

Reporters' shield law protects news sources

Surprise passage of a reporters' shield law by the House of Representatives raised the real possibility that a federal law protecting news people from being forced to reveal sources will be passed this year.

And about time that would be. Courts have consistently refused to protect reporters from being ordered to reveal the names of sources in both criminal and civil cases. The journalist then has the choice of going back on a promise - or going to jail for contempt of court. Quite a few have gone to jail over the last 30 years rather than endanger someone who trusted them.

So why is this a big deal? Because many important stories might never reach print without judicious use of confidential sources: stories of government corruption, organized crime, shoddy consumer products, you name it.

If the subject is touchy, people don't want to talk about it, at least not for publication, unless their name can be protected. A source's job, even their life, could be in danger. Government lawyers might put them on the witness stand, even send them to jail.

No one particularly likes stories that cite unnamed sources, reporters least of all. Most news organizations reserve them for stories that really count, but those are the ones where the source has the most to lose.

Supporters were surprised when the law, attached as an amendment to a Justice Department spending bill, passed the House, dominated as it

is by conservative Republicans. But this is not a partisan issue. The bill had even more support than the 225-183 margin, with 53 Republicans and all Democrats voting yes, because many Republicans objected to putting it in an appropriation bill.

Now, the issue goes on to the Senate, where it's had strong support for several years, particularly from Sens. Patrick Leahy of Vermont and Chuck Schumer of New York. Top Republicans, including Charles Grassley of Iowa, the ranking minority member on the Judiciary Committee, and Orrin Hatch of Utah, support the concept, and a veto- and filibuster-proof 60-vote majority seems likely.

Support from Kansas senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran would be critical in any vote.

Nothing is certain in the halls of Congress, of course, and in any event, a new law may not come in time to keep *New York Times* reporter James Risen from going to jail to protect sources for his book on the CIA and Iran.

Closer to home, Jana Winter, a former Fox News reporter, has to avoid Colorado for fear of being ordered to reveal who gave her information in the James Holmes theater-slaying case. (A New York court ruled that while there, she's protected by that state's law.)

Let's hope these two are near the last of a line of news people who've had to choose between jail and their sources. Something like 49 states already have a shield law. It's about time the federal courts had one, too. - Steve Haynes

Moments With Mila

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Warnings

By Mila Bandel



County Health Nurse

When power outages occur after severe weather like we have had recently with high winds or if a tornado occurs, using alternative sources of power can cause carbon monoxide (CO) to build up in a

home and poison the people and animals inside.

Every year, at least 430 people die in the United States from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning. Change the batteries in your carbon monoxide detector every six months. If you don't have a battery-powered or battery back-up carbon monoxide detector, buy one soon. Carbon monoxide is found in fumes produced by portable generators, stoves, lanterns, and gas ranges, or by burning charcoal and wood. Carbon monoxide from these sources can build up in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. People and animals in these spaces can be poisoned and can die from breathing carbon monoxide.

How do you recognize carbon monoxide poisoning? The most common symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. People who are sleeping or who have been drinking alcohol can die from carbon monoxide poisoning before ever having symptoms.

• Never use a gas range or oven to heat a home.

• Never leave the motor running in a vehicle parked in an enclosed or partially enclosed space, such as a garage.

• Never run a generator, pressure washer, or any gasoline-powered engine inside a basement, garage, or other enclosed structure, even if the doors or windows are open, unless the equipment is professionally installed and vented. Keep vents and flues free of debris, especially if winds are high. Flying debris can block ventilation lines.

• Never run a motor vehicle, generator, pressure washer, or any gasoline-powered engine less than 20 feet from an open window, door, or vent where exhaust can vent into an enclosed area.

• Never use a charcoal grill, lantern, or portable camping stove inside a home, tent, or camper.

• If conditions are too hot or too cold, seek shelter with friends or at a shelter.

• If carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected, consult a health care professional right away.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is entirely preventable. You can protect yourself and your family by acting wisely in case of a power outage and learning the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

For more information on carbon monoxide poisoning contact the Cheyenne County Health Department at 785-332-2381.

Fun Facts

"Bugs" have gotten a bad reputation! A few nasty creatures seem to have given the whole class of organisms a bad name. Before you decide to exterminate that creature crawling around on your plants or patio, find out what it is. It may be your partner in plant protection! A pocket field guide to insects is a good investment if you want to learn more about the insect species that frequent your yard. These picture guides help you identify the organisms and determine the appropriate control methods, if needed.

How to recognize the good guys

Unless you are familiar with insects, the good insects are hard to distinguish from the bad insects. To complicate matters further, many species go through drastic changes in their lives where the immature forms such as caterpillars may actually damage your plants, but, eventually, these damaging caterpillars turn into gorgeous butterflies you want to attract!

Common beneficial insects you are likely to see in your yard include:

- the ladybug beetle which feeds on aphids,
- dragonflies and damselflies which are tremendous mosquito predators, and
- lacewings which feed on soft-bodied insects such as aphids.

Hundreds of other species may be there as well, but some of them such as parasitic wasps are so small that you probably won't see them.

home and poison the people and animals inside.

Every year, at least 430 people die in the United States from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning. Change the batteries in your carbon monoxide detector every six months. If you don't have a battery-powered or battery back-up carbon monoxide detector, buy one soon. Carbon monoxide is found in fumes produced by portable generators, stoves, lanterns, and gas ranges, or by burning charcoal and wood. Carbon monoxide from these sources can build up in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. People and animals in these spaces can be poisoned and can die from breathing carbon monoxide.

How do you recognize carbon monoxide poisoning? The most common symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. People who are sleeping or who have been drinking alcohol can die from carbon monoxide poisoning before ever having symptoms.

• Never use a gas range or oven to heat a home.

• Never leave the motor running in a vehicle parked in an enclosed or partially enclosed space, such as a garage.

• Never run a generator, pressure washer, or any gasoline-powered engine inside a basement, garage, or other enclosed structure, even if the doors or windows are open, unless the equipment is professionally installed and vented. Keep vents and flues free of debris, especially if winds are high. Flying debris can block ventilation lines.

• Never run a motor vehicle, generator, pressure washer, or any gasoline-powered engine less than 20 feet from an open window, door, or vent where exhaust can vent into an enclosed area.

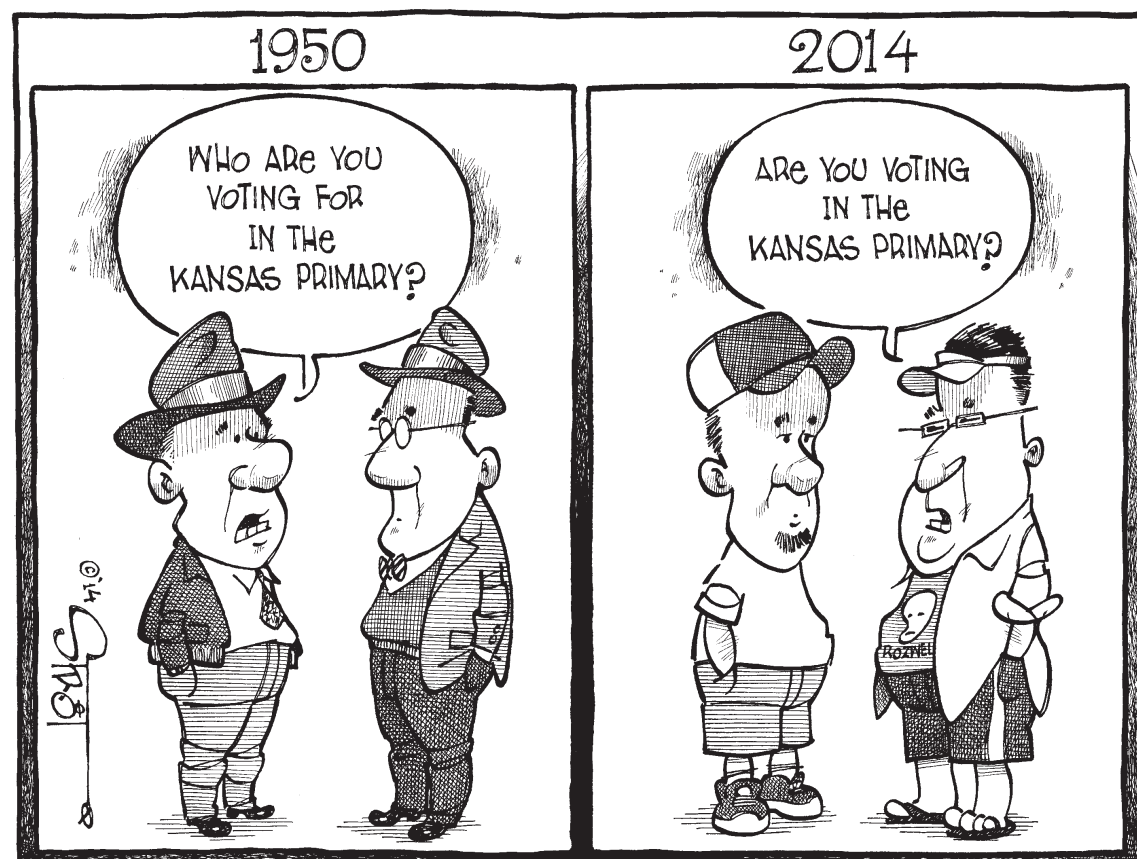
• Never use a charcoal grill, lantern, or portable camping stove inside a home, tent, or camper.

• If conditions are too hot or too cold, seek shelter with friends or at a shelter.

• If carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected, consult a health care professional right away.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is entirely preventable. You can protect yourself and your family by acting wisely in case of a power outage and learning the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

For more information on carbon monoxide poisoning contact the Cheyenne County Health Department at 785-332-2381.



Former resident delighted with all Celebrate St. Francis events

Dear Editor,
Thank You St. Francis!

What a terrific weekend my family shared in St. Francis, this weekend, June 20 and 21. We try to attend the St. Francis High School Alumni every year and always enjoy it but this weekend surpassed all of my expectations. Each event we attended on Friday and Saturday was so energized and well planned. I couldn't begin to guess how many people it took to organize such an array of events and "Celebrate St. Francis" in so many ways! Friday evening was the "Art Walk" with dozens of

Letter to Editor

artists, musicians, and delicious refreshments. The swimming pool fund raising meal, "Picnic in the Park," brought the community and alumni together, and the evening highlight was an impressive Honor Guard presentation for St. Francis resident, the late Jack Weinstein, "Medal of Honor" recipient, received by his lovely wife, Nancy.

The Cheyenne County Museum noontime Brat feed was delicious and another

opportunity to see the "Medal of Honor" up close, while visiting the outstanding museum. The St. Francis High School Alumni steak dinner at Sawhill Park was first class, and possibly the best steak I have ever tasted, the entire meal was served so efficiently by volunteers. Thank you to all of the people who had anything to do with this terrific weekend. It was a huge success and a pleasure to experience!

Ione Cram Slattery

Casey's Comments

Much ado about World Cup

By Casey McCormick



mccormickcasey@rocketmail.com

Every once and a while, America seems to have an inferiority complex.

National pride is one thing, but why do we feel a need to be best at everything?

The television coverage of the World Cup soccer events is getting more and more like the Olympics. Folks are waving red, white, and blue flags, painting their faces and trying their best to look like European fanatics.

I understand that what we call soccer ("football" outside the U.S.) is "the" sport in most other countries. And you know what? That's okay.

We have our own form of football that seems to draw pretty good crowds to pee-wee, little

league, junior and high school, college and pro games.

There is also our own "national past-time" of baseball. Although it's played in other places (and I think there is still one MLB team north of the boarder) Americans love to watch "the boys of summer."

Don't get me wrong, soccer is a great sport for people to play

here. It requires just as much athleticism as the two sports named above. Many kids and parents prefer it, and more power to them

But why is it necessary to jump on the World Cup band wagon and act so, well, un-American? To me, it could be another reason why we split from Europe to begin with.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Joyce Black, Jonesboro, Ark.; Charles Nipps, St. Francis; Republican Valley Auto, Goodland; Isernhagen LLC., Fort Collins, Colo.; Dean and Joyce Blanka, Wamego; Melissa Moore, Lone Jack, Mo.; Dorothy

Hammers, Englewood, Colo.; Norvin Northrup, St. Francis; Nicole Apprill, Lawrence; David Penton, St. Francis; Vernetta Haack, Bird City; Dave Jensen, Blair, Neb.; Ed Marin, St. Francis; Floriene Whisnant, Colby; Dwight Brewer, St. Francis.

GOD SAYS

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

John 12:26

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 \$40 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$45 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$51 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@nwkansas.com

STAFF

Karen Krien Editor/Publisher
Doug Sloper Sports Editor
Tim Burr Advertising Manager
Amanda Miller News Writer
Doug Sloper Office Manager
Casey McCormick Columnist

<p>Church of Christ 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 9 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Carlos Ruiz Santos 1st Sunday of the month Morning Mass 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m. Weekday Mass 8:00 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. Communion 3rd Sunday</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church 423-650-5663 • 3rd & Adams Pastor James McCurdy Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC 202 N. College Pastor Randy Nelson Church 332-2928 Parsonage 332-2312. Worship 9:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday</p>
<p>First Christian Church Pastor Jeff Landers 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Bible Fellowship 9:15 a.m. Church Service 10:15 a.m.</p>		

