

Letter to the Editor,

In one of the past issues of the Telegram, Mary-Kay Woodyard referenced the need for funding of Planned Parenthood based on the need for educational materials they provide. However, I believe that all funding for Planned Parenthood should be ended, closed.

Why do I believe this? For the reason that most of the funding for Planned Parenthood is for the providing of abortions, most of the money they make is from abortions so they have a financial reason to urge abortions on women, of all ages, who are in a precarious mental state and usually are not able to make an informed, reasonable decision. As for sex and reproductive education, I believe that women, girls and boys would be better served through their parents, church, doctor and perhaps county health. Most of the information that Planned Parenthood provides is what the name implies, contraception and abortion if an unwanted/unplanned pregnancy occurs. Abortion is where the money is made--and if you have any doubts about that, go to Fox News website and view the reporting of the abortion provider (he is not a true doctor in the field of women's health), Mr. Gosnell, who has been providing abortions since 1973. Inform yourself to the real facts of killing a child--not a blob of tissue, not a fetus, but a pre-born human child. Yes, most abortions are in a clean, medical environment yet the result is the same, a human being is killed--not wanted, thrown out with the trash or incinerated. Is that what our society has come to? No consequences for our actions, no responsibility for our behavior? Just a woman's right to kill another human? What kind of "right" is that?

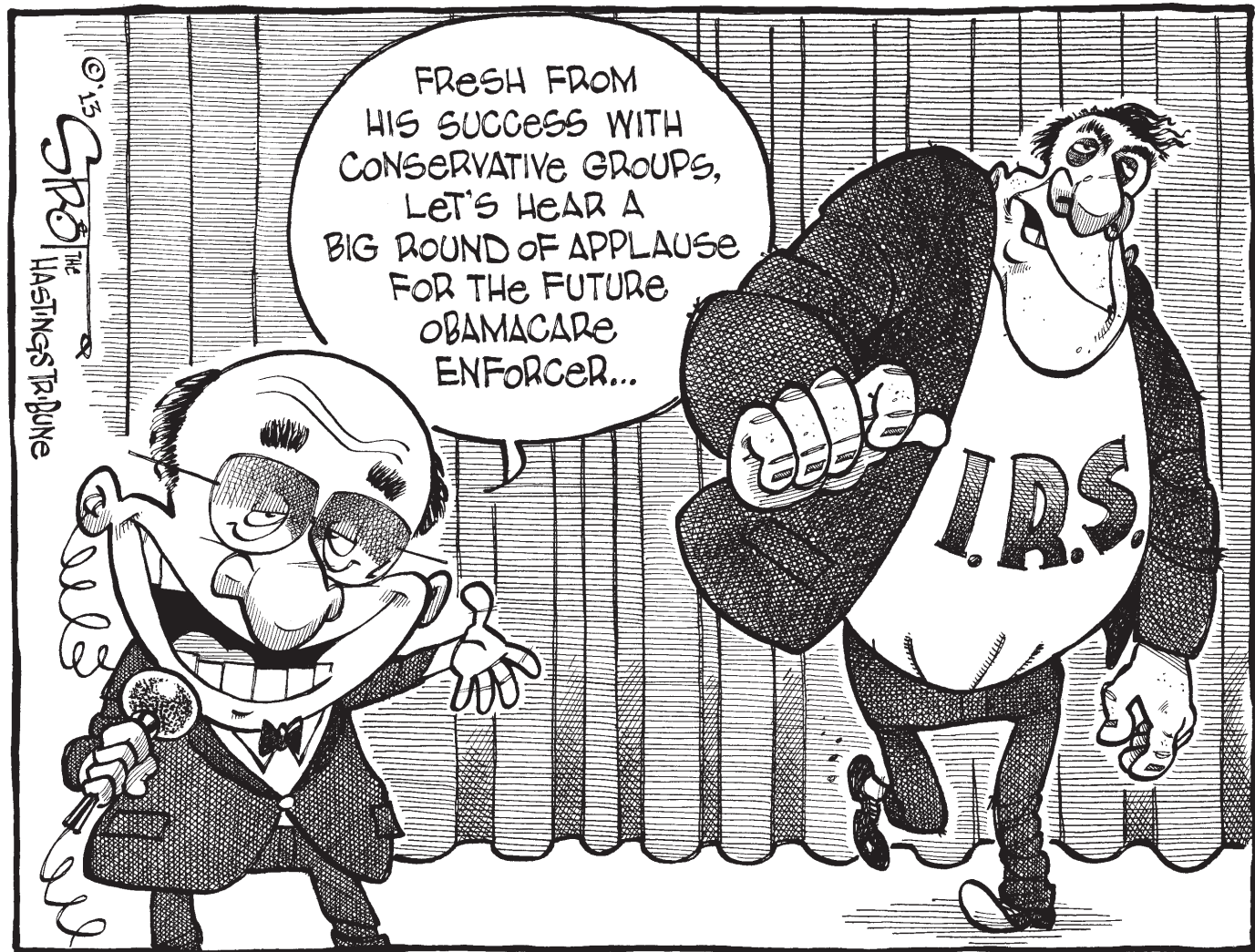
It has always puzzled me that, especially nowadays, people are very aware of organic foods and supposedly how much better they are for your body and health and then women use contraception pills that are full of chemicals and many are now rated in the Class I Carcinogenic category. Some use the IUD because they think it is safer. Do you know that the IUD and the contraceptive pills are really anti-abortifacients??? Did you know that when young girls begin taking the contraceptive pills their breasts are not fully developed and are affected by those pills which can lead to breast cancer. Do you suppose that is why there has been such a rise in breast cancer in 20 and 30 year olds?

Have you ever considered or looked at the results of abortion on women/girls? It has been proven that there are psychological and sometimes physical harm done. Women need education and information about their bodies and what they do to themselves. Who best to give it to them, NOT Planned Parenthood! They look at the financial end, not what is best for the woman/girl. How about talking to your doctor? Get on the internet and do some research for yourself, don't take my word for it. However, if you would like some information on the effects of abortion, I would be blessed to offer it to you. I would share with you the fact based information I have received. I can share it in the privacy of your home, your ladies group (but men need to understand this also), church group, you name it. It's time we become "free to choose" on an intellectual basis--emotions don't always serve us well.

If you have had an abortion, remember that Jesus loves us all with all our problems and weakness. That is why a woman who had an abortion began Rachel's Vineyard, to minister to women like herself who were hurting and had no place to go, no one to understand them. You can email rvineyard@ruraltel.net or call 1-877-447-4383 and talk to someone. This ministry is non-denominational and has grown to be worldwide in its outreach.

For the sake of our babies and ourselves,
In Jesus name,

Ardith Scheetz



Being careful what you pray for

You've heard the expression, "Be careful what you pray for," right? From now on Jim might be a little more careful who he asks to pray.

Friday evenings find us at the state prison leading a Bible study class for about 50 inmates. Jim usually sings a country song to get things started and talks a little while until everyone is settled. Last week he shared with the guys that he would not be at Sunday Chapel services because he would be attending the antique tractor show he goes to every year. He explained that he and his son carry on the tradition of demonstrating how the stationary baler works, just like he and his father used to do.

It was time to start so Jim asked if anyone would like to give the opening prayer.

A young man volunteered and began, "Lord, thank You for waking us up today. Thank you for the food we eat and for the roof over our heads. Lord, keep us safe and protect us. Lord, I ask you to bless Jim. Even though he's going to the antique show Sunday and won't be in Chapel where he should be. We still ask you to bless him. Amen."

I know you're not supposed to laugh during a prayer, but I couldn't help it.

-ob-

A young mother I know posted on

Out Back

Carolyn Plotts



Facebook after hearing her little girl sing, "You better watch out, you better not tell, you better be nice to cows, Santa Claus is coming to toooooown."

That's right: Be nice to cows. I couldn't have said it better.

-ob-

Speaking of cows, the babies are growing up and off the bottle. All it took was one lesson and all three calves are drinking out of a bucket.

They didn't like it much, but while letting them suck on my hand, I would put their mouth into a bucket of milk. I would pull out my hand and without knowing it, they would be drinking. Once they realized it, though, they would stop and try to find my hand again. They really wanted that bottle. Hunger won out and with every little effort they were swilling down the formula in a matter of seconds.

Next step in their life journey will be the pasture. They are eating alfalfa hay and grass we pull for them, so I

know they're ready. We will have to fence off their escape route before the move, otherwise it would be one of our famous rodeo scenes.

They won't know what to do with all that space after their small pen. What they better do is eat the weeds. That's what we hired them for. To be self-propelled, automatic, lawn mowing/lawn fertilizing machines.

-ob-

A far cry from what my Saturday nights used to be, last Saturday night found me doing the laundry and shredding paper.

We get an amazing amount of "junk" mail. I think every household does. I usually rip off the name label, unless it is sent to "Boxholder", and place the mailer, flyer or advertisement for hearing aids, money-making schemes, insurance, or can't fail weight-loss programs into the recycle bin.

The "to shred" box was full and then-some. I vowed to stay with it until every label, order form or envelope with our name on it was in little, itty, bitty pieces. There was so much I think the shredder overheated a few times. It's done though. Two large trash bags full.

Yup. Some exciting life we lead.

Fast food isn't that fast when you really think about it

Pre-packaged, vacuum-packed, just add water...

Many of us in Kansas live in a world where food comes fast - so fast we forget how it arrives at our table. We also forget it comes from the hard labor and calloused hands of Kansas farmers. Our food also comes from Kansas ranchers who work miles of rangeland in rain, snow and blazing heat.

Fast food?

Not really.

Our lives wouldn't be the same without the farmers and ranchers who put food on our tables. Just as meat, eggs and milk have always been part of our mealtime routine, caring and providing for the animals that give us these staples are part of a farmer's daily activities.

These activities continue, often for long hours, throughout the day. Farmer/stockmen look after their animals the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night. In that sense, livestock producers often place greater emphasis on their animals than themselves.

There's no doubt agriculture has changed throughout the years. Today's farm animals live in carefully supervised environments. No longer do they need to struggle for survival in a driving snowstorm or search for

Insight

John Schlageck



nourishment on parched rangelands. Instead they have heat in the winter, cool ventilation in the summer and clean dry living areas with food and water all year long.

All of this is provided with hands-on care, education and a long tradition of animal husbandry. Farmers and ranchers go far beyond their role of humane guardians and demonstrate devoted concern for their animals' health and safety.

They routinely stay up all night to help sows deliver piglets or to tend to newborn calves. When it's 15 degrees below zero on a frigid Kansas winter morning, farmers and ranchers are feeding, watering and caring for their livestock.

They're God's creatures and a farmer and rancher's responsibility. Proper care of animals is a time-honored ethic that also makes economic sense. In order for animals to increase efficiencies in meat, milk, wool and egg production,

farmers must take all possible steps to ensure their animals live stress free.

The farmer's creed has always been to nurture the land, improving it while coaxing forth a bountiful harvest. Farmers hold enduring respect for the land that sustains them and consumers in this country and around the world. Their reward is an abundance of the safest, most wholesome food on the planet.

Today's American and world consumers enjoy ample yields from this nation's farms. Success lies with the farmer's ingenuity and stewardship ethic.

Advances in crop production enhance the farmer's natural commitment to providing us all with food. These innovations allow farmers to harvest larger yields with fewer acres, in harmony with the environment.

Yes, it takes plenty of hard work and honest sweat to raise the grain, vegetables, fruits and livestock that provide this country's food. Farm and ranch families take pride from their shared experience living, working and harvesting food from the land.

They believe that through their profession of producing food they are giving more to the world than they are taking from it.

Letter to the Editor,

According to a recent issue of the Telegram, at the City Council meeting on May 1, the council received the final plans for the new pool and the contract that was to be let for bids on May 6. The city had received a plan a few weeks earlier, but that one was only partially complete. The final design and contract that actually included all details and specifications was not presented until at the meeting on May 1. One councilman moved that the letting be put off for a month in order to give everyone a chance to review the plans and read the contract first.

Who in good conscience would vote to go ahead with a contract for 4.5 million dollars of the taxpayers' money without reading it first? Apparently three members of the City Council and the mayor would.

When someone is trying to push a contract through without first giving everyone an opportunity to read it completely makes me think that either something had been omitted that should be in it, something is in it that shouldn't be, or at least something has been added that someone doesn't want the whole council to know about.

The three members of the city council who had the integrity and the intelligence to want to know just what they were approving before voting on it at least tried to do what was right.

It is my understanding that once the contract has been let, the city can't make any changes without a lot of extra costs. What would it have hurt to be sure just what the contract contained? Anyway, didn't the city attorney at least advise against doing something that we have all been warned about: Read Everything First!

Marie Moritz



Letters to the Editor and Thumbs Up:
e-mail dpaxton@nwkansas.com
or to write 215 S. Kansas Ave.



Remember there is no charge for rendering a Thumbs Up. Thumbs Up are meant to give recognition for a positive person or event in the community. Also remember all Letters to the Editor must be signed.

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

E-mail:
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

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.-Thur.

8 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Friday

Phone: (785) 877-3361

Fax: (785) 877-3732

STAFF

Dana Paxton..... General Manager
Advertising Director/Managing Editor
email: dpaxton@nwkansas.com

Dick Boyd Blue Jay Sports
nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

Michael Stephens..... Reporter
Society Editor/Area Sports
mstephens@nwkansas.com

Vicki Henderson..... Computer Production

Marcia Shelton Office Manager



Kansas Press Association

