



Merry Christmas!

See Letters to Santa in Section C.

THE OBERLIN HERALD

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Angel Tree big success this season

Kids get presents and gift certificates

The Oberlin Jaycees' annual Angel Tree campaign drew a huge response this year, with all 52 kids getting presents and either a gift certificate to Sunflower Cinema or a Beanie Baby.

Abby Hissong said the Jaycees received enough donations to take the money and purchase a \$5 gift certificate to the theater for every child over 3. She said that will get each child into the theater and buy them either a soda or candy.

Kids 3 and younger, she said, received a stuffed toy since most of them won't sit through a movie at that age.

The rest of the money was taken to buy \$5 gift certificates to eating establishments in town.

Mrs. Hissong said the Jaycees had to fill in a few gifts, but overall the

organization got a wonderful response and most kids had sponsors.

She said her office at Fredrickson Insurance was filled with presents which parents came and picked up last week.

Mrs. Hissong said she delivered gifts to about eight of the families, two of whom didn't have phones so she couldn't reach them.

Those who shopped and donated money this year, she said, got a real sense of helping others.

Mrs. Hissong said there were a lot of new buyers this year, and some people asked if they could be notified next year when names come in.

The program touches everyone, she said, those who receive, those who bought gifts and even those who just came in the office and saw the presents.

Flu vaccine shows up at last

By KIMBERLY BRANDT

The Decatur County Health Department has received 10 more doses of flu vaccine, and still has eight available, but will be kind of picky about who will get those last shots.

Since news of the national influenza epidemic has spread, there's been a lot more interest in the shots—and a lot smaller supply. Officials want to make sure those who need the shots the most get them.

Health Administrator Marilyn Gamblin said the vaccine the county has is for adults only. Two were given to high risk adults. She said they will be screening closely anyone who wants the vaccine since, Ms. Gamblin said, she doesn't know if they will get any more.

Those at high risk are people over 65, people with chronic health problems like diabetes or cancer, and those who don't have a strong immune system.

(See FLU on Page 8A)

Police won't be filing charges in case of gun

Oberlin Police officers had been looking into a case about a weapon in the possession of an Oberlin man,

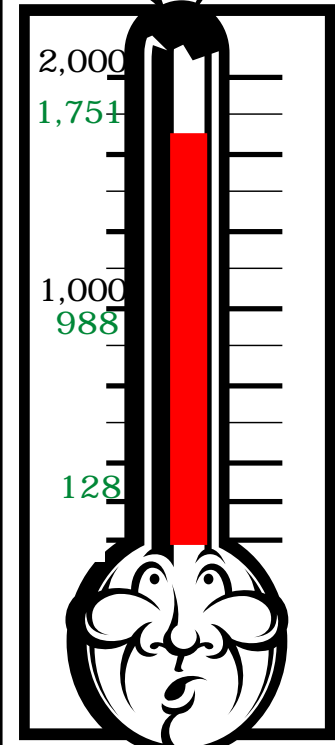
but the case will go no further since the man was shot and killed in St. Francis on Sunday, Dec. 13.

Police Chief Wade Lockhart said the department acquired a gun from William Joseph Schwab, 43, that the officers found had been stolen back in 1985. Chief Lockhart said there is no telling how Mr. Schwab got the gun.

Anyone could buy a stolen gun from a private individual, he pointed out, and the buyer might never know it was stolen.

Chief Lockhart said the department (See OFFICERS on Page 8A)

Food drive is steady



The annual food drive is only 249 items away from the goal of 2,000.

The drive at Stanley Hardware ends New Year's Day.

Let's shop!



WITH TICKETS IN HAND, Pam May and Betty May (above) waited for the Christmas on Us drawing to start on Saturday. Shelby Hackney (below) held up the \$1,500 in gift certificates, which she said she planned to shop with. Mrs. Hackney said some of the money will be spent on Christmas presents. —Herald staff photos by Kimberly Brandt

Two women win big money



By KIMBERLY BRANDT

The sun was shining Saturday, and it felt more like spring break than the weekend before Christmas as a crowd of nearly 500 people circled around the gazebo at Centennial Park for the annual Christmas on Us drawing.

For the last month, Oberlin shoppers had been collecting numbered tickets from sponsoring businesses, one ticket for every \$10 spent in a store.

Those people showed up Saturday with their tickets in plastic bags, pasted to cards or recorded in computers. The numbers drawn were written out on a piece of paper so that the shoppers only had to scan that paper once a number was called. Then they would only have to find the winning ticket in the bag.

Publisher Steve Haynes started the drawing by thanking all the participants, those who shopped and the merchants who sponsored the event.

He called kids from the audience up onto the gazebo to help him out. Mr. Haynes put the lid se-

curely on the trash can and flipped it upside down twice to mix up the tickets.

He then pulled the lid off and asked the kids to dig deep down in the trash can and stir things up. They did so with some pulling the red tickets out of the trash can in their sleeves. Those tickets were replaced and it was time for the first drawing, for one out of 10 "instant" prizes yet to be given away.

Ticket 0974111 was read out over the loud speaker, and Laurene Dempewolf had the matching half in her hand to win \$50.

Mrs. Dempewolf, of Oberlin, got the ticket at Raye's Grocery and said she would most likely spend it on Christmas presents.

Next, it was time to draw for the \$500 second prize. Mr. Haynes called more kids onto the gazebo to mix the tickets.

The ticket 0081899 was drawn next. Elaine Marcuson and her son Jared searched for the ticket and produced the other half. Mrs. (See PAPER on Page 8A)

School board discusses goals, district's priorities for year

By KIMBERLY BRANDT

The Oberlin School Board talked a little about what goals and priorities the district should have now and in the future after hearing that they may have to cut nine certified jobs out of the system next year.

The certified positions include anyone who has a teaching license, including teachers, administrators and, in this case, the school nurse and counselors.

Other staff members are listed as classified, which includes teacher aides, or paraprofessionals, secretaries, bus drivers, outdoor maintenance people and others who work for the district.

At the meeting Monday, Dec. 8, Superintendent Kelly Glodt came up with a list of goals for the board to look at, ranging from high academic achievement to federal programs.

He said the board needs to discuss things in the district and see what is important to them and what the board wants to do.

Currently, he said, the district offers core classes in English, math, social studies and science, plus two tiers of electives. In the first tier are business, computers, physical education and foreign language. In the second are vocational agriculture, industrial arts, music, art, library,

Zero tolerance policy adopted on alcohol

The Decatur County commissioners signed a resolution setting a zero tolerance policy for alcohol for fire and emergency workers at their meeting last Tuesday morning.

Basically, it says emergency employees and volunteers who have been drinking can't respond to any call.

The commissioners met with Emergency Preparedness Director Bert Cool and Ambulance Director Patrick Pomeroy to discuss the resolution. Both Fire Chief Bill Cathcart and Sheriff Ken Badsky had been invited, but were not at the meeting. Sheriff Badsky

said he was not able to stay, while the commissioners said they never heard from Chief Cathcart.

The resolution says that there will be zero tolerance for emergency workers who may be called to work. That includes the fire department, emergency medical service, emergency management and law enforcement.

Those workers are not allowed to respond if they have had any alcohol to drink eight hours before a call or are still noticeably impaired.

Those workers who have had something to drink must take (See POLICY on Page 8A)



KIDS OF ALL AGES stuck their little arms (above) into the trash can full of tickets to mix them up at the Christmas on Us drawing. Elaine Marcuson and her son Jared (right) searched their tickets and found the one that matched the winning number for the second prize of \$500. — Herald staff photos by Kim Brandt

* Paper gives away \$2,500 this month

(Continued from Page 1A)
 Marcuson said they were going to the Fiesta Bowl with the money. They got the ticket from Ray Jewellery.
 Then it was time for the last drawing for the \$1,500 grand prize. Again kids stirred the tickets up before one was chosen.
 The number 7007656 was called out. Before Pat Cozad and Karla Jones could get the numbers written, Shelby Hackney found the other half of it in her tickets.
 Mrs. Hackney and her daughters came up on the gazebo and produced the ticket. Asked what she was going with the \$1,500, she said "Shop!" and gave the girls two thumbs up.
 Probably, she added, she will buy some Christmas presents with the money. Although she has already bought some, she said there is al-

ways room for more.
 Mrs. Hackney said she will also spend some of the money on groceries.
 She said her husband had bought a stove at R&M Service Center and thought the ticket had come from there, but actually the family received it from the Carpet Center according to the records at the paper.
 The total drawing took just 14 minutes.
 Mr. Haynes said they owed a special thanks to Johnson Realty for the sound system and this year's sponsors, without whom the giveaway wouldn't be possible.
 This year's sponsors were Prairie Petals, Adleman Drug Store, Ward Drug, Raye's Grocery, Home Planning Center, Culligan Water Conditioning, Southwest Implement, Rocking R, Family Lumber and Construction, Frontier Motel, Ray



Jewelry, Fidele Electric and Woodcrafting, Hansen-Mueller, Decatur County Implement, R&M Service Center, Dale's Fish 'N' Fun, Hansen's Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning, the Carpet Center, the Dresser, Circuitech Electric, Times

* Flu vaccine in high demand

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 mune system to fight the flu.
 To start the season, the health department received 600 doses of the vaccine on Sept. 1. They targeted those who were high risk first and children 6 to 23 months. Ms. Gamblin said they didn't get very many kids in that age range in however.
 After those people had received the vaccine, then others were able to get the shots.
 The department then received 50 more doses, then 10 and then 20.
 Ms. Gamblin said she kept ordering the vaccines because people kept coming in to get it.
 With the recent news of deaths from the flu, she said, around 50 people have come into the department asking for the shots. Some found other counties that still had vaccine and went there for the shots.
 Ms. Gamblin said some of the deaths of kids have been because of other underlying causes, not just because of the flu. The vaccine, she said, doesn't actually fight the strain of flu that is most common this year, but it may keep people from getting as sick.
 Ms. Gamblin said she doesn't know if there have been any cases of the flu in the county.
 Last year, she said, she ordered more doses of the vaccine and the county ended up with 200. People statewide just didn't get flu shots last year. The winter wasn't as bad.
 This year, when Ms. Gamblin

went to order the vaccines, she said she wasn't anticipating this many wanting the shots. The county couldn't afford to end up with 200 shots left over again.
 Two weeks ago, she said, she called nine suppliers and no one had any vaccine left.
 The state has gotten more doses, though, and Decatur County received from that supply 10 shots while Wichita received 1,000.
 Ms. Gamblin said there is a possibility of getting some pediatric vaccine in January, but she said she isn't going to plan on it until she sees it.
 As far as adult vaccine goes, Ms. Gamblin said she has no idea when the county will get any more.
 She said symptoms of the flu are a high fever that lasts, body aches, headache, extreme tiredness, runny nose, muscle aches, dry cough and sore throat.
 There isn't a whole lot that can be done once you get the flu, she said, just treat each symptom. Probably the best thing for people to do is stay at home and rest, wash their hands a lot and cover their mouth when they cough.
 Ms. Gamblin said there is a vaccine called flu mist which is available. It is a nasal spray, but is different than the shot because it is a live vaccine and the person has to be healthy to receive it. The immune system then has to be able to fight it.
 Those under 5 or over 49 can't use the flu mist.

Three women collect instant \$50 before drawing

Three women collected \$50 at *The Oberlin Herald* office last Wednesday after finding their red ticket numbers in the Christmas on Us ads in the paper.
 Jeanne Pachner came in first. Her number 7450229 was in the ad for Stanley Hardware. She said she got the ticket while shopping at Raye's Grocery and planned to use the money for Christmas.



Dempewolf T. Kump Overmiller J. Pachner

The next to come in was Luella Overmiller with ticket 1888917. She said she found the number in an ad for Fidele Electric and thought she had received it at the grocery. Mrs. Overmiller said she thought she would use the \$50 to finish her Christmas shopping.
 The last one to come in was Tommie Gean Kump with ticket 6941805. She found the number in the ad for Home Planning Center.

She, too, got the ticket from the grocery store. Mrs. Kump said she planned to buy groceries with the money and give some to the food pantry.
 "I called my husband and told him we were having steak for dinner," she said.

Past Antiques, Fine Spirits/Unicel, Oberlin Mercantile Co., Just On Time, Countryside Veterinary Clinic and Stanley Hardware.
 All of the prizes were in gift certificates which can be used at participating sponsors only.

* Policy adopted says no to alcohol

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 themselves off duty voluntarily for the call.
 The resolution states "If they do not voluntarily remove themselves from service, the head of the department or the person in charge of the scene or premises shall conduct the removal."
 The zero tolerance resolution includes being under the influence during any fire or emergency opera-

tions or training. There also should be no alcohol on county premises.
 Enforcement of the resolution is left up to the heads of the departments.
 The group agreed to the resolution and a copy of it will be sent out in paychecks to the officers and dispatchers.
 There will also be a copy mailed to all volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers.

* School board wants to keep highest quality education

(Continued from Page 1A)
 to offer the upper levels, too.
 Mr. Jackson agreed, but said he thinks he would let the elective classes slip a little as long as the core was kept up.
 Mr. Glodt said there are both state and federal rules the district has to comply with for special education. He said the service center in Oakley is working on a special education audit.
 Board member Chris Bailey said the board needs to look at what other districts are doing and compare numbers.
 Mrs. Olson agreed that some of the items need to be compared with other districts, but she said she would like to look at other districts that have the same quality education

as Oberlin has and those that are the same size.
 Mr. Jackson said there are some chances to combine some things for food service. In the past, the board has briefly discussed only having one kitchen and making all the food there and then moving meals to the other school.
 Mr. Glodt said there are a lot of hidden savings when combining kitchens, including ordering items in bulk.
 He also said the school at Sappa Valley Youth Ranch adds a unique twist to the district. He said he wouldn't want to keep the staff there like it is forever, with some teachers going out for only an hour a day, but he agrees that there should be more staff there.

Mr. Jackson said he thinks the school at the ranch needs to have the highest qualified teachers with endorsements in subjects they teach.
 The board talked about closing the district office and moving it to one of the schools. Mrs. Olson said it was an idea to look at, but might not save money since the district owns the office building.
 Extra-curricular activities, said Mr. Jackson, are an important part of education. Kids grow through those activities and find their niche in life. For some, those activities are more important than the core classes.
 The board didn't make any decisions, but members did say they would like to see what other schools are doing.

Budke Motors
 3 x 10 1/2
 oh/adv
 Ad sent to GDN

* Officers will not pursue case

(Continued from Page 1A)
 ment got the gun a couple weeks ago, but he didn't want to say how. He said he couldn't say much more about the case.
 Mr. Schwab died in the Cheyenne County Hospital about 11:30 p.m. after being shot accidentally by a St. Francis Police officer.
 A statement from the Cheyenne County attorney said that he was shot during an undercover felony investigation by the St. Francis Police and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.
 On Monday, Cheyenne County Attorney Kevin Berens said there was no more information to release. He said the report on the shooting has not yet been filed.
 A source in Oberlin who asked not to be named said that Mr. Schwab had gone to St. Francis to hire a hit man who turned out to be an undercover agent. The deal had been completed, and Mr. Schwab was shot while trying to flee.
 Mr. Schwab, said the source, was running from the scene when an of-

ficer jumped on his back and the officer's gun went off.
 The source said a gun was found on him at the time of his death, and police had taken at least two weapons from him which turned out to be stolen.
 The meeting took place in the parking lot of the Dusty Farmer Restaurant, which is on U.S. 36 in St. Francis. Witnesses said at least one state trooper was parked down the road, apparently waiting for the deal to go down.
 The source said the officer who accidentally shot Mr. Schwab was having a hard time dealing with it. St. Francis Police secretary Sarah

Smith referred all questions to the county attorney.
 Kyle Smith, with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, said that the case basically has been put on hold until the end of the year.
 Mr. Schwab has no existing records in the Decatur County Court files. County Attorney Steve Hirsch said if a record has been expunged at any time, there would be nothing on it.
 On Friday, Deputy Court Clerk Rhonda Wildeman checked the records, and after talking with Preston Pratt at the county attorney's office, said there was "nothing in the file."

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