

from our viewpoint...

# Town's people must pull together

Pulling together.  
That's what a town has to do to survive these days.  
It's not always easy.  
In a town where everyone knows everyone else, some people are going to get along. Others may not. That's normal  
In a city, there are plenty of opportunities for everyone. A businessman on one side of a busy street may not even know the shop owners on the other side. Maybe they belong to different clubs, different churches, different political groups.  
Maybe they meet and the work together for the neighborhood. Maybe they have a falling out.  
Who will notice?  
Not the city.  
But Goodland is not a city. There are hardly enough of us to get everything done.  
We can't afford to carry grudges, because if we do, not much will happen.  
And here is some plain talk.  
It is time to bury the grudges of the last year or two, forget the wounds suffered in the process of changing the economic development and promotion machinery, and get things going forward.  
We are not here to rehash any of the arguments. People wanted change, in leadership, in structure, in direction. They got it.  
But change never comes without a price, and part of that price is hurt feelings, ill will and sometimes, a grudge.  
The change has come. We have three independent agencies promoting Goodland and Sherman County for economic development, business promotion and tourism. They work together, and the volunteers and staff are trying to get things moving.  
Everyone has a right to watch and judge how well they do, but the rest of us need to step aside and let them do it.  
If anyone has a grudge, get it out of your system.  
If anyone does not want to participate in the new order, sit down and let it pass.  
No sniping. No griping. No sandbagging or torpedoing.  
If the leaders have done the right thing, it'll show. And if they haven't, we'll know soon enough.  
There are not enough of us that we can afford to fight and bicker. A city can afford that, maybe, but a small town cannot.  
We have lived through one of the toughest times in this area since the 1930s, certainly the toughest since the '80s. Better times are coming.  
We need to be ready for them, united and doing our best to make the next decade and the next century a little better than the last. —  
Steve Haynes

## where to write

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**U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran**, 1519 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 225-2715  
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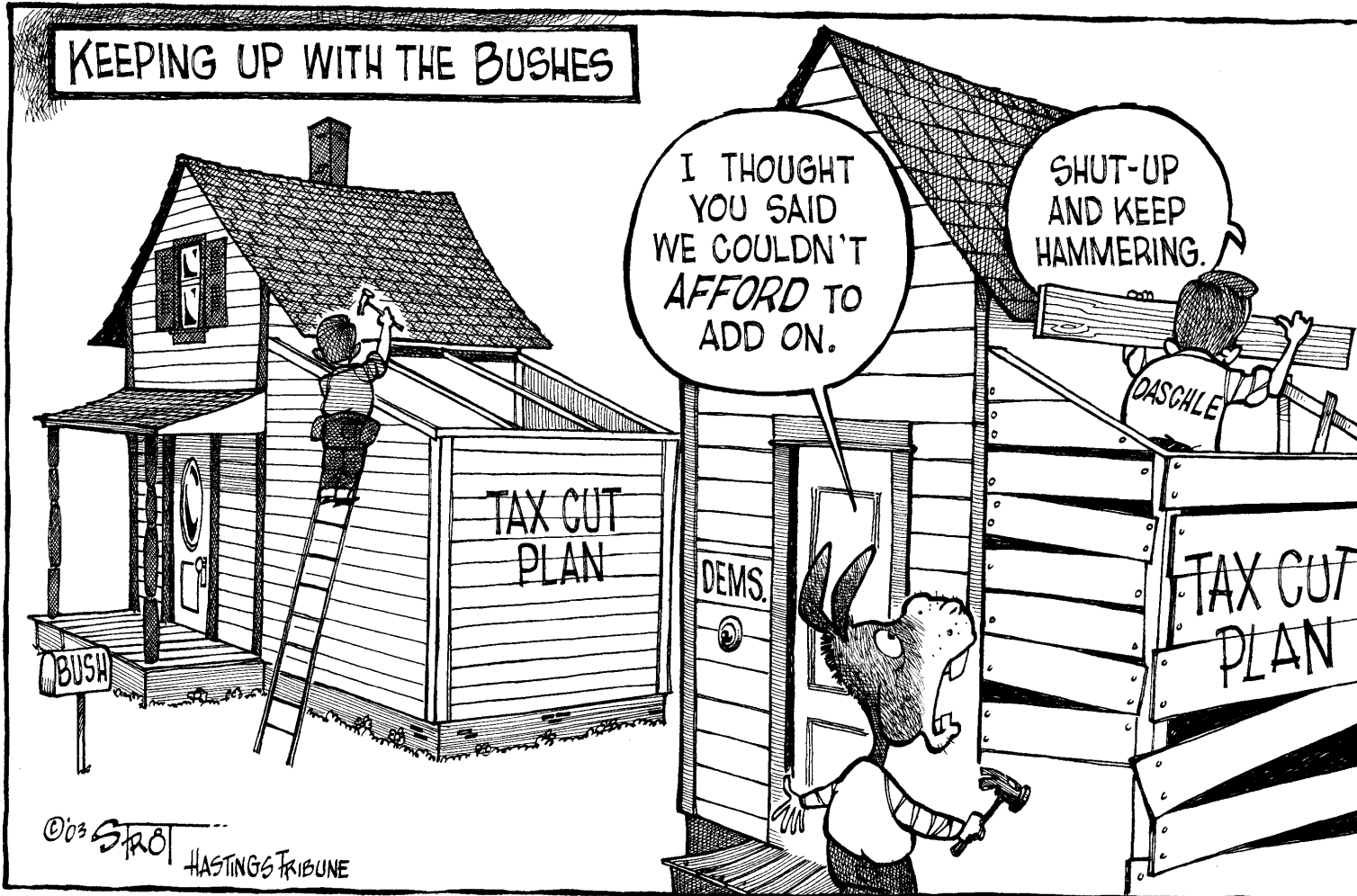
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# Turtle rescued from Colby Main street

He looked at us were bright red eyes, blinked and withdrew.  
I took a different route leaving Colby last week. Instead of heading straight east, I went down the road toward I-70. That way I could get a Coke before leaving town.  
Then I turned down some residential streets and finally found myself back downtown. That's when I saw him — in the middle of the street in downtown Colby.  
I've rescued innumerable box turtles from the highways and byways of this fair state, and a few others, but this was the first time I'd rescued one sitting in the middle of a downtown street.  
Not really knowing what else to do, I put him on floor of the passenger's side seat and took off for Oberlin.  
The turtle may have been tucked away as he sat awaiting destruction in Colby, but he was a



**cynthia haynes**  
● open season

lot more active in my car. He eventually made it from the front seat to the back seat and I could hear him scratching around back there for the entire 50-minute drive home.  
In Oberlin, I put him on the lawn while I contemplated finding a box to put him in until we could find a good place in the country.  
I was distracted by weeds in the garden, and when I turned around, the turtle was gone!  
But not far, and not without sentries. Our three cats took turns following the feisty little fellow around the yard. When the felines got tired of the game, the neighbor's cat came over

to see what all the fuss was about.  
We eventually took Mr. Turtle to the country. The last we saw of him, he was headed for a tall wheat field. I just hope he's smart enough to stay out of the way of the combines.  
After releasing the turtle, Steve, the dog and I went for a walk along a road. The road dips down to a bridge over the creek. As we started down, a whitetail deer stepped out of the grass and walked to the middle of the road. We all three froze and just watched her as she looked at us and then started for us to see what strange creatures we were.  
A noise from a nearby field eventually startled her, and she took off the other way, her white flag raised high for us to follow. Even the dog seemed to enjoy the show.  
It was a good day for a drive and a good day for a walk.

# Outlaws appreciate community support

To the Editor:  
I'm writing to thank the community for supporting our baseball program. This spring, a ball team called "The Outlaws" formed because the high schools in St. Francis and Goodland did not offer baseball, and there were several young men interested in playing.  
Several people said it wouldn't work, we wouldn't find games, it would never work to put kids from two schools together, and who would coach?  
Well, it did work! We played 14 games. Our record was 11-3. We played as one team, one family.  
There were 13 young men on our team, two from St. Francis. I am very proud of those young men. They represented this community well, both on the field and off  
What did we do for a coach? We borrowed Bud Rice. I cannot say enough about Bud, nor can I ever thank him enough. This is a man who truly knows and loves the game of baseball, loves working with young men, and gives 110 percent of himself. He not only taught them a lot about baseball, but also about life.  
I would like to thank John Dautel for being the assistant coach and Steve Alander for keeping the scorebook. I would also like to thank the families (especially Bud's) for their sacrifices. I would like to thank the school and their staff for allowing the students to participate, and the community for their support.  
Liz West  
Manager of the Outlaws

To the Editor:  
I am a writer and English professor now living in San Francisco.  
I grew up in Kansas, including two years in Goodland (around 1961-62).  
I'm now working on a book about Kansas, and about my family's years there, and am planning a trip to Goodland at the end of June.  
I visited briefly last fall, and would now love a chance to talk to anyone who may have known my parents, Ralph and Beverly Seeley;



**from our readers**  
● to the editor

my father worked for the radio station, and my mother taught school (at Ruleton, I think). We lived at 1307 Center Street (I know the house is no longer there), and my sister Tara and I attended school in Goodland. My kindergarten teacher was Mrs. Little.  
I would also love to talk to anyone who has lived in Goodland for a long time, to get an idea of what the town was like when we lived there. If any of your readers would be willing to help me with my project and talk with me on June 30 and July 1, I would love to hear from them. I am happy to correspond by e-mail or regular mail.  
I have very happy memories of Goodland, and look forward to visiting there again.  
Tracy Seeley  
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To the Editor:  
A bronze plaque commemorating the July 1, 1867, death of a small detachment of 2nd Cavalry troopers and their Lakota scout Red Bead, will be dedicated at 11 a.m. July 25, in the old chapel at Fort Leavenworth.  
After a long process of fundraising and obtaining permission from fort officials, the plaque was ordered and is now complete, according to frontier history enthusiast Don Fisk of Topeka.  
Fisk got the idea while visiting the old post chapel.  
"The walls are covered with fascinating plaques commemorating other Indian Wars engagements, from Little Big Horn to smaller battles. The biggest hurdle was convincing the

officials that the plaque was appropriate, since the troopers from the other battles had been stationed at Fort Leavenworth at some time. I felt that since the event had occurred in Kansas, involved George Custer, and the troopers are buried in the Fort Leavenworth cemetery, it certainly was appropriate."  
Lt. Lyman S. Kidder, 11 troopers, and the Lakota scout were killed in action by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians on Beaver Creek, a few miles northeast of present-day Goodland.  
Kidder's detachment had been sent with dispatches for Lt. Col. George Custer, whose column was in the field. Traveling at night to avoid hostiles, Kidder's party missed Custer's trail. It was discovered by a large war party while resting in the day and after a running fight, were all killed.  
Custer and his troopers found the mutilated bodies about 10 days later. It was Custer's first exposure to the horrors of Indian warfare.  
Refreshments will be served afterward. The public is encouraged to attend.  
Marilyn Cooper  
Goodland

## Letter Policy

The Goodland Star-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 address and phone numbers, by e-mail to: [star-news@nwkanssas.com](mailto:star-news@nwkanssas.com).

## garfield

