

Presents needed for Haiti

Two business women are trying to help organize shoeboxes full of Christmas presents for kids in an orphanage in Haiti.

The orphanage and school near Port Au Prince Haiti are run by an Oberlin couple, Pete and Nanette Zander.

Kem Bryan, a partner in Dream Makers, said she heard about the project at her church and wanted to take an active role.

She and Shayla Williby are asking others to do the same. They are looking for 38 wrapped shoeboxes with gifts for the kids in the orphanage and school.

Mrs. Bryan said Mrs. Zander told her another orphanage close by has 119 children, so any extra boxes will be given to them.

The boxes need to be ready by Thanksgiving. Mrs. Bryan said people can drop wrapped boxes off at her office in suite 5 in the Business Enhancement Entrepreneurial Center on Main Street.

Gift ideas include necessities like soap, underwear, socks and clothes. Other items could include a small toy, candy, crayons, solar calculators, writing pads, Legos, flashlights with batteries, small books and other items.

The kids include a 3-year-old boy, two 4-year-old girls and two boys that age, a 5-year-old boy and two girls, a 6-year-old girl and boy, three 7-year-old boys, five 8-year-old boys and four girls, four 9-year-old boys and two girls, five 10-year-old boys and two girls, one 11-year-old girl, a 12-year-old girl and a 14-year-old girl.



TOM WEIS LOOKED at the solar-powered headlights on the front of his yellow "rocket" trike before he blasted off from Oberlin on Friday afternoon on his way to Norton.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Debate taped for repeat

The northwest Kansas public television station plans to air a recorded debate between candidates in the 1st Congressional District twice this month.

Smoky Hills Public Television, channel 12 in Oberlin, plans to air the forum at 8 p.m. Tuesday and again at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27.

Republican Tim Huelskamp and Democrat Alan Jilka answered questions during the forum, taped at Emporia State University on Monday, Sept. 27. Dr. Stephen Catt moderated.

Both men are seeking the Big First seat, being vacated by veteran Congressman Jerry Moran.

Also this month, voters can see a debate between Republican Ward Cassidy of St. Francis and Democrat Robert Strevey of Norcatour in the 120th District for the state House of Representatives. It is scheduled for 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 14.

Other debates scheduled to show include:

- Democrat Don Svaty and Republican Steven Johnson in the 108th District at 9 p.m. Thursday.

- Democrat Garrett Morris and Republican Tom Arpke for the 69th District at 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21.

City plans meeting

The Oberlin City Council will hold its first regular meeting of the month at 7 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

With Interim Administrator Karen Larson out of the office on Monday, the agenda hadn't been completed.

The session, in the upstairs meeting room, is open to the public.

Green living program set

The Twin Creeks District Extension District plans a program on living green for this month.

Karen Shepard, family and consumer science agent, will present the program at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday Oct. 12, at the courthouse, covering topics such as choosing products with less or no packaging and ways to reduce waste.

Let the extension office know you'd like to attend by Friday at 475-8121. They need five people signed up for the program to be held.

Biker cycles for green energy

By KIMBERLY DAVIS
k.davis@nwkansan.com

A Colorado man is riding his yellow rocket trike from Boulder to Washington, carrying a petition for the country to be using all "green" power by 2020.

Tom Weis, president of Climate Crisis Solutions, stopped Friday, in Oberlin. He said he is riding to the nation's capital to lobby for renewable power. He's calling for a 100 percent green grid in 10 years.

Mr. Weis said he launched his ride on Sunday, Sept. 12, the 48th anniversary of President John Kennedy's moon shot speech.

"It's time for our generation to stand up and do something great," he said.

The country has a massive number of people unemployed, yet green energy would help create "tons" of jobs, he said. China is getting ready to leave this nation

in the dust on the green energy revolution, he added.

"We are in charge of our own destiny," said Mr. Weis.

Nothing is happening in Washington, he said, other than the two parties fighting with each other — instead of fighting for the people.

He added that the reason this isn't happening is that the lobbyists are running the show at the Capitol, not the people.

Mr. Weis said he rides 60 to 80 miles a day in the yellow "rocket trike." The recumbent trike has three wheels and then a yellow hard cover over the front that looks like a rocketship. It's very aerodynamic, he said.

The bike has solar-powered turn signals and lights and a system for his cell phone to be hooked to. It also has a high-powered rechargeable lithium battery which he can use to help provide power to get up some of the hills.

Mr. Weis said he plans on taking U.S. 36, but taking a detour through Concordia to see the wind project south of town, and then on to Kansas State University in Manhattan, where he will spend the weekend.

He said he spent the last 2 1/2 decades in the environmental and political arenas. He's worked on presidential campaigns and on Capitol Hill, so he is familiar with how things work.

"It doesn't take a lot of people to create change," he added.

Mr. Weis said he wants to give a voice to the American people. He has been videotaping his journey and blogging.

One of the first sponsors to help pay for the trip was All Earth Renewables, a Vermont company, he added.

People can check on his trip at www.RideForRenewables.com.

College loss flummoxes Pigskin pickers

It was a tough week for contestants in *The Oberlin Herald's* annual Pigskin Pick-em contest, as underdogs came out on top and teams on top lost.

Colorado's loss to Georgia flummoxed everyone and KU and Smith Center losses also caused scores to drop for many contestants.

Only two people got six out of the eight games correct.

Zach May, an Oberlin football player, picked six out of eight right and was closest to the tie-breaker score of Ellis over Rawlins County (Atwood) 35-21. He will get \$15 in scrip money.

Gary Anderson of Oberlin also picked six out of eight winners but was a few points off the tie breaker. He gets the \$10 second prize.

Four people came up with five out of eight but Travis Raile, Oberlin, was closest to the tie-breaker score. He will get the \$5 third-place prize.

Others picking five out of eight were Kel Grafel, Kelly Brown and Shirley Simpson of Oberlin.

Guessing correctly on four out of the eight games were Amanda Adams, Danbury, Neb.; Cheri

Kastens, Herndon; Owen Wilson, Rusty Addleman, Wilbur Reichert, Charley Keller, John Sater, Ivis Hanson, Jim Hollowell and Linda Hollowell, Oberlin; and Charissa Huff, Lebanon, Neb.

All eligible scores are entered on a spread sheet. At the end of the 12-week contest, the contestant picking the most correct games will receive \$50 in scrip and a trophy.

The money won in the contest can be spent only at the sponsors: Ward Drug Store, the LandMark Inn, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, Decatur Co-op and Ampride, Creative Collision, Farm Bureau Financial Services and *The Herald*.

Scores of this week's games were:

- Baylor over KU, 55-7.
- Quinter over Sharon Springs, 42-16.
- Ulysses over Colby, 47-6.
- Colorado over Georgia, 29-27.
- Norton over Smith Center, 41-20.
- Hoxie over Lucas-Luray, 34-26.
- Oberlin over St. Francis, 22-14.
- Goodland over Lakin, 31-28.

County turns down offer to borrow van

An Oberlin couple has offered their handicap-accessible van for Decatur County to use for its transportation bus, but there is still some question about whether that's OK.

At the meeting last Tuesday the commissioners decided to send the family a letter that the county can't use the van.

Jim and Ruth Miesner offered their van to the county, but want to be able to use it to take their son to appointments.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said at a meeting Tuesday, Sept. 14, he had checked with the county's insurance company and the Kansas Department of Transportation, which supports the transit program and gave the county a grant to buy its old van. He said he thinks the county probably needs to decline the offer.

The Department of Transportation, said County Clerk Colleen Geihlsler, will only pay the county to operate one vehicle.

At what percentage? asked County Attorney Steve Hirsch. She wasn't sure, but thought it was around 70 to 90 percent of the cost.

The department, said Mr. Hirsch, isn't saying don't do it. The insurance company says that no one except county employees can drive the

van. He added that he thought that was why the county could qualify people to use the vehicles.

The commissioners said the county needs to look into the offer and see if it would work.

Later, District Court Clerk Janet Meitl talked to the commissioners about using a county van to go to a meeting.

Commissioner Stan McEvoy said the county's policy is that if she doesn't use a county vehicle they only pay mileage one way. Mrs. Meitl said the state reimburses mileage if she has to take a private vehicle.

The commissioners gave her the OK to take the van in October to the district meeting in Wichita.

She said she would check into seeing if the state will reimburse for the June meeting in Topeka.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that the city came to paint the parking-lot lines in front of the courthouse but said it couldn't because the concrete is bad and needs replaced at the county's expense.
- Held a 15-minute closed session for nonselected personnel at the request of Ambulance Director Linda Manning. There was no action taken.

Farm and Ranch Expo planned for McCook

With record crop yields the last two years in southwest Nebraska, northwest Kansas, and northeast Colorado, farmers should flock to the McCook Farm and Ranch Expo at the Red Willow County Fairgrounds on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 17 and 18.

The show will open at 9 a.m. both days and close at 7 p.m. the first day and 4 p.m. the second, said manager Darren Dale. Admission and parking are free.

To kick things off, there will be a free producers' breakfast at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday. This event is sponsored by Willow Creek Meats, Vap Construction, Home-town Family Radio, Kugler, Pepsi, KRVN Radio and the Nebraska Bull Service.

"(The show) is a great place to come see the newest and latest in farming and ranching practices and technology," Mr. Dale said. "We are expecting 350 vendors from 20 states, Canada and Australia."

Exhibitors include displays for farm and ranch equipment, seed and chemicals, agricultural services, irrigation manufacturers, financial providers, commodity organizations, colleges, government agencies, home services, furniture and art dealers and more.

The expo will feature live cattle handling demonstrations by Dr. Tom Noffsinger on Wednesday, focusing on low-stress handling

concepts. This should have a positive effect on cattle health and performance.

"Entertainment to the Max," featuring Max Reynolds' trick roping, will be featured both days, sponsored by McCook National Bank and Vap Construction.

The fairgrounds is in north central McCook, near West Fifth and O streets.

For information, contact Darren or Tana Dale at (866) 685-0989 or dales@bwtelcom.net or go to www.mccoockfarmandranchexpo.net

Prairie Petals

10th Anniversary

Open House

Friday

October 8th

9a.m.-5p.m.



Chris Dempewolf, Laurie Wasson and Sherri Shuler

Storewide Savings

Sign up for drawings ~ Refreshments

"It's not just flowers - It's Feelings"

785-475-3241 ☎ Toll Free 866-901-3241

Priced to Sell

\$23,000

~~\$32,500~~

A Great Fixer

Johnson Realty, Inc.

122 South Penn, Oberlin, KS 67749 • Office # 785-475-2785
 Roberta Johnson, Broker • Cell 785-475-7156
 Lynn A. Johnson, Associate Broker/Auctioneer • Cell 785-475-8514
 Dianne Bremer, Salesperson • Cell 785-470-7129

