

Host compliments journalism class

A Salina man wrote to the Oberlin School Board complimenting the Decatur Community High School journalism class, which stayed at his home during a visit this spring.

The class traveled to Salina to go to the Jostens plant, which produces school yearbooks, at the end of March.

Homer Wells said in the letter that the senior journalism class stayed in his home on a Saturday night. The students were a pleasure to get to know, he wrote, and were gracious young men and women. Mr. Wells said he is a relative of one of the seniors, LeAnna Sheaffer.

The teacher, Brenda Breath, gets along with the students, but doesn't try to be one of them, he wrote.

Superintendent Pat Cullen said he, board clerk Vickie Lippelman and board member Barb Olson plan to read the district policy book, then each will read one section and become an authority on it. There are sections of the book that the teachers are supposed to read, too, he said, adding that it will probably take about a year to read all of the policies.

The Kansas Association of School Boards office had someone go through the book and mark out any policies that are outdated, he said.

The board approved purchasing science texts for kindergarten through 12th grade for \$33,475 from several companies. Steve Cullen, an elementary teacher who helped do the "legwork" on the order, said there might be some equipment and shipping and handling costs.

With Mr. Cullen deciding to retire this year, the board thanked him for all his years of work ordering the textbooks, and approved the order unanimously.

The board held several closed sessions to discuss personnel to discuss the superintendent "evaluation tool" for 20, 15, 15 and 10 minutes.

President Dewayne Jackson said he proposed using the tool, or form, the board is currently using for the superintendent evaluation. It needs to be done in June, he said.

Each of the board members will receive an evaluation to fill out and then send to Mr. Jackson to be compiled. The board will hold a special meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday June 16, to go over the evaluations, he said.

Jane Gilliam, with Waddell and Reed, talked with the board about the district's 403b investment plan. With some new rules from the Internal Revenue Service, she said,

School roundup

At the May meeting, the Oberlin School Board:

- Put off a decision on putting an electric pump on the irrigation well used to water the football practice field east of the high school. Story at right.

- Approved a \$205,325 bid from Wray Roofing to finish the three-year reroofing project for the district. Story on Page 3A.

- Received a letter from a Salina man bragging about the high school journalism class. Story at left.

some changes need to be made. Everything has to be in place by the new year, she said.

Waddell and Reed would be the plan administrator, said Dr. Cullen, adding that a proposal on the table outlined the plan.

This wouldn't actually make a lot of changes for the employees? asked Mrs. Olson. It just would outline the options? Yes, said Mrs. Gilliam, adding that the plan document was put together at no cost to the district.

The board approved Mrs. Gilliam as the plan administrator.

In other business, the board:

- Heard from Terry Ream, girls basketball coach, who said there would be one returning senior this year. There are lots of young players, he said, and although inexperienced, they were hard workers.

- Heard from Joe Dreher, wrestling coach, who also said he had a young team this year, with five freshmen in the line up. Although they lacked experience, he said, the wrestlers worked hard and made gains.

- Held closed sessions for five and two minutes for nonelected personnel. There was no action taken.

- Approved replacing the big door on the vocational agriculture building at a cost of \$5,935.

- Heard that Peter Grier, architect for the front porch of the high school, has blueprints. The plan includes taking out some of the big trees at the entrance to the junior high building. Dr. Cullen said he thought he would have the plans before the next meeting.

- Held a 10-minute closed session for nonelected personnel. There was no action taken.

Let's go fly a kite and send it sailing



GETTING READY TO FLY their kite, Grace Randel (in front) and Samaria Vilar were enjoying good weather on Wednesday during their lunch hour. Students from kindergarden to sixth grade tried their hand at lofting paper gliders on the playground of the Oberlin Elementary School.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Pump purchase delayed

The Oberlin School Board put off a decision last Monday on buying a pump for the irrigation well used on the football practice field east of the high school to upgrade the system from flood irrigation to sprinklers.

The board received a bid from Western Sprinklers Inc. out of Colby for \$4,736 for a motor and other equipment. A bid from the city to put electric service to the well would cost \$1,390.

The district needs to find a better way to get water on the field, said Superintendent Pat Cullen, but this is quite a bit of money to update the irrigation system.

Board member Monte Moore said the field was made to flood; it's sloped, he said, and the cheapest way to put water on it is by flooding, using an existing engine-driven pump. With sprinklers, it will cost more to water it and someone will have to move the pipe around.

Terry Ream, outdoor maintenance supervisor for the school district, said the irrigation well puts out four million gallons of water per year. If the goal is for the practice field to look like the football field, he said, then the district will have to use city water.

With sprinklers, he said, the field will need more than the well can produce. It will take about eight million gallons of city water, he estimated, and once the city goes on water rationing, what would the district do?

Basically, the district can't really put sprinklers on it using the well, he said, because it doesn't produce enough water.

During the 2000 season, said Mr. Ream, he put sprinklers on the county baseball field and that cost around \$4,000. To do that now for the football practice field it would probably cost around \$20,000 for the season, he estimated.

With the kind of grass on the practice field, said Mr. Ream, it can go dormant during the early summer and then he can bring most of it back with flood irrigation, except the ends.

Labor Day celebration set in Logan

It's not too early to be planning, and for Logan the planning is well underway for its 32nd annual Labor Day Celebration on Sunday, Aug. 31, at the golf course on K-9, 1 1/4 miles east of Logan.

Sponsored by the Dane G. Hansen Memorial Foundation, there is no admission charge.

Activities begin at 8 a.m. with an ecumenical church service, a remote control fly-in and a sand volleyball tournament.

The Logan Chamber of Commerce food booth and the Sno-Cone Shack will open at 10 a.m. The Dane G. Bales Junior Memorial Car Show begins at 10 a.m. and concludes at 4 p.m. The car show will feature many makes and varieties.

The Kansas Hunter's Education Instructor's Association Pellet Range will be available from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The RTS Express, a climbing wall and a 22' slide will also entertain the children. The Van De Creek State Sanctioned Kid's Tractor Pull being at 2 p.m. Winners are eligible to compete at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson.

Two mounted drill teams will perform between 4 and 5:30 p.m. They are the Prairie Dusters Mounted Drill Team from the Logan area

and the Buffalo Soldiers Drill Team from the Nicodemus area. These are always crowd favorites.

Musical entertainment will be provided by two noted musical groups. Appearing on stage at 5:30 p.m. will be "The Warnock Family" of Branson, Mo., and at 7:30 p.m., the "McLemore Family" from Colby.

The Warnock family sing and dance to an eclectic array of music from the 1920s to present day. Their shows are action packed with dancing, instruments, humor and beautiful vocals.

The McLemore family is becoming a favorite bluegrass band. Noted especially for their tight acappella harmony and good family fun, the group puts on a professional but relaxes stage show with a flair that pleases audiences and also incorporates some off-the-wall fun stuff.

Rainbow Fireworks will light up the sky that night.

For more information, please call the museum at (785) 689-4846.



CHECKING A WELL for damage from flying metal, Ward Votapka was out on Friday to see what a tornado had done the night before to his building and machinery north of Oberlin.

— Herald staff photo by Dave Bergling

* Storm batters farms, damages outbuildings

(Continued from Page 1A) \$80,000 to \$100,000, she said, and at least 20 residents had damage to houses, machinery and outbuildings.

The total damage could be about \$2.5 million, she estimated, some of which will be covered by insurance.

The whole thing, she said, was a frightening situation. During the 12-hour period, she had as many as 200 calls.

During the storm, Mrs. Skubal said, she and Linda Manning, county ambulance director, and Fire Chief Bill Cathcart were at the command post. Both Undersheriff Randy McHugh and Deputy Jay Tate were out on the roads, watching the storms.

The National Weather Service in Goodland confirmed that two

tornadoes had touched down. The first was reported at 5:25 p.m., 13 miles southwest of Oberlin.

That one formed northeast of Leoville and then tracked north by northeast to west of Dresden, meteorologist Jerry Killingsworth said.

It barely missed Leoville and Dresden, crossed U.S. 36 east of Oberlin and dissipated north of the highway in rural Decatur County.

The second twister developed southwest of Selden on U.S. 83.

It moved north by northeast to just west of Oberlin, past the feed yard to just east of Cedar Bluffs and dissipated near the state line.

The tornado was reported by off-duty weather service personnel, the public and law enforcement officers, Mr. Killingsworth said.

Both tornadoes were classified as

EF1, he said, the smallest and weakest on the Enhanced Fujita scale, but still powerful enough to blow away

a barn or crush a grain bin. The classification system is based on wind speed and damage, he said.

Belmont Management Company, Inc. cordially invites you and your guests to tour our Parkview Apartments that were remodeled in 2006. Please join us for the evening.

Thursday, June 5, 2008 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Parkview Apartments
311 N. Garfield
Oberlin, Kansas

Refreshments will be provided

15th Annual

Selden Antique Tractor and Car Show

Hamburgers
Barbecue Pork
Food and Drinks Served all day!
Raffle: Pedal Tractor and other items

**Sunday, June 1, 2008
Main Street
Selden, Kansas**



Registration: 9 - 11 a.m.
(North End of Main Street)
Parade 3:30 P.M.

Plaques Awarded to Top Exhibitors (10 Tractor/10 Car/3 Small Engine)
Come join the family fun and view antique and classic tractors, cars, small engines, and more!

Events Include:

- Horseshoe Pitching Competition - 10 a.m.
- Antique Baler Demonstration - 10:30, Noon, 2:00
- Basketball Free Throw Contest (Grades 3-5 & 6-8) - 11:30
- Kiddie Tractor Pull - 1 p.m. - Barrel Roll Competition 2:30 p.m.
- Live Entertainment (during and after lunch)
- Craft Show All Day • Barrel and Wagon Train Rides •

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