

U.S. veering close to becoming 'Nanny State'

I ended last week's column with what I deemed to be America's entry into Alexander Tytler's dependency stage, and with that dependency comes a great price — our freedom and liberties.

With this coming election, I believe our "Ship of State" is sailing into very dangerous waters. The political "Bermuda Triangle," if you will. Every presidential candidate except for two or three are socialist minded — as are most members of Congress. And those two or three presidential candidates who are not, have little chance, in my opinion, of securing their party's nomination.

The soliloquy "Farewell My Love" in last week's column is not about the death of the United States as a nation. As a nation, the United States will, in all likelihood, live on for many generations. "Farewell My Love" is about the death of the United States as a "free representative republic," and in that respect, I believe she truly is dying. Throughout the course of recorded history, man has always opted for security over freedom. In my

view, unless we alter our present course, the United States will be no exception.

Benjamin Franklin was a great statesman and historian, but in addition to that, I believe he was also a visionary. He understood human nature. In his famous response: "A republic, if you can keep it," he was demonstrating his understanding of human nature and that freedom is not free. It brings to the table many caveats. Freedom does not guarantee economic security, freedom does not guarantee total fairness for all, freedom does not guarantee equal benefits for all.

Freedom does guarantee many trials and hardships, however, as well as a requirement for individual responsibility and initiative.

Throughout recorded history, Utopians have strived to create societies in which everyone supposedly shared the equal benefits of life

COMMENTARY BILL CORBETT



— not just equal opportunities — but equal benefits. Because of man's innate imperfection, these would-be Utopian societies have all failed, but not before they ultimately enslaved the masses. Metaphorically speaking, I believe we Americans, like Esau, are trading our birthrights for a bowl of lentil soup.

We are moving into the dependency stage mentioned by Tytler, a British writer who died in 1813. We are listening to and electing politicians who promise to provide each and every one of us with everything we will ever need to live and survive. Free medical care, guaranteed job access, guaranteed job security, guaranteed wage packages, guaranteed retirement benefits, free education, and every other form of government grant that the human mind can conceive, just to name a few. All these benefits are presented

to us under the guise of government compassion.

Bear one thing in mind folks, there is no such thing as a compassionate government — never has been, never will be. It's all about power, and every time a government promises benevolence to the people, the real goal is control. I remember a statement by the late President Reagan: "The scariest words one can hear are, 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help you.'"

I believe we are moving dangerously close to a "Nanny State." Free people, if they wish to remain free, do not turn to their government for help. They instead run as far and as fast from government aid as they possibly can. In the 20th century alone, we witnessed Utopian promises to the people of the Soviet block, Germany, Italy, China and Cuba. I don't think

I have to elaborate on the atrocities we saw take place in those countries prior to, during and since World War II. Are we as a people willing to pay the same price for so-called Utopia? I'm certainly not.

Guy Odom, in his book "America's Man on Horseback," talks about the 10 generational cycle from bondage to freedom and back to bondage which greatly parallels Tytler's scenario. Each generation spans 25 years. Odom begins America's cycle in 1765, the year the patriots first started talking about independence from England. If you move ahead 250 years, you come to the year 2015. Not too far away. Something worthy of our contemplation, me thinks.

Bill Corbett lives in Pocatello. The award winning columnist and author writes fiction under the name Will Edwinson. His latest book, the national award winning "Buddy...His Trials and Treasures," can be obtained at amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com or by asking for it at your favorite bookstore. Corbett is also a free-lance writer for IDAHO magazine.

Local teams excel in robotics event

LEGO holds its state tournament in Boise

BY DEBBIE BRYCE
dbryce@journalnet.com

BOISE — Pocatello was well represented at LEGO robotics state tournament in Boise Saturday.

Coach Diane Stinger said the Electro Freeze team, of Pocatello, took third place in the event.

Stinger, who's coached for the event for four years, said the seventh- and eight-graders from Irving Middle School won the robot design category.



Participants check out the trophies and medals display Saturday at the LEGO robotics state tournament in Boise. SUBMITTED PHOTO

"IT'S A HIGH-ENERGY, SUPER-FUN EVENT. THE BIGGEST THING IS JUST GETTING THERE."

— HANNAH SANGER, COORDINATOR

The life science teacher at Irving said the robotics competition is aimed at getting students interested in science, math, engineering and technology.

"The first year we had eight teams, this year we had over 40 teams — so it's working," she said.

Sanger said the students from local middle schools built the robots and programed them to perform specific tasks using computer software.

The teams competed for trophies and a chance to travel to the national tournament in Atlanta in April.

Sanger called the event, "Sports for the mind."

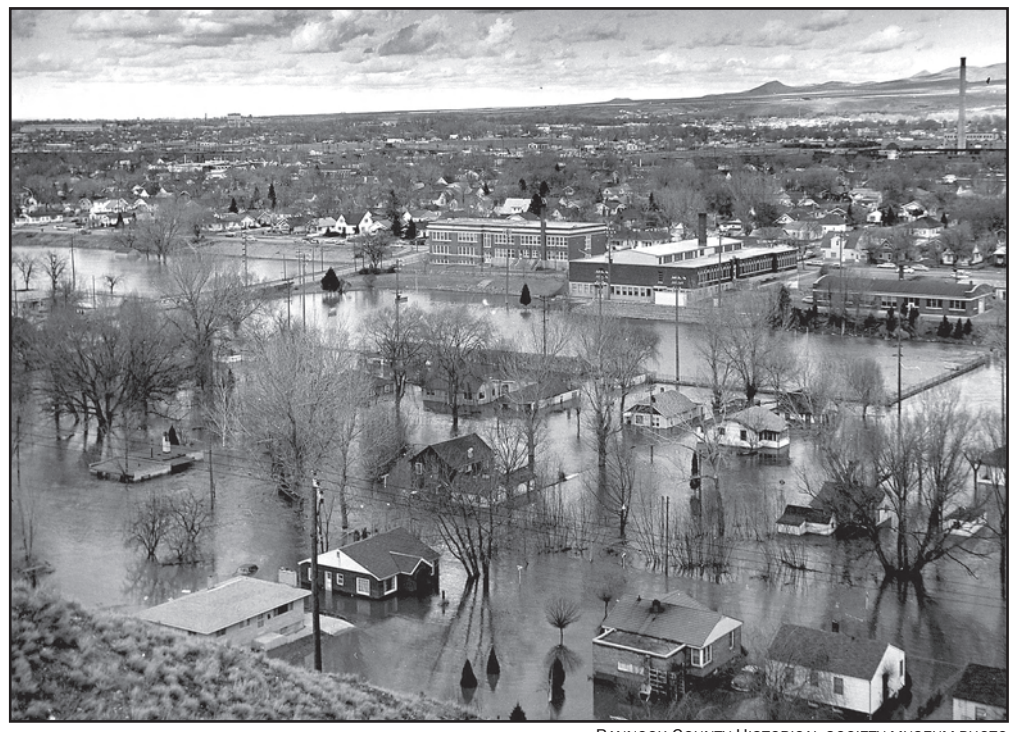
"It's a high-energy, super-fun event," she said. "The

biggest thing is just getting there."

In addition to the robot competition, the students, assisted by Idaho Power Co. workers, conducted energy audits on public buildings. Their findings were later presented to property owners.

Sanger said the students made great strides in teamwork — an important component of any engineering team.

LOOKING BACK



This photo shows the flooding by the original Jefferson Elementary and Irving Junior High School in February 1962 in Pocatello. The "Big Flood" was the result of heavy snowfall followed by unseasonably warm temperatures. With the ground frozen, the melting snow ran into the Portneuf River, creating flood conditions. BANNOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM PHOTO

If you have an old photo you would like to see featured in Looking Back, please contact Journal editor Ian H. Fennell at (208) 239-3121 or ifennell@journalnet.com.

DIVORCES

POCATELLO — Divorces recorded with Bannock County court records include:

- Jeremy M. Pozernick from emy Joseph Southwood.
- Chelse M. Pozernick. Angel Soliz Trevino from
- Patricia Ritcheson from Hilda Portillo Trevino.
- Johnny E. Ritcheson. Leisa Marie Yost from Bret
- David Rodriguez from John Yost.
- Becky L. Rodriguez.
- Verna Southwood from Jer-

Revisiting the unveiling of Holy Trinity Church

Editor's Note: This article is about the 1899 dedication of Pocatello's Episcopal Church, called the city's most handsome structure. The story first appeared in the Pocatello Tribune on April 12, 1899. It's been edited and adapted for use here by retired Idaho State University history professor Jo Ann Ruckman.



and the regular population of Pocatello have contributed material aid. The result is a church I am proud of, and I think my pride is a pardonable one.

"The body of the church is of a white, soft sandstone taken from the reservation. The chancel windows of the church are gifts from the smallest of the Sunday school

Our History is the Journal's regular Monday feature about our region's past.

children, and are beautifully illuminated, and the furnishings including the chancel rail, were contributed for the most part by the business people of Pocatello. The church starts with but one emblem in memoriam — the altar cross — a handsome piece in memory of the late E.A. Morse. It has a seating capacity of 300."

The Rev. Murphy took charge of Trinity parish on

July 6, 1896, and immediately set to work to organize a selected choir of mixed voices, to render the musical part of the services. This choir has continued to do excellent work, and at the opening services on Sunday last, as the long procession of choristers marched around the church singing "Blessed City, Heavenly Salem," presented a very imposing appearance and sang the service most effectively. The vestments for the 50 choristers were made by the ladies of the church.

The Sunday school of the church had increased to such an extent that the old building

was taxed to its utmost to accommodate them. In raising money for the new church, the Sunday school children have borne an interesting part, as the beautiful windows which adorn the church abundantly testify. The new structure is the finest owned by the Episcopal Church in Idaho.

WINTER CLOSE-OUT
-JACKETS
-SHIRTS
-SNOWSHOES
ON SALE!

THE RAVEN'S NEST
FIFTH & CLARK - 232-2232
MON-FRI 9:30 to 7:00
SATURDAY 9:30 to 4:00

The Salt Lake Tribune says: "The dedication of Holy Trinity Church is the consummation of a hope that many of the most sanguine have been inclined to characterize as a dream. When the Rev. P. Murphy reached Pocatello two and a half years ago and assumed charge as rector of the Episcopal Church, his first ambition seemed to be the erection of a church that would be a credit to Pocatello, and to his sect.

"Even the most ardent workers were skeptical about the practicability of the plan; and Bishop Talbot, late of the diocese of Wyoming, under whose jurisdiction Idaho lay, endeavored to dissuade Murphy from his cherished scheme. But Murphy felt certain of his clientele, and imparted his enthusiasm to the railroad people, and as he himself expressed it, with surprising results.

"You have no idea," said he, "of the aid I have received from the railroad men, and, indeed, from all classes in Pocatello. Men whom I have never seen before, and many of them I have not seen since, have come up and tendered money without solicitation,

WM. Walker Monument
Quality Monuments

The Pinnacle of Respect
The Endurance of Family
1609-S. 5th • 232-3818

ASK A PROFESSIONAL

Dave Reichelt
Nationwide Insurance
The Dave Reichelt Agency
CORNER OF 14TH & CENTER
Tel: 232-DAVE
reichelt1@nationwide.com

Q Is it better for my licensed child to be insured on my auto policy, or for them to have his or her own?

Log on to www.idahostatejournal.com and click on special sections

A FREE Service of the Idaho State Journal

SHAVER PHARMACY & COMPOUNDING CENTER

Helping People Live Longer, Healthier, Happier Lives

- Oxygen Concentrators
- Liquid O₂
- Portable O₂
- Sleep Apnea Equipment

FREE Equipment Set-up and Delivery
24-hour on-call emergency technician

235 S. 4th Ave. Poc., ID (208) 233-3341

Colonial Funeral Home
Trust • Reliability • Memories

2005 South 4th Ave.
233-1500
www.colonial-funeralhome.com

IDAHO STATE JOURNAL

Copyright © 2008 Idaho State Journal
VOL. CXIV, NO. 312, January 28, 2008

P.O. Box 431 • 305 S. Arthur • Pocatello, ID 83204
(208) 232-4161 • Web site: www.idahostatejournal.com

Published daily by Idaho State Publishing LLC, 305 South Arthur.
Pursuant to Sec. 60-108 Idaho Code, Tuesday is hereby designated as the day of the week in which legal notices will be published.

Periodicals mail postage paid at Pocatello, Idaho 83201. Postmaster: Send address changes to Idaho State Journal, Box 431, Pocatello, Idaho 83204.
USPS 255-980

DELIVERY TIMES
Weekdays - 6:30 a.m. • Weekend - 7:30 a.m.
If you fail to receive your paper on time, call Subscriber Services at 232-6150.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	CARRIER	MOTOR ROUTE	BY MAIL
Daily (monthly)	\$11.50	\$12.75	\$18.75
Subscription Price	\$5.97	\$7.33	\$7.22
Sales tax at 6%	\$0.36	\$0.44	\$0.43
Delivery service cost	\$5.17	\$4.98	\$11.10
Weekend (monthly)	\$9.75	\$10.75	\$10.25
Subscription Price	\$4.89	\$6.39	\$4.01
Sales tax at 6%	\$0.29	\$0.38	\$0.24
Delivery service cost	\$4.57	\$3.98	\$6.00

Bill Kunerth, Publisher
bkunerth@journalnet.com

Ian Fennell, Managing Editor
ifennell@journalnet.com

Dale Rounkles, Advertising Director
drounkles@journalnet.com

Kerry Johnson, Facilities Manager
kjohanson@journalnet.com

Henry Johnson, Finance Director
hjohnson@journalnet.com

Justin Smith, IT Systems
jtsmith@journalnet.com

Jennifer Busick, Circulation Director
jbusick@journalnet.com

Journal toll-free phone number
1-800-275-0774

Circulation direct phone number
(208) 232-6150

Classified direct phone number
(208) 232-4780

Newsroom/tips phone number
(208) 239-3121