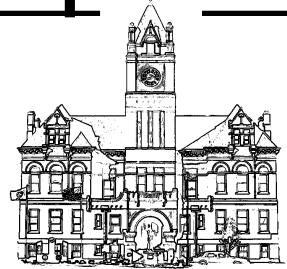


# Opinion



## Letter Drop

### • Our Readers Sound Off

## A super satisfied visitor

To The Free Press:

Here we are in Colby, Kansas. No trees, no shade, plenty of "heat." Who in the world would want to come here in July? Well here I am, one of many. Why? Because of the people who put this (Bluegrass Festival) altogether I guess seven years or so ago. There is no end to what they'll do to make this as good as possible.

A beautiful stage, an impressive awning for the audience, chairs, bleachers, a constant mist of water sprayed into our greatest resource "The Kansas Wind," a wonderful system, concessions, "shower" rest room facility, camping area, cool nights. The friendliest of all people, no end of great talent on stage, youth growing up into this music and these families.

We can't forget the comfortable feeling we all have at these bluegrass festivals in that we can leave a lawn chair where we want it, we park our cars where we want and leave them unlocked. There are no strangers here. If you want to speak to anyone, they'll be glad to visit with you.

I'm only pointing out the big and obvious thing, just look around and count the small things — lights, flowers, plants, safety precaution equipment, fencing, on and on. Man just came by to pick up the smallest bit of trash that was dropped.

I am so very happy to be here. This is only Saturday morning — think about what I might be able to praise you about if it were Monday morning after the whole affair is over.

**Leonard Aufdemberge**  
**Larned**  
**(Letter #109)**

### About those letters . . .

The *Free Press* encourages and welcomes letters from readers. Letters should be typewritten, if at all possible, and should include a telephone number and an address. Most importantly, all letters must include a signature. Unsigned letters cannot be published. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and length, and, likewise, reserve the right to reject letters deemed to be of no public interest or considered offensive or libelous.

Comments to any opinions expressed on this page are encouraged. Mail them to the Colby Free Press, 155 W. 5th St., Colby, Kan., 67701. Or e-mail [td@nwkcansas.com](mailto:td@nwkcansas.com).

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**U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback**, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. 202/224-6521

**U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran**, 1519 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. 202/225-2715

**State Rep. Jim Morrison**, State Capitol Building Rm. 174-W, Topeka 66612. 785/296-7676 e mail: [jmorriso@ink.org](mailto:jmorriso@ink.org) web: <http://www.idir.net/~jmorriso/>

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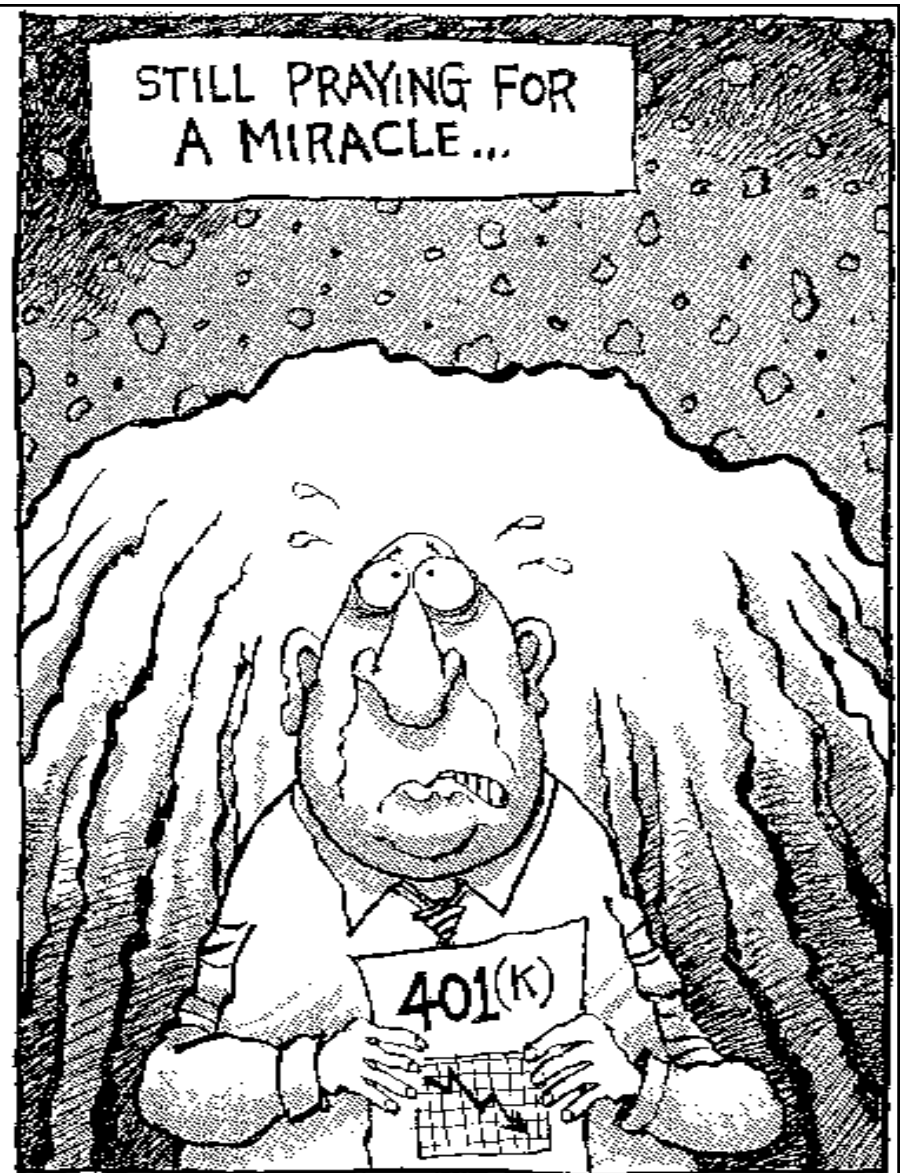
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## Nor'West Newspapers

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## They just won't let us alone



**Tom Dreiling**

### • My Turn

so dry that even a Democrat can't squeeze water from a dirt clod."

Love it!

**I ALWAYS** get a kick out of watching the one Wichita television station's early morning traffic report. This morning the location of the report showed half dozen cars. Geez, we have that many here in Colby heading to work at any given time.

**THE** week-long Thomas County Fair is winding down. It all comes to a close Saturday night, so you still have tonight and Saturday to check it out. Schedule appears on page 1 today.

**THUMBS UP** to the House of Representatives, thumbs down to the U.S. Senate Ethics Committee. The House kicked out Congressman James Traficant Jr. (D-Ohio) who was sentenced to eight years in prison for corruption. The vote was 420-1 with the lone supporting vote coming from Rep. Gary Condit (D-Calif.), the guy whose name swirled around the disappearance of Chandra Levy. Traficant said he will continue his campaign for re-election while in prison and expects to win. Silly man. The Senate Committee, sadly, "severely admonished" Sen. Robert Torricelli (D-NJ) for accepting gifts from a campaign contributor and businessman that the senator aided. That entire mess smelled, but apparently the ethics committee had a stopped up nose during its deliberations. They should have recommended the full senate kick him out, too. After all, what the senator did cast an even greater shadow of suspicion over the United States Senate and how it protects one another. We are now hauling corporate executives off to jail in handcuffs and in the glare of television spotlights for wrong doing. Torricelli should have been taken

out the same way.

**A TIP** of the hat to Horlacher Jewelers, celebrating 75 years of business in Colby.

**BE sure to vote Tuesday.**

**HAPPY Birthday to...**

**Aug. 2** — Cody Mead, Caleb Carter, Carol Cave, Teri Cloe, Vinnie Glad, Albin Mazanec

**Aug. 3** — Russell Carter

**Aug. 4** — Karly Miller, Kelsey Shields, Tena Martinez

**HAPPY Anniversary to...**

**Aug. 2** — Mike & Jackie Wiens, Scott & Christi Schertz, Don & Jean Oren

**Aug. 4** — Mr. & Mrs. Bill Piper (50th), Joe & Mella Mildrexler  
Congratulations!

**AMAN** is watching TV when he hears a knock on the door. He goes to the door and opens it and sees a snail. He picks up the snail and throws it as far as he can and slams the door. Three years later he hears a knock on the door. He opens the door and the snail looks up and says, "What was that all about!"

**BE sure to vote Tuesday.**

**I ALWAYS** like to study United States Senators, especially when they are sitting as committees, or subcommittees holding hearings.

I study them.

I watch their every move.

Their facial expressions. How often they scratch their heads. Doodle. There is one, however, that absolutely intrigues me. That is Carl Levin, the senator with the glasses slid down to the end of his nose and his eyes peering out over the top of them. Look closely next time you see him. Doesn't the remind you of a '51 Plymouth?

**HAVE** a good evening and a good weekend.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Dreiling is publisher of the Free Press. His column appears, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.*  
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## Hollywood is Pentagon's new ally

**Jim Hightower**

### • Another Viewpoint

It was an all-out assault on the enemy, with the full apparatus of America's military machine deployed from the Air Force, Army, Marines, and Navy, as well as the CIA. B-52 bombers were in on the action, as were F-16 fighter jets, Marine and Army helicopters, ground troops, and even the U.S.S. Stennis, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier with a crew of 5,000.

The target: you and me.

This massive military deployment was not for an assault on Afghanistan or Iraq, but for the Pentagon's propaganda assault on the American public. In this case, our tax-paid troops and hardware were made available to Paramount Pictures for its new movie, "The Sum of All Fears" — a rah-rah, super-patriotic bit of fictional fluff based on a Tom Clancy thriller. Paramount was charged less than a million bucks for this multimillion-dollar giveaway of government equipment and personnel.

Why the bargain basement deal and the use of our military for something as trivial as a profit-making

venture by a Hollywood producer? Because Paramount agreed to polish the Pentagon's image, producing a script to the liking of the government's propaganda officials.

There's no open and equal access to these public resources by movie makers — only those whose scripts are deemed sufficiently pro-Pentagon by the military censors get the goodies.

Even the right-wing CATO Institute, normally a gung-ho military cheerleader, is appalled saying that

the administration is "doling out subsidies to people who toe the government line." Indeed, the CIA now maintains a "Hollywood liaison" at its Langley headquarters, and there's a "special assistant for entertainment media" at the Pentagon.

Using our money, their job is to turn the entertainment industry into a medium for selling Bush & Company's war agenda.

Government has no business funding Hollywood to propagandize the public!

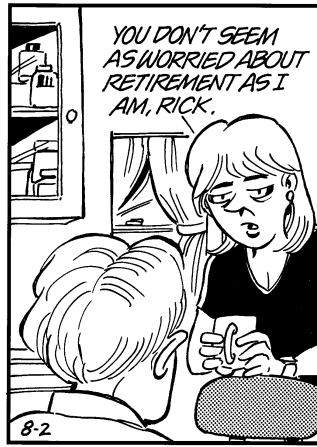
To help defund this, call the Priorities Project: 413-584-9556.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Radio talk-show host and author Jim Hightower is a former Agricultural Commissioner of Texas. His latest book, "If The Gods Had Meant Us To Vote, They Would Have Given Us Candidates" (Harper-Collins), has been released in a fully revised and updated paperback edition. For more information, call 866-271-4900. Feedback to [td@nwkcansas.com](mailto:td@nwkcansas.com)*

**Doonesbury**

• Gary Trudeau



OH, LOOK! THERE'S ME PUTTING UP A 'FOR SALE' SIGN!