

Kansas State representative endorses Schultz

To the Editor:
The future of healthcare in Kansas is one of the most important ongoing discussions right now in our state. Kansas has the opportunity to select an Insurance Commissioner with all the right skills for the job by voting for Clark Schultz for Kansas Insurance Commissioner on August 5th. Clark is from Lindsborg, has served in the Kansas House since 1997 and was elected to the Kansas Senate this year. He previously served on the Smoky Valley Board of Education. Senator Schultz is an Emory Lindquist Honors Graduate from Wichita State University and received his Master of Business degree from Baker University. He has always been a Kansan focused on working for Kansas.

During his 17 years in the legislature, Clark is proud to have earned a 100 percent pro-life voting record and helped pass key anti-abortion legislation that said abortions will no longer be considered a "medical procedure" for insurance purposes. Clark is a champion for the 2nd Amendment, having received the Legislator of the Year award from the Kansas State Rifle Association and a coveted "A" rating from the NRA. Clark has served as Chair of the House Insurance Committee for 9 years and has been active in both the National Conference of Insurance Legislators and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. He was also able to serve as a key supporter of many pro-consumer pieces of legislation including the Health Care Freedom Act and a bill ensuring families of fallen police officers and firefighters will be able to continue on their health insurance plan. Clark Schultz also serves as Chairman of the House rules committee on which I also serve. Clark has recently received 100 percent ratings from the National Federation of Independent Business and was named a pro-jobs legislator by the Kansas Chamber of Commerce.

Outside of the legislature, Clark worked to protect consumers across Kansas as a compliance auditor for a national title insurance underwriter for over a decade. Schultz is currently president of a title company in Wichita. He and his wife Lori have six children and live in Lindsborg in rural McPherson county.

Clark Schultz has been endorsed by over 40 state legislators including most of the western Kansas delegation. All of the northwest and north central Kansas legislators have endorsed Senator Schultz including Senator Ralph Ostmeyer, Senator Elaine Bowers, Representative Ward Cassidy, Representative Don Hineman, Representative Troy Waymaster, and many others. Clark has been endorsed by Big First Congressman Tim Huelskamp who served with Clark in the state legislature. Congressman Huelskamp said, "Clark Schultz is a strong conservative candidate for Insurance Commissioner. Clark has extensive experience in the insurance industry and is the best candidate to steer us through the disastrous harm that ObamaCare has caused our healthcare system in Kansas."

Clark is a respected leader and deserves our support in the August 5th Republican primary for Insurance Commissioner. In the legislature I serve as the Chairman of the western Kansas caucus and Clark is the only candidate in the race that still makes his home in rural Kansas. That definitely separates him from the rest of the candidates. We need to support candidates who live our rural way of life. Please join me in voting for Clark Schultz for Insurance Commissioner on August 5th.

Rep. Travis Couture-Lovelady
110th District



A personal vendetta against weeds

County fair is coming up next week in our home county and I had so hoped to have some tomatoes and beans to enter. But it seems the only bumper crops we're raising are pig weed and Texas sandburs. Not in the garden, but on side yards and empty lots. I've heard others say they've never seen them so bad, so I'm not alone. Jim has been spraying, but even that doesn't seem to make a dent.

My personal vendetta against weeds is getting the best of me. I went into the summer behind and I've never caught up. That still doesn't stop me from trying to pull every weed I see. Time is what keeps me from spending all day pulling weeds. There's that matter of laundry, housework, office work, work work (you know the kind you get paid for), meals, volunteer stuff and sleep that gets in the way.

I know pulling weeds is mindless work, but I get some perverse sense of satisfaction out of seeing a pile of those obnoxious nuisances go into the chicken's pen. When I gather the eggs I feel I'm getting a small return on my labor investment.

Out Back

Carolyn Plotts



-ob-

This year I have been able to raise flowers. I really wanted to exhibit some of them during the fair too. Except for a few roses, and some volunteer sunflowers, all my pretty flowers will be past their peak come fair week. The gladiola are waning and the cone flowers are fading. All my lillies, both tiger and day, are almost gone. The hosta plant is in full bloom this week. Of course mums haven't even thought of budding, let alone blooming. They just set there and drink water. So I cut flowers and take them to the office on the few days I work. I figure that's the only way anyone, besides me, will get to enjoy them.

-ob-

Sounds like granddaughter, Taylor

and her friend, Hallie (pronounced with a short a), will be coming out next week. I can hardly wait. They both have learner's permits, so I see lots of road time in my future.

May I ask a favor? If you see us at the fair or in town, say something like, "You must be Taylor and Hallie, aren't you," or "Are you girls from Texas," or "Isn't your grandma wonderful?"

You know, make them think I know everybody in the county and everybody knows me.

-ob-

I love a child's imagination. My friend's little three-year old carries on the greatest conversations - with herself. She plays all the parts in whatever fantasy she is portraying. Usually she announces she is a mermaid, but sometimes her pretend world gets dramatic.

One day as her mother and I were talking, she came running to her mother's arms. She took her mother's face in her little hands, moving her face back and forth while she almost shouted, "Save me! Save me! My life is in danger!"

I wish I could see inside her mind. It

Speak from the heart to tell a story

Life experiences teach plenty to those willing to learn. From the time I was a small boy, I remember my dad, uncles and grandfather talking and debating the issues of the day whenever we visited one another.

As I grew older, I began to hear some of what they said. I began to understand what they were talking about. But it has taken me several decades to process, learn from and use what my elders were saying about the issues of their days.

About the time I was half way through high school, something he said finally sunk in. Grandpa Bert always said when you know a little about an issue, it's easy to form an opinion. When you learn a little more, it becomes a little more difficult to make a decision. And when you learn even more about an issue, your decision becomes, "just plain hard."

Lately, I've been thinking a lot about the issue of farmers and ranchers who often toil long days away by themselves. Sometimes they feel isolated with their backs against the wall. More than one farmer has expressed a feeling of, "It's me against the world."

Never before in agriculture has it been more important for farmers to express their basic wants, hopes and needs. Things like protection of personal property, a sound education for their children and a responsible, non-intrusive federal government, water usage to mention a few.

Never before has there been such an opportunity to express agriculture's needs. Today there are hundreds of satellites in orbit around our globe. Our cable system is loaded with hundreds

Insight

John Schlageck



of networks. The information highway continues to speed forward and we can communicate with people around the world instantly.

Today's technology allows individuals to access videos, music, news, weather, markets and consumer information - literally anything happening in our world today.

It's been more than three decades since newspapers entered the era of national and international publications. In this country, Christian Science Monitor and the Wall Street Journal pioneered the way.

Magazines and newspapers from all over the world are on line today, available for anyone with the time and desire to read them. Of course they are still being shipped by mail. You can also read news, weather, markets and sports and screen after screen on your computer.

And that's not even mentioning all the data out there on social media - you know Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest - you name it, there's data out there. All you really need is time.

With all of these different information avenues at your fingertips, it may also be easy for some to tune out and turn off. Farmers, ranchers, businessmen, bankers and professionals cannot afford to do that. We must utilize these

communication tools to tell our story.

One way to help do this is by becoming active in the farm organizations and commodity groups of your choice. They can provide the vehicle to help you tell agriculture's story while developing sound farming policy that must be communicated.

Agriculture finally arrived as a headliner during the farm crisis of the mid-'80s. Every day, newspapers, radios, televisions and computers are chock full of stories on agriculture. Subjects range from food additives in processing to agricultural chemicals. Stories include animal welfare, cholesterol in the diet, sugar-less foods, the farm bill and finding ways to increase agricultural trade.

Remember, farmers and ranchers must continue to voice their message in the public information arena. Agriculture must utilize this medium to promote and persuade others to bring about change - change that will benefit agriculture and a society that relies on U.S. farmers and ranchers for the safest and most abundant food source in the world.

A Kansas citizen said it best more than 90 years ago, "This nation will survive, this state will prosper, the orderly business of life will go forward only if men can speak in whatever way given them to utter what their hearts hold - by voice, by postal card, by letter or by press."

William Allen White wrote this in his Emporia Gazette during the post-World War I recession in 1922. These words ring true today.



Thumbs up to Curtis and Deb Eveleigh and all of those on the Fair Board. You have a difficult and hot job and you are appreciated! Thanks also to the volunteers who help make the Fair possible. E-mailed in.

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.

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