



**BRIAN SIMONSSON**, bus transportation supervisor, donated blood last Wednesday to help meet the Red Crosses goal of 80 pints.

## School sponsors annual blood drive

By GATLIN REICHERT

Nearly 250 lives could be saved with the blood collected at the Fourth Annual Decatur Community High School Blood Drive held on Nov. 11, at the high school gym.

The Oberlin Student Council, National Honor Society and FFA organized and volunteered at the event, starting at 7 a.m. and ending around 4:30 p.m.

Stuco and NHS members worked as receptionists and donor escorts and also helped the Red Cross set up and tear down.

The FFA members prepared the

food, including chili and sandwiches, and manned the canteen all day.

Twenty people gave blood for the first time, most of whom were Oberlin students. Donors have to be 17 years old, but anyone 16 can give blood as long as they have permission from a parent.

Eighty pints of blood were collected, which met the goal of 80 set by the Red Cross.

Thank you to all of the volunteers, Red Cross workers, and especially all of those who gave blood.



**STANDING IN FRONT** of the Noun Tree, fourth graders Lily Marine and Cassidy Gillespie, show how they are learning about nouns.

## Fall into autumn with our noun tree

By LILY MARINE and CASSIDY GILLESPIE

Everyday for the last week the fourth graders have been learning about nouns. We have started our awesome noun tree. After learning about the different types of nouns we add falling leaves with nouns on our tree.

First, we learned about plural nouns and now we can't wait to learn about possessive nouns. We always look forward to do language because we love nouns and adding falling leaves to our noun tree. We can't wait until Monday to learn about more nouns.

## Music students represent school in Honor groups

By SARAH BRICKER

Several music students represented our school Saturday, Nov. 7, in Hays. The students were selected to participate in the Kansas Music Educator's Association Junior High Honor Band, Choir, or High School Honor Jazz Band by submitting an audition. Many students throughout the Northwest portion of the state also auditioned and participated in the music events.

The students representing our school for KMEA Junior High Honor Choir were Haley Schiessler, Sierra Lohofener, Emma Borton, Molly Jansonius, Morgan Jan-

sonius, McKenna O'Hare, Ben Glading, Caleb Koerperich, Jude Walinder, Nick Ashley, and Ganon Henningson.

KMEA Junior High Band members were Hannah May, flute; Grace Randel, flute; Rebecca Wentz, clarinet; Regent Erickson, alto saxophone; and Justin Gee, trombone.

KMEA High School Jazz Band members were Joe Hirsch, alto saxophone; Tiffany Anderson, bari saxophone; Nolan Henningson, trumpet; Katie Glading, trombone; and Matt Glading, trombone.

These students spent their Saturday rehearsing with a guest clinician and finished the day with a concert.

## Students earn 12 awards

By DUANE DORSHORST

District and school "Report Cards" were released by the State Board of Education last week. USD #294 schools and students earned twelve "Standard of Excellence" awards in the areas of reading, math, and writing.

Decatur Community Junior/Senior High School earned building wide "Standard of Excellence" awards in both reading and math. Oberlin Elementary School earned the building wide "Standard of Excellence" award in reading and narrowly missed it in math.

Individual classes making "Standard of Excellence" were Third grade math, Fourth grade math and reading, Fifth grade math and reading, Eleventh grade math and reading, and eleventh grade writing.

You can see the full report card by visiting the Kansas State Department of Education website at [www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org). On the pull down menu, choose "Building Report Cards." You can then view the report cards of any school or district in the state. By choosing Decatur County, you can view our district entire report card.

## School Menus

November 23 - 27  
OBERLIN SCHOOLS

**Monday:** Breakfast: Breakfast bites. Lunch: Poor man's steak, mashed potatoes. **Tuesday:** Breakfast: Waffle, ham pattie. Lunch: Chicken pattie sandwich, tater tots. **Wednesday:** No school. **Thursday:** No school. **Friday:** No school.

Fruit served with all breakfasts; choice bar served with all lunches. Milk served with all meals.



Voice of Decatur Community High School

# Decatur Dictator

By the DCHS Dictator Staff

25TH ANNUAL

## Christmas Crafts Expo

Thanksgiving weekend with new longer hours!

Friday, 9am - 9pm, Saturday, 10am - 7pm,  
**November 27th and November 28th**

Century II Convention Center, Expo Hall

\* FREE shuttle bus service from Lawrence-Dumont Stadium

[pridecraftshows.com](http://pridecraftshows.com) • Advance Tickets at [wichitatix.com](http://wichitatix.com)

**\$5** Children, 12 & under, FREE with an adult.



## Are you looking for a good job?

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The Oberlin Herald is looking excellent customer service skills for a full-time advertising with attention to detail. Send executive to sell advertising for a letter and resume to Cynthia Nor'West Newspapers. The work Haynes, publisher, at 170 S. week would be 40 hours with Penn, Oberlin, Kansas., 67749 or occasional evening and weekend c.haynes@nwkansas.com. This duties. Computer skills helpful could be the job you've been but not necessary. Must have looking for. good communication skills, and

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## LONGNECKER JEWELRY AWARDED "America's Best Jeweler"

By: Gabriel Jackson-General Issue

Bill Longnecker has finally had all his hard work pay off. Bill Longnecker, owner of Longnecker Jewelry, received one of the most coveted National Awards in the Jewelry Retailer Profession. The National Jeweler Network awarded Bill Longnecker with "The America's Best Jeweler Award." Longnecker was one out of twenty seven to receive this award and with a total of 56,000 Jewelers nationwide, Longnecker had to be doing something right. Earlier this year he was sent a survey inquiring details about his business, financials, overall knowledge of his product, and everything in between. "I have been so busy, I hardly had time to fill out the information and send it

in, and since I am now fully equipped to do custom designed jewelry, I have been serving a wider region than just the tri-state area." Longnecker explains. Nevertheless, he still took the time and sent the information back. The next thing he saw was an award in an email message. "I was in disbelief", says Longnecker regarding his award. The National Jeweler Magazine, the media network that distributes the award selected Bill because of his outstanding performance in the following categories: Market segment penetration, Efficient business operation, Solid financial practices, Effective marketing and sales strategies, and High customer satisfaction. These are all traits

which are typical of good bench Jewelers. "I am a bench Jeweler. I create, design, carve my own waxes and cast jewelry all in house which makes it very time consuming and delicate work. I do most of my work with people in and outside the area looking for custom designs. Not all Jewelers are created equal. It's a different ball game than simple retail, it requires me to be involved in both sides of my profession, and I love it". Longnecker plans for a few updates in his design studio to better serve his customers needs for specialized jewelry, "but that will be a bit down the road." he says. "My drive and passion is designing jewelry and serving our area's needs."