

Reasonableness lost in fight for control of senate

The Kansas House of Representatives was set this week to make one more stab at doing something the Legislature should have had first on its agenda all session: draw a redistricting map that can pass both houses and become law.

Redistricting is required every 10 years, after the federal census, to balance the population in districts from the U.S. House to the state Legislature and even, sometimes, the county commission and city council.

The practice was always expected, but not always performed, until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the "one man, one vote" case prompted by a Kansas lawsuit. Forces led by *The Hutchinson News* sued to force reapportionment of the Legislature, especially the House. Before that, districts had varying populations and each of the 105 counties was guaranteed at least one of the 125 House seats, leaving only 20 to distribute to high-population areas.

This year, Oberlin might wind up in a six-county House district and the Senate district for northwest Kansas could hit 20 counties, or about one-fifth of the state's area.

While many have predicted the issue will wind up in court, that shouldn't happen. The Legislature should get it's stuff together and adopt a reasonable compromise map, one that at least makes our Senate district more or less square and doesn't attempt to protect incumbents.

Unfortunately, the fight to control the Senate has gotten in the way of reasonableness.

Today, "moderate" Republicans, generally supporters of bigger government and more spending, control the Senate as they have for years.

Conservatives, who generally want less spending, smaller government and more control on social issues such as abortion, now run the House. They and their backers, including the state Chamber of Commerce and it's political action committee, want control of the Senate, too.

The state Chamber - don't blame your local Chamber for this; the state group is entirely independent - recruited about eight opponents for supposedly vulnerable moderate senators, including five House members. It's raising money for their campaigns and spoiling for a fight.

The incumbent leadership tried to head this challenge off by drawing district lines that put some challengers outside the districts they've filed in.

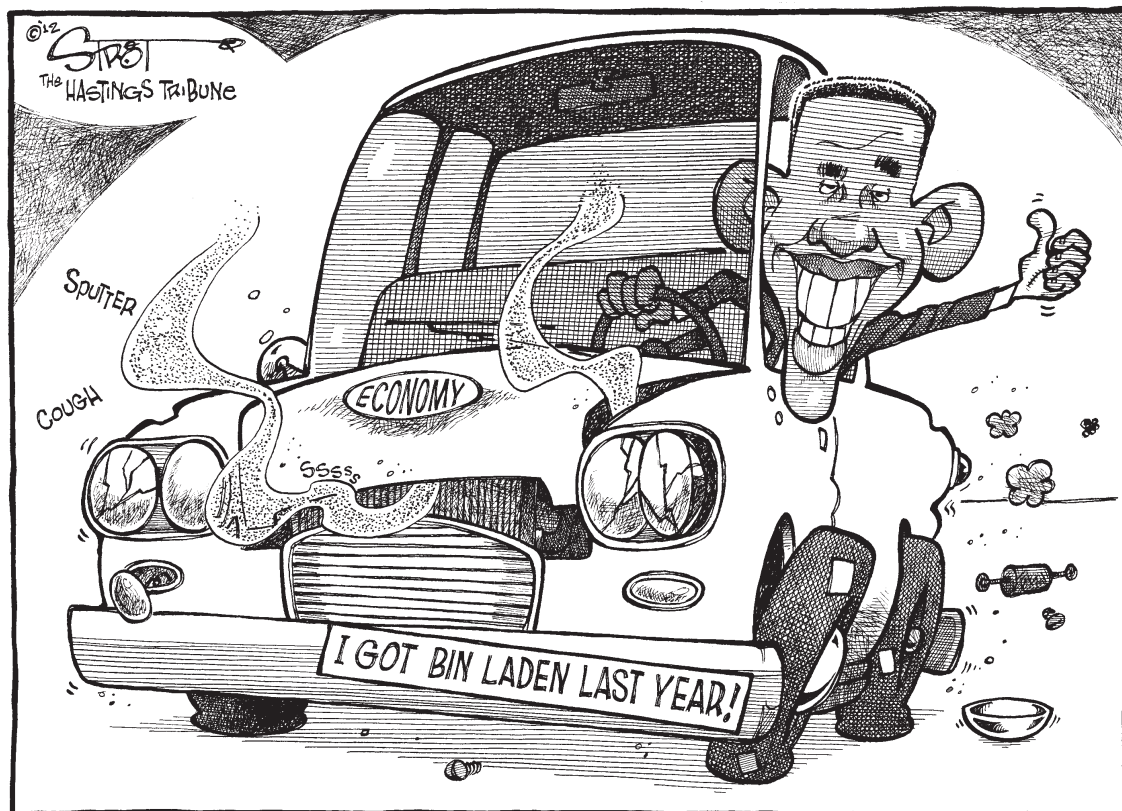
Is that dirty pool or smart politics? Partly, at least, the answer depends on whether it's your ox that's being gored. Nevertheless, this fight should not be allowed to derail the reapportionment process.

A fair and just map can and should be drawn; then let the voters decide who gets the seats. Conservatives in both houses need to keep from meddling with district lines to their advantage also.

Our guess is the Chamber's assault won't be as effective as the liberals fear, but if it is, then the will of the voters will prevail.

And whatever else happens, we must be sure to keep the huge 40th District covering the northwest as compact as possible. That's only decent and right.

- Steve Haynes



Community urged to attend relay

To the Editor:

Cancer - What a frightening and horrifying word that is becoming way to prevalent in our communities and lives every day. We as a caring community can take part in the fight to find a cure and put an end to this horrible disease.

The 2012 Cheyenne County Relay for Life will take place from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. on June 9 and 10 at Sawhill Park, St. Francis. The walk continues all night long until the wee hours of the morning to signify the ongoing and tiring fight the cancer patient goes through. As the walk progresses into the early morning hours the walkers become tired and weary, just as the cancer patient does as they go through treatment to fight this terrible monster. But no one gives up, nor do they go on alone. Someone is always by their side, even through the weariness everyone feels, there is strength.

We, as a community, can show our support by forming teams, purchasing luminaries, supporting the fundraising of the teams, attending and participating in the auction the night of Relay, attending the program and entertainment in the band shell, and attending the luminary ceremony to show support for those fighting this horrible disease and to honor those

Letters to the Editor

who so valiantly lost the battle.

Communities all across the state of Kansas and elsewhere participate in Relay for Life to help raise funds for The American Society.

Some statistics for the state of Kansas in 2011 were:

- 6,637 individual cancer patients received 20,182 services at no charge to them.
- 1,463 cancer patients received a Person Health Manager packet with specific information.
- 48 Kansans received 917 life-saving trips to treatment from American Cancer Society Road to Recovery drivers.
- 963 Kansans received gas cards to help defray travel costs during treatment.
- 372 cancer patients received free wigs, hats, and turbans.
- 270 patients attended Look Good....Feel Better sessions.
- 45 Kansas patients received 219 guest room nights through American Cancer Society's partnership with local hotels to provide free lodging for patients and caregivers traveling from out of town for treatment.
- 548 Kansas patients and their caregivers spent 9,791 nights in an

American Cancer Society Hope Lodge free of charge.

• 110 breast cancer patients received 188 Reach to Recovery visits from trained volunteers who provide hope and support for those newly diagnosed.

• 91 children plus 7 day campers attended Camp Hope with 98 volunteers and one staff person making sure all medical needs were met.

• 1,852 Kansas patients received information and support from the 24-hour information line at 800-227-2345.

• 5,639 cancer survivors and 4,339 caregivers attended Relay for Life events in Kansas.

Research to find a cure for this disease is not cheap, but together we can make a difference. Please join us as individuals and as a community to help make this happen.

Together we can make it possible for more birthdays!! Help us get the word out that there is help available. Let these people know that they are not alone.

You may contact me with any questions at 785-332-5348

Pat Rose-chairman
Cheyenne County Relay for Life

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



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I like Ike. But I don't like what Washington is doing to honor Ike.

Leave it to our Federal government to mess up things for future generations. Something as simple as placing an effigy to another great president and military leader should be a task they could handle.

I mean, here is the man in the driver's seat when the free world took the fight to the Nazis in Europe to turn the tide in World War II. So how do you suppose the blowhards on the beltway intend to leave the symbol of this important man's achievements? The plan is to show Eisenhower as a small,

barefoot lad sitting somewhere in the wide expanse of Kansas as his future waits for him.

Yes, it is a wonderful example of the American Dream for a boy from humble Abilene, Kan., to make it to West Point, lead the Allied forces in history's largest war, and on to the White House. But why just allude to this and not show a monument that states those things?

Sticking to traditional forms of memorials certainly has worked for Washington's, Jefferson's and Lincoln's. What is so wrong with staying with what works? But then change for the sake of change

seems to be what drives our Capitol.

I hear that the Eisenhower family is also unhappy with the design. Who can blame them? I'd be willing to bet that they would be satisfied with a marble statue of Ike standing defiantly as he did as an adult. He could even be looking toward the European Theater portion of the National World War II Memorial.

Hangin' With Marge

By Margaret Bucholtz



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I love the look of a farmstead that is mowed and clean, so when we moved to the farm about 25 years ago, I started the job of mowing and cleaning up the dead trees. I probably mow about 5 to 6 acres and try my best to keep up with it.

This spring when I landed in the hospital the biggest worry was how I was going to keep on mowing. I should have known that I didn't have to worry about that as Kurt has always been there to help me figure things out.

It was kind of like when we had sheep and brought goats to substitute the milk. He didn't know how to milk anything, but he gave me this neatest little milking stool so I had a place to sit while I milked.

For the mowing cure he came home with this mask that has filters on it so it will keep the dirt out. It is all made of some kind of rubber that fits over your mouth and nose and fastens with two straps that go over your head and one strap to hook around your neck. It has two filters that come out the sides and trust me

you can't smell any dust anywhere. Who cares if I look like I just landed on a mower from outer space! After all I am breathing safely.

As the day gets warmer, I find myself almost choking from smelling hot rubber, but that dirt sure isn't going to choke me up.

Yesterday I announced that I wasn't going to mow until he was home because I already had a rattlesnake encounter and if one of those saw me before I saw it he could strike and bite my leg.

Again he had a plan.

This time it is that I wear my rubber snow boots while I mow so the snake wouldn't be able to bite me.

I told him if he thinks I am going out there to mow, in the heat, wearing an out-of-space rubber mask and rubber boots and have sweat dripping in my eyes, he just might have to do the mowing.

What do you bet I don't hear any more about the boot thing again?

Group acknowledges all mothers

"Thank God for your children every day... and let your children hear it." -Sharon Roberts, a Kansas mom

"I'd like to be the ideal mother, but I'm too busy raising my kids!" -Anonymous

"Of all the rights of women, the greatest is to be a mother." -Lin Yutang

"Appreciate every moment you have for what it is. Don't wish it were different or that it would pass by. Take each day one at a time. Your children grow and change so

fast! Always seek the help of God to be the mother that God wants you to be." -Blair Bailey, a Kansas mom

"What I learned from my mother: how to be strong; how to be flexible; love of children; love of grandchildren; trust in God; how to live how to love; how to grow old. Prayer works. If you don't like where you're headed, change directions. Faith is important. Family is important. Values and morals are important. Chores are important. Play is important. God will help you through anything." -a Cheyenne

County mom
"Children are an heritage of the Lord." -Psalm 127:3

Children are a gift from God. Without children, there would be no "Mother's Day."

Happy Mothers' Day to all the mom's of this world.

Cheyenne County Kansans for Life:

Joan Gienger, president; Elmer Kellner, vice-president; Ed Carson, treasurer

GOD SAYS
All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.
- II Timothy 3:16

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Praise the Lord

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Norman Morrow - Minister
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Morning Worship 10 a.m.

United Methodist
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Church 332-2254,
512 S. Scott
Pastor Warren Cico
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Seventh-Day
Adventist Church
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Pastor James McCurdy
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

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Catholic Church
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Fr. Roger Meitl
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8:00 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

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

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Baptist Church
412 S. Denison
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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.

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
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332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
www.sfccfamily.com
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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 Randy Nelson
Church 332-2928
Parsonage 332-2312
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Communion 1st Sunday

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