

# City Council members take oath and go right to work

**By KIMBERLY BRANDT**  
 City Council members elected at the beginning of April were sworn in Thursday night before a quick one-hour session.  
 Jay Anderson, Ken Shobe and Stan McEvoy held up their right hands and took the oath of office for the next four years. Leaving the council was Leslie Bartels, who has served for the last four years and decided not to run in the general election.  
 Then it was on to business, with a short agenda. Most things were handled under public comment or other business.

Rusty Addleman, owner of Addleman Drug Store, talked to the council on behalf of the country club, which wants to put an irrigation system in at the golf course. He said last year it was so dry the fairways were like cement.  
 Mr. Addleman said the courses in Norton and St. Francis are getting irrigation this season. He said he has a bid of \$64,000 for the project.  
 Membership at the course went over 100 last year, he said, and they have a telephone campaign going right now and are getting pledges to raise the money.  
 Mr. Addleman asked if it was legal to funnel

the money through the city so they could get a loan, which the city would not be responsible for.  
 Councilman Marvin Matchett said the important thing to note is that the club isn't asking the city to pay anything. The country club would service the debt and the city would provide the means.  
 City Attorney Steve Hirsch said the city owns the property and the deal could be arranged legally. Mayor Gary Walter said if they decide to approve the loan, it isn't something the taxpayers would be liable for.

There was no decision made, but the council asked for public comment on the issue, which will be on the agenda for the next meeting.  
 In other business, council members:  
 • Heard workdays for Sappa Shelter House will be Saturday and May 5. Jack Benton, who has been working on the committee, said everyone is welcome to come help. He told them Modern Woodmen Lodge is doing a matching benefit with proceeds to go to the park. Whatever the committee makes on the tickets, the lodge will match up to a certain price.  
 • Approved donating \$500 for fireworks for

the Fourth of July.  
 • Elected Mr. McEvoy as council president.  
 • Signed the trash contract for the next 10 years. Prices will be the same, \$11.88 for a family and \$5.94 for a single.  
 • Approved buying a new engine for the city's loader. The machine is used in the winter to move snow and for other jobs. The engine is about \$14,000, much cheaper than leasing a new machine, which would cost around \$20,000 a year.  
 • Heard the next meeting on Thursday, May 3, will be moved to 6 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m.

## Paperwork was not in order for micro loan

**By KIMBERLY BRANDT**  
 Decatur County commissioners found out the county isn't officially qualified for a "micro loan" grant because one form had not been sent in, although they were told months ago the county had been approved.  
 Randy Hrabe, executive director of the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission in Hill City, told commissioners at their meeting April 17 that the mishap took place because a commission employee didn't get all the papers in.  
 The employee, he said, had been working on the application process for the county, but left her job in Hill City before completing everything. Mr. Hrabe said she was supposed to leave a list of what needed to be done, but this wasn't on it.  
 The county recently received a letter stating they hadn't received the \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant. It would have been used to create a revolving loan fund to help businesses which are starting or creating at least one new job with loans up to \$15,000.  
 Mr. Hrabe said he would send the last form in and the county application should be OK. He said the paperwork will take about 15 days and in the meantime the group here can start processing those who are interested in the loans.  
 Vickie Bailey, who sits on the loan committee, said they have at least two people who are interested. She said although there were more originally, but they didn't think they could raise the

rest of the money themselves to start their businesses, while others said there was too much paperwork.  
 Mr. Hrabe said a lot of the paperwork is just signatures and most businesses already have a written plan, so it won't take long.  
 Anyone interested in a loan should contact Connie Grafel, marketing director for the Oberlin-Decatur County Area Economic Development Corp., at 475-2901.  
 Road and Bridge Supervisor Tim Stallman met with the commissioners to let them know the department received a \$700 grant through the non-point source program which Diana Solko of the Conservation District office had applied for. The money can be used for the department to advertise hazardous waste pick-up.  
 Last month, commissioners heard an engine in the 1988 Dresser grader was having problems. They thought maybe it was because of Oberlin water. Mr. Stallman said the mechanics who checked said it needs a new short block. He asked why it happened, and was told it was the electrolysis, which boils down to water.  
 Commissioner Ralph Unger asked what they can do to stop this from happening again since this is the second piece of machinery it has happened to. He asked if distilled water would work. Mr. Stallman said he was told if the water was too clean, it would be aggressive and would actually hurt the engine even more because the water would try to neutralize itself. He suggested a water softener.

## Off to the prom



ARMIN ARM, Brett McKenna and Diane Becker made their way over the bridge into the Jennings prom Saturday night at Prairie Heights High School.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Brandt

## School board closes doors for three hours in late-night meeting

**By KIMBERLY BRANDT**  
 Over three hours were spent behind closed doors at an Oberlin School Board meeting this month, prompted by a request to discuss non-elected personnel for employment recommendations, talk about coaches and discuss student affairs, after which the board decided to fire a teacher.  
 The sessions, coming in 10, 15, 20 and 25 minute increments, extended the April 9 board meeting to 1 a.m.  
 Following up from another late night Athletic Director Randy Olson spent with the board members several months ago, he told the board he and the varsity coaches had come up with an athletic philosophy.  
 The last paragraph of the philosophy reads, "The ultimate goal is to produce citizens with the skills and values to be considered as winners, both figuratively and literally, on and off the field of competition. The lessons learned and the experiences gained by taking an active part in the athletic opportunities at DCJ/SHS will provide our students an advantage in a world driven by competition."  
 The written philosophy was requested after several parents questioned board members about coaches' techniques with their children during practice and on the playing field.  
 Mr. Olson told board members that although this philosophy is in place, there are several coaches and this was a compromise because different people believe different things.  
 Board President Barb Olson said one thing which has concerned her all along is whether they should voice those different opinions to parents and how to do that.  
 Mrs. Olson said just about every coach at the school has communication with the parents and some have open door practices, meaning the parents can come watch. He said wrestling parents often take Coach Joe Dreher up on his open door practices.

Mrs. Olson asked if the head coaches communicate with the other coaches so they are all on the same page. Mr. Olson said the coaches started to talk with their assistant coaches and junior varsity ones this year.  
 "I know this wasn't scheduled," said Mrs. Olson, "but if you (board members) have specific questions on coaches, we can go into executive session."  
 So the sessions started with 15, 10, 15, 20, 20 and 5 minute increments. At times raised voices could be heard from the lobby. There were no decisions made after the session.  
 On March 26, board members met for three hours in a special meeting behind closed doors to hear staff evaluations from principals before deciding whether to renew contracts for teachers. Last Monday night, those decisions were made, but not until the board had almost an hour more of closed session for non-elected personnel.  
 The board approved all recommendations given by the principals for teachers contracts for another year, which included making a few teachers tenured, with the exception of math teacher Traci Uehlin, who the board fired at the meeting in a 5-2 vote.  
 Later, High School Principal Gordon Matson requested a 10-minute closed session for non-elected personnel. There was no action taken after the five 10-minute sessions.  
 Board members took 10 more minutes later in the evening to discuss student affairs behind closed doors.  
 The board accepted the resignations for band teacher Quentin Breese, who has been here since the start of the spring semester, and social sciences teacher Tige Stone, who will finish his first year here in May. He was also the head football coach and assistant wrestling coach.  
 Thursday, the board decided to hold a special meeting at 8 p.m. Monday for personnel matters.

## Paper wins three awards in state press competition

*The Oberlin Herald* won three awards in this year's Better Newspapers Contest sponsored by the Kansas Press Association, at the group's annual convention Saturday in Lawrence.  
 The paper's top award was second place for overall news and writing excellence among medium-size weekly newspaper in the state. First place went to *The Ellsworth Independent*.  
 "Fine combination of news and feature stories..." the judge said. "Nice variety of leads. Fine story on IB, good research. Conservation tab was effectively helpful. Useful editorials."  
 Rachel Miscall, former managing editor for *The Herald*, won second place for feature writing for her story about a New York professor who hunts for fossils in this area.  
 "Nice insight into the 'glamour' of archeology and paleontology," the judge said. "This is a well-written story by someone who understands more isn't always better."  
 Ms. Miscall also won third place for in-depth writing for her coverage of a bomb threat at Decatur Community High School.  
 "These stories on the bomb threat go beyond routine reporting by interviewing several sources and looking at the issue from the viewpoint of several stakeholders," the judge said. "Especially good was the story that looked at the controversial nature of coverage of stories like this that could lead to

copycats."  
 In her new job at *The Goodland Daily News*, Ms. Miscall won five awards, including second place for in-depth writing and news photography, third place for in-depth writing and feature photography, and honorable mention for sports feature writing for a story on the Goodland-Oberlin football game.  
*The Daily News* won 13 awards overall, including second place for spot news, news and writing excellence, and best front page; third place for design and layout; and honorable mention for feature package (two awards) and general excellence.  
 Roxie Yonkey won first place for sports writing for *The Daily News* for coverage of substitute volleyball games. All the awards came in the category for small daily newspapers.  
 Both *The St. Francis Herald* and the *Colby Free Press* won five awards in the contest. St. Francis took first place in news photography, second in sports photography and honorable mention in sports photography, best front page and general excellence. Colby won third in editorial writing and sports columns and honorable mention for spot new, in-depth writing and column writing. All four papers are part of the Nor' West Newspapers group, based in Oberlin.

## Parade to be held last day of fair

The first Decatur County Fair Parade in many years will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, sponsored by the fair board and Oberlin Business Alliance, followed by a free barbecue downtown.  
 The groups decided to sponsor the event, which hasn't been done during the fair for years.  
 Alliance members, although hesitant at first, decided to try the parade. Co-chairs Julie Kennedy, with KSNK-TV, and Kimberly Brandt, with *The Oberlin Herald*, said they are willing to start the legwork now. Rusty Addleman, owner of Addleman Drug Store, said he would organize a free barbecue.  
 That evening, fair board members were excited about the new event, which they said will bring people into town for the last day of the fair and provide entertainment for those who are already here.  
 The board agreed to give \$225 which will be used for prizes. Ms. Kennedy said there will be around four categories. A theme has not yet been chosen.  
 After the barbecue and shopping downtown, visitors will be able to head to an Antique Appraisal Fair at Wheat Ridge Terrace Apartments, which will

# MACHINERY AUCTION

## Tuesday, May 8, 2001 • 10:00 A.M.

**SALE LOCATION:** Solko Farm, 4 miles east of Ludell, Kansas on Creek Road or  
 Lunch will be served by CMAS 7 miles west of Herndon, Kansas on Creek Road

### SELLERS: SOLKO BROTHERS

*Auctioneer's Note: The Solko Brothers have sold their land and are now offering a fine, well-kept line of equipment at auction. There will be very few small items, so please be on time.*

VEHICLES	TRACTORS
1960 Chev. Series 60 Truck, 6-cyl. engine, 8.25x20 tires, 13-1/2' box & hoist	1982 440 John Deere Diesel, 3-pt., power shift transmission, 3,000 hrs. on underhaul, cab, air, 18.4X38 tires, duals, 8,924 hrs., S.N. 05682Z
1961 Ford F-600 Truck, 292 engine, 8.25x20 tires, box & hoist	1981 7020 Allis Chalmers, diesel, cab, air, duals, 3960 hrs.
1968 Chev. C-50 Truck, 350 V-8 engine, 16' box & hoist, 4-sp, 2-sp	1952 M&M U. Propane
1982 Ford F-150 Pickup, 1/2 ton, 8-cyl. 4-sp. trans.	1966 John Deere 4020, Diesel, 3-pt., 5,890 hrs., 18.4X34 tires, S.N. 213R1066USR
	1984 John Deere 4020 Diesel, cab, water cooler, 18.4X34 tires, 5347 hrs., S.N. T98952

MACHINERY	HAY EQUIPMENT
1982 L-2 Gleaner, diesel, hydrostat drive, 24' header, cab, air, 1,458 separator hrs., 1,758 engine hrs., always shedded, excellent condition	530 John Deere Baler, S.N. 005304645269
Flex King 4X5's undercutter	Haybuster H 1000 tub grinder w/ screens
	Hesston 1014 - 2 hydro-swing swather
	Bafo 10-wheeler rake
	Allis Chalmers side deliver rake
	5-Bale trailer
	H&S 8' hay feeder
	3-pt. Bale carrier
	Teem 250 bu. grain wagon
	Ro-to-7, 3-pt., Rotary mower
	3-Pt. Centimixer
	8' 54" Grain auger, PTO
	Ford 250 irrigation motor w/clutch
	Hesston ensilage cutter, 2000-100
	Hesston 2-row 36" head for ensilage cutter
	Hesston 2-row 40" head for ensilage cutter
	Hesston pickup attachment
	Kenzie 4-row, 36" 3-pt. planter
	24' Donahue trailer
	6-Section rotary hoe
	6-Section springtooth
	9' Krause one-way, hyd.
	3-pt. Double toolbar
	FMC Sidelwinder for 4-36" rows
	Farm King 3-pt. snowblower
	620 IHC double disc drill w/ alfalfa seeder, 7 spacing
	John Deere 4X16" PLOW, 3-pt.
	15' Graham Hoeme w/rod
	200-gal. Fertilizer tank
	1500-gal. Fiberglass water tank

*For more information call listing agent, Joe D. Green-(785) 322-5583 or Mobile (785) 475-8496*

**TERMS:** Not responsible for accidents. All guarantees are between sellers and buyers. No items are to be removed until paid for. Announcements Day of Sale take precedence over printed matter.

## Notice

Any container and/or floral arrangements that people want at the Oberlin Cemetery should be picked up not later than May 10, 2001. This is necessary for spring clean up

Thank You  
City of Oberlin

### NEW EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS!

**STILL LOOKING FOR THAT IDEAL HOME?** We are pleased to offer this two-story Colonial Revival that combines old-fashioned charm with modern living at 207 N. Wolf Ave. Sited in a tranquil neighborhood surrounded by a wooden privacy fence, this 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home boasts a formal foyer w/new hardwood floor and coat closet, formal living room and dining room, and all new carpeting and floor covering throughout. The beautiful U-shaped, eat-in oak kitchen is accented w/a magnificent stained glass window and opens to a lg. arbor-enclosed deck. The main-level laundry features a half bath and is adjacent to a double attached garage. The basement offers a family room, home office and lg. storage room. The spacious backyard stays lush with underground sprinklers and a storage shed keeps the lawn mower handy. See today-this one will be gone soon!

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