

from our viewpoint...

## Where do those angry people live?

The question asked in the headline is easy to explain: They live inside television sets that busy themselves with trying to fill 24-hour news space, and really aren't very good at it.

They are the **angry** people.  
Yes, we are talking about MSNBC, FOX News and to some extent CNN. They must have to undergo an **angry** exam before they are hired on. During the presidential campaign last year, the word was "liar" — you know, he lied, she lied, they lied, everybody lied about everything. Now, everybody's **angry** — in their eyes!

If you keep pounding something into someone's head long enough, you will eventually convince them.

This is not so say there are no unhappy people; there are, especially those who are without work and are having difficulty finding something that'll help them keep food on the family table. The unemployed stands at 10 percent; it's been much higher in some years past, but still 10 percent isn't acceptable.

But are all of these unemployed people **angry**, as we are being spoon fed to believe? No. There is a difference between disappointed and **angry**. The people we know personally who are job hunting are disappointed their jobs were eliminated during the fading years of the Bush administration and carried on by the Obama administration.

We fear in their quest to continue pounding the word "**angry**" into our heads, the television news crews, mostly, will continue to find the **angry** people and lure them before their cameras. That gives us the perception we are all **angry**.

But there is a solution we tried with success. Dump those three misdirected, **angry** channels. Surf around for alternatives, and there are many. But if you are going to depend on Keith Olbermann and Rachel Maddow and Dylan Rattinger and Bill O'Reilly and Sean Hannity and Greta VanSustern, and that ilk, to give you a square meal, forget it. Ain't gonna' happen.

On a personal note, in January of 1989 I became unemployed. The newspaper I had edited and dearly loved for nearly 24 years — *The Goodland Daily News* — was sold and the new owners saw no further need for my services.

One of my sons was a junior at Goodland High School and the other was a freshman at Fort Hays State University. And I was jobless.

**Angry?** No, that's not my style. Hurt? Yes. But when you have friends, such as I had who helped me along while I searched for a full time job, that's what counted — not those who turned me away at the door. — *Tom Dreiling*

### 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@nwkansas.com>.

## The Goodland Star-News

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Incorporating:

## The Goodland Daily News

1932-2003

### 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



## Laws and sausages

By John Crabtree

Center for Rural Affairs

It's an old joke — laws and sausages are two things no one should ever see made.

The health care debate has given Americans a view of Congress that is roughly the equivalent of an all-access pass to an Oscar Meyer hot dog factory. Unprincipled partisanship, capitulation to the health insurance industry, political expediency and inside baseball have left most Americans as disillusioned with the legislative process as they are frustrated with the dysfunction of their health care system.

After all the posturing and political rhetoric it seems necessary to remember why we have labored so diligently to reform health care. The answer is simple; allowing current health insurance and cost-shifting trends to continue, unchecked by reform, will severely impact



### from other pens

- commentary

people across America, rural Americans in particular.

Center for Rural Affairs research reveals that by 2019 approximately one in four rural Americans will be uninsured. In rural communities with fewer than 2,500 residents, absent reform, the uninsured will number nearly one in three.

Shifting costs from the uninsured to those with insurance will more than double, costing the average household, conservatively, \$1,206 annually. And the average rural household will

## Bring back the old television listings

To the Editor:

One of the reasons I like taking the Star-News is because of the television programming you carried in your paper.

However, the last two papers you have gone to a different printing and it is terrible. It is printed so small I can hardly see it and it certainly doesn't have as good of information about the programs and names of movies and no station numbers such as NBC 8 or CBS 11.

So I was wondering if you could go back to using what you have had in the past? It was certainly easier to read than this new printing.



### from our readers

- to the editor

Nadine Kammer  
Brewster

*Editor's note: I am sorry, but because of the cost of the former television listing we had to make a decision to either go with the less costly one we are running or to drop the listings all together.*

## Thumbs up to a couple of local groups

**Thumbs Up** to the Sherman County Historical Society's Book Committee, for a job well done on the Fourth Volume of the history of the county and its families, under the ongoing title, "They Came to Stay." (td); to the Goodland High School Scholars Bowl Team, for winning the league title. (td); and to "you know who you are, for helping this old lady keep from blowing away Monday while trying to get out of her car!" (email request).

-td-

After reading Tom's (Betz) column in Tuesday's paper about their cat Sammie, I concluded that Tom needs to order the video, "When the Cat's Talking...Listen."

-td-

The following suggestion came in by email: "How about turning the National Guard Armory into the largest Flea Market in all of Kansas. That would certainly increase the air traffic at the airport, which would be a plus, in addition to vehicle traffic from all over. Ever go to a flea market in Denver?"

-td-

A strange thing happened to Northwest Kansas a few days ago. It was ignored by one of it's own, in this case Republican Rob Wasinger, who is seeking the First Congressional District seat currently held by Rep. Jerry Moran.

The strange part of this is Wasinger makes it a point to emphasize in news releases he is a Hays native. And when he unveiled his 19-member Pro-Life Leadership Team last week, well, nobody from Hays, nor Ellis County, ditto all of Northwest Kansas, made the list. Those 19 individuals, by the way, are from 18 communities with Hutchinson being the home of 9 of them. He did get as close to Northwest Kansas as Great Bend. Even Dodge City in far Southwest Kansas made the roster.

It's not clear what criteria was used to make the selections. But it was apparent that being a resident of Hutchinson helped — a lot! The smart candidate would have had 19 members from 19 different counties. The smart candi-



### tom dreiling

- time out with td

date would not have snubbed his home territory — the great Northwest! And too, voters from this territory just might remember that when they vote in the August primary.

It's strange what people remember when they cast their ballot.

-td-

Little Kenny was sitting next to his mother in church one fine Sunday morning, and after his dad, the minister finished his sermon, the plate was passed among the congregation. As it moved through Kenny's pew, he looked at it very closely, then tugged at his mother's arm and whispered, "Maybe we can go to McDonald's."

-td-

I was watching television Tuesday morning of this week and they were talking about the stimulus plan and how many jobs it created and how much it actually cost. Even the moderator of the show, and his guests, weren't

## where to write

**U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts**, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774; web address — [roberts.senate.gov](http://roberts.senate.gov)

**U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback**, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-6521; web e-mail address — [brownback.senate.gov/CMEmail.me](mailto:brownback.senate.gov/CMEmail.me)

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in agreement on any figure. Of course when you begin tossing around billions and billions of dollars the thought cripples the brain. Job creation covered a range of from 500,000 jobs up to 2 million. That's quite a spread. And the cost ranged from \$787 billion to \$815 billion! And to think the so-called numbers expert who advises Vice President Joe Biden, didn't know for sure what the number of jobs were, so he said 2 million. Of course that was no surprise. I think overall we're in deeper than any of us realizes.

-td-

How can you get something in **Thumbs Up**? It's as easy as eating my favorite pie — custard! If you have a computer, email me at [tad1@st-tel.net](mailto:tad1@st-tel.net), if not, call me at either 890-2475 (my home) or 899-2338 (the newspaper office). Thanks for your interest.

-td-

Have a good evening! And when you arrive at the house of worship of your choice this weekend, participate in S-P-G — song, prayer, giving. ([tad1@st-tel.net](mailto:tad1@st-tel.net))