

High school counselor sets goals for the future

The new high school counselor talked with the Oberlin School Board about what she has accomplished so far this year and what she wants to do.

Debbie Arp, who works part-time as counselor and part-time as the tutor teacher, is in her first year in the school district. She talked with the board at its meeting last Monday night, showing them a computer presentation.

Mrs. Arp said she feels great to be a part

of the team at the high school and in the district. There are three areas, she said, where she works with students, including personal and social development, career plans and academic plans.

A lot of the information from the presentation or what kids and parents need to know, she said, is on the school's web page. If someone goes to the web page at www.usd294.org, said Mrs. Arp, then go to the Counselor's Corner, they can find infor-

mation on scholarship, college contacts, test dates, questions to ask college representatives, area scholarships and a monthly bulletin.

Is there any way to have the applications for scholarships on the web site, asked board member Barb Olson.

Mrs. Arp said she is working on that. She said she has been calling the scholarship sponsors to see if they could all use the same form.

It would be nice, said Principal Charlie Haag, if all the sponsors would accept the same general form, adding that they could also ask for other information. That way, he said, the students' information, like name, parent's names, and all of that could be filled out only once.

If the sponsor then wanted an essay, said Mrs. Olson, or something else additional, they could ask for it.

Mrs. Arp talked about helping the stu-

dents do some career planning so they are sure they are taking the right classes and in the extra-curricular activities that will help. For example, she said, if someone wants to be a lawyer, maybe they should be in speech and debate.

If you are implementing all of these new ideas, asked Mrs. Olson, is part-time going to be enough? She said Mrs. Arp should let the board know if being a part-time counselor allows her to get everything done.

Court system to have records available on-line

The state court system will soon have all its open records on-line so people can pay to view them from their computer.

Janet Meitl, clerk of Decatur County courts, told commissioners at the meeting Tuesday, Aug. 27, that the state has decided that all of the records people can see should be on-line.

To pay for the system, she said, every time someone looks at one of the records the courts will get 25 cents. It costs \$1 to see the records, she said, with INK, the state computer system, now known as Access Kansas. It will compile the records, keeping 75 cents.

Mrs. Meitl said it will cost her office more because they will have to change their Internet service, which will go from \$11 a month to \$55.

Commissioner Stan McEvoy said he attended the wrap-up meeting of the fair board recently. The board made as much as \$1,000 at the fair, he said, with all of the events. The tractor pull was a loss because it costs so much to get the teams here. Next year, he said, because of time conflicts, the tractor pull probably won't return.

He said both the demolition and the roller demo derbies had good crowds. The fair board talked with members of the race committee about the speedway track, he said. A vote was held to change the name from the Oberlin Speedway to the

Decatur County Speedway.

The committee wants to talk to the city about getting water directly instead of having to fill up a tanker truck and haul the water to the track.

The commissioners also talked about replacing some of the pipes on the grandstands that are deteriorating.

County Clerk Marilyn Horn said the Chamber of Commerce board had received a bag of keys from some of the members of the Amusement Authority, along with a letter saying they were resigning. The authority falls under the Chamber, she said, so the Chamber board will be working on the by-laws and replacing those members.

The Amusement Authority by-laws, she said, say that the 12 members of the authority should be elected at the Chamber's annual meeting.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Held two five-minute closed sessions for attorney-client privilege with County Attorney Steve Hirsch. There was no action taken afterward.
- Heard that the county had received the first batch of maps from R&S Digital Services of Great Bend for the mapping project to name the roads.
- Appointed Tom Mullen, in the appraiser's office, to the Economic Development Corp. board.

Coin toss decides football winner

Four people guessed the winners of eight games out of 10 in the third week of *The Oberlin Herald's* Pigskin Pick-em contest, and three predicted a Denver Broncos win in the tiebreaker.

Ivis Hanson and Gary Anderson, both of Oberlin, were both 14 points off the actual score of Denver Broncos over the Oakland Raiders, which was 23-20.

A coin toss gave Mr. Hanson first place and \$15 in scrip money spendable with sponsors of the contest. Mr. Anderson received second place and \$10 in scrip.

Mabel Zimmerman of Oberlin, who was 15 points off the tiebreaker, took third and \$5 in scrip.

Ron Solko of Oberlin also had eight out of 10 football winners right but he thought that the Raiders would edge the Broncos.

Guessing right on seven out of 10 were Colleen and Kenny Gee, Diana Solko, Amanda Grafel, Norm Wendelin and Owen Wilson, Oberlin; Rodney Solko, McCook; Kari Ketterl and Cheri Kastens, Herndon; and Billy McCoy, Danbury, Neb.

Getting six right were Helen Gee, Todd Ketterl, Valisha and Travis Raile, Ryan McEvoy and Kade

Brown, Oberlin; Vernon Ketterl, Herndon; Brock Benson, Smith Center; and Mark Merriott, McCook.

Contest rules are on Page 5B of today's paper with an entry form. Forms also are available at the sponsoring businesses, Home Planning Center, Farm Credit of Western Kansas, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, Wagner Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac and Cadillac of McCook, Raye's Grocery, *The Oberlin Herald* and *The Country Advocate*; Prairie Petals, the LandMark Inn and Ward Drug Store.

This week's games:

- Hoxie over Goodland, 27-6.
- Quinter over Atwood, 20-14.
- The University of Kansas over Toledo, 45-13.
- Oakley over Oberlin, 47-6.
- Southern California over Nebraska, 49-31.
- St. Francis over Colby, 38-13.
- K-State over Missouri State, 61-10.
- Norton over Plainville, 52-6.
- McCook over Aurora, Neb., 34-0.
- Logan over Golden Plains, 48-0.
- Denver over Oakland, 23-20, in the tie breaker.

Site offers homework help

Students from fourth grade through college can visit www.homeworkkansas.org for free homework help from qualified tutors.

The State Library of Kansas and Kansas public libraries offer expert tutors in math, science, social studies and English via the Internet. Spanish-speaking tutors are avail-

able for math and science. HomeworkKansas is available from 4 to 11 p.m. seven days a week in English and from 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday in Spanish.

Go to the web site, click on the HomeworkKansas link, then enter your grade level and subject. A tutor in an online classroom will offer help.

Saluting the flag



AT THE FOOTBALL game at Oakley on Friday, Decatur Community High cheerleaders (from left) Amy Ritter, Emma Merrill and Kira Meitl saluted during the national anthem before the kick off. — Herald staff photo by Jim Merriott

Norcatour road to be sealed; county to pay half

The Decatur County commissioners heard that the road into Norcatour will be sealed this year, with half of the \$16,528 cost charged to the county and half to the city.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said at a meeting Tuesday, Sept. 4, that B&H Paving out of Scott City, which won the bid for sealing Oberlin streets, would do the work. The firm was working in Oberlin last week.

Mr. Stallman said he has been thinking about getting a new truck for Foreman Kirk Ulery. Mr. Stallman said it would probably be a good time with so many rebates going on now. Mr. Ulery, said Mr. Stallman, puts a lot of miles on his vehicle, so they will start the bidding

process soon.

Mr. Stallman said he is interested in computerizing the landfill information and billing process. It would cost around \$3,500, he said, with yearly maintenance costing \$250. The commissioners said it was a good idea.

Mr. Stallman said he thought maybe the county should wait to budget it until 2008. They could put the recycling on the same system, he said.

The commissioners approved the purchase.

Mr. Stallman said he took the No. 124 grader to Garden City for pretty much a complete overhaul.

The antifreeze was leaking into the oil, he said, and the bill was \$10,684.

The commissioners met with Ambulance Director Linda Manning and Aden Schillig from the Norton emergency medical system, who will teach an upcoming class for ambulance workers Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the ambulance barn in Oberlin. They have 12 students registered.

The county will pay Mr. Schillig \$1,000 a month for six months, commissioners learned.

Ms. Manning said she and Mr. Schillig met with hospital Administrator Lynn Doeden so the students can receive their clinical training at the hospital.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Started work on the 2008 budget. County Clerk Marilyn Horn

handed out paperwork for estimated figures from departments. There were no decisions made on the budget.

- Talked with custodian Bob Berls about the black sand in the lines of the public restrooms. The black sand is actually little particles broken off from build up inside the water lines. Mr. Berls said he talked with Hansen's Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning about putting filters on the toilets and cleaning out the traps. The commissioners agreed.
- Received a request from the Soil Conservation District office for \$16,000 in the 2008 budget. The state portion will be \$25,000. The commissioners said they would look at it with the other requests when they work on the budget.

Kansas will help Pay the Bill!

A new program administered by Kansas State Treasurer Lynn Jenkins, CPA, reaches out to hardworking Kansans who struggle to put aside the money required to make a college or post-secondary education possible.

K.I.D.S. (Kansas Investments Developing Scholars) is a matching grant program developed specifically for Kansans with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level. Participants can receive up to \$600 a year from the state when they invest in Learning Quest, the Kansas 529 Education Savings Program. To qualify, your household's 2006 Federal Adjusted Gross Income must be less than the amount shown.

Household of:

- 1 = \$20,420
- 2 = \$27,380
- 3 = \$34,340
- 4 = \$41,300
- 5 = \$48,260
- 6 = \$55,220
- 7 = \$62,180
- 8 = \$69,140

For each additional person in the family, add \$6,960.

Participation is limited! Apply today!

Visit www.KansasStateTreasurer.com/KIDS or call 1-866-504-5898 for more information and an application.

*Lynn Jenkins, CPA
Kansas State Treasurer*

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MONA'S MARKET

The perennial greenhouse will open August 25th. Hours will be from noon to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday & 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Large selection of perennials, flowering shrubs and vines well adapted to this climate are available. Make your work load lighter and your rewards greater by getting them established this fall so they can bloom next summer.

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