

# Legislative News

By Ward Cassidy  
120th State Representative



Cassidy

Less than two weeks to the primary election. In my last article, I wanted to express the idea that everyone should vote and that everyone should take the time to study the issues. It is not always easy to find out just which candidate best meets your expectations for repre-

sentation. A Senate race for the 4th district is a great example of why people just hate election time. It should be against the law to have commercials that are misleading and not truthful. If you're a Republican, in Kansas, you should have to do more than just be critical of Obama Care.

Politics is a machine, and it is all about money. It is also about getting support from political groups to get that money. When I first ran for office, four years ago, most of the money I received to campaign came from family, friends, my own pocket, and constituents of the 120th district. Newspaper ads, radio ads, signs, and postcards can add up quickly to several thousand dollars. I talked with a friend who is running a primary, in Johnson County, and they have spent over \$12,000 so far this year. In the last House election, there were candidates spending \$50,000 to get elected. That is a lot of money for an \$88 a day job. You also get a \$123 dollar a day stipend for food and lodging and that varies for how far you live from Topeka. I know it was not their own money they were spending.

I just read the Salina paper, and a group called Kansans for Liberty has decided that several House members are not fit for reelection. They have taken it upon themselves to deliver fliers door to door describing the candidate faults. I have met the leader of this organization, as he was at the Capitol many days, trying to influence

legislation. Why anyone gives them a thought is beyond me. They try to intimidate to get your vote. I always thought if they were against someone, I would vote for whom they were against! Also, I suspect that there are very few members of this so-called political action group. I have met a political action group that only has one member, and he is constantly in the Capitol trying to convince legislators to think like him.

If you're an incumbent legislator, you have access to mailing lists of everyone who voted in your district—how many are registered Republicans, Democrats, and Independents and if they voted in the last election. In my first election, I had to pay to get some of that information, and it cost \$2,000 to send-out a small post card. You have to list on the post card who paid for the advertisement. I have seen three large postcards, sent out in a week, which were not paid-for by the candidate. They were paid-for by a group that either likes the candidate's philosophy, hopes to convince him to think like them, or really doesn't like the other candidate. The comments do not have to be truthful; the only requirement is that there is some group name who sent the post card. Senator Ostmeyer was the recipient of such dirty tactics in the last election.

An interesting thing to do is to go to the Kansas Ethics Commission website and check where the candidate's financial support has come from. I believe almost every

organization has a lobbyist in Topeka. Many of them have become my trusted friends, who always supplied good information and were never forceful or intimidating. The people they represented provided thousands of dollars to legislators. If I trusted the lobbyist, and the check they sent was from a group I wanted to get accurate information from, I gladly accepted it. I also sent more than one check back.

Anyone who runs for any office or board or is a leader in an organization puts themselves out there for criticism. We have great leaders in all of our communities. We also have many coffee shop experts who have never put themselves out there. Identify people you know and whose judgment you trust; if you are not certain whom to vote for, ask them. Then take the time to vote. If you don't, you have no reason to complain.



Remember to vote in the primaries Tuesday, Aug. 5!!

# Cowboy poet will perform at fair

Baxter Black will entertain at the Cheyenne County Fair on Thursday, Aug. 7. The show starts at 7 p.m. in front of the grandstand. Tickets can be purchased on line, [www.cheyenneksfair.com/grand-stands.html](http://www.cheyenneksfair.com/grand-stands.html); or contact Dick Bursch, 785-821-0492; or purchased at the gate.

Baxter Black is a cowboy poet, former large animal veterinarian and entertainer of the agricultural masses. As he puts it, "he has a narrow following, but it's deep!" For over 25 years he has traveled the U.S. and Canada, scattering his wit and left-handed observations to folks looking for a bright spot in their day.

When asked how many books he has written, he quotes the late Franklin Delano Roosevelt, "Altogether, too many." Over one million books and audios sold, a weekly column, a weekly radio program, a weekly television program...there's no place to hide if you live in the country!

He has poked his head above the horizon long enough to attract urban followers (gentiles, he calls them), through National Public Radio, public television, Johnny Carson's Tonight Show, Random

House and USA Today. Baxter says his life has been blessed, "I like what I do. I have a great home to come home to, a couple good horses, a few cows, a good dog, and friends everywhere I go. I'm square with God and I make a living entertaining people I care about."

"My audience is my inspiration," he says, "Every cowboy, rancher, vet, farmer, feed salesman, ag teacher, cowman and rodeo hand has a story to tell, and they tell it to me. I Baxterize it and tell it back to 'em! It doesn't seem fair, does it?"

If you look around, you're not more than one or two degrees of separation from his omni-cowboy presence! He's kinda like a good pair of boots, a faithful cowdog, or even the flu. Try him out, he's contagious!

You can find him in Benson, Arizona at [baxterblack.com](http://baxterblack.com). He's the real thing. Because, as he says, "You can't be what you aren't!"

Local sponsors for Black visiting to the fair are The Bank, Bankwest, Western State Bank, First National Bank, Republican Valley Veterinary Clinic and Yost Farm Supply and Yost Ford.

# Cheylin swim team does well

By Mary Anne Orten

This year was a good year for the Cheylin swim team. The complete team of five qualified to swim at the championship meet. On Saturday July 19, the Cheylin team, traveled to Lexington, Neb., for the Plains Tsunami Swim League champion swim meet.

Other teams who competed at this meet were from: Alma, Neb., Arapahoe, Neb., Benkelman, Neb., Cambridge, Neb., Elwood, Neb., Elm Creek, Neb., Eustis/Farnam, Neb., Franklin, Neb., Gothenburg, Neb., Holdrege, Neb., Imperial, Neb., Indianola, Neb., Lexington, Neb., McCook, Neb., Minden, Neb., Perkins County, Neb., Southern Valley, Neb., Phillipsburg, Atwood, Bird City and St. Francis.

John Serrano competed in the 25 meter butterfly, 50 meter freestyle, 25 meter freestyle and 25 meter backstroke. He placed fifth in the 25 meter butterfly, with a time of 30.49 seconds, seventh in the 50 meter freestyle with a time of 45.03 seconds, and twelfth in the 25 meter freestyle with a time of 20.68 seconds. Isabelle Gabaldon competed in the 50 meter freestyle placing sixteenth with a time of 51.19 seconds. Isabelle Gabaldon, Briana Vandike, Brooke Porubsky, and Emily Serrano competed in the medley and freestyle relays placing eighth in the medley relay with a time of 117.25 seconds and 11th, in the freestyle relay with a time of 103.13 seconds.

## EXPERIENCE

It's about QUALITY, not quantity  
**Adam W. Smith**

Proven Leader at local, regional, & state level

- Elected representative to over 15 organizations
- Elected executive board of directors to 8 organizations
- Elected President/Chairman to 3 local and 2 statewide organizations

Adam has successfully fought for rural communities against:

- Forced consolidation of local governments, schools, and court systems
- Legislative "sweeps" of Oil and Gas Depletion Fund money, worth over \$14 million in 2013. *That is money the local taxpayers won't have to pay!*
- Massive property tax exemptions for large manufacturing corporations

Adam is a proven responsible conservative who has REDUCED his county's mill levy by over 14.5 mills in just 4 years, in spite of...

- Progressively taking on three major infrastructure projects
- A voter-approved bond issue that alone added over 8 mills!
- Reductions in state and federal funding for health, roads and bridges, & more!

★ Please vote Adam W. Smith for State Representative ★

"I would be honored to serve the people of northwest Kansas!"

[www.SmithForKansas.com](http://www.SmithForKansas.com) Paid for by Smith For Kansas, Christine Smith, Treasurer



## Business Directory

To list your business, call Tim at 785-332-3162

BECKMAN CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING  
(785) 626-4548  
We Go That Extra Mile

Republican Valley  
**INAPA AUTO PARTS**  
100 E. Washington St.  
St. Francis • 785-332-2138  
Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
Saturday 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Cheyenne Feed Yard, LLC

785 Rd. 18 • St. Francis, Kansas 67756  
Joe Fortin, Mgr. 785-332-3557 Office • 785-332-4843 Cell

**RAILE HARVESTING**

Looking for Corn, Milo and Beans to harvest this fall.

- ✓ John Deere 9770 combine
- ✓ 12 row corn head & flex head available along with all supporting equipment

Cody Raile 785-332-6089 or Matt Raile 785-332-8399

# Dundy County Hospital's HEALTH FAIR

General Health Panel offered for a discounted price of \$40.00  
PSA is an extra \$10.00.  
Valued at more than \$400

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT  
308-423-2204

DCH personnel will be available in your community as follows:

- Benkelman, Aug. 5, Aug. 6 & Aug. 12 at DCH (Starting at 6 am MST)
  - Stratton, Aug 13 at the Stratton Clinic (6-10 am CST)
  - Haigler, Aug 7- Haigler Ambulance Barn (6-10 am MST)
- All times listed are local times.

- Due to the new Electronic Medical Record system, we are requesting that you call 423-2204 at least two days prior for an appointment.
- Payment will be collected at the time you come in for your testing. This will not and may not be billed to your insurance.

For the accuracy of the test, you will need to be fasting (nothing to eat or drink except water) for 12 hours. Please call Dundy County Hospital at 308-423-2204 ext 229 if you have questions.

Dundy County Hospital  
"Caring For Our Community"  
1313 North Cheyenne Street, Benkelman, NE  
Quality Healthcare  
Website: [bwtelcom.net/dch](http://bwtelcom.net/dch)

# Baxter Black is coming to the Cheyenne County Fair

Thursday, Aug. 7

7 p.m.  
Fairgrounds grandstand  
St. Francis  
Admission:

\$15

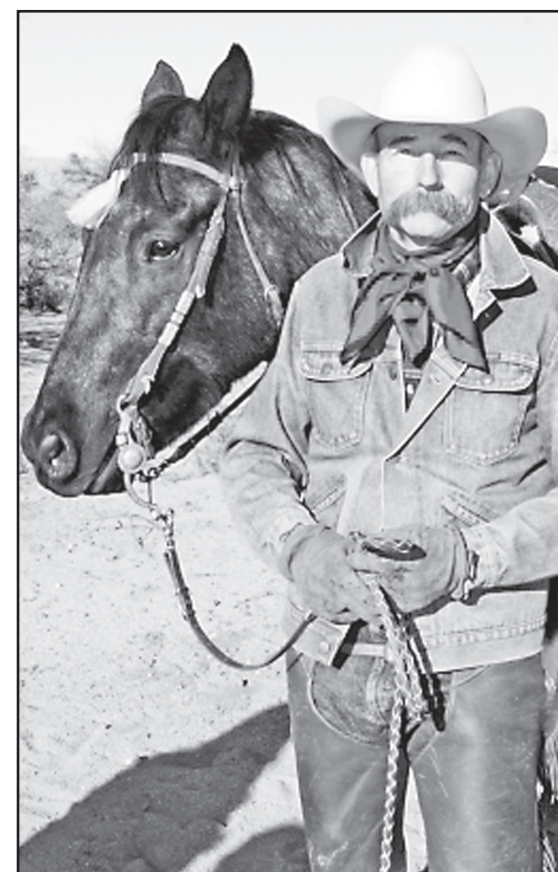
Three ways to purchase tickets for Baxter Black  
1) Buy tickets online  
Save time in line, purchase advanced tickets with debit or credit card.

([www.cheyenneksfair.com/grand-stands.html](http://www.cheyenneksfair.com/grand-stands.html))

2) Contact Dick Bursch (785-821-0492)

3) Purchase at the Gate

Local Sponsors for Baxter Black: The Bank, Bankwest, Western State Bank, First National Bank, Republican Valley Veterinary Clinic, Yost Farm Supply & Yost Ford



Nationally known, Baxter Black is an American cowboy, poet, philosopher and former veterinarian.