



Felons can find ways to get guns

Laws enacted by municipalities in an attempt to prevent "straw purchases" of guns are ill-conceived and ineffective, much like the gun-free zones (Read: victim-rich zones).

Felons and others who fail to abide by laws will continue to obtain guns illegally and disregard signs declaring property to be gun-free. Law-abiding citizens who carry for self-defense will render themselves defenseless and be at the mercy of non-law abiding citizens.

Thank you, Sen. Mike Brubaker, for co-sponsoring Senate Bill 273 and standing up for the Constitution of the United States, as well as our state constitution. Please continue your stance against municipality preemption of state law.

Thomas J. McGrath, Columbia

Barnstormer experience terrific

My wife, Pat, and I just gave a 50-person party in a Barnstormer skybox suite, and it could not have been a better experience for our 40th anniversary.

The facilities and food were terrific, and the Barnstormer's personnel were gracious and accommodating from start to finish. The level of baseball is excellent, the crowd is super enthusiastic and the stadium itself is just a fun place to be. The Barnstormers even let me throw out the first pitch!

If you want a unique setting and experience for a birthday, anniversary or retirement party, you just can't beat the Barnstormers!

Len Eiserer, Manor Township

Lines blurred between news report, opinion

Two articles by the same writer on the same page (B1), June 15, got my attention. The items: "Romney's latest attack ad is just more garbage" and "Romney to almost visit county Saturday," by staff writer Tom Murse, call into question the separation of opinion and news in your newspaper.

The first article is clearly an "opinion" piece written by Tom Murse as the "Politically Speaking" columnist. But then the same Tom Murse as "staff writer" pens the news story located next to the column.

What sort of journalistic ethics permits the same writer to be both a "staff writer," i.e. reporter, and an opinion columnist ("Politically Speaking") on essentially the same issue, the Romney political campaign, on the same page of the same newspaper?

The answer is partially answered in the slant of the "news story" itself which inserts two irrelevant paragraphs about polls favorable to President Obama and features the all too cute headline, "to almost visit."

That indicates to me, an independent observer, that perhaps both articles are really opinion -- not news after all.

William P. Kiehl, Mountville