

Area

Tax increase for Oberlin Schools fails by a vote of 613-404

By KIMBERLY BRANDT
Oberlin Herald
OBERLIN — Voters in a special election said “no” Tuesday, defeating a question to raise the Oberlin School District’s local option budget to 25 percent of the general fund by 209 votes.
School officials have said they will have to eliminate the equivalent of nine teachers if the tax increase failed, but only about five if

it passed. Decisions may come at a school board meeting Monday.
There were 613 no votes and 404 yes, nearly the opposite of a similar vote last year. With only two polling places, one at the Decatur County Courthouse and one at the Norcatour city office, volunteers were done counting the ballots by 7:30 p.m.
Out of the 2,133 people registered to vote in the district, only

1,017, or just less than half, took part in the election, including 102 people who voted early. That means 48 percent of the registered voters made the decision.
Superintendent Kelly Glodt, tracked down at a Red Devils basketball game in Hoxie, said he would be disappointed if he didn’t say he was disappointed.
“That is why there are elections,” he said. “The public has spoken.”

“The administration and the board will just have to do the best with the hand they have been dealt. We will still provide the best education possible with the resources we have.”
The board approved a resolution to increase the local option budget, which comes from a property tax levy, from 18.11 percent to 25 percent of the general fund in January.
At the time, Phil Lahman, who

builds terraces and owns two houses in Oberlin, asked the board to skip the petition process and go to an election. The board decided not to do that, and Lahman circulated a petition with help from others, including Gary Baldwin and Shayla Williby.
On Jan. 30, the petition was turned into the county clerk’s office and certified with 134 signatures. It needed only 106, or 5 percent of the

voters in the district.
The petition forced an election, allowing voters to decide if the district could raise taxes. The increase had been estimated at around 7 mills. This is not the first time the board has been through this process, but the results were different. Last July, the board passed a resolution to increase the local option budget from 13.11 to 18.11 percent. A petition was filed, and in a special election, voters approved the increase 606-393.
Even with the extra money, the board started to cut back on spending as enrollment declines eroded the budget. Cuts included limiting field trips, reducing the overall athletic inventory, eliminating the “C” team for football, reducing the amount spent on classroom supplies from \$500 per teacher to \$300 and reconfiguring the elementary staff rather than replacing a fifth-grade teacher.

Later, the board decided to drop the curriculum council for the year, delayed ordering textbooks, asked the teachers to take a lower insurance plan, put a freeze on salaries and cut five days out of the school year. Glodt said at the March board meeting on Monday, the board will have to do resolutions of intent not to renew certified staff members. Non-teaching staff will be reviewed later, he said.

Goodland Star-News hosting ‘Taste of Home’ event

GOODLAND — Tickets went on sale this week for the Taste of Home Cooking School at Max Jones Fieldhouse at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 13.
In addition to the Goodland Star-News selling tickets, other area newspapers have tickets available as well.
Other outlets include *The Colby Free Press*, *Norton Telegram*, *Oberlin Herald* and *St. Francis Herald*.
“There were a lot of calls about

the show before the tickets were actually available,” said Sheila Smith, *Star-News* office manager, “and they are now on sale at our office.”
“Tickets are \$7 each in advance and if there are any left, they will be \$8 at the door.”
The doors of the fieldhouse will open at 4 p.m. to give everyone a chance to visit the many booths we expect to have along with the special cooking program.”
Theme of the cooking session

will be “Back to Basics,” said Margaret McCutcheon, a home economist with the Taste of Home Cooking School, who will handle the program.
Basic what, you ask?
“We are talking about basic cooking skills — the classic cooking techniques your grandmother passed onto your mother and she, in turn, hoped to pass onto you,” McCutcheon said.
“If your menus consist of carry-out foods and heat-n-serve entrees,

you might now regret that you disregarded Mom’s ‘lessons.’ So here’s your opportunity to see how easy cooking can be.”
Come and join McCutcheon and learn the finer points of good cooking. Whether you need to brush up on marinating meats, tempering chocolate or phyllo dough techniques, this presentation will have something for everyone.
“People say they appreciate the cooking tips our home economists offer during the cooking demon-

stration,” said Sandy Bloom, executive director of Taste of Home Cooking Schools.
“We are sure the ABC’s of home cooking will become a valuable lesson for audiences this season.”
Everyone who attends will receive a primer for successful cooking, a free copy of the Taste of Home Recipe Collection.
This full-colored cookbook contains about 150 unpretentious, family-pleasing recipes.
“This program has the ‘recipe’ for success — helpful tips, an entertaining home economist, reliable recipes and lots of prizes,” said Smith. “Get your tickets early, because you won’t want to miss out.”
For ticket information, call (785) 462-3963 or in Goodland, (785) 899-3338.

Bird City club plans to provide new park facilities

By CASEY McCORMICK
Bird City Times
BIRD CITY — Monday evening the Bird City City Council met to discuss new bathrooms at the park, future activities with the Cheyenne Country Development Corporation

and other business.
A representative of the Bird City Community Club, Ned Smith, brought a proposal to build new rest rooms at the Bird City Parks. The old bathrooms have been in need of major repair for years and have had

damage done to them by vandals.
Smith said the Community Club had received a grant from the Century II Foundation which would pay for two, simple, handicap accessible bathrooms located close to the old rest rooms. Any additional ex-

penses for the project will be covered by Community Club.
The council approved the request which will begin as soon as the weather cooperates and the old structures can be demolished and removed.

Gateway seeks booths for first home show

OBERLIN — The Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce and KFNF Radio are gearing up for their first home show on Saturday and Sunday, March 20 and 21, at The Gateway.
The show will be open Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Chamber Manager Glenva Nichols said they already have 23 booths signed up, including banks, appliances, air conditioning and heating, hardware, gardening and computer and phone lines.

Friday. To register, call the chamber office at 785-475-3441.
The booths cost \$75 for a 10x10 spot or \$125 for a 10x20 spot. Nichols said for an additional \$50, KFNF will mention the names of the businesses with the booths several times on the air and they will do a live interview both days the show is open.
This is the first home show for the Chamber and radio station. Royce Wilson, who died last year, formerly held a home show annually, Nichols said.

The Chamber decided to keep the show going this year to help people learn about things that are available for their homes, and asked KFNF if they wanted to co-sponsor the event.
Nichols said the show is a great way for homeowners to see the new line of products that are available and also a way to visit with professionals.
The Gateway staff will be running a concession stand both days. The home show is free for spectators.

There is room for 40 booths in the arena at The Gateway, said Mrs. Nichols, and the chamber’s goal is to fill all the spaces.
There is still time to register for a booth, she added, noting that they would like all registrations in by

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Gem Lions Club

Annual Soup Day
VEGGIE - CHILI - POTATO
March 6, 2004 • 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Gem Community Building • Free Will Donation

Your generous donations allow us to serve disadvantaged and needy individuals in our community as well as around the world.



WANTED JAPANESE SWORDS & DAGGERS
Long Swords up to: **\$5,000.00** ea.
Short Swords up to: **\$1,000.00** ea.

BUYING GERMAN WAR RELICS
* SWORDS * DAGGERS * FLAGS * MEDALS * HELMETS * UNIFORMS *

BUYING GUITARS & MANDOLINS
DOBRO GRETSCH
EPIPHONE NATIONAL MARTIN GIBSON SUPRO

BUYING U.S. FIGHTING KNIVES & SWORDS
* CIVIL WAR * WWI * WWII * KOREAN WAR *

HOLIDAY INN MEETING ROOM IN LOBBY
645 WEST WILLOW COLBY, KANSAS

BUYING SUN. ONLY
MARCH 7
9:AM TO NOON

Hutfles Electric
410 E. 4th • Colby, Kansas
Mobile: 443-2649

- For all your lighting needs •
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Larry Hutfles
Licensed/Insured

RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER CLINIC
901 E. Hospital Drive • Atwood, Kansas
785-626-3241

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Baskar Duval, M.D. • Terrell Hadley, M.D.
Jerry Molstad, P.A.C.

First & third Tuesday afternoons:
Nadja Vawrk-Button, P.A.C.

The Thomas County Interagency Coalition and the Regional Prevention Center would like to thank all parents who returned a Parent Survey.

Winners of Colby Chamber Bucks:

- \$100 ~ Kristy Rubio
- \$50 ~ Sharon Funk
- \$25 ~ Jeff Krzycki
- \$10 ~ Melinda Harold
- \$10 ~ Kenny Withington
- \$10 ~ ticket number 203193

Children of these parents are winners too of \$50, \$25, \$15 or \$10.

Information from the Parent Survey will be used to create a campaign to reduce underage drinking in our community. For information call 462-8152.

This project is funded by a Drug-Free Communities Support Program grant from the U.S. Department of Justice/Office of National Drug Control Policy/Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

You Are Invited to attend the Dr. Max Pickerill Lecture Series with

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

Thursday
March 11, 2004
7:00 p.m.

Northwest Kansas
Cultural Arts Center
Colby Community College

No Admission Charge

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