

*Group seeks backers

(Continued from Page 1A)
 "A lot of our numbers are based on a study the city did about a year ago," said Mr. Lohofener, "so it's not like we're just grabbing numbers out of thin air. The study was on the feasibility of the project, as well as costs and so forth, so we're incorporating that."

"I already have some people verbally committed to the project, but not enough, so we're trying to get a bigger group over the next couple of months."

Two pretrial hearings planned

Two pretrial hearings have been scheduled for the murder trial of an Oberlin man that was supposed to happen in October, but has been put off until the last two weeks of March.

The first hearing, according to a scheduling order filed with the Decatur County District Court, will be Tuesday, Feb. 19, and the second Thursday, March 7. The trial is scheduled for two weeks, March 18 to 29, in the third-floor courtroom in Oberlin.

Dylan Coryell, charged with the first-degree murder of serviceman Corey Cook Oct. 16, 2011, has been awaiting trial in the county jail ever since, said sheriff's Deputy Jay Tate.

Ron Keefover, spokesman for the Office of Judicial Administration in Topeka, said that the same jury pool selected for the trial when it was scheduled for the last two weeks of October will be recalled in March.

Mr. Coryell faces charges of first-degree premeditated murder (or an alternative charge of felony murder), felony aggravated battery and felony aggravated burglary after the shooting death of 22-year-old Corey Cook. Mr. Coryell allegedly shot Mr. Cook while he lay in bed with a woman who testified she'd had relationships with both men.

Holiday fun scheduled

This year's holiday season is packed with activities at Oberlin senior centers, and as usual, everyone is welcome to participate in the festivities.

First up is the Golden Age Center, which plans a potluck for seniors at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 16. A ham dinner will be served and everyone is welcome, said manager Dorothy Moore.

A slew of activities is planned at the Cedar Living Center, a nursing facility at the Decatur County Hospital, this month. At 2 p.m. Saturday, the center will have cookie decorating for kids, and next Wednesday, there's a holiday music hour at 5 p.m. On Saturdays, Dec. 15 and 22, a holiday movie will show at 2 p.m., and a family Christmas party is set for 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 16. At 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 19, the center plans a holiday trivia game and treats.

On Christmas Eve there will be a 10 a.m. social hour with Christmas stories and treats, followed by a 2 p.m. Christmas movie.

Across town, the Good Samaritan Center also has plenty of holiday cheer coming up. Friday will be Shiny Nose Day, and at 3 p.m. the center will be showing "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Monday at 1:30 p.m. will be a Christmas rhyming activity. Next Friday, Dec. 14, is Cookie Cutter Day, where residents will be decorating cookies during the 2:30 p.m. social hour, and after that, the center will show the movie "A Christmas Story."

A Christmas Crafts Hour is planned at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 18, and afterward, at 2:30 p.m., the annual Christmas tea. Friday, Dec. 21, will be Bah-Humbug Day, when the residents will watch "A Christmas Carol" at 2:30 p.m. At 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve there will be a Christmas party, and Christmas devotions will be at 1 p.m. Christmas Day. Also that day, the center will show the movie "White Christmas" at 1:30 p.m.



JUST BECAUSE IT'S WINTER doesn't mean area 4-H clubs aren't busy. Mason Urban (above) was with the Sappa Valley 4-H Club at Friday night's Decatur Community High basketball game, helping to sell sweets for \$5 a plate as a fund raiser for the Oberlin Food Pantry.

- Herald staff photo by Stephanie DeCamp

4-H club still busy baking sweets

Members of the Sappa Valley 4-H Club stay busy all year.

The club, which held a bake sale at Friday night's Decatur Community High School basketball game, is raising money to help the Decatur County Food Pantry, said leader Keri Bryan. The club will meet at 2 p.m. at Raye's Grocery this Sunday to buy goods for the pantry.

The kids have also been busy coloring holiday pictures for the residents of the Good Samaritan Center, Wheat Ridge Terrace and the Cedar Living

Center. After they take food to the pantry, Mrs. Bryan said, they will be going to each nursing home to hang them on the residents' doors. Afterward, she said, they'll be having a Christmas party.

"Every year we try and do the bake sale as a fund raiser," she added, "and we usually do something for the elderly at Christmas."

"We don't stop just because the fair is over. We have meetings every month and volunteer at the theater every month, too."

Deer threaten drivers

By **STEPHANIE DeCAMP**
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It's possible more people are killed each year by white-tail and mule deer than grizzly, black and polar bears combined.

The U.S. Department of Transportation says about 1.5 million highway crashes with deer cause 29,000 injuries every year, though there's no firm count of the deaths. Bears only cause five to 10 deaths a year.

"There were three accidents just this week because of deer," said Deputy Jay Tate of the Decatur County sheriff's office on Thursday. "Only maybe a third of these accidents are reported, and I'm just saying that based off of the number of carcasses I see, versus the number of accidents reported."

"From about 6 to 7 p.m. is the witching hour, around dusk. Sunset is about 5:15 p.m. right now, but it's not dark for another 45 minutes to an hour, and that's usually when they move around, during dusk."

No one knows exactly how many deaths a year are caused by deer, but one thing is for sure - more often than not, people die or are hurt because they swerved to try and avoid the animal.

"People usually do one of two things when a deer shows up in their headlights," said Mr. Tate. "Either they brake, slow down and maintain control of their vehicle, or they swerve to miss the deer and lose control."

The Highway Loss Data Institute reported in 2008 that trying to miss the animal is usually what goes wrong in these situations, but there are other, more controllable, factors: The study found that 60 percent of those killed weren't wearing their

What should you do when deer are in your headlights?

So what should you do when a deer pops up in your headlights? The American Automobile Association's Foundation for Traffic Safety has these tips:

- Always wear your seat belt or a helmet, if you're riding a motorcycle.
- Go the speed limit. Driving too fast gives you less time to react to a deer in the road.
- Honk your horn, but don't flash your lights. This may "freeze" the deer in your headlights.
- If you're going to hit it, then hit your brakes. Never swerve to miss the animal. Swerving will confuse the deer as to which way to jump, and is more likely to end with you crashing into another car or hitting something like a tree, and being hurt.

seat belts, and 65 percent of those killed on motorcycles weren't wearing a helmet.

The average white-tailed buck weighs about 200 pounds, and a doe is typically 155 pounds. The likelihood of hitting a deer is three and a half times greater in November than August, due to the rut, or mating season, and hunting season, said a report released Nov. 20 by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Accidents peak in November, the report said, and begin to drop off in December and January.

"The months with the most crash deaths coincide with fall breeding season," said Anne McCartt, the institute's senior vice president for research. "Crashes in which people are killed are most likely to occur in rural areas and on roads with speed limits of 55 mph or higher. They're also more likely to occur in darkness, at dusk or at dawn."

Another study, done in 2008 by the Highway Loss Data Institute, said that of 147 fatal animal strikes studied, three-fourths of them were caused by deer. The rest were caused by other animals like cattle, horses and dogs.

Those driving a car, as opposed to a truck or van, are more at risk: A University of Alabama study said that of these accidents, 61 percent involved cars, while only 26 percent involved trucks and only 7 percent vans.

But don't think that because you ride a motorcycle that you're any better off. The study done by the Highway Loss Data Institute also said that those riding motorcycles make up half of the deaths in car-animal accidents every year, even though cars, sport utility vehicles and trucks outnumber them on the road 40 to one.

Granted, most accidents with deer aren't severe enough to injure, let alone kill, you. But fatal car wrecks with animals have increased steadily from year to year, according to the federal government.

Three win Christmas cash contest

Three people came in this week to claim \$50 in scrip after showing winning tickets for this week's Christmas on Us contest "instant winner" drawing.

Jerry Schuetz, who got ticket number 894807 from the Carpet Center, said he plans to spend it on more flooring and at Raye's Grocery.

Kaylene Thomas got lucky ticket number 195458 at Raye's. She said she's thinking about spending her prize at Dale's Fish 'N' Fun.

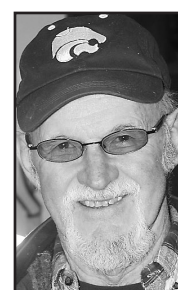
Nancy Lovin got ticket number 202400 at Stanley Hardware, but said she's not sure where she's going to spend it. All she knows is that she'll be using the scrip to buy Christmas presents.

The giveaway works like this: For every \$10 you spend at one of the sponsoring businesses, you get a red ticket with a number on it. You can also get one ticket a week from the newspaper or the Economic Development office downtown.

Every week, ticket numbers are hidden in the sponsors' ads in the pullout Christmas On Us section of the newspaper (also called section "C"). If a number in the paper matches the number on one of your



K. Thomas



Jerry Schuetz



Nancy Lovin

tickets, bring that ticket to *The Oberlin Herald* by 5 p.m. on Friday, have your picture taken and claim your \$50 prize. Prizes are paid in scrip, which can only be spent at one of the contest's sponsors.

This year's sponsors include Stanley Hardware, Raye's, Ward Drug, the Carpet Center, the Dresser, the Bank, R&M Service Center and Dale's.

No purchase is required to win any prize. Tickets are limited to 250 for any single purchase.

The Grand Prize drawing is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at the gazebo in Centennial Park, unless the weather is bad, then it will be moved indoors. Any unclaimed \$50 prizes will be drawn for them as well.

Employees of sponsoring businesses are not eligible to get tickets at the place of their employment. Employees of the newspaper and their immediate family aren't eligible to win any prize.

Winners must be present and have the ticket with them at the time of the drawing. All winners agree to be photographed and interviewed by the newspaper.

Drive starts out slow

The annual Stanley Hardware food drive has had a fair start, said owner Joe Stanley, with about 260 items donated so far.

The store has reached its goal of 2,000 items ever since it started the drive as a turn-of-the-millennium promotion, he said. As of Monday, the store had received mostly canned goods and a few dry goods like beans, but needs everything that the Decatur County Food Pantry can use, including cooking staples and hygiene products.

Melanie Anderson, who runs the pantry in the basement of the Oberlin United Church, said that items most in demand are flour, sugar, smooth peanut butter, hamburger helpers, gelatin and pudding mixes, canned vegetables and fruits and laundry products.

"We've had a really good response this fall from people that have been bringing in quite a few items," she said. "Our county has been very generous. When I look around at the other food banks in the state, they're having a huge struggle, and cutting down what they give people. But here, the people have been outstanding in their support."

Stanley is open to receive donations Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you would like to donate directly to the pantry, it takes donations weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. If you need help with food, it's open Tuesdays and Thursdays at those same hours.

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AUCTION

SELLER: Dr. Shawn Jensen

Friday, December 14, 2012 - 10:00 AM CT



LEGAL: 1690 W. 4th Colby, KS
 A tract of land located in Lots Nine (9), Ten (10), Eleven (11), and Twelve (12), Block Four (4) of the Copeland and Van Patten Addition to the Gilmore and Larson's Addition to the City of Colby, Thomas County, Kansas.

AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON SITE AND WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 10:00 AM

The Seller is requesting a minimum bid of \$120,000.00. (This property is on the county tax role at \$134,000.00) Included in sale microwave, refrigerator, shelving, TV, attached counters and cabinets, stackable washer and dryer and office desk. All items sold "AS IS". Property can be viewed from 10:00 to Noon on Thursday, December 13th.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTES: Please plan to be on time, this auction will move very quickly and we do not want anyone to miss this opportunity. **TERMS & CONDITIONS:** The successful bidder will be required to enter into a HomeLand Realty & Auction purchase agreement with a 10% earnest money deposit immediately following the auction. The balance will be due in certified funds at closing on or before December 31, 2012. Seller will provide marketable title to the Buyer(s) evidenced by a policy of Title Insurance with the premium to be paid 1/2 by each party. There will be a closing fee payable per contract for Quality Title & Abstract and shall be paid 1/2 by each party. The 2012 Real Estate taxes shall be prorated to the date of closing. This property will NOT be sold subject to financing. The Buyer(s) shall be required to have all financial arrangements made prior to the auction. All announcements made day of sale will take precedence over printed material. Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting their own independent inspections and due diligence concerning pertinent facts about the property. Neither Seller or HomeLand Realty & Auction, its agents or representatives, are making any warranties about this property, either expressed or implied. Statements, while not guaranteed, are from reliable sources. HomeLand Realty & Auction, its agents and representatives, are the exclusive agents of the Seller.



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