



YULETIDE PROGRAM featured students from Dance Ranch. The older dancers helped the younger girls. Pictured are: (l to r) Alyssa Lee, Mallery Mills, Madison Tice, Reagan Beims, Clarice Neitzel and Randee Grover.

Herald staff photo by Lezlie McCormick

Continued from Page 1A is found nationwide.

She realizes that advertising is important to her business. She applied for and received a matching grant from the United States Department of Agriculture. With this money, she was able to buy the ad which landed her a spot on QVC.

They have already scheduled shows and conventions which they will be attending in 2007.

Started in the kitchen

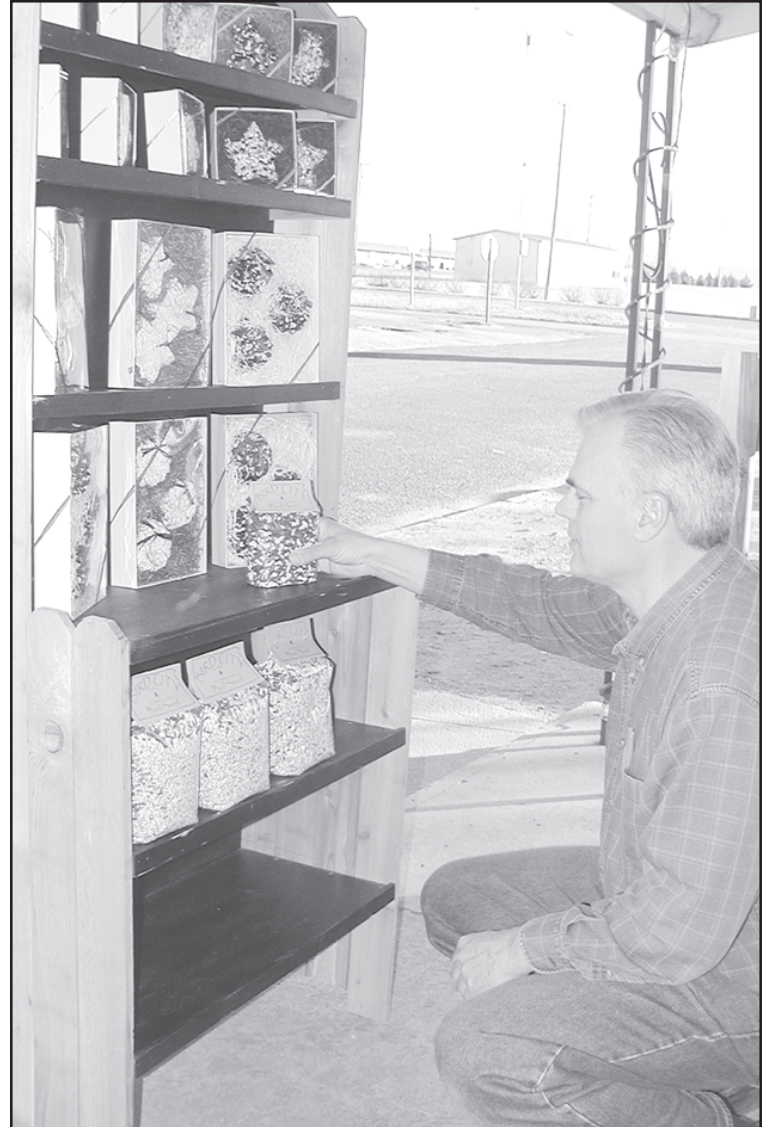
Mrs. Ketzner started making the molded bird seed products in her kitchen. The production was soon moved to the basement and is now located on Bird Ave. in Bird City. There are also two warehouses for the product. The business went from two employees to 15.

Walking into the building, one would think they were in a bake shop as the stainless steel racks are full of different products. And, what is ironic, the bird seed products are safe and edible, made from a trade secret recipe. They are also heat and rain resistant, withstanding most weather extremes.

Workers at the business can be seen mixing the seeds and ingredient which holds it together, while others are pressing the seed mixture into molds. Others are wrapping, some are packing each unit (item) into appealing packaging and, still another is getting the boxes ready for shipping.

The snowman has a black seed hat, fruit eyes, nose and buttons. The wreaths have a variety of seeds adorned with a seasonable bow. All are nestled in colorful packaging.

The QVC producers had asked for 6,000 items but, with such short notice, the company could only get 3,000 together. Mrs. Ketzner will be taking 1,800 snowmen and 1,200



RODNEY NEITZEL, owner of Hilltop General Store, arranges the display of Bird City Bird City.

wreaths. She hopes to sell the 3,000 and have orders for more. QVC has stations in Germany, London, Japan as well as the USA.

Both the Ketzners work in the business and Mrs. Ketzner said during the busy season, she will often work 12 to 15 hours a day. By August, they are starting to send out big orders. By the end of November, first of December, they are refilling orders.

To order
The Ketzners are excited about their venture on QVC. For more information about the bird seed products or to place an order, the web site is www.birdcitybirdseed.com or there are several stores including the Bird City Bird Seed business in Bird City; Hilltop General Store and Schultz's in St. Francis.

APPROVED

Continued from Page 1A

ambulance is called and there is no run, there is no charge. She suggested that there might be a small charge for these runs as well as adding a cost for the time emergency medical technicians wait. She told about a run where the technicians had been required to wait most of the afternoon before they could bring the patient back to St. Francis. No decision was made.

Mrs. Bowers reported that the service is 47 runs ahead of 2005 at this same time and it is just the end of November.

Fair board member

Ernie Ketzner was elected as the commissioner of the Bird City area in the general election. At the last meeting, the commissioners had talked about Mr. Ketzner continuing to be a fair board member.

At the Thursday meeting, Clerk Terry Miller said he had talked to the Secretary of State and he said he didn't think it was a good idea for Mr. Ketzner to serve in both capacities. He also contacted the county's auditor who said that, since commissioners appoint fair board members, Mr. Ketzner couldn't appoint himself to the fair board.

A letter was sent to Mr. Ketzner telling him that it would be best if he would resign from the fair board.

In other business

In other business:
• Elmer Kellner, St. Francis, was

appointed as a representing board member to the Resource Conservation and Development. It is a two-year term.

• Mr. Kellner was concerned about a corner in the southwest part of the county where a young man was killed. He wondered if the road could be straightened or a sign be posted to let people know there is a sharp corner. He also said there is a sign which is upside down. He was asked to talk to Road and Bridge Supervisor Dave Flemming.

• Rick Rogers, St. Francis, had notified the county clerk that he would like to continue as an active member of the Airport Authority. He also asked about drawing up a lease for land which his hanger sits on.

• Tim Carson, Corporate Plan Management Vice President, updated the commissioners on the county's health insurance. After discussion, the commissioners agreed to pay an additional \$25 toward each employee premium. There will be no change in what the employee pays.

• The commissioners agreed to give a Christmas bonus to county employees. Full-time employees will receive \$200 in scrip; part-time, \$100 scrip.

• Clerk Miller was given permission to buy new voting booths. He said the price would be over \$500.

• Supervisor Flemming had two

representatives to tell the commissioners about their brand of grader. The commissioners made no decision.

• Emergency Preparedness Director Gary Rogers told the commissioners about the mutual aid communication system. The system will be funded by a Homeland Security grant which will be administered by the Northwest Regional Homeland Security Region. The county's share is \$12,000. The agreement was signed and will allow for a fiscal agent representing the Northwest Region to handle the grant money.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners will be held at 8 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 15, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Continued from Page 1A about women of faith.

Insight has interviewed two other Christian actresses for the book. The cover will feature Mrs. Zwegardt, along with actresses, Ann Jillian and Jennifer O'Neill. The book is slated for release in March.

"It was a wonderful chance to meet all the agents from ISN (International Speakers Network) and interact with meeting planners from all over the United States," Mrs. Zwegardt said. "I really was in awe of many of the speakers that were there. Many of them speak all over the world such as Jay Plant, who swam from Alcatraz Island to San Francisco with his hands and feet tied together — just to prove he could!"

"I met Ed DuCoin who is a professional race car driver and Larry

Tracy, retired Army Colonel who was the Pentagon's top briefer under President Ronald Reagan.

"I am excited to be in such company through my relationship with ISN and, now Insight Publishing."

Mrs. Zwegardt is an author and dramatist. She has been published in *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, *Healthy Living Series on Heart Disease* and *The Rocking Chair Reader* anthology called *Family Gatherings*, as well as numerous magazine articles and web-zines. She recently started a



Zwegardt

blog (web log) that is available at www.kimzwegardt.com.

Mrs. Zwegardt is putting finishing touches on a devotional book that should be ready for publication in January.

Future

Mrs. Zwegardt performs dramatic interpretations of women from Scripture and is scheduled to perform with Lee Ezell, humor therapist; and the 4 Hymns, a male gospel quartet, at the McCook Winter Women's Conference, Jan. 26 and 27. She has performed locally at many churches as well as at church throughout the United States. Her presentations bring the Gospel to life as cultural differences fade and the audience meets the women who met Jesus.

For more information, Mrs. Zwegardt can be contacted locally at 785-332-2487.

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PRIZE

Continued from Page 1A given to Instant Winners.

It is not necessary to make a purchase to claim a ticket because those coming to *The Saint Francis Herald* office may each receive one ticket per week.

Participating businesses in the Christmas On Us drawings are:

- Bier's Hometown Store
- Cheyenne Bowl and Dairy King
- Goodell Greenhouse and Garden Center

- Hilltop General Store
- Owens True Value
- Parkhill Restaurant
- St. Francis Super's
- Schultz's Ltd.
- Stuart's Jewelry
- St. Francis Equity
- The Saint Francis Herald
- Video Kingdom

Remember, the contest will end at noon on Dec. 18 and the grand prize drawing will be held at 5:30 that afternoon on Main Street.

Christmas Facts

"Some songs are known for their appeal to adults; others for their popularity with children. "Jingle Bells" enchants both audiences, but it might surprise you to know that the original music, composed by Boston Sunday school teacher James Pierpont, was conceived as a Thanksgiving song in 1857.

Originally titled "The One Horse Open Sleigh," the song was taught by Pierpont to his pupils for a performance and was delighted to find that all 40 of them learned its lyrics almost immediately. Declared "a merry jingle" by a close friend, this holiday carol was fine-tuned and performed again at Christmas time, and

quickly became a Yuletide classic.

"Jingle Bells" Lyrics 1. Dashing through the snow, in a one-horse open sleigh, O'er the fields we go, Laughing all the way. Bells on bob-tail ring, Making spirits bright, What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight! Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way! Oh what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh!

2. A day or two ago I thought I'd take a ride, And soon Miss Fannie Bright, Was seated by my side, The horse was lean and lank, Misfortune seemed his lot, He got into a drifted bank, And then us got upso! Oh! Jingle bells...