

# County edits new plan

The Decatur County commissioners received copies of the proposed county strategic plan for review last Tuesday.

Connie Grafel, marketing director of the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp., said she needs to send the plan to the state Department of Commerce for approval, but wanted the commissioners to look at it first.

Most of the information in the plan was taken from the Kansas Communities workshop at the high school and the action teams that have been set up through that group.

Down the road, said Ms. Grafel, they might have a hard time finding people for leadership positions on the economic development corporation. She said she isn't sure why.

The plan has to be updated every five years and if it is approved then it will allow for tax credits to be given to companies that provides jobs, including the new bus company in Jennings. It would make the county a designated non-metropolitan business region, if everything is approved.

Tim Stallman, road and bridge supervisor, asked the commissioners for authority to purchase tires for all equipment to restock their inventory. Mr. Stallman said he hasn't gotten all of the prices.

Martin Tractor, out of Colby, will hold a demonstration on the Sappa Creek Road near the Zander place about two miles west of town today for the global positioning system. Mr. Stallman said the area will be mowed.

There will be a lunch served. Mr. Stallman said the commissioners, other contractors and township officials who do their own road work, are all invited.

# Jail adopts state idea

The assistant emergency preparedness director talked with the Decatur County commissioners Tuesday, Aug. 8, about buying inmate prescriptions on the state plan.

Patti Skubal, a part-time sheriff's deputy who also works on emergency planning, said it is a big savings for the jail budget to get the prescriptions the inmates need through the state plan.

She said it was required earlier and it is up and running here now.

All of the prescriptions are purchased locally, but the jail gets a discount just like a prescription card. This is a savings for the county and taxpayer, said Sheriff Ken Badsky.

Commissioner Doyle Brown said he attended a meeting about the prescription plan and thought it was for the bigger jails. County Attorney Steve Hirsch said the plan isn't required, it is only suggested. Mrs. Skubal said she would bring in the information.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said he doesn't want to take away business from the local pharmacies or hospital.

Brenda Arnold is working on a weapons of mass destruction emergency operation planning course at The Gateway starting Friday, Nov. 3 and ending Sunday, Nov. 5. It will be a three day course. The Kansas Department of Transportation will be paying for the meeting site and meals through a grant.



**AT THE SHOPPING SPREE DRAWING** Alana Raile, 3, helped draw names from the large trash can. Alana had to pick seven names before she grabbed one of a person present at the Back-to-School picnic.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

# \* Winner buys gifts for others

(Continued from Page 1A)

to buy a new one. Although they looked at a chest freezer first, they decided on an upright.

Mrs. Duncan said before they bought anything, though, they wanted a plan.

She said she thought about some gift ideas. The money can't really be tithed to the church, so they decided to buy gifts and help out a family that needed some groceries.

This money was such a blessing for us, she said, so she wanted to bless others with it too.

The couple waited until Saturday to actually buy anything.

Mrs. Duncan started at R&M Service Center, where she spent \$477 on the freezer. It hasn't been delivered yet, because they need to move the other one out, but the new freezer will be there this week.

Then the couple went across the street to Rocking R, where they bought themselves a 10-pound doormat made out of coconut husks. They also bought some gifts, spending a total of \$78.

At Stanley Hardware, they spent \$60 on some hand tools for Mr. Duncan and some more gifts.

She said they ended the day at Raye's Grocery, where they bought some food for themselves and some food to share for \$82.

Mrs. Duncan said they plan to go back to the grocery this week to purchase a few more items for themselves and some food for the Decatur County Food Pantry. They also are planning to go to Dale's Fish 'N' Fun to look for a gift.

The couple spent \$25 at Culligan Water Conditioning to pay on their next bill and Mrs. Duncan said she looked at the Dresser, but didn't find anything.

They also plan to go to Addleman Drug Store and maybe Ward Drug Store for gifts.

As of Monday, she said, she has around \$275 left.

Most of the gifts, said Mrs. Duncan, are for family, some early Christmas gifts and some they will keep until December.

The shopping spree, she said, has been a delightful experience. Mrs. Duncan said she hasn't done a lot of shopping, so this has been nice getting into stores and talking to merchants.

She added that she and her husband will mark their 53rd wedding anniversary Tuesday, so they planned to spend some of the money for lunch at the Teller Room at the LandMark Inn.

Mrs. Duncan's was the seventh named drawn at the giveaway, held at the Chamber of Commerce Back-to-School picnic. The first three entries drawn were Linda Manning, then Greg Grafel, Darrell Lutz and Rose Riffle. None was present.

The picnic, and the drawing, had to be moved indoors from the adjacent City Park after a thunderstorm cut loose just before the starting time. It was the first time in the three years the Chamber has been having the event that it has rained. Some people complained later that they did not know where the drawing had been moved.

"We followed the Chamber picnic," said Steve Haynes, publisher of the paper. "We think holding the event indoors was the best decision, and we're truly sorry if anyone was left out. We think we made the best decision possible under the circumstances."

Sponsors for this year's shopping spree were Raye's Grocery, R&M Service Center, Prairie Petals, Stanley Hardware, Countryside Veterinary Clinic, Culligan Water Conditioning Co., Addleman Drug Store, Rocking R, Flowers by Lee, Ward Drug Store, Dale's Fish 'N' Fun, the Dresser, and the LandMark Inn.

# \* Water tests don't show any violations here

(Continued from Page 1A) trihalomethanes, turbidity, gross alpha, alkalinity, calcium, chloride, conductivity, corrosivity, hardness, iron, magnesium, manganese, nickel, acidity and alkalinity, phosphorus, silica, sodium, solids, sulfate and zinc.

If a violation is severe or there is a health risk, he said, then the city could have to notify everyone and provide alternative drinking water.

It has been several years since there have been any violations, said Mr. Shike. The last time it was nitrates and the city just had to notify everyone of the possible danger, especially to babies.

If there is a violation of a maximum contaminate level, said Mr.

Shike, that is bad. If the city has a violation of the maximum contaminate goal set by the state, though, that is undesirable, but not a health issue.

Mr. Shike said all of the testing is done at the state lab. The city's water operators are trained to take samples and told when to do them by the state office.

The lead and copper samples are taken by homeowners because it has to be the first draw from the system. The homeowners are selected because of the location of their house and type of piping, he said, then trained on how to get the sample.

The city is working on a treatment center, which might change things with contaminants in the future.

# City pumps less water as temps drop

Water restrictions are still in force in the City of Oberlin, although cooler weather and rain meant less water use last week.

The city has been on restrictions since the beginning of the summer, with people with even addresses being able to water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday and those with odd addresses watering on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. There is no outside water use allowed on Mondays. People can water between midnight and 9 a.m. or 8 p.m. and midnight.

The trigger level for water restric-

tions is 700,000 gallons pumped in a day, and the use was well below that level all week except for last Wednesday, when the high was 92 degrees.

The city pumped:

- 538,000 gallons on Monday, Aug. 14.
- 469,000 gallons on Tuesday, Aug. 15.
- 695,000 gallons last Wednesday.
- 518,000 gallons on Thursday.
- 478,700 gallons on Friday.
- 539,900 gallons on Saturday.
- 373,800 gallons on Sunday.

# Man arrested for rape of a minor

A Selden man was arrested Monday morning on a charge of rape of a minor and two counts of aggravated sodomy.

Michael Lawrence Wessel, 27, was booked into the Decatur County Jail and released the same day on a \$100,000 bond that he and George Wessel signed for.

The counts against Michael are for intentionally having sexual intercourse with a person under 14 and aggravated sodomy with a person

under that age twice. The events happened between Dec. 1, 2001, and May 21, 2006.

The rape count is a level 1 person felony with a minimum sentence of 147 months or a maximum of 653 months in prison, from 12 to 54 years.

The aggravated sodomy counts are a level 2 person felony with a sentence of 109 to 493 months.

Mr. Wessel has hired Charles Worden of Norton to defend him.

**VOTE ELECTION**

**DECATUR COUNTY ELECTION NEWS**

For General Election 2006

The November General Election will be held Tuesday the 7th of November, 2006.

Candidates Parties will be listed but affiliation is not necessary at a General Election.

Voter Registration for this General Election will close on Monday the 23rd of October @ 9 p.m... Anyone who will be 18 years of age by Election Day can register to vote. Those who have moved their residence since the last election must reregister to vote.

Please contact your Senators & Representatives to pass the law for Satellite Voting!

August 18, 2006  
Marilyn Horn, Decatur County Election Official

## PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

**DATE: Tuesday, August 29, 2006**

Time: 10 am CST (doors open at 8:00 am day of sale)  
Auction Location: North end of Main Street ~ Norcat, KS

**SHOP AND TOOLS:** Several woodwork-ing gauge sets; Earthquake gas power posthole digger - New in box, Green 150,000 btu shop space heater; Assorted wooden & aluminum ladders; 20 ft gas radiant heat shop heater; Craftsman table saw Central 16 speed HD drill press; 6" jointer bag electric cement mixer; Craftsman 10" radial saw; Central pneumatic air stapler in box - Like new; Mark HD air nailer in box - Like new; New saw blades; Craftsman shaper cutter - Like new; 3 B&D planer - Like new; B&D wen reciprocating 2 speed saw - Like new; B&D belt sander - Like new; Penske timing lite; B&D router mate - Like new; Central HD 8" bench grinder - Like new; 2 hp 12" planer - New in box; Ward 7" hand angle grinder; 2 ton floor jack; Wheel barrow; Assorted scrap iron; Road flares; Saw horses & repairs; Several tool boxes; Master micrometer; Assorted; Shop cart casters (new); Assorted nuts & bolts; Assorted used lumber; Assorted shop and hand tools; Slack belt sander - Still in box; 220 extension cord; Homelite chain saw; Several wood shop benches; Several skill saws; Assorted hand files; Bostitch air stapler; Bostitch air nailer;

VEHICLES CONSIGNED BY NORCATUR GRAIN WILL SELL AT 1:30

**1983 Ford L feed truck w/Fontaine aluminum 22 ft 6 hole 18 ton feed tank w/auger, Cummins 350 horse engine, 15 speed, front tires 385/65r22.5, rear tires 11r245, running; 1977 IH loadstar truck w/2 compartment feed box & augur, running; 1985 Chevrolet Scottsdale pickup, 350 engine, 2-wheel drive, 135,000 plus miles, running; 1967 IH loadstar 1600 truck w/ giant 14 ft steel box & tarp, running; 1947 Chevrolet truck, no box, running**

Panel lift dry wall stand; Saw table; Assorted drill bits; Hand bending #416 tool set; Dato set; Wooden tool box; Assorted drills; and Wooden pallets.

**VEHICLES, TRAILERS AND GARDEN TRACTOR:** Craftsman trac-plus snow blower - Like new; Sears 10 hp suburban, 6 speed riding lawn tractor; 4 ft x 8 ft folding trailer - New; 5th wheel 16 ft goose neck trailer; 3 ft disc; 3 ft chisel; 2 - 3 ft blade; Grass sweeper; Single plow; Snow blower; Mower deck; 5 hp rotor tiller

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