictate to a community that it must

make a change that costs thousands of dollars and which an estimated 95 percent of the area disagrees with it is an assault on democracy. Case in point: Menomonee Falls High School remains the Menomonee Falls Indians because no one in this large community has complained.

Why do we collectively and consistently allow a vocal minority to trample the rights of the majority? Case in point: Graduation celebrations can no longer be held at Elmbrook Church because a handful of people are uncomfortable with the practice.

Is this not a local issue? If a substantial number of people want to make such a change in their community via a referendum or column of support let it be. In the case of Mukwonago, however, there are a number of people of Native American descent who view the logo as a symbol of pride and respect. The community, in general, has embraced the cultural heritage with the name of the village, streets and a relatively new park, Miniwaukan, with Indian names. The village has a museum with an emphasis on the history of Native Americans.

Why do some folks feel

hurt and angry with the Indian references while many do not? I have concern for these people. Sadness and hurt are part of everyone's life. Jesus wept (John 11:35) and he visibly expressed his anger in the cleansing of the temple. Through his example and teaching, he taught those who would listen how to deal with life on life's terms. In the midst of it all, Jesus desires and offers his peace and joy to all. There are genetic issues that must not be denied but it seems that there are many people who choose to be perpetually in a state of anger. Their choice very often affects the quality of life of family and friends.

Abe Lincoln once said, "People are about as happy as they want to be." Choices!

Don Enright
Town of Eagle

Mukwonago School Board doing what it was elected to do

In Edward Olson's and Linda Caldart-Olson's letter, they arbitrarily concluded that the Mukwonago High School logo is a "demeaning stereotype" ("Tyranny of the majority," Your Views, Aug. 23).

How do they and very few others draw this conclusion? Explain why others of Native American descent see it as a symbol of dignity and positive recognition of a culture. When the village name, street names and nickname were established generations ago, was there any intent to degrade anyone?

YOUR VIEWS

Regarding the sensitivity issue, it appears that a very small minority has no feelings for the financial cost of the change and the sympathy of almost the entire community. Many of these citizens have acted on their love of the disadvantaged and needy by giving of their time and financial resources to administer to their needs.

The Mukwonago School Board is doing what it was elected to do in supporting the wishes of its residents. When poorly or misguided laws are passed, efforts must be made to correct them as our Constitution allows. Untold millions are trying to reverse Roe vs. Wade regarding the respect of the unborn.

Don Enright
Eagle

Indians nickname isn't discriminatory

To the editor:

Responding to Ethan Keller's Oct. 17 letter to the editor ("Indian logo unacceptable"), I am one of those who has a "belligerent insistence of their use is a terribly pathetic clutching of disrespectful and immature behavior and totally unbecoming of a polite citizen, much less a representative of a noble democratic government." Apparently being a traveling musician and a Mukwonago High School graduate qualifies him to make harsh judgment on those who disagree with his position on Native American mascots and team nicknames. Keller is one of a minority of people who declare these traditions as discrimination.

The dictionary defines discriminate as to "treat differently" with the assumption of some to be "unfairly." How can one conclude that the

mascot and nickname is discriminatory when multitudes of Native Americans deny this claim? Many view it as a positive recognition of their culture. Is there any reason why their opinions should not be accepted? I would suggest Mr. Keller dialogue with Native Americans who don't share his views.

In due respect, I think Keller and those of like mind attempt to comfort those who chose to feel offended with the noble logo and nickname(s). People usually appreciate the sympathy of others. In itself, sympathy is of little value and I suggest there are more effective ways to minister to those whom we perceive to be disadvantaged and/or needing assistance.

I've tried to take seriously the words of Jesus (Matthew 25:40): "as you did it to the least of these my brethren you did it to me." One of my favorite things is to give

time and money to those I think fall in this category. Obviously I'm not alone, as we live in the most generous nation on the planet.

Mr. Keller presents himself as an educated man. He must be aware that it is not uncommon for people who feel hurt, sadness and resentment to focus on issues unrelated to the cause of their emotional pain.

Incidentally I'm also a Mukwonago High School grad and taught in the system for 35 years.

Don Enright
Mukwonago

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Indians nickname part of local fabric

To the editor:

In last Friday's Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Sandy Shedivy demanded, "enough is enough;" that Indian mascots and nicknames are wrong and must be eliminated forever. Now! Apparently her 26 years of teaching in the Mukwonago school district and her Ph.D. make her the authority on the issues. I completely agree that any mascot that is perceived as demeaning should be abolished immediately. In a democratic society, there should be some evidence that a logo or nickname is discriminatory.

Given the fact that the original inhabitants of the community were Native American, the village has an Indian name, with the newest public park expressing the Native American culture, and the village newspaper titled the Chief, there is ample evidence to determine the logo and nickname may be appropriate. Mukwonago, "Place of the Bear," has a museum with reportedly the largest collection of arrowheads in the state, with a tepee and bear prominently displayed.

As a student of MHS in the early '50s, our school newspaper was the Pow Wow. The school yearbook was and still is the Arrow. Does this not indicate a trend? The team's nickname was almost a natural consequence of the community's history and culture. It is difficult to discern how anyone could view the current logo as demeaning. It portrays a proud and dignified Native American male. If one chooses to stereotype what is wrong with that one?

While it is reasonable to question the fairness of the new bill that requires a 10 percent petition to request a hearing on the issues, the current law makes a mockery of a democratic society. When one individual can state a mascot, logo, or nickname is discriminatory and make it illegal when almost the entire community sees it differently, there exists a huge challenge to our democracy.

The media pronounced that Gov. Scott Walker is being pressured by the Democrats to not sign the new bill. This represents a problem for the Republicans, who usually don't demonstrate the same passion and energy as their liberal counterparts. The governor may assume his political base is solid and could be tempted to take a longer look at the demands of the Democrats.

It is apparent that our representatives in Madison see the issues as they relate to votes, power and money and fairness is a side issue.

As a Carroll University alumnus, I was disappointed to see her values in play as a faculty member of my alma mater. If I were to follow her bullying tactics, I would consider withholding financial support of my beloved Carroll.

Don Enright
Town of Eagle

Thanks to Mukwonago School Board

This is a public word of thanks to the Mukwonago School Board, which absorbed the wrath of those who labeled them racists and stood up for the overwhelming majority of citizens as they challenged an absurd law that violated their constitutional rights.

Discrimination will always exist because some people choose to discriminate. We are blessed with a Constitution that protects victims by compensating them in the courts when discrimination has been proven. Perpetrators frequently have been disciplined for their conduct. Contrary to the opinion of some, our Constitution does not permit the minority to impose its will on the majority without justification.

Congratulations to Gov. Scott Walker for withstanding the assault of the ACLU, tribal leaders, the Journal Sentinel Editorial Board and relatively few others as he corrected a poorly crafted law passed in 2010. That law allowed a student's complaint to require the Mukwonago School Board to spend a substantial amount of money to avoid changing its nickname and logo. The board's bold decision to challenge the law was a response to virtually the entire community. It appears the passion of those who reject the new law is based on the realization that in Mukwonago it would be next to impossible to prove discrimination.

Generations ago, those in authority gave the community a Native American name, Mukwonago. The lore is that this means "Place of the Bear". It is reasonable to conclude that this moniker was selected to acknowledge the heritage of the area.

The recognition has been kept alive in many ways. There is a statue of a bear near the post office and another next to the museum located on the square. The museum hosts the largest collection of arrowheads in the state. The local newspaper has been the Chief forever. The most recent community park was given an Indian name. The athletic team's nickname, Indians, was consistent with what many people of Native American descent view as positive recognition of their heritage. In keeping, the high school newspaper was labeled the Pow Wow for several years and the yearbook was and is The Arrow. The youth athletic teams are known as the Braves.

Those desiring to share their concern for "the original Americans" should consider financial support of the Native American Heritage Association, which was created to meet the real needs of the intended to provide food, clothing and shelter for them.

Don Enright
Mukwonago

WK. FREEMAN
1-3-2014

PEOPLE - ENRIGHT, DON

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Indians nickname honors local heritage

To the editor:
Given his political posture, it was not surprising to have Jim Honeck ridicule Governor Walker's decision in signing the so-called mascot law. As a Town of Mukwonago resident, Mr. Honeck should be aware that his opinion is contrary to the overwhelming majority of citizens who rejoice in the governor's decision. Pressure from the ACLU, tribal leaders, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel editor and a few self-ordained experts did not deter Governor Walker from protecting the constitutional rights of the community.

The new law voids the 2010 law that permitted a single student's complaint to force the school to hire attorneys to maintain their right to retain their Indians nickname. While a multitude of Native American descendants support the nickname and logo, there are some who claim discrimina-

tion. A survey of those supporting the status quo would reveal that they are not intellectually inferior or less compassionate than those demanding a change.

Discrimination, in various forms, has always existed and the courts have disciplined perpetrators with fines when proven guilty. Victims have been financially compensated. Our Constitution does not permit minorities to impose their will on the majority without justification.

It should be noted that not one person has come forward in the last three years to challenge the neighboring large school districts of the Menomonee Falls Indians, Hartland Arrowhead Warhawks or Muskego Warriors to abandon their nicknames. This provides additional evidence of the devious and poorly crafted 2010 law that our governor had the common sense to overturn.

As a Mukwonago resident, Mr. Honeck should know the community has a long and con-

sistent record of paying homage to the early Native American inhabitants. Community leaders named the area Mukwonago, "Place of the Bear." Located near the post office is a replica of a full-sized bear next to a statue of an Indian brave. Located on the square is another statue of a bear located next to the museum, which hosts the largest collection of arrowheads in the state.

The local newspaper is the Chief. The entrance to the largest and most recent park has a sign reading "Minnowaukan Park (Water Spirit)."

The high school yearbook is The Arrow and for many years the high school paper was The Pow Wow. The local youth teams are known as the Braves. In keeping with the character of the community, the teams were called the Indians.

The high school logo depicts a dignified and proud Native American male. While there may be mascots that could be viewed as demeaning to our original Americans, the high

school logo is not in that category.

It is my hope that all of us who are concerned about the well-being of the disadvantaged on reservations would consider financial support of the Native American Heritage Association. The organization does an excellent job of providing food, clothing and shelter for their people. It may lift their spirits if they were informed that there is a small village in Waukesha County that has a long history of honoring their heritage.

Don Enright
Mukwonago

WK, FREEMAN
1-2-2015

tudes and give them new direction. The soup kitchens, rescue missions, and other noble organizations providing tangible help for the disadvantaged who need more helpers and financial support. Unfortunately, these folks don't get their faces on TV or names in the newspaper. Add to their list the thousands of people who are giving Christmas gifts to dependents of those in prison, many of which are minorities.

The number of minority men and women in prison is frequently offered as proof of "racism." It should be noted there are many white people in prison. Of the many variables of incarcerated individuals the most common would probably be the lack of a responsible loving father in that home.

Who we hang around with and who we listen to tends to mold our character. John F. Kenned asked his contemporaries to "ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country." Jesus commanded all of us "to love one another as I have loved you."

Don Enright
Mukwonago

Protesters' energies could be put to better use

To the editor:
Recently, a TV news person stated, "there are some good cops." The implication could be that most are not. Several of my most respected students entered law enforcement and joined a profession that is one of our most valuable government agencies. To demonize an organization, as many politicians are doing, because of a few poorly trained or incompetent officers is ridiculous.

I can't tolerate another professional journalist or politician who attempts to make racism an issue by suggesting "we have a conversation" about our differences. Enough talk! What dialogue would alter the attitude of a terrorist? There have always been people who have unhealthy attitudes concerning people who don't share their values. The differences include race, color, age, financial status and gender. It is frequently and more accurately called stereotyping, which is labeling a large group of people with certain characteristics because of the behavior of a few people.

In my opinion, anger in view of injustice is an appropriate response. I question the value of the coast-to-coast protests featured in the media. It would seem a more profitable use of their time to join those in the community who visit those in jails and prisons in attempts to change their atti-

ALL. JOUR.
5-3-2015

PEOPLE - ...

Impact of anger

In Elaine Mozina's letter on April 26, she asked, "are anger management classes taught in our schools?" That suggests it could have a positive effect on the crime situation ("Anger management needed," Letters).

That question deserves serious consideration. Many school programs addressing substance abuse, suicide and other concerns are relatively ineffective because the focus is on the symptoms rather than the underlying causes of the issues.

Many perceive anger as the cause of most social problems, ranging from road rage to murder. Anger can and should be recognized as a positive in that it is a secondary emotion masking basic emotions such as resentment and guilt. Legal and illegal chemicals are common and convenient ways to temporarily cope with the pain. Brilliant and well-educated people are destroying themselves and others because they have not learned how to heal from their emotional pain.

It should be recognized that there are people who have survived and thrived on painful emotions common to all human beings. Less violence and higher academic achievement are just a few of the benefits to the schools and communities who provide opportunities through proven and effective permanent approaches to the respective emotions.

Donald Enright

MIL. JOURN
6-28-2015

PEOPLE- ENRIGHT, DONALD A.

Racism isn't the issue

It appears to be so inviting for political leaders and journalists to use their platform to expound on racism as the cause for so much violence and murders. It is decisive and counterproductive, as it avoids the basic causes of these tragic events. People of both genders, all races and nationalities experience hurt feelings resulting in resentment and anger. The natural response is vengeance, many times violent act against a convenient target.

Members of the family of the nine people murdered at their house of worship each stated very publicly their willingness to forgive. Diane Foley, whose journalist son James was beheaded, says she has forgiven the man who murdered her son. Several years ago, an Amish community collected funds to pay for the education of the child of the father who killed their children. These examples and many similar are the formula for a peaceful society.

There are poor people without jobs who can be trusted. There are rich people in important positions who cannot be trusted. Many people are mentally ill. Yet, prominent people continue to play the blame game with generalizations such as racism. While there are disadvantaged people who seem more prone to criminal activity, it must be noted there are many disadvantaged individuals who are heroes in their communities.

As we develop programs and use those proven programs to help individuals to learn how to live on life's terms, we will also reduce the number of suicides and those involved in substance abuse. For Christians, Jesus commanded his followers to love one another unconditionally. For many, following the 12-step program has been of great value.

Donald A. Enright
Mukwonago

Freeman

People

Enright, Don

11-30-2017

Allen sensitive to those yet to be born

To the editor:

In Paula Jeanine Duval's letter to the editor she expressed concern regarding Rep. Scott Allen's lack of "sensitivity" toward women who choose abortion, saying, "He is also obviously very insensitive to the plight of millions of unwanted children."

Allen represents millions of people who call themselves pro-life who express their compassion on the little boys and girls who never have the chance to make the world a better place because they are destroyed before they are born. They have no choice.

Who provides the compassion for the men and women who experience profound sorrow when they later reflect on their selfish choice to end the life of the unborn?

Children do not want to be unwanted. In February, our pastor and his wife flew to Florida to adopt a newborn girl from a mother whose choice was adoption. Their adopted son now has a sister. For parents wanting to adopt, they usually have to go to a foreign country and the cost, here or abroad, is normally over \$30,000.

Reasonable people are aware that an unwanted pregnancy is almost always the result of a poor choice regarding the circumstances when the child was conceived.

Abortion was illegal until the famous Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision in 1973. People should be aware that Norma McCovey, whose

legal challenge led to that court decision, became an outspoken critic of abortion later in her life, which ended earlier this year.

Everyone makes poor decisions. Knowing this, God made the choice, at a great price, to sacrifice his only son "to take away the sins of the world." (John 1:29)

**Don Enright
Mukwonago**

It is important to recognize it was religious leaders who planned Christ's crucifixion 33 years after his birth because he said he was God.

The realization that humans could not consistently honor God's precepts, Jesus sacrificed his life to take away the shame and guilt of his followers resulting from repeated disobedience. Our forefathers declared another legal holiday as Easter in honor of the one who performed miracles.

Many of pro-choice individuals would refer to the 49 years of legalized abortions as "enlightened." "Loving your enemy" and "doing good to those who hurt you" do not sell well with some religious leaders. Consequently the teaching in many churches who profess Christianity prefer to update the recorded word to contemporary values. Each of the mainline churches in the U.S. has lost millions of members in recent years.

Abortion was legalized in 1973. Compare the rising level of violence, substance abuse deaths and suicide in the last 49 years with the previous 197 years and it begs the question: Is there a correlation between what some

describe as the moral decay in our nation and a failure to honor God's playbook for life, the holy Bible?

The facts support the truth that those who gained our freedom placed trust in the one they called Savior, took responsibility for their lives and helped their neighbor. There has been a gradual shift to trusting our wonderful technology and our government, Google and the smartphone have limited value when one is in intensive care.

Don Enright
Mukwonago