

Help: For years by Sharon Stredde, needed in S. Dakota

Becoming involved in projects to help others is widespread throughout the country and here at home. Often we take some of the relative and essential organizations for granted. Many of the individuals do their work to offer help without much publicity and little recognition. It is truly widespread and in spite of the headlines across the country of violence and lack of caring, the majority of the souls in the United States offer hope and encouragement.

See the Fundraiser forum on page 11 this week for organizations which spread help, hope, and hospitality to those who need encouragement, places to stay, and positive messages.

We support those efforts, however, we do not have a way of spreading the word for every organization. There is a time and place for recognition and one place which must not be missed is Sharon Stredde, president and chief executive officer of the Community Foundation for 30 years. She will retire December 31, 2015. The Community Foundation grew by \$70 Million during her time as president and CEO and received gifts of \$77 Million. She led the organization which awarded nearly \$51 Million in grants and scholarships in that time.

Earlier this year the Foundation expanded through an office in Geneva which has been helping to spread the word in the Tri-Cities area.

She will stay on as president emeritus and continue to research, write scripts, and oversee production of new videos for the Foundation, according to a release sent out by Jeff Hartman, executive vice president of the organization.

The need is great for good service in all communi-

One Voice

Carter Crane



ties and often the perception is that individuals are dependent on the government for assistance. Primarily, however, organizations such as the Community Foundation offer hope and help, not as a relief organization, but, for grants and scholarships. The backbone of our society can receive a helping hand to stimulate the mind and character. Congratulations to Sharon Stredde for her invaluable service

over many years as a key component of the communities in the Fox River Valley.

• In a wider scope, nationally, we can consider offering help for the youth at the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. In the last year hopelessness struck the reservation, a grim place for Native Americans who find little avenues to help themselves. Twenty-two youngsters committed suicide in the last year. Help is needed continually. We may have missed a fundraiser in September, however, the need is unending. It is a hand up and not a hand out which offers hope to individuals. Life expectancy is 45 years. Awareness is the first step. We received this information at *The Voice* from relative and friend, Lisa Sfeir, an advocate for the residents at Pine Ridge. Send to us at *The Voice* on ways to help.

Advice: Open letter to Kane coroner

September 29, 2015
Dear editor;

This is an open letter to Rob Russell, Kane County coroner:

Mr. Russell, Kane County is short of money, but through frugality, the County Board has held the line on taxes. As a taxpayer, I'm grateful to not have my taxes raised. You don't seem to be on board with it. According to the September 3 *Beacon-News* article, you spent \$5,780

on "various promotional items such as plastic shopping bags, clip-on reflectors and personal

fund," that's taxpayer money you are spending, and it appears to be political. Residents are

have this straight, your budget will pay for your attorney and the defense fees will come out of the state's attorney's budget, and it's all taxpayer money you would be spending.

If you think this activity will get you re-elected, I think you are mistaken. I suggest you start looking for ways to save us money and let your record get you re-elected.

Kent Catich
North Aurora

READER'S VOICE

size hot/cold packs with customized imprinting with a logo identifying Rob Russell as Kane County Coroner."

Hey Rob, "special account," or "general

dying to give you business. You don't need to advertise and you don't need a website. I read that you are considering a lawsuit against the County Board. If I

Veterans deserve efficient health care

September 29, 2015
Dear editor;

It has become clear that Veteran Affairs (VA) hospitals have had a hard time treating the number of veterans who need care. There's a simple way to help address this problem and it doesn't require any new hiring: Make better use of the skills and experience of the health care professionals already working at the VA. It is exactly what

the Veterans' Health Administration (VHA) is considering with Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). These women and men are compassionate professionals with advanced degrees and the clinical experience necessary to provide a wider range of care than the VHA allows.

Right now, APRNs have full practice authority when treating active duty military

personnel through the Department of Defense. Their skills are put to good use for the DoD, especially on the front lines of U.S. military actions, and they should be granted the same authority to serve our veterans to the best of their abilities in the VHA.

There are already several thousand APRNs serving in veterans' hospitals. Let's use them more efficiently and effectively to allow

them to offer veterans a wider range of care.

As a veteran, I'm glad to see that a solution to the long wait times veterans face could be coming in the near future. I urge our elected officials in Illinois and in Congress to support the agency in its common sense move.

Sincerely,
Linda Chapa LaVia
State representative
83rd District Aurora

A voice important for all of us

We all have a need to be heard in some way and at some time in our lives.

We need to have a voice.

Whether it is a conversation between two, a situation in a group, within a family situation, at work, in politics, or representing a business, having a voice is essential. There are avenues to find our voices. We can speak or write, or share in the voices found by others.

This newspaper can help give a voice to those who want to reach other individuals.

Organizations need a voice to send out their messages. Whether that organization represents a collection of individuals, or, is a charitable effort to benefit individuals, *The Voice* each week can provide access to being heard.

The open invitation is extended to participation by reading the information within these pages, or by submitting material for others to understand. The material could be in the form of a letter, a news release, or, a business advertisement.

Deadline: Noon, Monday each week.

The Voice

An independent newspaper

314 N. Lake St., Suite 2
Aurora, IL 60506

Carter Crane, editor and publisher
Jason Crane, general manager

Phone: 630.966.Voice(8642) Fax: 630.225.5232
Email: news@thevoice.us

The Voice is published each Thursday in Aurora, Illinois.
Subscription rate: \$18., per year, \$30. for two years. Subscription rates to groups are available upon request.
Permit 6 in Aurora, Ill.

ISSN: 2152-2340

The Voice Publications, Inc.

Postmaster: Change service requested to:

The Voice, 314 N. Lake Street, Suite 2, Aurora, IL 60506



Have an issue on your mind? Send your letter to us at: community@thevoice.us or

314 N. Lake St., Suite 2 Aurora, IL 60506 Please include a phone number for confirmation

Index of The Voice advertisers this week listed

Aurora Pancake House.....	page 5	Jake's Bagels & Deli	page 5	The Voice Subscription.....	page 3
Compounder, The.....	page 5	Montgomery VFW Post 7452.....	page 6	The Voice Smugmug.....	page 5
D&M Muffler	page 5	Montgomery VFW Post 7452...	page 21	Yorkville VFW Post 489	page 17
David Howard, atty	page 13	Natural Beekeeping.....	page 5		
Gary Shilts, atty	page 6	North Aurora Hotel	page 5	Classified ads.....	pages 28-31
Hetts Auto Sales	page 5	Paul & Bill's Service Center.....	page 5	Legal notices.....	pages 24-28
Illini Express, atty	page 6	S&S Metal Recyclers II	page 5		

The Voice believes in and encourages everyone to exercise First Amendment rights. This freedom is important to us. Equally, *The Voice* does not necessarily endorse nor support any expressed opinion.