



Government needs to remove ridiculous rule

Democrats and Republicans in Washington now agree, the changes in Internal Revenue Service form 1099 requirements hidden in the Obama Health Care bills last year just have to be changed before they strangle business in this country, big and small.

The 1099 provisions were little noticed when the thousand-page-plus bill was in Congress, but the damage they could do is quite apparent by the light of day. Businesses are frightened by the cost of reporting every transaction, even between corporations. And the irony of the situation is the IRS can't handle the influx of information the plan would produce.

Issuing 1099 forms is nothing new. Businesses have had to deal with them for years, but most requirements apply to payments to individuals outside the withholding-tax system. IRS thought for years that it was getting cheated by people who didn't report income for home businesses and investments like savings accounts and stocks.

The service got Congress to require reports for payments to individuals. Most businesses managed to comply, though for some, such as banks, the requirements can be expensive and unproductive.

Banks, for instance, have to report interest payments as small as \$10 a year. You can rest assured that IRS knows about your kid's bank account and expects it to be accounted for on someone's income tax return.

Now, however, businesses will have to report millions and millions of corporate transactions, which will be nearly impossible to match to tax returns.

One problem here is that while the government expects to reap the rewards of this program through increases in tax payments, it's the businesses that foot the bill. In some cases, that

may be higher than the benefit to the government. Never mind that. The government will benefit, and it makes the rules. We don't.

It's time for that kind of thinking to stop.

Now, a bipartisan movement may be developing to eliminate the new rules, which would produce millions more forms and cost billions. Sen. Mike Johanns, a Nebraska Republican, and Sen. Max Baucus, the Montana Democrat, who chairs the Senate Finance Committee, both have amendments in to remove this burden.

The issue that will have to be settled is how to "pay" for the change, since it's recorded in federal books as bringing in \$17 billion a year to reduce the deficit.

The main difference is that Sen. Johanns identifies ways to make up for the loss, while the Baucus bill simply repeals the requirements. That will have to be compromised to get a bill through the Senate and House before the end of the year, an act of bipartisanship that might be akin to a minor miracle.

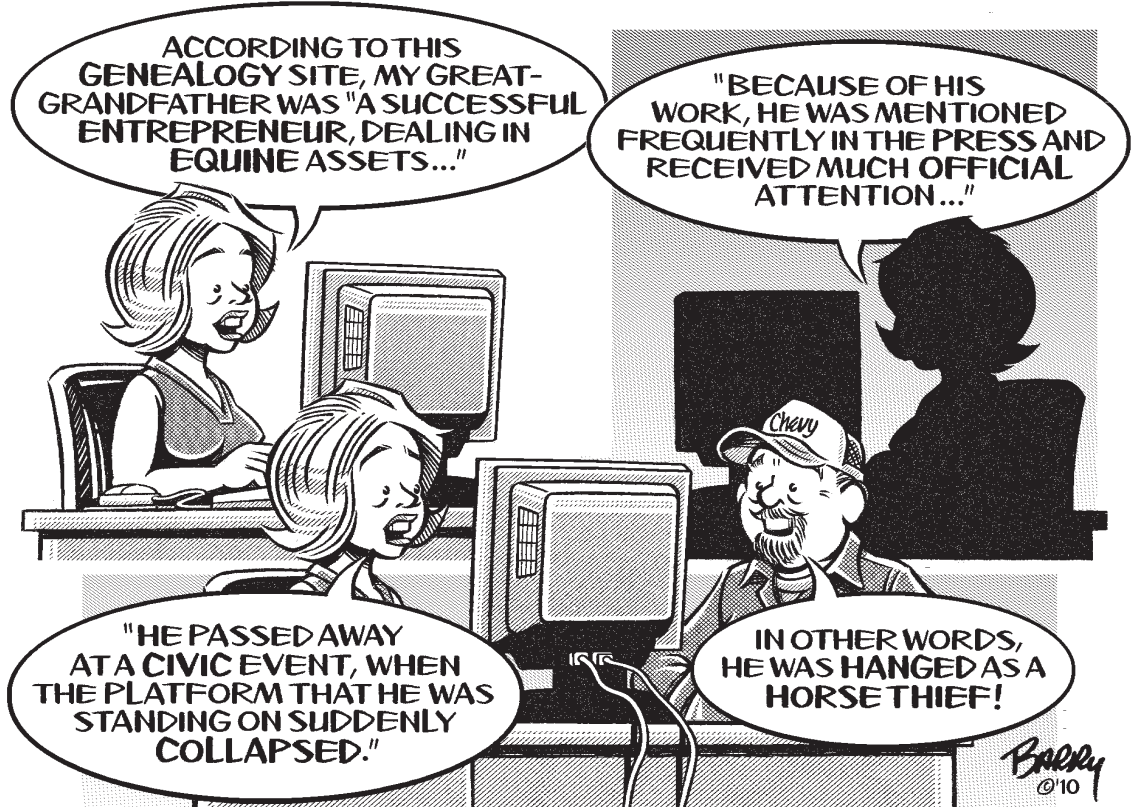
The Senate amendments, by the way, would be appended to something called the Food Safety Act. Go figure.

Our own Rep. Jerry Moran was early to get on the bandwagon, helping to sponsor a House amendment which would accomplish the same thing. Hopefully, the repeal will gain traction and move before he becomes Sen. Moran.

Business groups, including the National Newspaper Association, have united against this outrage. Everyone who realizes the importance of jobs and small business to the economy ought to do likewise.

We call on Congress to get this issue dealt with before the end of the year, when tax forms have to be finalized and distributed. Repeal is urgent, time is short. Get with it, ladies and gentlemen.

—Steve Haynes



News From the Past

75 years ago 1935

St. Francis is to have a real sale pavilion if plans are carried through to a conclusion as started during the past few weeks. Ray Confer has purchased the lots and the old lumber sheds and office building of the H.B. Bear Lumber company and for several days workmen have been busy transforming this into a sale yard. A portion of the shed was taken and more added to it to the north and in this, a sale ring has been built. There are seats enough to accommodate at least 300 buyers or prospective buyers.

It is estimated that around 20,000 sheep have been shipped into the section around Bird City this fall for grazing on the wheat. So far 60 car loads have been unloaded by the Burlington Railroad. In addition many truck loads of sheep have arrived from sheep raising areas.

50 years ago

The stockholders of the St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange voted at their annual meeting Saturday to construct a new grocery store at the new location recently purchased by the Equity. The location is presently a Standard Oil station. Dale Crist, Equity manager, said that he expected that construction would begin sometime after the first of the year. An

expansion of the hardware store is also planned in the future.

Bill D. Wilson took over Dec. 1, as the administrator of the Cheyenne County Hospital.

In the summer of 1910, John Roush and Mart Gerhart supervised the building of the present Neville Methodist Church. On Dec. 10 of that year the building was dedicated to the service of God and the community. On Dec. 11, 1960, the golden anniversary of this dedication will be celebrated. Invitations have been sent to friends and former members for the anniversary program. The speaker will be Dr. J. Russell Throckmorton, district superintendent.

The new board of directors of the Cheyenne County Artificial Breeding Association includes Leo Wilkens, Benkelman; Gary Lamb, Bird City; Joe Neilan St. Francis, Junior Small, St. Francis, and Walde Hempler, Bird City.

R. W. "Bud" Stuart had been named scoutmaster for the St. Francis Boy Scout Troop for 1961.

Melvin "Tobe" Zweygardt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tobe Zweygardt of St. Francis and a senior at Oregon State University, recently won the 157-pound division in the University of Washington Invitational Wrestling Tournament.

The Cheyenne County Fair Board met Monday night and re-elected officers for 1961. They include Dr. Ed Keller as president and H.D. Shull of Bird City as secretary.

Four local business establishments were broken into and robbed last Wednesday night or early Thursday morning. Those hit were Stuart's Jewelry, Cheyenne County Cleaners, Roelfs Electric and Modern Beauty Shop.

25 years ago - 1985

The four homes featured on the St. Francis Music Club's Parade of Homes include the Rodney and Sondra Bracelin home, the Keith and Jean Loyd home, the Tim and Robyn Raile home and the Eddy and Sherry Schultz home.

Members of the Cheyenne County Hospital Board answered questions during a Hospital Board meeting held at the courthouse. Approximately 100 turned out to ask questions about the current hospital and doctor situation in Cheyenne County. One of the concerns was if the hospital could remain open if the financial status and patient load did not improve. At this time the hospital has part time doctors from Atwood and Goodland. Several people are concerned that this would detour a young physician from starting a practice here.

County following government tax

To the Editor:

OBAMA-NOMICS. Cheyenne county seems to be following our government. Tax and spend. Have you opened your real estate tax statement? Mine only went up 29 percent and the real estate value dropped 1 percent. When you are living on a fixed income, and I mean FIXED, because Social Security increases have been frozen!

The county share went up - 60 percent...\$201,419.49 to \$538,925.60.

School District - 13.25 percent...\$27,391.77...to \$234,304.60 and this is after the Governor added a 1-percent sales tax to fill the shortfall in education.

Maybe we need to tighten our belts...No new GRADERS...TRUCKS...Sheriff Vehicles (I

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Leila Hilt, St. Francis; Ed and Sharon Deeds, Goodland; Mike Cecil, Goodland; Sam Goodale, St. Francis; Prairie Lang Electric, Bird City; Darrel Zweygardt, Montezuma; Andy Zweygardt, Montezuma; Amy Gossen, Montezuma; Joe Hoffman, St. Francis; Dorothy Zimbelman, Burlington, Colo.; Dan and Cathy Gleason, Anchorage, Alaska; Rachel Huffman, St. Francis; Vicky Hill, Salina; Norma J. Molle, Mission; Rex Murray, Goodland; Bonnie Henderson, St. Francis; Jack Ford, St. Francis; David Nicklos, St. Francis; Lynn Query, Bird City;

Letter to the Editor

counted five at the office Nov. 29). I wonder how Ray Lee operated all those years with one car and one deputy? (These vehicles were all much newer than the 1997 Pontiac with 100,000++ miles that I must drive!) I know, we hadn't taken any government grants yet for additional police and cars.

Let us also take NO more grants for any reason, They are not FREE money!!! With those grants come new MANDATES from the government. That must be met and maintained, so they end up costing us the taxpayer much more than what we get for them!!!

You make a comment about extra for schools, and you hear, We have to have it to educate the kids. Right...I don't mind the education...But to keep the highways hot with activity buses is a little MUCH! I also understand if you aren't playing varsity that night and there are seats on the bus, They cost you \$5 for team members not playing! Yes I have heard

the fuel money comes from a different source...Taxpayer money coming a different route!

We have always supported the school system...4-H...FFA...the city and county, but this seems to be getting out of hand. Try to remember we are in a RECESSION, and we are going to be HIT with HYPER-INFLATION before too long! We do all we can to keep our expense down growing a garden that now costs us \$50 a month for water!

All of the new rate increases seem to be made by people who still have jobs and think all RETIRED people have money to burn!

So can we start using COMMON sense (not CENTS) and quit trying to spread the wealth around? I really feel for you people that have more than just a \$45,000 house! This only raised my monthly expense \$16.25.

Larry Wilson
St. Francis

GOD SAYS
And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:10-11

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

Casey's Comments

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The holidays are a time of great joy and brotherhood as we reflect on our many blessings. Trouble is we're too busy to see it!

At the newspaper it's a race to cover the many activities happening in the community. We also devote a lot of energy to our Christmas on Us promotion. On top of that, we want to end the year on

a high note with Christmas and New Year's special sections. Oh, and we'd better not forget preparations for the First Baby of 2011.

On the home front we have two high schoolers involved in their sports and programs. Then there are the regular day-to-day responsibilities that never take a break.

Finally, we have a few "little" things that need attention, such



By Casey McCormick

as Christmas shopping, lighting, decorating and cards.

So I have to remind myself to stop and smell the mistletoe. Yes, life's duties are important. But so is finding the true meaning of the season.

Happy Holidays!

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.

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.

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 10:30 a.m. Weekday Mass 8:30 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Communion 3rd Sunday

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 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday of the Month

St. Francis Equity

St. Francis Herald

Praise the Lord