

Alley needs cash

Donations still needed

Money or grain donations are still needed to finish the new bowling alley on Main Street, the last installment of the new recreation and senior center downtown.

The sponsors are almost halfway to the \$150,000 needed to complete the project, which occupies the northern third of the center.

Greg Lohofener, with the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp., said they have raised \$60,300 for the project this fall, but still need about \$90,000.

At the beginning of September, the corporation launched a drive to raise the needed money by the end of the month, with the hopes of opening the bowling alley at the end of November or the beginning of December.

While the end of September has come and gone, the corporation isn't giving up. Backers are still pushing to raise the \$150,000.

The \$60,300 that's already been raised includes a \$500 grant that Kem Bryan and Shayla Williby applied for to buy bowling shoes, he said.

Mr. Lohofener said he thinks the women have applied for two more grants, including another one for shoes, which he thought was for \$500, and one for an underground ball return, which he thought was for \$10,000.

There's also been a few donations of grain at area elevators. Farmers can donate grain at the Decatur Co-op, Hansen Mueller or the Hi Plains Co-op. Some people have told him they are going to donate grain, but it's not been done yet. Others have made cash donations.

Anyone who wants to donate can contact him at 475-3322 or Connie Grafel, marketing director for the group, at 475-2901.

School collects receipts

With the help of customers turning in their receipts from Raye's Grocery, Oberlin Elementary School was able to purchase new dye cuts, balls, books, games, instruments, a digital camera and other goodies.

Kirk Brown, owner of the store, signed the school up for the program, said Mory Zodrow, with the store. Each item is worth a certain amount of points.

The school sent in \$358,311 in register receipts, which earned the staff 246,155 points to shop with.

With the points, said secretary Carla Depperschmidt, the school was able to buy 11 Ellison dye cuts, one Ellison dye cut storage carousel, a density tube for science classes, six MacGregor basketballs, a Heximania board game, a paper shredder, five soccer balls, a set of Boomwhackers tuned percussion tubes, six Voit playground balls, balloon car race science experiments, a Chunks board game, a Nikon Coolpix digital camera, geometric solids kits, a Yamaha Rhythm Hand drum set, six MacGregor footballs, four books and a note pad.

The grade school is collecting the register receipts again this year. Shoppers can turn the receipts in at the grade school or in the box at Raye's.

Mrs. Depperschmidt said the school will be collecting the receipts until the end of March.



IN THE PARADE on Saturday, Lilly Rippe (top), dressed as Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, rode on the Pauls Funeral Home float. Dwayne Jones (center photo) drove his antique Ford. Shirley Ward, who works at Cedar Living Center, (below right) and Donna Eskew, a former member of the the nursing staff, rode on the Decatur County Hospital float.

— Herald photos by Kimberly Davis and Sarah Fredrickson

125th draws a crowd

City celebrates 125th birthday

Crowds gathered at 15 events on Saturday to celebrate the City of Oberlin's 125th Anniversary.

For the past six months or more, a committee has met monthly at the Last Indian Rain Museum to talk about ideas and ways to celebrate the city's quasiquintennial.

What those meetings boiled down to was a few events, including a vintage baseball game, a community band concert and others scattered through the year and one day packed with fun things for the whole family in the fall.

The group decided to combine this with the museum's annual Mini Sapa Day celebration. Things started bright and early Saturday morning at the Old Bohemian Hall with a pancake feed and entertainment.

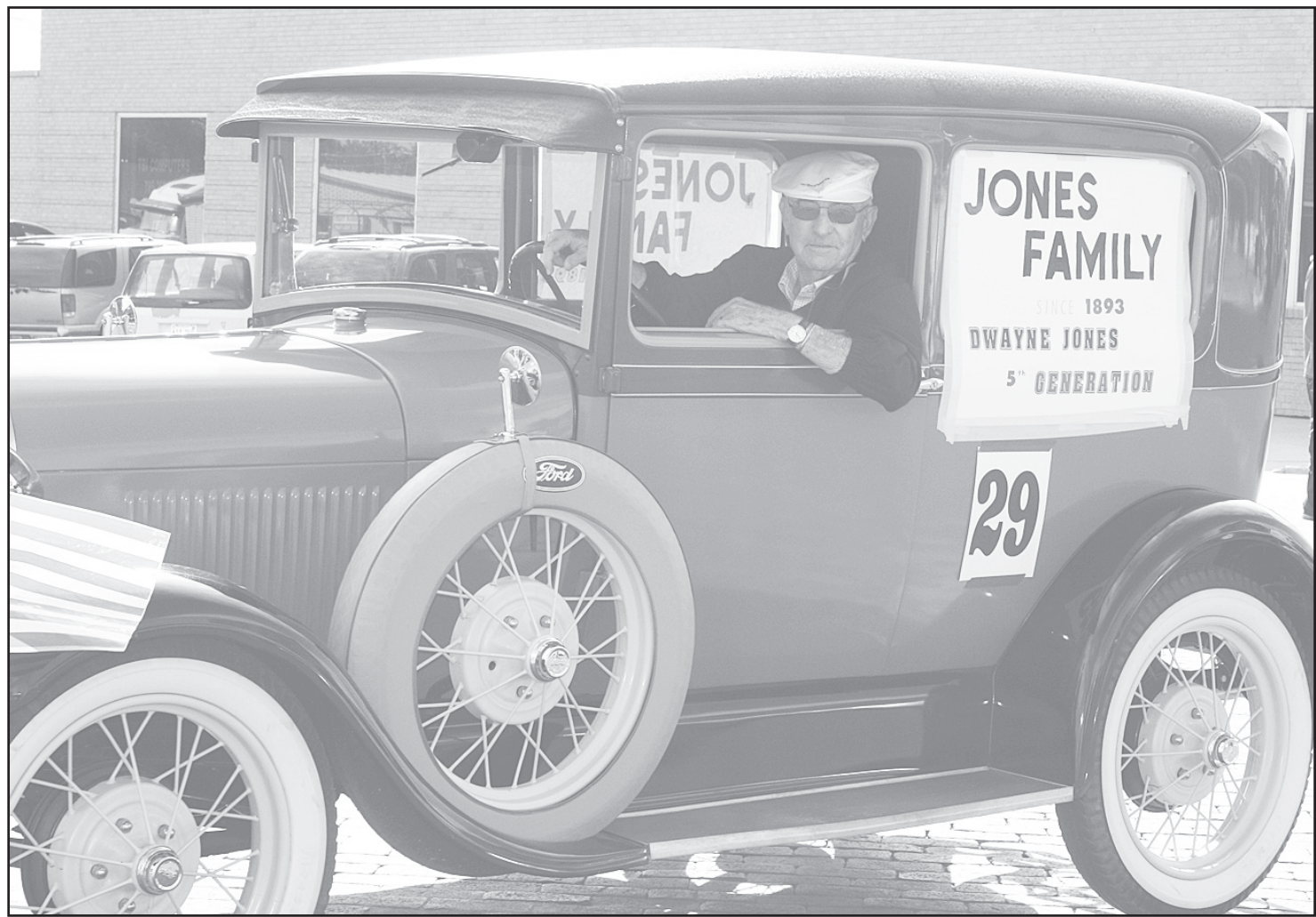
Director Sharleen Wurm said they were thrilled with the turn out at breakfast and lunch. She said they thought that had a lot to do with the entertainment including the DCHS Singers, the melodrama and the Prairie Statesmen.

The museum had just short of 100 people tour it in the two hours it was open Saturday afternoon.

All of the events seemed to be on schedule, she said. The whole day went wonderful.

Throughout the day, there were things to do around town, including a parade, Indian dancers, a trail ride, a quilt show, performances and free admission to the museum.

The parade drew 58 entries, said Gary Walter, who served on the committee. He said he thought



it had gone well. He said he was pleased with the participation and the uniqueness of the entries.

The Pollnow-Addleman family, descendants of pioneers whose drug store closed last year after 106 years in family ownership, followed the United States flag as the grand marshals of the parade.

There were hand made floats, generations of family members, kids walking and riding, horses and much more on parade. Everyone seemed to be having fun, said Mr. Walter.

After the parade, the Little Sun Drum and Dance Group did the first of three performances that day.

Throughout the day, the quilt show drew people in and out of the Golden Age Center. Ruth Miesner said about 300 people came to see the 150 modern and (See CITY on Page 10A)



Homecoming events set for this week

It's time to put on a red shirt and support the football team during Homecoming events this week.

Students at Decatur Community High School will take part in Spirit Week.

There will be a window-decorating contest, and students will build floats that will be judged during the annual parade on Friday.

At 8 p.m. Thursday, the school will have the traditional bonfire and pep assembly. Students will gather in front of the school and then head to the bonfire south of the Penn Av-

enue location of Hansen-Mueller, south of the railroad tracks.

The Homecoming queen and king will be crowned at an assembly at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the high school. Queen candidates are Jori Diederich, Jordan Dreher, Sara Kyte and Rachele Scott. King candidates are Keithen Fortin, Jacob Larue, Nolan Peters and Dakota Soderlund.

Football coach J.D. Johnson will speak, along with the 10-year queen, Andrea Bailey, and Todd Ketterl, the athlete of the past.

The parade on Main Street will

follow at 2:30 p.m., including the class floats, band and king and queen candidates.

That night, the Red Devils will take on the Rawlins County Buffaloes at 7 p.m. at Smick Field.

The Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce plans a Tailgate Party beginning at 5:30 p.m. behind the stadium. The events will wrap up Saturday when the students will hold their Homecoming dance from 8 to 11 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Second applicant offered city position

The Oberlin City Council has offered the city administrator's position to one of the applicants interviewed last week and is waiting for a call back.

Mayor Joe Stanley said the council interviewed five applicants on the phone and then narrowed it down to three face-to-face interviews.

Those three were Phillip Rodriguez, Joe Gaa and Andrea Curtis. The mayor said the council offered the job to Mr. Rodriguez, who turned it down.

Mayor Stanley said the council met in closed session Friday night and offered the job to another applicant. He said they haven't heard anything back yet.

Commissioners hear road-crew happenings

The Decatur County road and bridge supervisor filled commissioners in on what the crew has been working on in the past week at their meeting last Tuesday.

Supervisor Tim Stallman said the county crane had been set up at Decatur County Hospital to help put in a new chiller unit.

The crew ripped up the parking lot on the south side of the Oberlin Clinic, dealt with some of the potholes and reset the rock. Mr. Stallman said they also worked on the drainage at the parking lot on the east side of Wheat Ridge Terrace apartments.

The crew graded county and township roads, he said, and by the end of the week, they should be done mowing.

The crew replaced a bridge with a six-foot culvert two miles south of Lyle and a little to the east.

Mr. Stallman said the crew needs to finish preparing the Metcalf bridge site eight miles west of Lyle

and a quarter mile south for Husker Steel to put in a bridge.

After that, the crew will move to a bridge 2 1/2 miles northwest of Leoville to be replaced with a six-foot culvert.

Mr. Stallman said there was some discussion on letting people from the community use county equipment. Mr. Stallman said a county employee needs to be there to operate the equipment.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Vacated the courthouse at 9:50 a.m. for a fire drill.

- Approved a new drug and alcohol testing policy, which includes changes from the state Department of Transportation. The policy allows the county to randomly test employees. The tests are done on a random drawing at any time and isn't limited to a certain number of times per year.

- Approved highway crossing

permits for Stan Miller on Road 322 on the west side of Norcatour for an electrical request, for Murfin Drilling for water lines crossing County Roads 495 and a blanket permit for Nex-Tech to work in the county while installing fiber optic lines.

- Held a 10-minute closed session for attorney-client privilege with the commissioners, county attorney and county clerk. After that, the commissioners approved writing a letter to James and Ruth Miesner explaining why they can't accept an offer to loan the county a handicapped-accessible van.

- Heard that Deputy Jay Tate hit a deer in his patrol vehicle while going to an accident on Friday, Sept. 10. The sheriff's department has already received the insurance money and is getting the vehicle fixed.

- Talked with Appraiser Alan Hale, who needs a new computer monitor. He said he won't go over \$200.

Trail ride set for St. Francis

By KAREN KRIEN

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The 20th Cheyenne County Trail Ride will start at 2 p.m. sharp on Sunday, Oct. 10, at the Jeter Isely farm northeast of Wheeler.

The ride will last about 2.5 hours. To get to the Iselys', go six miles north from Wheeler on County Road 23, then half a-mile west on Road T.

The ride is always planned for the second weekend in October, when the weather is generally a little cooler and the trees are turning colors.

Last year, the ride was postponed to the following Sunday because of bad weather. The rain date this year is Sunday, Oct. 17.

Gary Cooper, one of the coordinators, said this ride will be a little

easier terrain and be ideal for kids. The highlight will be the top of "Morris Hill," where the riders will be able to see for miles in all directions. Mr. Cooper said there will be a water break on top of the hill.

Mr. Cooper also coordinated the first Cheyenne County Trail Ride 20 years ago. The goal, he said, was to explore the county on horseback. Some of the rides have overlapped areas, he said, but no one seems to care.

"We are starting to run out of places to ride," he said, adding that he has the route for the 21st ride spotted already.

Each year, the number of riders varies, depending on the weather, the economy and conflicting events, he said. When the ride started, it was held in June, but there were so many

things going on that it was moved to the fall.

Through the years, the lowest number of riders was 18 or 19, but generally there are anywhere from 65 to 127 riders.

Those on the ride will be able to donate to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

"Donations will be accepted for the kids who would like to saddle up but can't," said Sharon Olofson, coordinator of that effort.

After the ride, there will be a barbecue with the meat being prepared by Doug Ross.

For information, call Mr. Cooper, (785) 332-2904; Mrs. Olofson, (785) 332-2248; Joe Hoffman, (785) 332-2154; Todd Krien, (785) 332-3246; or Frank Tracy, (308) 423-2646.



A DANCER WITH the Little Sun Drum and Dance Group (above) performed with his family and friends Saturday in the first show on the Decatur County Courthouse lawn. He received a round of applause before he danced when his adoptive mother said he had served two tours in Iraq. Mary Jo Lohofener (below) played in the Area wide Community Band that afternoon.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

*City turns 125

(Continued from Page 1A) antique quilts.

People were able to vote in both divisions for their favorites. Winner for a modern quilt was Angie Wilson's "Times and Seasons," and the antique division went to the Last Indian Raid Museum's entry, "7,000 Pieces Quilt."

Also on display were the sewing machines, tools, notions, patterns and sewing room supplies from the past.

Mrs. Miesner said several grandchildren and grandmothers exchanged stories and enjoyed the opportunity to relive techniques from the grandmothers' childhoods.

"Many thanks go to citizens and merchants for lending items for this historical hands-on display," said Mrs. Miesner.

During the weekend, a quilt pieced by Cheryl Votapka and hand quilted by museum volunteers was won by Janice Shobe. The money raised went to the museum.

Another quilt, created in 1985, was donated to the museum by Norma (Soderlund) Lewis. The quilt documents three generations of the Wurm Family, including Elsie Wurm, Wilma May and Shanna Long. The quilt blocks were done by different women in the area.

Another centennial quilt on display was designed by Phyllis McKay and the women of St. John's Lutheran Church. It depicts the historical Oberlin sites and is part of Nadine Stoney's private collection.

In the afternoon, there were more performances on the courthouse lawn and at the museum and the a time capsule from the city's centennial in 1985 was opened.

Connie Grafel, who served on the parade committee and helped organize the celebration, said she thought it had been a fantastic weekend for everyone. There were good crowds at all the events and people had fun, she said.



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