

*KBI to help Colby

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he said that morning, adding that he knew someone was inside, but could not say who.

Lois Struckmeyer, who lives across the street from the house, said sirens woke her up and she saw that the south bedroom of the house was on fire.

Phillip LeDou, who lives next door to the woman's home, said a young woman came out of a white four-door car and rang his doorbell to say there was a fire. LeDou said the woman did not have her phone with her to report it, and then she ran over to the next house.

Ken Billings, who lives two doors down on east side, said the same woman asked him to call 911 as well.

"I came out the door and the house was engulfed in flames," Billings said.

LeDou said he called 911 about 7 a.m., and police officers borrowed his garden hose to put out fire on the grass between his and the woman's house before the fire department showed up.

"The window was on fire and the grass around the front and the back there was burning," LeDou said.

Reportedly, an autopsy was done, which is routine in homicide cases. By this morning, the body had been released to a funeral home.

Teri L. Morris, 27, was born March 25, 1985, in Hill City, the daughter of Lee Chase and Glenda (Farr) Chase. She attended school in Hill City, then graduated from Decatur Community High School in 2003, then attended Colby Community College. She was manager of the Wal-Mart Meat Department and was a Thomas County Emergency Medical Technician in Colby.

Survivors include a daughter, Addilyn Jolie; her parents, Lee Chase, Hill City, and Glenda Chase, Wa-Keeney; a brother, Jeremy Chase, Hays; and two sisters, Jerrica (Jeremy) Priest, Hays; and JoLynda Chase and fiancé, Wade Weaver, Colby.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. today at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin. Burial will be in the Oberlin Cemetery.

Visitation was to be held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and after 8 a.m. today at the funeral home.

A memorial was established in her name, in care of the funeral home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Firemen, kids to play on Saturday

The annual basketball match between the Decatur County Fire Department and the Northwest Winds of Atwood is coming up at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Joyce Hartzog helps to organize the game every year, and she has two children involved.

"They are all mentally challenged people — a lot of them attend Prairie Developmental Center in Atwood — and the firemen are so good to play with them," she said. "Two of the kids are originally from Oberlin, though they live in Atwood now, Cheryl Hartzog and J. Lynn Lohofener."

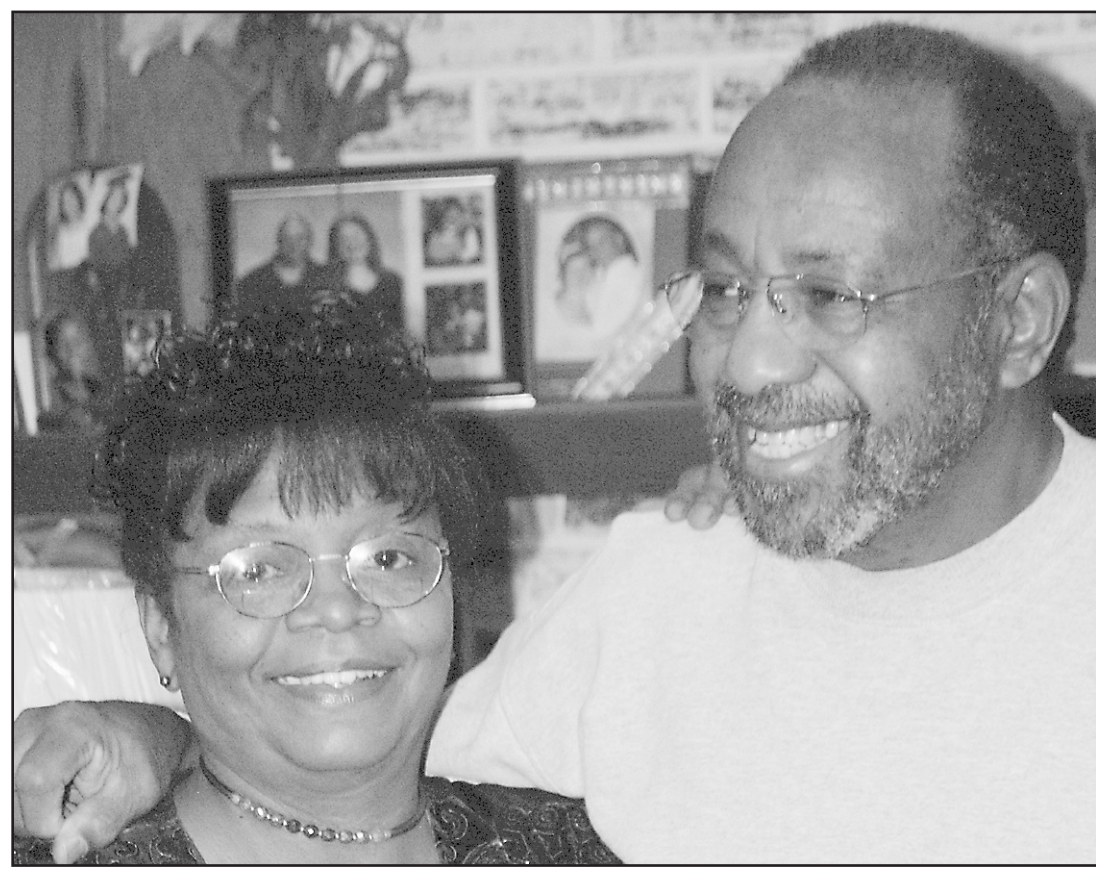
The game is a kind of a warm-up for the kids, who are gearing up to compete in the Special Olympics regional basketball tournament Saturday, Feb. 23, in Scott City. From there, they could go to state competition in Hays on March 23. The kids play basketball in the spring and bowl in the fall, she said.

"There's no charge," Mrs. Hartzog said. "Just come and watch. They love to have people. We also have cheerleaders who are going to be there, three of the girls, and they're competing, too. It's absolutely open to anyone, the more the merrier."

"For them, it's a really big deal. It's a time when they can actually get to go to the city and not only participate in these Olympics, but get to eat out and go to a dance and do special events besides the competition."

"I tell you, these kids just think it's wonderful that the firemen will come spend time with them and play a game. The Special Olympics is just a wonderful organization."

"Getting together with all those kids ... over the years, we've gotten to know some of them pretty well," Mr. Cathcart said. "They're a good bunch of kids. And the last couple years they've done real good. They usually kick our butts."



JIM AND LINDA HOLLOWELL met in college in 1968, and have been together ever since. They won the drawing for Decatur County's sweetheart couple and will receive a gift from each one of the sponsors.

— Herald staff photo by Stephanie DeCamp

Still going strong after 44 years

Jim and Linda Hollowell met at their best friends' wedding, where he was the best man and she was the maid of honor. They were married four months later, and 44 years after that, they're *The Oberlin Herald's* sweetheart couple of 2013.

"She chased me 'til she got me," Jim said. "Yeah, right," Linda replied, laughing and rolling her eyes.

"The first time I saw him was in class (at Southern Colorado State College)," she said, "and I came home and told my mom, 'There's a boy in my class that has 'Sweet Holly' written all over his tennis shoes. I think it's weird.'"

"Well it was the '60s," Mr. Hollowell protested. "It was the days of the hippies and all that, and Sweet Holly was my nickname."

The Hollowells will be receiving a special gift from each one of our sponsors: Stanley Hardware, The Dresser, R & M Service Center, Pizza Hut, Ward Drug Store, the LandMark Inn, Fredrickson Insurance, and of course, *The Herald*.

They got married in Pueblo, Colo., at the Eighth Street Baptist Church on Oct. 12, 1968.

For 30 years, the two lived and worked in Denver, where Jim was a program coordinator for vocational education and Linda was a medical assistant. When Jim was ready to retire, he started looking for someplace new. He said he saw a Metcalf Realty advertisement in *The Denver Post* and came out to look at Oberlin. Linda got a job at the Good Samaritan Center here, and the rest is history.

The couple has two children together, Holly and

Derrick, and Mr. Hollowell has another son, Rob. Add to that five grandkids and a great-grandson, and you have one big happy family.

But back to that wedding

"I had made myself a blue satin dress for the wedding," Linda said, "and he just kept eyeballing me!"

So how do these two make having 44 straight successful anniversaries seem so easy?

"You have your ups and your downs," Jim said, "and you have to always consider the other one's feelings. You have to do things together, and you have to pull together. It's like my Grandpa Henry used to say: Marriage is like two mules pulling the same plow. They're stubborn, and if only one is pulling, you won't get anywhere."

Mrs. Hollowell agreed.

"Being able to enjoy each other, and entertain together, is really important," she said. "You have to do things together, and really get the joy out of being together and traveling together."

"We do things together," Mr. Hollowell agreed, "but we also do things separately. We give each other space."

Other couples that were nominated include Megan and Jess Carter, Barry and Patti Richards, Jerry and Montine Alstrom, Dan and Vickie Lippelmann, Betty and Walter May, Gail and Kay Marcuson, Greg and Amanda Grafel, Norma and Ralph Unger, Everett and Dorene Shuler, Rocky and Teresa Diederich and Vince and Peggy Carswell.

*Hike would enable grant

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for the grant application.

The archeological interest is part of an environmental review for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. According to Mr. Miller, these requests have become frequent and aren't much to worry about.

"If they find something," Mr. Miller said, "we reroute around it. A lot of these things are cultivated fields, so I don't expect anything to come up. We do a lot of these."

The archaeologist that the council voted to hire came recommended by Mr. Miller. Donald R. Blakeslee, a professor of anthropology at Wichita State University, will be paid \$1,500. Mr. Miller told the council that Mr. Blakeslee can have the investigation done by Friday, March 8.

In other water project news, the council:

- Heard from Mr. Miller that to run a power supply to the new wells

south of town, Prairie Land Electric Power will have to build about half a mile of line. The rough estimate for this, he said, is around \$25,000. The city's current wells are on the city's power system, so it pays wholesale prices for pumping power.

"I was talking to the city clerk in Atwood," Mrs. Larson said, "and asked her how much electricity it cost for the wells there. It was \$2,500 a month for four wells, and I don't know if we've thought about that, but that will be an extra expense for us that we don't have now. Right now, we pay the minimum on it, so it will be quite a bit more than what we planned."

• Reviewed Gov. Sam Brownback's water conservation program policy, which Mr. Hirsch said is similar to the one already in place and shouldn't cause the city much trouble. The council decided to put off adopting it until members could study it further, however.

*Reports restart

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then she can go for it ... If it's still an issue, then she can give them a final ultimatum or whatever."

"OK," said Mr. McFee, "so she'll make a revised list, check things out and then present it to us."

Mike Gawith, who has spoken in favor of tougher regulations on properties that violate the ordinance, was largely in favor of restoring Mrs. Ackerman's ability to investigate violations independently, something that the mayor has been against from the beginning.

"I thought you did a good job of overhauling the ordinance," Mr. Gawith said, "but all the other ordinances have a health professional on their Board of Health, and here we just have the mayor and City Council. So I would like to amend that to include a health-care professional. Another (thing I'd like to add to the ordinance) was a hearing board for requests for appeals. This would be three people, so the council wouldn't have to listen to the

hearings. Then the third thing was in Section 3, I'd like you to put back in that the public officer can make such inquiries when she observes (a violation). Without that, I don't think we have much."

The approval of the ordinance itself wasn't unanimous, as council members Jim Miesner and Mr. Addleman both said that they hadn't understood that a particular part of the ordinance had been struck: The section that says that the code enforcement officer may investigate violations of the ordinance when he or she sees one. Both men said they were against removing this part of the ordinance, and when the motion was brought on whether or not to approve the new ordinance as it was, both men voted against it. They were, however, outnumbered, and it was passed 4 to 2.

The council did approve a new complaint form presented by City Administrator Karen Larson, who said that it should be available to download and print from the city's website soon.

Volunteers needed for city building board

Now that the motion to set up a public building commission has passed, the Oberlin City Council is looking for people who would like to be members.

The mayor and the council agreed at their meeting Thursday that each of them would bring two people to the next council meeting who they would like to see on the commission and who have agreed to serve if chosen.

City Attorney Steve Hirsch said he wasn't sure who appoints the members of the commission, the mayor or the council, but City Administrator Karen Larson said that Mayor Rob McFee will appoint people to the positions with the council's approval. There are five

positions total.

Danielle Leitner, who is a member of the pool committee and running for City Council this April, volunteered for one of the seats. Anyone else who is interested should contact one of the council members to throw their hat in the ring.

Mrs. Leitner also told the council that the donate button on the pool committee's website is now live. It runs through the online payment company Paypal, and all donations are being collected in the Decatur Area Development account under the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce until a separate account under the city can be created.



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