

Good Sam goes into baby biz

Senior center to offer day care

Little Sam's Child Day Care in the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center will hold a baby shower at 2:30 p.m. Friday in the new facility in the east wing of the center, which will open about the middle of April.

The day care center is in the "500" wing of the center, which had rooms for patients which weren't being used.

LaVern Burtis, supervisor of the environmental department with the center and a young man from Sappa Valley Youth Ranch tore out the walls, painted the new room, built shelves and cabinets, among other things, to get the center ready. Last week, plumbing work was being done and a linoleum floor needed to be installed.

Mr. Burtis said the young man from the ranch worked out well. Not only was he able to help the center, but Mr. Burtis said the center was able to give him experience in construction in a "positive Christian atmosphere."

With a shortage of day cares in town, said Barb Berry, who will manage the facility in the center, Good Sam thought it was time to put one in. The center has been looking at a facility for years and then last summer there were five to-be-moms on the staff due at the same time.

"We could either lose them or provide day care," she said.

Mrs. Berry has two kids of her own of day care age, Logan and Mason, and worked at the center as a nurse aide before taking on the role of day care manager.

The child care facility will first keep kids from parents at the center and will then maybe work with kids who have parents working at the hospital or Cedar Living Center, said Mrs. Berry. She said it is hard for people who work at health care centers to find day care, but the one in the Good Samaritan Center will stay open the two shifts which those people work from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"The main thing is that we are going to have resident and day care interaction," she said. "At least once a week, we will have a special craft



ON HIS KNEES, Logan Berry played with toys in the Good Samaritan Center's day care area, which will open in April.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Brandt

project."

Although residents aren't allowed to hold kids under 18 months, they will be allowed to come read to the kids, rub their backs and spend time in the day care.

Joyce Ploussard, center administrator, said the residents are getting excited about the facility and are making the centerpieces for the baby shower on Friday.

"We have kids come over from the grade school to read to the residents," she said. "We know it is good for the kids and the residents to spend time with each other."

Mrs. Berry said having kids around may help prevent some of those "bad day blues" with the residents.

The shower is for all the community to come in and see the facility. Ms. Ploussard said everyone is wel-

come to stop by.

Although the Good Samaritan Center has done the work officials say they are looking for some items for the children.

Items include indoor and outdoor toys, bibs, blankets, dress-up clothes, books, kids' videos, infant swings, high chairs and mobiles for cribs. Items may be used or new.

The kids area will have a small kitchen, a sleeping area, places to play on the ground and outside and a craft area.

The administrator said although their tentative opening is in April, officials are waiting for the center's license and for the five staff people to complete their licensing.

The center can take 10 kids total and they have five babies and about three to four pre-schoolers already signed up.

Man arrested on drug charges thought he was in Overland Park

By KIMBERLY BRANDT

A 22-year-old Kansas man who apparently thought he was flying through the suburbs, was arrested on three drug charges last week after being pulled over for speeding on U.S. 36.

Brandon Wahler, from Ozawkie, in eastern Kansas, told Trooper Jerry Stritt and Decatur County Deputy Gary Baldwin that he thought he was in Overland Park. He claimed that he had never been in northwestern Kansas before, Deputy Baldwin said.

Trooper Stritt stopped the man for speeding 78 mph before noon last Monday and Deputy Baldwin was called in for back-up. Mr. Wahler was arrested for driving under the influence because of his physical actions and the noticeable fresh needle "tracks" on his arms, Deputy Baldwin said.

A urine test turned up positive for cocaine, marijuana and methamphetamine. In the car, the officers found what looked like a little bit of crack cocaine and some marijuana, said the

deputy, plus some used needles. Deputy Baldwin said no large quantities of drugs were found and that it was more for personal use. He said the youth was "out of it" in jail for more than a day.

Mr. Wahler was charged with possession of cocaine, which carries a sentence of up to 42 months in state prison or a fine up to \$100,000; possession of marijuana, which carries up to a year in the county jail and a fine up to \$2,500; and possession of drug paraphernalia, up to a year in jail or a fine up to \$2,500. He posted a \$25,000 bond.

Friday night, Deputy Baldwin was called to Jennings on a complaint of someone driving around causing problems, but when he arrived, no one was around.

Saturday around noon, Esther Lindquist, 70, Oberlin, was southbound on U.S. 83. Her car apparently went off the road and ran into the fence west of High Plains Veterinary Service, hitting the corner post in the center of her front

bumper. Deputy Baldwin said she got lucky, because the post flipped up into her windshield, missing her head by inches. She just missed the pumps at Ampride, then drove back onto the highway.

He said Ms. Lindquist drove 532 feet from the time she left the roadway. When she got home, the woman called the sheriff's office and said she thought she had hit a deer near Oberlin. Ms. Lindquist said she doesn't recall the accident.

Sunday night, officers looked for a woman in the ditches of U.S. 36. Deputy Baldwin said they received a call about 10:30 p.m. that the woman, who works at the Good Samaritan Center, had not arrived for her shift although she had left in plenty of time from her Norton County home. He said they didn't find her and after some investigative work, decided it may be related to a domestic dispute and that there had been talk of her leaving home.

Congressional aide listens to taxpayers

On a "Town Hall" tour of the 1st Congressional District, Eric Depperschmidt, a member of U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran's staff, stopped in Oberlin Thursday to talk with constituents about agriculture and what the congressman is doing in Washington.

Connie Grafel, marketing director for the Oberlin-Decatur County Area Economic Development Corp., County Commissioner Pat Glenn, real estate agent Jack Metcalf and County Clerk Marilyn Horn met with Mr. Depperschmidt in the commissioners' room.

Mr. Depperschmidt said Rep. Moran is looking for money for the Sappa Park Shelter House and the park, but that he hasn't found anything yet.

Lately, he said, the congressman has been busy in the agriculture committee working on a farm bill. He said it seems everyone enjoys the Freedom to Farm part but others don't like the proposal which is on the table now.

Mr. Depperschmidt said lately he has talked to several young farmers who are just getting into the business who have said the Conservation Reserve Program has hurt them since the program has allowed people from out of state who inherit land to make money. The majority, he said, seem happy with

what is going on with the farm bill.

Ms. Grafel asked where Rep. Moran stands on the tax bill that President George W. Bush has proposed, and Mr. Depperschmidt said he is in favor of it.

She asked if the congressman has said anything about the atmosphere in Washington changing with President Clinton leaving office. Mr. Depperschmidt said the congressman tries to focus on his district, which is getting bigger, and his constituents rather than the political stuff in the capitol.

Mr. Depperschmidt said he has heard that Salina is getting a VA facility, which should take some of the load off the one in Wichita and help serve people in this area. In Colby, he said, the hot topic was natural gas prices. Mr. Depperschmidt said he has heard people are looking at building a wind plant in southwest Kansas which may help create energy and cut back prices.

Ms. Grafel asked what the congressman thinks about the education program. Mr. Depperschmidt said Rep. Moran hasn't really had a chance to look at the president's plan, although he said he has heard a lot on the topic himself. He said he has heard from teachers who say some of the learning needs to take place at home.

Mr. Depperschmidt briefly talked to the small group about Medicaid reimbursements to rural hospitals. After an hour, he was off to Hoxie. He said he thought the hour-long session was a success since he was able to answer questions and get information to take back to Rep. Moran.

Paper to run one day late for election

The Oberlin Herald will print on Wednesday next week in order to get all the results of Tuesday's city and school elections in the paper.

All news and advertising copy is still due by noon on Monday, but printing will be delayed. Oberlin and area subscribers will receive their paper on Thursday in the mail. Copies will be available on Wednesday afternoon at The Herald office, as well as at businesses that carry The Herald each week.

Summer Job Offers:

The City of Oberlin

is accepting applications for temporary summer jobs until positions are filled.

These include labor jobs in the maintenance of park, streets, cemetery, swimming pool and public utilities.

Also accepting applications for swimming pool manager. Swimming pool manager must have current Water Safety Instructor Certificate and must have completed American Heart Association CPR and Basic First Aid. Experience as pool manager or assistant manager would be helpful.

Application forms can be picked up at the

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