

*Home-owned carnival is 40 years old this year

(Continued from Page 1A)
and Mr. Lotker. The owner was Bill Collins, who also showed them a beautiful merry-go-round, which he said was his prize ride.
So the 40-foot Ferris wheel was purchased and a story in *The Oberlin Herald* stated, "This community is to have a home-owned carnival, and if plans of the newly-incorporated Decatur County Amusement Authority work out, there will be a Ferris wheel, at least two kiddie rides and about a dozen concessions ready to use by county fair time this summer."

After the fair, the amusement board met and decided they needed to try to get more ideas and expand the carnival for next year. Mr. Lotker said that when he and his wife, Dottie, went to Wichita to visit their son, his wife knew about Chance Manufacturing Company and made an appointment for them to view their rides. He showed them a Looper ride and offered it to them for \$2,500, lock stock and barrel, which was an unbelievable price, Mr. Lotker said.

The ride was brought home by a tractor furnished by Hamilton's Oil Company and their driver, Gordon Railsback.
Then Mr. Lotker reported that another ride was in the making for use the following summer. Bill Matchett of Matchett Welding had a swing on the drawing board. Blueprints were ordered and Mr. Matchett expanded on them and completed the swing as this winter project.

"We want this to be everybody's carnival," said President Lotker, as he announced that contributions would be sought to purchase molded fiberglass chairs for the new swing ride.

By 1975, the home-owned carnival offered Ric-a-sha, Cream Can and Bingo concessions, along with basketball throw, goblet toss,

duck pond, roulette wheel, dart toss, Pepsi throw and cane toss. Bill and Ann Ooton and Sally Henningson went to Kansas City to choose prizes for the concessions. A new fund was started to buy a cotton candy machine.

In January 1976, the Kansas State Court of Tax Appeals ruled that the Decatur County carnival would now be exempt from property tax, following approval of county commissioners.

"Decatur County Amusement Authority is boasting the realization of adding a 30-horse merry-go-round to their home-owned carnival," wrote Connie Grafel in the April 1976 edition of *The Oberlin Herald*. "The unit has been donated to the citizens of Decatur County by Ward Sauvage and will be in operation by fair time."

Mr. Lotker recalled, "One day Dottie and I were sitting down for dinner when the phone rang and Ward Sauvage said, 'Floyd, can you buy me a merry-go-round?'"

"I about fell out of my chair but managed to tell him, 'Yes, I know of a merry-go-round that I think would be very great for our carnival.'"

Mr. Lotker said he recalled the beautiful merry-go-round they had seen in Minneapolis when they bought the Ferris wheel, so he contacted Mr. Collins and arrangements were made for the purchase of the ride. Mr. Sauvage furnished a tractor and driver, James Boettger, and the ride was brought to Oberlin.

Another exciting part of the home-owned carnival was the donation of a train by Harry and Betty Schrammel. With volunteers from all over the county, new rails and track were ordered and laid with the completion and dedication planned for the first night of the fair.

Governor John Carlin was invited to speak at the dedication of the train during the 1980 fair and over 5,000



LITTLE KIDS LOVE the Duck Pond at the Decatur County Fair, where they always receive a prize every time.

were on hand when it was christened by Mrs. Schrammel with a bottle of champagne.

Koch Oil Co., held their company picnic at the Decatur County Fairground and after learning a new grandstand was needed, they donated about \$5,000 worth of pipe to build it. The families of their employees were also treated to carnival rides by the amusement authority.

"The Lord was with us through out all of our major purchases," Mr. Lotker emphasized. "It just seemed like every time we found a new ride, things fell right into place and we were able to buy the rides for unheard of prices."

So when the home-owned carnival cranks up the first week of August, you might see a Rotarian running the Ferris wheel, a farmer adjusting the clutch on the big swings, a merchant selling cotton

candy, a homemaker getting people to try the baseball throw, a county commissioner running errands and a banker taking tickets.

What Oberlin has going is the result of a county-wide cooperative venture that began in 1972 when a traveling carnival served notice just a week before fair time that it was not coming to Oberlin and the rest is history.

Moisture brings hope for corn

With the recent rain and weather conditions, the corn fields in Oberlin and surrounding areas look a little more promising.

Hansen-Mueller Grain Manager Joe Deraus said even though the rains last week were small, the cooler temperatures afterwards seemed to help preserve the moisture.

"I heard reports, he said, 'of areas in Oberlin and McCook receiving a quarter inch of rain and Cedar Bluffs receiving half an inch.'"

The corn fields at Norcraft are not doing as well. They didn't receive any significant amounts of rains like Oberlin and Cedar Bluffs did last week, he said.

Mr. Deraus said the conditions of the corn fields around Oberlin vary.

"The heat during the wheat harvest has taken its toll on the corn harvest as well," he said. "If we continue to get small rains, I think it's going to be a good harvest."

Dan Grafel, a farmer from Traer and co-owner of D&S Grain, said some areas around town received as much as three inches of rain.

"We have not had any rain prior to the rains we had last week," he said. "Since the rains, pastures around Traer have improved and some of the corn that hadn't been completely burned has started turning green again."

Mr. Grafel said the corn fields that were barely irrigated have also improved after the rain.

"I think harvest will be later than expected," he said, "but harvest will be decent."

Council will set pool election date

The Oberlin City Council will discuss a public notice to start the water improvement project at its meeting, which starts at 7 p.m. Thursday.

City Administrator Karen Larson said the Decatur County commissioners have approved a work permit for Oberlin to lay the pipeline along county roads and they are hoping to get bids from construction companies by late September.

The council will also vote on what

date to hold the election to determine whether or not to issue the revenue of bonds to build a new swimming pool in Oberlin, she said.

Mrs. Larson said the council will determine what date to shut the city pool down. They briefly discussed shutting the pool down on Aug. 18 during last week's meeting, but it was mentioned that the high school may want to use the pool for physical education classes at the beginning of the year.

Lucky winner will get \$1,000 in scrip money

Local residents have the opportunity to win \$1,000 in scrip money for a shopping spree sponsored by local merchants and *The Oberlin Herald*.

There's still time to sign up for a chance to win \$1,000 in scrip money. The deadline for entries is 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 13. Winners have to be 18-years-old or older and be present to win.

The drawing will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 14, at the Back to School Social in the Oberlin City Park.

The winner will have from Thursday, Aug. 15, though Friday, Aug. 30, to spend the \$1,000 in scrip at participating businesses, which includes Raye's Grocery, Culligan Water Conditioning Co., Dale's Fish 'n Fun, Stanley Hardware, R&M Service Center, Ward Drug Store and The Oberlin Herald.

The winner must notify The Oberlin Herald when spending the prize money and allow a photographer to accompany them when making their purchases.

Decatur County LAND AUCTION

141.39 Acres (+/-)

Sellers: Jon F. and Carol K. Peters, Ana Rosa Wishon, Jon Wishon

Friday, Aug. 16, 2013 - 4 p.m.

SALE LOCATION: Oberlin American Legion, 114 S. Rodehaver Ave., Oberlin, KS 67749.

LAND LOCATION: From the intersection of Highways 383 and 123 at Dresden, KS, go 2-1/2 miles east on 383. Signs will be posted.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section Eight (8), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-seven (27), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County, KS.

TERMS: 10% down day of sale, balance at closing with certified funds on or before September 16, 2013.

POSSESSION: March 1, 2014.

MINERALS: Sellers are reserving 100% of minerals for 10 years or as long as production exists, if any.

TAXES: 2012 taxes were \$373.22. Sellers pay 2013 and prior years taxes; Buyers pay 2014 and subsequent years.

TITLE EVIDENCE: Decatur County Title & Abstract will be closing agent. Sellers and Buyers will share 1/2 and 1/2 for title insurance and closing costs.

INSPECTIONS: All inspections shall be Buyers responsibility. Johnson Realty, Inc. and its agents make no warranties about this property.

EASEMENTS: This sale is subject to all right-of-ways and easements, whether recorded or not, and to oil and gas leases of record, if any.

CRP PAYMENTS: Buyer receives 2/3 of payments of \$1,098.00, expiring in 2025.

FSA INFORMATION:

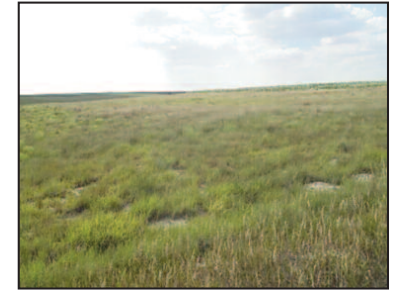
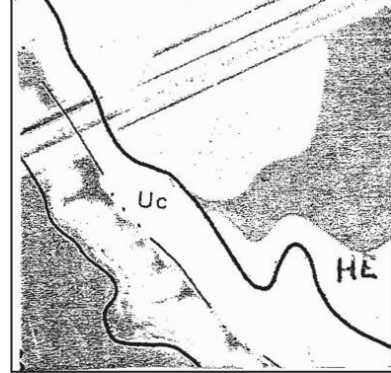
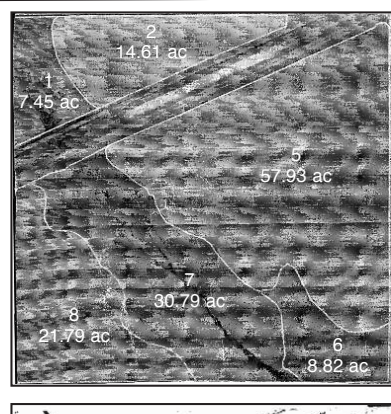
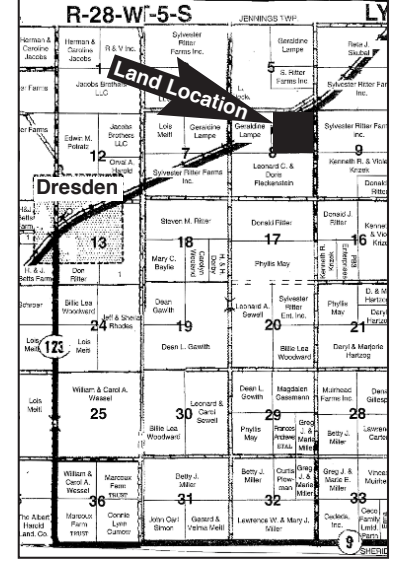
Farmland:	141.39	
Cropland:	141.39	
CRP	47.1	
Effective DCP cropland -	94.29	
Base acres:		
Wheat	67.1	yield - 37
Grain Sorghum	15.2	yield - 41

AGENCY: Johnson Realty, Inc., its Agents and Representatives are representing the Sellers and not the Buyer(s).

Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed material. Not responsible for accidents.

For a tour or information, call Lynn A. Johnson at 785-475-2785 or 785-475-8514.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This property has been well-maintained and productive. CRP is well established for excellent hunting.



Planning a Wedding?

The Oberlin Herald is happy to run pictures and stories of weddings.

However, we need the information within five weeks of the marriage. Write-ups received after this date require a \$10 charge for each month past the deadline date.

Stop by our office for a wedding form.

Check your renewal dates ...

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