The committee for the annual Seeds of Hope Telethon needs volunteers to work on and off the camera for the event on Saturday, Feb.

Each year, the committee puts on an all-day telethon to raise money for organizations in Decatur County. The group needs help from volunteers to work in the kitchen, as emcees, perform, answer phones, run cameras and more. Anyone interested in any position should contact one of the committee members, Jack Benton, Bill Duncan, Regina Stanley, Brenda Ulery, Kristi Smith, Kimberly Davis and Peg Smith.

Mrs. Davis said Peg Smith is in charge of the auction again this year and is starting to ask for items from businesses. All donated items are put on the auction, which is aired on local access cable channel 7. The auction, she said, raises a huge part of the money needed for county organizations each year.

This year, said Mrs. Davis, the committee decided to up the fundraising goal from \$11,000 to \$12,000.

The group is also looking for people who want to perform — sing, play an instrument, gymnasts and others. Call Miss Smith or Mrs. Davis at 475-3510 or Mrs. Davis at work at 475-2206.

Recipients for the 2007 telethon include the Decatur County Fair Foundation for the new livestock building, Kansans for Life, Norcatur Public Library, Norcatur Museum, Teens for Christ, Oberlin Area Concert Band, Decatur County Relay for Life, Oberlin Lions Club, Creative Movement Gymnastics, Jennings Czech Museum, Decatur County Last Indian Raid Museum, Decatur County Ministerial Association, Jennings City Library, Tripple Creek Riders, FROGS Camp, Salvation Army, Girl Scouts and the United Explor-

Fire destroys house

A Jennings man lost his house to a fire at the end of November. Fire Chief Kerry Green said they received the call around 7 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 26 about the fire at the Lane Naiman home two miles east, three south and half a mile east of Jennings, formerly owned by the late Walter Warren.

Chief Green said one of the neighbors down the road called the fire in after seeing the glow of the fire when they woke up. Mr. Naiman wasn't at home.

The house, said Chief Green, was destroyed, but the firefighters were able to stop the fire from spreading to other buildings on the farmstead..

There weren't any injuries. The firefighters stayed at the site until about 11 a.m.

Chief Green said he thought the fire was caused by an electrical short.

Each year, the newspaper runs the

who wants to have a letter to Santa Dec. 9.

Letters to Santa wanted

The Oberlin Herald wants in the paper can put in the large mail-

children's letters to Santa to run in a box downtown in front of Stanley special section coming up this Hardware or mail it to the newspa-

kids' letters and artwork. Any child box or at the office by Saturday,

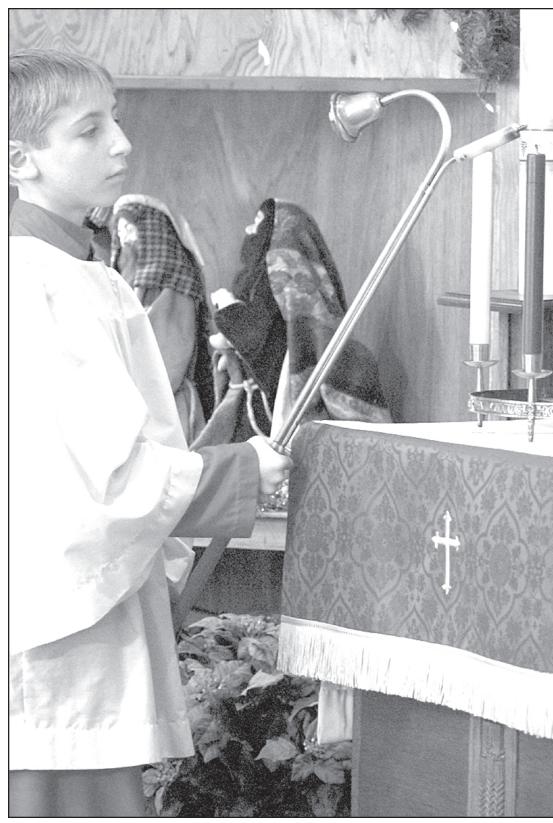
Gambling Problem?

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What have you got to lose?

'Tis the season



ON SUNDAY Ryan May lit the first candle in the advent wreath during the service at St. John's Lutheran Church. - Herald photo by Sarah Fredrickson

Apartments get face lift

Parkview Apartments was re- Housing Program. dedicated last Wednesday after a

The apartment complex, located at 311 N. Garfield, provides family State of Kansas. living units for persona with verylow to moderate incomes.

The facility was originally built Rural Development's Multi-Family tor for the agency. "These commu- Phillipsburg.

The remodeling, which included ment of Agriculture as well as the

"We are pleased to see these complexes renovated, and again ready to provide safe and affordable rental with financing through the United housing for residents of these ar-States Department of Agriculture eas." said Chuck Banks, state direc-

nities appreciate Congress approving funds to help with the updating recent remodel job on the apartment new siding, was also financed of these needed housing facilities. through the United States Depart- Helping support affordable rural housing is an important goal for USDA Rural Development, a goal that is being achieved across Kansas each and every day."

The agencies helped build and remodel another facility similar to Apartments Parkview

Road closed at man's request

Decatur County commissioners approved closing part of the road between Center and Altory towna minimum maintenance road after a hearing last Tuesday.

Road No. 7E, seven miles east of runs on a two-mile stretch along the east edge of Center and west edge of Altory, said Tim Stallman, road and bridge supervisor.

Gary Gawith requested the road be closed on behalf of Gary Orr.

Dave Simpson, who lives in ships and turning the other part into Oberlin, but owns land in Altory Township attended the hearing to protest the closing of the north half mile because he has a field he needs the U.S. 36 and U.S. 83 intersection, to access. Gerry Tally agreed that closing that part of the road would make it hard to get to the fields. Mr. Tally said he farms for Karon Scott off the north half mile of that road.

The land off the other mile and half of the road is owned by Mr. Orr, who said he was in favor of closing the road. The commissioners talked about putting up minimum maintenance signs for the half mile of road that Mr. Simpson and Mr. Tally use. Everyone agreed that would be OK.

The commissioners approved the half mile of minimum maintenance road and that the rest of the road would be closed.

Home lighting contest to be held

It's time to dust off the tiny sparking lights and get out the extension cords, life-size nativity sets, rein-

All letters need to be in the mail-

per at 170 S. Penn Ave.

Sponsored by the Kansas Problem Gambling Fund.

with it comes the annual Decatur County Area Chamber of Comdeer, snowmen, angels and Santa merce lighting competition, held with the help of the City of Oberlin

and Midwest Energy. In Oberlin, call the Chamber of Commerce office at 475-3441 to

Christmas is almost here, and enter the contest. In Jennings call 678-2348 and in Norcatur call 693-4461 to get on the judging list.

Anyone who wants to be in the contest needs call, said Glenva Nichols, manager, and then remember to have their lights on every evening between now and Dec. 13.

11:30 a.m.

6 p.m.

Town Hall Conversations

Important Water Meeting, **Everyone** needs to attend!!!

What's in Your Water????

The Smoky Hills Conservation and Development Area, Inc. invite all rural and urban residents to attend the Town Hall conversations

Monday, December 18, 2006

• Oak Tree Inn / Penny's Diner

801 N. Hwy 27, Sharon Springs, KS • Healy High School Commons Area

5006 N. Dodge Rd, Healy, KS

Tuesday, December 19, 2006

635 S. 13th St., Wakeeney, KS

• Colonial Steak House 464 Hwy 83, Oakley, KS

11:30 a.m. • Western Electric Coop Community Room 6 p.m.

The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) process is your opportunity to voice concerns about the Smoky Hill River . Watershed.

We will be divided into smaller discussion groups so your voice, opinion and suggestions will be heard. Plan to make it a point to attend one of these sessions to see how you can protect our water resources.

Meals provided at no charge, RSVP's appreciated by December 8, 2006; please call Carolyn at (785) 346-2128 Ext. 304 or Teresa (785) 425-6647 USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Wednesday, December 6, 2006 **THE OBERLIN HERALD** 3A

Commissioners **OK lease papers** for Gateway

The Decatur County commissioners approved a lease agreement of The Gateway for their annual employee appreciation banquet scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 14.

The county will pay \$150 to lease The Gateway, with the meal costing extra. The commissioners OK'd the

The commissioners also approved the signing of a Homeland Security Equipment Agreement which will allow Mutual Aide Operations Communications radios to communicate throughout 18 northwest Kansas counties. All commissioners in those counties have been asked to sign the agreement, said County Attorney Steve Hirsch.

The agreement, said Mr. Hirsch, means the equipment will be turned over to the county as long as the county agrees to insure it. Mr. Hirsch said six counties are using the system already.

In each of the 18 counties there will be a base station, antennas and the wiring to set the system up. The system will allow for the counties to have a wider variety of radio frequencies. This way if another county's emergency agency comes here to help they will have a frequency on the radio so they can communicate to each other and to dis- that are out of their "good until" patch, said Mr. Hirsch. Counties date. It is a common infraction, he should be able to talk from one said. county to bordering county from dispatch. The commissioners asked about

ambulance department. Director Linda Manning was unable to attend, but Karen Eskew, emergency management technician, gave the commissioners her copy of the nar-

changing of directors and a few things that need to be corrected.

County Roundup

At their meeting last Tuesday, the Decatur County com-• Approved a lease for The

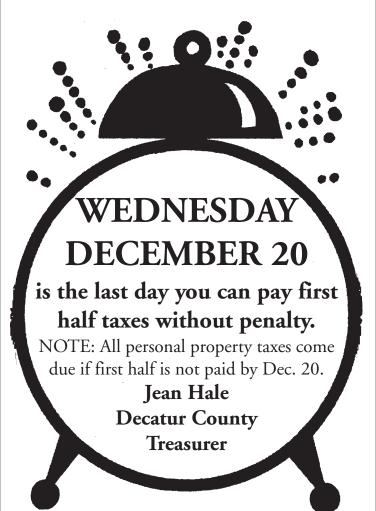
- Gateway for the county's annual Employee Appreciation Banquet on Sunday, Jan. 14. Story at left. • Talked with the county's noxious weed director about
- the controversy in Logan County over treating prairie dogs. Story on Page 5A. • Approved closing part of a road bordering Center and
- Altory townships and turning the other part into a minimum maintenance road. Story at left, • Approved the removal of a

large tree next to the parking lot behind the Good Samaritan Center. Story on Page 5A.

he knows Ms. Manning has been in Jennings to update the supplies. Commissioner Ralph Unger said it is easy to have supplies on the shelf

The commissioners discussed who will serve as the Midstates Port Authority representative since the recent state inspection of the Decatur Co-op Manger Karol Evans is retiring. County Clerk Marilyn Horn said she called Mr. Evans, who said the group was set up in the early 1970s to help preserve the Kyle Railroad line across the south end of the county. Mr. Evans said the el-Commissioner Patricia Glenn evator in Oberlin uses a different rail said the narrative discussed the line, although the Kyle still goes through Jennings. He suggested they talk with someone from the el-Commissioner Doyle Brown said evator in Jennings.





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