



AT THE END OF THE SUMMER reading program at the Selden Public Library, Jerrit Koerperich and Ava Brantley played in a relay game using cotton balls and chopsticks.

Almost 30 students took part in the program, called "One World, Many Stories."

— Photo by Judy Rogers

Man to speak about his book on heavenly trip

The Decatur County Ministerial Association plans a speaking appearance for a Nebraska author who has written a book about his son's journey to Heaven — and back.

Todd Burpo, Sonja Burpo and Colton and Lynn Vinca will be at The Gateway in Oberlin at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 10, to talk about their book, "Heaven Is for Real."

The book is a true story of Colton, who at age 4, slipped from consciousness during emergency surgery and entered Heaven.

He later shared bits and pieces of his "near-death" experience with his parents. This included Colton meeting his miscarried sister, who no one had told him about, and his great-grandfather, who died 30 years before he was born.

Colton talked about a horse that

only Jesus could ride, about how "reaaally big" God and his chair are, and how the Holy Spirit "shoots down power" from heaven to help us.

The story is told by his father, who was a pastor in Nebraska at the time, but often in Colton's own words. The disarmingly simple message is heaven is a real place. Jesus really loves children and be ready, because there is a coming final battle.

Doug Mason said a limited number of seats are available for \$5 each through Oberlin churches.

A praise and worship team made up of area musicians will play at the event. Canned goods will be collected for the Decatur County Food Pantry, which, like the event, is sponsored by the Ministerial Association.

Most businesses will close for July 4

The United States will celebrate its 235th birthday Monday, and many area businesses have changed their work schedule for the Fourth of July holiday.

Most Oberlin businesses, including banks and financial institutions, will be closed Monday for the holiday. Some will be open to serve the holiday trade, however.

Service Stations: Eagle Convenience and Crossroads Express will be open regular business hours on the Fourth.

Restaurants: The Frontier Restaurant, the Teller Room at the LandMark Inn and the ReLoad will be closed. Pizza Hut, Subway and Godfather's Pizza will be open.

Grocery: Raye's Grocery will be open regular hours.

Dollar Store: Dollar General will be open until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and have regular store

hours on Sunday and Monday.

Government Offices: The Decatur County Courthouse and Health Department, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Conservation district office, the Golden Age Center, Decatur County Museum and Oberlin City offices will all be closed on Monday.

The Oberlin, Jennings and Norcatur post offices will be closed on Monday, and there will be no mail delivery.

The Oberlin Herald office will be closed, so the newspaper will be published a day late. It will be on the news stands on Wednesday and most area subscribers will receive it on Thursday. Deadline for advertising and news will be at noon on Tuesday.

The deadline for ads in *The Country Advocate* will remain at noon on Friday.

City donates \$500 to fireworks display

The Oberlin City Council approved giving \$500 to the Oberlin Business Alliance for this year's firework display.

Councilman Rusty Addleman, who in the past has collected the money for the display, said the city and county have both normally given \$500.

Councilwoman Fonda Farr asked how much the display normally costs. Last year for the city's 125th anniversary, said Mr. Addleman, it was \$3,500, but it's normally around \$2,500.

The council approved the \$500. City Administrator Karen Larson said the city received one bid for the old school house at the former youth ranch for \$500.

She said the city paid \$48,000 for the building in 1999. The building has no tires under it, she said, and one of the men who looked at it said the roof needs to be fixed soon.

Mrs. Farr said she's heard some

Council Roundup

At a meeting Thursday, June 16, the Oberlin City Council:

- Received a request for \$500 from Options, formerly known as Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence. Story to come.

- Talked about resealing some of the good streets in town, but didn't make any decisions. Story below.

- Gave \$500 to the Oberlin Business Alliance for this year's fireworks display. Story at left.

talk about another bid.

The council approved running an ad in *The Oberlin Herald* for another week.

Mrs. Larson said she had talked with the city's contract code enforcement officer, who said the owner is getting the house east of the Post Office cleaned up, as someone is coming to look at it. The blue house on Hall Street, west of downtown, she said, is under contract to new owners. They plan to tear down the blue house and fix up the white house and garage behind it.

If that is taken care of, it will be

another eyesore gone, said Mrs. Larson.

Mr. Addleman said he had been by that location and noticed that there were 20 to 30 bikes inside that garage.

If anyone wants the code enforcement officer to look at a house, Mrs. Larson said, they can let her know, and she will pass it on.

In other business, the council:

- Received a lease agreement from Baker Petrolite Corp., which leases the fenced-in property to the north of the airport terminal. The company was paying \$80 a month

for that property. The airport committee wants the rent to go to \$150 a month since all of the leases on the hangars were raised this year.

The company has been paying \$80 a month since 2003.

He later shared bits and pieces of his "near-death" experience with his parents. This included Colton meeting his miscarried sister, who no one had told him about, and his great-grandfather, who died 30 years before he was born.

They have taken down the cattle gate and wire, so it's easier for people to walk out to where the grass is, but vehicles still can't get out there to tear up the grass.

• Heard that the boiler at the pool is working. Mr. Castle said he wasn't sure how much the city spent to get it fixed.

Council puts project to seal streets on hold

The Oberlin City Council talked a little about resealing some of the good streets in town when it received bids on some street projects, but didn't make any decisions on either.

The city received price quotes for concrete and asphalt work on streets at the meeting Thursday, June 16. City Administrator Karen Larson said McCormick Excavation and Paving from Stratton, Colo., bid

for asphalt work on North Elk at \$30,244 and on South Marks for \$57,525 and Oberlin Concrete bid on repairs to Oak Street at the intersection of Marks and Wilson for \$44,170.

Mrs. Larson said she's been talking with City Foreman Dan Castle about the streets and he said they should possibly look into resealing the better asphalt streets, which would cost \$70,000 to \$80,000, and

then start working on the others.

"I hate to ask the question," said Councilman Rusty Addleman, "but where do we have some good streets?"

Some of the streets are better than others, said Mrs. Larson.

None of the streets are great, said Mr. Castle, but there are some good ones. He said someone suggested the city should seal cracks in the streets in the fall and do a regular

seal, covered with sand, this time of year.

The \$70,000 to \$80,000 doesn't pay for sealing the cracks, he said.

Miller and Associates, the McCook engineering firm which works for the city, did a street inventory for the city, said Mrs. Larson.

4-H offers cooking classes for kids

Get the aprons out! It's time for a kids' cooking afternoon at the 4-H Building at the Decatur County Fairground.

Kids 6 to 12 are invited to the sessions from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays, July 13 and 20. Each session will cost \$3.

Students will prepare a simple food and participate in a plant-science activity, taught by Tranda Watts, area extension specialist in consumer science, and Byron Hale, Decatur County extension agent.

At least eight kids are needed to hold the class, so everyone needs to be registered by Tuesday, July 5. Call the extension office at 475-

8121.

Kids participating in the program

don't have to be enrolled in 4-H, said Kerri Bryan.

Help needed to finish work at Sappa Park

Anyone who wants to volunteer some time at Sappa Park can come help put up the rest of the new playground equipment and trim a few trees at 5:30 p.m. tonight.

The work night is sponsored by the Sappa Park Committee. Anyone who wants to help with the trees should bring a chain saw and work gloves, if possible.

Save money. The classifieds have great stuff. 475-2206



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LARRY PATTERSON - MANAGER

Family Practice Clinic (FPC) Calender

Decatur Health Systems
810 W. Columbia, Oberlin, KS (785) 475-2208

(Please clip out this calender and post it in a convenient place, for your reference)

Decatur Health Systems is committed to providing continued health care to the community. We are happy to have Dr. Hardison and Dr. Argo, from Docs Who Care, as well as Robin Williamson PA-C, and Tricia Carney ARNP. The Family Practice Clinic at 902W. Columbia, west of the hospital, has adjusted its hours to help those who work. (see hours below) Also, our hospital is fully staffed 24/7, for your emergency needs. Cedar Living Center residents are seen by Ms. Williamson, PA-C and Dr. Steven Bear from Colby.

Please watch for our calender every month, as we want to keep you informed.

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1 Joe Couey PA	2
					Robin Williamson PA	
	4 Clinic closed	5 Dr. Hardison	6 Dr. Hardison	7 Dr. Hardison	8 Dr. Hardison	
		Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA	Tricia Carney ARNP	Robin Williamson PA	
	11 Dr. Hardison	12 Dr. Hardison	13 TBA	14 TBA	15 TBA	
	Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA	
	18 Dr. Argo after 1p.m.	19 Dr. Argo	20 Dr. Argo	21 Dr. Argo	22 Dr. Argo	
	Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA	Tricia Carney ARNP	Robin Williamson PA	
	25 Dr. Argo	26 Dr. Hardison	27 Dr. Hardison	28 Dr. Hardison	29 Dr. Hardison	
	Robin Williamson PA	Robin Williamson PA				

Regular Clinic Hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Special Hours Tuesdays and Thursdays 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Walk-ins are welcome from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.