

Salvage available to anyone

The Decatur County commissioners agreed last Tuesday to declare salvaged items left in the lot south of the Golden Age Building as surplus to be given away.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said he attended the work day on Saturday, Jan. 31, and there were several items that came out of the building that could be used by someone, but aren't needed for the new recreation/senior center.

He said there were a lot of used ceiling tile which could be used in another building if someone went through and picked the best ones. There are other things that someone could use, instead of them ending up in the landfill.

Some of the salvaged items were given away during the work day, he said. Items that might be able to be used in the new building were put into storage.

The commissioners approved declaring the items surplus, adding that it's first come, first serve if anyone wants them.

The group talked briefly about the demolition work the county will help with on the old buildings. The county will provide trucks for the debris.

Tim Stallman, road and bridge supervisor, asked if he is supposed to be hauling dirt for the project and where the dirt would come from. He said he could probably make his gravel trailers work to haul dirt if needed.

Mr. Unger said he thought the demolition would start on Tuesday, Feb. 17.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Accepted the deed to the Sunflower Cinema building and approved filing it in the register of deeds' office.

- Approved a nine-month lease for the Golden Age Center and senior meal site for the Grapevine Cafe for \$650 a month, up \$100 from the previous discussion. If the utilities are over \$160, the lease says the renters will pay the difference. The renters are responsible for snow removal and mowing.



DRESSED IN HER BEST, Cori Isbell took her turn walking down the runway at the Girl Scout fashion show on Sunday at Oberlin Elementary School.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Wind ordinance put off as state discusses issue

The Oberlin City Council once again put off action Thursday on a proposed wind-power ordinance it has been working on for over six months, waiting to see what happens with the two bills in the state House of Representatives that address wind energy.

City Administrator Austin Gilley said he received an e-mail about the House bills which basically states that if they are passed, both will preempt any city ordinances regulating wind energy.

The city wouldn't be able to restrict the height of the tower, the location or how much energy could be produced, he said. The bills would pretty much make anything the city passes mute.

"I don't like that," said Councilwoman Marcia Lohofener.

Mr. Gilley said he was unaware that the city has looked into any kind of wind energy. Councilman Jay Anderson said the council has looked into it and had a company presenting

ideas. By the time the presentation was done, he said, the council "had educated the company."

Wind power is something the council members need to think about, said Councilman Ray Ward, who was the acting mayor, but with a company that has some history and experience.

Surely the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency is going to fight these bills, said Mrs. Lohofener. Yes, said Mr. Gilley, that's basically what the e-mail is about.

She said she doesn't want just anyone being able to come in and put up wind turbines. There are already restrictions for tower height and related items in the building ordinance, noted Mr. Ward.

Anyone wanting to build a wind turbine would also need a building permit, said Mr. Gilley, and would have to meet electric codes, too.

Mrs. Lohofener said she would like the council to keep an eye on wind energy.

Commercial zones would include hotels

The Oberlin City Council approved an ordinance Thursday to include motels and hotels into the permitted uses for commercial-general zones.

The ordinance, said City Administrator Austin Gilley, doesn't dictate where a hotel will be built. A developer would still have to apply for a building permit and get permission to actually build a motel or hotel. Besides, he said, there doesn't seem to be a rush of people lining up to build a motel here.

The ordinance basically allows that kind of business in the commer-

cial-general zone in the city, without a variance from the council.

Sid Metcalf, chairman of the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp. board, said he is interested in seeing this change go through. Nothing can be done on a motel without this ordinance first being approved, he said, adding that he doesn't see any negative ramifications from the city accepting the change.

The council unanimously approved the ordinance. Councilwoman Rhonda May and Mayor Joe Stanley were absent.

Banks, offices to close Monday

Banks and financial institutions, as well as county and federal offices, will close Monday for Presidents' Day.

Most businesses will be open, including *The Oberlin Herald*, as will city and state offices.

There will be no mail service, so news and advertising copy should be left at the newspaper office on Monday. Deadline is noon Monday, as usual.

The paper will be printed on schedule on Tuesday.

Wind webcast planned

"Basics of Farm/Residential Small Wind Turbines" will be offered from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday at the Decatur County Extension office.

The webcast is sponsored by an eight-state Extension team, including K-State Research and Extension. It will give those interested in wind energy an overview of small wind turbines. Presenter will be Antonio Jimenez of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory/National Wind Technology Center.

For information, call Byron Hale at (785) 475-8121.

Scouts hold fashion show

By **KIMBERLY DAVIS**
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The girl, dressed head to toe in pink, walked with a slight sway to her body down the runway, stopped briefly at the end, twirled and quickly walked back to the start.

She joined her fellow Daisies and Brownies in the Oberlin Girl Scout fashion show Sunday in the gym at the Oberlin Elementary School.

The Cadet Troop, said Michell Ferguson, has been working on their fashion badges, and one of the requirements is to hold a fashion show. The girls invited the younger troops, the Daisies and Brownies, to be the models in the show.

A runway sectioned off by crepe paper was set up in the middle of the gym and chairs were placed on each

side for the parents, grandparents and siblings.

The girls wore what they had in their closets, everything from dresses a girl would wear for church on Christmas to everyday jeans and T-shirts, to skirts with matching tops. One even had a princess dress.

All of the models, said Ms. Ferguson, received a jean-pocket purse made by the Cadet troop.

The first-place winner for the Daisies was Calista Isbell and second place went to Kaitlyn Howland. The first-place winner in the Brownies group was Danielle Rouse and second went to Emily Howland.

Members of the Cadet troop who served as judges included Clarissa Ferguson, Elizabeth Hollars, Dallas Paul, Haley Schiessler, Brittany

Urban and Joslyn Wade.

Ms. Ferguson said next on the girls' activity calendar is selling cookies from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday in front of Raye's Grocery.

Commissioners discuss signs, maps for roads

The Decatur County commissioners and the road and bridge supervisor talked again last Tuesday about signs for the county roads, but made no decisions.

Supervisor Tim Stallman talked about publishing a description of how the roads were named for the Enhanced 911 system with a map in *The Oberlin Herald*. Commissioner Ralph Unger suggested putting the description in the next tax statements and maybe around the courthouse.

The paper has the map of Allison Township on one side and the description of the 911 addressing on the other side. It includes information stating that all roads running north to south will be called Road, labeled RD, while all roads running east and west will be called Lane and be labeled LN.

If the signs are going to be changed, asked new Commissioner Gene Gallentine, wouldn't it be good for the bordering counties like Rawlins and Norton to all be laid out the same way?

That would mean having to redo all of the road names again, said Commissioner Stan McEvoy, adding that he didn't want to do that again.

Each county created its own system, said Mr. Unger, adding

that there's no requirement for the county to put up road signs.

Mr. McEvoy says the county does want to do that.

Mr. Gallentine asked when the commissioners would have an idea what the signs will cost. Mr. Stallman said it will cost more than the county thought, because the prices have gone up. He didn't have the information on how much, however.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved up to \$5,000 for Mr. Stallman to update his tire inventory, including getting tires retreaded.

- Ratified a purchase of grader blades at \$12,545. Last year, said Mr. Stallman, when the county bought grader blades, he asked if he could buy again this February if the price was the same. It is, he said, and those were delivered. He said it was a little sooner than he thought it would be, but since the blades were the same price, he agreed to have them unloaded at the shop.

- Heard that the crew is working on getting edges pulled in on roads. Mr. Stallman talked a little about the north end of the Clayton Road, which has a drainage problem. He said the road is on the schedule for some work.

Decatur & Rawlins County Land Auction

800 (+/-) Acres Farmland & Grass
Tuesday, February 24, 2009 - 2 p.m.

Sale location: The Gateway, 1 Morgan Drive, Oberlin, Kansas. Located southwest of intersection of Highway 83 and Highway 36.

Sellers: Elbert May Inc. & Washburn Endowment Association

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF ELBERT MAY INC. LAND:
Tract 1: The Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section Four (4), Township Three (3) South, Range Thirty (30), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County, Kansas.
Tract 2: The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Eight (8), Township Three (3) South, Range Thirty (30), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County Kansas.
Tract 3: The Northwest Quarter of Section Eight (8), Township Three (3) South, Range Thirty (30), West of of the 6th P.M., Decatur County, Kansas.
Tract 4: The Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section Twenty-three (23), Township Two (2) South, Range Thirty-one (31), West of the 6th P.M., Rawlins County, Kansas.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF WASHBURN ENDOWMENT ASSOCIATION LAND:
Tract 5: The Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section Eighteen (18), Township One (1) South, Range Twenty-seven (27), West of the 6th P.M., Decatur County Kansas.

ORDER OF SALE: Tracts 1,2,3 and 4 owned by Elbert May Inc., followed by Tract 5 owned by Washburn Endowment Association.
EVIDENCE OF TITLE: Sellers will provide title insurance to the Buyers in the amount of purchase price, with Buyers and Sellers sharing equally in title insurance costs and closing costs.
ACRES: Acres are approximate and are from reliable sources. F.S.A. measurement may not be the same as deeded acres.
EASEMENTS: This sale is subject to all right-of-ways and easements, whether recorded or not, and to all oil and gas leases of record.
TERMS: Buyer will pay 10% down day of sale at signing of contracts. Balance due at closing, on or before March 24, 2009. Final payment must be made with certified funds.
INSPECTIONS: Potential bidders are responsible to conduct their own inspections.
Sellers, Johnson Realty Inc., and their agents are making no warranties about the property, either expressed or implied.
AGENCY: Johnson Realty, Inc. is acting as agent of the Sellers with the duty to represent the Sellers' interest and not agent of the Buyers.
MINERALS: Sellers' interest going with all Tracts 1-5.

Tract	Cropland Acres	FSA Information			
		Wheat Base	Grain Sorg. Base	Direct Yield Wheat	Direct Yield Sorghum
Tract 1 NW 1/4 of 4-3-30	156.41	71.9	66.5	36	46
Tract 2 SW 1/4 of 8-3-30	157.56	73.0	16.1	36	46
Tract 3 NW 1/4 of 8-3-30	51.8	24.0	5.3	36	46
Tract 4 NE 1/4 of 23-2-31	153.0	74.6	31.6	36	46
Oat Base-2.7, Yield-42; Corn base-24.4, Yield-39; Barley base-7.6, Yield 38					
Tract 5 NW 1/4 of 18-1-27	139.3	48.5	51.4	37	46

CROPS: Sellers are reserving all of planted wheat on Tract 1 (NW 1/4 of 4-3-30); Tract 2 (SW1/4 of 8-3-30); Tract 3 (NW1/4 of 8-3-30) no planted crops; and 77 +/- acres on Tract 4 (NE1/4 of 23-2-31). On Tract 5 (NW1/4 of 18-1-27) 1/3 of planted wheat going to Buyer. Buyer pays 1/3 of fertilizer.
TAXES: Tract 1 - \$446.92 Tract 4 - \$326.41
Tract 2 - \$450.00 Tract 5 - \$423.66
Tract 3 - \$202.00

Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed material.

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT: www.johnson-real-estate.com

Johnson Realty, Inc.

122 South Penn, Oberlin, KS 67749
Roberta Johnson, Broker • Lynn A. Johnson, Associate Broker/Auctioneer
Call Lynn A. Johnson for sale bill or information: 785-475-2785 • Mobile: 785-475-8514

Tom Beattie, Salesperson Joe D. Green, Salesperson/Auctioneer Roger Emigh, Salesperson/Auctioneer
Randy Ostmeyer, Salesperson David Juenemann, Salesperson Michael Wilson, Salesperson

www.midwestauction.com



Winner will have best cards

There's still time to win your sweetheart a bouquet of flowers or a gift certificate for a pedicure by joining in Oberlin Merchants' annual "Don't Gamble with Love" contest.

People started collecting playing cards at sponsoring businesses last week. Cards will be handed out until Thursday. By 5 p.m. that day, participants are asked to bring their best five-card poker hand into *The Oberlin Herald* from those collected cars.

The person with the best hand will receive a bouquet worth \$65 from Prairie Petals. Card sharp with the second-best hand will receive a gift certificate for the ultimate pedicure, worth \$65, from Diederich's Salon and Day Spa.

Winners will be contacted Friday morning.

Sponsors include Addleman Drug Store, R&M Service Center, the Oberlin American Legion, Prairie Petals, the Dresser, Ward Drug Store, Stanley Hardware and Diederichs.