



Get out IDs before voting

It's another one of those federal mandates, the kind that come with big money and lots of strings. The kind that states ought to fight, but seldom have the fortitude for.

This time, Kansas is worried about losing \$27 million in federal money for voting machines and other election improvements. Gov. Kathleen Sebelius vetoed a bill that would have required every Kansas voter to show identification at the polls.

The governor rightly figured that Kansans, used to being recognized by election judges, might be insulted by the rule.

The federal money sounds great until you find out that the feds think one set of machines for each county is plenty. That means that in Cheyenne County, for instance, voters from Bird City would have had to drive into St. Francis to vote in their own city elections.

Sometimes it's hard enough to get people interested in city elections when the polls are right down the street. But in Washington, they neither know nor care about places like Bird City. Never mind that out there, paper ballots produce a count just as fast as machines.

This is no laughing matter. Sherman County already has converted to the new machines and adopted the one-polling-place solution. Voters in Kanorado, the only city outside of Goodland, have

gone through two elections now, driving 18 miles into the county seat to vote.

At least they have a freeway to make the trip on. What a mixed up country this is, where people in Washington think they have to make every decision.

This law came out of the voting-machine fiasco in Florida three years ago. The idea is to give states money to replace outmoded systems that cause voting problems. Like many federal laws, it sounds almost sensible at first.

But one thing about the feds: they want to apply the same rules to everyone. That means urban counties, rural counties, East Coast counties, Alaskan counties. Just because it makes no sense is no reason not to be consistent.

Then there are the strings. It's not just the money. It's the fact that if a state or county doesn't update its systems, the law allows people to sue. So eventually, all the states may have to surrender.

Another proposal was to have only new voters show identification. Maybe that will fly, but what we really need is for states to start saying "no" to these things and get Washington off their back.

You'd think that integrity, common sense and the freedom to make their own decisions would be important, but up to now, it hasn't happened.

Too bad. — Steve Haynes

Hangin' With Marge

By Margaret Bucholtz



Why parents know what their kids are doing.

Have you ever wondered how your parents know what you are doing even when you think they wouldn't? Usually it is because they have already done it when they were growing up. However once in a while someone comes up with a new thing. Because I was a girl my parents didn't think I needed a car and I had an older brother so he got a car and I rode to high school with him my first two years.

When he left for college I was a junior in high school so the folks decided that I could probably just drive the family car in each day. However I was not to drive around. Each week I got a little braver and then one day I had 7 extra miles on the car. After that Mom or Dad would drive me to school each day, plus I was grounded for a couple of weeks from going to any school functions.

The day of our first semester tests the folks didn't have the time to take me to school so they allowed me to take the car. I don't know how they do semester tests now but back then you had two days of testing. You went to the class and as soon as you finished your test you got to leave. It wasn't that I didn't want to do well in school, but the fun things to do outside of school always interested me more.

That first day I was busy, but the second day I had a lot of free time. My friends and I hopped in my car and we didn't think we were doing much driving around but by the middle of the day there was getting real close to 50 extra miles on the family car. We didn't want to stop cruising so I asked one of the "car smart" boys if they would disconnect the speedometer. It wasn't that easy as the speedometer was one that was mercury filled and it wouldn't disconnect. However another classmate told me that she backed off miles once. Now that sounded like something I could do. The rest of the day we went everywhere in reverse. We couldn't drag Main, but we backed around the cemetery several times. I got pretty good at backing even if I do have to say so myself.

The only problem is that the miles don't come off as fast in reverse as they go on. I decided that I would just

back home after all with all of my practicing I could cruise about 45 to 50 miles an hour in reverse. Halfway home the car got to smelling hot so I turned it around and drove home, but it wouldn't shift out of low gear.

That weekend I worked so hard. I didn't even need to be asked to do something; I was just the handiest thing to have on the farm.

Sunday morning came and we got in our family car to go to church. I sat in the back silently praying, please shift, please shift, but it didn't.

My folks had to trade off the car, but I never told them what I had done. Two years later I graduated and was ready to leave home. My brother was there to tell me goodbye and he said, "Whatever you do, Margaret don't back home." My dad looked at me and said, "So that is what you did to that car!"

So kids, I am telling you DON'T back off the miles. It just isn't a good idea. Oh yes, I was grounded at the time and it wasn't just for a few days, it was for the rest of the school year.

Evening Rose

Editor's note: The following poem was submitted after the article on the evening prairie primrose appeared in last week's Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times.

Please don't be callin' me an outlaw,
I'm an innocent - Prairie Primrose.
I'm as pretty of a wildflower as you ever saw,
Now you're wantin' to turn up your nose!
I know we're puttin' on quite a show,
There's large pools of us in places.
We're proud to be seen where ever we grow,
We'd rather see smiles on your faces!
Bind weeds slither close to the ground.
To them — we claim NO RELATION!
They crawl along sometimes not to be found.
'til they're detrimental to the vegetation.
Now down Dodge City way - what fun,
We do have some pretty cousins.
Their color is as bright as the sun.
Yeah YELLOW, now what's a buzzin'?
So please just enjoy our performance,
And don't be SO-Suspicious!
You've lost your sense of romance.
We'll be gone and you won't even miss us!

Helene Landenberger
@pending
Wild Rose Poet
St. Francis

GOD SAYS
Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
Proverbs 31:30

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GOOD KIDS REMEMBER DAD'S DAY...



GOOD DADS REMEMBER FIRE SAFETY!

Years Ago

5 years ago - 1998

Volunteers helped build the forms and then poured the concrete for the new addition on the Baptist church in St. Francis. The forms were erected on April 30 with the concrete truck arriving on Saturday morning.

The old wooden fort at the St. Francis city park was removed Friday to make way for the new playground equipment which is the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce's latest project. The old fort was in bad shape and needed to be taken down.

St. Francis seniors graduating were Bruce Barnhart, Ian Barrett, Matthew Blanchard, T.J. Burr, Aaron Culwell, Erin Day, Brooke Draper, Rachelle Dulany, Jessica Dunn, Kelley Faylor, Julie Glidewell, Trista Kriegh, Vinecia Krien, Michelle Lampe, James Lyons, Justin McAttee, Christopher McQuigg, Michael Ochsner, Miguel Redondo, Elizabeth Renk, Jeffrey Rhoden, Jeremy Roelfs, LeAnn Schielke, Jessica Schultz, Tammy Sherman, Crystal Taft, Brandon Terry, Adam Torrence, Jason Weis, Beau Workman, Nicholas Young and Andy Zweggardt.

The St. Francis Public Library is celebrating its 10th year since the opening in the new facility on Scott and Jackson streets.

20 years ago - 1983

Glen Henderson, Ed Bucholtz and Cliff Keeler took the oath of office at the recent St. Francis City Council meeting. Keeler is the new mayor. Milton Lampe is the outgoing mayor and John Grace an outgoing councilman.

An estimated 200 people toured the new medical clinic

building at an open house held Sunday. The 30th anniversary of the Cheyenne County Hospital was held in conjunction with the clinic opening.

Carol Knorr, Donna Lippert and Eric Yonkey will represent St. Francis at the State Speech Festival. Receiving "I Dare You" awards at the high school assembly were Jana Walz and Rod Hilt.

Bill Krueger and Veronica Rath qualified for the State Track meet.

The class of 1983 includes Bradley Bullard, Mary Beth Carpenter, Tammi Confer, Kimberly Dankenbring, Daneen Faylor, Bob Fiedler, Mark Forsythe, Mitchell Hilt, Warren Kearns, Matthew Keller, Michael Ketter, Vernele King, Gerald Lauer, Billy Joe Lee, Linda Leydig, Dwayne McDuffee, Bradley Merklin, Toni Miller, Renee Moore, David Northrup, Robin Northrup, Roger Orth, Sue Owens, Danny Penton, Kevin Potthoff, Veronica Rath, Doug Ross, Gilbert Sherlock, Pam Steerman, Darren Van Allen, Cory Wickwar, Leigh Winston, Doug Zimmerman.

45 years ago - 1958

Merlin Burr, Fort Hays State college wrestler from St. Francis, will enter the Missouri Valley AAU Wrestling Tournament this week.

The first truck loads of equipment arrived in Goodland for the television station.

Karolyn Willt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Willt and a pupil of Mrs. Edna Steller of District 44 rural school, was named Cheyenne County Spelling Champion. Twelve students entered the contest besides Willt including Charlene Browning, Karen DeGood, Linda Keller, Dale Lundin, Lonnie Willis, Carolyn Connert, Linda Fuller, Donnie Schlittenhardt, Kathleen

Walz, Don Bash, Karen White and Sandra Price.

Work has begun on St. Francis Equity 275,000 bushel grain storage addition. It is being constructed immediately south of the large elevator at the west end of main street. It will be an all-steel building 60' by 200'.

John G. Kite of St. Francis has announced his candidacy for County Attorney of Cheyenne County. He will be returning to St. Francis where he will open his law office.

The entire student body of the St. Francis Grade School participated in a delightful operetta entitled "Carnival Capers."

50 years ago - 1953

After 53 years and two months of service to the Burlington Railroad, 39 of them spent as the St. Francis agent, C.D. Churchill announced his retirement this week.

Charles Tyrrell, formerly of Goodland, became a new businessman in St. Francis when he purchased the barber shop equipment known as "Dankenbring's."

A total of 685 voters turned out for the St. Francis election, the largest number on record. Voters were interested in the question of "whether retail liquor stores should be licensed in the city or not." The yes votes won so the two in St. Francis will continue to be licensed. In the race for mayor Dale Kelly defeated Carl Stone. Others winnings include Ted Roelfs as police judge and R.W. Start and Ted Schlittenhardt will become new members of the City Council. Incumbents returning to the council include Joe Winston, Roy Upton and Harold Raile.

Worship Warms the Heart

First Christian Church
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
Pastor Richard Garcia
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Church Service 10:30 a.m.
Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor Arlin Cochran
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
625 S. River • 332-2680
Fr. Beryl Gibson
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

Church of Christ
332-2380, Pars. 332-3424
502 W. Spencer
Norman Morrow - Minister
Bible Class 9 a.m.
Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

Grace Assembly of God
332-2925, Pars. 332-2899
208 E. 2nd
Rev. Rob Meyer
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30
Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.

Salem Lutheran Church
332-3002
Pastor Chris Farmer
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Peace Lutheran Church
202 N. College
332-2928 Pars. 332-2308
Pastor David Rossbach
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist Church
Church Office 332-2292,
Church 332-2254,
Pars. 332-3170
512 S. Scott
Pastor Nel Holmes
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church
2nd & Scott • 332-3921
J.W. Glidewell, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.,
Wednesday prayer service, 6:00 p.m.
Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Clough Valley Baptist Church
Pastor Al Davis D. Min.
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF
332-2506
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. CT
Worship 10:00 a.m. CT

St. Francis Equity

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