

Chamber wants answers to business needs in St. Francis

By Karen Krien

For several months, the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce has been talking about bringing new business to town and what people want or need in the city.

In recently weeks, Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, said several people have contacted the Chamber office wanting to bring their businesses into St. Francis. Two of the people represent Dollar General and Subway. Susan Hobrock, Cheyenne County Development coordinator, also said she had been contacted. Through the years, there have been other such companies looking into locating in town.

At the February Chamber meeting, mayor Scott Schultz, when the subject of what the city is doing to entice businesses into coming to St. Francis, said it was something that the city council has been looking into. They discussed what the people of Goodland did to bring in the gasket company and, while the city council may not be able to do that much, there could be something out there that, with the cooperation of the council, Cheyenne County Development organization and Chamber, along with the people of the city and county, might be able to do.

St. Francis businesses are struggling but working to keep the dol-

lars in the community because taxes keep going up. Unfortunately, businesses are closing down. St. Francis already has several empty buildings on Main Street and some along the highway. There are rumored to be around 35 to 40 houses for sale in town. Empty buildings and houses can mean less people living in St. Francis, thus less money being spent in town and less taxes.

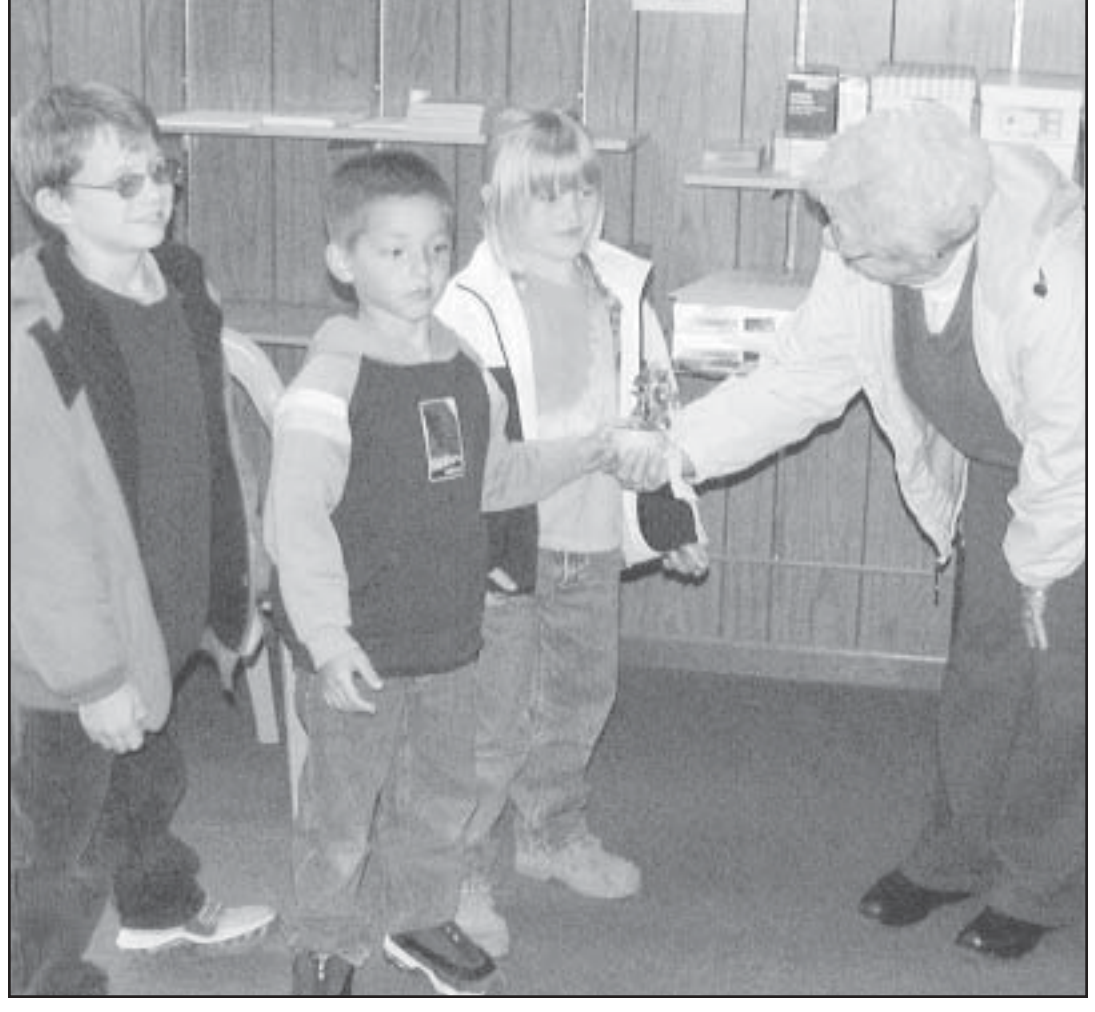
Several businesses are trying to fill the needs of the people by stocking their shelves with items not previously carried. True Value is adding a line of sewing, craft and basic clothing, just to name a few. Krien Pharmacy has handicap equipment, Schultz's and Kansas Territorial keep bringing in more gift items.... the list goes on and on but, that doesn't take care of the empty buildings and there could easily be two more businesses closing their doors this year.

The Chamber is asking that people be thinking about St. Francis and keeping it as a viable, active little town. Elsewhere in this issue, there is a questionnaire that can be filled out and sent to the Chamber office.

"We have too many empty buildings on Main Street. We need to work to change that," said Secretary Bracelin. "Your input is valued and needed. Please fill it out and either bring it by the office or send it in."

Weather

Date	High	Low	Prec.
April 27	84	45	
April 28	86	39	
April 29	45	33	.12
April 30	62	36	
May 1	63	35	
May 2	81	47	
May 3	83	51	



MAY BASKET FLOWER - Three members of the Lawn Ridge 4-H Club left to right: Gatlen Cooper, Jared Schafer and Valerie Wurm visited the Herald office on Friday to deliver a 'thank you' flower from the club. Accepting on behalf of the staff is Betty Jean Winston.

Herald staff photo by Sandy Barnhart

Less scholarship money available

Declining interest rates have left less money for scholarships. The Greene Scholarship Fund is also seeing the results.

The Greene Scholarship Selection Committee is telling applicants that new distribution rules have been established for this year's graduating seniors. The committee will be offering only two \$2,000 scholarships. These will be paid at \$500 per semester for two years.

There will be 12-\$1,000 scholarships which will be paid \$500 per semester for one year. This year, the committee will not be offering four-year scholarships.

If interest rates increase, the committee hopes to return to the original distribution amounts. The previously awarded scholarship amounts for 2003 and prior will not change.

On Feb. 25, 1981, the Garnette E. Greene and Ethlyne R. Greene Memorial Scholarships Fund was established under the last will and testament of Ethlyne Greene. For many years, the Citizens State Bank and Cheyenne County State Bank served as co-trustees of the trust and later Bankwest served as sole trustee.

Beginning in 2003, First National Bank was named sole trustee when Bankwest made the decision to close its trust department.

This trust has assisted many high school graduates. For the graduating classes since 1998, the following has been distributed to students: 1998 - \$46,100; 1999 - \$35,600; 2000 - \$42,200 seniors; 2001 - \$35,600 juniors; 2002 - \$17,400 sophomores; and 2003 - \$22,000 freshmen.

Premier exhibitor is from St. Francis

With competitions completed and scores totaled, the National Western Stock Show has announced the results of the 2004 Premier Exhibitor awards.

Darin Wiley of St. Francis earned the Champion Premier Exhibitor award in the junior market beef competition, while Jake Wynne of Newcastle, Okla., took home the reserve champion title.

Champion exhibitors in beef, sheep, and swine were awarded scholarships from the National Western and a new Featherlite trailer.

Scoring for the Premier Exhibitor competition is based on three areas of competition: live animal placing in the show ring, carcass placing of the animal after slaughter, and a score given by a panel of judges after a 15 minute interview with the contestant and a 3-minute prepared speech.

This year's competition was extremely close with Darin scoring 89.8 points out of 100, and Jake scoring 88.9 points respectively. Darin's steer was named the reserve heavyweight division champion in the live show, and placed third over-



Wiley

all in the carcass contest.

Darin placed first overall in the speech of interview portion of the contest, which helped him to secure the 2004 Premier Exhibitor Award.

Youths receive scholarships to vo-tech college

Scholarship Selection Committee officials at Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland have announced the following scholarships.

Amber Fromholtz is the recipient of a \$400 Francis Thornbug Memorial scholarship. She is the daughter of Arlyn and Barbara Fromholtz of St. Francis and is a senior at St. Francis Community High School. She is enrolled in the college's cosmetology program for the fall 2004 semester.

Trevor Henderson is the recipient of a \$500 tuition grant. He is the son of Brent and Amelia Henderson of St. Francis and is a senior at St. Francis Community High School. He is enrolled in the college's electronics/computer

technology program for the fall 2004 semester.



Fromholtz



Henderson



Sowers

Jared Sowers is the recipient of a \$750 tuition grant. Sowers is the son of Dave and Teresa Sowers of St. Francis. He is enrolled in the college's heating/air conditioning program for the fall 2004 semester. He is a graduate of St. Francis Community High School.



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For appointments call:
Rawlins County Health Center
785-626-3211
Wed., May 12
Cheyenne County Hospital - P.M.
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Thur., May 13
Atwood - A.M.
Colby - P.M.
CSMC, 175 S. Range
462-3332
CMC, 100 E. College Dr.
462-7511
Fri., May 14
Atwood - All Day

Schultz's Ltd.

Schultz's, at 114 W. Washington, welcomes you to the 4th annual Saturday In The Park.

We hope you will visit our downtown businesses. Present this coupon and receive 20% off any gift item at Schultz's.

20%

Off any gift item

Coupon is good only on Saturday, May 8, 2004.

Furniture, Floorcoverings, Gift Items, Wallpaper, Window Coverings

St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce wants your input!!

Fill out the following questionnaire and return it to the Chamber office.

- What types of businesses and/or services are needed in St. Francis?
- Are there any buildings in town or along the highway that would be available for businesses and have workable space?

Return questionnaire to:
Chamber, P.O. Box 793,
St. Francis, 67756



NEW AT
Tri-State Lumber
Tri-State Gun Shop
and Paints Plus

Customer Discount Cards

We are very excited to offer the new "CUSTOMER DISCOUNT CARDS" at all our retail locations effective May 5, 2004. What do these new cards mean to you, the consumer? Our CUSTOMER DISCOUNT CARDS are **FREE** to all our current customers or to new customers, wanting to save money on each and every purchase! Every customer that comes in and gets a DISCOUNT CARD will receive a **3% Discount** on every cash purchase or charge account! Customers can save money on all our current inventory and items ordered in. Savings on:

- >Lumber
- >Paint
- >Electrical
- >Plumbing
- >Lawn & Garden
- >Sporting Goods
- >New & Used Guns
- >Power Tools
- >Household Supplies
- >Fasteners
- >Building Supplies
- >Lighting
- >Tool Rental
- >Doors & Windows

This is just a short list of the many items we carry on hand and have access to literally thousands of other items from our many catalogs. Come in and ask us what all we have access to and pick up your discount card and let us help you save money!

The first 50 customers to come in and get their new discount card will receive a **5% discount** for all purchases till May 31.

Discount cards cannot be used on sale items, flyer sale items or on Pro-Panel sheet goods and Shingles.

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Kid's Pedal Pull

at the
Saturday In The Park Car Show
Sat., May 8

in front of Milliken Law Office

Registration • 12:30 p.m. Pull • 1:00 p.m.

- ➔ There will be Nine Classes Competing with Kids ages ranging from 4-years to 12-years.
- ➔ Medals for 1st - 2nd - 3rd places in each class
- ➔ Top Two from each class will be eligible to compete at the Kansas State Fair!

Sponsored by _____

Cheyenne Co. Farm Bureau Young Farmers, Chamber of Commerce, First National Bank, BANKWEST, Ross Manufacturing, Sunshine Travel, Van Allen Inc, St. Francis Livestock, Western Auction & Realty, Knodel Funeral Home, Grace Flying Service, Yost Farm Supply, Frewen Insurance, Republican Valley Vet Clinic, Farm Bureau - Connie Holzwarth, Tim & Margaret Poling

Invitation
to the Community
Appreciation Day

Sponsored by the
Senior Center

Fri., May 7 • 2-4 p.m.
Refreshments Served