

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

Americans are Blessed With Freedom of and from Religion

By The Rev. Lew Van Der Wege,
First United Methodist
Church, Norton

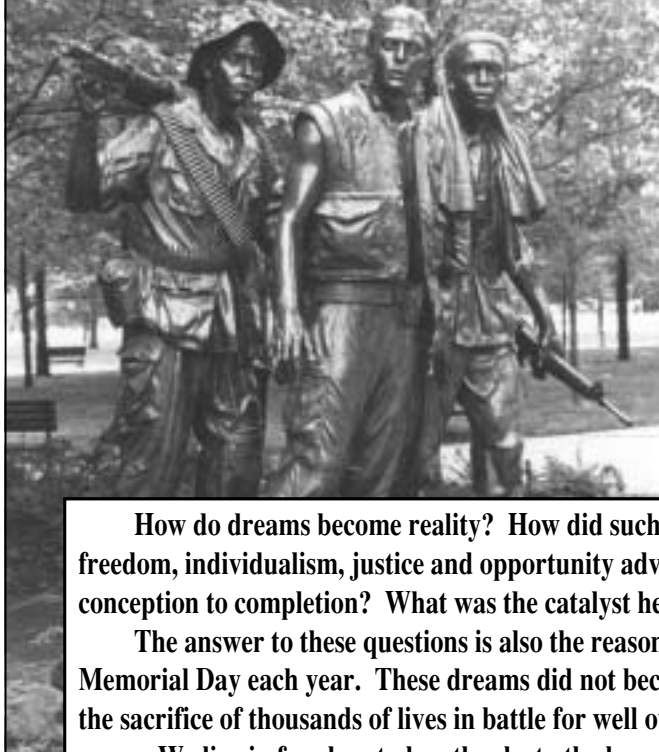
As Memorial Day approaches we remember and celebrate the great and ultimate sacrifice that many men and women have made to secure and preserve our freedom. In the midst of these current troubling times of war we are even more aware of how precious American freedom is in contrast to the dictatorship and theocratic rule many people suffer.

As one looks at Afghanistan and the radical religious rule that brought forth suffering for its own people and several terrorist attacks in the world including Sept. 11, 2001, one realizes that having freedom from religion is just as important as having freedom of religion.

We are free to choose a religion and to let that religion guide us in our work, our school, our play, and our personal lives. But, we are also protected from radical religion regardless of its form that would strive to conquer and rule us (in the name of God).

I encourage you to consider these blessings and to protect them and utilize them. Seek out God in your life and support your religious heritage. And, give thanks that the responsibility for religious indoctrination is centered in our mosques, churches, and synagogues and not in our government. God has truly blessed America.

From Dreams to Reality



How do dreams become reality? How did such qualities as freedom, individualism, justice and opportunity advance from conception to completion? What was the catalyst here?

The answer to these questions is also the reason we celebrate Memorial Day each year. These dreams did not become reality without the sacrifice of thousands of lives in battle for well over two hundred years. We live in freedom today, thanks to the heroes who gave up their fledgling futures for us. They gave us a personal definition of patriotism.

Though these courageous men and women were afforded little goodness in battle...there was one item many insisted upon keeping close to their heart. That was the Bible, the comfort of God's Holy Word that saved souls even when life could not be preserved. Perhaps the poet, Rudyard Kipling, echoed the sentiments of those dying heroes in these stirring words from the conclusion of his patriotic poem, "The Choice",

*"Then praise the Lord most High
Whose strength hath saved us whole,
Who bade us choose that the Flesh should die
And not the living Soul!"*

May you have a most meaningful Memorial Day!

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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PRAIRIE VIEW

By VIVIAN JANSONIUS

The schedule at the Prairie View Senior Citizen/Community Center is as follows: Saturday evening at 7 p.m. the Prairie View High School 44th Annual Alumni Banquet and Meeting will be held. On Monday, May 31, opened at 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. for exercises, walking and vita band. On Tuesday, June 1, opened at 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. for exercises and walking. On Wednesday, June 2, opened at 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. for exercises, walking and vita band.

The Sunshine City Library Board met on Monday, May 17 in the library. Those present were: Danny and Carol Short, Darline Brown, Dian Tien and Gloria DeWitt. Carol Short presented the financial report.

1.) Dian Tien reported on the Salina Spring Assembly Meeting she attended along with Carol Short and Darline Brown.

2.) KS Travelers news magazine is available at the library free of charge.

3.) The LIBRI books have arrived. A LIBRI promotion will be held the first day of Summer Story Hour. Gloria DeWitt will do a write-up for the paper.

4.) Summer Story Hour will begin June 7 at 4 p.m. and run for six weeks.

5.) The remaining trophies will be boxed for the Alumni Meeting.

6.) The KAN-DD Broadband Subsidy is available—Carol Short will apply online.

7.) The CKLS Board will be meeting in Prairie View on June 16.

8.) All officers will remain the same for the next year. President, Danny Short; Vice-President, Darline Brown; Secretary, Gloria DeWitt; Treasurer, Carol Short; Acting Librarian, Dian Tien.

9.) We approved the new books and audio order.

10.) We will go over job sheets next month and Darline Brown will check into an EHU meeting with a quit display.

11.) Meeting adjourned.
Gloria DeWitt—Secretary

The Sunshine City Library is pleased to announce the receipt of 70 children's books from the LIBRI Foundation, with local funds from the Pakkebie Family Foundation. The total retail value of the books is over \$1000. The LIBRI Foundation offers grants to rural libraries throughout the country in their Books for Children program, making it possible for small libraries to obtain books we could not otherwise afford to buy. The dedication of the new books will happen on the opening day of Summer Story Hour; June 7 at 4 p.m.. All community members are invited to join us at 4:45 to see the books and enjoy refreshments with the story hour lunch. Please consider this your invitation and feel free to check out one of the new books to read to a child in your life.

Summer Story Hour will begin on June 7 at 4 p.m. at the Sunshine City Library. All children are welcome to attend, but pre-schoolers should bring along a "helper". This year's theme is "Explore New Trails: Read". We will be exploring all kinds of trails. Again this year the children are invited to bring in their pennies—each penny will mark a mile on their

trail. Pennies brought in will be donated to the Relay for Life.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: A city wide garage sale will be held in Prairie View on Saturday, June 3, 2004.

The following members of the Prairie View Reformed Church went to Logan on Tuesday evening, May 18 to the Logan Manor for services: Norman and Rose Erikson and Bart and Erma Soodsma of Phillipsburg, Rev. Jeffrey Van Der Weele, Rodney Jansonius, Hazel Jansonius, Goldie Barker and Vivian Jansonius. After the services, they ate supper in Logan.

The following attended the "Carry-In" Dinner on Wednesday, May 19, at noon, at the Prairie View Senior Citizen/Community Center: John and Doreen Hoffman of Logan, Rev. Jeffrey and Linda Van Der Weele, Burdett and Belva Leydig, Warren and Hazel Sidman, Glen and Linda Hultgren, Wilmer and Marie Hogan, John Kats, Rodney Jansonius, Faith Van Diest, Goldie Barker, Marvin Harbers, Freda Rupke, Clazine Engelsman, Harlan Van De Wege, Vivian Jansonius, Hazel Jansonius, Gertrude Erickson and Erma Jean Nyland. A very good dinner was had.

Eric and Amanda Littlechild and Dessire of Wakeeny were Saturday supper guests of Walter and Darline Brown. This was to celebrate the birthdays of Amanda and Walter, who both had birthdays this past week.

Darline Brown of Prairie View, Rhonda Jacques and Blake of Norton, McKeazie of Plainville, Stephanie Hatfield and Barry Jacques of Manhattan attended the High School Graduation of Lance Brooks, son of Dale and Marilyn Brooks of Hays, in the afternoon. After the graduation, they all attended a delicious dinner at the beautiful farm and home of Clayton and Sharon Befort of Hays. This was in honor of Lance Brooks and Cole Befort, who both graduated from Hays High.

The Lone Prairie 4-H Club met on Monday, May 10 at the Prairie View Senior Citizen Community Center for Junior Officers night. Acting President Tim Jansonius opened the business meeting. Michaela Girard led the Flag Salute and Jordan Girard led the 4-H Flag Salute. Roll Call "Funniest/Worst Pictures" was answered by six members, five leaders, two parents, and two guests. The minutes from the April meeting were read, and acting Treasurer Michaela Girard reported on the account balance. The club was informed that they were responsible for the 2nd mowing in June. The 4-H day camp is scheduled for June 14th and the Safety Day Camp will be June 10th. Family camps are open for enrollment through the 4-H council. It was discussed as to whether the Relay for Life would be sponsored again this year. A consensus was taken and all agreed that they should sponsor this event. Shyanne Thompson announced the program and demonstrated how to make a "Star Plate" craft. Joelle Yocum gave a talk on snake country and safety. The Tien family provided refreshments. Basketball was played for recreation. Reporter: Jordan Girard.

ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE

Ellis Fisher is home after having heart surgery in the V.A. Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minn. His wife June said he seems to be getting along alright but has to take it easy for awhile.

Blaine and Esther Marble went to Rozel Saturday afternoon for Carisa Melia's high school graduation and came back that evening. On the way home it was stormy. On Monday night we went to Long Island for Bryce Marble's eighth grade graduation. Carisa and Bryce are grandchildren of Esther Marble.

ALMENA STUDY CLUB

The Almena Study Club met at the Almena Senior Center Thursday evening, May 13 for a potato bar dinner with Helmi Moody and Adelia Wilnerd as hostesses. Carol Ross gave devotions on "Attitude".

After the dinner Phyllis

Volgamore and her daughter Diana Montoia gave the program "Wedding Traditions for Bride and Groom." Some of the customs date back in time while others are fairly recent. Roll call, "Bring Your Wedding Picture and Tell How You Met", was answered by eight members and one guest.

Mandi Redeker of Northern Valley was the recipient of the \$200 scholarship sponsored by the Almena Study Club.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Alberta Geil and the treasurer's report was given.

Doreen Harbers, installing officer, installed the new officers in a candlelight ceremony. The new officers are: Adelia Wilnerd, president; Alberta Geil, president-elect; and Helmi Moody, secretary-treasurer.

The meeting closed with the Collect and the viewing of the history book.

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