

Clothing shop seeks interest

By Karen Krien

Seventeen people attended the meeting on Monday to see if there was enough interest to find investors to keep the womens/childrens clothing shop open in St. Francis.

Ruth Milliken, owner of KM Clothier, recently reported that she is going out of business. Cheyenne County Development Coordinator Carol Redding had organized a meeting with Karen Metcalf and Judy Ostmeier, two of the investors of The Dresser in Oberlin. The Dresser was opened after a group of people realized that Oberlin needed a dress shop.

When they first began planning for the opening of The Dresser, they had hoped to find 200 women. At first, it didn't seem like it was going to work but then 65 people came up with \$500 each and with this money and a small loan from the bank, they were able to open and it is now in its 11th year of business. They have added 35 more investors.

The Dresser board's mission statement includes recognizing that the business would be providing a service to the town, it would be adding to Main Street by keeping a business in a building which might have been empty, it would be building self esteem in those connected with the business and providing an outlet for creative women.

The Oberlin women said that those investing were probably not

going to get rich in the business but also noted that most people would never miss the \$500 to invest in the business — that it was basically a service to the community.

They said that the dress shop could not and never intended to compete with Wal-Mart, Penney's or Sears. However, they would provide good clothes and good service to their customers. They also have a fashion show at least once a year.

A number of the investors fill in to run the shop and there are two part-time staff members who are paid. They noted they seldom had to work more than a half day at a time. There are several on the board who purchase the clothing and they note that they are generally required to buy a minimum of four of one item.

The women noted that the concept of the business is as unique as it is to shop in the store. People come from miles around just to enjoy browsing through the shop, getting good service and clothes.

A number of those attending the meeting stayed afterward to discuss the possibilities of setting up a similar arrangement to Oberlin's The Dresser to keep the St. Francis clothing store open.

Anyone interested in pursuing this idea and being a part of a business should contact Ms. Redding, 785-332-3508, or Mrs. Milliken, 785-332-3434.



CHAMBER MEETING — Gloria Bracelin, Kim Ritter and Carla Lampe take care of business after eating the meal.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Few attended annual meeting

By Karen Krien

New board members elected

The group attending the annual St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce meeting was small but that may have been that word had gotten around that there would be no "chicken dance" this year.

Kim Ritter, president, reported that there were two positions on the board which needed to be filled: her position and that of Mike Frewen. Chris Bracelin had indicated that he would serve on the board but wasn't at the annual meeting. After discussion, the group voted in Mr. Bracelin as a new board member and Ms. Ritter back on the board.

Carla Lampe reviewed the projects which the Chamber had helped with or promoted in 2004. The year had started with the Easter Egg Hunt and the Ladies Salad Luncheon, both held in April.

The Cheyenne County Cruisers was the big event in May. Each year, the show grows with more cars, more owners and more people coming to enjoy the show. The Chamber sponsored the Kids Pedal Pull, served lunch and, as Mrs. Lampe said, did what the car show directors told them to do.

The Chamber helped with the Stearman Fly-in in June and, in August, members were in charge of the Cheyenne County Fair Parade which was another success.

Also in August was the Relay for

Life walk and \$298 was raised by the Chamber's hamburger sales to be given to the American Cancer Society. Teacher Appreciation found the Chamber members serving up sundaes to teachers, students and anyone else attending.

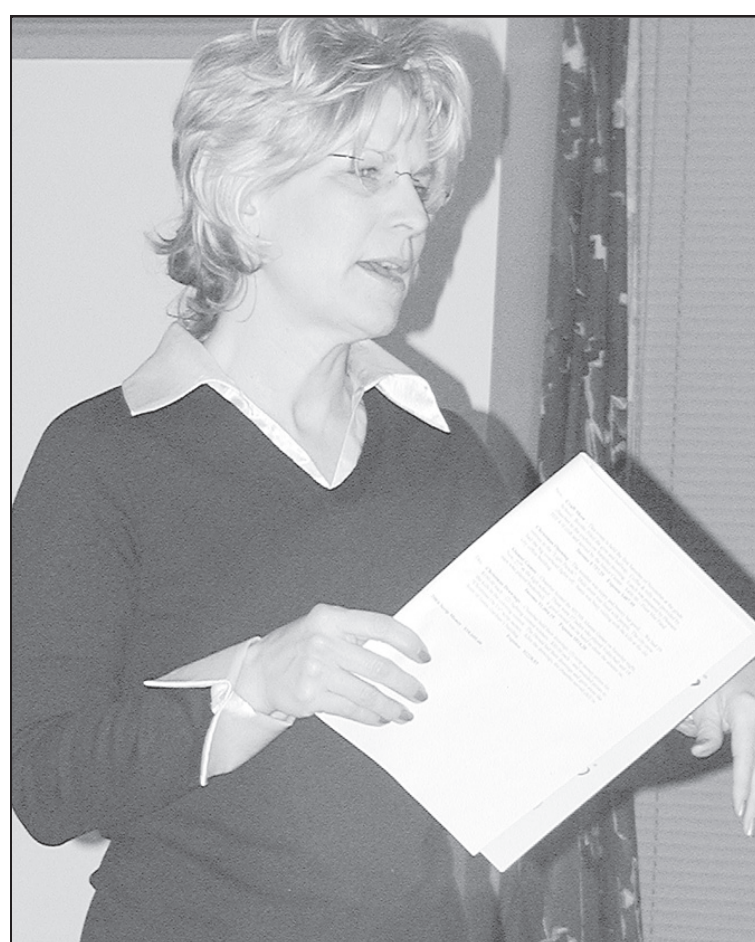
September was the Fall Festival. The weather was good and there was good participation for the games, dog show, Kids' Rodeo and 5-K Run/Walk. The Homecoming candidates were auctioned off and The Herald's \$1,000 Fall Shopping Spree was given away.

Tammy Grice and Bonnie Zwegardt headed the Craft Show in November and, as usual, it was a great success with the gym and halls full of craft booths.

The weather for the Christmas Opening, held the day after Thanksgiving, was nippy but that didn't stop people from lining the streets to see the entries in the Parade of Lights. The next day, the Alumni Games were played with many participants and a good crowd watching them play.

The Christmas drawings were held in December. There were three scrip drawings sponsored by the Chamber and three Christmas On Us drawings. The drawings were held on Main Street and following, the Chamber served three big roasters of chili to those attending.

Through the many projects, the Chamber was able to donate \$1,000



CARLA LAMPE give a review of the past years activities.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

to the city for the purchase of seats for the Cheyenne Theater, put money away for new playground equipment plus having the money to put on the many promotions. There was also money (plus money donated by the car show organization) to purchase a large tent for events such as the car show and Stearman Fly-In. They have also saved enough money for a cover to protect the gym floor for things such as the craft show and alumni.

Gloria Bracelin, Chamber secretary, was recognized for the work and organization she had given throughout the year.

Elmer Kellner, U.S. 36 Association representative, reported that the yearly U.S. 36 meeting will be held in St. Francis the first part of June.

Mrs. Lampe reported that the Bed and Breakfast Tax had been approved and that money will be used to promote travel and tourism in the county.

Members enjoyed a meal served by Brenda Zwegardt and Kari Meyers. Those with stickers in their program books took home a prize.

Club Clip

Tuesday Club

Tuesday Club was held on Jan. 11, at the home of Carol Rogers. A delicious chocolate pie was served to the 12 members who were present.

The program was given by Laura Pugh and Donna Zimbelman on the 1960s. Highlights of were J.F. Kennedy, the Peace Corp, Martin Luther King and the Vietnam War. Civil Rights and Hippies were popular in the 1960s, along with the flower child. Woodstock was the big

thing in 1969; then also the first man on the moon. In fashions there were the paper dresses and mini skirts with the beehive hair do's and lots of hair spray. As for food, Dream Whip was introduced. The Ford Mustang was the most popular car.

Everyone enjoyed the program. The members visited about their memories of the 60s.

The Club Collect was repeated by all the members and the meeting closed.



St. Francis News

Verlin and Lavonne Raile, Lakefield, Minn., spend the week of Jan. 10 with his mother, Hulda Raile. After moving her into her new apartment on Village Road, they returned home.

Art and Verla Inness, Denver, spent several days with her mother, Hulda Rile, helping with final touches in her apartment.

Tuesday Larry Beringer from Sharon Springs stopped in St.

Francis and picked LaVera Beringer up to visit Amelia Meyer, Jerry and Alma in Bethune.

They went to Burlington for dinner and visited sister-in-law, Clara Meyer in the hospital. Dorothy Meyer of Bethune is also in the Burlington Hospital.

Mrs. Ryan Northrup and Cooper of Desota and Margaret Bucholtz were Saturday morning visitors of Donna and Norvin Northrup.



Brooke Lucas
Grade: Senior
Parents: Rick & Dawn Lucas

Student of the Month

Brooke, a senior at St. Francis Community High school, is the January Student of the Month. She is involved as a football manager, basketball manager, class officer, yearbook staff, superintendents high honor roll, teacher's aide and drama.

She is also participates in MYF, helping chamber with various activities, helping at the fair and working on the parade committee.

After St. Francis Community High School, Brooke plans on continuing her education at Johnson County College and majoring in Graphic Design

Ten years from now Brooke plans on having a good job in the graphic design field and having a family of her own.

Brooke's favorite quote is: "Follow your dream...take one step at a time and don't settle for less, just continue to climb." —Amanda Bradley

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UNDER \$15,000.00

- '99 Olds Eighty-Eight, Maroon, 113,444 miles, LS, CC, PW, PDL, Cass.
- '95 Olds Cutlass Supreme, Green, 96,605 miles, 3.1, CC, PW, PDL, Cass., Bucket-Cloth
- '99 Chevy Malibu, Dark Cherry, 97,292 miles, LS, 4 dr., V6, CC, PW, PDL, CD/Cass.
- '97 Lincoln Town Car, White, 75,047 miles, 4 dr., Signature, 4.6, CC, PW, PDL, 10 Disc CD, Leather
- '00 Pontiac Grand Am, Black, 83,190 miles, 2 dr., GT, CC, PW, PDL, CD, Leather
- '02 Pontiac Grand Am, White, 88,022 miles, 4 dr., GT, CC, PW, PDL, CD
- '97 Cadillac Seville, Silver, 99,123 miles, 4 dr., STS Northstar, CC, CD/Cass, Leather
- '00 Chrysler Sebring, Gold, 24,296 miles, 2 dr., Leather, CD, PS, PW, PDL, Tilt, CCC
- '02 Buick LeSabre, Pewter, 71,881 miles, 4 dr., Limited, Leather/Heat, CD
- '03 Chevy Malibu, Red, 28,191 miles, LS, 4 dr., CD, PW, PDL
- '03 Olds Alero, Red, 25,634 miles, 4 dr., V6, PS, PW, CCC
- '01 Buick Park Ave., Silver, 55,894 miles, 4 dr., CC, PW, PDL, Cass, Leather
- '00 Pontiac Montana, Maroon, 48,301 miles, CC, PW, PDL, CD/Cass, 8 Passenger
- '99 Chevy Suburban, White/Pewter, 95,326 miles, LT, CCC, PW, PDL, CD/Cass, Leather/Heat
- '00 Mercury Mountaineer, Maroon, 73,211 miles, AWD, V8, PW, PDL, CD/Cass, new tires
- '00 Pontiac Montana, Blue/Gray, 51,890 miles, 4 dr., 3.4, CC, PW, PDL, Bkt/Bkt/Bench
- '99 GMC Yukon, White, 77,750 miles, SLE, 350, CC, CD/Cass., 4 WD
- '96 Chevy K-2500, Silver/Blue, 214,000 miles, HD, Reg. Cab, 350, Cass/CD, Hail
- '99 Chevy CK15753, Pewter, 103,677 miles, Z71, LT, 350, CC, CD/Cass., Bucket
- '00 Chevy K-1500, Pewter, 110,750 miles, Cloth, 4 WD, Z71, Bucket, CD, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise
- '02 Nissan Frontier, Gold, 40,733 miles, Buckets, CD, Auto., Tilt, Cruise

OVER \$15,001.00

- '02 Buick Park Ave., White, 30,585 miles, 4 dr., 3.8, Leather/Heat, CD
- '04 Buick Century, Beige, 12,890 miles, 4 dr., Custom, V6, PS, PW, CC
- '04 Chevy Impala, Tan, 26,072 Miles, LS, 4 dr., CD, V6
- '05 Buick Century, Steel Mist, 16,880 miles, PS, CD, Custom Keyless-Remote
- '00 Cadillac DeVille, Silver, 43,178 miles, 4 dr., Northstar, CC, CD, Leather/Heat/Mem.
- '03 Buick Park Ave., Silver, 29,554 miles, 4 dr., CD, PW, PDL, Tilt, CC, Leather
- '03 Cadillac CTS, Cashmere, 20,564 miles, 4 dr., Manual, CC, PW, PDL, Leather/Heat
- '00 Ford Expedition, Maroon, 74,618 miles, XLT, V8, CC, Cass/6 CD, Buckets, Hitch, 3rd Seat
- '03 Chevy Venture, Red, 22,714 miles FWD, Ext. LS, 6G, CC
- '02 Chevy TrailBlazer, Pewter, 60,253 miles, 4 dr., LS, I-6 4200, CC, CD, Receiver Hitch
- '99 Cadillac Escalade, White, 57,113 miles, Leather, CD, PW, PDL, Tilt, CC
- '03 Chevy TrailBlazer, Black, 30,102 miles, LS, 4 WD, 6G, PW, CC
- '02 Ford Explorer, Black, 66,070 miles, 4.0, CC, PW, PDL, CD, Leather/Heat
- '04 Jeep Wrangler, Yellow, 12,888 miles, 4 WD, CCC
- '03 GMC Yukon, White/Silver, 41,247 miles, 4 dr., 4 WD, 5.3, CC, PW, PDL, CD/Cass, 3rd Seat
- '02 GMC Yukon, Blue, 43,747 miles, SLE, 5.3, CC, PW, PDL, Cass/CD
- '03 GMC Yukon, Blue, 42,241 miles, SLT, 5.3, CC, 6 Disc CD, Leather/Heat, Rear-Ent
- '04 Chevy Suburban, White, 20,328 miles, LT, 4 WD, 3rd Seat, CC
- '04 Chevy Express, White, 13,521 miles, 3/4 Ton, 12 Passenger, 44, PW, PDL, CD
- '03 GMC K-2500, Blue, 62,600 miles, HD, Reg. Cab, SLE, 6.0 Manual, Cruise, PW, PDL, CD

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