

Family Service Senior Resource Center staff in Tuscola offering events and information



Becki and Connie have been hosting events to help increase social connection among older adults during the COVID pandemic. As a part of the events, they also share information on services available to older adults in the area. Past events have included BINGO and crafts. A parking lot BINGO event will be planned in the future. The next event, BINGO, was scheduled for Aug. 31 at 2:00 p.m. in the Murdock Community Building. These events are free of charge to those age 60 and older, living in a private home or independent apartment setting in Douglas County. Non-monetary prizes will be given to winners.

PLM committee interviewed sheriff candidates

By Jim Allen

The Personnel, Legal and Management committee met at 11:00 a.m. on August 17, 2021. This was a Committee of the Whole meeting and all board members were present. Chair Jim Mikeworth asked County Clerk Judy Pollock to proceed with the meeting. Pollock was asked to set up the meeting to interview two candidates for the office of the Sheriff of Douglas County.

At this time Nathan Chaplin is interim Sheriff replacing Joshua Blackwell who resigned effective 7-1-21. Each candidate was to prepare an opening statement to the board which would be followed by questions regarding the open position. The candidates would not be informed of the questions in advance.

The two candidates to be interviewed were Wes Fleener and Nathan Chaplin. However, Pollock informed the board members that Wes Fleener had sent an email to her the day before stating that he would not be attending the meeting and would therefore not be present for the interview.

The board decided to proceed with the meeting in Fleener's absence. Chaplin answered questions covering issues such as filling vacancies in the Sheriff's office,

budget requirements, and future needs of the department.

In answer to a question by Gary Luth, Chaplin stated that he would seek reelection and would like to serve the county in the Sheriff's office for as long as the people of Douglas County supported his efforts. Dick Hein asked for Chaplin's view of the current radio system used by the county. Chaplin said that he felt the present system needed to be improved, but that a new system likely would not be needed. Don Munson mentioned that the board would be working on a budget for the coming years and asked what the Sheriff's needs might be. Chaplin stated that investment in people and training were the top issue especially with the changing roles of law enforcement. He also said that body cameras for each person on duty were essential.

At this time an executive session was called. After 50 minutes, the public portion of the meeting reconvened without comment.

Before the meeting closed, Chair Jim Mikeworth asked for comments or questions from the public. Scott Harris, Chairman of the Republican Central Committee, addressed the board.

I do not feel that I can effectively paraphrase his statement so with his permis-

sion, I am going to present it in full.

Harris said "Lady and Gentlemen of the board, Douglas County is fortunate to have a strong and active Republican Central Committee. In light of the county board deciding to conduct their own interviews of sheriff candidate, the Central Committee feels compelled to release a statement in reference to such.

The Democratic process is one the central committee does not take lightly. When tasked with nomination a candidate for office, we put every effort into ensuring the right candidate is ultimately appointed by the county board to fill a vacancy. Potential candidates are not only put through a rigorous interview process, but extensive background checks are conducted and references for each candidate are interviewed. No stone is let unturned and the central committee as a whole is comfortable with each candidate that is nominated.

Moreover, during the nomination process, each precinct committee person is tasked with not only reviewing all documentation associated with a candidate, but also speaking with their respective constituents. After exhaustive interviews which take hours to complete, each committee person is respon-

sible for casting a vote for the candidate they feel best represents not only the Republican Party, but also the office in which they will serve. This vote is weighted by precinct so the voters of Douglas county are heard.

Douglas County is very fortunate the committee was presented with two very good candidates to fill the sheriff vacancy. Both Nathan Chaplin and Wes Fleener conducted themselves in a professional manner even when facing tough questions by the committee. It is the committee's hope for the future that the county board does not set a precedent in eroding the decision set forth by the Republican Central Committee. Just because a governing body can do fomenting, doesn't necessarily mean it should. Undermining this nomination process ins not what republicans do. Republicans stand firmly behind candidates that are nominated, just as the committee did most recently with the Douglas County Coroner in 2020.

In closing, I would like to thank the board for allowing me to speak on behalf of the Republican Central Committee. As always, the committee will remain poised and ready to serve their constituents. Respectfully, Scott Harris Chairman of the Republican Central Committee"

Helm named 2021 Tex Winter Assistant Coach Lifetime Impact Award Winner

Dick Helm, one of the most impactful Assistant Coaches in NBA history, is the recipient of the 2021 Tex Winter Assistant Coach Lifetime Impact Award, the National Basketball Coaches Association (NBCA) announced today.

"Throughout his NBA coaching career, Dick Helm embodied everything that a world class Assistant Coach brings to the game. Over a career that spanned several decades, Dick helped countless players and Coaches become their very best while continually helping promote the NBA game. Dick worked with many NBA coaching greats, most notably, longtime former NBCA President Lenny Wilkens. Dick is an extremely fitting recipient for the Tex Winter Assistant Coach Lifetime Impact Award," said Indiana Pacers Head Coach and NBCA President, Rick Carlisle.

"I am grateful, honored, and humbled to have been selected by the NBCA Committee for the 2021 Tex Winter Assistant Coach Lifetime Impact Award. One never receives this type of award by oneself. I'd like to thank my wife Andrea and family for all their love and support. I will be forever grateful to Lenny Wilkens who took me on as an Assistant Coach for a fantastic NBA journey together. Thanks also, to the many Coaches, players, general managers, trainers, and individuals who have made an impact on my life both professionally and personally. Truly, I am blessed to have known Tex Winter and to have been a part of this NBA family," said Coach Dick Helm.

During his 16-year NBA career, Coach Helm was a part of five separate coaching staffs led by Lenny Wilkens. Dick started his career as an Assistant Coach with the Seattle SuperSonics in 1984. Coach Helm then followed Coach Wilkens to the Cleveland Cavaliers for seven seasons (1986-1993) and then the Atlanta Hawks for five seasons (1993-1998). After taking a few years off from NBA coaching, Coach Helm later reconnected with

Lenny Wilkens for one season with the Toronto Raptors (2002-2003) and ended his NBA coaching career on a two-year stint with the New York Knicks (2003-2005). Coach Helm finished his coaching career with a regular season record of 583-483. Dick was an integral part of 11 playoff appearances, coaching in a total of 83 playoff games. In addition to his coaching career, Coach Helm has also been a great mentor and educator to many younger Coaches and players. In 2004, Dick joined fellow NBA Coaches Don Casey, Dean Cooper, and former Knick Rolando Blackman in instructing 150 Junior Olympic Coaches. Coach Helm has also conducted basketball clinics in Australia, Argentina, China, Greece, and Spain.

Dick Helm's contributions to basketball cannot be mentioned without the enormous role he has played in shaping the next generation of NBA players and Coaches. Coach Helm's impact extends to Vince Carter, Dominique Wilkins, Dikembe Mutombo, Vin Baker, Stephon Marbury, Allan Houston, Steve Kerr, Ron Harper, and many more. Coach Dick Helm also had a tremendous impact on the NBCA's Executive Committee; Dick held the



Association's Treasurer position for 18 years and was heavily involved with former NBCA President Lenny Wilkens and former NBCA Executive Director, Michael H. Goldberg in securing improvements to Coaches' retirement and membership benefits.

"The Tex Winter Assistant Coach Lifetime Impact Award is presented each year to an Assistant Coach who exemplifies the same high level of integrity and excellence that Tex Winter displayed during his highly successful career," said NBCA Executive Director and

General Counsel, David Fogel. "This year's award recognizes the extraordinary contributions Dick Helm has made to the sport throughout his NBA career through building a body of work that has had a positive and powerful impact on the NBA coaching profession, including his exemplary work for 18 years on the NBCA Executive Committee. Coach Helm exemplifies the high standards and leadership philosophies that Tex Win-

ter brought to the game. Congratulations to Coach Helm, this honor is well deserved."

The National Basketball Coaches Association Tex Winter Lifetime Impact Award is selected annually by the Award Selection Committee, comprised of some of the most respected coaches and executives in the game, including Rick Adelman, Hubie Brown, Doug Collins, Wayne Embry, Danny Ferry, Mike Fratello, George Karl, Doc Rivers, Rod Thorn and Lenny Wilkens.

This year's nominees included Assistant Coaches Ron Adams, Dan Burke, Gordon Chiesa, Carroll Dawson, Hank Egan, Jim Egan, Brian Hill, Jim Lynam, Brendan Malone, Bob McAdoo, Brendan

Suhr, and Bob Weiss.

Prior recipients are Bill Bertka (2019), Tim Grgrich (2018), Ron Rothstein (2017), and Phil Johnson (2016).

About the NBCA

The National Basketball Coaches Association (NBCA) is the labor organization that represents basketball coaches in the National Basketball Association (NBA). Founded in 1976 by legendary Boston Celtics player and coach, Tommy Heinsohn, the NBCA consists of all NBA Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches and alumni, and works closely with the NBA on all matters that pertain to the coaching profession.

For more on the NBA Coaches Association visit: <http://www.nbacoaches.com>.

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