

County buying new Dodge car for the sheriff

The Decatur County commissioners agreed Tuesday to let the sheriff buy a new Dodge Charger to replace a patrol car wrecked in a chase last month.

Sheriff Ken Badsky said he sent out bid specs for a Dodge to companies in the area and received six back, which the commissioners opened.

Sheriff Badsky said he wants to replace the sedan with another car. The office has a Dodge Durango and two trucks, he said.

The bids for the 2007 Charger came from:

- The state U.S. General Service Administration for \$22,200. This is through the partners program with the Kansas Highway Patrol.
- Deveny Motors of McCook for \$22,879.
- Taylor Motors of Colby for \$24,344.
- Faw's Garage of Arapahoe, Neb., for \$25,034.
- Matterson Motors of Phillipsburg for \$25,405.
- Oakley Motors of Oakley for \$30,395.

The new vehicle would replace a 1994 Caprice used by part-time deputies and for moving prisoners that was wrecked during a chase in Dresden in late September.

Sheriff Badsky said the county's insurance company said they could hold off sending a check for the Chevy. The car is worth \$3,900 minus the county's \$500 deductible, so the check will be for \$3,400, he said.

That leaves about \$18,800 for the county to pay, noted County Attorney Steve Hirsch.

Does the Highway Patrol sell used cars anymore? asked Commissioner Ralph Unger. It does, said Sheriff Badsky. He said later he wasn't interested in those because he thinks there is a reason the patrol is getting rid of them.

It's a lot of money for a new vehicle, said Mr. Unger, but the commissioners decided to accept the lowest bid.

The car will be dark blue and unmarked, Mr. Badsky said. It will be mainly the sheriff's vehicle, but also used for transports and meetings.

Although the next highest bid was close, he said, the lowest bid would save the taxpayers more than \$600.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that Sheriff Badsky had the final documentation to close out a STEP grant for the holiday overtime for Mr. Brown to sign, since he was commission chairman when the department received the grant in 2005.

If the department did extra patrolling on the holidays, the sheriff said, the federal government paid the cost through the grant.

- Heard that Citizens Medical Center in Colby is asking for money to help run its sexual assault nurse examiner program. The commissioners decided not to pay the \$500, noting that they pay if the county has to use a nurse for a case.

In the field



HARVEST KICKED into full gear last week as fields finally dried out. Just north of town, Cary Hoehner used a combine to cut corn Friday afternoon in Gary Torluemke's field. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Pesticides can be dropped off for free

Farmers, ranchers and anyone working with pesticides can drop off the leftovers at the county landfill for free until Monday.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman talked with the Decatur County commissioners at their meeting last Tuesday about the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's "Clean Sweep" program for people who have pesticides they want to get rid of.

The program will give people the opportunity to clean out their barns, he said.

For residents, including farmers and ranchers, the program is free. Any unwanted pesticides, current or obsolete, can be brought to the landfill without charge until Monday.

This program is free up until Monday, Mr. Stallman said, but normally it would cost the county to get

County roundup

At their meeting last Tuesday, Decatur County commissioners:

- Heard the landfill will take part in the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's "Clean Sweep" program to help farmers get rid of unwanted pesticides. Story at left.
- Signed grant applications for a new senior citizens center and to re-

place bridges. Story on Page 5A.

• Approved purchase of more chemicals to spray for musk thistle. Story on Page 2A.

• Discussed upgrading courthouse security. Story to come.

• Agreed to the buy a new sheriff's car to replace one wrecked in a chase. Story on Page 3A.

from Murphy Tractor of Colby for \$9,435 for \$31.45. The commissioners approved purchase from the lowest bidder, Welborn.

Mr. Stallman also had bids for sign posts for \$11.35 for 10-foot posts and \$12.57 for 12-foot posts from Welborn and \$12 and \$12.95 from DC. The commissioners approved the Welborn bid.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved purchase of a two-year warranty for the 2002 D5 Caterpillar dozer for an additional 1,000 hours for \$1,100.

• Heard the department is losing another employee. The department has two openings and is normal to have a turn over.

• Heard that the crew is blading the roads after the recent rain.

City to meet Thursday

The Oberlin City Council will talk about parking for motor homes in the center of Penn Avenue downtown when it meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

The council also will hear about progress on the waste water treatment facility from engineer Chris Miller with Miller and Associates. Midlands Contracting will have a pay request for the work on the plant.

The council will also discuss buying Santa Bucks to give to city employees as a bonus at the end of the year.

There is a closed session scheduled for attorney-client privilege, said City Clerk Deanna Castle.

The meeting is open to the public and will be aired on cable local access channel 7.

Tiebreaker settles contest as four guess nine winning teams

Four contestants guessed nine of 11 games right in the Pigskin Pick'em contest last week, so the contest was settled by the tiebreaker.

Jim Hollowell, Oberlin, who came in fourth the week before, brought his entry into *The Herald* office on Friday and said it was the winner. He was right.

He came within nine points on the tiebreaker, LSU over Tennessee, 28-24. He wins the first place prize of \$15 in scrip.

Zach May, Oberlin, was within 14 points on the tie breaker, so he wins the \$10 second prize, edging out Todd Ketterl, Oberlin, who came within 15. Todd wins third and \$5 in scrip.

Dan Grafel also guessed right on nine games but was 28 off on the tie breaker.

Guessing eight right were Vernon Ketterl, Herndon; Justin and Kenny Gee, Kimberly Solko, Connie Grafel, Norm

Wendelin, Ivis Hanson and Amanda Grafel, Oberlin; and Billy McCoy, Danbury.

Coming with seven right were Colleen Gee and Kade Brown of Oberlin. Having six right were Mabel Zimmerman and Owen Wilson, Oberlin; Jeff Reinert, Atwood; and Brock Baxter, Smith Center.

First-place winners each week get \$15; second place, \$10; and third \$5 in scrip spendable only at contest sponsors — Fidele Electric and Woodcrafting, Golt Home

Planning, Ward Drug Store, Raye's Grocery, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, Farm Credit of Western Kansas, the LandMark Inn, R&M Service Center, Prairie Petals, Wagner Chevrolet and *The Oberlin Herald*.

Winners must pick up their prizes at the newspaper office during the contest period and spend the money before Dec. 31.

This week's contest is on Page 5B. Winners of last week's games: • Kansas State over Colorado, 34-21.

- Oklahoma over Texas, 17-16.
- Arkansas over South Carolina, 26-20.
- Nebraska over Missouri, 34-20.
- Wisconsin over Penn State, 13-3.
- Wake Forest over Boston College, 21-14.
- Oregon over Arizona State, 44-10.
- California over UCLA, 38-24.
- Purdue over Michigan State, 17-15.
- BYU over Colorado State, 24-3.

Alliance will host a soup supper

The Oberlin Business Alliance will hold a soup supper between big two give-away drawings downtown on Saturday, Dec. 16.

At their monthly meeting last Wednesday, alliance members decided to have the soup supper to raise money for the group's Christmas fund, which pays for decorations, advertising and giveaways. It will be held at the former Flowers by Lee building on the east side of Penn Ave.

The day will kick off with *The Oberlin Herald's* Christmas on Us giveaway sponsored by area businesses at 11:30 a.m.

At noon, the soup supper will start, with the alliance Christmas giveaway at 2 p.m. The newspaper staff is cooking soup and chili for the event, with help from other members.

Alliance members talked about seeing if Santa Claus could be downtown to visit with kids and if they could have a matinee at Sunflower Cinema that afternoon.

The members discussed the light parade on Friday, Nov. 24. Gary Walter, with The Bank, said they don't have a grand marshal for the parade yet. Someone suggested seeing if the Lady Red Devils volleyball team

could be on a float at the start of the parade. Mr. Walter said he would call Coach Pat Dorshorst.

Mr. Walter also said he needs volunteers to help with the staging in the Decatur Co-op parking lot.

Anyone who is interested in entering a lighted float should call Glenva Nichols, Chamber of Commerce manager, at 475-3441.

The group decided to have a window decorating contest for businesses. The winner will be announced at the drawing on Saturday, Dec. 16. The windows need to be decorated by Friday, Nov. 24. They decided to get judges from outside the organization.

In other business, the alliance:

- Heard that Stanley Hardware will have coffee hour on Friday, Nov. 24, and Flowers by Lee will have one on Friday, Dec. 1.

• Heard that volunteers will gather to hang garland on poles on Main Street at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

• Heard that the tree tour at the Last Indian Raid Museum will start after the light parade. Director Sharleen Wurm said they have one tree left for some group to come in and decorate.

Fair Foundation changes bylaws

After recent resignations reduced the board to four members, the Decatur County Fair Foundation decided to change the bylaws to cut the board back closer to its original size.

In the past year, businessman LaMoine Wolfram, Extension secretary Donna Groneweg and County Treasurer Jean Hale have quit the board. The current bylaws say the group should have seven members.

At the Monday meeting Oct. 23, Commissioner Pat Glenn said that Ken Badsky, a fair board member, had suggested that all of the fair board members be on the foundation. Mrs. Glenn said she wasn't in favor of that.

"Neither am I," said Sonya Gillespie, president of the fair and foundation boards.

If the foundation board needs to be cut down, she said, she is all for it.

Secretary Pam May said they

might look at other foundations' bylaws and see what would fit this one the best.

Mrs. Glenn suggested the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer from the fair board and the chairman of the county commission.

That would eliminate the treasurer, extension agent and office

professional, said Mrs. Gillespie. She said she felt confident with that recommendation, but she would talk to County Attorney Steve Hirsch.

The group decided they would probably have to make an amendment to the bylaws to change the number of members. The change in the bylaws were approved.

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