Civility Honors United

Recently when I was watching the news providing an update on the Covid-19, suddenly one word resounded in my head-UNITED. Our nation’s full name is the United States of America. By definition UNITE means “to put together to form a single unit, to cause to adhere, to link by a legal or moral bond one or as if one”. And that is exactly what our Forefathers did, formed a national government. States could continue to govern on the issues that were pertinent to them.

 Further our Forefathers were concerned about individual rights and freedoms. Our Constitution and the Bill of Rights identified these rights. The people would elect those individuals who would do the governing, allowed for changes in policy and laws as needed.

 Currently not only is our nation facing a pandemic, but we have no United methods to deal with it. Rather there is one general consensus to listen to the science and another that we have the right of freedom. Certainly we are individuals and have such freedoms. Yet we are also a citizen, “a person owing allegiance to and entitled to reciprocal protection from it”. As I see it, an aspect of civility is that when our nation faces a crisis, each of us needs to act as a citizen. Of course, we can express our objections to choices that are made by one of our government bodies, BUT we need to abide by their policies. I imagine that all of us accepted the stimulus check that was given to us earlier this year. Others are getting increased unemployment and businesses have received assistance. Still some refuse to wear a mask or social distance. Masks are not comfortable. I don’t like them myself, but I wear one proudly as a citizen. Social distancing is even harder especially as it seeming to last so long. Both will end sooner is we wear masks and social distance

WE can stand together as one nation, the United State of America. Be a citizen and honor UNITED.

Orlaine I. Gabert, Door County Civility Project

.