

Trip ends with tears of joy

Over the years, we have been involved with about 30 house-building mission trips. Each one is special in its own way. Certainly the poverty that precipitated the need is universal.

Our first trip to Guatemala, however, will always hold many special memories: the tears of happiness of the recipient families, the tears of happiness of fellow team members, the feeling of purpose you have when helping someone else.

One man on our team was overwhelmed by the emotion he felt when little 8-year-old Flori wrapped her arms around his neck and wouldn't let go. I had made such a connection with her mother, Flora, that I hung back to be the last to say "Goodbye." We hugged like sisters who knew they might never see each other again.

-ob-

The difference between driving across the U.S.-Mexican border and flying over a couple of countries is like night and day. For one thing, nobody ever searched our luggage driving into Mexico. We were going through customs in Mexico City when my carry-on bag was set aside



Out Back

By Carolyn Sue Kelley-Plotts
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for inspection.

The agent said, "You have tools?" I answered, "No. No tools." "Yes," she said, "You have tools."

I denied having any tools right up until the time she pulled a rusty pair of pliers out of the bottom of my bag, probably left there from a previous trip. Oops! All I could do was apologize and look sheepish.

Another difference was knowing that in Mexico, we were only 20 minutes away from a modern U.S. city. In Guatemala, we were two hours away from the nearest airport and a day's travel from "home." I remember on the return flight, Jim looking out the plane's window and announcing, "We're over the United States; the roads are all straight."

-ob-

We spent Easter in San Antonio with our daughter Jennifer and her two girls, Alexandria, 18, and Ani, 6. The Easter Bunny delivered his basket right on time (after a midnight run to Walmart), and for Ani's benefit, we hid and re-hid colored eggs all morning. Bad news is we forgot to count how many eggs we hid and now we don't know if we found them all. It might take a hot summer day to know for sure.

-ob-

After almost a month "on the road," our own bed will feel mighty nice. We love what we do and are always eager to go again. But just like Dorothy in "The Wizard of Oz," we know, "There's no place like home, there's no place like home."



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Representative reports on bills

Some quick notes of interest:

- Senate Bill 68 passed the House. That should mean that we can get commercial driver's license renewals at the county courthouse soon.
- This week, the House passed a bill allowing screening of welfare and unemployment recipients if there is a reasonable suspicion of drug use. The goal is to help them re-enter the workforce and find jobs.
- Benefits for children of recipients who test positive would continue to be paid through a third party payee, who also would have to submit to a drug test.
- The House passed a bill this past week updating concealed carry laws to allow for transfers from other states that meet or exceed license requirements in Kansas.
- Last week, the Senate approved S Sub HB 2052, a bill concerning



Letter from Topeka

By State Rep. Ward Cassidy
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guns in public buildings that would require school boards to either allow concealed carry in school, provide extensive security measures or get a four-year exemption by adopting an alternative security plan.

The House version would have exempted school districts. Both bills allow school boards to permit employees with concealed carry licenses to bring weapons into schools. The House can either agree to the Senate version or request a

conference committee to discuss the differences.

• This is going to be a difficult week. I believe that we will try to pass a budget and a tax plan before we get out of here on Friday.

This has been a long session, and I have not had the chance to be home very often. I am looking forward to being in northwest Kansas. I will be in the district several times in April, or you can always contact me at ward.cassidy@house.ks.gov.



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7	8 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta Pro-Time Monday Cardiac Rehab	9 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta Bone Density	10 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper Surgery: Dr. Eskildsen SONO Cardiac Rehab	11 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper Foot Care Clinic: Golden Age Ctr MRI	12 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper Lynnetta Cardiac Rehab	13
14	15 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta Cardiology: Dr. Curtis Pro-Time Monday Cardiac Rehab	16 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta Cardiology: Dr. Hoos-Thompson	17 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper Surgery: Dr. Eskildsen SONO Cardiac Rehab	18 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper Lynnetta Diabetic Support MRI	19 FP Clinic: Dr. Hooper Lynnetta Cardiac Rehab	20
21	22 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta Pro-Time Monday Cardiac Rehab	23 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta	24 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper SONO Cardiac Rehab	25 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper MRI	26 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Dr. Hooper Lynnetta Cardiac Rehab	27
28	29 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta Pro-Time Monday Cardiac Rehab	30 FP Clinic: Dr. Rosin Lynnetta	April 2013 Family Practice & Specialty Care Clinics Schedule			

Our doctors have come home.
Please join them at The Family Practice Clinic.