



# Company holds annual meeting at school cafeteria

**By Tim Burr**  
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 Wednesday evening, Nov. 7, a good group of members and guests attended the Wheeler Cooperative Mercantile Equity Union annual meeting held in the cafeteria of the St. Francis high school.

After a meal prepared by the school cooks and entertainment provided by Debbie Fiala's advanced music ensemble, the meeting was called to order by board president Pete Raile. Mr. Raile informed the group that this was the 95th annual meeting and that the company had a strong history in the community. He also informed the meeting that Dale Weeks, the company manager, was completing his 25th year as

manager for the Wheeler Equity, and commended him and all of the employees.

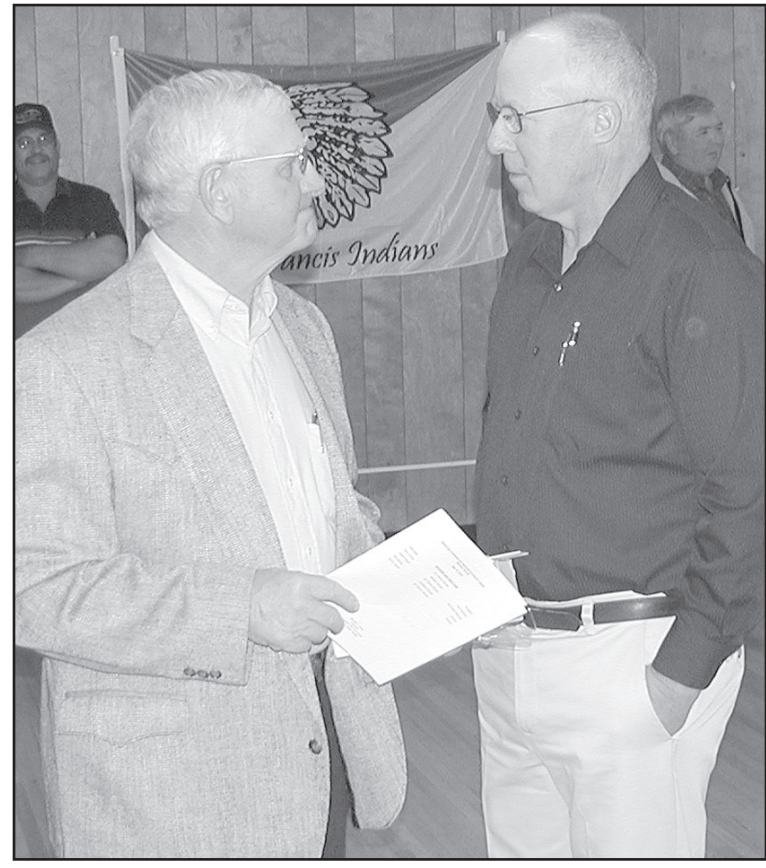
Mr. Weeks presented a combined audit and manager's report.

"The company has had a tremendous year, thanks to the patronage of our members" Mr. Weeks said.

The Equity had sales of over \$11.5 million, with net savings of nearly \$650,000. Mr. Weeks discussed other aspects of the last year's business and potential challenges with the current year.

Shawn Blanka was elected to the board to fill the position of Pete Raile, who was retiring after two terms.

The meeting was adjourned, and patronage checks were distributed to members present.



**GOING OVER THE PROGRAM** — Tom Stevens and Dale Weeks visit during the annual meeting. *Herald photo by Tim Burr*



## United Methodist Thrift Store

104 W. Washington St. Francis



Back row: Tim Burr, Lezlie McCormick, Front: Norma Martinez, Karen Krien

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## Past Winners!



## Across the County

### Ionophores help stretch limited feed supplies

The dry summer growing conditions experienced this year has many cow-calf producers nervously eyeing their precious supply of forage available for this upcoming winter feeding season. This concern is definitely justified given the unpredictable degree and extent of future inclement weather conditions that may occur.

One management tool cow-calf producers may implement to stretch their existing forage supplies is the use of Rumensin (Monensin sodium). Earlier research has shown that monensin and lasalocid (Bo-

vatec) improves the feed utilization of growing cattle by altering rumen fermentation patterns, thereby, altering (improving) the metabolizable energy content of feeds. While both of these ionophores have been extensively used with great success in the feedlot industry for almost 40 years, Rumensin is the only ionophore that is approved for mature, reproducing beef cows.

Previous research has shown that Rumensin can reduce hay intake by approximately 5 to 10 percent while still producing about the same amount of weight gain (Turner et al., 1980;

Clanton et al., 1981). More recent research conducted at Oklahoma State University with cows fed 200 milligram per head per day resulted in an additional 0.5 pound-per-day gain that resulted in nearly an increase in one half a body condition score over a 58-day feeding period.

The estimated cost for including this feed additive into a mineral supplement is approximately 2 to 3 cents per cow per day. Contact your respective feed/mineral supplier regarding cost and availability.

There is one word of caution! Rumensin is EXTREMELY toxic to

**By Marty Fear**



County Extension Agent

horses. For this very reason, cattle producers who consider its use should ensure that EVERYBODY on their operation is knowledgeable regarding where a product containing this feed additive is stored and used. Bovatec is less toxic than Rumensin however it still should not be fed to horses.

For more information contact the extension office at 785-332-3171 or cfear@ksu.edu. Till next week - Marty

## Herald And Times Happenings:

### Christmas seen through the eyes of a child is priceless

This year, as in the year's past, the Special Christmas section will be published before the holidays. The section will feature letters from Santa, answers of questions asked of school children, memories and recipes.

The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times staffs welcome participation from children to adults. All items must be received by Dec. 5 in order to get them into the special section.

Send letters, special memories, articles and recipes to The Herald at P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 or fax 785-332-3001, or drop them off or e-mail to [sfherald@nwkansas.com](mailto:sfherald@nwkansas.com) titling the subject as "Christmas for the Paper."



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## FIRST BABY CONTEST

With the oncome of the New Year comes the new arrival of that bundle of joy!  
 Coming in January a bundle of businesses ready to congratulate the new baby and the parents!

To participate in a Special Section contact Tim at:

**The Saint Francis Herald**  
 P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

— and —  
**Bird City Times**  
 PO Box 220, Bird City, KS 67731

