



## Kids play at pool

**AT THE POOL** Monday night Toby Harmon (above) swam in the shallow end. Shay McChesney (left) played basketball with a friend. The pool is open seven days a week for open swim in the afternoon.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

# Council hires Wichita attorney to review plant

The Oberlin City Council approved hiring an environmental attorney to review the equipment for the new water treatment plant after two closed sessions for attorney-client privilege.

The council met for a 15 and 20 minute closed session for attorney-client privilege with the city attorney, mayor, council, administrator and Chris Miller, engineer.

After the second session, the council approved hiring Dave Traster, an environmental attorney from Wichita. Council member Rob McFee said it's for uranium.

At the beginning of the meeting the council appointed Councilman Jim Miesner to the Sappa Park Committee, Doug Brown to the Planning Commission and Richard Carman and Teresa Shaughnessy to the Library Board.

Willard Perrin, with the water department, said the city has been pumping around 300,000 gallons of water a day, and one jumped to 500,000 gallons a day.

For the last two summers, said Mr. Perrin, the city hasn't gone on water rationing. He added that they will continue to keep an eye on how much water is pumped each day.

Recently the water crew replaced a water service line on North Griffith and filled in some holes.

City Administrator Karen Larson thanked the city crew for picking up trash before alumni weekend. She said Mr. Perrin went to the city park and fixed some boards on the playground. Mrs. Larson added that maybe they should see if they can get a grant to replace the playground equipment.

In other business, the city:

- Heard the new playground structure is in for Sappa Park.

- Heard the city hasn't received any bids on the trailer house, the former school, at the old boys ranch. Mrs. Larson said one family went to look at the former school.

- Heard the city police officers are busy doing some training. Chief Wade Lockhart said each officer needs 40 hours of training each year.

- Heard the recent bomb threat incident in the school district is still under investigation.

- Heard from Mayor Bill Riedel who went to the recent Memorial Day services at the Oberlin Cemetery. He said the cemetery looked good.

- Talked about the flooding at the intersection between Oak and Maple and East and Marks during recent storms. Mrs. Larson said they are looking into ideas on what to do to fix the flooding.

## Woman appointed to serve on council

As a new member of the Oberlin City Council, Fonda Farr says she plans to study the issues so that she can make educated decisions for the city.



Fonda Farr

Mrs. Farr was appointed to one of the two vacant seats during the meeting at the end of May. She said she's never

served in public office, although she's worked with the public for years. For the past 10 years, she's been an agent at Fredrickson Insurance Agency. Before that, Mrs. Farr was the director of the Decatur County Last Indian Raid Museum for 10 years.

Mrs. Farr and her husband, Rodney, have lived in Oberlin since 1972, and he was born and raised here. She said they will have been married for 40 years in February.

The couple has two grown kids, Amanda and Ryan Fortin and Bo and April Farr. They also have three grandsons.

Mrs. Farr said she had never really given any thought to running for the council. Mayor Bill Riedel, she said, approached her and asked if she would be interested in the job.

The city has some large projects going on that need thought, including both the water treatment plant and airport improvements, she said.

With decisions about different issues, she said, she will not only study the information, but try to talk to people on all sides.

Mrs. Farr's term is up in two years, in April 2013.

## Wetlands celebrated in May

May was American Wetlands Month, created in 1991 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to celebrate the importance of wetlands to the nation's ecological, economic, and social health and to educate Americans about their value.

over 20,000 acres in the program since 1995," said Eric Banks, state conservationist and head of the Department of Agriculture agency in Kansas. "There are still many more that could be enrolled."

He posed the following questions about wetlands on your land:

- Are you tired of spending money trying to farm cropland that is just too wet most years?
- Does your cropland have fish swimming through it due to flooding?
- Do you find yourself driving through standing water trying to

salvage at least part of your crop?

"If the answer to any of those questions is 'yes,'" said Banks, "then maybe it is time to consider this program as part of the conservation plan for your farm."

The voluntary program provides technical and financial assistance to restore and improve wetland resources on private lands, he said. A wetlands easement can pay you for letting your land be what it was intended to be – wetlands.

For details, stop by the Decatur County Conservation office or call (785) 823-4548.

## Sappa Park committee selling raffle tickets

Members of the Sappa Park Committee and Modern Woodmen are trying to raise money to put bathrooms in at the shelterhouse.

McKisson home. The first-place winner will take home \$100, second place \$50 and third \$25.

The Modern Woodmen are offering a matching raffle, with the park committee members selling tickets until the end of the month.

The committee can sell up to \$2,500 in tickets to win a matching \$2,500 to help pay for the bathrooms. Committee members include Gary Anderson, Connie Riedel, Amy Carman, Rick Pauls, Becky Ayers and Kimberly Davis.

Tickets are one for \$1 or six for \$5. The drawing will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 29, at 805 E. Frontier Parkway, the Marie



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### Planning a Wedding?

**The Oberlin Herald** is happy to run pictures and stories of weddings.

However, we need the information within five weeks of the marriage. Write-ups received after this date require a \$10 charge for each month past the deadline date.

**Stop by our office for a wedding form.**

## It's free! It's fun! It's FROG Fitness!

**F**itness Reaching Older Gen's (FROG) is an exercise program for anyone 55+ who wants to improve strength, endurance and mobility, and reduce risk of falls through better balance and agility.

Exercises are low impact, can be done sitting or standing, and easily adjust to every fitness level. Besides having fun in a social setting, benefits may also include better sleep and digestion.

55PLUS membership is required unless referred by a physician or healthcare provider. Call Brenda McGuire, FROG Coordinator, at 308-345-7081 for more information.

### Attend Weekly FROG Classes:

- Culbertson – Tue/Thu - 9 am**  
Methodist Church
- Curtis – Mon/Wed/Fri - 9 am**  
Community Center
- Hays Center – Tue - 10:30 am**  
Senior Center
- Indianola – Wed - 8:30 am**  
Community Hospital Outpatient Center
- McCook – Mon/Thu/Fri - 9 am**  
Evangelical Free Church
- Palisade – Fri - 9:30 am**  
Methodist Church
- Stratton – Tue/Fri - 10 am**  
Grandview Retirement Center
- Trenton – Tue/Thu - 9:30 am**  
El Dorado Manor

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