

### The Parvovirus hitting right here at home

One of the most common and deadly diarrhea diseases seen in dogs, especially in the fall months, is Canine Parvovirus! Since 1978, dogs of all ages and breeds have been victims of this highly contagious viral disease that attacks the intestinal tract, white blood cells, and in some cases the heart muscle. Canine Parvovirus or CPV is spread quickly and easily by dog-to-dog contact through fecal contamination.

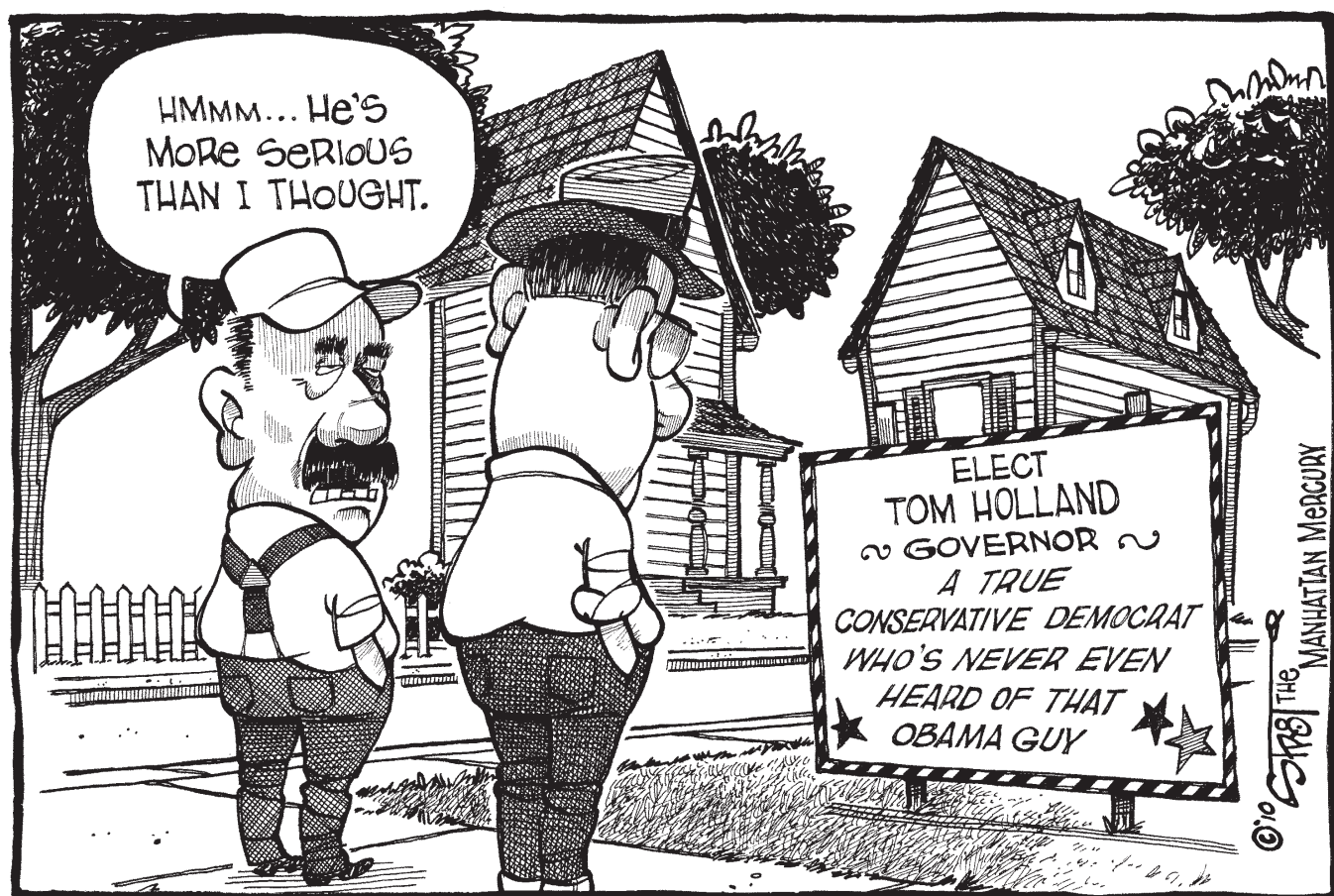
An individual dog which is confined to a house or yard and is rarely in contact with other dogs is far less likely to be exposed to the virus. Parvovirus infection can only be transmitted to dogs, not to other types of animals or people, but animals and people act as fomites carrying the disease to your dog. The source of infection is fecal waste from infected dogs. The virus is resistant to extremes in environmental conditions and most disinfectants.

The first signs of a Parvovirus infection are depression, loss of appetite, vomiting, and severe diarrhea. Fever may be noted. These signs will most often appear 5-7 days after the dog is exposed to the virus. Dogs may dehydrate rapidly due to vomiting and diarrhea. Most deaths occur within 48-72 hours following the onset of clinical signs. Pups suffer most with shock-like deaths, occurring as early as two days after the onset of illness. Thankfully, efficacious widespread vaccination programs have dramatically decreased canine deaths from Parvovirus. Unfortunately, dogs that have not been vaccinated very commonly become infected with this disease and succumb to a painful death.

Treatment of Parvovirus infection, which should be started immediately if it is to be successful, consists primarily of efforts to combat dehydration by replacing electrolyte and fluid losses, controlling vomiting and diarrhea, and preventing secondary infections with antibiotics. Treatment is intensive and expensive, and sometimes cannot overcome the severe effects of the disease. Sadly, when treatment is started late, dogs usually cannot overcome the severe intestinal tract sloughing and die.

With very few exceptions, dogs of any age should be vaccinated annually to prevent Canine Parvovirus infection. Proper cleaning and disinfection of kennels and other areas where dogs are housed is essential to controlling the spread of the virus. Remember, the virus is capable of existing in the environment for up to 2 years unless the area is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. One-quarter cup household bleach in 1 gallon of water is an effective disinfectant. Fall is prime time for Parvovirus infections to develop and spread through communities. Make sure your puppies are vaccinated starting at 6 weeks of age with boosters every 3 weeks until 15 weeks of age, and adults are vaccinated annually. When you suspect that your pet may have been exposed to Parvovirus, it is entirely appropriate to have your pet's Parvovirus vaccination boosted immediately. As always, prevention is key to saving yourself from heartbreak and your pet from an agonizing death! Please call us immediately with questions at 785-877-2411.

Dr. Sarah White



### Historic tragedies discussed over a quilt

The anniversary of 9-11 has passed. At our quilter's group we talked about where we were when we heard about those terrorist attacks.

This is what I remember: A friend called and told me to turn on the TV. I am certain it was after 9:00. As we watched, the second plane went into the towers. I usually went to work at 10:00. After I got there the towers fell.

One of my fellow quilters said she heard it on the radio as she went to work. She had to be to work by 8:00.

If I were to tell someone who had never heard of the 9-11 attacks what happened I would say the first plane went into the towers around 9:00 central daylight time or 10:00 eastern time. But our quilting discussion got me curious, so I checked. The first plane indeed hit at 7:46 CST. The second plane hit at 8:03 CST.

The first tower fell at 8:59 CST. I am certain I was at work when it fell. Some days I did go to work at 9:00 or even 8:00. Apparently 9-11 was one of those days.

At this gathering we also shared our memories of the deaths of JFK and Elvis.

I was about a month shy of my twelfth birthday when JFK died. We heard the news at school immediately after lunch. I remember being shocked but not particularly worried about the fate of the nation. I was eleven, give me a break!

As to Elvis: I thought I had at least two of my children when I heard the news. But the rest of the group insisted he died in the 70's. Indeed it was 1977 and my oldest was born in 1979.

It's enough to make one worry about

### This Too Shall Pass Nancy Hagman



one's mind! Especially when someone put the ham away with the bread rather than in the fridge, I'm trying to pin that one on the hubby! Though he's never been known to put the bread away so why would he put the ham there?

I did not argue at quilting about what time the towers were hit. But in my mind I was absolutely certain my time frame was correct.

Now we have the issue of building a mosque near ground zero. I'm not into conspiracy theories so I don't care who is funding it or what the motivation is. It's America, we have freedom of religion and they have the right to do it! What I don't get is how a group, in this case Muslims, can be so tone deaf and insensitive to the feelings of others.

Then in Florida a Christian Minister announces he is going to burn the Koran. If this provocative action was all you knew about Christians, your impression would not be favorable.

In America we are assured of freedom of the press. However, I can't help but wonder how it happened that a minister of a congregation of fifty caused an international incident. If the first reporter had ignored the story would it have just died?

Remember back when we had all those

airplane hijackings? (In the 70's before Elvis died, if memory serves!) Later it was determined there probably never would have been a second if the first had not been reported! Sure we have a right to know, but the press really does seem to enjoy whipping us into frenzy!

Even when we should know better we come to the wrong conclusions. My memory of the facts of two significant events: the death of Elvis and 9-11 are wrong!

You might say my mind is pretty suspect, there is that ham incident. Our memories are as individual as we are. How we remember and what we believe is colored by our life experiences. My experience was I went to work at 10:00. Therefore, I remember that more than I do what time I went one particular day: 9-11.

I do keep a journal. I checked my journal to see what I wrote on 9-11. "An act of war? No one knows what to think!" I also noted my boss' daughter had a baby! No one forgets her birthday!!!

Nine years later and everyone knows what they think about 9-11. And everyone is certain their opinion is right. I was certain and I was wrong.

Believing does not make things true. And conversely, something may be true even if we don't believe it.

It's humbling when that moment of realization comes: "Oh, I'm wrong!" That's when you realize the importance of giving respect to all opinions and withholding judgment.

So tell me, what do you remember about 9-11?

### One can never have too many friends

This week I am going to depart from my usual type of column to pay tribute to a beautiful lady and wonderful friend, Nan Smith, who died this past week. I valued our friendship, and I valued her. There were a lot of others with whom she had been friends for a lot longer, but I firmly believe one can never have too many friends.

I had known who Nan was since shortly after she moved to Norton. There was no teaching position available when she first came, so she sold Avon. I frequently saw her out, walking her route. Then she had a teaching position at Eisenhower, and I rarely saw her because my kids were beyond the grades she taught.

After I retired from being a nursing educator, I began volunteering at the grade school. When school started again, the teacher in whose room I had been the previous year asked if anyone wanted me for a block of time. Nan responded with alacrity, and thus began the building of our friendship.

We talked a lot. At first we talked a lot about the fact we were both breast cancer survivors, and we often exchanged pink

### Life is Good Rita Speer



ribbon items we found. Our friendship grew beyond that, and I came to appreciate her love of teaching, her love for her family and what a broad life experience she shared with her students. I will never forget her telling me, "I am a healthy person who just happens to have cancer." What a great attitude, I thought.

A little more than two years ago it became apparent the cancer had returned. I offered what support I could give and did whatever she asked me to do for her at school. I admired how much she gave to the school kids and how comfortably she related to them. They in turn did their best to please her. When she could no longer teach, I resolved to do what I could for her. I called her, I visited her, I shared my quilting pieces with her.

Yes, she died from that disease we both understood so well. But she had an indomitable spirit, a beautiful smile and she fought the adversary bravely to the end. Be at peace, dear friend. And Dennis, Mark and Ashley, may you also find peace.

In the past week we have experienced the loss of a gifted and respected teacher; an altering of our daily routine and preparations for an event honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

My mother taught school for many years and was a dedicated educator. Perhaps that's what resonated with her when she met Nan Smith, a kindred spirit. Students who have had those types of teachers never forget them. They want children to succeed and whatever role they can play to that end they will. Nan has left her print on many young lives and because of that she will live on. The various ways the community honored this brave woman...the game, a tree in her honor...are a tribute to Nan and to the community she called home.



### Phase II Mary Kay Woodyard



I have always liked the saying, "It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness." The people I spoke with this week did just that. Citizens were very grateful for the workers who gave up their weekend, nights, etc. to restore our water. The manner in which Norton came together...neighbor helping neighbor, organizations assisting individuals...to weather this inconvenience is a reflection of the power

of community.

Soon, September 23 through the morning of September 27, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. will be in Norton. The east side of Prairie Land Electric on Highway 36 will be the temporary home for this monument which honors those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Individuals and groups worked together to collect the funds and manpower to bring this memorial to our community. It provides a history lesson, a way of honoring the four young men from our county who lost their lives in the Vietnam War and a determination of the citizens of Norton County to not forget.

Such examples are reflections of the strength of our community.

R.W. Yeager

## 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



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

### STAFF

Dana Paxton.....general manager  
advertising director/  
email: dpaxton@nwkans.com  
Dick Boyd.....Blue Jays sports  
Harriett Gill.....society editor  
Sherry Hickman....bookkeeping/circulation  
Vicki Henderson.....computer production

Letters to the Editor:  
e--mail dpaxton@nwkans.com,  
or to write 215 S. Kansas Ave. 67654