

EDITORIAL

WISE AND OTHERWISE

By Kent A. Stock



What are you doing New Year's Eve?

Since many of you are probably reading this in 2019, the question should be what did you do New Year's Eve? Party all night long, see in the first sunrise of the New Year and/or asking yourself if you had a good time because you can't remember most of it?

Not these days, buddy, as many of my age or even younger have hung up their all night ways. Maybe not entirely because God has given us short term memory loss so we go out there and, despite being mid-50s, we try to act like we are in our mid-

20s. Life will remind you the next day or several days, that is definitely not the case; trust me on this one. God has a sense of humor, you know.

Today it is more like, "Honey, are we staying up to watch the ball drop?" The spouse doesn't answer and you are like, "Yes! Bedtime!" Does snoring together in your respective recliners count as a celebration? I'll allow it. The snoring can be like your own noisemakers welcoming in the next year.

Our family gets together and plays games, eats, watches some sort of sporting event, eats, tells stories,

eats...I think you get the picture. We adults do our best to keep each other awake until midnight.

Our tradition is at the stroke of twelve on New Year's Eve, we go outside of our house to bang on pots and pans. Thankfully, we have lived for decades near these people and they know of our noisy tradition. They put up with us anyway. No one has shot us yet. Let me emphasize yet, please and thank you.

Just like noisemakers or party horns it is supposed to scare away the evil spirits from the old year. Tradition also says you are supposed to come out one door, make your ruckus and then go back in another door because that will confuse any evil spirits that might not have been scared off by all the noise. If that is the case, evil spirits are just plain stupid.

It is normally a quick trip out of doors because, well, we live in Illinois and quite often it is a balmy four degrees below zero on December 31. The evil spirits probably aren't even there those nights because they are in their nice, warm home watching Dick Clark's Rockin' New Year's Eve.

We end up by us all trying to sing Auld Lang Syne which, out of all the noise we make, is probably the most likely thing to scare off most anything!

Happy New Year 2019! Hope you made it until midnight!

Holding It All Together

by Amy McCollom



With Much Resolve
My "word of the year" for 2018 was LEARN. As I look back over this past year, I feel as if I have gained 10 years of knowledge and wisdom.

Mostly spiritual wisdom and realization, but also a deeper understanding of people. I have gone through highs and lows, tears and laughter, worry and contentment; and I'm better because of it. I know I have more to learn, more to endure, probably more tears to cry, and hugs to share in the coming days. With God holding my hand, I will face each day with praise on my lips, and strength in my wings. I will take on each day as it comes, for we have no promise of tomorrow.

As we move ahead into the new year, I want to impart to you some of the things I have learned this year. Maybe they will help you, as they have helped me.

You don't know how weird someone is until they have kids.

Saying "no" to helping someone, even a family member, is ok if you need a break.

You will not die if you do not check your Facebook or email everyday.

You don't know how strong someone is until you watch them fight a battle with cancer.

Our family members do NOT belong to us, but belong to the all sovereign God.

God knows our feelings, our every heartache, our every tear. He will not leave us comfortless. Trust His word.

Someone who will do things for you when you are

sick and can do nothing for them, are true friends and precious gifts from God.

Little children will take the little bits of love you give them and multiply them back to you.

Staring up at the clear night sky can be a magnificent revelation of God's massive splendor.

Sometimes it pays off to come up with your own pattern. Improvise instead of giving up.

I will leave you with some other words of wisdom that I found timely, relevant, useful, or amusing to help start out

the new year.
Never play leapfrog with a unicorn. Unknown

A lie is an abomination to the Lord, and a very present help in times of trouble. Adlai Stevenson

Nature has given us 2 ears but only one mouth. Benjamin Disraeli

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul, can always depend on the support of Paul. George Bernard Shaw

There are 2 kinds of pedestrians...the quick and the dead. Lord Thomas Robert Dewar

Locally & Veteran Owned



122 W. Sale St. Tuscola, IL.

217-599-1046

THIS COULD BE YOUR AD!
 ADVERTISE IN THE VG NEWS
 AND THE SCC TODAY
 NEWSPAPERS
 & Reach up to 5000 customers
 Call Jamie
 AT THE VG NEWS OFFICE
 832-4201 or
 email - vgads@mediacombb.net
 for more information on
 AFFORDABLE ADVERTISING

Business and Professional DIRECTORY
 The following Business and Professional People are ready to serve you. Call for their services.

INSURANCE

Beyond the expected™
PEKIN
 INSURANCE

The Hillard Agency
 217-832-2411
 9 N. Main St.
 Villa Grove

Lon Tay- Owner
 Lon.Tay@hillardagency.com
 Betsy Orwick- Insurance Specialist
 Betsy.Orwick@hillardagency.com

DEADLINES
 Classified-Friday @ 2
 News-Friday @ 2
 Ads-Friday @ 2
 Ads-Friday @ 2

THIS COULD BE YOUR AD!
 ADVERTISE IN THE VG NEWS
 AND THE SCC TODAY
 NEWSPAPERS
 & Reach up to 5000 customers
 Call Jamie
 AT THE VG NEWS OFFICE
 832-4201 or
 email - vgads@mediacombb.net
 for more information on
 AFFORDABLE ADVERTISING

EYE CARE
CHITTICK FAMILY EYE CARE

- Adult & Pediatric Eye Care
- Contact Lenses
- Custom Vision Correction
- Digital Retinal Exam
- Glaucoma detection & management

10 West Adams • Villa Grove, IL 61956
 Office: 832-2111 Hours: Mon - Fri 8 - 5
 Medicare assignments accepted/Health Alliance Provider

PRINT

Villa Grove News
 5-7 S. Main Street,
 Villa Grove, IL
 Phone: 832-4201

All your print job needs:
 Business Cards
 Raffle Tickets
 Envelopes
 Copies and Faxes
 and more

VETERINARY SERVICES

Four Counties Mobile Veterinary Services

Kathleen M. Mcmanamon, DVM

House and Farm Calls
 Small Animal and Equine

Hours:
 Monday-Friday, Noon-8 p.m.
 Saturday, By Appointment
 Phone: (217) 834-3472

Area Church Services

FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
 1 South Pine Street,
 Villa Grove, Illinois
 Wheelchair Accessible
 Where Lives are Changed!
 Pastor Jerry L. Conner
 Church 832-7071
 Residence 832-8577
 Sunday School—10:00 a.m.
 Worship Service—10:00 a.m.
 Evening Evangelistic Service—6:30 p.m.
 Monday
 1st one of each month
 Ladies Auxiliary, 7:00 p.m.
 Monday—Friday
 Ladies Prayer Group—9:00 a.m.
 Tuesday
 Youth Service—7:00-8:00 p.m.
 Thursday
 Bible Study—7:30 p.m.
 Free Home Bible Study
 We welcome you to worship with us in all of our services

VICTORY CHURCH
 100 E. Second St • Camargo,
 Illinois 61919
 Pastor—Duane Piercy
 Church 832-8398,
 Residence 832-9792
 Email
 victorychurchcamargo@gmail.com
 Web Page: victorychurch.life
 Find us on Facebook
 Service Times
Sunday
 Adult Sunday School—
 9-9:45 a.m.
 Soul Cafe- 9am-9:45
 Victory Kids Sunday School
 10:00am
 Worship & Service—10:00 a.m.
Wednesday
 Men's & Women's Bible
 Study-6:30-8 p.m.
 RUSH Youth Group (1st & 3rd
 Wednesday), 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday
 Prayer Group—6:00-7:00 p.m.
 Worship Team 7:00-8:00 p.m.
 American Sign Language Available • Wheelchair accessible •
 Nursery Care • Sports Ministries
 • Motorcycle Ministry • Local
 Mission Team

LIVING HOPE FELLOWSHIP
 (An Independent New Testament Church)
 South of Villa Grove on Rt. 130
 Pastor Randy Walters
 Phone: 217-218-9001
 Elder — Pete Lake, 832-2400
 Sunday Worship Service—
 10 a.m.
 Communion is observed
 each week.
 Children's Church:
 pre-school through fourth grade
 For transportation to any service
 call: 217-218-3217
 Church facility is
 wheelchair accessible
 "Room for everyone. Enough
 love to go around."

VILLA GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 "Growing Closer to the Heart of God"
 302 Second St., Villa Grove
 Pastor—Rev. Sandi Hire
 Church 832-3971
 Summer Office Hours:
 Monday-Thursday 9am - noon
 Email: secretary.vgumc@yahoo.com
 Website: www.vgumcweb.org
 Find us on Facebook for upcoming events
Sunday
 9:15 am Sunday School
 For All Ages
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 Child care available during
 Worship
 Open Communion first Sunday
 of each month
 Walkers are welcome Monday-
 Friday during office hours in the
 Henson New Life Center
 Quilters- contact the office for
 opportunities to join our quilters
 Join us for Advent- Each Sunday
 in December!
 Christmas Eve Services at
 7:00pm - Family Friendly and
 11:00 pm Candlelight Service
 with Communion

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 "Come Rejoice With Us"
 701 N. Sycamore Street Villa Grove
 Phone (217) 832-5231
 Fax (217) 832-9348
 website: www.fccvg.com
 e-mail: fccvg@frontier.com
Minister—Mike Zylstra
 e-mail: fccvgmin@frontier.com
Morning Worship—9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Celebration
 9:30a.m.
 Age 4-5th Grade
Sunday Morning Celebration Leaders:
 Cecile Cassida & Seth Shunk
Sunday School—10:45 a.m.
Junior High Youth Group (Grades 6-8)
 1st & 3rd Sunday 5-6pm
High School Youth Group (Grades 9-12)
 1st & 3rd Sundays, 6-7:30pm
Youth Group Leader: Brenda Logan
 Nursery care at all services.
 Open Communion offered each Sunday

CAMARGO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 103 E. Main Street
 P.O. Box 122, Camargo, IL 61919
 Church—832-9388
 e-mail: umccamargo@gmail.com
 Office Hours:
 Tuesday and Thursday
 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Pastor - Lenny Summar
 Traditional Worship - 9:15 a.m.
 Contemporary Worship 10:30
 "Come just as you are to worship"
 Open Communion first Sunday
 of each month
 Prayer Group - Meets after
 Sunday Service

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
 208 N. Pine Stret, Villa Grove
 Pastor -Rev. Aloy Ndeanaefo
 Office: 832-8352
 Hours: M-F 8:30am-1:30pm
 Email: villagrove.hume@gmail.com
 website: sacredheartandstmichael.com
 Mass Times: Saturday: 4pm
 Sunday 10:00am
 Sunday @ St. Michaels in Hume
 8:00am
 PSR:
 Wed Eve 1st - 8th grade 6:30 - 7:20
 and 9th - 12th 7:30 - 8:30 pm.