

One man's opinion can change over time

OK, so I'm going to wave the white flag! Sort of.

I read Sarah Palin's first book and am looking forward to doing the same with her second. And I've been watching "Sarah Palin's Alaska" on the Learning Channel. I'm beginning to see a side of Palin that's been ignored by part of my brain.

Palin isn't the smartest person in the political mix. But she's far from being the most stupid. How many of the 2012 presidential hopefuls gave a thought to seeking the office in the fashion she's using. She knows she will need to climb out of the box if she wants to match the publicity President Barack Obama enjoys by virtue of his office.

Her eight-week reality series, "Sarah Palin's Alaska," is more of a political advertisement than an introduction to that marvelous state. Alaska hasn't exactly been starving for publicity.

While the other Republican presidential hopefuls are out there doing it the old-fashioned way, Palin is busy writing books, holding down a television slot on Fox News, doing her thing on a two-month television reality show, and even sitting down with *The New York Times* for an interview. Yes, you read that right, *The New York Times*.

If Palin decides she's now ripe to give the White House a shot, that isn't necessarily going to set well with some of the older, moldier GOP'ers like Sen. Mitch McConnell. Her nomination would be their worst nightmare. They feel a Palin presidential candidacy would guarantee Obama a shooin for a second term.

I would bet there are very few people out there who could name the dozen or more Republican presidential hopefuls. Quietly, they are campaigning like it's supposed to be done. But they are so quiet you neither hear nor see them at all. Cameras, reporters, photographers, television networks and newspapers and magazines are featuring and following Palin.

You call her stupid?
I think she's going to run, but I am yet not convinced she's qualified. That issue will need to be addressed in a deeper sense than has so far.

Airport pat-downs. That seems to be the controversy of the moment. I don't know how many folks are opposed, but it seems that not everybody is herded into the pat-down stable. The old saying, "Many are called but few are chosen" could sum up the latest outcry. And I am waiting for the next big love story that makes the Breaking News category to be the direct result of an airport pat-down. Sweet!

The Nov. 2 election results in Kansas once again underscored the two things that the state raises most: wheat and Republicans!


I can well remember when I was a high school student at St. Joseph's Military Academy in Hays, Kan., and some of us would decide to cut class. The principal, Father Anselm Martin, knew exactly where to call when Dreiling and Drees and Bollig and Walters and Wasinger and Evans and Leiker and Spies and Gabel and Rome and Staab and Depperschmidt and Ross, etc., etc. came up missing.

Ah, yes, he would call the good old Playmore, a really good place to study if you were into pool, cards, bowling and pinball machines. The Playmore was in the 100 block of East 11th.

Comments to milehitom@hotmail.com are appreciated.

I might mention that nephew Sean Dreiling made the headlines when he popped in 16 points for the Fort Hays State University Tigers in a basketball game last week. Talk about being proud! He is the son of Curt and Patti Dreiling, Estes Park, Colo., and the grandson of Donna Jean (Jeanie) Dreiling of Hays.

Take care.

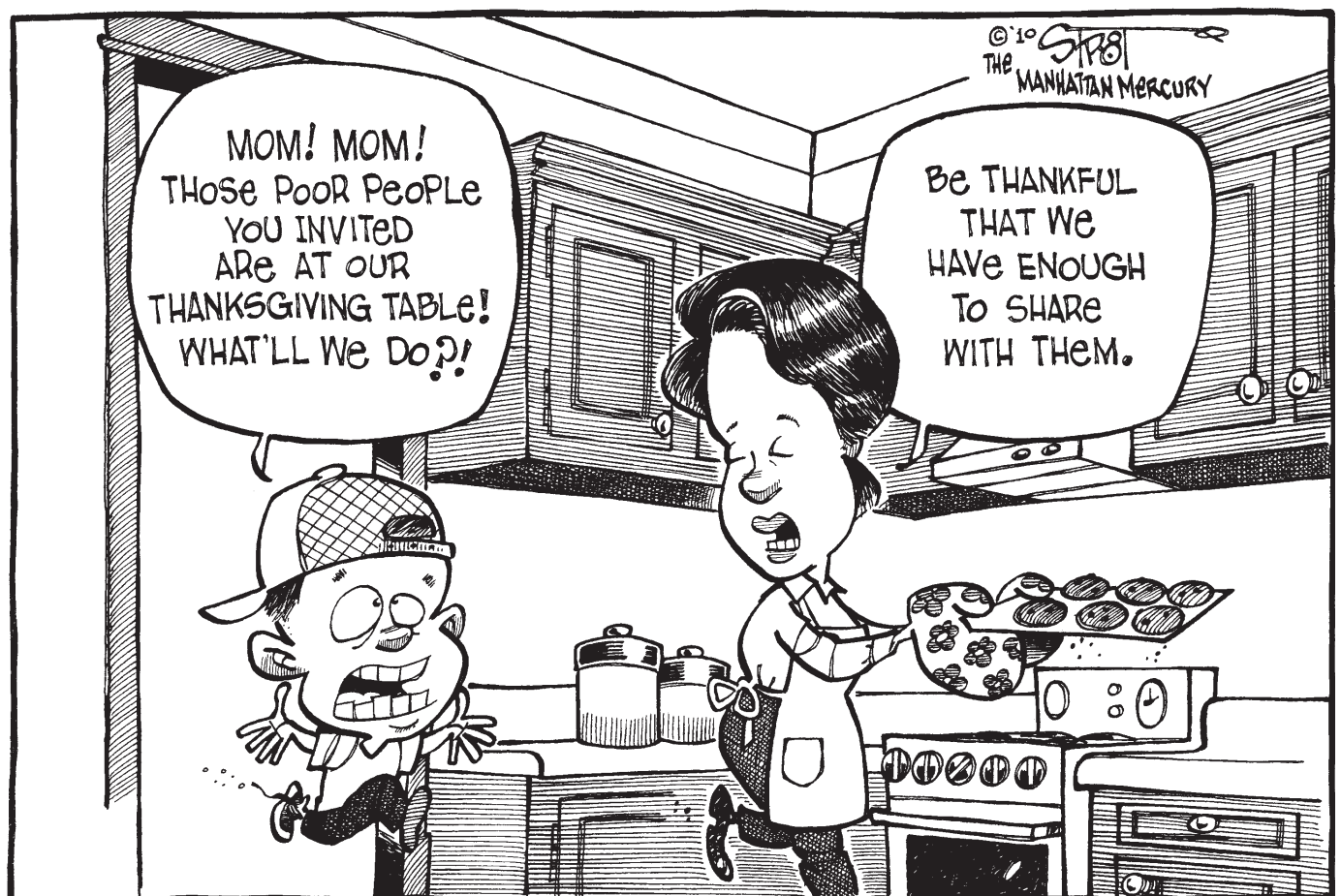


Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,
Why do you suppose all of the board members of the Norton Manor end up resigning?

Sue Urban

**Stop
Look
Listen**
Tom Dreiling



If empathy was money, we'd be bankrupt

In my husband's opinion, if empathy was money, I would be bankrupt.

It's not that I don't care (I do). But, if I can't do anything to fix the problem I want you to find someone who can.

This all stems from the fact that Jim had not been feeling well. In fact, he had begun a slow decline. He told me how bad he felt and I told him he needed to see a doctor. He said I wasn't empathetic. I said, "I'm not a doctor."

I can hold someone's hand while they're retching into the toilet; I can hold a broken arm while we drive to the hospital; I can put a bandage on a wound. But, I cannot see inside someone and diagnose what the problem is. Nor, can I prescribe the proper treatment. So, if that's being un-sympathetic - I'm guilty.

Bottom line is he finally agreed to seek treatment and I'm extremely glad he did. He was retaining so much fluid that his heart was doing double-duty to keep up and his lungs were stressed too. Two days in the hospital fixed him up - good as new. Maybe even better.

-ob-

Turns out Jim is a good hospital patient.

Out Back
Carolyn Plotts



He ate all his food; listened to his nurses; and kept everyone laughing. Hospitals are not places you want to go. But, if you need to you're sure glad it's there. Everyone was kind yet, professional; the facility was immaculate; and the food was quite good. His only complaint was the "no-salt" order on his tray. His doctor hasn't given the order but, I'm sure we need to cut down on his salt. It wouldn't hurt me to learn how to cook with other seasonings, anyway.

-ob-

It's going to be a low-key Thanksgiving. For the first time in years, we're not going to Dallas for the holiday. We were just there a few weeks ago and will be going back in March so the decision has been made to stay home.

With Jim's stint in the hospital, it's a good deal we weren't planning any extensive travel.

I have a small turkey thawing in the fridge and we will share the day with son, James, and our soon to be favorite daughter-in-law, Charlotte. Lest you think we're playing favorites: Charlotte will be our only daughter-in-law.

-ob-

A grocery store employee shared this overheard exchange between a mother and her eight or nine-year old son.

The two were shopping in the juice and bottled drink department when the boy said, "Mom, can we get some more of that Coors-Light drink?"

The mother looked around to see if anyone had heard and whispered to him, "Don't say that! It's Crystal-Light. Crystal-Light."

-ob-

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. If you can't be with family, find someone else who's going to be alone and ask them to join you. It's a day to celebrate being alive and having enough. I know I'm thankful to have my husband home.

Laser therapy being used in treatment of animals

Laser therapy is used for a variety of maladies including rehabilitating your companion animal from trauma or injury, healing from wounds, or simply aging, and your companion will benefit from this revolutionary new approach to veterinary medicine. Relief from suffering, quality state-of-the-art medical care, and sterile, pain-free, surgery-free, drug-free treatment is available to treat a variety of injuries, wounds, fractures, neurological conditions, numerous dermatological problems, and pain is available at Norton Animal Health Center.

Laser therapy has been around for several years, but recently has become advanced enough to make great strides to improve overall quality of life. Laser therapy is the only course of treatment that actually stimulates the body to heal from within. Non-thermal photons of light are administered to the body and absorbed by the injured cells. These cells are then stimulated to respond with a higher rate of metabolism. This results in increased circulation from the body, an anti-inflammatory reaction, relief from pain, and an acceleration of the healing process.

Companion therapy laser treatment sessions last anywhere from five minutes for a small dog or cat, to up to forty-five minutes for an equine athlete. As the laser treatment is administered, your pet

Vet tips
Dr. Aaron White



will relax and enjoy the relief. It is like experiencing a good massage. The almost immediate relief of pain will allow your pet to be comfortable. Any anxiety that your pet initially experiences will soon dissipate. During a therapy session, feline companions tend to start purring, canine companions will actually fall asleep, and equine athletes completely relax. Companion laser therapy provides relief from pain in just a few minutes of therapy, improving the quality of life in your best friend.

Companion laser therapy is just that, a therapy. One therapy session will give your companion relief, but in order for your companion to experience maximum benefits, a treatment protocol is developed specifically for each patient. Treatment protocols depend on the disease process and the chronicity of the event. For a new arthritis patient, we recommend a basic seven-treatment arthritis package: three treatments the first week, two the next

and then one treatment for each of the next two weeks. Thereafter, treatment is administered as needed, usually every two to four weeks.

Companion laser therapy reduces inflammation, improves blood flow, and releases natural endorphins to relieve pain. It is used to prevent and manage pain without surgery and without sedation. Laser therapy can be used on any animal, large or small, to treat any type of inflammation. We implement therapy in rehabilitation treatment plans to restore mobility, strengthen muscles and joints, reduce pain and speed wound healing. Some applications of laser therapy are, but are not limited to: intervertebral disk disease, degenerative joint disease (arthritis), hip dysplasia, lick granulomas, dermatologic disorders, wound healing, cystitis, gingivitis and stomatitis, sinusitis and rhinitis, anal sac disease, abscesses, snake bites, folliculitis, strained muscles, bone trauma, and post-surgical pain relief.

Companion laser therapy is a specialty usually only found in large referral hospitals. At this time, no other veterinary practice within 200 miles offers the service. Call 877.2411 with questions or to make an appointment.

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