

Pilot, officer enters City Council race as write-in

By **KIMBERLY BRANDT**

With over 20 years as a manager and leader, Ken Shobe has decided to seek a seat on the Oberlin City Council as a write-in candidate.

At least two other possible write-in candidates have been mentioned in the race, but no one else has announced.

Mr. Shobe said he has been contacted by several people over the last month who have encouraged him to run in the April 3 election. He said the people were looking to broaden the slate of candidates. After a lot of thought, he said, he decided last week

to run with the election only about three weeks away.



Ken Shobe

He has never sat on a city council but was an officer in the Air Force for over 20 years. Mr. Shobe said he thought that experience would help him. Mr. Shobe graduated from Decatur Community High School in 1968 and then left to pursue a career in the Air Force. He flew C-135 transports from bases in Texas, New Hampshire, South Dakota, California and Omaha. In 1995, he retired as a lieutenant colonel and moved back to Oberlin.

Now he teaches computer science at

McCook Community College. Mr. Shobe served as the president for the high school's alumni association last year. He is involved in the United Methodist Church and Rotary.

Mr. Shobe said he follows what the council is talking about as a citizen. He said he is concerned about the water issue and would like to be involved in decisions made on it. He said he would like to take a "macro" view of management.

"I think we have hired good people to run the city," he said. "We need to let them run it."

Although he said the council is the ultimate decision maker, he said it has hired experts to do the individual jobs. He said he has also followed the dis-

cussion on hiring a fourth police officer to a certain extent. He said he didn't have enough information to make a decision on the topic, but if he was on the council he would lean towards the expertise of the police chief and other council members.

As the new kid on the block, if he was elected, he said he would need a training period time. Mr. Shobe said during that time he would ask a lot of questions and is anxious to learn the ins and outs of the council. He said he has also heard about training seminars for council members which he would be interested in attending.

Mr. Shobe and his wife Janice have one child, Mark, 22, who lives in Oberlin.

Advance balloting under way as date for spring election nears

Advanced ballots for the city and school board election on April 3 have already started being mailed out, meaning that any write-in candidates need to get their names out to the public.

Marilyn Horn, Decatur County Clerk and election officer, said in order to be elected as a write-in candidate, a person has to convince voters to write their name on a blank line on the bottom of the ballot. It depends

on how many seats are open to determine where a write-in candidate has to be placed.

For example, in Oberlin if running for the City Council, a candidate would need to have one of the top three highest vote totals since there are three seats open.

Mrs. Horn said write-in candidates don't have to do anything special, since they have already missed the filing date.

County to pay half for radios

By **KIMBERLY BRANDT**

Decatur County commissioners agreed during last week to pay half of the cost for a new repeater, about \$1,250 of the total \$2,500, to be placed on the city water tower so police officers can talk with dispatch.

Police Chief Wade Lockhart told the commissioners at an earlier meeting that his officers had trouble using their radios to talk with each other and responding to dispatch since the repeater was moved from the water tower to a cellular tower near Kanona. He had bids for a new repeater to be placed on the water tower.

Last Tuesday, Gary Flannigan, with Nextech met with the commission, Sheriff Ken Badsky, Chief Dispatcher Jeanne Pachner and Chief Lockhart to discuss a new repeater.

Sheriff Badsky asked if the police officers' problem was with the radios instead of the repeater. Mr. Flannigan said it was a repeater problem since the officers couldn't use the portable radios to talk to each other. He said the antenna used to transmit the talk around feature was also moved to a lower spot in the county which didn't help. Mr. Flannigan said putting a repeater and the antenna back on the water tower should fix the police officers' problems with the radios. Now there are two channels left in dispatch, so another repeater would work, he said.

He said the radio license would have to be modified for the second repeater, and that cost isn't included in the figures Chief Lockhart had.

Each officer's individual radio will have to be re-programmed too, said Mr. Flannigan. Sheriff Badsky said there is an antenna on the tower. He said the new repeater could use it, which will save all those involved money.

Sheriff Badsky said he didn't want the money for a new repeater coming out of his budget. Commissioners agreed to pay half of the fee for the repeater if the city agrees to pay the other half. The county's half will be paid from the general fund and the other from 911 tax money.

Both the police department and sheriff's office agreed to pay for the re-programming of their radios.

Let's see how this one does



A CAR WAS PLACED on the track by Nolan Peters during the Cub Scouts' Pinewood Derby race Sunday at The Gateway. About 20 kids participated in the event with the homemade cars, while parents and siblings cheered them on. Each Cub Scout had several chances to race his car, with the overall winner for the day being Shay McChesney. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Brandt

Officers can ticket underage drivers

Oberlin Police officers say they have noticed an increase in teen-age drivers, many who don't have licenses yet and others who are abusing farm or restricted licenses.

Patrolman Troy Haas said state law says a person has to be 16 to get a driver's license after taking the tests. If a teenager is given a ticket for driving in violation of restrictions, he said, the judge will decide what happens from there. The sentence can include a fine up to \$250 and a suspended driver's license from 30 days to two years. This is what Matthew John Mondero, 15, may face after receiving a ticket for driving in violation of restrictions on Sunday. Mr. Mondero was driving a 1987 Mazda on Frontier Parkway when he tried to take a left onto Penn Ave and slid into the Oberlin sign in the snow. Patrolman Haas saw the accident and followed the young man home, where he wrote him a ticket.

Two cell phones have been stolen or misplaced recently here. The first one was reported missing about 6 p.m. last Tuesday. Kaylene Thomas, 42, said she left the phone on the dashboard of a vehicle parked outside Decatur Community High School during a game.

The second phone was reported missing on Friday and hadn't been seen since Monday, Feb. 26. The phone, belonging to Dennis Richards, 47, was at a home on Maple. The Nokia cell phones are worth about \$100 each. The Oberlin Herald reported the theft of a set of keys and two aluminum letters on Saturday. Publisher Cynthia Haynes said she left her keys in the front door while doing an errand inside, and when she came back out, they were gone. The letters L and D, about 6-8 inches high, disappeared from The Herald's sign sometime before that. A reward is being offered for return of both the keys, which were on a blue

neck cord, and the aluminum letters.

Repaving to begin soon at city airport

Work including filling cracks, repaving the taxiway and runway and cleaning an underground fuel leakage will start sometime this spring at the Oberlin Airport, northwest of the U.S. 36 and U.S. 83 intersection.

City Administrator Gary Shike said the base of the taxiway and runway are still good, although there are some cracks on the surface. About seven years ago, the city filled the cracks, he said, and it is time to do that again.

The contractor, APAC Shears, a Kansas firm, will probably use a melted rubber-asphalt mix to fill the cracks, he said. Workers will use a machine to blow dirt and gravel out of the cracks before they are filled.

After the repairs dry, Mr. Shike said, an asphalt overlay will be put over the entire runway and taxiway.

The job won't start until the temperatures get into about the 50s and stay there, he said. Once the work is started, Mr. Shike said, he guessed it would be about three weeks until completion.

The airport will remain open during the work, although the runway may need to be shut down while it is being resurfaced. He said there is a grass runway which can be used while that is going on.

Estimated cost for the project is \$183,769, with two-thirds of it being paid for by a grant from Kansas Department of Transportation's aviation division. The other third will be paid for by

the city. Mr. Shike said the city has known about the project for quite a while and have been saving for it.

The city crew will be replacing lights on the runway when the weather clears, he said.

Another job which may be starting this spring, although Mr. Shike said he wasn't sure when, is the remediation project for a fuel tank at the airport which leaked. The underground storage tank for airplane fuel was about 35 years old and was removed about two years ago, said the administrator.

Before the tank could be replaced, the discovery was made that it was leaking, said Mr. Shike. Because of its age, city officials decided it wasn't worth the cost to upgrade it.

Instead the tank was removed and a new one was put in above ground. The leakage is not a threat to ground water since it is far above the water table in that area.

Although the tank was buried on city property, the job is now in the hands of the state Department of Health and Environment. He said since the city is a member of the Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund, that was the way the city decided to deal with the clean-up.

The city has signed a contact with Geocore Services, from Salina, for the work, and then the state works with the company to set the plans for clean-up. The only responsibility for the city is to pay the deductible, which is \$3,500.

LAND AUCTION

160 Acres, More or Less, Rawlins County Land

912 Acres, More or Less, Thomas County Land

Tuesday, March 27, 2001 • 2:00 p.m. CDT

Sale Location: Gem Community Center, Gem, Kansas

SELLER: ELVIN C. GRISWOLD TESTAMENTARY TRUST, GREGORY K. LOHOEFENER, TRUSTEE

LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:

- Tract 1-SE 1/4 22-5-32, Rawlins County, Kansas
- Tract 2-W1/2 of 4-6-32, Thomas County, Kansas, less tract of land containing 7.15 acres with improvements.
- Tract 3-W1/2 6-6-32, Thomas County, Kansas
- Tract 4- NW1/4; W1/2NE1/4; SE1/4NE1/4 all in 8-6-32, Thomas County, Kansas

MANNER OF SALE:

Each tract will sell in individual tracts only.

TERMS:

10% down day of sale, balance at closing with certified funds.

EVIDENCE OF TITLE:

Seller will furnish title insurance with Seller and Buyers sharing equally in costs.

TAXES:

Seller will pay 2000 and prior years. Buyers pay 2001 and subsequent years. 2000 Taxes- Tract 1- \$432.22; Tract 2- \$473.49; Tract 3- \$628.55; Tract 4- \$574.53

MINERALS:

Seller's interest going to Buyers

POSSESSION:

At closing, on or before April 27, 2001, on open land and grassland; after wheat harvest 2001 on planted wheat. Buyers will receive 1/3 of 2001 planted wheat on Tract 1 and Tract 3. On Tract 2 the present tenant will receive 100% of planted wheat, as he has a cash lease. The lease money will be retained by the seller.

MULTIPLE PERIL CROP:

Tract 1- 75% CRC insurance, 31.0 bushel yield

Tract 3- 75% CRC insurance, 33.0 bushel yield

Seller will transfer insurance to Buyers, with Buyers paying the premium.

FSA INFORMATION

Seller is retaining all 2001 payments already issued.

Tract	Crop Land	Wheat base	Oat base	Sorghum base	Barley base
Tract 1	149.0	65.1	3.7	50.7	1.3
Tract 2	116.0	50.7	2.8	39.5	1.0
Tract 3	227.3	99.4	5.6	77.4	2.0
Tract 4	200.3	87.6	4.9	68.2	1.8

YIELDS

Wheat-34 bushel

Oats-40 bushel

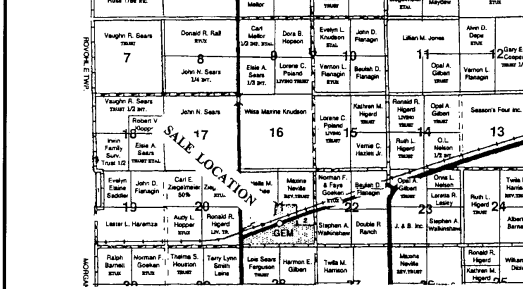
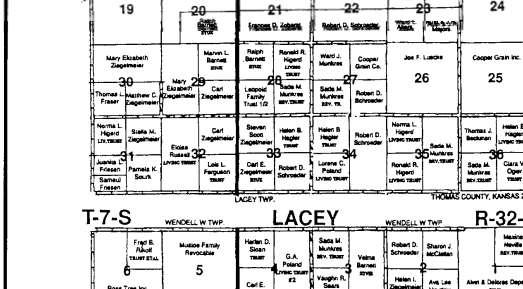
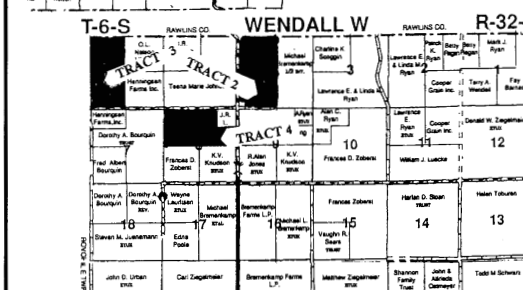
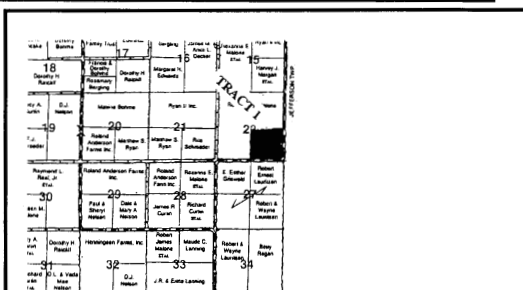
Sorghum 47 bushel

Barley-38 bushel

ESCROW

Earnest money will be escrowed with Gordon Company of Colby, INC. who will serve as closing agent.

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THIS ONE WILL BE SNATCHED UP QUICKLY!



304 N. ELK. This 3,000 sq. ft. 1979 immaculate ranch home boasts grand-scale living on 2 levels. All rooms are spacious and the 23' x 15' living room showcases a brick, wood-burning fireplace and is open to the formal dining room. The beautiful oak kitchen opens to an oversized morning room w/windows overlooking a lush landscaped backyard. The bedroom wing includes main-level laundry room, huge master suite w/bath, His and Her closets, plus guest bedroom and bath. Two more bedrooms and bath are located on the fully finished lower level, which also includes full-size kitchen, family room w/wood-burning stove, fruit room and walk-in cedar closet. The office w/walk-in closet, is conveniently located just off the 900 sq. ft. double attached garage. Central air/heat, underground sprinkler system and 20' x 28' shop are just a few of the many amenities this corner lot home offers.



NEW REDUCED PRICE! 808 E. JACKSON. This 1975 split-level in quiet neighborhood includes new carpet, lg. master bedroom suite w/bath, 3 additional bedrooms and bath, cozy family room and central air/heat. The open kitchen/dining feature sliding glass doors to beautiful fenced, landscaped yard w/underground sprinklers.

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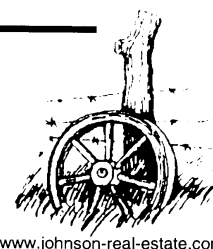
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