



Are Kansans doing their part in supporting the state?

Who says the world has to make sense? Because if it did, the State of Kansas wouldn't be buying \$14 million worth of Homeland Security supplies from a single New Hampshire contractor.

Fire chiefs have complained that they can't buy from Kansas suppliers. The New Hampshire outfit, Fisher Safety, says it has contracts to supply emergency equipment to 14 states.

Apparently, Kansas officials wanted a single-source contract and didn't try to find local vendors, because it was easier and quicker.

Capt. Mark Bruce, director of emergency operations for the Kansas Highway Patrol, told a legislative committee last week that Fisher allows a "one-stop shop" for fire departments and emergency management agencies using the grant money.

Bruce said the contract's "large-volume efficiencies" allow the smallest department to get the same price as the largest.

He noted that Fisher will buy about 30 percent of the equipment, \$4.2 million worth, from Kansas suppliers which include Nex-Tech in Lenora. While that is laudable, that leaves \$9.8 million going out of state.

Officials said agencies can use an in-state bid-

der if the price is the same or less, but the program is not set up to actually encourage that.

You'd think state officials would have more sense, but apparently not. You'd think they'd have a marked preference for buying from taxpayers who support them, but apparently not.

Next thing you know, they'll be contracting to have welfare calls answered in India.

Oops.

They already tried that.

No, Kansas government has no faith in or loyalty to Kansas taxpayers. From call centers to drivers licenses to fire and emergency equipment, it sees no value at all in shopping with those who pay the bills.

And surely there are plenty of tax-paying businesses who can supply these needs, even if the cost is a little more.

The Legislature needs to crack down on state purchasing. Unless we support Kansas businesses, there'll soon be no businesses in Kansas to pay taxes or support the state.

Kansas, as the saying goes, needs to dance with the one who brought her.

And that means a strong preference for buying at home.

— Steve Haynes



News From the Past

100 years ago - 1904 (2)
The merry song of the broom-corn cutter is heard throughout the county this week.

L.E. Harrison went to St. Joseph to purchase his fall stock of dry good.

Friday's dispatch announces the appointment of George A. Benkelman to be postmaster at St. Francis vice May T. Lockwood resigned.

J.H. Egan is laying the foundation for Josiah Crosby's new warehouse this week.

Mrs. Hattie E. Scannell has been employed to teach a six-month term of school in District 22 at a salary of \$40 per month.

50 years ago - 1954
A new business, that of the Idealgas Co., has chosen St. Francis as the newest location in expanding its facilities for users of L-P gas.

New St. Francis Community High School football coach Roland Caranci is busy getting his band of Indian gridsters in organized practice in preparation for the first game. There are 65 boys out for football.

Roy Jackson of Wheeler was recently elected chairman of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) County Committee.

Kansas population climbed to its highest mark in history this year and totaled 1,999,457, just 543 short of the two-million mark. Kansas' big three, Wichita, Kansas City and Topeka retained their population supremacy easily with Wichita being the fastest growing.

Two Cheyenne County youth have received induction calls to

the armed forces. They are Neil Hamm and Willard Keller.

Participating in the 1954 State Fair in Hutchinson will be Ben Leibbrandt, Emily and Walter Douthit from Plum Creek and Eleanor Curry from Lawn Ridge.

30 years ago - 1974
New teachers in the St. Francis school system include Brenda Day, Linda Bladgett, Claudia Bergstaber and Alan Spurgeon in the elementary school and Mary Motley, Debra Spurgeon, Ruick Weyer, Larry Gabel and Dennis Darting.

The Extension Advisory Committee is setting up a preschool in the community. It is for children between the ages of 3 and 5 and not enrolled in kindergarten. The United Methodist Church Board agreed to have their Educational Building be used for the preschool and Mrs. Joyce Faulkender will be the director in charge of the curriculum development and operations.

Five lettermen, Perry Keller, Dan Randall, Tim Harkins, Pete Raile and Blake Waters, return to the Indian football squad.

Laura Lee Keller is district finalist in the Kansas FFA Sweetheart contest. The competition will take place at the Kansas State Fair.

At the beginning of the new school terms, enrollment at the St. Francis schools shows a total of 552 students.

The contractor for the HUD Housing Development in St. Francis was given the authority to proceed with actual construction of the 20-unit, low-rent complex. Local members of the committee, Bob Cram and Jim Manson attended a pre-construction conference in To-

peka last week.

20 years ago - 1984
The Cheyenne County Livestock Judging team placed third at the state fair contest. Mike Bandel was the sixth high individual, and the other team members were T.J. Douthit, Troy Faulkender and Jeff Weeden.

Football cheerleaders include Gina Applegate, Leslie O'Brien, Kristi Ross, Crystal Bracelin, Cindy Orth and Christy Curry.

Election of officers was held at the Pleasant Hill 4-H Club meeting. Kari Milliken is president; Chris Bracelin, vice president; Leslie O'Brien, secretary and David Klie, treasurer. The Pleasant Hill Club had the Grand Champion float at the recent Cheyenne County Fair parade.

10 years ago - 1994
Patrick Delano, physician assistant, and Dr. Stephen LaBash are hosting an open house for the St. Francis Family Clinic located on U.S. 36 and Benton Street.

A new patio with a canopy has been added at the Cheyenne Bowl by Bill Smith, owner.

The new anesthesia machine has been installed at the Cheyenne County Hospital.

Dale Rose, Patrol Leader, and Dustin Fromholtz, Troop Guide, were in charge of the Court of Honor Ceremony held for Scouting advancements. This was part of their requirement for completing their Communications Merit Badge. Moving from Webelos to Scouts were Mike Wolters, Kevin Trembly, Ryan Weeks and Brad Carney.

Hangin' With Marge

Whoops

By Margaret Bucholtz



Before school started I took one of my granddaughters shopping. While we were there I found me a pair of Capri pants. It wasn't that I just fell in love with them, but the price was right. I didn't even try them on I just bought them and when I got home I put them on. They fit pretty well, but I had this fear of them shrinking when I washed them.

I decided to pack them to wear on the trip home when I went to Wichita — so what if they hadn't been washed. When the time came to get ready to leave I went in and put them on. My daughter just happened to walk behind me before we left the house and lucky for me she noticed that sticky tag which had the size was plastered on the backend about 10 times and

asked me if I really wanted people to know what size I wore. I quickly got those taken off and we headed for home. After a few hours of riding we stopped and again she started laughing as the sticky from the tags had now grabbed onto the lint from the car seat and left a nice mark allowing everyone to know I hadn't washed the pants first.

When I got home I put them in the washer, but never put them on again. Recently I went on another little trip and decided to pack my black Capris to wear the day I was to spend with my 3-year-old grandson.

After showering, I proceeded to put the pants on. I thought the legs seemed just a little longer than they had before but they were still

about mid-calf. As I pulled them on a little higher it was all I could do to get them over the hips and fasten them. It reminded me of high school and how we would lie on a bed just to get the pants fasted. I was so upset that they had shrunk like that. I realized they hadn't cost much, but they fit like I had gained about 20 pounds. Not having anything else packed to wear I went ahead and put on my top and left it hanging out to cover up the horrible tight pants as much as I could.

Being very self conscious about this I was hoping that my little grandson wouldn't be too embarrassed by his grandmother in her tight pants, not to mention hoping that he wouldn't notice that my color was a little blue from not being able to breathe properly.

After about three hours of pain I finally went into the rest room and checked to see just what size these pants were suppose to be. Much to my amazement I found that they were not even mine, but one of the grandson's black dress pants that I had put into my closet by mistake.

My son and daughter-in-law were very kind and took me shopping so I could get another pair of pants that fit.

Now all I have to do is try to explain to my grandson what his grandmother was doing wearing his pants around in the big city. I sure hope, for his sake, they will shrink back into shape!

Reader wonders about candidates past lives

— Letter to the Editor —

Letter to the Editor:
Subject: "Bonesmen" cronies??
The writer notes that John Kerry and George Bush are members of the Yale University "skull and bones" secret society. As is common with "secret societies;" do John and George greet each other with the secret "handshakes," "high signs" etc., which are quite common to secret societies in America and elsewhere??
Would John and George be willing to expose the ritualism that takes

place in secret society initiation ceremonies at Yale's "skull and bones" "get togethers"??
The writer is of the opinion that "secret society goings-on" amount to so much "hocus-pocus nonsense, quite commonly!!
Terry Rueb
St. Francis
P.S. Would you vote for a "bonesman"???



GOD SAYS
This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalms 118:24

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Worship Warms the Heart

First Christian Church
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
Pastor Tony Christians
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 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 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.

United Methodist Church
Church Office 332-2292,
Church 332-2254,
512 S. Scott
Pastor Morita Truman
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.

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

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