

REFLECTION

Editor’s note: Op-Ed pieces and Letters to the Editor are welcome. Discussion of ideas and issues is one of our fundamental rights and duties, as well as being essential to the advancement of all people. The main requirement for acceptance is that they maintain civil discourse. Articles or letters that engage in ranting or ad hominem attacks will not be published. An extra long article or letter may be edited for the sake of space. Email your article or letter to tina.fieldsmedia@gmail.com, or send it via the USPS to Editor, Northwest Michigan Voice, PO Box 28, Rapid City, MI 49676

Aiming High

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It may have been my dad who first advised me to aim high. “Aim for the moon,” he said, “because even if you don’t get all the way there, you will still be way ahead of where you would be if you just aimed straight ahead.”

I have aimed at more than one goal and fallen somewhat short, but the advice is still good, and correct. At one time, I aimed to become an opera star. I had a very wide lyric soprano vocal range, easily tinkling up there on a high C and even making a high E; and I could comfortably descend to an A or G below middle C. I never became an operatic diva, but I did have about ten years as a working performer in the dinner clubs around Chicago. And, I was also a folk singer and guitarist.

At one time, I expected to be an engineer. That also didn’t happen, but I learned a lot about how things work. Knowing the laws of physics, I am a driver who would never cut in front of an eighteen-wheeler truck and stand on the brakes to make it onto an off-ramp. I know the truck simply cannot stop on a dime.

When motherhood came along, I expected to be an at-home Mommy until my children were full

grown. But, things do happen, and I suddenly found myself alone with four children to raise. Children want to eat every day, so I got a job, that within a couple years led me into export management. Feeling very guilty about having to cut into family time in order to earn a living, I was greatly lifted up when my youngest daughter said to me, “No, Mom, you are showing us what a responsible adult does.”

Marriage was something that I had to try more than once to get it right. It seems I have finally succeeded at that, having recently celebrated 38 years in a very stable and loving marriage.

During a batch of pre-employment tests I discovered that binary logic is just obvious to me. I had never known that. But armed with that talent, I easily developed the skill of computer coding. So, among other things, I am also a computer programmer and database developer.

Becoming a journalist and newspaper publisher was never something I envisioned for myself. But, just over ten years ago this opportunity fairly dropped into my lap. Now, I get to be part of a paper that my community loves. People tell me that they truly look forward to each issue every two weeks. I’ve

been frequently asked how soon I can make it a weekly publication. Well, that’s going to take some work.

Here’s the idea I have – and I’ve been working on how to make it happen for more than a year, now. I think we can make it a weekly paper online, and continue the biweekly print version. I’m working on learning the intricacies of the back end of websites, because that’s where the real magic is. I’m pretty comfortable already with the front end coding. So, a few more lessons on the controls, the servers, the databases, and all that stuff, are still ahead for me. Also, I need to find enough sustaining advertisers to support this venture. Shooting for the moon, I’ll just go ahead and say what I need. I need subscribers for the print version and I need advertisers for both the print and web versions. If you are interested, or know anybody else who would be, please reach out to me.

Well, that’s what I’ve been thinking about.

Shalom

Tina Norris Fields
Editor

Citizenship Corner

These questions may require some research on your part. Thank you for making that effort. The answers will appear in the next edition of the Voice.

- 1) How many times does the Constitution refer to “due process of law”?
- 2) Where are those references found?
- 3) What is the principle reflected in these two references?
- 4) Is this protected right reserved for citizens?



Citizenship Corner

Answers to last issue’s questions

- 1) Where in the Constitution is the “writ of habeas corpus” referenced?
A. Article I, Section 9, paragraph 2, says: “The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.”
- 2) What does the Latin phrase “habeas corpus” mean?
A. Literally, it means “you have the body.”
- 3) How is the writ of habeas corpus used?
A. Typically, a judge will issue the writ, thereby obliging whoever is detaining a person to provide that person physically to the court.
- 4) Why is this important?
A. This offers protection against unlawful detainment. The entity detaining the person has to produce that person in court and has to present to the judge the reason for detainment. The judge then determines whether the detainment is legal or illegal.

Everything in this paper
is important to somebody