

# one of many working women in job

agriculture-based retreat for women. They are educated in safety, in the importance of what documents to keep and what to throw away, and how to store those they can't throw away.

"We filled to our limit of 50 women this year, and it was a tremendous hit," Potter said. "Women play an important role in the farm-

ing industry, and they are making plans for another Women in Denim next year.

"Another service we offer is retail services such as grass seed," she added, "a lot of which is used for waterways. We have drip irrigation supplies, we make trees available for windbreaks in the spring, and we rent grass drills."

Potter said her office is an arm of the Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development Council, a nonprofit organization that aims to improve social, economic and environmental conditions in northwest Kansas.

She also manages the books, holds monthly board meetings, plans an annual meeting, which awards good conservation practices

throughout the county.

Potter and her husband have two sons. One lives in Hays and works in the Hays Medical Center emergency room, and the other lives in Garden City where he is a diesel mechanic.

Being a working woman suits Potter just fine. With common sense and a good work ethic, working women fill a variety of roles.

## Women pass down business from mother to daughter

By Vera Sloan

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For 45 years, mother Joan Ziegler has worked at Leroy's Printing, either with a child on her hip or with a child at her feet. Then daughter Marla Crumrine joined her mother as a co-worker 27 years ago and raised her children the same way at the family's print shop.

Ziegler said she was a med tech for the hospital, and when her husband Leroy announced they would be buying the print shop, she knew he couldn't do it by himself. Together they built a successful business with their children under their feet.

"We bought the print shop in 1964," she said, "and Marla has actually been here since she was two years old. The kids all grew up knowing how to work, and having an appreciation for work."

Crumrine said she started working with her parents after her

graduation from high school in 1982.

"I just sort of always knew I wanted to be right here," she said. "I was always sort of the right hand for the job."

In those years, Ziegler said, the business has seen many changes and had to grow with those changes.

"We went from linotype, to letter press to computers," she said, "and when we switched to computers, Marla was the one who learned it the quickest and has the most knowledge."

"We do custom printing, color brochures, do mailings for people, write newsletters for many companies, and do all kinds of printing jobs, big and small," she added.

Crumrine said she has been as far away as Florida when a call came in from Atwood with a request for funeral cards. She said she could get on her computer, send them to her mother, who printed them off, and the neither of the two businesses missed a beat.

Crumrine has been the manager of the print shop for the past 15 years, and although she lives in the Brewster area, where she and her husband farm, she said she has an office in

Brewster and can operate from there when the weather is too bad to drive to Colby.

She said they have a mutual agreement about decisions, and make them together. Crumrine said she values her parents' experience and opinions, and the business provides many benefits for the family.

Ziegler said not only did they raise five children at the shop, they have also raised four grandkids there, and the family bond is tight, with a mutual respect between all the family members.

She said customer relations doesn't get any better, and it's a miracle that they have a daughter to carry on the business. She said if there is a huge project to get out, other family members come and they all do it together.

While working together every day isn't for all families, for the Zieglers it has been an ideal situation for three generations. Even at holiday time, the grandkids want to go to the shop and play in the play room which is set up just as it was a generation ago.



JOHN DEERE

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Pictured left to right are: Shelly Aufrecht, Jennifer Van Eaton, Cynthia Bieberle and Mary Lou Jones. Not listed: Valerie Colgar

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*Thanks for all you do!*



Left to right: Verna Wiens, Lori Woodall, Joanne Brown and Donna Inlow. Not Pictured: Jennifer Woofter and Kelsie Johnson.

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