

Americans should move into brave new world

A senior government official suggests that Americans need to give up their old notions of privacy and move boldly into the brave new world.

Donald Kerr, deputy director of national intelligence, told a group in Texas that in the Internet age, when everything is online, it's not possible to be anonymous.

What we need are safeguards to ensure that government and corporations don't misuse our data or our identities, he said. Trust us, said the government man.

Kerr alleged that the younger generation willingly surrenders its anonymity to "networking" websites such as Face Book. Anyone who thinks differently, he said, should type his or her own name into an Internet search program.

Government employees face up to five years in prison if they misuse private information, he noted.

"Those two generations younger than we are have a very different idea of what is essential privacy, what they would wish to protect about their lives and affairs," Mr. Kerr was quoted as saying by the Associated Press. "And so, it's not for us to inflict one size fits all. Protecting anonymity isn't a fight that can be won. Anyone that's typed in their name on Google understands that."

"Our job now is to engage in a productive debate, which focuses on privacy as a component of appropriate levels of security and public safety."

Privacy advocates pointed out, though, that it's a far cry from posting your personal data on FaceBook to having the government scoop up your information, maybe your most private communications, in a "sweep" of Internet transactions.

Corporations that want our business ask us to trust them with our credit card numbers and other vital information. We do so, if we want to shop on the Internet, or we go downtown and buy what we need.

No one has much choice about the government collecting data on them, however. The government registers births and deaths and, in this fearful age, requires people to produce hard identification to get a loan or open a bank account.

While those rules, part of the controversial Patriot Act, are supposed to help fight terrorism, most people suspect it's regular Americans the government wants to track, especially those who don't like to pay taxes.

Similarly, the government claims the right to inspect any communication — including e-mail — that lands outside the U.S. without the search warrant required for calls and messages inside the country.

The government says it's after terrorists again, but who's to say how it will use the information it finds. Already, people are being arrested on the basis of contraband found in suitcases at the airport.

Sure, no one has to fly and for sure, no one has to fly with drugs in their luggage, but the practice illustrates one facet of increasing government intrusion into every life: The government may say it's here to help, but it has its own agenda.

Finding tax cheats and illegal aliens may be part of the goal, but how do you write safeguards that insure that information will never be used for improper purposes?

And what of the time when the people may decide the government no longer serves them, but wants citizens to serve it?

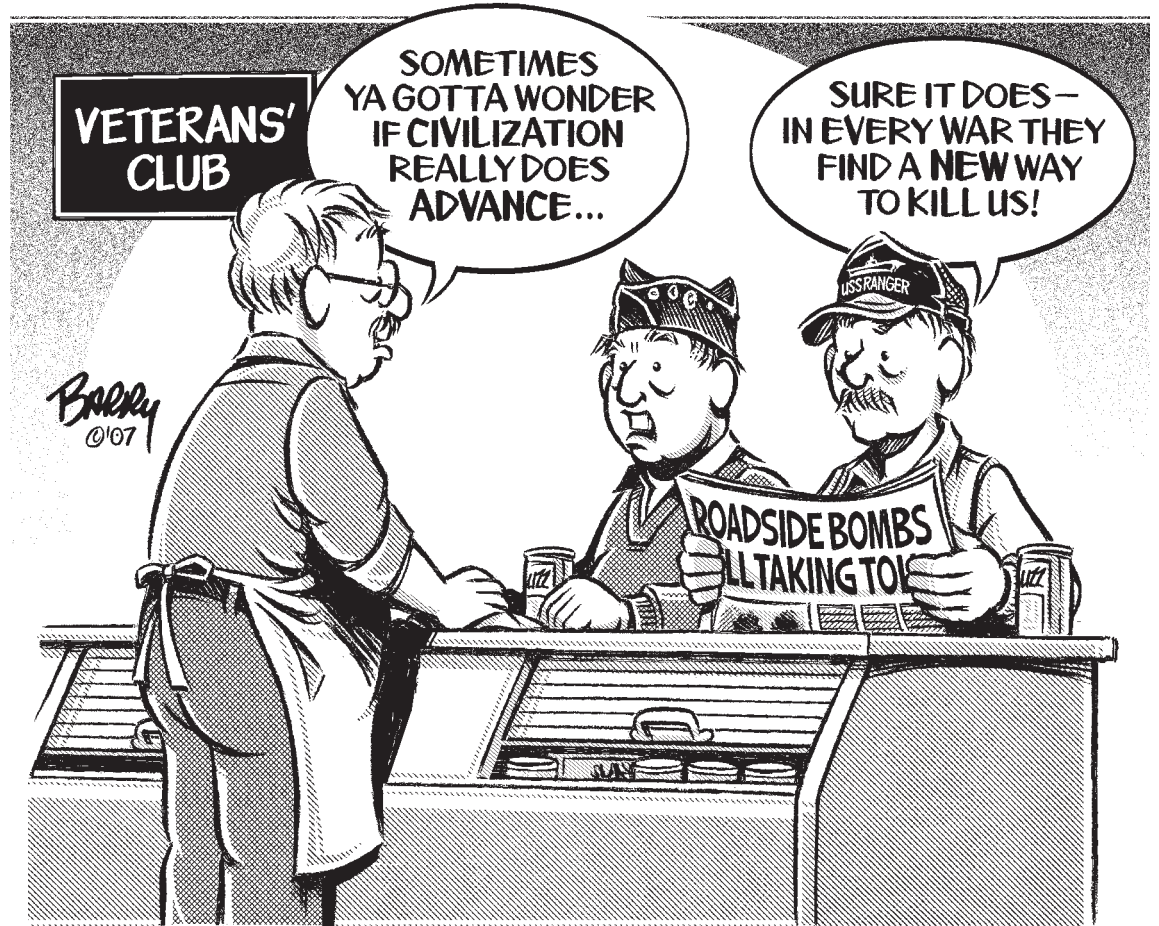
The government might say that any use it makes of data banks to suppress opposition is a just use, but would that be true?

Can we really trust our government to know everything? To know so much about us?

Or would we be better off if it remains half blind and short of memory?

Our vote is with the people and against growing the database, but that's not likely to stop the spread or limit the reach of government snoops.

Someone should. — Steve Haynes



Casey's Comment

By Casey McCormick



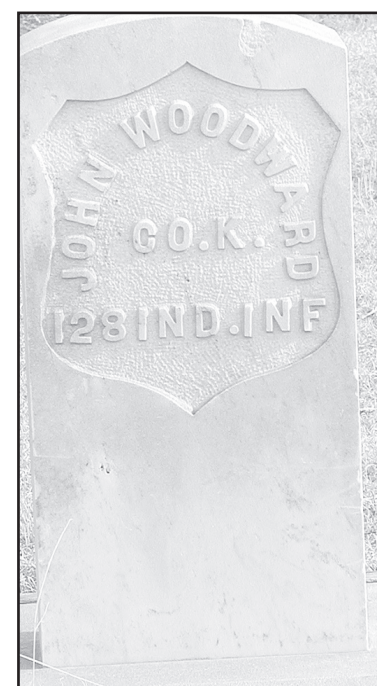
Last Sunday, Lezlie and I spent a leisurely day doing some house and yard work. Late in the afternoon we decided to go to a cemetery to pay tribute to local soldiers on Veteran's Day.

Most of the men that rest there are strangers to me, but my wife could pass as a local historian, just like her mother.

I was surprised by two things. First, there is a large number of veterans representing Cheyenne County there. Secondly, considering that this county was not founded until late in the 19th century, many wars are represented. Stones and metal markers show service in the Civil, both World Wars, Korean and Vietnam.

Later, I went to the Herald office and pulled out the book which holds the yellow pages from yesterday. The previous workers said it better than me on Thursday, Nov. 14, 1918:

Victory Germany Surrenders Un-



Conditionally Firing Ceased at 11 O'Clock A.M. Monday "It's all over, over there. The big

job is done. Hats off to America. Our brave American boys have won the plaudits of the world by their unexampled heroism and wonderful fortitude."

Also on the front page, a great celebration was described.

"Cheyenne County has been wonderfully loyal to her boys, and all were anxious to rejoice with them in their victory."

At the time the president of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, called the First World War "The war to end all wars." Unfortunately, that's not the way it worked. But a celebration was still in order.

"This day, Nov. 11, 1918, will never be forgotten. When the next generation is studying the history of this world war, our children will tell their children, how their little home town in Kansas celebrated the victory, and it will be a wonderful story."

Hangin' With Marge

Looking Good

By Margaret Bucholtz



I am sure we have all had those times when we want to look professional. Usually when this is my goal I mess up somehow.

Several years ago, I was asked to help with a Leadership Training session and I really felt honored.

That morning I took a few extra minutes getting my makeup on and tried on several outfits before I choose the one I thought looked the best.

It was a time when a soft, full skirt and long sweater were popular and I just happened to have one.

I was a little nervous, but I had read everything the leader had prepared for me and I felt I kind of knew what I was to do. The morning started out great and the group was a very ambitious group that wanted to participate in all the activity.

When break time came, I waited in line to use the restroom and upon leaving I looked in the mirror to check my hair for one final time. Everything looked OK so I walked out of the room.

Just as I re-entered the meeting room the leader came up to me and whispered "You might want to go

in the bathroom and adjust your skirt." I trusted her enough not to ask "Why," but just went back in.

Thinking it must not be hanging right I sort of tugged on my skirt and to my surprise it just didn't budge. I turned around to look in the mirror and there it was — my skirt was caught up in my panty hose.

Thank heavens the leader caught it before I paraded around the group! Don't think I don't remember to check each and every time from that time forward.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Dulcie Henderson, Ransom; Martin Hilt, St. Francis; Dustin and Amber Dunn, Overland Park; Melvin Confer, Curtis Confer, Westminister, Colo.; Kelly Gienger, St. Francis; Janet Young Elliott, Evans, Colo.; Kenneth Ketter, Kanorado; Ted J. Busse, St. Francis; Richard Grace, St. Francis; Kari and Nate Toon, Hays; Coral Frolich; Keri Feather, Escondido, Calif.; Chad Kincheloe, Des Plaines, Ill.; Gene Kincheloe, Evans, Colo.; Dolores Kincheloe,

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News From the Past

35 years ago - 1972

Cheyenne County entries in the junior livestock show in Wichita all placed. Attending the show were Peter Sherlock, Carol Curry, Mike Rogers, Roger Curry and Cindy Curry.

The St. Francis Community High School has undergone a major landscaping project, removing the tall evergreens that practically hid the entire front of the structure.

Homecoming candidates include Linda Hall, Shauna Winston, Cindy Frewen, Kris Hale, Jan Keller, Bruce Feikert, Andy

Kehmeier, Lyle Boll, John Henry and Greg Peter. Susan Hilt and Ryan Shay were crown bearers for the event.

Sue Gorthy was chosen a member of the Nebraska Quarter Horse Youth Team which will participate in the National Quarter Horse Congress in Ohio.

20 years ago 1987 St. Francis grade school students marched to the new library construction Friday where selected students put their hand prints in the freshly poured cement.

John Knodel, a recent graduate of Dallas Institute of Fu-

neral Service, is now associated with Kramer Chapel of St. Francis.

Seniors Crystal DeGood and Matt Bandel were crown 1987 Homecoming King and Queen at the football game Friday evening.

KN Energy has announced Les Bailey as county service manager.

In September 1962, Bob Zimbelman opened Zimbelman Motor Company. This year they are celebrating their 25th anniversary. Bob bought the business from John Hancock.

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.

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 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.

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: 10:00 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.

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

First Christian Church Pastor Jeff Landers 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Bible Fellowship 9:20 a.m. Church Service 10:30 a.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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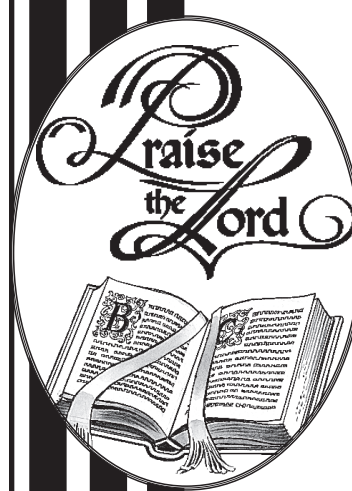


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