

Letter to the Editor:

For many years, there was an isolated unnamed spot in the American west, located along the Arikaree River in what is now Colorado. It was an island during wet times and a mere sandbar in dry periods.

It remained unnamed until September of 1868 when the Forsythe Scouts and the Dog Soldiers met in battle. Following a vicious fight that lasted for days, the scouts were stranded on this island. They called it Beecher Island in honor of their fallen officer, Lt. Fred Beecher.

On the 10th day, they were rescued by a company from the 10th Cavalry, the Buffalo Soldiers. After the rescue, it returned to being isolated but it was not forgotten.

Thirty years later, a group of the scouts returned, determined that this place and its history should be remembered. They found a piece of native stone, made an inscription on it, vowing to return again next year with as many surviving scouts as they could find. The tradition of the Beecher Island Reunion was born.

Letters to the Editor

A stone monument was erected a few years later. This was the first monument.

These men felt that something more permanent should be done. They petitioned the Federal government and the state of Colorado to grant them title to the battleground. In 1905, deed to the property was given to the newly formed Beecher Island Battle Memorial Association. The states of Colorado and Kansas each provided \$2,500 and a new monument was erected on the island. It was a multiple piece obelisk standing nearly 18-feet tall.

In 1935, a mighty flood roared down the Arikaree. It not only toppled the monument but washed away the island itself. Like good people everywhere, the folks at Beecher Island picked up the pieces and moved to higher ground. Unfortunately, not all the pieces of the monument could be found including the top three. A new top was made from wood, stucco and paint.

After 70 years, several patch jobs, and numerous coats of paint, this top has deteriorated.

The Beecher Board of Directors is asking for the public's help in restoring it back to near original condition. It will take \$16,500 to get this task done. It will be three pieces of granite cut to original dimensions. We hope to have this completed in time for the 2006 reunion.

For the past 100 years, Beecher Island has been a great place to visit. If you have fond memories of times spent at Beecher, we would like to hear them. Please write them down and share them with us. Your stories, letters of support and contributions can be sent to: Monument Fund, c/o Mark Mahlberg, 33041 Rd. 20, Wray, CO 80758

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Mark Mahlberg
President, Beecher Island
Board of Directors

Packages needed for servicemen

Letter to the Editor:

Operation SOS (Supporting Our Soldiers) is an organization whose goal is to provide support to the troops serving the United States overseas. In partnership with National Make A Different Day (www.usaweekend.com/diffday/) sponsored by USA Today, Operation SOS is sponsoring an event to pack 1,000 boxes to send to soldiers overseas in time for the holiday season.

Make a Difference Day is a nationwide event designed to mobilize volunteers all over the U.S. It will be held on Oct. 22. In 2004, over 2.2 million people across our nation came out and volunteered. Our Make a Difference Day events will kick-off with a 3.88 (in honor of the 388th med log BN) mile run/

walk in Hays to raise money to help pay for shipping these boxes. After the race, Operation SOS and its volunteers will stuff and seal the boxes full of goodies to send to troops stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kosovo, Kuwait and Qatar.

Homemade cookies, holiday decorations and other non-perishable items will be packaged and made ready for shipping. Many of these items will be donated between now and Oct. 17 at various locations in the surround 11 county area including Cheyenne County.

Operation SOS was founded in 2002 by the families of the 388th Medical Logistics Reserve Unit from Hays. Since its inception, Operation SOS has sent over 3,400 packages containing a wide range of supplies, such as 300 pillows,

over 25,000 homemade cookies and countless food and toiletry items we take for granted here. Last year, 650 care packages were sent for the holidays to military personnel in all branches of the armed forces.

We estimate the cost of shipping these holiday packages to be approximately \$11,000 to \$12,000. We are asking people to help us reach that goal. Operation SOS is not tax-exempt under the IRS codes. Operation SOS will, however, be able to provide you with an advertising invoice, as we hope there will be a full television, radio and newspaper coverage that day. If you choose to support us, you will be part of a nationally recognized day of volunteerism. If you contribute \$100 or more in good, services or direct financial support, we will put your name on our event T-shirts. All contributing businesses, organizations and individuals will be mentioned in press releases sent to the media and in letters sent to the soldiers. You will need to contact your accountant to inquire about any deductions available to you.

Please feel free to contact me, 785-734-2792 with any questions about the project. If you know of a soldier that you would like to receive a Christmas/holiday box, please give us their name and address to include on our mailing list. My mailing address is HC 2, Box 8, Bird City, KS 67731.

Hulda Dorsch
Cheyenne County Chairperson

Reader enjoys motel

To the editor:

We have just returned from the funeral for Joyce Jarmin of Bird City.

We stayed at the Dusty Farmer Motel and Restaurant during various times in August. The rooms were clean and comfortable. The

food was delicious. They went out of their way to accommodate us during our time of grief. Their hospitality was above and beyond normal expectations.

James D. and Elaine Whiteside
(sister of Joyce)
Lake Jackson, Texas.

Outdoors with Chuck

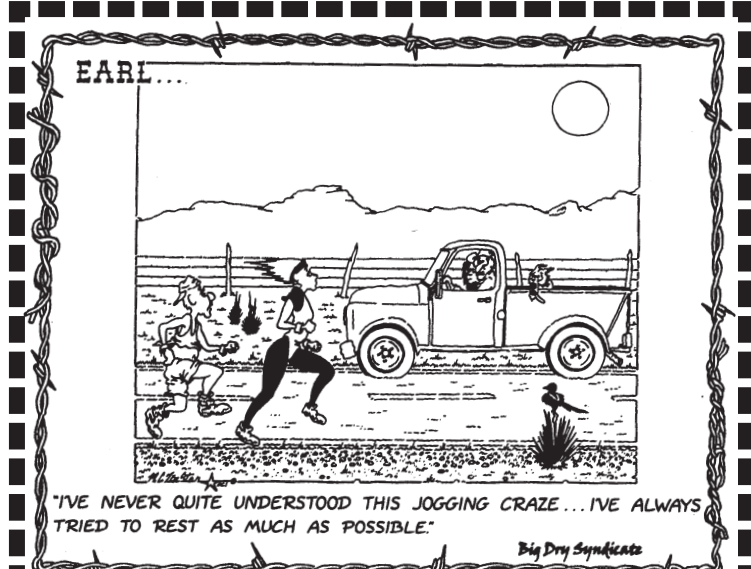
In my column of last week, I mentioned that Diane and I had walked into the flattops of Colorado. That entire area, thousand of acres, was devastated by a fire in 2000. From a distance, driving in, it presents the appearance of a total wasteland, charred trees, no foliage, black. Once into it though, one sees the healing process Ma Nature has

started. Lush undergrowth, with masses of flowers. Plentiful knee-high grass, and thousands of young evergreens everywhere. Wildlife is flourishing. Maybe the native Americans had it right when they burned the country off every 100 years or so? We were awed by the recovery!

From "Hunters" Chuck Kribs!

Did You Know

- A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.
- In most advertisements, including newspapers, the time displayed on a watch is 10:10.
- Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.
- The only real person to be a Pez head was Betsy Ross.
- When the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers play football at home, the stadium becomes the states third largest city.
- A dragonfly has a life span of 24 hours.
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
- A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.



- ### Certified Wheat Seed
- Akron
 - Cutter
 - Jagger
 - Jagalene
 - Longhorn
 - Platte
 - Clearfield
 - Scout 66
 - TAM 110
 - TAM 111
 - Trego
 - YUMA
 - 2137

St. Francis Equity

St. Francis 785-332-2113 Haigler 308-297-3223

Occasion

Grout family picnic

Mrs. Darrell Henderson, Jonah Begay, Nathan, Alex and Jessie Benally, Ian Lily and Amos Mark, Gallup, N.M.; Mr. and Mrs. Shea Hamilton and family, McKinney, Texas; Mr. and Mrs. Steven Henderson and family, Tyler Robinson of Chickasha, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Williams and Lexie of Arkansas City; Brenda Drennan,

Goodland; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Blair and family, Mr. and Mrs. Brent Henderson, Trevor and June Henderson, all of St. Francis.



Obituaries

Gaither; sisters, Olive Weaver and Ruth Price; brother Weaver Lindsten; parents, Alfred and Ida Lindsten; nephews, Delmer Price, Alfred Lindsten and John W. Lindsten Jr.

Mrs. Gaither is survived by her daughter, Karla; granddaughter, Dawn; great-grandchildren, Katlyn and Nathaniel; and many nieces and nephews in Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Dallas and Washington, D.C. including nephew, Delmont Price, St. Francis; nieces Gladys Lindsten Leibbrandt of Falls Church, Va., Darlene Lindsten Orchard, Kanorado and Korean Price Kramer, Littleton, Colo.

Burial was in the Gaither cemetery plot in Norman.

Robert A. Goodell

July 29, 1924 - Aug. 23, 2005
Robert A. Goodell died on Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2005, after a brief illness. A graveside service for family was held Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Middleton Cemetery, Middleton, Idaho. A community memorial service followed at the Middleton United Methodist Church. Pastor Carolyn Bower and Reverend Don Hardenbrook officiated.

Bob was born July 29, 1924, at Haigler, Neb., a son of Leverett and Ethel Foltz Goodell, the fifth of nine children.

In 1938, Dust Bowl and Depression forced the family to move west, where they bought farmground in the Lincoln Heights area near Ontario, Ore. Though having to work on the farm, Bob managed to graduate from Ontario High School a year early at the age of 16.

In 1944, Bob was about to enter World War II like his two older brothers, when his father died suddenly. So at the age of 19, being the oldest son left at home, Bob took over the operation of the family farm.

Four years later, he met Louise Wiggins at a barn dance. They were married on Feb. 13, 1949, and moved to the Black Canyon

Project north of Caldwell, where they raised animals, crops and three children.

Bob was a meticulous irrigator and took pride in his crops, especially sugar beets, and was able to expand his operation throughout his life. He often won awards for most tonnage per acre. Whether traveling near home or abroad, a good looking field always earned his approval.

He served the community as a board member of the Black Canyon Irrigation District for 27 years and was a board member of the Coop Oil Association for many years as well. He was a lifelong Grange member and active in the Middleton United Methodist Church.

As a father, he inspired his children to hard work, integrity, loyalty, diplomacy and financial stewardship.

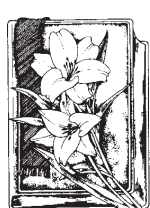
He thoroughly enjoyed being "Papa" to his four granddaughters.

In later years, he grew the best watermelons in the valley and enjoyed the companionship of his dear friend, Alma Susan Young.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, three sisters and his wife of 51 years, Louise

He is survived by his three children, Twylia (William) McIlvanie, Nancy (Tom) Bowser; and Mike (Bonnie) Goodell, as well as two brothers, Chester Goodell of Meridian and Neal Goodell of Independence, Ore. He is also survived by four granddaughters, Linnea, Nicole, Tiffani and Tasi Goodell.

Charitable contributions may be made to Hope House, P.O. Box 550, Marsing, Idaho, 83639, or the Middleton United Methodist Church, 104 E. Main, Middleton, Idaho 83644.



BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

To list your business drop us a card!
Call 785-332-3162 today.

Western Kansas Center for Comprehensive Dental Diagnosis & Rehabilitation
1690 W. 4th • Colby, KS
460-3999 or toll free 1-866-305-3999

Jeffrey M. Rayl, D.D.S.

- Comprehensive bite analysis
- TMJ/TMD diagnosis and rehabilitation
- I.V. Sedation for all dental procedures including surgical removal of wisdom teeth
- Dental Implants: surgical placement and restoration
- Complete endodontic services (root canal molar and anterior teeth)
- Extensive cosmetic procedures
- Laser periodontal (gum disease) therapy
- Esthetic crown and bridge restorations; all ceramic (no metal)
- General dental procedures: cleanings, tooth colored fillings, partial dentures, biologic dentures

Residential & Commercial ROOFING

Local DURO-LAST Contractor
Murray Roofing
740 E. 4th
Colby, KS 67701

THE WORLD'S BEST ROOF
DURO-LAST Roofing, Inc.

FREE ESTIMATES
785-462-6908
800-794-3204
Jeff Dreiling/Sales

S. Casey McCormick

Advertising Manager

The Saint Francis Herald
Bird City Times



Phone: 785-734-2324
PO Box 220
Bird City, KS 67731

785-332-3162
785-332-3001 (fax)
sfherald@nwkansas.com

FLANDERS GUTTERING

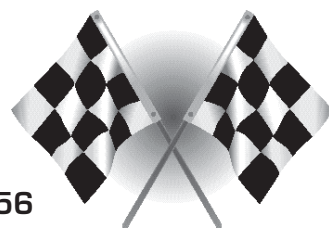
"A better way to go"

SPECIALIZING IN:

- 5 inch seamless guttering
- Roofing • Windows
- Soffit and Fascia

RON NEITZEL AUTOMOTIVE

Ron Neitzel - Owner
Rt. 1-Box 287
St. Francis KS 67756



PH: 785.332.2015 CELL: 785.332.0482
E-Mail: neitzel42@yahoo.com

Kelli Gartland CTX Mortgage Company

Giving back to the Great Community I was raised in and meeting your home financing needs. Local references available about the Great Care you will receive.

Office • 800-536-3289
Cell • 303-257-3766



CTX Mortgage Company