

Former hospital chief to return

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP
sdecamp@nwkans.com

The Decatur Health Systems board offered the position of interim chief executive to former Administrator Charlie Myers at a special board meeting Thursday, and he agreed Monday to take it.

Mr. Myers was administrator of the hospital for seven years in the late 1980s and early '90s. While he hasn't signed a contract yet, he did confirm over the phone with the board while they were in a closed-door session.

"I think he'd be very good," current Administrator Lynn Doeden said at the meeting. "I talked to Dr. Hooper, and he said that he'd have no problem with it."

Dr. Allen Hooper agreed to step in as the resident doctor for the hospital and clinic,

Health system looking for new administrator

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP
sdecamp@nwkans.com

Decatur Health Systems is looking for a permanent administrator to fill the position currently held by Lynn Doeden, who will be leaving for another job in Emporia at the end of the month.

The county Hospital Board, which also serves as the board of the management

firm, will be posting an ad for the position in the periodicals of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the Kansas Health Association, Kansas Health Jobs and the Kansas Hospital Administration. Members say they expect to get the most responses from the American College of Healthcare Executives. It also will run statewide in 144 Kansas newspapers.

"We want it open enough to get applicants," said board member Norbert Zander at a special board meeting Thursday, "but restrictive enough that we don't get any dog off the street."

The ad so far says that the qualifications are, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree, but a master's is preferred. They would (See HEALTH on Page 8A)

the week.

"Charlie said, 'You know, I owe Oberlin something because I raised my kids there,'" Mr. Zander told the board, "so I'm willing to come for the interim. I can come Monday."

Also at the meeting Thursday, the board, along with Mrs. Doeden and former board member Ralph Unger, discussed an ad they will place for a new, permanent administrator.

They will be publishing the ad in four health-care publications, as well as with the Kansas Press Association, which will then put the ad in 144 Kansas newspapers.

The resignation of Mrs. Doeden came at a tough time for the hospital, which has been trying to recruit doctors and a finance administrator.

seeing patients here one week out of every six. His first visit is this week, from Monday through Friday. He will also be the backup and supervisor for the hospital's "midlevel"

providers around the clock.

Mrs. Doeden will be taking a job at a clinic in Emporia. Since she turned in her resignation, she has been working with

the board to find both an interim and permanent replacement for herself.

Norbert Zander, a member of the board, said that he talked to Mr. Myers earlier in

School starts Friday morn for students

Alarm clocks will ring earlier Friday as students across the Oberlin School District get up in time to head back to classes.

Students in kindergarten through sixth grade start at 8:20 a.m. and go until 3:35 p.m., while those in seventh through 12th grades will be in class from 8:10 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.

Preschoolers go from 12:20 to 3:35 p.m.

Superintendent Duane Dorshorst said the staff has been working throughout the summer to get both buildings ready. Students will probably notice the new lighting in the

high school gym. The other two projects they will notice will be a new computer structure in the high school library and a new computer aided drafting setup in the shop.

Mr. Dorshorst said the district has two new teachers this year, April Farr, teaching fifth and sixth grade, and Daniel Conrad teaching gym and coaching basketball.

As of Monday, he said, preliminary enrollment numbers show the district up about eight students over last year. At the junior/senior high school, 182 pre-enrolled, he said, and at the elementary school 195.

Back-to-School picnic planned for City Park

It's time to meet the coaches and teachers at the Back-to-School Community Picnic in the City Park, starting at 6:30 p.m. tonight.

The Oberlin Jaycees will be grilling pork burgers. Everyone is asked to bring a dish, their own table service and a lawn chair.

New teachers will be introduced and the coaches will have

a chance to talk about their teams. Then, *The Oberlin Herald* will give away the \$1,000 Oberlin Merchant Shopping Spree prize.

The event is sponsored by the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce, the Oberlin Business Alliance and the Oberlin School District.

\$1,000 to be handed out

It's time for one lucky person to win it all in the Oberlin Merchants big \$1,000 Shopping Spree.

The prize has to be spent by Friday, Aug. 31, at sponsoring businesses.

For the past six weeks, anyone 18 and older has had the chance to sign up to win at these businesses, including Raye's Grocery,

Culligan Water, Dale's Fish 'N' Fun, Stanley Hardware, Ward Drug Store, the Carpet Center, R&M Service Center and *The Oberlin Herald*.

The Herald staff will draw a winner during the Back-To-School Community Picnic in City Park, which begins at 6:30 p.m. tonight. The winner has to be present to claim the prize.

Corn prices to be highest in history

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP
sdecamp@nwkans.com

The U.S. Department of Agriculture released a report Friday that said it expects record high corn prices this year due to the widespread drought.

The department cut its estimates

for the crop by 17 percent and raised forecasted prices by 39 percent to \$8.90 a bushel, which won't hurt local farmers growing corn too much, but will affect those raising livestock.

"The effect locally," said farm-

(See CORN on Page 8A)

Mayor may appoint replacement for himself

Oberlin's new mayor, former council President Rob McFee, will reveal his nomination to take his place when the City Council meets at 7 p.m. Thursday at The Gateway.

Mr. McFee assumed the position of mayor after Bill Riedel resigned at the last meeting, which left a council position open. After he makes a nomination, the council will vote on whether or not to appoint that person.

"It's the mayor's choice," City

Administrator Karen Larson said Monday, "and he will bring forth whoever he has decided, and then the council votes on it. We've never had this happen with the mayor."

The city will also be reviewing the street project, she said, and should have a schedule of what streets will be done in what order. There will also be an airport update, she said.



FUN AND GAMES filled the week at the county fair and carnival this year. Katrina and Jimmy Neal (above) brought their pet cat, Hannah, to the pet parade at the Good Samaritan Center. High school Principal Ben Jimenez (right) chomped down at the Macho Nacho contest. And Jeni Henningson and Byron Hale (below) helped set up the entries for the open-class contests. — Herald photos by Sarah Fredrickson (right) and Stephanie DeCamp (top and bottom)

Cat, chickens, puppies and dogs parade at home

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP
sdecamp@nwkans.com

Pets and owners alike promaded, pounced and purred at this year's pet parade Friday at the Good Samaritan Center, part of the Decatur County Fair.

This year dogs, puppies, cats and even a few chickens made an appearance, walking proudly around the courtyard of the center to meet the residents in the mild afternoon.

Byron Hale, district Extension director, said that the pet parade has been going strong for 23 years.

The most enthusiastic of the animals was Ruger, a 10-week-old puppy brought by Aspen Gallentine, who said he was her brother's dog. But Ruger, try as he might, to make a friend, could not convince Katrina and Jimmy Neal's cat, Hannah, to play. Hannah, for her part, stayed in her carrier for most of the parade.

Ribbons were given out at the end of the parade to the pets with the longest ears, shortest tail and other qualities. Evan Shobe, who brought his rooster, Duke, and hen,

Tizzy, won the prize for prettiest feathers. Duke and Tizzy also stayed in their cages while they visited with residents.

At the center of it all there was Ollie, the Good Sam dog. Ollie came to the center to be a community pet five years ago, said Connie Simonsson, and quickly took to Mrs. Simonsson's mother, Amy Rehm, with whom he sleeps at night. Ollie sat in Mrs. Rehm's lap throughout the parade, politely sniffing each new guest as it came to meet his people.



Oberlin graduate to teach in Venezuela



Heather Glodt

By **STEPHANIE DeCAMP**
sdecamp@nwkans.com
 An Oberlin graduate has gone to Venezuela to teach English to a class of 11 kindergartners for a year. Heather Glodt, daughter of former school Superintendent Kelly Glodt, said this is the perfect time — after college graduation and before having a family — to have an adventure. “My aunt and uncle have taught overseas for 20 years,” she said, “and switch countries every two to three years. They loved it and really encouraged me to think of it.” She chose to go to Venezuela after registering at an English teacher re-

cruiting website, where she posted her resume and browsed over the countries, schools, salaries and benefits. The school in Venezuela, Anzoategui International School, is only 40 minutes from the Caribbean sea, she said, and the temperature is a level 80 degrees year-around. School officials interviewed her over the video-chatting computer program Skype, and she was hired. “When you’re teaching overseas, the salaries are tax-free and housing, utilities and cable are provided for you,” she said. “You live on a campus and have the security of living next door to other teachers, but the

privacy of your own house. “Also, they put you on a traveling visa (instead of a work visa), so every 90 days you leave the country and they pay for a round-trip ticket and accommodations to a country of your choice. In October, I’m going to the Trinidad and Tobago islands.” The private school even has a beach house for teachers to share on the weekends, she said. “It’ll be like being paid to go on vacation,” she said. Not everything will be easy, however. Miss Glodt is leaving her family and friends behind for a year, after all, including her fiancé, Scott

DeBoer. “It’s a little scary to just up and go on my own,” she said, “but I think it will be worth it, and a great experience that will enhance my educational abilities.... I know it will be hard to be away from my fiancé and family, but thank God for Skype.” Heather said that security at the school is strict, and that she feels very comfortable about living there. “To get into campus, you have to drive through two locked gates, with armed security guarding the gates 24/7,” she said in her travel blog, “Also, there is electric wiring

running along the top of the entire cement wall that surrounds our campus. All of our windows and doors have bars on them as well, but on campus, that isn’t even needed. We don’t feel the need to really lock our houses at all, but most of us do anyway.” So what would she say to others who may be thinking of traveling abroad? “I would say, don’t limit yourself to staying close, for the security of having everything be familiar,” she said. “Don’t be afraid to take a little risk, because it might be the adventure of a lifetime.”

* Health leader needed

(Continued from Page 1A)
 Like someone with at least three years of experience in health administration, sound decision-making skills, experience in managing budgets and day-to-day finance, and with good human resources and relationship skills.

The board appeared flexible as they debated the pros and cons of how to word the ad, noting that experience could sometimes make up for a lack in education and that similarly, someone who had a focus in health-care education could also come in with little experience. “I’d rather have 100 applicants and narrow it down to 10 than have only 5,” said Ralph Unger, a former board member who offered to help with the search. He said that they didn’t want to limit their pool of candidates too much when they listed the board’s requirements. “The other side of the coin,” said Mr. Zander, “is that you can lose the good applicants in the trash if it’s not restrictive enough.”

The board adjourned the meeting with a solid plan for the ad, which was to be run by the hospital’s human relations office. The next meeting will be at 5:30 p.m., Monday in the conference room at the hospital.

* Corn prices set record

(Continued from Page 1A)
 ing consultant Greg Lohofener, “will be on livestock producers, which will mean a lower price for calves due to the cost to feed those calves over the winter. They will be affected the most by increased cost and less revenue. For grain producers, it shouldn’t be a big deal. For the cow-calf producer, it will mean less money.” It likely will affect residents’ pocketbooks at the local market, too.

“Most of the corn we grow in the U.S. is for consumption for livestock,” said Steve Zodrow, city administrative assistant, “so I’m sure this is going to drive up meat prices, because it will make feed prices go up. That’s the biggest factor, and will affect most of our farmers.”

Crop insurance could be the saving grace for most farmers as the markets adjust to the national disaster. Mr. Lohofener estimated that 95 percent or more of area farmers have some kind of insurance. “One of the main reasons (for the market change) is a lack of production,” he said. “Because of that, they’re showing the record high prices, and Oberlin won’t be left out of that. But if the farmers have crop insurance, the high price combined with insurance coverage could mean most farmers will net about the same amount of money as they thought they might when they planted the crop in April or May.”



PIGS WEREN’T the only animals being shown Thursday at the 4-H fair. Too young to compete, 3-year-old Aden Shaw nonetheless walked his pet goat around the ring after the swine show. — Herald staff photo by Stephanie DeCAMP

Carnival went well this year

By **STEPHANIE DeCAMP**
sdecamp@nwkans.com
 This year’s carnival was a booming success from the set-up to the tear-down, says Sherri Kyte, who just finished her first year as the amusement authority president.

“I think everything went really well,” she said. “We went through a lot of toys, and had a lot of people. Overall, I think we had a really good week. We had one night where it rained a little bit and we had to shut down and reopen, and Saturday night we got rained out a little (late), but we had awesome volunteers.”

They had so many volunteers, in fact, that every shift got covered and tear-down only took a matter of hours. “Friday night we still had some openings for Saturday, but by Saturday they were filled,” she said. “We even had little kids coming up and asking how old you had to be to volunteer. I couldn’t have

asked for any better.” While the final numbers have yet to be tallied for a numerical picture of the carnival, Ms. Kyte says she knows that this year really blew it out of the water in terms of toys. “I know that I ordered 278 dozen small toys,” she said, “and we maybe have 150 left, if that many. We went through a ton of toys. And I don’t know if it’s because the kids really liked them or what—they just weren’t trading them in like they usually do. And medium toys, we usually have an abundance of those because everyone wants to trade up for the large, but we don’t have too many of those left, either.” And that clean-up? That may be the most impressive part of all. “We were up there at 8 Sunday morning and by 10:30, we were done. We had enough people that we had different groups on each ride putting them away. I was really impressed by how fast and easy it went down.”

Commissioners certify primary with few questions

Commissioners canvassed the Decatur County votes from the primary election Monday, dealing with only three ballots that prompted questions. All three “provisional” ballots were counted, but no election results changed. “If a voter is unaffiliated,” said Commissioner Ralph Unger, “they can claim affiliation on election day. That were two of them. The third was someone who did not have their identification, but later showed up with it.” Under a new law, Kansas required proof of identification when voting this year, a new measure that the

county clerk’s office tried hard to spread the word about. “Canvassing” is something the commissioners have to do for every election,” said Commissioner Stan McEvoy. “There are two sets, the advance voting set and the voting-on-the-day set, and we go through and make sure all the numbers and totals match. “It’s kind of like watching paint dry. It’s one of those things we have to do, but it’s not really entertaining.” Mr. McEvoy said that canvassing the votes didn’t change any of the results.

Time to get geared up for big treasure hunt

By **STEPHANIE DeCAMP**
sdecamp@nwkans.com
 The annual U.S. Highway 36 Treasure Hunt is coming up, and anyone wanting to set up for the 400-mile-long garage sale needs to register with the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce. “It’s just so fun,” said Sharleen Wurm, a member of the Chamber of Commerce board and curator of the Decatur County Museum. “Everyone sets their stuff out, and it’s like a huge mini-mall. Last year we had more fun; my Chevy Blazer was so full you couldn’t have packed another thing in it!” The annual sale has been going strong for seven years now, said

Mrs. Wurm and anyone can set up a site. It’s not mandatory to register with the Chamber, but are some advantages. The \$12 registration fee will get you a yard sign, a spot on the U.S. 36 website, and on the handout that buyers will receive when they stop in town, said Mrs. Wurm. Forms must be returned to the Chamber office by 3:30 p.m. Friday Aug. 24, she said, and the map will be completed and uploaded to the Internet on Saturday, Sept. 1. Registration forms are available at the Dresser, the museum, Ward Drug, the LandMark Inn, the Oberlin Knife Shop and Carman Computer Service.

Decatur County Transportation Agency

Receives Federal Transit Administration (FTA) operating dollars. This funding is utilized for the purchase of fuel, insurance, equipment maintenance and storage. This agency is seeking Kansas Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) certified companies as potential vendors for these services. Please contact The Decatur County Transportation Agency at (785) 475-8102, the office of the Decatur County Clerk if you are a DBE or are interested in learning more about the DBE Program.

STAMP IT

Custom and Stock Stamps for a wide variety of business and home applications.

THE OBERLIN HERALD
 170 S. Penn — Oberlin, Kansas
 785-475-2206

CENEX

Soda. Snacks. Smiles.

DRIVE AWAY HAPPY.

The Godfather is coming to Oberlin!
 Saturday, August 25th from 2pm-4pm.

Come join us at Godfather's Pizza inside Eagle Convenience Store, 409 W Frontier Pkwy in Oberlin. Meet the Godfather and get a free kids fedora. Bring your cameras for pictures.

Come meet the Godfather and bring the kids

409 W FRONTIER PKWY OBERLIN, KS
 AT GODFATHER'S EXPRESS INSIDE
 EAGLE CONVENIENCE STORE

Enjoy a Mini Pizza
\$2.99

August 25th from 2pm-4pm at Godfather's Express inside Eagle Convenience located at 409 W Frontier Pkwy in Oberlin. Coupon Expires 8/26/12

Save even more with the Cabela's CLUB Visa*

Cabela's CLUB Visa* Cardholders earn 2% back in CLUB Points on every Cenex purchase — including fuel, snacks and beverages.