

* Ideas come out of brainstorming

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 were four that fell under 50 percent. Those included willingness to invest in the future, awareness of our competitive position with other communities, a realistic appraisal of strengths/weaknesses and deliberate transition of power to a younger generation.
 Before ending the conversation, Mr. Woodbury asked the groups at each table to work on those four areas and brainstorm how the community could improve on them.
 Some of the ideas included a leadership program taught here.
 High School Principal Charles Haag said the schools try, but they fail in teaching students how to actually be a leader. He suggested including students in meetings of the county commissioners, school board and city council. Why would they want to run for an office later when they don't know what it is about? he asked.
 Mr. Haag said it would be interesting to know how many people at the meeting were over 40 and how many were younger, but didn't ask for a show of hands.
 How many business people are consciously transferring and teach-

ing their skill to a young person? asked Mr. Woodbury.
 It isn't just about a transition of power, but it is about a transition of vocation, said Ralph Unger, a farmer and county commissioner.
 He said he knows younger men who want to get into farming, but those who are getting out are selling their farm ground to someone who already has more land than they can care for. What about mentoring programs? he asked.
 Throughout the evening, students from the high school read papers they had written for Brenda Breth's English classes.
 The students talked about improving the county by decreasing vandalism, cleaning up vacant house and businesses and putting in a recreation center for the whole family.
 Mr. Woodbury said the ideas generated at the conversation would be taken to a vision retreat in a month. Out of the retreat will come four to seven goals for the 10-year plan.
 Before leaving, he had everyone nominate one person each from education, business, government and health to attend the retreat. He said they need 30 to 40 people

* Sewer to cost city less than expected

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 the city thought they would be, he said, maybe the city should get the liner now.
 What is the expected life of the liner? asked Councilman Joe Stanley. Twenty plus years, said Mr. Monaco. The liner on the sides will be textured, he said, which will help with dirt erosion.
 The natural liner, said Mr. Mo-

naco, will still meet the health and environment requirements, but this area has been identified as a sensitive ground water region. The city will never be able to do the work for this price again, he said.
 The city also may be looking at reuse of the water in the future, said Mr. Monaco. A liner will mean that there is more water to reuse because there won't be any leakage.

* Ranch prepares to get going again

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 church in working order so they can hold services, including Sunday mornings.
 Mr. Kelsey said his real joy in working with the young men is a 30-minute session he teaches on life lessons. He runs a boys home in Goddard, where he teaches the classes.
 Spiritual change, he said, takes place slowly. It takes time and a real effort.
 He said the boys have to realize that their life is special, that God has a reason for them. He didn't put the youths here to occupy space in a boys home, Mr. Kelsey said. Often

these kids have been told they were accidents by their parents. There aren't any accidents, said Mr. Kelsey; God put each one here for a reason.
 Mr. Kelsey said there are a few things they need at the ranch. Any time people run across couches, he said, they can use them.
 He said they are also looking for a 500-gallon used propane tank that could be welded into a smoker so they can cook meat for the boys.
 For now, he said, the ranch will run with just 21 kids. In a month or so, when all kinks are worked out of the system, they will bump it up to 37.

* Local firms will get to work on project

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 suppliers or subcontractors. The city received a \$400,000 Community Development Block Grant and will borrow the rest of the money from a state revolving loan fund.
 The contractor will use Dust Cloud Construction, Castle Electric and others. The contractors can pick whoever they want, Mr. Monaco said, but they do have to get bids from local companies.
 He said the city has to approve of the contractor's efforts to work with local businesses.

Midlands is a very conscientious contractor, he said. They put forth every effort to get bids from businesses here for work on the project.
 The council signed the form, which will be sent to the state.



Annual Meeting Notice

for the Members of the Decatur Co-op
Tuesday, April 18, 2006
at The Gateway

Serving meal: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
 Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.



Oberlin • Kanona • Jennings
 Herndon • Ludell • Danbury • Lenora

Marking the prize winners



AT THE GATEWAY last week, Jennifer Shaw of Oberlin helped put ribbons on students' artwork during the Northwest Kansas League Art Show. The show allowed area students to compete and to show their work.
 — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Former resident hurt in crash

A former Oberlin man was hurt in an all-terrain-vehicle accident three miles west of Florence last week.
 Schuyler Hulett, 19, was still in St. Francis Medical Center in Wichita on Monday, recovering from injuries to his hip, back and head.
 The Kansas Highway Patrol said

the accident happened around 6:35 p.m. on Wednesday when Mr. Hulett was driving the four-wheeler eastbound on a railroad bed near U.S. 50. The patrol said he came up to a field access road crossing the ditch and tried to jump it.
 He was airborne for 21.5 feet and was thrown from the four-wheeler.

Mr. Hulett was found 65.5 feet away from the four-wheeler, troopers said.
 He wasn't wearing a helmet, but was riding with others who called for help.

Chamber plans lunch for professional helpers

Tickets are available for the annual professional assistants luncheon Wednesday, April 26, at The Gateway.
 The event is sponsored by the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce as a thank you to secretaries and assistants. Tickets are

\$14, which includes an invitation, luncheon, entertainment and a gift for each person.
 Businesses that would like to send someone to the luncheon should call the Chamber office at 475-3441.
 It will run from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Rummage sale planned

The Last Indian Raid Museum is accepting gently used items for the yearly rummage sale to raise money.
 The museum will be taking donations from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The museum board asks that

people not bring large appliances or exercise equipment.
 All of the items will be up for sale at the museum, 258 S. Penn Ave., from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 22, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 23.

Fish fry set for Friday

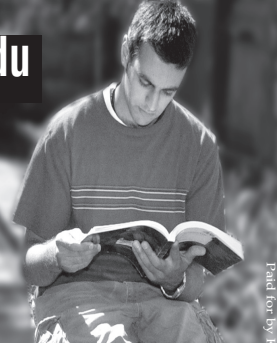
The Oberlin Business Alliance will hold a fish and burger fry Friday on Main Street.
 The group will have the lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the drive-

through of the old building, now the business incubator and Chamber office, at the corner of Penn and Commercial.

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* Director to leave Oberlin

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 A long time ago, Mr. Pomeroy said, the commissioners asked what his job involves. He said he went through everything and wrote down what he does. Mr. Pomeroy gave the commissioners the list.
 The commissioners thanked him for his hard work and service to the county.
 He said the biggest thing about the new job is that they will pay for him to go to college.

County wants new ambulance

Decatur County commissioners looked over the specifications for a new ambulance at their meeting last Tuesday.
 Ambulance Director Patrick Pomeroy said if the commissioners approved the list, he would send it out to the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission so they could start looking for bids.
 Commissioner Ralph Unger said the specifications were up to Mr. Pomeroy since he is the one who uses the ambulance. Mr. Unger asked if Mr. Pomeroy specified an engine, diesel or gasoline. It has been specified as a diesel truck.
 Noxious Weed Director Gaylen Huntley, who helps work on the county vehicles, said he thinks they would have to special order a gasoline-powered ambulance.
 The county needs just a standard diesel, said Mr. Pomeroy. It shouldn't be underpowered, said Mr. Unger.
 The ambulances are powered just fine, said Mr. Pomeroy. He said he wished the trucks accelerated a little faster from 60 to 85 miles per hour for passing on the highway.
 The commissioners didn't point out anything else on the bid specifications.

FARM MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT

SELLERS: REX SHAW ESTATE, ET AL. **ABSOLUTE AUCTION**

TUES., APRIL 18, 2006 @10:30AM, CDT

AUCTION LOCATION: From Selden, KS, go 5 miles West on Hwy. 83/383, then 1/2 mile North to the farmsite, OR from Rexford, go 5 miles East on Hwy 83/383, then 1/2 mile North to the farmsite. SIGNS WILL BE POSTED!



- TRACTORS:**
 •'03 JD 8320 MFWD, Greenstar ready, 575 hrs, 215HP, 4 remotes, 3pt, PTO-1,000, PS, Excellent Condition
 •IH 1086, 2 remotes, 3pt, 540/1000 PTO, TA, 4spd hydro, 1,332 hrs(not actual)
 •IH Industrial 464 w/IH1850 loader, 1,124 hrs (not actual)
COMBINE & HEADERS:
 •'00 JD 9650 STS, Greenstar wiring harness only, chaff spreader, climatract, 20' unloading auger 738 sep hrs, 1,064 eng hrs,
 •JD 930R platform
 •JD 843 corn head w/trailer
GRAIN CART:
 •Brent 774 w/tiptops
TRUCKS & VEHICLES:
 •'77 Chevy C-65, 366 V-8, 5x2, 9:00-20, 15'x42" Hillsboro B&H, RO tarp
 •'83 IH Truck, V-8 diesel, 5x2, 27,800 miles, 1,488 hrs, new tires—15'x52" B&H, tip tops, RO tarp
 •'73 F-350 dually pickup, V-8, 4spd, 5th wheel plate, PTO cable winch, good tires
- TRAILERS:**
 •'98 HD 7'x20' Load tandem axle trailer, dove tail w/ramps, bumper pull trl
 •Janmar flatbed, bumper pull trl **FARM MACHINERY & EQUIP:**
 •Sunflower FK Model 3050-035 tillage tool •Miller Series VI Model 6301-210-14, 26"6" disc
 •Richardson 7x5 blade plow w/Richardson pickers & NH3•FK 5x5 blade plow w/Richardson pickers •Sunflower 20' tandem disc •Miller 36' field conditioner•2 IH 14'x12" hoe drills, markers & hitch•Kinze 8-row pull-type planter, coulters, markers, row cleaners•JD 724 mulcher
 •Orthman 8-row cultivator
 •Graham Hoeme 8' chisel on hyd
 •IH 1-row corn binder, string tie•12' Speedmover•Otter 12' angle dozer•Westfield WR-80-51 auger, electric motor
 •Hutchinson 6241SC 6'x24' auger, electric motor •Hutchinson 8'x48' PTO auger•Sioux grain cleaner•100gal fuel trailer w/12V pump•200 gal & 75 gal fuel tanks w/pumps•98 Yamaha 4-wheeler•Pincor 50KVV PTO generator on trailer

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Due to the untimely death of Rex Shaw, Myrt will sell all of her farm machinery and equipment at ABSOLUTE AUCTION on Tuesday, April 18th. The Leroy Wessel estate and several neighbors are also adding items to the sale. Myrt's tractor & combine are both low hours and in "Like New" condition. Check our website for a list of JD features on these 2 items. There are few small items so be on time as this will be a short sale!

Can't Make it to the Auction? BID LIVE ONLINE! [proxibid](http://proxibid.com) 877-505-7770
 Register for this event on proxibid.com and bid from the comfort of your home or office. www.proxibid.com

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