

## The last thing wanted is political robocalling

After the bruising run-up to the 2006 election, the last thing we wanted was more political robocalling.

Thanks loads, then, to the National Republican Congressional Committee for giving us just that. Or, to remove any trace of sarcasm, inflicting it on us.

The NRCC recently began making robocalls — slang for automated phone calls — as part of an attack campaign against Rep. Nancy Boyda, D-Kan. ...

... We think most Kansans would agree that the robocalling needs to go — at least for now.

Listen, we knew Republicans would go after Boyda to reclaim the seat she won from former Rep. Jim Ryun.

That's fine. But after last fall's bitter election campaigns, we thought we deserved a break from fierce campaigning.

The mudslinging and name-calling between Boyda and Ryun, as well as Kansas attorney general candidates Paul Morrison and Phill Kline, prompted some observers to rate the overall campaign season as the nastiest in state history. ...

But now, even though our calendars show it will be 17 months before the 2008 congressional elections, the rhetoric already is rising. ...

Fortunately for voters, there has been some movement to rein in the invasive practice of robocalling.

Federal law already requires the sponsors of automated calls for congressional elections to be identified at the start of the call, and a state law will go into effect on July 1 to establish the same requirement for elections in Kansas.

The next step would be to make the no-call registry apply to political campaigning. ...

—The Topeka Capital-Journal

## Taxpayer upset about road

To the editor, Taxpayers of Cheyenne County I am writing this letter to bring some problems to your attention.

First, the Edson Road west of Bird City is an "accident waiting to happen!" For several months, the road crew has been spending time attempting to make the road passable. They have not succeeded. It is so narrow, it can rightly be designated as a one-lane road - meet another vehicle at your own peril because one of you will probably end up in the ditch. Forget about a farmer attempting to move a tractor and implement on that road. I had to find an alternate route to my fields. To add to the poor condition of the road, a decision was made to dump boulders on part of the road. Many of them just rolled into the ditch, making mowing impossible. Those that stayed on the road are an invitation for a flat tire or worse yet,

### Letters to the Editor

ruined tire. This project obviously proved to be a bigger task than the road supervisor could manage. A competent Supervisor would never have left that road in such a poor condition.

Second, why does the supervisor seem to have an aversion to mowing? For some reason, he just can't seem to get the mowers started in a timely manner. Year after year we face this same situation - no mowing or very little mowing is done. Some years the weeds have been over 5-feet tall before the ditches were mowed. This year the real problems are cheat and joint grass. Since the Supervisor is a farmer himself, he should be aware of the fact that joint grass is hard to control. Common sense should tell him that early and frequent mowing

would be a valuable service to farmers.

In my opinion, the road supervisor lacks the expertise required to be a successful employee. He is also attempting to fulfill the duties of two full-time jobs: road supervisor and self-employed farmer. He cannot do justice to both. My suggestion is that he resign as road supervisor. That would provide a job opportunity for another Cheyenne County resident and he can then focus his full attention on farming. If he chooses to remain as road supervisor, it may be helpful to remind him that he has three bosses...Messrs Ketzner, Lee and Beikman, who are elected to represent the taxpayers.

Stanley Lamb  
Cheyenne County

## Member wants a key to museum

To the editor: Usually when you get older and you've spent a big part of your life doing and building something you believe in, and enjoy making it better as long as you are able, you feel like you deserve a little consideration or thank you for your efforts. This hasn't happened.

Due to a few members abusing the copier at the museum, it was necessary to have new keys made. Now, only the board members and the curator can have keys, and the only way you can get in is having a board member with you to open the building, guard you, and lock up the building. It really isn't fair for some of us that have done so much to make the museum and church what it is today. We won't work under these conditions. Since we aren't on

a committee at the present, the only way Tobe, Betty and I, and other participating members, can get in the museum or Ye Olde Country Church is to ask one of the seven board members to unlock them, guard over you while you are there, and then they lock up. This is not right and that's the thanks we get. Why is it so important to them to keep us locked out? We do have cases that we can't finish working on now.

When Tobe gives a tour, he's supposed to know what time he will return to tour the museum and church, and have a board member there to unlock and lock up. When Tobe, Betty or I are called needing information on an obituary, genealogy, or history, tour of the museum or church like we have numerous times a year, we now have to tell them we are locked out. That won't work. How can they act like it is only their museum when it belongs to all the members?

After 20 years of gathering money, acquiring land, building the museum, helping furnish it, making albums, helping publish books, and serving and promoting the museum and Historical Society, St. Francis and Cheyenne County, we are locked out.

We enjoyed showing our friends, relatives, or anyone wanting information from the museum, which is one of the nicest in the country.

While being president for 20 years, all participating members

had a key, the meetings were open, and all voted and knew what was going on, but not now? The last election was very illegal by disregarding the nomination ballot and no nominations from the floor. We do have a Constitution and By-Laws to follow. There are eight people on a Budget Committee receive approximately \$4,000 appropriation from the county to pay for utilities, insurance, etc. Memorial money is for upkeep, building and improvements.

How can we expect to gain members and volunteers to work under these conditions? We asked the curator and board two times for keys to enter the museum and church, but were refused. The former president promised me two times I would have keys, but it never happened. The museum belongs to us as much as anyone.

For 20 years people loaned items to the museum and more than likely they would stay there. Now if you don't sign it over to the museum, they will take possession of it. The system worked all these years, so why can't it now?

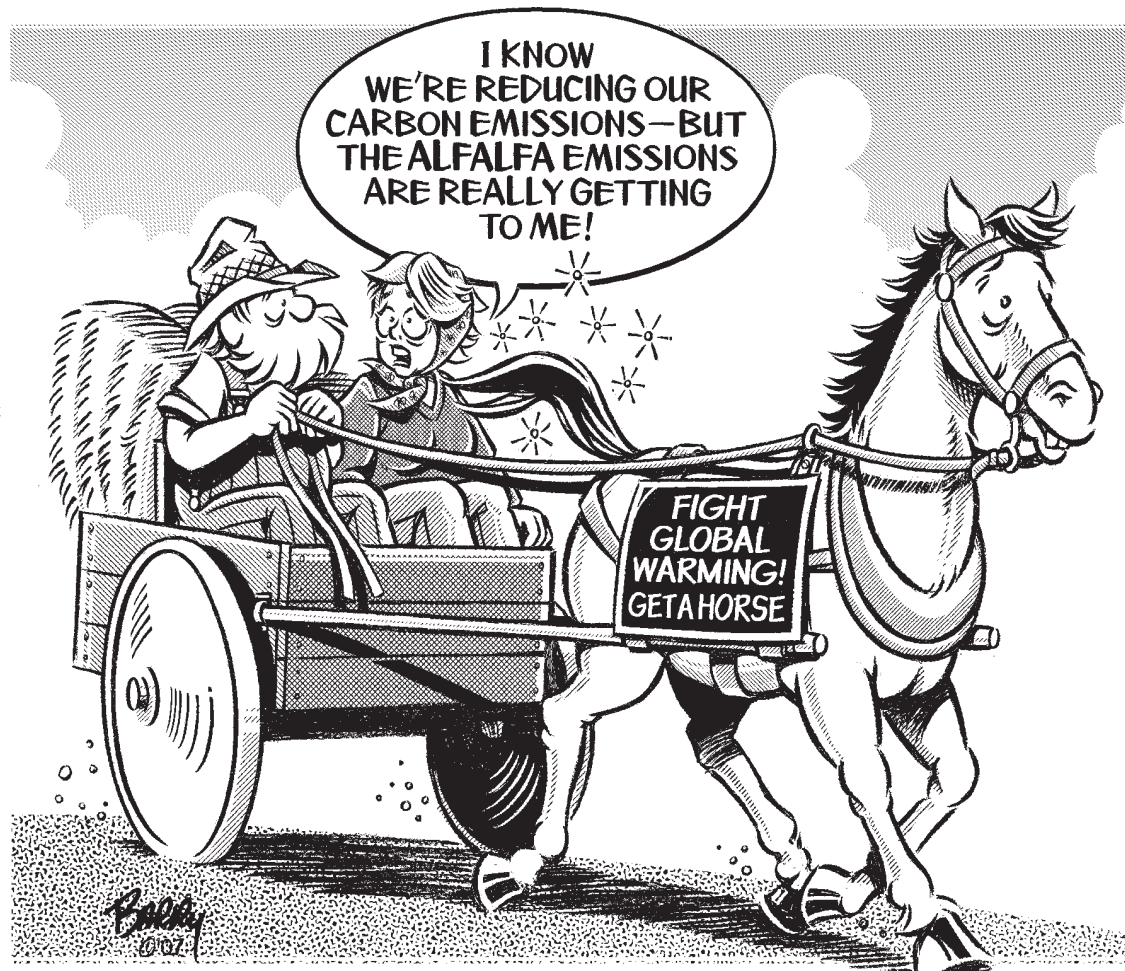
Tobe, Betty and I, and others, have numerous items in the museum, and wonder if we should take them out or leave them in there.

What do you readers think about how we are being treated? Thank you!

Milton E. Lampe  
St. Francis

### Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Clay Zimbelman, St. Francis; Junior Cress, Bird City; Cecil Hess, Oberlin; William H. Hilt, St. Francis; Loyd Cadwell, St. Francis; Marjorie Kennedy, Loveland, Colo.; Merlyn Boll, Goodland; James Laffond, St. Francis; Mindy Bradbury, Overland Park; J. Greg Kite, Wichita; Merle L. Walter, Mitchell, Neb.; Rachel Davis, St. Francis; Larry Collins, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Marvin Meints, St. Francis; Jo Hagney, St. Francis.



## Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



When I first moved to northwest Kansas, I used to drive by what was left of a drive-in movie screen along Highway 36, just west of Atwood.

Looking at the twisted and tangled steel that used to support a giant screen reminded me of seeing dinosaur bones in a museum. What used to be a part of everyday life had faded into extinction, leaving only remnants of the past.

Drive-in theaters began sprouting up in towns across the plains in the years following World War II. In 1958 there were at least 125 drive-ins in Kansas. That year would mark the height of outdoor movie viewing.

Today there are 13 theaters listed on the [www.driveintheater.com](http://www.driveintheater.com) website. About 80 "Dead Drive-Ins" are also on the site.

My wife, Lezlie, remembers going to the Starlite Drive-In in St. Francis. She recalled how kids could watch the movie from an old, abandoned car that sat next to the

snack shack. Not all drive-ins have gone the way of the Pterodactyl. There is still a handful operating a few hours away in the Denver area.

I have a plan for our next family outing. On the west side of the San Luis Valley, in Colorado, sits the small town of Monte Vista. We're going to visit the Best Western

Movie Manor there! It's a drive-in and motel combined. Instead of watching from the family sedan, we can enjoy the film from our room. Then, when the kids fall asleep, we won't have to carry them to bed!

## News From the Past

### 25 years ago - 1982

The Reverend Loren W. Chapman has returned to St. Francis as pastor of the United Methodist Church. He and his family served the community in 1962-63.

Scott Carmichael, Sterling, Colo., has been hired as a special education teacher and assistant coach for high school football and junior high basketball. A contract has been offered to Mary Ludwig, Beloit, as an art instructor.

Andy Kehmeier received his degree in dentistry from Creighton University.

Jeri LeValley is the 1983 Northwest Kansas Junior Miss. The 1982 Junior Miss was Megan Kinen.

W.R. "Chick" Wilber was the only representative of the class of 1922 (60-year class) to attend the high school reunion.

## Policy for Letters to the Editor

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times encourages Letters to the Editor on any topic of public interest. Letters should be brief, clear and to the point. They must be signed and carry the address and phone number of the author.

Mail letters to P.O. Box 1050; St. Francis, KS 67756.

We do not publish anonymous letters. We sign our opinions and expect readers to do likewise.

We do not publish form letters or letters about topics which do not pertain to our area. Thank-yous from this area should be submitted to the Want Ad desk.

Letters will not be censored, but will be read and edited for form and style, clarity, length and legality. We will not publish attacks on private individuals or businesses which do not pertain to a public issue.

Letters printed are not necessarily the opinion of *The Herald* staff. Replies to letters are welcome and, again, must be signed.

**GOD SAYS**  
Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.  
John 14:1-2

**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  
No Summer Sunday School  
Morning Worship 10:30 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  
[www.sfccfamily.com](http://www.sfccfamily.com)  
Pastor: David Butler  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Potluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday  
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.

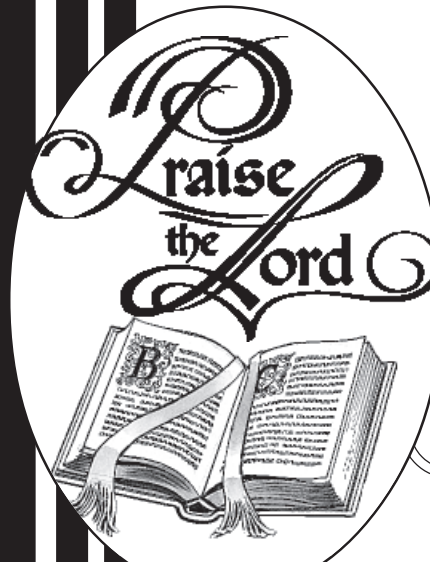
**Peace Lutheran Church**  
202 N. College  
Pastor Ken Hart  
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312  
No Summer Sunday School  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
with fellowship to follow.

**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

**St. Francis Equity**

**First National Bank**  
Member FDIC

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



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