

Sheriff receives grant

The Decatur County sheriff's office received its third grant in the last 10 months for \$8,033 from the Law Enforcement Block Grant Program through the governor's office.

Undersheriff Michael French said the grant included a portable decontamination shower, self-contained breathing apparatus and items which could be used in a bio-terrorist threat or chemical contact with methamphetamine labs. The equipment will be added to the sheriff's emergency response trailer, he said.

The trailer is the only portable emergency set-up in northwest Kansas, Mr. French said. It can be taken to the scene of an emergency and set up to be a base for officers.

The grant also provided a two-day training session on Forensic Epidemiology/Investigative Response to Bioterrorism which Undersheriff French attended. He said highlights of the session included information on public safety and law enforcement responsibilities if the community is exposed to anthrax, smallpox or any other dangerous disease.

The office received a grant for \$1,100, then purchased a portable breath tester and digital camera. The second grant was a 25 percent match for \$20,000.

"Obtaining grants is a special project of mine for acquiring monies for equipment, which we would not be able to afford, outside of the taxes raised locally," said Sheriff Badsky. "The grants are out there. Agencies are getting grants and spending the funds. The Decatur County Sheriff's Office needs to be there also."

Bucks needed for birds

The Decatur County Good Samaritan Center is working to raise money to improve its aviary.

Jan Badsky, activities director, said companies won't cover maintenance on the aviary because of the condition it's in. When a company maintains an aviary, she said, they know the species of the birds and how to take care of each one.

Items that will be given away to raise money will be a Robin print for first place, \$50 in Santa bucks for the second, \$25 worth of gas for third and two large pizzas for fourth.

The two neighborhoods in the center are holding a contest to see who can raise the most. The winning neighborhood will get a prize.

Prizes will be given away on Friday, Dec. 17, at the center's yuletide celebration at 3 p.m.

Mrs. Badsky said they will be holding another fund raiser in early January for the aviary.

The Forget-Me-Nots will be holding a soup-and-pie supper.

For information, call Mrs. Badsky at 475-2245.

Man wins big feather contest

The first full week of pheasant hunting is over and most hunters have bagged several birds by now, or at least have been able to get a few shots off.

From those birds, hunters have brought 12 tail feathers to the Chamber of Commerce for the "longest



AT THE HEARTLAND RESTORATION conference Saturday at The Gateway, Amy Carman (above right) joined members from area churches in the worship choir. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Crowd gathers for religious conference

A few hundred people gathered at The Gateway on Friday night for the first session of Heartland Restoration sponsored by the League of Ministers and Churches, which is made of a group of churches in northwest Kansas.

The weekend conference kicked off with a 7 p.m. session on Friday in the main arena. Each session started with the worship team, which was built from many area churches.

Ministers Jon and Helen Jenkins

were the guest speakers. The couple said they met at Bible college and are ordained with the International Church of the Four-square Gospel. After 25 years as pastors, they said they received God's calling to the church at large.

Mr. Jenkins spoke at all three sessions Friday night and twice on Saturday.

In between the sessions Saturday, lunch was served at The Gateway by the Shepherd's Staff of Rexford. By afternoon, the crowd

had thinned out a little, but around 100 people remained.

Bishop W.G. Romine from the Redeeming Love Church in Colby said this weekend the group is making history. He said he believes God has chosen Kansas to light the match for a revival for the nation.

The conference, he said, has been put together by the League of Ministries, which meets once a month at the Shepherd's Staff in Rexford.

The league brings together min-

isters who represent churches and ministries all over this part of Kansas, he said.

The group says its mission is to join through prayer, spiritual giftedness, insight and unity to further the Kingdom of God.

The league has been meeting monthly since January to work on the conference, he said. A second session is set for April 15 and 16 at The Gateway. Speaker will be Evangelist Mickey Robinson.

There is no charge to attend.

Farmer, city to remove fence

The Oberlin City council talked with the farmer who rents the lake bed at Sappa Park last Thursday night during the public comment part of the meeting.

At the first meeting in November, Councilman Jay Anderson suggested that the city should take bids for cash rent on the farm ground. Jim Abbey now rents the land on a share-crop lease, but many years makes no payments because the land floods easily.

Mr. Abbey said he has rented the land from the city for years. He grows crops and also grazes cattle there.

In the past, the council has talked about taking the fence around the lake bed out. Mr. Abbey asked if the council still wanted to take the fence out and if they are going to pay

someone to do it.

City Administrator Gary Shike said the city either will take it down or someone can do it for salvage.

Mr. Abbey said he wanted to challenge some people to help him take down the fence, looking at Councilman Anderson. Dr. Anderson asked if Mr. Abbey was up for renting the land again.

That piece of land is like family, he replied, even though for some it is like a bartering chip.

Mr. Abbey said he will start with the worst part of the fence first.

Jack Benton said he talked with people from the gun club and golf course, who rent land from the city at the park. They would like to leave the fence from the entry of the park to the Shirleys' house in place, he said. That way people can't drive into those areas.

Mr. Abbey said with the recent rains, he would have some time to work on the fence.

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THE OBERLIN HERALD
 and the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce welcome The Rose Tea Room to the business community

Sid Metcalf of the Decatur Area Tea Room to Oberlin. She is assisted in the business by her daughter, Leigh Davis.