



Widening U.S. 36 would give counties big payoff

A study of widening U.S. 36 to four lanes by the Docking Institute for Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University shows what transportation activists have suspected for a long time:

Kansas, and particularly the 13 counties along the northern tier, stand to get a big payoff from the job.

The state would invest about \$1.4 billion to widen the road to a four-lane expressway from border to border. The 13 counties would reap benefits of nearly \$2.4 billion in the first 10 years, including \$1.4 during construction and \$1 billion from increased business, new motels and stores and tourism.

More importantly, 898 jobs would be created along the road as new or larger businesses feed on the increased traffic a four-lane road would bring. To an area of the state long accustomed to the economic doldrums, this could be a godsend.

The study bears out the fact that a better road would attract far more in business than it would cost to build.

Since the opening of Interstate 70 more than 40 years ago, only a handful of new motels have been built along U.S. 36 in Kansas. No truck stops. Few chain or local restaurants. Because the freeway sucked up all the cross-state traffic that once traveled U.S. 36, U.S. 24 and other roads west.

But many questions remain, including: • Would traffic ever be heavy enough to justify a four-lane road?

Out here, right now, no. Back east, between Wamego and Troy, the road is busy enough today to need four lanes.

Illinois has an Interstate open to the Mississippi River, and Missouri will complete its four-lane road to the river at St. Joseph this summer. Then more traffic will start to flow west.

And federal projections show truck traffic across Missouri at 10 to 20 times today's. Congestion in Kansas City and Omaha will send drivers around,

not through, these cities, and U.S. 36 offers a fast, straight, attractive route west.

• Will we ever see a four-lane road in western Kansas?

Someday, maybe 20 years from now, maybe longer, traffic will build. In the meantime, the U.S. 36 Highway Association, which paid for the Docking study with help from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation and county commissioners along the road, supports a better two-lane road all across the state.

• Will Colorado ever improve its part of the road, more than 125 miles between the state line and I-70 at Byers?

Not any time soon. But just as Kansas will have to respond to a four-lane path across Illinois and Missouri, so will Colorado have to respond to a four-lane road to St. Francis. It will happen.

• Will bypasses hurt Kansas towns?

No. The study envisions any bypasses being built very close to a town, so business can adjust. Bypasses would be decided by the state and local communities together, after a public scoping process. On U.S. 81, for instance, Concordia rejected the idea of a bypass while Belleville has a road right along its west edge.

• How long will it take to get the job done, to open a four-lane road across the state?

It took more than 30 years for supporters to get U.S. 81 widened north of Salina. Finally, the project just took off.

U.S. 36 supporters, particularly out west, can expect as long a process. The important part is to begin.

And with completion of the Docking study, that has been done. The rest will follow, but it will require a long-term effort on the part of everyone along the road.

Our children and grandchildren will reap the rewards. —Steve Haynes

Hangin' With Marge

Storm Shelter

By Margaret Bucholtz



When the storm came through about two weeks ago I treated it different than I usually do.

Usually I stand outside and watch the clouds come sailing into the area. The kids and grandchildren make fun of me. They call and ask me if I am outside looking at the clouds — this time it was different.

Before, I always knew if I took shelter I would have to crawl into this awful spot under the stairwell. Believe me, I would rather fly in the sky just like Dorothy did than get into a place that I know is housing spiders, bugs and centipedes.

About a year ago the weather-

men started telling us to get into a small room in the center of the house so Kurt decided that if a storm ever came, we would get into the shower.

Since I wasn't feeling the greatest at the time, Kurt got the shower doors off and laid a blanket out in case we had to get in there. I decided "why wait" so I hunted for my most important things and got them in a bag. Then I put towels down on the floor and on the seats in the shower. I took the big pillows off the back of the couch and I was set. I got in and waited.

Kurt however was outside thinking I would be out there in a few

minutes, but when that didn't happen, he came downstairs to check on me.

There I sat — clutching the grocery store bag and had the pillows ready to throw on. He looked on the floor and saw my big cup of water, the computer hard drive and the bag.

When he asked me what was in the bag, I told him it was my external hard drives. I don't know if he just didn't want to be safe or if he thought there wasn't room for him, but he just turned around, shaking his head and went back outside.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



Can you imagine a world without music?

Over the Fourth of July weekend that thought struck me several times as I listened to beautiful sounds.

On Sunday, a small church congregation sang The Battle Hymn of the Republic. I doubt if any ears outside the building heard the tune. But the song struck a chord deep inside me as I thought of soldiers, from the Civil War to now, who allowed us the freedom to sing and worship that day.

In the evening, after watching the countless explosions that lit the night sky over our little Kansas town, I caught the television broadcast of the Boston Pop's Orchestra. As they belted out The Stars and Stripes Forever, a tear welled in my eye with pride.

I remembered playing in the high

school band years ago and performing the piece. Jamie Scheffeld was the piccolo soloist that stood next to the conductor when we played it. For the Pops, three ladies were featured.

The song filled me, then as it still does today, with great emotion.

Finally, I talked to my mother on the phone that same day as she and my aunt were on their way to listen

to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in Salt Lake City, Utah. Though I couldn't be there, I know the stirring melodies would touch their souls.

Imagine a world without music? It would be like seeing a planet without color; dull, grey and lifeless. What a blessing it is!

GOD SAYS

So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

John 8:7

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.

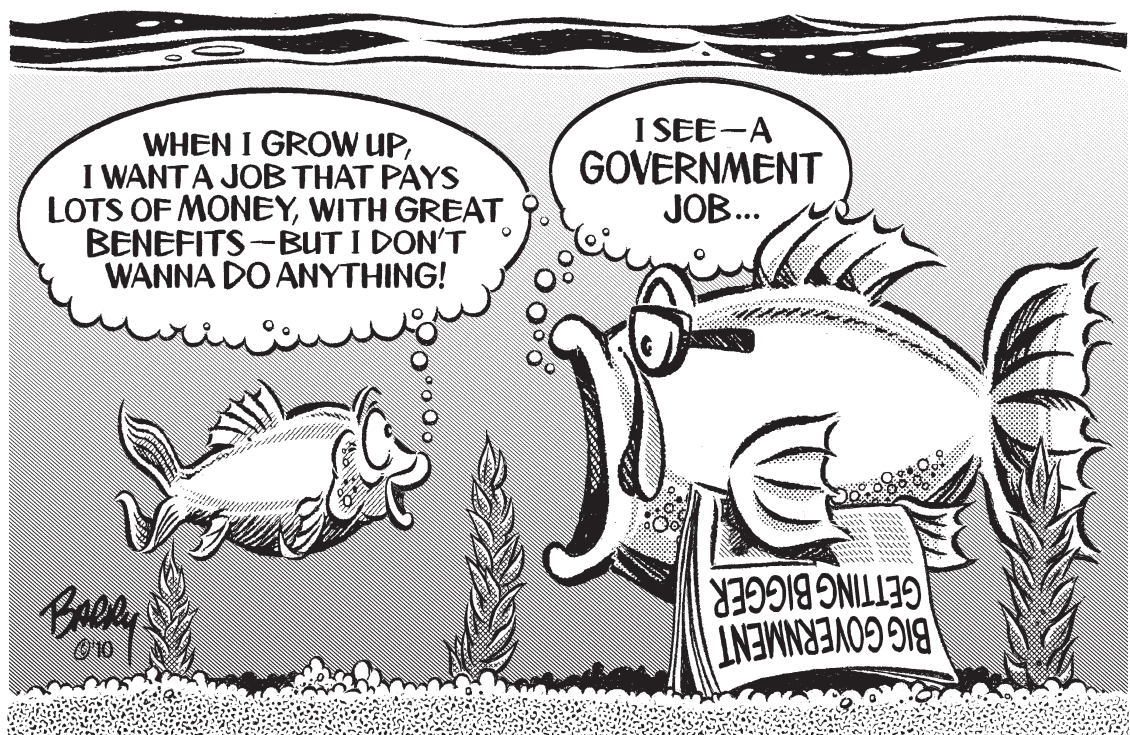
Subscriptions: One year \$38 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$42 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$48 elsewhere in the U.S. Foreign subscriptions, \$28 extra per year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756-1050

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@nwkansan.com

STAFF

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



News From the Past

15 years ago - 1995

Being a four-time state winner is an outstanding feat and St. Francis Community High School graduating senior Jenny Cassidy had accomplished this during her high school track career. Just qualifying for high school state competition is not easy but earning the right as a freshman and every year thereafter is something very few students do. She was a four time winner in the 1600-meter run and a three time winner in the 3200-meter run, giving her seven state gold medals.

Scott Focke has joined the State Line Health Network as the new executive director.

The following changes are being made at the grade school. Robin Burr, will be moved to the elementary special education resource room following Norma Weems' resignation and Julie Wolters will leave the second grade with one less instructor and moved to sixth grade to fill Mrs. Burr old position.

Les Lacy, hospital administrator, has reported that the hospital will be offering physical therapy. Laurie Culp of Denver has been hired as the new physical therapist. She will be assisted by Joann Klie, certified physical therapist assistant.

Pete Jensen was recently installed as the Ninth District Com-

mander in a Veterans of Foreign War ceremony at the state convention in Hays.

The Good Samaritan Village is introducing a new service called non-medical home attendant. The service will be particularly useful to people who no longer qualify for home health care services, but still require some assistance with personal care and home services.

30 years ago - 1980

Consolidated Freightways, after maintaining a relay station here for more than nine years, has announced it will relocate the operation early in August.

Patrick Owens is attending the Boys State Convention on the University of Kansas campus at Lawrence. Kristi Lamb and Leslie Jones will be attending Girls State later in the month.

Susan Schleppe, a graduate of Fort Hays State University, began working as a reporter for the Great Bend Tribune. She is a 1976 graduate of St. Francis Community High School.

The 24th annual high school alumni reunion was attended by 425 people, one of the largest turnouts in recent years. New officers of the association are Myra Douthit, president elect; Dean O'Brien, vice president; Steve Orth, secretary/treasurer. Elective board members are Bill Pugh and

Helen Petitjean.

Lea Keller was elected chairman of the Doctor Committee at a noon meeting Wednesday at the LaFiesta. She will replace Betty Loudon who recently resigned the post. Libby Curry was elected secretary-treasurer of the organization.

One hundred and twenty-three wrestlers participated in the freestyle wrestling tournament in the high school gym, according to Eddie Dankenbring, president of the Cheyenne County Wrestling Club.

50 years ago - 1960

Cheyenne County has approximately 15,000 more trees planted in its soil now than it did two months ago. The trees were obtained through the Kansas State College and will be used by farmers for wind breaks and conservation purposes.

Calvin Zimbelman announced this week that he is moving his jewelry store from here to Burlington, Colo.

Sixty seniors will receive diplomas at the high school graduation. Three seniors, Judy Gienger, Gary Cooper and Ken Horwege, will be giving talks.

The rural schools of Cheyenne County will hold their eighth-grade commencement on May 9. Twenty students will be presented their diploma.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Harvey Zweygardt, St. Francis; Marvin Kamla, Haigler, Neb.; Edmond Baker, Dothan, Ala.; Lynn Laten, St. Francis; Althea Lebow, St. Francis; Bev Crane, Hugoton; Marsha Magley, St. Francis; Lyle Williams, Emporia; Gary Leach, Bird City; Verda Smull, St. Francis; Pat Rooney, McDonald; Fred Waters, McDon-

ald; Eddie Dankenbring, Logan; Don Krantz, McDonald; Ole and Betty Cram, Frederick, Mo.; Lee Roy Neitzel, St. Francis; Viola Burk, Goodland; Leonard Richard, St. Francis; Harvey Holzwarth, Mesa, Ariz.; Butch Ewing, St. Francis; Beth Heitschmidt, Guymon, Okla.; Isernhagen LLC, Fort Collins, Colo.; Jan Plambeck, Kenesaw, Neb.; Fred Pet-

tit, Benkelman, Neb.; Norman Dorsch, Bird City; Dr. E.R. Cram, St. Francis; Arnold Magley, Bird City; Jim Epperson, St. Francis; H.K. Graves, St. Francis; Tye Faulkender, St. Francis; Raymond Boll, Goodland; Tanner Kinen, St. Francis; Floy Fisher, Haigler, Neb.; Jerry and Betty Knapp, McDonald; Tina Sager, Bird City;

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 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8:30 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 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
Morning Worship 10:30 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
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time Following
Worship
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

St. Francis Herald