

# Landfill to get gravel

## County will buy rock for entrance

Decatur County commissioners agreed to buy crushed rock for the drive into the landfill and supplies to build more catch screens to stop trash from blowing at their meeting last Tuesday.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said there was money in the landfill budget to buy some rock to put on the drive. He said it is important to keep the drive nice so people could get there easily. The rock costs around \$300 a load, and he said they could use up to five loads.

Mr. Stallman said he would also like to build more screens to catch trash as it is being buried at the landfill.

Mr. Stallman said Liberty Township would like to rent the county's packer for road work. A company called Whirlwind will be doing the job.

Commissioners agreed that the company could rent the machine at \$40 a day. They said that although companies can rent the equipment, private rental is not allowed.

Mr. Stallman said the packer at the fairgrounds doesn't have a trailer, so the contractor will have to find a way to get to the job site.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that the state Department of Health and Environment had inspected the landfill last week and it passed. Mr. Stallman said he received a phone call from the inspector, who praised the work of landfill operator Glen Strong.
- Held a road closing hearing for Beaver Township. With no one to protest, the commissioners approved closing the road between sections 9 and 10.

# County Roundup

At their meeting last week, the Decatur County commissioners:

- Agreed to write-off 49 ambulance bills Medicare hasn't paid after spending 45 minutes behind closed doors. Story below.
- Approved purchasing rock for the drive into the landfill and supplies to build another catch screen to stop trash from blowing. Story above.
- Discussed naming the roads in the county or getting the number system used now organized and to the post office. Story to come.

# County writes off some bills

The Decatur County commissioners spent 45 minutes behind closed doors for attorney-client privilege, then decided to write off 49 ambulance bills that Medicare hasn't paid.

The group spent another 25 minutes in closed session for non-elected personnel with Ambulance Director Patrick Pomeroy.

After opening the doors, the commissioners talked about Mr. Pomeroy working with Quick Books for ambulance billing. They agreed that Mr. Pomeroy would call the county's auditor, Steve Zadow, with Maps and Miller, for some training and County Clerk Marilyn Horn would sit in.

Later in the meeting, Mr. Pomeroy came back for a 15-minute closed session for personnel. There was no action taken.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Held a 15 minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel. There was no action taken.
- Heard that positions of Joan McKenna and Gene Gallentine on the hospital board are up for reappointment. Anyone interested in filling the seats, including Mrs. McKenna and Mr. Gallentine, should contact the clerk's office.



ONE OF THREE LARGE wind turbine propellers (above) was pulled out of the lot at the old police station and through Oberlin before Christmas. Heath Utter (below) with

B&K Trucking was one of the drivers on their way to Sweetwater, Texas, where a wind farm is under construction. — Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

# Gigantic blades stop here

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

Three large flatbed trucks pulled through town just before Christmas, carrying three more blades for a wind farm being built in Texas.

The blades, hauled on flatbed semi-trailer trucks, have been coming through town for several weeks now. The drivers say they usually take a break here, parking at the old police station at the intersection of U.S. 36 and U.S. 83.

The blades are being hauled from Grand Forks, N.D., to Sweetwater, Texas, for a new wind generating facility.

Heath Utter of Wisconsin, one of the drivers with B&K Trucking hauling the blades, said there will be hundreds of blades coming through Oberlin.

The towers for the wind farm are also being hauled over the road, but not with the same trucking company, and he didn't think they would come through Oberlin.



The wind farm is being built slowly, he said, with blades for each turbine moving as a unit, three at a time.

Mr. Utter said the old police station is a good place to stop, with room to park so the drivers can get something to eat.

The three trucks and three flag cars with oversize-load signs left around 11:16 a.m., heading south down U.S. 83.

# Council closes doors for raise discussion

The Oberlin City Council met behind closed doors for 2 1/2 hours Thursday, Dec. 16 to discuss salaries and evaluations of non-elected personnel.

City Administrator Gary Shike said the group voted on two one-hour sessions and then a 30-minute session. In the first two, Police Chief Wade Lockhart and City Foreman

Dan Castle were present. For the third session, Chief Lockhart left.

Mr. Shike said there weren't any decisions made. He said he thinks the council will take action in January.

The council also approved beer licenses for Crossroads Express, Ampride, Raye's Grocery and the Re-Load.

In other business, the council:

- Heard there are three seats up this year for election, those held by Stan McEvoy, Joe Stanley and Jay Anderson. Anyone interested in running needs to file by noon Tuesday, Jan. 25, at the county clerk's office.
- Heard there will only be one meeting next month, at 6:30 p.m. on

Thursday, Jan. 13.

• Talked about the year-end wrap-up meeting set for 6 p.m. Thursday night. The council will pay the end-of-the-month bills, close out the budget and consider one more beer license, for Keeno's Roadhouse.

• Talked with Walter Pennell about a new magazine the American Legion put out.

# Supper to raise money for bird cage at center

The Forget-Me-Nots will hold a benefit soup and pie supper at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center on Thursday, Jan. 6, to raise money for a new aviary for the residents.

Dennis Brown said the Forget-Me-Nots will match up to \$500, with all the money going to a new bird environment.

Jan Badsky, activities director at the center, said the aviary needs to be replaced because it is so old that commercial experts won't maintain it.

At a recent fund raiser, they received over \$100. The center also received a donation from a resident and her family, which means they have around \$350 in the fund. The new aviary will cost about \$3,500.

The dinner will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The price will be whatever the person wants to give.

Anyone with questions should call Mrs. Badsky or Angela Musgrave at 475-2245.

# Woman wins \$1,000 in downtown drawing

An Oberlin woman became \$1,000 richer last Monday at the Oberlin Business Alliance drawing.

Millie Lippelmann took home a \$1,000 gift certificate to be spent at stores which belong to the alliance.

Joe Stanley, owner of Stanley Hardware, drew names out of a box in front of the Chamber of Commerce office Monday night. He chose 10 contestants and each one received a gift box. In each box was a certificate for \$1,000 or for \$25.

Mr. Stanley ended up having to call almost 20 names to get 10 people who were at the drawing.

Other winners included Connie Pomeroy, Janet Anthony, Pat

Cozad, Ardith Wayne, Jennifer Juenemann, Sharla Ritter, Kathy Brainard, Delores Zadow and Doug Brown

Mr. Stanley also drew a blue ticket for the kids drawing. The kids who saw Santa Monday night at the courthouse each received a blue ticket. The prize was a year's worth of movies at Sunflower Cinema.

The first ticket Mr. Stanley drew wasn't claimed. The second was Kaine Fredrickson's, and he went home with the pass.

# Friday business as usual

## Banks close early; paper, county close

Most Oberlin stores will be open regular hours on New Year's Eve, but plan to close New Year's Day.

The Oberlin Herald will go to press on the regular schedule on Tuesday, but the office will be closed all day New Year's Eve. Deadlines for The Country Advocate will be moved up one day to noon on Thursday.

Mail will be delivered in town on Friday and there will be regular hours for window service at the post office on New Year's Eve.

Federal, state, city and county offices will be closed on New Year's Day. The courthouse will be closed all day Friday.

First National Bank will close at 2 p.m., Farmers Bank and Trust will close at 3 p.m. and The Bank will close at 2 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

Crossroads Express and Ampride will be open regular hours on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. D & M Sinclair and A&W Restaurant will be open regular hours on New Year's Eve, but closed on New Year's Day.

The Frontier Restaurant, Oberlin Mercantile Co. and LandMark Inn will be open regular hours on New Year's Eve and closed on New Year's Day. The Red Crown Lounge will be open New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Keeno's Roadhouse will be open New Year's Eve and closed on Saturday. Pizza Hut will be open both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

The Oberlin Library will close at 1 p.m. on New Year's Eve and reopen on Monday.

There will be a cattle sale at Oberlin Livestock Auction on Monday.

# Businesses have stuff for baby

Area businesses will honor Decatur County's first baby and parent of the new year with a load of gifts.

The parents of the first baby born in 2005 will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Addeleman Drug Store, a case of baby food from Raye's Grocery, a pizza for two from Pizza Hut, a photo album from Custom Trophy and Engraving, a gift from Fredrickson Insurance Agency, a \$10 gift certificate from Ben Franklin Store, a gift from Ray Jewelry, a \$10 gift certificate from Ward Drug Store, a gift certificate from The Dresser, a \$25 savings bond from First National Bank, a \$10 gift certificate from Stanley Hardware, a \$40 gift certificate to Rocking R, a year's subscription to The Oberlin Herald from the paper and best wishes from KFNH Radio.

The first baby born in the new year at the Norton County Hospital will receive a teddy bear from American Family Insurance. All of the gifts and services have to be used within 60 days of the baby's birth.

NOTICE OF 56TH

# Annual Meeting

Monday, January 17, 2005  
12:00 NOON

to be held at the St. Francis Parish Hall

Please R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, January 12

\$1.00 PER MEMBER

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