Name change not good idea for state university

Opinion

Change the name of Fort Hays State been a military post in the Indian Wars. University?

Why?

It's one of the ideas being floated by President Ed Hammond during his annual tour of the region, but not a good one.

Fort Hays State is a perfectly good name, with some geographic identity and a lot of history. The alternatives just aren't too attractive.

University of Western Kansas isn't likely to convince anyone from Johnson County that they've found Nirvana. Neither is Western Kansas State.

Eisenhower State could be anywhere.

It's not that the college has had it's name forever. It was first known as the Kansas State Normal School, then Kansas State Teachers College and Kansas State College. In those days, it was one of three state schools that changed names in lockstep, identified only by the town: Emporia State and Pittsburg State.

Fort Hays State University may have been a step up. While similar to the other two, it's unique, and that's not a bad thing.

Many people don't know why the college is "Fort Hays State" and not just Hays State, but it's an interesting story. It goes back to the turn of the last century, when Hays citizens wanted to start a state "normal" school, as teacher training institutions were known in those days.

They talked Congress into donating the unused federal reservation of the old fort outside of town to the new school. That's why the college is out on the edge of town, on former federal land that had

And why the university is "Fort Hays State" today.

Not every college has such a colorful past. It's something worth hanging on to.

There's a trend among former teachers' colleges, though, to differentiate names. In Missouri, where the schools once had geographic names -Northwest Missouri State, Southeast Missouri State, Central Missouri State – one is now Truman State and another became Missouri State, much to the disgust of University of Missouri alumni.

Trouble is, no on can remember where those two are now that they've lost their geographic ties. Then there is the University of Central Missouri, right down the road from the University of Missouri.

In Colorado, the old teachers' college is now the University of Northern Colorado, though it's a little south of Colorado State.

If all that sounds confusing to you, imagine what it must be for alumni and for prospective students.

Fort Hays State is a fine name with a good story behind it. Our advice is to stick with it.

For marketing purposes, it's as good as any of the new ideas. And surely Dr. Hammond has better things to spend his money on than changing the name on all those building, vehicles, business cards and so on.

Fort Hays is a growing, vital institution with the name it has. Just keep it.

- Steve Haynes.

Hangin' With Marge Fences

Most people put up a fence to keep their dogs in, but out on our farm we do it different. We put up an electric fence to keep our dogs out of the yard.

It did have a few drawbacks because every time we left the yard or when someone came to visit they had to step over the electric fence to get to the door. Not to mention that in the dark we walked very carefully so we could see the wire.

Saturday I went outside to cut back a few flowers and dig the bulbs

up and take another run at it. I ran over other plants, knocked rocks out of the way, but finally the job was done.

It was time to get the fence back up. I slid the top wire up and then reached down to slide the bottom wire. It just wouldn't slid up. I noticed that the wire was bent from hitting it with the wheel of across. It was amazing how far that memory.

I got down on my knees to get a better looked when all of the sudden the world was turning colors and then I realized that I had a horrible pain on the right side of my head that was just snapping me. About then I realized my head was on the top wire of the electric fence.

I jumped back and wanted to cry, the wheelbarrow, also catching the but then I thought, "Well, maybe back legs about every time I went the electric shock will help my



HILLARY'S DETRACTORS GET PERSONAL ... **News From the Past**

60 years ago - 1947

Construction is being planned for housing for the executive personnel who will be connected with the building of Bonny Dam. It will require 35 to 50 two and three bedroom houses of permanent type as they will be used for several years. A site was selected on the west end of the municipal airport.

Two new buildings and an addition to another one are among the building activities now in progress in St. Francis. Work on the Foster Lumber building is moving along nicely. Walls on the Carpenter and Son's Cement building are going up. The other new building is being built by J. H. Hancock It is being build for rental purposes.

A fire of undetermined origin

almost completely destroyed the interior of the Christian Church. Quick action by firemen prevented additional loss to adjacent homes and buildings.

The St. Francis Community High School band will be one of 30 bands from high schools in Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas to attend the University of Colorado's Band Day in Boulder, Colo.

40 years ago - 1967

Ralph Crawford returned this month from flying a 7,000 mile solo air flight to Fairbanks, Alaska, flying a 1946 model Cesna 140.

Dr. John Pinkerton, an optometrist, is being welcomed to St. Francis. His office is at 209 W. Washington, in the former Roelfs building.

Pastor Derald Rice of the Zion Lutheran Church has announced that he will be leaving the area to accept a call to the Zion Lutheran Church in Everest.

Myra Zimbelman and Ginger Harkins attended a District FHA (Future Homemakers of America) meeting in Jennings, along with their advisor, Mrs. Phil Sherlock, home economics instructor.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rieb are holding a first anniversary sale at Rieb Skogmo Department Store

The Citizens State Bank of St. Francis will move to their new location on the St. Francis Main Street. The bank will be closed all day Saturday for the move and will reopen on Monday, Sept. 25.



bets was a murderer. Let's take little look into our history books. Japan, of the mid-20th Century,

was a military state teaching its and the Coral Sea. Ground attacks young warriors that honor was were led primarily by Marines who Major newspapers buried the only possible through a fight to the began pushing the Japanese back death. This war machine combined across the Pacific Ocean one island obituary and TV news gave more forces with the fascist state of Nazi

Both armies believed they were

superior to their enemies and any

atrocities committed were okay.

Again, some folks today would

deny the brutality of the Japanese

and the Nazi extermination of

Jews and other civilians during

America's hand was forced into

the war after the sneak attack on

Pearl Harbor by the Imperial Navy

As the war progressed the U.S.

forces struggled back after early

defeats. The Navy turned the tide

with victories at places like Midway

on a Sunday morning in 1941.

WW II.

Casey **McCormick**

at a time





catch the fence and have to back



scmccormick@nwkansas.com Our country has lost another war hero. Brigadier General Paul Tibbets died on Nov. 1 in Columbus,

for the winter. I lowered the electric fence and got the wheelbarrow into the yard. Each trip pushing the load to a trailer got heavier. I would

wire would stretch until I would see it and have to back up and take left me with a headache for rest of another run, however I didn't realize I had bent it that bad.

the day.

Operation completes project

in northwest Kansas.

To the editor:

As you may be aware, Operation SOS has just completed their sixth annual "Holidays for Heroes' project. Our organization is grateful for the continued support the community of St. Francis has offered every year. Without the giving spirit of these people, Operation SOS would not be able to fulfill its goals every years.

-Honor Roll-New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Susan Roelfs, St. Francis; Keith Kehmeier, Hamilton, Mont.; Gerri McCurry, St. Francis; Becky Roberson, St. Francis; Skip Petersen, St. Francis; Weber Barber Shop, St. Francis; Tom Bandel, St. Francis; John Walz, St. Francis; Arrilla Zimbelman, St. Francis; John Kite, St. Francis.



Letter to the Editor -

for everyone's efforts to making those who are serving overseas a little brighter not only during the holiday season, but throughout the year as well.

> Melanie Elliott Kensington



I don't think it helped, but it sure Robert Goulet. I loved Bob in Cam-Germany. elot, but come on now!

time to the passing of actor-singer

Ohio, at the age of 92.

Although he was on many bombing missions in World War II, then Colonel Tibbets is remembered for piloting the Enola Gay on Aug. 6, 1945. The B-29 Superfortress, named for his mother, dropped the first atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. On Aug. 9, a second bomb exploded above Nagasaki. The Japanese announced their surrender on Aug. 14.

Because of his actions and the scientific advantage of the United States, a quick end to the war occurred. Some would argue that Tib-

> **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.

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

> > Pastor Jeff Landers 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Bible Fellowship 9:20 a.m. Church Service 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 Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 **Pastor Chris Farmer** Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

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

Battles on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Guam, Iwo Jima and Okinawa were testaments of Marine bravery and determination. At each small atoll or chunk of volcanic rock, the Japanese fought to the bitter end. Most chose suicide over surrender.

If the Enola Gay had not dropped the bomb, this kind of fighting certainly would have continued to the heart of the Japanese mainland.

War is hell. Luckily Tibbets brought it to an earlier end.

Veteran's Day is Nov.11. Let a veteran know you appreciate your freedom which has been paid for by men like Tibbets and other vets.

> 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.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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