



The Saint Francis Herald

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St. Francis woman wins \$1,000 scrip

By Karen Krien

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It was freezing cold outside Monday but that didn't keep a gym full of people from coming with the strings, bags and cards of tickets to see if they might be the lucky winner of \$1,000 in scrip. The winner was Danielle McAtee, St. Francis.

The Christmas On Us drawing, along with the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce drawing, was held at the St. Francis grade school with Santa making a visit to help draw tickets and names and to hand out prizes. The ABC Preschool parents and teachers were serving steaming cups of chili and many of those attending enjoyed their chili while they waited for the drawing to begin.

The Chamber drawings were held first. The coloring contest winners were announced along with the two Christmas lighting contest. (See related articles.)

Throughout the Christmas On Us promotion, there have been instant winners. There was one instant winner that had not been claimed along with two gift

See \$1,000 on Page 10A



PILE OF TICKETS — Matt Smull, left, took a little time to find the right ticket for a gift prize at Schultz's. Danielle McAtee, above, was the \$1,000 scrip winner Monday night in the Christmas On Us drawing. Casey McCormick, Herald ad manager, hands Mrs. McAtee the scrip money while Santa looks on.

Herald staff photos by Lezlie McCormick

Three winners each claim \$100 in scrip

Monday was the final day of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce's Christmas promotion. New Treasure Hunt numbers were hung in business windows and doors and people had their numbers from the previous Hunt held on Nov. 27.

The Chamber and Christmas On Us

drawings were held late that afternoon with three lucky people walking out, each with \$100 scrip. Winners were Kay Jensen, Melvin Confer and Sherry Schultz.

Christmas lighting contest winners

The Christmas Lighting contest ended on Sunday and the judges selected two

homes as the winners of the contest.

This year's winners are Terry and Mary Beth Miller, 222 N. Ash, and Ward and Gloria Cassidy, 420 E. Second. They will each receive \$50 scrip to be spent in St. Francis businesses.

Honorable mentions went to Mike and Michelle Stafford, 223 W. Emerson;

Rick and Dawn Lucas, 402 S. Scott; and Art Krueger, 120 W. Spencer.

Judges this year were last year's winners: John and Jenny Larson and Larry and Terry Zwegardt.

The houses will be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Herald*.



Program is this Saturday

The annual Christmas service will be held this Saturday at Salem Lutheran Church, 8 miles northwest of St. Francis. The Herald had it incorrect last week.

The service is held at 5 p.m. in the unique setting of the historic church. The program is titled Christmas in the Country, "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht."

Follow signs on U.S. 36 at Road 9 or on K-27 at Road R.

Prelude music begins at 4:30. Following the lighting of the Advent candles, "Silent Night" will be sung as individual candles are lit.

Once again, the Methodist Church handbell choir will be playing several Christmas carols. Other music includes Christmas carols played and sung by Salem Lutheran Choir, Heartland Harmony Trio, Once Again Sound Band, St. Francis Singers and a number of other talented musicians. The mass choir from the community and congregations will also be singing.

The program is being held in See PROGRAM on Page 10A



SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU!!! Savannah Morris was so happy to see Santa she could hardly talk to him.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Board concerned about finances

By Karen Krien

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Keeping the St. Francis school doors open and continuing to offer students a well-rounded education was one of the main topics when the St. Francis Board of Education met on Thursday.

Financing education when the state of Kansas continues to make cuts is a challenge to schools including the St. Francis schools. Earlier, the school was to get \$4,218 per student but, with the last cut of \$106,000 the amount has now dropped to \$4,012 per student.

Mr. Schiltz said the projected enrollment is a "guess." However, there have been around 10 less students a year.

To make up for the cuts made at the state level and fewer students, the money will come out of the local option budget. The local option budget is funded by taxes within the school district. The law allows school boards to raise 30 percent of the general fund budget for the local option budget.

There will be an estimated

\$258,000 carryover in the local option budget (LOB) and, by raising the mill levy approximately 1.4 mills, the school should be OK next year if the state does not make any further cuts.

The board has already cut out many of the smaller expenses including six coaching positions and a kindergarten route. But, there may need to be much larger cuts.

Mr. Schiltz said if all sports including athletic supplies, bus drivers, mileage, pom pon, cheerleaders — everything — were cut, it would amount to \$194,592 or 8 percent of the total budget. Kelly Gienger, board member, said if the school was to make this sports cut, they would lose a number of kids whose parents would move where their children could be involved in sports.

Mr. Schiltz said he is not suggesting that sports be cut but, if it were, that would be the amount saved.

Hoagie Carmichael, principal, See BOARD on Page 10A



HALLELUJAH CHORUS SINGERS will be presenting a special Christmas concert at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday at Peace Lutheran Church, St. Francis. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien