

Tuesday's snippets

Well, here is some of what you the readers said reference last Tuesday's Snippets column and Friday's Chat column:

- "Obama is setting the record for earmarks when he campaigned on the opposite...and, during a deep recession, at that!"
- "I went to church on Sunday even though you didn't mention it in your last column. Guess I am addicted to the Lord."
- "Changing the name of the column (Fridays) doesn't bother me, unless you change the approach you use in writing it. Stay the course."
- "Naughty but nice. I laughed aloud at your story about the priest and the neon sign atop the church."
- "Adam and Eve are a nice touch. Do you think they were clothed like they are pictured in the intro to the weekly television series, *Desperate Housewives*?"
- "Food for Thought: Happiness is the place between too little and too much."

**Stop
Look
Listen**
Tom Dreiling



Now today's snippets:

Looks like the Palin daughter's lovefest (as in Gov. Sarah) that resulted in the birth of a baby a while back, has been shipwrecked. The young man who fathered the child said he is not yet ready to make a commitment. He told a television interviewer he is too immature at age 19 to take on the responsibility marriage expects.

That all sounds a bit self-serving, after all there's a baby in the mix. And he was part of the recipe.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke is talking more optimistically about the current recession. He said in a televised interview over the weekend that the recession could be over by year's end. Hope he's right.

He (Mr. Bernanke) and many others — and I'm sure you, too — are really angry with AIG (American International Group) for going ahead with plans to dish out many millions upon millions of dollars in bonuses to its leaders, and at a time when AIG reported a record-setting quarterly loss of \$61 billion — the largest single loss of any corporation ever!

Taxpayers' money is going to reward those who tossed their company under the bus. Cannot the government do as former First Lady Nancy Reagan so often said, "Just say no."

Sears Tower in downtown Chicago — and what a view from atop that building, as I can personally attest — is no longer Sears Towers. It is now Willis Tower since it has come under new ownership. Despite the name change, the thrill of racing 100 stories above the ground in an elevator remains for those who don't mind leaving their stomach at ground level.

And while talking about outlandish bonuses and salaries given corporate leadership, what about the many millions of dollars professional sports owners hand out to selected athletes?

Of course it isn't taxpayers' money, but it's just the thought. Example: I don't think A-Rod is worth \$40 million. Or is it \$140 million? And I bet all those folks in the unemployment lines would agree.

It's getting even more heated as Republicans in general struggle with the Limbaugh vs. Steele leadership showdown. Limbaugh, as in radio talk show host Rush, and Steele, as in Republican National Committee chairman Michael, both lay claim as spokesman for the party.

Rush seems to generate the most support and that's easy to explain: you don't want to ruffle his feathers because he's got the airtime to make you look like... well, he's got the airtime.

(Your comments are solicited. But they should be no longer than the average snippet in the column. Names not used, unless so indicated. E-mail tom.d@nwkansas.com, mail to 215 S. Kansas Ave. 67654, fax to 877-3732. Thanks for joining in the conversation.)



No new Thumbs Up to publish today. If you have someone you want to salute — birthday, anniversary, etc. — simply e-mail tom.d@nwkansas.com, call either 877-3361 or 877-6908, fax 877-3732, mail to 215 S. Kansas Ave. 67654 or drop by the office.
Your input is appreciated. -td

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

ISSN 1063-701X
215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton, KS 67654

Published each Tuesday and Friday by Haynes Publishing Co., 215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton, Kan. 67654. Periodicals mail postage paid at Norton, Kan. 67654.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Norton Telegram, 215 S. Kansas, Norton, Kan. 67654
Official newspaper of Norton and Norton County. Member of the Kansas Press Association, National Newspaper Association, and the Nebraska Press Association

Nor'West Newspapers
Dick and Mary Beth Boyd
Publishers, 1970-2002
Incorporating the Norton County Champion
Marion R. Krehbiel, editor



STAFF
Tom Dreiling..... editor and publisher
Dana Paxton..... advertising director
Dick Boyd..... Blue Jays sports
Brandy Leroux..... reporter
Sherry Hickman..... bookkeeping/circulation
Vicki Henderson..... computer production

Office hours:
8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Phone: (785) 877-3361
Fax: (785) 877-3732
E-mail:
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com



I don't get even — I get ahead

Like father, like son. Son James has inherited his father's warped sense of humor. I am their innocent victim. There I was, sitting in my favorite recliner; minding my own business. James entered the room with his hands cupped in front of him. Sweetly, he said, "Look what I found in the van."

Trusting, I leaned forward to see. Then, without warning, he dumped a mouse in my lap. Okay, it was a toy mouse, but it looked very real. To make matters worse, Jim laughs harder each time the tale is told. Those boys better be careful who they mess with. I don't get even — I get ahead.

Progress report on the house. The room that will someday be the dining room is entirely gutted. James has been a lath and plaster ripping fool. He was determined to get it cleaned out by Sunday and, he did.

It's far from finished but I am already envisioning Thanksgiving dinner around the oak table that Jim made about 20 years ago. It's like a Norman Rockwell picture in my mind. Family

Sound Off!

Surely, there're more than 96 dogs in Norton

I would like to thank the city of Norton and Norton Animal Health Center for the rabies clinic held this past weekend.

Now, let's have the dogs in Norton registered. Did you know that last year we only had 96 dogs registered in the city of Norton? Maybe we could increase that 10 percent this year and have a total of 106 dogs in town.

Although I can probably show you enough places where people have 3, 4 or up to 5 dogs that would add up to the 106 that do not register them.

Our ordinance says 2 dogs per household. If you live next door where there are more than 2 dogs and the pens are deep in fecal matter, you probably have a problem. Remember the spring rains are

Let's get those red envelopes moving to D.C.

In the mail I received a package of 100 red envelopes. These envelopes have a message printed on the back that says, "This envelope represents ONE CHILD who died in abortion. It is empty because that LIFE was unable to offer anything to the world." On the front of the envelopes, it is addressed to President Barack Obama.

This is called, *The Red Envelope Project* and it was started around Valentine's Day. The idea is that if a person is pro-life or basically opposed to abortion, that they

Out Back

Carolyn Plotts



and friends gathered 'round. The table practically groaning from the bounty of our harvest. And, all set in the beautifully appointed dining room. Beautiful china on a silk tablecloth; tasteful draperies at the bay window; silver candle holders with flickering candles aglow.....

Urrrrch! Wake up, Carolyn! A lot of sheet rock, mud, paint, duct work and flooring have to go in before anybody eats one bite of food in that room. Quit daydreaming and get back to work.

A couple of people have asked me if I finished the book I started last week. Alas, I have no book report. In fact, I haven't even picked up the book all week. Remember that "easily dis-

tracted" line from last week's column? Maybe next week.

This was a milestone week for Jim. Sunday was his 65th birthday. For the past nine years, we have celebrated his birthday either on our way to or in Mexico. Since our Juarez trip was canceled, I planned a celebration at home. We invited two good friends over and I cooked Mexican food. Smothered burritos with green chili gravy, refried beans and Mexican rice.

Jim asked for his favorite cake, my homemade carrot cake. And, James asked if we could have homemade ice cream, too. It was a real fiesta. Feliz cumpleaños, mi esposo. Happy birthday, my husband.

March is a big birthday month for our family. Jim's daughter, Becky, was born on the 10th and my daughter, Kara, on the 16th. We call them "The Twins." Jim's is the 15th and granddaughter, Angelia, will be 18 years old on March 26. Hallmark makes a killing on us this month.

I put up with this sweet aroma and I'm tired of the barking all day and night."

Then you have the ones that stake a dog with a pin in the middle of a yard in the sun or cold to suffer and the water bowl doesn't have anything in it. Well then, call your animal control office. Also call your council person, or the mayor and say, "Why don't we enforce the ordinance we have of only two dogs, and enforce the leash ordinance that dogs are not to be running loose."

If you are tired of the dogs running loose, upsetting your trash can all times of the night or day, call again your council person and mayor, and also try the police that are on duty 24 hours per day, or the

animal control officer. Remember dogs are to be on a leash when not in the house or pen and not running loose. The same goes for the ones that are barking all night, especially the ones with 3 to 5 dogs.

Don't be afraid to voice your opinion. That is why those officials are there, to help you.

Believe me, we do have more than 106 dogs in the city limits of Norton.

Here's hoping our animals have a safe and happy summer.

Also hoping that our paper carriers, postal carriers and utilities readers have a safe summer with the dogs.

James L. Miller,
Norton

rights of the little ones.

If anyone is interested in getting these envelopes, contact: Life Issues Institute, Inc, 1821 Galbraith Road, Cincinnati, OH. Phone #1-513-729-3600 or email, www.lifeissues.org.

I also added this to the back of my envelope: "There is no God who condones taking the life of an innocent human being." --President Obama at the National Prayer Breakfast.

June Prout
Norton