



Representative designs bill to curb water use

Rep. John Faber saved western Kansas from an economic body blow when, as chair of the House Agriculture Committee, he bottled up a bill designed to curb water use along the mostly dry Arkansas River.

The problem as Mr. Faber sees it — and we agree — is that the proposal would use federal Conservation Reserve money to pay farmers to idle land so the state could take well rights out of service.

We don't argue with the push to reduce pumping underground water. Rampant production of irrigated corn, while lucrative, is running the state dry in many areas. Some wells can stand that type of pumping. Many cannot.

Despite a lawsuit forcing Colorado to use less water and deliver more to the Kansas border, the Ark is dry west of Hutchinson most years. Overpumping is a major problem in the basin, as it is in many parts of the state.

How we approach this problem is critical, though. Taking huge chunks of land out of production would have a snowball effect, harming co-ops, ag suppliers, schools, businesses, whole towns.

A more reasonable approach is to buy back well rights and let farmers either graze the land or grow dryland crops on it. The blow to our economy will be far less, and for the foreseeable future, the nation will have the corn it needs and demands.

That's what Mr. Faber is standing for against

pressure from the Senate and many in the House. The problem is, the bill relies on a federal program that prohibits any productive use of land covered by its payments. Rep. Jerry Moran says he'd like to change that, but it hasn't happened so far.

Make no mistake: we need to face the water problem.

Where wells are overpumped, where aquifers are dropping, where streams dry up, we need to cut back to a sustainable level. Water is not just a private property right, but a shared resource that everyone depends on.

And we have to make it last.

The state realizes it has to pay farmers for giving up their wells. The Legislature needs to recognize that our economy depends on keeping this land in production.

Rural Kansas has suffered enough, God knows. Taking more land out of production when grain supplies are tight and prices high makes no sense.

We applaud Rep. Faber for standing up to this awful bill.

With improvements in dryland seed varieties, the land can be productive for decades without irrigation. This is important to all of us out West, because whatever solution applies to the Arkansas eventually will be spread to the rest of the state.

We will have to face the irrigation issue some day, and we hope the state will have a reasonable program to help us — not the one in this bill.

Stand firm, John.

— Steve Haynes

Hangin' With Marge

Fences

By Margaret Bucholtz



Summer is here! Okay, so it is only spring, but I am in my height of glory.

The saying, "you can take the girl out of the country, but you can never take the country out of the girl," certainly applies to me.

I have been working in my yard and it is so great to fall into bed and be truly tired. The first few days, I worked in my flowers pulling weeds. It was then that I learned a new thing in my older age.

I have kind of been wondering why and what that saggy stuff was that flapped in the wind when I

waved. I now know because the first morning after working in the yard, I bumped my arm and I realized that muscle really must sag because even the under part of my arm hurt.

The next day I decided to give my arms a rest and went on to the new project I was going to get together.

Last fall and early spring I took old lumber from the barn I remembered as a child. I also begged some lumber from a friend and tore down an old shed that was on our farm. It gave me enough lumber to cut out picket fences. Even though I used

the same pattern each is different which adds to the uniqueness of the fence.

Sunday afternoon we started putting them up. I was standing back looking at it when Doug pulled in and asked me if we were putting up a new chicken fence.

It kind of hurt my feelings, but I just considered the source and went back to what I was doing — which was watching Kurt dig the post holes. After all I was healing up my underarms!

Extension Notes

Pruning Hybrid-Tea Roses

By Dana Belshe, District Extension Agent
The best time to prune roses is in the spring before new growth appears and after danger of killing frost. Be sure to remove dead stubs. Otherwise canker fungi may invade stubs and progress into healthy tissue during the summer. Use sharp shears and make cuts at a 45-degree angle about a quarter-inch above healthy buds.

How much we prune after removing dead wood depends on the rose type. If you have shrub roses, pruning consists of removing dead wood. For purposes of this article we will concentrate on hybrid tea roses. With hybrid teas, there are three pruning styles, each with a specific purpose.

Heavy or severe pruning is done on well-established, vigorous plants to produce large, showy flowers. Prune back to three to four healthy canes with three to six eyes per cane. Canes normally will be 6- to 12-inches long.

Moderate pruning is done on well-established, healthy plants and is designed to increase the number

of flowers produced rather than increase size. Leave five to six healthy canes with at least seven buds per cane. Prune stems to 12- to 18-inches long.

Light pruning rejuvenates plants after years of neglect or may be performed on newly established plants. Leave five to seven canes of about 18 inches or more in length. This helps maximize leaf area for energy production and rejuvenates plants.

If plants suffered a significant amount of winter damage, they may need to be cut back more severely than even the heavy-pruning style. This will result in a few large flowers but, in this case, is the only option open to you.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Michael Holliman, Wichita; Naomi Holliman, St. Francis; Terry Holliman, Ore.; John Bartlett, St. Francis; Larry Brunow, St. Francis; Leslie White, Haigler, Neb.; Linda Carmichael, Lakewood, Colo.; Dale Leydig, St. Francis; Mark Brown, St. Francis; Blanche Draper, Benkelman, Neb.; Betty Meads, Indianapolis, Ind.;

GOD SAYS

So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

John 8:7

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 \$33 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$38 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$42 elsewhere in the U.S. Foreign subscriptions, \$25 extraper year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050



News From the Past

15 years ago - 1992

The St. Francis Music Club's Easter cantata "The Highest Place...Love's Story Told" will include about 50 adult choir members and a children's choir.

Janet Young of Bird City, recently opened "Looking Good," a beauty salon on Washington Street in St. Francis.

Rev. Carl Corser is the new pastor at the Grace Assembly of God Church.

Bob and Arnita Yost and their sons, Steve and Dave opened the doors to Yost Farm Supply 25 years ago, after purchasing the operation from Rich and Sylvia Daniels.

Don Topping resigned as mayor at the April 7 meeting as he and his wife will be leaving St. Francis. Jeff Raile, president of the council, was automatically appointed as mayor and will fill Mr. Topping's term.

The Cheyenne County Commissioners appointed three county residents to the nine member Tri-County Health Network board. Appointed were Mary Lee Frewen, Paul Rainbolt and Martin Burton.

The reopened Cheyenne Theater will have its first showing, *The Great Detective*, on May 1. Leslie Raile is the manager and members of the board include Kelly Frewen, Deanna Forsythe,

Jerry Renk, Naomi Holliman, Leslie Raile, Beth Gabel, Randy Weis and Tim Burr.

25 years ago - 1982

Abe Fisher, a member of the Cheylin Future Farmers of America, has been selected the Star District Greenhand of Northwest Kansas.

Tri-State Lumber wants to show off its new office and showroom area with an open house. The company moved its office and showroom to the old Braziel building next to the post office.

30 years ago - 1977

The Citizens State Bank presented a 1970 Pontiac station wagon to the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, to be used as a courtesy car at the airport.

Dr. Ross L. Jewell of Coffeyville announced this week that he will be moving his office to St. Francis on April 1.

Gordon Popp, manager of the St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange for the past 11 years, announced this week that he has resigned the position, effective March 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Bermood of Leigh, Neb., bought the U.S. 36 Motel and Restaurant last week from Mr. and Mrs. Don Abel.

Two delegates and an alternate have been selected to attend Girls State. Delegates are Chelly Moore and Lori Zimelman. Carla Shoemaker is the alternate.

"No, No, Nanette" a three-act musical-comedy will be presented

at the high school under the direction of Russell Smith.

Charles Claar of Satanta has been hired as general manager of the St. Francis Equity Exchange.

Troy Gardner, St. Francis, receives the Certificate of Heroism from the Boy Scouts for saving his brother, Jason, from falling into a pond last summer.

35 years ago - 1972

Phil Finley, head of the area extension service based in Colby, will be the speaker at the Farmer-Merchant banquet.

Diane Herman was one of 14 4-H'ers who represented Kansas at the 53rd National Western 4-H Club Roundup in Denver.

The congregation of Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis last Sunday formally voted final approval to go ahead with construction of a new church building in St. Francis. Construction on the structure, which will cost an estimated \$229,000 is expected to get underway the latter part of April.

Area rural residents will soon be receiving an agricultural newspaper designed to inform them of all the latest news in farming and ranching. Richard Rippe, St. Francis, has been named managing editor of the Tri-State Plainsman.

Shana Winston was selected as the delegate to Girls' State this summer while Virginia Harvey was named alternate.

Contact Your Legislators

U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts, 109 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-4774; web address — roberts.senate.gov

U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-6521; web e-mail address — brownback.senate.gov/CMEmail.me

U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran, 2202 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. (202) 225-2715; Fax (202) 225-5124 e-mail address — jerry.moran@mail.house.gov

State Rep. John Faber, State Capitol Building, Rm. 426-S, Topeka, KS 66612. (785) 296-7500; e-mail address — jfaber@ink.org

State Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer, State Capitol Building, Rm. 128-S, 300 SW 10th, Topeka, Kan. 66612. (785) 296-7399; e-mail address — ostmeyer@senate.state.ks.us

Kansas Attorney General Paul Morrison, 301 S.W. 10th, Lower Level, Topeka, KS 66612-1597 (785) 296-3751 Fax (785) 291-3699 TTY: (785) 291-3767

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 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
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.

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

First Christian Church
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.
Church Service 10:30 a.m.
Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

Grace Assembly of God
332-2925, Pars. 332-2899
208 E. 2nd
Rev. Rob Meyer
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30
Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.

St. Francis Community Church
332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
Pastor: David Butler
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor Mike Larson
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

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

Peace Lutheran Church
202 N. College
Pastor Ken Hart
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Clough Valley Church of Hope
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF
Pastor Jason Howard
332-3152
Saturdays 8 p.m. CT or 7 p.m. MT

Praise
the Lord

St. Francis Equity

Knodel Funeral Home
202 S. Benton • St. Francis
785-332-3131

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