

Board to meet Monday

The Oberlin School Board plans an open discussion Monday night of a resolution to increase the local option budget to 25 percent of the district's general fund, which is the most the state will allow.

The increase would hike the district's property tax levy by about 6.9 mills in a normal year, Superintendent Kelly Glodt said, if the valuation stays the same. With the property tax accelerator passed by the Legislature, he added, the increase may be different.

Last month, the board said the meeting Monday would include a decision about which teachers might not have a job next year because of the lack of money. Superintendent Kelly Glodt said Monday, though, that he isn't sure if there will be any announcements or decisions made about that.

He said the board may decide on the increase in the local option budget first and see what happens. The board can approve the increase, but taxpayers can petition to have the decision put up for a public vote.

Mr. Glodt said there may be a closed session Monday to discuss non-elected personnel.

He said he plans to have some information on early retirement. High school Spanish teacher Maria Sanden had requested early retirement months ago, and Mr. Glodt said at that time he would get some information for the board.

A representative from the district's auditors, Mapes and Miller, is scheduled to be at the meeting to go over the audit report.

The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. in the board room at the district office. It is open to the public.

Survey details on agenda

The Oberlin City Council will talk with a representative from the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development commission Thursday about an income survey to determine whether the city can get a grant for the sewer plant project.

Amy Griffey from the commission will be at the meeting to answer questions and explain how the survey works. City Administrator Gary Shike said they have to determine what percentage of the town is in the low-to-moderate income range. He said the city is close to having 51 percent with low to moderate income, which is what determines whether the city gets the grant.

The whole city has to be surveyed and 80 percent of the residents have to respond, he said.

Mr. Shike said the city found out on Monday that it had been rejected for a Community Development Block Grant through the state Department of Commerce and Housing for housing rehabilitation in the southwest part of town.

The letter said the grant was turned down because of competition for the amount of money available.

The council meeting is open to the public and will be aired on the local access cable channel 7. The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at The Gateway.

Prizes up for grab

With a week and half of the new year already gone, there has been no sign of a New Year's baby in Decatur County.

The good news is there is no time limit on the prizes offered by area businesses. However long it takes for the first baby of the new year to be born, the prizes will still be waiting.

The prizes included a \$25 gift certificate from Addleman Drug Store, a special gift from Ray Jewelry, baby album from Custom Trophy and Engraving, \$25 savings bond from First National Bank, gift from Fredrickson Insurance Agency, case of baby food from Raye's Grocery, gift certificate from the Dresser, pizza for two from Pizza Hut, \$10 gift certificate from Stanley Hardware, \$10 gift certificate from Ward Drug Store, \$10 gift certificate from Ben Franklin Store and a year's subscription from *The Oberlin Herald*. American Family Insurance and KFNW wish the parents and new baby the best of luck.



Boys play basketball

WITH HIS SHIRT OFF, Clay Andersen (above) waited for a play call last Tuesday during basketball practice at Oberlin Elementary School. Kaden Macfee (left) stood in the middle of the court before he made his move.

— Herald staff photos by Cynthia Haynes

Council ends the year with quick meeting

The Oberlin City Council wrapped up the year with a 20-minute meeting Tuesday night.


There were two items on the agenda that had to be taken up before the beginning of 2004.

The first was to pay the year-end bills, which were approved.

The second was an amendment to the budget, which was also ap-

proved. The council had to amend the budget because The Gateway spent about \$20,000 more than was allotted. City Administrator Gary Shike attributed this to an air conditioner repair and having more events.

The council will hold its first meeting of the new year at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.



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Officer gets call for active duty

Undersheriff Randy McHugh has been called back to active duty with the U.S. Army National Guard and is getting ready to leave for Fort Riley, leaving the Decatur County sheriff with just one part-time deputy.

Staff Sgt. McHugh said he received a call on Sunday, Dec. 14, saying that he was being called to duty.

On Friday, he was in McCook helping get his unit's gear packed for deployment. Sgt. McHugh said he doesn't know how long he will be gone or where he is going from Fort Riley, near Junction City.

He said he joined the Guard on Jan. 1, 1980, when he was 17 and has served ever since. Over the 24 years, he said, that has meant a lot of time spent on active duty.

His career started with basic training at Fort Knox, Ky., as an armor crewman on the M60 tank. He was then assigned to the 635th Armor Battalion of the Kansas National Guard in Manhattan. In 1986, he was transferred to Delta Company 635th in Junction City as a gunner on the M50 tank.

A year later, he was promoted to tank commander and a few months later to platoon sergeant, 2nd Platoon, Delta Company.

In 1990, Staff Sgt. McHugh transferred to the 891st Combat Engineering Unit in southeast Kansas, where he operated heavy equipment and learned demolition. In 1994, he transferred back to armor in Lexing-

ton, Neb. Currently he is in the 195th Armor Battalion in McCook, which was in transition to a transportation unit.

Staff Sgt. McHugh is also on the Nebraska National Guard marksman team and has competed in rifle, pistol and sniper rifle. The team has won the national championship and other awards.

After the Sept. 11 attacks two years ago, Sgt. McHugh was called in to duty and spent almost six months in Nebraska on airport security. In November 2002 he was sent to Fort Riley to train 35th Infantry Division soldiers for deployment to Bosnia.

He went with the 35th to Hohenfels, Germany, in a support role and transported soldiers. At the time, he was in charge of over 100 vehicles. His duty ended on March 15, 2003 when the last of the 35th Infantry left for Bosnia.

Sgt. McHugh has said he wants to go to school to be promoted to sergeant first class, but that is on hold for now.

In 1998, he joined the Decatur County Sheriff's Department. He served as deputy and was promoted to undersheriff. With him gone, that leaves the office with one full-time person, Sheriff Ken Badsky, and a part-time officer, Deputy Michael French, plus volunteer reserve officers.

Sgt. McHugh and his wife Kristin have three children, Jordan, Tyler and Conner.



R. McHugh

Women receives ticket

An 80-year-old woman got a ticket last month after backing out of a parking stall downtown and hitting a northbound car driven by an 85-year-old woman.

Police said Eileen Grose, 85, of Oberlin, was driving a 1993 Chevy Lumina northbound on Main Street when Anna Ketterl, 80, backed her 1993 Dodge pickup out of a parking stall on Tuesday, Dec. 23.

Mrs. Grose's car had damage to the right front fender, headlight and door. Mrs. Ketterl's truck had dam-

age to the right corner rear bumper, and she got a ticket for improper backing.

On Thursday, Dec. 18, John Lamb was unlocking his 1995 Ford Taurus parked in The Gateway parking lot when a truck backed out of a parking spot into his vehicle. A tail light on the car was broken.

The person driving the truck didn't stop and Police Chief Wade Lockhart said Mr. Lamb didn't know who it was.

ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, January 17, 2004 • 10:00 a.m.

Location: Oberlin American Legion,
114 S. Rodehaver Ave., Oberlin, KS

Lunch will be served.

SELLER: ALICE CLARK ESTATE AND OTHERS

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Everything on this sale is clean and has been well-cared for.

<p>ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES</p> <p>Approximately 800 Indian Arrowheads Artifacts and assorted arrow head pieces</p> <p>Corner shelf w/4 shelves</p> <p>White wood chair</p> <p>(2) Small lamp tables w/ marble tops</p> <p>Lamp table</p> <p>Some dolls including "Navy Sailor Boy"</p> <p>Hand-tied quilt</p> <p>Beautiful hand-crochet tablecloth</p> <p>Comb and brush set</p> <p>Paper cutter</p> <p>Old post cards, 1910-1914</p> <p>Lavender bottles</p> <p>Round lavender covered dish</p> <p>Carnival glass dish</p> <p>Some Nippon pieces including Royal Kinran</p> <p>Nippon bowl, sugar bowl</p> <p>Several pitchers & sugar bowls</p> <p>Candlewick salt dishes</p> <p>Set of 12 Bavaria Germany china complete w/ platter & covered dish</p>	<p>KITCHEN ITEMS</p> <p>Pearl-handle silverware</p> <p>Lg. assortment dishes</p> <p>Pots & pans</p> <p>Stone dishes</p> <p>Steak knives w/bone handles</p> <p>Tupperware & plastic</p> <p>Toaster oven</p> <p>Oster kitchen center</p> <p>Can opener</p> <p>Pyrex dishes</p> <p>Kitchen utensils</p> <p>Crock pot</p> <p>Rotisserie & BBQ, like new</p> <p>Indoor elect. grill</p> <p>4-Piece insulated food carrier</p> <p>Waffle iron</p> <p>Elect. food chopper</p> <p>Jell-O molds</p> <p>Cookie sheets, muffin tins</p> <p>Lg. aluminum roaster</p>	<p>FURNITURE</p> <p>J.C. Penny microwave w/books</p> <p>VCR</p> <p>3-Drawer chest</p> <p>Sm. 3-drawer chest</p> <p>Walnut bedroom set w/4-drawer chest, bookcase headboard, 6-drawer vanity w/mirror, box springs & mattress, nice</p> <p>4-Drawer chest</p> <p>Sm. drop leaf table w/2 chairs</p> <p>Kitchen table w/2 chairs</p> <p>Beautiful round lamp table w/ slate top</p> <p>Queen Anne lamp table, end table & coffee table, very nice</p> <p>(2) Lg. brushed silver lamps</p> <p>Recliner w/matching foot stool</p> <p>Sofa</p> <p>(2) Matching occasional chairs</p> <p>Whirlpool washer, 3 yrs. old</p> <p>Maytag dryer</p> <p>White metal cabinet</p>	<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p> <p>Cameras</p> <p>Projector</p> <p>Telephones</p> <p>Mirrors</p> <p>Clocks</p> <p>Lg. assortment linens & bedding</p> <p>Lace tablecloth</p> <p>Fancy work</p> <p>Wall hangings</p> <p>Books</p> <p>Pictures</p> <p>Scales</p> <p>Electric blankets</p> <p>Fan</p> <p>Step stool</p> <p>Assortment jewelry</p> <p>(2) Heaters</p> <p>Iron</p> <p>Cleaning supplies</p> <p>Several ice chests</p> <p>Table Christmas tree</p> <p>Walkers</p> <p>"Blade Trader"</p> <p>Slides & camera</p> <p>(2) Hand-tooled leather purses</p> <p>Aluminum step ladder, small</p> <p>White 3-drawer plastic chest</p> <p>T.V. Cart</p>
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TERMS: Not responsible for accidents. All guarantees are between sellers and buyers. No items are to be removed until paid for. Announcements Day of Sale take precedence over printed matter.

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