



**SHOPPING SPREE WINNER** Marilyn Horn (above) checked out a stove at R&M Service Center on Saturday after winning \$1,000 in scrip from Oberlin merchants last week.

Linda Hollowell (below) opened one of the sponsors' presents she won with the help of Dave Bergling, *Oberlin Herald* ad manager.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

## Woman shocked by prize

Shocked!  
That's the best way to describe the look on Marilyn Horn's face when she realized her name had been called as winner of the Oberlin Merchants \$1,000 Shopping Spree.

Mrs. Horn, who was sitting at one of the picnic tables during the giveaway at the Back-to-School Picnic last Wednesday, said she didn't even realize that Publisher Steve Haynes and Advertising Manager Dave Bergling of *The Oberlin Herald* were drawing names for the spree money.

As Chamber of Commerce president, she'd been busy helping to plan and organize the picnic.

Mrs. Horn, who also is Decatur County clerk, said she registered only one time for the drawing. Last Tuesday, she said, after a lunch at the LandMark Inn, she decided she should put her name in. That was the last day for registration, which had been open for six weeks prior.

On Friday, Mrs. Horn made a list of the sponsors and how she and her husband Steve would spend the \$1,000 in scrip.

Advertisers include Dale's Fish 'N' Fun, Raye's Grocery, Stanley Hardware, Prairie Petals, the LandMark, Culligan Water, Flowers by Lee, Addleman Drug Store, Ward Drug Store, Countryside Vet Clinic, R&M Service Center and *The Herald*.

On Saturday, the Horns started at



the hardware store to buy paint for a new storage shed they had built at their home. Although the store was out of the paint they needed, they decided to return later to get some.

Mr. Horn went on his way and Mrs. Horn stopped at R&M Service Center to look at refrigerators and stoves for their new home. She said they decided on a flat-top stove with \$500 of the spree money

going towards it.

Down the street she stopped at Ward Drug, she said, since coffee mugs in the window had caught her eye. She also stopped across (See WINNER on Page 5A)

## Owner to purchase cart for guests to use

By KIMBERLY DAVIS  
kldavis@nwkansas.com

The owner of an Oberlin recreational vehicle park says he'll buy a golf cart for his guests to scoot around town after learning that city traffic ordinances already allow electric carts on most streets.

Charlie Godwin, owner of the Terrace Gardens RV Park west of U.S. 83 on Victoria Street, near the Decatur County Hospital, said he plans to buy a cart for people who stay overnight at the park so they can go downtown to eat or shop.

Mr. Godwin wrote a letter to the

editor printed in last week's *Oberlin Herald* urging the city to allow carts on streets, then came to a Convention and Visitors Bureau meeting Thursday at the LandMark Inn to talk about making Oberlin a "golf-cart friendly town."

He said many people come to the

park and stay just one night. They don't want to unhook their vehicle to drive downtown, Mr. Godwin said. The park hands out a brochure about the town, he said, and some of the people walk to stores, restaurants or the museum.

(See CARTS on Page 5A)

## Council to look at new contract for wind power

The Oberlin City Council has a new contract proposal from Sunflower Wind to look at Thursday night, including a higher rate for power, but allowing the city to keep its existing contracts.

The company, headquartered in Goodland, plans to lease land outside of Oberlin and build a wind farm to generate power here.

At the beginning of the month, the council was approached about a 20-year contract with the new company

by managing partner Dan Rasure. He asked the council to cancel its two existing contracts for power with Sunflower Electric and the Western Area Power Administration, which sells the city power at 3 cents per kilowatt.

Mr. Rasure said the new contract asks that the city give Sunflower Wind the right to match any other offer the city receives from power suppliers before they sign any new contracts.

"This new contract will not keep us from continuing to pursue a long term contract," said Mr. Rasure, "but we feel this should expedite the process in getting a commitment from the city. We are not asking for any guarantees of power purchase or any cancellation of existing contracts. The city's obligation to give us the first option to match other offers will be void if Sunflower Wind does not build at least 10 megawatts of local generation."

City Administrator Gary Shike said he is still waiting to hear from a consultant which the council wants to look at the contract.

In other business, Creative Movements gymnastics coaches will be at the meeting, said Mr. Shike, to tell the council how much they can afford pay to use The Gateway arena for classes.

The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

## Kids ride yellow bus to first day

By KIMBERLY DAVIS  
kldavis@nwkansas.com

The little yellow bus pulled out of the yard behind the high school at 7:05 a.m. and headed west.

Driver Roma Grafel turned off the radio, got on U.S. 36 and headed west toward her first pick-up. In all, she picked up seven kids Friday morning, the first day of school.

She headed north off the highway to the home of Zach and Hannah May, then back to the highway and south for the next two, Molly and Dakota Tate. From there she returned to U.S. 36 and drove several miles before going north for Garrett Scott before heading back to the highway, then east on the highway for the last two passengers, her own kids, Sydney and Saeger Grafel.

Mrs. Grafel talked to kids about their summers as she drove and about their upcoming year.

Some of the younger kids talked a lot, excited about going back to school and wide awake, while the older ones talked the least.

Zach May, who was getting ready for his first day in junior high, said he guessed he was excited for school to start again. Mainly, though, he said, he was excited for sports to start. He said he was already out for the football team and plans to play basketball, wrestle and do track. Over the summer, he said, he played baseball.

For classes, he said, he has English, science, math, geography, physical education and industrial arts and he decided to take band since he already plays the trumpet.

Behind him sat his younger sister Hannah, who also was pretty quiet. She said she was excited, although she wasn't sure why. Probably just because it's the first day of school, she said.

This year, Hannah said, she'll be in the sixth grade with Carol Dixon as her teacher.

Behind Hannah sat Molly Tate, who said she was going to be a first grader, bouncing as high as her seat belt would let her jump. Molly said she was excited and talked all the way from her house to the grade school.

Across the aisle was her older brother Dakota, who is in the fifth grade this year.

Behind him was Saeger Grafel, an eighth grader, who said he was sad

## District numbers decline

The Oberlin School District enrolled 30 fewer students this fall than it had last March, which means less money for the district budget.

Superintendent Pat Cullen told the Oberlin School Board last Monday that the enrollment was above what administrators thought they would have. The district will use a three-year average for enrollment when it comes to budget, he said, but the drop still means less money for the schools.

Dr. Cullen said the full-time equivalency number for the three-year average is 416. This is probably down a little from last year's average, he said, since the district has seen declining enrollment for years.

The official count isn't until Thursday, Sept. 20, said Dr. Cullen, and the district might pick up a few kids or could lose a few before then. Only students enrolled in the district that day will be counted for the budget.

The superintendent said the grade school enrolled 206 students, down 12 from 218 last March. That includes 10 in preschool, he said, 26 in kindergarten, 33 in first grade, 20 in second, 30 in third, 24 in fourth, 35 in fifth and 30 in sixth grade.

At the high school, there are 200 enrolled, down 18 from the 218 last March. That includes 30 in seventh grade, 26 in eighth, 30 in ninth, 33 in 10th, 37 in 11th and 44 in 12th, he said.

summer was over.

He said he spent the last few months playing basketball, baseball, swimming and spending time (See KIDS on Page 5A)

## Annual Fun Day scheduled to raise money in Jennings

Jennings will be bursting at the seams Saturday as people from surrounding towns come in to support the volunteer fire department for its 16th annual Firemen's Fun Day.

Things kick off at 8 a.m. with a health fair, kolache coffee, community wide garage sale and a wobble trap shoot at the former football field north of town.

All of the events will help raise money for the firemen to buy a 4,000-gallon tanker truck.

Women plan to make more than 75 dozen kolaches in the Bus and Coach International kitchen in the old school by Saturday. Those will be sold starting after 9 a.m. at the Jennings firehouse. Kolaches, which are a Czech pastry and a tradition in the Jennings area, have fillings ranging from cherry to apple to sour cream.

Throughout the day, kids can take train rides, throw at the dunk-tank target, find money in a coin search, go on a pony ride or take part in a tractor pull.

David Nievens of Nebraska, a children's author, will show different snakes and talk about them.

A cake walk is scheduled for 10 a.m. at City Hall, followed by bingo in the Senior Center starting at 11 a.m.

Between noon and 1 p.m., anyone who wants to take part in the parade should line up in front of Bus and Coach International, the old Jennings School. All entries are welcome and no pre-registration is required. The parade will start at 1:30 p.m.

The Czech Museum will have an open house to show off pieces from the area, as well as memorabilia from the Jennings High School. The museum has expanded its space to hold the school items.

In the afternoon, area firefighters can try their hand in a team barrel competition. The idea is to move an aluminum keg suspended from a wire one way or the other across the street.

Opposing teams aim fire hoses at the keg, and everyone gets drenched.

That night, there will be a whole hog roast and the day will end with a street dance hosted by DJ's Mobile Music Express.

The fire department and emergency medical technicians will hold a drawing for both girls and boys bikes with helmets. Kids must be present to win.

Other giveaways will include a television, DVD player and a surround sound system.