

School board discusses state finances

The Oberlin School Board talked briefly about money coming from the state this year and next as the state cuts its budget for schools.

Superintendent Duane Dorshorst said at a meeting March 14 that the governor, the House and Senate all have different recommendations of how much school districts should get in base aid per pupil and where cuts should come.

Even though the governor is saying he's going to add money to education, said Mr. Dorshorst, that isn't money that this district is going to see.

Basically the legislators are saying that if districts want something, said Mr. Dorshorst, then it's going to have to be paid for out of local tax money.

Applications for high school principal were due on Friday, he said. The board set a tentative special meeting for 7 p.m. next Wednesday to hire a new principal. They planned to start screening the applicants on Friday.

As of Monday, said Mr. Dor-

shorst, the district had received two completed applications and four that weren't complete. At least one application came from someone already working in the district, he said.

In other business, the board:

- Scheduled the annual employee recognition dinner for 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 20.

- Held closed sessions for 20 and 10 minutes to discuss negotiations. No action was taken.

- Appointed board members Jerry Chambers and Monte Moore to work on the superintendent's evaluation.

- Heard the state fire marshal had backed off on a citation on classroom doors. Mr. Dorshorst said the district will still have to do some work on the lab rooms in the high school and the wood shop. He said the district will need to hire an architect to look at those projects.

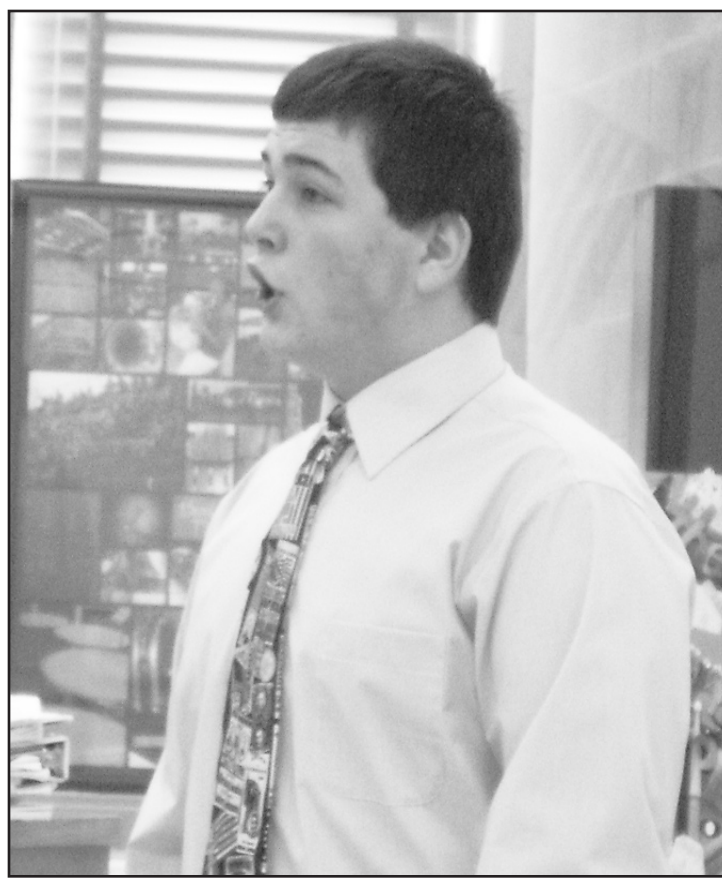
- Held closed sessions for 20 and 5 minutes for non-elected personnel. No action was taken afterward.



Singers try their hardest

AT THE REGIONAL music competition at the high school Saturday, Decatur Community High students Channing Fortin (above) and Joe Hirsch (below) both sang solos, accompanied by Mary Jo Lohofener. Students will perform at the state music competition on Saturday, April 30.

— Photos by Sarah Fredrickson



Snake on list for city

The Oberlin City Council plans to look at the ordinance on exotic animals and decide whether a seven-foot boa constrictor will be able to stay inside city limits.

The snake's owner, Aiyya Eaton, asked the council at the end of March if she could get a permit to allow her to keep the pet, which lives inside her house. The decision was tabled until the meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

City Administrator Karen Larson said the city has received modifications to the plans for the apron and taxiway attached to the current runway at the airport. Those, too, will be discussed, as well as the budget for the airport project.

Mrs. Larson said the council will also talk about the election results, which will put a new mayor and two council members in position.

The meeting, upstairs at The Gateway, is open to the public.

Tickets available for art gala

This is the last week to buy tickets to the upcoming seventh annual High Plains ArtFest gala at The Gateway.

The tickets, which cost \$100 a couple, can be purchased at the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp. office in the Business Entrepreneurial Enhancement Center. Marketing Director Connie Grafel said buyers also may call her at 475-2901.

The last day to buy tickets to the gala is Thursday.

As of Friday afternoon 35 tickets had been sold, Ms. Grafel said.

The gala, from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 15, will feature live music, hors d'oeuvres, adult and student art, time to meet and visit with area artists and voting for the People's Choice Award. Those attending get the first chance at buying art works. The full amount of the ticket can be used toward purchasing a piece.

Anyone not attending the gala can see the art from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, April 16 and 17.

Man pleads guilty to animal cruelty

A Clayton man will be spending 10 days in jail after pleading guilty to cruelty to animals in Decatur County District Court for failing to take care of at least two dozen cattle.

Travis Dial was charged with one count of a Class A nonperson misdemeanor, "intentionally failing to provide food, potable water and/or care as needed in the health or well-being of an animal, cattle."

Sheriff's Deputy Jay Tate said on Friday, March 6, the sheriff's office received a complaint about two dead animals which could be seen from Norton Road, which runs north and south on the Norton County line north of Clayton.

After investigating and consulting with a veterinarian, said Deputy

Tate, 14 cattle were removed from the farm and taken to a clinic for veterinary treatment.

He said he counted 10 dead cattle at the time.

There were some horses on the farm, he said, but after consulting with the vet, they were left as they were in better health and had access to food.

On Wednesday, March 16, Mr. Dial entered a guilty plea to the cruelty to animals charge. He was sentenced to 12 months in the county jail, all suspended except for 10 days.

Mr. Dial was ordered to pay restitution to the county for boarding his cattle and make arrangements for probation with Court Services.

McCook man arrested for incident at the jail

A McCook man sits in the Decatur County Jail for a second time after being arrested on two counts of aggravated assault of a law enforcement officer, making a criminal threat and damage to county property during his first visit.

Undersheriff Allen Marcum said Clay Richardson, 20, had been arrested for criminal mischief in Nebraska. While being held in the jail here, he got "agitated and irritated," the undersheriff said. He damaged some property on Tuesday, March 22, and made some threats toward

the officers.

Undersheriff Marcum said Mr. Richardson was later released to Red Willow County. A report was filed and sent to the county attorney.

On Thursday, Mr. Richardson was arrested on a Decatur County warrant and brought back to jail here.

Undersheriff Marcum said Mr. Richardson damaged a camera, plunger and intercom speaker. He is being held on a \$50,000 bond.

Volunteers needed for work days at park

The Sappa Park Committee has scheduled two work evenings this month and is looking for anyone who wants to come help clean up some brush.

Volunteers will meet at the shelter house at Sappa Park at 6 p.m. both

days, said. They will be Friday and the second is Wednesday, April 20. Bring a chain saw and work gloves if you can.

The committee has also set a work day to paint the shelter house for Wednesday, May 18.

Partnering To Bring Medical Specialists To Oberlin

Oberlin Outreach Clinic Schedule

Decatur County Hospital
810 W. Columbia - Oberlin

Cardiology - Dr. Jeffery Curtis
Monthly - (785) 625-4699

Orthopedic - Dr. Robert Bassett
Monthly
(785) 261-7599 or (866) 428-8221

Urology - Dr. Darrell Werth
Monthly
(877) 312-1619 or (785) 628-6014

Mobile Cardiac Nuclear Medicine
As Needed - (785) 475-2208

Mobile Ultrasound, Echo & Vascular
Twice Weekly - (785) 475-2208



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