

# commentary

from other pens...

## Kansans will step up when need is clear

**The Parsons Sun on Raising money:**

Sen. Tim Huelskamp, R-Fowler, sneered and laughed at the thought of Kansans stepping forward offering to pay higher taxes during this difficult fiscal year. ... inviting people to make voluntary contributions to help solve the crisis.

Snorting and guffawing his way through a farcical press conference announcing his “Tax Me More” fund, the no-new-tax pledge conservative and his buddies taunted Gov. Bill Graves after his State of the State address in January. (Graves had stated he knew the people of Kansas would step up to help solve the problem.)

Well, guess what, Mr. Huelskamp? The governor was right. Parents from two Shawnee Mission elementary schools decided to take you up on your challenge, and although the money won’t be funneled through state coffers as taxes, they have already raised nearly \$120,000 to save the jobs of five staff members. Numerous others ... are also jumping on the bandwagon to raise money to save jobs in their schools.

... the message from the communities is loud and clear: If the Legislature can’t make itself step up to the plate to do what should be done for education, then they will do it themselves.

Huelskamp and his other no-tax cohorts should take this as a slap in the face. Maybe they don’t care about their obligation to fund education ... but others do.

Unfortunately, there are too many people in Topeka playing obstructionist games during this critical year of budgeting. Their eyes are closed to options and realities, and their ears are closed to what people are telling them.

### where to write

- U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts**, 302 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774
- U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback**, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-6521
- U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran**, 1217 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 225-2715
- State Rep. Jim Morrison**, State Capitol Building Rm. 174-W, Topeka, KS 66612. (785) 296-7676
- State Sen. Stan Clark**, State Capitol Building Rm. 128-S, Topeka, KS 66612. (785) 296-7399
- Kansas Attorney General Carla J. Stovall**, 301 S.W. 10th, Lower Level, Topeka, KS 66612-1597 (785) 296-3751 Fax (785) 291-3699 TTY: (785) 291-3767

### Letter Policy

The Goodland Daily News encourages and welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be typewritten, and must include a telephone number and a signature. Unsigned letters will not be published. Form letters will be rejected, as will letters deemed to be of no public interest or considered offensive. We reserve the right to edit letters for length and good taste. We encourage letters, with phone numbers, by e-mail to: <daily@nwkansas.com>.

## The Goodland Daily News

(USPS No. 222-460. ISSN 0893-0562)  
Member: Kansas Press Association  
The Associated Press  
Inland Press Association Colorado Press Association  
National Newspaper Association  
e-mail: [daily@nwkansas.com](mailto:daily@nwkansas.com)



Steve Haynes, President  
Tom Betz, Editor/Editorial Page  
Rachel Miscall, Managing Editor  
Pat Schiefen, Copy Editor  
Doug Stephens, Sports Editor  
Sharon Corcoran, Society Editor  
Eric Yonkey, Bill Wagoner, Advertising Sales  
James Schiefen, Adv. Production Sheila Smith, Office Manager




2002 ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
COLORADO PRESS ASSOCIATION

### Nor’west Press

Jim Bowker, General Manager

Richard Westfahl	Ron VanLoenen	Judy McKnight
Betty Morris	Leslie Carroll	Lana Westfahl



### nwkansas.com

N.T. Betz, Director of Internet Services (nbetz@nwkansas.com)  
Evan Barnum, Systems Admin.(support@nwkansas.com)

Published daily except Saturday and Sunday and the day observed for New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, at 1205 Main St., Goodland, Kan. 67735.  
Periodicals postage paid at Goodland, Kan. 67735; entered at the Goodland, Kan., Post Office under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1878.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Goodland Daily News, 1205 Main St., Goodland, Kan. 67735.  
TELEPHONE: (785) 899-2338. Editorial e-mail: daily@nwkansas.com. Advertising questions can be sent to: gdnadv@nwkansas.com

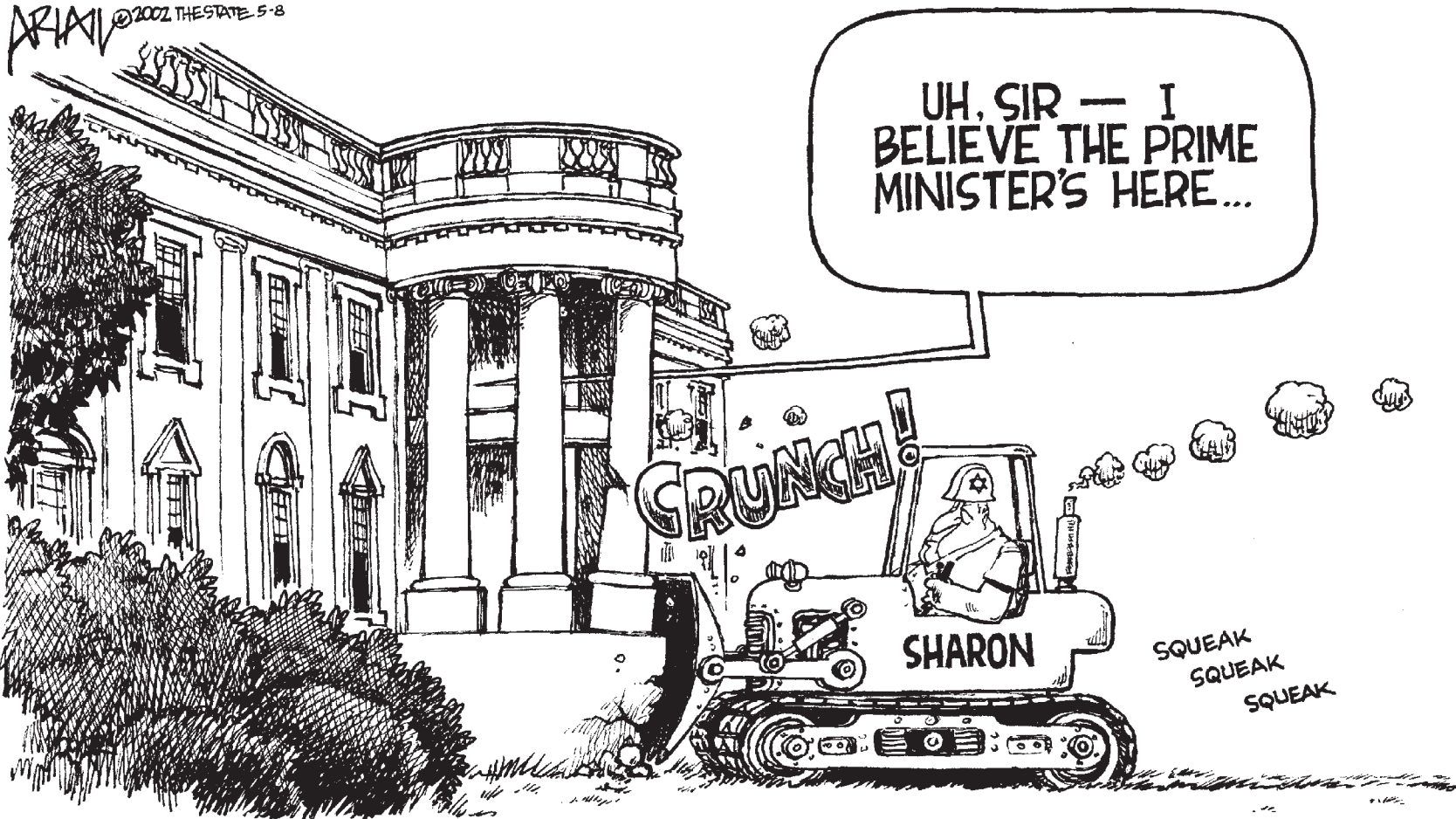
**The Goodland Daily News** assumes no liability for mistakes or omissions in advertising or failure to publish beyond the actual cost of the ad.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: In Sherman County and adjacent counties: three months, \$25; six months, \$42; 12 months, \$79. Out of area, weekly mailing of five issues: three months, \$30; six months, \$45; 12 months, \$80. By mail daily in Kansas, Colorado: 12 months, \$115. (All tax included.)

**Incorporating:**  
**The Sherman County Herald**  
Founded by Thomas McCants  
1935-1989

**THE SHERMAN COUNTY STAR**  
Founded by Eric and Roxie Yonkey  
1994-2001

**Nor’West Newspapers**  
Haynes Publishing Company



## Getting prescriptions from Canadian pharmacies

Dear Attorney General Stovall:

I recently saw an advertisement stating I could save up to 50 percent on prescription medications by getting them from Canada. With the rising cost of prescriptions, especially for senior citizens, is there any reason I would not want to take advantage of these savings?

Dear Kansas Consumer:

Mailing prescription medication into the U.S. from Canada (or any other country) is a violation of federal law. Some reasons for this are that the drugs may not be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), they may not be labeled in a manner consistent with federal law, or the drugs may be dispensed without a valid prescription. The company whose ad you mentioned may also be violating state law if the pharmacy is not registered in Kansas as a non-resident pharmacy.

There are a number of risks in doing business with any international company, particularly when prescription medications are involved:

- \* It is more difficult to obtain legal jurisdiction over a company located in another country than in another state.
- \* A Canadian pharmacy is not governed by FDA regulations, so purchasing a prescription from



**carla j. stovall**  
● consumer corner

Canada may increase the risk of buying an impure, unsafe, or adulterated product.

- \* There is an increased risk of having personal information sold by foreign companies, which can result in identity theft, or unauthorized withdrawals from credit cards or bank accounts.
- \* There is also a risk of not receiving the right product, and the jurisdictional problems mentioned earlier would make it difficult for my office to recover a refund on a consumer’s behalf.

Because of all the risks and potential violations of law involved in doing business with foreign pharmacies, my office recommends that consumers only do business with pharmacies that meet the following criteria:

- \* Are registered with the Kansas Board of Pharmacy. Call 785-296-4056 to inquire.
- \* Require a prescription from a patient’s doctor,

who must be licensed to practice medicine in Kansas by the Kansas Board of Healing Arts. Call 785-296-7413 to inquire.

- \* Require prescriptions to be sent by a doctor or local pharmacy by mail, fax, or phone.
- \* Offer a full range of prescription medications, not just the ones that have received media attention such as Viagra, Cipro, or weight loss drugs.

The health and safety of consumers is more important than any other savings they may receive. If consumers have any questions about a particular pharmacy, they may contact the agencies listed above or call my Consumer Protection Division at 800-432-2310.

Attorney General Carla J. Stovall offers this public service to help you avoid becoming a victim of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints. For further information or to file a complaint, please write Attorney General Carla J. Stovall, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th, 2nd Floor, Topeka, Kansas 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, 1-800-432-2310. Leave your name, number and subject of your inquiry with the receptionist and your call will be returned promptly.

## Dog changes outcome of family ‘fishing’ trip

We all packed up for the trip.

The kids, the wife, me. We had fishing poles, a picnic lunch, bait, tackle, diapers, blankets, baby bottles, soda. Another couple following us in their car. Even the dog was piled in somehow.

You knew this just wasn’t going to work.

My wife decided on Saturday that she wanted to go fishing. It sounded good to me.

“I’ll see you later,” I said.

Not what she had in mind.

It’s not that I have anything against fishing. You get to set up on a bank, sit back, relax, enjoy the sun, maybe catch a wink or two and call it a sport.

I’m not sure it’s a group activity, though. I’m about the clumsiest person I know, and when I move, the whole world knows I’m on my way. Birds, crowds and fish all scatter. Throw into the mix two babes-in-diapers, and we wouldn’t be able to sneak around in an air raid.

This was meant to be a family outing, though. Which is good. I like family outings, but call it what it is, a picnic by a lake, with an occasional line thrown in the water. Maybe toss in the usual family outbursts, the dog getting under everyone’s feet, sunburns and short tempers, and we’d really have



**doug stephens**  
● wisdom from babes

it covered.

The trip started out well. First we slept in on Sunday. Or as late as possible with two kids waking up every hour or so.

When we finally got to moving, we loaded up our necessary equipment.

“Is that everything? You know I’m not coming back.”

Of course everything was packed, I was told.

We both were lying. I knew we’d forgotten something, and she knew I’d be forced to turn around. But we were on our way.

Then the other couple’s car got a flat. Where’s the wrench? I know the jack’s around here somewhere. Why do people put these %&## lug nuts on so tight? I told you to loosen the nuts before you jacked up the car. Where’s the dog? Somebody’s

paying for this damage. You ever been stuffed in a car trunk?

The dog?

You wouldn’t think a dog as dumb as ours could hide so well. To call the mutt stupid would be an insult to every stupid dog. Then why did it take us an hour to find him hiding in that drainage pipe? Why did I have to crawl in there to get him?

Finally, about noon, we’re on our way.

Oh no, are we out of sun block? To the store we go. Remember to set out something for dinner? Back to the house. The gas gauge looks lower than it did last night. To the gas station. Might as well check the oil, inflate the tires, wash the windows.

Now we can go to the lake for a very short-lived fishing trip. The line wouldn’t release from my reel.

It was about 2 p.m., and I was hungry. That’s my excuse. People can act irrationally when they’re hungry. And when they’ve spent a good part of the day crawling through drainage pipes to catch a retarded animal. Plus, I just don’t like things that don’t work. I knew there would be a backlash, but at the time, I didn’t care.

The crack of a fishing pole over your knee can be tremendously satisfying.

## France’s new anti-semites



**diana west**  
● commentary

at least the past week. Given his short-lived success, will that message soon be forgotten? And what message comes from this week’s stunning assassination of Pim Fortuyn, who, until his violent end, was the politically ascendant opponent of further Muslim immigration into The Netherlands?

Fortuyn always bristled at comparisons with France’s Le Pen, and rightfully so. Fortuyn, the dandyish, 54-year-old former Marxist professor could hardly have differed more from the 72-year-old former paratrooper. “We did not move in the same circles,” Le Pen said tersely after Fortuyn’s death, alluding to Fortuyn’s open homosexuality.

Pim Fortuyn’s sexuality dictated more than his “circles.” Through it, he not only articulated, but also embodied a compelling defense of Western liberalism against the medieval encroachments of Islamic intolerance. (For this, of course, he was pegged a right-wing extremist, despite his left-wing support of “soft” drugs and euthanasia, among other things.) Where an atavistic traditionalism inspires Le Pen’s opposition to the Islamic transformation of French demographics, Pim Fortuyn took up the anti-immigration cause on behalf of the very progressiveness that characterizes modern Holland.

“Christianity and Judaism have gone through the laundromat of humanism and enlightenment, but that is not the case with Islam,” Fortuyn said. “We

have separation of state and church. The laws of the country are not subject to the Koran. We have equality of men and women, whereas in Islamic culture women are inferior to men.” He said in Holland, “homosexuality is treated the same way as heterosexuality. In what Islamic country does that happen?”

Le Pen advocated the deportation of Muslims, Fortuyn stressed the need for assimilation. “If you allow immigrants into your country, then you’re responsible for them,” he said. “If Turkish or Moroccan boys misbehave, it’s up to us to re-educate them, and when necessary to punish them. Those who are in, stay in. For the rest, the portcullis comes down.”

Why? Living in Holland, among whose 16 million people are 800,000 Muslims, Fortuyn observed, “What we are witnessing is a clash of civilizations, not just between states but within them.” Such clarity made him a target, both metaphorically and literally. It reminded me of another European election. In Great Britain last year, political parties signed a virtual gag order on “race, nationality and religion” — a shameful sop to “multicultural” sensitivities that eliminated important issues from the national debate.

It’s a testament to Fortuyn’s courage he not only confronted such issues, but based a meteoric political movement on them. “If you try to discuss multiculturalism is the U.K. you’re labeled a racist,” Pim Fortuyn said. “But here we’re still free to talk, and I say multicultural society doesn’t work. We’re not living closer, we’re living apart.” He was onto something, at least about multicultural society. His assassination makes me wonder: Are we still free to talk?

Diana West is a columnist and editorial writer for The Washington Times. She can be contacted via [dwest@washingtontimes.com](mailto:dwest@washingtontimes.com).