

*School fund started

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has asked the Greater Salina Community Foundation to manage its money. Because the Salina group has a federal tax exemption certificate, he said, all of the donations should be 100 percent tax deductible.

Although the board looked at managing its own money, he said, it would be time consuming to meet all the federal guidelines.

The Salina foundation charges nothing on the investment, said Dr. Olson, but once a year it will get 1 percent of the return for administrative costs.

If the foundation board were to do everything on its own, he said, it would cost 3 to 5 percent.

This way, the principle will never be touched, said Dr. Olson, so the fund should last forever. The goal is to raise \$1 million in the first year, he added.

So far, said Dr. Olson, there have been several donations, with about \$300,000 in commitments. He said one person will be getting \$550,000 in the next two years and has talked about giving it to the foundation.

The board members said they want to do something for the town and for its kids.

"Someone helped me to get to where I am," said Dr. Olson. "I want to help others."

Mr. Shields said he hopes they can get to the point where every child who walks out of this high school and wants to go on to get more education will have some kind of scholarship.

If the fund ever terminates, ask Judge John Bremer, are there provisions about what to do with the money.

Let's say the school were to terminate, said Dr. Olson, it would be up to the board to make a decision. The money, though, would stay with the Oberlin students, even if they end up going to a regional school.

What about existing scholarships? asked Jay Anderson. Two of the families have talked to the board, said Dr. Olson, and at least three are already set up with the foundation.

Is there a provision that the foundation could handle something like the Rotary scholarship? asked Steve Haynes. Yes, said Dr. Olson, the money can go through the general fund or Rotary could be part of the Founder's Club if they invested the \$10,000.

The group has put together a computer presentation, which they showed at the alumni banquet and at Rotary. They will be talking with other groups in the county, board members said.

Director and docs to meet

Decatur County's interim ambulance director and doctors from the Oberlin Medical Arts Clinic went over the service's medical protocols recently and plan to meet every month.

Linda Manning, director, told the Decatur County commissioners on Tuesday, May 30 that she is working on getting bills in the mail. So far there have been 147 calls this year, with May receipts at \$20,269. Ms. Manning said she contacted the county's auditor about the billing program. She said he will work with her on the program when he is here to do the county audit.

Ms. Manning and Karen Eskew, an emergency medical technician who helps in the office, have been cleaning out old records in the office and at the barn.

Ms. Manning said she has also taken care of some old medications

A sweet snack



ON MAIN STREET last Wednesday, Kyle, Kole and Kelden Breth ate ice cream from the soda fountain at Addleman Drug Store. The fountain is open daily for shakes, malts, limeades and other treats. The soda fountain is only open for the summer months.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

*Pool price drops \$1 million in new plan

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slow the process down.

The members plan to attend council meetings, which are open to the public, in Dresden, Jennings and Norcatour. They will also make phone calls to people asking for financial gifts for the pool.

The committee will talk at the Norcatour Council meeting on Monday and in Jennings on Thursday, July 13. Mrs. Shaw said she hasn't scheduled the meeting in Dresden yet.

Then the committee will be done, she said, and it will be up to the government entities to hire a grant writer and take the next step.

The committee, said Mrs. Shaw, doesn't have the money or ability to do that.

The committee can't make a decision on whether taxes should be raised to build a pool to replace the one in Oberlin, which is more than 50 years old. They can't make the

decision to hire a grant writer or decide what direction to take next.

Although there was talk about an indoor pool, said Mrs. Shaw, the committee is recommending the six-lane outdoor pool because of the cost.

The committee has talked with other cities in the area working on new pools, she said, including WaKeeney. The plan there would cost more, around \$1 million, she said, but it is for a different kind of pool, with fewer lanes and a slide. Mrs. Shaw said she talked with people in WaKeeney about how they are paying for the project.

She said WaKeeney is doing a bond issue, to be paid for from a city sales tax, a recreation commission tax, Trego County tax money and money from gas and electric franchise fees the city gets.

The pool committee here made some calls about raising the \$1.5 million in taxes, she said.

What they learned is that for 10 years in Oberlin, it would cost around \$125 a year for someone with a \$50,000 house to come up with the money to pay off a pool bond issue.

Mrs. Shaw said she thought the bond issue would have to be for at least 20 years to make it affordable.

With a county-wide tax, said Mrs. Shaw, it would cost about \$85 to \$100 a year on a \$1 million farm for 20 years and around \$57.50 on a \$100,000 house for the same time.

If the city got a grant to help pay

for the pool, said Mrs. Shaw, it would reduce the money that has to be raised in taxes.

She said the committee received an e-mail saying that the U.S. Department of the Interior, through the National Park Service, runs the Land and Water Conservation Fund which has helped other Kansas cities with money for swimming pools. It would be something to check into, she said.

For now, said Mrs. Shaw, the committee plans to finish the two jobs and step down.

Harvest contest in its second week

Hot winds and dry weather last week might push the harvest date in Decatur County earlier than normal, but with cool air and some rain over the weekend, no one knows for sure.

That doesn't mean that you can't take an educated guess in the Oberlin merchants' Harvest Countdown Contest.

To register at any participating business, just guess the time and date that the first load of wheat will be cut and brought in to either a Decatur Co-op Association or Hansen-Mueller elevator.

Anyone 18 and older can enter by guessing the day and time the first load will come in. Enter as many times as you like.

The first load must be 14 percent or less in moisture content to count.

There is no purchase necessary to enter. Participating businesses will have a Harvest Countdown

sign in the window.

The contest runs until 4 p.m. Friday, June 23, unless the first load arrives before that. Previous winners and previous first loads are ineligible. Employees and relatives of *The Oberlin Herald* also are not eligible to win.

First prize will be \$50 in scrip money, spendable only at sponsoring Oberlin businesses. Second prize will be \$35 and third will be \$15.

Sponsoring businesses include the LandMark Inn, Pizza Hut, Decatur Co-op, Gorman Tarps, Hirsch and Pratt, Addleman Drug Store, the Dresser, Home Planning Center, Farm Credit of Western Kansas, Ward Drug Store, Stanley Hardware, Hansen-Mueller, Decatur County Title and Abstract, Raye's Grocery, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, KFNF Radio and *The Oberlin Herald*.

Crew plans to mow

The Decatur County road crew plans to start mowing along township roads soon to get the weeds knocked down before harvest.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman told county commissioners last Tuesday they will only blade the roads that have washes in them, but will mow the tops and sides of all.

The new mowers and tractors to pull them are on their way, but are not here yet, he said.

Mr. Stallman said he hasn't received many calls about problems with the township roads.

Mr. Stallman asked about signs on the county roads for big trucks. He said he has some signs left and wants to put them up. They say that big trucks can't use county roads unless they have an in-county origin or destination.

Some of the roads already have signs, he said. The resolution for the signs was passed back in 1988 for commercial trucks.

He said he wanted to put the signs on the county roads that come off of the highway or have highway access.

Commissioner Doyle Brown said the Dresden area seems to have a lot of those trucks.

If a commercial trucker is pulled over on a county road without an in-county origin or destination, he said, they can get 30 days in jail or a \$500 fine.

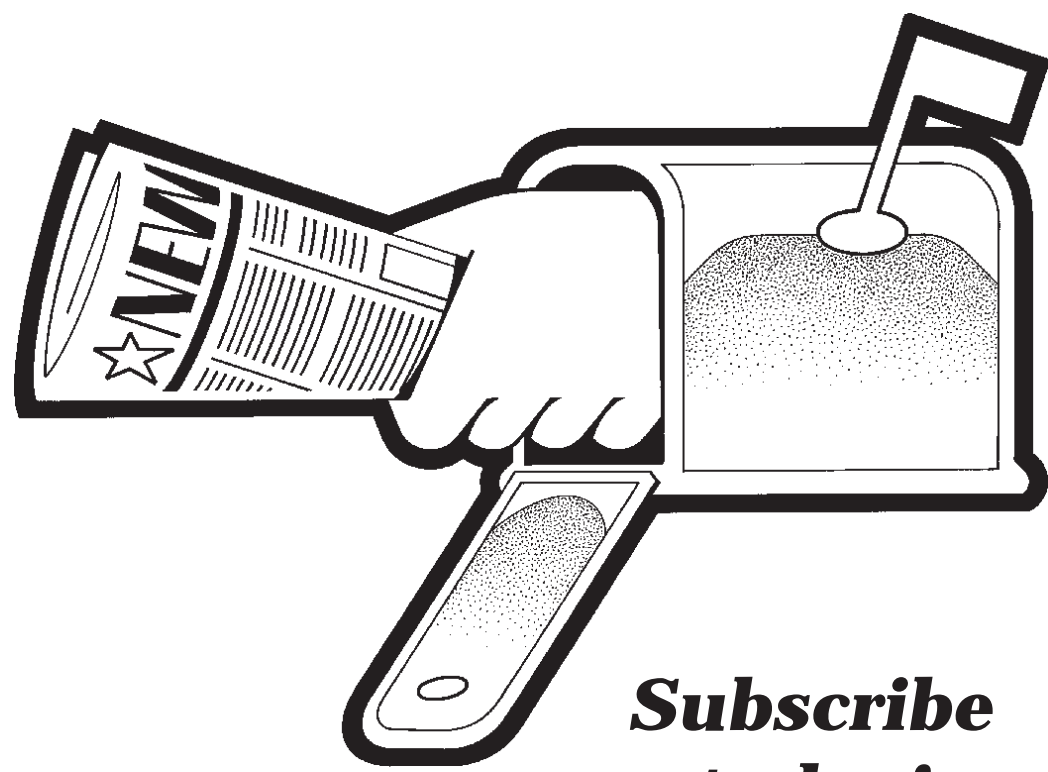
News wanted

Staff at *The Oberlin Herald* are preparing for this year's Progress section and need your help.

It has been four years since a the paper did a progress section, and the staff wants to make sure they include all the new businesses, changes in ownership, locations changes and new things in the county.

If you have a news item for the section, call Mary Lou Olson or Kim Davis at (785) 475-2206. The deadline for news tips is next Wednesday.

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VOTE ELECTION 06

DECATUR COUNTY ELECTION VOTING MACHINES ARE HERE!

Decatur County will have voting machines at the Polling Place for the August 1st Primary Election at the Gateway in the City of Oberlin. They are in the Courthouse and will be checked out according to State Guidelines on Tuesday afternoon, the 20th of June, 2006.

This "AutoMARK" voting machine has been approved by Federal Guidelines and will accommodate those voters with a disability. Other interested voters are encouraged to vote using the AutoMARK as well.

This machine utilizes paper ballots and all of the voters of Decatur County will now vote on the same paper ballot format. Samples are on display at the Office of the County Clerk.

Demonstration Meetings will be set up at the Courthouse in Oberlin for the 4th of July week-end as well as later in the month of July for Dresden, Jennings and Norcatour.

Marilyn Horn, Decatur County Election Official