

Sunday sales of liquor and beer should be allowed

Should Norton stores be allowed to sell beer, wine and liquor on Sunday?
Absolutely.
Now that Kansas has modernized its liquor laws to allow Sunday sales, there is no reason why Norton should not fall into line. It's a local decision now, and it ought to be a simple one.
There no reason to force people to drive to Nebraska — or even another Kansas town — to buy a six-pack on a Sunday.
There is no reason to allow business and money to flow out of town when we can keep it here.
Norton's beer and liquor dealers are small business people who need all the income they can get. We should support them.
This isn't all that big a deal. We already have liquor stores and beer in stores. We doubt allowing Sunday sales will increase liquor consumption here by more than a drop. But every dollar counts to a small business, and most are struggling.
It's hard to imagine any serious drawbacks from allowing Sunday sales. It's legal now to drink on Sunday, but we're not seeing any problems around town.
Sure, there are alcoholics and drunks addicted to booze. It's a major social and medical problem. But they buy their stock now, legally, on weekdays.
It's customary in Kansas for a some to oppose any change, in any town, in liquor laws. There's nothing wrong with that.
Religion and the Sabbath should not, however, be part of the discussion.
It's true that Sunday is a holy day observed by many, but not all, churches. Under the U.S. Constitution, though, the government is not allowed to "establish" a religion.
It's up to churches to convince their members either to drink responsibly or to abstain from alcohol, whatever their beliefs require. That is not the city's concern.
The facts of life are these: Norton people do drink, and Norton consumers and businesses will benefit from this change.
Good for the City Council for approving it and moving us on into the 21st century.
— Steve Haynes

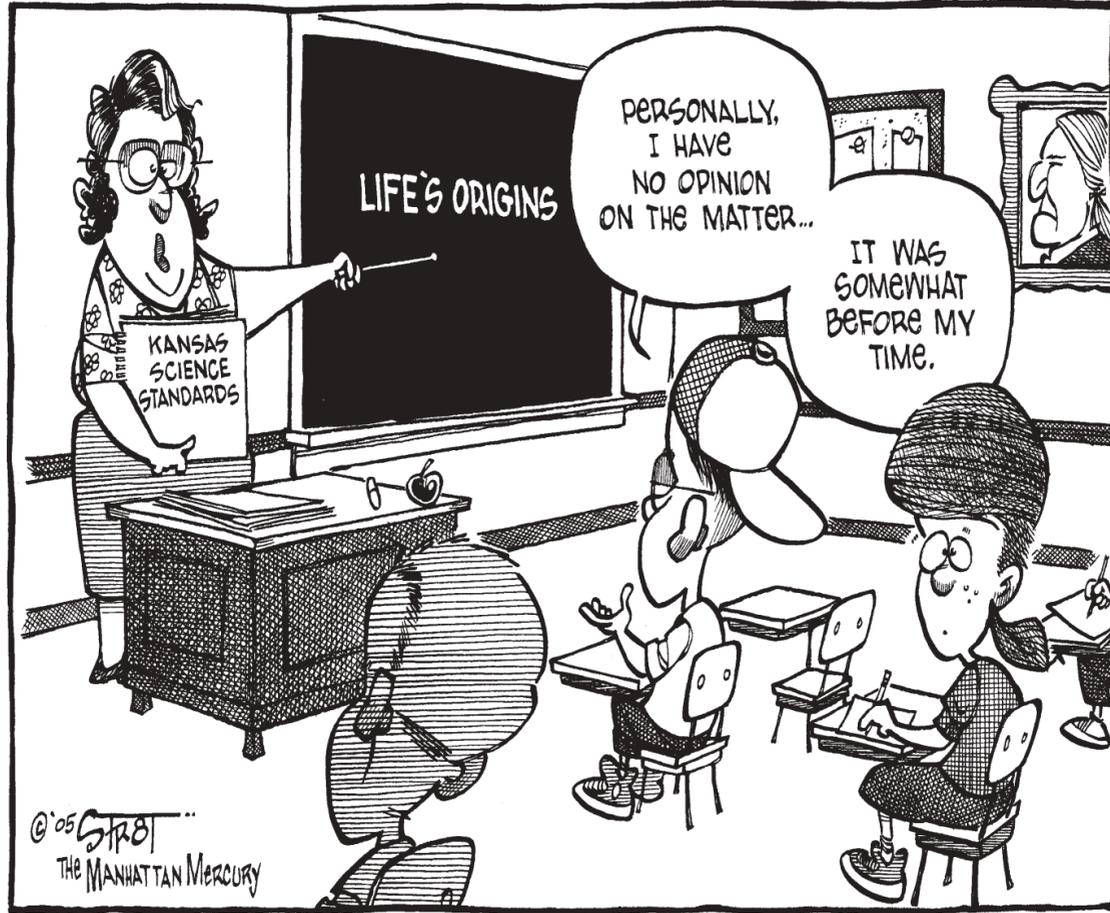
WRITE:

The Norton Telegram encourages Letters to the Editor on any topic of public interest. Letters should be brief, clear and to the point. They must be signed and carry the address and phone number of the author.
We do not publish anonymous letters. We sign our opinions and expect readers to do likewise.

We do not publish form letters or letters about topics which do not pertain to our area. Thank-yous should be submitted to the Want Ad desk.
Letters will not be censored, but will be read and edited for form and style, clarity, length and legality. We will not publish attacks on private individuals or businesses which do not pertain to a public issue.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

- ★ Governor Kathleen Sebelius, 300 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-3232
- ★ U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774; fax (202) 224-3514
- ★ U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 224-6521
- ★ U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran, 2443 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515. (202) 225-2715; fax (202) 225-5124
- ★ State Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer, State Capitol Building, Room 128-S, Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-7399
- ★ State Rep. John Faber, 181 W. Capitol Building, Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-7500



Empty nest brings thoughts of Mexico

Our "nest" has been empty for several years now. Our kids were grown and gone before Jim and I got married.
But, today, MY nest is empty. Jim left this morning for a few days in Texas to help our favorite son-in-law, Adam — our only son-in-law, actually — put the finishing touches on a new shop he built for his business.
And, if I know my daughter, she'll have a long list of "jobs" she needs done.
Jim is one of those guys who can do almost everything. If he hasn't done something before, he'll figure out how to do it. I wish I had a nickel for every time he's said, "Let me study this out for a minute."
He might have to use bubble gum, balancing wire and duct tape, but he'll be able to make it or fix it.
This is a priceless talent to have when we go to Juarez, Mexico, to build a house. We're planning another trip for the end of October, so that's probably why I'm

Out Back Carolyn Plotts



thinking about my husband's handyman skills.
Conditions there are sometimes primitive, so it's great to have a man along who can light the stove, hot-wire the generator or get the plumbing to work.
We had our team's first organizational meeting last night, and everyone seems excited. We talked about menus (food is always our first concern), how many changes of clothes to bring and where to get water.
I think half the fun of any undertaking is the planning. It's always exciting to

look ahead to something, to anticipate.
The other half of the fun is how to improvise when you didn't plan for every contingency. One year, I had biscuits on the menu one day but I forgot to bring a cookie sheet. I discovered that a metal pot lid works just as well.
Necessity is the mother of invention, right?
Speaking of invention — gas prices have been the hot topic recently. High prices are hurting everyone, and they might hurt for quite awhile. But something good will come of it, I'm convinced.
Public demand will cause engineers to design engines that run on different fuels. Perhaps, not too far in the future, we might be driving cars that run on water, or electricity, or on ethanol, or on methane gas. Who knows?
I do know that Yankee ingenuity will come up with something.

Family, friends help in time of need

What a difference a day makes or an hour or, for that matter, a second. In the past few weeks I have witnessed how life changes quickly and how, because of that, we change.
Not that it hasn't been going on all around me, but when it hits close to home we, or at least I, sit up and take notice.
When we lose our balance, the balance of our life hangs delicately.
A split-second fall left me dependent upon family and friends for the most basic of functions.
Over the years I had thanked God routinely for the gift of healing as I gained strength from a disease I have lived with for over 30 years. Back then I also depended on those around me.
As time went on I feared a return of my disease but gave little thought to a fall or

Phase II Mary Kay Woodyard



something else "falling" me and yet that is just what happened.
But even bad things bring on good outcomes. The gift of new friends and the presence of old; the strength of church members; the prayers of many and always the steadfast love of my husband, Jack, and of Michael, who became my hands and feet throughout the last few weeks. His "chauffeuring" abilities with my

wheel chair in the early mornings as he took me to work is something I will forever treasure.
I've never believed bad comes from God or that He says, "Zap, I think I'll give you this bad thing".
What I do believe is God allows things to happen in our life. The gifts of others and our response is our gift to God. I know the gifts of others given to me through food, prayers, errands, flowers and presence are certainly a testimony of their faith.
I pray I can respond faithfully and God will accept my gift.
Thank you for everything. You are what makes Norton such a special place to live and a treasure in each of our lives.

Hospice founder dies in care

Dame Cicely Saunders, regarded as the founder of the modern hospice movement and a pioneer in the field of palliative care, died July 14, at St. Christopher's Hospice in London.
This was the hospice that she founded in the 1960s and the birthplace of the modern hospice movement.
Dame Cicely founded St. Christopher's in 1967, as the first hospice linking pain and symptom control, compassionate care, teaching and clinical research.
She dedicated her life to alleviating the pain and suffering of the dying.
St. Christopher's opened its doors in 1967, and provided a model of care that gave birth to one of the most significant grassroots movements of the late 20th century in the U.S.
So often, patients and families were told that "there was nothing more that could be done" a statement that Dame Cicely refused to accept. Throughout her time at

Hospices Services, Inc.

St. Christopher's her watchword has been "there is so much more to be done."
Cicely Saunders' guiding principle was: "To cure sometimes, but to comfort always."
"Dame Cicely's vision and work has transformed the care of the dying and the practice of medicine in the UK and throughout the world," said Barbara Monroe, chief executive of St. Christopher's Hospice. "She is an inspiration to us all. We had been caring for Dame Cicely at St. Christopher's Hospice as a patient for some time. We will miss her very much. Her influence will carry on around the world as we work together in hospice and palliative care to support dying people and

those close to them."
Working as a nurse during World War II, she later became a social worker, and then went on to medical school to become a physician. As a physician, Dame Cicely felt she could make the greatest impact on improving the culture of care for people at the end of life. She emphasized the importance of listening to the patient.
The recipient of numerous awards and honors, she was made a Dame of the British Empire in 1980. In 1987, she was appointed to the Order of Merit by Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom. Limited to only 24 persons, this order is the highest honor the monarch can bestow.
Hospices in the U.S. cared for almost 1 million patients facing a life-limiting illness last year. Dame Saunders work improved the end-of-life experience allowing people to die with dignity and compassion and for families to receive much needed support.

STAFF

- Cynthia Haynes editor and publisher
- Veronica Monier staff reporter
- Dick Boyd Blue Jay sports
- Carolyn Plotts society editor
- Sherry Hickman circulation
- Vicki Henderson computer production
- Susie Marble computer production
- Sonya Montgomery bookkeeping

