

County OKs use of paper folder

The Decatur County commissioners gave the OK for officials from the City of Oberlin to use the county's paper folder at the courthouse.

Clerk Colleen Geihlster said she received a phone call from someone with the city who asked about the paper folder. They said they would have someone come in and learn how to use it and then be responsible for folding the city's items.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said he thought that was OK as long as the person is trained to run it. He said he didn't think the county should charge them anything, with the idea that if there ever has to be maintenance on the machine, possibly the city will help then.

Ms. Geihlster said an employee asked her about the county cafeteria plan for employee benefits. She said it's her understanding that employees can't put money in the plan unless they have worked for the county for a year. She said she called Corporate Plan Management and they said that an employee can join on the first of the month after hiring, but she will need to keep track of the anniversary date.

It's the employee's money and if they want to put it in a cafeteria plan it's up to them, said Mr. Unger. The county match though, he said, won't kick in until Jan. 1, unless the employee is an elected official, then it starts when they are sworn in.

The commissioners approved allowing employees to join the plan as soon as possible.

Commissioner Gene Gallentine said he got a call from Marjorie Hartzog from Jennings who asked about a county-wide American Red Cross drive.

Mr. Unger said he wasn't aware of one in the past.

Mr. Gallentine said she asked if the county would be in support of the project. He said he suggested that she get some information and get on the commissioner agenda. They talked with Sheriff Ken Badsky about holding prisoners on parole for the state. In the past the county received \$20 a day from the state to hold the prisoners. The Department of Corrections rate is \$67.15 a day. The commissioners suggested getting the paperwork to Mr. Hirsch for him to check.

In other business, the commis-

County roundup

At the meeting last Tuesday, the Decatur County commissioners:

- Talked with a local Mason about a cornerstone ceremony for the new senior center, bowling alley and movie theater. Story to come.
- Gave the OK for officials from the City of Oberlin to use the county's paper folder at the courthouse. Story at left.
- Asked the weed-control director to get some prices for a fork lift or other machinery for the recycling department. Story to come.

sioners:

- Commissioner Stan McEvoy said the county had a check for Brian Hileman for some work done at the ambulance barn. He asked if they should hold it against a business micro-loan that he owes. County Attorney Steve Hirsch asked them to make him a copy of the check and he will check to make sure there is no bankruptcy.
- Received a request from Fire Chief Bill Cathcart to join the county health insurance program. The county doesn't offer insurance to part-time employees, even though Mr. Cathcart has offered to pay for the insurance out of his check.
- Heard the paper copies for the asbestos testing for the former Golden Age center are in the mail. They will have to be mailed to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
- Agreed to mail a check for \$22,600 to R&S Digital for the work the company did with the Enhanced 911 addressing system.
- Held a 10 minute closed session for non-elected personnel with the commissioners, clerk and noxious weed director. There was no action taken.
- Held a 20 minute closed session for non-elected personnel with the commissioners. There was no action taken.

Weather class to start

With storm season quickly approaching, anyone who wants to learn about tornadoes, severe storms and the warning signs for dangerous weather can attend a training class next Wednesday.

The weather spotter training class, organized by the National Weather Service, will start at 6:30

p.m. next Wednesday at The Gateway. Anyone interested is welcome to attend the free class.

Jacque Boultinghouse, county emergency preparedness director, says Kansas reported 187 tornadoes last year. Sheridan, Gove and Trego counties had 12 tornadoes each, the most any county had last year.

student of the week



Name: Baron Green
Parent: Gail Cathcart and Dave Green
Grade: 7
Age: 13
We've nominated this student because: He comes to class every day with a lot of energy and a desire to enter into class discussion. He really seems to enjoy school and

wants to participate. Baron participates in many Junior High sports and activities.

Student Comment: I appreciate being chosen for the student of the week. Thank you.

Activities involved in at school: I am involved in football, basketball, track and band.

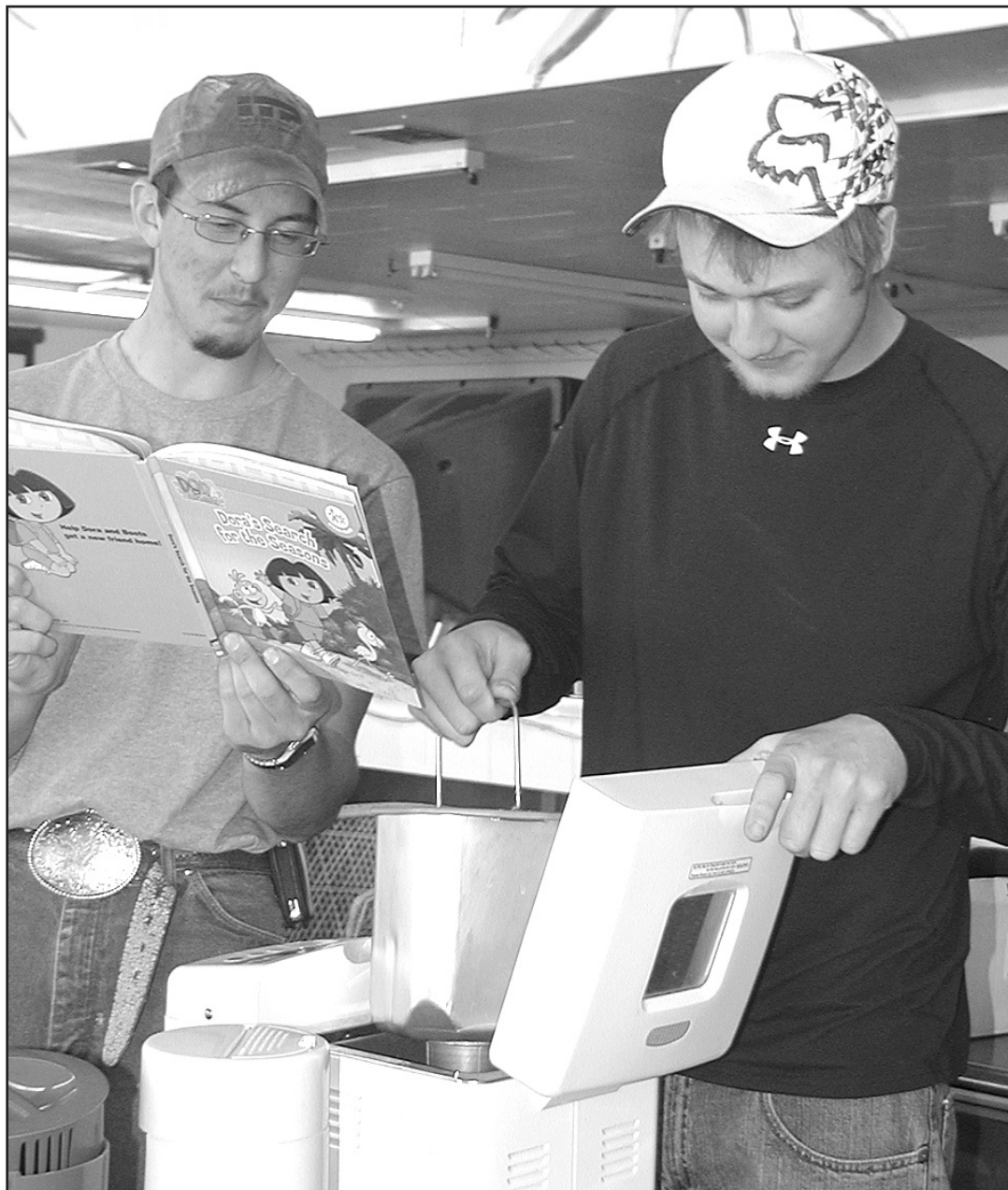
My choice of movies, books, and games: I like action movies. I like medieval books and trivia games.

After I leave Decatur Community High School I intend to ...: Possibly go to WyoTech Race school.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: I would hopefully like to open a hot rod shop.

Favorite Quote: "Work hard and you can accomplish anything."

Checking out the merchandise



WORKING AT THE FFA GARAGE SALE on Saturday, John Meitl (left) checked out a Dora the Explorer children's book while Ryan McEvoy tried to figure out how to use a bread machine.

— Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

Alumni will need own box

The Oberlin School Board will not allow the alumni association to use the district mailing address.

Pete Zander, president of the Decatur Community High School Alumni Association, had asked if the group could use the district's address instead of a post office box, then the group's secretary or treasurer could get the checks and reservations from the mail at the district office.

Mr. Zander said he understood that the board might have some concerns about having outside money in the office. The idea, he said, is that the school district personnel would drop the alumni mail into a box and association officers could come process it.

Mr. Zander added that it would be kind of a checks and balance thing.

School Board President Dewayne Jackson asked how there would be any accountability if someone just comes in and picks up the mail.

The alumni secretary would come in and make a reservation list, said Mr. Zander, and then the treasurer would come and get the checks.

Mr. Jackson noted that the district office is getting calls about the alumni banquet already.

The post office box rent wasn't paid for at the beginning of the year so some of the reservations were sent back, said Mr. Zander.

Member Chris Bailey said he was concerned about the extra work for the district secretaries.

"The district phone number won't be used," said Mr. Zander. "It will just be the address."

Although he said he can see the advantages, Mr. Jackson said he didn't think it was a good idea. Mrs. Olson agreed, adding that she wants to work with the alumni association, but doesn't want more work for the staff or checks sitting in the office.

Member Jerry Chambers agreed, adding that the post office is probably the safest place for the checks.

City to continue work on water plant

The Oberlin City Council plans to continue discussion on a water treatment plant at its meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

At recent meetings, the council has talked about the idea of a reverse osmosis plant and to possibly pull water from the Dakota Aquifer instead of the Ogallala Aquifer.

Administrator Austin Gilley said

the council will also continue discussions about replacing the roof at The Gateway as well as work on the heating and air conditioning there.

He said someone with the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp. will be at the meeting requesting support for the new Golden Age Center and possibly asking for an electric allow-

ance. In the past, the city has given Sunflower Cinema \$100 a month free electricity.

Mr. Gilley said he also has some information about a customer service satisfaction survey.

The meeting is open to the public.

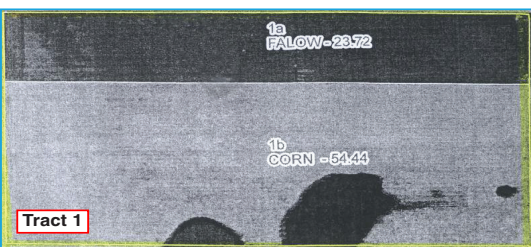
Decatur & Sheridan County Land Auction

560 (+/-) Acres Farmland
Monday, March 30, 2009 - 10 a.m.

For more information or to view this property, call:
Lynn A. Johnson,
Johnson Realty, Inc.,
Office: (785) 475-2785
 or Lynn's cell (785) 475-8514

SALE LOCATION: Jennings Community Building, Jennings, Kansas

Sellers: Elwood G. Brock Trust and Trilba P. Brock Trust



AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:
 The Brocks have decided to sell part of their land. This land is very productive and lays as good as any in Decatur County and Sheridan County.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Tract 1: The North One-half of the Northeast Quarter (N1/2NE1/4), Section Five (5), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-six (26), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County.

Tract 2: The West One-half (W1/2), Section Twenty (20), Township Six (6) South, Range Twenty-six (26), West of the 6th P.M., Sheridan County, Kansas.

Tract 3: The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4), Section Twelve (12), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-seven (27), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County, Kansas.

ORDER OF SALE: Tract 1, Tract 2 and Tract 3.

EVIDENCE OF TITLE: Sellers will provide title insurance in the amount of purchase price. Buyers and Sellers will share equally in title insurance and closing costs.

ACRES: Acres are approximate and are from reliable sources. FSA measurements may not be the same as deeded acres.

EASEMENTS: This sale is subject to all right-of-ways and easements, whether recorded or not, and to all oil and gas leases of record.

TERMS: Buyers will pay 10% down at signing of contracts. Balance due at closing with certified funds, on or before April 30, 2009.

INSPECTIONS: Potential bidders are responsible to conduct their own inspections.

MINERALS: All sellers' interest going to buyer on Tract 1 and Tract 3. Mineral reservation of 20 years on all minerals on Tract 2.

CROPS: Sellers are retaining 34.2 acres planted wheat on Tract 3, SW1/4 of 12-5-27 and 76.2 acres on Tract 2, W1/2 of 20-6-26.

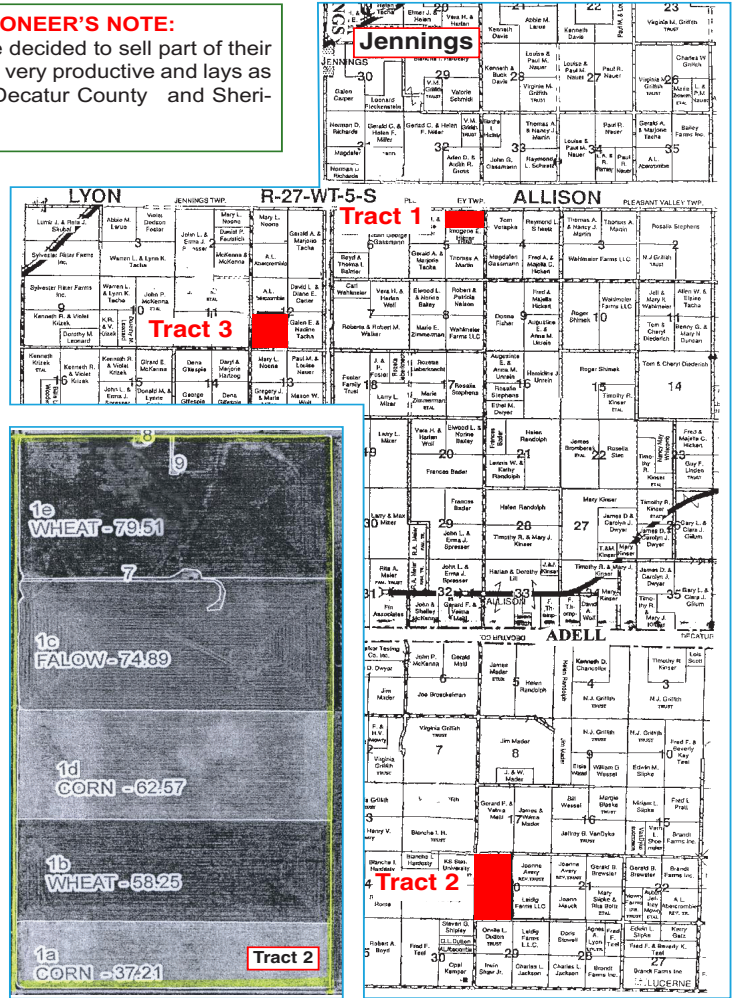
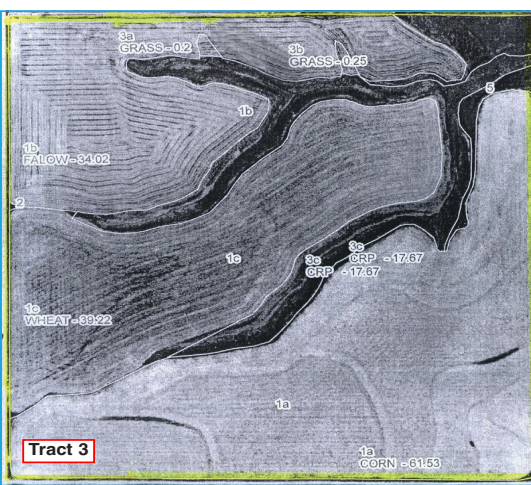
TAXES:
 Tract 1 - \$261.72
 Tract 2 - \$973.93
 Tract 3 - \$409.62

Sellers will pay 2008 and prior years. Buyers pay 2009 and subsequent years.

Sellers, Johnson Realty, Inc. and its agents are making no warranties about the property, either expressed or implied.

AGENCY: Johnson Realty, Inc. is acting as agent for the Sellers with the duty to represent the Sellers and not the Buyers.

Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed material.



| FSA Information | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|------|--------------|------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Tract | Farmland Acres | Cropland Acres | CRP | DCP Cropland | Wheat Base | Yield | Grain Sorghum Base | Yield |
| Tract 1 N 1/2 NE 1/4 of 5-5-26, Decatur County | 78.2 | 78.2 | | | 55.3 | 35 | 14.8 | 41 |
| Tract 2 W 1/2 of 20-6-26, Sheridan County | 312.4 | 312.4 | | | 172.0 | 39 | 45.7 | 49 |
| Tract 3 SW 1/4 of 12-5-27, Decatur County | 157.8 | 152.9 | 17.6 | 135.3 | 82.1 | 39 | 5.6 | 49 |

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