

Opinion



Guest Viewpoint

Important to know about the candidates

The primary election will be held Aug. 3. This year's primary has several races and they are all for important positions. Actually, any elected official should put importance into the job. But, before they can take over, they need to be elected and that is where the burden falls on the people.

People should study the candidates and know their goals and issues.

This includes every candidate from the top legislative positions to the local county candidates.

After that candidate takes office, they will be there for four years and if they do not fulfill their promises, and bring integrity and honesty to the position or — in general, do a poor job, then it could be a long four years!

The primary election comes at a busy time. Many people are involved with the fairs and all the activities which are included. It is easy to put off going to vote or even forget to vote.

However, it is also easy to do "advanced voting" by going to the county clerk's office at the courthouse. A booth will be set up...and the collection box will be ready to receive the ballots.

Before the election newspapers will be featuring the candidates. These articles will give people the opportunity to learn more about them.

In the meantime, stop and talk to these candidates. Ask them questions and tell them what you want and expect out of them if they are elected.

Our government is resting on your shoulders and when the curtain of the voting booth falls behind you, make sure you have marked an "X" in the right boxes.

*Karen Krien, Publisher
The Saint Francis Herald*

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@nwkansas.com, fax to 785-462-7749, or drop by the office. All submissions need a signature of the writer, daytime phone number and address. Phone number and address are for verification only. You can request your address and phone number be used.

Where to write

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. 202/224-4774

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. 171-W, Topeka 66612. 785/296-7676 e mail: jmorriso@ink.org web:<http://www.ink.org/public/legislators/jmorrison>

State Sen. Ruth Clark, State Capitol Building Rm. 449-N, Topeka 66612. 785/296-7399 e mail: rclark@ink.org

COLBY FREE PRESS

155 W. Fifth (USPS 120-920) (785) 462-3963
Colby, Kan. 67701

freepress@nwkansas.com

State award-winning newspaper, General Excellence, Design & Layout Excellence, Column Writing, Editorial Writing, Sports Columns, News, Photography.

Official newspaper of Thomas County, Colby, Brewster and Rexford.

Tom (TD) Dreiling - Publisher
td@nwkansas.com

NEWS

Patty Decker - Editor
pdecker@nwkansas.com

Tisha Cox - General Assignment
tcx@nwkansas.com

ADVERTISING

Crystal Rucker - Advertising Sales/Director
crystal@nwkansas.com

Jeffrey Blackwill - Advertising Sales
jblackwill@nwkansas.com

BUSINESS OFFICE

Lea Bandy - Circulation Manager

Jeanette Applegate - Bookkeeping & Ad Building
japplegate@nwkansas.com

Evan Barnum - Systems Administrator
support@nwkansas.com

NOR'WEST PRESS

Jim Bowker - General Manager

Richard Westfahl, Lana Westfahl, Ron VanLoenen, Judy McKnight

THE COLBY FREE PRESS (USPS 120-920) is published every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, except the day observed for Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day, by Haynes Publishing Co., 155 W. Fifth, Colby, Kan., 67701.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE is paid at Colby, Kan. 67701, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Colby Free Press, 155 W. Fifth, Colby, Kan., 67701.

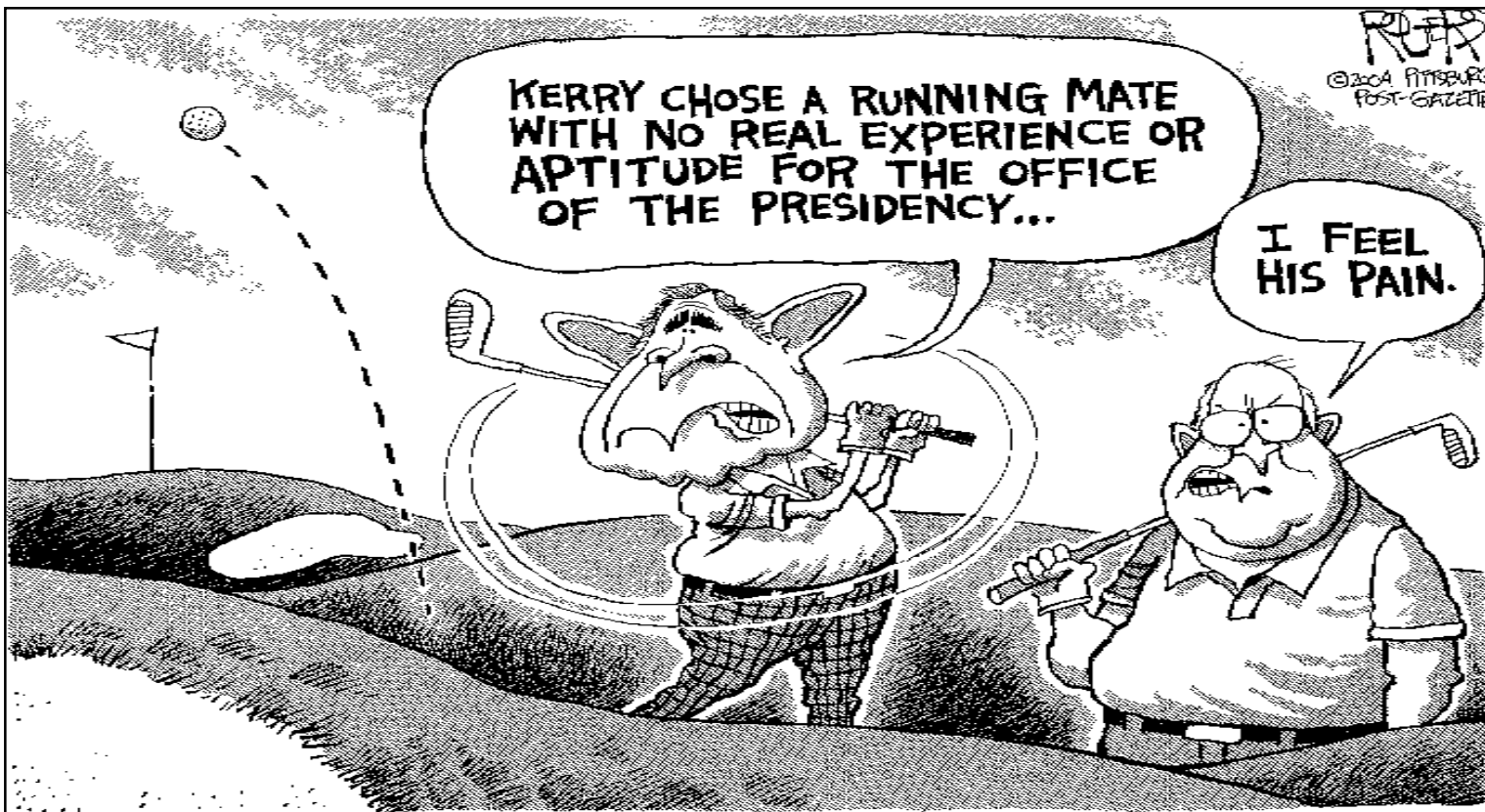
THE BUSINESS OFFICE at 155 W. Fifth is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, which is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news credited to it or not otherwise herein. Member Kansas Press Association, Inland Press Association and National Newspaper Association.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In Colby by carrier: 4 months \$32, 8 months \$47, 12 months \$64. By mail with in Colby and the nine-county region of Thomas, Sheridan, Decatur, Rawlins, Cheyenne, Sherman, Wallace, Logan and Gove counties: 4 months \$44, 8 months \$56, 12 months \$72. Other Kansas counties and surrounding states: 4 months \$51, 8 months \$61, 12 months \$75. All other states, \$75, 12 months.

Nor'West Newspapers

Haynes Publishing Company



Why not Sen. Elizabeth Dole?

RUMORS are floating around that President Bush just might dump Vice President Dick Cheney from the ticket. Of course the White House says there is absolutely nothing to the rumor. And those who surround the president contend this is nothing more than hogwash coming from the Democratic ranks. I look at it differently. I think it is a trial balloon being floated by the Republicans to see how supportive the folks across the land would be of President Bush if Cheney remains on the ticket. This isn't anything new. Both sides do this and then want us to believe it is the doings of the other side. But we aren't stupid, are we.

There are a lot of Republicans, and Democrats, too, who would like to see President Bush dump Cheney in favor of someone like Sen. John McCain. If I were President Bush I would rid myself of Cheney and pick the likes of Sen. Elizabeth Dole as my running mate. I am convinced that would be a winning combination. We'd have a woman back on the ticket and I think we have grown to the point, politically, where that just might be attractive enough to be successful.

Back in 1976, Democrat Walter Mondale picked Geraldine Ferraro of New York to be his running mate. Of course Mondale was, to me, a weak candidate and he struck out at the plate. And I think back then the elevation of a woman to that status might not have held the favor it would hold today. It would be a gutsy move on the part of President Bush, but I'm looking for something to rekindle my political fire and as of this writing I'm just not interested enough in either the John-John guys or the George-Dick duo.

Got to get out of the box and gamble. Otherwise we'll again have a sorry turnout at the polls and come away again asking, "Why aren't people voting?" The answer might lie somewhere in this message.

-td-

“POLITICS is perhaps the only profession for



Tom Dreiling

• My Turn

which no preparation is thought necessary.” — Robert Louis Stevenson. (Thanks to Joan Albers who spotted this and passed it along.)

-td-

THE good news the past 24 hours, up to 8 a.m. today, was the fact we received 0.72 inches of rain, bringing the July total to just under 3 inches...2.94 to be specific. The rain last night was accompanied by some very sharp lightning and some real boomers. I refer to it as a noisy rainfall. But we'll take it — sound or not.

-td-

WHILE I was in the post office Thursday, I decided to inquire why the flag was at half-staff — something that I've wondered about for several days. The counter personnel told me it was in honor of a former postmaster general. I later learned the flag will be returned to its normal position after today's funeral. The postmaster general in question was Albert V. Casey. He died last weekend.

-td-

HAVE you noticed the television commercial showing drivers tossing Frisbees out their car windows to other drivers? Stupid! They say television has no impact on its audience. Wait and see and remember that when you see our own kids playing motorized Frisbee. And what's all the talk about seat belts? That commercial actually — and no pun intended — throws everything we preach about safety out the window. Shame.

Setting the record straight

I think you will really enjoy today's column. Thanks goes to Grace Jones for sharing. It clears up an awful lot of things. Enjoy. - td

EXPRESSIONS

• In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are "limbs," therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression. "Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg."

• As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year! (May and October.) Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. The wigs couldn't be washed, so to clean them they could carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term "big wig." Today we often use the term "here comes the Big Wig" because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.

• In the late 1700s, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board was folded down from the wall and used for dining. The "head of the household" always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Once in a while, a guest (who was almost always a man) would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. Sitting

TD

• At Week's End

in the chair, one was called the "chair man." Today in business we use the expression or title "Chairman or Chairman of the Board."

• Needless to say, personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face she was told "mind your own bee's wax." Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term "crack a smile." Also, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt and therefore the expression "losing face."

• Ladies wore corsets which would lace up in the front. A tightly tied lace was worn by a proper and dignified lady who could be referred to as "straight laced."

• Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the "ace of Spades." To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't "playing with a full deck."

• Early politicians required feedback from the

-td-

AFTER Vice President Dick Cheney used the four-letter word we don't use — on the Senate floor in a heated exchange with Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont — some supporters were caught on camera saying, "Big deal. As far as we are concerned the sun still rises and sets of Mr. Cheney."

My observation: the sun doesn't rise very high or set very low anymore.

-td-

KOBE Bryant's trial is expected to begin Aug. 27. If it goes wrong, he can kiss his new contract of \$136.4 million good-bye. The trial, I would imagine, was put off until now because the NBA season is over and it wouldn't interfere with his basketball. Heaven, forbid! And the new season doesn't start until October, so this would be an opportune time to squeeze it in.

What concessions we make for our glorious role models, although those tied to the case would argue otherwise.

But we people on the sidelines get an entirely different view, a view that again emphasizes the altered standards that are sometimes employed.

-td-

AND Scott Peterson? I am at a loss to try to explain why this thing is dragging on so long. Michael Jackson? Is there even a date set?

Martha Stewart was to get her word today and that'll be interesting, I'm sure.

-td-

I'VE run out of gas.

-td-

HAVE a good evening and a good weekend. And don't forget church.

Tom Dreiling is publisher of the Free Press. His column appears Wednesdays and Fridays. td@nwkansas.com, fax 785-462-7749, call 462-3963, or regular mail to 155 W. 5th, Colby, Kan. 67701.

public to determine what was considered important to the people. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars who were told to "go sip some ale" and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. "You go sip here" and "You go sip there." The two words "go sip" were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and, thus we have the term "gossip."

• At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint- and quart-sized containers. A barmaid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in "pints" and who was drinking in "quarts," hence the term "minding your 'P's and Q's."

Did you enjoy it?

I knew you would.

Mike Ditka, former coach of the Chicago Bears, said it best when he decided not to seek the U.S. Senate seat from Illinois on the Republican ticket.: "I would just be another voice in the wilderness." He had that sized up correctly. He was urged by fellow Republicans to run for the Senate after the guy who was actively campaigning for it ended up in a scandal of sorts — the aftermath of a divorce — forcing him to call it quits. Ditka would have been a tough one for the Democrats to beat. I liked the way he handled the situation. There were other things more important than being a senator, is how I read his explanation.

Got something for "At Week's End?" E-mail me at td@nwkansas.com, fax me at 785-462-7749, mail me at 155 W. 5th, Colby 67701.

Doonesbury

• Gary Trudeau

