

County requests repairs

Railroad asked to fix crossing

A letter will be sent to Nebraska-Kansas-Colorado RailNet about a crossing in Logan Township after a person who lives in the area called one of the county commissioners to complain.

Commissioner Patricia Glenn said she got a call from Eugene Wurm about the crossing, which is three miles west of Traer on County Road 314 and 1 1/8 miles south on a township road.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch said he wrote a letter to the railroad in December asking to have the crossing fixed.

Mr. Hirsch said he received a call after the first letter saying they would fix the problem. It isn't fixed, so Mr. Hirsch said he would write another letter.

The crossing is rough and Mr. Wurm said it is tearing out the undercarriage of his car.

Mr. Hirsch told commissioners the annual tax sale will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday. He said he has had a few calls about some lots in Kanona, and there appears to be more interest over those than anything else.

Properties are placed on the tax sale when the landowner doesn't pay the taxes for three years. Anyone can bid at the sale, although the landowner isn't able to bid on their own property.

The commissioners talked with Ambulance Director Patrick Pomeroy, who said he had talked with Brady Richards of Ellis County about working here part-time. Although the part-time job is his, Mr. Richards has applied for a full time job where he lives.

County Clerk Marilyn Horn said the boiler in the basement is being repaired. Some pipes needed to be removed and replaced.

Celebrating 150 years



TUESDAY AFTERNOON, Commissioners Doyle Brown, Patricia Glenn and Ralph Unger planted a Spring Snow flowering crabapple tree on the west side of the court- house in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Kansas Territory, which will be this summer. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Brandt

Youths escape, steal gun

Three boys left the Sappa Valley Youth Ranch last week and broke into a home on Frontier Parkway, stealing several items including a .22 caliber rifle, from a teacher's home.

Oberlin City Police Chief Wade Lockhart said the boys include a 15-year-old from Garden City, a 16-year-old from Wichita and a 17-year-old from Topeka. They ran away from the ranch around 10:40 p.m. last Monday.

Officers from the police department and county sheriff's office searched for the boys, but didn't find any of them. Chief Lockhart said none of the boys has been spotted so far.

The next morning, officers received a phone call that one of the boys' relatives had called the ranch and said they had received a call from a home in Oberlin. The relative had caller ID which came up as Mark Bricker.

The call was placed around 8:45 a.m. last Tuesday. The chief said the home was unlocked.

Chief Lockhart said the runaways apparently took a .22 caliber rifle, coin collections, a wrist watch, blanket, hair shears, cash and coins. The total value was \$600. He said he didn't know if the gun was loaded.

He said he thinks the youths called someone to come pick them up.

Second half of taxes due

The second half of personal and real estate taxes is due at the Decatur County Treasurer's office on Monday.

The Kansas Legislature moved the date that the second half taxes are due from June 20 to May 10 last year to help solve the state budget crisis.

Taxes not paid by Monday will be charged interest at 8 percent a year and after July 31, delinquent real estate notices will be published in the paper, said County Treasurer Jean Hale.

Weed director asks for a newer truck

The Decatur County commissioners talked with the county weed director about getting another used truck for the department since the 2002 Dodge pickup has carburetor problems.

Noxious Weed Director Gaylen Huntley said the Dodge just can't take the pasture work. He said he would like to get rid of the old blue 1986 model and get another truck

for the program. He said the department has two one-ton trucks and a three-quarter ton.

Commissioner Doyle Brown asked if JR's Used Cars could find what the department is looking for, since they are the only dealer in the county. Commissioner Ralph Unger said he should give the dealer a range, a minimum of what he is

looking for. Mr. Unger said a spray vehicle really needs to have air conditioning to protect the driver from the spray. Mr. Huntley agreed.

The group discussed whether to get a truck with a flatbed or take the one off the old truck.

The truck has to carry a 300- to 400-gallon tank. Mr. Unger said Mr. Huntley

should look for prices with a trade-in and without a trade.

Commissioners suggested he look for a manual shift or a diesel, since a diesel will not heat up running in slow gear in the pastures.

Mr. Huntley said he had an applicant pass the employee physical who could begin work soon and said he received two other applications.

Crossroads Express

3rd Year Anniversary Celebration Friday • May 7, 2004

- * All Day Friday - Discounted Fuels
- * From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Full Service Fuels
- * Novelty Tables — 10% Off
- * 1 Liter PEPSI-COLA Products... **Only \$1.19** at 20 oz. price

49¢ Ice Cream Cones

with coupon through May 31

Many more in store specials and give aways

Join KFNF 101.1 and the Kansas Lottery here!
Friday, May 7, 2004
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The first 25 people to come to our store will receive a FREE \$2 Kansas Lottery \$200 Grand instant scratch ticket!

Buy \$10 in Kansas Lottery \$200 Grand instant tickets, spin the wheel and win a t-shirt, cargo mug or cd case. Hit the bonus spot and win \$10 in Kansas Lottery \$200 Grand instant tickets.



While supplies last. One prize per person. Must be 18 years of age or older to participate.

Crossroads Express 785-475-1075

Junction Highways 36 & 83 – Oberlin, Kansas

Free Installation!



30 Day*
Money Back Guarantee!

Plus, get your first month of High-Speed Cable Internet for only **\$1***

- Always on
- Surf the net and talk on the phone at the same time
- No phone line needed
- Won't interfere with security systems
- Up to 50 times faster than dial-up
- Download speeds up to 512 and 128 upload
- No more busy signals
- Reliable technical support included

With Expanded Basic Cable you'll get:

- Standard installation on every TV in your home
- Local news, weather & sports
- Local broadcast channels
- No contracts
- Local service
- No expensive equipment to purchase



Simpler Than Satellite!

Cebridge connections SM

Call today! **1.866.269.2052**

* (C) Cebridge Connections 2004. For new residential customers only and offer expires 5/31/04. Services may not be available in all areas. Prices and available speeds may vary by market. Taxes and other fees apply, with the actual amount depending on location and service ordered. To be considered a new customer, customer's account must have been inactive for a minimum of 180 days and customer must have no outstanding obligation to Cebridge Connections. A cable modem and network card may be required at installation. Installation fees may apply for complex installation and more than one outlet. Offer subject to change. Other restrictions may apply. cebridge.net