

# Alliance discusses filing damage claim with federal agency

The Oberlin Business Alliance last Wednesday discussed asking for federal money to help replace the Christmas decorations destroyed during the blizzard after Thanksgiving, since that time has been declared a disaster.

Rusty Addleman, owner of Addleman Drug Store, said it would be worth a shot to see if the decorations could be replaced since each one costs around \$400.

He said he talked with the superintendent of the Oberlin School District and the principal at the high school about the shop kids working on the brackets. Both said they thought that would work, but said the students need to look at the decorations first.

Marilyn Horn, county clerk, said someone with the Federal Emergency Management Agency was going to be in the county that afternoon to talk with Bert Cool, emergency preparedness director. The representative from the agency does know about the decorations and will be back to get more information.

Alliance members decided instead of having a chairperson for the year, that they would have the person in charge of activities for each quarter be the chairperson for that

time. Kurt Vollertsen, owner of Ward Drug store, said he would take the first quarter; Joe Stanley, owner of Stanley Hardware, and Mr. Addleman took the second; Connie Grafel, city marketing director and Gary Walter, with The Bank, the third; and Tami Wasson, with the Decatur Co-op and Carol Morford, with the Dresser, took the fourth.

Jay Anderson, a retired veterinarian and alliance member, had written a letter to Wal-Mart and asked the chairperson to sign it. The letter pointed out that Wal-Mart doesn't have a good image right now and that maybe they could work more with small towns like Oberlin, which would help both. Dr. Anderson, who wasn't at the meeting, is asking for signatures from government officials and civic groups. The alliance decided not to sign the letter.

The group talked a little with Terry Woodbury of Kansas Communities LLC, who has been hired to help organize a steering committee to set goals for the next 10 years for the community.

Mr. Woodbury described the project a little. He also handed out a survey for members to fill out and return.

# Surveys delivered to commissioners

The Decatur County ambulance director delivered the surveys to the commissioners last Tuesday which will make the county eligible for a Community Block Development Grant for a new ambulance.

Director Patrick Pomeroy said all of the surveys have to be looked over by the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission staff

to make sure they are all eligible. If all of the surveys aren't eligible, there is a chance the department would not get the money. The surveys show the county in the low-to-moderate income bracket, which was required to receive a grant.

Amy Griffey, with Northwest Kansas Planning and Development, said the department should not bid out anything until she looks at the surveys and knows that everything is OK. Mr. Pomeroy said Ms. Griffey told him the state might be changing things on the surveys so the paperwork might not be good for three years like they thought they would.

He said the large door at the ambulance barn broke last week after a run. Lynn Overmiller and Dave Depperschmidt stayed to work on the door for a few hours. A pin had fallen out, said Mr. Pomeroy, but they got it fixed. He said he appreciated the work the two did. The commissioners agreed.

In other business, the commissioners:

• Heard that Mr. Pomeroy's cell phone through the county no longer dials the number 4 and when he dials number 3, it dials number 6. He said he would like to get a new phone. Also he said that one of the phones won't work when they hit the Colorado border. The commissioners told him to talk with Alltel, the carrier they go through. They also suggested checking into Nextech, which is the new service in town.

• Heard there were 45 ambulance calls in January. In the past, the average monthly calls had been 38. Mr. Pomeroy said there were 32 billable calls because some were calls where they didn't take anyone in and others were from games.



AT THE GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER, Susan May looked at a piece of art with Ruth Laidig. The center hosted its first art show on Saturday. — Herald staff photo by Cynthia Haynes

# Show features over 200 pieces of artwork

Art fans turned out in force Sunday afternoon to see pieces from artists of all ages and experience levels at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center.

The center received a grant to help promote the show, which featured artists from around the county, including pieces by past residents at the center.

Lisa Stacy, activities director at the center, said there were 212 en-

tries from staff and community members, 42 from 18 residents and five from past residents. Of the entries, there were 158 ribbons given, said Mrs. Stacy.

They were given in four divisions, including seniors 65 and older, adults 25 to 64, young adults 13 to 24 and kids 4 to 12.

People could enter pieces in ceramics, watercolor, wood, quilting, needlework, oil, acrylic, pen

and ink, pencil, china painting, wheat weaving, jewelry, cross stitch, rug making, photography and paint by number.

Mrs. Stacy said the grand champion in the senior group was Neil Marshall for an oil painting. In the adult group it was Norma Unger for a watercolor; in young adults, winner was Janna Leitner for an acrylic painting and in the kids division, it was Ryan May for pho-

tography. In memory of Garrah Gaumer, who was an artist, her family provided the refreshments with Judy Gaumer serving.

The afternoon was rounded out with music by Leanne Miller on the violin and Cheryl Christner on the piano and flute.

"It was a lot of fun and a huge success," said Mrs. Stacy.

# Troopers to check car seats

The Decatur County Health Department will sponsor free checks for child safety seats with the help of the Kansas Highway Patrol on Tuesday, Valentine's Day.

National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week kicks off on Sunday, said Lt. Douglas Griffiths. As part of the week, four to six troopers will be here from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Decatur County Hospital parking lot to check the seats. Part of checking the seats, he said, is to make sure they are installed correctly and see if they are in good condition and safe for the child.

During the week, he said, the highway patrol will hold safety programs throughout the state.

Lt. Griffiths said Kansans have increased their seatbelt use by 11 percent over the last seven years.

# Looking at gear



AT THE COVER YOUR ACRES CONFERENCE Thursday at The Gateway, Mike Kemper (left) and Mark Kemper looked at farm machinery in the parking lot. The all-day conference filled the civic center with farmers and those in the agriculture business. — Herald staff photo by Jim Merriott

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## PUBLIC AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2006 @ 10:00 AM CT  
LOCATION: 4-H BUILDING, N. HWY 25, ATWOOD KS

**FURNITURE & APPLIANCES:** Entertainment Center, Couch, Dining Room Table w/4-Oak Chairs, 3pc. Bedroom Set, Full Size Bed, 4-End Tables, Kitchen Table, 12-Kitchen Chairs, Stereo Cabinet, Computer Table, Lamps **SHOP EQUIPMENT:** Hydraulic Jack, Gear Puller, Bolt Bin, Port. Work Bench, Skill Saw, Miter Box, Hand Planes, Saws, Levels, Cement Tools, Sockets, Wrenches, Nail Puller, Lawn Chairs **HOUSEHOLD & MISCELLANEOUS:** Electric Heater, Step Stool, Stereo, Port. Radio, Exercise Bike, Box Fans, Dishes, Patterns, Wall Hangings, Knick-Knacks, Quilting Material, Books, Humidifier, Cards, Games, Puzzles Christmas Decorations, Dehumidifier, Port. Typewriter, Coffee Pot, Drapes **ANTIQUES:** Ingram Clock, Organ Stool, Library Table, Camel Back Trunk, Porcelain Pot, Sadd Irons. Insulators, Telephone, Radio

**GUEST CONSIGNERS: RECREATION:** 1984 Knight 16' Camper, Self Contained Roof AC, Bath, Shower, Rear Hitch, (Excellent Condition)

**FURNITURE & APPLIANCES:** Entertainment Centers, Queen Size Bed w/ Headboard, Round Table (30" x 42"), 8-Dining Room Chairs, 17 Folding Chairs, Office Swivel Chair, Lg. Assort. Of Chairs, Sm. Bedside Table, Night Stand (Drexel) Assort. Of Lamps, Wall Light, Magazine Table, Magazine Rack, Singer Sewing Machine, Sewing Machine Cabinet, Gun Cabinet w/ Lock, Piano Bench, VCR Cabinet, Wicker Corner Shelf, Oak Desk, Sofa (Extra Long), Wooden TV Trays, Sm. Microwave, Piano **SHOP & LAWN EQUIPMENT:** Leaf Shredder, Ladders, Weed Eaters, Lawn Mower w/Catcher, Garden Tools, Wood Lathe, Surveying Equipment, Craftsman Table Saw, Kohler Light Plant, 2-ton Floor Jack, Drill Press, Power Craft Coping Saw, 24" Pipe Wrench", Sm. Table Saw **HOUSEHOLD & MISCELLANEOUS:** Lg. Dehydrator, Wall Hangings, Floor Polisher (Like New), Ironing Board, Mirror Candle Holders, 3-Drawer File, Projector Screen, Port. Projector Table, Rugs, Poster Frames Rotisserie Basket, 20 gal. Fish Aquarium, Sheets, Suitcases, Towels, Phones, Picture Frames, Assort. Of Dishes, Assort. Pottery, Glasses & Mugs; Waste Baskets, Kitchen Utensils, Honeywell Air Purifier w/Extra Filter, Huffly Children's Bike (Excellent Condition), Adult 15-Speed Bike, Children's Bike w/Training Wheels', Children's Tricycle **ANTIQUES:** Camel Back Trunk

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## The Country Advocate

*One week only!*

Ad deadline for **The Country Advocate** dated  
Feb. 22, 2006 will be Noon on Feb. 16, 2006.

*Thank you!*

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