



Video shows mistake? Officials ban cameras

Having been terribly embarrassed by video of a crash victim being run over by a fire rig, San Francisco officials have done the logical thing: banned firemen from carrying cameras so it can't happen again.

The embarrassment, we mean, not the unfortunate accident.

Seems the offending video was taken by a "helmet cam" worn by Battalion Chief Mark Johnson. It showed a 16-year-old Chinese student who was on the pavement, covered with fire-retardant foam and not moving, being run over by a crash rig. She was one of three fatalities in the July 6 crash of an Asiana Airlines Boeing 777.

Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White issued the ban, saying she was concerned for the privacy of victims and fire fighters.

What a crock.

The incident was unfortunate, because fire fighters played a big role in keeping the fatality count so low in the spectacular crash. The secondary accident took some of the luster off that accomplishment. But the real damage was done to the department's image. And like the good bureaucrat she apparently is, the chief took action to be sure that never happens again.

You'd think she'd be more concerned with why a fire truck was running over victims.

As violence continues in Egypt, many in Congress are demanding the administration do something. A popular demand is to cut off aid to the current government, installed after a military coup ousted the elected president,

Mohammed Morsi.

It's true that Morsi had been elected after the "Arab Spring" uprisings that toppled governments in Egypt and Tunisia, but the situation is much more complicated. Even if you discount charges that his Muslim Brotherhood rigged the election, there's the fact that the Brotherhood was driving Egypt toward a theocracy where millions of moderate Muslims and Christians would have had no voice.

Brotherhood demonstrators have trashed Christian neighborhoods in their rampages, and they continue to battle police and troops in Cairo. Their vision of "democracy" is not one most Americans would support.

But then, we don't think much of the continued bloodshed in the streets, which undoubtedly works in favor of al Qaida and other extremist groups.

What to do? The best suggestion we've seen came from Minnesota Democrat Keith Ellison, the first Muslim elected to Congress: cut off aid, but push for talks, saying, "Stop the bloodshed and get back on the track to democracy."

We can't run other countries, but we don't have to finance civil fighting, either.

And finally, wire reports show the government still has thousands of pages from the Kennedy assassination files under lock and key some 50 years after the fact, classified until at least 2017 and maybe longer.

After all this time, you have to ask: What the heck are they hiding, especially the CIA?

Free the Kennedy files! - Steve Haynes



The Gardener

Great-grandson loves blueberries

By Kay Melia



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I have a great-grandson who is just nuts about blueberries! Yeah, blueberries! While it might be a bit more understandable if a little kid wanted a banana, or a couple of strawberries, or even an orange, this boy seems to prefer the fruit that very few of us know anything about.

When I was his age, I knew my way around a handful of sandhill plums that grew wild out in the pasture. Jelly beans were my true favorite, especially the black ones, and I had probably never laid eyes on a blueberry.

It's not like the kid tries to grab a box of blueberries off the top shelf of the produce counter when he's wheeled by in the shopping cart. He's only 2 years old and couldn't reach them if he tried. But at home, every time he walks by the fridge he's got his hand out.

You must understand here that Aiden comes by his food preferences naturally. His mom is a registered dietician and understands what kids should be eating.

Jelly beans? The kid has probably never seen one. Blueberries? Absolutely, and Mom plucks a box of these delicious berries off the shelf and then quickly hides them under the other groceries so that Aiden can't eat them all before the shopping

cart arrives at the check-out counter.

Let's face it...blueberries are probably a major mystery to most of us. Experienced gardeners may plant a few bushes and then wait 5 or 6 years for them to produce fruit. But generally if we crave berries, we'll plant raspberries or blackberries, and certainly strawberries. But the beautiful blueberry bush is absent in most High Plains backyards.

But you know? There's a good reason for its absence. Gardeners around here probably shouldn't even think about planting them because our soils just aren't right for blueberries. High Plains soils are mostly alkaline soils, as opposed to acidic soils. Blueberries thrive only in acidic soil which have PH values of 4 to 5 on the sometimes complicated PH scale, while High Plains alkaline soils sometimes reach 7.5 or even 8 on the scale that considers 7 as neutral. To lower the PH, you must add sulphur to the soil. To raise acidic soils PH, you would add lime. It's all a little difficult to understand, but the bottom line is that blueberries are not easy to grow in these parts.

And so, those of us who relish blueberries must pay about \$3.00 for a pint of the vitamin packed fruit, and if we only knew, they're

worth every cent! Blueberries are described by those in the know as "the worlds most healthful food, rich in vitamins C, E, and K...loaded with manganese and fiber, and the highest level of antioxidants of any other food! Eating them regularly can make a noticeable difference in our overall health.

I'm glad Aiden likes blueberries and not jelly beans. Smart kid!

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Kenneth Wilkening, St. Francis; Jeff Nedeman, Littleton, Colo.; Edwin Rath, Jr., Plainville; Dale Patton, St. Francis; Margo Douthitt, St. Francis; Patty Rogers, St. Francis; Gene and Ann Matthies, Burlington, Colo.; Stanley Isaac, Dinuba, Calif.; Larry Zweygardt, St. Francis; Shirley Watson, St. Francis; David Ritter, St. Francis; Dan Leinen, St. Francis.

Famous Quotes

- An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less - Nicholas Murray Butler
A culture is in its finest flower before it begins to analyze itself - Alfred North Whitehead
Art is the imposing of a pattern on experience, and our aesthetic enjoyment in recognition of the pattern - Alfred North Whitehead

Casey's Comments

More about Charles Curtis

By Casey McCormick



Last week I told you about the Topeka High School flag pole that came from the historic U.S.S. Constitution tall ship in 1931. Largely this was due to the efforts of vice president Charles Curtis, a native son of Topeka. Mr. Curtis deserves a little more lip service.

When humble beginnings are discussed, Charles Curtis' trip to the White House certainly qualifies.

Born in Topeka in 1860, he was the child of a white man, Orren Curtis, and Ellen Pappan. His mother was one-quarter Kaw Native American. Her bloodline made Charles Curtis the great-

grandson of Kansas-Kaw chief White Plume.

White Plume's tie to history came when he offered assistance to an expedition of white men in 1804 know as Lewis and Clark.

Growing up, Curtis spent his early years living between his paternal grandparents in Topeka and maternal grandparents who had relocated to the Kaw reservation at Council Grove.

Curtis would retell a story of when Cheyenne Indians raided that reservation. Someone was needed to make the trip to Topeka to inform the authorities. As all the horses and ponies had been driven

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to pasture before the attacking Indians arrived, the boy made the 60-mile trip on foot, leaving at night and arriving at the city the next day.

When the Hoover-Curtis ticket won election in 1929 he became the first American of Indian ancestry to reach such a high office. Proud of his heritage, his office was decorated with Native American artifacts and Curtis had no problem posing for photos while wearing Indian headdresses.

Using Paul Harvey's words apologetically, "and now you know the rest of the story."

Owner tells her side of story

Letter to the Editor:

I would like to address a few things about the bowling alley and Dairy King. First, thanks to the paper for putting a picture of the door with the seized sign on it on the front page but not even mentioning that we were reopened. Maybe more emphasis should be on the positive and less on the negative. Second: We have reopened! Third: to some of the rumors. Although Bill offered to take over until I got things straightened out, it wasn't necessary. My attorney got things worked out so we could open. And Bill DID NOT pay my sales tax! Nothing was seized from the

Letter to the Editor

business, but they did take my granddaughter's savings account! Everything inside is as it was before. Things are running as they have for the last six years. Our agreement with Bill is as always. I am running the business on my own for me and my family. I do not

work for Bill. Thanks to everyone that has been in, I appreciate your business and enjoy serving you. Last, if anyone has any questions, please ask me and don't listen to the rumors.

Jenny Wright St. Francis

GOD SAYS Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another. Romans 12:9, 10



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.
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Carlos Ruiz Santos 1st Sunday of the month Morning Mass 8:30 a.m. 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.sfcfamily.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 Worship 9:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday

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