



Mad cow drops the meat market in the states

Pity the poor cowman. Just when the late Dr. Atkins and his diet fad pushed beef prices through the ceiling, they find a mad cow in Washington state.

Millions of pounds of American beef stack up in warehouses, banned by dozens of importing countries. Consumers shocked by the price of steak opt for chicken — or the other white meat.

Vegetarians wag their fingers and say, "We told you so."

PETA, People for Ethical Treatment of Animals, probably will blame the whole thing on a conspiracy by cruel ranchers.

And needless to say, beef prices have taken a tumble. But for how long?

Many observers say the market will recoup most of last year's gain. They don't see much permanent damage from the mad cow scare.

For one thing, the beef industry has been moving to better track and account for its product. Many experts say the long-term damage to the industry will be minimal.

That doesn't help much if you need to sell a bunch of calves next week, though.

Stronger government regulations and more testing seem certain. There are problems. For one thing, the prions thought to cause the disease are shadowy, protein particles classed as non-living.

Though not considered a life form, prions seem to be able to spread, reproduce and infect other organisms. While it can take years for a cow to become sick after infection, though, people who eat infected parts can go down rather quickly.

The disease, while frightening, is rare even where it is most common. Britain reported only about 150 deaths before it got control of its epidemic. In Japan, where all beef slaughtered for the table is tested, only nine infected animals have been discovered.

Science has little understanding of the prion or brain-wasting disease. The infection leaves brain tissue with a sponge-like consistency when viewed through a microscope, but scientists can't explain exactly how it spreads or why similar diseases in other animals don't seem to affect humans.

A version in sheep, called scrapie, has been known for more than 30 years. A big proportion of the deer and elk in north central Colorado are infected with "chronic wasting disease," still another relative. Cannibals of New Guinea were known to pass a similar disease on by eating brain tissue of the dead as much as 65 years ago.

While the link between eating infected tissue and human infection is clear with cows, there is no proof — yet — that humans can contract the disease from deer or sheep.

There is the problem, that "yet."

The government has banned beef parts from cattle feed, hoping to prevent transmission, but infected material might still be fed to pigs, pets or other animals. Why not bad use of brain and nerve tissue entirely?

There is just so much we don't know. Yet people seem determined to eat steak, despite the price. And losing weight has a strong appeal.

The market will recover because Americans like their beef. But the scare hardly seems fair to the cowman.

— Steve Haynes



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News From the Past

75 years ago - 1928

Pete Price disposed of his interest in the tire shop at St. Francis the first of this week. The purchaser of this share was Harry Rogers.

A representative of the state college was in Cheyenne County last week and he found that there were at least two accredited poultry flocks in the county. This honor goes to O.B. Clark and Miss Hazel Fix.

Miss Heywood, domestic science instructor in the St. Francis Community High School, entertained the football squad of the school at the high school building last Tuesday evening to an oyster supper. The boys thoroughly appreciated her thoughtfulness.

Dr. Walz has just installed some new equipment in his office. The latest addition is an Alpine Sun Lamp, an ultra violet ray. This method of treating certain cases has been found very effective.

C.M. Gillispie sold his cleaning and pressing establishment in

St. Francis and gave possession last Monday. The new purchaser is M.E. Harris. Mr. Gillispie purchased this business back in 1925 and he has kept it up to a good standard.

60 years ago - 1943

Flu lays the entire Herald force low. Charlie Bigler of the Goodland Daily News brought some of his force over today and is printing the Herald.

Cheyenne County was honored last Thursday, when the efforts, especially of Cheyenne County farmers, were rewarded with a token of appreciation from the war board and the United States Army, in the presentation of the Agricultural "A" award. The secretary of the Kansas U.S. Department of Agriculture said "this award is made because the farmers and other citizens of this county achieved a remarkable food production record in the year just coming to a close."

C.M. Gillispie sold his cleaning and pressing establishment in

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Anita Davenport, St. Francis; Tom Cooper, St. Francis; Terri Corder, St. Francis; Royce Cook, St. Francis; Walter Hilt, St. Francis; Lana Duvall, St. Francis; Ed and Sharon Deeds, Goodland; Sister Patti Jo Voeller, Scarsdale, N.Y.; Tony Vandike, Bird City; Dwight L. Rose, Brighton, Colo.; Raymond Armknecht, St. Francis; Oscar Whitman, St. Francis; Devin Dinkel, St. Francis; Robert Baker, Goodland; Jean Peters, Sioux Falls, S.D.; James Hardt, San Francisco, Calif.

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Hangin' With Marge

Fireplace

By Margaret Bucholtz



Growing up I always wanted a home with a fireplace. I had a friend who had one and I loved to watch it burn. When I told my Mom I wanted one when I grew up, she told me they were a mess. You have to carry the wood in, carry the ashes out, they were just a lot of work and they made your house dirty.

Being sure that she was talking from the point of view of how it was in her day, I still wanted one for me. I never did actually get the home with a fireplace but I did get a wood burning stove and I have enjoyed it

for several years now. However last night when it was so cold and I was home alone I decided I would start a fire in the stove. I went through all the motions that we usually go through, but there was a heck of a downdraft coming down the chimney. Soon all I could see was smoke and it was pouring out the front of the stove. I tried to close the doors, nope it was worse. I opened the doors and little pieces of ashes were floating all over. I did the only thing I could think of, I ran to the sink and started filling

a bowl with water. About this time my grandson came walking in and hollered,

"Grandma, what are you trying to do now?" I answered "I am pouring water into my stove."

I am sure he was thinking, "she has really lost it this time."

He came on downstairs and helped get windows open, doors open and fans on. The fire wasn't much help on that cold night with the house opened up, but at least we could breathe.

While I was cleaning up the mess I thought of my mom. She sure was right about a fireplace if you have a problem, but there is still nothing more relaxing than feeling the warmth, hearing the crackle of the wood and watching the flame dance with a fire burning in one.

Casey's Comments

Spirit's spectacular views

By Casey McCormick

Spirit is there! Seeing the "Red" planet, Mars, this last fall was an amazing sight. "Mother Nature" managed to go through her usual program and showing one of her most prominent orbs in this solar system close to Earth. The two traveling balls came as close as they had in over 60,000 years.

Viewing our sister planet with the naked eye almost became normal after several evenings. But if you were able to see her from a telescope the experience was unforgettable.

That man has been able to see that our planet goes beyond the flat plains of our vision was the first step. It required a leap of faith to the intangible. Imagine the first European sailors who ventured towards the horizon when popular thought was that they would sail off the sharp edge?

But man has pushed understanding further. The unmanned space probe, Spirit, is sending back bril-

liant images from the Gusev Crater on the surface of Mars. Looking at the pictures it reminds one of the flat plains of northwest Kansas, only the dust is reddish.

A Loving message from the Ministerial Association.

"Happy New Year!" is the often repeated phrase of the day. As I traveled on New Years Day, I wondered as perfect strangers gave me this greeting. Do they know me? Do they even care? I wonder what they really mean, or what I really mean when I repeat that same phrase.

Happiness is a quality in life that we hope to have and hope others have as well. A recent Gallup poll found that 55% of Americans describe themselves as "very happy" - the highest total since Gallup started asking the question in 1956. Another 40% said they were "fairly happy;" 4% said they were "not too happy" and 1% "had no opinion." (I bet you didn't know Gallup came out to Northwest Kansas!) What is this quality of happiness?

The root of the word is "hap," a Middle English word that meant, "chance." It relates to "luck," another word we use when we really mean something more positive. Most happy people I know are people who do something to become happy. I think most are people who realize that everything we have is given to us, directly or indirectly, by the God of heaven who is the giver of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17). We pray to God to "give us this day our daily bread" and then do what we can to help provide it. Most of us believe the adage "the Lord helps those who help themselves" is in the Bible; if it isn't it should have been.

It is fitting to wish others the best of life in this year to come. It should thrill us to see others richly blessed. Those blessings may be the abundance of good things as with such abundance we have the ability to bless others. Those blessings include the ability to stand back and allow God to work bad things for good as He promises He can in Romans 8:28.

Please know what I mean as I wish you a "Happy New Year!"

Norman Morrow, Minister for the St. Francis Church of Christ

GOD SAYS

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5, 6

Corrections

The Saint Francis Herald will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 33203162 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.



First Christian Church 332-2956 • 118 E. Webster Sunday School 9:20 a.m. Church Service 10:30 a.m. Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

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

Wesleyan Church Hwy 36 • 734-2727 Pastor Scott Baker Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Church of Christ 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 9 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

Grace Assembly of God 332-2925, Pars. 332-2899 208 E. 2nd Rev. Rob Meyer Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.

Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

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.

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

Living Water Fellowship Ministry Pastors: Terry & Tiffany Glasco Downtown Bird City 785-734-2363 Sunday: Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Worship & Word 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m. Last Sunday evening of Month: Healing Service 7:30 p.m.

United Methodist Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, Pars. 332-3170 512 S. Scott

Pastor Marvin Zimbelman Pastor Jack Abendschan 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 12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF 332-2506 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. CT Worship 10:00 a.m. CT

St. Francis Community Church 332-3150 • 216 W. Washington Pastor: Richard Garcia Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

St. Francis Equity

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

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