

## United States television continuously guessing

It may be an old American tradition to second-guess the generals, but frankly, we're tired of it. And, we're willing to bet, you are, too.

Tired of has-been officers who weren't in on "the plan" critiquing the plan.

Tired of second-rank think-tankers explaining why the plan will never work.

Tired of left-wing correspondents condemning explaining why America can never win.

Tired of endless talking heads shaking out a couple of casualties.

Tired of ceaseless prattle about whether the offensive has stalled or the plan has gone awry.

Are we supposed to be surprised that the enemy is fighting back?

That the war wasn't over in a week?

That in war, people get killed?

The president told us the first day, this could be a long and nasty encounter.

Didn't he?

Oh, television.

Television news is at its best and at its worst in war.

At its best in battle, when troops are moving, when bombs are flying and things are blowing up.

Television takes us there and shows us the face of war. There is no avoiding what's going on.

And with today's technology, we see it now. We see paratroopers live as they jump, tankers on camera racing across the desert, starving Iraqis tearing apart food packages. We see it as it happens.

And then again on the hour.

Between battles, television is at its worst. When nothing is happening, the anchors have to talk. To analyze. To proclaim.

And somehow — the Pentagon has to share the blame here — they got the idea this was going to be a quick and easy war, regardless of what the president said.

That Iraq would fold in a matter of days, that the "shock and awe" of massive, targeted bombing would scare the bejebbers out of a stone-cold tyrant and his bloody henchmen.

These people are fighting for their very lives.

What is the future of a Republican Guardsman in a free Baghdad? How long will Saddam's generals get to walk the streets in the new order? Until the day their war crimes trials begin?

These guys have everything to lose, everything. They will do anything to stop us. When the time comes, they will use their gas on us. Send terrorists to our cities. Use women and children as shields.

Of course they're going to fight.

That's a surprise only to the talking heads. Not to the generals, not to the troops.

It must make Saddam smile to hear them question "the plan," to doubt the generals at every turn, to play up every little setback.

But that's television. It's like horse racing.

They have to have something to do in the breaks between the action.

They do the one so well, and the other so poorly. And we're tired of it. — Steve Haynes



## Council asks for residents help

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

During the past few months we, as members of the St. Francis City Council, have received complaints about various code violations throughout the city. The majority of complaints concern the following violations of the law:

Junked motor vehicles parked on private party (Violation of Chapter VIII, Article 3)

Structures unfit for habitation because of dilapidation or conditions which provide a general blight upon the surrounding properties. (Violation of Chapter IV, Article 6 & Chapter VIII, Article 2A)

Trash, junk and yard waste in alleys (Chapter VIII, Article 2A)

These codes have been developed by the Kansas League of Municipalities and are adopted by cities across the state. Most citizens understand that these laws protect the safety, health and general well-being of the entire community. We would like to suggest some other reasons that obeying these codes makes sense:

According to experts, dilapidated properties and junked vehicles promote vandalism and disrespect for private property.

Dilapidated properties and vehicles negatively affect the property values of a neighborhood and, eventually, an entire community. For most citizens, their residential property is their greatest financial asset. A violation of this type in a neighborhood significantly affects the value of all properties.

Obeying the law shows respect for our fellow citizens. It sends the message to our youth that we care about our neighbors, neighborhoods and community. It models citizenship for our children.

The City Council is asking citizens currently in violation of a city code to take action to voluntarily correct the violation(s). If contacted, the city will make every reasonable effort to assist citizens. The book of codes is available at the city office and at the

public library for persons uncertain of the laws.

If those in violation of the code(s) make no effort to remedy the violation(s), the City will be take the necessary actions, as prescribed by the code book, to enforce the laws.

It is essential to the present and future health and welfare of our community to keep St. Francis and the surrounding area safe and clean. We ask each citizen to do his or her part to continue to make St. Francis a town to be proud of and a place where our children and grandchildren will be proud to call home.

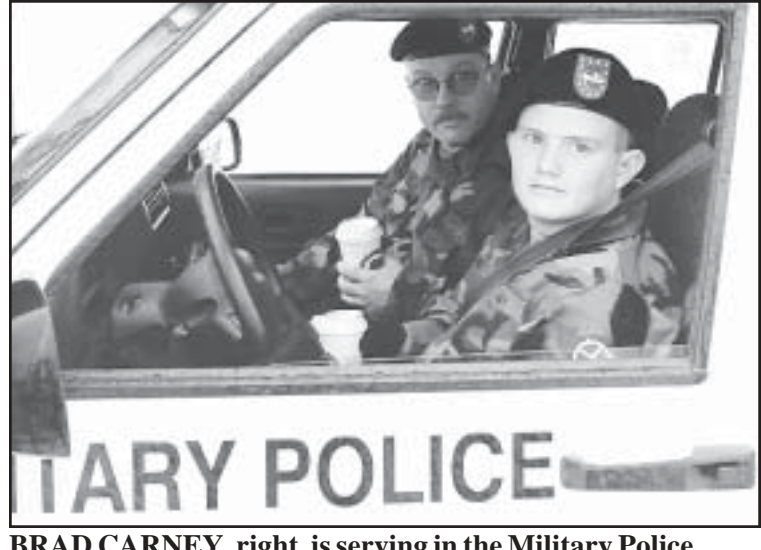
Respectfully yours,  
Members of the St. Francis City Council  
Kay Shay  
Roger Jensen  
Natalie Knodel  
Rodney Bracelin  
Dale Week  
Scott Schultz, mayor

## Servicemen Addresses

Troops and reserve troops called to action in preparation of war and defending our homeland. *The Herald* and *Times* would like to print the addresses of servicemen and women so people can send letters of encouragement to them.

The staffs are asking that anyone knowing of a local serviceman or servicemen that may have connections in the communities to please call, write or e-mail the names and addresses.

Call 785-332-3162, or write to Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or Box 220, Bird City, KS 67731; or e-mail the names and addresses to sfherald@nwkansas.com or bctimes@nwkansas.com.



BRAD CARNEY, right, is serving in the Military Police.

PFC Cook, Brian P.  
Namtra Mariunit, AM  
Box 555218  
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055-5218

MSS N Semler, Carla C.  
USS John F. Kennedy CV67  
S-2 Division  
FPO AA 34095-2800

Scott Jenkins  
317 Westover Rd.  
Seymour Johnson Air Force Base,  
North Carolina 27534

Sgt. Travis M. Haney  
HHB 5-7 ADA FWD  
Operation Juniper Cobra 03  
APO AE 09343  
(Travis is stationed in Israel)

Tobias J. Walters  
P.O. Box 14410  
Annapolis, MD 21412-4410

LCPL Smith, J.D.  
2nd MEB A Co. 2nd A.A. BN  
HQ Plt. Det. C  
Unit #76078  
FPO AE09511-6078

LCPL Powers, T.J.  
HML/A 167 MAG 26 1/F  
PSC Box 21014  
Jacksonville, N.C. 28545

Ryan Wilkinson  
U.S. Naval Air Craft Carrier Ship  
Carl S. Vincent

Brian Parman,  
U.S. Naval Destroyer Harry S. Truman

The Herald/Times would be happy to print letters from those in the armed force or information concerning servicemen or women. Bring the information to the Herald or Times offices during office hours.

Diane Powers reports that her daughter, Talleisa, is now stationed in Spain and only the Mediterranean Sea separates her from the war zone. Herson Tom is still in North Carolina.

SPC Carney, Bradley  
35th MP Co. Dep (-)  
Eagle Base  
APO AE 09789  
e-mail address:  
bradley.a.carney@us.army.mil

Staff Sergeant William Raile  
410 AEW EOD  
APO AE 09371  
Operation Enduring Freedom

**GOD SAYS**

**And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.**

**Genesis 28:15**

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## Lines from the Library

*By Pat Leibbrandt*

The St. Francis Public Library has the following new books at the library: *Heart Of The Night* by Barbara Delinsky; *More Than A Dream* by Lauraine Snelling; *Wildflower Brides* by Andrea Boesbaar; *Late Bloomers* by Fern Michaels; *The Rescue* by Lori Wick; *The Visitor* by Lori Wick; *Full House* by Janet Evanovich; *Full Tilt* by Janet Evanovich; *Old Friends, New Friends* by Patricia Hall; *Happy Easter, Little Critter* by Mercer Mayer; *Happy Christmas, Honey* by Laura Godwin; *The Best Fall Of*

All by Laura Godwin; *Hooray For Our Heroes* by Sarah Albee; *Hooray For Reading* by Patricia Hall; *Zack At School* by Jonathan London; *Murphy and Myrtle* by Martha Atwater.

Mail-A-Book Catalogs are available at the library or through the Northwest Kansas Library System. Mail-A-Book is a service that offers a large selection of new paperback books direct through the mail to rural residents and "homebound" city readers.

Books for all ages and interests may be selected from the catalog

and are mailed with return postage included so that there is no expense involved for the reader. For more information call your local library or the Northwest Kansas Library System at 800-432-2858.

Or contact the library by e-mail at ILLOAN@RURALTEL.NET.



*Worship Warms the Heart*

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
202 N. College  
332-2928 Pars. 332-2308  
Pastor David Rossbach  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.

**First Christian Church**  
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster  
Pastor Richard Garcia  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.  
Church Service 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams  
Pastor Arlin Cochran  
Sabbath School 9:30  
Morning Worship 10:45

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**  
625 S. River • 332-2680  
Fr. Beryl Gibson  
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.  
Weekday Mass 8 a.m.  
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

**United Methodist Church Office** 332-2292,  
Church 332-2254,  
Pars. 332-3170  
512 S. Scott  
Pastor Nel Holmes  
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.

**First Baptist Church**  
2nd & Scott • 332-3921  
J.W. Glidewell, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:30  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.,  
Wednesday prayer service, 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Clough Valley Baptist Church**  
Pastor Al Davis D. Min.  
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF  
332-2506  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. CT  
Worship 10:00 a.m. CT

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**nwkansas.com**  
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