

# Forum

Our readers' opinions

*Continued from page 6*

Walgreen stock because it grows and produces results. Mr. Walgreen would be pleased, I am sure. When government interferes in the form of taxation way above competing nations, a corporation needs to make hard decisions, such as moving overseas to avoid that 35 percent tax.

Mr. Durbin, you proposed a tax credit to keep companies here in the U.S. I have a simpler solution; just lower the corporate tax to 20 to 25 percent, Walgreens and others will stay put and the folks in Dixon will be happy.

**DON LASS**  
Oswego

The popularity of farmers markets continues to rise, as more and more consumers discover the joys of shopping for unique ingredients sold direct from the farm, and the pleasure of buying familiar products in their freshest possible state.

Take an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of farmers markets and the bountiful production of our nation's farmers who, while providing for our needs, are among the best stewards of our land.

Join our Facebook page at Sugar Grove Farmer's Market.

**PAT GRACEFFA**  
Sugar Grove Farmer's Market Volunteer  
Sugar Grove

racy? We do not live in a cocoon. When radical groups want to conquer, who will stand for "democracy?" Who wants war? I don't, and I'm not convinced, no matter what Mr. Ed asserts, that conservatives lust to see war after war after war. What they may want, however, is to see democratic ideals triumph over the evils of radical ideals.

**CINDY AKRE**  
Piano

## Visit farmer's market...

"If every household in Illinois dedicated just \$10 of their weekly grocery budget towards Illinois Products - \$47 million would be re-invested in the Illinois economy. That's over \$2.4 billion annually."

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) is challenging residents to devote a small portion of their food budget to Illinois-made products. Take the \$10 Illinois Product Pledge at [agr.state.il.us/marketing/ilprod](http://agr.state.il.us/marketing/ilprod).

The Sugar Grove Farmer's Market invites you to spend that \$10 weekly at our market which is held every Saturday, from 8 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of the Village of Sugar Grove located at 10 Municipal Drive (Rt. 30) in Sugar Grove. We are a rain or shine market and we welcome residents from Sugar Grove and our surrounding communities.

Sugar Grove, you especially told us you wanted more vendors and we had 17 last week. We have cheese, eggs, meat, veggies, fruit, native plants, gourmet doggie treats, fresh ground coffee, honey, bread, pastries, cupcakes and so much more.

But the vendors need you to participate if you want them to come back weekly. Show them that Sugar Grove and our surrounding communities want a local farmer's market by making it viable.

Our farmer's market serves as integral links between urban, suburban, and rural communities, affording farmers and their consumers the opportunity to interact.

## An answer to previous letter...

Only occasionally do I bother to find words to address our verbose Mr. Ed Washak. He asks one question at the end of his July 3 letter to the Ledger-Sentinel Forum. Did you catch it? After writing again on evil conservatives, he outlines some snippets from misguided neocons and right wing personalities.

I don't recommend Wikipedia for a source, but in a pinch it's all right for an overview. According to Wiki, neoconservatism raised its head in the 1960s and yes, some of its proponents are recognizable names. They (neocons) "frequently advocate the "assertive" promotion of democracy and promotion of "American national interest" in international affairs including by means of military force." What's wrong with assertive promotion of democ-

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Illinois Department of Transportation  
PUBLIC MEETING



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All correspondence regarding this project should be sent to:

Illinois Department of Transportation  
201 West Center Court  
Schaumburg, IL 60196-1096  
Attn: Bureau of Programming  
Lori Brown, Project Manager  
Phone: (847) 705-4477

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Our readers' opinions

Continued from page 5

policy debate.

Our Founding Fathers were clear on a number of things we can learn from history. Even if we strongly disagree, the original documents are clear. They believed in limited government. Why? Because they knew the opposite. They believed in liberty because they knew the opposite. Remember, too, that issues over taxation vexed many. They knew what over-taxation would lead people to do, something we've forgotten. They didn't just guess or share opinion. And when they were divided, they spoke clearly, strongly defending their stances. These men were brilliant yet now we have professors in certain colleges advocating we stop teaching the Constitution. Why? Because they disagree with it. They think it's a dead document. Thank you to those who are clearly writing about issues, defending them from the historical perspective. My hat's off to you. Know where you stand as time is running out for those of you who just want to go on swimming in the sea of ignorance.

CINDY AKRE  
Plano

## Don't weep for Walgreens...

This week the International System of Units redefined the fastest measure of time to date. It seems Republican Senator Mark Kirk of Illinois created this new measure of time when he criticized the current administration and its connection to the crash in the Ukraine. They said the time between the two events was so fast it gave a new definition of what is referred to as a blink of an eye.

Last week a Ledger-Sentinel letter writer wanted all of us to pull out the weep hankie because Walgreens was moving overseas. It seems the writer feels the current tax system hurts big business by over taxation. Corporations, being the warm hearted and benevolent entities they are, should be treated less harshly and not be overly taxed, thus driving them to seek refuge overseas. Seems we have forgotten the schools Mr. Walgreen ran so his future employees would become educated. He paved roads, built bridges and operated airports so his goods and services could flow seamlessly to his customers. He maintained several departments to oversee that his products were safe and not harm his customers. Mr. Walgreen maintained a court system with tens of thousands of employees to uphold his business contracts. And yes Mr. Walgreen paid for military and police protection so his employees would feel safe inside the borders.

Corporations like Walgreens do not become successful on their own. People who shop and work for them make them successful. The same who pay taxes so all those benefits are afforded. Corporations who run from the U.S. and set up shop overseas should be treated more harshly by way of taxes and fees than companies who stay and pay their fair share. In regards to the high tax rate of corporations, one should open up Forbes magazine, that ultra liberal finance magazine. They looked at the taxes corporations pay and it makes you see that you would rather be taxed as a corporation than an individual. The highest payers were Exxon and Chevron who paid about 25 percent on net income. That was after CPAs hacked out huge deductions and whittled down the reported revenues by billions and billions of dollars, and then they paid taxes on what was left. Many companies like GE paid nothing on their billions of net income. In the early 1930s corporations paid as much in taxes to Uncle Sam as individuals, today individuals pay 400 percent more in tax revenue. If

we went back to levels of the 1930s we could pay off our national deficit in about 10 years. Also those who say corporations will pass along the tax bill to its customers forget we all don't shop at every company so many of us will be unaffected by price increases. So please don't weep for poor old Walgreens. You know who will have to pick up the void in tax revenue they won't have to pay in the future while they rub elbows with the socialists overseas.

ED WASHAK  
Yorkville

## No justification for Hamas...

Who is Hamas?

Hamas is a terrorist organization plain and simple. Thousands of rockets being fired from Gaza at Israel are an abomination. Hamas started this current "war" by kidnapping and killing three innocent teenage boys. The Hamas "Charter's" goal is not to end Israel's policy settlement, but to wipe Israel off the map. Hamas uses civilians in Gaza, including children, as human shields. Hamas trains children to glorify death and "martyrdom," while Israel educates children to affirm life and advance the frontiers of human knowledge.

There is a clear fundamental difference between a despotic regime, Hamas-ruled Gaza, and a democracy, Israel. No country, neither America nor the European nations nor anyone else for that matter, would tolerate volleys of deadly rockets fired at them with the aim of causing murder and mayhem. There can be no justification for such acts of terror. Israel left Gaza in 2005, lock, stock and barrel. Israel, not Egypt, not the British, not the Ottomans, no one, offered Gaza the opportunity that Israel did to chart its own destiny. What did Hamas do? They took over power by ousting the Palestinian Authority, killing many in the process. There is no chance for peace if this very same Hamas is allowed to share governance with the Palestinian Authority. Israel has not only a right, but an obligation, to defend itself, which means going after the terrorist infrastructure and its leadership.

DR. GARY L. KRITZBERG  
Yorkville

## Don't be blind to mistakes...

There are times when I find great difficulty in not responding to what others write. So, considering such an idea, here is some thought regarding a Forum letter, which appeared in a recent Ledger-Sentinel.

The author of one article indicated: "I care not about letters that list a number of 'Republican mistakes' because I know that they are meant to detract from the big issues of today." We would indeed be blind to mistakes (even in the past) if we fail to admit that there were wrongdoings.

Errors of judgment can most likely be found in all political administrations if we search hard enough. If we fail to admit to historical wrongdoings, aren't we liable to see them repeated? If the "trickle down theory" (for example) really truly worked, as promoted by a former president, would there continue to be so many home foreclosures since everyone would benefit from the few gaining more wealth? And, what about the hundreds of homeless and the hundreds of people who go to food banks, wouldn't they be helped by having more of the wealth?

The author of the letter continued: "Who can't match the list with Democrats' mistakes? I can think of many but won't bother listing them." Why not list them? If there are mistakes and errors of judgment, let everyone know. Perhaps, then such mistakes or errors would not be repeated.

While some people collect sports cards, beer cans or something else, I have numerous news clippings from the past. Here are some examples: "President defends Texas oil dealings" (2002), "Cheney, Company Sued," (2002), "Congressional perks safe from budget cuts" (1997), "Ex-lawmaker benefits from pension loopholes" (1997), "Fitzgerald sold \$13.3 million in stock in '01" (2002). How many of us would like to have just a few of the benefits enjoyed by people we send to represent us in our government, even those who make "mistakes"?

RICHARD KASTNER  
Aurora.

## Pork chop dinner thanks...

The Friends of Extension and the Kendall County 4-H Foundation would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their generous support of our pork chop dinner held on Saturday, July 19. We understand with today's busy times, we all must make choices about whom and what we can and cannot support. We especially thank those organizations and individuals who were able to make a monetary gift towards our expenses. A big thank you also needs to go to the Kendall County Pork Producers who volunteer their time to cook the meal, the Kendall County Fair Association for use of the fairgrounds, the Master Gardeners who help serve and last but not least, the 4-H'ers and others who sell tickets and volunteer their time to help. This year we raffled off a 4-H quilt and matching pillow won by B. Reppy of Minooka and made by former 4-H and Youth advisor, Mary Ann Petersen. All proceeds from this event will be used to further 4-H and youth activities through the Kendall County Extension Unit. Once again, Thank you.

DIANE MORRIS  
Friends of Extension Committee  
Kendall County 4-H Foundation  
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