

Granddaughter on the move

Granddaughter Alexandria went to church camp two weeks ago. Angelia left Sunday for her week away, and Chantelle is "on deck" waiting her turn next Sunday.

I think it does children so much good to have a time that is just theirs. It's important for them to make friends on their own. Angelia is 13 and a very self-confident young lady in most areas, but when it came to going to camp, she had some misgivings. "Grandma, I won't know anybody there."

Remembering how I felt going away to my first camp, I devised a plan to introduce her to some other girls going to camp. The Saturday night before they were to leave, I made some phone calls and in short order, we had a pizza party organized.

It didn't take long before the girls were talking and sharing stories about school like they had known each other for years. The next day, waiting to load the bus, I took their picture. They struck their "Rockette" pose and had their arms around each others' necks like kids always do when they're acting goofy for pictures.



Out Back

By Carolyn Sue Kelley-Plotts
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Of course, there were boys going, too, a fact that was not lost on the girls. And, I'm not too old to notice that the boys were being pretty observant themselves. At this age, it's amusing how differently the two genders handle the same situation. Boys get quiet, shove their hands in their pockets and kind of shuffle along. Girls, on the other hand, get giggly, pushy and louder. How it all ever works is a miracle. But, somehow, it does.

—ob—
Driving to town the other day, Jim said, "This rain has just ruined that little corn."

"Are you nuts?" I asked in my most demure manner.

"Well, look at it," he said, "It's gone and made big corn out of it."

It's true. The corn has, literally, shot up, and seemingly overnight. I would imagine if you had the patience to sit and watch a single corn stalk for a day, you could actually see it grow. Pastures are green, farm ponds are filling up, terraces stand full, lawns don't need much watering, and farmers seem to have a little bounce in their step again.

It's too late for the wheat, of course, but the moisture will help the corn, milo and alfalfa. Too soon to say the drought has been broken, but nobody would give a drop back.

—ob—
When my mother died, I heard from more than one person that the trait they most admired in her was that she never said anything negative about anyone. I was taking a

little break this morning and ran across an excerpt from her book that spells out her philosophy. She wrote this Oct. 16, 1941:

"A lot of people spend a lot of time discussing the faults of the rest of the people. I imagine almost any one of you, if you will just stop and think, will realize that you have heard something not quite complimentary about every single person you know.

"It's a shame, instead of discussing the shade of hair Mrs. Whatshername is wearing now, we don't just speak of the beautiful fancy-work she does.

"Instead of telling how Mr. Doe, from over north, spends all he makes and then some, and never keeps his harness repaired, or takes such poor care of his tools, we might remark that he thinks the world of his children, and carries the wash water for his wife. I think we're all of us overworked, overtired, overnervous, and oversensitive. We're forever letting little things worry us, and the trouble is, we're all so alike we can't see that."

I needed to be reminded of that. Thanks, Mom.

Young candidate would be a good bet

To the Editor:

For the past several months, I have been following the 40th district Senate campaigns and have paid close attention to all of the candidates, one in particular.

As you may recall, a young man from Goodland, Dan Rasure, filed for candidacy in January and has been hitting the campaign trail hard since then. I have been receiving his e-mail newsletter since February, and every week I have been pleased with his research into a subject and his broad range of issues. I think that Mr. Rasure is the right choice in this election.

His age, and the lack of life experience that comes with youth, have been called into question. I would like to express my opinion on this issue. I have met him on numerous occasions and have been very impressed with his presence and his attitude, and I can tell you one thing for certain—you forget how old (or young) he is once you have met him. We should all have that quality.

His age does not matter as much as his willingness to become a pub-

Letters to the Editor

lic servant. I believe Dan when he says that he is committed to northwest Kansas. He has shown this because he was willing to put his name on the ballot in January, long before anyone else filed for the position.

I have also been impressed because of how hard he has been working for the last six months. When I talked to him last, he said that he had traveled over 26,000 miles to make it to every town in the 18-county district and meet as many people as possible. I think that only his youth

would allow him that kind of energy and drive. We need someone like that to represent us. We always say we need good representation in Topeka, and now we have the chance to have that.

If you choose not to vote for Dan Rasure because of his age, I urge you to reconsider. I have met him and talked to him about many things, political and non-political, and he is at ease discussing anything. He always answers questions with respect and tact, which is something I

think Topeka should have.

And he does have more experience in politics, and life, than a person would think. I was surprised to learn that he spent all of his youth working in his family lumber business and spent nearly a year in Washington working for Sen. Sam Brownback and Rep. Jerry Moran.

He does have experience. Now we have the chance to give him some more, and the kind that will go on to benefit all of us.

Charlie Corcoran, Oberlin

Reader happy

To the Editor:

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Walter Moore
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