

County discusses fireworks money

Decatur County commissioners discussed how to handle money they've set aside for the annual Fourth of July fireworks show when they met last Tuesday.

The sponsoring Oberlin Business Alliance hasn't received a bill for the show for the last three years, and members worry that the money might not be there when they get it. Each year, the county pledges \$500 towards the fireworks display. Oberlin also pledges \$500 and Rusty Adleman of the alliance raises the rest.

County Clerk Marilyn Horn said the county has the money set aside for the fireworks, at \$500 a year for the last few years. In the past, she said, all of the money for fireworks has gone through the county treasurer's office so the purchase is tax free.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch said there is some question about whether they should pay that amount each year when it is in the budget.

Mrs. Horn said maybe they should write a check for the approximate amount each year for Flash Fireworks, but the commissioners didn't make any decisions.

Mrs. Horn said she has had some calls about seeing if the old county shop can be made into a recycling building and then building an eight-car garage or something similar to store the vehicles which are there.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said he doesn't want to build anything else down by the old county shop because the area is prone to flooding.

Noxious Weed Director Gaylen Huntley called to say he is ready to order 100 gallons or more of Tordon for spraying. The price will be under \$10,000. He said the county needs it for fall spraying of musk thistle. Commissioners approved the purchase.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim

Stallman said some of the crew is pulling gravel in on the roads again to get ready for harvest, while others are mowing.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that certificates are ready for Fire Chief Bill Cathcart for 20 years of service and Brenda Arnold, an emergency medical technician, for 15 years. Neither was present at the meeting.

- Heard that Connie Grafel's term on the hospital board is up in November, but she is interested in filling the seat again. The commissioners agreed she needs to fill out an application in the clerk's office. Anyone else interested in the seat can do the same.

- Heard that the Decatur County Fair Board met recently. Commissioner Patricia Glenn said it sounds like the board wants to have the tractor pull on Saturday night again next year, although it didn't make any money this year. She said the board is also talking about canceling the mutton 'bustin', a rodeo-type event for kids.

- Approved a resolution for the 911 fee for the next three years, which means a 75-cent-per-month surcharge will be collected on all phone lines for the county's emergency system.

- Signed a resolution to instruct the county attorney to proceed with the 2006 tax sale.

- Heard from Emergency Preparedness Director Bert Cool that he and Health Administrator Marilyn Gamblin have been unable to get together to work on the Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Plan, but plan to in October.

- Heard that the transportation van was the shop in Colby because the check-engine light keeps coming on.

- Held a 20-minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel. There was no action taken.



Alliance fires up the grill

DOWNTOWN FRIDAY, members of the Oberlin Business Alliance cooked and sold pork burgers and Polish sausages to help raise money for Christmas decorations. Jack Benton (above) broke frozen burgers apart while Joe Stanley (right) manned the grill.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis



Man is treasurer of newspaper group

Steve Haynes of Oberlin, publisher of *The Oberlin Herald* and president of Nor'West Newspapers, was elected Friday as treasurer of the National Newspaper Association.

Officers and directors for the coming year were elected at the group's annual convention in Milwaukee. The 120-year-old association represents more than 2,500 daily and weekly community newspapers across the country, making it the nation's largest group of publishers.

As treasurer, Mr. Haynes will supervise the association's finances for a one-year term. He is one of three elected officers who lead the association, and one of six members of its executive committee.

"It's a tremendous honor to represent other publishers on the national scene," said Mr. Haynes, "one few newspaper people get to experience."

Mr. Haynes has served on the association's board as a district director representing Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas for five years. He was an appointed member of the

executive committee this year.

Nor'West also owns the *Colby Free Press*, *The Goodland Star-News*, the *Country Advocate*, *The Norton Telegram* and *Telegram Extra*, *The Saint Francis Herald* and the *Bird City Times* in northwest Kansas.

Mr. Haynes and his wife Cynthia moved to Oberlin in 1993 after purchasing the Oberlin, Bird City and St. Francis papers.

He was president of the Kansas Press Association in 1998 and of the Colorado Press Association in 1988. The Hayneses operated a group of papers in Colorado before moving here, and before that Mr. Haynes was a reporter and editor for *The Kansas City Times*.

Mr. Haynes is a graduate of Emporia High School and the William Allen White School of Journalism at the University of Kansas. The couple have three children, Felicia, 31, who works for Morris Communications in Augusta, Ga.; Lindsay, 28, a graduate student at the University of South Carolina in Columbia; and Lacy, 25, who works in Lawrence.



S. Haynes

Forms for shots needed

The Decatur County Health Department and Oberlin Rotary Club have teamed up to offer free hepatitis B shots to seniors this year.

Marilyn Gamblin, county health administrator, said letters were mailed two weeks ago with consent forms to parents of the senior class. So far, she said, she has only received a handful back.

Students who don't have a consent form will not receive a shot, she said. These normally cost \$15 a shot or \$45 for the series. They are required now by most Kansas colleges.

Forms need to be returned to Ms. Gamblin by Monday. After that, she will set up a school day to administer the shots.

Flu shots available to high-risk people

With fall setting in, it's time to start thinking about getting a flu shot before winter.

Marilyn Gamblin, county health administrator, said she plans to start giving shots for high-risk people on Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 19 and 20.

High-risk patients include people 65 and older with long-term health problems like heart disease, lung disease, asthma, diabetes and kidney disease.

High risk also includes people with cancer or AIDS.

Ms. Gamblin said she would like

high risk patients to call the office at 475-8118 to set an appointment.

The flu shots will cost \$22 this year. If anyone wants a pneumonia shot, it will cost \$30.

The flu shots are an inactivated vaccine, so people should not get sick from them.

Ms. Gamblin said she ordered over 1,200 and has 420 of them in already. She is still waiting on the rest, but plans on getting them.

By the end of the month or beginning of November, she said, she hopes to start giving shots to everyone else.

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Woman picks 10 teams

Five participants tie for second

One person picked 10 out of the possible 11 winners for the Pigs Pick-em this week.

Diana Solko predicted the winners of all but the Fort Hays-Colo-rado School of Mines game correctly. She won \$15 in scrip money.

For second place, there were five who picked nine out of the possible 11 winners and got the tie-breaker game right.

Those included Kelly Horinek, Mark Winger, Denise Bailey, Valisha Castle and Kris Lemmar.

Ms. Horinek was only 33 points off of the tie-breaker game score. Since she was the closest, she took second place and \$10 in scrip money.

Both Mr. Winger and Mrs. Bailey picked nine out of the 11 winners and were 38 points off of the tie-breaker. A coin toss was used to determine the winner for third place, Mr. Winger. He will receive \$5 in scrip.

Winners must pick up their prize at *The Oberlin Herald* office.

Last week's games were:

- Custom Trophy — Norton over Stockton, 21 to 0.
- Home Planning Center — St. Francis over Colby, 51 to 12.
- Ward Drug Store — Atwood over Oberlin, 14 to 6.
- Raye's Grocery — Hoxie over Quinter, 48 to 14.
- Fredrickson Insurance Agency — McCook over Hastings, 31 to 23.
- Farm Credit of Western Kansas — Golden Plains over Brewster, 74 to 70.
- LandMark Inn — Oakley over Goodland, 34 to 7.
- R&M Service Center — Oklahoma over Kansas State, 43 to 21.
- Prairie Petals — Texas Tech over the University of Kansas, 27 to 17.
- Wagner Chevrolet — Nebraska over Iowa State, 27 to 20.
- The Oberlin Herald — Colorado School of Mines over Fort Hays, 46 to 10.
- Tiebreaker — Plainville over Hill City, 58 to 6.

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