

Relatives buy McCook dealerships

After 25 years in the car business in McCook, Howard Kool decided to sell his dealerships, but kept both in the family.

Mr. Kool sold Howard Kool Motors at 201 East B Street to his son-in-law, Chris Wagner, who owns WagnerFord-Mercury-Toyota. Mr.

Wagner's new dealership will be named Wagner Chevrolet-Buick-Pontiac-Cadillac. Mr. Wagner said the dealership carries a full line and takes care of all its customers.

"Service is very important to us," said Mr. Wagner. "We are here for the long haul."

He said Oberlin and the surrounding communities in Kansas are in the dealership's areas. When a person is looking at buying their next car, he said, McCook is the place to go. It is also the place to go to get a vehicle serviced.

"We are your area dealer," he

said.

Mr. Kool's Honda dealership at 210 West Third Street has been passed on to his son, Mark Kool.

Although Howard Kool will no longer own the businesses, he said he plans to stay in the business as a member of his son's staff.

With the change, Mr. Wagner will now be the dealer in McCook for General Motors, Toyota and Ford vehicles.

Howard and Janet Kool grew up in Iowa and later moved to McCook with some experience in the car business in Des Moines and Omaha.

Sheriff's office back to normal

The Decatur County sheriff's office is back to normal with two officers and the sheriff working shifts and a few reserve deputies patrolling as needed.

Sheriff Ken Badsy told commissioners at the meeting last Tuesday that the officers had done 31 vehicle inspections in April, worked two accidents and two incidents, taken reports on eight offenses, served 47 papers and written two tickets.

In April, there were five prisoners from Red Willow County and two from Decatur County. Sheriff Badsy said there isn't anyone in jail now.

Kansas Department of Transportation, he said, has new software so accident reports can be sent to the state. For six computers to handle the chore, said Sheriff Badsy, it will cost around \$618. The office will be reimbursed by the state after purchase.

The reports have to be submitted under state law, the sheriff said.

Sheriff Badsy said there is another program called Easy Draw the office needs, which is around \$24 per computer.

The office got a grant, he said, from the state of Kansas and Sheriff Badsy said he will use the

money to purchase at least two self-contained breathing apparatuses around \$2,500 apiece and a portable decontamination shower for \$2,255. That would be for any type of disaster where a person needs to be cleaned off.

The sheriff said he thinks the department has to match the grant 10 percent.

Undersheriff Michael French will need shoulder surgery on Thursday, June 23. Sheriff Badsy said Undersheriff French plans to move to Jennings the week before the surgery.

Sheriff Badsy said prom weekend in Oberlin and graduation weekend in Jennings were quiet.

He said the department has one more big weekend to go with Oberlin graduation.

He said there was a report of a possible dumping of chemicals into the creek southwest of town.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment took several samples

Representative to stop

U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran will be at the LandMark Inn from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, June 2, on his annual Big First Listening Tour.

"I am eager to begin my annual listening tour in order to discuss the issues important to Kansans and receive my marching orders," Rep. Moran said. "This year's tour will

serve a dual purpose, as I also help to showcase the many tourist treasures that Kansas has to offer. By helping people to 'rediscover Kansas,' we can bring to light the efforts of those who work to preserve and protect the history and individuality of our state."

Pool to open on Saturday

Oberlin plans to open the city pool on schedule at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The new boiler is in and the crew has re-painted the pool and fixed some areas.

The pool will be open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to noon for ladies swim, 1 to 5 p.m. for open swim, 6 to 6:30 p.m. for laps and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for open swim.

On Saturdays, the pool will be open from 1 to 6 p.m. for open swim and on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. for open swim.

Season passes will go on sale next week for \$60 for a family and \$30 for an individual.

Day passes will cost \$2 for adults and \$1 for kids 12 and under. The kiddie pool is free.

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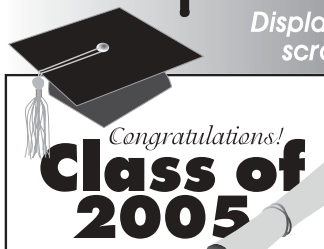
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