Opinion



Governor is still what he always was

The Democrats are attacking Gov. Sam Brownback like he was the Creature From the Black Lagoon lately, acting like either they didn't know he was a conservative all these years, or there's something wrong with being against big government.

We'd have to say, though, that the stuff they are throwing seems to bounce off with about as much effect as bullets against the creature.

The party has been slinging a bunch of "Occupy Wall Street" rhetoric at the governor, casting him as everything from a corporate tool to – gasp – an opponent of abortion on demand.

What's wrong with that, we're not sure, but far as we know, Sam Brownback, a convert to Catholicism and a heartfelt social conservative, has always been against abortion and against growth in government.

In fact, you could argue, that's why people elected him. After two terms in the U.S. Senate, no one could say we didn't know where he stood. He's never made any secret of his conservative leanings.

But, backed by a conservative Legislature, Gov. Brownback has been more successful than any conservative in recent memory, at least in Kansas, at getting his viewpoint across. He's signed bills restricting abortion, improving the tax climate for business and slashing the budget. He sees that as the way to grow jobs, and wants to look at eliminating the state's corporate and personal income taxes.

Crazy, you say? Or maybe just good economic development policy: people move to states, such as Nevada, Texas and Wyoming, without an income tax. So do employers looking to please their people.

All of this is not to say everyone should agree with the governor. Many members of his own party, especially in the more liberal Senate, split with him over ending state subsidies for local arts programs. He won that fight with a veto.

Disagree with him if you like - and most of us will at one time or another – but the governor's conservative stance is no surprise. A lot of people like it. - Steve Haynes

Where to write, call

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774 roberts.senate.gov/public/

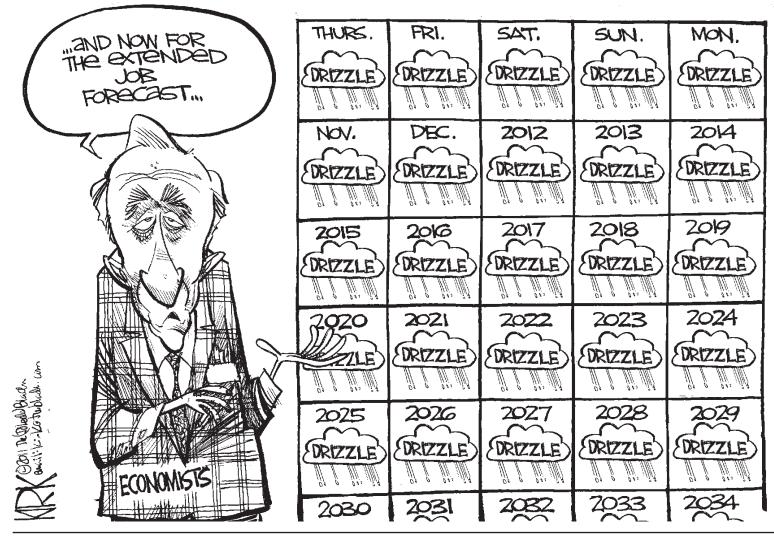
U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran, 354 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 228-6966. Fax (202) 225-5124 moran.senate.gov/public/

U.S. Rep. Tim Huelskamp, 126 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. (202) 225-2715 or

Fax (202) 225-5124. Web site: huelskamp.house.gov State Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer, State Capitol Building,

300 SW10th St., Room 225-E., Topeka, Kan. 66612, (785) 296-7399 ralph.ostmeyer@senate.state.ks.us

State Rep. Rick Billinger, Docking Building, Room 754, Topeka Kan., 66612, (785) 296-7659 rick. billinger@house.ks.gov



'Good old days' had high-tech devices

Remember when turning the steering wheel on the family car was somewhat of a challenge? Many times it would take both hands. When trying to parallel park was like churning ice cream in the old wooden freezer with a frozen handle? Or trying to make a quick U-turn on a street where U-turns were not allowed, usually ended in embarrassment as you jumped the curb?

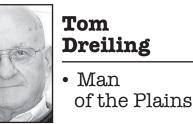
But then came a big breakthrough: (drum roll) the "steering knob!" To make turning the steering wheel easier, someone invented a device you attached to the steering wheel, allowing you to use your fisted right hand to grab the knob and turn the wheel in a complete circle with what looked like ease. Wow! No way could they ever improve on that! It also allowed you more time with your arm around vour honey.

If you remember these things, then you were part of the "good old days!"

The good old days when cars came in two colors, or so it seemed – black or brown. When tires were black. And with the advent of more colors on cars, the tires took on a new look, too - whitewalls! How fancy was that?

And the people of means would drive around in convertibles with the tops down. The envy was as obvious as a streaker running across the football field. "How lucky they are," was a comment heard time and again.

Despite everything, this "Man of the Plains" this invention was deafening.



that sits atop a bookcase in my front room. It measures 11 inches long, 4 inches wide and 3 inches high. The black base it is mounted on is 13 inches by 6 1/2 inches. The convertible's doors open, the trunk lid opens, the hood opens, the headlight covers open, the top is removable and the steering wheel turns the tires. The interior is a rose color.

While looking at that car, my mind started going in all directions, eventually settling on cars during my early years. It's fun to go back in time and then to look at what we see on our roadways today. Never but never could even the brightest engineering minds of that time envision what we see today. And the advances yet to come will provide other generations cause for chatter, comparison and awe.

They will also have their "good old days." But do you think their good old days will match what we've seen during our lifetime? Of course we'll never know.

I always hate to pass along sad news, but still considers "power steering" as the great- that's the nature of the game, so - there will lisher of the Colby Free Press and The Norton est change. You were able to turn the steering be still another GOP presidential nomination Telegram, and a former long-time editor of the wheel with just one finger. The chatter over debate, this one at 7 p.m. (Central Time) on old Goodland Daily News. He is a life-long Wednesday, Nov. 9. For the record, I must con-What sparked this column's topic was a fess that I have missed only two of them. These newly minted Coloradan.

Snippets

"Did you see the debate where Romney and Perry were acting like grade school kids? And they want to lead our country? Never "

"I saw President Obama on the 'Ellen' television show. What did that have to do with jobs?'

"Have you ever wondered how long it's going to take Obama to find a job after the 2012 election? Maybe that's what he is doing being away from Washington so often'

"...It would be interesting to know how many members of the Occupy crowd were also members of the Tea Party?"

"... There is much more to teaching than giving tests.... We're missing the boat and our kids will pay dearly.... Wake up!'

"...We could get by with some of Bush's moderate governing, but these are different times and only good old fashioned conservatism can get us out of the incredible mess we are in now....'

"Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain is still out front. Out front of what? There's not a presidential candidate in that bunch.... Where is Sarah when you need her?

Snippets to milehitom@hotmail.com, no longer than three sentences. Your name will not be used. Peace!

Tom Dreiling of Denver is a former pub-Democrat, a curmudgeon come lately and a

We encourage comments on opinions expressed on this page. Mail them to the Colby Free Press, 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701, or e-mail colby.editor @ nwkansas.com. Opinions do not necessarily reflect those of the Free Press, its staff or the owners.

COLBY FREE PRESS (USPS 120-920)

155 W. Fifth St. Colby, Kan. 67701

(785) 462-3963 fax (785) 462-7749

Send news to: colby.editor @ nwkansas.com

State award-winning newspaper, General Excellence, Design & Layout, Columns, Editorial Writing, Sports Columns, News, Photography. Official newspaper of Thomas County, Colby, Brewster and Rexford.

> Sharon Friedlander - Publisher sfriedlander @ nwkansas.con

NEWS

Kevin Bottrell - News Editor kbottrell @ nwkansas.com

Kayla Cornett - Sports Reporter colby.sports @ nwkansas.con

Marian Ballard - Copy Editor mballard @ nwkansa

Tomi Miller, Christina Beringer - Society Reporters colby.society @ nwkansas.com

> ADVERTISING colby.ads @ nwkansas.com

Kathryn Ballard

Advertising Representative kballard @ nwkansas.com

Kylee Hunter - Graphic Design khunter @ nwkansas.com

BUSINESS OFFICE

Robin Tubbs - Office Manager rtubbs @ nwkansas.com

Evan Barnum - Systems Administrator support @ nwkansas.com

NOR'WEST PRESS

Richard Westfahl - General Manager Lana Westfahl, Jim Jackson, Betty Morris, Jim Bowker, Judy McKnight, Kris McCool

THE COLBY FREE PRESS (USPS 120-920) is published every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, except the days observed for Memorial Day, Independence Day, abor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day, by Nor'West Newspaper, 155 W. Fifth St., Colby, Kan., 67701

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

THE BUSINESS OFFICE at 155 W. Fifth is open from 8 a.m. to 6 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 herein. Member Kansas Press Association and National Newspaper Association.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In Colby, Thomas County and Oakley: three months \$35, one year \$85. By mail to ZIP Codes beginning with 676 and 677: three months \$39, one year \$95. Elsewhere in the U.S., mailed once per week: three months \$39, one year \$95. Student rate, nine months, in Colby, Thomas County and Oakley, \$64; mailed once per eek elsewhere in the U.S. \$72

white 1936 Cord 810 two-door convertible are the best of television's reality shows!

Thanks to fire crew and neighbors

To the Editor,

Rex and I would like to extend our sincere thank-yous to all that were involved in containing and eventually extinguishing the fire on our property west of Colby. We are so appreciative that the damage was so much less than it could have been, and we know this is the result of many people helping.

We now live in Janesville, Wis., where we still tell everyone there was a sense of comfort in living in a small town like Colby, because there is such a sense of community and of people being there to help when they are needed.

We would like to name everyone that helped at the scene, but I would be very regretful if I omitted a name, so I will just say thanks to all.

You can be proud that the sense of neighborhood extends through the community and county out in western Kansas.

Rex and Deb Kolste, Janesville, Wis.

Thanks, pharmacist

To the Editor,

Pharmacists play a significant role in hospice care and often do not receive the recognition they deserve. Hospice Services board, staff, volunteers and the patients and families we serve extend our heartfelt appreciation. We invite the community to join us in acknowledging National Pharmacists' Month in October.

Hospice professionals have one purpose: to provide comfort and support at the end of life.



a multitude of physical and psychological symptoms. Pharmacists use their knowledge and skill to address very complex needs.

As new medications become available, the pharmacists help us understand the benefits and burdens of these medications. Pharmacists also assist in exploring delivery options.

Comfort, compassion and quality characterize our local pharmacists. We see it with our work in hospice care and in the pharmacists' daily assistance to our communities.

Hospice Services is grateful to pharmacists for being vital partners in our efforts.

> Sandy Kuhlman, Executive Director Hospice Services, Inc.

Pastoral care vital

To the Editor,

Oct. 23 through 29 is National Pastoral Care Week. Hospice Services extends our appreciation to the pastors who fulfill a vital role.

The historical roots of the hospice movement are embedded in spiritual service. In Europe, care for the dying sprang from religious Patients served by hospice often experience faith. In the U.S., volunteers and professionals

continued to hold their work as a sacred trust.

The vision of Hospice Services is a world where those facing serious illness, death, and grief will experience the best humankind can offer. Pastors bring expertise regarding spirituality and the impact of religion upon individuals, families and communities.

Spiritual care in hospice supports the exercise of each person's unique spirituality, with the hope that meaning and love may be found in the presence of suffering and death. Hospice care is just one of the various ways our local ministers improve and care for our community. Thank you for caring!

Sandy Kuhlman, Executive Director Hospice Services, Inc.

Let's try skating

To the Editor:

I think a good use for the old swimming pool would be to make it into an ice rink. I don't believe there are any in the area so it would be a draw from surrounding communities. It shouldn't cost any more than the new swimming pool and would have about the same season length.

The bathhouse could be made into a lounge with a game room for people wanting to warm up. It could have a large window overlooking the rink so people could watch the skaters.

We could hire instructors to teach all levels of skating.

This would make jobs and increase revenue as well as enjoyment for many people.

Ramona J. Lyon, Colby

WARNING: THE FOLLOWING NEWS STORY CONTAINS HERMAN CAIN AND MAY OFFEND THOSE WHO STEREOTYPE AFRICAN AMERICANS POLITICAL Mallard Fillmore LEANINGS VIEWER DISCRETION IS ADVISED Bruce () () Tinsley