



County landfill tops list for most violations

Change can be hard. However, residents of Cheyenne County are going to be looking at making a change which could be hard for some.

Cheyenne County is at the top of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's list of having the most violations at the landfill. And, if those violations are not corrected, residents could lose their landfill.

If Cheyenne County loses the landfill, it will cost big bucks to have the trash hauled to another landfill. And, that landfill will have the same regulations as the county landfill's.

There will have to be changes made at the landfill to comply with the state's health department. These changes will also help keep the trench at the dump from filling up as quickly. There will soon be no place to put another trench and that is a big concern of the commissioners and should be one for the people because, again, at that time, trash will need to be transferred.

One of the biggest problems at the landfill is blowing trash - This is western Kansas and this area is noted for wind - lots of it! Consequently, when the wind blows, any loose trash at the dump takes off. Some of it is caught in the fences surrounding the dump but lots of it ends up in surrounding fields.

In the future, all trash going to the dump needs to

be bagged. Not bagged - then, it's not picked up. That is the first step to stop the blowing paper.

The next step is to close the landfill when the wind is blowing. People wondering if the dump is going to be open will have a pretty good idea that it is closed if the wind is blowing 25-30 miles an hour or more. They can also pick up a phone and call.

People will also need to begin separating items they are taking to the landfill. This rule will be solidly enforced. Trees go in one area, e-waste (television, microwaves, computers, etc.), batteries, treated lumber such as plywood.... the list will be posted.

Those disagreeing with the policy will need to contact a commissioner (they have set the rules). Those with questions about what to take to the dump can talk to Ed Garner, landfill supervisor.

Last of all, if the dump is closed, people need to remember they cannot dump their trash in the ditch or on a country lot. It is against the law! If caught, the fine could be tremendous.

Gone are the simple days when people had a burn barrel in their backyard, gone are the days when autumn leaves and garden leftovers could be burned in a pile; and gone are the days when anything can be dumped in the landfill.

-Karen Krien



Couple enjoys using back highways

A few weeks ago we went to a Polka Festival. Instead of driving on the main interstate highways, we decided to tour the countryside using the back highways. We probably covered around 1,600 miles on this trip.

Using the back highways gave us the opportunity to travel through some of the smaller towns. Driving down the main streets, we instantly noticed that probably 50 percent or more of the businesses on their main streets were closed. We thought how fortunate we are to have a town where the buildings on

Letter to the Editor

our Main Street do have a business flourishing in them.

It became very evident to us why it is so important that we support the businesses in our town instead of going elsewhere to shop or some-day our town of St. Francis will be looking like some of the towns that we saw. Yes, there are times that we have shopped out of town, but that has been when we needed something that we were not able to find here locally. Benny realizes how important it

is to keep St. Francis thriving and doesn't plan on retiring any time soon. He may close one more day a week so that we can be free to travel a little more. However, he wants to take care of his customers and hopes that those coming from a distance (some travel 50 miles to get a haircut) will do some of their shopping here also.

Let's keep St. Francis alive and support our local businesses.

Kathy and Bennie Weber
St. Francis

Casey's Comments

Blessings can come in mysterious packages.

Last weekend we visited family in Denver. As the group sat around a table we reflected on how much has changed in my life in 5 years.

For it was on April 1, 2007 that a near fatal case of pancreatitis set in. What started with what seemed an upset stomach soon saw me travel from the local clinic to our county hospital then a flight-for-life to a front range facilities in-

tensive care unit.

By the grace of God it was not my time to go further.

My wife, mother, brothers, sister and their other halves took turns making sure I had company at all times. Then there were the visitors from home, who, in either physical form or notes and cards, made their presence known. Many were sending prayers on my behalf, I would later learn.

Life has taken many wonderful

By Casey McCormick
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turns since that time. Not a day goes by that I don't look at myself and the world about me differently. But the support I had has been a constant.

Why it took a close encounter to the other side, I'll never know. But what an amazing gift it has been.

Thanks for being there with me.

Legislative News

Wednesday, March 21, was Drop Dead Week. Drop Dead Wednesday is when most bills have to be acted upon by the opposite of their house of origin.

The House Tax Plan was passed last week. I voted for it, but I have many issues with the plan. I like the reduction of state sales tax and keeping several key exemptions. I received many emails supporting the Earned Income Tax Credit that was proposed for elimination in the Governor's Plan, and that is in the House Plan. The gradual reduction of the State Income Tax rate is a big part of many tax plans. I would rather lower property tax than take income tax to zero. A constituent sent me the following comment, "When I am making money, I can pay my income tax; when I am not making money, I have trouble paying my property tax."

Last year, the Legislature passed a budget that, for the first time since 1972, decreased all-funds state spending by nearly a billion dollars and turned a \$500m deficit into a \$100m surplus without raising taxes. Since then, we've been fortunate enough to have a number of good months, and revenues are finally headed in the right direction. However, we still have very serious obligations facing the state, which makes it important for us to remain committed to keeping our spending in check. For too long, government has lived beyond its means.

That being said, I do support the increase of benefits to our state workers. We almost passed an amendment to restore the market-pay adjustment, and I will work to see if it can be done during Omnibus. Even with the \$8.5m cost, we would still be in line to have the 7.5% required ending balance.

KPERS was debated for several hours. I will post an update on my website www.wardcassidy.com as soon as the final House brief is completed. Remember, it still has to be in conference with the Senate version and then signed by the Governor. I did have some input to include that 80% of the sales of state lands will go directly to KPERS.

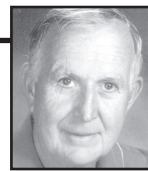
The redistricting committee held hearings of 17 congressional maps submitted for consideration and voted on over a half-dozen maps, with only the Eisenhower B gaining enough votes to pass. Because the First Congressional District had

the most significant population loss and the Third Congressional District experienced the most population gain, it was difficult to draw a map with clean district boundaries. The Eisenhower B plan includes the northern part of Wyandotte County in the First District. That is a bad fit for the First District, but it might be the only way the redistricting can be resolved.

I testified before the Senate State and Federal Committee about our Home Owned Carnivals this past week. We dismissed all of the issues that would be a problem for the carnivals. It passed out of the Senate Committee with the provision that all Home Owned Carnivals would be required to send proof of insurance to the Department of Labor.

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By Ward Cassidy
120th State Representative



GOD SAYS
Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope. Psalms 119:116

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Lines from the Library

The following new books have arrived at the library. *Born of Shadow* by Sherrilyn Kenyon; *Acheron* by Sherrilyn Kenyon; *Retribution* by Sherrilyn Kenyon; *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins; *Catching Fire* by Suzanne Collins; *Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins; *City of Bones* by Cassandra Clare; *City of Ashes* by Cassandra Clare; *City of Glass* by Cassandra Clare; *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan; *The Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan; *The Battle of the Labyrinth* by Rick Riordan; *The Last Olympian* by Rick Riordan; *The Lost Hero* by Rick Riordan; *The Son of Neptune* by Rick Riordan; *Home Front* by Kristin Hanah; *First, Best and Only* by Barbara delinsky; *Left for Dead* by J.A. Jance; *Private Games* by James Patterson; *Celebrity in Death* by J.D. Robb; *The One Who Waits for Me* by Lori Copeland; *Valley of Dreams* by Lauraine Snelling; *The Harvest of Grace* by Cindy Woods-mall; *House of Secrets* by Tracie Peterson; *Chasing the Sun* by Tracie Peterson; *Cinnamon Roll Murder* by Joanne Fluke; *Private* by James Patterson; *Victims* by Jonathan Keller-man; *A Searing Wind* by Michael and Kathleen Gear; *To Have and To Hold* by Tracie Peterson; *Through My Eyes* by Tim Tebow; *The Alzheimer's Prevention Program* by Gary Small MD; *The Drop* by Michael Connelly; *Sleepwalker* by Karen Robards; *Red Mist* by Patricia Cornwell; *The Scottish Prisoner* by Diana Galard; *Talking to the Dead* by Bonnie Grove; *Our Boys: A Perfect Season on the Plains with the Smith Center Redmen* by Joe Drape.

We have the following new books on CD. *Desert Rose* collection by Tracie Peterson; *Heaven is for Real* by Todd Burpo; *1225 Christmas Tree Lane* by Debbie Macomber; *Redemption* Collection by Karen Kingsbury; *Chasing the Sun* by Tracie Peterson.

New books in the children's department are: *If You Give a Dog a Donut* by Laura Numeroff; *God Loves you Very Much* by Cindy Kenney; *Bear Snores On* by Karman Wilson; *Happy Hippo, Angry Duck* by Sandra Boynton; *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae; *Peas and Thank You* by Mike Nawrocki; *Just a Lit-*

tle Luck by Mercer Mayer; *Happy Feet Two: Mumble Saves the Day* by Judy Katschke; *The Berenstain Bears and the Shaggy Little Pony* by Jan Berenstain; *Tiny Goes to the Library* by Cari Meister; *Take a Trip to Trucktown* by Justin Spelvin; *Fancy Nancy: Hair Do's and Hair Don't's* by Jane O'Connor; *Danger at the Diesel Works* by Tommy Stubbbs; *Look! I can Read* by Susan Hood; *Who Stole the Cookies* by Judith Moffatt; *Turtle and Snake Go Camping* by Kate Spohn; *The Berenstain Bears and the Nutcracker* by Jan Berenstain; *Love, Elmo* by Meg McLaughlin; *Gus Makes a Friend* by Frank Remkiesicz; *Shall We Dance* by Sarah Albee.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Tony Gienger, St. Francis; James Doggett, Kansas City; Deloy Rogers, St. Francis; Carol Rogers, St. Francis; Meta Dankenbring, Bird City; Andy Waite, St. Francis; Rodney E. Radcliffe, St. Francis.

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 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8:00 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 Warren Cico
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

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.

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 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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Praise the Lord