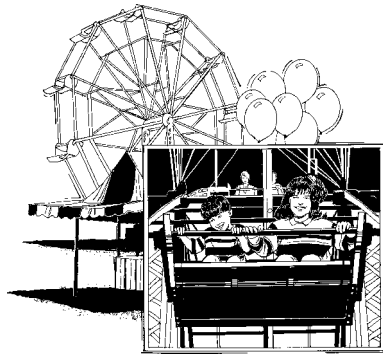




Welcome to the Decatur County Fair



Look for the signs for

FREE

**Kid's airplane
and swing rides**

sponsored by

Stanley **Do it Best**
Hardware

149 S. Penn, Oberlin—785-475-2331

Joe & Regina Stanley, owners

Schedule of Events

Pre-Fair Activities

Tuesday, July 29 — Clothing Construction, Buymanship and Fashion Revue

Saturday, Aug. 2 — 4-H and Open Class Horse Show

Tuesday, Aug. 5 — All decorated bales must be in place by 8 p.m.

Tuesday, August 5

9 a.m. to noon — Enter all 4-H and Open Class exhibits (except Floriculture)

Noon — All booths to be in place

6 to 10 p.m. — Exhibit open hours

6:30 p.m. — 4-H Food Auction

7 p.m. — Carnival open to public

7:30 p.m. — Mutton Busters, participants check in at 6:30

Wednesday, Aug. 6

8 a.m. — Bucket Calf Show

8 to 10 a.m. — Open Class and 4-H Floriculture entered, judging to follow

9 a.m. — Dairy/Beef Show

5 p.m. — Sheep Show

6 to 10 p.m. — Exhibit open hours

7 p.m. — Carnival open to the public

Thursday, Aug. 7

9 a.m. — Swine show

11 a.m. — Media interviews with owners of Grand and Reserve
Champion Livestock

4:30 p.m. — Senior and Intermediate Round Robin Showmanship contest

6 to 10 p.m. — Exhibit open hours

6:30 p.m. — Livestock Auction at Oberlin Livestock Sale Barn

7 p.m. — Carnival open to the public

Friday, Aug. 8

8 a.m. — Clean up livestock exhibits

1:30 p.m. — Pet Parade at Good Samaritan Center

5:30 p.m. — Public Fashion Revue at the Gateway

6 to 10 p.m. — Exhibit open hours

7 p.m. — Carnival open to the public

7 p.m. — Colgate Country Showdown

9:30 to 10 p.m. — Release of all exhibits

10 p.m. — Bale decorating contest winner announced on the midway

Saturday, Aug. 9

7 p.m. — Carnival open to the public

7 p.m. — Demolition Derby sponsored by the Oberlin Lions Club

**“We sell insurance,
but specialize in service!”**

- ✓ Life
- ✓ Fire
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Auto
- ✓ Crop/Hail
- ✓ Estate
Planning
- ✓ Multi Peril



Tammy Fredrickson
Owner/Agent

Abby Hissong
Agent

Fonda Farr
Agent

Say... “Congratulations on all your
hard work this year.”

Fredrickson

Insurance Agency

183 S. Penn, Oberlin, Kansas — 785-475-3883





SHOWING OFF HER CULINARY CREATION Leah Marietta of the Stick-to-It 4-H Club was one of dozens of 4-Hers to sell their wares at the annual food auction last year. Businesses and individuals buy everything from cakes to variety baskets.
— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

**August 8, 2003
Decatur County Fair**



Presented by

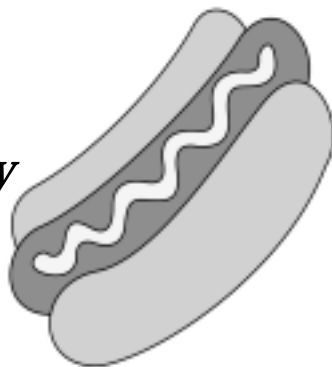


**7 p.m. at the Grand Stands
Call 1-888-PLAY-105**

For Details

*Welcome to the
Decatur County Fair
& Ampride's 7th Anniversary*

**Come to our Anniversary Day
Tuesday - August 5th**



**Free Hot Dogs, Baked Beans,
Chips and Drink
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



**5¢ back on every gallon of GASOHOL
purchased between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.**

**Drawings and Door Prizes
to be given away between
10 a.m. and 2 p.m.**

AMPRIDE

Junction U.S. Hwys. 36 & 83 — Oberlin, Kan.

Enjoy the Fair

Now is the time to plan your
after-harvest machinery auction

**Our area-wide, staff can all handle your real estate and
auction needs quickly and professionally:**

Roberta Johnson, Broker

Lynn A. Johnson, Associate Broker

Jackie Votapka, Salesperson, (785) 475-3963 Oberlin

Randy Ostmeyer, Salesperson, (785) 475-3000 Oberlin

Joe D. Green, Salesperson/Auctioneer, (785) 322-5583 Herndon

Roger Emigh, Salesperson/Auctioneer, (308) 345-4199 McCook, Neb.

Marcia Lohofener, Salesperson, (785) 475-2521, Oberlin

Jerry Lohofener, Salesperson, (785) 475-2521, Oberlin

**JOHNSON
Realty, Inc.**



Oberlin, Kansas (785) 475-2785 Mobiles: (785) 475-8514
(888)-210-3628 (785) 475-7156



THE TRAIN DONATED by Harry and Betty Schrammel County Fair. is a popular attraction at the carnival of the annual Decatur

— Photo courtesy of Floyd Lotker

Carnival get going for more

By MARY LOU OLSON

The "World's Largest Home-Owned Carnival" had its beginning when community leaders decided something had to be done to ensure there would be rides and entertainment every year at the Decatur County Fair.

Since it's start in 1972, the carnival has become one of Decatur County's biggest annual attractions, bringing hundreds of people to Oberlin every year during the first full week of August.

Floyd Lotker was president when fair board members made their annual trek to Topeka to try to line up a carnival. After several disappointing efforts, members decided to see what they could do to start their own.

People were tired of traveling carnivals that often stood the town up, or when they came, were a disappointment.

Delores Stapp had told the group about a home-owned carnival in Hydro, Okla., so several members drove there to see it. After their return home, a committee made up of businessmen from Oberlin, Norcatur and Jennings, and

Enjoy the Decatur County Fair!

Contact Attorneys Steve Hirsch
and Preston Pratt
for all your legal needs.



124 S. Penn - Oberlin 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 785-475-2296
208 Center - Oakley Every Thursday 785-672-3389
City Hall - Norcatur 1st Thursday 10 a.m.-Noon 785-693-4461
The Bank - Jennings 1st Thursday 1-3 p.m. 785-678-2216

Hirsch & Pratt L.L.P.

Attorneys-at-Law

124 S. Penn — Oberlin, Kan.

785-475-2296

HOME DECORATOR® LATEX FLAT WALL PAINT

- Better quality
- Good hiding
- Durable,
washable
- For living rooms,
dining rooms,
bedrooms

\$13⁹⁹
per gal.



\$14.99 Latex Eggshell

\$15.99 Latex Satin Gloss Enamel

Home Planning Center

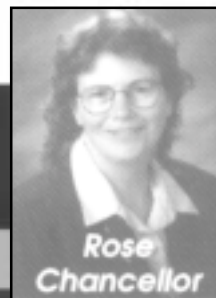
180 South Penn, Oberlin

Phone 785-475-2325

Job Well Done 4-H'ers
from the employees at

Acme Touch Printing

Established 1934



Rose
Chancellor

1009 West B McCook, Nebraska 69001
308.345.3655 ~ 800.576.3655 ~ Fax 308.345.3656
E mail atouch@swnebr.net

HANSEN'S PLUMBING HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

103 N 4th Street
Atwood, KS
(785) 626-3778

LENNOX
AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING

Carrier
CUSTOM MADE INDOOR WEATHER™

118 East Commercial
Oberlin, KS
(785) 475-3154

HEIL
HEATING & COOLING PRODUCTS

Keeping you
Cool
All Summer Long!

AND

Keeping you
Warm
All Winter Long!

took teamwork and keep going than 25 years

area farmers, to see if a similar project would work here.

Kent Reinhardt, Wesley Gaumer, Don Stapp, Mike Gawith and Mr. Lotker went to Minneapolis, Minn., to look at a 40-foot Ferris wheel. It became the new carnival's first ride..

An amusement authority was formed with its members including Mr. Lotker, Mr. Gaumer, Elmer Lindemann, Stuart Euhus, Merlin Anderson, Jim Gaumer, Herb Shirley, Mr. Stapp, J.R. Betts, John Juenemann, Ann Ooton and Mr. Reinhardt.

Their first objective was to construct at least two children's rides and purchase a merry-go-round, if possible, to go with the Ferris wheel. The first children's rides included kiddie cars and swings.

Bill Matchett of Matchett Welding, Oberlin, was hired to build the basic framework for the rides.

The first year for the home-owned carnival was in 1973. Along with the rides there were concessions and games manned by area residents.

The first night, \$1,000 was taken in, and that grew to nearly \$2,000 a night for the rest of the week..

"If this project is a success, and it looks like it might be," Mr. Lotker said at the time, "it will be because people from all walks of life and from all corners of the county were willing to pitch in and make it a success."

That was just the beginning.

Since then, several more rides have been purchased, including the Looper, adult swings, the Octopus and a Tilt-a-Whirl.

In April 1976, the carnival received a big boost when Oberlin businessman Ward Sauvage called Mr. Lotker and offered to purchase a merry-go-round. The committee, which had gone to Minneapolis earlier, had spotted a beautiful one, and was able to make arrangements to buy it.

After the merry-go-round was up and running, the committee decided that a train would be a great addition. After making several trips to check on trains, they learned about a man in

(Continued on Page 6F)



THE MIDWAY at the Decatur County Home-Owned Carnival was filled with young and old as families enjoyed the rides, food and games.

—Photo courtesy of Floyd Lotker

It's time to relax and enjoy the best
Home-Owned Carnival Around.



Mark Keilig, Manager
Sharon Black, Teller

See us for Low Interest Auto Loans

**United Northwest Federal
Credit Union**

(785) 475-2322 — 117 S. Penn — Oberlin



**Decatur County
Good Samaritan
Center**

In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone.

Family Night Salad Supper



Our residents have many choices ...
Not only in saladsbut also
in their personal care.

Our residents are our most important
consideration and we want to
continue to give them choices,
and to keep with our motto:

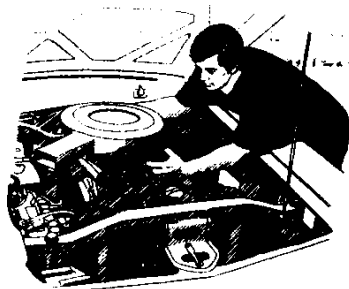
"In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone!"



Enjoy the Decatur County Fair! Be sure and visit our booth at the Fair!
108 E. Ash — Oberlin, Kan. — 785-475-2245

Auto – Truck Service

Oil changes
Transmission Flush
Injector Cleaning
Tune-ups &
computer diagnosis
Transmission service
& overhaul
Engine rebuilding



Machine Work

Bore & hone engines
Cylinder heads rebuilt
Flywheel surfacing
Hot tank
& jet wash parts
Minor lathe
& mill work
Air-conditioning service
Brake service

Lincoln Repair

East U.S. 36 — Oberlin — Phone 785-475-3155