

Bridges may be replaced with steel

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 changed last year when the price of steel went up 40 to 50 percent. They came down a little this year, he said, but not to where they were.
 The bottom line is Mr. Stallman's budget, said Commissioner Ralph Unger.
 The bridges do need to be taken care of at some time, replied Commissioner Doyle Brown.
 The county has \$308,789 in the special bridge account. The problem has outgrown time and manpower the county has, said Mr. Stallman. Something needs to be done if the county is going to crawl out of this hole.
 There is going to need to be some outside help other than the county crew.
 Mr. Johnson said Husker just does the steel and then subcontracts with bridge builders out of Norfolk, Neb., who come to do the work. They build a bridge in five to six working days, usually over a two week span. They have been building bridges for

years.
 Mr. Johnson said they can make a pre-cast concrete slab at the shop and then put it in place. That way there isn't any wait for the concrete to dry to drive on the bridge. The slab will be set into the bridge and welded into place.
 Mr. Unger asked if they used steel. Mr. Johnson said they usually don't, but they will use used beams if the county has some they want to use. The steel company also buys used steel beams, he said, if it will save some money on a project.
 He said he would like to set up in January to bid a few jobs and then in February again. That way the builders have a plan of where they are going.
 Mr. Johnson said if commissioners wanted to check with other companies, that would be fine. It has been his experience, he said, that other companies can't build for as little as his firm can.
 The commissioners didn't make any decisions.

Breaking ground



SHOWING OFF WITH GOLD-PAINTED SHOVELS, Sheridan County residents had the official ground breaking for Selden's new community center on Wednesday. Digging in were (from left) Sheridan County Hospital Administrator Kyle Hahn, Sheridan County Development Director Bert Mosier, Irene Kruse and Selden Mayor Darrel Bruggeman.
 — Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

County tells director to look for grant

The Decatur County commissioners told the ambulance director last Tuesday to look for a matching grant to buy a new ambulance for Jennings.
 Director Patrick Pomeroy and Jennings Assistant Director Sharla Ritter met with the commissioners. Oberlin Assistant Linda Manning was on the phone for the conversation. The two said that Car 3 in Jennings has been having some problems. Ms. Ritter said that the problems have been going on for the last two years. There have been problems with the radiator, electrical system and the battery. She said they were on a run recently and the ambulance died for no reason.
 Mr. Pomeroy said it wouldn't work to send Car 5 to Jennings because it doesn't fit in the barn, it isn't as large inside as the one they have now and the cot is old. He said maybe they should buy a new one.
 Commissioner Ralph Unger said he didn't want to get a used one and buy someone else's problems. Commissioner Doyle Brown said he thought Jennings needs a reliable ambulance.
 Ms. Ritter said she didn't think they needed a new one, but a newer one that runs better than what they have.
 The ambulance special equipment fund has close to \$50,000 in it, said County Clerk Marilyn Horn. The commissioners discussed that and a matching grant could purchase

County Roundup

At their meeting last Tuesday, the Decatur County commissioners:

- Approved nominations for trustee positions for Olive and Roosevelt townships. Story to come.
- Talked with a man from Husker Steel about replacing some of the county bridges. Story on front page.
- Told the ambulance director to look for a matching grant to purchase a new ambulance for Jennings. Story at left.

a new ambulance.
 The commissioners told Mr. Pomeroy to go for a matching grant. For now, they said to send Car 1 to Jennings and for him to drive Car 3 to see what is wrong with it.
 In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that Mr. Pomeroy sent out bid sheets for a hot water heater. He said it can be gas or electric and shouldn't be any larger than 10 gallons. Bids are due by 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6.
- Heard the pin number isn't working on the gas card for Conoco/Phillips. County Clerk Marilyn Horn said she would call about it.

* City to get new transformer

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 former? asked Mayor Ken Shobe. No, said Mr. Castle, it will be new. It will be the same type the city has now, but with a larger capacity.
 Is there any way to just put the new transformer next to the old one, said Mr. Pomeroy. The concrete it sets on is reinforced, said Mr. Castle. He said the city could probably dig a hole and lay more concrete if they want to.
 Is there salvage value for the old transformer? asked Mr. Pomeroy. That amount will be established when it is taken out, said Mr. Castle.
 If the transformer goes out, will power to the whole city be lost? asked Councilman Jay Anderson. Yes, said Mr. Castle, except at the power plant.
 The transformer could be here in 18 weeks, he said. It won't cost more to run this one than the old one, even

though it is larger capacity, because the new transformer is more efficient.
 Can the city plant generate enough power to supply the town? asked Councilman Joe Stanley. In the spring or fall, yes, Mr. Castle said, but not in the summer when everybody uses air conditioning.
 "This would be the hardest to deal with on an emergency basis," said City Administrator Shike.
 With the hook-up of the new transformer, buying the transformer and tearing down the tower, Mr. Castle said, he thought it would be around \$100,000. The fund has \$185,000 in it.
 A motion to purchase the new transformer was modified to change the city's procurement policy, which would require the city to get bids.
 Mr. Castle said this is an item that

the city doesn't necessarily want to take the lowest bid on
 The council approved purchasing the transformer and suspending the procurement policy for the purchase.

QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF

Jean Ann Hale, County Treasurer of Decatur County, Kansas, Showing Balance on hand for the Quarter ending April 30, 2004

County General	290,184.01	Sp. Alcohol Program	2,998.84
SW Bell Rural 911 ...	15,962.02	Spec. Park & Rec	3,098.16
Landfill	6,837.07	Summer Rec.	1,219.87
Road & Bridge	716,707.60	Public Trans.	1,182.95
Special Bridge	308,789.22	Special Jail Equip...	1,518.29
Home for Aged	118,421.73	PATF	133.74
Conservation Dist	1,037.50	Sp. Fire Equip.	94,001.77
Co. Health Nurse	45,240.95	Bond & Interest	44,967.25
Extension Council	1,179.25	RFD Memorial	1,328.67
Mental Health	335.23	Economic Develop. .	170.10
Mental Retardation	591.55	CORE	2,201.30
JUCO	67,849.86	RFD	128,072.72
Ambulance Memorial	1,838.27	Bad Check Trst Fnd .	974.68
Ambulance	69,832.60	Corp. Plan Emp.	381,974.17
Noxious Weed	56,502.88	Motor Vehicle Tax ...	13,548.42
Sp. Road Machinery	134,562.00	Delq. Personal Tax ...	655.78
Election	42,086.80	Good Sam Memorial	589,113.96
Special Liab.	7,402.71	Treas. Special Auto	11,123.63
Ambulance Sp Equip..	27,624.94	Motor Vehicle License	1,804.25
Deeds Tech. Fund	4,187.81	Sales Tax	19,539.54
Employee Bene.	140,442.78	R.V. Tax	653.91
Equip. Reserve	114,949.33	Park Permits	989.75
Juvenile Detention ...	583.67	Cash Over & Under	(57.00)
Summer Rec Memorial	2,864.60	Alcoholic Liquor Tax	175.00
Senior Citizens	17,483.56	Partial Pay	2,615.27
Employee WH	51,593.18	Redemption & Assign.	4,669.08
Cafeteria 125	17,153.24	Total (57.00)	3,570,975.46

That Other Floor Store
 2x9
 Ad sent to GDN
 oh/adv

TOWNSHIP	Gen'l Revenue	Road	Sp. Road
Bassettsville		9,141.49	
Dresden SW 784.08			
Finley		9,569.89	
Logan		10,286.29	
Oberlin		4,978.01	
Olive		8,448.68	
Sherman		6,363.01	21.49
Summit		14,680.92	
TOTAL SW 784.08		63,468.29	21.49
CEMETERY			
Hawkeye	13.13		
Finley	592.88		
Lund	.42		
TOTAL	606.43		

FUND:	CASH:
County Funds	Investments
Township Funds	The Bank
Cemetery Funds	The Bank Oberlin
TOTAL	Cash
	The Bank MM
	The Bank Ob. MM
	First National MM
	TBO Corp Plan
	Farmers Bank & Tr.
	TOTAL

I, Jean Ann Hale, Treasurer of DECATUR County, Kansas, do solemnly swear that the above statement is complete, true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief. SO HELP ME GOD.
 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That the foregoing statement was subscribed and sworn to before me, and in my presence, by the above named, this 31st day of October, 2004. Marilyn Horn, County Clerk

Holiday season starts

The holiday shopping season will kick off Friday night after Thanksgiving, with stores open until 8 p.m. in Oberlin and activities on Main Street.
 The Oberlin Lions Club will be holding a soup supper from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Golden Age Center.
 The Oberlin Business Alliance's annual Parade of Lights will begin around 6 p.m. at the Decatur Co-op elevator parking lot and head north up Main Street to the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center.
 The parade will not come back down Penn Avenue.
 Theme for the parade is "Ho-Ho-Here We Go, Christmas is on its Way."

Anyone can enter the parade by calling the Chamber of Commerce at 475-3441. The parade marshal once again will be Doris Black.
 Rumors have been heard that Santa Claus will arrive sometime during the parade and then will meet kids in the courthouse. The Lions will be providing candy for all the kids who sit on Santa's lap.
 After the parade, the Last Indian Raid Museum will be open for the Museum Christmas Tree Tour and refreshments will be served. The Seeds of Creation gift shop at the museum also will be open.
 On Saturday, Oberlin Arts and Humanities will hold the 19th annual Holiday Arts and Crafts show at The Gateway from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 There is no admission fee for the event, which will feature 80 booths from around the area.
 Lunch will be sold and there will be baby-sitting available.

Food drive starts Friday

The sixth annual food drive starts Friday at Stanley Hardware.
 Owner Joe Stanley said they want to collect 2,000 items for the Decatur County Ministerial Association's food pantry.
 All of the non-perishable items will be stored in the south window of the store along with a tote board so people walking by will know how close they are to the total.
 Mr. Stanley said the food pantry doesn't need any more corn or green beans. Other than that, any non-perishable items will be good.
 The food drive, he said, started out

as a 2000 holiday promotion. They hoped it would continue, he said, and it has worked out so far.
 Mr. Stanley said the food drive seems like something that is needed. This type of help seems to be needed more every year.
 Each year, he said, the junior high student council helps haul the food to the pantry, which is in the basement of the United Church.
 Normally, he said, the kindergarten kids and some of the other classes from the grade school bring in food. Mr. Stanley said anyone who wants to can bring items in.

Internet tonight!
 Call 475-2206!

Opportunities in Human Services

Norton
 We're looking for reliable, caring individuals to join our team in providing support and teaching daily living skills to adults with developmental disabilities in Norton. Full and part time positions available on 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m. shifts. H/S diploma or equivalent required, related experience is helpful, however, training by an experienced staff is provided. Offering \$6.75-\$7.00/hr to start depending on shift, full benefit plan, training incentives and the chance to make a difference! Apply in person at DSNWK, 1104 N. State, Norton, KS or phone (785) 877-5154 for more information.

DSNWK - Work that Makes a Difference!
 EOE