

Seatbelts must be worn in cars, why not in buses?

You have to wear a seatbelt to drive your car. The law doesn't allow you to make that choice anymore. Your kids had better be belted it, or you'll get a ticket. Heaven help you if you have a baby bouncing around in that buggy. Airline passengers have to wear a seatbelt. They want you to keep it on even when the "fasten-seatbelt" light is out, go figure. You need a seatbelt to drive a go-cart. Dale Earnhart Jr. has to wear one to drive his car, or he'll get fined. They're even starting to put the things on ski lifts, and next, who knows, maybe Amtrak will have them it its coaches. So why, in God's name, don't school buses have seatbelts? It's easy to say that school buses are safe, and they are one of the safest modes of transportation, no doubt. School buses have to stop before crossing a railroad track. School buses have a stop sign to flag drivers and stop them from whizzing by while they're load and unloading. School buses have to let kids out on the right these days; no crossing the highway after the bus

is gone. School buses have to be clearly marked for safety. So why the heck don't school buses have seatbelts? You can't tell us that kids aren't bright enough to buckle them. Our schools are worse off than even Congress suspects. You can't tell us that kids wouldn't be safer belted in than bouncing around the bus in a wreck. That just defies logic. You can't tell us the drivers and teachers are too busy to make the kids strap in. Heck, they'd be a lot easier to manage tied down than they are loose and squirming. No, it's not that, its it? It's the money. It's cost some buck to put 40-50 three-point harnesses in all those school busses. It'd be hard to rig the aisle seats, too. A couple grand per bus, anyway. More to retrofit old equipment. And there are thousands of buses across the country. Schools probably don't have the money. It's scarce these days. But these are our children and our grandchildren. Shouldn't we do it anyway?

— Steve Haynes

Hangin' With Marge

By Margaret Bucholtz



I think football is probably my favorite sport to watch, however I like them all. I feel that sports teach kids sportsmanship and teamwork. It is a way for our youth to learn about how working together you can do more and get the job done much easier. They learn the feeling of success by winning and learn to overcome the feeling of pain by losing, just like life will be for them in the future. I do, however, have some health concerns when it comes to football, from a mother's stand point. Most mothers spend a lot of time teaching their children, while they are

young, about germs. Just little things like not drinking out of someone else glass, and always make sure they wash their hands. When we know they haven't had time to wash we are continually telling them not to put their dirty hands in their mouths. How many times have you noticed the football guys coming off the field and grabbing a jug, any jug, and drinking out of it? Even notice some of the coaches drinking out of the same jug! Then you have the quarterback. Let's face it, this ball has been on the

ground, covered by several sweaty boys when they tackle it, then picked up and placed on the ground again ready for the next play. At that time the poor quarterback licks his fingers, places his hands, well we won't talk about that, but touches the ball again. All of this is done without washing his hands before he licked his fingers. Maybe outgrowing the germ thing is also a big part of growing up life.

Writer explains 'Spiritual life'

Letter to the Editor: The amount of pain and labor for Mothers, may vary considerably! The baby is either dead or alive when delivered. The new birth "spiritual life," is similar: Ye are "born again" or dead! Babies have no choice in their birth; others make the decisions. "Spiritual life" being "born again"

Letters to the Editor

is an individual choice of will to believe and receive. "...The gospel, which I preached unto you, which also, ye have received and wherein ye stand, by which also ye are saved if ye keep in memory, what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in

vain. For I delivered unto you, first of all, that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." Cor. 15:1-4. "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. "...Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ, He is none of his." ...Rom. 8:9 Babies need to grow and develop; so do Christians!" ...Lord what wilt thou have me to do?...Acts 9:6.

Frank Sowers Benkelman

Principal gives thanks

To the editor: As we have come to the end of our fall seasons and coming in to the end of our first semester, I would like to say "Thanks" to all of the people helping us at school for their "Giving."

As we enter this time of Thanksgiving and Christmas, I say thank you and God Bless. Scott "Hoagie" Carmichael Principal, Athletic Director St. Francis Community High School

As we continue through this school year, it is with the help of our great community that we do the great things that we get done. Even with the tough economic times, you as parents, patrons, staff and volunteers, have never lost sight of our most precious resource in Cheyenne County, our kids.

GOD SAYS

Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased; For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descent after him.

Psalms 49:16, 17

The Saint Francis Herald

(USPS 475-960)

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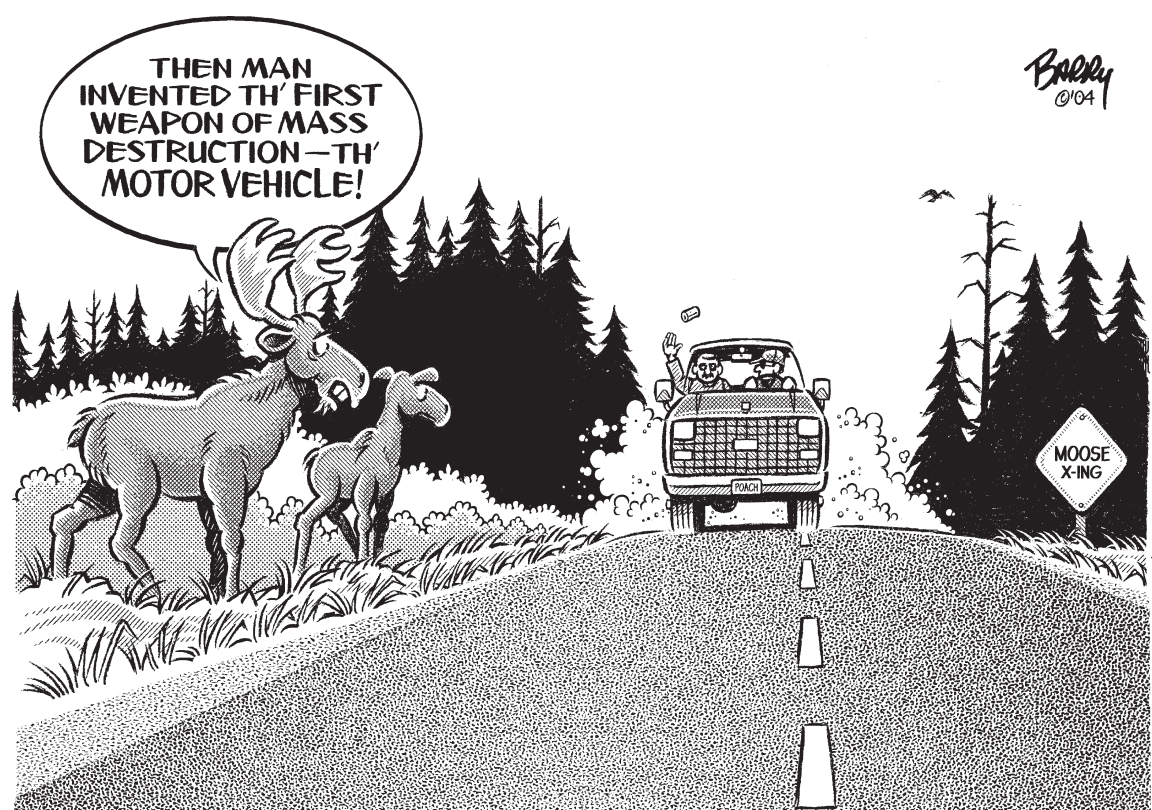
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STAFF

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Subscriptions: One year \$30 (tax included) in Cheyenne and adjacent counties; \$34 (tax included) elsewhere in Kansas; \$37 elsewhere in the U.S. Foreign subscriptions, \$25 extra per year (except APO/FPO). POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Box 1050, St. Francis, Kan. 67756



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News From the Past

5 years ago - 1999

The proposed hospital remodeling was discussed at the Cheyenne County Hospital Board meeting. It will include a new patient wing, vestibule and ambulance drive, a receiving area and waiting plus a few other improvements.

Dr. Mona Frick died on Oct. 18 and a number of memorials have been made to the Cheyenne County Museum. Dr. Frick worked and helped get the museum started. When it came time to build, she took an active part in the support of the facility and continued her involvement until she entered the Good Samaritan Village.

A fall Western Tour was held of 16 Cheyenne County cemeteries. Among those toured were Battle Creek, Jaqua, Zion Evangelical, Salem Lutheran and the Grand Army of the Republic.

A landmark in St. Francis is coming down. The old Equity elevator, constructed of wood and tin siding was built about 1910. The elevator is actually two elevators, built in different times and connected. It will be replaced by two round concrete tubes which will hold 400,000 bushels.

10 years ago - 1994

A miniature space shuttle will designate that St. Francis is the birth place of Ron Evans, astronaut. Pat Confer will be painting the letters on the shuttle in the near future.

Irrigation is a specialty at Western Sprinklers. The company which is based out of Colby

will have John Guthmiller as the operator in this area.

4-H Club officers include: Go-Getters- Angela Eggers, president; Randy Partch, vice president; Brandi Moore, secretary; Colton Roesener, treasurer; Kevin Partch, reporter; Pleasant Hill- Kristen Lindsten, president; Alisha Weeden, vice president; Jessica Dunn, secretary; Nikki Krien, treasurer, Angie Knodel, reporter; Lawn Ridge- Natasha Wilson, president; Lisa Zwegardt, vice president; Jessica Raile, secretary; Jill Dodd, treasurer, Ryan Murray, reporter; Plum Creek- Teresa Douthit, president; Gena Miller, vice president; Megan Douthit, secretary; Sharissa Stevens, treasurer, Katie Keller, reporter.

4-H Banquet awards include Brett Parker, 4-H Family of the Year; Dr. Judy Mallet-Baxter, Friend of 4-H; Alumni Award, Mary Lou Douthit.

25 years ago - 1979

Ed Bucholtz is retiring and needs someone to take his place in gathering weather information in St. Francis for the National Weather Service. He has been taking readings from the backyard station which houses minimum and maximum thermometers and a rain gauge since Aug. 1973.

Noel Rath won first place in the 11-year-old division at the Punt, Pass and Kick contest held in Goodland.

Boy Scouts receiving God and Country Awards from Rev. Darrell Hecht after completing a six-month qualifying program were Gene Kincheloe, Troy Gardner, Chad Kincheloe and Bradley Merklin.

The St. Francis Senior Center is

celebrating its second birthday. More than 12,000 meals have been served during the past two years.

Brenda Carmichael was crowned as homecoming queen on Friday evening. Keith Zwegardt was crowned as king. Crown bearers were Kayla Raile and Derek Crabtree.

The Citizens State Bank Junior Board of Directors include Darci Roberson, Kelly Krien, Brenda Carmichael, Scott Lewis, JoAnn Wickwar, Pete Kinen, Blake McCall and Keith Zwegardt.

35 years ago - 1969

Work on the St. Francis Catholic Church is nearing completion with the dedication ceremony planned for Oct. 5.

Miss Myra Northrup of St. Francis was named Miss Northwest Kansas at the beauty pageant held in Goodland. Next she will be competing in the Miss Kansas contest in Pratt.

Vicky Jones has been selected by the Sunflower Girl Scout Council as their representative at the Regional meeting in Denver Sept. 13 and 14.

Willard's Furniture is holding its eighth anniversary sale.

High school cheerleaders include Becky Douthit, Leanna Gienger, Sharon Feikert, Jo Ellen Holzwarth, Monica Rile, Janelle Miller and Vicki Calnon.

Thomas Damrow was named president of the Cheyenne County Ministerial Alliance with Don Zook vice president and John Bartlett, secretary/treasurer.

Worship Warms the Heart

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.

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

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,
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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P.O. Box 1050 • St. Francis
785-332-3162
sfherald@nwkansas.com