



SEVEN CARS of a Kyle Railroad train derailed in frigid weather early Sunday east of Jennings, tearing up about 300 feet of track and blocking a township road. All the cars carried wheat bound for terminal elevators, which crews came to sweep up Monday. Railroad officials said the line would be blocked until today.

— Herald staff photos by Steve Haynes

Derailed cars spill wheat

Seven Kyle Railroad cars full of wheat derailed Sunday morning three miles east of Jennings, caused by possible track problems.

Jerry DeWitt, assistant general manager of Kyle in Phillipsburg, said the wreck is still under investigation, but the derailment seemed to be caused by track problems.

The seven cars derailed around 3:30 a.m. Sunday, he said, spilling grain on the ground and one car blocking a township road where it crossed the creek.

In the afternoon, state crews placed signs along the highway warning drivers that crews were at work. A contractor brought a D6 Caterpillar tractor from Phillipsburg to clear the right of way of brush and pull the damaged rail out of the way.



Mr. DeWitt said it will take about three days to get the track back together and the trains running. On Monday, he said, they were removing grain from the cars with a large vacuum truck. The wheat will then be put in an elevator, he said, adding that it would be at least Wednesday night before the line is back in service.

The derailment damaged around 300 feet of track and totaled five of the seven grain cars, he said.

The train, said Mr. DeWitt, was on its way to Phillipsburg and then on to Salina. It wasn't scheduled to pick up any more grain, as it was

full. There weren't any injuries with the derailment, he added.

The train also carried sunflower seeds and sunflower oil in cars that didn't derail. The derailment came after three engines and about 30 cars had passed the spot, which is on a slight curve.

Patti Skubal, Decatur County emergency preparedness director, said she got a call about 1 p.m. that there was a derailment. She drove down to check the situation, but didn't see a need to do much since no hazardous materials were involved. Mrs. Skubal said she did take some pictures.

City clerk says it's time to put aside budgets, job

By **KIMBERLY DAVIS**
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After 14 years as city treasurer and later city clerk, Deanna Castle has decided to retire at the end of the year.

The clerk said she started working for the city in January 1999 as the treasurer. In April 2001, she switched to the city clerk's position when Martha Nemeth retired.

As the city clerk, she said, she is responsible for tracking, publishing and recording all ordinances and resolutions passed by the City Council, the budget, minutes for council meetings, customer service, taking receipts, answering the phone, preparing the deposit from utility receipts, preparing all vouchers for accounts payable, taking care of all insurance including liability, property, worker's comp, health, managing payments and communication with the state retirement system for employees, preparing all the tax reports for federal and state withholding and Social Security and scheduling the council agenda, to name a few things.

In years past, she added, the treasurer did the budget, but it kind of moved with her.

Before working at the city, she said, she worked in the high school office for 10 years.

Although not originally from Oberlin, Mrs. Castle said, she did go to school here in the fourth and fifth grades. Her mother's family has always lived here, so they came here often.

In 1972, said Mrs. Castle, she said she came to Oberlin from California for her sister's wedding and decided to move to Kansas. She met her husband in 1972 in Oberlin.

Mrs. Castle said she decided to retire because she can. She said the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System, which covers city employees, allows early retirement at age 55 with at least 10 years of service. She said she has 18, including eight with the city and 10 with the school.

She said she plans to continue her home-based busi-

ness selling Reliv, a line of nutritional supplements. It is growing by leaps and bounds, she said, and she can see the results from the business. Besides, it gives her the freedom to be available for her grandkids and kids.



Deanna Castle

She said she also wants to be able to go on more mission trips with the youth group she sponsors at the United Methodist Church and on her own.

Her husband Bob has a three-year commitment to Miller and Associates out of McCook, where he is an engineering inspector, she said. Right now he is working in Norton, doing the inspection on a water treatment plant, and before that he inspected work on Norton's new sewage treatment facility.

The couple has four children and seven grandkids. Their son, Thaniel Monaco, and his wife Jennifer live in Manhattan, where he works with BGS Engineering and she teaches first grade, though the couple used to live and work here. They have two children, Madison and Lawson.

Son Devan and his wife Sarah live in Hoxie, where he is the office manager of Woofter Pump and Well. They have three children, Rebekah, Maiah and Dane.

Daughter Valisha and her husband Travis Raile live in Oberlin, where she is the pharmacy technician at Ward Drug Store and he works for Gore Oil in McCook. They have two daughters, Kariah and Alana, and a son, Trenton Isaiah, born this weekend.

Youngest daughter Calise lives in Ashville, N.C., where she works for Tap/Cummins Tool Co.

Mrs. Castle said she sponsors the youth group at the United Methodist Church and is a member of the women's group. She also is a member of the Decatur Professional Women and Alif Be Khe Club.

In her spare time, she likes to play golf. The City of Oberlin will hold a reception for Mrs. Castle at 6 p.m. Thursday downstairs in The Gateway before the council meeting.

Council reopens water dock

The Oberlin City Council to open the water dock by the city shop, allowing people to buy water to fill tanks and trucks quickly.

At the meeting Thursday, Nov. 6, the city decided to sell the water using the outside city water rates. Mr. Shike is still figuring a price for the dock.

Mayor Joe Stanley said he has had people ask if the city would open the water dock since the water restrictions are over and the rates have gone up.

Is the request for convenience or what? asked Councilwoman Rhonda May. Probably convenience, said Mayor Stanley.

Is the price the same or less than what people in town pay for water? asked Councilman Ray Ward.

The price is higher at the dock, said City Administrator Gary Shike, than what people pay in town.

It should be the same or higher, said Mr. Ward. Otherwise, he said, he doesn't have a problem with the dock being opened when there are no water restrictions.

Mr. Shike said he still needs to work on the price, but it will probably be around what people who are on city water outside the city pay.

Councilwoman May said philosophically she thinks it is a bad idea to sell city water for use by others.

The city has water problems and no answer in sight, she said.

People can run a hose to their tank while they do chores and haul that water to cattle, said Councilman Rob McFee. It may not be as convenient, but it works.

If it is for emergency use, said Ms. May, like after big storms like last year, that's OK, but that should be separate than just having it open all the time.

The council voted 3-2 to open the water dock with Mr. McFee and Ms. May voting against it.

Most businesses, offices to close for holidays

By **MARY LOU OLSON**
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Most Oberlin stores and businesses plan to be closed for Christmas Eve on Monday, but some will be open until around 5 p.m.

With the exception of convenience stores, nearly everything will be closed on Christmas Day.

With all the town's restaurants shut down, you may need to cook dinner at home on Tuesday. Shop early, because Raye's Grocery will close at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve. However, next week, the store will remain open until 9 p.m. on New Year's Eve. The grocery will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day, but open regular hours on Wednesday both weeks.

The Oberlin Herald will go to press on Monday the next two weeks for Christmas and New Year's, so deadlines for news and advertising

will be at noon on Saturday.

The papers will be on newsstands on Monday, but area subscribers will receive it in the mail on Wednesday. The office will be closed all day Tuesday, Dec. 25, and Tuesday, Jan. 1. Deadlines for ads in The Country Advocate will be noon Friday, as usual.

Mail will be delivered in town on Monday, Dec. 24, and Dec. 31. The post office will be closed all day Christmas Day and New Year's Day, and there will be no mail service either day.

Federal, state, city and county offices, as well as all banks and financial institutions, will be closed on both Tuesdays. Decatur County offices also will be closed on Monday.

Crossroads Express and Ampride convenience stores will be open regular hours on Christmas Eve,

Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

D & M Sinclair will close at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve, be closed on Christmas Day and open Dec. 26. The store will be open regular hours on New Year's Eve, closed New Year's Day and reopen Tuesday, Jan. 2.

A&W Root Beer will close at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve, be closed Christmas Day and open on Dec. 26. The restaurant will be open New Year's Eve and closed New Year's Day.

The Frontier Restaurant will close at 2 p.m. Sunday, then be closed Monday and Christmas Day. It will be open regular hours on New Year's Eve and closed New Year's Day.

Pizza Hut will close at 8 p.m. on Christmas Eve and be closed Christmas Day, but employees weren't sure about next week.

The LandMark Inn's Teller Room will be open regular hours on Saturday, with a Christmas Brunch Buffet planned from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday. Oberlin Mercantile will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday and Monday. Both will be closed Christmas Day.

The Oberlin Library will close at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve and reopen on Thursday, Dec. 27. The library will close at 3 p.m. on New Year's Eve and reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 2.

There will be no cattle sale at Oberlin Livestock Auction on Monday or New Year's Eve, Dec. 31.

Front End Liquidation Sale

Beginning Wednesday, Dec. 19

50% OFF

- * All Gifts
- * All Counter & Christmas Greeting Cards
- * All Party Goods and Gift Wrap
- * All Health & Beauty Aids

NEW PROMOTIONS:

All Boxed Christmas Cards 60% Off Full Retail Price
All Boxed Russell Stover Candies 10% Off

Prescriptions & Diabetic testing supplies will not be included in this sale

WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH TOP QUALITY PRESCRIPTION SERVICE

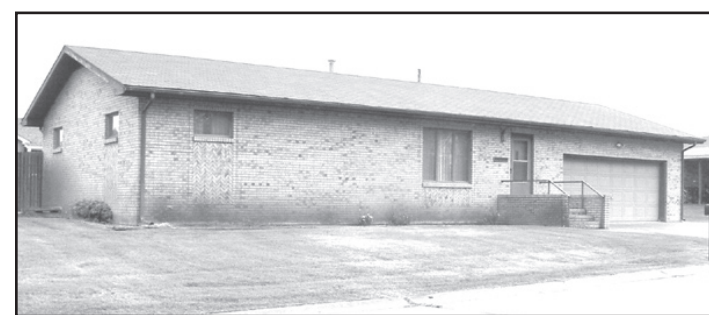
Addleman DRUG STORE

137 S Penn Ave - Oberlin, KS - 785-475-2661

GREAT FAMILY HOMES!



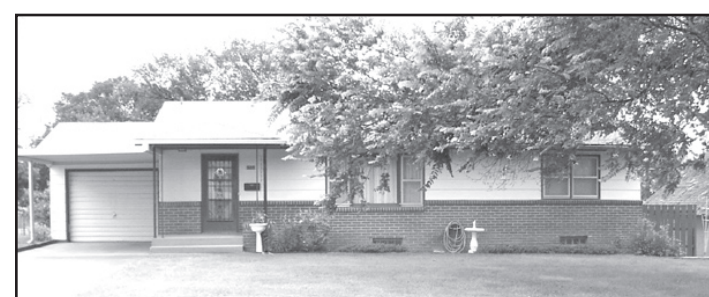
109 N. MOTT - 5 bedrooms, family room, large living room, partial basement, spacious kitchen with all appliances and adjacent dining room, main-floor laundry, oversized double car garage plus large attached, heated workshop/craft room.



804 E. ASH - 2 bedroom brick, wheel-chair accessible, large master bedroom with 2 walk-in closets, main-floor laundry, full basement, double garage.



705 E. WASHINGTON - Newly painted inside, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room, walk-out basement, oversized double car garage.



509 N. YORK - Ranch style, 4 large bedrooms, 2 baths, finished lower level, main floor laundry, single attached garage plus carport and single, detached garage.

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