

Cutting interest doesn't solve economic problem

To keep the economy afloat, the Federal Reserve Board has cut interest rates to historic lows, down, in fact, to nothing on some short-term loans to banks.

And while this is keeping rates low for those who want to buy a house, few are buying. Few can afford to buy. A lot of people are out of work. Sure, plenty of people are refinancing old loans, and reap great rewards, but that doesn't get the economy going.

Meanwhile, the government has made it so difficult to make home loans that banks just aren't making many. Some banks have gotten out of the business. Others are super cautious.

So despite attractive, even historic, low rates, the housing machine has not cranked up.

Same could be said for the rest of the economy. It's recovering, but not nearly fast enough, and what recovery it's seen is so fragile that the Fed is afraid to do much for fear of sending us into another tailspin.

So these low rates, while they look good, have not done much for the country.

They have done a lot of damage, however, in places most of us don't see. They've ruined interest on most bank accounts. Savings accounts now pay only half of 1 percent to 1 percent interest. At that kind of rate, no one is saving.

Worse yet, senior citizens and others living on a "fixed" income have seen that income plunge right along with their rates. Already hit by the volatile stock market and the economy in general, these people often just can't afford to see their income shrink any further.

While interest rates are low, rates for consumers, such as on credit cards, are not. Why?

New federal laws and regulations have made it much less attractive for banks to loan money on credit cards. Rates that used to hover below 10 percent shot up a couple of years ago to 11, 12 and 13 percent. Poor risks used to pay 18 percent, and some of those rates are beyond 20 percent.

Thanks for the protection, government. Businesses still have a hard time getting credit, partly because of new regulations from Congress and the federal bureaucracy which banks must comply with. Rules designed to forbid fraud and shaky loans abound, but we suspect when the sharks get to swimming again - as they always do - the rules won't keep them from cheating the customers or putting a few big banks in peril.

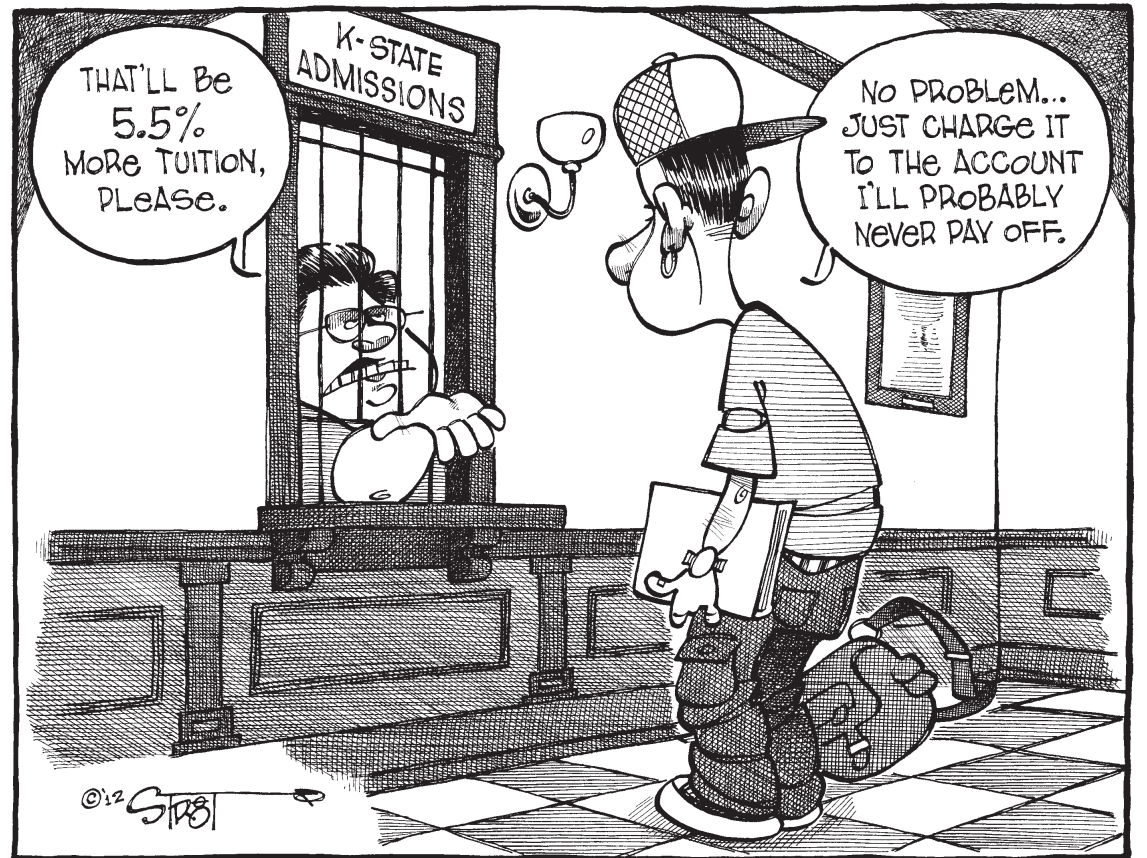
Because the sharp guys always figure an angle. Rules only cover the old holes, not the new ones.

So if you think we're saying that the Fed and Congress have made a mess of things, you're right. And we suspect a lot of people would agree.

This economy is not going to improve until the government figures out how it's messed things up and gets its hands out of the pie. It's not the Democrats or President Obama, or the Republicans in Congress.

It's just the heavy hand of government holding things down. Remove that, make things right, and the economy will be fine.

- Steve Haynes



Reader writes about newspapers

Letters to the Editor

Letter to the Editor and Citizens of Cheyenne County. The June 22, 2012, issue of the *Week* news magazine commented on the drastic reduction of newspaper circulation in the United States. Here's a quote for us to think about: "... we all continue to get plenty of detailed coverage of national politics . . . but very little reporting on state and local governments." The article ended with the comment that our democracy will miss newspapers - badly. Two local newspapers continue to serve Cheyenne County and to carry on the legacy of local reporting. We all need to know what

decisions city councils and county commissioners make at their meetings - these discussions and policies affect our daily lives. We are very fortunate to have these local newspapers; many communities have to rely on larger newspapers that don't care about what happens locally. How sad. Do our newspapers make mistakes? Yes. Do we sometimes make mistakes in the information we give the newspapers to print? Yes. I'm one who has fussed about

errors; sometimes I've had to admit the error may have been mine. Our dedicated newspaper staff works very hard and puts in lots of extra hours covering and publishing our events. Let's give them some encouragement and be glad we still have an example of the rich American heritage of the free press in our local newspapers. We would miss our local papers very much. Carol Redding St. Francis

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



scmccormick@nwkans.com

Perhaps the healing can begin in University Park, Pa.

College football is practically a religion in some parts. History and tradition seem to meld with myth and legend in places like South Bend, Baton Rouge and Palo Alto.

That is what makes the fall of Penn State and Joe Paterno so hard to fathom. What seemed the home to so many great players and remarkable victories will be forever linked to child abuse.

We would like to think that the Jerry Sanduskys of this world are anomalies and that someone like

that would stand out and be easily recognizable. It does not seem possible that a pedophile could have a foundation that was supposed to do good for underprivileged children in that college town. However, evil can wear many disguises.

Can one bad apple spoil the whole barrel? Will Penn State always be a place where innocence can never return?

I don't think so and hope some day normalcy of sorts will return to the institution and football program.

Years ago I saw the Nittany Li-

ons play the cadets at the Air Force Academy. Later I was in Tempe when Paterno and his boys upset the Miami Hurricanes in the 1987 Fiesta Bowl and national title. I admired the coach because he was old fashioned and no nonsense. So were his teams, and those memories will never change.

But Joe Pa has fallen from grace. Or was he dragged down by one of his coaches?

Hangin' With Marge

By Margaret Bucholtz



margeb@cityofstfrancis.net

What is a Hero

When I first read the paper a few weeks ago I saw they were looking for articles about a hero. It starting me thinking about just what would it take to be a hero.

Instantly I knew that I would not be quantify for that title, but after about an hour of racking my brain I really couldn't think of just one person.

You see I would think it would be kind of like beauty, it would be in the eyes of the beholder.

That put a whole new slant to the topic. All of a sudden almost everyone I know is a hero to someone. It might be that person who just smiled at someone that needed a smile at that moment.

My brother brought up our father who many years ago jumped into a lake to save his little 2- or 3-year old nephew that had walked off the edge of bank.

While thinking of all of these things, I realized that I was also a hero. Maybe not the regular

kind, but then I am not a regular person. I thought of all those times when my brother and I would try new things to do like jumping off of an old building, or other pretty dumb things. How does that make me a hero? I was always to go first, and if I got hurt then Gary could go get someone to help.

It was common knowledge that he could run the fastest!

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Tim Miller, Casa Grande, Ariz.; Bryan Alldaffer, Edwardsville; Marvin Miller, St. Francis; Calvin Raile, St. Francis; Randy Raile, Goodland; Karla Dimitt, Syracuse; Greg Lauer, Parker, Colo.; Roger Jensen, St. Francis; Nathan Boyer, St. Francis; Cale Rieger, St. Francis; C.W. Antholz, McDonald;

GOD SAYS

For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord; whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.

Exodus 34:14

The Saint Francis Herald
(USPS 475-960)
A Century of Service to Cheyenne County

P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050

Published each Thursday by Haynes Publishing Co., 310 W. Washington, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050. Entered as periodicals matter at the post office at St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050, and at additional offices.

Official newspaper of Cheyenne County. Member of the Kansas Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Colorado Press Association and Inland Press Association.

Subscriptions: One year \$38 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$42 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$48 elsewhere in the U.S. Foreign subscriptions, \$28 extra per year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050

Nor'West Newspapers

8:30 a.m. - noon - 1:00-5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
(785) 332-3162 Fax - (785) 332-3001
E-mail - sf.herald@nwkans.com

STAFF

Karen Krien Editor/Publisher
Nathan Fiala Sports Editor
Tim Burr Advertising Manager
Lezlie McCormick Production
Margaret Bucholtz Columnist

Company finalizes plans to build 50 head-per-day slaughter facility

To The Editor:

Callicrate Cattle Co. has finalized plans to build a 50 head-per-day multispecies slaughter facility at our feedyard. The facility will represent a cutting edge new design and create six full-time processing jobs, plus additional employment as the feedyard fills to supply the new demand we are building through our company, Ranch Foods Direct, for livestock produced in Cheyenne County.

I'm concerned that these investments are vulnerable to misguided regulation by federal and state governments. My personal battle with the EPA over exaggerated violations they cited at my feedyard is now nearly one year in the past. It was a very painful example of how we are at the whim of questionable bureaucratic judgments. Something called a coordination agreement, however, would put the future of our county under the control of local residents by forcing state

and federal agencies to work in accordance with OUR vision and plan for our community.

Fred Kelly Grant, a prominent private property rights lawyer, explains in a video presentation how the U.S. Constitution and the little-used 10th Amendment provides for government coordination, an important tool that can be used to "...protect our human environment, keeping it in harmony with our natural environment, including esthetics, religion, culture, custom and economy." Visit my blog at www.nobull.mikecallicrate.com to

watch his presentation explaining in more detail what a coordination agreement is and how it works. You can also go to www.MikeCallicrate.com, click on the blog, and search for Fred Kelly Grant.

We love the St. Francis community and want to continue investing in it, but our plans at Callicrate Cattle Co. will be highly dependent on whether the county implements a coordination agreement.

Sincerely,
Mike Callicrate
Callicrate Cattle Co.
St. Francis, KS

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Norman Zweygardt, Peoria, Ariz.; Carl Warner, St. Francis; H.K. Graves, St. Francis; Scott Neilan, Shawnee; Dr. Pat Stuart, St. Francis; Farm Bureau, St. Francis; Gary Wickwar,

St. Francis; Floriene Whisnant, Colby; Mike Antholz, St. Francis; Bob Fiedler, St. Francis; Virginia Fiedler, St. Francis; Gene Dodd, St. Francis; Beth Heitschmidt, Guymon, Okla.; Maynard Wright, Bird City.

Church of Christ
332-2380, Pars. 332-3424
502 W. Spencer
Norman Morrow - Minister
Bible Class 9 a.m.
Morning Worship 10 a.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
423-650-5663 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor James McCurdy
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
Morning Worship 10:30 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

Praise the Lord