

# \*Pool group meets

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While plans here would depend on what Oberlin would want and could afford, literature Mr. McCawley provided showed that Phillipsburg's pool will probably cost \$2.95 million, DeSoto's \$2.3 million and Neodesha's \$1.8 million.  
A 1-cent sales tax increase in Oberlin should bring in about \$150,000 a year, Mrs. Williby said. She said her information came from Mark Dettler of Central States, who told her he got it from the state.  
Most often, Mr. McCawley said, the bonds to build a pool, which the sales tax helps pay off, are for 20 years.  
Mrs. Williby said that Oberlin, through the Decatur Area Development Fund administered by the Chamber of Commerce, has \$20,000 to \$22,000 in the bank to use as seed money to start work on getting a new pool.

# \*Courts could change

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but they will tell the county what to buy and where from.  
"Is this going to require legislative passage?" asked Commissioner Gene Gallentine.  
It will take legislation to eliminate the one-judge-per-county rule, said Judge Bremer.  
They say they aren't going to close offices, said Judge Bremer, who is retiring this year, but there are already cases being moved to other areas in the judicial district.  
"How long until they want to close the courthouses?" asked Commissioner Ralph Unger. "10 years?"  
Judge Bremer said the Blue-Ribbon panel wants comments by Thursday. Mrs. Meitl noted that the office has only had the report for a week.  
She said the panel wants to cut smaller county offices down to "1 1/2 time." That would mean one full-time person in the office and one part-time, said Mrs. Meitl. Now there are two full-time and a full-time magistrate judge.  
Mr. McEvoy said he will make known to the Supreme Court that Decatur County isn't in favor of the proposed changes.

# \*Streets will be repaved

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way. This street also has bad drop-offs on the edge, 4 to 6 inches, and broken or missing pavement. It's the main access to the Decatur County Hospital, so it's used by many emergency vehicles, as well as those visiting the hospital and clinic, and neighborhood residents.  
• Griffith Avenue, from Washington Street to U.S. 36. The report notes that Griffith is a busy street linking U.S. 36 and downtown and serving the Catholic church. It has significant surface cracking and poor conditions at the edge of the pavement, along the gutters.



SENIOR Samantha Anderson played her French horn at the Kansas State University Band Clinic. —Photo by Decatur Dictator Staff

## Students perform at band clinic

By NOLAN HENNINGSON  
Several Decatur Community High band students traveled to Manhattan to participate in the Kansas State University Band Clinic on Jan. 20-22. Each year, hundreds of Kansas high school musicians attend the clinic to improve their musicianship. This year, there were approximately 700 students in attendance.  
Upon arrival, the students auditioned for band placements. There were six bands; one top band and five equal bands. After being placed in bands, the students spent Friday night, most of the day on Saturday, and Sunday morning rehearsing for the band performances on Sunday afternoon.  
The participating students also had the opportunity to attend concerts put on by the K-State Band Department. The K-State Concert Band, Wind Ensemble and several of the small group ensembles performed for the students.  
The students worked with clinicians from all over the country and learned a lot in the process. There were also rehearsals broken up into instruments, where students got to learn techniques from the college's band professors.  
Each band director had the opportunity to select a few students from their band to be named as an Outstanding Musician. Senior

Samantha Anderson was selected by her band director to receive this honor. With it comes a \$500 scholarship to the K-State band department and \$250 to cover books and fees at K-State.  
Attending the clinic were Samantha Anderson, Nolan Henningson, Amanda Marshall, Elizabeth Nedland, Cassandra Canto, Nick Ashley, Brittany Urban, Baron Green, Caleb Koerperich, Sierra Lohoefer, Ben Glading and Justin Gee. Their instructor is Sarah Bricker. Also sponsoring the trip were Deb and Troy Marshall.

## Landfill tire prices increase

The Decatur County commissioners approved small increases in most charges for people taking tires to the county landfill — except the charge for car and light-truck tires and industrial sizes during their meeting last Tuesday.  
Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said his cost for disposing of the tires had gone up. What people are charged for taking the tires to the landfill, east of town, is what the county is charged for recycling them.  
Mr. Stallman said he thought the last increase had been five years ago. The county, he said, has never made money on taking tires at the landfill. It just passes the cost through.  
The approved increases include:  
• \$4.50 to \$5 for truck tires 19 inches and up.  
• \$6 to \$10 on super single truck tires.  
• \$15 to \$17 on tractor tires.  
• \$32 to \$35 on small industrial tires 30 inches and down.  
• \$8 to \$9 on pivot-sprinkler tires.  
• \$.75 to \$1 on motorcycle tires.  
• \$10 to \$12 on truck tire with rim.  
• \$30 to \$37 on a tractor tire with a rim.  
• \$85 to \$100 on processed tires per ton.  
The only charges that didn't increase were for car or light truck tires of 19 inches or less for \$1.25, large industrial tires of greater than 30 inches at \$65 and car tires with the rim at \$5.

## Scraper to get new chains

The Decatur County commissioners approved replacing the chains on the 2002 Caterpillar scraper at their meeting last Tuesday.  
Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman said the scraper needs new chains, but they will be a fairly large expense, maybe \$3,000 to \$3,500.  
The commissioners approved the purchase.  
Mr. Stallman said he also had to make an order from Murphy Tractor for mower parts. He said it was lots of little parts, but they added up to \$1,384. The commissioners ratified the purchase.  
Commissioner Ralph Unger said he looked at the federal surplus lot in Topeka recently and there were some dump trucks with fairly low mileage. He suggested Mr. Stallman check them out online.

# Locations found for test wells in water search

By CYNTHIA HAYNES  
c.haynes@nwkansan.com  
Oberlin has found locations for six test wells and city officials hope to start drilling soon to a supply of clean water for the city's supply.

The test wells were drilled on Monday, and the City Council planned a special water meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway to get the results. The council's regular meeting starts at 7 p.m.  
City Councilman Jim Miesner told the rest of the council Thursday, Jan. 19, that the six locations all met the city's criteria:  
• They are all as close to town as possible.  
• Landowners have agreed.  
• They are all at least two miles apart and two miles from irrigation wells.  
• They are all over part of the Ogallala Aquifer but at least 1 1/2 miles from an Ogallala outcrop.  
Councilman Miesner said that the city has permission from all landowners and he has talked to Woffert Pump and Well out of Hoxie. They will have to check for buried lines of all kinds but hope to get started drilling this week.  
In other business, the council:  
• Approved a five-year lease for a new street sweeper.  
• Was told that the sewer problem near the hospital earlier in the month had been caused by the crew that buried a fiber optic cable. Bits of cable were found in the broken pipe, City Administrator Karen Larson said.  
Nex-Tech, the company that had the cable laid, has told the city that it will reimburse it for all expenses for the broken sewer, said Mrs. Larson. Then Nex-Tech will work to recover that money from the contractor that laid the cable.  
• Heard from cemetery Sexton Jeremy Tally that in checking

graves and records, he has found 56 people buried in the cemetery who apparently were not recorded. He said that the museum thinks they have another 10 or 12 names for the rolls.  
• Met Beau Downing, the new police officer, who was introduced by Chief Wade Lockhart.  
• Learned that a rented transformer had been installed at the city's substation and repairs are being made as parts come in. City Foreman Dan Castle said that he didn't think the company that is repairing the city's old transformer has opened it up yet to determine the extent of damage.  
• Were told that the heating and air conditioning units for The Gateway did not arrive in time for the big Cover Your Acres conference last week. A company loaned the city two infrared heaters at no cost, Mrs. Larson said, and that worked out well.  
• Learned that contracts with Smoky Hills out of Salina for rebuilding the main runway at the airport have arrived and are in the city office. The improvement project there is ready to go, Mrs. Larson said, but two hangars have to be removed before work can begin.  
• Heard that a meeting to discuss plans for new bathrooms at the Sappa Park shelter house is planned for 3:15 p.m. today in Room 3 downstairs at The Gateway.  
• Heard that there are three openings on the Economic Development Corp. board. The city will fill one, the county one and the board itself will appoint one person. No suggestions were made as to who the city should appoint.  
• Agreed to hold a meeting on water wells at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, right before the regular council meeting at 7 p.m. at The Gateway.

# Recycling program will continue here

The Decatur County commissioners agreed to pay \$2 for each person in the county to continue using the regional recycling program based in Colby.  
The \$2 for the 2,961 residents, according to the 2010 census, comes to \$5,922, but that's just the bill the county got in January. It will cost the county another \$1 per resident in July and again in October, for a total of \$11,844, commissioners said.  
Commissioner Gene Gallentine said at the meeting Jan. 10 that information from the regional groups says the program will take electronic waste at 25 cents per pound.  
Mr. Gallentine said he did an informal study in Norcat, and just about all the people he talked to are using the recycling system, but no one wants to pay extra for it.  
The county budgeted \$25,000 for recycling, said County Clerk

Colleen Geihlsler.  
Noxious Weed Director Gaylen Huntley said he just moved in a new baler, used to bind up cardboard for shipment, that morning. Someone is going to need to wire it into the electrical service, said Mr. Huntley.  
Mr. Gallentine asked if it's worth keeping the recycling program.  
It is a pain sometimes to do, said Mr. Huntley, but he added that he would hate to be the one to tell people the county isn't going to offer it. Mr. Huntley added that he thought people would keep on bringing stuff to the old county shop, now used as the recycling building.  
When the weed crew is spraying, he said; it's hard to do both, but when they aren't, recycling gives the crew something to do.  
The commissioners asked Mr. Huntley to get bids on the wiring for the baler.

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**This month at Decatur Health Systems**

February 2012				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Surgery Sonogram Cardiac rehab	2 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta MRI	3 Dr. Albert Sean Cardiac rehab
6 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Cardiac rehab	7 Dr. Albert Lynnetta	8 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Surgery Sonogram Cardiac rehab	9 Sean Lynnetta MRI	10 Sean Lynnetta Cardiac rehab
13 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Cardiac rehab	14 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Tricia Outreach clinic Cardiology Bone Density	15 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Cardiology Urology Surgery Sonogram Cardiac rehab	16 Dr. Albert Sean MRI	17 Dr. Albert Lynnetta Cardiac rehab
20 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Cardiac rehab	21 Dr. Albert Lynnetta Cardiology	22 Dr. Albert Sean Surgery Sonogram Cardiac rehab	23 Sean Lynnetta MRI	24 Sean Lynnetta Cardiac rehab
27 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Cardiac rehab	28 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Tricia Outreach clinic	29 Dr. Albert Sean Lynnetta Surgery Sonogram Cardiac rehab	Surgeon: Dr. Eskildsen Urologist: Dr. Werth	Cardiologists: Dr. Curtis Dr. McGowan & Dr. Hoos-Thompson

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