



News story recounts problems along border

A news story the other day recounts the problems along our "other" border, the 5,500-mile, mostly unfenced and often imaginary line that separates the U.S. from Canada.

Both U.S. and Canadian authorities realized the mostly unguarded border sees increasing traffic in both guns and drugs.

The U.S. is using unmanned aircraft to keep an eye on the border and plans to send hundreds more border agents to the north.

The length of the border and its remote nature, far in most places from major cities, makes tightening controls tough, if not impossible.

While Americans cry for a fence and tough enforcement to the south, there's little talk of tougher measures at the Canadian border, other than the requirements for identification in place everywhere people enter the U.S.

Fair enough. To the south, Mexico has become a hotbed of drug traffic - and violence. A crackdown by the Mexican government has resulted in as many as 10,000 murders in the last few years as drug cartels fight the army, federal police and each other.

But we hear little about drugs from Canada. Truth is, the Associated Press reports, it isn't the problem seen in Mexico, but illegal traffic from the north is growing. Biker gangs and Asian drug runners move marijuana and other drugs across the border. Indian reservations straddle the line in a few areas, allowing almost free access back and forth.

What's the answer? Government men always say it's more enforcement, both because they tend to think that way, and because they can't afford to

speaking the truth.

And the truth is, without spending a lot of money and committing a lot of manpower, it'd be next to impossible to close off the 5,500-mile border. We can't afford that much fence and that many border agents.

The head of the Drug Enforcement Agency, James Burns, said as much to the AP: "It's a long border, mostly very remote, very wooded, very sparsely populated. It's easy to go from one side to the other without detection."

Truth is, you can make something illegal, but you can't keep people from getting what they want. They want drugs, someone will supply them. Making them illegal just drives up the price and improves the cartels' profits.

The border patrol, drug cops and others build empires on trying to stop this traffic, but mostly it's a waste of money. Contraband flows towards money and demand. Fences, airplanes, agents on the ground can only do so much. When they catch a big load, it looks good, but that's about it.

In the flow of illegal drugs alone into this country, one truckload is a drop in the bucket. Even a dozen doesn't amount to much.

We'd be better off spending the money to track and locate terrorists and to help people learn to stop doing drugs, than to spend billions on border controls. The benefits are too few, the cost too great.

That said, expect a big push to waste a lot of money on the border up north. That's what the bureaucrats will ask for, and likely, what Congress will do. The futility of it all will escape notice, but what's a few billion here and there?

— Steve Haynes



Reader shares a testimony to God

— Letters to the Editor —

To the people of St. Francis who have asked or been concerned about Bonnie's "condition," we both give our gratitude, love and thanks.

First of all, she has no condition. She is fine and healthy. Let me tell you a little story. Last February, Bonnie and I were at a clinic in Denver. I watched her face as the doctor informed her of her basically terminal illness with a diagnosis that would have put most people (including me) in tears. The woman didn't budge. We returned home and the next day we received further confirmation of the diagnosis.

Bonnie is certainly no stranger

to prayer. She has prayed almost her entire life, and I don't mean just the "Now I lay me down to sleep" kind of prayer. I mean serious tongue-talking prayer.

Previous to our Denver trip, we had started attending Living Water Fellowship Ministry in Bird City. Bonnie had hands laid on her by Pastor Terry Glasco and that, by the power of God, was when the healing began. Combined with hours of prayer every week this is the process that healed my wife.

Don't get me wrong, we need

doctors, because as Kenneth Copeland said, "without the doctors all the Christians would be dead." But the ultimate Healer is God.

In closing, I'd like to add that Pastor Terry is a wonderfully anointed man of God. He has a beautiful God-fearing family, from dad and mom, Lynn and Candy, on down. Bonnie and I love all of them reverently and we are honored and privileged to be a part of their church family.

Dale and Bonnie Hill
St. Francis

Hangin' With Marge

The Call all Grandparents Wait For

By Margaret Bucholtz



Nothing brightens a grandparent more than to have the phone ring and find one of their grandchildren on the other line of the phone. However the first call that one of the younger ones make is extra special.

Saturday Kurt and I got our first call from Tucker, who will be having his fifth birthday next month.

I answered the phone and he said, "Grandma, I have an idea that I need to talk to you about."

I asked him what the idea was and he said, "Well, I've been thinking that you guys need to come to Wichita because I want Looney Tunes No. 1. When you were here last time you bought Looney Tunes No. 2 and I really

like it, but I want No. 1 now." I told him we would have to look for it. You'll have to come here, he said, because you can't buy them out there.

Then he said, I want to tell you that I know how to tie my shoes now.

Wow, I said, that's great Tucker, now you will be able to tie mine when I get old.

"Grandma, don't you know how to tie your shoes?", he asked.

Yes, I said, but when I get old I might not be able to.

"What?" he asked. "Will your mind forget how to tie your shoes?"

That might happen, I said, but maybe I just won't be able to bend over and tie them when I get older.

There was this big pause and then he said, "Grandma, you are already old!"

At that point he wanted to talk to Grandpa. Kurt got on the phone and he told him he could tie his shoes. Grandpa said that was great and then Tucker asked Grandpa if he could tie his? Kurt told him he didn't have to tie his shoes because he wore boots or tennis shoes that have Velcro on them.

Grandpa, Tucker said, it is so easy you just have to make a loop and then put your finger there and make another loop. I'll teach you so you can wear normal shoes.

Then he needed to talk to Grandma about another idea.

I got back on the phone and he said, "I've been thinking about this idea. When you come for my birthday, and get my Looney Tunes, then I could just come home with you for a few days."

I got off the phone and told Kurt that is one little boy that is always thinking ahead. What will he be thinking about when he is 15?

The phone call made our day and I'll listen to his ideas anytime.

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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

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



The Internet is an amazing thing. It is fascinating how much information is at our fingertips. For instance, I just found out that the Loch Ness Monster is real.

I was checking out the home page for Fox News when a story line caught my eye. "Proof That the Loch Ness Monster Exists?" said the lead. I was hooked.

The story was from a British publication, *The Sun*, that boasted about a reader that found the elusive beast while looking at Google

Earth. It gave the coordinates, and I couldn't resist taking a peek.

After opening Google Earth I found Latitude 57 degrees 12'52.13"N, Longitude 4 degrees 34'14.16"W. As the screen zoomed in on a spot on the surface of the Scottish lake, I soon could see what appears to be four fins and a tail protruding from a larger object. Could it actually be the fabled Nessy of Lore?

Was it possible that satellite imaging could do what scientists and monster hunters have been trying

for decades? Was this photographic proof that a prehistoric animal still roams the deep waters of Scotland's inland lochs?

Before I got too excited I checked out another location: 57 degrees 10'8.21"N by 4 degrees 37'53.37 W. A similar object appears to be one of the boats that ferries tourists around Loch Ness. Oh well, it still made for an interesting search.

I wonder what I'll find next?

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Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

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Fr. Roger Meitl
Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

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.

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

Salem Lutheran Church
332-3002
Pastor Chris Farmer
No Sunday School
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Solid Rock Baptist Church
412 S. Denison
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Pastor Allen Coon
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Worship 10:30
Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
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Pastor Jerry Nowack
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

First Christian Church
Pastor Jeff Landers
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
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Church Service 10:15 a.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 Ken Hart
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Eve. Bible Study 7 p.m.
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