

Jennings firemen plan a hot time on Fun Day

Jennings is known for its kolaches, and the ladies of the Jennings United Methodist Church have been busy baking, getting ready for the 13th annual Jennings Firemen's Fun Day next weekend.

Always the fourth Saturday in August, this year's Fun Day kicks off at 8 a.m. Aug. 28, with a health fair sponsored by Decatur County Hospital, Cottonwood Home Care and the Oberlin Clinic. Dr. Elizabeth Sliter will also be giving free skin cancer examinations.

The Senior Center will open at 8 a.m., serving the famous kolaches and coffee. Bicycle races and kids games will be held

on Main Street, sponsored by Rural Telephone, and Greg Otter of Lenora will be offering "train" rides to the kids.

Golf cart racing is a new attraction this year, and it starts at 10 a.m.

If trap shooting is your game, bring your gun and plenty of shells to the Wobble Trap Shoot, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Wildeman farm, a quarter mile north of town on the Jennings Road. Signs will be posted.

The Jennings Boy Scouts will sponsor a cake walk in City Hall at 10 a.m. and bingo will be played in the Senior Center from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., interrupted only by the

parade at 12:30 p.m.

Other events will be going on in downtown Jennings all day long. The McCook Fire Department will bring a storm and fire safety trailer to give fire safety demonstrations; Jim Plotts of Oberlin and his son, Jim Plotts of Norcat, will demonstrate how they baled hay in the old days with their stationary baler; Daryl Hartzog of Jennings will have his miniature baler; and Terry and Bodie Cooper of Hill City are bringing their miniature ice cream truck. Snow cones and funnel cakes will be available.

The Czech Museum will be open all day and City Hall will have Indian artifacts on

display along with homemade quilts.

Anyone who would like to be in the parade is encouraged to be at the Jennings School yard between noon and 12:30 p.m. to get into position.

The parade theme is "Let There Be Peace." It will start at 1:30 p.m. with a white dove release at the start of the parade, courtesy of Tammy Touslee of Oberlin, owner of Cloud 9.

A special guest will be Benjamin Bird, a veteran of the war against terrorism. An Eagle Med helicopter is expected to land on Main Street at 1 p.m.

Regular attractions include the kids' tra-

tor pull at 3 p.m., a tug-o-war at 3:45 p.m. and the firemen's team barrel competition at 4 p.m.

The fire station will turn into a diner at 6 p.m., when the firemen start serving smoked pork sandwiches, beans, chips, pie and soft drinks.

At 6:45 p.m., the auction will begin; at 8:30, magician Rex Getz will amaze and amuse the audience at City Hall; and for anyone still standing, there will be a free dance from 10 p.m. until midnight.

For information, call Hope Brown at 678-2313 or 678-2647.

School board hones goals from last year to plan for future

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

The Oberlin School Board wants to set goals for its new year, and it spent some time at its meeting last Monday working on that project.

Last year the board had four goals:

- Address the immediate financial situation.
- Reorganize the staff to meet enrollment needs.
- Maintain staff morale.
- Keep to the philosophy of "Success for All."

The board agreed last week that it needed to keep the goals from last year with some rearranging and to add public relations efforts to them.

Superintendent Kelly Glodt said that, while the school district is in the black, finances are still an issue.

"Our immediate financial situation isn't going to go away unless we get a bunch of kids," he added.

Board Member Barbara Olson suggested that the schools need to look at ways of attracting more students. Mr. Glodt suggested using the district's web page and brochures.

Goals No. 2 and 3 pretty much go together, he added. The principals have already done a lot of reorganizing because of the teacher cuts last year.

"We cut them pretty hard last year," he said, adding that no matter what cuts and changes are made, morale is still important.

Building maintenance was also a concern.

"We need a plan," Mrs. Olson said. "We didn't want to spend a bunch of money on something we were going to redo, but now we have to decide."

Mr. Glodt agreed.

"I don't see a bond issue passing in the near future," he said, "so we're going to have to fix them or they'll crumble around us."

He said that he would like to see window air conditioning put in as many classrooms as possible.

"It's hard to learn when it's 108 degrees," he said. "We're one of the few districts in the area without air conditioning."

The board will have to look at replacing the roof on the grade school within the next year or so, he said.

For the fourth goal the board decided to keep "Success for All."

"We can't do without that," board member Delayne May said. It is a state and federal requirements.

Mr. Glodt said he would have the board members' ideas written up and have solid goals for the next regular meeting.

In other business, the board:

- Went into a 10-minute closed session to discuss personnel with first-grade teacher Audrey Pavlicek, who has been ill.
- Gave the administration the right to have buses stay on hard-surface roads in bad weather.
- Appointed former school board member Dan Wasson as the board's representative on the Northwest Kansas Technical College board.
- Decided to hold a budget hearing at 7 a.m. Friday.
- Agreed to allow two students to be bused to Norton.
- Made plans to tour the buildings before the next meeting, starting at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13. The board might attend a junior high football game if there is time before the regular 7:30 p.m. meeting.
- Accepted the administration's recommendation to hire Angela Copeland, a licensed practical nurse, as part-time school nurse and contract with the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center for a registered nurse one day a month.
- Heard that enrollment numbers will not be known until the first or second day of classes, but there are 13 new students signed up at the grade school and 10 at the high school.
- Heard that the elementary playground will need to be redone soon.
- Accepted a bid from Hipp Wholesale Foods out of Nebraska for milk. By state law, the district cannot discriminate out-of-state vendors, Mr. Glodt said.
- Went into closed session to discuss negotiations.

How does her garden grow?



CLEANING UP HER FRONT-YARD GARDEN, Kathy Willcox was enjoying the cool morning air on Monday as she worked in her flowers. Cool, foggy weather made for a pleasant morning. — Herald photo by Cynthia Haynes

Jennings, Sainty kids to join teams here

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

The Oberlin School Board agreed last Monday to help students from other districts who want to practice or play with Oberlin teams, including junior high football and volleyball players from Jennings and runners from St. Francis.

Decatur Community High Principal Charles Haag told the board at its meeting last Monday that there are a couple of girls in St. Francis who would like to run cross coun-

try, but the school doesn't have a team.

He asked that the board sign a cooperative agreement with the St. Francis district to allow the girls to join the Oberlin team.

The girls would practice at home, he said, but join the team at meets. It would be a win-win situation, he said, since Oberlin is chronically short of girl runners for its cross country program.

Last year, the school had five girls

on the team, he said, but two graduated in May. The St. Francis girls would provide their own transportation and insurance.

The only problem, he said, is that while the girls could run for Oberlin in regular meets, when it comes time for regionals and state, they would have to run for their own school.

There is also a possibility, he said, that the Jennings School Board will ask if its junior high students can join Oberlin in some sports.

Jennings has already disbanded its high school football program and the boys will join the Hoxie Indians to play this fall. When a cooperative agreement is made then all the high school students are counted so if we did it then would be moving up to 3A school and all the regionals are already set. Oberlin is doing a cooperative agreement with the Jennings

Junior High kids for sports.

"I'd like permission to pursue some of those cooperative agreements," Mr. Glodt. "This will be a win-win situation and good for public relations."

"There's really not a down side," Superintendent Kelly Glodt agreed, pointing out that it would be good for the students of both schools.

"They would just be part of our team," he said. "You have to think about, not just our kids, but all the kids in northwest Kansas."

"Everyone out here we're going to have to take care of each other," said board member Barbara Olson agreed.

The board voted unanimously to allow the administration to enter into any cooperative agreement on activities that would benefit both schools

Commissioners hear report on road crew's work schedule

Decatur County commissioners found out at their last July meeting that the road crew had helped move the old crow's nest from the middle of the race track to the horse arena area at the fairground.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said at a meeting July 28 that the crow's nest is a little shorter now and is on skids so that it can be moved around. He said Kieth Alstrom welded some steel re-enforcement on it so it will be sturdier.

A new crow's nest has been put on

the back of the grandstands for the races.

The electrical poles have been installed at the race track for lighting. Mr. Stallman said Lee Don Scott approached him and asked if the county had \$200 to help with the electrical bill for the track.

Ambulance Director Patrick Pomeroy said there had been some talk about reimbursing prisoners when they are used by county departments for work. The emergency medical services department has

used them in the past, he said. The commissioners agreed that the prisoners can be reimbursed with meals, which is what Sheriff Ken Badsky had suggested.

In other business, commissioners:

- Signed a semi-annual report for the micro loan program from Northwest Kansas Planning and Development.
- Invited the Oberlin City Council them to the Tuesday, Aug. 31, meeting to talk about recycling.



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with

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