

Let the System Work

BY TOM STANGL
FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

If you disrespect anybody that you run in to
How in the world do you think anybody's
s'posed to respect you

– Lyric, "Respect Yourself" recorded by
the Staple Sisters



Publisher
Tom Stangl

We are a week out from Election Day. The general election will elect lawmakers who will be entrusted with working for the common good, starting in January of 2023.

Unless you have been living under a rock for the past two months, you know this election cycle has been less than positive. Most advertising from all

sides has been focused on getting you to vote AGAINST a candidate rather than FOR a candidate. In my opinion, fear of an opponent is never a valid reason to vote for the other person on the ballot.

I cast my ballot a couple of weeks ago. The local election officials were kind enough to ask if I wanted to vote absentee for all elections this year and I took them up on their generous offer. I began voting absentee when laws changed so you didn't need a reason to use absentee ballots.

I like the convenience of voting absentee. I like skipping the line.

I enjoy not having to make awkward conversation with the people in line. I always worry about talking about politics with the people in line and either making someone mad or getting in trouble. For the record, DON'T TALK POLITICS while waiting to vote, it's against the law. It's considered campaigning, something that can't be done within a certain area around the polling place.

I hope you make the time to vote. There are many different opportunities to cast a ballot, there are precious few reasons NOT to vote.

I included the lyric from "Respect Yourself," the Staple Sisters song, recorded over 50 years ago because I feel it continues to be relevant, especially at election time. In addition to offering and accepting respect from others at the polling place, I think there's another group of people at the polls we need to respect: the folks conducting the election.

It's been nearly two years since Joe Biden defeated Donald Trump in the presidential election. Despite countless hours of recounts and more recounts, lawsuits and conspiracy theories, the results remain the same. Because of the vanity of Mr. Trump, he has continued to maintain there was widespread fraud.

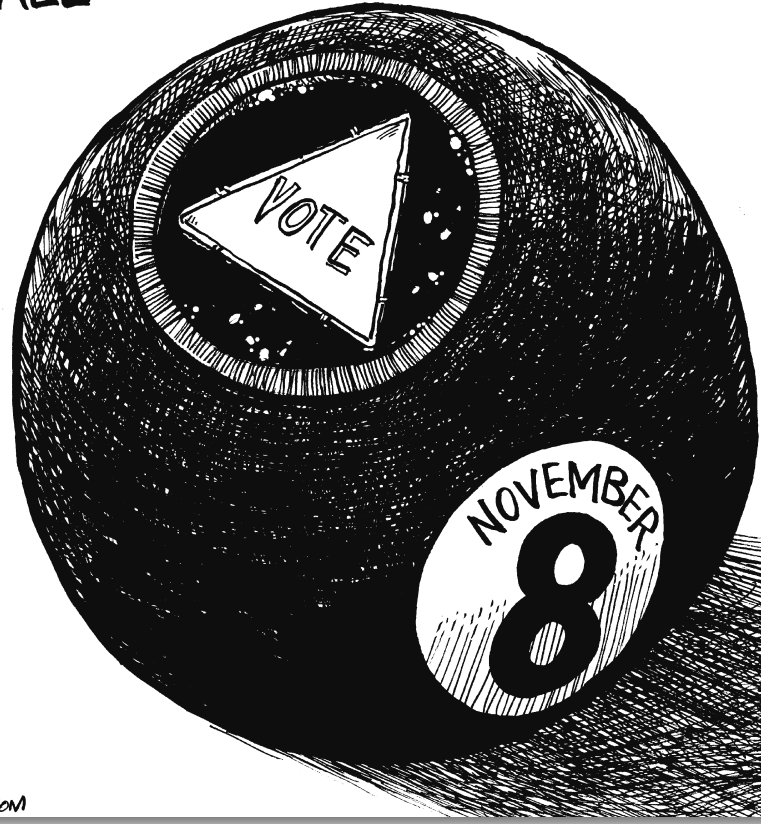
Because of this disinformation, the results of the election that will occur next week are already in doubt in the minds of some people. That is unfortunate and an alarming thing for our nation. We need to have confidence in our elections.

Next Tuesday, trained volunteers and professionals will conduct the election. These people are your friends and neighbors. Even though they may be your friends and neighbors, they will conduct the election by the book. They know the rules and they also know the significance of the election.

In my opinion, we have lost sight of the dedication and honesty of election workers. The largest damage of the continuing scam perpetuated by some about the 2020 election is the loss of respect for these people.

As the 2022 election results come in, understand that election workers can't begin working on absentee ballots until election day. Processing these votes takes time. Every vote needs to be counted. Understand that all votes are equal and let the process work. Abide by the results. It's in all our best interests.

MAGIC 8 BALL



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Welcome to Delicious

BY JASON SCHULTE
FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We did a record last week within our family which was never done before, but that's what you do for your kids.

I went into the closest Crisp and Green in Woodbury for the first time Oct. 22 and had one of the better salads I've ever had. Michelle and Lauren had eaten their previously, so they already had their favorites.

If salad was the main meal, Hannah would settle for a bowl of Ramen noodles or oatmeal. Or option C: Culver's.

That was day one.

The next night, the girls and I met Michelle in Woodbury around supper time to do clothes shopping. We didn't eat beforehand because we weren't hungry. By the time

we got back into River Falls, I was starving, and I wasn't the only one. It was after 8 p.m. and we didn't have a lot of food in the house. So where do we go? You guessed it. Day two for Hannah and day one for everyone else.

We are now onto Monday, Oct. 24. Culvers in River Falls was doing a fundraiser for the River Falls High School National Honor Society for which Lauren is a member. Must support your children, right? That makes three days in a row for Hannah and two days for the rest of us.

Tuesday was the clincher. As I was picking Hannah up from Teen Center at the St. Croix Central Middle School Monday, she pointed to a sign that said Culver's in Baldwin was doing a fundraiser to get newer equipment for the SCC Middle School playground.

"You supported Lauren; shouldn't you support me?" she uttered to me. I tell you, kids at that age are good at doing the guilt trip. Of course, she was 100 percent correct. After my work day was done, the car just seemed to drive itself to the Bald-

win Culver's as I got there after 4 p.m. that night to order our three kids' meals.

So, in summary, thanks to how the days played out and the fact our daughters are in two different school districts (don't ask why, that's too long of a story), Hannah had four Culver's kids' meals in a row for supper, Lauren and I had three and Michelle had two (she had a work meeting and was unavailable to eat with us Tuesday).

Lauren and I were saying 'No mas' after Tuesday's meals. Hannah, I think could have continued. Of course, when you are at that age (11), you can eat the same meal day after day and not get sick of it.

One funny note about all of this: One of those meals listed was a free one thanks to the accumulation of the tokens they put on their kids' bags. At the end of all this, we now have 10 tokens again, which means our next trip will include a free meal.

Welcome to Delicious indeed.



Editor
Jason Schulte

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