

To the Editor:

I just finished reading the March 6 edition of *The Oberlin Herald* with the article about delivery problems, and today is Monday, March 18. That's about the average time it takes to get my *Herald* delivered from the northwest Kansas wilderness. I sometimes receive two issues on the same day, and sometimes an earlier edition will come before a later one.

I'm not complaining, but do joke with Heather (my wife) that one of the Pony Express riders may have been attacked by Native Americans or fallen off his horse when I get one that is three weeks old.

I guess I could read *The Herald* on line, but I like to put it on the kitchen table and open it to read it like I do

with my local paper, the *Hartford Courant*, the country's oldest continuously published newspaper. *The Herald* is not quite as old, but its age is a major accomplishment in today's news and publishing world. Very few small, local papers have lasted as long.

It's important to me to keep track of my Red Devils and all the other interesting items from my home for the first 18 years of my life. I especially enjoy reading "Out Back" and "Events of Yesteryear" and the high school news. My message to those of you who are complaining about

the delays in delivery due to the Postal Service is to "give it a rest." Enjoy and cherish what you have, something unique and worthwhile. You can bet your oats, or in Decatur County, wheat, that not many towns the size of Oberlin can enjoy what you and I enjoy every week, even if the news is a couple of weeks old.

Greetings and best wishes from the "woods" of northern Connecticut.

Barry K. Avery
North Granby, Conn.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks for

the compliments. We appreciate your patience. We've learned that distant subscribers may have to wait a week or two for (irregular) delivery of a newspaper. It's been discouraging to hear these complaints closer to home. We are working with postal officials to speed delivery in Kansas and other nearby areas, but have no magic bullet. We do need to hear from those whose delivery has changed since postal work moved from Colby to North Platte, Neb., so we can continue this effort.

— Steve Haynes

Letters to the Editor

Second half starts off fast

The Legislature is approaching the second deadline of the session: committees need to consider budget and tax proposals and any remaining bills before regular session ends on Friday, April 5.

The past week, both chambers passed out tax bills that will begin the conference process. Budget priorities will probably wait until the Veto Session, when more current revenue estimates will be available. The leadership still plans to finish in 80 days. This will be difficult with the amount of committee work left.

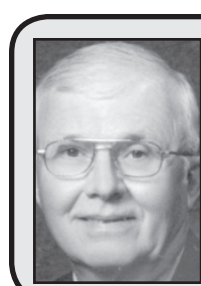
Major issues addressed

House Bill 2059 – The March to Zero. Income tax rates over the next five years will be reduced, with the tax to be eliminated by 2018. Income taxes were lowered this year for joint and single filers, and tax on nonwage income eliminated for small business owners across the state, along with adjustments to Kansas' current tax code.

The current state sales tax rate at 6.3 would be frozen in order to lower income tax rates, which would help all Kansans. An amendment was offered to phase out all deductions and breaks except for the adoption credit and charitable contributions. These will be phased out gradually through 2017.

Statistics show that 70 percent of Kansans use the standard deduction and will not be affected by elimination of itemized deductions at the state level. Federal itemized deductions will still be available while Kansans see tax relief at the state level, beginning next year. By passing this bill, the Senate has remained committed to providing further tax relief for Kansans and creating a competitive business environment in our state.

HB2022 – Paycheck Protection Act passed. Bans state or other units of government from making payroll deductions for members of public-sector unions to go to union political action committees. Members may still contribute in other ways, such as by check or electronic transfer. The bill also revises the Professional Negotiations Act and Public-Employees Relations Act by redefining and restricting partisan or political employee organizations. The details are specifically laid out in the bill.



Letter from Topeka

By Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer
ralph.ostmeyer@senate.ks.gov

HB 2019 – Court of Appeals Appointments. On the way for the Governor's signature being passed by the House and the Senate, amends the process of how these judges are selected. The governor would appoint the judge and the Senate would approve the selection.

Athletic Achievement in northwest Kansas

It was an honor to offer Resolution S1734, recognizing the Norton

High School wrestling team for its first-place finish at the Class 1-2-3A State Tournament in Hays.

Congratulations to Coach Johnson and these fine young athletes for a successful season.

Dates and Deadlines

Friday, last day for non-exempt committee action.

Next Wednesday, last day for nonexempt bills in either chamber. March 28-29, no session.

Seeking Applications for Manhattan Operations Manager

Responsibilities:

Oversees machining operations in the Manhattan facility. Delivers good parts on time & to continuously reduce costs. Determines work schedule & workload, determines available capacity, and maximizes utilization of equipment & workforce. Continually seeks and implements changes to improve the operation and efficiency of the facility. Analyze production scrap and takes corrective action to reduce / eliminate the cause. Responsible for determining how to machine new jobs and location for production of the jobs. Must be able to communicate well with all personnel in all areas of the Company.

Primary Responsibilities:

Purchase raw material and parts, schedule production, data entry into management information system, purchasing functions & procedures, and maintains current pricing in the system for purchased items. Responsible for machine shop Bills of Material, proper work instructions on machine shop Job Orders Inventory Control, keep work in process levels and finished goods inventory as low as possible without jeopardizing customer delivery, Keep all inventories in organized and safe manner.

Key Selection Criteria: BS Degree (or equivalent experience) in manufacturing related field, Strong team building and participation skills, Knowledge of SPC, 5 years previous management experience (preferably in manufacturing), Computer literate, Good analytical skills, 15 years of experience with mid-sized manufacturing company in the Midwest or Plains States that is either ISO certified or is successfully working toward that goal, Has successfully brought about change that had positive results for previous employer(s), Proven record of increasing production while reducing costs, Previous experience in machining of castings.

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Scholarships

Decatur Coop Association will be selecting 4 kids to receive \$1,000 scholarships.



Applications due at 5 p.m. April 1st.

Pick up an application at one of our branches or at decaturcoop.net

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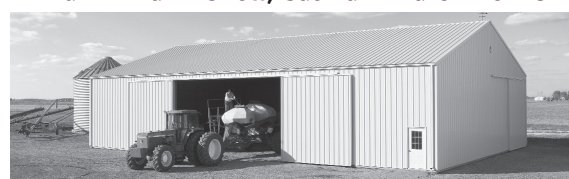
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You're invited to a Spring Fling!

Come Home

to Decatur Health Systems for a "chocoholic extravaganza" to welcome

- ❖ Dr. Robert Rosin
- ❖ Dr. Allen Hooper
- ❖ CEO Johnathan Owens &
- ❖ Dian Addington, our new physical therapist



2 p.m. Monday, March 25,
in the front lobby of Decatur Health Systems,
810 W. Columbia, Oberlin

Land and Equipment Auction

Sellers: Winston Churchill Estate, Lois A. Runion, Administrator

Saturday, March 30, 2013 @ 10 a.m.

Selling equipment at 10 and will sell land at 1 p.m.

This is a nice level, productive quarter of land with a nice all steel Quonset with cement floors. All on a good highway and a very scenic with an abundance of pine trees.

Sale Location: 1.5 miles West of Phillipsburg, Kansas on Hwy. 36 at 146 Road Marker. **Legal Description:** SW/4 of Sec. 21 T3S R18W. Phillips County, Kansas.

Terms: 10% down day of sale, balance at closing with certified funds. **Closing:** On or before April 30, 2013. **Mineral Rights:** Seller's interest going to buyer. **Possession:** At closing on all land except wheat planted acres after harvest 2013. Buyer receives 1/3 of wheat for 2013 delivered to nearest elevator. **Taxes:** Seller pays all of 2012 and prior years. Buyer pays all of 2013 and Subsequent years. **FSA information:** 143.5 Acres, DCP cropland-126.9 acres. This farm has not been signed into government programs.

Shop Equipment and Tools

Saw Horses	Pipe Vise	Drill Press on stand
Misc. Garden Tools	Riveter	(2) Metal Welding Tables
Log Chains	Air Bubbles	Vise on Stand
Hydraulic Jacks/Press	House Jacks	Metal Stands
Old Hand Drill Press	Air Hose Winder	Cut-off saw
(3) Electric Grinders		Century 21 Welder 250 DC 295 AC
		Many items too numerous to mention

Truck and Equipment

1968 IHC diesel 1750 Loadstar Truck, twin crew, 10x20 tires, metal box and hoist	L Case on Steel
1570 Case Tractor, needs transmission work	Flex King rod weeder
Flex King undercutter w/anhydrous	Miller Disc
Older Undercutter	

Antiques

Buck Saw	Cigar Boxes	Union Stoneware
Galvanized Wash Tubs	Globe on Stand	Red Wing 6 gal. stoneware
Black Board Slates	Lg. pile of red bricks	Antique Mt. Dew Bottles
Antique Dresser	Book Cases	Antique Glasses
	Crock Butter Churn	

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

Johnson Realty, Inc.

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