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Michael Dorst, left and Jake Wassenburg

Pepsi Awards Grant To MHS

Pepsi-Cola of Manhattan has awarded Manhattan High School a \$10,000 grant to be used towards the purchase of new band uniforms for the Big Blue Marching Band. "With some of the current school funding issues, we felt that MHS would be a great fit for our grant," states Jake Wassenburg, Vice President, Pepsi-Cola of Manhattan. The \$10,000 grant is in

association with the national Pepsi Refresh project.

The current MHS Marching Band uniforms were purchased in 1992. They are a formal wool based uniform requiring professional dry cleaning annually. The new uniforms will be a machine washable material and have a 10 year warranty. The new uniforms will be purchased from Fred J. Miller Inc. of Miamisburg, Ohio for a total

cost of \$59,650.00 (200 uniforms).

"We are so grateful for the support that Pepsi has given us," states Michael Dorst, MHS Assistant Principal. "I know our marching band students will be so proud to wear the new uniforms next year and will represent Manhattan High School very well."

Professor Receives Appointment

A Kansas State University expert will serve on a National Research Council committee studying the economic and environmental impacts of increasing biofuels production.

"It is a very big honor to be appointed to this committee and suggests a recognition that social scientists have an important contribution to make in these environmental and energy policy debates," said Theresa Selfa, assistant professor of sociology at K-State.

Selfa will join approximately 15 other experts from across the country to examine the Renewable Fuels Standard, biofuel tax and tariff policy, and production costs on biofuel and petroleum refining capacity. The committee will look at current and future biofuels that are projected to be used by 2022 under different policy scenarios. The study, which was called for by the U.S. Congress, also will examine the effect of biofuels production on the number of U.S. acres used for crops and forestry, and the associated changes in the price of rural and suburban land.

Other factors associated with biofuel production that Selfa will help review are U.S. exports and imports of grain crops, forest products and fossil fuel and how the price of domestic animal feedstocks, forest products and food grains are affected. Cost analyses include the effect of biofuel production on federal revenue and spending

through costs or savings to commodity crop payments, biofuel subsidies and tariff revenue.

The committee also will help conduct environmental analysis of biofuels, such as how they impact land use, fertilizer use, runoff, water quality and greenhouse gas emissions. The review board will look at the differences between corn ethanol and other biofuels and renewable energy sources for the transportation sector based on life-cycle analyses, cost, energy output and environmental impacts.

To aid in the group's analysis, the committee will seek input from feed grain producers, food animal producers, energy producers, forest owners, individuals interested in nutrition, users of renewable fuels and experts in agricultural economics.

Selfa said the group was formed in December 2009 and is in the process of research. The project is to be completed in summer 2011. She said it is important for several reasons.

"It will assess scenarios and their impacts of future advanced biofuels production, which is currently one of the main policy thrusts for renewable energy production and use," she said.

Selfa has a doctorate in development sociology from Cornell University. Her research interests include rural, environmental, agricultural and development sociology. She

has a keen interest in biofuels production.

"My particular interest is in the social dimensions of biofuels production, which has not been given as much attention as many other technical aspects related to production," she said. "How will this affect our energy-use patterns, but more importantly, how will it affect communities in which the production is located?"

Currently, Selfa is the principal investigator on a study funded by the U.S. Department of Energy on the impacts of biofuels on rural communities in Kansas and Iowa. She is a co-principle investigator on a National Science Foundation Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research project "Biofuels and Climate Change -- Farmers' Decisions to Grow Crops for Fuel," examining farmers' land use and decision-making related to biofuels feedstock production in Kansas.

Selfa is an adviser on a National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship at K-State, "From Crops to Commuting: Integrating the Social, Technological, and Agricultural Aspects of Renewable and Sustainable Biorefining, or I-STAR." She also works on the social dimensions of other agricultural and environmental issues in the U.S. and abroad.

Streamlining Emergency Services

By Adam Reichenberger

On Tuesday, April 13, a work session was held by the City Commission to discuss the possibilities of consolidating emergency dispatch services for the Riley County area.

Excluding the Kansas State University Police Department, there are four main entities providing emergency services in Riley County: Manhattan Fire Department (MFD), Riley county Fire District #1 (RCFD #1), Riley County Emergency Medical Services (RCEMS), and Riley County Police Department (RCPD) all of which receive funding by local taxes.

Director of Fire Services, Jerry Snyder, was on hand at the work session to present recent trends and discuss the need for consolidating dispatch services. "Over the past five years," Snyder told the Commission, "all emergency services have experienced increases in calls for services..."

"With the ongoing return of a significant number of troops to Ft. Riley, the likelihood is that these increases will continue for the next several years thus placing additional strain on government's already outmoded means of handling requests for emergency service responses. These increases were projected in the 'Public Safety' section of the Flint Hills Regional Growth plan even before the announcement of Kansas State as the site for National Bio-Agro Defense Facility (NBAF). With the confirmation of NBAF's eventual relocation to Manhattan, those projections will likely increase by virtue of the additional businesses and people NBAF will pull to the area..."

"Since the inception of radio communications for emergency services in Riley County, the various emergency service providers have all handled their respective dispatch operations as they each deem appropriate. As Riley County's population has grown over the years, these systems have undergone a number of changes, but have remained largely isolated with inconsistencies in how units are dispatched, how calls are logged, whether the systems used by the various agencies are manual or electronic, etc. Worth noting is the fact that Manhattan/Riley County is the only population base of its size in Kansas (Manhattan being a city of the 1st class) operating without a consolidated dispatch center. Currently, all emergency calls (911 calls) ring to the County's designated Primary Safety Answering Point (PSAP) which is located in RCPD's communication's center. These calls are handled by RCPD Dispatchers. Outside that, the hardware necessary to make the communications infrastructure possible is handled jointly, but there exists little else in the way of commonality regarding the handling of incoming calls for service.

"The situation is both problematic and inefficient and has been recognized as such by emergency service directors as well as both the City and County Commissions since before the current Law Enforcement Center (LEC) was constructed. In the run-up to construction of the LEC, it seemed prudent to discuss the possibility of consolidating dispatch services. While everyone was in agreement that it would be beneficial to the community,

there were hurdles. These hurdles were primarily financial, but also revolved around discussion concerning whether or not any consolidated dispatch facility should operate independent of local emergency service providers or function as a component of one of the existing emergency service providers while providing service to the others."

Given time for review it was determined, according to Snyder, the most realistic and efficient direction to move was not to create a separate entity responsible for dispatch services to all emergency providers. The practical solution was deemed to be one that consolidated dispatch services to a single, pre-existing provider. It was determined along with support from the Flint Hills Regional Growth Plan that the Riley County Police Dispatch Center was the most qualified to take on these services.

While the general consensus is that these are steps that need to be taken the funds to follow through with them are less readily agreed upon. The staffing and training of five new dispatchers (the amount required for this transition) would be over \$220,000; a projected 1.68% over the approved 2009 budget. This significant increase is something emergency service directors have shied away from for some time. Several funding options have been presented, however, and one that would progressively spread the money out year by year as opposed to one big chunk has been the most appealing to directors.

Rental Licensing Inspections To Look At Disorderly Houses

By Adam Reichenberger

For months now the hot topic of disorderly house violations has been discussed amongst the City Administration and effective solutions have been mulled over. In February the Riley County Police Department was given more tools to handle disorderly houses and in the first week of May the Trash Nuisance Ordinance will undergo an overhaul of changes to allow Code Services to respond more efficiently to trash complaints.

On Tuesday, April 13, Assistant City Manager, Lauren Palmer presented a new light on the subject matter before a work session held by the City Commission.

"Throughout the discussions," stated Palmer, "City Administration has noted that the Rental Licensing and Inspection Program provides a new tool for addressing these concerns as they relate to rental properties. Under the new program, dwelling units may not be lawfully rented within the City of Manhattan without a license. Currently, there are only three conditions by which the Building Official may deny, revoke, or suspend a rental license:

1. Failure to submit a complete application and/or license fee;
2. Fraud, misrepresentation, or

false statement in the license application; or

3. Failure of the unit to comply with the conditions of licensure, including allowing inspections, posting educational materials, and meeting inspection standards."

During the work session Tuesday, Palmer suggested additional conditions to be added to the above list. Notably, City Administration requests that the Commission add Disorderly House Nuisance Ordinance violations to the list. Under this ordinance an abatement process has been established allowing the owner or occupant to address the concerns before the City prosecutes.

While the threat of prosecution and rental license annulment would still linger and hopefully motivate owners and occupiers to comply with city ordinances regarding disorderly conduct, Palmer maintained that the abatement process and relative "grace" period are still necessary for fair efficiency.

Palmer assured, "The rental license would only be impacted if an owner or occupant failed to enter into a nuisance abatement agreement, or after entering into the agreement, failed to comply with its terms."

Kansas Conference On Depression Here Apr 24

How does one live well with Depression and Bipolar disorders? What can be learned from veterans of these disorders as well as experienced professionals who treat them?

Those are subjects to be addressed at a Kansas conference of the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance from 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday April 24 in Manhattan at the First Christian Church, 115 Courthouse Plaza.

John McManamy, an award-winning mental health journalist, author and advocate from San Diego, will speak in the morning and again in the afternoon. His topic will address "what your doctor doesn't tell you that you need to know." There is more information at his website <http://mcmamweb.com>

Other speakers include Lori Davidson of Lawrence, an author and researcher who will talk about Pathways to Recovery; Karen Cook, also of Lawrence, is Kansas co-coordinator of the

Wellness Recovery Action

Plan; and Evelyn Unkefer of Topeka, who will address alternative strategies of energy healing, mindfulness, brain waves and desensitization.

The meeting is open to the public and there is no charge to attend. There will be a book store on premises, with lunch provided by Kansas DBSA. Pre-register by emailing johnfjagger@hotmail.com or by telephoning John Jagger at 785.236.2366. There is more information online at <http://dbsa.manhattanks.org>

The Flint Hills DBSA group meets regularly at 6:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the basement of the First Christian Church at Fifth and Humboldt. We welcome individuals, family and friends of those with depression and bipolar disorder. Each meeting is governed by confidentiality and respect for individual differences. For more information, contact John Jagger: 785-236-2366 / johnfjagger@hotmail.com / dbsa.manhattanks.org



Morgan Enoch



Ernest Benjamin

Students Receive Nursing Degrees

Morgan Enoch and Ernest Benjamin McCann, both of Manhattan, are two of 71 baccalaureate and four graduate students of the Washburn University School of Nursing who will be honored during a recognition and pinning ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at White Concert Hall on the WU campus. The School of Nursing commencement will be at 3:30 p.m. the same day in Lee Arena, Petro Allied Health Center.

A 2006 graduate of Riley County High School, Enoch also received an AAS degree from Cloud County Community College in 2008. At Washburn, she was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. She is the daughter of Gordon Dowell and Jayne Dowell, of Manhattan.

McCann was named to the dean's honor roll and is the son of Linda McCann, Manhattan.

Obituaries

Arnold Theodore (Ted) Anderson

Arnold Theodore "Ted" Anderson, age 88, of Manhattan, Kansas, died Saturday morning, April 10, 2010, at the Good Shepherd Hospice House in Manhattan.

He was born on January 7, 1922, in the Deep Creek Community near Manhattan, Kansas the son of Carl Otto and Victoria Mary Anderson. Mr. Anderson was a lifetime area resident graduating from Manhattan High School in 1939 and later attended Kansas State Agricultural College where he earned his Agricultural Certificate in 1949.

Mr. Anderson was a farmer in the Deep Creek Community. He served as the secretary for the Farmers Union Co-op board for 35 years and for many years was on the FarMarCo/Farmland board. He was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church

where he served as an usher.

On July 31, 1949, he was united in marriage to the former Elizabeth "Betty" Belle Bostick. She survives of Manhattan. Also surviving are their three daughters: Cindy Casper and husband Ralph of Manhattan, Jeanette Wells and husband Mike of Wichita, KS, Arlene Jacobson and husband Doug of Havensville, KS, five grandchildren: Eric Casper and wife Emily of Lincoln, NE, Holly McHugh and husband Kevin, Kansas City, MO, Tim Wells and wife Mandi, Wichita, KS; Travis Wells and wife Meagan, Wichita, KS, Seth Brandon, Havensville, KS and five great grandchildren: Nathan and Logan Casper, Lincoln, NE, Caden McHugh, Kansas City, MO and Jacksen Wells and Brenton Wells both of Wichita, KS. Two sisters: Mary Bernice Bayol of Colorado Springs, CO and Viola Ruth Davis of Topeka, KS also survive.

He was preceded in death by his

parents and by one sister: Helen Victoria Marts.

Funeral services were held 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel with Reverend Nancy J Kollhoff officiating. Interment followed in the Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

The family will receive friends during a visitation from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. Tuesday evening at the funeral home.

On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website located at www.ymlfuneral-home.com.

Memorials have been established for the Good Shepherd Hospice House and for the First United Methodist Church. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas, 66502.

Wanda M. Bates

Wanda Izetta (Molsberry) Bates, age 95, of Manhattan, Kansas, died Tuesday, April 6, 2010, at the Good Shepherd Hospice House in Manhattan.

She was born in Clarksville, Iowa, on January 11, 1915, the daughter of Malon Bion Molsberry and Rosetta (Davis) Molsberry. She attended Clarksville schools and graduated from Iowa State University in Ames in 1938 with a B.S. degree in Home Economics Education.

Mrs. Bates taught Home Economics in Iowa schools for seven years at Superior Township Consolidated School at Superior and at Spirit Lake and Jefferson High Schools.

In 1942, she married Dr. Herbert T. Bates, a Professor of Chemical Engineering. They lived in Cleveland, OH, and Lincoln, NE, before moving to Manhattan, KS, in 1958.

Mrs. Bates was a secretary and word processing typist in the

Department of Biochemistry at Kansas State University for eighteen years. She was a published writer and a member of Kansas Authors Club, Manhattan Writers, Manhattan Literature Club, KSU Social Club and the First United Methodist Church where she was a Sunday School teacher for a number of years and an active member of United Methodist Women.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, three brothers: Chester, Mahlon, and Gordon Molsberry, and three sisters: Hazel Molsberry, Bess Wissink, and Iris Marple.

Mrs. Bates is survived by a son, Rodney Bates and his wife Candace Sherman of Strong City, KS, daughter Wanda "Beth" (Bates) Lowe and husband Thomas Lowe, of Lawrence, KS, grandson David Bates and wife Amber of the Marshall Islands, granddaughter Ellen (Lowe) McNellis and husband Michael McNellis of Mesa, AZ, grandsons: Russell Lowe of Dallas,

TX and Brian Lowe and wife October Strange of Lawrence, KS, and 2 great-grandchildren, Allison McNellis and Connor McNellis of Mesa, AZ.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday April 13, 2010 at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, with Reverend Nancy J Kollhoff officiating. Interment followed in the Sunrise Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 12:30 p.m. until service time at the funeral home on Tuesday.

On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website located at www.ymlfuneral-home.com

Memorial gifts may be given to the First United Methodist Church in Manhattan, KS or to the KSU Foundation for scholarships in the Department of Biochemistry, or to the Clarksville, IA Public Library. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Elaine E. Berggren

Elaine E. Berggren, age 82, of Manhattan, Kansas, died Wednesday morning, April 7, 2010 at the Stoneybrook Health Care Center in Manhattan.

She was born on November 9, 1927, on a farm near Bala, Kansas. Her parents, William S. and Lydia Julia (Heilman) Schurle established their homestead in the early 1900's and believed in hard work and Christian principles. During their first 19 years of marriage they had eleven children of which Elaine was the 10th.

As a youth Elaine and her family were members of the Ebenezer Methodist Church, where Elaine was the organist for 15 years from age 9 to 24. Her brothers worked hard on the farm to pay her way through high school which gave her the opportunity to be the only one in her family to go to college. It was while in high school that one of her teachers recognized her leadership skills and got her started teaching in a little one-room school in Fairview at the age of 18. Over the next four years she continued to teach to earn enough money to attend college at Kansas State University where she would earn her Masters in Elementary and Gifted Education in 1962.

On July 15, 1951, she was united in marriage to Kenneth Emmanuel Berggren and they became parents of a daughter, Jeanie Esther. The family moved from Leonardville to Manhattan in 1962 where Elaine taught kinder-

garten for literally hundreds of children. She taught at Theodore Roosevelt, Marlatt, Marlatt Annex and Eugene Field elementary schools prior to her retirement in 1982.

In 1982, they moved to Hawaii where Elaine went to work as the director of a Christian preschool. A talented musician, Elaine played the piano and enjoyed teaching her preschoolers and grandchildren to enjoy singing and playing the piano and rhythm band instruments.

In 1989, following Kenny's illness with cancer, they returned to Kansas and made their home in Leonardville. Their daughter Jeanie and her family moved to Kansas in 1993, which allowed them to participate in family events and spend more time together.

Elaine was a member of the First Lutheran Church in Manhattan and Delta Kappa Gamma Honorary Society. She was a wonderful cook, gardener and enjoyed quilting and craft-work. She made over 20 quilts of which all but one were given as gifts to family and friends.

Elaine was preceded in death by her parents, by her husband in 1999, and by four brothers and five sisters.

She is survived by her daughter, Jeanie Racoma and husband Rocky Racoma of Manhattan. She is also survived by one brother: Lawrence Schurle of Clay Center, Kansas and by her two grandchildren: Chad Racoma of

Syracuse, New York and Heidi Wiley and husband Josh Wiley of Coffeyville, Kansas.

Elaine waged an optimistic battle with cancer and Parkinson's Disease over the last twelve years. Along the way, she made many friends in the health care world, both working professionals and others, like herself, who were receiving medical care. Many of them complimented her by noting that she never gave up hope, that her life was worth living, and that she could make a positive difference in the world.

The family received friends during a visitation from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. Thursday, April 8, 2010, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home.

Funeral services were held 2:00 p.m. Friday, April 9, 2010, at the First Lutheran Church, 930 Poyntz Avenue, in Manhattan with Reverend Dr. Keith Wiens officiating. Interment followed in the Walsburg Lutheran Cemetery near Leonardville.

On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website located at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorials have been established for Samaritan's Purse and for Homecare and Hospice, Inc. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Roy J. Milleret

Dr. Roy J. Milleret was born in Kansas City, Kansas on February 10, 1922 and died in Manhattan, Kansas on April 6, 2010 at 88 ears of age.

He graduated from Kansas State Veterinary College in 1944. He served as a Captain in the Veterinary Corps from 1951-1953 as a meat inspector. After running a private large animal practice in Bonner Springs, Kansas for five years, he returned to Kansas State in 1958 to complete his M.S. degree in Pathology and join the staff of the College of Veterinary Medicine. During his employment at KSU, he traveled to Nigeria to teach at Ahmadu Bello University. One year before his retirement in 1986, he was recognized with the KSU Veterinary Medicine Alumni Award for Meritorious Service.

His friends and family remember him for his sense of humor; his love of animals; his mentoring of veterinary students; his outgoing and friendly manner; and his careful tending of his yard and his acreage on Wildcat Creek Road.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Miriam Ruth Hobbs Milleret and two children, Margo Milleret and her husband Vance Bass of Albuquerque, New Mexico and Grant Milleret and his wife Toni of Las Vegas, Nevada and three grandchildren: Graham Bass, Abigail Milleret and Kyle Milleret.

The family will receive visitors on Friday, April 16th from 6:30-8:00pm at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home 1616 Poyntz Avenue,

Manhattan, Kansas. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 17th at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home with Rev. R. Kent Cormack officiating.

Private inurnment of the ashes will be at a later date.

Memorial contributions in memory of Dr. Milleret may be made to the St. Joseph's Village, First Congregational Church, or Home Care and Hospice and left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.

On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at:

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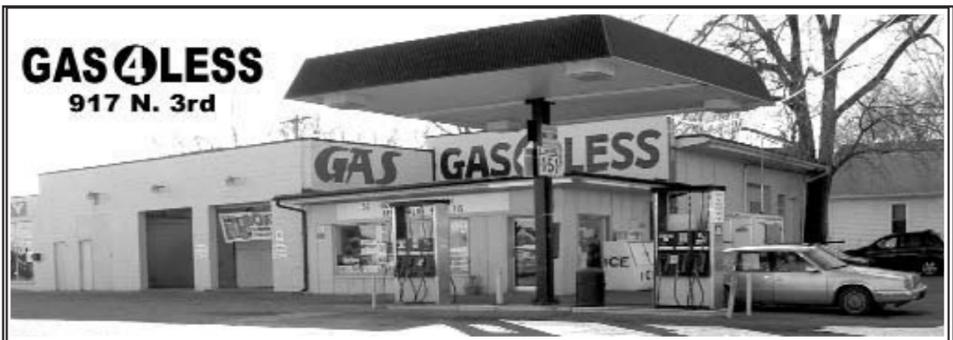


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Kansas Profile - Now That's Rural: Sue Jean Covacevich

By Ron Wilson, director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University.

Sunflowers. They are the ubiquitous symbol of the state of Kansas, and they were also the favorite subject of an outstanding Kansas artist. This artist not only created beautiful works of art herself, but was an innovative arts educator. She was a world traveler, but her heart and home remained in rural Kansas. She's the subject of today's Kansas Profile.

Sue Jean Covacevich was a noted artist and educator, born in the rural community of Wellington, Kansas in 1905. Wellington is currently a town of 8,515 people. Now, that's rural.

When Sue Jean was in the fourth grade, an art teacher came to her class. Sue Jean was quoted as saying, "I felt a world had opened up for me."

She pursued her interest in art, and studied at Bethany College under the legendary Birger Sandzen. She went on to teach art in Winfield, which became her longtime home.

Birger Sandzen became a mentor for Sue Jean. In fact, his international interest may have influenced her to travel to Mexico in 1931. Not only did she experience international culture, she met and married Nick Covacevich and settled in Mexico City. There they raised two daughters. When a nearby village had a crucial need for clean water, Sue Jean enlisted her students back in Winfield to send pennies to help. The result was a community fountain decorated with the flags of Mexico and the United States.

Sue Jean continued to teach and produce artwork, but by the 1940s the marriage had ended and she returned to Winfield. She became supervisor of art in the public schools and then



Ron Wilson

established the art program at Southwestern College.

Liz Seaton, associate curator at K-State's Beach Museum of Art, grew up in Winfield. "I was struck by how this one person had such an impact (to encourage the arts), not just in the schools where she taught, but in the entire community," Liz said.

In 1952, Covacevich began a huge mural on a bank in downtown Winfield. It depicted the history of the city and took 11 months to complete, opening with great fanfare and some 3,000 people in attendance. She later founded the Winfield Arts Center, designed a bicentennial seal for the city, and created a sculpture for the park, while teaching in various communities around south central Kansas.

Former students of hers would write how Sue Jean had a lifelong impact on their lives. One of her innovations was to create an art therapy program for the patients at the Winfield State Hospital. In the summers, she would travel internationally.

During the 1950s and '60s, K-State Extension sponsored a rural-urban art

program which trained artists around the state. Sue Jean was an instructor for that program for more than a decade.

Covacevich's artistic versatility was quite remarkable. She did both abstract and objective art while continuing to teach. She worked in painting, printmaking, mosaic, sculpture, and stained glass. She was commissioned for several public murals and stained glass windows in various churches. She exhibited in New York and received a gold medal from an international art show in Florence, Italy.

Her subjects ranged from the Kansas landscape to world monuments. One of her favorite subjects to paint was the ubiquitous Kansas sunflower. An oil painting of sunflowers was her contribution to the Kansas Governor's Art Award exhibition, and another of her sunflower paintings hung in the office of Kansas Sen. Jim Pearson in Washington, D.C.

On May 14, 1998, Sue Jean Covacevich passed away at her home in Winfield. An artist to the end, she left an unfinished oil painting near her easel at the time of her death.

"Following the Sun: The Art of Sue Jean Covacevich" is on display at K-State's Beach Museum of Art through May 2, 2010. For more information, go online to www.beach.ksu.edu.

Sunflowers. They are an icon of our sunflower state, and a favorite motif of this outstanding artist and educator. We commend Sue Jean Covacevich for making a difference by sharing her artistic talents with her students and her community. Just as a growing sunflower plant seeks the sunshine, Sue Jean followed her passion for the arts while remaining deeply rooted in rural Kansas.

Counties Include Ag In Plans

When it comes to emergency management in the United States, agriculture has been a relative newcomer to the table. But efforts are under way to bring agriculture into emergency plans — right down to the county level.

"Many counties in states across the country have a plan that includes agriculture, but many more don't," said Billy Dictson, who is director of the Office of Biosecurity in the Southwest Border Food Safety and Defense Center at New Mexico State University. Speaking at workshops in Wichita and Liberal, Kan., the week of March 22-26, Dictson said, "One of the things that really concerned us was that in 3,000-some counties across the country, most of them are silent on agriculture."

The "Strengthening Community Agrosecurity Planning" (S-CAP) workshops brought agricultural producers, county emergency managers, veterinarians, law enforcement, Extension agents and others together to identify agricultural assets in counties and make sure those assets were addressed in county emergency plans.

The workshops were presented by the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN), a collaborative multi-state effort by Extension services across the country to improve the delivery of services to citizens affected by disasters. The workshops were brought to Kansas by K-State Research and Extension, a member institution of EDEN.

The S-CAP workshops are funded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and are being presented in states across the country. Farm Credit Associations of Kansas supported both Kansas workshops.

The workshops were designed to build capacity to handle agricultural issues during an emergency or disaster, to improve networking among stakeholders who can plan for and respond to emergencies, and to develop community agrosecurity planning (CAP) teams who will establish or enhance agro-

security components within existing local emergency operations plans.

"After 9-11, greater concern surfaced about the safety of our food supply," Dictson said. "Remember, every plane, including crop dusters, was grounded for several days after 9-11. At that time, ag didn't really have a place at the national 'table.' I would submit that if we ever have a foreign animal disease incident introduced, it will far surpass the devastation caused by 9-11."

At stake in Kansas alone, is a wheat industry that in 2008 ranked No. 1 in the United States at 856 million bushels or 14.2 percent of U.S. wheat production, according to the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Kansas also ranked No. 1 in flour milled (32.8 million hundred weight), No. 1 in sorghum grain produced (214 million bushels) and No. 3 in cattle and calves on farms (6.3 million head) and cattle slaughtered (6.5 million head).

The threats to agriculture can be accidental, natural or intentional, Dictson said. He cited notes found in a cave in Afghanistan that had lists of plant and animal diseases, including foot and mouth disease, hog cholera, rice blast and maize rust.

"Information about how to attack the U.S. food supply has been known for some time, but so far, state-sponsored groups or individuals have not chosen to attack our food supply," he said.

"I submit that if those kinds of lists of agents that can be used against the food and agriculture industry in the U.S. are in the hands of state-sponsored terrorists, they are there for no good reason,"

Dictson said.

The U.S. also runs the risk that disease might be brought in, intentionally or not, via illegally imported livestock, Dictson said.

"Animal smuggling is second only to drug smuggling in this country," the biosecurity specialist said.

Andrea Husband, agrosecurity program coordinator at the University of Kentucky, reminded workshop participants about the financial and emotional toll of the foot-and-mouth disease outbreak in the United Kingdom in 2001.

The direct economic impact from that incident totaled about \$3.3 billion (in U.S. dollars) and another \$8.3 billion in lost tourism and related industry revenue, she said. By the end of the 221-day outbreak, more than 6 million animals were euthanized.

"But it doesn't take a big outbreak to have a huge economic impact," Husband said. She cited the financial impact sparked by one cow confirmed to have bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in Washington, including beef export losses that ranged from \$3.2 billion to \$4.7 billion.

"Domestic cattle prices dropped 16 percent in the first week alone and international trade restrictions still exist," she said.

More information about the EDEN S-CAP project can be found online at <http://www.eden.lsu.edu/s-cap>. More information about emergency preparedness and disaster recovery resources available through K-State Research and Extension is available at <http://www.kseden.ksu.edu>.

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Thoughts From The Prairie

Those Who Serve in Our Town

America has a great Army dedicated to defending our freedom from external enemies so we can live peacefully. Our town has another great army of patriotic citizens in numerous service organizations whose members are dedicated to making our community a better place to live. This week I was fortunate to participate in the activities of three of these great organizations.

The Solar Kiwanis is part of an international group dedicated to reaching out to young people as well as senior citizens. Solar Kiwanis meets at the Little Apple Brewery at noon on Mondays. This week, Jim Sharp, a Battle of the Bulge veteran, introduced Dr. Joe Schlajeck whose medical practice is located Meadowlark Hills serving the seniors there. Dr. "Joe" presented a very interesting overview of the impact of the Health Care Bill on his practice and the time lines for implementations. Dr. Schlajeck welcomes the evaluation system established by the bill because it will encourage accountability and eliminate unnecessary treatment that he claimed takes 30 percent of doctor's time to correct. The presentation was not without some challenging questions about the bill. Thanks for coming, Dr. Joe!

Monday night at the Lions Club, Jenny and I were guests of Dee McKee at the event hosted by Purple Wave and catered superbly by Houlihan's with melt-in-your-mouth beef pot roast. The Lions Club is especially noted for their ministry to the blind. Governor Parkinson was the guest speaker and Mayor Bob Strawn was there to welcome him and the other guests. The Mayor is always a class act and it occurred to me as he was speaking that it was about time to publicly commend him for his personal effort in making the new Pavilion at City Park possible, predominantly with private funds from citizen donors.

Governor Parkinson asked us not to hate government and commented on the process of restoring financial balance to Kansas, claiming they have already cut government by 15 percent. He said the only alternative remaining to deal with the \$300 million budget shortfall is to increase cigarette tax by some undisclosed amount and sales tax by one percent. He said we would not feel this small tax increase when it went into affect and when it was removed in 3 years.

The Governor's sensitivity to the plight of Rural Kansas is commendable. He said that Kansas used to be 80 percent rural, now only 20 percent live there. The solution offered to restore a viable rural economy was more government intervention and windmills, avoiding the issue of a coal plant in western Kansas. I like windmills, but



Dick Miller

now that we are in a financial and energy crisis and several years away from competitive pricing and power line availability for wind energy distribution, it is not the right time to force the market toward wind by ignoring systems that produce energy at a fraction of wind energy cost. Governor, thank you for coming to our town!

One of the most enjoyable features of the evening was meeting Jim Dixon who recently came to Manhattan from California. Jim is sort of retired but his passion for kids who are challenged emotionally because of abuse really came through and my guess is that passion will be put to good use here in our town. Jim's sister, Kay Moorman, reminded us what a great mutual friend we have in Rosalie Thompson.

Youth For Christ (YFC), an outreach to youth started by Billy Graham years ago is another great service organization expanding in our town. Rick Hernandez, the Executive Director, briefed us on an exciting plan to expand the YFC activities to Junior High and High School level students in Manhattan. YFC already has great activities for Teen Moms in Manhattan and the youth at Fort Riley and Wamego. Rick explained that one of the greatest challenges they have is ministering to the kids at Ft. Riley who have one of their parents deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan. There are heart warming stories like recovering a recluse kid named Mike or Jill who was freaking out on life. That's not their real names of course, but their stories are real and so are Rick and the YFC volunteers providing the help.

To wrap up the week in our town come join us at the Riley County Court House at 5 PM on the 15th. Bring your signs and join us at the Boston Harbor for great music, rousing speeches and plans to continue the march to restore our Constitutional Republic! Remember in November!

"Conscience of Kansas"

The Westboro Baptist Church: In the Footsteps of the Pharisees and Sadducees

By Paul A. Ibbetson

In the aftermath of the court's reversal of a multi-million dollar judgment against the Westboro Baptist Church for picketing a soldier's funeral, we in America are left with many questions about where justice can be found. Despite many within the country that believe that the cult from Topeka, Kansas, should not be allowed to heckle and damn our nation's military dead at their funerals, for now, the courts have decided that these protests are protected under the constitution. Equally painful to so many, myself included, is the court's decision to force the Al Snyder family, the family that brought the private lawsuit against Westboro, to pay over \$16,000 of the Phelps family's court costs. It would seem that the courts have said to grieving military families across the nation that attempting to stop the Westboro Baptist Church from joyously telling them that their loved ones are in hell will be a costly endeavor on all fronts.

Does this recent court ruling in some way justify the work of Westboro? Has God reached down to shelter his faithful flock with their colorful signs and punish the wickedness of the world as is so often indicated from the members of this group from Kansas? The answer to this question is found in the same document they use to damn all of humanity: the Bible. When we find ourselves at a loss to fathom groups like Westboro, it is the wisdom and modern applicability found within the Bible that exposes them and shows their true place in the world. It is amongst the holy hypocrisy of the Pharisees and the Sadducees of the Bible we find Westboro's equivalent.

The Pharisees and Sadducees were the religious experts of their time, and like Westboro and their colorful signs, these religion enforcers wore special colorful robes to be easily identified among the masses. You might say the colorful robes were their trademark. The Pharisees and Sadducees took great effort to garner attention for themselves in public spectacles on street corners that were meant to show their righteousness, and more importantly, the disparity between them and the masses of the spiritually lost. Are you seeing the similarities yet? Jesus admonished the Pharisees and Sadducees for their lack of compassion, and in their intolerance, for turning people away from God. The Lord could see that these public super holy rollers acted for their own glory and not his. Jesus as well understood them, and admonished them for what they really were, a "brood of vipers."

I remember interviewing Shirley Phelps Roper in 2008 on my radio program Conscience of Kansas. The cult lives only 40 miles from me here in Kansas and despite many friends who feared for my physical and financial safety against these well-known litigious fanatics, I invited their congregational spokesperson to the program and debated the issues as best as can be

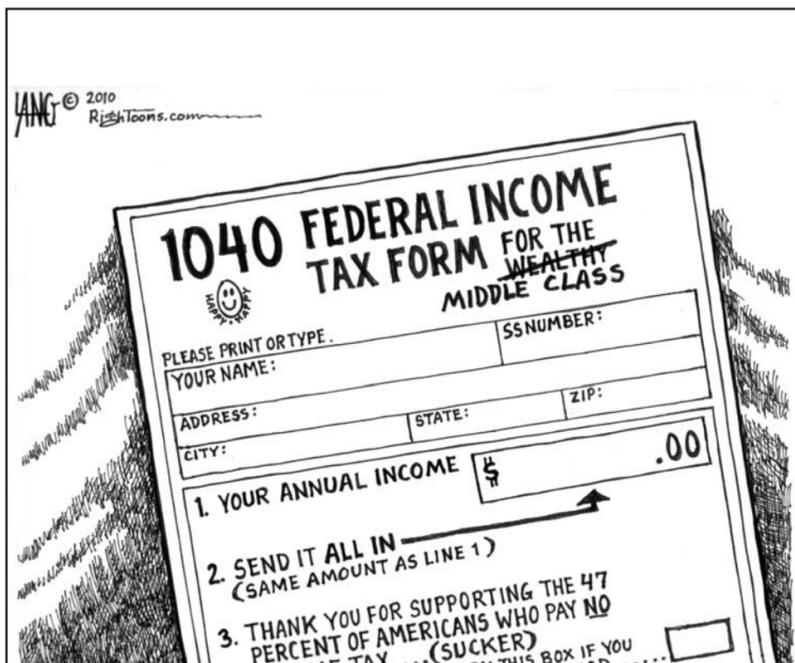
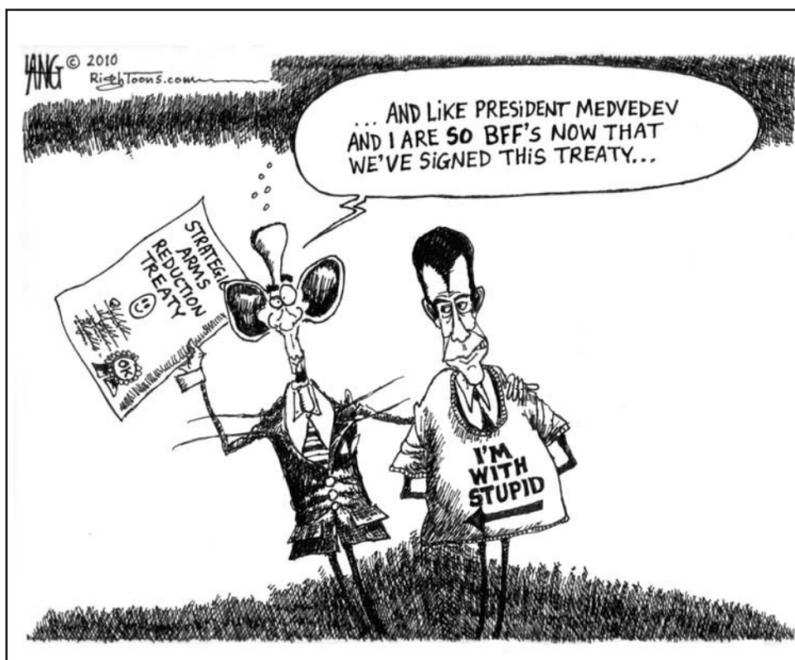
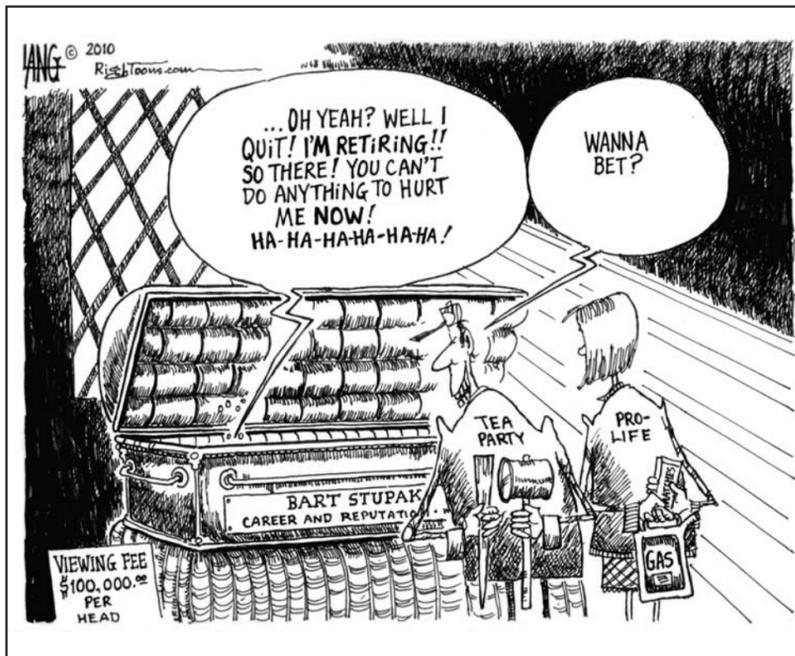


Paul A. Ibbetson

done with members of this group. In fact, if I have any YouTube fame at all, it is as the radio host that turned Shirley Phelps Roper's microphone off a record number of times. During my interview with her, among the many judgments she laid upon me, I remember her saying that I would have been one of the people cheering the crucifixion of Christ. If the truth be told, it was in fact the self-absorbed Westborian-like Pharisees that saw Jesus as a threat to their power base and worked so hard to destroy the son of God. If the sacrificial lamb were to return today, he would have Westboro at his doorstep with the signs of the Sadducees saying "God Hates Jesus."

I don't know if this biblical perspective gives any consolation to the Snyder family or those who will suffer at future military funerals at the hands of a bunch of Kansas Pharisees and Sadducees. What I hope is that while the high court's struggle with where free speech begins and ends, we take to heart what eluded the Pharisees, Sadducees, and their modern equivalents. That is, while sin, judgment, and damnation are biblical realities, so are love, mercy, compassion, and the opportunity for God's grace. One does not take place without the other, and to say otherwise is to be worse than a fool; it is to be a hypocrite. It is to be a Pharisee or a Sadducee.

Paul A. Ibbetson is a former Chief of Police of Cherryvale, Kansas, and member of the Montgomery County Drug Task Force. Paul received his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Criminal Justice at Wichita State University, and is currently completing his PhD. in sociology at Kansas State University. Paul is the author of the books "Living Under The Patriot Act: Educating A Society" and "Feeding Lions: Sharing The Conservative Philosophy In A Politically Hostile World." Paul is also the radio host of the Kansas Broadcasting Association's 2008, 2009 and 2010 Entertainment Program of the Year, Conscience of Kansas airing on KSDB Manhattan 91.9 f.m. www.ibbetsonusa.com. For interviews or questions, please contact ibbetson91.9@gmail.com



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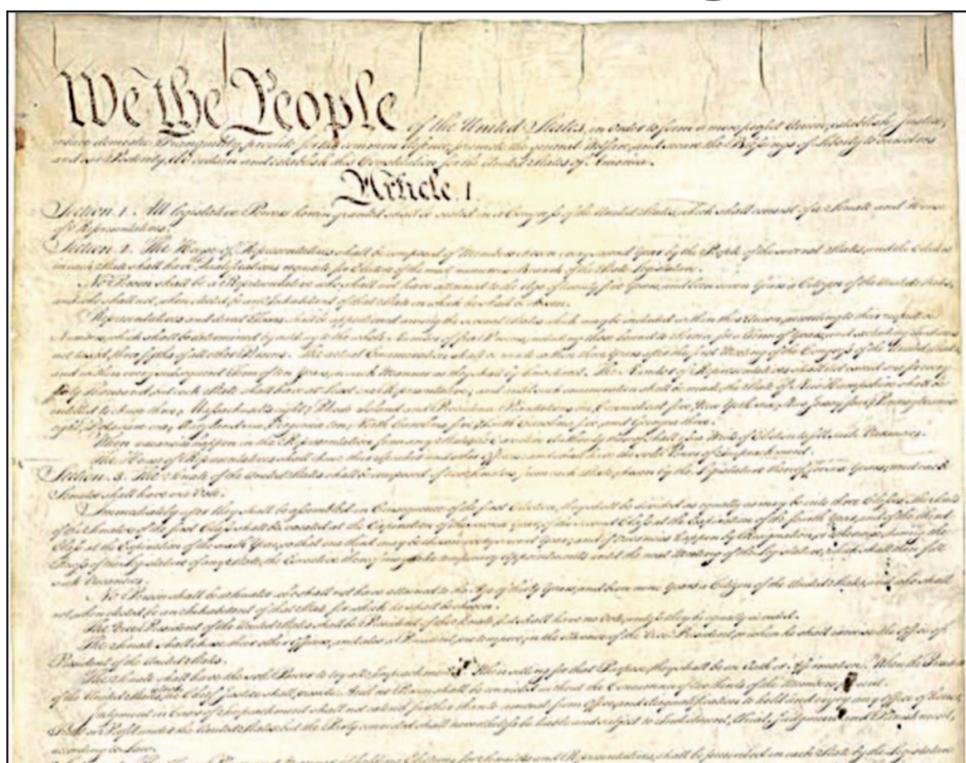
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- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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The U.S. Constitution

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Last Week: A More Perfect Union: The Creation of the U.S. Constitution

This Week: A More Perfect Union: The Creation of the U.S. Constitution 2 U.S. National Archives and Records Administration The Virginia Plan

On Tuesday morning, May 29, Edmund Randolph, the tall, 34-year-old governor of Virginia, opened the debate with a long speech decrying the evils that had befallen the country under the Articles of Confederation and stressing the need for creating a strong national government. Randolph then outlined a broad plan that he and his Virginia compatriots had, through long sessions at the Indian Queen tavern, put together in the days preceding the convention. James Madison had such a plan on his mind for years. The proposed government had three branches--legislative, executive, and judicial--each branch structured to check the other. Highly centralized, the government would have veto power over laws enacted by state legislatures. The plan, Randolph confessed, "meant a strong consolidated union in which the idea of states should be nearly annihilated." This was, indeed, the rat so offensive to Patrick Henry.

The introduction of the so-called Virginia Plan at the beginning of the convention was a tactical coup. The Virginians had forced the



General George Washington was unanimously elected president of the Philadelphia convention.

debate into their own frame of reference and in their own terms.

For 10 days the members of the convention discussed the sweeping and, to many delegates, startling Virginia resolutions. The critical issue, described succinctly by Gouverneur Morris on May 30, was the distinction between a federation and a national government, the "former being a mere compact resting on the good faith of the parties; the latter having a complete and compulsive operation." Morris favored the latter, a "supreme power" capable of exercising necessary authority not merely a shadow government, fragmented and hopelessly ineffective.

The New Jersey Plan

This nationalist position revolted many delegates who cringed at the vision of a central government

swallowing state sovereignty. On June 13 delegates from smaller states rallied around proposals offered by New Jersey delegate William Paterson. Railing against efforts to throw the states into "hotchpot," Paterson proposed a "union of the States merely federal." The "New Jersey resolutions" called only for a revision of the articles to enable the Congress more easily to raise revenues and regulate commerce. It also provided that acts of Congress and ratified treaties be "the supreme law of the States."

For 3 days the convention debated Paterson's plan, finally voting for rejection. With the defeat of the New Jersey resolutions, the convention was moving toward creation of a new government, much to the dismay of many small-state delegates. The nationalists, led by Madison, appeared to have the proceedings in their grip. In addition, they were able to persuade the members that any new constitution should be ratified through conventions of the people and not by the Congress and the state legislatures--another tactical coup. Madison and his allies believed that the constitution they had in mind would likely be scuttled in the legislatures, where many state political leaders stood to lose power. The nationalists wanted to bring the issue before "the people," where ratification was more likely.

Hamilton's Plan

On June 18 Alexander Hamilton presented his own ideal plan of government. Erudite and polished, the speech, nevertheless, failed to win a following. It went too far.

Calling the British government "the best in the world," Hamilton proposed a model strikingly similar an executive to serve during good behavior or life with veto power over all laws; a senate with members serving during good behavior; the legislature to have power to pass "all laws whatsoever." Hamilton later wrote to Washington that the people were now willing to accept "something not very remote from that which they have lately quitted." What the people had "lately quitted," of course, was monarchy. Some members of the convention fully expected the country to turn in this direction. Hugh Williamson of North Carolina, a wealthy physician, declared that it was "pretty certain . . . that we should at some time or other have a king." Newspaper accounts appeared in the summer of 1787 alleging that a plot was under way to invite the second son of George III, Frederick, Duke of York, the secular bishop of Osnaburgh in Prussia, to become "king of the United States."

Alexander Hamilton on June 18 called the British government "the best in the world" and proposed a model strikingly similar. The erudite New Yorker, however, later became one of the most ardent spokesmen for the new Constitution.

Strongly militating against any serious attempt to establish monarchy was the enmity so prevalent in the revolutionary period toward royalty and the privileged classes. Some state constitutions had even prohibited titles of nobility. In the same year as the Philadelphia convention, Royall Tyler, a revolutionary war veteran, in his play The Contract, gave his own jaundiced view of the upper classes:

Exult each patriot heart! this night is shewn

A piece, which we may fairly call our own;

Where the proud titles of "My Lord!" "Your Grace!"

To humble Mr. and plain Sir give place.

Most delegates were well aware that there were too many Royall Tylers in the country, with too many memories of British rule and too many ties to a recent bloody war, to accept a king. As the debate moved into the specifics of the new government, Alexander Hamilton and others of his persuasion would have to accept something less.

By the end of June, debate between the large and small states over the issue of representation in the first chamber of the legislature was becoming increasingly acrimonious. Delegates from Virginia and other large states demanded that voting in Congress be according to population; representatives of smaller states insisted upon the equality they had enjoyed under the articles. With the oratory degenerating into threats and accusations, Benjamin Franklin appealed for daily prayers. Dressed in his customary gray homespun, the aged philosopher pleaded that "the Father of lights . . . illuminate our understandings." Franklin's appeal for prayers was never fulfilled; the convention, as Hugh Williamson noted, had no funds to pay a preacher.

On June 29 the delegates from the small states lost the first battle. The convention approved a resolution establishing population as the basis for representation in the House of Representatives, thus favoring the larger states. On a subsequent small-state proposal that the states have equal representation in the Senate, the vote resulted in a tie. With large-state delegates unwilling to compromise on this issue, one member thought that the convention "was on the verge of dissolution, scarce held together by the strength of an hair."

By July 10 George Washington was so frustrated over the deadlock that he bemoaned "having had any agency" in the proceedings and called the opponents of a strong central government "narrow minded politicians . . . under the influence of local views." Luther Martin of Maryland, perhaps one whom Washington saw as "narrow minded," thought otherwise. A tiger in debate, not content merely to parry an opponent's argument but determined to bludgeon it into eternal rest, Martin had become perhaps the small states' most effective, if irascible, orator. The Marylander leaped eagerly into the battle on the representation issue declaring, "The States have a right to an equality of representation. This is secured to us by our present articles of confederation; we are in possession of this privilege."

The Great Compromise

Also crowding into this complicated and divisive discussion over representation was the North-South division over the method by which slaves were to be counted for purposes of taxation and representation. On July 12 Oliver Ellsworth proposed that representation for the lower house be based on the number of free persons and three-fifths of "all other persons," a euphemism for slaves. In the following week the members finally compromised, agreeing that direct taxation be according to representation and that the representation of the lower house be based on the white inhabitants and three-fifths of the "other people." With this compromise and with the growing realization that such compromise was necessary to avoid a complete breakdown of the convention, the members then approved Senate equality. Roger Sherman had remarked that it was the wish of the delegates "that some general government should be established." With the crisis over representation now settled, it began to look again as if this wish might be fulfilled.

For the next few days the air in the City of Brotherly Love, although insufferably muggy and swarming with blue-bottle flies, had the clean scent of conciliation. In this period of welcome calm, the members decided to appoint a Committee of Detail to draw up a draft constitution. The convention would now at last have something on paper. As Nathaniel Gorham of Massachusetts, John Rutledge, Edmund Randolph, James Wilson, and Oliver Ellsworth went to work, the other delegates voted themselves a much needed 10-day vacation.

The History of the U. S. Constitution will continue next week in the Free Press.

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Straight Shooters Place At State



Riley/Pottawatomie 4-H Straight Shooters BB Gun shooters who participated in the Kansas State Rifle Association BB Gun Championship Match: front row L-R, Daniel Dietrich, Christopher Becker, Barnabas Hawkinson, Naomi Hawkinson; back row L-R, Austin Becker, Morgan Swisher and Wade Stroda. Not pictured: Blake Crowell and Matthew Plummer. Photo by Richard Becker

Nine youth from the RL/PT 4-H Straight Shooters participated in the Kansas State Rifle Association BB Gun Championship Match March 13, 2010 in Alma. Fourteen teams from across Kansas participated in the match. The team of Blake Crowell, Daniel Dietrich, Barnabas Hawkinson, Matthew Plummer, Morgan Swisher and alternate Christopher Becker placed 6th in the contest.

Youth participating in this match take a 50 question true/false test over shooting safety, gun knowledge and the NRA BB Gun Rule book and shoot the four competition positions: prone, standing, sitting and kneeling.

There were 70 youth in the team member portion of the match. Matthew Plummer tied for 4th standing with 91 points, tied for 18th sitting with 92 points, tied for 15th kneeling with 92 points and tied for 11th with 368 points aggregate. Daniel Dietrich tied for 13th in prone with 95 points, tied for 6th sitting with 95 points, tied for 15th kneeling with 92 points and tied for 13th aggregate with 367 points. Morgan Swisher tied for 19th standing with 86 points, tied for 8th kneeling with 94 points and tied for 17th aggregate with 362 points. Barnabas Hawkinson tied for 17th prone with 94 points.

There were 22 youth participating in the team alternate portion of the match. Wade Stroda tied for 4th prone with 96 points, placed 1st standing with 94 points, placed 1st sitting with 99 points, tied for 3rd kneeling with 93 points and placed 1st aggregate with 382 points. Naomi Hawkinson placed 2nd prone with 98 points, 2nd standing with 93 points, tied for 4th sitting with 93 points, placed 1st kneeling with 95 points, and placed 3rd aggregate with a personal best 379 points. Austin Becker placed 3rd prone with 96 points, tied for 9th standing with 84 points, placed 3rd sitting with 98 points, placed 6th kneeling with 91 points and placed 4th aggregate with a personal best 369 points.

RL/PT 4-H Straight Shooters had ten youth participate in the Jackson/Nemaha 4-H Invitational Match.

Luke Hull placed 1st in the senior Air Pistol competition with 174 points shot one handed. Austin Becker placed 2nd in the junior Air Pistol competition with 162 points shot two handed. There was a possible aggregate of 200 points.

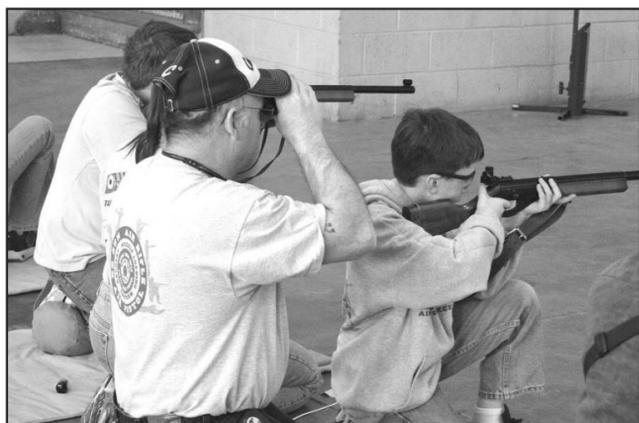
Austin Becker placed 5th kneeling with 148 points of 200 possible in the kneeling position and 7th aggregate with 414 points of 600 possible in the junior division of Air Rifle.

The BB Gun Team of John Allen, Blake Crowell, Matthew Plummer, Cade Shanks and Mattie Swisher placed 3rd at the match. In the 7-8 year old division of BB

Gun, John Allen placed 2nd aggregate with 286 points, 3rd prone with 74 points, 2nd standing with 65 points, 3rd sitting with 73 points, and 2nd kneeling with 74 points 1X. Brendan Becker placed 3rd aggregate with 282 points, 2nd prone with 75 points, 3rd standing with 53 points, 2nd sitting with 80 points, and 3rd kneeling with 74 points 0X. Cameron Minihan placed 4th in prone with 66 points, 4th standing with 49 points, 4th sitting with 65 points, and 4th kneeling with 73 points. Blake Crowell placed 8th kneeling with 83 points in the 9-11 year division of BB Gun.

The 12-14 division saw Austin Becker place 4th aggregate with 367 points, 4th prone with 96 4X, 7th standing with 87 points, and 3rd kneeling with 93 points. Matthew Plummer placed 6th aggregate with 365 points, tied for 6th prone with 95 points, tied for 4th sitting with 95 points and placed 11th kneeling with 87 points. Mattie Swisher placed 9th aggregate with 354 points, placed 12th standing with 85 points and tied for 9th kneeling with 89 points.

The RL/PT 4-H Straight Shooters are supported by Daisy Outdoor Products, Kansas State Rifle Association, Kansas Muzzleloaders Association, Riley and Pottawatomie County Extension Councils, Riley County Fish and Game, Kansas State University Military Science Department, Kaw Valley Archery, Flint Hills Pheasants Forever, Justin Corbet Foundation, Friends of NRA and 4-H Shooting Sports parents, families and instructors.



Christopher Becker, Manhattan, shoots kneeling during the BB Gun portion of the JA/NM Invitational in Holton.

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Medical Privacy And ObamaCare

By **BETSY MCCAUGHEY**

Eighteen states are challenging the constitutionality of the Obama health law. Their challenge focuses on whether the federal government can require everyone to buy coverage. They gloss over an issue more consequential to our health and longevity: Can the federal government dictate how doctors treat their patients?

During the last half century, the Supreme Court has established a zone of privacy protected by the Constitution. It includes a couple's choice to use contraception recommended by their physician (Griswold v. Connecticut, 1965) and a woman's choice to have an abortion provided by her physician (Roe v. Wade, 1973). How can freedom to make these choices with your doctor be protected and not freedom to choose a hip replacement or a Caesarean section? Either your body is protected from government interference or it's not.

The Obama health law requires that nearly everyone enroll in a "qualified" plan, then says plans can pay only doctors who implement whatever regulations the Secretary of Health and Human Services imposes to improve health-care "quality" (Section 1311). That covers everything in medicine. Never has the federal government dictated how doctors treat privately insured patients, except on narrow issues such as drug safety. If challenged, this pro-

vision is likely to meet disapproval from a pro-privacy court.

The new health law is defended on the basis of the Congress's power to regulate interstate commerce. While the Supreme Court has stretched the meaning of interstate commerce to justify congressional lawmaking in many areas, the definition is not boundless.

Some members of Congress hoped that the Court's ruling in Gonzalez v. Raich (2005) would give them a constitutional EZ Pass to control health care. In that case, the Supreme Court ruled that federal agents had the authority to stop Angel Raich from consuming home grown marijuana for medical purposes, though it was permitted in her state and advised by her doctor. Amazingly, the Court said her homegrown supply-six stalks in all-could have "a substantial effect on supply and demand in the national market for that commodity."

In September 2005 Sen. Patrick Leahy (D., Vt.) grilled John Roberts, then the nominee for Chief Justice, demanding assurances that he would stand by the Raich ruling instead of trying to restrain congressional lawmaking on health care. The surprise came in the Supreme Court's next term, when in the words of Justice Clarence Thomas, the Court made a "hasty retreat" from Raich.

Oregon had passed a Death with Dignity Act setting standards for doctors to administer lethal drugs

to terminally ill patients who requested them. The Bush administration argued that assisted suicide was not "legitimate" medical care, and therefore federal agents could halt the use of the drugs.

The Supreme Court ruled 6-3 against the Bush administration's interference in Gonzales v. Oregon (2006). Such intrusion, the court said, "would affect a radical shift of authority from the States to the Federal Government to define general standards of medical practice in every locality." That's what the Obama health law does.

For example, it requires doctors to record patients' treatments in an electronic medical database and monitors doctors' decisions. Dr. David Blumenthal, the Obama administration's National Coordinator of Health Information Technology, explained in the New England Journal of Medicine last April that "embedded clinical decision support"-his euphemism for computers telling doctors what to do-will manage the quality of doctors' decisions. The Supreme Court is likely to view these controls as a "radical shift" in authority from the states to the federal government, and even more important, a threat to privacy rights.

Before the current health debate, the public discussed government interference in medical decisions largely in one context: abortion. When a lower federal court struck down the Partial-Birth Abortion

Ban Act in 2004 (a decision later reversed by the Supreme Court), Planned Parenthood of Los Angeles CEO Mary Jane Wagle said "this ruling is a critical step toward ensuring that women and doctors-not politicians-make private, personal health care decisions." During the litigation, federal authorities requested access to medical records to determine whether the partial birth procedure was ever medically necessary.

Privacy advocates defeated nearly every request.

Advocates for women's rights need to reassess the impact of the new health law. Whether you are a man or a woman, pro-choice or pro-life, you lose freedom and privacy under this law.

Ms. McCaughey is the author of two books on the writing of the U.S. Constitution and a former Lt. Governor of New York.

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The Manhattan City Commission received this Memo from Staff on the cost of construction at the Manhattan Airport:

CITY COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO

June 24, 2009

FROM: Peter Van Kuren, Airport Director
MEETING: July 7, 2009
SUBJECT: Award Construction Contract, Construction Observation Contract, Utility Relocation Contract; and Accept Federal Grant Offer for Runway 13/31 Reconstruction and Extension
PRESENTER: Peter Van Kuren, Airport Director

BACKGROUND

On May 6, 2008, the City Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute Task Order No. 16 with HNTB Corporation, of Overland Park, Kansas, to perform design and engineering for the reconstruction and extension of Runway 13/31.

Although Runway 13/31 is not the Airport's primary runway, it is important to have the availability of a secondary runway capable of accommodating commercial and corporate aircraft in the event the main runway must be closed due to an emergency or maintenance. The condition of Runway 13/31 currently does not provide a suitable alternative for commercial and corporate use. The current runway was built in approximately 1950. Due to its deteriorating condition, it does not meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 139 Airport Safety Certification standards and has been periodically closed to commercial operations.

DISCUSSION

For the purpose of FAA funding, the improvements to Runway 13/31 has been divided into two projects; the Base Bid, consisting of reconstruction of the existing 3,800 feet of runway, and the Bid Alternate which consists of the construction of an additional 1,200 feet of new runway that will provide an ultimate length of 5,000 feet. Although FAA is supportive of both projects, its funding model placed a higher priority on the reconstruction portion thus requiring a breakout of the costs.

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed Public Law 111-5, referred to as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The legislation authorized \$1.1 billion in airport improvement funding for FAA. On March 26, 2009, FAA notified City Administration that the Runway 13/31 improvement project was eligible for ARRA funding in the amount of \$5,328,604.00. One significant difference between the ARRA funds and normal FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds is that the Federal share under ARRA is 100%.

Construction bids were received at City Hall, City of Manhattan, and a bid opening was held on June 24, 2009. Three bids were received, with the low bid for both the Base Bid and Bid Alternate submitted by Pavers, Inc. of Salina, Kansas. The total construction cost of \$3,164,849.66 falls well below the Engineer's Estimate of \$5,431,907.90. The Bid Tab is provided as Enclosure (1).

City Administration is in the process of finalizing contract documents with Pavers, Inc. Shortly after the Bid Opening, City Administration was contacted by FAA Engineers with additional requirements for the project. These requirements involve the relocation of the Runway 13 Visual Approach Slope Indicator (VASI), and other minor design changes. These changes are expected to add approximately \$91,500.00 to the construction cost of the project and will be recognized as a Supplement to the original construction contract. Award of the construction contract and any supplement(s) are contingent on receipt of a Federal ARRA Grant from FAA.

During the design of the 1,200 foot extension of Runway 13/31, it was determined that an electrical utility will need to be relocated. The utility has a manhole and other components that cannot remain in their present location due to placement of the new runway pavement extension. The relocation of the manhole will be performed by Westar Energy, a Kansas Corporation who also owns the equipment. The City of Manhattan is required to pay for the relocation of this utility. The cost of the relocation is estimated at \$171,865.79 and is eligible for reimbursement under the ARRA Grant. Award of the utility relocation contract is contingent on receipt of the Federal ARRA Grant from FAA.

On December 2, 2008, the City Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a Master Agreement for Professional Services contract with HWS Consulting Group, Inc. (HWS), of Manhattan, Kansas. The Contract retains this consultant for a period of five years to accomplish an agreed upon list of Airport improvement projects for the City of Manhattan. City Administration has negotiated a contract with HWS to provide construction observation services. Work Authorization No. 4 has been negotiated with HWS and a draft is provided as Enclosure (2). The amount of the contract will not exceed \$430,220.00. As mentioned earlier, the FAA is requiring the City to include the relocation of the Runway 13 VASI as part of this project. Enclosure

(3) is Work Authorization No. 5 with HWS to provide engineering and design for the relocation of the VASI. The cost of this additional work will not exceed \$31,320.00. City award of Work Authorization No. 4 and No. 5 is contingent upon receipt of the Federal ARRA Grant from FAA.

FINANCING

The FAA is expected to offer a Grant up to the amount of \$3,906,000.00, which will provide 100% of funding

for this project under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

ALTERNATIVES

It appears the City Commission has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Commission may:

1. Accept the Engineer's Estimate in the amount of \$5,431,904.90; authorize City Administration to finalize and Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract in the approximate amount of \$3,298,685.43 to Pavers, Inc., of Salina, Kansas, for Runway 13/31 Reconstruction/Extension at the Manhattan Regional Airport, contingent on receipt of a Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grant from FAA; authorize City Administration to finalize and Mayor and City Clerk to execute a utility relocation contract to Westar Energy in the approximate amount of \$171,865.79, contingent on receipt of the ARRA Grant; authorize City Administration to finalize and Mayor and City Clerk to execute Work Authorization No. 4 in an amount not to exceed \$430,220.00 and Work Authorization No. 5 in an amount not to exceed \$31,320.00 with HWS Consulting Group, Inc., of Manhattan, Kansas, contingent on receipt of the ARRA Grant; and accept the Federal ARRA Grant Offer from FAA in the approximate amount of \$3,906,000.00.

2. Accept the Engineer's Estimate in the amount of \$5,431,904.90; do not authorize City Administration to finalize a construction contract in the approximate amount of \$3,298,685.43 to Pavers, Inc., of Salina, Kansas, for Runway 13/31 Reconstruction/Extension at the Manhattan Regional Airport; do not authorize City Administration to finalize a utility relocation contract to Westar Energy in the approximate amount of \$171,865.79; do not authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute Work Authorization No. 4 in an amount not to exceed \$430,220.00 and Work Authorization No. 5 in an amount not to exceed \$31,320.00 with HWS Consulting Group, Inc., of Manhattan, Kansas; do not accept the Federal ARRA Grant Offer from FAA in the approximate amount of \$3,906,000.00.

3. Modify to meet the needs of the City Commission.

4. Table the issue.

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