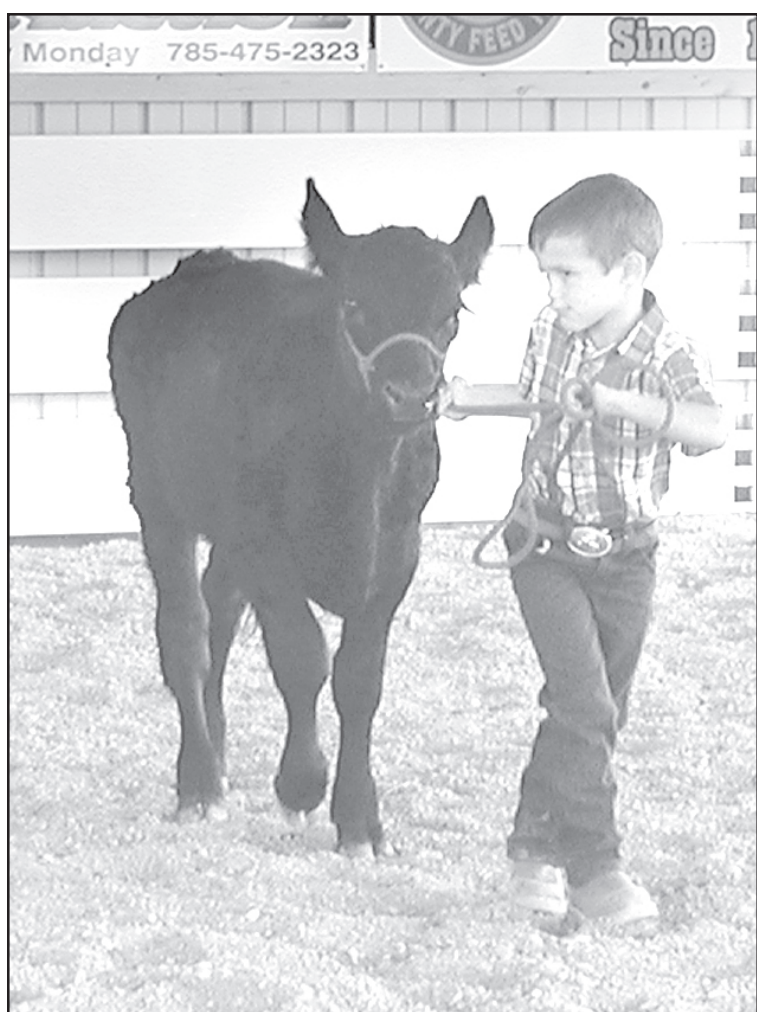


AT THE BEEF SHOW, Alyssa Montgomery (above) showed her steer. During the bucket calf show, Landen Macfee showed his calf. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

* Barn used at fair

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 \$2,000 for the building.
 The men started to collect bids. It was time for the fair again and there was no way a new building could be up in time.
 The Oberlin Jaycees held a lunch for the building last year and the 4-H families did the same raising more money.
 The men contacted Mr. Brown about a metal building. Details were handled by the Decatur County Fair Board and Decatur County Fair Foundation, the down payment was made and work started.
 It was winter, so the dirt work couldn't be done, but after the snow melted, said Mr. Wasson, things got going. Anderson Land and Cattle and Wasson Farms moved about 1,500 yards of dirt for the project, all donated by Ernie Fowler.
 The building was up in two weeks, said Mr. Wasson.
 "This has been an interesting and unique project from beginning to end," said Mr. Anderson. "With some features yet to be completed, we really aren't at the end."
 "Many different donations were given, grain, steers, hay, cash for calves, clerical work, postage, fill dirt, labor, fuel and equipment use. We can't leave out all those who donated meat for benefits, plus the individuals and 4-H members who



helped cook and serve those meals. We've been honored to work with many of you on this project and would like to thank you for making our job easier."
 "I want to sum this up by saying," said Mr. Wasson, "that this building and project fits perfect on these grounds. This entire fair has been built just like this building, with many donated hours and dollars donated to a good cause. We hope that everyone enjoys this building

* School starts on Friday

(Continued from Page 1A)
 and chemistry 2 will be weighted a full point when averages are figured, he said. An A in one of those classes will be worth six points rather than the usual five, and so on.
 Sponsors Brenda and Tim Breth brought some kids in over the summer and did some painting in the cafeteria. Mr. Haag said they plan to start a "wall of victory" in the lunch room.

This year, he said, they will start assigning groups of students from all ages to each teacher. Those groups will meet about six times a year. It is like a mentoring program, he said, although it doesn't have a name yet. This program is similar to the one started at the grade school last year.
 Haag pointed out that a rule in the handbook bans electronic devices like iPods, cell phones and others in

the classroom. If one of those items comes up missing, he said, the school isn't responsible for it.
 Over the summer, said Superintendent Pat Cullen, maintenance projects done at the schools included phase 2 of the roofing, new hot water heaters and a boiler at the high school, sealing the parking lot behind the music wing at the high school and finishing the floor at the grade school.
 and we thank everyone for coming out tonight."
 Mr. Unger said anyone who still wants to make a donation can give money to the fair foundation by contacting any of the commissioners, fair board members or fair foundation members.
 As of Monday, said Jean Hale, foundation treasurer, the foundation had \$17,179 earmarked for the building.

Council buys tractor and mower

The Oberlin City Council bought a new tractor with a mower attachment for \$54,650, mainly for use at the new waste water treatment plant south of town.
 City Foreman Dan Castle said he had four bids for the tractor with a mower attachment:
 • A Case IH J95P JX95 from Curly Olney of McCook for \$33,000 and a Bush Hog 2610L mower for \$8,800 for a total of \$41,800.
 • A Kubota M8540 from Sellers Equipment of Hays for \$30,048 and a Schulte XH 1000 mower for an additional \$14,313 for a total of \$44,361.
 • An Agco LT90A from Decatur County Implement of Oberlin for \$48,200 and a Bush Hog 3210 for an additional \$5,900 for a total of

\$54,100.
 • A John Deere 6415 from Southwest Implement of Oberlin for \$45,000 with a Landpride RC5510 mower for \$9,650 for a total of \$54,650.
 Is there equipment that the city can use with the tractor to use it year around? asked Mayor Joe Stanley. Yes, said Mr. Castle.
 Councilman Ray Ward said he wanted to abstain from the vote, since he works for Southwest Implement in McCook.
 This is twice, said Councilman Rob McFee, the city has received bids and the council hasn't taken the low one.
 "Why does the city even ask for bids?" he asked.
 Mr. McFee said he knows the city has to ask for bids because it say so

in state law, but he wondered if there was any other reason. He said he doesn't have any questions about the quality of the piece of equipment, but just wanted to know why the city didn't just go buy it 30 days ago.
 Mayor Joe Stanley said although the city has to get bids, there isn't any rule that says they have to take the low one.
 A motion was made to accept the bid from Southwest Implement with Mr. McFee voting against it, Mr. Ward abstaining and council members Marcia Lohoefer and Jay Anderson voting yes.
 City Attorney Steve Hirsch said the abstention in this case, since it is a 2-1 vote, actually is considered a vote in favor, meaning the purchase passed 3-1.

* Company seeks contract to provide wind power

(Continued from Page 1A)
 Oberlin council meeting Aug. 2, he said, the company has been working with the county Economic Development Corp. and some city officials for some time.
 The idea, said Mr. Rasure, is to put a wind farm east of U.S. 83 and north of Oberlin. All of the farm is outside city limits, with some sites up to 10 miles away, he said. Some of the land has already been leased, although they are still leasing some. Altogether, he added, the group needs around 15,000 acres. Mr. Rasure wouldn't say how much ground has already been leased.
 Sunflower Wind asked the Oberlin council to cancel its existing contracts with Sunflower Electric Power of Hays and the Western Area Power Administration.
 The company is offering a 20-year contract with Oberlin to sell power at 5.75 cents per kilowatt for the first five years and 6 cents for the next 15 years.
 If the city chooses not to cancel the contracts, said Mr. Rasure, his group would like to be first in line to offer power to the city, but prob-

ably at a higher rate.
 The contract is a cheaper rate overall than the city is paying, said Mr. Rasure, and the company is willing to guarantee the price. In the face of increasing city budgets, this is something the council can count on staying the same for 20 years.
 Currently, said City Administrator Gary Shike, the city pays around 14 cents per kilowatt hour for electricity from Sunflower Electric and 3 cents from the Western Area Power Administration.
 Wind is a good source of power, Mr. Rasure said, because it reduces the overall cost.
 It also will provide jobs, revenue to land owners and bring people in on the roads and to the airport here. Those people — construction workers, operating staff, researchers and visitors — will stay in hotels in Oberlin, he said, and eat in the restaurants.
 Mr. Rasure said he is confident Sunflower Wind can build the wind farm. The turbines they are using were prototyped in 2004 and are a proven turbine. The turbines have been in full-scale production since

last year, he said. They are in use throughout the country, but the manufacturer is a bigger player in Europe.
 Although there are some rumors on who the investors are and which politicians are in support of the company, Mr. Rasure said he couldn't disclose any of those names. He said the company will let the politicians make their own announcements.
 The project is receiving federal money from the Department of Energy, the National Renewable Energy Labs and federal tax incentives, he said.
 From his company's standpoint, said Mr. Rasure, a commitment from Oberlin would be good even though the town would use just a small portion of the output from the wind farm, which could produce from 50 to 70 megawatts of power. The city uses between four and six megawatts at its peak, he said.
 He said the partnership plans manufacturing facilities in Phillipsburg and Hutchinson and might build some components in Oberlin, but he doesn't have any details about that now.

* Council has lots of questions

(Continued from Page 1A)
 him the St. Francis council probably would pass on the proposal.
 Mayor Stanley said he thought Dan Rasure, with Sunflower Wind, was about a year late in getting information to the council if the firm wants a decision three weeks from now. Mr. Shike said he does have some reservations about the proposal and has asked the engineer to break it down. He said he was looking for someone who doesn't have an interest on either side. Mr. Shike said he should get a comparison from the engineer to see how much the proposal will cost. Sunflower

Wind, he said, isn't offering Oberlin and St. Francis the same contract.
 The St. Francis price per kilowatt hour is a little cheaper, said Mr. Shike, adding that he hasn't seen the whole proposal.
 Does St. Francis have the same long-term contracts as Oberlin? asked Councilman Rob McFee. They have a contract for federal power, but nothing with Sunflower Electric Power, said Mr. Shike.
 How is the Sunflower Wind contract better for Oberlin? Ms. May asked. If the city can lock in power for 6 cents per kilowatt hour, Mr. Shike replied, it is probably cheaper

in the long run.
 How is the city's electricity flow now? asked Dr. Anderson. It's horrible, said city Foreman Dan Castle. The Sunflower line which supplied the area has a hard time handling the voltage. Wind power would be great out here, he said, but as one more source, not the city's only source. It shouldn't have to be either wind power or something else, he said.
 The Sunflower Wind contract seems like a good deal, said Mayor Stanley, but three weeks is too short of a time to make a decision.
 "It is kind of intriguing," said Ms. May.

Kayettes go to camp to learn about service

Four student leaders from Decatur Community High School attended the Kansas Association for Youth (KAY) Leadership Camp for a week in July at Rock Springs 4-H Center near Junction City. They included Jennifer Ploussard, Kenzie Fisher, Haley Barrett and Alyssa Rippe.
 There were 275 Kays and Kayettes from Kansas who enjoyed a

"Superfantastic" session. The camp is a character-building, leadership training program directed by the Kansas State High School Activities Association which is for students in grades 7-12. The camp theme was "Got Service?"
 KAY is a nationally acclaimed organization unique to Kansas which provides Kansas students an opportunity to assume their citizen-

ship responsibilities and enrich their personalities through well-organized programs.
 They are given the opportunity to share ideas with other members. Through their camp experiences they learned that as an active leader in their club, they can truly make a difference because "they're good stuff!"
 Kayette sponsor is Linda Glaze.

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