



Dear Mr. Secretary: how many dogs must die?

Mike Hayden, secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Dear Mr. Secretary,
I am writing to ask you to correct an injustice, to right a wrong, to help preserve the future of our threatened outdoor sports.

I am asking you, please, Mr. Secretary, to get behind reform of the regulations on trapping on public lands.

It's a travesty, sir, that trappers are allowed to leave deadly kill traps on public land in violation of department regulations and the law. It's a travesty that even one hunter's dog should die a cruel death in such a trap.

First and foremost, if it remains legal to use conibear-type traps on public hunting lands, the regulations must require the trapper to post signs warning hunters, hikers and others about the hazard.

We should be told these traps are present so we can keep dogs and, yes, children away.

In the last couple of years, two hunting dogs have died in apparently untagged traps around Kanopolis Reservoir. Do we have to wait for more tragedies to change things? For, perhaps, a child to be injured?

First, enforcement of existing laws would help. The traps involved apparently were not tagged, as required by law, with the owner's name and address. Why were they in place in a public hunting area?

While recognizing the rights and benefits of trappers, as with any outdoor sport, shouldn't we expect them to follow the law and to respect the safety of others? Who stands to suffer more from this activity than legitimate trappers?

As our outdoor sports come under increasing

pressure, don't we need all the friends we can get? Can we afford the page-one image of dead dogs in traps?

This nation loves its dogs, after all. As a lifelong hunter and fisherman, I feel the need to both defend and promote outdoor sports. Our pursuits are threatened by declining numbers, disappearing habitat and the attack of those for whom harming any animal is wrong. Those of us who love the outdoors know hunters, fishermen and, yes, trappers respect and value wildlife.

If fact, I am not telling you anything when I say we know far more about wildlife and the outdoors than those who never leave the comfort of their couches.

Mr. Secretary, how will having more dogs die help us defend our way of life?

I think most hunters could see their dogs in the jaws of that trap. I speak from experience, because I have had to keep my dog away from traps at public hunting areas. I have had to save my dog from an illegal, untagged trap. (A snare, fortunately, and not a conibear, but hung on the fence of a public recreation area nonetheless.)

For the good of all outdoor sports, Mr. Secretary, I'm asking you to lead us out of this morass. Do the right thing.

Enforce the law and see that traps are tagged or removed. At a minimum, require signs around lethal traps. Better yet, ban kill traps from public hunting grounds, parks and other recreation areas.

The future of our outdoor sports faces enough threats without this.

Yours,
Steve Haynes, Oberlin

WHILE SHOPPING IN THE BIG CITY...



Gratitude expressed to community

Community member,
Many of you were present at the community forum on Nov. 3, at the St. Francis high school auditorium regarding the loss of long term care facilities in Cheyenne County or have heard about it since then.

There was a sense of urgency and a benevolent mood at that meeting. The question was raised regarding a fund drive to rebuild the Good Samaritan Village. The spokesman for the Good Samaritan Society encouraged us to wait until we had the best vehicle in which to make those donations.

The two community foundations in the county, Century II - Bird City and The St. Francis Community Foundation, immediately started discussions on how they might assist with this need. I am pleased to announce that both foundations have joined forces and have started a common fund drive.

Individuals can now make a tax deductible donation to either foundation that will be utilized to fund a broad based field of interest, Senior Living in Cheyenne County. Each

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foundation will have an identically designated fund that will be utilized for the same purpose.

Proceeds from this combined fund can be utilized for many needs related to senior living. Both Senior Living funds will be supervised by the same advisory board, the Cheyenne County Commissioner's Task Force on Long Term Care. This task force is made up of representatives from the county commissioners, both city councils, both foundations, the Good Samaritan advisory board, Cheyenne County Development Corporation and the Cheyenne County Hospital.

The funds will probably be utilized initially for feasibility studies on the current and future needs for all senior living needs in Cheyenne County. This study will be initiated after the Good Samaritan Society gives official notification of their plans for returning long-term care to Cheyenne County.

Preliminary discussions with

Good Samaritan Society staff indicate that the Society may wish to move to a managing contract in the future operation of a nursing home in Cheyenne County. This would be comparable to their management contracts of Long-Time Care (LTC) units in Decatur, Rawlins, Sherman and Wallace counties. The funds in this Senior Living Funds would be available for many needs specific to senior citizens and others with special needs.

All donations are tax deductible. Please make donations to: Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and post in the memo line: Senior Living - Cheyenne County.

The St. Francis Community Foundation's address is PO Box 967, St. Francis, KS 67756 and the Century II Foundation address is PO Box 593, Bird City, KS 67731. Please consider giving, no gift is too small.

Tom Keller
St. Francis

Hangin' With Marge

My Great Vacation

By Margaret Bucholtz



margeb@cityofstfrancis.net
This fall Kurt and I packed up our fifth wheel and headed out for a six-weeks vacation. The first stop was a week in Kansas City visiting with Ryan's family and the two grandchildren.

The big event that week was Brooke and Travis Hilt's wedding. It was not only beautiful, but lots of fun. Their wedding was on the same day as Kurt's birthday so both of them worked in a time to announce his birthday. What wonderful sharing grandchildren we have!

The next morning we headed off for the destination of Newburyport, Mass., to attend The Morse Soci-

ety Convention. I couldn't wait to stand on the land that many of my ancestors, had risked their lives on a fierce ocean, so they could have a new life.

I had always wondered why my families would have chosen to come from a country side of many trees, rock formations and water to live in a place that had none of these beautiful sites that nature provided.

By the time we had traveled to Ashtabula, Ohio, we decided we would have enough time to do some cemetery searching for some of the Morse family. After two days, we started out again and I thought we would see the Erie Lake and the

Erie Canal, but I was wrong.

Those beautiful trees were in the way!! It was then that my thoughts took a different turn. Instead "Oh, look at the trees." I started worrying about what beautiful things we were missing because of the trees.

I even realized that we were on an interstate but you couldn't even see the traffic going in the opposite direction as there were tree in the middle.

One of the other things was the fact that on interstate you couldn't stop every half a mile to take a picture. The trees were turning colors and the rivers, bridges and lakes were everywhere.

I have probably close to a thousand pictures and most of them were taken from inside the pickup. I got good enough that I could even get a photo without the mirrors and dash of the vehicle.

However I will have to tell you that several pictures have this thing that looks like either smoke or a darker cloud, but it is really just where a bug hit the windshield.

More about the trip next week.

Letter to Santa

Dear Santa,
My name is Jacob Dale Rath. I am five years old.
I would like a John Deere battery powered 4-wheeler and lots of Thomas the Tank Engine trains.
I would also like a John Deere battery powered gator.
Thank you Santa,



Love,
Jake Rath
St. Francis

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Kelly Morris, St. Francis; Spencer Schlepp, St. Francis; Susan Schlepp, Denver, Colo.; Tammy Schlepp, New York, N.Y.; Al Knodel, Kanorado; Debbie Grace, St. Francis;

GOD SAYS
Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
Matthew 11:28

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick



By Casey McCormick
scmcormick@nwkansan.com

Another piece of my earlier life has departed with the death of Don Meredith last week.

Fond memories fill my head of the excitement that came before Monday Night Football each week. When the program first began in 1970, I was ten-years-old. During that time the National Football League was as important to me as anything else in my little world.

Like so many things, the original is always the best. ABC sports producer, Roone Arledge, assembled the team of Don Meredith,

Howard Cosell and Frank Gifford to call the matches.

The chemistry of these three was an entertaining addition to the football games. Meredith was the "good old boy" from the country who never took himself, or anything else, too seriously. Cosell embodied the abrasive New Yorker whose over extensive vocabulary was forever on display. Gifford was the all-American, clean cut guy who played straight man for the other two.

There were not many Mondays when these games were missed. Teams enjoyed knowing that their contest was the only one to be

viewed by a national audience that evening.

Even though Cosell had the kind of personality that most seemed to hate, his half-time highlights of the previous day's games were my favorite part of the broadcast.

Over the years the game itself has changed. So has Monday Night Football, now a part of the ESPN network. I suppose I'm a bit different from that bright-eyed boy of yesteryear. But some memories are as clear as ever.

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
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 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

Saint Francis
Herald

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

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