

Canvass doesn't settle all contests

The Decatur County commissioners and register of deeds canvassed ballots Friday morning, leaving the outcome mostly unchanged.

There are still some questions about who is actually going to serve in some spots because of ties and the fact that ballots from Norton County haven't been received yet.

County Clerk Marilyn Horn, who serves as the county election officer, said a few voters in Sheridan and Norton counties get to vote in the Oberlin and Jennings school elections. Mrs. Horn said she had received the ballots from Sheridan County, which added one vote for Delayne May for the Oberlin School Board. That was the only ballot cast there.

She said she hasn't received the ballots from Norton County yet.

Mrs. Horn said there was some confusion about how many seats were up for election on the Norcatour City Council. Once a mayor is elected, she said, there will be three seats available. Doug Dempewolf was elected as mayor. Carl Lyon and Linda Hunt were elected to the council for four years and Mark Bailey will fill the short term.

In Dresden, she said, they needed three council members. Both Delores Depperschmidt and Don Ritter were elected. Then, said Mrs. Horn, there was a four way tie for the third seat among Ed Meitl, Don Sulzman, Scott Taylor and Russell Rhodes, who is the mayor now. All had one vote each. She said they haven't all been notified and she isn't sure who will serve in that seat.

The Jennings School Board needed three people to serve four-year terms and two to serve two year terms. Frances Bader was the only one on the ballot for a two-year term, and won a seat.

Gary Gillum and Jeanette Krizek were elected for four year terms.

Alesha Vahling received the highest votes for the two-year term, but also received 16 for a four-year term. Lawrence Carter also received 16 for a four year term.

Mrs. Horn said it will all depend on which term Mrs. Vahling chooses to take. She said she hasn't heard yet.

Other than that, she said, there weren't any oddities with the general election.

Arbor Day group offers 10 free trees

Ten free shade trees will be given to everyone who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during April as part of the nonprofit foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The package will include one each red and pin oak, weeping willow, green ash, thornless honeylocust, river birch, tuliptree, and sugar, silver and red maple.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting in April or May. The 6-to-12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Shade Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, Neb., 68410, by April 30 or go online to arborday.org.



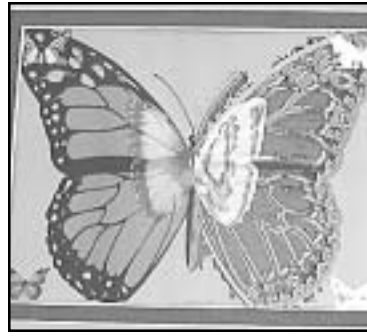
AT THE northwest Kansas league art show, Bethany Weishapl, (left) Fabiola Ortiz and Megan Barrett (above) looked at pieces from area students. The butterfly (below) was one piece Oberlin students entered.

—Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

Students show off art at league

Students from all over north-west Kansas showcased their painting, drawings, sculptures and other art at The Gateway last week during the Northwest Kansas League Art Show.

Terri Woolsey, Oberlin School District art teacher, said the show included pieces from five elementary schools, seven junior high schools and eight high schools. She said there were over 1,000 pieces of art on the floor. Outstanding students were awarded blue rib-



bons for first place and yellow ribbons for Best of Show.

Schools from Atwood, Colby, Goodland, Oakley, Oberlin, Quinter, Scott City and St. Francis were represented. The students ranged from kindergarten to high school.

Mrs. Woolsey said since it was a league show, all of the schools had to belong to the league. She said Scott City was there as a guest school. Hoxie did not make

the show this year.

Health group reports to county

Decatur County commissioners discussed the services provided for people here by High Plains Mental Health Services out of Norton at their meeting last Tuesday.

Every year when representatives from the agency meet with the commissioners, County Attorney Steve Hirsch tells them they need an office here, although they never have had one. Instead, a therapist travels here "as needed."

Director Walt Hill, manager Karen Beery, therapist Dan Sturgill and Dorothy Vacura, a nurse who serves as the county's representative on the board, were all present.

Mr. Hill gave each of the commissioners a copy of the yearly report and thanked them for their support and staying firm on the county property tax levy for mental health. The county raises \$23,035 a year from a .734 mill property tax levy, which goes to the agency.

In 2004, the agency worked with

County Roundup

At their meeting last Tuesday, Decatur County commissioners:

- Talked with the ambulance director about possibly changing standards for the emergency medical service to match the national standards. Story on Page 2A.

- Discussed naming roads using wheat, corn or family names. Story on Page 2A.

- Talked with representatives from High Plains Mental Health about the service here in the last year. Story to left.

106 clients from here, Mr. Hill said. Of those, 43 patients were under the age of 18.

Mr. Hill said the services are paid for by fees, county tax money, insurance, grants and other sources. In 2004, the services cost \$144,161 for Decatur County patients, but only \$136,936 came in. Mr. Hill said, which means \$7,225 wasn't paid for.

Mr. Hill said the agency asks that counties continue to fund the program at the same level, except Trego and Ellis counties, which haven't

been paying at the same rate. He said he will ask them to restore their budgets.

The group is doing video conferencing with some patients in other counties, said Mr. Hill. Maybe something like that could work here.

Mrs. Vacura said she and Violet Krizek, who is the other representative here, said they wouldn't be opposed to someone else taking their seats on the board.

The commissioners didn't make any decisions about money, saying they would look at it at budget time.

Relay for Life needs teams for June

The Decatur County Relay for Life Committee is looking for teams of eight to 15 people to walk in the event on Friday, June 17.

The relay raises money for the American Cancer Society through luminary sales and donations the walkers raise.

In the past, teams have come from businesses, organizations and groups of friends. Chris Dempewolf, who serves on the committee,

said any team with kids under 18 will need an adult sponsor.

The relay starts at 7 p.m. on Friday and ends at 7 the next morning. There will be team members on the track all night walking.

To sign up a team, call Mrs. Dempewolf at 693-4315 or Jane Carlisle at 475-2289.

Anyone who wants to purchase a luminary to be lighted at the event may call Peg Smith at 475-2296.

The luminaries can be purchased in memory of someone or to honor a living person or survivor.

For the first time this year, the committee will have a hair dresser available for people to get their hair cut for Locks of Love, a non-profit organization which provides wigs and hair pieces to kids who lose their hair during cancer or other treatment. Those who donate their hair need to have 10 inches to cut off.



FAMILY MEMBERS of the late Carl "Andy" Anderson were in Great Bend Saturday when he was inducted into the state Emergency Medical Services Hall of Fame, including (from left) his son Clinton, wife Enid and son Calvin.

—Photo by Norma Unger

Ambulance service pioneer honored by state hall of fame

By MARY LOU OLSON

The late Carl "Andy" Anderson, who organized the Emergency Medical Service in Decatur County in 1972, was inducted into the state Emergency Medical Services Hall of Fame on Saturday in Great Bend.

Presenting the award to his widow, Enid Anderson of Oberlin, was Dr. Ren Whitaker of Marion, Iowa, who was a physician in Oberlin for many years.

Mr. Anderson began organizing the county ambulance service in 1972 and became director of the Decatur County Emergency Medical Service in 1974 when Howard Benton stepped down.

A 1948 graduate of Salina High School, he served in the Marines for 20 years. He retired in 1970 and the family moved to Oberlin. He also was maintenance supervisor at the Decatur County Hospital.

His wife, the former Enid Worcester, is a native of Oberlin. The couple also had a daughter, Cheri Diederich, who was unable to attend. Mr. Anderson died of cancer

March 9, 1985.

Family members present were their sons, Clinton and Avonne Anderson, Amara and Alycin, Salina; and Calvin Anderson, Menoken, N.D.; her niece, Cheryl and Jay Palm, Goddard; and her late husband's sisters, Joy Callabresi, New Cambria; and Gloria Ingermanson, Solomon; a nephew, Jerry Callabresi, New Cambria; two nieces, Jean and Randy Curry, Salina; and Carol Needham, Abilene; and a friend, Beverly Sherman, New Cambria.

Among others attending were Keith and Miriam Wilborn, Hoisington; Ralph and Norma Unger, Karen Eskew, Jo Larson, Beverly Reiter, Derrick Bolliger, and John and Dianne Bremer, Oberlin; and Aden and Ruth Schillig, Norton. Mr. Wilborn is a former physician's assistant in Oberlin. Mrs. Eskew, Mrs. Larson, Mrs. Reiter, Derrick Bolliger, and Mr. and Mrs. Schillig are emergency medical technicians and were in Great Bend for a training seminar.

Council cuts back raise for city water employee

The Oberlin City Council approved a 50-cents-an-hour raise for an employee who passed the water operator certification test although the city foreman had asked for a \$1-an-hour raise.

Foreman Dan Castle said David Sporn is making \$9.50 an hour now and he wanted to give him an extra \$1 a hour as a reward for passing the test.

City Administrator Gary Shike asked for pay increases for Schuyler Hulett, a part-time employee as a cook helper, to \$6.25 an hour, and for Pam Tyrrell for part-time work as a cook helper for \$8.50 an hour for the first two months and \$9 a hour after that.

The council approved the wages for the two part-time staffers, but didn't do anything on the request for Mr. Sporn.

"Aren't you going to do anything about Mr. Sporn?" said Mr. Castle.

What can Mr. Sporn do now, asked Councilman Patrick Pomeroy, that he couldn't do before? Mr. Castle said Mr. Sporn can run the water system without a supervisor.

How often is that needed? asked Mr. Pomeroy. Every day, said Mr. Castle.

The city has to have a certified water and sewer operator, said Mr. Shike. Mr. Castle just got his certification for the sewer plant. Willard Perrin is certified for water, but he was the only one. There is a lot of work involved to pass the test. It is a big deal, said Mr. Shike, and he should be recognized financially.

Mr. Pomeroy made the motion to raise Mr. Sporn's pay \$1 a hour to \$10.50. It died for the lack of a second.

"Is anyone interested in a 50-cent raise?" asked Councilman Jay Anderson. The council agreed to that level.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

Decatur County is taking bids on the construction of six bridges. Details of the project and plans will be available at the Engineer's Office.

Sealed bids are due at 5 p.m. on April 18th, 2005 at the Decatur County Clerk's office.

Decatur County reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Information is available at 785-475-8111.

NO TAX DAY!

No Sales Tax ON EVERYTHING IN THE STORE ON Friday, April 15.

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