

# Emporium evolves from bazaar to full-scale business

**By Jolene Guzman**  
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — The idea went from a weekend holiday bazaar to a month-long holiday market to a full-scale business in a matter of months.

Kim Brehm's plan for Main Street Emporium of Dallas is taking shape after opening on Feb. 1.

"This is exactly what I envisioned," Brehm said. "There are still things that I wanted to add. ... I still want to do coffee and tea so customers can relax."

The downstairs of the former J.C. Penney building on Main Street is packed, and Brehm said she's moving clothing on consignment upstairs to make room for more vendors.

As of Saturday, 46 vendors and people with items on consignment have products at the emporium — and that number seems to grow by the week. Most vendors are local, but Brehm carries the wares of people from as far away as Vancouver, Wash., and Eugene.

Brehm said she wants to

## Check it out

**What:** Main Street Emporium of Dallas.

**Where:** 939 Main St., Dallas.

**Hours:** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Closed Mondays.

**Contact:** 360-903-6158 or <https://www.facebook.com/mainstreetemporiumofdallas/>.

keep prices low, and her vendors seems to have the same goal.

She said a jewelry vendor from Beaverton has made a line uniquely designed — and priced — for the Dallas community.

"She actually looked up Dallas, Oregon, found out about are little community ... and personally made stuff that is cost-effective for this town, including Dallas Dragons (pieces)," Brehm said.

Jewelry is just one of the many items you can find at the emporium.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

The Main Street Emporium began as a bazaar but will now be a full-scale business.

Browsing the salesfloor, you will see fresh bread, local honey, clothing, hand-crafted soaps and lotions, furniture and housewares — most of it one of a kind.

She recommends customers look at what is on the clothing racks when they stop by.

"I think a lot of people don't realize we've got some

great clothes, and they're very affordable," she said.

You can even get portrait photos taken by Desired Effects Photography.

Classes on card making

with instructor Jeena Huntzinger have already begun at the store, and courses in essential oils and metal stamping are being scheduled.

Brehm said her first weeks have been busy, and she hopes to bring even more people through the doors. She's happy to revitalize a storefront in downtown Dallas and plans to work with LaVonne Wilson, whose husband, Bob, managed the store when it was a J.C. Penney, to recognize the building's history.

"I'm giving it the life it deserves. I want to keep it looking historic," Brehm said. "I'm going to work with her (Wilson) and get copies of her pictures and do like a little memorial."

Already Brehm and the owners of Just Stuff and Some Things, both located on Main Street, are cooperating. That's the kind of forward-moving energy Brehm wants to take over the downtown.

"That what I want to see ... the businesses working together for the community," she said.

# Del: Fredericks was dedicated to fire department



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOLLMAN FUNERAL HOME/Itemizer-Observer

Delbert Fredericks volunteered for more than six decades.

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"Apparently only his doctors listened to what Delbert was told, because he didn't," Gabliks said.

He and his dog would walk to incidents in town — or if it was too far to walk, he would drive.

"It was often that he would be there before the duty officer," he said. "He never really slowed down."

His version of "slowing down" was overseeing his "pop machine empire," three soda machines at the fire station, city hall and city shops that helped raise money for the volunteer department.

Gabliks said Fredericks gave a detailed report on the money raised through

the pop machines each January at the department's annual business meeting.

"This was the equivalent of the Dallas Fire Department Dow Jones report," Gabliks said. "It was truly a much-awaited event, and Delbert took a lot of time to do that."

Gabliks said Fredericks could be a little cantankerous with his comments and questions during monthly business meetings, but he cared for his fellow firefighters. That showed through what Gabliks believed is the other purpose behind "Del's pop shop" at the fire station.

"Delbert realized that if we had a pop after a call, we could discuss the inci-

dent we just returned from, check on each other and make sure everyone was OK," Gabliks said.

Fredericks was famous for another attribute — his ability to remember everything.

"He had the greatest memory of any one I have ever met," Bollman said.

He put those memories into the fire department newsletter, "Just Rambling." It wasn't just one page, but many, every month packed with new events and department history.

Fredericks' dedication to the fire department may be what most remember him for — he was among the first class inducted into the department's Wall of Honor — but he was no less a family man.

"To us, his girls, he was dad. Not many were in this group — just three. It's an exclusive club," said daughter Colleen Pinner. "Our growing up was simple, but rich in many ways."

She said he kept a baseball in his glove box that he would pull out every so often when she was younger.

"We would toss it around, and we would just talk," she said. "A couple of years ago, he opened his glove box, pulled out that ball and asked if I knew what it was. He had been carrying it around all these years."

Before the final bell rang Saturday marking the end of Fredericks' service, Gabliks expressed appreciation for the department's volunteer extraordinaire's family.

"I thank Agnes and Delbert's family for sharing him with us," he said.

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