

Blood drive scheduled for high school

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive here in honor of the granddaughter of an Oberlin couple who, for now anyway, seems to be winning her battle with leukemia.

The blood drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9, will honor Mikala Hodgens, granddaughter of Mick and Rhonda Barth.

According to the Red Cross, Mikala, a fourth grader, has been battling acute lymphocytic leukemia, a fast-growing cancer of the white blood cells. She now is in remission, although she continues to take chemotherapy through pills and shots.

During her treatment, the agency said, Mikala needed numerous blood and platelet transfusions.

The Central Plains Region pro-

vides blood for more than 100 hospitals throughout most of Kansas and northern Oklahoma.

Following the blood drive, the Oberlin Jaycees plan to hold a hamburger feed in the cafeteria at the high school. The dinner, starting at 5 p.m., will be served for a donation, which will go to Mikala's family to help with medical expenses, said member Nora Urban.

Donation boxes will be put in businesses around town before the event, said Mrs. Urban, adding that there will be entertainment during the benefit.

The high school and grade school are helping raise money for the family during the Pennies for Patients promotion. Any pennies donated will be given to the Leukemia Foundation, but silver coins and bills will go to the family.

Cleaning up the town



LAST MONDAY, eighth grader Konner Witt raked a lawn during the high school's annual Halloween Clean-up. — Decatur Dictator staff photo

Losses surprise pickers

Losses by Texas Tech and Texas A&M surprised almost all of the contestants in this week's Pigskin Pickem contest.

While in the last few weeks, many contestants picked all or most of the winners, this week, only one person came up with five of the seven right.

Jacob Gee, Oberlin, picked Iowa State over Texas Tech and won first place in the weekly contest. He will receive the \$15 first prize in scrip money.

Six people came up with four out of seven. All missed the Texas teams' losses and one other game.

Jim Hollowell, Oberlin, came closest to the score of the tie-breaker game, as Oklahoma State downed Big 12 rival Baylor, 59-24. He takes the \$10 second prize.

Ryan Leitner, Oberlin, came in third and will win \$5.

Others with four out of seven right were Tom Matin, Ivis Hanson and Kelly Brown, Oberlin, and Cheri Kastens, Herndon.

While we don't usually name those who guessed less than half the winners, this week seems to be different, so we'll note those who got three out of seven.

Coming up with three right were Norm Wendelin, Owen Wilson, Sarah Smith, Jordan Davenport, Justin Gee, Kenny Gee and Zach May, Oberlin; Wilbur Reichert, Dresden; Vernon Ketterl, Herndon; and Megan Carter, Jennings.

All eligible scores are entered on a spread sheet. At the end of the 10-week contest, the contestant picking the most correct games will receive a trophy.

Winnings in the contest can be spent only at the sponsors: Ward Drug Store, the LandMark Inn, Fredrickson Insurance Agency, Decatur Co-op, Creative Collision and *The Oberlin Herald*.

Other scores of this week's games were:

- Texas over KU, 43-0.
- Oklahoma over Kansas State, 58-17.
- Nebraska over Michigan State, 24-3.
- Arizona State over Colorado, 48-14.
- Atwood over St. Francis, 16-8.
- Iowa State over Texas Tech, 41-7.
- Missouri over Texas A&M, 38-31 in overtime.

Voters to decide on recreation tax

Oberlin School District registered voters will get to decide if a public recreation commission should get up to \$29,000 in property taxes each year by voting in a mail ballot.

The commission needed 89 signatures of registered voters on a petition allowing the question to be sent to election, which the members got. It would authorize a property-tax levy of up to 1 mill.

The Oberlin School Board held a short special meeting before the home football game on Friday, Oct. 21, to approve a resolution for the mail ballots to go out to qualified

voters by Wednesday, Nov. 16. All ballots then have to be returned to the county clerk's office by Tuesday, Dec. 6.

This year, said Superintendent Duane Dorshorst one mill for the school district would bring in \$29,000. The tax would not be collected until 2013.

County Clerk Colleen Geihlsler, who serves as the county election officer, said she had mailed the necessary paperwork to the secretary of state's office for approval. She added that they hope to hear back within a week.

Culvert to replace old county bridge

The Decatur County commissioners approved the purchase of an eight-foot culvert to replace a bridge in Olive Township at their meeting last Tuesday.

Most of the stringers on a timber bridge are gone, said Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman. The bridge, which is on a township road 7 miles northeast of Oberlin, is No. 66 in the county's list of "off-system" bridges. He said the replacement will cost around \$12,000.

The culvert, said Mr. Stallman, will be cheaper than replacing the bridge as built.

The road is closed for now, he said, adding that the road does not have much traffic. A phone line hung on the bridge will need to be moved,

however.

Reece Construction of Scandia is replacing a bridge near Sherry Brown's house, which had been previously contracted. The bridge is about 5 miles southwest of Oberlin on the Sappa Creek.

It's a federal aid job, which means the government picks up 80 percent of the cost and the county the rest, Mr. Stallman said. That work should take five to six weeks.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Agreed to join the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce for \$125.
- Heard the road crew has all the snow fence up and is working on putting up the "icy bridge" signs.

Norcatour woman wins award

A series of articles written by Carolyn Kelley-Plotts of Norcatour about the four Norton County men killed in the Vietnam War earned an honorable mention in the National Newspaper Association Better Newspaper Contest.

The award, in the category for Best Feature Series writing among weekly newspapers with a circulation of less than 4,500, was announced at the group's annual

convention in Albuquerque, N.M., in September. The articles appeared in *The Norton Telegram* Sept. 10 to 28, 2010. The series also included a story about the Moving Wall Vietnam Memorial which came to Norton that month.

Nor'West Newspapers owners Steve and Cynthia Haynes submitted the articles, which had taken first place in the 2010 Kansas Press Association contest. Mrs. Haynes

said the contest drew thousands of entries from newspapers across the country.

Mrs. Plotts said she was proud of the stories and glad she could help honor the memory of those fallen servicemen. She said the men's families are the ones who deserved an award for stepping forward to tell the stories of their loved ones.

Businesses host open house

Four home-based businesses plan to hold a Holiday Open House tonight at the Golden Age Center.

Abby Hissong said the event will run from 5 to 8 p.m. Businesses include Miche, with purses; Celebrating Home, dishes, cookware

and some food; Scentsy, wickless candles and warmers; and Tastefully Simple, selling food.

This is the second year for the event, she said. It just gets people out and gives them some ideas for holiday shopping.

Council to hold hearing on closing street

The Oberlin City Council will hold a hearing on a request to vacate a street in the southwest part of town when it meets at 7 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

The request is to close West Street, which is on the map, but isn't open or improved. The property is farm ground west of Cheyenne Street.

Other items on the council's agenda include:

- A report from the code enforcement officer.
- Talking about what's going on with the test water wells.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be upstairs at the civic center.


Introducing Gannon Reichert

As a Farm Bureau Financial Services Sales Associate, he can provide coverage for:

- Federal Crop
 - Revenue Based
 - Yield Based
- Crop Hail
 - Private stand-alone
 - Private endorsement

To learn more about how he can help you protect your operations bottom line. Contact Gannon today to set up an appointment.

Gannon Reichert is a northwest Kansas native who graduated with the class of 2005 from Decatur Community High School. He then pursued a degree in Wildlife Biology at Kansas State University. Since receiving his Bachelor of Science he has moved back to northwest Kansas where he is currently working on his family farm.



FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
Insurance • Investments
www.fbfs.com

Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Farm/Ranch | Business | College | Retirement

Variable life insurance and annuity products are underwritten by an insurance company that is not affiliated with our companies. Securities & services offered through EquiTrust Marketing Services, LLC, 5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/860-2904, Member SIPC, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company, Western Agricultural Insurance Company, Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, West Des Moines, IA. *Affiliates *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services. © 2010 FBL Financial Group, Inc. M060 (5-10)



RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

707 Grant Atwood, KS 67730 (785) 626-3211

Bringing Specialized Healthcare To Your Community

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI's	Nuclear Medicine Cardiac Rehab	
6	7 Dr. Rubinowitz Oncology	8 Brandt Ihrig Dietician	9	10	11	12
	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab		Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI's	Cardiac Rehab	
13	14	15 Dr. Frederick C. Miller Cardiology	16 Dr. Curtis Cardiology	17 Dr. Frankum Surgery	18	19
	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	DEXA Bone Density	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	MRI's	Nuclear Medicine Cardiac Rehab	
20	21	22 Dr. Frederick C. Miller Cardiology	23	24	25 Dr. Reeves Podiatry	26
	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	Mammograms	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic		Cardiac Rehab	
27	28	29	30			
	Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab		Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic			

November 2011

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A VISITING PHYSICIAN, PLEASE CALL (785) 626-3211

Cheryl Banister, RN
Specialty Clinic Director



Giving Thanks