

Round Up Spotlight: Partners for Healing

Partners for Healing was organized by community leaders in 2001 to improve access to healthcare for the working uninsured in Coffee, Franklin and Moore County. Partners for Healing operates a free primary healthcare clinic at 109 W. Blackwell St. This year, the nonprofit also began offering services in Manchester once a week.

To qualify for free medical care, someone in the household must work 20 hours per week or be dependent on someone who does—and the entire household income must be 250% of the Federal Poverty Guideline. Full-time students and those who earn disability income without insurance benefits also qualify. Qualified patients may call 455-5014 or fill out an application online at www.partnersforhealong.org.

Welcome



OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Emilie Martin



director@partnersforhealing.org
(931) 455- 5014

It takes change to make a change!



Help your community by supporting



The TUA Round Up Program was established in 2020 as a Community Assistance Fund to be used to help those less fortunate in the community. Through the program, TUA customers donate an average of 50 cents per month by allowing their bills to be rounded to the nearest dollar. The extra change collected is placed into the Round Up Program Fund, administered by the TUA Board of Directors.

With funds collected in 2022, the TUA board presented \$4,000 to Partners for Healing in January.

Rural Route 4

Loafing

How long has it been since you have gone loafing? Yes, loafing. I see that puzzled look; I guess I need to explain. Loafing can be lots of things: like hanging out at Rip's Needmore Grocery, or at Brown's Hardware or at the livestock barn on a Saturday.

Now there's nothing wrong with hanging out in a specific place. That's fun, too. But the ultimate kind of loafing isn't limited to just one place. The best loafing requires getting in your car and aimlessly wandering. Granted, the high cost of fuel could inhibit this kind of fun, but hey, you only live once. Loafing in the car means you don't know where you're going. And you don't know when you get there. A good loafer must be spontaneous and not worried about time.



Phillip Burgess

(Continued on back)

Watts Happening

(Continued from front)

I think loafing is a Southern invention. After a hard week's work in the field picking cotton, baling hay and splitting firewood it was time to have some fun. A lazy Sunday afternoon was the perfect time.

Here's how I remember loafing when I was a kid on Rural Route 4. "Hey, Verdie," Grandpa would say, "let's get in the car and go ridin' around." Along the way they would stop at our house and invite us to go with them. Because our 1959 rose-colored Impala was bigger, we would change cars: Seven folks in our land yacht with no air conditioning. Windows were rolled down and the dust rose behind us as we left. We didn't know where we were going, and we didn't care. More than likely though, we would wind up over in Mt. Hebron or in Nixon's Chapel or Pleasant Grove.

Along the way, the old folks would recall who lived where and what happened to them and where they were buried. And sure enough, somewhere during our wandering, we would meet Uncle Cecil's niece who we hadn't seen since she was just a sprout. We would visit and get caught up on her family, especially since Cindy Lou had moved back home after marrying a Yankee and temporarily settling north of the Mason Dixon.

Invariably, after saying goodbye to Cindy Lou, Grandma and Grandpa would discuss how they couldn't understand why she looked so bad. "Did you see how pale she was?" Grandma would ask. "I don't think she is happy. I need to call Cecil and find out what is really going on," she would add.

The highlight of loafing was a stop at a country store where Grandpa would treat us to either a "co-cola" or an ice cream cone. Given how we were stuffed in the Impala like sardines, the refreshments and the opportunity to stretch our legs were appreciated.

Sadly, today we seldom loaf. The older folks who taught us how to loaf are gone. Kids today would have a conniption if they had to ride in a crowded car and listen to their grandparents recall old times. When they do loaf, they do it on Facebook or Instagram or some other online social gathering. It saddens me. Young people today are growing up with little sense of community or appreciation for those who have gone before them.

I think this weekend I'm going to find the time to loaf. I'm going ridin' around. Maybe down toward Oneonta, Buck's Pocket, Double Bridges or even Slapout. I'll let you know when I get there. Or maybe not.

Philip Burgess' book, "Rural Route 4, The Good 'Ol Days Were Never Better," is available on Amazon.



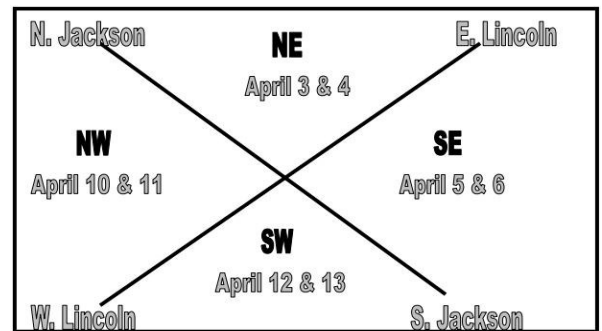
**Drinking
Water
Week 2023**
May 7-13, 2023

Tulahoma Utilities Authority will host its annual celebration of National Drinking Water Week on the TUA grounds on **Thursday, May 4.**

For more than 40 years, the American Water Works Association and its members, like TUA, have celebrated Drinking Water Week to recognize the vital role clean water plays in our daily lives.

Join us for an afternoon of free food, drinks and fun from 3 to 5:30 p.m. and take a spin on the prize wheel!

Hydrant Flushing



TUA will perform annual fire hydrant flushing in April. Flushing will be performed between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. on the dates shown. Water discoloration and low pressure will likely occur in and near flushing areas. Please do not wash clothes during this time.

Fire hydrant flushing is an essential maintenance operation for the water distribution system. TUA appreciates your patience during this necessary inconvenience.

If you have questions, give us a call at 455-4515.