By Jan Rahn
Managing Editor

With the addition of a well-seasoned insurance agent, HomeTown Agency in Grant has expanded insurance coverage.

Larry Pritchett joined the agency in June after retiring from Perkins County Schools as athletic director.

Originally, Prit-chett, who has a long background in insurance, planned to be part-time at HomeTown Agency, working with owner/agent Jeff Skeels.

“In this business it’s hard to be part-time,” said Pritchett. “For a retired half-time guy, I’m full time!”

The agency is looking forward to 2010 with the expanded coverage they can offer clients.

Life and health coverage is now offered along with coverage already available for home, auto, commercial, farm and crop insurance.

Pritchett and Skeels, ironically, are on the same team again, only this time in the insurance business rather than Plainsmen basketball.

Pritchett coached Skeels from 1990-1993. In turn, Skeels later became Pritchett’s assistant coach from 2005-2007.

Pritchett enjoys their friendship, common interest in insurance, and camaraderie, and jokingly said, “Did I play him enough—no, you never play anyone too much. I’ll do anything for him, but I won’t run sprints!”

Pritchett said he still misses being involved in sports at school—but what he does not miss is the hectic scheduling and hassles that went along with being the athletic director.

He is happy to be working with the group at HomeTown Agency, and his career change allows for flexibility, which includes visiting two grown sons in eastern Nebraska and looking forward to becoming a new grandpa in May.

Pritchett got into the insurance business in 1984 during the time he and his wife Marlene owned the hardware store in Grant. He then went back to coaching but remained in insurance part time. When he later became athletic director at school, there was no such thing as spare time.

Joining HomeTown Agency allows Pritchett to continue in a familiar field and help make a difference in an expanding local business.

His focus will be in the life and health coverage areas of permanent and term life, disability, group and individual retirement, group and individual health, long-term care, Medicare supplements and Part D.

“Larry’s expertise is valuable to our organization and we’ll be able to provide even more well-rounded service to our clients with the life and health field,” said Skeels.

Skeels opened the HomeTown Agency in Grant in 1999. He and two other partners are also owners/managers of four other agencies—Wauneta, Cambridge, McCook and Arapahoe.

Other agents in the Grant office offering many aspects of insurance coverage include Kandi McClung and Pam Gloy.