



GO VEGETABLES! Cynthia Haynes showed that she's a cheerleader for carrots.

Time to pick last vegetables

It's fall, and time to put the garden to bed.

While we were in South Carolina and Georgia in mid October, the tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers got hit by a freeze. Luckily, a friend picked the green tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers and left them in the house for us.

Over the last couple of weeks, we've been watching the tomatoes get red and orange (depending on the variety). We've been munching tomatoes and sharing with friends and coworkers, but they're almost gone now. There are only about half a dozen still sitting in a pan in the kitchen, and Steve is sharpening his knife to eat those.

As soon as we returned from the South, we pulled the stakes, cages and dead vines. Stakes and cages went into the garage and dead vines filled three big trash bags for the garbage collectors.

That left us with cabbages, carrots, late lettuce and some overgrown Swiss chard.

On Sunday, while Steve mowed up the leaves and what little grass had grown in the two weeks since he last had the mower out, I picked cabbages and dug carrots.

I had put out about a dozen cabbage plants. First I put out 10 on one



Open Season

By Cynthia Haynes
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side of the garden then a month later, I put out another six.

After the initial failure of a couple of plants, the rest of the original 10 looked pretty good.

The late plants looked nice, but the leaves never curled inward to form heads. They just hung around, looking pretty on the side of the garden. They and the Swiss chard ended up as decorations, since we haven't figured out what to do with really oversize but pretty red-veined-and-dark green leaved Swiss chard.

In the end, I got two small red cabbages and one even smaller green cabbage. It was not a harvest to write home about.

The carrots were another matter. I had planted two rows and tried to thin them early on. This was supposed to allow me to get fewer but bigger carrots.

I ended up with lots of carrots. Some were pretty good size and some were babies. They were all beautiful.

I decided to just take out half the carrots and leave the rest for the spring. Half of my carrots were a pile. When I removed the stems, I ended up with three-fourths of a five-gallon pickle bucketful.

Even made Steve take my picture with my piles of produce.

After digging and pulling half the crop, I put a little fence around the rest.

Last spring, the only way I found the undug carrots in the garden was when Steve ran over them with the rototiller. Next spring, I'm going to know where to dig before he gets there with that carrot killer!

Hey, maybe I'll have him take my picture.

'Secrets' need to come out

The Boys Scouts of America must be chagrined by the publication of their so-called "perversion files," secret archives showing that many who abused kids in their care were quietly banned from the organization – but seldom prosecuted – during most of the 20th Century.

The venerable youth group has suffered great embarrassment, but it will survive. Its files were only part of a massive coverup which was endemic in American society through most of that era. The Scouting organization comes off looking somewhat better than the Catholic bishops of the same time, who not only hid their problems, but often reassigned the priests involved to another church.

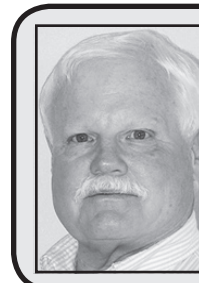
At least the Scouts did not send an offending scoutmaster out for rehabilitation, then allow him to again associate with boys. The avowed purpose of these Scout files was to ensure that pedophiles would not work in the organization again.

It was bad publicity the Scouts, like the church, feared. But this did not make either institution unusual in the America of the 1950s or the 1970s. Across the nation, businesses, government and civic institutions alike chose to sweep these problems under the rug.

Sexual abuse? Churches and school boards alike would ignore or dispose of any embarrassing issue. Often, those in charge simply did not want to hear accusations against a popular coach or teacher. Instead, they'd accuse the whistleblower of being a troublemaker.

This happened to a friend of ours. Only through great perseverance and personal strength did she finally see the coach exposed, fired and prosecuted, and her name vindicated. He had preyed on one female member of his track team after another for years.

White-collar crime? Banks especially seem loath to admit they



Along the Sappa

By Steve Haynes
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hired someone who would steal from their accounts. Worse yet, they often kept a double standard. A female teller caught stealing a few dollars from accounts would be thrown to the wolves, winding up in federal court. A vice president who stole thousands usually got to slink out the back door, the public none the wiser.

None of this was good for society. It taught child abusers, criminals and cheats that you might get caught, but you often could get away with your crime if you went along.

Many, including priests and embezzlers alike, played the sympathy card when caught. They still do. That's because these people are con artists. That's how they get away with their crimes for as long as they do. They are nice guys, regular joes, good workers, your best friends. They prey on the innocent and the

unsuspecting, and when caught, they make out like it's the rest of the world that has it wrong.

They are, in short, the most despicable type of crook. By comparison, the relationship with a stickup artist or a mugger is downright honest. Just give 'em the money, nobody gets hurt.

That we, as a society, have moved to confront many of these crimes can be painful. There's a reason most organizations once avoided exposure of these flaws. But in the long run, we'll be a stronger when we face up to the con artists among us and denounce them for what they are: traitors, criminals, perverts and thieves.

I am all for forgiving their sin, but later, after they've done some time. For some of them – Coach Jerry Sandusky comes to mind – a good, long stretch.

Honor Roll

Welcome and thanks to these recent subscribers to *The Oberlin Herald*:

Elsewhere: R.G. Dean, Knoxville, Iowa; Elwood Walker, Dover, Okla.;

Arizona: Estella Waldo, Sun City; Lula Hix, Scottsdale; Robert Henningson, Queen Valley.

Colorado: William Deines, Burlington; Bill Wahrman, Strasburg; Kenneth Hoehner, Wheat Ridge.

Nebraska: Ramona Hornkohl, Danbury; Mike Pollnow, Culbert-

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Kansas: Fred Hickert, Hays; Debbie Nickels, McLouth; Billie Woodward, Manhattan.

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Area: Erma Jean Spresser, Dresden; Eugene Kleidosty, Herndon; Dee Lewis, Hoxie; Estella Harold, Norton; Sharon Zodrow Karnes, Selden; Tom Hickert, Clayton.

Jennings: Marie Bailey, Norman Davis.

Costs should go down

Governor wants to curb spending

By GOV. SAM BROWNBACK

During the last decade, the cost of state government in Kansas grew at an alarming rate. From Fiscal Year 2003 to Fiscal Year 2008, spending of state tax dollars grew by almost \$2 billion – an increase of nearly 50 percent in just six years.

This led to an inevitable crash that started shortly thereafter, and a financial mess that needed sorting through. Kansas began Fiscal Year 2011 – just six months before I took office – with less than \$1,000 in the bank. In my first year as governor, the state faced a projected \$500 million budget deficit. Instead of raising taxes to cover the deficit, we cut spending. In fact, in Fiscal Year 2012, for the first time in 40 years, the state spent less than it had the year before.

To reign in the era of ever-expanding government, my administration focused not only on the big issues such as tax policy reform, but also on fixing the small things that can add up to big problems.

I directed members of my cabinet and staff to examine every process. A reorganization of agencies enabled consolidation of back-office services like human resources and reduced duplicative labor and red tape.

Immediately after my inauguration, we froze state spending, and within short order, we had eliminated more than 2,000 positions that had been open for at least six months. We later initiated a voluntary buyout program that allowed more than a thousand state employees to retire with extra benefits and saved the state millions of dollars in the long term.

The savings quickly mounted and helped turn the \$500 million projected budget deficit into an almost \$500 million ending balance in just a little more than a year.

We aren't done. I believe that government has much to learn from the private sector in cutting costs, creating efficiencies and improving services. Private firms cut waste, compensate employees based on performance, eliminate inefficiencies, streamline processes and provide money to areas that help them meet these goals. Kansas is in a competition with its surrounding states, and if we want people to invest and live here, we need these efficiencies, too.

We are evaluating how we deliver the services Kansans require and targeting where we can improve delivery while we cut costs. For the first time in decades, state agencies are assessing utility costs in hopes of negotiating lower rates. We are implementing Medicaid reforms that will reduce costs by more than \$1 billion – and improve and expand health care for our most needy Kansans.

A new online tool that many companies find useful is now available to state government managers. Known as the Cost Management System or CMS, this system is helping state agencies become more effective and efficient without harming services and programs. It directly links agency activities with cost data and tracks those costs over time by calculating department unit costs and per person costs every payroll period.

American taxpayers expect their governments at all levels to use their hard-earned tax dollars well and to live within their means. All governors and state legislatures in our country should insist that every state tax dollar is spent efficiently and effectively in the delivery of services and programs to the citizens who need them.

In 2010, Missouri spent roughly \$2,300 in all state money per resident and Oklahoma spent about \$2,800. In Kansas, we spent more than \$3,200 per resident.

I believe Kansas taxpayers want their elected leaders to be responsive to their needs and responsible with their tax dollars. I believe that becoming a more efficient and effective state government does not mean essential core services and programs such as public schools, Medicaid and public safety services should suffer.

Rather, with state agencies able to more readily identify their costs, government will be able to better target the use of taxpayers' dollars, cut costs through process improvements and streamline agency services and programs to better serve you and your family. And the best news is, the savings we generate will end up back in your pocket.

Vote Tuesday, Nov. 5

Pro-Life Voters Guide

- President: Romney-Ryan
- U.S. Representative: Tim Huelskamp
- State Senator: Ralph Ostmeyer
- State Representative: Ward Cassidy
- KS Supreme Court: NO- Do NOT retain Nancy Morris
- KS Court of Appeals: Yes- Retain David Bruns and G. Joseph Pierron, Jr.

Paid for by Decatur County Kansans for Life, Bill Duncan, VP Endorsements by KFL-PAC, Wichita, Kansas, are not authorized by any Candidate or their committees. Archie Macias, Treasurer.

WRITE IN

George Ruzicka

Center Township Trustee

Pol. Ad paid for by George Ruzicka

Re-elect Kari Ketterl Republican Candidate

I would appreciate your continued support at the November 6th general election. It would be an honor to serve you again as the Decatur County Register of Deeds!

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Kari L. Ketterl

"Working for Decatur County"

With his experienced leadership roles, Republican Brad Marcuson will be able to serve Decatur County and help make it a better place for future generations.

- ◆ Member of Decatur County Farm Bureau
- ◆ Served as board president
- ◆ Served on various State committees for Kansas Farm Bureau



Decatur Co-op associate director for two years
Brad is a fourth generation farmer and 1973 graduate of DCHS and has lived in rural Decatur County all his life. He is married to Elaine and has three grown children.

- ◆ He will listen to your concerns
- ◆ He will represent you
- ◆ He will work for the best interest of Decatur County



Make your VOTE count, VOTE Brad Marcuson, Republican Decatur County Commissioner #3

Please remember that Kansas Law requires you to have a photo ID present to vote.

PAID FOR BY BRAD MARCUSON FOR DISTRICT 3 COMMISSIONER. TAMMY FREDRICKSON, TREASURER

Vote Yes



Vote YES on November 6 for the sales tax increase so our children can learn to swim in a safe pool.

Paid Political Advertisement, Pool Committee, Susan May

got photo ID?

If you're a registered voter, all you need to vote is your Driver's License, Military ID, Kansas College ID or other qualifying ID card.

The new Kansas Voting Law - it's that easy.



Every Election, TAKE IT TO THE POLLS.

For a list of accepted identification and additional information go to gotVoterID.com or call 800-262-VOTE