

The Saint Francis Herald

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Member honored for life

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce members met for the annual meeting Monday evening at Riverside Recreation. The highlight of the evening was the recognition of Ruth Milliken as the lifetime Chamber member.



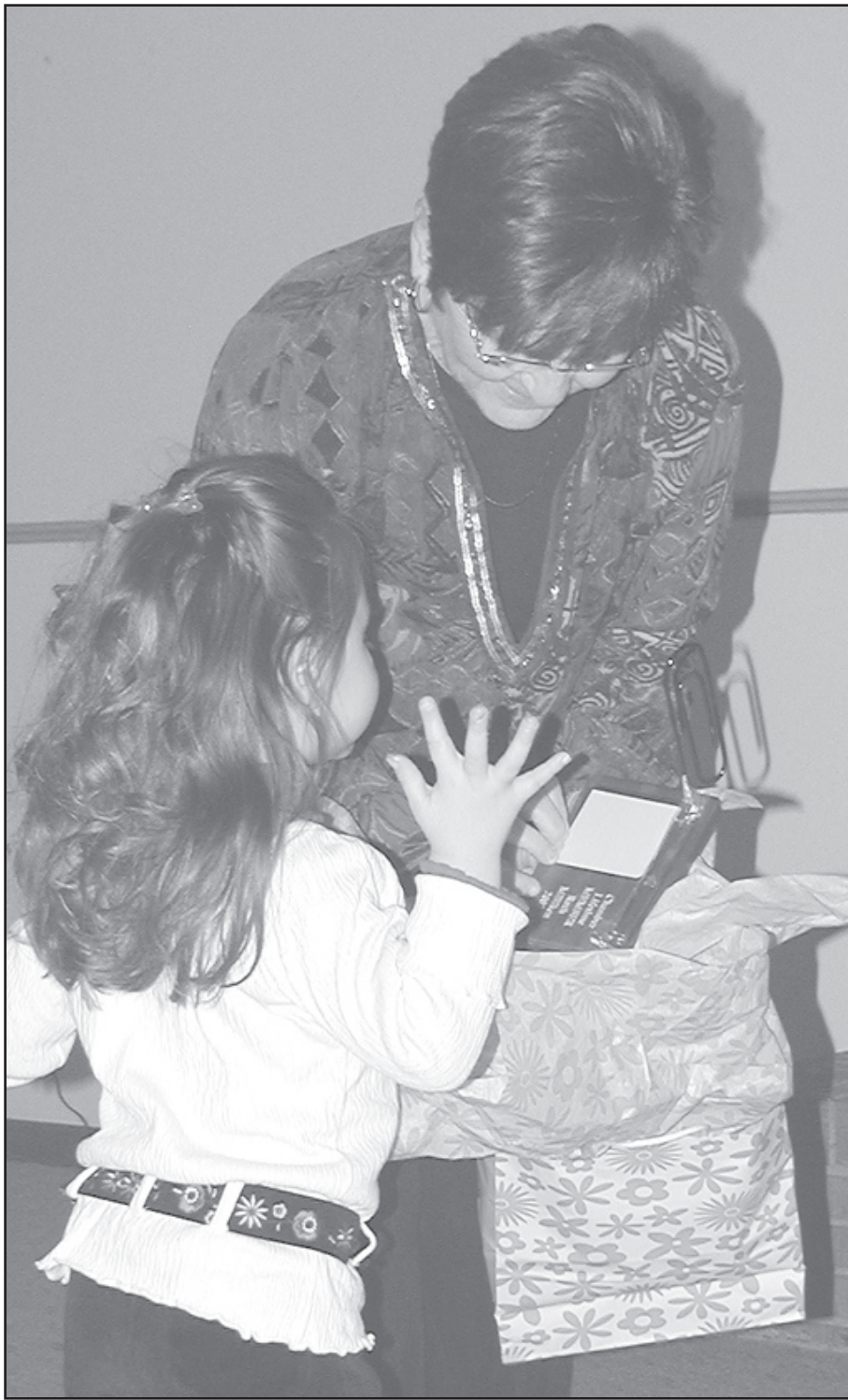
Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, said Mrs. Milliken had been selected for the honor because of her willingness to help whenever and/or for whatever was needed. **Bracelin**

Mrs. Bracelin reviewed the projects completed by the Chamber throughout the year. Projects included either hosting or helping with the Easter Egg Hunt, Ladies Salad Luncheon, Stearman Fly-In, fair parade, Relay for Life, Teacher Appreciation, Craft Show, Christmas opening and later on, the Christmas drawings and coloring contest.

The Chamber supplied \$18,340 in St. Francis scrip money, helped with the Kansas Sampler Festival in Garden City; coordinated the bench project, Student of the Month, where a student is recognized each month throughout the school year; with the Cheyenne County Development Corporation, and had 10,000 more Cheyenne County labels printed for water bottles.

The trailer to transport benches is on going and will be produced at Ross Manufacturing. The manufacturing company also constructed the medal benches.

At the end of the month, Mrs. Bracelin and Carol Ross will be attending a meeting where the governor will announce the top eight wonders of Kansas. The Arikaree



EXCITEMENT — Ruth Milliken was selected as the Chamber's lifetime member Monday night. Granddaughter Molly Gilliland was just as excited to see the present as Grandma.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Breaks, located north of St. Francis, is one of the 26 entries. Mrs. Bracelin said there were a number of people coming from distances to visit The Breaks and hopefully, The Breaks will

be the winner.

Troy Hilt was elected as a Chamber board member. Sherry Schultz will serve on the board next year.

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Security system planned for both schools

By Karen Krien

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For several months, the St. Francis Board of Education and administration have been looking into security systems for both the junior-senior high school and the grade school. At the Thursday meeting, the board agreed to have the superintendent pursue the project.

After talking to a number of companies offering security systems, superintendent Rob Schiltz had narrowed the companies down to two. However, one company had failed to reply so, at the Thursday meeting, Mr. Schiltz said Perry George with Access Control Systems out of Salina had worked with him and was very interested in what would work in the St.

Francis schools. He had pointed out that there were several areas which could be dangerous and had offered solutions.

Throughout the elementary school where there are 20 doorways, there will be only four doors that will be access controlled. The northeast door will be the only door open for the public. Anyone coming through will need to check in at the office. Since this door is also the door used by the junior-senior high school students for art, the board talked about putting in a video camera with monitors in the offices of the secretary and principal. There will be some inconveniences but in order to offer security to the entire school, this would be the only door open.

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Volunteers needed to finish building

The Emergency Building on U.S. 36 is moving right along. However, to comply with the Kan-Step Grant, the building needs to be completed by March 15.

The outside of the building is pretty much complete. The sides went up and, then weather slowed down the construction of the roof.

While the weather was slowing down the outside, crews were working inside of the Jensen Construction building to get the inside petitions ready to put in place.

Windows have been installed, sheet rock has gone up and the staircases built. Much of the electrical work has been done and the cable has been installed.

Much has been done but there is a great

deal more to do. Volunteers are needed.

Work days are Mondays and Wednesday evenings and all Saturdays.

"We are gaining but there is still a lot to do," said Dale Weeks, one of the coordinators. "We are doing wiring, plumbing and heating installations now so people who want to help in these areas are very welcome."

Everyone who is willing to help with the labor or even go for supplies is needed. In a week or two, they will be putting up insulation and even more help will be needed.

Even if people don't plan to work, people are welcome to stop by and take a look at the work in progress.

Rows of pipe begin to dwindle

By Karen Krien

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Late in 2007, the big pile of green pipe, which had been unloaded near the railroad tracks in Bird City, began to dwindle as it was loaded on trucks and moved to northwest Cheyenne County.

This was a sign that Overland Pass Pipeline had completed laying the pipe in Wyoming and the northeastern edge of Colorado and had moved into Kansas.

Overland Pass is laying 760 miles of pipeline which will transport raw natural gas liquids from southwestern Wyoming to Conway in central Kansas. The Conway hub is one the nation's

primary natural gas liquids supply and storage hubs. The transported gas will be used to make ethane, propane and butane.

There will be 38 miles of pipe laid in the county with a total of 261 miles laid in Kansas. Easements from landowners were secured in the spring of 2006. The 14- to 16-inch diameter pipe is buried a minimum of 3-feet. The pipeline is monitored 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. Regular inspections using the latest technology are made and safety valves are used to isolate segments of the pipe.

The construction of the pipeline is to be completed and in service early this year.



ROWS OF GREEN PIPE are moving as the new line goes through Cheyenne County. The pipes have been piled near the railroad track in Bird City.

Herald staff photo by Linda Schneider

New officers join city police force

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis City Police Department has hired two new police officers and police chief, Deborah Farland said another will be coming in February.

Hired are Jim Wolters and Shane Guggenmos, both having worked together while in Colorado.

"We have hired several mature officers who are used to the ways of small-town life," said Chief Farland. "They are firm but fair officers."

Officer Jim Wolters

Officer Wolters started on Jan. 11. He came to St. Francis from Akron, Colo., where he was a deputy at the Washington County Sheriff's office.

He has been in law enforcement for 23 years and most of those years have been spent in small towns.

"I like working in small communities and meeting the people," he said. "I like being involved."



JIM WOLTERS, new police officer, talks with Deborah Farland, police chief.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

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Shane Guggenmos joined the St. Francis City Police Department on Dec. 27. His duties include patrolling and he is trained in rifle instruction. As a special weapons and tactical officer, he has had a great deal of experience and education in narcotics and methamphetamine.

He feels that eliminating the use and sale of drugs is important as is stopping underage drinking. He would like to work with the school administration and students in the future.

Officer Guggenmos came to St. Francis from Logan County, Colo. He was raised in the small sand-hill community of Burwell, Neb., where his father was a farmer/rancher. Following high school, he went to Dakota Bible College in Mitchell, S.D. That was where he met his wife Renee.

He said he had always wanted to be "the good guy," and by being a law officer, he felt that he could work toward that goal.

"I'm a Christian," he said. "I



OFFICER SHANE GUGGENMOS looks over some paper work with Sarah Clogston, dispatcher.

know that I can't change the whole world but maybe I can make a difference in a little corner."

In 1997, he graduated from the police academy in Sterling, Colo. He worked in Washington County and that is where he met

new St. Francis Police officer, Jim Wolters. While working in Logan County, he met St. Francis Chief Deborah Farland

"I was looking for a small community like St. Francis to raise my kids and just enjoy

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