# How has life changed since Sept. 11 attacks?

Sunday, Americans will pause to remember the 2,973 souls who died in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. It's a good time to ask where America is after 10 years.

• We're a little less free. We've traded some of our freedom and our anonymity for a greater sense of security.

Remember when flying used to be fun? When you could skid up to the airport 15 minutes before departure, grab a ticket and rush down the jetway without being poked and prodded and X-rayed?

But the security state goes way beyond airline travel. Crossing the border, returning home from a foreign land, driving through any major city, even some small towns, we're being watched. Records are made. Government computers track us. Government cameras film us. We never know who is watching.

Some will say those who are doing nothing wrong have nothing to worry about. Others will say it's a fair trade, privacy and freedom for security.

• A lot poorer. We've spent billions on two wars, untold billions more on beefed-up security. The 9/11 attacks stopped the economy for three days and kicked the country into a deepening recession.

No one, that we know of, has ever added up the full cost. Without that, would we be in the kind of recession we've seen the last four years?

• Deeper in debt. One cost of having wars, tax cuts, security costs, border fences and "normal" government spending has been trillion-dollar deficits. Now the government spends about 40 percent of the budget just floating the national debt. The attacks didn't cause the deficit, but the responses certainly did help grow it.

• More secure, certainly.

You can't prove that we're secure, and certainly we face many threats. But no major terrorist act has touched U.S. soil since 9/11. We know many have been foiled, others undoubtedly discouraged by tighter security.

The cost is great. Since no one knows when terrorists might strike, the agencies must watch everywhere.

• Less feeling of security, more anxiety. How can you feel secure when everyone from the local sheriff's deputy to the county agent have been trained to watch for terrorists? It makes us all a little nervous. The guy next to us on a plane or a train could be a terrorist. Could be a sky marshal.

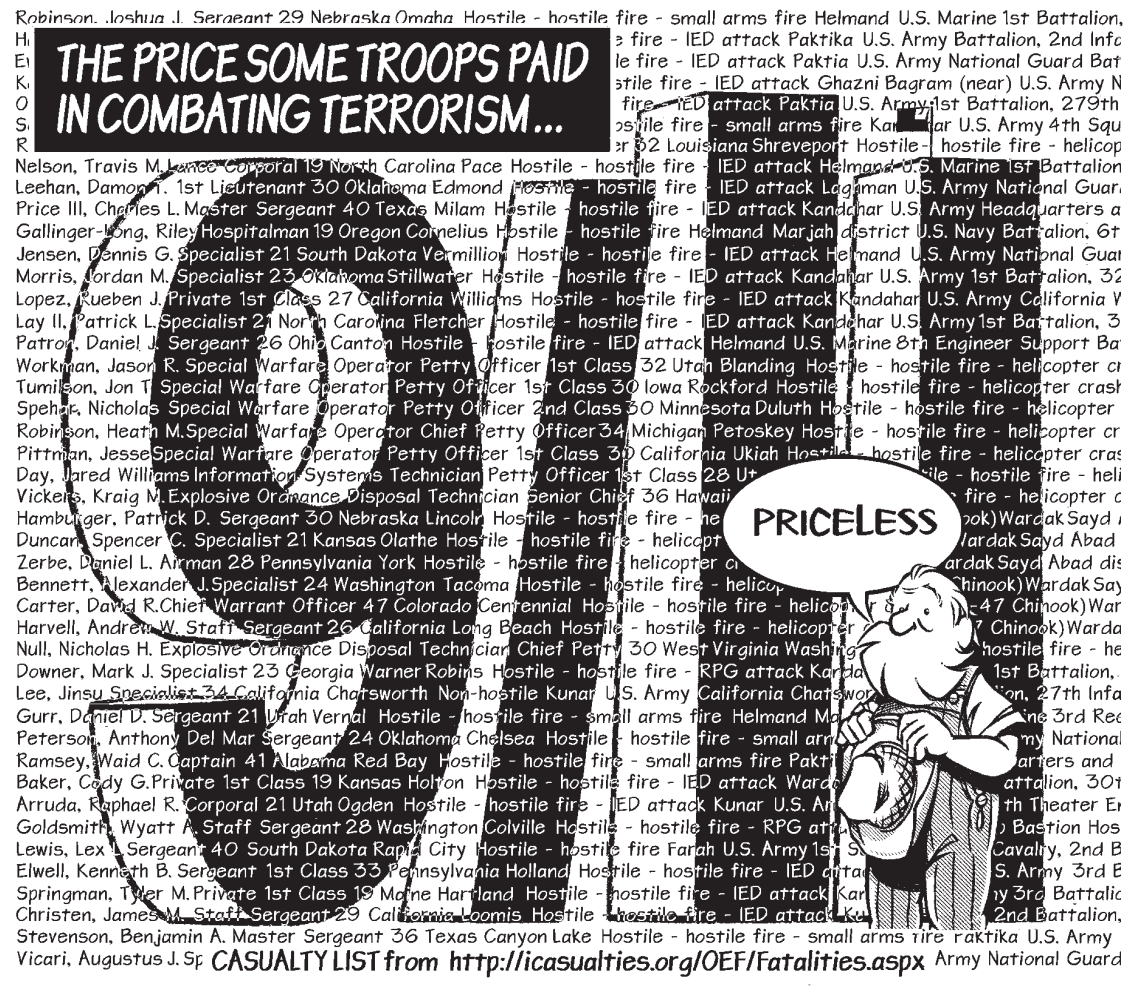
Worse yet, we all could be looking for the wrong thing. The world moves on. The security beast grows. But terrorists keep thinking of something new.

The next threat is out there. No one knows what or where.

That's the scary thing. No one knows just what it will look like. No one ever thought of hijackers using airplanes full of people as bombs, after all.

In America, life goes on. In large measure, we have recovered and rebuilt. We will do just fine. But in many ways, nothing will ever be the sam e.

*– Steve Haynes*




## News From the Past

**40 years ago - 1971**

Robert J. Uplinger, former St. Francis resident, now living in Syracuse, N.Y., was elected president of the Lions International Association at the association's 54th annual convention in Las Vegas.

Art Krueger announced this week that work is progressing and they will be able to open Krueger's Men and Boys Store in August. The store will be located in the former Howard's Town and Country Store on Main Street.

The Cheyenne County Fair Committee announces that the theme for this year's parade will be "Music" and they encourage businesses, churches and organizations to enter the parade.

**25 years ago - 1986**

The Citizens State Bank was closed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) after being declared insolvent. It was reopened the next day by new ownership. The newly opened St. Francis State Bank and Trust Company is a subsidiary of G.S. Bankshares Inc. of Goodland.

## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

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Ten years ago, on Sept. 11, 2001, my partner and I had worked an all night shift updating the computer and telephone systems in the City Market grocery store in Glenwood Springs, Colo. We returned to our hotel room to unwind and catch some sleep before returning to finish the job that evening. As my buddy called his wife, I turned on the television to watch the horror of that day unfold.

I imagine you recall where you were and what daily routine was being preformed when our world stopped at that moment.

A decade later the images that we saw of the World Trade Center, Pentagon and a smoking field in Pennsylvania are played repeatedly. Personally, there is a surreal quality to the photographs and videos of 9-11. Has it really been ten years? Did all those people actually perish? Was it possible for terrorists to bring down the twin towers?

Yet it happened. The sucker punch that still seems too hard to fathom did land square on the face of our nation.

But much like the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, that initial blow did not take our country out but brought the full might of America together. Those cowards who planned and executed the vicious act upon innocent civilians did little to accomplish much more than unite those who embrace the freedoms they so wanted to destroy.

So after ten years many of those behind the attack are also dead, the victims are remembered and liberty stands firm.

## The Gardener


***Kay Melia***

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Time was, (last year) when I sincerely believed that the most important step to a productive garden was proper seed variety selection. In other years, in descending order, I believed that the most important facet of gardening was proper soil preparation, watering the garden correctly, timely harvesting, or planting as early as possible.

Do you mind if I change my mind again?

I think I finally have it right, after all those years of hanging out in the backyard.

All things considered, the absolute sure way to insure a productive garden is the proper use of mulch. You heard right. Mulch!

It's defined as any material or substance such as straw, leaves, old hay, shredded newspaper, compost, or black plastic, spread on the ground to prevent the growth of weeds, preserve moisture, and to protect the roots of plants from heat and cold.

I must tell you, and I'm certain that other gardeners will verify, that I cannot recall ever having a crop failure when I have properly mulched the rows or beds of growing plants. The truth became apparent again this year when I properly mulched my potatoes, peppers, cucumbers and cantaloupe and all produced bumper crops. Other vegetables not receiving this preferred treatment produced average crops or less.

My mulch of choice is leaves. I sack up many, many bags of them each October and November and store them in the barn until application time next gardening season. It doesn't have to be leaves. Straw, available in abundance in this area, is very good mulch and the older the better. The problem with straw nowadays is finding a farmer who still utilizes the small bales. Trying to mulch a garden with a big, round bale is not recommended.

There is a proper time to apply mulch in your garden. Never add it around growing plants until the soil has warmed to as high as 60 to 65 degrees, because plant roots might be damaged if the soil is still cool. When the soil warms up, mulch will keep the roots at the proper temperature while the plant is maturing. When you add mulch, apply it generously. I mulch potatoes when the plants are only about 8-inches high, and I almost cover the plant with the leaves. The leaves soon settle and the plants thrive. Mulch serves still another important job when you plow your garden in the fall and all those nutrients are returned to the soil, black plastic mulch not included.

Again, what are the seasonal advantages of mulching? No weeds grow through the mulch. Moisture, both added and natural, keeps the plants moist and your garden will need much less watering all summer. Cooler root systems also means bigger crops.

Proper mulching of your garden is practically a guarantee of a more productive garden. Lay in a good supply of those big black trash bags as you locate a supplier of good clean leaves when fall arrives. Find a farm friend who might trade a small bale or two of straw for a few onions next summer.

## Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Chris Hingst, St. Francis; Jeff Nedeman, Littleton, Colo.; Gail Biggerstaff, Rathdrum, Idaho; Gene and Ann Matthies, Burlington, Colo.; Merle Walter, Scottsbluff Neb.; Cody Sherlock, Atchison; Ronald Smith, St. Francis; and Dara Loyd, Hays.

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**GOD SAYS**

If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

**John 3:12**


**Church of Christ**
332-2380, Pars. 332-3424
502 W. Spencer
Norman Morrow - Minister
Bible Class 11 a.m.
Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

**United Methodist**
Church Office 332-2292,
Church 332-2254,
512 S. Scott
Pastor Warren Cico
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Seventh-Day**
Adventist Church
785-890-5718 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor Jerry Nowack
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**
625 S. River • 332-2680
Fr. Roger Meitl
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8:00 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

**Salem Lutheran Church**
332-3002
Pastor Chris Farmer
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Communion 3rd Sunday

**Solid Rock Baptist Church**
412 S. Denison
Welcomes You!
Pastor Allen Coon
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30
Prayer Meeting, Wed
7:30 p.m.

**First Christian Church**
Pastor Jeff Landers
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
Bible Fellowship 9:15 a.m.
Church Service 10:15 a.m.

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

**St. Francis Community Church**
332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
www.sfccfamily.com
Pastor: David Butler
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Potluck & Communion -
Every 2nd Sunday
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC**
202 N. College
Pastor Randy Nelson
Church 332-2928
Parsonage 332-2312
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Communion 1st Sunday

St. Francis Equity

St. Francis Herald



# The Saint Francis Herald

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