



Those people in Topeka talk of speed reduction

Another great idea from those people back east who've never been west of Topeka:

Let's drop the speed limit on state freeways to 65 mph.

That came up in a list of ideas at a Kansas Energy Council meeting last week, though one member, state Sen. Janis Lee of Kensington, said that the speed plan had "no chance" of passing the Legislature.

The idea was in a laundry list of recommendations before the council for its annual report. It probably came from someone who never ventured out of the eastern third of the state.

The council itself is heavily weighted toward the Kansas City-Topeka-Wichita axis, with only three members from the western half of the state. (Ken Frahm of Colby serves as co-chair, and Sen. Lee is one of two legislators from the west.)

The council staff estimated that dropping the speed limit on Interstates and expressways would increase fuel economy 7 to 23 percent and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Those estimates seem wildly optimistic at best. Twenty-three percent?

Roads affected would include the freeways, plus expressways such as U.S. 81 north of Salina.

The speed ban seems likely to get some traction, however, when you figure that most of those making the decision live in Kansas City or Topeka and seldom venture out into the hinterlands.

Many states east of Kansas still cling to 65 mph or lower speeds on Interstates, but distances are shorter and traffic heavier than out west.

We suffered under the yoke of similar do-

gooder thinking for a couple of decades after the "first" energy crisis, when gasoline prices soared over \$1 per gallon in the 1970s. Gasp.

Despite doubt, the council retained the idea on its agenda. Lt. Gov. Mark Parkinson was quoted as saying, "I guess I'm going to vote for this just as a way of advancing the public discussion. Gas has never been \$4 a gallon before. We're in a different environment."

This newspaper stands for any legitimate way to reduce fuel consumption and oil imports. It's vital for our economy and our national security.

But we think it wrong to saddle westerners with this burden. Anyone who votes for it should be sentenced to drive from Kansas City to Liberal and back, nonstop.

Besides, conservation measures work best when they're voluntary. The speed-limit changes come coupled with a 50 percent increase in fines and a cut in the 10 mph "break" the law gives drivers before they get a moving violation to just 5 mph.

Estimates of how fast people are driving seem exaggerated as well. Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller said the average speed on highways posted for 70 mph was 78, and on two-lanes posted for 65 was 75.

When you're out there driving, say, 68 and 75, though, there just aren't that many people passing you. Not out here, anyway.

This idea may be a nonstarter. We hope so.

But just to be sure, when the lieutenant governor next ventures out to Colby, we think he should leave the state plane behind and drive himself, both ways.

—Steve Haynes

Hangin' With Marge

Cars

The other day my son called and told me they were looking at a different vehicle. I didn't think much about it. Then he said the other car would be too small for three car seats when the new baby gets here.

I thought about when I had three children. It was then that we bought a van, but that was in the times of no car seats. We would

fold down the seats, put blankets down for padding, and put the older kids in the back. When they were babies I would hold them in my arms all the time we traveled.

The kids were happy with a bucket of toys to play with and, knowing me, probably a couple bags of food.

I never realized that I had used

food for everything until later in life. If they got hurt, I fed them. If they were good they got food. If they were naughty I took away the candy. No wonder we all have weight problems.

It might have been easier back then, but it is much safer today.

By Margaret Bucholtz



Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



sc McCormick@nwkansas.com Am I a bad parent?

School starts up again this week and I can't help but feel a little excited.

I love my kids. Not just the three at home but also the two older boys in Kansas City. But the summer routine has begun to wear thin.

Each day is the same old thing. Lezlie and I are racing around the house, trying to get one more cup of coffee in us as we get cleaned-up, dressed and out the door. The dogs need to be put out and watered and fed. We get this done without the kids in our way. They're still sleeping because they were up

late watching television or texting their friends.

Lunch time comes and we go home for a quick bite. What we had planned to eat has already been consumed, so we have to figure out a "plan B." It's amazing what you can come up with from an empty pantry and the two heels of a loaf of bread.

After work is pretty much the same as school nights. Although there is no homework to do the kids are hanging around wanting to know what is for dinner. Once the menu is announced the usual whines begin about, "That doesn't sound good," or "Yuck, you're actually going to eat that?" Then

they disappear to run around with friends who also must not like what Mom and Dad are fixing.

The younger two have a summer curfew of 10 p.m. However, they like to use their cell phones to beg a few extra minutes. Mom and I have the same reply, "There's nothing good that happens out after 10 o'clock."

Once they are home then it is up to their rooms for more T.V. and text messaging.

Am I a bad parent for wanting a scheduled program that only school offers?

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Relda Galli, Gem; Mildred Edwards, Salina; Darrel Weber, Spring Hill, Fla.; Janice Clark, Claremore, Okla.; Carol Larson, St. Francis; Inez Bargo, Germantown, Tenn.; David Penton, St. Francis; Evelyn Henderson, Levant; Jerry Neitzel, Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Greg Lauer, Parker, Colo.

GOD SAYS
Love is patient, love is kind... Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails....
1 Corinthians 13:4-8

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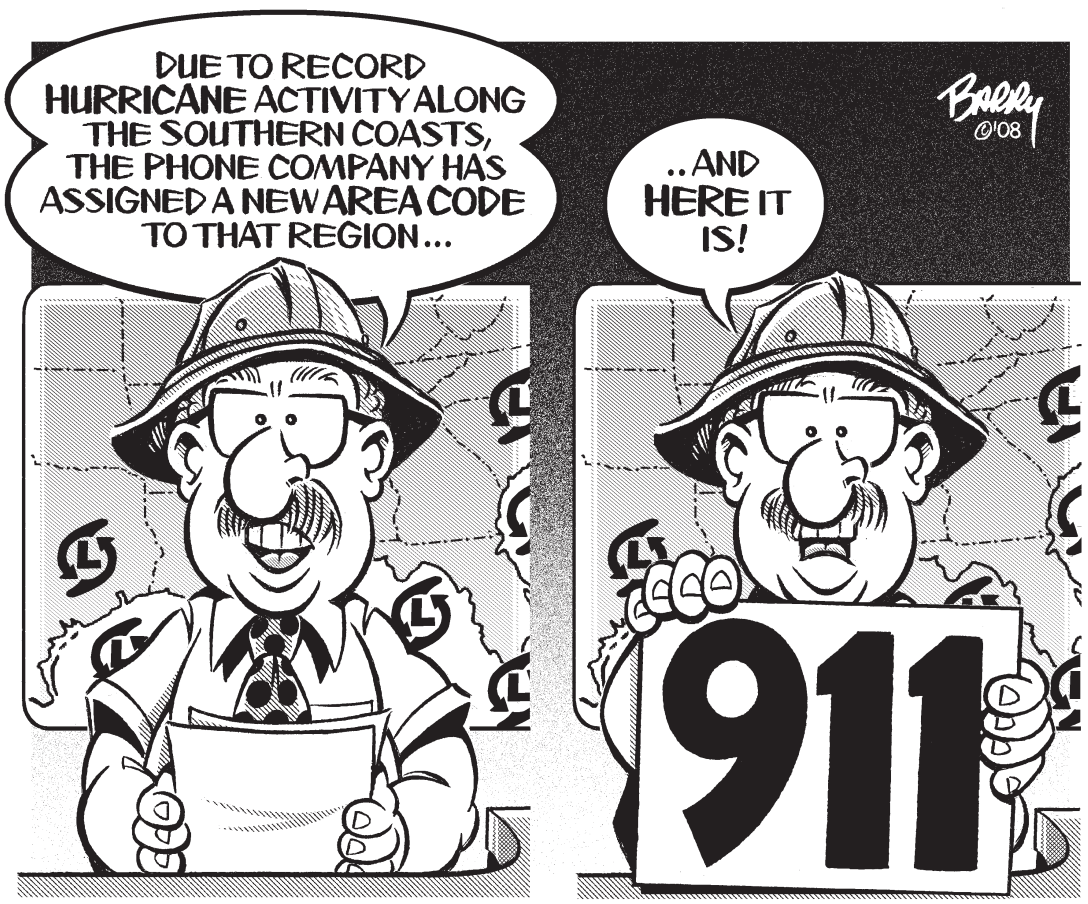
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News From the Past

90 years ago - 1918

Dr. Albert Benkelman received his call to be ready to report in the medical reserves corp by Sept. 1 or before.

The new residence which Dorsey DeGood is building in the west part of the city is fast nearing completion, and is a very neat bungalow.

On July 22, eight more Cheyenne County boys will join the colors. Two will go to Fort Riley and nine to Camp Funston. Those that leave then are Thos. Rogers, Ralph Butler, Harry Chubb, William Brunswig, Harold Firkins, Raymond Goodno, Frank Wells, Arthur Bartlett, Richard Mansfield, Louis Lovitt and Maurice Coleman.

C.W. Lawless, Ray Clark and Roy Hendricks left this week for Kansas City. They will drive new Fords back for the Johnson Garage.

Over one thousand visitors attended the big picnic last Wednesday and watched the Midfield Oil Co. drill for oil near Beecher Island. At the last report the well was about 600 feet and it was hoped to reach the 1,000 foot level by Monday.

W.O. Fallis has moved in with Baxter, and has fitted up a very neat real estate office.

Robert Uplinger and Ward Shields are about the happiest

boys in the town. Each of them has a new bicycle.

Together in Francis. A letter from Ward Smull stated that Sunday, July 21, Ward, Ed Sturm, Henry Daum and Hugh Mitchell were all together and they had a splendid visit.

35 years ago - 1973

Mrs. Blanche Reynolds was honored Saturday night with a reception. She was recently installed as Grand Guardian of the State of Kansas, International Order of Job's Daughters.

Work is well underway on the new drive-in theatre being built in St. Francis by Mr. James Edmundson, owner of the Cheyenne Theatre in St. Francis and the Jayhawk drive-in theatre in Atwood.

It was recently announced that Rev. Larry McCrory of Fort Worth, Texas, has accepted the call to pastor the First Baptist Church in St. Francis.

After 11 1/2 months in St. Francis, Ricardo Gonzalez will be going back to his home in Chili. Ricardo is an exchange student with the Youth for Understanding organization and has been living with his host family, Roger and Dottie Lewis.

Leslie O'Brien, Miss Frontier, will be among the many young ladies vying for Miss Kansas

at the 34th annual Miss Kansas Scholarship Pageant beginning July 14.

Andy Poling, Scott Jenkins, Jason Johnson, Billy Gabel, Corey Schliep, R.W. Stuart and Chris Lampe were record breakers at the Wray Swim Meet.

Adele Cram, Mindy Porter and Karah Dankenbring attended the Joel Ruminer's Dance Camp.

The Book Nook offering used paperback books has been opened by Phyllis Hook on South Quincy.

The Kansas Lions State Bank Camp was attended by Jenifer Johnson, Canda Dankenbring, Becky Frisbie and Mark Officer. Signs have been posted designating Keller Pond as a no swimming area. The pond, provides fishing and picnicking activities for many

10 years ago - 1993

Ron Neitzel traveled 1,300 miles to Georgia where he earned second place in the TNT demolition derby. This qualified him for nationals to be held Oct. 30 in Wichita.

Steve Haynes, president of Nor'West Newspapers has been named president of the U.S. Highway Association.

Dr. Mary Beth Miller has been selected as one of 20 recipients of the 1998 Mead Johnson Awards for Graduate Education in Family Practice.

Job well done at the county fair

Letter to the Editor

To the editor:

The number and kind of fair exhibits may vary from year to year, but the supervisors and volunteers do a great job of arranging them to the best advantage.

It was well worth anyone's time to walk through the exhibit building and barns to see the fine work done by our Cheyenne County 4-H'ers this year.

Congratulations to everyone on a job well done.

Rachael Keller
St. Francis

Praise the Lord

<p>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.</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Roger Meitl Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m. Weekday Mass 8 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>	<p>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.</p>	
<p>United Methodist Church 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.</p>	<p>Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer No Sunday School until Sept. Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>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.</p>	
<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church 332-2888 • 3rd & Adams Pastor Mike Larson Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC 202 N. College Pastor Ken Hart 332-2928 Pars. 332-2312 Prayer Time 8:45 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m.</p>	
<p>First Christian Church Pastor Jeff Landers 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Bible Fellowship 9:20 a.m. Church Service 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis Equity</p>	<p>Saint Francis Herald</p>	
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