

ALTERNATIVE FROM PAGE 3

History is written by a series of crises. The crises are addressed with bailouts of various kinds. The bailouts are deemed necessary because of the job losses or even losses of life that look imminent.

The folks who describe the bailouts as necessary undeniably have motives to interfere in our usual peaceful exchange. They turn to the government because it is easy to convince the masses that there is no other choice.

In recent years, bailouts have proliferated at an increasing rate. From money printing and actual debt purchases by The Fed to tariffs, mandates, forgivable loans and outright handouts; the perfectly logical system of free choice is polluted to benefit special interests.

Large companies can easily afford lobbyists and lawyers to deal with complicated tax and subsidy pollution. Since 1980, startup rates have gone from 14 percent to 7 percent as new com-

panies see all the bureaucratic headaches are not worth the effort. Bailouts of established companies have stifled productivity.

The percentage of “zombie” firms (companies that can’t even pay interest, much less principle on their debt) has increased to 18 percent because so-called essential companies are kept alive by various bailouts.

When we see things are less affordable, we instinctively blame low wages and higher prices. A look at our polluted financial system indicates that we can’t blame vendors and employers so much as the favors divvied out by politicians as essential. Actually, an honest financial system with none of that is what is essential.

Any responses to The Alternative may be sent as a letter to the editor or to Fritz’s email address at 4selfgovernment@gmail.com. His blog, www.alternativebyfritz.com, is now being updated regularly. It’s diverse, like the universities claim to be.

AOTG FROM PAGE 3

One might rankle at having to play a specific version of the game to use a specific character, but at least the value proposition is the same between all of the titles.

In the case of “Marvel’s Avengers” though, that balance is not there. Xbox and PC players aren’t getting their own unique characters, and while it’s possible that Sony’s Spider-Man exclusivity may be a timed deal, that’s far from a certainty. This ultimately means that the PS4 version of the game will simply be a more complete game than its counterparts at launch.

This feels worse than if Sony had simply shelled out the money to make the game exclusive to the PlayStation. That would at least make it a binary choice. Either you play the full game on a Sony system or you don’t. Instead, Xbox and PC players are being asked to pay the same amount of money for a lesser product.

To further put salt in the

wound, PlayStation owners are also getting timed, exclusive access to a handful of cosmetic skins and early access to the game’s beta.

I can see why Sony pushed for such a deal, but unless the check was staggeringly large, I can’t see why Crystal Dynamics agreed to it. Between the exclusive content and Crystal Dynamic’s studio head Scot Amos’ tone deaf response to the controversy, it feels like the developer is going out of its way to make non-PS4 owners feel like second class citizens.

There are a lot of games out there to be played and not nearly enough hours in the day to play them. Alienating half of the gaming world’s market share and giving them a reason to pass on your title is a bold strategy. Let’s see how it plays out.

Travis Fischer is a news writer for Mid-America Publishing and has a PS4 but also has enough to play that he can pass on this purely on principle.



The Rev. Nick Radloff speaks Saturday during Mass for the Assumption at the Little Turkey parish. PHOTO FROM SCREENSHOT

Assumption Parish Future Discussed

By Michael Hohenbrink Editor

Mass has returned to Little Turkey, though just how long it will be there remains an open question.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church had its first regular Mass as the parish’s annual celebration in honor of its patron saint took place.

Kolaches lined tables in the basement while items for an online auction were on display ahead of a parish dinner while approximately 25 people gathered for the first Mass outside of a wedding in the parish since the middle of March.

Mass at the parish was the last offered publicly anywhere in the cluster before an announcement the next day that all public offering of the Mass anywhere in the Archdiocese of Dubuque was being eliminated.

Since then, a limited Mass scheduled has been reintroduced using the cluster’s three largest churches.

That is changing. Mass will resume at the re-

maining three cluster parishes with Waucoma, Little Turkey and Fort Atkinson rejoining those with weekend Mass, said the Rev. Nick Radloff.

Mass will rotate for three parishes one weekend and the other three parishes the following weekend.

Waucoma will have its first Mass for the Sunday Obligation Saturday, Aug. 29, with Mass at Fort Atkinson and Little Turkey Sunday, Aug. 30.

The Rev. Radloff cited low attendance numbers as a factor in favor of opening the cluster’s smaller parishes. With low attendance, social distancing can be maintained, even in smaller churches.

What will happen to Little Turkey was also addressed by the Rev. Radloff, who called it “the elephant in the room” as he tackled the issue full on.

Citing the decision by the previous pastor to have the church lose its parish status, the Rev. Radloff noted the change in plans occasioned over the last few months.

That decision is now in abey-

ance with ABVM having a new lease on life.

“So, we have been given an opportunity,” said the Rev. Radloff. “It’s going to take a lot of work.”

The fundamental issue is parish finances. To stay open and viable, the parish needs to at least meet its operating expenses. Currently, the parish’s expenses are \$7,000 per month. Only \$4,000 per month is being received.

If that does not change, the parish will close, not because of the pastor or Archbishop Michael Jackels but because of the choices made individually by members of the parish, said the Rev. Radloff.

He challenged parishioners to invite former members and fallen-away believers alike back to the parish.

“This parish only has a few months of operating expenses in savings,” said the Rev. Radloff.

Both closure and remaining open are something very much possible, said the Rev. Radloff.

Final Free Performance Planned

The fourth and final live summer performance at the Ossian Educational and Performance Pavilion, featuring Steve Schroeder, will take place Sunday, Aug. 23 at 7:30 p.m.



Steve Schroeder

Steve Schroeder, one of the Tri-State’s up and coming country artists, grew up in West Union. He now resides in La Crosse, Wisconsin, as a teacher and a country artist. At the age of 24, he began performing in bars, weddings, private parties and everywhere in between. Schroeder brings a variety of country cover songs to the table while throwing in some of his original songs as well. The singer/songwriter has had the opportunity to open up for nationally touring artists such as C.J. Solar and Randy Houser.

PUBLIC NOTICE WCASWA		
WINNESHIEK COUNTY LANDFILL CLAIMS 7/1/2020-7/31/2020		
Checking balance beginning of month:		\$410,899.77
Monthly deposits:		\$162,168.21
Date	Check No/Payee	
7/11	ACH Harbor Freight (Office Supplies)	\$29.97
7/13	ACH Dell (Computer)	\$2,074.50
7/13	10729 Drillings (Repairs)	\$83.79
7/13	10730 Decorah Newspapers (Advertising)	\$48.00
7/13	10731 Village Farm (Culverts)	\$1,299.59
7/13	10732 Culligan (Office Supplies)	\$40.55
7/13	10733 Winn Co Recycling (Glass)	\$44.88
7/13	10734 Becker Hardware (Leachate)	\$3,324.86
7/13	10735 TestAmerica (Leachate)	\$5,474.25
7/13	10736 Carolina Software (Support)	\$200.00
7/13	10737 Winn Co Recycling (Grant)	\$5,666.66
7/13	10738 Aramark (Office Supplies)	\$392.32
7/13	10739 HawkEye Recycling (Glass)	\$53.28
7/13	10740 NEIT (Internet)	\$59.95
7/13	10741 Mid-America (Advertising)	\$153.94
7/13	10742 Napa (Repairs)	\$31.99
7/13	10743 Fisk Farm (Shop Supplies)	\$734.42
7/13	10744 Ziegler (Repairs)	\$332.39
7/13	10745 O'Reilly (Repairs)	\$18.03
7/13	10746 Mississippi Welders (Shop Supplies)	\$27.39
7/13	10747 John Deere (Shop Supplies)	\$78.00
7/13	10748 AgVantage (Fuel)	\$1,442.56
7/27	10749 Decorah Implement (Lawnmower)	\$1,500.00
7/27	10750 Winn Co Recycling (Glass)	\$48.72
7/27	10751 State of Iowa (Sales Tax)	\$2,424.00
7/27	10752 RACOM (Radios)	\$433.15
7/27	10753 MIEnergy (Electricity)	\$1,492.25
7/27	10754 SWANA (Dues)	\$223.00
7/27	10755 Pioneer (Telephone)	\$14.30
7/31	ACH First Data Merchant Services (Service Fees)	\$49.21
7/31	ACH First Data Merchant Services (Equip Lease)	\$48.14
		\$27,844.09
Monthly interest:		\$23.11
Checking balance end of month:		\$545,200.78
		OPERATIONAL \$1,119,242.40
		CLOSURE/POST CLOSURE \$5,399,247.17
		TOTAL: \$6,518,489.57

Published in the Calmar Courier on August 18, 2020.

Worship Guide

BETHANY LUTHERAN
Rural Ossian
Sunday, Aug. 23:
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

CALMAR LUTHERAN
Sunday, Aug. 23:
9 a.m. Worship

HOLY TRINITY
Protivin
Thursday, Aug. 20:
8:30 a.m. Mass

OSSIAN LUTHERAN
Sunday, Aug. 23:
9:30 a.m. Worship, parking lot

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL
CATHOLIC
Lawler
Friday, Aug. 21:
8:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday, Aug. 22:
Reconciliation 3:15 p.m.
4 p.m. Mass

OUR LADY OF SEVEN
DOLORS
Festina
Saturday, Aug. 22:
4 p.m. Mass

ST. ALOYSIUS
Calmar
Tuesday, Aug. 25:
5:45 p.m. Mass
Wednesday, Aug. 19:
5:45 p.m. Mass
Thursday, Aug. 20:
5:45 p.m. Mass
Friday, Aug. 21:
5:45 p.m. Mass
Sunday, Aug. 23:
10 a.m. Mass

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE
Fort Atkinson
Tuesday, Aug. 25:
5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday, Aug. 23:
10:30 a.m. Mass

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES
Ossian
Sunday, Aug. 23:
8 a.m. Mass

ST. LUKE
St. Lucas
Wednesday, Aug. 19:
8:30 a.m. Mass
Sunday, Aug. 23:
8:30 a.m. Mass

ST. WENCESLAUS
Spillville
Saturday, Aug. 22:
6 p.m. Mass

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Calmar
Sunday, Aug. 23:
11 a.m. Worship Service

GRASSLEY

FROM PAGE 1

“I expect it to tighten up,” said Grassley. “This is a pretty dramatic change from one poll to another.”

The senator has been impressed with Trump, from court appointees to holding China’s feet to the fire to Europe footing more of the bill for its own defense.

As such, Grassley wants to see another four years for President Trump.

“I want him to win,” said Grassley.

The senator also pointed to COVID-19 relief.

Grassley noted executive orders saying the president has done what he can, but action has to be legislative.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, Aug. 19
Commission of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., Winneshiek County Courthouse

Monday, Aug. 24
Fayette County Supervisors, 9 a.m., Fayette County Courthouse
Winneshiek County Board of Supervisors, 9:30 a.m., Winneshiek County Annex Building

Monday, Aug. 31
Fayette County Supervisors, 9 a.m., Fayette County Courthouse
Winneshiek County Board of Supervisors, 9:30 a.m., Winneshiek County Annex Building

Tuesday, Sept. 1
Spillville City Council, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 2
Ossian city council, 5 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 7
Fayette County Supervisors, 9 a.m., Fayette County Courthouse
Winneshiek County Board of Supervisors, 9:30 a.m., Winneshiek County Annex Building
Ossian city council, 5 p.m.
Calmar city council, 5:30 p.m.
Information used from WinneshiekCounty.org and submissions

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