

from another viewpoint...

I-70 signs promote community history

We are always aware of signs along our nation’s highways that promote a community’s achievements, attractions or historic landmarks.

One example are signs along Interstate-70 that proclaim: Russell, Kansas, Home of United States Sentors Bob Dole and Arlen Specter.

Another would be billboards proclaiming: Goodland Home of America’s First Helicopter.

Or: Abilene, Home of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library.

Colby played in the big arena and probably is overlooking a golden opportunity. At any given time, only 100 people out of 290 million serve in the most powerful legislative body on the face of the earth, and one of Colby’s very own held a seat in that special place.

We are talking about the United States Senate. And we are talking about Sen. Sheila Frahm. And it would make historical sense that her name appear on signs along the most traveled interstate in the country — I-70.

The traveling public — from outside and inside the state — could be aware of that historic fact via signs that would read: Colby, Home of United States Sen. Sheila Frahm.

Granted, she is “former,” but so is Mr. Dole. But that didn’t keep Russell from taking the bull by the horns, and putting those signs out there for the world to see.

We have to think out of the box. There are few — very few — towns in our state that can boast of having one of their very own sit in the chamber of the United States Senate.

If we think out of the box, we should be thinking of placing materials about our Senator in our Visitor’s Center, if it’s not already there.

A lot of what people know about any given place is by word of mouth. They see it on a sign or they see it when they stretch their legs at a visitor’s center. Then they tell their family and their friends.

When you are promoting your town, you go after the big fish. The big prize.

(On a personal note ... When I moved to Colby from Sheridan, Wyo., the Frahms were, for a time, my neighbors. Later that summer, friends from Wyoming stopped overnight. After dinner we toured the town. They were impressed with many things about Colby.

When we got back to my place, they were curious as to who my neighbors were. I told them who lived in my complex and mentioned the fact that Mrs. Frahm had served in the U.S. Senate. They thought that was especially interesting and took note of that fact.

They said they knew of Sen. Bob Dole. I told them Mrs. Frahm was picked to succeed Dole when he left the Senate to devote his time and energies to his presidential bid. I often wondered why the community never took advantage of that fact. It took strangers to our town to bring that message home.) — Tom “TD” Dreiling, Colby Free Press



Language provides strange combinations

I don’t know about you, but I can’t resist writing one more column about English- language quirks.

Between our disappearing hyphens and being politically correct, we get some strange combinations.

For instance: How do you pronounce “gravely”? Is it grave-ly or did the author mean gravely? Who knows?

Doesn’t “dolloke” just scream for a hyphen? And how about “afterimage” (on a lens)?

I love this one: If an object is used, it is “pre-enjoyed.”

Some one wrote about people at a social gathering as “partyers.” Why wouldn’t it be “partiers,” since if you went to a party, you would have “partied.” (No wonder the English language is difficult to learn.)

Sometimes people just make up words to fit the occasion - or in this case a commercial: Pizza that is “dipanomically-designed for dipping.”

Then how about these descriptions:

In a highlight preview for a new broadcast — “The man is accused of decapitating a woman’s head.” (Gruesome, yes, but also redundant.)

From a news broadcast: A man was described as an “Ex-murderer.” I thought you either were one or were not one. How do you get to be an “ex”?

From the Wichita Eagle, Wed, 21 Aug: “A



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woman who died after being strangled in her home Monday had canceled a protection of abuse order against the man accused of killing her just 10 days before her death.” What?

When did “settle” become a noun? From Wichita Eagle 17 Sept “The settle includes \$300,000 for restitution and \$100,000 in penalties and fees.”

Then there are words we don’t use as often as a different form of them: dynast, licit, furl.

Sue Grafton who writes the Alphabet Mysteries doesn’t capitalize the deity when it is as swear word — as in “god only knows” or “for god’s sake”. I kind of like that idea!

Here are some words I read recently that I seldom (if ever) hear: gimcracks, vanillish, logy, ignorables, methodology or hangtag (on a gift). Or how about: preprandial (applying to or suitable to the time just before dinner), tragicomic, delimit (?), malediction.

Then there are life’s unanswered questions, like these from e-mails:

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

If pro is the opposite of con, is progress the opposite of Congress?

If the #2 pencil is the most popular, why’s it still #2?

If the cops arrest a mime, do they have to tell him he has the right to remain silent?

If the Energizer Bunny attacks someone, is it charged with battery?

If you spend your day doing nothing, how do you know when you’re done?

Should vegetarians eat animal crackers?

Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?

Why are there Braille signs on drive-up ATMs?

Life’s Unanswered Questions, Bored.com/questions.htm. Retrieved January 8, 2002.

If money doesn’t grow on trees then why do banks have branches?

What did cured ham actually have?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Enough nonsense. I’ll close with some words of wisdom from Sutter’s Cross by W. Dale Cramer — “All I ever had to do was let go. It’s true, what the Bible says, that you got to lose your life to find it, gotta let go of the handlebars.”

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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

Student thanks businesses for scholarship

To the Editor:

I was recently awarded *The Goodland Star News* Student of the Week Scholarship, and I wanted to write to thank you for the generous support that made this scholarship possible.

My name is Robert Antony Benavides. I graduated from Goodland High School on May 21.

My major is undecided. I plan on earning my Associate’s Degree in science while I am at Garden City Community College.

My track and field season just finished up. I played football. I am in our Letterman’s Club, which is called G-Club. I am a volunteer for our local Red Cross organization, and work at Pizza Hut.

My career goals are not clear. I would like to have a job in the science field. I would love a job in which I could move around and meet people from all over the world. I have always loved to meet new people and learn about them.

This scholarship is very important to me right now. My father lost his job a few weeks ago, so our family is going through some economic hardships at the moment. My father brought in the majority of my family’s income, so it has been tough. This scholarship will help



from our
readers

• to the editor

my family and me tremendously.

I wrote this letter to let you know how much this scholarship means to my family and me. It will help us all out and I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. It is nice to see there are people out there who are willing to help students like me. Thanks again.

Robert Antony Benavides
Goodland

To the Editor

During the last year, the Sherman County

where to write

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