

# \*Vote count goes well

(Continued from Page 1A)  
 errors. There were some contested ballots we couldn't allow because they moved or weren't registered, but there weren't very many, and it wouldn't have made a difference on any of the races."

Overall, Mr. Unger said, this year's canvass was routine, with no errors or surprises.

"It was all pretty standard procedure," he said.

All three questions on the ballot passed with flying colors here in Decatur County:

- A state constitutional amendment allowing the Legislature to decide how to tax watercraft passed 790 to 529.

- The county dairy question, on whether the county should allow corporate-owned dairies, passed 1,038 to 394.

- The City of Oberlin said "yes" to a 1.5 percent sales tax increase to pay for construction of a new swimming pool, 567-311.

Decatur County favored Mitt Romney as commander-in-chief with 1,218 votes to Barack Obama's 266. Libertarian Gary Johnson came in third with 42 votes and Reform Party candidate Chuck Baldwin was last with 6.

Republican Tim Huelskamp, unopposed to retain his position as U.S. representative, drew 1,284 votes in Decatur County. Republican Ralph Ostmeier, who kept his position as a state senator in District 40, drew 1,154 votes to Democratic

Sen. Allen Schmidt's 328. State Rep. Ward Cassidy of St. Francis, who ran unopposed, landed 1,349 votes here.

Republican Preston Pratt had 1,325 votes to remain district judge, and newcomer Jay Tate ran unopposed for the position of district magistrate judge, for which he earned 1,346 votes. Nancy Moritz, a Kansas Supreme Court justice, stayed in her position with 870 "yes" votes to 375 "no" votes.

Also keeping their positions on a yes or no vote were state Court of Appeals judges Steve Leben (895 to 313), G. Joseph Pierron, Jr. (907 to 294), David Bruns (907 to 279), G. Gordon Atcheson (858 to 317), Karen Arnold-Greene (840 to 339) and Richard Breuer (849 to 305).

Republican Sid Metcalf was unopposed for the position of county commissioner for District 2. He drew 432 votes. The race for District 3 commissioner saw a three-way contest, with write-in candidate Robert Jones getting 93 votes, Democrat Brad Long 67 and Republican winner Brad Marcuson 374.

Other uncontested county positions included County Clerk Colleen Geihlsler (1,373 votes), Treasurer Jean Ann Hale (1,347), County Attorney Steven Hirsch (1,254), Sheriff Ken Badsky (1,258) and Register of Deeds Kari Ketterl (1,376), all running on the Republican ticket.

# Townships see ties in election

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP  
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The Decatur County townships ran into a unique problem in this election, county officials said. Many of those elected as either trustee or treasurer were write-in candidates who already held a job on the township board, excluding them from being able to hold their new position simultaneously.

County Clerk Colleen Geihlsler, who serves as county election officer, said Sherman Township had ties for trustee and treasurer. Normally, if those candidates are not already on the township board, a coin toss is done to determine the winner.

However, she said, in both cases the elected and write-in candidates were already members of the township board, so a simple reshuffling can take place over the next week after they determine who, exactly, wants which job.

In Dresden Township, all six candidates were written in, and the same two people tied for both positions. Gary Ritter and Linda Schroer both got five votes to be trustee and two votes to be treasurer. Ms. Geihlsler said she could not confirm the results, as she was out of the office on Veterans Day, when this report was being made, but said that Jay Wessel, also written in for treasurer with two votes, was going to decline the position, as he is moving out of the township.

If Steve Ritter, also a write-in candidate for treasurer with two votes, declines his position too, then it will be up to Mr. Ritter and Mrs. Schroer as to who will take which position. Ms. Geihlsler stressed that these decisions had not been made, but seemed very likely to resolve themselves in the coming week.

In Sherman Township, there were four write-in candidates with one vote each, said Ms. Geihlsler. Larry Roe is likely to take the treasurer position, as his opponent, Brad Uehlin, is the township clerk and cannot have both jobs. This would leave Phil Wurm as the only candidate for trustee, as L. Roe was the other candidate written in for that position as well.

Again, Ms. Geihlsler said that normally these problems would be solved with a coin toss, but considering the fact that most candidates already hold or are otherwise uninterested in the positions, she said, it's likely that the conflicts will sort themselves out.

In one of the few actual contests on the ballot, Jennings Township elected Republican Denise Ritter as trustee with 39 votes over Democratic contender Roberta Petracek, who had 31. Duwayne Metz became treasurer with 63 votes.

Center had a race for treasurer; Keri Bryan won over Jody Robertson, 20 to 10. Ron McDougal was elected trustee with 22 votes.

In other townships, most candidates for township office either ran unopposed or against write-in candidates:

- In Allison, Rebecca Wahlmeier was voted in as trustee with 11 votes and Linda Wahlmeier as treasurer with 13.

- For Altory, Jeannie Gawith had 12 votes for trustee and her husband, Gary Gawith, got 11 for treasurer. Our townships are so small, that in a lot of cases this happens, said Ms. Geihlsler, so there is no conflict of interest

- In Bassettville, Steve Brown as trustee got 12 votes and Terry Lippelmann as treasurer had 10.

- Beaver elected Jay Ketterl as trustee with 26 votes and Jacob Weyeneth as treasurer with 24.

- Cook elected David Juenemann as trustee with 16 votes and G. Dellere as treasurer with six.

- Custer chose Merlin Anderson as trustee with 15 votes and Brett Jennings as treasurer with 17.

- Finley voted in James Wesch as trustee with 14 votes and Amanda Grafel as treasurer with 17.

- Garfield chose John Gallentine as trustee with 22 votes and Curt Mizell as treasurer with 23.

- Grant elected Terry Rippe as trustee with four votes and Pam Wilson as treasurer with three. Neither were write-ins.

- Harlan named Joe Metcalf as trustee with 15 votes and Galen Lafferty as treasurer with 17.

- Liberty voted in Gerry Tally as trustee with 29 votes and Dan Votapka as treasurer with 30.

- Lincoln chose David Stapp as trustee with 61 votes and Robert Henningson as treasurer with 68.

- Logan favored Millard Kyte as trustee and Evan Unger as treasurer, both with 17 votes.

- In Lyon, J. McKenna, a write-in candidate, was elected trustee with 5 votes and Lawrence Carter, who ran as a Republican, as treasurer with 9.

- In Oberlin Township, Michael Coleman was elected trustee with 46 votes and Gene Morford treasurer with 47.

- In Olive, Tyler Witt was named trustee and Denise Abbey treasurer, both with 27 votes.

- Pleasant Valley chose Kenneth Carter as trustee with 19 votes and Jerry Foster as treasurer with 17.

- Prairie Dog elected Jim Fredrickson trustee with 18 votes and Betty Hickert treasurer with 21.

- Roosevelt saw Randy Leska win the job of trustee with 3 votes and Terry Rush that of treasurer with 7.

- Sappa saw Paul Shields elected trustee and Rod Bryan as treasurer, both with 20 votes.

- Summit elected Monte Moore as trustee and Paul Tally treasurer with 13 each.

## Come and get it!



**HAPPILY DISHING OUT** some prized recipes, Oberlin American Legion Auxiliary members Carol Morford, Joan Evans, Carolyn Hackney and Deanna Castle served up as many as nine different soups with crackers and corn bread at the Legion Hall after the Veterans Day parade Monday.

- Herald staff photo by Stephanie DeCamp

# Construction expected on 83

That annoying bump on U.S. 83 (also called Buffalo Avenue) at Hall Street is finally going to be leveled out, as the Kansas Department of Transportation planned to begin repairs to the area Tuesday.

Area Engineer Eric Oelschlager of Atwood said the work could stretch through Dec. 4. Drivers may see slight delays as maintenance crews replace the old pavement.

The crew will set up a traffic light to manage one-lane traffic on the highway. Drivers won't be able to get onto the highway from Hall Street, the engineer said. Workers will remove a section of old concrete and inspect and repair a drainage structure underneath.

"We just kept dumping stuff on it to keep it from

sinking," said Joe Capo, area superintendent for the department, "but this fall I saw that the drain gutters were popping out. I checked it out and it looks like there's a drainage problem, so we're going to go in and figure out exactly what's happening and just fix it once and for all. Hopefully we don't have to replace the whole thing."

A width restriction of 15 feet and a height restriction of 16 feet (because of the traffic lights) will be in place during the project, he said.

For questions about the job, contact Oelschlager at (785) 626-3285 or erico@ksdot.org, or Kristen Brands, northwest public affairs manager in Norton, at (785) 877-3315 or kristenb@ksdot.org.

# Fair board discusses future

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP  
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Members of the Decatur County Fair Foundation board met with county commissioners to report on their financial standing and discuss planned improvements at the fairgrounds.

The foundation helps to raise tax-deductible donations for improvements at the fairground while the county Fair Board runs the fair. Members said that their biggest project right now in planned improvements to the livestock building.

County Treasurer Jean Ann Hale said at the meeting Oct. 23 that the foundation has \$11,935 in its savings account and \$733 in checking. \$8,299 of that is earmarked for the livestock building, she said, leaving \$4,368 for other improvements.

Aside from the livestock building, President Robert May said that the foundation hopes to fix up the open-class building, put fencing around the beer garden behind the grandstands and build a new ticket booth and offices that can serve as a central hub for people to enter the grounds through.

To do all this, however, they will need to raise more money through public donations and gifts from wills. Because the board is just now starting to get bids on the work, he said, the members are not sure yet how much they need to raise.

"We'll see how much we can do it for," said Mr. May, "or if we want to postpone it a year, or do what we can with what we have. It may take two or three years to phase in."

If you would like to donate to the effort, he said, makes checks payable to Decatur County Fair Foundation, and bring them either to the county clerk's office or mail them to the treasurer's office at Box 167, Oberlin, Kan. 67749. Donations should be tax-deductible.

The foundation typically meets with commissioners every quarter, Mr. May said, but has not since the fair. He said the members should be back sometime in January.

# County seeks helpers

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP  
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Only one person has applied to fill one of the 15 openings on Decatur County boards for next year, commissioners heard at their meeting last Tuesday.

The openings include two spots on the fair board, two on the hospital board, two for the mental health board, two for the health foundation, one for the health department advisory board and five for the summer recreation board.

The one person who had applied for a position on the fair board, said Commissioner Stan McEvoy, was Brent Stallman, who did so "after a little arm twisting."

Mr. McEvoy said so many positions are available because current members are either deciding to step down or those holding the seats have served their allotted time. If a current board member wishes to maintain their position, he said, they still need to reapply for next year.

"For them to apply," Mr. McEvoy said, "they need to pick up an application from the (county) clerk's office, whether they're reapplying or a first-time applicant. We need people ... to step up and serve on these boards. It's very important for our boards to keep active and keep people on them ..."

"It's not always a very thankful job, but it's a very necessary one. It would be nice to see some of the younger people step up and serve, too. They have a vested interest in our community as well."

Mr. McEvoy said that if the jobs aren't filled, the commissioners will have to "go out and twist arms," and they'd rather not have to pressure people into the jobs.

To apply or to enquire about one of these positions, go to the county clerk's office on the second floor of the county courthouse in downtown Oberlin. You can also call the office at (785) 475-8102.

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Rawlins County Health Center

RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

November 2012

To schedule an appointment with a visiting physician, PLEASE CALL (785) 626-3211

Cheryl Banister, RN  
Specialty Clinic Director