

There needs to be a clear answer regarding torture

Congress debates, the administration whines, the CIA wants this or that, but there ought to be a clear answer when it comes to torture.

No. Sen. John McCain, tortured brutally during his years as a prisoner in Vietnam, know the score. He's led the fight to get the U.S. away from any kind of prisoner abuse.

The war on terror is vital, yes, and the military and intelligence agencies need to interrogate captured terrorists. That should never involve torture, and hopefully the bill set to come out of Congress will set some clear guidelines.

Torture is not part of our heritage, though it once was common enough in what we like to call Western Civilization. Our constitution bans "cruel and unusual" punishment and gives criminals the right to refuse to answer questions.

The standard we uphold at home is good enough for us to uphold abroad.

One problem is defining torture. Some of the excesses of Abu Ghrabi amounted to nothing more than sophomoric pranks, while other approached and some passed the limit. There's no excuse for mistreating prisoners, but ours is one of the few armies in this world that actually punishes soldiers for stepping over the line.

That's one thing. Torturing prisoners, using pain to elicit answers, is wrong whenever and wherever it's done.

The United States should have no part in it. For one thing, prisoners will say about anything to stop torture, and the answers they give often are not accurate.

There are gray areas, too. Tactics aimed at disorienting prisoners and breaking down their will, such as leaving the lights on day and night or keeping a cell warm or cold, sometimes are lumped in with torture.

The CIA has kept key prisoners in secret lock-ups in eastern Europe, some inherited from the old Soviet regime Abu Ghrabi himself, a notorious Baghdad prison, came to us from Saddam Hussein.

Stalin, Lenin, Saddam.

Are those names we want to be associated with?

The Bush administration has tried to make its own rules as the war on terror evolved. That's no way for a nation to do business.

Torture is not part of our agenda. It can never be part of our agenda.

When, as happens in any war, soldiers get out of hand, the U.S. should do what it's always done: prosecute the violators and teach the rest a lesson.

When agencies want to go beyond what's acceptable, we the people need to make our will clear.

And that will does not include torture in any form.

Are you listening, Washington?

— Steve Haynes

Hangin' With Marge

Driving

By Margaret Bucholtz



I usually don't answer my "fan mail" in the newspaper, but this time I am going to. This is in regard to my son-in-law's driving description of me.

Anyone that has ever had the opportunity to see Casey drive on a country road realizes that I probably was not driving over the speed limit.

If you ever happen to be driving down a country road and you come upon a grey car that is going about 10 miles an hour, clear over on the

edge, and you think it might be someone that has a flat tire and they are looking for a place to pull over and change it, that would be Casey. No, he doesn't have a flat tire he is just trying to get up the nerve to keep on trucking on a dirt road!

I will admit I was a little on the wrong side of the road, but I was trying to instill in his mind that if you are a farmer, or live in a farming community you might wander a little to the left looking at the beautiful scenery.

I was so happy that the jeep didn't have a door on it as he would have been hanging onto the door handle and it might have opened up and he would have fallen out. This way he was buckled in and one hand was gripping the other one with both of them having white knuckles.

Oh, and by the way Casey, 20 miles an hour is NOT over the speed limit.

Casey's Comments

By Casey McCormick

I'd like to share with you something that is near and dear to me that is as close as the nearest radio. It is National Public Radio.

I know I'm not the only listener to High Plains Public Radio in this area. Based out of Garden City, we get it at KZNA-FM: 96.3. Whenever my boss, Karen Krien, and I drive to newspaper meetings we listen to it.

I was introduced to the wonders of Public Radio when I was a college student. One of my professors turned me onto it and I've been a fan ever since.

Probably the best way to describe the programming is that it is different. You won't hear "Top 40" music or standard canned news. Public Radio offers diversity in music and a quality of reporting similar to the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Depending on the time of day, Classical, Jazz, Folk and Country and Western music can be heard.

Probably my two favorite shows come on Saturday. They are *Western Swing & Other Things* with Dodge City Marshal Alen Bailey hosting and *The Thistle and Shamrock*, that features Celtic music, hosted by Fiona Ritchie.

During weekday mornings I can't wait for Skip Mancini's *Growing on the High Plains*. Mrs. Mancini provides interesting gardening tips that

have a regional flavor.

So whether you are traveling to Amarillo, Texas, through Guymon in the Oklahoma Panhandle or anywhere in western Kansas, let High Plains Public Radio accompany you. I guarantee you'll hear something different.

Teenagers commended for helping at Roadside

To the editor,

I would like to commend the teenagers who cheerfully came to help paint and clean at the Roadside Park Saturday.

— Letter to the Editor —

You did a great job.

Donna Northrup
St. Francis

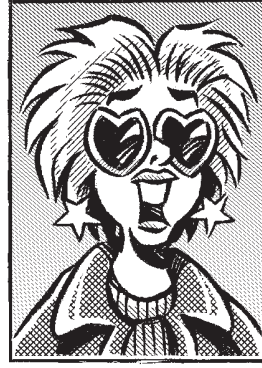
GOD SAYS
Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
Matthew 11:28

HOW CAN YOU TELL IF IT'S GONNA BE A LONG, HARD WINTER?

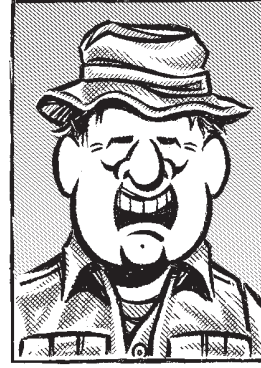
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"WHEN TH' FROGS GROW HAIR."
DEWEY SCHMELL
FERTILIZER SALES



"WHEN THE MAPLE TREES TURN BLUE."
IMA WHOOT
HOUSEWIFE



"WHEN TH' BIRD DOGS FLY SOUTH."
KENT SHUTE
HUNTING GUIDE



"WHEN THE WEATHERMAN SAYS MILD."
JUSTIN TYME
RETIRED

This is the Place

Carol Redding, Coordinator
Cheyenne County Development Corporation

Cheyenne County has some of the friendliest people and some of the best businesses I've seen. But for some reason those nice people and those good businesses don't seem to work together as well as they could.

Let's talk about this apparent gap. First, if we expect our businesses to be here tomorrow when we want them, we must patronize them today. This is so important! If you feel a business slighted you in some way last week or last year or 10 years ago, get over it! Give that business another chance—maybe it recognized its need and has improved. Did you talk to that business about

the slight? Did you try to work with the business? A customer's job is to provide feedback for improvement, not just to be served. Give our stores your loyalty, and they'll be loyal to their customers.

Second, the mantra of a business is "service, service, service." And smile!

If your business doesn't have a product, offer to get it from another source. If you don't have an item on the shelf, to the customer you don't have it and may not even ask for it. "You can't sell from the back room."

When a customer calls to see if you have something, try saying, "Sure! I'll be glad to show it to you when you come." Or if you don't have it, try saying, "I'm sorry we don't have that right now, but we

can get it by tomorrow or the next day."

YES, I recognize that prices may be slightly higher here because our businesses can't yet order the volume to sell at lower prices. Work together—negotiate. Maybe you can reach an agreement. Being part of a community is such a joy, and this gives us all great opportunities to practice simple courtesies and encouragement to one another, no matter what your role is.

The Cheyenne County Development Corporation office at 107 W. Washington is open most mornings 8 to 12, Monday through Friday. Or give me a call at (785) 332-3508, (888) 725-2444 or 332-6197.

I look forward to visiting with all of you.

News From the Past

90 years ago - 1916

Captain Ralph McMillen, who was the head of the Aviation Corp of the Nebraska National Guard, arrived in St. Francis for a series of flights on Saturday and Sunday. Captain McMillen was killed instantly when his plane developed engine trouble in what was to be his final flight of the weekend. The weekend activities in St. Francis were centered around a baseball tournament with teams from neighboring towns, with everyone having a festive time until the accident. The largest crowd that every witnessed a tournament in this town was present. A nice clean conservative estimate of the number of automobiles in the city Saturday afternoon would be 500, and that would be putting it mild.

In a real estate transfer, Dr. Eckelman became the owner of the Campbell block on Main Street.

O.C. Blackburn broke all records last week going to Kansas

City when he made the drive of over 500 miles in a little over 24 hours.

"The Gods of Fate" is being shown at the Electric Theater on Sept. 28. The drama presents a strong story and offers unusual scenes of a spectacular fire and train wreck.

60 years ago - 1946

The Kansas Airways Inc., is planning airplane flights from St. Francis to Kansas City. The plane will leave St. Francis at 8 a.m., making 10 stops along the enroute and arrive in Kansas City at 11 a.m. Passenger rates are 8 cents per air mile to any point along the route. Arrangements for the new hanger at the airport are being made with steel for the roof to be shipped from Wichita Sept. 10.

Meetings of both the Cub and Boy Scouts are canceled until further notice due in an effort to keep down a possible polio epidemic. The grade school will be reopening after being closed due to a fifth grader being stricken with polio.

Fifty-eight boys have reported to returning lettermen including John

Kite and Wayne Goodell on the line and Donald Crippen, Don Reichert, Kenard Kelly and Bob Handwerk, backs. The new football coach is Joe Stribling.

A new business, the Jones Dress Shop, makes its business debut this week. The new firm will handle ladies ready-to-wear exclusively. The new shop adjoins the Ben Franklin Store.

New faculty members at the high school include Robert Williams, Mrs. Joan Lamb, Joe Stribling, George Johnson, Mrs. Rachael Keller and Daniel Barkey.

40 years ago - 1966

Mr. Vernon Dankenbring has taken over the management of the Standard Service Station on Highway 36.

A new business opens its doors in St. Francis this week when Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rieb open the Rieb Skogmo Department Store. The brand new business is in the completely remodeled Isernhagen building on Main Street.

Church of Christ
332-2380, Pars. 332-3424
502 W. Spencer
Norman Morrow - Minister
Bible Class 11 a.m.
Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7 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.

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

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

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.

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.

St. Francis Community Church
332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street
Pastor: David Butler
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

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

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.,
Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church
202 N. College
Pastor Ken Hart
332-2928 Pars. 332-2312
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Clough Valley Church of Hope
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF
Pastor Jason Howard
332-3152
Saturdays 8 p.m. CT or 7 p.m. MT

St. Francis Equity

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