

Our immigration system nearly impossible to fix

Where would we even begin to fix the tattered, torn, broken, impossible U.S. immigration system?

It makes no sense, everyone calls for "reform," yet nothing ever changes.

We spend billions, then billions more, for tighter security, more walls, electronic surveillance, aircraft and more guards. The payoff: nothing but the worst economy in 70 years seems to slow the flood of immigrants.

People who want to come to our country are degraded, insulted and bullied. They have to pass into our fortress embassies, answer questions, wait in line, pay money, then wait years to come to the U.S. - if ever.

People who want to work here - unless they are doctors, chemists or computer geniuses, well, just forget it. Some days, it's hard for a town to get a foreign doctor through all the State Department's red tape.

How did the nation that earned the Statue of Liberty fall to this mean estate?

It wasn't easy.

Our immigration system, retooled after World War II mostly to keep people out, was built up over years and years. It won't change overnight.

Our economy simply won't run without foreign labor - nothing unusual there. It never has. Neither can the economies of the wealthy European or Middle Eastern countries.

But 30 or 40 years ago, we had a system for migrant laborers to come north and pick our crops. The border existed in peace, with a sort of easy-going back and forth that kept things fluid.

No more. Today the U.S.-Mexican border

sports wire, guards, dogs, constant patrols, airborne surveillance, all kinds of unfriendly attitudes. And still, people come here to work.

Why?

Because they need jobs and we have them. They need them badly enough to risk their lives with smugglers, to spend their savings, to risk being caught and sent right back south.

It isn't the Mexicans who created this situation, wanting jobs and wanting to break the law to get them. It was our wealthy and vastly successful economy that produced jobs we cannot fill with Americans.

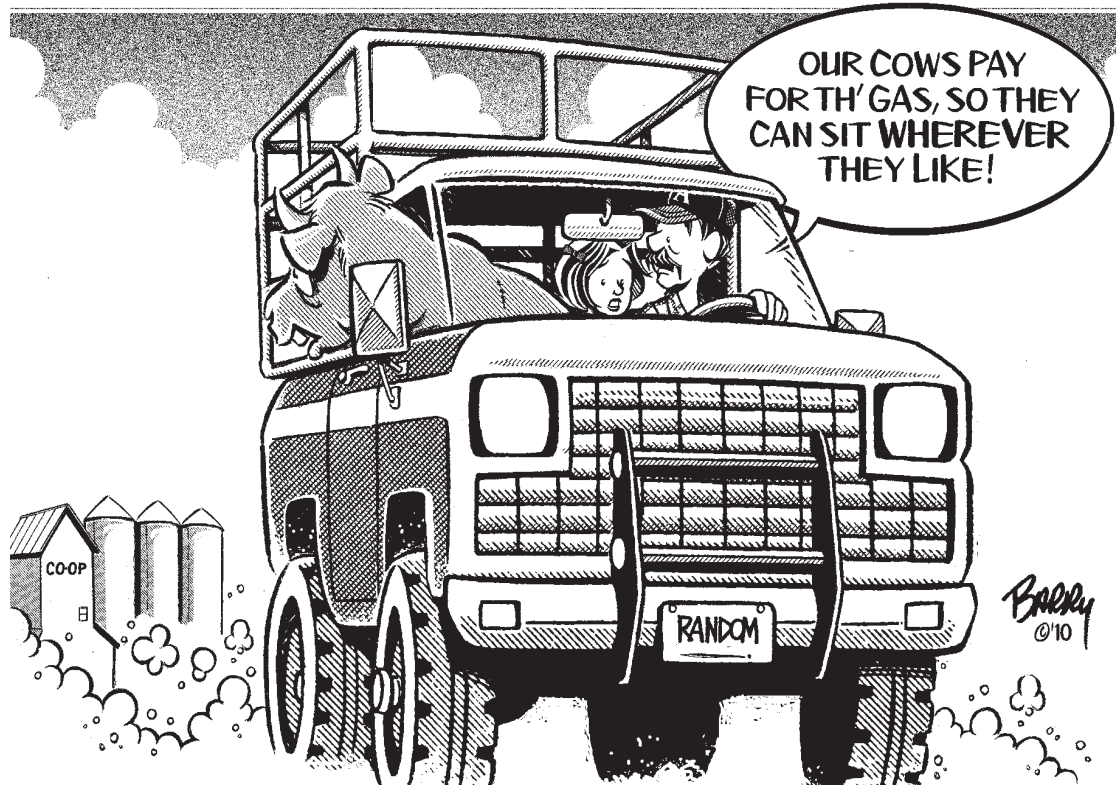
Another problem on the border that will have to be solved: drugs and smuggling.

As long as we make drugs scarce and expensive here, and people want them, smugglers and gangsters will bring them into our country.

We're only fooling ourselves if we think spending more on enforcement will turn the tide. Demand it too strong, profits too large. And the corrupting influence of the smugglers is too great at the border.

But for the border, the trick will be to make legal immigration both possible and desirable. With a good immigration plan - one without too many restrictions or impossible rules - workers will be able to cross the border legally and we'll know who is in the country. The "coyote" human smugglers would be out of business, and the Border Patrol could concentrate on the bad guys.

That may be too sensible in a nation where most people seem to focus on more guards, more guns, more insults and more money. But we need to try, and soon. We should be ashamed of what's happening today. - Steve Haynes



News From the Past

15 years ago - 1995

It has been reported that road work on US 36 between Wheeler and St. Francis is slated to begin the end of May. Dave Flemming, county road and bridge supervisor, said that the county crew has already done considerable construction on the old Wheeler Road, which will be used as the detour.

The Clean Spot, one of St. Francis' newest businesses, will open April 7. Located in the old Saintry's Cafe building, Janet Jensen, along with her husband, Roger, will open the door to their new laundromat.

The St. Francis Community High School Advanced Music Class (The Dazzling Dozen) will

present a musical melodrama entitled "Wash Your Troubles Away." A limited number of dinner theater tickets are also available.

Dustin Fromholtz has been a Boy Scout for the last six years and is now working toward becoming an Eagle Scout. To achieve this honor, the scout is required to plan a community project from the design to lining up volunteers and materials. As his community project, Dustin has chosen to head the construction of two player dugouts at the baseball diamond, north of the fairgrounds.

John Larson was recently recognized for 15 years of service at the city power plant. He recently

assumed the duties of manager of the city plant.

St. Francis students earning I ratings at the 2A State Music Festival in Concordia include Jill Smull, Lanissa DeGood and Leslie Schlittenhardt, vocal solos; flute trio (DeGood, Schlittenhardt, Heather Draper) and Schlittenhardt, flute solo.

50 years ago - 2005

Miss Mary Gritten, popular librarian and instructor at Bird City Rural High School, has received the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Kansas teacher, she has been named a "Kansas Master Teacher" by the Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia.

Hangin' With Marge

A Mile Stone

By Margaret Bucholtz



margeb@cityofstfrancis.net
Kurt and I will be celebrating our 25th anniversary on Tuesday evening. Wow, I really never thought I would see 25 years of marriage. Kurt always said we would, but I didn't think I would live this long.

This weekend I thought about all the things that have happened in these short years and all were great except for the lost of our parents. The years have just slipped by so fast and we have been blessed.

Then I thought about our first

night of marriage. We had driven to Idaho Springs, and Kurt stopped to get a room for the night. When he came back to the car he said, "Now if you don't like this room just tell me and I'll hunt for another one." I thought why would you worry about the room? After all it wasn't like we were going to be living there."

We got inside and I told him it was fine. He set the suitcases down and picked up the TV remote and turned it on.

I stepped into the bathroom and

then I said, "I hate it when this happens!" He jumped up and flew across the room to see what was wrong. I pointed to that little band of paper that the maids put on the stool rim after they have cleaned. Then I said, "I never know what to do when this is on here. Do you just sit down or do you tear it off?"

He just turned around and shook his head, and believe it or not he stuck beside me for the next 25 years.

Casey's Commets

By Casey McCormick



scmcormick@nwkans.com
The end of the school year is a special time. Students and teachers are happy to be through and parents are trying to figure out how to keep their children busy the next few months.

For the graduating seniors and their parents it is also a time of great change. The youngsters have been given the tools to leave the nest.

But these tools have not come easily. Years have been spent matriculating each individual from grade to grade. Through lessons and studies the pupils have reached their goal of earning a high school diploma.

Does this make each kid unusually intelligent? Perhaps not. However it does prove one thing. They showed up and did the work and completed the tasks needed to graduate.

And does this mean they did

it on their own? Certainly not. It took teachers, coaches, cooks and administrators. Support also came from families, neighbors and churches. Ever notice how few kids drop-out in your little town? It's not that way in the city.

In addition, not a single kid could have made it to where they are without a loving parent, or two, or guardian.

So graduates, thank the people in your community and at home who have made you shine. And Mom, Dad, grandparents or foster parents, give yourselves a little pat on the back for it's a "job well done" for you too.

Good luck to the Class of 2010. You're off to a great start!

GOD SAYS
I love them that love me;
and those that seek me
early shall find me.
Proverbs 8:17

The Saint Francis Herald

(USPS 475-960)
A Century of Service to Cheyenne County

P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050

Published each Thursday by Haynes Publishing Co., 310 W. Washington, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050. Entered as periodicals matter at the post office at St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050, and at additional offices.

Official newspaper of Cheyenne County. Member of the Kansas Press Association, National Newspaper Association, Colorado Press Association and Inland Press Association.

Subscriptions: One year \$38 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$42 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$48 elsewhere in the U.S. Foreign subscriptions, \$28 extra per year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050

Nor'West Newspapers

8:30 a.m. - noon - 1:00-5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
(785) 332-3162 Fax - (785) 332-3001
E-mail - sf.herald@nwkans.com

STAFF

Karen Krien Editor/Publisher
Betty Winston Sports Editor
Casey McCormick Advertising Manager
Lezlie McCormick Production
Peggy Horinek Office Manager
Margaret Bucholtz Columnist

CheyCoDeveloping

By Chuck Kribs, co-coordinator
Cheyenne County Development Corporation

You can get the perfect sign made in Bird City by Mike Boysen at "Hot Brush," then stop at the grocery and pick up some terrific "homemade" salsa from Doug Sager. Stop at the Thrift Store for a "new" shirt, on your way out of town!

Shop Cheyenne County first! Here's a "fun" thing! Bill "Wilby" Boysen owned and occupied the old pool hall in Bird City for many years. Bill has left us and we have a prospective new business for the old pool hall.

Bill accumulated "stuff" for many years, and now that "stuff" needs to go. We are going to have a "Trash or Treasures" grab-bag sale during the Bird City 125th celebration.

It will work like this: You may buy a number at the Cheyenne County Development office or at

the Bird City City Hall, starting Monday. On the 12th or 13th of June, you can enter the pool hall and see what you bought, by locating your number. Price is \$5 per number. You MUST take what you bought. No advance peeking.

I was in there yesterday and there are some real treasures, antiques, tools, books appliances -- a little bit of everything. If,

when you get your first purchase, you see something you can't live without, and that number has not been sold, you can buy that number as well. Watch for the posters around town...Just like Vegas only right here in Cheyenne County!

A portion of these funds will be donated to the Cheyenne County Business Development fund.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Neitzel Insurance, St. Francis; Velma Kruse, Bird City; Kelli and Matt Githens, Denver, Colo.; Ron Wilson, St. Francis; Karla Dimitt, Syracuse; Calvin Raile, St. Francis; Randy Raile, Goodland; Eldon Zimelman, Wichita; Albert Keller, St. Francis; Gale Walz, St. Francis; Floyd Neitzel, Wichita; Steve Daniels, North Attleboro, Maine; Kenneth

Griswell, Yuma, Colo.; Mrs. William Kechter, Vona, Colo.; Steve Burr, Manhattan; Betty Smith, Burlington, Colo.; Melissa Hoyes, St. Francis; St. Francis Equity, St. Francis; Larry Blanchard, Salida, Colo.; J. Greg Kite, Wichita; Daina Brunswig Bosso, Arnold, Mo.; Barbara Stevanson, Austin, Texas; Dennis Floyd, Seattle, Wash.; Terry Morris, Culbertson, Neb.

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 11:00 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.

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.

Salem Lutheran Church
332-3002
Pastor Chris Farmer
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Communion 3rd Sunday

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.

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.

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.
Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

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

First Christian Church
Pastor Jeff Landers
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
Bible Fellowship 9:15 a.m.
Church Service 10:15 a.m.

St. Francis Equity

Saint Francis Herald

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