

County ponders where to buy a truck for crew

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

The Decatur County commissioners talked with the road and bridge supervisor last Tuesday about whether he should get bids for new or used pickups for one of the men on the crew.

Supervisor Tim Stallman said he didn't know if it was more efficient to get bids on used government trucks or to look for a new truck for Kirk Ulery, road and bridge foreman, to drive on the job.

It depends on how the truck's going to be used, said Commissioner Ralph Unger. It's hard to find a good used pickup, he said; There just isn't a good program for used government pickups, he said.

Mr. Unger said Mr. Stallman could take bids and see what he gets. It would probably be smart to either get a good used pickup or one from a dealer, he said.

The commissioners received a letter from the U.S. Department of Agriculture about the hospital application for a low-interest loan for the expansion project.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch said the county would need to hire a bond lawyer. He said he would like to use Gilmore and Bell out of Wichita, which would cost about \$8,500. He said he has worked with the company before.

The commissioners said that was OK, but they had some questions for Dave Barber with the Agriculture Department. They tried to call him twice, but he wasn't available to ask questions about the bond counsel and money from the department for the hospital expansion.

Ambulance Director Linda Manning said the new truck is in service and doing well. She said they had a problem with the oxygen regulator, but the supplier said they would send out the needed part.

She said she also had a problem with the new garage door at the ambulance barn, but it had been fixed.

Commissioner Doyle Brown said he had talked to one of the emergency medical technicians in Jennings who went to a class in Hoxie recently.

The technician wanted to see if she could be reimbursed for her time to go to the meeting, he said.

Ms. Manning said the event was free in Hoxie. Normally, if a class costs something, she said, the department pays for it. She said they

County Roundup

At their meeting last Tuesday, the Decatur County commissioners:

- Talked with the road and bridge supervisor about whether he should get bids for new or used pickups for one of the men on the crew. Story at left.

- Discussed the county's tax incentive program and a conversation Commissioner Doyle Brown had with Larry Brennan, vice president of Bus and Coach International in Jennings. Story on Page 2A.

- Discussed changes in the by-laws for the Decatur County Fair Foundation which put the foundation back to the original members, including the commission chair, the president of the fair board and the county treasurer. Story on Page 5A.

will also reimburse for meals, but don't normally pay for a person's travel expenses or their time.

Mr. Unger said he doesn't have a problem with the department paying for a class, but he didn't think the volunteer technicians should be paid to attend. Paying mileage to or from a meeting, said Mr. Unger, is up to Ms. Manning.

Ms. Manning said the ambulance department has been and plans to continue holding a potluck dinner about every two months for the technicians and their families. The commissioners agreed that was a good idea.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that Mr. Unger received the annual \$1 lease payment from Good Samaritan Administrator Janice Shobe at the center's 50th anniversary celebration, but he had forgotten to turn it in. Once reminded, he did so.

- Looked at the Good Samaritan Center's lease, which Mr. Hirsch changed to include the parking lot to the north of the building.

- Signed a proclamation stating April is Fair Housing Month. County Clerk Marilyn Horn said she would post the notice.



Hospital work begins

STARTING WORK, a crew working for Rhoads Construction of Goodland moved equipment to the Decatur County Hospital on Monday. The firm has a \$650,000 contract to put up an 11-room addition housing specialty clinics and an office for Cottonwood Home Care.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

Men accused of stealing wire in Colby

Two Oberlin men were arrested Thursday for allegedly stealing bundles of copper and other wire from a Colby business, though there was some confusion about where the goods had been taken from.

Colby Police Chief Randy Jones said police got a 911 call at 12:40 p.m. that two people in a white 1999 Chevrolet van were stealing items from an auction at the former J & J Oil location at College Drive and South Range Avenue.

"In reality," Jones said, "the items were not stolen from the auction, but instead from Western Sprinkler's lot to the west, which made it a county case, not a city one."

Jones said he followed the van west on College Drive Road, north on K-25, west on Thomas County Road W and then east back to K-25. Deputy Ken Patton caught up to the vehicle in the 2400 block of North Country Club Drive, where he and

Jones made the stop. Sheriff Mike Baughn, Undersheriff Jason Moses and another deputy came to help.

Arrested were John David Clapper, 40, and Ralph Lesley Clapper Jr., 50. Both were charged with criminal trespass and theft. Ralph Clapper also charged with driving on a revoked license.

"We are in the process of taking over the case and finishing up the paperwork today," Baughn said on Friday.

Undersheriff Jason Moses said Monday the men had been released pending filing of county charges. He said paperwork was being prepared for the county attorney.

Before the deputy stopped the Clappers, Jones said, the two tossed allegedly stolen items out of the van near Experiment Station Road.

Ralph Clapper Jr. and his parents opened an antique store called Fort Sappa Creek Antiques on Main

Street in Oberlin in 2005.

Copper wire knocked down by the late December ice storm was reported missing from Sappa Park near Oberlin in February. Police are

still investigating the case. There haven't been any other reports of missing wire in this area, officers said.

Chamber board seeks new manager

The Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce board will start looking for a new manager after the resignation Friday of the previous one.

Marilyn Horn, acting Chamber president, said a few months ago the Chamber board set up a job description for the manager and told the manager they planned to evaluate her. At that time, they asked Manager Glenna Nichols to make sure she got all of the records the board had asked for on the computer.

Mrs. Horn said she talked with Mrs. Nichols last Friday about the

job description, including the records. She said one request to Mrs. Nichols was leaving her husband Harold, who often hangs around the office, at home. She said Mrs. Nichols turned in her resignation.

On Monday, Mrs. Nichols said she didn't have any comment.

The board planned a special meeting at 5 p.m. Monday to start looking at its options. Mrs. Horn said the Chamber board also plans to hold its regular meeting at noon on Thursday at the Business Entrepreneurial Enhancement Center.

Fund raiser to benefit theater

The Dresser will host a fashion-show to raise money for Sunflower Cinema on Friday on Main Street.

The show will start at 6:30 p.m. in the old Flowers by Lee building just

south of the Dresser.

The store won't sell tickets, but will take up a donation for the volunteer-run theater.

SENIOR CITIZEN ALERT Don't Get Scammed



Older Americans are the No. 1 targets of INVESTMENT FRAUD. The files of state securities agencies are filled with tragic examples of seniors who have been convinced to give their savings, windfall insurance payments and even equity in their homes to con artists for fraudulent investments. **BEFORE** giving money, or if you believe you have been the victim of a scam, contact the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner: **1-888-40-SCAMS**

Visit our website for additional information: **www.dontgetscammed.org**

Paid for with public investor education funds.

Clip and save with your financial records for future reference.

2007 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

EVERY VICTIM, EVERY TIME

Join Us

Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center
In
Recognizing the Rights of All Victims

April 17, 2007

Garden City Community College
Dennis B. Perryman Athletic Complex
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Colby Community Building
285 E. 5th Street
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Speakers

Kansas Attorney General
Paul Morrison
and
Jeanette C. Stauffer J.D.
Mother of victim Shannon L. Martin

Sponsored by: U.S. Department of Justice | Office of Justice Programs | Office for Victims of Crime

FARM MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT AUCTION

SELLER: Ferris Chambers Family Trust

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2007 @10:30A.M., CDT

AUCTION LOCATION: From Norton, KS, go West on Hwy 36 to Road W11 at Reager, then 10 mi North to Road C, then 1 mi West to the sale site, OR from the East side of Wilsonville, NE on Hwy 89, go 7 1/2 mi South on Road 413 to the State Line, then 1/2 mi West, then 2 miles South on Road W12 to the sale site. **SIGNS WILL BE POSTED!**

'79 JD 4840 w/12' OTTER DOZER '77 JD 8430 '77 IHC LOADSTAR

TRACTORS: •'79 JD 4840 w/12' Otter angle dozer, PS, QT, PTO, 3 remotes, 20.8R38 duals •'77 JD 8430, QR, QT, 3 remotes, Big 1000 PTO, 18.4-38 duals, 3,700 hrs on rebuilt engine •'69 JD 4520, PTO, 3pt, 2 remotes, 18.4-38 duals •'65 JD 4020 w/JD 158 grapple loader, 3 pt, 1 remote, PTO w/pump, 18.4-34, rear weights •'63 JD 4010, bareback, PTO, 1 remote, 18.4-34 tires, rear weights

GRAIN CART: •'85 UFT 500 bushel

TRUCKS: •'77 IHC Loadstar 1700, 5x2, V8, flatbed, 5th wheel ball, 9:00-20 •'75 Chevy C65 2 1/2T w/18' B&H, 5x2, V8, RO tarp, 9:00-20 •'69 Ford F600 w/16' B&H, 4x2, V8, 9:00-20

TRAILERS: •'85 Travalong 6'x20' GN stock trl •Hale 5'x16'

FARM MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT: •'85 Krause 32' chisel sweep machine w/harrows •'69 FK chisel w/harrows •'79 FK 6x5 blade plow, treads •'71 FK 4x5 blade plow •'70 Krause 904T 20' disc •Noble 30' Springtooth •Crustbuster 24' Springtooth •Krause 884 32' rodweeder •VanBrunt alfalfa drill •'81 JD 6-row 30' bean head •JD 843 corn head •'68 IHC 4-row cultivator, 3pt •2 JD 5-bottom plows •3) JD 9300 10x10 hoe drills •JD 8350 single disc 12' drill •'91 JD 7200 MaxEmerge II 8-row planter, coulters, insecticide boxes, markers •Hesston 520 swather, hydro dr •JD 535 Round Baler •Hesston 60A stackmover •Richardson 1200 dump wagon

LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT: •PR squeeze chute & 18' alley •Head gate •Loading chute & cattle panels •Dew-Eze 3pt bale loader •Big Valley calf cradle •25+ inverted tire feeders •2 stock tanks •Jetco PTO wire roller •Steel posts •Round bale feeders •Several creep feeders •2 round bale racks for trucks •3 Gallagher fence chargers •2 calf pullers •Cattle oilers •Mineral feeders •Brand & elec branding iron

MISCELLANEOUS, AND MORE!!

BINS TO BE MOVED: 2) 10,000 bu Co-op bins; 20,000 bu Butler bin; leg; 2) bulk bins; Wagner 3-phase 36" Roller mill

CALL FOR A BROCHURE OR VISIT www.farmandranchrealty.com

FARM & RANCH REALTY, INC.
1420 W. 4TH • COLBY, KS 67701
1-800-247-7863
DON HAZLETT, BROKER/AUCTIONEER
"When you list with Farm & Ranch, it's as good as SOLD!"