

## Patience just might result in a reward

I filed my state tax form 8+ weeks ago. I used the regular mail; that wasn't my plan as I got on the computer and had fully intended to file online because our state encourages us to do so. Well, I tried, but a message popped up on the screen and said the form I requested — and I hadn't requested anything — was not available. I tried again and again I was met by the same roadblock. So my choice was clear: U.S. Postal Service.

I Google each day to see the status of my refund. Each day I am told this: "Your return has been received and is currently being processed by the Kansas Department of Revenue. The status concerning your requested refund has not yet been determined. If you filed a paper return, the refund will take at least 8 weeks. Otherwise, please allow up to 14 days for the status to change. Thank you." If I read that correctly, it will take 8 weeks to receive my refund after it's been processed and determined what the refund amount is. The way it looks, it'll be July before I get the refund.

But hold on... I asked a guy in the Office of the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Revenue — kind of in jest — if maybe my refund will reflect interest for the time involved. He said, and I quote, "Refunds not issued by July 1 will have interest added to them."

Quickest way to find out the status of your refund is to go to Google.com and when it comes up type in Kansas Refund Status, click on the Google Search box and within seconds it comes up. Follow the very brief instructions to learn your status. That's it. I've been doing that for many, many weeks.

I bet the state will make sure every refund is in the mail before July 1.

A reader e-mailed me this thoughtful suggestion: "If every family in Norton that eats three meals a day, would abstain from one meal a month and send the price of that meal to God's Pantry there wouldn't be any child in Norton asking if they were going to have supper."

For readers out of town, God's Pantry is simply a place in the community where donated foodstuff is stored to be shared with those in need.

The fatal shooting of a security guard in Washington, D.C., this week, could unfortunately be the start of something really ugly. We've been warned time and again that domestic terrorism is more of a threat than the wild bunch from outside our boundaries. CNN wondered aloud whether this might have been preventable. What a stupid thing to say. If it was preventable it would have never happened.

Duh?! I'm still scratching my head over that comment. But that's the problem with 24/7 news — these guys and gals jump in front of their network's cameras and start spouting off without any knowledge of what happened. And in the process they say stupid things. But they are in a race with their competitors to see who is first in line to receive a "Stupid" badge. I'd rather be last and accurate than first with egg hanging from my face.

Someone on television remarked the other evening that "this might be the year we don't have a summer." I'm beginning to wonder about that!

Farmer Tom lived on a quiet rural highway. But, as time went by, the traffic slowly built up at an alarming rate. It was so heavy and so fast that his chickens were being run over at a rate of three to six a day. So one day Farmer Tom called the sheriff's office and said, "You've got to do something about all of these people driving so fast and killing all of my chickens."

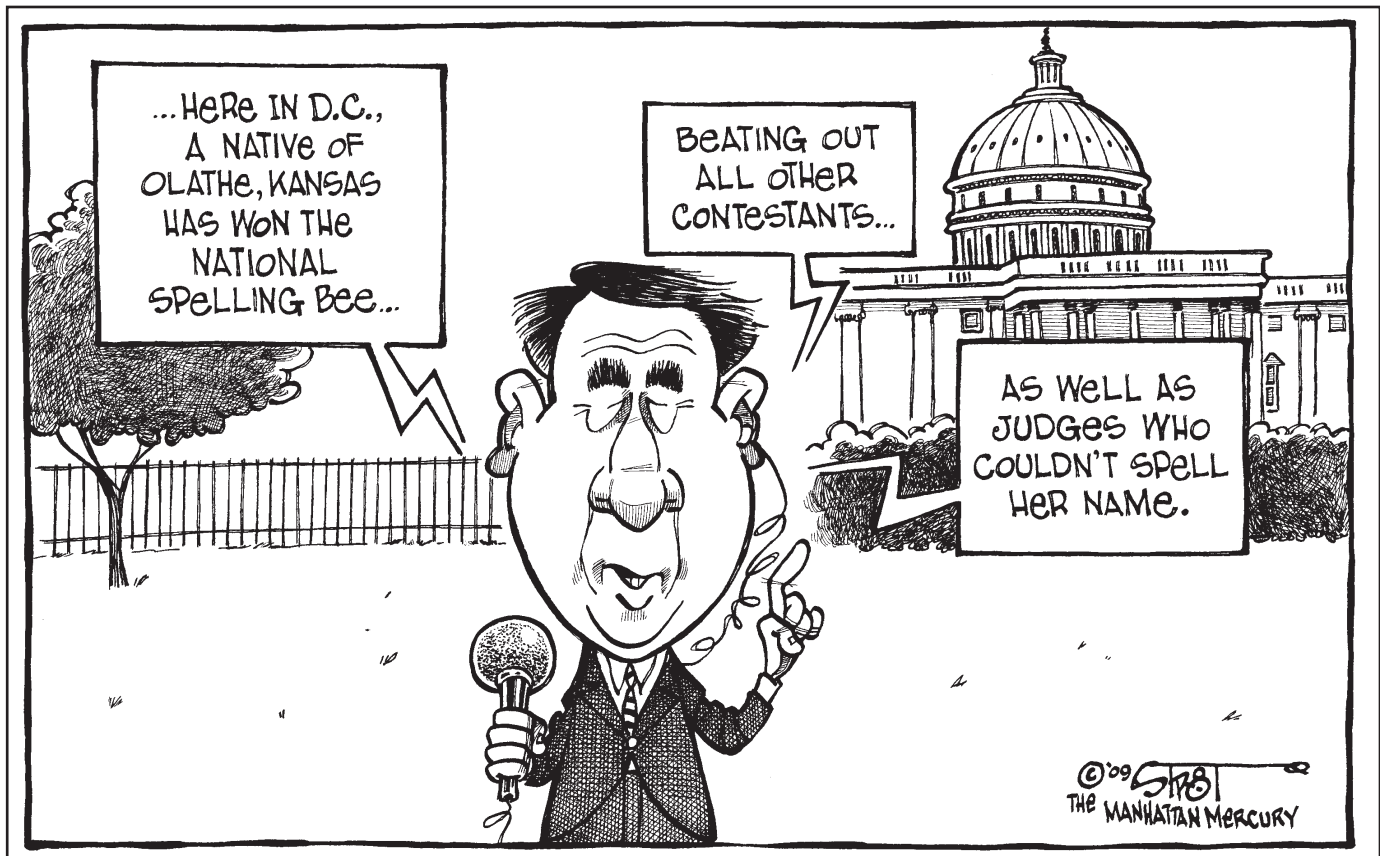
"What do you want me to do?" asked the sheriff. "I don't care, just do something about those crazy drivers," farmer Tom replied. So the next day the sheriff had the county workers go out and erect a sign that said: **Slow: School crossing.** A few days later farmer Tom called the sheriff and said, "You've got to do something about these drivers. The 'school crossing' sign seems to make them go even faster." So, again, the sheriff sends out the county workers and they put up a new sign: **Slow: Children at play.** That seemed to cause them to drive even faster. So Farmer Tom called and called every day for three weeks. Finally, he asked the sheriff, "Your signs are doing no good. Can I put up my own sign?" The sheriff said, "Sure thing, Tom, put up your own sign." The sheriff was going to let farmer Tom do just about anything he wanted to do to stop calling everyday to complain.

The sheriff got no more calls from Farmer Tom. Three weeks had gone by and curiosity got the best of the sheriff, so he decided to give Farmer Tom a call. "How's the problem with those drivers. Did you put up your sign?" Farmer Tom said, "Oh, I sure did. And not one chicken has been killed since then. I've got to go. I'm very busy." He hung up the phone. The sheriff was really curious now and he thought to himself, "I'd better go out there and take a look at that sign... it might be something that we could use to slow down drivers in other parts of the county."

So the sheriff drove out to Farmer Tom's house, and his jaw dropped the moment he saw the sign. It was spray-painted on a sheet of wood and said: **Nudist Colony ahead. Go slow and watch out for chicks!!**

Have a good evening! And leave home for church in plenty of time this weekend so you don't hit any of Farmer Tom's chicks.

### Let's Chat Tom Dreiling



## Maybe we just have more than we need

I had a great aunt who lived well into her nineties but always observed the increasing difficulties being encountered by the "younger generation". She frequently noted the amount of time the younger generation spent on the very items they purchased to simplify their lives. She never quite understood the dishwasher. She believed with the time spent to rinse, load and the time waiting for it to perform its magic, the dishes could have been done to perfection and put away. On top of that, she always felt that her personal washer seldom broke down like the power version.

I'm convinced obesity can be directly traced to the remote control. I guarantee you I did very little channel surfing, when I had to walk over to the TV to change the channel, on the other hand there were only three channels so it wasn't a big deal. We don't have a lot more programs only more channels on which to view the same program. You can view the same network news from almost every time zone. Most programs

### Phase II Mary Kay Woodyard



on the cable networks are reruns from the major networks i.e., Desperate Housewives or reruns of years, and I mean years, past, MASH, Brady Bunch and the Golden Girls.

When I was young and for my children as well, when you returned home from school you changed into play clothes. I never had to remind my children twice when they were in parochial school, they couldn't wait to get their uniform off. To this day the boys don't wear corduroy. That uniform had many benefits, for one thing the kids knew what they would wear each day. Play clothes were just that, the school uniform had its place and church clothes were reserved for Sundays and special

holidays.

Cooking has changed throughout the years as well. Meals were spent together, served at approximately the same time and each child took a taste of even those things they didn't like. Separate meals for each child at a time convenient for the individual child would have been appalling. Clean up was a family affair.

My husband told me studies have revealed the caveman worked 14 hours a week to take care of his family. Each year indicates we work more hours to provide for our families. Our caves have become more elaborate, each child has his/her own room, food is readily available and diseases are more easily treated. Are we happier? I don't know any cavemen to interview, but I see a lot of anger and sadness in modern day man. Perhaps when the elements of survival are at risk we are happier. Maybe it is the elements of greed which make us the most miserable.

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## Don't be a victim of stuff like this

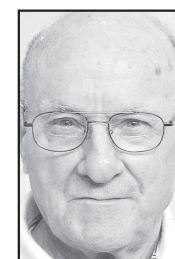
I would never respond to anything like you are about to read. Unfortunately, there are people who would and the end result would be nothing short of a horrible nightmare. And, as this newspaper has pleaded time and again, ignore such e-mails, phone calls, etc. The following e-mail was not edited in any way, it is presented as received on my computer. And you'll notice it is just one paragraph!

- Tom Dreiling, publisher

From Mrs.Sulak

I am the above named person, now undergoing medical treatment. I was married to late Engr M.N Sulak who worked With the Embassy for Nine years. We were married for eleven years without a child. My late husband Engr M.N Saluk died on the 24th of April 2006 after a brief illness that lasted for only four Days. I decided not to re-marry or get a Child outside my matrimonial home, because as a good Christian my religion is agents it says the Bible

### Scam Alert Tom Dreiling



and I lived a happy and good Christian life with my late husband. When my late husband was alive he deposited the sum of \$22 Million (Twenty Two Million America Dollars) with one Finance house Presently in London. I have been in the hospital for eight months suffering from cancer. The 1st surgery operation has been conducted and I still have the pains in me crying every day and night looking up to God to save cure me and save my life Recently my Doctor told me that I may die any time any day because of my cancer sickness. Having known my condition I decided to donate

the \$22 Million (Twenty Two Million America Dollars) my late husband deposited with a finance house in London to you a good organization that will utilize this fund very well by helping the less privilege. Like the orphanages, Old people, homeless. I took this decision because I don't have any child that will inherit this Fund. I want you to always pray for me as I have no life again says my doctor. It will be my please to receive your good response and I will contact or direct you to my late husband attorney that will help you to secure this \$22 Million (Twenty Two Million America Dollars) and I want you to assure me that you will use this \$22 Million (Twenty Two Million America Dollars) to help the less privilege. Am waiting for your respond. Please your responding to this mail, email me at sulakandfamily@gmail.com. God bless you and your good family

Mrs. Sulak  
sulakandfamily@gmail.com

To... Immanuel Lutheran Church, for taking a giant step of faith. (e-mail)

To... Greg Mann and the school board, for sticking to your decisions on the controversial issues of cheer leaders and baseball. Someone has to draw the line somewhere, sometime. (e-mail)

To... those graduates, who are preparing to further their education. Power to you! (e-mail)

To... all connected with the Norton Public Library's new look and new attitude. (e-mail)

To... Vicki Henderson, probably the hardest-working woman I know, and yet still found time to write such a great story and take pictures for this past Tuesday's front page. (e-mail)

To... Mary Luehrs and her staff, the board of the Norton Public Library, and all volunteers for all their hard work in preparing for the successful 100th anniversary celebration. (e-mail)

To... Mary Beth Boyd, for her three-part series dealing with the Norton Public Library's birth to today's outstanding facility. (e-mail)

(To render a salute, 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. Thanks for your continuing input. - td)



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