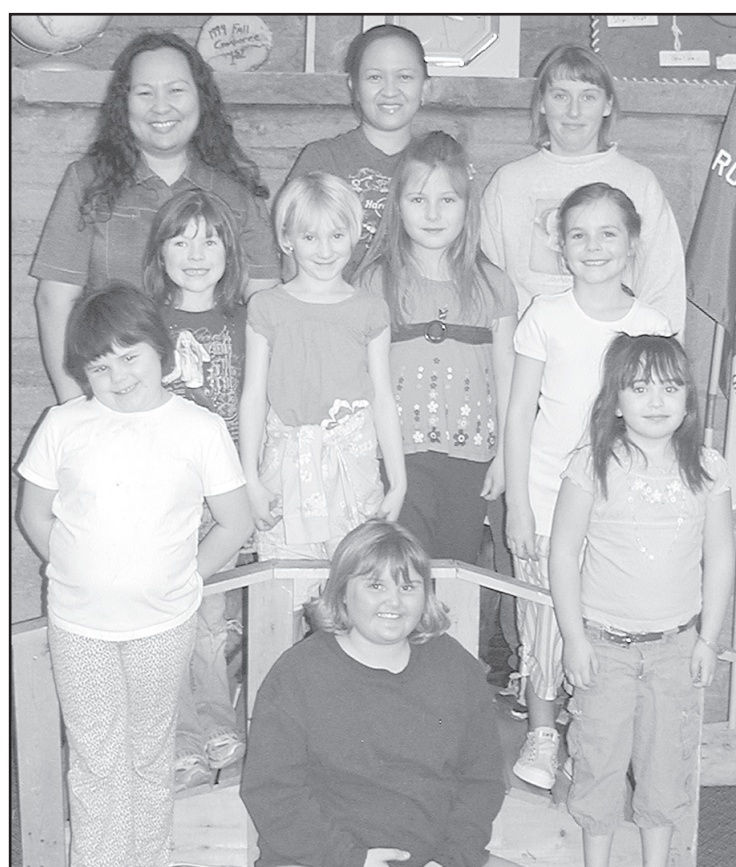




Girl Scouting = IT'S A GROWTH EXPERIENCE!



DAISIES — back row: Lounie Erskin, Liz Lusanez, Kary Meyer; middle row: Cloey Jones, Shelby Bean, Audrey Meyer, Cassidy Busse; front row: Christina Stafford, Marlo Jensen, Miah Hackney. Not pictured: Stephanie Meyer

Daisy GIRL SCOUTS

The St. Francis Daisy troop now consists of kindergarten and first grade girls.

"We have eight terrific girls in our Daisy Girl Scout troop," said Kary Meyer, one of the leaders.

Daisies include: Audrey Meyer, Cassidy Busse, Christina Stafford, Marlo Jensen, Shelby Bean, Stephanie Meyer, Cloey Jones, and Miah Hackney. The three troop leaders are Mrs. Meyer, Liz Lusanez and Lounie Erskin. Liz and Lounie are fantastic with the girls and so much fun, Mrs. Meyer said.

"I cannot thank them enough for all of the time and dedication they have shown these girls," she added.

This was the first year to do cookie sales and all

of the girls are very proud of all the effort they put into it, as, Mrs. Meyer added, they should be.

This year, the Daisies are trying to establish what the Girl Scout Promise stands for and how to handle a flag ceremony. With each meeting, the leaders always try to have some sort of game, craft and, of course, a snack.

They went caroling at Christmas with all of the other troops and then enjoyed a pizza party. Their service unit project has been to make holiday placemats for the Good Samaritan Village.

At each meeting, they have a closing game and, most of the time, the girls choose "Down on the Banks." Nonetheless, the girls just try to have fun and learn a little about being good citizens.



BROWNIES — back row: Jessica Pacheco, Jacey Jones, Matthisen Witzel, Zoe Sundstrom, Erika Ramos; middle row: Jessica Confer, Shalyn Zwegardt, Joslyn Ketzner; front row: Shelby Wolff, Teagan Landenberger.

Brownie GIRL SCOUTS

The St. Francis Brownie Troop includes 10 second and third grade girls. The second graders in the troop are Jessica Confer, Joslyn Ketzner, Teagan Landenberger, Shelby Wolff and Shalyn Zwegardt. Jacey Jones, Jessica Pacheco, Erika Ramos, Zoe Sundstrom and Matthisen Witzel are the third graders in the troop.

"This group of young ladies is very dedicated to Girl Scouts," said Leisha Hilt, one of the Brownie leaders. "Their attendance record is 96 percent."

The Brownies have enjoyed meetings the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 5 to 6:30 p.m. In November, the girls went to the Cheyenne Bowl for bowling and pizza. December brought some cold caroling weather for the girls.

The Brownies, along with other Cheyenne County Girl Scout troops, went caroling around town. Fred Magley graciously drove the trailer around town with the lively bunch in tow. After a very eventful afternoon of caroling, the girls ended up at the Scout Hut for pizza and hot chocolate.

The evening didn't end there for the Brownies.

The Scout Hut soon became a camp site for the girls as they sang, danced, did crafts, watched movies, enjoyed snacks and got very little sleep. The girls also had a gift exchange.

January kicked off the year with the bang. Cookie sales started the middle of the month. The girls had the privilege of having Officer Tony Rodriguez come to the meeting and visit with the girls about safety in selling cookies door to door.

The Brownies set a huge goal of selling 2,000 boxes of cookies and almost reached their goal, coming in at 1,895 boxes sold. The girls are planning a trip to Denver this spring to celebrate their success.

These girls are an awesome group of girls, Mrs. Hilt said.

In February, the girls prepared care packages for the troops that are overseas. With the Girl Scout year still young, the girls will create many more wonderful memories!

The Brownie leaders this year are Brandi Jones, Angie Sundstun and Mrs. Hilt.

Junior GIRL SCOUTS

There are eight girls in the St. Francis Junior Girl Scouts. Jenna Confer and Sophie White are the newest members, and Emily Elfers, Carol Eve Harris, Journey Lee, Hannah Stafford, Sydney Sundstrom and Hannah Wolff are in their last year of Junior Girl Scouts. They are led by Kate Jenkins with the support and help of Michelle Wolff.

The girls are great fun and enthusiastic about learning the keys to leadership and personal growth, said Mrs. Jenkins. This year, each girl is working to earn the highest award given to a junior-level Girl Scout — the bronze award.

Through it, the girls are learning to make good choices and be an active part in the leadership of the group, as well as connecting with the Daisy and Brownie groups.

"We are working on a community project that will document the "history" of 2009 in a book that will be given to the Cheyenne County Museum for posterity. This project will connect the girls with many people in our community and allow them to understand who is actively making St. Francis history happen in 2009.

Already this year, the girls have enjoyed several fun events. Christmas celebrated with a Christmas ball and nutcracker tea at the Spencer House. It was a formal event and the girls rose to the occasion.

Valentine's Day was celebrated with a pizza party at the Pizza Hut and bowling.

In the future, the girls plan to have an (indoor) swimming party this spring where the girls can bring

their friends and encourage membership. Girl Scouts offers great activities and leadership opportunities to the young ladies of this community and the world around us, Mrs. Jenkins said.

"It has been an honor to work with the Junior Girl Scout group this year," Mrs. Jenkins said. "The last time I was connected with Girl Scouts was back in the 60s when I was going to elementary school in St. Francis.

"I started in Brownies and went through Cadets. It provided many rich experiences for me and the group of girls I was with. Francis Canniff, Mary Lee Frewen and Bonnie Cram were leaders for our group.

"Among the first people I invited over for lunch after moving back to St. Francis was Mrs. Frewen and Mrs. Cram to thank them for being a Junior Girl Scout leader. I felt it was a great opportunity to give back something that had been an investment in my own life."

Mrs. Jenkins said Mrs. Wolff is amazing and wonderful help as a co-leader.

"She has great organizational skills and is our sales coordinator for cookies, nuts and candies," she said.

She said that Mrs. Wolff adds a great deal of life and energy to the group.

"I have found that all the parents that I am involved with are very supportive of their daughter's involvement," she said. "That, to be sure, is a beautiful strength and attribute of this community."



JUNIORSCOUTS: 1 to r: Emily Elfers, Journey Lee, Hannah Stafford, Carol Eve Harris, Hannah Wolff, Sophie White, Kate Jenkins, leader; Jenna Confer, Sydney Sundstrom.

Cadette GIRL SCOUTS



Aly Schlepp



Aubree Schlepp



Sarah Trembly



A Salute To Girl Scouting

BRICE'S AUTO REPAIR
FROMHOLTZ BODY SHOP
HOMESTEADER MOTEL
& TRAILER PARK
KNODEL FUNERAL HOME

LAMPE HARDWARE
L&W-ANDRIST INS. AGENCY, LLC
WALT & LINDA LINTHACUM
NAPA AUTO PARTS
NEITZEL INSURANCE SERVICE

OWENS TRUE VALUE
PARK HILL RESTAURANT
ST. FRANCIS SUPER'S
ROSS MANUFACTURING/
SUNSHINE TRAVEL

SCHULTZ'S
SHAY REALTY, INC.
ST. FRANCIS EQUITY
ST. FRANCIS TIRE & SERVICE
THE SAINT FRANCIS HERALD