

Worth the cost to be an empire?

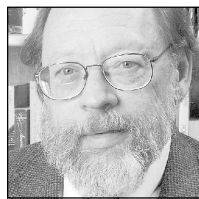
After much denial, Americans are finally beginning to admit that we are indeed an imperial nation. What Thomas Jefferson and other Founding Fathers openly dreamed of two centuries ago has become reality, and the United States has taken Britain's place as the seat of empire, dominating the globe.

What does an empire cost and is that cost worth paying?

The most obvious expense is the Pentagon's war machine, now costing about \$400 billion a year, nearly half the world's military expenditure. Our \$7 trillion national debt has come largely from past wars, police actions, invasions of other countries, long-term military occupations and arms races. Interest on that debt and military spending together take 28 percent of our federal taxes every year.

Ultimately a nation's taxable wealth comes from its soil. The United States could dream of empire because it acquired the greatest natural treasure enjoyed by any modern nation. We had unparalleled riches in our forests, rivers and mines. Above all, we had riches in our deep soils, the best on the planet.

Canada and Australia also aspired to empire, but they quickly abandoned those dreams when it became clear that they lacked the requisite soil. The soils of ancient Rome, the



donald worster

• prairie circle

soils of modern Europe, the soils of China and the soils of the United States have all allowed empires to grow in those places, but not in glacier-scoured Canada or in nutrient-poor Australia. Partly because of limited resources, Canada has only one-tenth of the U.S. population, Australia one-fifteenth. Through hard effort they have become wealthy countries, but they have no chance at world empire.

The United States is a nation with incomparable natural advantages, but we are depleting them rapidly. We cannot pay for the Pentagon's endless appetite, or sustain a military presence on every continent, or pay interest on the national debt without spending those natural resources. Each year we have to pound our land harder to extract its wealth. A hard-pounded land soon becomes a degraded land. Environmental degradation at home is the true cost of empire abroad.

In the pursuit of global supremacy, we have polluted every part of our nation. And now we are

told that we must live with that degradation as the price of glory. We cannot afford to clean up rivers, preserve ancient forest ecosystems, save native prairie, refrain from mining or oil drilling regardless of the resulting damage. We have to put up with losing hundreds of millions of tons of topsoil every year. We have to accept the drenching of our soils with chemicals to stay on top. If we do not pay those costs, we are told, we will slip backward and someone else will take our place as the world's superpower.

Eventually all empires falter and collapse. They don't deliver on the visionary promises they make. They fall because they bankrupt themselves and, more often than not, they bankrupt the environment that supports them.

Donald Worster, historian and author of "Dust Bowl—The Southern Plains in the 1930s," is a member of the Prairie Writers Circle at the Land Institute, Salina, Kan.

'Party on the prairie' good place to find unclaimed property

There is a buzz floating around my office because of a very special event that is going to take place next month. The event is none other than our very own Kansas State Fair located in Hutchinson, Kansas. This year's fair will be held from September 5th through September 14th and the theme is "Party on the Prairie."

The theme for the fair seems appropriate because my staff is getting into a festive mood at the thought of reuniting Kansans with their lost money. Last year alone, we returned over a \$500,000 and helped nearly 17,000 people search for their unclaimed property while attending the fair.

You may be asking, where does all of this money come from?



lynn jenkins

• state treasurer

Well, its simple — unclaimed property includes (but is not limited to) lost wages, cash and stocks or bonds. Additionally, under Kansas law, banks are required to give my office the contents of any safe deposit box that has been "abandoned" or is otherwise unclaimed.

But the best part, its FREE! FREE to search and FREE to claim. All you have to do is stop by our booth at the fair and one of our friendly staff will help you check to see if your name or prop-

erty is in our system. This year we will be located in our usual spot, which is the Sunflower South Building. Once you show up, we can take care of the rest. But

remember, our records are updated daily so even if you have stopped by before, I encourage you to stop by and see us again.

If you are unable to come to the fair you can still search for property by logging on to our webpage at <http://kansascash.com> or by calling 800-432-0386.

I enjoy serving as your State Treasurer and I look forward to seeing many of you at the fair next month. But remember, don't delay because the party is about to begin and you won't want to miss it!

We will be open
The Goodland Star-News will be open Saturday, from 8 a.m. until noon for anyone who would like to bring in their Sunflower Contest entry.

The
Goodland Star-News

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New Listings




1116 Cherry ... Completely remodeled and ready to move into! This 4 bedroom, 2 bath home offers new carpet, linoleum and paint just to name a few. Exterior has new paint and an added front porch. Priced to sell at **\$35,000**. Ask Cynthia to show you this one!



529 Walnut ... Spacious brick ranch in pristine condition. This home offers 1900 sq. ft. of living space all on one level...Large living room, kitchen with appliances, family room with pre-fab fireplace off kitchen with sliding doors to a new patio, three bedrooms, 2 1/4 baths, office and a big storage room plus double car attached garage. New Marvin windows, new front and sliding doors, all new maintenance free guttering, soffits and eaves, underground sprinklers plus lots more. **\$135,000**. Please call Donna Moore 1-800-974-2426 for your private showing.



1522 Caldwell ... Please take a look inside...you'll like what you see. This home boasts a living room, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, 2 baths and a big laundry room. The home has been totally remodeled with newer underground sprinklers, privacy fence, roof, central heat & air, kitchen cabinets, bath fixtures plus lots more. **\$59,500**. Please ask Donna to show you this new listing.



619 W. 9th... Perfect home for a single person or for your student who needs an inexpensive place to live. This home offers living room, kitchen with stove, refrigerator, stack washer/dryer, 2 bedrooms and bath, single car detached garage. **\$16,000**. Please let Donna show you this home.

Cynthia Butts, 899-3944; Donna Moore 899-6159.

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Worship warms the heart

<p>Calvary Gospel Church Pastor: Rev. Steve Rains Fourth & College • 899-3605 Sunday: Sunday School: 9:15 am Morning Service: 10:30 am Small Group Ministries Wednesday: Prayer and Worship: 7:00 p.m. Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal 307 W. 13th • 899-7205 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment Mass Schedule: Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am Spanish Mass: 1st & 3rd Sunday: 2 pm</p>	
<p>Sonrise Christian Church Ninth & Caldwell • 899-5398 Minister: Tony Kafka Youth Minister: Doug Bean Sunday: Worship Service: 9:30 am Sunday School: 10:45 am Wednesday: Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm Adult & Children's Classes: 7 pm</p>	<p>Word of Life Joursquare Church 10th & Clark • 899-5250 Pastor: John Coumerilh Service Schedule: Sunday: Worship Celebration and Kids' Church: 10:30 am First Wednesday: K.W.A.M.! Grades 1 through 5: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Pleasant Home Church Serving the rural community for over 100 years Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70 Pastor: Charlie Busch 694-2242 Sunday: Worship Service: 9 am Sunday School: 10 am Evening Service: 6 pm</p>
<p>Bible Baptist Church Pastor: Glenn Hermanson Fifth & Broadway 899-7368 Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am Morning Service: 10 am Evening Service: 6:30 pm Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 pm</p>	<p>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO (719) 346-7984 Sacrament Meeting: 10 am Sunday School: 11:15 am Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 am</p>	<p>Iglesia Del Dios Vivo La Luz Del Mundo Spanish Speaking Church Minister: Esteban Ortiz B. 1601 Texas • 899-5275 Daily Prayer: Sunday thru Saturday: 5 am & 6 pm Sunday: Sunday School: 10 am</p>
<p>United Methodist Church Brewster: Pastor: Worship Service: 10:45 am CST Sunday School: 9:45 am CST Winona: Minister: Rev. Bob Winters Worship Service: 9 am CST Sunday School: 10:15 am CST</p>	<p>First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Pastor: Loren Strait Eighth & Arcade • 899-5233 Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 am Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler Nurseries Available</p>	<p>Kanorado United Methodist Church Pastor: Leonard Cox 399-2468 Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am Worship Service: 10:15 am</p>
<p>Church of the Nazarene Pastor: Matthew Delp Third & Caldwell 899-2080 or 899-3797 Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 am Worship Service: 10:50 am Evening Service: 6 pm Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 pm</p>	<p>First United Methodist Church 1116 Sherman 899-3631 Pastor: Rev. Janet Hernandez Sunday: Sunday School: 9:15 am Worship Service: 8:00 am and 10:30 am</p>	<p>Goodland Bible Church 109 Willow Road • 899-6400 Pastor: Chad DeJong Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 am Morning Worship: 11 am Evening Worship: 6 pm Wednesday: AWANA (Winter) and prayer: 7 p.m.</p>
<p>First Baptist Church Pastor: Bud Chester Fifth & Center • 899-3450 Sunday: Sunday School: 9:15 am Morning Worship: 10:30 am Evening Worship: 6:30 pm Tuesday: Mens' Prayer Group: 6:00 am Thursday: Night Bible Study: 7:00 pm</p>	<p>St. Paul's Episcopal Church 13th & Center Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969 Priest: Father Jerry Jones Deacon: Sister Gretchen T. Good-Pankratz Morning Prayer: 9:30 am, 4th & 5th Sundays Holy Eucharist: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sr. Warden for emergencies during the week 899-3320</p>	<p>Grace Fellowship Church 104 E. Hwy 24 • 899-6423 Pastor: Bob Snyder • Residence: 890-0134 Sunday: Sunday School: 10 am Worship Service: 11 am Youth Group at Gattshall's at 5:30 pm Adult Bible Study 6 pm</p>
<p>Seventh Day Adventist Church 1160 Cattletrail Pastor: Arlin Cochran • 785-332-2888 Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 am Worship Service: 11 am</p>	<p>Emmanuel Lutheran Church 13th & Sherman • 899-6161 Pastor: Scott Grimshaw Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship: 10:15 a.m. Worship Service: 9 am Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 pm</p>	<p>Church of Christ 401 Caldwell 899-6185 Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 am Worship Service: 10:45 am Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 pm</p>

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

<p>Short & Son Trucking Hwy. 24</p>	<p>Koons Funeral Chapel North Main</p>
<p>Good Samaritan Center 208 W. 2nd</p>	<p>Goodland Star-News 1205 Main</p>