

Opinion

Free Press Viewpoint



You can make someone's day

Think you had a bad day? A bad week? A bad month? A bad year? There are some people you need to see tonight. Those who can answer yes to all those questions might be at Dennen Field today during Colby's annual Relay for Life, the fund raising event for the American Cancer Society.

Those people who walk the Survivors Lap, those who have been cured of cancer, can probably remember the day they were told they had cancer. It will be one day they will never forget. Earlier this week Paula Halvorson told the Free Press about her battle with cancer. She knew exactly when and where she was the moment she was diagnosed with cancer.

Then she told her daughters and her place of employment she had cancer. She had to find the time, and strength, for all the treatments and eventual surgery to remove the cancer.

"Having cancer sucks," she said. She said she had a moment of fear of dying of cancer. Now that is a bad day. Halvorson said it's tough to put that moment in words. Her positive attitude during her ordeal was inspiring.

But there has been hope and results. Halvorson, and the other survivors, did the right things or they would not be with us today. Halvorson said she caught her cancer in the early stages and that made it easier to treat and remove.

Cancer research and more funding have helped many people beat cancer. Relay for Life is just one way to help the cause.

If you want to help end someone's bad day, contribute to Relay for Life. It starts at 7 p.m.

John Van Nostrand is publisher of the Colby Free Press

About those letters . . .

The Free Press encourages and welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be typewritten, if at all possible, and should include a telephone number and an address. Most importantly, all letters must include a signature. Unsigned letters cannot be published. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and length, and, likewise, reserve the right to reject letters deemed to be of no public interest or considered offensive or libelous.

Comments to any opinions expressed on this page are encouraged. Mail them to the Colby Free Press, 155 W. 5th St., Colby, Kan., 67701. Or e-mail jvannostrand@nwkansas.com or pdecker@nwkansas.com. Opinions do not necessarily reflect the Free Press.

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- U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran**, 2443 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. 202/225-2715 or Fax 202/225-5124
- State Rep. Jim Morrison**, State Capitol Building, 303 SW 10th St. Rm. 171-W, Topeka 66612. 785/296-7676 e mail: jmorrison@ink.org web: www.ink.org/public/legislators/jmorrison
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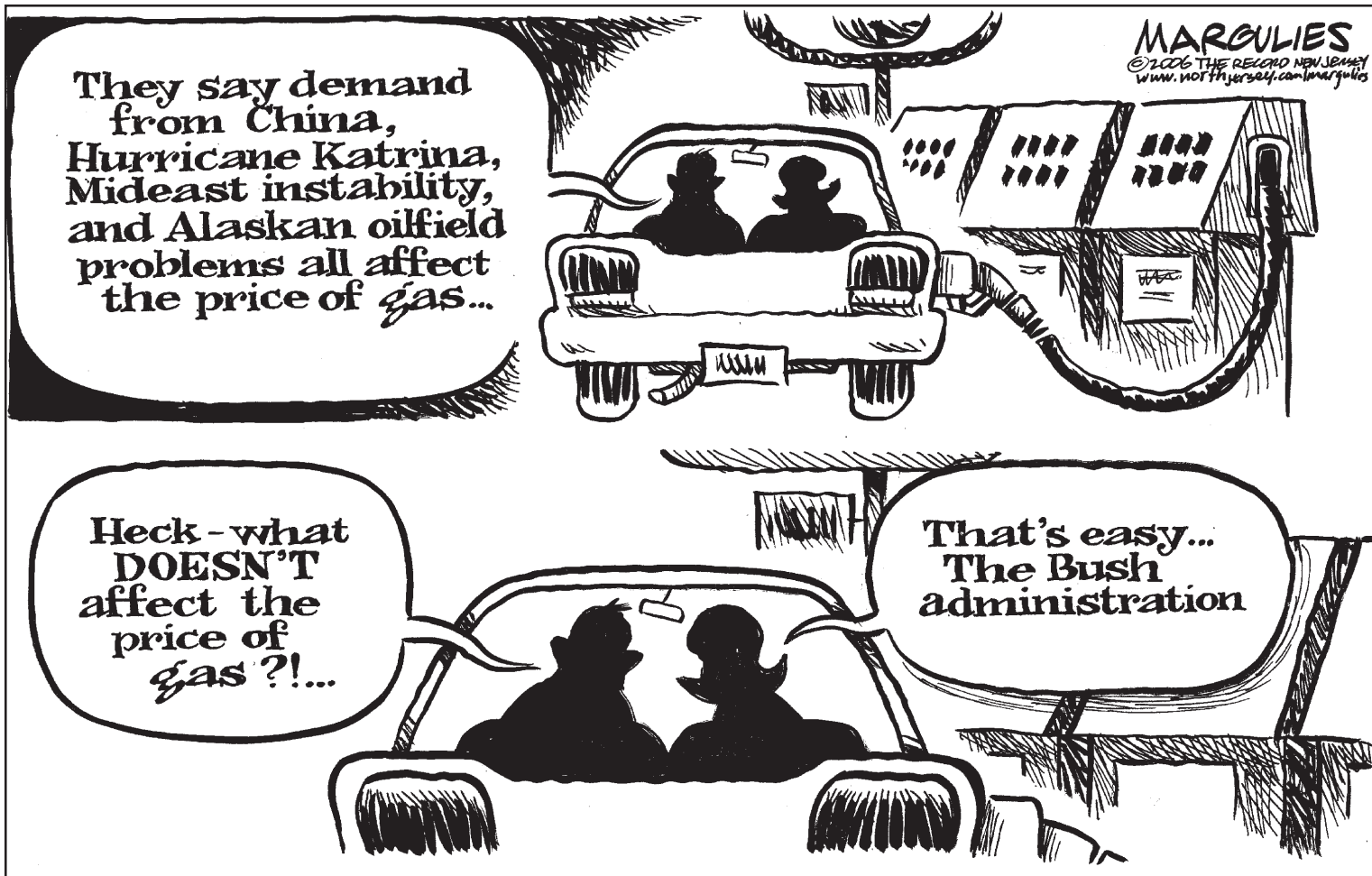
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What we weren't taught in school

A friend recently sent me Microsoft Chief Executive Officer Bill Gates' 11 rules on life that weren't taught in school. I know this has circulated before, but for those who haven't seen it or as a reminder, it's worth repeating.

I'm not sure if Gates actually addressed a group of high school students or not, but regardless of that, the rules are still good.

Apparently when he gave this speech, he talked about how feel-good politically correct teachings created a full generation of kids with no concept of reality and how this concept set them up for failure in the real world.

Here they are:

- Rule 1: Life is not fair — get used to it.
- Rule 2: The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you accomplish something before you feel good about yourself.
- Rule 3: You will not make \$40,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone, until you earn both.
- Rule 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure.
- Rule 5: Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping — they called it opportunity.
- Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes, learn from them.
- Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you are. So before you save the rain forest from the para-



Patty Decker

• Deep Thoughts

of your parents' generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

— Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers but life has not. In some schools they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as many times as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to anything in real life.

— Rule 9: Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you find yourself. Do that on your own time.

— Rule 10: Television is not real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

— Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.

And then another friend sent this to me yesterday. It's a survival kit for every day living. I thought it was worth repeating too.

The items needed in the survival kit include a toothpick, rubber band, band aid, pencil, eraser, chewing gum, mint, candy kiss and a tea bag.

The reason we need these things are because:

- A toothpick will remind us to pick out the

good quality in others. Matt 7:1

— The rubber band will remind us to be flexible; things might not always go the way we want, but it will work out. Romans 8:28

— The band aid will remind us to heal hurt feelings — not only ours, but someone else's as well. Col 3:12-14

— The pencil will remind us to list our blessings everyday. Eph 1:3

— An eraser will remind us that everyone makes mistakes and that's okay. Gen 50:15-21

— The chewing gum is a reminder for us to stick with it and know we can accomplish anything. Phil 4:13

— The mint will remind us that we are worth a mint. John 3:16-17

— A candy kiss will be our reminder that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday. 1 John 4:7

— The tea bag will remind us to relax daily and reflect on all the positive things in our lives. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one. 1 Thess 5:18

Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, share a word of praise and they always open their hearts to us.

We are all blessed to have friends who care about us and sending little messages to one another is one of the many ways we show that caring. Have a great weekend and maybe visit a friend you haven't seen in awhile.

Decker is editor of the Free Press. Her column appears on Fridays.

For sale by governor: Kansas Board of Healing Arts

By Jennifer Mason
Kansas for Truth in Politics

When seeking a public office, most would-be politicians undertake an arduous process to win their seat. Not so in Kansas. With Kathleen Sebelius as Governor, it appears that all that is required is a hefty bank account.

At least eight members of the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts have funneled donations to Sebelius either with their personal bank accounts, or through their spouses or businesses. BHA members are appointed by the Governor, such donations are extremely inappropriate.

Donations to Sebelius from her appointed Kansas State Board of Healing Arts Members totaled over \$24,000.

How many positions has Sebelius handed out as thank yous to contributors?

Several years ago, Larry Buening was appointed to the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts. Larry, KSBHA's executive director, is married to Vicki Buening, Sebelius, Director of Constituent Services. The Buenings have both donated to Sebelius' campaign.

Vinton Arnett, recently appointed, has given \$2,000 to Sebelius.

Raymond M. Conley, also a recently appointed board member, has given \$2,700 to Sebelius' campaign.

Gary Lee Counselman, board member, has given \$2,650 personally, and contributed \$4,250 through his business.

Carol Sader, when combined with her husband Harold, has given a total of \$10,000 to Kathleen Sebelius.

These are just a few. The Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission reports reveal that Betty McBride, Nancy Jane Welsh, Merle Hodges and Ronald Whitmer, all KSBHA Board Members, have also contributed heavily to Kathleen Sebelius.

In 2005, Sebelius nominated a doctor facing multiple charges of professional misbehavior to the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts. Howard Ellis, when no longer able to practice medicine in Missouri, was asked to judge the conduct of other physicians in the state of Kansas. Ellis contributed \$4,000 to Sebelius in 2002, calling into question the integrity of the KSBHA.

Last year, a complaint to the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts was filed against abortionist George Tiller in the death of 19-year-old patient Christin Gilbert. Tiller has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to Kansas politics, with a good portion going to Sebelius' campaign.

Sebelius' peculiar intervention in the investigation resulted in the premature conclusion of the corrupt KSBHA that Tiller was not responsible for the patient's death. Miraculously, that decision was reached before the autopsy report was released.

It appears Kathleen Sebelius is willing to sell a number of things that don't belong to her namely, seats on the KSBHA and exemption from the law.

By appointing board members who will protect one of her top donors, Sebelius ensures that her campaign will remain adequately funded.

This "I'll-scratch-your-back, you-scratch-mine" mentality has no place in Kansas politics. This is just the beginning of the corruption derived from Sebelius' appointees.

When the KSBHA cronyism became apparent, a grassroots coalition of Kansas citizens petitioned for a Grand Jury to convene and investigate Gilbert's death. A source from within the Grand Jury process recently revealed to Operation Rescue that the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts has a "three and out" policy, if a doctor appears and is convicted before the

KSBHA three times, he loses his license. Apparently, this policy applies to every doctor except for George Tiller. It was reported that Tiller has appeared before the Board seven times, yet still retains his license.

Is it any wonder, with all of the money changing hands, that a large contributor to Sebelius would be found not guilty?

The Operation Rescue web site references the source's claims that while the KSBHA admitted to Tiller's board appearances, they were uncooperative in answering other questions. The KSBHA attorneys claimed that clinic procedures were "standard protocol," although testimony from other witnesses proved otherwise.

For example, Women's Health Care Services' patient record for Gilbert revealed direct violation of KSBHA regulations.

These allegations are grim signs of corruption from within the governor's office.

There is every indication that Sebelius will continue to abuse her power if re-elected in November.

The lives of Kansans depend on an honest KSBHA that will uphold the law and keep doctors accountable for their actions. We have no need of a board of politicians who will pay any price to maintain their position of power.

Kansans for Truth In Politics (K-TIP) is a Political Action Committee registered with the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission. Its goal is to restore truth and integrity to Kansas politics while supporting candidates and legislation that promote traditional family values. While K-TIP is not associated with any other group or organization, it welcomes the participation of conservative, pro-life, pro-family groups. Kansans for Truth In Politics (K-TIP) P.O. Box 780631, Wichita, KS 67278. E-mail: info@k-tip.org

Mallard Fillmore

• Bruce Tinsley

