

Tuesday's Snippets

Like the weather, the Snippets are usually a surprise. Today's column tackles people trying to change themselves, to the leadership of the American Legion baseball team. Here goes:

**Stop
Look
Listen**
Tom Dreiling



- "With today's women, and men to some degree, changing their bodies and faces to look younger and hotter, they will never get into Heaven because God won't recognize them."
- "I don't think Larry, Moe and Curly were ever that stupid!" (re: who is leading the Republican Party?)
- "A fly? Maybe we need some PETA swatters."
- "Quick reaction. We need a president like that. If he'll kill a fly, watch out North Korea."
- "The networks have gone one more step closer to self extinction, thanks to a small, harmless, black little creature. Shame on you, president."
- "Nepotism, you know... the law that says you can't put family or relatives on a payroll that you directly oversee? Just mentioning it, that's all!"
- "Yuck, I just took another sip of our town's water."
- "Ah, the water tower. The cleaning and the painting. Will Blue Jays be painted as two words or Bluejays as one word? Maybe that will settle the issue I have grown up with."
- "Thanks for giving some credit to the farming community."
- "Iran's protests are necessary to drive home the point that change must result. The election was a farce. We need not stick our nose in there too. Isn't Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan and North Korea enough?"
- "If the movie 'Corpus Christi' plays here, I hope no one attends. I made the mistake and it's an awful attack on religion."
- "I agree with The Whites' letter on that old, ugly looking, good for nothing, Moffet station. Don't waste grant money on such foolishness."
- "The Moffet gas station building should be kept as a historic site. Please let our past shine through the windows of these old structures!"
- "Governor Brownback? Surely the Republicans have something better than that. My goodness!"
- "You mean it's time for another election campaign? President Reagan, if he were still alive would say, 'Here we go again!'"
- "I am glad to see the American Legion baseball team is back on the field for another season. We'd be lost without them."
- "We are confused. Who is really running the Legion team? Looks like a lot of cooks in that kitchen!"

(To join the conversation, please email tom.d@nwkansas.com, call either 877-3361 or 877-6908, fax 877-3732, write 215 S. Kansas Ave. 67654 or drop by the office. No signatures necessary.)



To... W.A. and Jean White — the Moffet building is not a worthwhile project. (brought in)

To... the good behavior displayed by the young crowd at the concert at State and Washington Friday evening. (called in)

To... the organizers of the rock concert in downtown Norton Friday night. Let's do it again! (email)

(To render a salute, email tom.d@nwkansas.com, call either 877-3361 or 877-6908, fax 877-3732, mail to 215 S. Kansas Ave. 67654 or drop by the office. Thanks for your input. - td)

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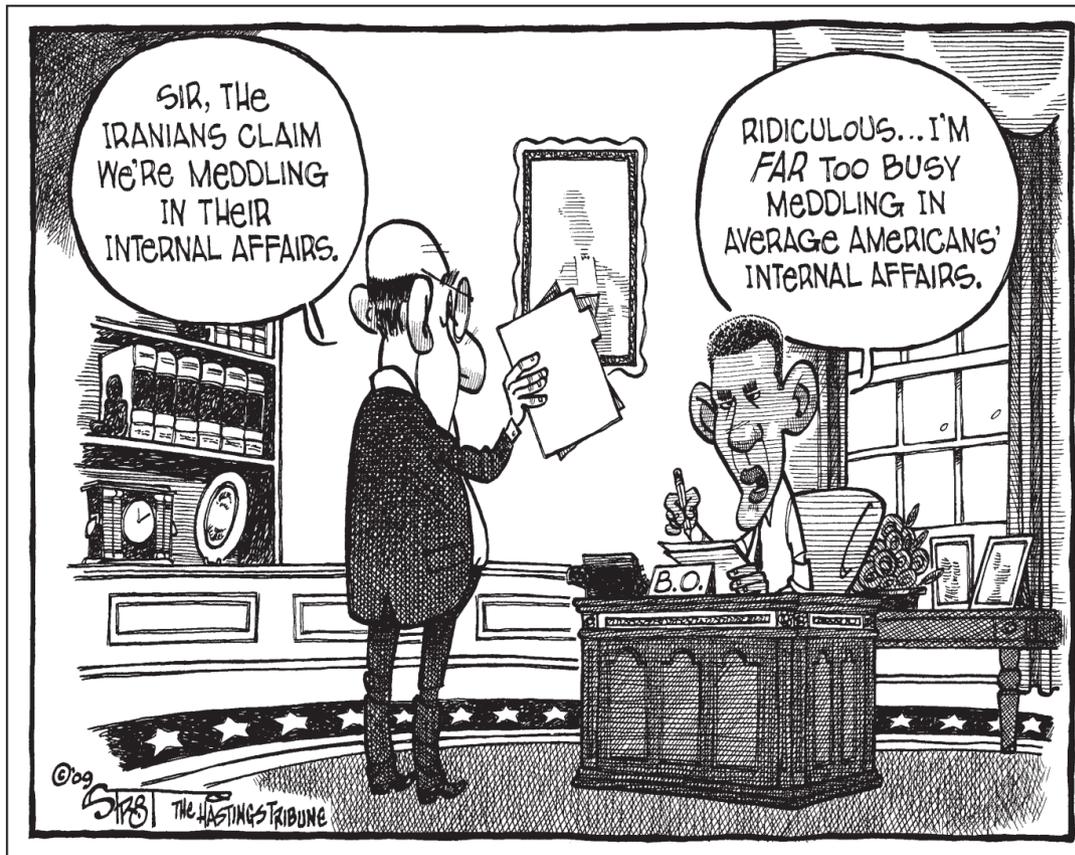
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Relatives treated to witching for water

We are probably easily amused, but one of the fun things that happened while our relatives were here was witching for water! A backup plan is needed in a pasture in case the creek goes dry.

Seems highly unlikely with all the rain we have been having on the hay that should have baled a week or so ago, but like the Boy Scouts we believe you should "Be Prepared!"

So one night after supper, Junior asks Ben and Dusty if they want to go witch for water. They meet our local water witch, who claims he can not only witch for water but also for oil. I'm pretty skeptical about it all. Junior's brother can find buried electrical lines with welding rod or something. Elizabeth says she can also. I'm skeptical about that too!

As is oft the case in our society, the men went off to search and gather and provide and the women did the dishes. We were surprised at how quickly they were back. High on their success! They had the fresh cut tree branch and were more than happy to show how it worked.

Dusty was a fair water witch, Junior and Ben are good. I don't think there is really any way to fake it. The hubby, who may have been a little skeptical himself, was amazed at his own ability.

The rest of us had to try it, though we were forewarned, the local water witch says women aren't good witches! Hmhmhm—funny that's not what he

**Back
Home
Nancy
Hagman**



says about his ex!

Anne was so sensitive to the presence of water, the stick pulled her to the ground (probably faked). Elizabeth and it got a little dip, but no one else got any results. There was lightning in the distance. Between people running around with the stick and those with cameras trying to capture lightening on film, I'm sure everyone going by on the road thought we had completely lost our minds. Or we are just easily amused.

Witching is only the first step in getting a well. You have to drill it.

The hubby is determined, he can do about anything. Kate helped him start; then remembered some emergency she had to return home for!

The hubby is German so he's going to do it himself if he can't get the kids to help. Or when all else fails, he calls his poor long suffering brother-in-law, Dave.

Advice for Dave, "Just Say No!" Dave and Junior go off to drill, with a post hole digger the hubby invented for his tractor.

Mid-afternoon was when they em-

barked on their mission. Almost 10:00 and fully dark when they returned, covered in mud.

I accused the hubby of brother-in-law Abuse. But the mighty hunter-gatherers were successful — or so they thought.

In the light of day, things didn't look quite like they should. Junior calls Dave. Dave has caller ID, he didn't answer! I figured he had learned his lesson, but just a couple of seconds later he called us, couldn't get to the phone on time.

Perhaps secretly he was hoping they would strike oil. Junior says the driller gets one-sixteenth.

He was willing to split that with Dave. Not exactly Wildcatters, maybe Tom Cats. I think I heard some other suggestions; not any I can repeat, however.

Off they go once again. This time they finished rather quickly, 12 foot to water, 30 foot to shale.

When it quits raining and the creek dries up we are set! We really don't want the creek to go dry, but we do hope it quits raining soon. I've counseled Junior to try not to take the weather personally but sometimes it does seem like Mother Nature is out to get us!

In the end, everyone on both sides of the family had fun, witching or playing in mud. We may indeed be cats of some sort. We can chase a ball of yarn for hours with no fruits for our labor!

We are very, very easily amused!
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Why rush to make yourself look younger?

I was watching TV the other night and was disappointed to once again see another of my favorite news reporters had fallen victim, my term, to cosmetic surgery. According to an article in the Journal of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, "Between 1992 and 2005, annual U.S. cosmetic surgery volume increased by 725 percent, with over \$10 billion spent in 2005."

To be sure some of this is corrective surgery following accidents or birth defects, but many are designed to prolong one's youth. Some careers, and I imagine TV news reporters rank near the top of this, are almost required to look young to further or even maintain their careers.

My mother was almost 42 when I was born. She wore her make-up regularly but used her natural features to promote her beauty, but even more important than that, she worked on developing

**Phase II
Mary Kay
Woodyard**



her inner beauty and encouraged others to do the same. She was an avid reader, looked on life in a positive manner... we often referred to it as her 'Pollyanna outlook', and loved time with her friends and family.

She watched the news and news program and only gave up reading a daily newspaper when her eyesight began to fail from macular degeneration. She lived, and I mean lived, to be 100 years old. Young at heart and in spirit until her dying day.

I look around at the people I admire

and they aren't the ones who look 30 when they are 50; or 50 when they are 80. They are those who think young regardless of their years. Magazines and programs focus on youth, looking young as being the ultimate in life. What message do we send to our young children when we focus only on the external features and not on one's lasting beauty?

What is in the mirror is only a small part of the big picture. Are people happier when they look younger? Does the world only look at those who are young? The value of a person rests not in the number of wrinkles they have extinguished, but in the experience which is reflected through those wrinkles. My mother never colored her hair and when I asked why she said because your dad told me he saw those gray hairs as the life badge of courage.

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Letters, Snippets, a good way to get your point across. tom.d@nwkansas.com