

Channel 7 going strong for 10 years

Dedicated men keep Oberlin informed

With the backing of the city council and help from an active committee, Oberlin was able to regain a local access channel on the cable system 10 years ago which is still operated today on channel 7.

Channel 7 went on air for the first time after Oberlin regained the channel on Jan. 5, 1995, with the help of Jack Benton, Bill Duncan, Royce Wilson, Sandy Fair and Marvin Matchett.

Today the channel is run under the supervision of Mr. Benton and Mr. Duncan. There is 24 hour local weather and advertisements on the channel.

This was not the first cable channel Oberlin has had. Mr. Duncan said the first cable channel started in 1975. The city lost the channel years later and when they tried to gain it back the cable company had been sold.

Later the Federal Communications Commission, said Mr. Benton, required that if a community could prove they needed an access channel they could have one. A little over 10 years ago the city got behind the channel under the helm of Jerry Fear. Mr. Benton said although the city played a role in getting the channel they made it clear they didn't want anything to do with it after it was awarded.

At first, said Mr. Benton, they ran advertisements on the channel without charging. After about two

months that changed. Now they sell advertising spots. He said it is \$1 a day for less than a week, \$7 a week or \$20 a month for a spot.

The money goes to pay the bills, update equipment and to the Seeds of Hope Telethon which goes back to community organizations.

Neither of the men who serve on the committee get paid.

Ten years ago the decision was made to put the cable channel in The Gateway and it is still there. Mr. Benton said they thought by putting it there they could put more events on live.

The men have been in charge of the telethon, which has also run for the last 10 years. Mr. Duncan said the first telethon was held March 11, 1995.

Helping with telethons was nothing new for Mr. Duncan when one started in Oberlin. He had been helping with ones in Norton, Hill City, Stockton and Phillipsburg since the early 1980s. Mr. Duncan also worked with a telethon in Oberlin which was more like a "united fund." Out of it came the telethon people see today.

Mr. Duncan said the Church of Christ, where he is a pastor, has had a television ministry since 1975.

Not only does the cable channel air the telethon once a year, but they air the United Methodist Church service every Sunday and the Ober-

(See MEN on Page 9A)

Singers, dancers will perform at Telethon

Seeds of Hope celebrates 10 years of service to community Saturday

The Gateway will come alive Saturday with singers, dancers, piano players, an auction, chili cook-off, food and people, all of which will be aired on local access channel 7.

That's right. It is time for the 10th annual Seeds of Hope Telethon. The telethon raises money for organizations in the county through pledges and auction items which are purchased on the air.

The telethon committee, made up of Bill Duncan, Jack Benton, Regina Stanley, Brenda Ulery, Peg Smith, Anita Hirsch, Dennis Brown, Kristi Smith and Kimberly Davis, has been working since last March to get things ready for the all day event. The committee has decided to make some changes this year. They have taken out the walk-a-thon and added hourly drawings. Some things will remain the same with local talent performing all day and items up for sale through an all day auction.

The telethon committee and workers will kick the event off at 1 p.m. with the American flag presented by the Oberlin American Legion and opening remarks by Mayor Ken Shobe.

From the opening hour up to 10 p.m., there will be auction items showcased every hour which people can purchase by placing a bid in person or calling 475-3753 or 475-2901. At the end of the hour, items will be switched for new ones.

Instead of holding a silent auction this year, telethon committee members decided to give away items every hour. Each hour people need to register to win the items and they must be present to win.

Some of the auction items already donated include a photo package from Photos by Jeannie, a video recorder, Wolf collector plates, ribeye steaks, cut and wrapped, tickets to the Royals, Kansas Speedway and

Denver Center Theater. Some of the auction items are on display in the window at Stanley Hardware on Main Street.

Throughout the day, kids and adults will showcase their talent in the arena. There will be seats set up for anyone who wants to come and watch or those in town can turn on channel 7.

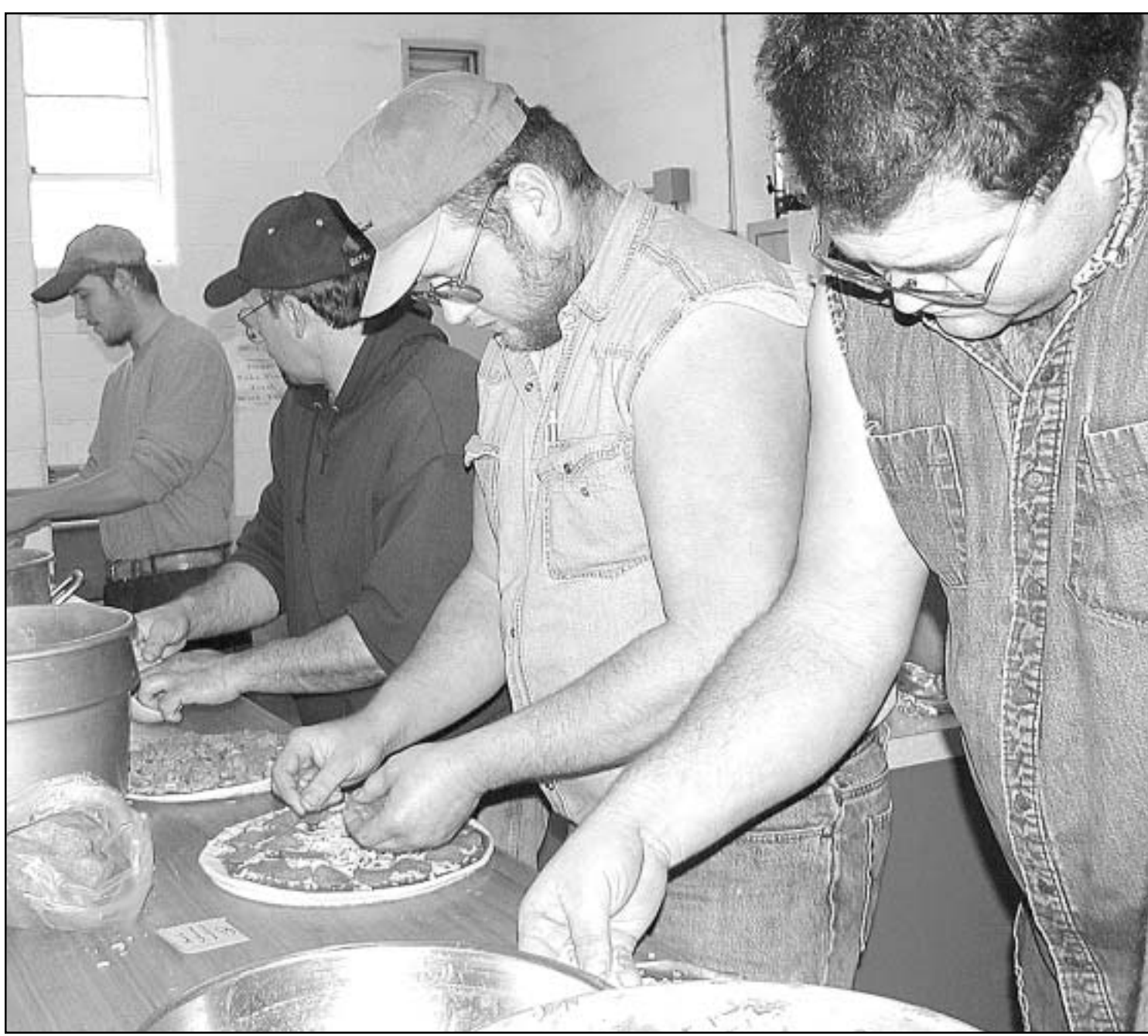
Anyone who wants to enter chili in the cook-off needs to have their entry at The Gateway by 4:30 p.m. It will be judged at 5 p.m. Chili that is left will be sold in the concession stand.

Dennis Brown will run a concession stand throughout the day. On the menu is vegetable beef soup, Mexican white chili, sloppy joes, ham and cheese hoagies, chips, assorted pies, coffee, tea, pop and bottled water.

Mr. Brown said the committee wanted to thank both the Bargain Box and *The Oberlin Herald* for their faithful support over the years.

"Without partners like you, the telethon would not be what it is today or what it has been the past 10 years," he said.

Money raised through donations and the auction will be divided among the 19 recipients including the Norcatour Pre-School, Decatur County Stand Against Violence, Oberlin Lions Club, Creative Movements Gymnastics, Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce, Relay for Life, Oberlin pool project, Decatur County Museum, Oberlin Community Fellowship, Jennings City Library, Tripple Creek Riders, FROGS summer day camp, High Plains ArtFest, Decatur County Ministerial Association, American Family Radio, Salvation Army, the Blue Angels, the Decatur Area Theater Association and Sunflower Cinema.



Firemen make pizzas

SEVERAL VOLUNTEERS from the Norcatour Rural and City Fire Departments (above) formed an assembly line Saturday afternoon in the old grade school kitchen to assemble 310 pizzas for delivery on Sunday. Volunteers (from left) are Mark Bailey, Doug Dempewolf, Darren Wentz and Galen Wentz. Carl Lyon (right) and Rex Knapp weighed the pizzas before sending them out the door. Every year the department takes orders for pizzas from community residents as a fund raising project to upgrade their equipment.

— Herald photos by Carolyn Plotts



City/schools will not have a primary vote

The books have been closed for the upcoming April election with only seven candidates registered. That means there will be several positions filled with write-in candidates.

County Clerk Marilyn Horn, who is the county election officer, said there are three spots open for the Oberlin City Council, but only two incumbents and no new candidates have registered. Both Jay Anderson

and Joe Stanley, who serve on the council now, registered for their seats. Councilman Stan McEvoy decided not to register.

That means one seat will be filled with a write-in candidate. Mrs. Horn said a write-in only needs five votes to win the seat.

The only race for the general election on Tuesday, April 5 will be between incumbent Delayne May and Jody Robertson for the District 4

seat on the Oberlin School Board.

Incumbents Dewayne Jackson for District 6 and Chris Bailey for District 5 both filed for their seats.

Louise Cressler filed for the Jennings City Council and Frances Bader for the Jennings School Board. Mrs. Horn said there are five positions open on the Jennings School Board.

There are also seats open on the Jennings, Norcatour and Dresden

City councils, although she didn't know how many. With only one candidate filed, the rest will be filled by write-in candidates.

Mrs. Horn said the last day to register to vote will be on Monday, March 21. The county clerk's office will stay open until 9 p.m. that night.

There will be polling places open in all four cities, she said, although they haven't determined yet how many will be open in Oberlin.

District will give awards at banquet

The Decatur County Conservation District will hold its annual meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday at The Gateway with dinner courtesy of the Decatur County Bankers Association.

Diana Solko, secretary, said the district is required by law to have an annual meeting. At that time the financial records for the year are shown, new members are elected to the five person board, they give out rangeland and conservation awards and the banker's association hands out windbreak awards.

Mrs. Solko said on the board this year are David Wilson, Vernon Ketterl, Ron Bryan, Lawrence Jennings and Carl Wahl-

meier. Both Mr. Wilson and Mr. Jennings are up for election, but Mr. Wilson decided not to serve again.

On the ballot for the two spots will be Mr. Jennings, Elden Huff, Shannon Metcalf and John E. Ritter.

The conservation district serves many purposes in the county, she said. Some include a cost-share program for terraces and livestock practices. Mrs. Solko said the district also has a cost-share program for non-point sources for failing septic systems and livestock practices. Last minute reservations will be taken up to today.

Reservations may be made by calling 475-3131.

Winter ag talks here

The Cover Your Acres winter ag conference will be held Thursday, at The Gateway, sponsored by Kansas State University and Northwest Kansas Crop Residue Alliance.

Industry sponsors include South-west Implement, Hoxie Implement, Redball with Colby Implement, DuPont Ag with Pioneer Hybrids, and the High Plains Sunflower

Committee. The conference costs \$25 per person.

Among topics that will be discussed will be corn versus milo production, no-till crop production, dryland soybean production, tree loss in windbreaks and more.

All checks should be payable to Kansas State University.

City to meet at library

The Oberlin City Council will meet in the basement of the library at 6:30 p.m. Thursday since all of the rooms at The Gateway are booked that evening.

City Administrator Gary Shike said the council will look at the farm lease for the Sappa Park lake bottom again. The city attorney has gotten some answers to the questions he had on the Pheasants Forever pro-

posal. The mayor will make an appointment to the Oberlin-Decatur County Area Economic Development Corp. Mr. Shike said contracts for community development block grant for the waste water treatment plant will be signed.

The meeting is open to the public. It will not be aired on the local access channel 7.

Director will look at grant

The Decatur County commissioners and ambulance director briefly discussed applying for a grant for a new ambulance for Jennings at the meeting last Tuesday.

Mr. Pomeroy said he understood the commissioners voted no for a new ambulance station last week. Mr. Unger said for this year he thought they needed to go for a new ambulance.

The commissioners aren't saying no to a new station ever, said Mr. Pomeroy, just not this year.

The first priority this year, said Mr. Unger, should be a new ambulance. How is the one that is causing problems? Mr. Pomeroy said it was back in the shop today.

Mr. Pomeroy has been checking into a grant through Northwest Kansas Community Development Block Grant. He said he thought a certain percentage of people in the county need to be low to moderate income.

Maybe, said Mr. Unger, since the ambulance will be placed in Jennings the income will only have to be proven there. Mr. Pomeroy said the way he understood it was that the whole county would be looked at since it is a county service.

Mr. Pomeroy said the county had one set of vacuum splints, but he wanted to purchase another two sets. That way there could be another set in Oberlin and one in Jennings. Sometimes when a splint is used on a patient it can end up in Kearney or somewhere else and the service doesn't get it back right away.

He said each set costs around \$300.

Commissioner Ralph Unger asked if there was more than one supplier for the splints? Yes, said Mr. Pomeroy, but the prices through the suppliers are pushing \$400.

The commissioners approved purchasing two sets of splints. Mr. Pomeroy said the sager splints can be used for femur fractures. The plus side to these splints, he said, is that one person can put it on the patient.

Each one costs \$339, he said. The earlier motion was amended to include the purchase of two sagers splints — one for Jennings and one for Oberlin.

In other business, commissioners:

- Heard that Mr. Pomeroy called Brandon Mann with the Kansas Counties Association Multi-line Pool, the company that provides liability insurance for the county, to make sure that trainees are covered while doing clinicals at the hospital. They are covered. Mr. Pomeroy was directed to check about workman's compensation too.

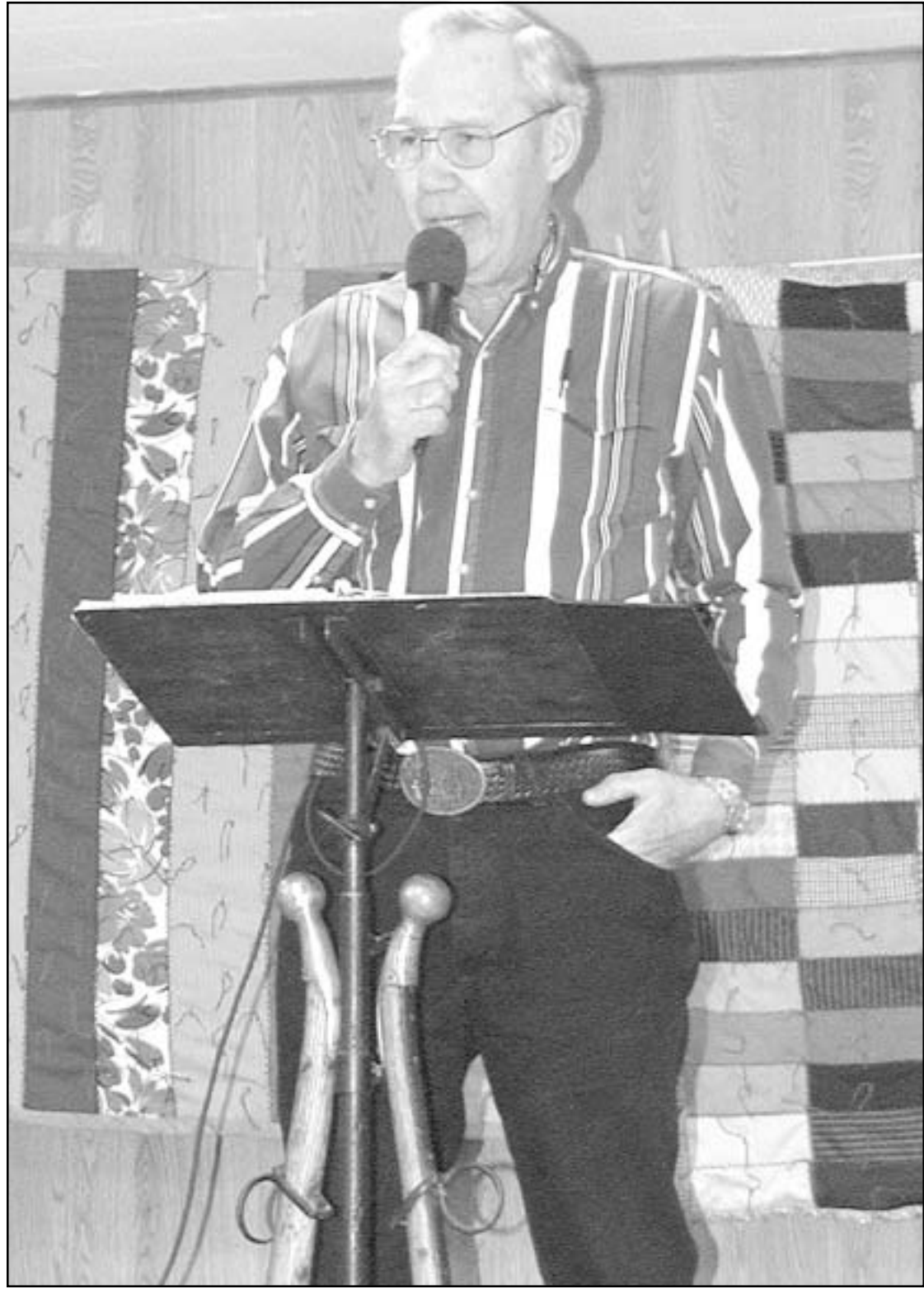
- Held a five minute closed session for non-elected personnel. There was no action taken.



Supper helps family

SATURDAY NIGHT around 60 people joined Randall and Kim Mayo (above) in Norcatur for a soup supper in their honor. The Randalls' home caught on fire on Tuesday, Jan. 18. Bob Virgil (right) of Norton read some of his original cowboy poetry. The supper, co-sponsored by "The New Harvester Singers" and Norcatur United Methodist Church, was held at the Norcatur Educational Building. The groups raised over \$300 for the couple.

—Herald photo by Carolyn Plotts



* Men run channel

(Continued from Page 1A) lin City Council meetings twice a month on Thursdays.

The men said they keep very detailed records of everything dealing with the cable channel. Mr. Benton said they keep tapes of everything that has been aired on the cable channel, from the time they moved all the equipment downtown to air the cattle drive down Main Street, to every council meeting.

The channel is important, he said. It keeps people in the local area up to date with service announcements, ads and weather. Mr. Benton said they pick up the weather radio information out of Goodland and air that. It is on all the time except when they are running live.

Anyone with cable who lives in Oberlin can pick up the local access channel 7, but people who live outside of the city or have dish network do not receive the service.

Hotline can help voters

The Legislative Reference Section of the Kansas State Library reminds all Kansans of the Legislative Hotline since the 2005 Legislative Session convened recently.

It provides all Kansans with toll-free access to Kansas legislative activity and documents. The number is (800) 432-3924 and operates year-round. The same number is also available for hearing impaired TTY calls.

The reference section will assist in contacting legislators who will then return calls and also relay brief messages to legislators.

It will also assist with questions on general and specific information on the Kansas Legislature including bill introduction, sponsorship, amendments, status, history and information related to other legislative action and issues.

It provides copies of bills, calendars, journals, committee agendas and other legislative documents. Bills and other legislative documents are also available in Braille for the visually impaired.

For details, contact Rita Haley at (785) 296-2149.

Kids meet canceled

The Kids Wrestling tournament, which was scheduled for Saturday in Oberlin, has been canceled. Virginia Cooper, a member of the

board, said there were not enough entries.

She expressed appreciation to all who had volunteered to help.

CUPID RESIGNS

Turns over duties, bows, arrows, and love manuals to local jeweler

After centuries of passionate commitment to romance and couples, Cupid announced at a recent news conference that he's resigning, effective immediately. He said he's tired, and needs to practice with Mrs. Cupid what he preaches.

Realizing the importance of his work, he appointed Peterson Jewelers as his Official Love Protector. He's turned over all love apparatus, bows, arrows, tips, wings, and heart-stealing tricks and manuals to Peterson's.

Peterson Jeweler's said, "It's a big job. We're humbled and grateful that Cupid picked US! Hey, those manuals have some pretty fabulous ideas! Get in here and see us!"

MASTER JEWELERS

Direct Diamond Importers Polikanstraat, 62 Antwerp, Belgium
Peterson Jewelers

"The Corner of Quality"

124 Norris, McCook 308-345-4570 1-800-658-9953
Open M-F 9:30-5:30 pm Thurs. till 6:30 pm Sat. 9:30-5:00 pm

TAGGED TO SELL!

Right now, every new vehicle on our lot is tagged to go, so you can drive home a great bargain!

Take advantage of SPECTAGULAR savings on our most popular models.

2005 HONDA PILOT EX Res



4WD, Leather, DVD, Heated seats, 255 hp V-6, 8-passenger seating
TAG PRICE: \$31,635
Savings of \$2,500

✓ Save up to \$3,000 off MSRP
✓ Get low 2.9% APR financing on all Accords & Civics. (W.A.C.) for 60 Mo.
✓ Over 30 models on sale!

2005 HONDA CIVIC EX



4 dr., 127 Hp V-tec, 4 cyl., Automatic, Power windows, Locks, Cruise, Tilt!
TAG PRICE: \$17,157
Savings of \$1568

2005 Honda Pilot EXL

4WD, 255 Hp V-6, Heated leather seats, 8 Pass seating
TAG PRICE: \$30,209
Savings of \$2,426

2005 Honda CRV EX

Real time 4WD, Sunroof, 160 Hp, 4-Cyl., Automatic
TAG PRICE: \$22,084
Savings of \$1,781



240 Hp V-6, Leather heated seats, Sunroof, 6 Disc CD Changer, Top of the Line!
TAG PRICE: \$24,915
Savings of \$2,300

2004 Honda Civic EX

4 Dr., 127 Hp V-Tec, 4 Cyl., Automatic, Sunroof, Power windows, Locks, Cruise Tilt,
TAG PRICE: \$15,994
Savings of \$2,556

2004 Honda Civic EXL

2 Dr., 127 Hp V-Tec 4 Cyl., Automatic, Sunroof, All power options, Rear Wing Spoiler
TAG PRICE: \$15,599
Savings of \$3,020

2005 HONDA CRV SE



Real time 4WD, Sunroof, Leather heated seats, 160 Hp 4-Cyl., Automatic
TAG PRICE: \$23,652
Savings of \$1,913

2005 Honda Accord EX

V-6, 2 Dr., 240 Hp, Leather heated seats, Sunroof, 6-Disc Changer, Rear wing Spoiler
TAG PRICE: \$25,028
Savings of \$2,786

2005 Honda Accord EXL

2 Dr., 160 Hp 4 Cyl., Automatic, Sunroof, Heated leather seats, 6-Disc CD Changer
TAG PRICE: \$22,652
Savings of \$2,463

2005 ODYSSEY EX-L



All new, 255 Hp, V-6, Leather heated seats, Sunroof, Too much to list!
TAG PRICE: \$28,048
Savings of \$2,762

Internt tonight!
475-2206

HOWARD KOOL HONDA "The Name You've Come To Trust!"
MARK KOOL Sales Manager
RICK EDWARDS Salesman
210 West 3rd 308-345-3600 1-877-584-6632