## from our viewpoint...

# Governor's visit highlights harvet

It was a great boost to have Gov. Kathleen Sebelius come to Sherman County and have her saying nice things about the importance of agriculture to the state's economy.

While there has been some hail, the wheat harvest is nearly over and the estimates are it is the best in at least four years. Sebelius said she was told it is 70 percent larger than last year and the biggest since 1999.

Her appearance on Ken Palmgren's farm is the best publicity the area could hope for, and the photos and story will have widespread effects in the eastern part of the state and beyond.

Celebrating a good wheat harvest is not only good news for the state, but it is the kind of thing that can have positive impacts on the people of Sherman County.

It is the best news in several years, and the increased moisture this year seems - to most people - to indicate an end of the drought.

Those who watched the governor in the combine and at the elevator said it was good to see her interest in agriculture, and that she asked good questions. Most said it was good to see her in the region, because sometimes the western part of the state gets forgotten.

The governor made it clear to the audience at the Buffalo Inn she understands the importance of the ag economy to the state when she said that 40 percent of the jobs in the state are related to agriculture.

"When things do well in ag," she said, "we all do well."

She didn't pull any punches when asked about the state financial picture, but did say the state had made a good start at moving in a more stable direction. She admitted the state's cut of the demand transfers to the cities and counties would hurt.

"We know this is critical to you, but I can't wave my magic wand and make it all better," she said.

We were glad she came, and hope she found the hospitality as genuine as the wheat harvest we are celebrating. There will be more celebrations as the economy continues its recovery and the harvests continue to roll in.

We hope she comes back soon to join us in celebrating them as well. — Tom Betz

### where to write

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U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, 303 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510. (202) 224-6521

U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran, 1519 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (202) 225-2715

State Rep. Jim Morrison, State Capitol Building Rm. 174-W, Topeka, KS 66612. (785) 296-7676

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# Spreading my cars around Kansas

My family has accused me a leaving cars all over Kansas.

This isn't true — I haven't even been near southwestern Kansas.

First, you should know, I have two vehicles. The Seabring is my regular car. It has power everything and a sun roof. It is a reasonably new car that is almost, but not quite, paid for.

The Probe is my old car I got brand new for my birthday in 1990. I loved it. It is red, sporty and fast. More than half the members of my family have gotten speeding tickets while driving my Probe.

My son, however, lost control of it on a gravel road about five or six years ago and drove it through a barbed wire fence.

I used the insurance money as a down payment on the Seabring, but couldn't bring myself to part with the Probe, even though it had almost 100,000 miles on it and looked like a herd of octopus with keys that had got crazy on it. It had more scratches than a cat fight.

So I got it painted, and now I have two vehicles. I usually send the Probe to Colorado for the summer so that I'll have a vehicle to get around in while Steve is out fishing. I haven't gotten



around to that yet this year, however.

Two weeks ago, I drove the Seabring to Goodland and left it with a friend and co-worker, Tom Betz, while Steve and I drove on to the airport in Denver to catch our flight to New Orleans.

Tom's daughter had just moved to Idaho and her car died on the way. He lent her his vehicle to move and hasn't been to Idaho to get it yet.

See, I'm not the only one to leave vehicles all over the place.

to take the shorter route of U.S. 36, which does not go through Goodland, and just leave the car with Tom for a little while longer.

But, then the weather got really hot and the Probe, which I was driving here, doesn't have a working air conditioner.

Tom suggested that I trade cars with him. He would take the old Probe and I would get the

Seabring with its wonderful air conditioner back. He said he's riding his bike to work anyway, because it's better for him.

Yes. Yes. What a wonderful idea. Thank you.

We traded vehicles in Colby after our monthly news meeting there last week.

I immediately turned around and drove to Concordia to see my Mom on Friday.

After visiting for about four hours, Steve showed up and we headed off in his vehicle to see the children in Lawrence. The Seabring stayed at the parking lot where my mother lives in Concordia.

So, as you can see, I'm not littering the state with cars — just the northwest part of it.

I picked the Seabring up on Saturday as Steve On the way back from the airport, we decided and I headed home to Oberlin. Now, all we have to do is get my Probe back from Tom in Goodland and send it to Colorado for the summer. Out there, no one cares if it's got air conditioning or not

And, if you know anyone heading for Idaho soon, please contact Tom at The Goodland Star-*News*. I think he's looking for a one-way ride. He'll drive himself home.

## Bible inspired by God, how he did it sharon the horn that was broken, in place of which four

In my last two columns, published in the June 17 and, June 24, issues of The Goodland Star-*News*, I talked about evidence that the Bible is from God. This column will be devoted to His methods of inspiration — dictation, visions, dreams and trances and divine revelation. God dictated portions of the Bible to the writers. An example is found at Exodus 34:27, 28: "And the LORD said to Moses, 'Write these words; in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.' And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments." Another example of dictation is found at Isaiah 37:5, 6: "When the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, Isaiah said to them, 'Say to your master, "Thus says the LORD: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me."" A vision is a sight, scene or message superimposed upon a person's mind while he is awake, usually by some extraordinary means. One example is found at Luke 9:28-36, the account of Jesus' transfiguration. Peter, James and John "kept awake," according to verse 32 but saw a vision of Jesus talking with Moses and Elijah and heard God's voice out of a cloud. Messages recorded in the Bible were also conveyed in dreams or night visions. Daniel 4:10 says, "The visions of my head as I lay in bed were these: I saw, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth; and its height was great." This was not an ordinary dream. It was a prophecy, and its meaning was explained in the Bible, along with how it was fulfilled with regard to King Nebuchadnezzar.

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A person in a trance would be in a state of deep concentration. One case in which a Bible writer received information in that state was the case of Peter recorded at Acts 10:9-16. Verses 9b-11 say, "Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. And he became hungry and desired something to eat; but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance and saw the heaven opened, and something descending, like a great sheet, let down by four corners upon the earth."

Paul recorded another example at 2 Corinthians 12:2-4: "I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into paradise — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows — and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter."

Divine revelation was given through visions and other means to convey information only God would know, such as prophecies, which are history written in advance, and events mankind did not witness, such as the creation of heaven and earth and conversations that took place in heaven.

One example of prophecy is found at Daniel 8:1-8. It is explained in verses 20-22: "As for the ram which you saw with the two horns, these are the kings of Media and Persia. And the he-goat is the king of Greece; and the great horn between his eyes is the first king. As for

kingdom was divided among four of his generals after his death. The four generals did not rule with his power.

others arose, four kingdoms shall arise from his

This prophecy was recorded 200 years be-

fore the rule of Alexander the Great, whose

nation, but not with his power."

Conversations in heaven between God and Satan are recorded at Job 1:6-12 and 2:1-6. Verses 6 and 7 say, "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. The LORD said to Satan, 'Whence have you come?' Satan answered the LORD, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it."

A prophecy recorded 200 years before it was accurately fulfilled and conversations in heaven obviously could not be from human sources

No matter what methods were used to transmit it, the entire Bible is the word of God as stated at 1 Thessalonians 2:13, "And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers."

Jesus promised his followers at John 14:26: "But the helper, the holy spirit, which the Father will send in my name, that one will teach you all things and bring back to your minds all the things I told you."

God's holy spirit was instrumental in recording His thoughts in the Bible through inspiration, making the scriptures as 2 Timothy 3:16 says, "beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness."

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