*Good Sam stays

which owns the Good Sam building. We've used the money before for roof replacement. It's just been sitting here.

Mrs. Shobe said that residents, staff and families of the center shouldn't notice any changes, and that there is no need for them to be alarmed. At least one worker had to be laid off last year because of the declining number of residents at the center, but hopefully, she said, that won't happen this year.

The formal agreement was to have been signed by commissioners and Randy Fitzgerald, the director of operations for the society, by

"I'm excited about it," said Mrs. Shobe, "because it allows Good Sam to maintain a presence in the community and continue serving our residents. We've been here since 1957, and my hope is to remain part of the community for many

"We get our revenue from taking care of our residents," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "Our challenge is that we haven't had a Medicaid increase in two years, and we've had Medicare reductions. so our challenge is that as our (numbers) decrease, we have to reduce expenses to keep us

"This agreement will allow us to keep serving the county like we have, at least for the next year. It's been a wonderful partnership over the years, and the commissioners of this county have been extraordinary to work with, especially (former commissioner) Ralph Unger. He has always been a strong ally of our society."

*Repair needed soon

(Continued from Page 1A) "I know that the total for all the work adds up really fast, but it should be spread out over a 10-year period, and at the end of it, you'll nave rebuilt your entire electrical distribution system. We're talking \$1.5 million at least. It's to our advantage to stay within our means, and I don't think we should seek federal dollars to do it. Free money and grants are good, but they aren't always free. There's usually a match. It's a long process and I'm just trying to get us started, to take the first step in the first year. I think this coming budget we put in \$150,000, which is about a 1 cent raise (in electric rates)."

That 1-cent hike was passed at the Thursday, April 4, council meeting, resulting in a rate of \$0.138 per kilowatt hour and an additional demand charge of \$7 per month per residential meter and \$12 per month per non-residential meter.

"We don't have to hit this all at once," he said. "We can go as far as we can and stop, then restart when we get a little more money. That's what's good about having a contractor work with you; they'll set it up however you like."

Assistants' luncheon next week

Do you have a helper you just can't live without some days?

Next Wednesday, the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual "Job Well Done" luncheon in honor of Professional Assistants' Week. If you would like to bring or send someone to the luncheon, today is the deadline to make your reservation with the Chamber and buy the

"The entertainment is the DCHS Singers," said board member Sharleen Wurm, "and the prizes, well,

you'll have to come and find out!" Taco salad, strawberry shortcake, coffee and tea will be served. To make your reservation, call the Chamber office at (785) 475-3441.

Spinning into spring



IT WAS A WINDY day for a dance party, but Chris Johnson of Full Throttle DJ Service played records from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, spinning everything from old-school country to Aerosmith. The music had been scheduled until 6 p.m., but

Mr. Johnson, without an audience, shut it down at 5. Not to be deterred, he said he'll continue to play every month at Centennial Park downtown, with next month's show set for Saturday, May 11. He plans to offer free music once a month through

the summer. You can find Mr. Johnson, a resident of Oberlin, at the website, fullthrottledj.wix.com/ full-throttle-dj

- Herald Staff Photo by Stephanie DeCamp

Art festival to open with gala for patrons

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP

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The ninth annual High Plains Art Fest is coming up next week, starting with an invitation-only reception for patrons and artists 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 26, and public viewing from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 27, and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, April 28.

The opening reception is for patrons who pay \$100 or more and the artists themselves, said Connie Grafel, marketing director for the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp. There will be snacks, entertainment, a wine bar and awards in nine categories for the artists.

If you would still like to be a patron, she said, call her at (785) 475-2901. Patrons will people are expected at the gala, and usually 50 something on your cell phone that you think

People's Choice Awards, and if they choose the weekend. All of the money goes toward to buy something, that \$100 they paid is deducted from the price.

The show will be judged by Steve Snell, Nebraska.

The nine categories are oils, pastels, watercolors, original hand-formed ceramics, photography, acrylic, ink drawings, charcoal and other two- and three-dimensional art, said Mary Henzel, a member of the Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission, which helps put the festival together. The event features works by both adult and high school artists.

the next year's festival, she said, with last year's bringing in \$5,000. "We're \$1,000 in the black," she said. "We

a professor of art from Hastings College in really don't need a profit; we just need to be small token of appreciation in cash. It's not a able to cover our expenses. We get people $from McCook, Colby, Atwood, from\, all\, over.$ Eleven schools were invited, and the majority of them participate. The kids really seem to like it, and the Nebraska people love it – it's a really unique thing for this area."

> One of the most popular exhibits last year, she said, was the cell phone art.

"We're going to do the cell-phone-art Mrs. Grafel said anywhere from 150 to 200 thing again this year," she said. "If you have

also get to vote on their favorite pieces for the to 70 walk through the festival each day over is really great, we have a category you can enter it in. They have to be 4 by 6 inches and printed on photo paper, at \$3 per entry, and up to three entries.

"People vote on those, and then we give a

lot, but it's something. It's just kind of a fun thing for us.' Mrs. Grafel said Oberlin artist Anna Shaw

has been "the key to pulling this thing off. She's the main committee person and an es-

"We'd really like to sell more patron sponsors," Mrs. Henzel said. "I would say it's the classiest event in Oberlin.'

*Storm shelters set up in Oberlin and Jennings for spring

(Continued from Page 1A)

in the basement.

"During the day, you can use the door. basements in Stanley Hardware or I'm not sure which ones."

it from the back by the lunchroom the clouds are doing."

in Oberlin, you can use the high "When the sirens go off is not when posed to stay in the car, strap in and nated shelter is the basement of the

"Hopefully everyone knows what Service has changed its advice for Gateway on March 20. You're not designated shelter in Jennings is in the (Oberlin City) library. Some their plan of action is going to be," those caught in a vehicle when the supposed to go under a bridge, he at the community center, she said, of the churches have basements, but she added, noting that every family sirens go off. It used to be that people said, since you can be sucked out and there is no designated shelter in should review their plan every year were advised to get out of their cars by the wind. Ms. Boultinghouse also said that so that everyone is on the same page. and seek cover. Now you're sup-

school basement as well, if you enter to step off the front porch to see what cover your head, said meteorolo-school (now the city building), and gist David Floyd when he came to can be accessed from the southwest This year, the National Weather teach a storm-spotting class at The corner, Ms. Boultinghouse said. The

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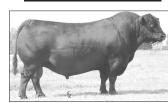
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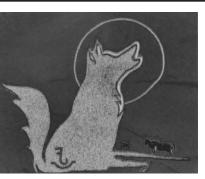
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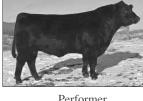
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