

# Look inside for county's final 8 Wonders

The votes are in, with the top entries named the "8 Wonders of Decatur County."

The winners are the LandMark Inn with 40 votes, the Last Indian Rain Museum with 39, the Home-Owned Carnival with 34, Sappa Park with 29, the Pioneer Family statue with 26, the brick streets in Oberlin and the Jennings Czech Museum tied with 25 and Oberlin's downtown canopies with 22.

Look inside today's paper for a special flier with pictures and information on the winners. This also will be distributed to visitors who stop in town.

In July, the first votes were cast online and through the mail, narrowing the choices to the top 16 wonders. The nominees also included the Decatur County Fairground,

the Re-Load, the antique stores in Oberlin, Elephant Rock near Traer, the Dresser clothing store, The Gateway civic center, Elden Auker Park in Norcatum and the Last Indian Raid Monument at the cemetery in Oberlin.

The 16 were printed in the newspaper and listed online and people again had a chance to vote.

The "8 Wonders of Decatur County" is sponsored by the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp., the Oberlin Convention and Visitors Bureau, the LandMark, the Oberlin museum and the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce. *The Oberlin Herald* conducted the voting, along with the *Hays Daily News*, which is sponsoring an area-wide compilation of the county-by-county wonders.

## Week's water use stays below trigger

Water use stayed below the 750,000-gallon-a-day trigger mark every day last week, and the Oberlin City Council may consider ending water restrictions later this week.

Water users on restrictions, basically being able to water every other day, since July 16.

People with odd-numbered addresses can water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, and those with even addresses on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. No outdoor use is allowed on Mondays.

Outdoor water can be used only from midnight to 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. to midnight on the specified days. That includes watering lawns and gardens, washing cars, filling swimming pools and any other outdoor use.

The restrictions stays in effect until the council votes to lift them. A resolution to end the restrictions is on the agenda for a council meeting Thursday night.

Last week, the city pumped:

- 436,700 gallons on Monday, Aug. 18, when the high was 69 degrees.

- 399,100 gallons on Tuesday, Aug. 19, high of 79.
- 420,500 gallons last Wednesday, high of 80.
- 533,500 gallons on Thursday, high 79.
- 554,000 gallons on Friday, high 90.
- 409,000 gallons on Saturday, high 87.
- 497,000 gallons on Sunday, high 77.

## City to take action on land inheritance

The Oberlin City Council will discuss \$1 million worth of land left to the city and the Decatur County Hospital at its meeting Thursday.

The council agreed informally last Monday to sell the land after driving out to take a look at it, but didn't take a vote. The members plan to take formal action during their open meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

During a recent special meeting, the Decatur County Hospital Board

voted to sell the land.

City Administrator Gary Shike said the council also plans to talk about removing water restrictions.

Mr. Shike said the council members also will have to approve the annual revision of the uniform traffic and public offense codes, something the council does every year.

The meeting, open to the public, will be held downstairs in Room 3 at The Gateway.



## Hands painted on wall

**PRINCIPAL** Duane Dorshorst (above) helped Kylie Farr with her hand print on the white wall outside the grade school last Wednesday. Jenavive Zillinger (left) had her hand painted by Jackie Anderson. The students sign the wall with their hand prints to agree to try their best and show school pride.

—Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

## City Council takes a look at land left to Oberlin

The Oberlin City Council drove to the land left to the city and the Decatur County Hospital by Fred and Henrietta Bremer earlier this month, coming to the consensus that the city should sell it, but didn't take a vote.

The council members will talk about the land during the meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

In July, lawyer Elmo Lund and accountant Warren Bainter, who are handling the couple's estate, told the council about the land and other assets left by the couple. The

money, mostly in money-market accounts, totals around \$1 million, they said, while the land is estimated to be worth about \$966,000.

Mr. Bainter told the council that the hospital board had recommended selling the land at auction.

Did the hospital board mention any real estate agents? asked Mayor Joe Stanley. Mr. Bainter said he thought the board was going to leave that to him. He said if the two groups decide to sell, he would like to do it in November, after fall harvest and before Christmas.

Administrator Gary Shike said the council planned to go look at the land on Monday, Aug. 18. He said Mr. Bainter could go along if he wanted to.

If the city decides to keep a part or all of the land, the council and the hospital board will have to negotiate that, said Mr. Bainter. He added that he wouldn't be involved in that.

Will there be a statement of the other things in the estate? asked Councilwoman Rhonda May. The rest of it is largely in money-market accounts, Mr. Bainter said, although

there is a house and a few vehicles.

Mr. Shike said the appraisal on the land is in his office if anyone wants to see it.

## Meal site seeking temporary room

Representatives from the Golden Age Center and senior meal site asked the Oberlin City Council if the seniors could use room 3 in The Gateway for about nine months while a new senior center is being built in Oberlin.

At the commissioners meeting last Tuesday, Clerk Marilyn Horn said she received a call from Mrs. Moore who said they could use the restaurant attached to Ampride until the new year.

Helen Gee, meal site manager, said at a meeting Aug. 7 that they need somewhere to meet while the center is being torn down and the new building is built. Both the meal site and Dorothy Moore's senior group, which meets in the center, need a place to go, she said.

Mrs. Gee said she is concerned about how to get the seniors into The Gateway. Some of them won't be able to walk from the parking lot, she said, adding that maybe they could use the back door.

She said she needs to have a place by at least Oct. 1, although she isn't sure when demolition will start. It could be earlier than that.

Councilwoman Rhonda May pointed out that the seniors actually need a place by the beginning of September in case demolition starts that month. Mrs. Gee said the date apparently hasn't been set.

She said she also looked at the county ambulance barn and the

American Legion Hall. Mrs. Gee said they need a sink for preparation and to wash dishes. The group has a steam table. Sometimes, she said, they need a stove in case some of the food isn't hot enough when it gets here from the kitchen in Atwood.

There are some regularly scheduled meetings in the room on the first floor, said City Administrator Gary Shike, including the Decatur Professional Women, who meet once a month. There is no charge for use of that room, he said, unless there is a meal involved. Also, he said, there are some activities that take the whole building.

On those days, said Mrs. Gee, they can package all of the meals to be delivered to the people. The Gateway is a public building, said Mr. Shike, and this is a significant part of the population.

Have you thought of doing all "meals on wheels" during the demolition? asked Ms. May. If the group doesn't meet, Mrs. Gee replied, she thinks they will lose people.

What about Cedar Living Center, the Good Samaritan Center, Wheat Ridge Terrace or the grade school? asked Ms. May.

It could probably work out to use The Gateway, said Mayor Joe Stanley, although some days it won't. Mrs. Gee said they need the room from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., five days a week for eight to nine months. She asked about storing the steam table and possibly putting a refrigerator in the room. Mayor Stanley said the city probably would rather not since there isn't a lot of space, but they could maybe put a refrigerator somewhere else. The steam table is on wheels and can be moved, noted Councilman Rob McFee.

What if someone wants to book an event in Room No. 3? asked Councilman Ray Ward. Do we tell them no?

Mr. Shike said he and Chris Ward, Gateway operational manager, had just started to discuss the idea.

The council didn't make any decision.

## Power out in downtown

Power went out in parts of Oberlin about 6:30 p.m. Monday, but the city crew reset switches at the power plant and had most users back on in about five minutes.

City Foreman Dan Castle said he wasn't sure what had tripped the breakers, but expected to find out

later. The area affected included downtown, the south side and a strip north to U.S. 36, he said.

Some businesses on the east side of downtown had only partial power until another breaker was reset a few minutes later.

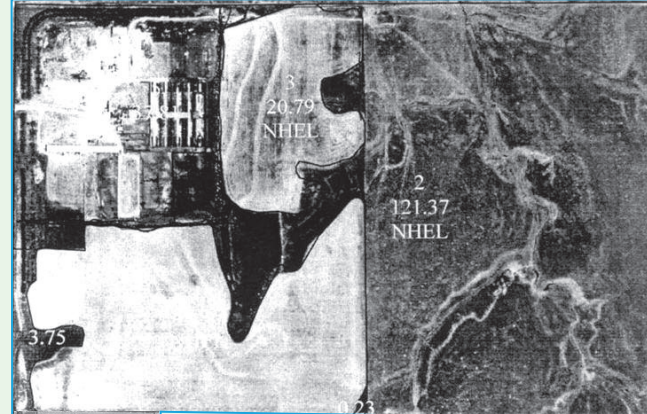
## Decatur County Land Auction

(243 +/- Acres)

Thurs., Sept. 4, 2008

10:30 a.m.

Sellers: Michael J. and Linda L. Spresser



**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) less a tract of land with improvements (38 +/- Acres) and the West One-half of the Southeast Quarter (W1/2 SE1/4), all in Section Twenty-five (25), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-nine (29), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County, Kansas.

A tract of land in the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section Thirty-six (36), Township Five (5), Range Twenty-nine (29), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County, Kansas.

**SALE LOCATION:** Selden Community Building, Selden, Kansas

**ORDER OF SALE:** Land will sell all in one tract. One half of minerals will be sold on all tracts, then offered with the land. One half of minerals reserved by sellers for 15 years or as long as production exists.

**TAXES:** 2007 - \$419.14

**POSSESSION:** At closing with a right to enter for farming purposes on crop land; October 1, 2008 on grassland. All crop land is wheat stubble.

**TERMS:** The successful bidders will pay 10% down day of sale, balance at closing with certified funds due upon approval of title. Closing on or before October 4, 2008.

**FSA Information:**

Total crop land	82.8	Balance grass land	
Wheat base	20.8	Direct yield - 33	C.C. yield - 32
Corn bases	41.5	Direct yield - 49	C.C. yield - 56

**AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:** This land is easily accessible, located along Highway 83. Crop land is very productive and the grassland has not been over-grazed. The survey will be completed by sale day on the tract being withheld.

**AGENCY:** Johnson Realty, Inc. and its agents are representing the sellers and not the buyers.

To view this property, call:  
**Lynn Johnson,**  
**(785) 475-2785**

or Lynn's cell  
**(785) 475-8514**

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT: [www.johnson-real-estate.com](http://www.johnson-real-estate.com)

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