



## The economy is fragile; recovery is underway

Experts say the economy is fragile, but the recovery is under way.

We hope so, but with unemployment approaching 11 percent, you have to wonder if this recovery will include many jobs.

October unemployment was 10.2 percent, highest in more than a quarter century, while the rate among teenagers was a whopping 27.6 percent.

And those figures are liable to get worse before they get better, especially if Congress insists on saddling employers with huge costs for a new health-care plan.

Much of the current problem can be traced to government "mandates" about employment, and that's especially true for the teenage depression.

Teenagers are not an employer's first pick for any job because they have no skills or experience. Couple that with the worst recession in half a century and an ideology-driven series of increases in the minimum wage, and you have a perfect storm for teens who need some income.

Here's how the Labor Law Center put it, referring to job prospects after the last increase in the minimum in July:

"For unemployed teen workers, job prospects look grim. In June, the U.S. Department of Labor reported a 24 percent teen unemployment rate, further adding to the uphill battle teens face when seeking employment."

Supposedly, that's not what Congress intended when it passed a three-year phased increase

in the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25. But the result is, employers faced with an artificial minimum have to focus on hiring fewer and better workers.

It's no wonder unemployment is so high right now: it's not just the recession, it's the government. And teens, with the lack of experience, get hit twice as hard.

Then, if Congress makes having employees even more expensive, companies will be able to afford even fewer of them. It's not a question of ideology, but of what you can afford.

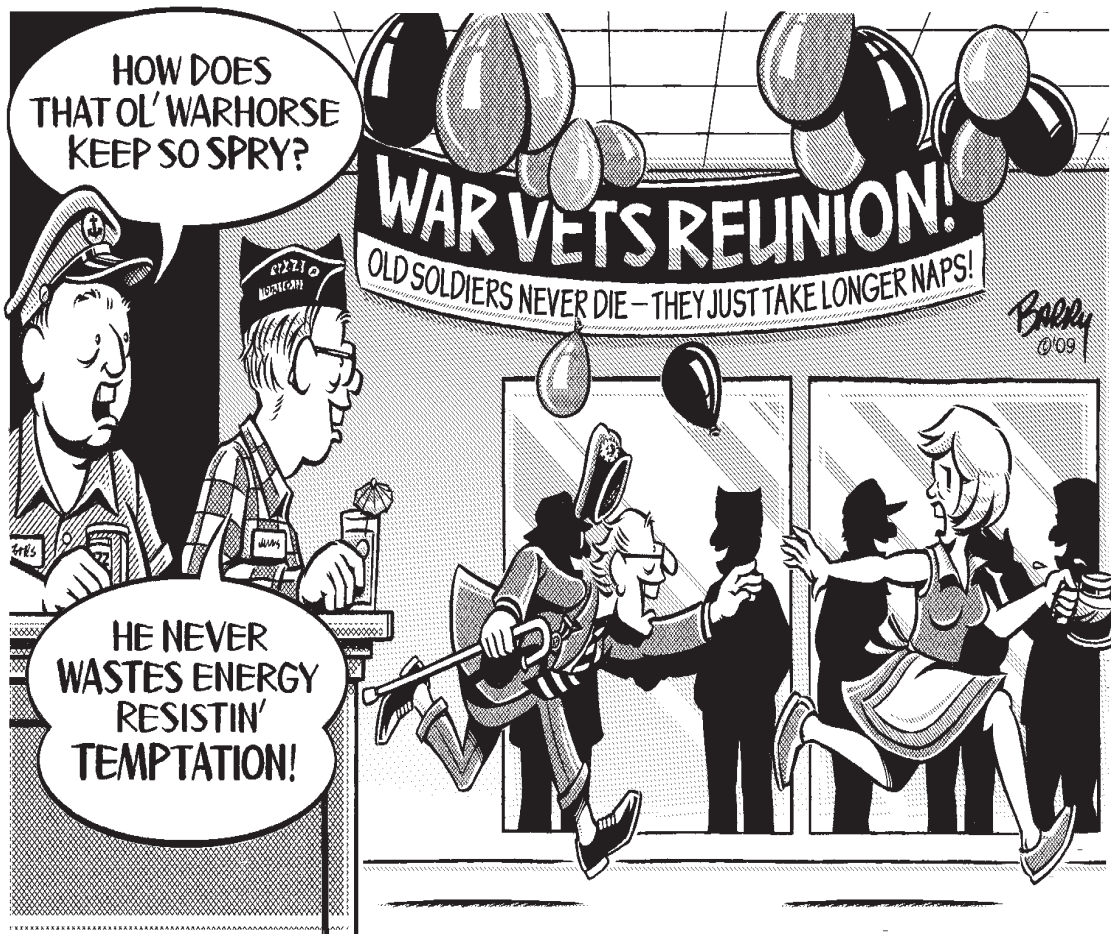
One version of the House health-care proposal — and who knows if it's still in the bill — would require employers to provide health coverage for all full- and part-time workers. That gives them a choice: buy two health-care policies for two part-timers, or just one for a full-time worker.

Hum, that's a tough one. How many part-time workers would be out of work in a matter of days. It's simple arithmetic.

That's what happens when we follow our hearts and not our logic. Some might even argue that it's OK to jettison teens and part-time workers for the greater good, but those people are neither teens nor part-timers.

The recession is bad and getting worse? Unemployment headed for record rates? And for teens, rates equal to 1930s unemployment?

Gee, wonder who's to blame? Congress? You guessed it. — *Steve Haynes*



## News From the Past

### 90 years ago - 1919

Eleven new Ford Trucks are on their way to St. Francis. Although they were hard to get, Johnson Garage said they wired the company that our farmers had to have them in order to move their wheat crop. Some of them are sold and the buyers are anxiously waiting the arrival of the shipment.

The old school building in district No. 44, about 6 miles southeast of St. Francis, will be sold at public auction on Nov. 7.

The opening of the Deal, Rieb and Deal store last Friday was a big success from every point of view. During the two days they gave away more than a thousand lunches and a great many gallons of coffee. And they had an immense trade, too.

The Central Granaries Company loaded the largest car of wheat last Saturday that was ever shipped out of this station. It was one of the new government cars and held 1916 bushels. An ordinary car holds 1500 bushels.

Ward Smull returned last Friday evening from Kansas City where he had been to attend the Armistice Day celebration of his old machine gun company. When his company went into action they were composed of 172 men. They came out with 82.

### 50 years ago - 1959

Remember when: The Ideal Super-Market is advertising lean center cut pork chops for 59 cents a pound; oranges, 5-pound bag for 39 cents; Good-N-Rich cake mix for 10 cents; Holsun pure grape jam, two pound jars for 45 cents; Kraft dinners, two for 29

### each received the Kansas 4-H

Key Award and Tammy Douthit and John Love received the "I Dare You" Award. Troy Faulkender and Christy Curry were chosen to attend the upcoming Kansas City 4-H Congress.

"The Ghosts With The Mostess" is being presented by the high school junior class.

Bessie Burr has retired from the position of librarian at the St. Francis Public Library.

Members of the St. Francis Academic Team include Donnie Smull, Amy Follett, Kandi Lewis, Angel Purdy, Todd Gardner, Lex Landenberger, Eric Yonkey, Steve Jenkins and Jeff Olofson are the sponsors.

Terry B. Rieger, formerly of Elkhart, has been assigned to patrol duties in St. Francis following is recent graduation from the Patrol Training Academy in Salina.

### 5 years ago - 2004

A former St. Francis wrestlers has been named to the Kansas Wrestling Hall of Fame. Lyle Neville of Hutchinson has been notified that he will be honored for a lifetime of service to wrestling on Nov. 7 in Wichita.

The money has been raised and the new theater seats have been ordered. About 3/4's of the money came from out of town after Penny Raile and Monica Raile Garcia wrote letters to alumni of St. Francis Community High School. Many of the alumni had fond memories of going to the St. Francis theater.

Grace Assembly of God church in St. Francis will begin its 70th year on Nov. 21 with a dinner after the service.

## Hangin' With Marge

Smooth Away

By Margaret Bucholtz



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How many of you have seen the advertisement for Smooth Away? You know, the get rid of unwanted hair ad.

Most of the time it just goes into one ear and out the other, but because I have so many problems getting that job done I thought it sounded pretty good.

Just so you understand, first I get into the bath tub. Then I remember I needed to shave. So I get out, dripping water all over the floor to get the razor. Back to the tub and oops, I forgot the shaving cream. Again another wet floor! Finally I am set, but I can't see the hair so I have to get

out and find my glasses so I can see.

With all that exercise, I am so worn out that I usually miss a few spots. Still I forgot about the smooth away.

Then it happened! I was in Walmart and there I saw a display. I checked the price and it was only \$9.95, I decided I had wasted more money than that on junk food so I picked it up.

Kurt and I got in the pickup and I search in the back until I found the box. Quickly I glanced at what it looked like so I pulled my pants leg up, took the big tool out and started in.

By the time we reached the

county line, about 20 minutes later, I couldn't see that anything had happened unless it was the balded up hair on my leg.

I told Kurt, "I should have known better, the darn thing just doesn't work."

Now Kurt is much more of an optimist than I, plus he believes in reading the directions.

I reach back in the bag and pulled the box out. Much to my surprise wrapped in the directions were pads that you peel the back off and place them onto the tool.

Once I got that done I found out it worked. I really didn't waste my money after all.

## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



*scmcormick@nwkansans.com*  
What makes someone who has been successful, an expert in everything under the sun?

Here is my point. The other day I was surfing the television

channels, to the pleasure of my lovely wife, when I came across a guy I hadn't seen on television for awhile. Ted Danson, the sober-bartender from *Cheers*, was being interviewed. I assumed it was about what it takes to entertain people or how to be a good actor. Nope, he was talking about the danger of religious folks on the far right.

Why? Mr. Danson did do well on the big and little screens. But why is he being asked about his opinion on a political or social issue because he is a celebrity?

In all honesty, I couldn't give a rat's behind what he, Jane Fonda, Barbara Streisand, or any other actor, singer or professional athlete thinks about the "big picture." Sure, they all must know something about their trade or craft. Each has the money and fame to show for that. But because they are gifted with a talent does not make them a Political Science expert.

As thoughtful adults in a democratic society, we all have a responsibility to know the issues that affect our lives. Sorry, but that comes with that "freedom" deal. Our thoughts of what is best for the whole are important. I just don't think wisdom comes from a person just because they are rich.

As far as political extremist on the right or left, I don't care much for either. In my mind, the individual who guns down an abortion doctor is no different from the nut job who burns down a ski lodge because it insults Mother Nature. The secret is for all of us to meet somewhere in the middle to work things out and live together.

In case you're wondering, I didn't have to hear this from Andy Griffith or Alan Alda to know it's so.

## Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Penny Raile, Los Angeles, Calif.; Fleda Raile, St. Francis; Jennifer Fey, Flowery Branch, Ga.; Jessica Schultz, Maricopa, Ariz.; Joshua Schultz, Littleton, Colo.; Scott Schultz, St. Francis; Keith Kehmeier, Hamilton, Mt.; Dorothy Rummel, Littleton, Colo.; Gordon Smith, Greeley, Colo.; Brenda Benhower, Angola, Ind.; Chas. Oldenburg, Flower Mound, Texas; Mike Petitjean, Hutchinson; Ryan Weeks, Wamego; Carol Weeks, Gladstone, Mo.; Jody Gienger, Salina; Helen Howk, Bird City;

Heather Leibbrandt, St. Francis; Karen Uplinger, Syracuse, N.Y.

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332-2380, Pars. 332-3424  
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Morning Worship 10 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**  
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Weekday Mass 8 a.m.  
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

**First Baptist Church**  
2nd & Scott • 332-3921  
J.W. Glidewell, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**St. Francis Community Church**  
332-3150  
204 N. Quincy Street  
www.sfccfamily.com  
Pastor: David Butler  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Potluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday  
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC**  
202 N. College  
Pastor Ken Hart  
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Eve. Bible Study 7 p.m.  
Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

**United Methodist Church**  
Church Office 332-2292,  
Church 332-2254,  
512 S. Scott  
Pastor Morita Truman  
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Salem Lutheran Church**  
332-3002  
Pastor Chris Farmer  
Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11 a.m.  
Communion 3rd Sunday

**Solid Rock Baptist Church**  
412 S. Denison  
Welcomes You!  
Pastor Allen Coon  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30  
Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.

**First Christian Church**  
Pastor Jeff Landers  
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster  
Bible Fellowship 9:15 a.m.  
Church Service 10:15 a.m.

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
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Morning Worship 10:45

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