

## Candidates like to shade the truth to be elected

Politics. Honesty, integrity, the truth. Draw a line between those two sentences, because one seldom mixes with the other, especially in Kansas this year.

It's nothing unusual in this country, but candidates seem to think they have to shade the truth to be elected.

Maybe no one is exactly lying, but it's hard to catch anyone telling the unvarnished truth. It's enough to make a voter run screaming from the booth.

Take the governor's race. Please.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, who seems a shoo-in for re-election and beyond that, maybe somebody's running mate, likes to brag about the money "she's" gotten for Kansas schools, "all without a tax increase."

The truth is she pushed for a \$350 million tax increase which Republican legislators turned down. Her claim is technically true, even if it's not credible. The governor stayed behind the scenes through most of the school battle, coming out after the dust had settled to claim the credit.

That's not the kind of "truth" daddy would have let us get away with as kids. Who knows, though. Her daddy was governor of Ohio.

Her opponent, Sen. Jim Barnett of Emporia, is no better. He's running on a no-tax-increase platform, though in the heat of the school finance fight, he backed a \$250 million increase.

Maybe voters are supposed to listen to today's "truth" and forget the candidate's record.

Then there's the attorney general race, where the challenger, Democrat Paul Morrison of Johnson County, claims he's leading Republican Phill Kline.

One thing we're supposed to forget is that Morrison was a Republican until he saw a chance to unseat Kline last year. Morrison maintains a "truth squad" which fires off press releases claiming that Kline lies. These call his statements "Phill's fibs."

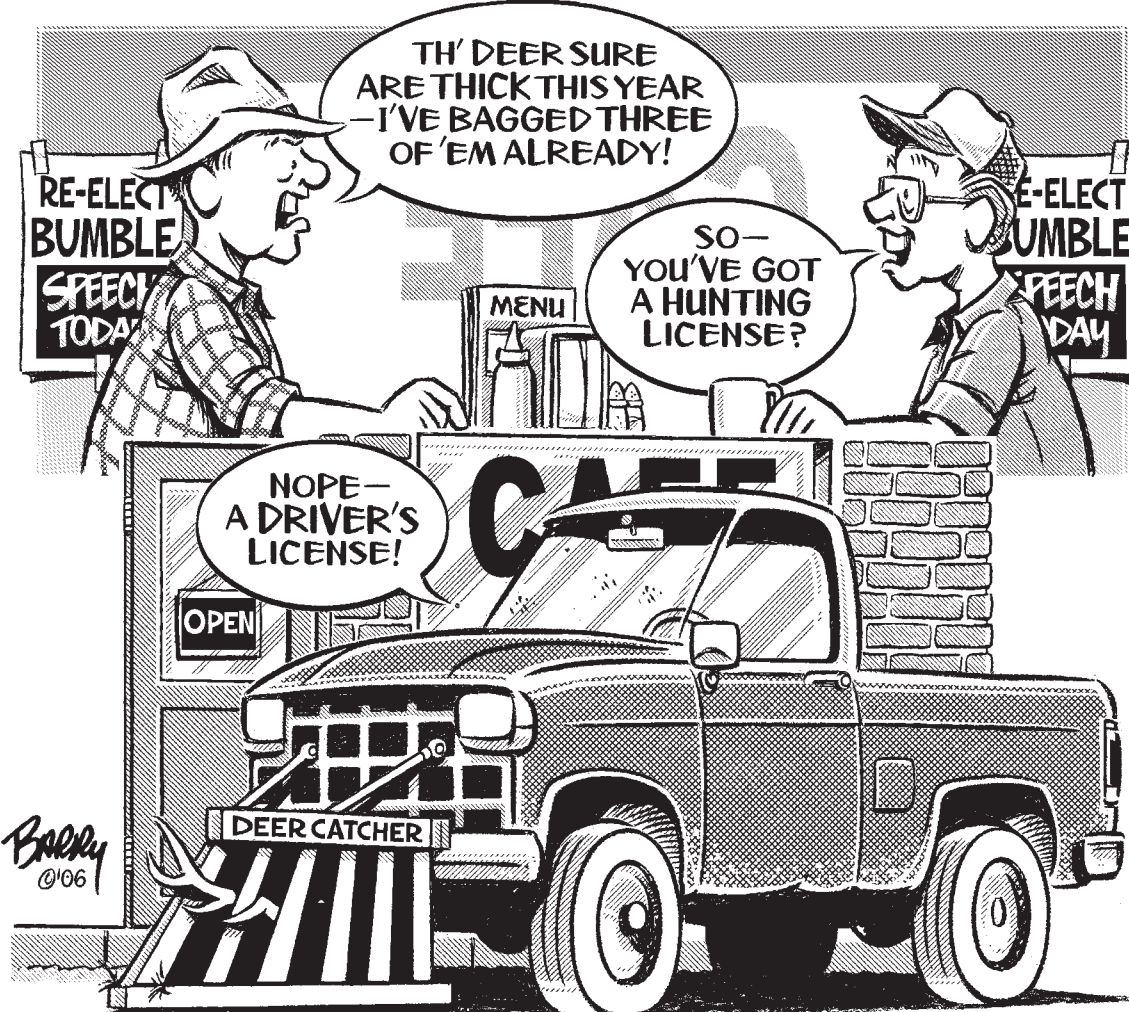
And while there's no doubt the attorney general has stretched and bent the truth to suit his needs, Morrison has shown he can fib it up with the rest of them. His latest television ad shows doctors working on records and claims that Kline wants "your medical records" in the hands of government.

In fact, Kline's office tried to get a limited number of records from two abortion clinics involving underage girls, hoping to file statutory rape charges. Kline says he's just looking for lawbreakers, but the fight really is about abortion. Morrison knows that, too.

None of this is new in American politics. It's gone on since the founding of the Republic, the dark and disgusting underbelly of democracy.

Much as we claim to hate mudslinging, Americans decry a clean campaign. We go to sleep when candidates debate real issues. Dirt attracts attention. Lies become accepted truths. Exaggerations become reality.

Not a pretty picture, but there you have it. Wouldn't it be nice if they all stopped fibbing and got back to business? — Steve Haynes



## News From the Past

### 10 years ago - 1996

An open house reception was held for Dr. Omer Abdullah, his wife Zeba and son Haaris on Sunday. The St. Francis Chamber of Commerce arranged the welcoming reception.

Homecoming candidates include Teresa Dankenbring, Tori Halpin, Nikki Krien, Kristen Lindsten, Megan Smith, Scott Jenkins, Jim Keller, Christian Rainbolt, Ryan Schultz and R.W. Stuart. The Indians will be playing the Dundy County Tigers in the football game.

The train turntable, part of the St. Francis railroad tracks, was moved last week and will be a part of the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden, Colo. Early in the afternoon, two huge cranes from Arvada, Colo., began lifting the turntable out of its resting place and by Thursday morning had the turntable and tracks loaded on semi trucks. A member of the Colorado Railroad Historical Association reported that there were not many train turntables remaining in the United States and they were quickly disappearing.

A Fall Festival auction will be held with the proceeds going to the park restroom fund. The Fall Festival is sponsored by the St. Francis Chamber of Commerce and participating businesses are offering items to be auctioned. Homecoming candidates have also agreed to be auctioned off as slaves.

**45 years ago 1961**  
St. Francis used a powerful second half attack to defeat Oberlin 27-6 in the league season opener. The Indian's first

score of the game was on a pass from Hixon to Isernhagen.

Linda Keller will be one of six Kansas 4-H Club members who will have an educational trip to Kansas City in recognition of their accomplishments in the home improvement project.

The St. Francis Music Club is presenting "Down In The Valley" under the direction of Pastor Don Rice.

Eight new lettermen were initiated into the C-Club. These lettermen, Dennis Holliday, Spencer Graves, Rudy Douthit, Jim O'Leary, Harold Goodell, Elmer Schorzman, Stanley Schlepp and Royce Gienger, earned their letters in athletic competition last year.

Sandra Price, member of the Lawn Ridge 4-H Club, went to Chicago to attend National Safety Congress.

St. Francis is now receiving five day a week service from the Denver-Limon-Burlington Transfer Company.

The Reverend Roger Withee has been appointed to the position of vocal instruction at the St. Francis Community High School.

**50 years ago - 1956**  
The W.C. Keeler Construction Company was awarded the contract to construct the new St. Francis Municipal Swimming Pool.

The new chapel and the two recreation rooms at the Good Samaritan Village are being dedicated on Sunday. Pastors of the local Lutheran churches will be in charge. Included in the program will be an address by Marvin Mills, St. Francis mayor. Mr. Fred Deines is the superintendent of the St. Francis home.

Work is beginning on the River Road project. Eight Miles from US

36 to the Burnham Bridge is to be rebuilt

Howell's is advertising Lean Beef Hamburger, 2 pounds for 49 cents; Beef Roast, 39 cents a pound; Florida Sweet Juice Oranges, 10 cents a pound; Kraft's American Cheese, 55 cents a pound; Northern Toilet Tissue, three rolls for 27 cents.

### 100 years ago - 1906

The old post office building is being cleaned up and they are making extensive repairs in preparatory to the installation of the new bank furniture. The new Cheyenne County State Bank is expected to open its doors for business next week.

The post office was moved to the creamery building last Saturday where it will remain until the new post office building is completed.

John Skeen threshed his crop of small grains last week and his bins were too small to hold it all.

The newspaper turned out a very neat yearbook for the Rambler's Club this year.

Andrew Smull set up an elegant Superios air-tight stove in his store this week.

The Methodist people have painted and papers and fixed up their church in a very tasty manner.

M. Winter laid the foundation for a 20x30 addition to his new hotel. The new structure will be of brick and cemented blocks.

Rural mail route No. 1 has been started from the city. With the rural mail route and the rural telephone, the farmers are more metropolitan than people of small towns.

## Reader reminds us to be thankful

To the Editor,  
On Sunday at the restaurant, we had a situation arise finding it necessary to call 911. What could have been a fatal situation, was not - due to the very quick response of our Cheyenne County EMS, St. Francis Police Department and a local hospital employee. Wade Krien ran over from Pizza Hut, Craig Van Allen and Ryan Zwegardt were in the police vehicle, Ed Marin and Mark Mills arrived in their own vehicles, all in a very short time; with Michael Hansen and Reid Raile right behind in the ambulance.

## Letters to the Editor

Kim Zwegardt was at the restaurant having lunch and assisted from the start. It was only a matter of minutes from the 911 call before the person was on his way to the hospital, alive.

Sometimes we take for granted the time and dedication these people give to our community, and we don't stop and think about how lucky we are to have them.

The people of our county who respond at a pagers tone, without

thought of personal sacrifice, are dedicated to the citizens of Cheyenne County.

When you see one of these dedicated individuals - whether it be EMS, law enforcement, fire department, or hospital personnel, please join us in saying "Thank You!" because we never know when the call may be for some of our loved ones.

Pat, Bradley and the Windmill Crew  
St. Francis

## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



**By Casey McCormick**  
The United States of America joined an exclusive club last Tuesday. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, our population passed the 300 million mark.

Only two other countries, China and India, can make the same boast.

The Census Bureau figures it this way. America gains one person every

11 seconds. The reason for this is births come more often than deaths. A child is born every seven seconds, but a death occurs every 13 seconds.

There is another variable. Each 31 seconds an immigrant enters this country. I checked their website but was unable to find out the ratio of legal to illegal migration.

Some other information given by the Census Bureau deals with demographics.

It came as no surprise, big cities are growing more than rural areas. From 1970 to 2000, folks living in the suburbs grew from 38 percent to 50 percent.

A sad number was the drop in married-couple households. It fell from nearly 75 percent in 1967 to 50 percent today. Nonfamily households rose from 17 percent to 33 percent.

Out of all of this there is one fact that pleases me most of all. When the census lady comes around Lezlie is the one she talks to.

A final figure: at 1:10 p.m., E.D.T., on Oct. 17, 2006, the United States Census Bureau estimates the world population at 6,550,993,799. See, you do count!

**GOD SAYS**  
Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls.  
Matthew 11:28

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**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.

**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

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

**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.

**First Christian Church**  
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  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.,  
Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Grace Assembly of God**  
332-2925, Pars. 332-2899  
208 E. 2nd  
Rev. Rob Meyer  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30  
Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
202 N. College  
Pastor Ken Hart  
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312  
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.

**St. Francis Community Church**  
332-3150  
204 N. Quincy Street  
Pastor: David Butler  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Clough Valley Church of Hope**  
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF  
Pastor Jason Howard  
332-3152  
Saturdays 8 p.m. CT or 7 p.m. MT

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**Praise the Lord**