

Board approves projects

The Oberlin School Board approved a list of projects for the maintenance crew to work on or to get bids on for the summer.

Superintendent Kelly Glodt said some items on the list are from the fire marshal's annual inspection and others are just maintenance projects.

Mr. Glodt said most were things the district crew could do, which would save some money.

The list included:

- Installation of plastic panels on the outside of the high school by the science room. The panels had already been approved.
- Wheel stops in the parking lot (already approved).
- Sealing areas in the stadium, so it won't leak.
- Continuing the project of planting grass and watering.
- Getting bids on a hard surface for the grade school playground.
- Completing the fence to enclose the grade school playground.
- Repairing the front steps and the sidewalks at the high school.
- Roofing repairs on the small storage shed which is located on the west edge of the football field.
- Construction a 12-foot-by-22-foot concession stand without sewer outside the football stadium.
- Servicing the exhaust fans throughout the high school.
- Framing in large windows and reducing to smaller windows on the east side of the high school.
- Installing window shades on the west side of the junior high gym.
- Changing conventional lighting to fluorescent lighting in restrooms.
- Getting information to build another or bigger school room at Sappa Valley Youth Ranch.
- Working on the stage curtain, lighting and electrical in the high school auditorium.
- Repairing plumbing where needed.
- Installing automatic flush systems in the junior high boys bathroom.
- Fixing the mats on the walls in the wrestling room.
- New sinks in the junior high girls restroom.
- Purchasing carpet mats for entrances at the high school, instead of paying a service which switches them each month.
- Changing the entrance to the junior high gym.

The board talked about whether, if the steps on the front of the high school were repaired, a wheelchair ramp would have to be put in. Principal Charles Haag said he thought so.

They said that some of the work would need to go through the state Department of Education's architect.



Chamber honors workers

WITH BALLOONS AND FLOWERS in hand, Dr. Doug Fair (above) showed up at the administrator assistants' luncheon last Wednesday at The Gateway to wish Kay Moon, his administrative assistant, a happy retirement. Chamber Manager Glenva Nichols introduced the DCHS Singers and thanked everyone for attending.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Brandt

Ambulance to get part-time worker

With a short list of volunteers getting shorter, Decatur County commissioners told the ambulance director he could hire an emergency medical technician from Ellis County for \$350 for three days of work at a time.

Ambulance Director Patrick Pomeroy said that Brady Richards, formerly of Oberlin, works in Ellis County and said he is willing to come back and fill in for the ambulance service.

Mr. Pomeroy has been asking for another full-time employee for months now. He has eight volunteers in Oberlin and 15 in Jennings, and the assistant director quit last month. Michael French, who had been hired to help the service half time and the sheriff half time, has become the full-time undersheriff.

Mr. Richards, a 1996 graduate of Decatur Community High School,

lives in Antonino, southwest of Hays.

The commissioners didn't make a decision about hiring a full-time person to the service. Mr. Pomeroy didn't ask about a full-time person either, but did say that Mr. Richards was willing to help out.

Mr. Richards will be paid \$350 for three days at a time. He will work three eight-hour shifts.

The commissioners said they

would try the idea for three months.

Mr. Pomeroy said his first-responder class will test on May 1. There are five to be tested.

He said last Sunday, the class joined a class from Atwood for some hands-on training. The trauma course included mass casualty training and extraction, he said.

Mr. Pomeroy said the course let the students put to use what they had learned in the classroom.

Commissioners look at roof options for center

Decatur County commissioners heard presentations from two companies about the roof on the Good Samaritan Center, but bids were not opened.

The first company at the meeting April 6 was Roofmasters from Colby. Ross Stover showed two options, a rubber roof fully adhered system or a rubber roof with felt underneath. Both come with labor and material warranties.

He said there would be an eighth-inch-per-foot slope to the roof, which would help the water drain instead of pool.

Next was the presentation from Weathercraft Co. out of McCook. Bryan Beaumont gave the commissioners three proposals. On all the roofs, there would be a slope with tapered insulation, he said.

The difference in the three roofs is the warranties. There is a 15-, 20- or 30-year warranty, which includes full labor and materials. Mr. Beaumont said there would be a quarter-inch slope per foot.

He said there isn't anyone else in the area who is capable of doing a 30-year warranty because of the manufacturer. All three of the roofs are rubber, he said, but the 20- and 30-year roofs have a different kind of insulation which is more dense.

The commissioners didn't make any decisions but told the men that they would be in touch.

LaVern Burtis, maintenance man from Good Samaritan Center, said he had a call from DuraLast, which handles the kind of roof which is on the building now.

Mr. Unger said the county could

get a proposal from them, but it seems that the flat roof on the center has been nothing but a problem since the beginning.



Motherhood is a calling

You call. The kids call. Parents of the kids' friends call. Coaches call. Teachers call. Everybody calls! This Mother's Day, show her you appreciate that she always answers.

MASTER JEWELERS
Direct Diamond Importers Polikantstraat, 62 Antwerp, Belgium
Peterson Jewelers
The Corner of Quality

124 Norris Ave. 308-345-4570 1-800-658-9953 McCook

Papers recognized by Kansas Press for school section

The Oberlin Herald shared in one of the major awards announced at the Kansas Press Association's annual convention last Friday in Overland Park.

The paper shared the Victor Murdock Award for investigative or in-depth reporting with the rest of the Nor' West Newspapers group for a special edition on Rural Schools published last year.

The Goodland Star-News won the other major news honor, the Frank and Mamie Boyd Community Service Award, for its efforts to see that Sherman County voters had their say in last year's debate over time zones.

"We are particularly proud of these two awards," said Publisher Steve Haynes, "because they are the only two awards given by the association which are open to every paper in the state, from the Bird City Times to The Kansas City Star."

"I can't remember the last time smaller newspapers won the Murdock award." The Murdock award went to the six papers of the Nor' West group, owned by Steve and Cynthia Haynes, for the effort reporting on school problems in the area. Earlier this year, the section won the Burton Marvin Award, the only news award given by the William Allen White School of Journalism at the University of Kansas.

While the section shared the Marvin award with The Wichita Eagle, it won the Murdock award outright in competition open to all the state's newspapers. The award is named for the late editor of The Eagle, the son of founder Marshall Murdock.

The section covered trends in western Kansas schools, including financial problems, shrinking en-

rollment and pressure to consolidate. It touched on legislative attempts to address the problems and the history of school consolidation in Kansas.

The group has just completed this year's section, on Rural Health, which is inserted in today's paper.

The Goodland paper won the public service award for organizing a countywide election on the time zone issue last year after commissioners learned the county had no legal authority to call a vote. Stories and editorials tracked the debate after a group of business people asked for the change. In the end, voters were 2-1 against changing to Central Time.

The Star-News also won three awards in the press association's Better Newspaper's competition, announced Saturday at the convention, second place in local business coverage and education writing, honorable mention for a sports photo.

Elsewhere in the area, The Norton Telegram won five awards in the class for smaller weekly and twice-weekly papers.

The Telegram won first place for investigative writing for Brandon Gay, a summer intern who is a senior at the University of Kansas.

Carolyn Plotts of Norcatar won first place for feature photography for a shot of her granddaughters in a wheat field.

"Clean, concise, crisp, good contrast and subject matter," was the judge's comment.

Reporter Kristen Brands won second place for business coverage, while Plotts took honorable mention for a feature on the Valentine Diner. Editor and Publisher Cynthia Haynes took honorable mention in editorial writing.

Oberlin woman arrested for battery

Police arrested a 20-year-old Oberlin woman for aggravated battery, criminal damage to property and child endangerment on Thursday, April 15.

Jamie Marshall was being held in the Decatur County Jail on a \$10,000 bond.

Police Chief Wade Lockhart said that sometime between 8 and 9:04 p.m., Ms. Marshall apparently drove into the driveway at 201 N. Wilson and punctured two tires on a 1984 Buick LeSabre belonging to Lacey Brunswick, 18, McCook.

Sometime later, while Ms. Brunswick and Jason Haselhorst, 23, were standing in the driveway checking out the tires, Ms. Marshall was driving by going south on Wilson. She allegedly swerved into the driveway in an attempt to hit them.

Chief Lockhart said Ms. Marshall's

vehicle did strike both Ms. Brunswick and her car. The woman was not hurt, he said.

Ms. Marshall was arrested later that evening. There was damage to the front end of her 1984 Buick Century and Ms. Brunswick's vehicle.

The chief said Ms. Marshall was charged with child endangerment because her daughter was in the vehicle.

On Sunday, April 18, Linda Beachel called officers to report criminal damage to her house at 607 S. Cheyenne. Chief Lockhart said two windows were broken out, a storm door was damaged and three vehicles parked on the property had an estimated \$3,000 worth of glass broken out of them.

The damage occurred between December and Monday, April 12, she said.

NEW EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS!



SPACIOUS BUT COZY! This 3 bedroom, tastefully decorated home has new furnace, new carpet in living room and bedrooms, large bath, main-floor laundry, kitchen with stove, dishwasher and eating area plus newly finished bath and family room in basement.



This stucco, 2 plus bedroom Bungalow with original woodwork was remodeled in 1995 and features oak kitchen with built-in oven, counter-top stove and dishwasher; central air/heat; large deck overlooking maintenance free back yard and priced for quick sale at only \$22,500.

Call us today about our newly listed homes!

Office — 785-475-2785

Lynn's Mobile — 785-475-8514 — Roberta's Mobile 785-475-7156

Marcia Lohofener — 785-475-2521 Jerry Lohofener 785-475-2521

Jackie Votapka — 785-475-3963 David Juenemann 785-687-4845

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT www.johnson-real-estate.com

Johnson Realty, Inc.

Roberta Johnson, Broker — Lynn A. Johnson, Associate Broker

Jacqueline Votapka, Sales Associate

109 N. Wolf, Oberlin, KS 67749

New Location!

East Wichita

Eastgate Plaza - Kellogg & Rock

(SE Corner next to Burlington Coat Factory)

Toll Free: (866) 618-6366

West Wichita - Maple & Ridge

(Across from Lowe's)

Toll Free: (866) 945-6366

Scrapbook Garden

www.scrapbookgarden.com ★ Hours: Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 1-5