

# Opinion

## No one wants prisoners from Guantanamo Bay

Should the federal government send "enemy rail lines pass through the fort and the maximum combatants" from the Guantanamo Bay prison in Cuba to the ancient Army prison at Fort

Hardly anyone in Kansas would say so. Nearly every Kansas politician – Gov. Mark Parkinson, Sens. Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts. Rep. Jerry Moran, many state legislators and other leaders - have blasted the proposal, if you can call it that.

The "plan" has come in a series of leaks, trial balloons and innuendoes from the Defense and Justice departments. The government has never actually said it is sending any terrorists here, but the shrill opposition of Kansas politicians has been way out in front of the danger.

The idea of holding many of the alleged Al Qaida sympathizers at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks, the main prison for the Army and Air Force, may never come to pass anyway.

As of Monday, the latest word was that the Justice Department was preparing to try these supposed war criminals in several eastern cities, including New York and Washington. They still could be sent inland, to Kansas or Michigan, to serve any sentence handed down by federal courts, however.

And while that would at least take the trials out of our area, Kansas officials apparently won't be happy unless and until the entire plan is dead. They're deluging the world with press releases, speeches and statements.

The governor says it's not just a matter of "not in my back yard" - he notes that highways and security section was only built to house 30 to 40 prisoners – but really, that's what it amounts to.

Sure, no one in Kansas wants prisoners who might be a target for terrorist escape plans or revenge bombings. Neither do officials in Indiana and Colorado, both of which have maximum security federal prisons.

The truth is, the government will have to build a facility to house these prisoners wherever they're sent. You can't just hold these men in the general population of an American prison, because either they'd form a gang to defend themselves or be killed by native prisoners.

They'd have to be well isolated inside the facility, where escape or demonstrations would not be possible. It could happen. It's not like President Obama owes us anything or stands to lose our votes. It's more like he might want to punish a Republican state by sending us terrorists, rather than Colorado, a swing state where he stands to lose a lot.

If so, it's not likely that our few Congressmen, only one of them a Democrat, will be able to hold the gates. The president made a solemn promise to close "Gitmo" within a year, and he's running out of time.

Should they come here? One site may be as good as the next, given the need to build a highsecurity lockup. Kansas could be the place.

Should we buy into that?

Not in our back yard, not on your life.

Steve Haynes

#### **Casey's Comments**

that I am a hypocrite of the first

Recently I voiced my opinion about the late Michael Jackson that came off the Internet that was receiving gross amounts of praise and attention. With all of his indiscretions and oddities in real life with the House of Representatives simply being swept under the rug holding a moment of silence for of society, he is being martyred as the best thing to happen to the free world since sliced bread. I thought "enough already!"

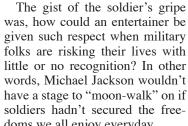
ness, I was stopped by a friend a moment of silence on June 26.

scmccormick@nwkansas.com on the street. He shared with me As I write this, I have to admit a copy of his Freedom Bird (a newsletter for his group of Vietnam Veterans of America.)

> He wanted me to see a letter reprinted in the issue. The soldier writing the piece was frustrated Jackson.

I hate to admit when I'm not aware of something that has happened that is "newsworthy." I had After believing that my hands to do a little research and found were washed of the Jackson busi- that indeed, the House did observe

Casey **McCormick** 



Now I have to promise I won't write about him anymore. Because, no matter what I come up with, none of the Michael Jackson sanctification will ever make sense.

## doms we all enjoy everyday.

## ines from the Library-

By Pat Leibbrandt

becca's Reward by Lauraine Snel-

The following new books have leen Goudge; Swimsuit by James arrived at the library: The Secret Patterson; Finger Lickin' Fifteen by Beverly Lewis; Matters Of by Janet Evanovich; Knockout: An The Heart by Danielle Steel; Re- FBI Thriller by Catherine Coulter; Burn by Linda Howard; There's ling; Relentless by Dean Koontz; Something About St. Tropez by A Rogue Of My Own by Johanna Elizabeth Adler; Midnight Sons

Gail Wellman, Westminster, Colo.

Magley, Bird City;

Perry Keller, St. Francis; Dixie

Lindsey; Domestic Affairs by Ei- Volume II by Debbie Macomber; A Promise To Believe In by Tracie Peterson; A Dream To Call My Own by Tracie Peterson; Storm Cycle by Iris Johansen.

We have the following new books in the children's department: Please Say Please, Grumpy Bunny! by Justine Fontes; The Case Of The Sticky Sticks; Thumper Finds An Egg by Laura Driscoll; Can You See What I See? by Walter Wick; I Love You, My Bunnies by Laura Driscoll; Calling All Piglets.

#### **Honor Roll**

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But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

I Thessalonians 4:13, 14



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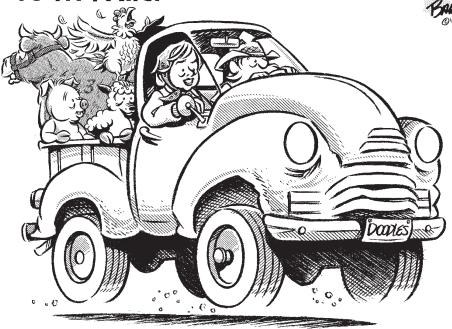
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#### **News From the Past**

10 years ago - 1999

Candidates for the Junior Miss title include Michelle Young. Danielle Kriegh, Brandi Moore, Ashlee Crabtree, Pamela Zweygardt, Shana Voeller and Melissa Schield. Ashlee Crabtree was crowned Cheyenne County Junior Miss. She won the Presence and Composure category and the Interview.

The St. Francis Eastern Star chapter is celebrating their 80th anniversary. They were organized on June 19, 1919, and were granted a charter on May 20, 1020... The lodge hall at that time was at that time over what is known at the Poling Dental Office. Mrs. Edna Day was named Worthy Matron, Chase Day was Worthy Patron, Mrs. Elsie Danielson was Associate Matron.

St. Francis high school cheerleaders brought home a superior trophy from the dance/cheer competition held at the UCA Cheer Camp in Broken Bow, Neb. Attending were Leigh Ann Ochsner, Meaghan Jamison, Nicole Howard, Jinna Adamson and Jackelyn ceived a certificate which states

15 years ago - 1994

The Lions Kiddie Park will benefit because of a donation from the employees of First National Band following the "Dress Down Day." The money will be used for repairs and upkeep of the downtown playground.

First place individual winners at the St. Francis Invitational track meet included Andy Poling in the pole vault and high jump; Jason Applegate in the 400-meter dash and the 200-meter dash; Jenny Cassidy in the 800-meter, 1600meter and 3200-meter runs and Sara Schultz in the high jump.

Reid Frohlich, Tyler Raile and Mike Wolters served as pages on the floor of the Kansas Senate and House of Representatives.

This school year, Rob Schiltz, industrial arts instructor, organized a new project for the advanced industrial arts class. Nine students, with the help of Mr. Schiltz, constructed an 8-by-10 foot building.

Harold Leibbrandt recently re-

that he did earn a Purple Heart in World War II and he will receive a medal in the near future - just 49 years late. Harold's papers and Purple Heart were all washed away on the beach while he was recovering from an injury. With the help of Roger Pownell, who wrote letters and contacted veteran representatives, copies of his records were found stating he had received a Purple Heart following his injury.

45 years ago - 1964

Jeanne Maring was the champion of the 4-H Style Revue with Carla Hendricks as reserve champion. Bill Keller was champion of the Best Groomed Boy contest with Rudolph as reserve cham-

Ronald Horwege has been chosen as one of seven Kansas University students who will take their junior college year's work at Friederich-Wilhelm University in Bonn, Germany.

Diane Shahan is the new rodeo queen with Joyce Douthit and Linda Walter as attendants

#### Plaque stolen from historic building **Letter to the Editor -**

Dear Editor,

In 2005 I bought a building in Bird City, Kan., where it is located on main street. It is a beautiful old building that was build in 1920 by Henry Hickert. The ground level floor was used for many things in its day, including a bank, the city post office, a photography studio, news paper office, insurance offices, and restaurants. The upper level was used as doctors offices, telephone office and later as apartments.

Wanting to make sure the future of the old building would be solid, I decided to find out if the building was eligible to be listed with the His-

torical Society. After some time and a lot of research and writing back and forth, the building, now called the Henry Hickert Building was accepted first on the Kansas Historical Society's list of Historic Places and then on the National Historical Society's list of Historic places in the

Since the Historical Society does not issue individual plaques, I decided the building "needed" one, and bought a beautiful brass plaque which hung proudly on the front of the Henry Hickert Building.

fall of 2007.

Some one has stolen that plaque right off the front of the building and I want it back where it belongs. I am offering a reward for information about the disappearance of it and/ or the return of it. I have reported it stolen with the Cheyenne County Sheriff Department, and any person with information may contact them or myself.

Sincerely, Connie Rooney McDonald, KS 785-734-7769 or 785-538-2200

**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.

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.

**United Methodist** 

Seventh-Day **Adventist Church** 785-890-5718 • 3rd & Adams **Pastor Jerry Nowack** Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45

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

Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 **Pastor Chris Farmer** No Sunday School Morning Worship 10:30 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 **Pastor Jeff Landers** 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Bible Fellowship 9:15 a.m. Church Service 10:15 a.m.

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 Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. **Communion 1st Sunday** of the Month



St. Francis Equity

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