

Sometimes, an apology is needed

Finger pointing has never resolved anything. It is a tactic generally used by someone in position of authority to wiggle out of a situation that never should have happened. Thus, the publisher of this newspaper today issues an apology for a situation that never should have happened, but did.

The county's 2006 delinquent real estate tax list was to have been published in *The Telegram* on Aug. 10, 17 and 24. Simple instructions, or so one would think. The legal was published on Aug. 10, as directed. It failed to appear in the paper on Aug. 17. A conversation with the county treasurer allowed for this newspaper to run the final two required publications on Aug. 24 and Aug. 31.

On Aug. 24, the delinquent real estate tax list appeared, but it was for the year 2005, not 2006. There were many people on the 2005 delinquent listing that were not on the one for 2006. For that we are deeply sorry.

Today's newspaper contains the 2006 listing and on Friday it will be repeated to comply with the order for three publications.

So?
So, the buck stops here, at this desk. Complaints should be directed thereto.

—Tom Dreiling

LETTER

Reader: 'God hates divorce...'

To the Editor,

...And so do I. Thank-you Mary Kay (Woodyard) for your compassionate column in the Friday (Aug. 24) *Norton Telegram* on a subject that I had been meaning to write about for some time. I, too have become painfully aware of a rash of divorces in Norton. That, along with being a child of divorced parents, both angers me and gives me great compassion for those in the throes of divorce.

A majority of the folks of this community call themselves Christians and attend churches. This address speaks from that perspective.

When I married my husband Steve, I made a solemn VOW to Almighty God before witnesses that I would remain married to my husband 'till death do us part.' No matter what, I will keep that vow because I know that someday I will stand before the Creator of the Universe, Jehovah God, and give an account for every thought, deed and motive of my heart on that great and wonderful Day...called Judgment Day. By the grace of God and my desire to submit my will to his, God has given me a beautiful marriage that humbles and inspires me to no end.

My husband and I are not special. Because we both have a holy, wonderful fear of God that we are enabled to walk, live and move within his Sovereign and Loving grace in all the areas of our lives that are fully submitted to Him. Secondly, we lay our lives down for one-another. All this is accomplished by HIS grace working in us both to desire and to do his will.

I'm not trying to brag about my marriage. For ours isn't the only one that carries this testimony. There are many others, especially of the older saints in this community whose marriages have stood the test of time and continue to speak to this wicked generation of the goodness and graciousness of God's desire to bless his people with godly, loving and fulfilling marriages for those who take their marriage vows seriously.

I have also known friends and close family that have had very difficult marriages, rife with pornography, affairs, fi-

nancial duress, etc. They've even separated, 'for a time' so as to find some emotional/spiritual reprieve and strengthening to continue to work things out. However, one or both spouses, through trials and tribulations would seek God and the counsel and comfort of God's people to help them through these hard times to the other side. These people so inspire me to trust God even more. Marriage is HARD work! Learning to lay down my life for another...true love, means I have to die to my SELF daily. Through the years I hope to God I'm growing better in this area.

Divorce is sin. Fornication is sin. Homosexuality is sin. Adultery is sin. If you habitually engage in these activities without guilt or remorse or repentance, then you are not a true child of God. That's not my opinion. That's God's word. Do you think God isn't watching? Do you think He doesn't know? I promise you that He is. So is the Devil, Satan. And he's rejoicing.

So is the world, and they are laughing or scorning you and your so called Christianity.

God desires to bless marriages. He wants you to be happy, and fulfilled within the bonds of holy matrimony. But that can only be done if we obey Him and honor Him...as revealed in His Word...the Holy Bible. He will give you hope and strength if you will trust Him completely. Please seek godly counsel and supportive prayers of family and friends that honor God above all else. For God will honor those who honor Him.

I know that I have offended many with my remarks. However, I'd rather offend all so as not to offend my blessed Redeemer, Jesus Christ. The Truth hurts. It has to be said as God gives the burden. I'm praying for those "Christians" in this community whose marriages are struggling that they would be willing to totally trust God and submit to his loving Lordship in their marriages.

For Christ's sake,

Robin Somers
Norton



This third grader had just the solution

Monday was granddaughter Taylor's first day of school this year. She is a third grader and quite grown up, now. Her PaPa and I talked to her for a few minutes before she had to leave for school. I, of course, asked her what she was wearing to school. She told me that girls can't wear spaghetti-strap dresses or tops, so she wore hers with a white shirt underneath.

Taylor said her teacher, Miss Webb, was her favorite teacher in the whole school. I envy Miss Webb. Nine and ten-year-olds say the darndest things. If I were a teacher, I could have material for this column for years to come.

-ob-

Saturday we got to be part of a beautiful outdoor wedding. A young couple in our little town of Norcatur came to Jim a few months ago and asked him to marry them. As a preacher, that is one of his most favorite things to do.

The day dawned cloudy and ominous

Out Back Carolyn Plotts



following a day of rain on Friday. It made me nervous, but, miraculously, the clouds cleared, the sun shone through and everything went off without a hitch.

Brandy and Matt are a pair of hard-working young people who are both country kids and wanted their wedding to reflect their style. No "foo-foo" bridesmaids dresses they would never wear again, for this wedding. Instead, her attendants wore black jeans, blue and white plaid western shirts and they all had their hair neatly French-braided.

The men wore black jeans, white shirts and black leather vests.

The bride's gown was simple, but stunning. It was a strapless satin dress with a wide blue inset in the train and blue banding around the bodice.

A horse-drawn carriage transported the couple to the reception hosted by her family in the old high school gym. Of course, roasted hog was the main course complimented by all the "fixin's." We thought we had a grand time and wish the newlyweds the very best.

-ob-

One of my co-workers told me a young man from our church's congregation had been in our office recently. She said they had made fun of my messy desk. When I asked him to defend himself, he had a very diplomatic come back. He said, "I wasn't making fun. I just said that it looked like a real newspaper person's desk." Good answer.

Besides my theory is: "A clean desk is the sign of a sick mind." From the looks of my desk, I am very healthy, mentally.

Some vacations more fun than others

Asking a farmer to take time off for a vacation in the summer time is maybe not the wisest idea. When my sisters decided they were going to Washington (state) in August I could have just bought a plane ticket and went along. But I wanted the hubby to go and he surprised me by agreeing fairly easily.

Of course he had me over a barrel all summer. Every time he had a project he needed help with I had to jump right in. We got everything done! And he returned the favor by being a good sport about everything we did. He enjoyed all my relatives and friends.

No matter how much you love someone though, it is hard to drive that many miles without some conflict! I'm sure he was wishing the little voice making suggestions about the route and the speed had been GPS. He could have shut that off.

There were wildfires everywhere. In Idaho, Washington, Montana. Coming back through Montana we saw very little because of the smoke. We decided to drive down through Yellowstone even though we knew it would be late when we got out of the park. All through the trip we seemed to underestimate how long things would take. So it was really late and very dark.

We wanted to get to DuBois but immediately after leaving the Grand Tetons National Park we hit road construction. I enjoyed Wyoming on this trip. It was green and there were no fires so we could view the interesting land formations.

However their road signs leave much to be desired. First they don't have many. I

Back Home Nancy Hagman



guess they do not want to discourage travelers. Why put up a sign reminding us we still have 300 miles to go to get out of the state.

But the warnings for this construction were sort of like this:

"Road Construction"
"Speed Limit 40"
"Pavement Ends"
Whoa — pavement ends?
We were still processing that when we saw:

"Caution: Bump"
Bam — that was the bump! And the end of the pavement!

Wow was it dark. The lanes were separated by posts with reflectors. We were in no-mans land. About 10 miles of this and we did get back on pavement. Then we came upon the Hatch Lodge Resort. Log cabins and such. It looked like the Garden of Eden.

How much for a room? \$159! They would give us a deal though, \$135. I laughed and picked up a bottle of water and headed for the door.

The clerk informed us we were very

lucky he was still there (he was waiting for someone who had a reservation and not showed up.) "There is more construction before DuBois," he said, "and lots of elk out there." He lowered the price some more. We had a room.

Great room, it had everything, even mouse traps! We were tired; we slept! No mice in the morning. I guess that wasn't so bad.

We had a lot of miles to go though, and I knew we were going to get home that day because the hubby was driving and he was driving fast!

He was playing tag with another little SUV right before we got to Rawlins. In the other lane here comes the sheriff. Believe me, we deserved a ticket, and maybe it would have made the hubby listen to me about how fast he drives. All the same I'd hate to see our hard earned money go to Wyoming. Unless they would use it to invest in some better warning signs for road construction!

After sweating it for a mile or so the law goes around us, turns on his lights and pulls over the lead car!

Whew!
We were in Norton by 10:00, not home but close. It was raining in Spokane when we left and we have had rain every day since returning so you can thank us for bringing it back.

But now that we are home we can't get in the field, just what was all the hurry about anyway?

Oh, I know; there is no place like BACK HOME!

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Office hours:

8 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Phone: (785) 877-3361

Fax: (785) 877-3732

E-mail: telegram@nwkansas.com

STAFF

Tom Dreiling editor and publisher

Christie Anderson advertising

Veronica Monier staff reporter

Dick Boyd Blue Jay sports

Carolyn Plotts society editor

Sherry Hickman bookkeeping/circulation

Vicki Henderson computer production

Nor'West Newspapers

Dick and Mary Beth Boyd

Publishers, 1970-2002

Incorporating the Norton County Champion

Marion R. Krehbiel, editor



□ Governor Kathleen Sebelius, 300 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-3232

□ U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-6521

□ U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran, 2443 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515. (202) 225-2715; fax (202) 225-5124

□ U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774; fax (202) 224-3514