



Town hall meetings are being disrupted

In a disturbing trend, gangs of demonstrators have been disrupting "town hall" meetings being held around the country to boost President Obama's push for a national health insurance plan.

That's not the way we do things here in America, where we believe in free speech and we hold that every viewpoint has a right to be heard.

If the protestors are "patriots," as some say, then they should be the first to back our Bill of Rights. And the rights to speak, to assemble and to address the government are among the most important guarantee to all citizens.

If the protestors have something to say, they are more than free to say it. They may call their own meeting, make speeches, send out press releases, just as the Democrats have done.

If they don't like the Obama plan - and many Americans do not - they are free to criticize it. They can march out front in protest. They can go inside and ask questions of the speakers.

What they cannot do is disrupt or try to stop a pro-plan rally. That's just wrong.

That kind of thing used to happen in American politics, in the days of boss rule in the cities, and in the era when labor unions and other "radicals" were seen as a threat to society. In those days, though, it was often the government and employers suppressing the "reds."

Today, the demonstrators are a shadowy group

opposed to the president and his health-care plans. Some claim to be "patriots." Democrats would like to blame the disruptions on the Republican party.

It should be clear, though, that the Republicans have nothing to gain from this undisciplined behavior. Any involvement by the party in disruption or violence would be foolish.

Right-wingers, "tea party" backers and others disturbed by the government's massive shift from the left are wasting their time and effort if they are involved. The way to counter this leftward list is to get organized and elect more conservatives to Congress. Demonstrations won't cut it.

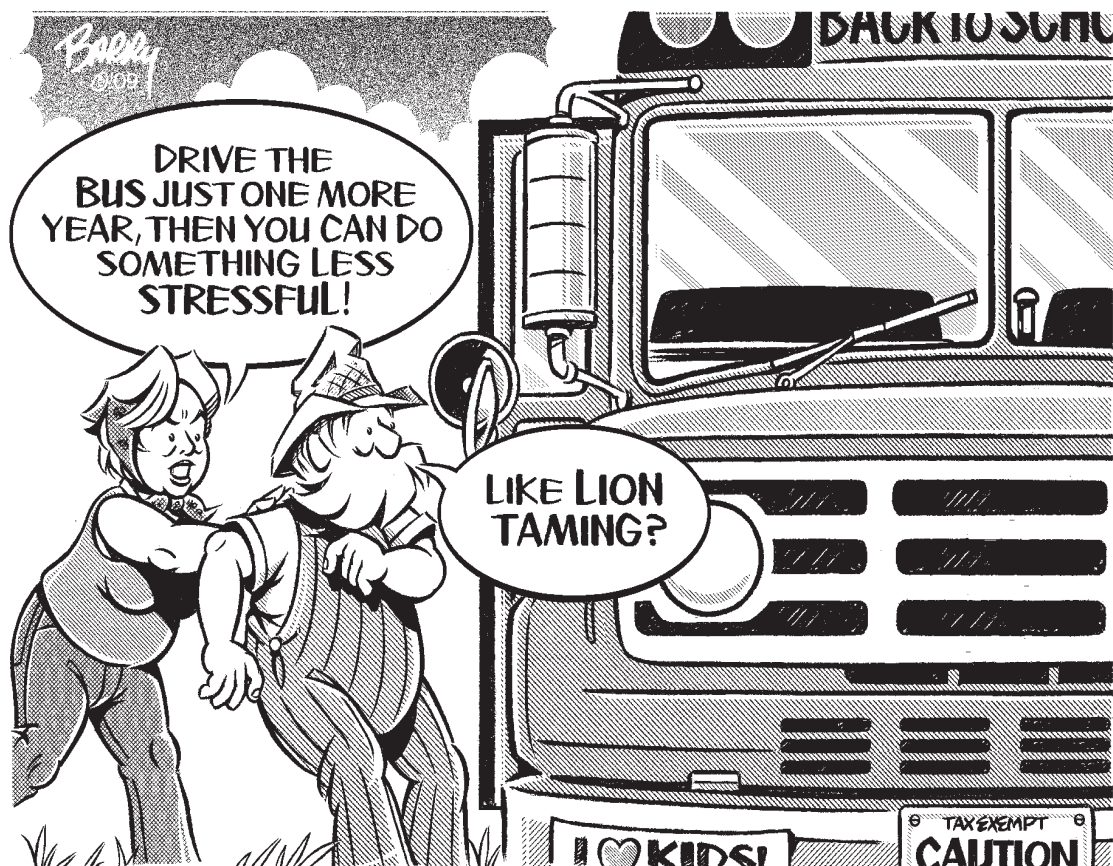
Disrupting the Democrats' rallies, in fact, is just playing into their hands. It generates more publicity for the forums, which otherwise might pass unnoticed, and it creates sympathy for the cause.

That just leaves assorted fringe thugs to disrupt these rallies, and the police ought to know how to deal with them: move them outside, arrest them if necessary and let the meeting proceed.

American politics have no place for silencing any group, especially by mob action. Arrest them, throw them in jail and let the debate continue, we say.

Protest is fine; disrupting opponents' speech is not.

— Steve Haynes



DRIVE THE BUS JUST ONE MORE YEAR, THEN YOU CAN DO SOMETHING LESS STRESSFUL!

LIKE LION TAMING?

News From the Past

20 years ago - 1989

The 36th annual Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show hosted a crowd of over 4,000 over the weekend. Adding something new each year, the new Eggers Building houses many interesting demonstrations and displays. Lillian Gorthy was the 1989 Thresher Queen.

Grand champion winners at the 4-H Style Revue were Shawn Rogers, Kari Milliken, Rhonda Murphy, Andy Poling and Pam Zwegyardt.

The Northwest Chapter of DeMolay was presented the D. Bruce Newton Award for Kansas DeMolay Chapter of the Year.

Fair grand champions include: Brock Ketzner, grand champion steer; Sarah Raile, grand champion gelding; Sharissa Stevens, grand champion mare; Kanred Extension Unit, grand champion booth; Tish Busby, grand champion market hog; Jeremy Busby, grand champion lamb.

Dr. Daniel Campanini and family have recently moved to St. Francis. Dr. Campanini opened his office located in the clinic on Aug. 21.

Returning volleyball letter winners include Kayla Schultze, Susan Bracelin, Patty Pittman, Lisa Raile and Angie Renk. Returning football letter winners include Jim Schorzman, Shawn Rogers, Noel Schultze, Dallas O'Brien, Jeremy Busby, Jared Douthit, Mitchell Schleppe, Justin Schleppe, Tye Faulkender, Shannon Stevens, Kevin Lampe, Mike Zwegyardt, Nick Montoya, Bryon Sherlock, Chris Nolan, Shane Felzien, Shawn White and B.J. Bieker.

45 years ago - 1964

Mrs. Helen Gaton began her duties this week as the new administrator of the Cheyenne County Hospital.

New teachers this year include Norma Montgomery, vocal instructor in the grade school; Thomas Breunich, junior high school social studies and physical education; and Earl Robinson, who will teach science. Mr. Breunich will be the football and wrestling coach and Mr. Robinson will coach basketball and track.

There are 640 students enrolled in the St. Francis schools. The third grade is the largest group with 65 students and the seventh grade is next with 57.

Cheyenne County Grand Champion baby beef, shown by Rodney Schleppe, won further honors when it was proclaimed Tri-State Royal Champion at the fair in Goodland. There were local championship entries from 15 counties.

50 years ago - 1959

The total tangible valuation of Cheyenne County has increased \$646,959 over last year.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Lewis have purchased the St. Francis Dairy King establishment on Highway 36 from Mr. and Mrs. Helmut Orth and have taken over the management of the business. As a special offer in honor of the new management, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis will give away free nickel cones Saturday afternoon, July 18.

Jim Lundin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lundin, and David Garrison, son of Reverend and Mrs. Kenneth Garrison, were

presented with their Eagle Scout Awards on Sunday, July 5, at the Christian Church.

Southwestern Bell has purchased a 75x150 foot site on the southwest corner of Washington Avenue and Dennison Street as the future location of a new telephone office which ultimately will house a dial telephone system for St. Francis.

55 years ago - 1954

Because of the drought in the area, St. Francis is on a very strict water schedule for lawn watering with penalties provided. One of the rules is that all watering must stop in the event of a fire.

A new 2-way radio system was installed in St. Francis during the past week...a move which brings St. Francis and Cheyenne County up-to-date in police communications.

Jimmie Nickel, grade school principal has notified the Herald that Mrs. Mable Randall, will be the third grade teacher in St. Francis this year.

New high school teachers include Donald Dawson, English, head basketball coach; James E. Moore, commerce; Emma Leta Phillips, home economics; Julian Aubuchon, instrumental music and Ronald Caranci, social sciences, head football and track coach.

Seven St. Francis FFA boys and Don Hall, vocational ag instructor of the St. Francis Community High School, returned Sunday from a week's trip to Colorado. FFA members who made the trip include Billie Walter, Billie Lampe, Don Smull, Dannie Lampe, Ronald Curry, Glenn Hill and Russell Howe.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



scmcormick@nwkansan.com I often wrestle with one of life's dilemmas.

As a Christian, my faith teaches me not to judge other individuals.

However, my human makeup drives me to analyze the world I live in. From the smallest pebble and seed to the largest cloud formation, all are sifted through my mind to make sense of the larger whole.

So I'm going out on a limb and judging our two, big county events that just occurred.

The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show was a terrific success. Many new folks saw the spectacle of dinosaur like machines for the first time. Also, adding a "Fun Run" and opening the David Clark Toy Museum, gave the show something fresh this year.

The other happening, The Cheyenne County Fair, was bigger and better than ever. The 4-H kids were outstanding in their efforts, and attendance appeared to be brisk. Organizers changed

the format of the demolition derby and made an attempt to bring in a quality, live act.

Now, in my capacity as Official News Columnist Judge #1, I award blue ribbons to the Thresher Association, Fair Board and countless volunteers. All three groups made Cheyenne County shine these last few weeks.

Congratulations on a job well done!

Authority, fair board recognized

To the Cheyenne County Fair Board and Amusement Authority:

Once again, your teamwork created another wonderful fair! The flowers and landscaping added this year really brightened the fairgrounds. We've heard many comments from folks about how beautiful the flowers looked and

Letter to the Editor

how pleasant it was to sit amongst them and enjoy their evenings at the fair.

The Amusement Authority kept everything running smoothly, fixed any breakdowns quickly, and somehow, there were always crews

to run the rides. We appreciate all the time and effort that you put into fair every year. Thank you for doing a great job.

Dale and Deb Patton St. Francis

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Mrs. J. Davis, Santa Rosa, Calif.; Patricia Nichols, Stockton; Jeanne Falk, Colby; Dara Loyd, Hays; Robert Draper, St. Francis; Jerry Waters, Bethesda, Md.; Nathan Boyer, St. Francis; Keith McCall, St. Francis; Marian Miller, St. Francis; Maynard Wright, Bird City; Marjorie Rosenthal, New Douglas, Ill.; Mrs. E.J. Keller, St. Francis; Richard Keller, Fresno, Calif.; Floyd Petit, Benkelman, Neb.; Theron Culwell, St. Francis; Jerry Neitzel,

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Sue Lynne Hill, Reston, Va.; Terry Crites, Kirk, Colo.; Stanley Isaac, Dinuba, Calif.; Judy Baxter, St. Francis; Leonard Hilt, Marble Falls, Texas; Steve Douthit, St. Francis; Linda Sullivan, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Delbert Raile, St. Francis



GOD SAYS Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse them not. Romans 12:17

The Saint Francis Herald (USPS 475-960) A Century of Service to Cheyenne County P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050 Published each Thursday by Haynes Publishing Co., 310 W. Washington, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050. Entered as periodicals matter at the post office at St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050, and at additional offices. Official newspaper of Cheyenne County. Member of the Kansas Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Colorado Press Association and Inland Press Association. Subscriptions: One year \$38 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$42 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$48 elsewhere in the U.S. Foreign subscriptions, \$28 extra per year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050

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