



Campaign advertising is now in the billions!

I've lived through many political campaigns in my years (I'll be 76 on Thanksgiving Day), and this campaign season takes the cake. I read a couple of days ago where the money being poured into the campaigns nationwide has moved from millions of dollars to billions. Billions! Does it not bother you that we, as a country, will pour this kind of money into political campaigns and think nothing of it, but at the same time make our economy the issue? Maybe we need to use those political dollars to help pay down the debt. Has anyone ever thought about that?

Of course the new ingredient in this year's campaign is the Tea Party and they, like the Republican and Democratic parties, need their share of "hard earned money" to get their messages and new faces of hope before the public. Regardless, it's tasteless and just sounds crooked when you try to justify billions of dollars to elect people to represent us. Special interests, folks, are still alive and well and special interests have a special way of raising those special dollars. And in some cases it would be nice to know who they are. But secrecy in this campaign wins out over transparency. I think all contributors, regardless of amount, should be public knowledge. I don't care who knows who I supported and voted for.

Control of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate are at stake. If the Democrats have to take a back seat to the Republicans when all the votes are counted election night, so what? The state of affairs as it currently exists would almost mandate that some sort of "adjustment" in the makeup of the House and the Senate is necessary. "Boo," some of you might say. "Former President Bush is responsible for a big chunk of the debt were are trying to dig ourselves out from under," you will add. While that is the case to some degree, was it necessary to add to that pile of debt with more debt? I think not. That's where common sense enters the picture, but we all know that common sense and Washington, D.C. have divorced.

From where I sit, it looks like late-campaigner President Obama started too late to do much good for his Democrats. Matter of fact, this seems to be the president's pattern. Often times as I watch him go about his business I just want to shake him. He just doesn't seem to have the capacity to tell someone or group to get lost. You can't be nice to everybody all the time.

The Tea Party is nothing to laugh about. Your next door neighbor just might be more in tune with them than with either the Democrats or the Republicans. Some of those candidates will be elected to office and rightfully take their seat in either the House or the Senate. You must give Sarah Palin credit for mobilizing a force that cannot be ignored. In fact, there are some high ranking Republicans who are beginning to make love to this new bunch in the pen. And they should.

Overall, the blame game in Washington involves both political parties. It's all about politics with rarely a nod given to the people. You have Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi in the 'D' corner and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell and House Minority Leader John Boehner in 'R' corner. Why must they stick in those corners? Could there not be a spot for compromise? Nothing gets done without it. Just maybe if these four individuals would have reached out to one other our current mess might not even exist. It just seems like the leaders of both the House and the Senate are not capable of leading. Regardless of the election's result, I think there must be a change in the leadership posts in both chambers. Without change, there will be no change.

I continue my advocacy for TERM LIMITS! I have been pushing for this since the early 1980s, and I think again that this would take care of a lot of the problem. Some will say we already have term limits; they call them "elections." But elections don't always mean change; term limits dictate your longevity.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



scmcormick@nwkansan.com
Once again we are coming to the close of a political season. When this paper comes out the dust will be settling, the banners will be collected for future elections and we will know who will be representing us in the power centers of the states and nation.

Sure it isn't perfect. Yes, there are injustices committed. But, as Winston Churchill put it, "It has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all the others that have been tried."

Why don't more people vote? I don't know. It seems like too important a thing to be taken for granted.

Maybe if the right were taken away for a time people would see how unique it is.

I've heard the argument that "My vote doesn't count." Obviously plenty of other's do.

But there is one major flaw to the system that I could live without: the huge amount of money spent on mud slinging television commercials. Rather than sway the audience they only bring disgust with their constant redundancy. But that's just my opinion.

Thanks to those who came before us and built such a great nation.

CheyCoDeveloping

Sweeter after Difficulty

The Scottish clan to which I claim allegiance, is Clan Ferguson. The Tartan (plaid) in my kilt is that of the ancient Fergusson.

Here in Saint Francis, Cheyenne County, we are experiencing an adversity.

Scottish clans are loose knit family groups who help and protect each other in times of trouble. Fiercely, if need be.

The fire at Good Samaritan Village creates that adversity, with many people being out of work for a period of time, and it's residents having to be relocated. But if we work together as a Clan, support each other and our local businesses and organizations, hopefully we can create that "Sweetness after Difficulty."

The Ferguson Clan crest is a bee

on a thistle. Clearly the thistle is the adversity, and we are the bees who must work hard to create the sweetness.

Let's pull together and not let this situation affect us any more than we have to. The people who settled this country back in the homestead days faced worse adversity, and came through them.

You (we) are their descendants, lets show them we can do as well.

Diane and Chuck Kribs, CCDC

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Dustin Gilliland, St. Francis; Kevin Berens, St. Francis; Mary Lou Crabtree, Citrus Heights, Calif.; Skip Petersen, St. Francis; Roland Query, Firestone, Colo.; Ruby Garard, Lebo; James Worley, Jamestown, N.D.; Ruth Appel, Rush Center; John Kite, St. Francis; Ken Ketter, Kanorado; Doug Barnhart, St. Francis;

GOD SAYS

Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased; For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descent after him.

Psalms 49:16, 17

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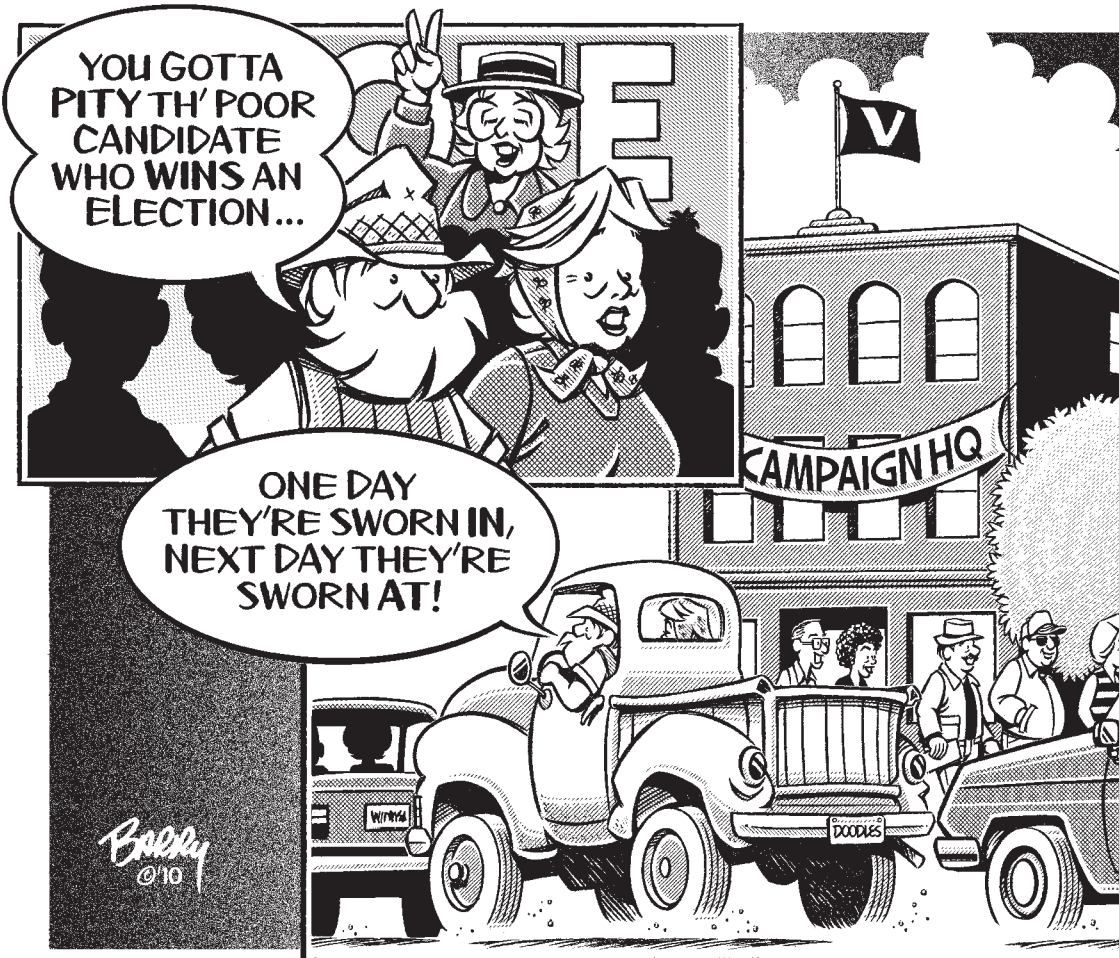
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STAFF

Karen Krien Editor/Publisher
Betty Winston Sports Editor
Casey McCormick Advertising Manager
Lezlie McCormick Production
Priscilla Paulsen Office Manager
Margaret Bucholtz Columnist



News From the Past

5 years ago - 2005

A bed and breakfast has opened in St. Francis. Neil and Nancy McCumber have opened their home on 301 E. Spencer. "Nancy's Saintry Bed and Breakfast" will offer travelers and those coming to St. Francis a clean, quiet place to stay overnight and a good breakfast the next morning.

Volunteers have been busy at the Cheyenne County Museum painting new display area.

Priority Oil and Gas has many gas and oil wells in Cheyenne County and the owner and staff felt that it was important for local firemen to know how to handle a gas well fire if one should occur.

Volunteer firemen from St. Francis, Hale and Haigler spent an entire day at the fairgrounds taking the training.

Energetic, caring kids organized and held a bake sale on Tuesday. The money was given to the Red Cross to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The Cheyenne County Relay for Life held in August took in \$19,590 for the American Cancer Society. This is more than in year's past.

Mac Frewen, a student at St. Francis Community High School, was selected in participate in the Kansas Masonic All-State High School Marching Band at Kansas State Uni-

versity. The band entertained at the Kansas Shrine Bowl Game.

Homecoming king candidates included Matt Brown, Tal Earl, J.D. Hawkins, Dylan Loyd, Heath Owens, Trevor Richard and Gabe Smull. Queen candidates include Jade DeGood, McKenzie Grace, Sam Marin, Sheryl Miller, Angela Van Allen, Talisa Voorhies and Sam Zwegardt. The Indians will meet Colby on Greene Field on Friday night for the Homecoming game.

There is a new Indian Memorial Sign at the Cherry Creek Encampment

Readers Tuesdays are incomplete

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor,

Every Tuesday morning for the past five years, following 7 a.m. breakfast and Bible study, I have gone to the Good Samaritan Village at 8 a.m. assisting staff, taking siblings and in-laws to breakfast. I wheeled a wheelchair or two, sat with them and assisted where I could. I visited with other residents, as many are neighbors and high school classmates. I ran errands to purchase fresh fruit in season or personal supplies for family members. My Tuesday mornings are now incomplete.

After the fire, I had two sleepless nights worrying about the residents, staff and our community without a local nursing home. The loss of over 50 jobs in our community is devastating. The loss of residents and staff will imperil our hospital,

schools, pharmacy and other businesses directly. Family members and friends must now travel out of town to visit the displaced resident. Each trip affords individuals an opportunity to shop and spend money outside our community.

Last Tuesday morning I was at a loss following Bible study, so my wife and I drove to Goodland to visit my 100-year-old sister. She is adapting well to her new home, but someone doesn't make it to that age without being able to adapt to life's obstacles.

In all my time spent at the Village I have nothing but praise for your staff at the Good Samaritan Village. The facility at times appeared to be under staffed at critical times; early mornings,

mealtimes and bedtime. Even at these hectic times the staff gave each resident personal, individual care and recognized each one as a unique individual. At my age I realize that my wife and I may need to utilize the services of a nursing home. Even though few look forward to moving into a nursing home, I can only hope there will be a nursing home in St. Francis when my peers and I need one. After my observation of the care given to my family members and friends over the last 5 years, I can only hope I would receive such good care also.

Hopefully, the Village can be opened again soon either as it was or hopefully even a better place.

Elton Keller
St. Francis

<p>Church of Christ 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.</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Roger Meitl Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m. Weekday Mass 8:30 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 2nd & Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Gidewell, 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.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Sunday School 10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Communion 3rd Sunday</p>	<p>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.</p>	
<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church 785-890-5718 • 3rd & Adams Pastor Jerry Nowack Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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. Communion 1st Sunday of the Month</p>	
<p>First Christian Church Pastor Jeff Landers 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Bible Fellowship 9:15 a.m. Church Service 10:15 a.m.</p>			<p>St. Francis Equity</p>
<p>Lraise the Lord</p>			<p>Saint Francis Herald</p>
<p>Knodel Funeral Home 202 S. Benton • St. Francis 785-332-3131</p>			