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DEC. 2020
HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FREE

CHICAGO PEOPLES VOICE

Debbie Richards

Celebrates 70th Birthday



See Page 11



THE E. REED REPORT

COVID-19 PANDEMIC MITIGATION EFFORTS & THE VACCINE

The United States is leading the world in COVID-19 infections at more than 10 million with more than 250,000 deaths. One of the highest profiled African Americans in the Trump Administration, Ben Carson has tested positive for the Covid-19 Virus. Carson is a medical doctor.

The Northern Region of Illinois, including Lake County, is now under Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health COVID-19 Level 3 Mitigation orders. This began October 31st and will continue

until further notice. Here are a list of retrictions:

For Bars

1. No indoor service
2. All outside bar service closes at 11:00 p.m.
3. All bar patrons should be seated at tables outside
4. No ordering, seating, or congregating at bar (bar stools should be removed)
5. Tables should be 6 feet apart
6. No standing or congregating indoors or outdoors while waiting for a table or exiting
7. No dancing or standing indoors
8. Reservations required for each party
9. No seating of multiple parties at one table

For Restaurants

1. No indoor dining or bar service
2. All outdoor dining closes at 11:00 p.m.
3. Outside dining tables should be 6 feet apart
4. No standing or congregating indoors or outdoors while waiting for a table or exiting
5. Reservations required for each party
6. No seating of multiple parties at one table
7. Meetings, Social Events, Gatherings are Limit to lesser of 25 guests or 25 percent of overall room capacity
8. No party buses

Gaming and Casinos close at 11:00 p.m., are limited to 25 percent capacity, and follow mitigations for bars and restaurants, if applicable. Everyone should continue to follow the 3 Ws to slow the spread of COVID-19:

- 1) Wear a mask,
- 2) Wash your hands, and
- 3) Watch your distance.

Tier 3 mitigations include limiting social gatherings to members of your immediate household only, as well as restrictions on retail, personal care, health and fitness centers, hotels, manufacturing, bars and restaurants, meetings and events, recreational activities, theaters and cultural institutions.

Limiting social gatherings to members of your immediate households means "no going over to grandma's for Christmas and no New Year's Eve Parties. It's a small sacrifice to save someone's life. And that someone may be your own.

We asked a number of people if they would be willing to take the new Vaccine that pharmaceutical organizations are putting out. Some said yes, they would take it, but the preponderance of African American that I talked to showed reticence.

The reason for this is a study that was done on African American men call the Tuskegee Experiment. This is where hundreds of African-American sharecroppers with syphilis over a 40 year period were given placebo drugs instead of penicillin to treat the disease as part of a human experimental study. For many of the men, the disease was allowed to advance resulting in further damage to their health and ultimately death in many cases.

Long story short, Blacks were used as lab rats for experimental treatments and not compensated. Since most those reporting Covid-19 infections are people of color, there is a fear that the government may have ulterior plans or motives for the vaccine.

Even the U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams, who is an African American, is warning that some of the American populations may be reluctant to take a COVID-19 vaccine because of the nation's dark history of racial discrimination.

This year has been so fraught with calamity, it is hard to advise people which way to go. It is in times like these that we have to turn to that inner voice, some people call it the force, I call it God, and lean to him for advice and direction.

There is a scripture that I find comforting. It is Proverbs 3:6 "Acknowledge God in all your ways, and He will direct your path.

That is my advice to all as we navigate the balance of this nightmarish year. I hope and pray that with the turn of the calendar that our new year, 2021 will bring us prosperity and good health. We do have something to look forward to.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Peace.

CHICAGO PEOPLES VOICE
THE HEART & SOUL OF CHICAGO™

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Lake County, Illinois Edition

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But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. - Matthew 6:33

Veteran's Day Memorial Service In North Chicago

Congressman Brad Schneider was joined by the North Chicago Mayor Leon Rockingham Jr in a salute to Veterans on Veteran's Day on November 10th.

Schneider lauded the contribution of African American Veterans who gave their lives for the country. Angela Walker sang God Bless America as part of the moving tribute. The event was held at the Veteran's Memorial Park in North Chicago.



Pictured are US Congressman Brad Schneider, North Chicago Chief of Police Lazaro Perez, Angela Walker- President of the Rotary Club, Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr. and North Chicago Fire Chief Dell Urban.

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News Digest

Bobby Brown Jr. Has Died

The son of the legendary R&B Star Bobby Brown, Bobby Brown Jr, has died. The Los Angeles police department was called to his home on Wednesday, Nov. 18th. Brown was pronounced dead at the scene. At this time, investigator don't believe foul play was involved, however, the cause of death has been deferred due to the need for further investigation after an autopsy formed by the LA County Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner's office.

Bobby Brown Jr. is the step son of the legendary Whitney Houston who was married to Bobby Brown, Jr's father. His mother was Kim Ward. Bobby Brown Jr. was 28 years of age.



The Urban Town Hall talk show launched

The Peoples Voice This Week has launched a new one hour talk show called The Urban Town Hall to be moderated by Elroy Reed. The Show will feature social commentary on news and issues that are relevant to the African American Community of Lake County and Beyond.

Co-hosts will include Tara Thomas former President of the NAACP, Chris King a Lake County Deputy Sheriff and football coach, Anita Hanna- a Waukegan School Board Member and Larnell Farmer a former Waukegan Police Detective and community activist.

The show will be streamed on facebook and Youtube on Thursdays, December 3rd, December 7th and a New Year's Show on December 31st all at 7:00 pm. No registration necessary, just tune into the Peoples Voice This Week facebook page or tune into Youtube and search for The Urban Town Hall with Elroy Reed

Six Most Common Places To Catch Covid

A new study published in the Nature magazine found that 80% of the spread of Covid-19 could be traced to six locations where people travel. Full Service Restaurants was the number 1. Gyms number 2, hotels number 3, café's number 4, Religious organizations number 5, and limited-service restaurants were number 6.

**The opportunity that God sends does not wake up him
who is asleep.
- African Proverb from Senega**

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Connecting the community to help around the holidays

by CLC Public Relations

The Lake County community has more of a reason to visit College of Lake County's (CLC) Grayslake Campus thanks to the college's many partnerships. Northern Illinois Food Bank continues its Pop-Up Markets, the Lake County Health Department will offer two drive-through COVID-19 testing days and CLC's Women's Center is hosting its annual holiday giving tree.

Pop-Up Market

NIFB Pop-Up at CLC Every two weeks, the Northern Illinois Food Bank takes over CLC's parking lot 3 at its Grayslake Campus to offer approximately 50 lbs. of food to families in need, no questions asked. Since the event began on Oct. 20, around 3,000 families have benefitted from the partnership.

"It's a cross section of society," said Northern Illinois Food Bank Pop-Up Market manager Mike Keane. "There's no trend of a certain gender, race, creed or color that comes to mind when I look out at all the cars lined-up."

The drive-through food assistance will continue at the college campus at least through the month of December. Look for the market on Tuesday Dec. 1, Tuesday Dec. 15 and Tuesday Dec. 29 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. each

day. Volunteers are still needed for all days. Dates for other Pop-Up Market locations are available on the food bank's website.

COVID-19 Testing

During the month of December, parking lot 3 at the Grayslake Campus will also serve as a mobile COVID-19 testing site. On Saturday, Dec. 5 and Monday, Dec. 14, the Lake County Health Department in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Public Health will conduct up to 500 tests each day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or until supplies run out. Participants will always remain in their vehicles. The test is free; however, providers will ask to see photo identification. No appointment is needed to receive the test and all are welcome regardless of symptoms.

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AON \$30M investment helps expand apprenticeships across the country

CLC Media Relations

Within the span of a year, the apprenticeship program at College of Lake County (CLC) developed in eight fields of study, partnered with nine employers and enrolled 49 apprentices. This impressive feat is part of a larger effort in the Chicago area co-founded by global professional services firm Aon plc, in 2017. That effort is about to expand across the country with the help of a \$30 million investment from the company.

“This isn’t an Aon effort, this is a collective effort,” said Aon Chief Executive Officer Greg Case at a recent Chicago Apprentice Network (CAN) meeting. “It’s brought so many talented colleagues into our firm and we’ve seen it time and time again for companies around the Chicago area.”

Siemens Apprenticeship Aon aims to launch new apprentice networks in Houston, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Washington D.C. in the next year, leading to 10,000 apprenticeships by 2030. That includes the continued growth of the network here in Illinois.

“We need tens of thousands of new skilled workers to continue to meet the growing demand for talented employees in Illinois,” said Illinois Governor JB Pritzker. “The Chicago Apprentice Network is providing life-changing opportu-



nities and the Illinois Apprenticeship Program is on track to support an additional 17,000 participants by the end of this year.”

CLC’s own apprenticeship program will also continue growing. At a meeting of the CAN during national apprenticeship week, CLC President Dr. Lori Suddick told the meeting attendees the future was bright for employers and job-seekers alike.

“We look forward to continuing to build out those partnerships and grow the number of apprentices as we launch our advanced technology center to support the manufacturing industry and other fields of interest,” she said. “College of Lake County is committed to being a leader in innovative solutions in edu-

cation and workforce. We can be a part of building out a diverse skilled workforce talent pipeline to meet the needs of our industry partners.”

CLC apprentice Darrell Berg recently spoke on how the program made a positive impact on his career. His is a story of success likely to be told time and time again as the apprentice networks grow.

“I hope you can feel this opportunity,” Case said. “Feel how it’s building, the impact and what it means for all of us.”

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Same greetings, new meetings.

The **holidays will look different** this year, but that doesn't mean you need to miss out on **seeing your family.**

The **safest way to celebrate this year is only gathering with people who live in your home.** Consider other holiday activities.

- **Safely prepare traditional dishes and deliver them** to family and neighbors.
- **Host a virtual celebration** with friends and family who don't live with you.
- **Watch television and play games** with people in your household.
- **Shop online.** Use contact-free services like curbside pick-up and delivery.



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LakeCounty

Health Department and
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Marcellis Stinnette, African American Male Killed by Waukegan Police Officer

National attention was drawn to Waukegan, Illinois over a police involved killing of an African American male in Waukegan, Marcellis Stinnette. His girlfriend, Tafara Williams was also critically wounded in the fatal shooting.

According to a press release issued by the Waukegan Police Department, A police officer was investigation a vehicle that had reported fled from another police officer. The police officer got out of his car to approach the vehicle and the driver of the vehicle began to reverse. The Officer says that in fear for his safety, he fired his semi-automatic pistol shooting the driver, Tafara Williams and passenger of the vehicle, Marcellis Stinnette. According to a report in USA Today, Stinnette bleed out for eight minutes before being taken to the hospital where he was announced dead as a result of his injuries.

Tafara Williams was also taken to the hospital with serious injuries, she is now in recovery.

Black Lives Matter held a protest at the Police Station in Waukegan the next day drawing Operation Push's leadership out to protest the police handling of the situation. Since then, African American leaders like Jessie Jackson, and Al Sharpton has visited the city to voice their concern of the police action and draw attention to the situation. Presidential elections overshadowed much of the probable media attention.

Ben Crump, George Floyd's family lawyer, is said to be handling some of the litigation.

Stinnette's mother, Zharvellis Holmes, filed a lawsuit in U.S. District against the City of Waukegan, Police Officer Dante Salinas, Police Officer James Keating and the Waukegan police chief. The suit alleges that one officer used excessive force against Stinnette and "despite being in no immediate danger, discharged his firearm into the vehicle."

Attorneys for Tafara Williams, has filed a lawsuit alleging use of excessive force by the Officer Dante Salina, false arrest by two officers, unconstitutional practices by the City of Waukegan in its operation of the Waukegan Police Department and battery allegations against the officers and the city. The lawsuit is on behalf of her and her 7-month-old child. Stinnette is the father of the child.

The Officer, Dante Salina, has been terminated from the City of Waukegan Police Department.

-A Peoples Voice Special Report



Zharvellis Holmes (Marcellis Stinnette's mother) and Sherrellis Stinnette (Grandmother) at a press conference after viewing the police body cam footage. Both are filing litigation. October 28, 2020

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~ WORSHIP SERVICES ~ & CLASSES

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Worship Services 10:45 AM & 6:00 PM
Mid-week Bible Study
Wed. 7:00 PM Thurs. 9:30 AM

Thursday

Youth Life & Learning Center—7:00 PM

~ COMMUNITY SERVICES ~

Substance Abuse Programs
Sunday; Tuesday; Friday;
Saturday, — 7:00 PM
Saturday

Food For Body & Soul (Soup Kitchen)
11:00 AM—12:45 PM

Debbie Richards Celebrates 70th Birthday

by Elroy Reed

Debbie Richards celebrated her 70th birthday with a surprise tribute during church services at The New Way Faith Tabernacle Church of God in Christ in Zion, Illinois. Orchestrated by husband, Pastor Robert Richards, and several members of the church, the group worked quietly to pull off the celebration.

DeLeon Sheffield flew in from Tampa, Florida and provided the message during the Sunday Morning service. Family member, friends, and individuals who had been blessed by the ministry of Pastors Robert and Debbie Richards were on hand to give testimony and witness to the positive impact that the couple had had on their lives.

Pastor Timothy Jones, of Rehoboth Church of Waukegan, gave comments. Church members like Glenda Duncan helped to organize the event



which included lavish decorations, a cake, a gift basket and a facebook group established so that individuals could go online and make specific comments and wish Debbie a Happy Birthday.

Both of the Richards are licensed real estate brokers. Their daughter, DeLeon Richards- Sheffield is an actress, known for Brewster Place (1990), Ebony/Jet Showcase (1982) and 12th Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards (1997). She is married to Baseball player Gary Sheffield. They have three children.

Debbie owns one of the largest real estate firms in Lake County, The Debbie Richards Realty Group. Pastor Robert and Debbie Richards as a couple was named the 2020 Most In-

fluential African Americans of Lake County earlier in January. Pictured are a few photos from her birthday celebration.



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Grandparents and Kins Raising Grandchildren Essay Contest

Editor's Note: The Grandparents and Kins Raising Grandchildren organization held an essay contest for participating families and children. The first prize winner was an essay by Keith Hayward

The Coronavirus Pandemic has affected children all around the world. Some have benefited from Remote Learning, some haven't. Either way, the question is still out there: when will children go back to in person learning?

There are many students who are happy to be able to learn at home. But there are some students who are sad that they can't be at school with their friends and teachers. For some students, school is safer than being at home. For others, home is safer than school. But a student's safety is a priority.

The novel Coronavirus has spread throughout the country like wildfire. As of 9/26/20, Illinois reported 2,441 new COVID-19 cases. At this time, it just isn't safe for students and teachers to go back to in person learning. It looks like students won't be

going to their school buildings any time soon.

During Remote Learning, I have thrived. There aren't as many distractions at home than at school. Plus, I have an advantage: My siblings are on Remote Learning too and my mom is an educator also working at home available to help me! I made High Honor Roll in my previous school year and I'm going to do it again!

In conclusion, students and families may disagree with our school districts' decision, but at this time, it is not safe for school districts to open.

-Keith Hayward



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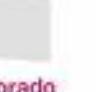
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Enjoy The Holidays With Friends And Family

This holiday season may look a bit different due to social distancing. But just because everyone is not physically together, doesn't mean your family can't share its favorite traditions.

Here are some tips to enjoying friends and family this holiday season.

- Celebrate virtually: Whether your tradition is a Christmas movie marathon, a caroling session around the piano or eating certain foods and baked treats, you can enjoy these activities together over video chat this year.
- Share traditional foods: Baking your favorite cakes, cookies or pies and having them shipped to a family member or friend is a great idea.
- Plan ahead: When it comes to ordering gifts and specially baked treats, make sure to account for busy schedules and congested delivery services to ensure all your goodies arrive on time.
- Create special moments: Evoking the sights, sounds and aromas of a typical holiday season will help make this year feel more cheerful. Create a cozy atmosphere and enjoying the good things in life, such as the warm glow of candlelight or a steaming cup of cocoa -- and there is no better time of year to do it than the holiday season.

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December 2020

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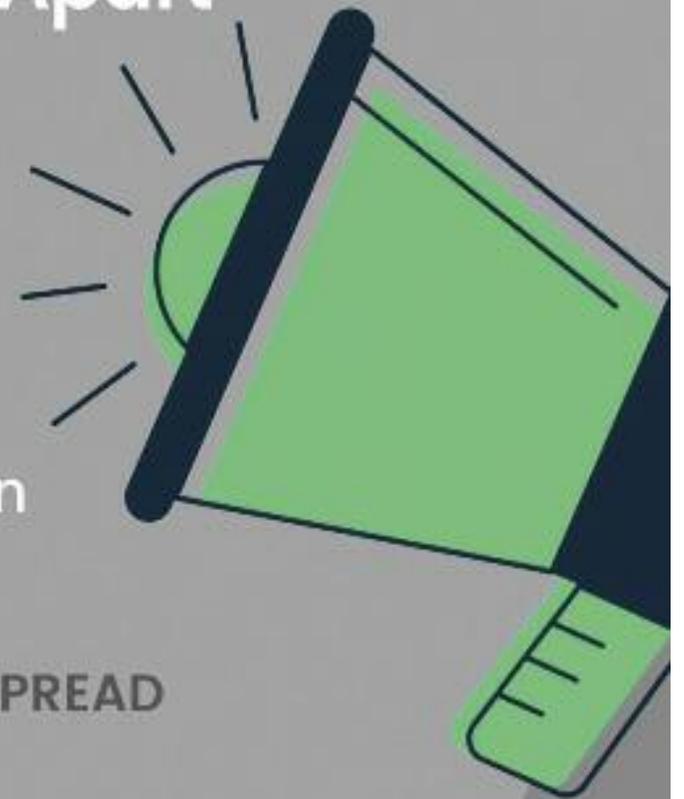
HOLIDAY SEASON SAFETY TIPS

1 Wash Your Hands!

2 Social Distancing 6ft Apart

3 Get Your Flu Shot!

4 If sick, stay home!



With the community quarantine still in place, we encourage everyone to:

Practice Social Distancing - #STOPTHESPREAD



@AACPGLakeCounty

2020 Election Results in Lake County and Beyond

by Elroy Reed

Like everything else that has gone on this year, the 2020 Elections were unpredictable, devastating to some, and beneficial to others. At minimum, they changed the political and social landscape of America. On the national level, the Joe Biden – Kamala Harris ticket won over incumbent Donald Trump. Joe Biden will be the next president and Kamal Harris, will be the first female, first African American, and first Asian American to serve as Vice President of the United States of America.

On the local level Collette Davis was appointed to the position of Zion Township Assessor and was sworn in on November 7th.

Democratic Incumbent Brad Schneider was re-elected with more than 60% of the vote.

Incumbent Lauren Underwood, 14th District, was reelected for Congress with a narrow lead over challenger Jim Oberweis. This race had been called for Oberweis, but after all mail-in and provisional ballots were counted, Underwood won by 4,288 votes.

In the hotly contested State's Attorney's race, Eric Rhinehart won over incumbent Mike Nerheim with roughly 52% of the vote. This upset was seen as part of a blue wave orchestrated to strengthen the number of Democrats in office. Many people hoping to oust Trump, voted a straight Democratic ticket. Several republicans who were expected to win, lost.

Melinda Bush won over Christopher Kasperski with 58% of the vote. Jennifer Banek won over incumbent Howard Cooper with about 53% all votes cast.

Mary Ellen Vanderverter was re-elected to the Lake County Recorder office.

Erin Cartwright Weinstein won her re-election bid with 56% of the vote.

The measure to combine the Recorder of Deeds office with the Lake County Clerk also passed by nearly 67%.

Joyce Mason, State Representative for the 61th District was reelected and Rita Mayfield, uncontested, will return as State Representative for the 60th District.

In the County Board races, Linda Pedersen was reelected for District 1. Diane Hewitt retained her seat for District 2, Gina M. Roberts won over Incumbent Brent C. Paxton for the 4th District. Carissa Casbon won over incumbent Steve Carlson, Paras Parekh won over incumbent Mike Rummel. Board President, Sandy Hart, District 13, will return after capturing 59% of the vote. Terry Wilke won for District 16. And Marah Altenberg won for District 20.

Nearly 70% of all registered voters in Lake County voted. This is the most people who have voted in history.



**THE
URBAN TOWN HALL**

Moderated by Elroy Reed

**Thursdays December 3, December 17, and December 31, 2020
7:00 PM Streaming on Facebook and YouTube**



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DECEMBER 2020

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DATES
PART 1-WEDNESDAY 11/18/20
PART 2-WEDNESDAY 11/25/20
PART 3-WEDNESDAY 12/16/20

TOPICS
HEART DISEASE PREVENTION
CANCER PREVENTION
DIABETES PREVENTION

TIME
6P CENTRAL TIME
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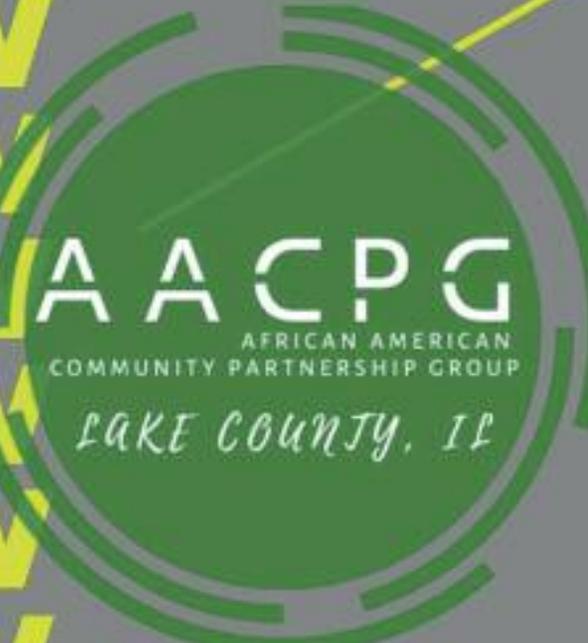
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- 2** wash your hands
- 3** watch your distance



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