



ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR Lisa Stacy (above) held up the new sign to the adult day room, "The Garden of Hope" at the Good Samaritan Center Thursday. That night a visitor (below)

held a life-like baby doll in the room during the center's 50th anniversary celebration.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis and Cynthia Haynes

Center opens new unit

Visitors walked through the Garden of Hope at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center for the first time Thursday.

Part of the center's 50th anniversary celebration was the opening of the new unit to provide specialized care for residents with dementia and a day care for people living at home. With the help of Hazel Flaska, the ribbon to the unit was cut Thursday afternoon and around 100 people toured the unit.

Lisa Stacy, activities director at the center, said the residents and people from the community voted on the name and decided on the Garden of Hope. The purpose of the room, she said, is to provide a calm, structured and secure environment to help encourage each resident to function at their highest level possible.

"The Garden of Hope," said Ms. Stacy, "is an activity and dining area for our dementia residents. Residents with dementia do better in an environment that provides a routine, that removes them from too many stimuli and that creates a calm and peaceful place.

"These residents will have their meals in the Garden of Hope and will have activities and games that are tailored to their specific needs."

This is the only program of this kind in town, she said. It isn't a locked unit, which is typical in de-



mentia care. The residents will have their freedom.

Ms. Stacy said the unit will be

open from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. seven days a week for people living at home.

Each hour will cost \$8 with a maximum of \$60 a day. The charge includes the cost of meals.

New door installed at ambulance barn

The Decatur County ambulance director told county commissioners last Tuesday that a new garage door at the ambulance barn is almost up, along with a new key pad to unlock the door.

Director Linda Manning asked what the commissioners want to do with the old door. The commissioners decided to place an ad in *The Oberlin Herald* for the old door.

Bids are due to the county clerk's office by 5 p.m. Monday, April 2.

Ms. Manning said she talked with Kevin Brown of Sappa Valley Construction about expanding the barn to the south. Mr. Brown said since it has a wooden frame, he didn't see any reason why it couldn't be expanded.

The commissioners asked Ms. Manning to get an estimate for the

work in writing.

Commissioner Doyle Brown asked who the assistant director is in Oberlin in case Ms. Manning can't work. Ms. Manning said the Oberlin assistant is Karen Eskew and the Jennings assistant is Chris Green.

Ms. Manning they had received a new cot for the ambulance. Also, she said, the new truck will be on display at the Chamber of Commerce Home

and Garden Show.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said he attended a Health Foundation board meeting recently and the group has some money left over to help with education in the medical field. He said he wondered if the ambulance department has any requests for training for emergency medical technicians or officer training courses.

Employment Opportunity Police Officer

The City of Oberlin, Kansas is accepting applications for the position of police officer until March 30, 2007. Salary based on the training and experience. Excellent fringe benefits. Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen, 21 years of age or older, in good physical condition, a high school graduate or G.E.D. Kansas Law Enforcement Training Certificate preferred but not required.

Shifts will involve both afternoon and night work.

Background checks and psychological testing will be conducted on eligible applicants.

Please submit resume to:

Chief: Oberlin Police Department
P.O. Box 237
Oberlin, KS 67749 or Call (785) 475-2217

School board approves seven summer projects

The Oberlin School Board approved seven summer building projects to be paid for out of the capital outlay fund at its meeting last Monday night.

Superintendent Kelly Glodt said the district has \$604,000 in capital outlay and will get the other half of taxes for this year about June 1. Each year, he said, the six-mill levy on the property tax brings the district about \$180,000.

The project costs are estimates, said Mr. Glodt. The projects include year two of the roofs for \$300,000, a steam boiler at the high school for \$45,000, resurfacing the track for \$45,000, tankless water heaters for \$20,000, a new sound system for the gym and auditorium and a heated ramp for the high school entrance. Mr. Glodt said he doesn't have a price for the last two projects.

Mr. Glodt said he's going to try to get extra money out of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for damage to the track and parts of the parking lot.

The district will still get some money from insurance to help with the roof repairs, about \$70,000, said Mr. Glodt.

He said he's talked to Col. Delbert Townsend about the sound system. Mr. Glodt said the retired officer

might help pay for new projectors and a sound system in the school. Hopefully, said Mr. Glodt, the system will be in before graduation.

The idea with the ramp at the high school, said Mr. Glodt, is to run from the door to the street, eliminating the steps.

The money to heat the ramp would be well spent, he said.

None of these projects, said Board Member Barb Olson, are surprises. These items have been talked about.

Mr. Glodt said he thought the district can kick in some money from the supplemental general fund since all of the projects are needed.

The board, he said, needs to create a list of long-range plans, and that list needs to be prioritized.

Some of the other projects, he said, that the board needs to look at include converting the water well on the football practice field to an electric motor, gravel containment at the grade school playground, removing water stains on the buildings, sidewalks and steps at the grade school, additional exits at the junior high gym, door locks on classrooms, science room fixtures, windows, tree removal, the structural integrity and expansion of the press box at the football stadium and tuck pointing both school buildings.

Council says no to street vacation

The Oberlin City council denied a request to vacate the north end of Marks Avenue after deciding that the owner really needs to get a building permit for a proposed storage building.

David Blau has asked for vacation of the 120-foot stretch of Marks, saying he owns property on either side and wants to put up a building for storage. Mr. Blau said he was told that the land needed to be contiguous with his home, which meant he would have to get ownership of the city street. The council held a public hearing on his request at the regular meeting last Thursday.

There was no public comment for or against the vacation.

Councilman Joe Stanley asked if there was a limit of how much of the property has to be contiguous. What if the city vacated only half an inch of the street? he asked Is that enough for the land to be contiguous?

Mr. Stanley said although he isn't against Mr. Blau putting up the building, he doesn't like closing streets.

It isn't clear in the ordinance, said Mr. Blau, how much of the land has to be contiguous. He noted that there's already a building on that land.

Without the city attorney present,

said Mayor Ken Shobe, some of those questions can't be answered.

The council could table the decision until the next meeting, he said, when the lawyer can answer the questions.

If the end of the street abuts Kirk Young's land, asked Councilwoman Rhonda May, then wouldn't this take away his access? That's why the city publishes a public notice, said City Administrator Gary Shike.

Is it legal to just vacate a small amount of the street so the land is contiguous? Mr. Stanley asked again. Mayor Shobe suggested the council table the decision.

The other thing Mr. Blau can do is ask the Board of Zoning and Appeals to change the ordinance to allow building on land separated by an alley or street from his home.

What if the building is attached to the existing building? asked Mr. Stanley. Mr. Blau said he's thinking about attaching the two by a walkway.

That requires a building permit, said Mr. Shike, and it needs to meet the setback requirements from the street.

The council voted to deny the request and suggested Mr. Blau get a building permit for the project.

LAND FOR SALE

By Sealed Bid: Sec-22 Twp-05, RNG-27, 74 acres crop land, 40 acres waste land Lyon Twp N2NE SW4NE4 Less-RW

Prop. Addr: LY (N2NE4 SWNE4-22) total acres 114.

Seller: Bill Nelson (The seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids).

Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope. The envelope should be marked: 'Landbid' on the outside.

Bids are to be received not later than March 31, 2007 at Box 94, Jennings, KS 67643. 785-678-2354.



607 South Frazier Ave
Oberlin, KS
Kelly and Sue Glodt Residence

**Moving Sale - Saturday,
March 31st, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Open House - Sunday, April 1st, 1-4 p.m.

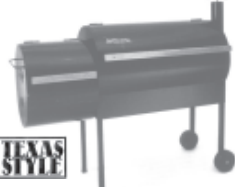
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