

CLIP, CLOP, CLIP, CLOP. Driven by Randy Boehmer, Bedford, Ind., four mules pulled two covered wagons and a cart northward on U.S.83.Mr. Boehmer said his destination

is unknown but he trusts God to lead him.

- Herald staff photo by Carolyn Plotts

Man, mules, dogs move across the prairie

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

c.plotts@nwkansas.com

If you ask Randy Boehmer where he's going, he answers. "Destination unknown."

Mr. Boehmer said he left Bedford, Ind., in 2008 in two converted farm wagons, drawn, in tandem, by a four-mule team, and he hasn't

"After my wife died," he said, "I started to read my Bible to find out about this God that had my wife's soul. What I found out was, I had to turn from my sins and ask Jesus to save me."

then, he has traveled where God has led him. drinking water. He said he's headed north for the summer: Maybe to the Dakotas, maybe Nebraska. He lives in the largest of the two covered wagons, where he has a wood-burning stove for heat, a propane stove to cook with, solar panels to provide electricity for his radio, fans, cell phone charger, LED lights and a television (that he has never used).

The smaller wagon carries feed for the mules, Frankie, Jesse, Dick, Jack and Butch, and the dogs, Shep and Proverbs. A small God provides." Amen. That was March 3, 1999, he said, and since two-wheeled cart brings up the rear carrying

When asked if he travels alone, he answers, "No. There are nine of us - five mules, two dogs, Jesus and me.'

His sole purpose, he said, is to win souls to God. He said he won't know how successful he's been until he gets to heaven.

Mr. Boehmer said he doesn't have to do much preaching. The signs and Bible verses on his wagons do that for him.

"I am not retired," he says adamantly, "but

Former *Herald* owner honored by Kansas Press

Airport closing may cause some medical issues

Mrs. Doeden said she thinks came here to interview, is waiting

acute cardiac life-support nurse if a looking for another doctor. She said

The Decatur County Hospital from there. If the hospital has to all of that is sent to the state Board tile will get laid next.

not billable for the hospital. The offer to work there.

Mrs. Doeden said Dr. Alexander to 16 patients a day.

to McCook and they could fly work for his Kansas license. Once of the room. Mrs. Doeden said the \$7,500 for parts and labor.

By STEVE HAYNES

s.haynes@nwkansas.com Sharon Kessinger, former copublisher of *The Oberlin Herald*, received the Clyde M. Reed Jr. Master Editor Award on Friday from the Kansas Press Association.

The award was presented at the association's 120th annual convention in Overland Park. Her daughter Sarah, current editor of the family's newspaper, and a director of the association, introduced her and presented the award.

The award is named for the former editor and publisher of *The Parsons* Sun. Mr. Reed took over the paper after the death of his father, who had been governor and served two terms as U.S. senator from Kansas, slipped into the office after rising dren:

what that means for the hospital at

said the hospital didn't know at

first that the airport was going to be

closed for five months. She said she

heard about it and called fixed-base

manager Bob Fraker at the airport.

That means the hospital can't have

a fixed-wing air ambulance in here

for five months, she said, adding that

they can have a helicopter come in

Mrs. Doeden said they also could

and land at the hospital.

its regular meeting last Monday.

in 1949. He was one of the most at dawn to get in a couple hours of until he sold the paper in 1982, and ran for governor in 1958.

Mrs. Kessinger and her husband Howard, both graduates of Kansas from 1966 to 1975, when they sold it to Randall and Rozanne Braden. The Kessingers moved to Marysville, in northeast Kansas, where they took over The Adovcate, a weekly newspaper in Marshall County.

In her introduction, Sarah Kessinger recalled that her mother loved gardening and spent much of her to Oberlin and bought the newspaspare time doing volunteer work in per. She also served on civic and the town's flower beds.

"There were days that Sharon

Board talked about the city airport take someone to McCook, asked of Healing Arts, they will issue him

Administrator Lynn Doeden the ambulance could bill, but it's for a letter from North Dakota on a

hospital would have to send an

patient has to be taken by ambulance

Lifeteam said if the hospital

doesn't have a qualified nurse, they

can send one out and pick up the

patient. That would then be billed

being closed for five months and Board member Gary Walter, is that a number.

to be flown out

to the patient.

have an ambulance take a patient Platz is still working on the paper-

FFA Alumni Banquet

April 27, 2012

The Oberlin FFA cordially invites FFA Alumni

members and any community member

who wishes to attend the 2011-2012 FFA

in the Oberlin Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria

at 6:00 p.m. Friday, April 27, 2012. We are

looking forward to seeing you there and en-

joying the good food and accomplishments

of our members. We will be serving chicken

Oberlin Jr./Sr. High School (785-475-2231)

ext. 306, or e-mail to jketterl@usd294.org

and potato salad with sides. Please RSVP by Thursday, April 26, to Mr. Ketterl at the

Banquet. This year the Banquet will be held

billable?

prominent journalists in the state gardening in the historic Koester Block, just across the street from the newspaper," she said. "Once she set aside her weeding knife, she'd pick up her editing knife and pica pole, State University, owned *The Herald* or camera, or whatever was needed at the office and keep going – often until late into the night. "This is the way it's always been

with her."

Sharon Kessinger had been editor of *The Collegian*, the student-run daily newspaper at Kansas State. After graduation, the couple moved charitable boards.

Dr. George Hightower, who also

Mrs. Doeden said they are still

she contacted recruiting firms and

there just aren't that many doctors

interested in coming to western

In other business, the board:

• Heard that the providers at the

• Heard the old CT scanner is out

Family Practice Clinic are seeing 12

• Daughter Hannah teaches grade-school music and Spanish in Marysville. She and her husband, Marty Malotte, have two children, Katie and Ben.

 Daughter Sarah and her husband, Peter Muraski, have two children, Paul and Sophie.

 Daughter Mary teaches physical education and coaches tennis at Marysville High School. She and her husband, Matt Wassom, have three boys, Asher, Titus and

 Son Mike works for Landoll Corp. of Marysville. He and his wife Staci live in Wichita, where Mike is a sports stringer for the Wichita The Kessingers have four chil- Eagle and Hutchinson News.

Wolfram had meet with Rusty

Mr. Addlemann said there hasn't

been any feedback since they met.

Mrs. Doeden said she can't tell him

anything since it relates to patient

to discuss personnel with the board members, County Commissioner

Ralph Unger and the administrator. There was no action taken.

Approved re-keying a double-

throw safety switch for the genera-

tor at the hospital, which will cost

• Held a 20-minute closed session

confidentiality.

Weekend offers art for everyone

The High Plains ArtFest will be to 3 p.m. on Sunday. All of the art open Saturday and Sunday to give will be on display in the arena of people not attending the opening gala Friday night a chance to see the hundreds of pieces of work by area artists, students and adults.

Organizer Connie Grafel said more than 300 pieces of art have been entered by 115 adult artists and 54 students representing 11 high schools.

Both McCook Community College and Colby Community College came in big, she said, and this year's show has some of the best work she

The free show will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and noon (785) 475-2901.

The Gateway.

On Friday, 320 patrons will attend the gala from 7 to 9 p.m. The "purchase patrons" paid \$100 a couple for the event, but can put the money towards buying a piece of art.

Those attending the gala also will get to vote for the People's Choice Awards for both adult and student

Throughout the weekend, anyone attending the ArtFest will have a chance to vote for the winner of the cell-phone art category.

For questions, call Ms. Grafel at

Board learns about physical therapy

The Decatur County Hospital board talked with a physical therapist assistant about her department the department could do for the during its monthly meeting last Monday. Jessica Townsend said the depart-

ment has two physical therapist assistants and a traveling physical therapist from Norton. Hospital Administrator Lynn

contract with McCook to have a physical therapist from there come three days a week. The physical therapist from Nor-

ton, said Mrs. Townsend, comes here for two half days. Mrs. Townsend said she has

learned how to do kinesio taping, a technique using elastic tape on joints, muscles, hematomas and other injuries. The tape helps with the healing process. She added that she's been working with the high school athletes during track

The physical therapy department has seen a drop in the number of people using it, but they are picking back up, she said.

Board member Gary Walter suggested that there may be something upcoming hospital 5K run-walk.

Board member Ruth Wolfram

said she thinks Mrs. Townsend's

tapping skills will bring people in. It can be used for lots of different things, she said. Mrs. Townsend said the depart-Doeden said she is working on a ment is getting a lot of referrals from the Family Practice Clinic. The biggest complaint, she said,

> first-time patients. After the initial visit, said Mrs. Townsend, the assistants can do the appointments.

> is that the physical therapist is part

time and she needs to see all the

Mrs. Doeden said the hospital does have ads out to hire a physical therapist, but there just aren't many people in that profession looking

Rusty Addleman, who was in the audience, said he was at the Oberlin Rotary Club meeting when Mrs. Townsend did her presentation. He said she did a good job of representing the department.

Businesses plan big auction Oberlin businesses plan to hold a Businesses will be selling new

joint auction on Main Street the first items from their stores. Mr. Stanley Saturday in May.

Hardware, came up with the idea est bidder. members Pam Wilson and Ruth and told other store owners at a Addlemann about some concerns.

meeting.

said he has a storage unit, too, and Joe Stanley, owner of Stanley the contents will be sold to the high-

The auction starts at 10 a.m. in recent Oberlin Business Alliance front of the hardware store on Penn Avenue.

Farm Machinery Auction Saturday, April 28, 2012 • 10:00 a. m.

Seller: J. Eldon Smith, Inc.

Location: 8 miles South of Hwy. 36 and Hwy. 83 intersection at Oberlin, 1 mile east, 1/2 mile south, signs will be posted

Eldon is retiring and has rented his land out. He has Lunch will a nice clean, well maintained line of equipment. You be served wont want to miss this auction.

Lots of Tools and Misc

Cars- (Good Condition!) • 1983 Buick Park Ave.

•1963 Buick Electra 225

•1978 Pontiac Stationwagon Partial List Machinery

• Flex King 5x5 undercutter with treaders

• John Deere 3-Section 10-10 drill

Sunflower Fallow King, 28 feet

•Quinstar Soil Shark II

• John Deere Model 320 plow

• Sunflower disc, 22 feet

Firm will be asked to show proper ID and credit reference from their bank prior to sale

Tractors

• Case International 7140, 6300 Hrs

•Allis Chalmers 7045, 3200 Hrs

• IHC 1955 Super M w/Horn 50 loader

• IHC H Tractor

• John Deere 9' back blade

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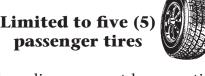
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The Decatur County Landfill

Will offer one free dump per family during regular hours from April 30 through May 5. Weekdays are open from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Saturday, May 5, from 8 a.m. – Noon. The free dump can be used for business or residence, but not both.



passenger tires



Refrigerated appliances must have certificate of evacuation or will be charged a \$10 fee.

For more information call: 785-475-8111.

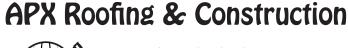
Remember the Free Compost available at the south end of the county shop east of town.





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