

## Company to open in Herndon School

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

Around 100 people welcomed the president of Cencast, a new business going into the former Herndon School, to town during an open house Monday morning.

The company out of Milwaukee, Ore., bought the building from a listing on the eBay Internet auction site after the school closed in 2004.

Kenneth W. Hall Sr., who started the business with his sons, said one of his sons found

the building for sale. They came out and looked at it and thought it would work for their operation, he said.

The school was beautifully constructed, Mr. Hall said, especially the floors. Their machines need a solid foundation like this one that isn't going to move, he said.

He said they purchased the building, then things were put on hold because the business was growing at such a rate that they knew they would outgrow the Herndon

School.

The company, said Mr. Hall, makes castings for medical implants. They can make an implant for any joint in the body, toes, knuckles, knees, anything. Mr. Hall said he was retired and his sons had worked in this industry for 20 years.

He said his boys called him out of retirement to start up Cencast and the company has been busy ever since with inquiries from all over.

The parts, he said, are made with medically proven material and then run through a hiping process, which stands for hot isostatic pressing. Basically, said Mr. Hall, the part is put in a chamber and the heat is increased to just melting point, then the temperature backs off.

There aren't any of these chambers in this area, he said, that became a logistical problem for opening up the Herndon branch.

In 10 months to a year, he said, the plant

in Herndon should be operational, although Mr. Hall said he isn't sure which part will be put in here.

Cencast will be breaking ground this month on a plant in Molalla, Ore. Herndon might get the overflow from that operation.

The Herndon branch might be used for machining and polishing of the product, he said. Currently the company makes the parts and then sells them to the customer and they (See COMPANY on Page 10A)

## Jennings land helps grow Oberlin district

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

The Oberlin School District has expanded by 104 square miles with the addition of land from the Jennings School District, plus picking up nearly \$57,000 in leftover cash.

The Jennings district has been working with the high school in Oberlin since last year, when the smaller school had a cooperative agreement for those students. Basically, the students from seventh to 12th grade had the opportunity to come to school in Oberlin, but still be enrolled through the Jennings district. The Jennings District, said Superintendent Kelly Glodt, paid Oberlin to educate the kids.

It was the last year for the Jennings district, which ran only its elementary school last year. Next year, those children will be enrolled

as Oberlin School District students, or in another nearby district.

At the end of the school year, the Jennings district disorganized. The school building has been sold and the land divided among the Oberlin, Norton and Hoxie school districts.

The Oberlin District received 42.6 percent of the land, Hoxie 40.6, or 99 square miles, and Norton 16.8 percent or 41 square miles.

Mr. Glodt said that will make the Oberlin District almost 1,000 square miles.

With that land comes more valuation for the district and a wider tax base. He said he believes the land the district gained is valued at around \$3 million. Without the land last year, the district was valued around \$27 million, so the valuation will be increased for the next budget process. (See LAND on Page 10A)

## Swimming pool on the chilly side as boiler awaits part

With overcast weather and a boiler awaiting a part, the water in the Oberlin swimming pool has been a little chilly for the past week.

The igniter on the boiler broke in June and the city called Michael Hansen of Hansen Plumbing in North Platte, who installed the new boiler last year. The part was a warranty item and had to be ordered. Mr. Hansen came to Oberlin several times to check it and helped clean out part of the filtering system.

A local plumber was able to get the boiler working and the temperature in the pool was on the rise. The fix lasted for a while, but just before the Fourth of July weekend, it was out again. Although it has been hot, the cloud cover has kept the water very chilly.

City Administrator Gary Shike

said he called the North Platte company, although he isn't sure if someone has been here to fix it since the Fourth.

He said he talked with Dan Castle, city foreman, who talked with the North Platte company. They told him the original part that was sent wasn't the correct one so they have ordered another.

Mr. Hansen was called for comment, but couldn't be reached on Monday.

Mr. Shike said the city does plan on fixing the heater as soon as possible.

The city office has been getting complaints about the water temperature and the fact that families and individuals who bought pool passes can't swim because the water is too cold.

## Signs to slow down highway traffic

The Kansas Department of Transportation plans to put up signs on U.S. 36 to slow traffic down farther from town, the Oberlin City Council learned Thursday.

The council received a letter from the department about a recent road safety audit at its meeting Thursday night, and quickly agreed to the ideas. The council suggested that the state might look at U.S. 83 south of town, where the speed limit drops from 65 to 30 on the bridge.

The department did the audit a few months ago, studying traffic on the highway.

The letter from Kathleen Deitering, a traffic engineering associate, said that if the department didn't hear from the city by Saturday, July 22, they would assume everything was OK with the recommendation.

The council asked City Administrator Gary Shike to write the department. (See SIGNS on Page 10A)

## Water use jumps above trigger point

Water use stayed above 700,000 gallons almost every day last week. Although the area has received some rain, the city is still on outdoor water restrictions.

That means that people with even addresses can water outside Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. Those with odd addresses can water Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. There is no outdoor use on Mondays.

People can water between mid-

night and 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. and midnight.

The city used:

- 511,000 gallons on Monday, July 3.
- 735,000 gallons on Tuesday, July 4.
- 733,000 gallons last Wednesday.
- 731,000 gallons on Thursday.
- 739,000 gallons on Friday.
- 762,000 gallons on Saturday.
- 532,000 gallons on Sunday.



## Treats served daily

AT THE SODA FOUNTAIN in Addleman Drug Store Zach May (above) sipped on a limeade Monday afternoon while Tyler Shields (right) ate a shake. Young and old can be found at the fountain in the afternoon having a snack.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis



## Family hurt in accident in South Dakota

An Oberlin family was seriously injured in an accident Saturday night in Rosebud, S.D., on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation.

Dave Murray, his wife Nikki and their daughter Demi, 8, all were flown to the Sioux Valley Hospital

in Sioux Falls, S.D., near the Iowa border.

Details were scarce. The accident was worked by the Rosebud Police Department but an officer there said the department doesn't fax reports or release information on accidents.

The investigator on the case said since the accident was on the reservation, the case was sent to the United States Attorney's office. Ken Fisher said they are forbidden to talk about cases or potential cases. A message was left for Bob Perry

with the South Dakota office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Linda Manning, Decatur County acting ambulance director and a friend of the family, said all three of the Murrays in the car were hurt. (See FAMILY on Page 10A)