



Crowd enjoys games

GETTING READY TO PLAY Turkey Bingo on Sunday in the basement of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Oberlin. Jane Letourneau (above) had her card and was ready to go while her mother, Wendi, was still visiting. Picking the right card was a stretch for Troy Juenemann (right). The Knights of Columbus drew the numbers.

— Herald staff photos by Cynthia Haynes



City holding administrator interviews

The Oberlin City Council did the first of four interviews with candidates for the city administrator's job on Friday.

The council held the first interview on Friday and then scheduled one for Monday and one for Tuesday this week. The fourth interview is planned for Monday of next week, Dec. 1.

All of the interviews are being done at The Gateway in closed session.

A handout prepared by the League of Kansas Municipalities, which has been helping the council with the selection process, gives a small biography on the four:

- Craig Zins, who has a bachelor's from Earlham College and master's

degree in public administration from the University of Cincinnati. He recently worked in the City of Green, Ohio, as public service director.

- Austin Gilley, who has a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's in public administration from the University of Oklahoma. He recently worked as deputy director of Oklahoma's state Merit

Protection Commission.

- Richard Herbel, who served in the Navy for 30 years and has experience in various areas of city government. He is city administrator in Sainte Genevieve, Mo.

- Julie McCoy, who has a bachelor's degree from Briar Cliff University and a master's in public administration from Drake University. She is a senior executive assistant for the Northern Natural Gas Co.

Woman picks winners for football contest

This week brings us to the end of the Pigskin Pick-em Contest, and Valisha Raile of Oberlin was the only person to guess all eight winners right.

She won first place and \$15 in scrip.

Seven people guessed seven correct winners, with two of those four points off the tie-breaker. A coin toss was used to determine second and third places.

Travis Raile, Oberlin, Valisha's husband, won the coin toss for second place and \$10 in scrip. Ivis Hanson, Oberlin, won third place and \$5.

The others guessing seven winners were Steve Vontz, McCook; Gary Anderson and Mabel Zimmerman, Oberlin; Mary Kinser, Jennings; and Cheri Kastens, Herndon.

Owen Wilson of Oberlin picked six. Three people picking five right were Ron Solko, Kimberly Solko and Todd Ketterl of Oberlin.

Amanda Adams of Danbury picked three.

This was the last week for the promotion. People can pick up this week's scrip money and past weeks' at *The Oberlin Herald* office. Winners only have until Dec. 26 to pick up the money and until Dec. 31 to spend it.

- This week's scores:
- K-State over Iowa State, 38-30.
 - Oklahoma Sooners over Texas Tech, 65-21.
 - Ohio State over Michigan, 42-7.
 - West Virginia over Louisville, 35-21.
 - Purdue over Indiana, 62-10.
 - Buffalo Bills over Kansas City, 54-31.
 - Chicago Bears over St. Louis Rams, 27-3.
 - New York Jets over Seattle, 34-13.
 - Tie-breaker: Dallas Cowboys over San Francisco 49ers, 35-22.

Flu shots still available

If you haven't yet had a flu shot, the Decatur County Health Department has about 80 left.

It isn't too late to get a one, said Health Administrator Marilyn Gamblin. Flu season goes from December to March, she said, and the shots take two weeks to go into effect. Actually, she said, people can have the shots into January.

So far this year, said Ms. Gamblin, the department has given 580 shots, with about 170 of those on election day at The Gateway during the "Vote and Vax" campaign.

People over 65 should get one,

she said, as should those with a compromised immune system, kids from 6 months up to 18 and people with diabetes or a heart or lung problem. In the past, the shots were recommended for kids from 6 months to age 3, but that's been increased, she said.

The shots cost \$25 each, said Ms. Gamblin. The health department will bill Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Medicare.

Anyone interested in getting one should call the department at 475-8118.

student of the week



Name: Alejandra Ortiz
Parent: Debra Lohofener
Grade: 11
Age: 17

We've nominated this student because: Alejandra Ortiz is a junior at Oberlin High School. Alejandra, in this past week, I can tell has put in a lot of her time to work on class work. Not only did Alejandra work hard, so she would do well in class, she has been active in class and helping her classmates get ready for a big test. Alex did very well

and she should be proud of herself for the time and effort she put into working and then the final results. Not only does Alex have school to work on she has a job at the Drug store that she has been working at for about 3 years.

Student Comment: I am so excited to be selected for Student of the Week. High school is awesome and I feel honored to have been chosen.

Activities involved in at school: Spanish club, Kayettes, Stuco and TACT.

My choice of movies, books, and games: I enjoy any type of scary movie as well as books. I love to play competitive sports like volleyball, dodgeball and softball.

After I leave Decatur Community High School I intend to ...: I plan to attend college. Major in either Elementary education or nursing.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: Done with college, having a good job and hopefully starting a family of my own.

Favorite Quote: "If you are wanting to find new oceans, you must be willing to lose sight of the shore"

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No agreement on wind ordinance reached by council

By **KIMBERLY DAVIS**
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The Oberlin City Council again put off a decision on an ordinance allowing people to install wind generators after three motions died Thursday.

Two were voted down, while the third died for a lack of a second. It was the third meeting at which a decision on the idea has been delayed.

One reason for the opposition is a fear by some council members that the city will be forced to raise taxes if people start to generate much of their own power. Today, operations from The Gateway to street repairs are financed with utility profits.

The council has looked at and discussed the wind-power ordinance several times. Copied from one used by the City of Colby, it has been tweaked several times over the last few months.

If the council doesn't want to have a wind-power ordinance, said Councilwoman Rhonda May, then don't do it. She attacked the idea of limiting power production to a small part of a home or businesses' total consumption.

To say that a person can only do 20 percent of the "annualized/averaged monthly normal usage through a customer's single meter" is the same as saying that a person's middle name has to be Agatha in order to put up a wind turbine, she said. If the city doesn't want wind, she said, then just say no.

So you're saying 70 percent is OK? asked Councilman Ray Ward. People can produce 70 percent, even it that means the city may have to raise taxes to make up for lower utility bills.

"In my mind," said Ms. May, "this isn't encouragement for wind energy. Say that the city encourages wind, but then only allows 20 percent. That is actually discouragement."

The decrease in what comes in through the electric department will be small, said Ms. May, at least for several years.

Councilwoman Marcia Lohofener said she doesn't think people want wind towers in residential areas for safety reasons.

The ordinance does say where and how tall towers can be, based on current zoning ordinances.

If someone owned a couple of lots, said Mayor Stanley, they could put a 35 foot tower in the center of the lot.

The city shouldn't penalize people who don't have towers by increasing their electric rates, said Councilman Jay Anderson.

There aren't very many people

who will probably put in wind towers, said Ms. May, because of the cost to put one in and the relatively low savings.

City Foreman Dan Castle said he liked the idea of starting at a low percentage of total use and then working up. That would be better than starting too, he said. There are also safety issues, said Mr. Castle. Even with just one wind turbine, there will always be the question of whether it's feeding into the grid when lines are down.

The members said that the people who put in the wind turbines would have to put in the appropriate switches and safety features for the interconnect.

Mr. Ward made a motion to change the 70 percent now in the ordinance to 20 percent and then send the ordinance to the planning commission, as required by the city zoning code.

Dr. Anderson seconded the motion to change the percentage to 20. Both Mr. Ward and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of it, while Ms. May, Mrs. Lohofener and Mr. McFee cast "no" votes.

Mr. McFee asked about safety. Mr. Castle said even with the switches, it's still a problem not knowing if the turbine is feeding into the grid when the crew thinks everything is off. He added that he doesn't think the city has a say in the design. Mr. McFee said he thinks the city does.

If 20 percent is such an issue, go to 30 or 40 percent, said Mr. Castle. He added that he thinks 70 percent is too high.

This is all still an unknown, said Mrs. Lohofener, because it's all so new. She said she is for wind power, but against the ordinance. She said she would be surprised if most citizens want a wind turbine in their back yards.

"Where are we at?" asked Mayor Stanley.

"An impasse," said Ms. May.

"No, we either kill or change the number and vote again," said Mr. McFee, who made a motion to increase the percentage to 40 percent. That motion died for lack of a second.

Then the council should kill it, said Mr. McFee, because otherwise it will be discussed over and over again. What if the council adopts the Colby ordinance verbatim, without the percentage? asked Mr. Castle.

Ms. May made a motion to approve the ordinance, taking out the sentence about the percentage.

Both she and Mr. McFee voted in favor of it. Mr. Ward, Dr. Anderson and Mrs. Lohofener voted no.

The conversation ended with the ordinance still on the table.

student of the week



Name: Ashley Horton
Parent: Dalene Horton
Grade: 11
Age: 16

We've nominated this student because: Very consci-

entious student. Leader in forensics, music and in the classroom. Varsity volleyball player. Excellent attitude in all that she does. Involved in community service activities. Sets high goals for herself and challenges herself to achieve them. Excellent role model for the youth of our community.

Student Comment: I think this is such an honor because I work hard to achieve my goals I set.

Activities involved in at school: Volleyball, Basketball, Forensics, DCHS Singers, Spanish Club, TACT, Kayettes, Musical, plays and National Honor Society.

My choice of movies, books, and games: Books: Twilight series. Loves to play card games, suspenseful movies.

After I leave Decatur Community High School I intend to ...: Attend college

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: married and a successful business woman.

Favorite Quote: "This too shall pass."

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