

## Easy to tell when it's an election year

Our economy is as sick as the experts tell us it is, where's all the money coming from to finance this 2010 election?

That's a fair question; where is it coming from? It's coming from all those special interests who have special connections on Capitol Hill. You know, we'll pat your back if you pat ours.

We have no idea how much money will be spent this year by the Democrats, who want to hang onto their control of the U.S. House and Senate, and by the Republicans, who are of the belief they are prime to gain control of both chambers.

Billions of dollars will be spent on advertising — of course most, or all of it on television and radio, where they think they have their largest audience. Their largest audience, we might again remind them, is in the small communities in all 50 states who look to their local newspaper for what's going on. The candidates do look to the local newspaper, all right, but for the FREE stuff; you know they arrive in town and sit on our laps to tell us about their greatness so we can pass those words onto our readers. Then when they are done with us they high tail to the radio and tv stations to dump their cash on advertising.

We know we play second fiddle when it comes to campaigns. And we know it's campaign season when they peek their heads in the door., smile the biggest smile they can muster and say in pal-like fashion, "Hey, there, GOOD TO SEE YOU!" Sure they are, but where have they been since the last election?

But as a community newspaper, we do what is expected of us; we tell you who was in town and what they said. You expect that and we deliver. But we're sure glad that the food put on the tables of community newspaper employees isn't driven by political advertising because if it was we'd all starve.

But that's the way it is. And we don't expect anything to change. We do take pride in the fact politicians seek us out because news is what we do, the reason we exist. And we'll continue doing that. If by chance some change falls from their pockets onto the carpet while they are visiting with us, we'll pick it up and call it a day.

Yep, they're back. Must be an election year.

-TD

(Writer's note: we do exclude Congressman Moran and state legislators Sen. Ostmeyer and Rep. Faber)



To...Jean and Scott at the post office for going beyond the call of duty to locate a letter and check for proper postage. (Letter).

To...the Norton County rural fire department for their help Saturday afternoon with a grass fire. We are lucky to have so many caring people in our community! (E-mail)

To...the Norton Community High School's forensic team members who qualified for state. (Called in)

To...White Field's Coffee House for great service every time. (Called in)

To render a Thumbs Up write:  
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There is no charge to render a thumbs up; names of those providing the information are not used, only the method of transmission. Most thumbs up deal with recognizing an act of kindness or job well done.

## Your political connection

★ **Governor Mark Parkinson**, 300 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-3232

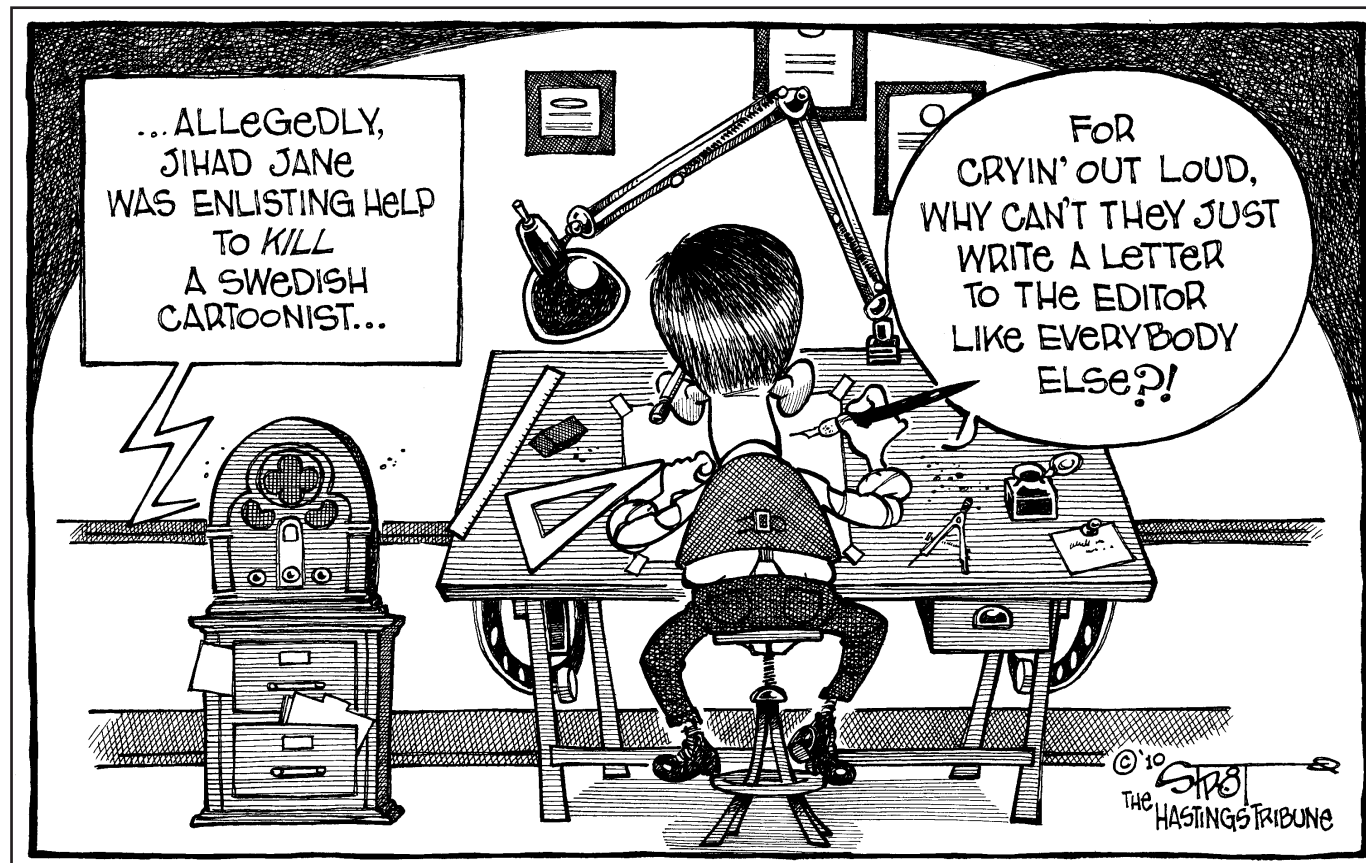
★ **U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts**, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774; fax (202) 224-3514

★ **U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback**, 303 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

★ **State Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer**, State Capitol Building, Room 262-E, Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-7399

★ **State Rep. John Faber**, 181 W. Capitol Building, Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-7500



## A large applause

'Stuwe do'  
Larry Henderson

Half time at the football game was closely drawing near,

The band had all lined up and we heard a great cheer.

Then the band took the field and performed with perfection and a lot of class.

"What kind of man master-minded a band like this?" I heard some stranger ask.

The answer, it was simple, for all of us who knew.

With pride it came from every lip, "Stuwe do."

The basketball game it was really close, it was time to buckle down.

The team needed to hear our support, and then we heard that sound.

The pep band played with confidence; they were a winning team.

Then the boys took the court again, with a head of steam.

When the last buzzer it had sounded, the Blue Jays had the game in hand.

Then I heard someone ask, "What had turned the game around?"

"Well, we got it from the pep band; we want to be winners too."

What kind of man gets that kind of respect, "Stuwe, do."

State contests, concerts, and graduation, they were now at hand.

The students were practicing hard, proud to be in the band.

The marks and scores were really good, like we knew they would.

For they performed expertly, like he knew they could.

A large applause of appreciation was heard for these Blue Jays, gold and blue.

What kind of teacher gets that kind of respect - why it's written on our shirts, "Stuwe do."

## Calving season in full swing

Vet tips  
Dr. Aaron White



Now that calving season is in full swing, it is time to concentrate on keeping your calves healthy. Did you know that scours is the most important threat to your neonatal calves and it causes the greatest economic loss in this age group than any other disease? Calf scours is not a single disease entity; it is a clinical syndrome associated with several factors characterized by diarrhea. Prevention means concentrating on nutrition, immunity and environment. Scours is a management disease, when one of these areas is overlooked, scours is inevitable.

There are a number of pathogens that can be responsible for scours; E. coli, rotavirus, coronavirus, cryptosporidiosis and Salmonella are among the most common. They often occur as multiple infections in the same calf. Different pathogens tend to cause scours at different times during the first month of life. But, they all cause the same result: diarrhea, dehydration and acidosis.

Vaccines are available and are most beneficial when administered to the cows and heifers prior to calving. This way the calves will receive antibodies via their mother's colostrum. I prefer to vaccinate heifers at six weeks prior and again at three weeks prior to calving. Cows get one booster 30 days prior to calving.

Since the pathogens are all around,

management can be the key to whether an outbreak will occur. The most important reservoir for these enteric agents is previously or currently infected cattle. That is why it is very important to maintain a closed herd throughout calving season. Another good rule of thumb is to keep heifers separate throughout calving season. Generally, their calves scour at twice the rate of cows. Calves that demonstrate symptoms should be removed as soon as possible from the group and placed into an isolation area.

Nutrition is a critical anchor to a scour prevention program, so that the immune system is ready to respond. Sixty to 90 days prior to calving, make sure your cattle have balance rations. Long before calving, cow condition and grass pasture should be evaluated. Cows that go into winter with a BCS of 5.5 to 6 are easier to maintain into the colder months. The most important nutritional point for calves, of course, is to get sufficient colostrums quickly. Absorption of im-

portant IgG antibodies begins to decline immediately after birth. The result of inadequate colostrum intake is inadequate passive transfer, and it may be the single most important factor in calf scours.

Controlling the weather during calving isn't possible, but you can have a good cow flow system. This includes four different areas, which have been unoccupied since the previous calving season. These include: a pre-calving area that cattle move into just a couple of weeks before calving starts, a calving area, a nursery, and a treatment area for sick calves to remain isolated. Avoid calving in used feeding pastures or lots with heavy fecal contamination. All calving areas should be as clean and dry as possible; also producers should feed in different places moving feedbunks every few days. Not overcrowding animals is an important part of keeping sanitation as high as possible. Also, don't forget a good windbreak; it can make a big difference in the health of your herd.

The bottom line is management: calf scours is a preventable and treatable condition. A well managed herd is the best way to control scours and to keep your calf crop healthy. Your veterinarian is your best information source for your cattle. Call us at 877-2411 with any questions.

## Remembering a great teacher

Phase II  
Mary Kay Woodyard



Few people affect a child's life like a teacher. From kindergarten on these individuals hold incredible power over our most vulnerable population.

They can make the day or break it. Especially in elementary school one harsh word carries a strong blow; a kind word can instill a great desire to succeed. My mother's passion was teaching. She took great pride in the profession and felt a great responsibility for the child. She prized the letters from students who credited her with their choice of the teaching profession.

In today's world we value the subjects taught and the skills achieved and although curriculum is important it is the messengers who make it possible. This Saturday the Norton Community High School East Campus Auditorium will be the site of a memorial service for a well loved former teacher.

David Stuewe brought music to life for hundreds of students in his career, mine included, as the Norton Community High School band director. His memorial is in fact more than just a celebration of Mr. Stuewe's life; it is also a tribute to the many teachers who have enriched the youth of Norton throughout its long history.

High school teachers often are the ones to help a teenager realize their potential and the possibilities which may await them. The introduction to adult life is part of the high school teacher's role. Mr.

Stuewe served as a mentor for many and often inspired students to pursue musical careers. He would share a bit of history about a piece when introducing it to the band. This shared knowledge reflected not just his love of the piece, but its place in history as well.

In a small town the teaching never stops, during class or after hours. As I look around the community, I see other former teachers who have not only wanted successful education for the community but a successful way of life. They dedicated their lives to help children realize their dreams and find their passion. My growing up years were enriched by many teachers, among them David Stuewe.

May you rest in peace, Mr. Stuewe, and all teachers who have gone before you and may each teacher who follows share your dedication and passion.

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