

# Kansas slights visitors with tiny welcome signs

up to the border and check – if you can even was the later "Kansas, simply wonderful." read the sign.

We can't. That's the first problem.

In an apparent effort to save scarce state cash, the Sebelius administration got these down to nearly the size of a "city limit" sign. And while we applaud frugality, you gotta be able to read the sign to get the effect.

Kansas, but who can read it on a postage stamp? A temporary "Welcome Hunters" sign is a lot bigger.

Our neighbor to the north, by contrast, has big, bold signs that feature a covered wagon or waste a lot of money paying ever-willing agena cowboy and a slogan, such as "Nebraska, the cies to produce an "image" that will be canned good life." Nothing fancy, but readable.

Kansas once had such signs, big green ones allow money for that. that said "Kansas, Midway USA." These featured an oversized sunflower with a "stalk" really the I-beam holding up the sign – set at a plate that can be easily changed with the adan angle.

A separate panel that read, "Robert B. Docking, governor," offended the Republican Legchanges. None was for the better.

As governors came and went, so did the signs. All would be replaced as a new administration hired a new ad agency which produced new slogans and logos. What waste!

The sunflowers fell, their sign extension taken up. That's the way to do it.

Kansas has some of the worst "welcome" up by "Ah Kansas" logos. That slogan, paid for signs in the nation. If you don't believe us, go by the Bill Bennett regime, was forgettable, as

> The Joan Finney administration replaced those with a Kansas logo that seemed to explode into confetti, product of yet another agency. Then, under Bill Graves, the governor's wife, Linda, designed a sign with a big, ugly sunflower and a purple background.

Those came down when the Sebelius gang We think the sign says "Welcome to" before hired yet another agency to produce yet another state "image." A wavy logo appeared on everything from stationery to signs, but the size dropped so far you can't read 'em.

> If there's a theme here, it's that governors can four to eight years later. No Legislature should

> The second lesson might be that simple is better, that any slogan should be enduring - or on ministration - and that the sunflower is the most recognizable symbol we have.

We've been the Sunflower State, the Wheat islature and may have set the stage for later State and a lot of other things. Sunflowers are attractive and the image sticks around.

> Kansas should put up permanent border signs. The rest is just politics – or the fuzzy thinking of underage kids at some New York agency.

Make 'em big enough to read and leave 'em - Steve Haynes

### Eighth grade trip story enjoyed -Letters to the Editor-Letter to the Editor: What a delight to read a "feel

good" story about the St. Francis eighth graders taking a trip to Topeka to visit the state Capitol and other places of interest including the Eisenhower Memorial in Abilene, the Combat Air Museum and the Kansas History Museum. I was especially pleased to see that the Hansen Foundation funded the trip.

As I read the article, it occurred to me that maybe the students, or for that matter, many residents might not be familiar with the Hansen family and it's connection to St. Francis.

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First of all, I'd recommend that anvone interested in Dane G. Hansen, the remarkable Kansan, get on the internet via Google or another search engine, to get information about the Hansen Foundation and the Hansen family in Logan, Kan. The connection to St. Francis, and there may be others that I am not aware of, that is familiar to me occurred in the summer of 1956 when D.G. Hansen Construction Company was awarded the contract for widening U.S. 36 to four lanes from the east side of town to the west side of town. I was fortunate to be hired as a water truck driver, and other jobs with the company. D.G. Hansen Construction was a good company to work for, and I was fortunate and appreciative to have a summer job between my freshman and sophomore year in college. But the thing I took away most from that job was the lesson I learned from the job superintendent Clyde (I can't remember his last name). At any rate the employees were paid weekly, and it was always on Friday afternoon. I'd received a couple of pay days, but I'd neglected to get my Social Security Number to the foreman. On the third pay day when I anxiously went to get my pay check (it seemed like I was always broke) Clyde, the job superintendent, said

you." Shocked and crushed, I asked weekend, and my date must have why, and he proceeded to ask me if I remembered promising him I would bring him my Social Security Number. He had me dead to rights! But, being the fair and compassionate man Clyde was, he said, "I'll make you a deal. I'll give you your check if you promise me that come Monday morning, you will give me your Social Security Number." Of course, I said "yes" very enthusiastically, I urge all students, and especially but he said, "This is only part of the eighth graders who took the trip, deal. The rest of the deal is that you give me your Social Security Number by memory, and not just hand or thank you to the Hansen Foundation read it to me from the card!" Again, that sponsored your trip.

thought I was strange because every so often, out of the blue, I would start reciting the numbers on my Social Security card referring to the card to see if I had memorized them!

Come first thing Monday morning, I sought Clyde out and gave him my Social Security Number by memory. It is a practice that has served me well over the years, and to memorize your Social Security Number. Maybe you could do it as a

Gordon K



### **News From the Past**

1931

Mr. and Mrs. Farmer Shields took a little outing up to Cheyground at Cheyenne.

George Klie attended a farm Confer, Linnell and Heselius. meeting at the State Experimental Farm in Colby.

good game for the Zweygardts. stop and the supply will cease. He left 9 men stranded on bases,

hits. On the Neville team Savage and West Side Market was selland Heselius yielded seven hits.

Lockheed-Vega, high-powered A. Zweygardt, B. Iserhhagen, passenger plane at the airport in A. Isernhagen, G. Zweygardt, St. Francis and 1 hour, 15 min- Ochsner, Peter and Lampe. On utes later, were walking on the the Neville team: Confer, Carmichael, E. Linnell, Savage, C. County Agent Stewart and Harkins, L. Harkins, Schlepp, R.

In June, the St. Francis Hatchery had stopped setting eggs and A "hard playing" Zweygardt were closing after a very satisbaseball team came out victori- factory season. Four more hatchous with a score of 8 to 1 over the es are to come off in two more Neville boys. Burnham pitched a weeks, then the big machine will

The Palace Market had a dozstruck out three and yielded five en lemons for sale at 29 cents

ing a dozen lemons for 25 cents. Listed on the Zweygardt team The Nixon Store had a sale on 10 enne, Wyo. They boarded the were Burnham, B. Ochsner, pounds sugar for 55 cents. The special at Harrison's was a gallon can of fancy apricots for 79 cents.

> The St. Francis 4-H Helpers club met at the Methodist Church. Dale Duncan entertained by singing, accompanying himself on the banjo. New members were Bernice McKee, Edith Ellis, Verda Duncan and Manetta Hurlock.

> The St. Francis Farm Bureau Unit members met at the home of Mrs. Morley Mace. The lesson was on refurnishing furniture.



cided to have an "old fashioned" Christmas.

When Lezlie, her brothers and cousins showed up at the Cooper grandparent's home it was lit only by oil lanterns. Popcorn and cran- mas was a break between the daily berries were waiting in bowls to chores of survival. The holidays be strung for decorations. Grandad most remembered were the ones then brought in the pine tree that where people appreciated the joy he had cut down and the string- of simply being together on a day ers were added. For gifts, the girls to remember the true purpose of were given homemade doll cradles and the boys got wooden, toy guns with clothes pin triggers to shoot rubber-bands.

Years ago my wife's family de- up with the neighbors or kids at school. I doubt if there were pepper spraying incidents at the general store in town.

Stories from those times seem to center on simpler things. Christ-

December 25.



mccormickcasey@rocketmail.com

Materially, a present was simple and often had a utilitarian purpose.

And folks humbly thanked the Lord for sending His son into this

I enthusiastically agreed. I was fortunate to have a date that

### Greeley, Colo.

## Another's perspective shared about politics

#### Letter to the Editor:

I think Ms. Marilyn Frisbie watches too much Fox News and needs to get another perspective on problems in our country. Ms. Frisbie is right on one thing - the Occupy Wall Street is not like the Tea Party (which is only for the rich, white and old). Occupy Wall Street is for all the 99 percent, is fed up with both political parties and is not an arm of the Democratic Party, unlike the Tea Party which is the Republican Party or should I say, the Koch Brothers Party.

Occupy Wall Street was started by a need to the call of a magazine "Ad busters" to Occupy Wall Street. Only someone who watches Fox News would think Acorn had something to do with Occupy Wall Street.

Also no one from Occupy Wall Street would yell "let him die" if that person had no health care and was "Sorry, Gordon, no pay check for gravely ill. They are not that mean

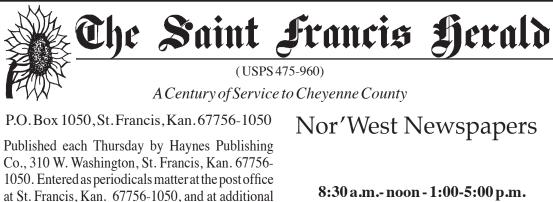
and hateful unlike the people at the CNN/Tea Party Express GOP debate who did just that.

The theme of the Tea Party is steal from the poor and middle class and give to the very rich. As if they don't have enough already.

Occupy Wall Street theme is Wall Street privatized the profits and socialized the losses, corporations have too much power in our political systems, the Wall Street Banks crashed our economy but were never held accountable and that the richest you Americans have more wealth than half of all Americans - 156 million people combined.

I know which group represents my interests. Thank God for Occupy Wall Street.

> Sincerely, Diana Brunswig Bosso Arnold, Mo.



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I even think they made a joke about making the kids use the dilapidated out-house so they could get even more of a real feel for what it was like way back then.

When the previous generations settled this wild area they sure didn't have Christmases like we do. The television was not bombarding them with the latest electrical gizmo needed to keep

> **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 Warren Cico** 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

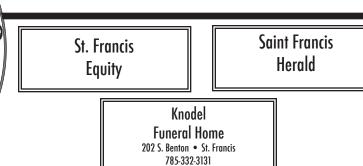
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Roger Meitl Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.

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.



world.

I wonder if where we have come is what is meant by the word "progress?"



days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:6-7

> **First Baptist Church** 2nd & Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Weekday Mass 8:00 a.m. Service 6:30 p.m., Confessions Sat. 4-4:30 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 Randy Nelson** Church 332-2928 Parsonage 332-2312 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. **Communion 1st Sunday** 

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