

Animal officer hired to patrol, pick up strays

The Oberlin City Council hired a city employee Thursday as a part-time animal control officer to patrol five hours a week and be in charge of picking up stray animals.

At the regular council meeting, City Administrator Gary Shike told the council that Cody John works for the city in the kitchen at The Gateway and has some experience with animal control in Las Vegas.

Mr. Shike said the former animal control officer, Elmer Zodrow, came in a couple weeks ago and said it isn't practical for him to do the work anymore. Mr. Zodrow said he would help take the dogs to the shelter in McCook if he is needed.

Mr. John lives four miles out of town, the administrator said, so if he gets called out, the normal \$10-a-dog fee isn't really worth driving into town. At one time, said Mr. Shike, the council talked about having someone patrol the city. He said he sent City Attorney Steve Hirsch an e-mail on this, but didn't hear back.

Is the animal control officer's job strictly to deal with dogs? asked Councilman Joe Stanley. The city has Max Hafner to deal with skunks, said Mr. Shike. He gets paid by the skunk.

What about all the cats running around? asked Mr. Stanley.

The city doesn't deal with cats, said City Clerk Deanna Castle; they aren't required to be tagged.

Council Roundup

At a meeting Thursday, the Oberlin City Council:

•Hired a part-time animal control officer to patrol five hours a week and pick up stray animals. Story at left.

• Discussed the Sappa Park Lake proposal before the meeting with members of the park committee and Dennis Haag with the Watershed Institute. Story on front page.

"We could," said Councilman Ray Ward.

Cats aren't included in the ordinance. In order to include them, the ordinance would have to be changed.

Councilman Jay Anderson said he is in favor of trying something. He suggested having Mr. John patrol five hours a week and see what happens. The council asked that the time he patrols be staggered, so it is different each day and each week.

The council agreed to hire Mr. John, paying him \$100 a month, \$10 an animal and \$15 an animal if he has to dispose of it. The council agreed to pay mileage if the animal is taken to the Humane Society in McCook.

Going nuts



IN A LARGE BOX, first graders Dante Robertson and Adrian Chambers stomped on walnuts Thursday at Oberlin Elementary School to get the seeds out so they could plant them in front of the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation

Service office Friday morning. In the spring, the seeds will be dug up and each student will take home a walnut tree and a burr oak tree.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Tie breaker used in Pick-em contest

Four fans tied, picking 10 of the 11 winning teams for this week's Pigskin Pick-em contest in *The Oberlin Herald*.

Amanda Grafel, Dave Stapp, Colleen Gee and Denise Bailey all chose 10 games correctly, which meant first, second and third place were decided by the tie breaker points between Oakley and Dighton. Oakley beat Dighton 16-0.

Mrs. Grafel was closest to the points with a difference of 28. She won first prize, \$15 in scrip money. Mr. Stapp won second, \$10 in scrip, and Mrs. Gee third, \$5 in scrip.

Twelve people picked nine of the 11 teams to win, 10 picked eight of the winners, two picked seven and one picked six.

This week, all of the games will be college contests since high school teams will play Thursday.

Last week's games:

• Custom Trophy — Phillipsburg over Thomas More of Hays, 53-22.

• Home Planning Center — Oberlin over Hill City, 58-6.

• Ward Drug Store — Norton over Russell, 35-6.

• Raye's Grocery — St. Francis over Leoti, 64-26.

• Fredrickson Insurance Agency — Syracuse over Atwood, 41-33.

• Farm Credit of Western Kansas — Hoxie over Stockton, 62-6.

• LandMark Inn — Wallace County over Golden Plains, 28-14.

• R&M Service Center — Colorado over KU, 44-13.

• Prairie Petals — Oklahoma over Baylor, 37-30.

• Wagner Chevrolet — McCook over Grand Island, 55-12.

• *The Oberlin Herald* — Mesa State College over Fort Hays, 22-8.

• Tie breaker — Oakley over Dighton, 16-0.

Commissioners agree to purchase grader

The Decatur County commissioners agreed to buy a 1998 Caterpillar grader for the road and bridge department at their meeting last Tuesday.

Supervisor Tim Stallman had three bids. The 1978 grader they have now has 21,000 hours and has had a few problems with the major components. To get it running, he said, it would probably cost around \$30,000.

He said his goal on each machine is to get 20 years of use.

The three bids were a 1998 grader for \$154,100 with 2,700 hours on it, a 2000 grader for \$174,200 and a 1999 grader for \$135,300. Mr. Stallman said on each of the bids, the company, Martin, will give \$30,000 for the trade-in.

The commissioners approved the bid for the 1998 with the trade-in, which means the county will pay \$124,100.

County Roundup

At their meeting last Tuesday, the Decatur County commissioners:

• Approved the purchase of a 1998 Caterpillar grader for \$124,100 for the road and bridge department. Story at left.

• Decided to wait until the chairman is back to make a decision about purchasing cardiopulmonary resuscitation mannequins for the emergency medical service. Story to come.

Mr. Stallman said the state wants to send an expert here to look at the landfill.

The inspector would then report to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. He said it could mean that the state will make the county change the way it does things at the landfill.

The county is constantly trying to improve the landfill, said Mr. Stallman, but he decided to not have the expert come out.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said

it isn't something he thinks they need to volunteer for.

A few years ago, said Mr. Stallman, he talked about replacing the tractors used for mowing along county and township roads. He said the transmission locked up again on one of the old ones. It has happened several times before, but this time, he said, he thinks he is just going to leave it.

Mr. Stallman said it would have cost around \$50,000 to buy a new tractor, with a trade. The county is

looking at \$180,000 for four new tractors with trades.

The crew is pushing to get the mowing done for this year and they are down to one machine now.

Mr. Unger suggested he get bids and they could maybe use the old mowers for trade-ins.

Mr. Stallman said it is just the tractors that are having the problems, not the mowing gear.

In other business, commissioners:

• Heard that Mr. Stallman wants to see if the county could get a state community development block grant to replace bridges.

• Talked with City Administrator Gary Shike about the \$2,000 the county gave to the city for the pool. Although it was reported that the money was to be used for a new pool, Mr. Shike said the money is actually to help keep the old pool running.

Bring in your Korean war veteran info

Today is the deadline to get information in to honor Korean War-era veterans in *The Oberlin Herald's* special Veteran's Day section, but the newspaper will accept late information as long as it is in the office by Friday.

Managing Editor Kimberly Davis said the staff plans to put together a special section honoring the veterans at the beginning of November.

The veteran can be living or dead. The veteran can submit the information, or anyone can nominate a relative or someone they know, living or deceased. We want to get as many veterans as we can, and we don't

want to overlook anyone, so don't delay.

The idea is to run a profile of six to eight paragraphs on each veteran from that era, along with a picture. Call Mrs. Davis at the paper at 475-2206 or mail in information about what your veteran did during the war, what branch he or she served in, where he or she lives now (or when the veteran died), when he or she retired and a photo.

Please include a phone number and contact person in case we have any questions. Mail information to 170 S. Penn Ave., Oberlin, Kan. 67749, or by e-mail at kldavis-

@nwkansas.com.

All pictures will be returned if a

self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

student of the week



she is always giving her best. We are really going to miss Tika when she graduates this year.

Student comment: This school is much nicer than my home town.

Activities involved in at school: mixed choir.

My choice of movies, books and games: any type.

After I leave Decatur Community High School I intend to: go into massage therapy.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: I will have a good job in my massage therapy and have a good life with my son.

Favorite Quote: "Life has many ups and downs."

Name: Tika Hall
Parents: Deb Lohofener, foster mom
Grade: 12
Age: 18

We've nominated this student because: She is a very hard worker and does an excellent job. No matter what we ask her to do,

Cattle to be offered in special Saturday sale

The Oberlin Livestock Sale Barn will open for a special sale on Saturday which supporters hope will draw people to town.

The Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce and Oberlin Business Alliance pooled their money to help advertise the event. Jesse Carter, with the Chamber, said they approached sale barn owner Jerry Fortin about doing a sale to get people to town on the weekend.

Mr. Carter said the only involvement for the business group

and the Chamber is advertising the sale, which starts at 1 p.m. Saturday, and advertising downtown Oberlin to those attending.

Mr. Fortin said the sale will be for bred heifers and bred cows. He said they sell this kind of cattle at the regular sales, but these might be better quality.

The regular sales have been running strong, said Mr. Fortin, so instead of adding these cattle to those sales, it will be sold on the special day. They will still have a sale Monday.

Special Bred Heifer & Bred Cow Sale Spend the Afternoon in **DOWNTOWN Oberlin**
Saturday - October 29, 2005 at 1 p.m.
Oberlin Livestock Auction, Inc.

Featuring: 110 local origin Angus bred heifers
90 Blk Bred Hfns
15 Blk Bred Hfns • 10 Blk Bred Hfns
100 Blk and Bwf Bred cows **COMPLETE DISPERSION**
80 Blk Bred Cows • 70 Blk Bred Cows

Many more consignments by sale time!

Bring the whole family and spend the afternoon in **DOWNTOWN Oberlin**. Check out our numerous antique stores, gift shops, museum, nationally recognized women's clothing store and much, much more. There's something for everyone in Oberlin.

DECATUR COUNTY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OBERLIN BUSINESS ALLIANCE
785-475-3441

For sale information contact:
Jerry Fortin
(785) 475-2457 or the Chamber office
(785) 475-3441

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