

District 5 board result no surprise

We are not looking at Connie Morris' defeat as a surprise. The incumbent Republican 5th District State Board of Education member just wasn't prepared for the battle she encountered with Republican opponent Sally Cauble. Sally Cauble? Hardly a household name.

The district wide tally showed 13,673 votes for Cauble and 11,658 for Morris. The vote margin, if anything, showed that the Republican registry was pretty much split.

And it was interesting to learn that Morris, of St. Francis, lost in her home county, Cheyenne, 282-250. That was an ouch!

The primary election took control of the state board away from the conservatives and back in the hands of moderate Republicans, due in large part to the debate over the teaching of evolution.

Morris' defeat sets up what could be an interesting election in November between Cauble and Democrat Tim Cruz. There will be voters hurt over the outcome of the primary, and often these injured voters turn their backs on the candidate their party chooses in the primary and they do one of two things: vote for the opposing party's candidate, or sit on their hands.

We watched the televised forum featuring Morris, Cauble and Cruz last week and came away less than impressed. Cruz sounded more like Cauble's campaign manager, rather than a viable candidate for the state board. But perhaps that was his strategy: to get Cauble through the primary and Conservative Morris out of the picture.

November will be a southwest Kansas showdown. Cauble is from Liberal and Cruz is from Garden City. Cauble is a Republican moderate, and with Cruz being a Democrat, they are not that far apart on some of the nagging issues that have haunted the current make up of the state board.

Will Connie Morris endorse Sally Cauble and persuade her voters to lock hands in Republican unity in November? Or will she chalk the whole thing up to experience and remove herself from the spotlight?

— Tom Dreiling

Thumbs Up to . . .

✓ **All the 4-H kids, parents and leaders** who worked so hard in the 4-H food stand during the fair. Without your dedication to your clubs the Norton County Fair would not be the big success that it is. (Marilyn)

✓ **All those** who want to save the downtown State Street trees and planters! (via telephone)

✓ **Jay Holste, Don McMullen, Craig Renner, Heinrich and Johann Deetlefs,** for the rescue Saturday outside Manhattan in 100+ heat. Your generosity and compassion is beyond what we had expected. (Denise and daughter Shelley)

✓ **Caleb Cox,** newest member of the Norton Police Department. (e-mail)

✓ **Those people** in the Norton/Almena/Long Island/Norcatour communities in accepting and welcoming South African immigrants who work and live in this area. (e-mail)

✓ **Lyman and Georgia Rowh,** on your 60th wedding anniversary.

✓ **Brian Luft,** key member of the Kansas State University trapshooting team. (e-mail)

✓ **James and Lena Skrdlant,** on your 60th wedding anniversary.

✓ **Gail Brandyberry,** new postmaster at Jennings. (e-mail)

✓ **Veronica and Carolyn,** on your *Telegram* coverage of the downtown fire. It will certainly turn out to be an award-winning effort. (Tom)

(Send your name or names to tomd@nwkans.com, fax 877-3732, call 877-6908, or mail or drop by the office at 215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton 67654. Thanks for your continuing interest in this weekly salute!)

Share your thoughts with a letter

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

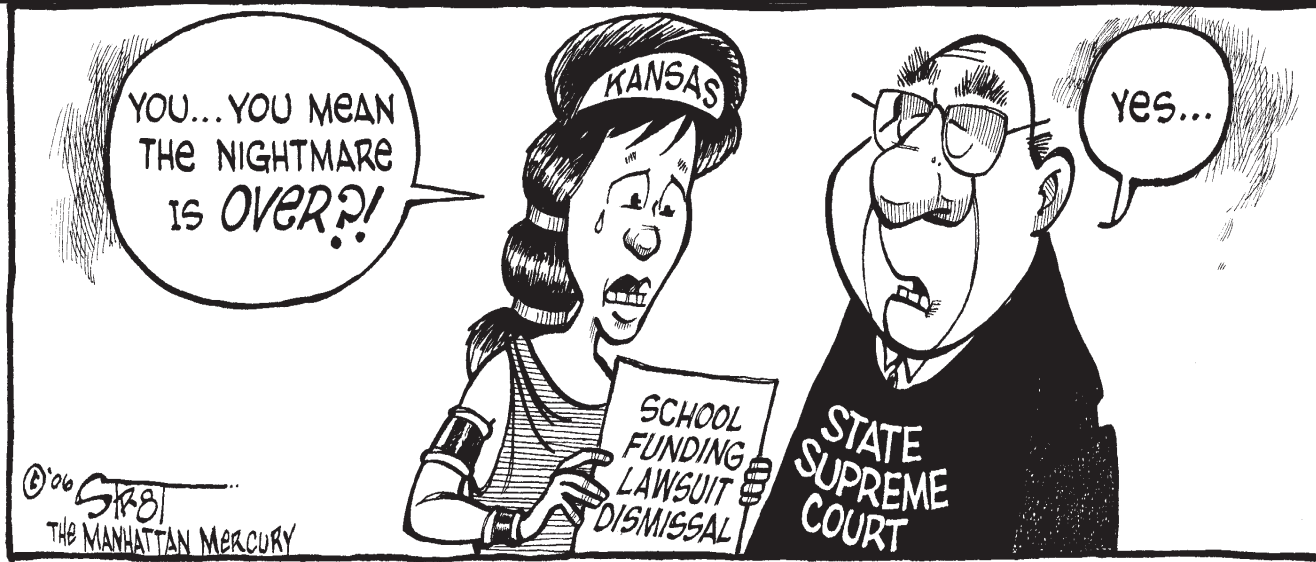
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If the 'end' crowd is right, well, so be it

The world's end is at hand. That's what some thinkers think as the latest war in the Middle East continues to claim lives, inflict damage and divide people. And they also point to the numerous floods and hurricanes and tornadoes and fires and other weather elements that the Holy Bible, they say, describes as signs of the beginning of the end.

Of course the end game has been played over and over and over during these centuries of man's existence. And I have a hunch that it will continue to pop up to, well, the very end. 'For we will not know the day, nor the hour.' Interpretation of the word by so many creates an unclear, fuzzy schedule of events.

So, I guess we all just believe what we believe and let the chips fall where they may. And if these are signs of the end and the end comes, well then, that's the end.

I am one of those people who enjoys reading Quotes of Note from people we all know through various channels of life. Lucky me, a reader of this column forwarded a few quotes fit for the elderly crowd that brought many chuckles and I will share them with you.

Such as:
Gray hair is God's graffiti. — Bill Cosby

Old age is no place for sissies. — Bette Davis

Just remember, once you're over the hill, you begin to pick up speed. — Charles Schulz

"Don't worry about senility," my grandfather used to say. "When it hits you, you won't know it." — Bill Cosby

Inside every 70 year-old is a 35 year-old asking, "What happened?" — Ann Landers

The secret of staying young is to live

Good Evening Norton Tom Dreiling



honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age. — Lucille Ball

My parents didn't want to move to Florida, but they turned 60, and it was the law. — Jerry Seinfeld

It's no longer a question of staying healthy. It's a question of finding a sickness you like. — Jackie Mason

Put cotton in your ears and pebbles in your shoes. Pull on rubber gloves. Smear Vaseline over your glasses, and there you have it: instant old age. — Malcolm Cowley

How often do you hear or read about some public figure stepping down "to spend more time with the family." That catch-phrase is as old as dirt and continues to be a ready excuse.

When I hear it, I think of Karen Hughes, former adviser to President George Bush, who, a year or so ago gave up that position to go back to Texas "to spend more time with the family." Where is Mrs. Hughes today? Back at the White House. Short family stay. I often wonder why they can't just tell it like it is, instead of using the family as the excuse.

I'm not picking on Mrs. Hughes, whom I have a high regard for. But there must have been something else in those bushes (no pun intended) that drove her to stepping down in the first place. We'll never know.

Keep your eyes and ears open and see

how many others leave jobs "to spend more time with the family."

America's Got Talent, one of the top-rated television programs at the moment, leads me to believe the word *talent* is loosely used. While there are some contestants who truly possess talent, there are far too many who just don't fit the bill.

Of course the many disagreements on the three-judge panel make things interesting. That's where the loosely defined word enters the picture. But I'm there in my front row seat (my couch) watching each week.

I really don't think Regis adds much to the overall picture in his role as host. Too much conceited Regis for my taste.

Another program I have been watching and ask myself each week "Why?" is Last Comic Standing. Too me there are just too many beeps to wipe out words that shouldn't be used in the first place. Maybe they should rename the program Last Foul Mouth Standing. Prime time nonetheless. But that's just me.

Looking at the Back to School ads that appeared in *The Telegram* and *The Extra* this week by some of the districts in our immediate area, and watching last week as the football practice field was being readied for the Blue Jay guys just a few weeks from now, it just seems unreal that we are at that time once again.

It seems like just yesterday that classes were dismissed for the summer. I would venture to guess that the kids are getting anxious for the new school year to kick in. And I would further guess that the parents are counting the days, maybe even OUT LOUD, by now.

Have a good weekend, and heed the sounds of your church's bells.

The answer is simple: 'Do Not Call!'

This is a public service announcement. I just received an e-mail forward announcing that in 28 days telemarketers will be able to call cell phones. I don't know how long this e-mail has been circulating; the 28 days may have passed long ago. I don't even know if it is true that telemarketers will now be able to call cell phones.

I don't necessarily believe everything forwarded to me in e-mail. Some of it has made the rounds several times and was not all that interesting the first time. Some of it is amusing however, if you don't like it I'm sorry if I ever forwarded you something. Just delete it. That is the beauty of e-mail: I'll never know. Won't hurt my feelings at all! It is not like having a telemarketer on the phone. You hate to be rude plus you just feel bad anyone has such an awful job.

In some ways e-mail is the equivalent of telemarketing. Over-night I got 15 bulk mail messages. But at least the computer sorts it out. Just hit the delete key and it is gone. Never being content to just let an issue lie there I feel compelled to say a little about the "do not call" list. How about passing a law requiring people to

Back Home Nancy Hagman



sign up to be on a "do call" list? The only way to get calls from telemarketers would be to subscribe. We could even tax it. That would be a BIG money maker. Such legislation would also go a long way to proving our politicians are there to serve us, not big business.

People who enjoy being interrupted during supper to take calls about siding could choose it. Those who like to break their necks running to the telephone (only to be hung up on because the automatic dialing system got some other poor soul to answer first) could buy more insurance and sign right up. Probably some telemarketer would be happy to sell them just that type of insurance.

Even if telemarketers can't call your cell phones, you may have neglected get-

ting your land line on the do not call list.

If so, here is the information. You can call toll free: 888-382-1222. Or you can register on-line at www.donotcall.gov/.

I registered our cell phones online. It was very easy. Almost immediately the registry sends a confirmation e-mail. You must confirm that you want to be on the registry within 72 hours. You print a copy of the confirmation to keep for your records. It takes 30 days for "do not call" to go into full effect. If you get calls before it does just tell the person you are on the do not call list. They will apologize and hang up on you! It's fun!

For some reason registration is only good for five years. Once again it makes one wonder just who our lawmakers are looking out for. Do they think we will have a change of heart in five years and suddenly develop an interest in contributing to some law enforcement charity fund that no area law enforcement even knows exists or ever benefited from?

Nevermind, who really wants to spend their time trying to figure out what the government is thinking? Just get registered for "do not call!" You are going to like it!