

### Guest Editorial Veterans Day dates back to 1921

In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. This site, on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, became the focal point of reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey, in France the Arc de Triomphe). These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month). The day became known as "Armistice Day."

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action. If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was "the War to end all Wars," November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But only a few years after the holiday was proclaimed, war broke out in Europe. Sixteen and one-half million Americans took part. Four hundred seven thousand of them died in service, more than 292,000 in battle.

Realizing that peace was equally preserved by veterans of WW I and Korea, Congress was requested to make this day an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars. In 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day.

On Memorial Day 1958, two more unidentified American war dead were brought from overseas and interred in the plaza beside the unknown soldier of World War I. One was killed in World War I, the other in the Korean War. In 1973, a law passed providing interment of an unknown American from the Vietnam War, but none was found for several years. In 1984, an unknown serviceman from that conflict was placed alongside the others. To honor these men, symbolic of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars, an Army honor guard, the 3d U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), keeps day and night vigil.

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978, Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

The focal point for official, national ceremonies for Veterans Day continues to be the memorial amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknowns. At 11 a.m. on November 11, a combined color guard representing all military services executes "Present Arms" at the tomb. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a presidential wreath. The bugler plays "Taps." The rest of the ceremony takes place in the amphitheater.

Every year, the President of the United States urges all Americans to honor the commitment of our Veterans through appropriate public ceremonies.

*This guest editorial was submitted by the Department of Kansas Veterans of Foreign Wars, Topeka.*

### Readers 'No' to name change

"In response to your inquiry about changing the name of Fort Hays State to the University of Western Kansas, my husband and I would both like to say, "No! Not just no, but Hell No!"

"As alumni of Fort Hays State (Bob received his degrees in '60 & '62, I received mine in '71.) we have to ask, 'Why change?' We are proud of having attended Fort Hays State! We liked the name then, and still like it today. Changing the name is totally unnecessary. The 'University of Western Kansas' could be located in Sharon Springs, Moscow, St. Francis, any town west of Salina. Big Whoop! The name is generic and insulting to us.

"What is wrong with Fort Hays State as a name? Yes, it is named after an army outpost that played a pivotal role in the peaceful settlement of this area. What better way to remember the past while expanding our knowledge of the future. Not only that, but on a more down to earth level, think how much money it would cost to relabel everything that now says Fort Hays State. That money could better be used as scholarships to help low income students earn their degrees.

"Change the name, we say, 'Absolutely not!' — Bob and Debbie Smith, Lenora

"I think it stinks (changing the name). My family represents 10 degrees earned from Fort Hays State. 'No' to changing the name." — Hays subscriber

"Here we go again. After the name change, then what? Kicking out the Tiger mascot? I wish my parents had named me other than what they chose. But I haven't wanted to change it. Grow up! —A 1966 graduate

(We solicit your response to the suggested name change for Fort Hays State University. Call (785) 877-6908, e-mail [tomd@nwkansas.com](mailto:tomd@nwkansas.com), mail to 215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton 67654 or drop your response off at the office. You do not have to sign your response.)

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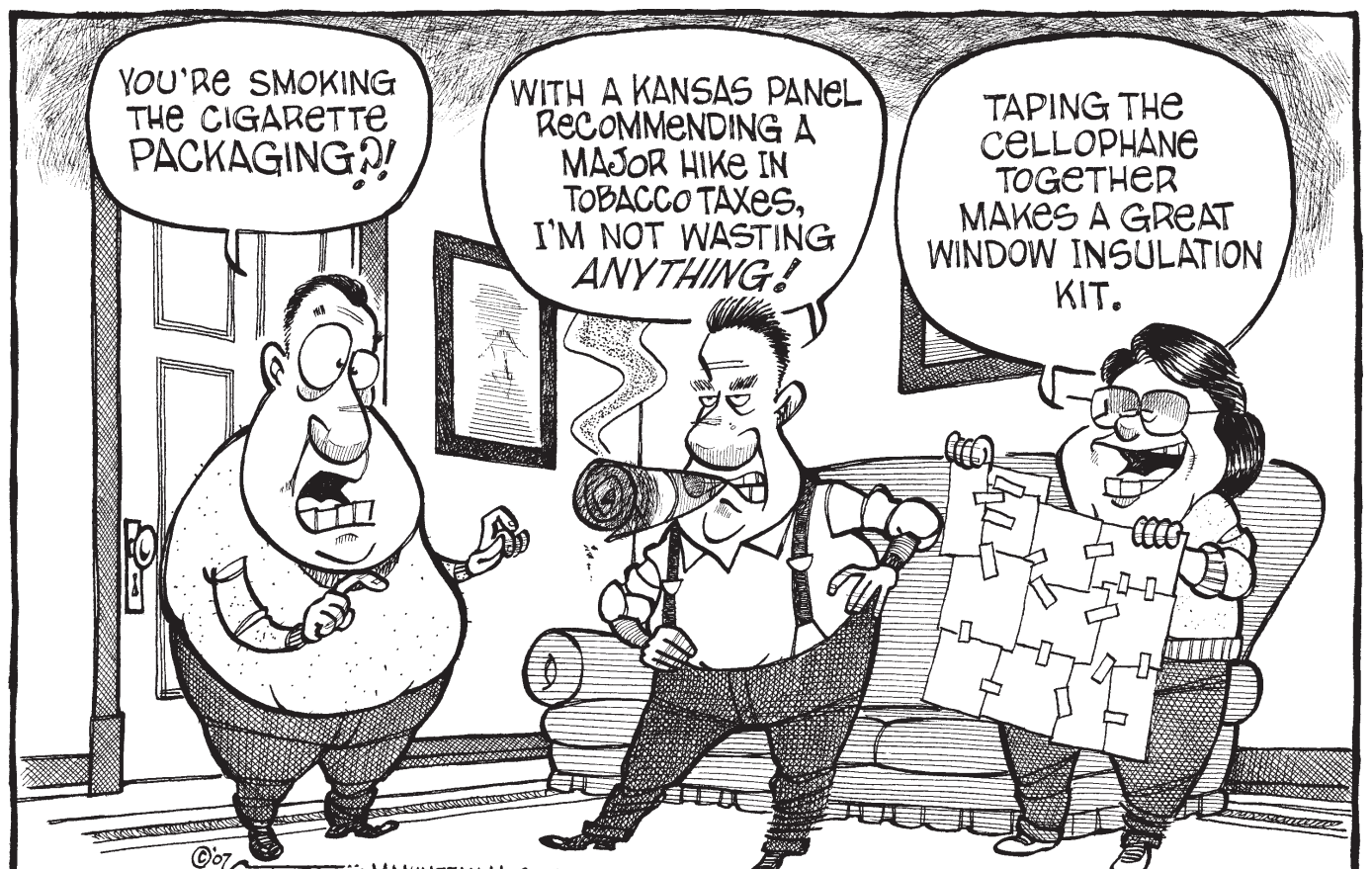
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### Never know what you'll find in the Bible

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear."

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The name Judge Michael Mukasey might not immediately ring a bell. Then again maybe it does. In any event, he is President Bush's nominee for attorney general and has been grilled for a number of days by the Senate Judiciary Committee. At the outset, it looked like Judge Mukasey would be a shoo-in.

As the hearings rolled on, however, the word "waterboarding" surfaced. This is a form of torture which eventually became an anchor around the judge's neck as he refused to take a definite stand on its constitutionality. This caused some of the senators on the committee to raise their eyebrows. They said waterboarding, a procedure that makes a person feel like he is drowning, was something we do not condone in our quest to get information from captives. I might be a step or two behind, but if the word waterboarding has been around for 100 years, as some senators proclaimed, why is it I'd never heard of it. Have you?

Well, it looked like the Democrats on the committee were going to sink the nomination and vote as a unit not to advance the nomination to the full U.S. Senate for a confirming vote. But the Democrats on the committee got a big surprise when two of their members voted with the Republicans to bring the nomination before the full Senate. Senators Dianne Feinstein (Calif.) and Charles Schumer (NY) said the judge's refusal to give an answer on the waterboarding question was not sufficient enough to block his nomination.

### Good Evening Norton Tom Dreiling



but reruns?

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At the urging of his doctor, John moved to Arizona. After settling in, he met a neighbor who was also an older man. "Say, my doctor recommended I move here for my health. Is this really a good place to live?"

"It sure is," the man replied. "When I first arrived here I couldn't say one word. I had hardly any hair on my head. I didn't have the strength to walk across a room and I had to be lifted out of bed."

"That's wonderful!" said John. "How long have you been here?"

The man said, "Since birth."

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Poor Hillary, the guys are picking on her. And they should be. And it's not because she is a woman, it is because she's the front runner. The front runner in anything is always the target of those following behind. Husband Bill said something earlier in the week that could end up hurting Hillary. He likened the other Democratic presidential candidates to the Swift Boaters, the group that managed to turn the tide in Sen. John Kerry's presidential bid in 2004. Reports are Hillary's advisers are more than just upset with Bill Clinton's comments, they are livid. If husband Bill continues offering his commentary whenever wife Hillary takes a political shot, the Clinton campaign could eventually implode. Her advisers' challenge now is how to muzzle Bill. Good luck, as Keith Olbermann would say.

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The class just finished studying the history of the Alamo. The teacher held a pop quiz. One of the questions was, "What was the famous battle cry that later helped spur on independence for Texans?"

From the back of the room, Eric shouted, "Remember the alimony!"

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Have a good evening. And what better way is there to usher in the week that observes Veterans Day than a visit to the church of your choice?

Good for them. My stock in both senators raised considerably as they put nipping behind and voted for the pluses the judge brought to the hearing.

Sadly, in a politically-charged atmosphere as was this hearing, a single issue almost wrecked a soon-to-be attorney general's reputation and all he has stood for his entire life.

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No, Jay Leno and David Letterman don't just simply dream up the stuff you hear in their nightly monologues. That comes from a talented crop of writers. With those writers now on strike, I see Jay's and David's producers are hitting the small screen with reruns. Too, a large number of regular television programs are also on hold. Experts say the strike could go on for many months. With all the channels we get locally, there should still be a lot of television programs from which to choose.

I know it will be hard for some of you to believe, but I can remember when there wasn't television to entertain us. We didn't have a television set in our house until around 1953 or so. Up to that time, we listened to the radio. As a family we had a schedule of programs we all enjoyed together. Listening to The Jack Benny Show, or Amos and Andy, for example, would allow your mind to come up with all sorts of character images. Somehow, it seemed like a lot more fun back then. These days, there is little left to the imagination. In fact, there are some shows that should be left off the home screen.

There will be a lot of grumbling until the strike ends. Until then, how about a game of cards or Monopoly with the family in those time slots showing nothing

### It depends on 'when the cows come home'

There's a saying about "waiting until the cows come home." It means something will take a long time. A fallacy of this saying is that milk cows will come home every twelve hours or so, because they become uncomfortable. Depending on what you are doing, I suppose twelve hours could be a long time.

Our cows aren't milk cows. So as long as there is green grass or they can get out on the neighbor's newly emerging wheat, they don't care if they ever come home. And some of them seem to have acquired a "don't want to, don't have to, can't make me attitude!"

So here we are (opening of pheasant season and daylight saving time weekend) trying to move cows home.

I noticed that stockmen fall into two categories. They love their cows or they hate 'em. Those that love them will do anything to keep as many as possible around and are always in an expansion mode. The other bunch has cows because there are always a certain number of acres that are not tillable. They count the days until retirement, all the while doing reconnaissance to find neighbors who love cows and will pay exorbitant amounts of pasture rent. Or they drive the staff in the

### Back Home Nancy Hagman



out of the pasture. We finally went with what we had. The stragglers could just stay put. They did until 3 a.m., or was it 2 a.m.? Just exactly when do we move the clock back?

The sheriff's office calls, cows on the highway. I'm so polite, I THANKED him! By the time we got down there the stragglers had found their way back into the pasture we wanted to get them out of. The hole in the fence was about a mile south of the highway.

Why didn't they walk up to the highway in the daylight, when we were all set up to escort them across? Why did they turn back around? If they just went on across maybe we could have gotten them into the other pasture, closer to what is their ultimate destination: the loading chute and the sale barn!

Just maybe; that is if we could have found a functioning flashlight to help us see what we were doing. But that's another story!

Things didn't look much better in the light of day. But it was Sunday. Taking Tom's weekly advice we decided to go to church. It does help one's outlook.

"Things will get better. But it's going to take 'until the cows come home.'"

FSA and Conservation offices crazy plotting to break out pastures while remaining eligible for farm payments. They then wait a year or two and put it into CRP.

I always thought the hubby fell into the first category. A woman I know said the day her retired cow lover husband took his cows to town, he lamented, "I've had some of those cows longer than I've had you!" Now we know this can't be true. They had been married 35 years or so, cows don't live that long. But you get the idea how attached the cow lovers get!

This is how I thought the hubby would be until opening weekend of pheasant season! Things did not go well. Some of us had fun! Nephew Brandon's friend (here to hunt or so he thought) was shooting video with his cell phone. Coming to YouTube soon!

Ten or so cows just would not come