

# Commissioners question sheriff on transports

The Decatur County sheriff talked with commissioners about this visit to the last Oberlin City Council meeting at a county meeting last Tuesday morning.

Sheriff Ken Badsky said he went to the council meeting on Thursday, March 4, to answer questions about his office hauling juveniles and mental patients to other towns. The issue came up after the police chief said the sheriff had not been able to take a boy from Sappa Valley Youth Ranch to another facility one night.

Commissioner Patricia Glenn said Sheriff Badsky, Police Chief Wade Lockhart and Dispatch Director Jeanne Pachner are supposed to form a committee to iron out law enforcement details.

Sheriff Badsky said he has tried to get them together, but hasn't so far.

She asked whose responsibility it was to transport people. Sheriff Badsky said the juvenile was under the care of the state Juvenile Justice Authority and had not been charged with anything. He said as far as mental patients go, the city and county should be responsible for their own.

Commissioner Doyle Brown asked if there was any problem with the city borrowing the sheriff's car with the cage in it, and Sheriff Badsky said there was not.

Sheriff Badsky said he didn't do the transport that night because he was too tired. Besides, he said, if the youth is in state custody and hasn't been charged, the state should be able to transport him.

Commissioners asked Sheriff Badsky to be at the meeting between the county, city and police chief at the next meeting.

Sheriff Badsky brought with him a framed award from the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

He said he received it for his patriotic support for letting the former Undersheriff Randy McHugh go on active duty with the National Guard. Sheriff Badsky said Mr. McHugh's captain was there last Friday to give him the award.

Since the jail hasn't been painted in five or six years, said Sheriff Badsky, he would like to use prisoners to paint it. He said he figured it would take about 10 gallons of paint. The commissioners suggested he buy them together, but hasn't so far.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that Undersheriff Michael French is up for his six months evaluation. Sheriff Badsky said he would do that and then bring it to the commissioners.
- Asked some questions on bills, including a gun case which is used to store the guns in the sheriff's office, and some coffee mugs. Sheriff Badsky said the mugs were purchased to give to people who help the office. He said it is just a way to say thanks.

# Man gets 12 months for insurance fraud

A Selden man charged with insurance fraud has been sentenced to 12 months in community corrections with an underlying prison term of 10 months each for the six counts of not forwarding premiums to an insurance company.

Stephen C. Carman, 61, owner of Carman Insurance Agency, was charged in December with the failure to pass on more than \$32,000 in premium costs to Great American Insurance Co.

From June to October, Mr. Carman collected money for hail and crop policies purchased by Larry Alstrom, Galen Tacha, Wilbur Reichert, Emigh Brothers, Don Juenemann and Tod Jacobs, the state said.

Mr. Carman also was charged with theft and forgery. The two forgery charges were from an attempt to endorse checks from Great American Insurance to Don Ritter and Carl

Mumm which totaled \$8,229. As part of the plea agreement, the forgery charges were dismissed.

Mr. Carman also pleaded guilty to taking a check from \$1,300 from Estella Harold and never creating a policy for it.

The case was prosecuted by Robert C. Claus, a special assistant with the attorney general's office and an attorney with the Kansas Insurance Department. With him was Sheridan County Attorney Mike Haas.

District Judge Glenn Schiffner said if the probation was revoked, Mr. Carman would serve the five years of prison terms consecutively. Mr. Carman was ordered to pay \$42,427 in restitution.

He also faces penalties for violating the Fraudulent Insurance Act. That included the loss of his license to sell insurance in Kansas and any reciprocal state license he may have.

# Democrats support front runner at caucus

Thirty to 40 Democrats turned out for the state's Democratic Party caucus Saturday in Colby, with an overwhelming majority lending their support to the front runner, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts.

Ten delegates, including a Clayton man, and 10 alternates were selected to attend the 1st Congressional District convention in Ellsworth on April 3.

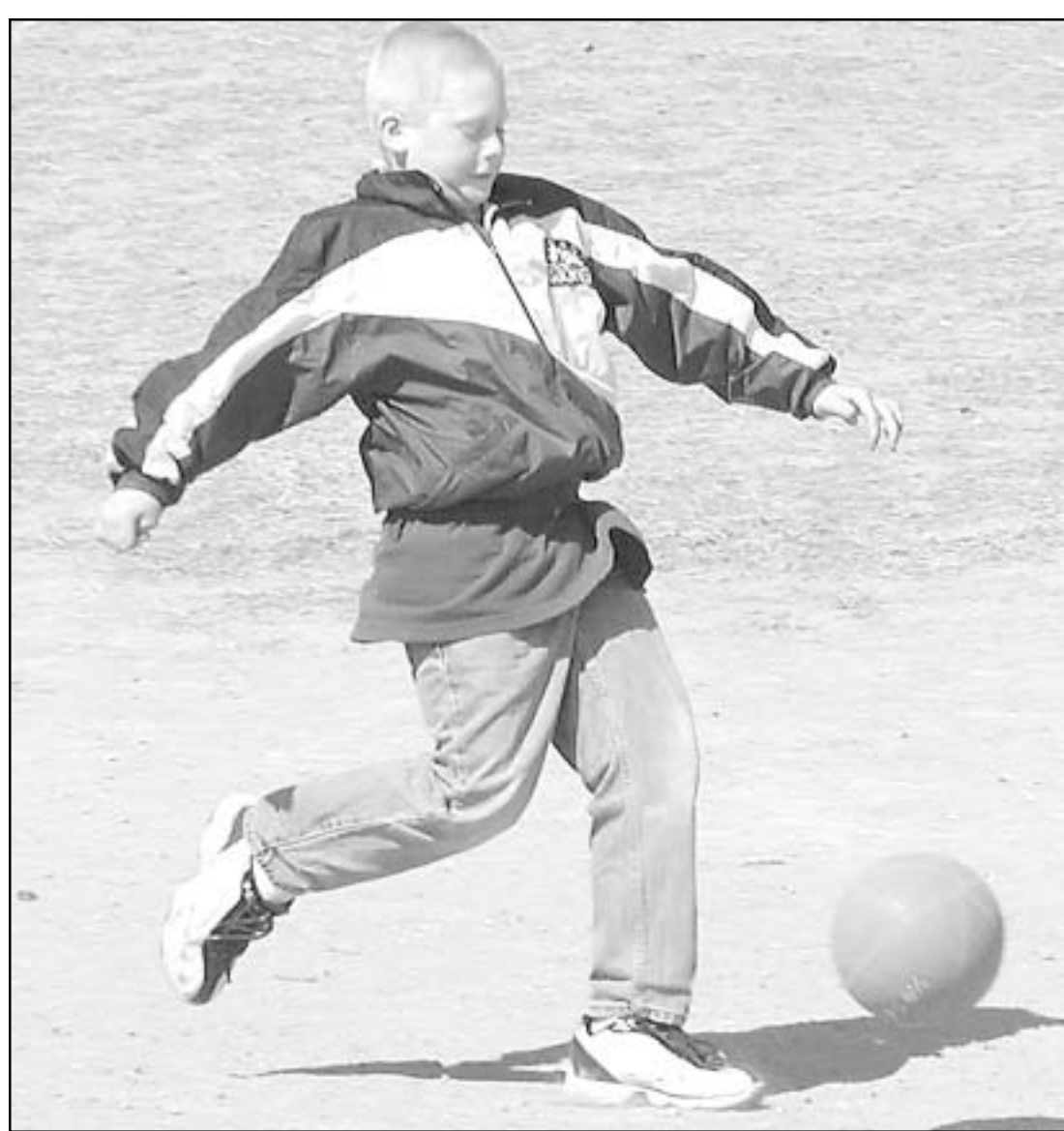
Bob Strevey, Chris Gordon, Tim Petersen, Ken Poland, Tom Dreiling, Carol Barnes, Sandra Stenzil, Cathy Gordon, Diane

Williams and Louise Ehmke were chosen as delegates.

Selected as alternates were Cal Williams, Tom Betz, O.D. Calhoun, Bob Hooper, John Ostmeyer, Rosalee Seemann, Tracey Perkins, Rebekah Petersen, Vera Sloan and Tisha Cox.

After the rules were explained, everyone had 10 minutes to decide who they wanted to support and line up in a designated spot.

When the caucus started, more than two-thirds of the room went to the Kerry side.



**MONDAY AT RECESS,** Dakota Cook (top) prepared to give the ball a good kick during a game of kick ball. Miki Dorshorst (right) pitched. Sammie Meitl and Cassidy Shields (above) talked and laughed on their way up the stairs to the playground. — Herald staff photos by Kim Brandt



# Jennings man's hearing postponed

A preliminary hearing scheduled for Thursday for Stanley Shimek, a former school custodian accused of molesting a child in Jennings, has been postponed.

The hearing was delayed to allow time for a mental competency ex-

amination. Mr. Shimek, 37, Jennings, was charged with eight counts of aggravated criminal sodomy last month. The charges allege he engaged in prohibited sexual acts with a child under 14 years old. The court records say it was a 10-year-old boy.

The charges carry a punishment of up to 493 months (more than 41 years) in the state prison or a fine up to \$300,000.

Mr. Shimek is being held in the Decatur County Jail on a \$100,000 bond.

# Park permits for sale at discount rate

Kansas state park permits are being sold at a discount rate until the beginning of April.

The permit for a single vehicle is \$35.50, or for a second vehicle owned by the same person, \$20.50. On April 1, those prices will go to \$45.50 and \$25.50.

Permits for residents 65 or older or people who have handicapped license plates are \$18.25 or \$10.75 for a second vehicle. Those prices will go to \$23.25 and \$13.25.

Camping permits for the year are \$151.

The permits are on sale at the

county clerk's office or the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks office at Sebelius Reservoir near Norton.

# Decatur County Health Department

will be doing *Blood Draws* on March 30 & 31, 2004 From 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. **Need to be fasting**

Results will be given at the Health Fair on April 16, 2004

To schedule an appointment or for information call the **Decatur County Health Department** at **785-475-8118**

# RAWLINS SPECIALTY CLINICS Welcomes New Surgeon



Dr. Charles Frankum

Rawlins Specialty Clinics is pleased to welcome **Charles E. Frankum, M.D.** of Denver, Colorado.

Dr. Frankum specializes in General Surgery, Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery and is Fellowship trained in Colon and Rectal surgeries. He is based out of Denver, Colorado and is currently a staff physician associated with Presbyterian/St. Luke Hospital and Exempla St. Joseph Hospital in Denver.

Dr. Frankum is a son of a rural physician and brings to RCHC his understanding and appreciation of a rural community. Besides his practice in Denver, he is currently providing his medical expertise to three other rural hospitals in the western area and is looking forward to his association with Rawlins County Health Center, area physician providers, and to serving the people in our community.

Dr. Frankum will be available for general outpatient surgeries, and Colonoscopy and Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) procedures. In the near future he will be expanding his services to include 23-Hour Surgeries specializing in Gall Bladder and Hernia repair.

For more information please contact Cheryl Banister, RN, Director of Rawlins Specialty Clinics (785) 626-3211.

**RCHC**  
Rawlins County Health Center

707 Grant St., P.O. Box 47, Atwood, Kansas 67730

# Dinner to benefit theater

The Sunflower Cinema board wants to buy a pretzel warmer for the concession stand and upgrade the speaker system for the theater.

The Oberlin Royal Neighbors Camp has planned a benefit taco buffet dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 1, at the Golden Age Center to raise money. Jennifer Auxier, a member of the theater board, said the Royal Neighbors Society will match donations up to \$1,000.

Ms. Auxier said the theater is doing well and feedback from customers has been positive. The last few weekends, the theater hasn't had box office hits, she said, but there are some coming up.

"The Passion of the Christ" will be showing at the theater from Friday, April 2, to Saturday, April 10. There will be a showing nightly at 7 p.m. and one at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 4.

The ticket prices will still be \$3. With the 10 showings, the board is looking for volunteers. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at Raye's Grocery or people may call Ms. Auxier at 475-2824.

She said with low ticket prices, though, the volume has been higher and the sales at the concession stand have been consistent.

There hasn't been any problem finding volunteers, she said. The student council from the high school and junior high have volunteered. Monday Evening Club took the entire month of February, 4-H groups have helped, and the Jaycees and the Oberlin Elementary School teachers work one weekend every month.

In past years, the theater has closed during the summer, but board members want it to stay open this year, said Ms. Auxier.

Box office hits coming to the theater are "Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen," and "Welcome to Mooseport." After "The Passion of the Christ" will be "Hidalgo," "Starsky and Hutch" and "Home on the Range."

# City to talk about goals

The Oberlin City Council will hold a planning session to set some long-term goals when it meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

The meeting, although open to the public, will not be aired on Oberlin cable Access Channel 7. The council will meet in the room downstairs at The Gateway.

The council will need to pass a resolution approving the issuance of revenue bonds for the refinancing of Wheat Ridge Terrace.

There will be a hearing on vacating the alley between Fidele Electric and the old cafe. That means the alley would be closed. The meeting will start with the hearing.

**THINK SPRING!!**

**PRICE REDUCED!** This Bungalow home features 2 bedrooms, large living room/dining room, open kitchen with eating bar, lower-level family room, central air/heat, car port, storage sheds all sited on several lots.

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