

## Is illegal immigration a problem in the States?

Is illegal immigration really a problem? What do we do to fix the situation? The 12 million illegal immigrants estimated to be in the country should be evidence enough that the system is broke. How to fix it is a little harder to figure out. Illegals come here for a lot of reasons, but mostly it's jobs. Reports show a little more than half are Mexican nationals and a quarter come from other Latin American nations. Almost a million came from Asian countries. Some entered the country illegally, though the majority sneaked across the border somehow, infiltrating through the desert, hiding in trucks and railroad cars, even coming ashore from boats. Many want to work, send money home to their families and eventually return. Today, with border crossing becoming more difficult — and dangerous — many choose just to stay once they're here.

The government has no way to track or catch them, let alone the means to deport 12 million people. The U.S. economy would be in a bind without their work.

Politicians like to scare people with talk of terrorist and criminals sneaking over the mountains, but there's little or no evidence that happens. Most terrorists, in fact, came into the country legally as tourists or students.

The real issues are jobs, race and the way immigrants are changing the country. As Americans always have, people tend to see newcomers as different. Even those whose parents came through Ellis Island less than a century ago can be found protesting the new immigrants.

People didn't treat the Italian, Irish or Croatian immigrants of a century ago very well, either. But they stayed, prospered and became Americans. There's every indication that most modern immi-

grants will do the same. What can we do? First things first. Being here illegally is wrong. Having 12 million illegal immigrants — maybe more, no one counts them — shows our system is horribly flawed.

We need to crack down on illegal immigration, but to do that, we have to make legal immigration possible, civilized and humane. Today, a Mexican citizen who wants to come here to work might have to wait years for a permit. People won't do that when a few hundred dollars will get them across the border to a better life.

And these people are desperate enough to face the dangers of dying in the desert, or in a sealed boxcar, to get here. You can't stop a flow like that, but you can and should control and monitor it.

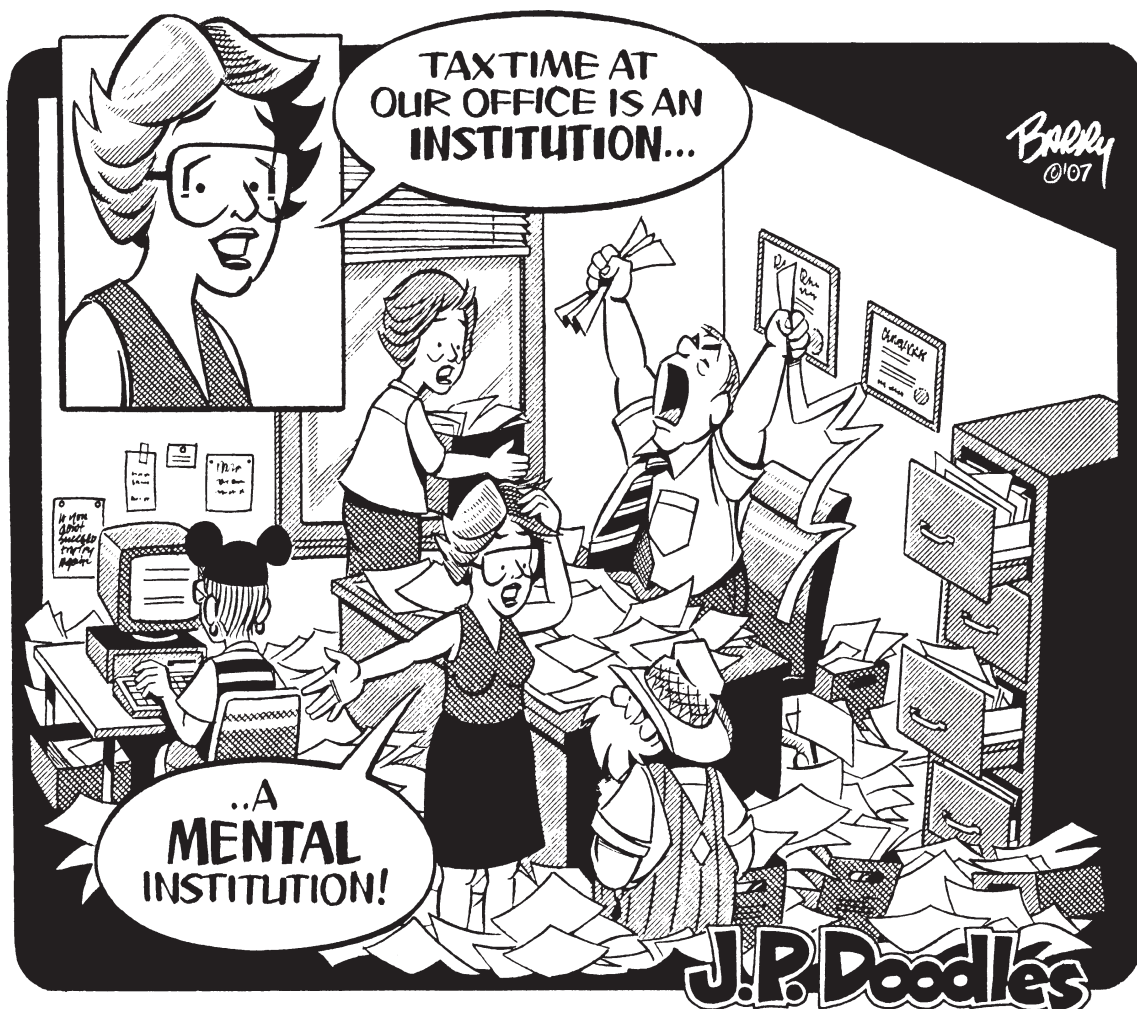
Next, we should offer no state benefits to immigrants. Workers who pay taxes should be able to get a driver's license, send their kids to school and, should they retire here, collect benefits they paid for.

There is just no obligation to give illegal immigrants welfare or other benefits they have not paid for. If they are not working and can't support themselves, they'd be better off at home.

Finally, we should be suspicious of government officials who want tight border controls. There's an element in government that wants to know everything — who does what, goes where, has how much — but that information can be used for a lot of reasons.

We need to ask ourselves if we are ready to deal with a government with that kind of power, or if government can be trusted that much.

The bottom line is, immigration reform, badly as it's needed, isn't likely to happen any time soon. It makes too much sense. — *Steve Haynes*



## News From the Past

### 5 years ago - 2002

"Doofus and Goofus" will be presented April 5 in the high school auditorium. The comedy takes place in a dirty restaurant where kidnapers are plotting to kidnap someone.

The voters cast their ballots in favor of a \$1.4 million bond for the Cheyenne County Hospital. The hospital will now have the needed funds to begin remodeling the old facility and adding on a wing to the west.

Members of the City Council are discussing the repairs and remodeling which will be needed on the Vet's Hall on Washington Street, now that it will be the new city building.

A city-wide garage sale is scheduled for May 11. It will be taking place the same day as the Cheyenne County Cruiser Car Show. This is the first year for the garage sale.

Janae Glidewell placed 17th out of 105 students at the State Spelling Bee. She earned the right to attend by winning the Cheyenne County Spelling Bee.

Three wrestlers, Kevin Brown, Ryan Zwegardt and Jeremiah Wiley, made the *Salina Journal* All-Area honorable mention team.

### 35 years ago - 1972

St. Francis has received the official go-ahead for low rent housing. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development approved the application, although only 20 units were approved instead of the 50 requested.

With the aid of the Chey-

enne County Highway Department, the St. Francis city crew erected highway lighting poles in the median strip along U. S. Highway 36. The crew will soon be wiring these lights with others in St. Francis and it is expected they will be turned on the first part of April.

Susan Schleppe of St. Francis was the winner of the Cheyenne County Spelling Contest. There were 69 participants. Also placing in the top 10 were Marla Carsten, Bird City; Shawn Alsup, St. Francis; Fred Kamala, Bird City; Starla Edmundson, St. Francis; Shirley Zwegardt, St. Francis; Della Pianalto, Bird City; Rachelle Bartlett, St. Francis; Sharon Zwegardt, St. Francis and Bob Zook, Bird City.

The St. Francis FFA and 4-H Junior Livestock Show will be at the Cheyenne County Fairgrounds in April. This is the first of what is planned to be an annual event.

Lampe Hardware Company of St. Francis is holding a special open house celebration. The purpose of the event is two-fold. They will be honoring Mr. and Mrs. Herb Lampe, founders of the business and introducing the new partners to their patrons. Harold Raile, Warren Gienger and Jack Lampe have been partners in the firm for many years, and Gary Rogers was named a partner this year. Mr. and Mrs. Lampe founded the business in 1944.

Mr. Don Kramer of Riddell's in St. Francis informed the County Commissioners this week that their firm would no longer be

able to provide ambulance service after July 1.

### 50 years ago - 1957

Elmer Felzien was elected mayor of St. Francis as a result of last Tuesday's city election. Three incumbent candidates and two new candidates will serve as city councilmen. Reelected to the council were R.W. Stuart, Jack Rieb and Ted Schlittenhardt. Newly elected councilmen are Harold Raile and Vern Nolan.

Beginning Monday, Schultz Trucking Service will make the initial run on a new daily freight from Denver shipping points to St. Francis. This is in addition to the contract hauling service which has operated from this point for many years.

### 75 years ago - 1932

The weird sound of the fire siren called the residents of our city from their slumbers at 3 o'clock Tuesday morning. The fire which had started in the rear room of the old Uplinger building had gained much headway before it had been discovered and it had been pretty much destroyed before it could be extinguished.

Winners in the county spelling contest include Adeline Dorsch, eighth grade; Beulah Overturf, seventh grade city; Arlean Richers, seventh grade rural; Ereleche Hoff, sixth grade; Edna Raile, fifth grade; Alice Ommen, fourth grade; Lucy Trammell, third grade rural; Myrna Savage, third grade city; Betty Zimbelman, second grade.

## Letter

### Aerial photos taking place in Cheyenne County

*Editor's note: The following letter was sent to Phil Crawford, who shared with The Herald.*

I was in Cheyenne County setting a GPSing aerial photo control from March 15 to 19. If you see any big white +s on the ground or asphalt around the county, that's our work. Some of the +s are white plastic sheeting and the others are painted with white enamel.

When the aerial photo aircraft flies over the county those big white +s will appear on the photos. With the GPS coordinates that we provide, the aerial photo company will be able to create an accurate, high resolution digital aerial photo mosaic of the entire county.

This work is part of the E-911 grant work for Cheyenne County. New road maps will be created from the photography for the law enforcement and emergency services folks to use to help them provide timely assistance to citizens in need. I hope that everyone is okay after the thunderstorms and tornadic activity that you had recently.

I enjoyed my time in Cheyenne County and St. Francis. I enjoyed meeting the people and seeing the country. I was particularly impressed with the Arikaree Breaks and the signs marking historical sites throughout the county. I am a civil engineer and GPS/GIS specialist. I have studied the loess soil and it's amazing characteristics. The Arikaree Breaks are really picturesque. We also visited the Three Cor-



GPSing aerial photo control which leaves white +s on the ground can be seen throughout the county.

ners site in the northwest corner of the county and set a photo target there. I'm a longtime member of the Kansas Society of Land Surveyors and several of my good friends participated in the establishment of that

commemorative monument. Kudos to the folks who are still helping preserve the Cheyenne County and Kansas history.

Steve Thompson  
sthompson@ksbroadband.net

**GOD SAYS**  
And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.  
Matthew 24:4, 5

# 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 extra per year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050



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**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.

### Seventh-Day Adventist Church

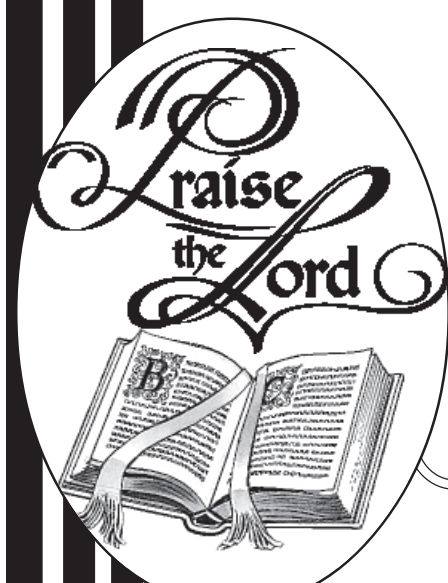
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams  
Pastor Mike Larson  
Sabbath School 9:30  
Morning Worship 10:45

**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.

**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.

**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



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