

Republican party must change its ways or die

Which way should the Republican Party go? The answer is pretty simple. If it wants to wither and die, it can continue down the road to becoming a party for xenophobic white men who fear immigrants and want no truck with anyone who's not of direct northern European descent.

If it wants to live, it will have to embrace the future America, which will be a far more diverse, more fragmented and more interesting society.

The demographics of America today, let alone those expected for America tomorrow, won't allow the GOP to remain stuck in the grip of an anti-immigration, anti-immigrant frenzy. It can't focus on the realm of white-faced suits, because it won't be just white Americans running the show.

Debate rages within the party. Some claim change is the only way to survive. Others say allowing even more immigrants just means creating more and more Democrats to vote for the other party.

But that's crazy talk. The immigrants and minorities are here already. Their population is increasing, though many Hispanics are not yet of voting age. A party that bases its appeal in one ethnic group will not survive.

And one more thing: there's nothing wrong with immigration. It's the American way, the vaunted melting pot we all learned about in school. So get over it. Change is here.

This does not mean the party should or can abandon its principles. At its finest, the Republican Party stands for a smaller and more efficient government, more freedom for individuals and core American values, including family and life.

These are things that should be important to Americans of any race or creed. There is no reason for the GOP to abandon even one of its principles to attract voters from any group.

But first we all have to get past the idea that race or ethnic heritage are the major determining factors in selecting a set of political beliefs. That should be far from the truth.

In last year's election, the Associated Press reports, President Obama may have won largely because black Americans, women and other minorities turned out to vote for him while white Americans, uninspired by the GOP ticket, stayed home. Two years earlier, Washington insiders were saying that election was the Republicans to win - if they had a decent candidate. It was apparent even then that Mitt Romney would not rise to the challenge.

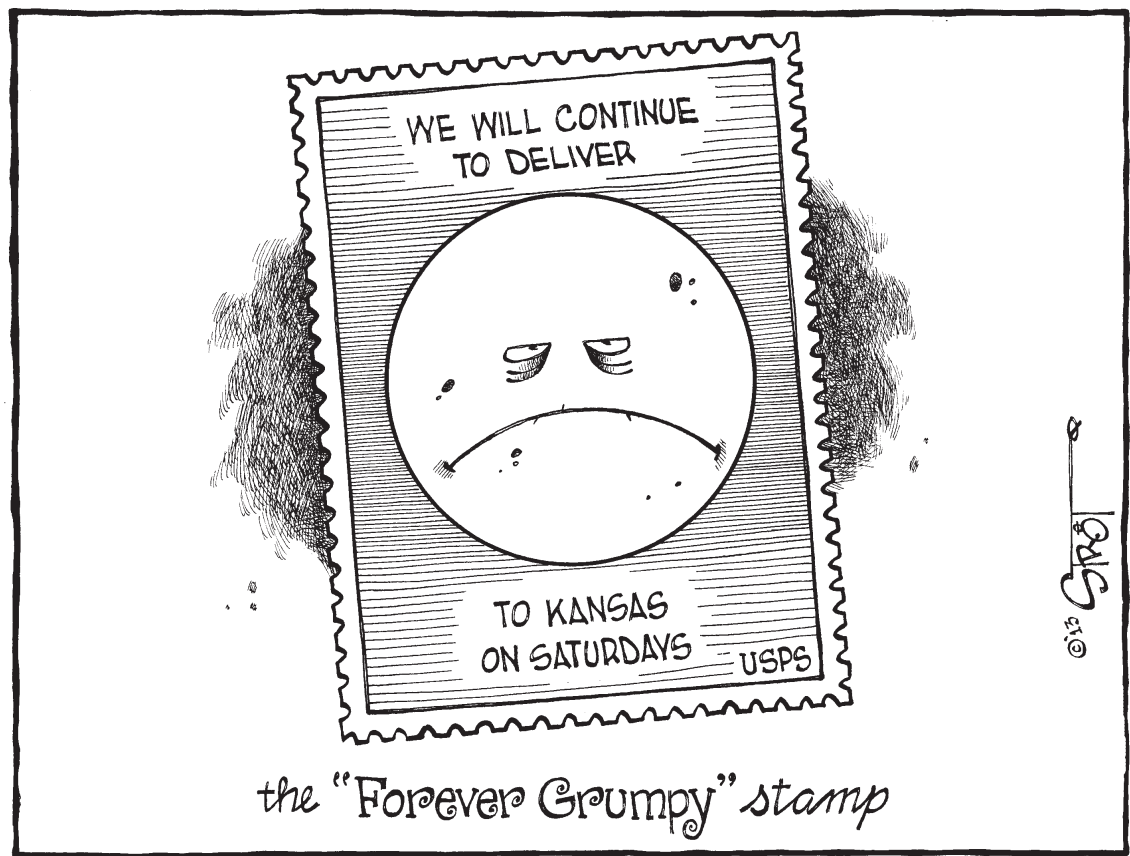
The Republicans will have to do better. Someone like the popular Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, an ethnic Cuban, would do no worse.

The party can begin by ditching the fear mongers of immigration issues and appealing to everyone, not just one ethnic group. They cannot build bridges to Hispanics by avoiding a common-sense settlement on immigration. They cannot attract minority votes without minority candidates.

The U.S. will be a far different place in this century than the last, but not necessarily a better place if the party fails and falters. Republicans should heed the calls to change and accept the realities of the 21st century.

The opportunity will not come again.

- Steve Haynes



the "Forever Grumpy" stamp

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



mccormickcasey@rocketmail.com

Have you met the Millers in Hudson, KS?

I probably should be more specific. Have you bought a bag of Hudson Cream Flour?

I doubt that the day will come when I am not surprised by another unique asset to our wonderful state. Last week it never dawned on me that the meeting I was going to with Kansas Farm Bureau in the small, central Kansas town of Hudson would focus on the Stafford County Flour Mill.

From a distance, as I traveled south from Great Bend on the black top after turning from Highway 281 onto the Hudson Road (NE 100th St.) I could see the fa-

miliar, tell tale landmark of a grain elevator. It wasn't until I got close enough to see the company name on the towers that it hit me.

The business was the dream of Gustav Krug who came to Kansas from Saxony, German in 1882. His father had worked in the milling industry in Europe and the son had to try it here. Started in 1905 the company continues to produce some of the highest quality flour in America, made from locally grown wheat.

Not only is the famous Hudson Cream Flour, with the picture of a Jersey cow on the label, made there they also send out huge supplies to Walmart for their Great

Value brand.

In addition they make a line of kosher wheat, made from barley, corn meal and even a gravy mix.

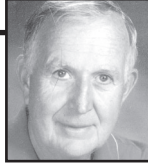
One of their main consumers is the state of West Virginia. Where biscuits are eaten at three meals a day, the self rising flour from the small town of Hudson is very much in demand.

If you are in the Great Bend area you should stop and see this impressive operation. The folks in Stafford County are anxious to show off their flour mill.

Legislative News

Guns and education

By Ward Cassidy



120th State Representative

An update on the bills sent to the Governor for signature at "turn-around." The House and Senate passed a measure addressing sovereignty concerns regarding federal agents attempting to confiscate firearms, firearms accessories, or ammunition manufactured commercially or privately and possessed in Kansas.

Originally, the bill required state and local law enforcement officers to arrest federal agents acting on orders of superiors. It was altered to block arrests and gave local and state prosecutors authority to seek court orders forcing out-of-state agents from taking Kansas-made weapons.

Both houses also agreed to a bill creating a four-year glide path to imposition of a law mandating state and municipal buildings have metal detection or trained guards at entries or lift a ban on people with conceal carry permits.

Public schools, correctional facilities, and jails would be allowed to retain policies prohibiting concealed handguns on the premises without adopting heightened security. A local school board, university chief executive or community college official could authorize licensed employees to carry a concealed handgun at work.

There were so many bills introduced pertaining to k-12 education this year it will take several articles to highlight them. Today - I will update on the Governor's Read to Succeed proposal.

The House and Senate passed HB 2140, a substantially amended version of the original intent. The bill provides that beginning in 2016-2017 school year, districts that have

a higher percentage of students scoring in the lowest achievement level on state reading assessments will have to adopt a policy for possible retention of certain students in first grade, rather than third grade as proposed by the Governor and adopted in some other states.

The bill also creates a new grant program to assist struggling readers in the early grades, a task force to study reading interventions, and a recognition program for schools demonstrating the most improve-

ment in fourth grade reading results.

Whether the bill is signed and then funded remains to be seen. It certainly has drawn attention to how important it is for young students to read and I would hope parents and schools continue to focus on reading and it's importance.

As of Monday, April 22, the Governor has signed 120 bills into law.

Reader enjoyed the music in the country

— Letter to the Editor —

Letter to the Editor:

As I sat in the grandstand at the fairground listening to Blu Simon from Omaha play last Saturday night at the RSD Awareness Festival, I thought about the fact that we were a few minutes from home, no traffic, no city bustle, looking out over the land seeing pheasant, a farmer on his tractor and open space. What a contrast

it was from the functions we attended in Denver and how much more delightful. All this while enjoying Blu Simon, who provided not only music, but entertainment. It's great to be in the country!

Hal Griffin
St. Francis

GOD SAYS
Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
John 10: 7, 9

The Saint Francis Herald

(USPS 475-960)

A Century of Service to Cheyenne County

P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050
Published each Thursday by Haynes Publishing Co., 310 W. Washington, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050. Entered as periodicals matter at the post office at St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050, and at additional offices.

Official newspaper of Cheyenne County. Member of the Kansas Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Colorado Press Association and Inland Press Association.

Subscriptions: One year \$38 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$42 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$48 elsewhere in the U.S. Foreign subscriptions, \$28 extra per year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050



Nor'West Newspapers

8:30 a.m.-noon - 1:00-5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
(785) 332-3162 Fax - (785) 332-3001
E-mail - sf.herald@nwkansas.com

STAFF

Karen Krien Editor/Publisher
Tim Burr Advertising Manager
Lezlie McCormick Production
Doug Sloper Office Manager
Margaret Bucholtz Columnist

Hangin' With Marge

By Margaret Bucholtz



margaretbucholtz@gmail.com

Before Marriage

When Kurt and I got married just about 28 years ago he told me that one thing he never wanted to do was sit in front of the TV and eat off the TV trays like his parents did. I thought that was strange because in my home we ate at a table and the thought of not eating at a table just wasn't something I was worried about.

Our family did have TV trays but they were only for a rare night snack or if we were sick we could sit our water on them.

Some of the kids were still home when we married and meals were still served at the table. Then a few years ago it happened.

I am not sure when or how it happened, but it was about the time that we put the wood burning stove in the basement, along with the TV, then it was just kind of a slow change over. I began cooking more in the basement kitchen than upstairs and soon we were going to the chicken house (no chickens,

just extra leftover furniture from the early mother-in-law era) and got a set of TV trays.

That worked for several years, but this last year it has gotten really bad. It was just too much trouble to set them up, take them down and wash them off. Next thing I knew we were sharing space on the big ottoman for our plates.

One night I realized that we had gone over the hill! It was a few months ago I was half laying and half setting on the couch, Kurt had his feet on the ottoman and he was half laying in his big chair when it hit me, there we both were sitting with our plates under our chins just scooping the food in.

Why did we have the plates under our chins? So we didn't get any drips on the furniture. Not that it saved our clothing, but the broken-down furniture at least didn't have food all over it.

In a month we hit the 28-year mark and I think we will both

promise to start eating at the table again and at least acting like we are human.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Dennis Floyd, Seattle, Wash.; Marcia Rueb, St. Francis; Western State Bank, St. Francis; Tom Raile, Cheyenne, Wyo.; K.J. Quigley, St. Francis; Tim Raile, St. Francis; Timothy Trumbo, St. Francis; Brendan Alsup, Scottsdale Ariz.; Edie Howard, Mission; Elmer Richers, Arvada, Colo.; Margaret Novak, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Chris Haugsness, Auburn; Vera Grant, Silt, Colo.; Michael Owen, Hutchinson; Rueben Schultz, St. Francis; Tony Vandike, Bird City; Carol Gamblin, St. Francis; Wade Krien, St. Francis;

<p>Church of Christ 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 9 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Carlos Ruiz Santos 1st Sunday of the month Morning Mass 8:30 am Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m. Weekday Mass 8:00 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 2nd & Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>United Methodist Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott Pastor Warren Cico Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Sunday School 10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Communion 3rd Sunday</p>	<p>St. Francis Community Church 332-3150 204 N. Quincy Street www.sfccfamily.com Pastor: David Butler Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Pottluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>
<p>Solid Rock Baptist Church 412 S. Denison Welcomes You! Pastor Allen Coon Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church 423-650-5663 • 3rd & Adams Pastor James McCurdy Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p>Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC 202 N. College Pastor Randy Nelson Church 332-2928 Parsonage 332-2312 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday</p>
<p>First Christian Church Pastor Jeff Landers 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Church Service 10 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis Equity</p>	<p>St. Francis Herald</p>

