



Power plant in Kansas may be misleading

The debate on whether to build two new coal-fired power plants in Holcomb, west of Garden City, has dragged the state into emotion, hyperbole, corporate politics, exaggeration, greed and maybe a little mudslinging.

Some may think the real issue is global warming, but the battle is far more complex. People take sides based mostly on their environmental faith and political belief.

But giant corporations know it's about money. And they play to win.

Full-page ads began appearing last week in a few Kansas newspapers, touting either wind energy or natural gas as an alternative to the supposedly dirty coal plant.

But while it's true that the environmentalist Sierra Club is among the leaders opposing the coal plants, big money for some ads has come from an Oklahoma natural gas producer.

The copy claims Kansas will get "all the pollution" from the two proposed coal plants, while the owners export most of the power to other states. Of course, the same could be said of the General Motors auto plant in Kansas City or the Goodyear tire plant in Topeka.

In fact, the principal owner, Hays-based Sunflower Electric Power, is a cooperative owned by western Kansas farmers and rural residents through their rural electric co-ops. One of them is Prairie Land Electric out of Norton. Sunflower, which operates a smaller generating plant in Holcomb, says it believes the new plants will be "carbon neutral," producing no net increase in greenhouse gases once in operation.

The opponents never mention that. Nor the fact that Sunflower's principal partner is a Colorado "generation and transmission" co-op, Tri-State, which could presumably build in Colorado, where

any pollution would drift mostly into Kansas.

Some ads tout wind power as an alternative to the coal-fired plants, ignoring the fact that wind power is at best a supplement to fixed-load plants, nuclear, coal-fired or gas. The wind only blows part of the time, and we have no technology to store large amounts of power.

Environmentalists have blocked construction of nuclear plants in this country for nearly three decades, despite an enviable safety record. Opposition based on the deadly, eternal nature of nuclear waste makes some sense.

Ads which appeared Sunday bore the signature of Know Your Power, billed as "a growing coalition of concerned doctors, health organizations, educators, citizens, businesses and students."

And natural-gas producers, apparently. The ads tout "clean-burning, domestically produced" natural gas as cutting carbon emissions in half.

Profitable for Oklahoma, too.

It'd been good to hear out the pros and cons of these plants in a fair, honest fight. That's not going to happen.

Our view: The nation is going to need this power. If Sunflower can produce coal power in a "carbon neutral" system, the state of Kansas should issue permits for the Holcomb plants.

Southwest Kansas wants and needs the jobs they will provide, just as Kansas City and Topeka need GM and Goodyear jobs. Colorado needs the power; so do we.

Someday, perhaps, we'll learn to make power from manure and wind and hydrogen, and be able to store the wind for use tomorrow. Then, we can depend on winds and pigs for power.

That's not going to happen next year, is it?

— Steve Haynes



U.S. CONCERN OVER BORDER SECURITY EXPANDS UP NORTH...

Senior Center an "institution"

The community of St. Francis has a great deal of positive aspects and Sunday was an opportunity to recognize one of them and say thank you to an "institution" that has served all of us.

Our Senior Center has been, for 30 years, serving the basic needs of food and fellowship to a large portion of this community's population. We all know that meals, good home cooked ones from scratch, are served three times a week for 80 to 125 people. And we know, 25 to 30 of those meals are carried into the homes of those unable to get to the center. We also know those deliveries are made by the peers of those being served.

At the center they celebrate each other's birthdays and hold their own New Year's Eve party, potlucks and dances.

In the recent past, a small amount of your tax dollars have assisted with the operation of the Senior Center but it is generally self-supporting. Numerous families, appreciative of the center's service, have also given memorials. The center's annual pancake feed is their money-maker of the year so remember to go and eat breakfast or lunch on that Saturday. Those that eat meals during the week are asked to make contributions each time, as they are able. Generally, the upkeep of the building is done with volunteer labor.

How many functions have we all attended at the Senior Center? We have been there for graduation receptions, family reunions, bridal and baby showers, chamber meetings, political receptions, meetings for various organizations.... We are grateful for the facility and those who have and do keep this "institution" going.

It is my opinion that what happens through the Senior Center is a prime example of Christian love. I have been indirectly involved with the center for 30 years but it appears that the care and concern for one another is sincere. All look

Letters to the Editor

forward to the meals, the visiting, an opportunity to feel useful and needed — a warm, welcoming and caring environment.

Members of every congregation in St. Francis work together serving and being served. Hopefully, ministers, pastors, priests and deacons realize the sheep of their folds are exemplifying Christ's love. Have you, and the rest of us, recognized and commended these efforts or are they taken for granted? These senior sheep are working together, outside the walls of their church buildings, to serve the needs of others in this community.

If you were unable to attend the 30th year open house celebration for the Senior Center, or forgot, or thought the reception was of no concern to you, maybe a thank you note, commending the center's efforts, would be in order. It won't be long and many of us will be the senior citizens. Are we ready and willing, *and as able*, to assume the responsibilities of the center and carry on this vital community service and ministry? Thanks to all you "old people" for being great examples and mentors.

Lea Keller
St. Francis

Funds help provide domestic violence service

To the editor:

The Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Services has received funding from the county of Cheyenne in the amount of \$750. These funds will be used to provide direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Kansas,

and it is greatly appreciated. It is a fortunate community indeed whose governmental officials recognize the needs of all of its citizens.

Jennifer Follis, Advocate
Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Services
Hays

News From the Past

25 years ago - 1982

The unofficial enrollment of the St. Francis schools is 477 students this year.

Candidates for homecoming king include Warren Kearns, Roger Orth, Mitchell Hilt, Doug Ross and Gil Sherlock while the queen candidates include Sue Owens, Leigh Winston, Kim Dankenbring, Vernelle King and Daneen Faylor.

Zimbelman Motor will be celebrating its 20th anniversary and having a display of the new 1983 cars.

Schultz Carpet will be holding their grand opening on Sept. 24 and 25. The business opened its doors on May 24 but the Schultz's will be celebrating their grand opening.

30 years ago - 1977

Kelly Gienger and Katie Button were crown King and Queen at the high school Homecoming.

Fredrick's Jewelry has been in business in St. Francis for 30 years. Fred and Wilma Crum will be celebrating the anniversary this weekend.

Hangin' With Marge

Stringer

By Margaret Bucholtz



I really think when I went to school I was there for recess only. Big words and lots of little ones have a completely different meaning to me than they do to other people. For a good example let's use the word "stringer."

One day I had stopped at *The Herald* office to talk to everyone and Karen said, "Margaret, would

you like to be a stringer?"

Now all my life I have been a tag-a-long so I was thinking that she was going to invite me to go with her somewhere. I was really excited so, of course, I said, "Sure." It was then that she explained that I would go to the city council meetings, get the court news, police reports and the sheriff's report. Then she

quickly added, "I am so glad you will do that."

Well stringer didn't mean tag along by any means, but I learned the difference between the two words.

Who says you're never get to old to learn!

Casey's Comment

By Casey McCormick



I'd love to be a broom salesman in Denver these days.

After sweeping the Phillies and Diamond Backs, the Colorado Rockies are sailing into uncharted waters.

For a team that began the season with a manager in the hot seat and more questions than answers, they

have become the darlings of Major League Baseball. Who will they play in the World Series: Boston or Cleveland? Who cares?!

This is when professional sports transcends itself and moves into the realm of magic. Fans forget about which records should have an asterisk next to it or if a team and players should really be worth a billion, gazillion dollars. It gets back to the basics of a wide-eyed boy sitting next to his dad as his favorite

player sends a ball rocketing out of the ballpark.

To see the Rockies at each celebration, you can see the magic. It's when a young man lets down his guard, and the boy comes forward to dance in a shower of champagne and beer!

Enjoy the magic of "Rocktober."

GOD SAYS

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another.

Romans 12:9, 10

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332-2380, Pars. 332-3424
502 W. Spencer
Norman Morrow - Minister
Bible Class 11 a.m.
Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

United Methodist
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.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor Mike Larson
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
625 S. River • 332-2680
Fr. Roger Meitl
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

Salem Lutheran Church
332-3002
Pastor Chris Farmer
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

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
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.
Church Service 10:30 a.m.
Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

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.

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