



**SERVING THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC Church Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday were (l to r) Delores Jenik, Gladys Owens, Joan Gienger, Kay O'Brien and Dot Stang.**

*Herald staff photo by Tim Burr*

# Area members and guests attend cooperative meeting

**By Tim Burr**

*tburr@nwkanssas.com*

Wednesday evening, Nov. 2, nearly 100 members and guests attended the 94th annual meeting of the Wheeler Cooperative Mercantile Equity Union, held in the St. Francis high school cafeteria.

Following the meal, entertainment was provided by the high school Advanced Music class, under the direction of Debbie Fiala. The business meeting was then called to order and conducted by board president Rex Murray.

Audit, financial and operating reports were presented by Dale Weeks, manager. For the fiscal year ended May 31, the company reported a profit of over \$400,000. Mr. Weeks discussed the cash portion of the patronage, stock payout for members over 80 years of age, and a revolv-

ing stock payout program for the company.

Mr. Weeks also reviewed the operations of the previous year, noting the number of bushels handled, number of railcars and trucks shipped, the installation of new equipment, and general operations of the company.

"We are a strong company," Mr. Weeks said. "We've worked hard this past year. That's what we do."

Bruce Feikert was elected to the board to replace Steve Busse, who had served for 12 years and reached the company's by-law term limit. Mr. Weeks thanked his employee group and the patrons, and concluded the meeting by drawing for door prizes.

After adjournment, patronage checks were distributed to eligible members in attendance.



**DALE WEEKS** tells the previous years figures at the annual meeting.

*Herald staff photo by Tim Burr*

## Obituaries

### Josephine Felzien Firkins Cram

*June 27, 1919 - Nov. 4, 2011*

Josephine Felzien Firkins Cram was born at home in Jennings, Kan., on June 27, 1919. She was the second child born to Margaret and Edwin Firkins, after sister Marjerie and followed by Darlene and Bruce. She died on Nov. 4, 2011.

Josephine grew up in St. Francis, Kan., and her childhood included milking goats and babysitting for the reward of a 10-cent movie ticket. Those were the Dust Bowl years, and also the time of the Great Depression.

After graduating from St. Francis High School in 1937 she worked at Penneys, where she learned to make change in German. Jo was introduced to Jim Cram by his brother Ole Robert who was dating and eventually married Marjerie. Jo and Jim married on June 24, 1942, and celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary this year.

Early married life was spent in Lawton Okla., New Orleans La.,

Hattiesburg Miss., Wichita, Kan., and then back to St. Francis, where Jo Ann was born in 1943 and Jon was born in 1949.

In 1951, the family moved to McCook, Neb., where Jeri Elizabeth was born. From 1955 to 1956, they lived briefly in Sargent Neb., but in 1956 they moved to Lakewood, Colo., into a home where they lived for nearly 50 years until taking up residence at the Atria in December 2005.

Josephine worked for 13 years for Accent Publications in Lakewood. She was a valued employee and was honored with a big party when she retired at age 67.

She was president of the Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) at the Lakewood Methodist Church and she and Jim were nearly charter members of the Green Mountain Methodist Church where they still attend. She was active in P.E.O. for 68 years, most recently in Chapter EF,

Wheatridge. After Jim retired in 1980, they enjoyed traveling, often in the company of their sister and brother, Margerie and Bob. They accompanied Jo Ann on trips to Scotland, Australia and New Zealand, and Japan. Josephine was a family point-of-contact - deeply involved in the lives of her nieces and nephews.

Josephine is survived by her husband Jim, sister Darlene Topping of Junction City, Kan., children JoAnn, Jon and Jeri, grandchildren Jayna, Jacob, Cassandra and Charlotte, great-grandchildren Jesse, Anna, James, and Elizabeth, daughter-in-law Kathy and son-in law Jon, and the spouses of her grandchildren, Jason Hand and Laura Cram. In addition, there are many beloved nieces and nephews and their families, who also mourn her loss.

Josephine's service will be held in Denver on Friday, Nov 11. For info go to [www.CrownHillFuneral.com](http://www.CrownHillFuneral.com).

### Jackson Maupin

*July 1, 1926 - Oct. 26, 2011*

Jackson Maupin was born on July 1, 1926, in Morrisville, Mo. He was one of four children born to Howard and Eva Malloy Maupin.

As a young boy he moved to St. Francis, Kan., where he attended school. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1944 and served in the European theater until his discharge in 1946. He later served during the Korean War.

Jack was married to Elizabeth "Betty" Clark on Aug. 7, 1949, in St. Francis and they made their home in St Francis and later Haigler. Jack was an over-the-road driver for Mayflower and United Van Lines until his retirement. Jack and Betty also owned and operated the Homesteaders Motel in St. Francis.

After Betty's death Jack married Iona Samler on Nov. 27, 1999. They made their home in Haigler. Jack was injured in a fall the end of September and had been moved to the Hester Memorial Home in Benkelman, Neb., where he died early Wednesday morning, Oct. 26, 2011. He had reached the age of 85.

Jack was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Haigler American Legion Post 134 where he had served as a past commander.

In addition to his parents and wife, Betty, Jack was preceded in death by two brothers Ed and Bill Maupin and his sister, Mary Holzwarth.

He is survived by his wife, Iona of Haigler; son, Michael and his

wife Susie Maupin of Wallace; daughter, Jackie and her husband Larry Long of Rapid City S.D.; two stepsons, Roger and Billy Samler of St. Francis and a stepdaughter, Linda and her husband Rick Morris of Haigler; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; other relatives and friends.

A graveside committal of cremains will be held on Saturday, Nov. 12, at 10 a.m. mountain standard time at the Haigler Cemetery with Pastor Chris Farmer, officiating. A military tribute and flag presentation will be made by Haigler Legion Post 134. A memorial has been established to the Legion Post.



**CAR ACCIDENT** at 8:05 Monday morning sent Krissy and Carol Eve Harris to the hospital. The accident happened one mile north of U.S. 36 on K-27 when Krissy hit the rumble bump and lost control. The car rolled twice and ended up in the ditch on its wheels. The girls were wearing their seat belts and were later released from the hospital.

*Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

## Fall youth project day successful

On Saturday, the St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange sponsored the Live, Love, Show Stock Fall Youth Project Day. This event was hosted by Raile Gelbvieh Farms.

Despite the wind and other activities going on in the community, said Danielle Stout, representing the Equity, the Fall Youth Project Day was still a success.

All participants went home with more knowledge, handouts, door prizes and a Fall Youth Project Day T-shirt.

Stephanie Whipps, with Hubbard Feeds, discussed beef nutrition and explained the importance of high quality feeds for show animals to maximize gain and growth potential.

Marty Fear with Kansas State University Research and Extension, Sunflower District, covered beef evaluation and selection. Dustin Wiley, of Wiley Show Cattle, spoke about show ring success, and how hard work and dedi-

cation at home will pay off in the show ring.

Matt Raile with Raile Gelbvieh and Ms. Stout discussed proper showmanship skills and the importance of showmanship and sportsmanship to the youth. The final speaker for the day was Ryan McAtee, with McAtee Brothers, who discussed health issues.

After lunch and the speakers completed their section the youth

participated in a Beef Skill-A-Thon, where their knowledge on the beef industry was challenged.

Every attendee left with a vast amount of knowledge, and a kick start for the 2012 show season, Ms. Stout said. Watch our website and facebook page for upcoming spring clinics. We will feature one fitting and showing clinic beef clinic as well as a sheep, goat and swine clinic in the spring.

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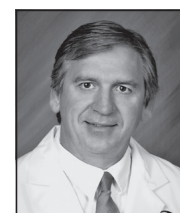


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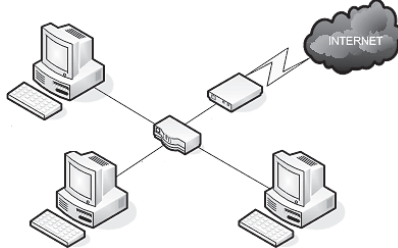
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## The Saint Francis Herald

**Tim Burr**  
Advertising Manager  
[tburr@nwkanssas.com](mailto:tburr@nwkanssas.com)

310 W. Washington PO Box 1050 St. Francis, KS 67756  
[sf.herald@nwkanssas.com](mailto:sf.herald@nwkanssas.com)  
785-332-3162  
785-332-3001 (fax)



122 W. Washington, St. Francis, KS 785-332-0191