

SPORTS

Ketchum sweeps conference games at Welch, while Lady Hornets rout Oologah

Page 4, 5

BID

Chocolate Affair Silent Auction will feature a chance to bid on Reverse Reaction.

Page 3

Today



Tomorrow



Saturday



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DECA Valentine's CandyGrams Orders End Friday



\$5 will get you two boxes of movie-theatre style candy & Valentine's message attached

\$15 will include a half-dozen chocolate roses arranged in a Vinita Hornets cup with message.

See page 10 for more info!

VINITA DAILY JOURNAL, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015

50¢

NEAR CRISIS AVERTED



Firefighters work to extinguish the house at 338 S Miller. The house caught on fire Wednesday morning. Sherman Alberty and Steve Shipman were able to retrieve a young girl through a window who was trapped in the house.



Sherman Alberty wipes blood from his face as he recaps the remarkable situation. Alberty was home for his work break as he noticed the neighboring house on fire.

Two Vinita men rescue girl in house fire

Megan Shaines

Journal Reporter

Around 10 a.m. Wednesday morning, mailman, Steve Shipman was making his routes on South Miller Street at about the same time McDonald's employee, Sherman Alberty was coming home on his break.

Both men noticed the house at 338 S. Miller -rented by Mike Savala and Heather Jackson-on fire, with smoke bustling out.

"The mailman was calling the fire department about the same time I was, then we both

ran up to the house and opened the back door, and then we heard a little girl screaming," said Alberty.

The girl (who has yet to be identified) was home alone and trapped in the back part of her house.

"We knocked out the windows with a board," said Alberty, "then we cleaned out the glass and pulled her out of the window. I asked her if there was anyone else in the house, and she said no."

Sherman mentioned that the family had pets,

including two new puppies. And as firefighters were working, one of the small puppies came running out of the house, blackened from the fire.

The pup appeared to be in good condition, greeting the firefighters like heroes. The condition of the other animals had not been determined.

Firefighters worked hard to extinguish the fire, and there were minimal flames after a matter of minutes. The cause of the fire has yet to be determined.



Fireman Kevin Huxtable holds the puppy belonging to the owners of the house and was rescued as the fire was being extinguished.

Police stop burglary in progress

Denton Thomason

Journal Reporter

Vinita police stopped a burglary in progress Saturday morning after two women allegedly entered the home of jailed man.

The incident occurred at approximately 10:28 a.m. Saturday at the residence of James Davis, who is currently jailed on theft-related charges, located in the 300 block of S. Scrapper Street, according to police reports.

Davis' teenage son had been given permission to feed his dog while he is in jail and he reported to police that someone was inside of the home when he went to care for the pet, reports said.

Responding police officers discovered Mandy A. Allen, 42, inside of the home, and found Tiffany D. Osborn, 27, hiding in the bedroom, reports said.

Both women said that they had permission to be inside the home, but Allen had collected jewelry belonging to Davis and had it sitting in a pile next to her purse, reports said.

Both Allen and Osborn were arrested on felony complaints of second-de-

gree burglary after police determined that they did not have permission to be inside of the residence.

Allen was also arrested on a felony complaint of entering a building with the intention of committing a felony and a misdemeanor count of obstructing police, reports said.

Osborn was also arrested on a felony complaint of possession of marijuana within 2,00 feet of a park after police found her in possession of approximately one ounce of marijuana, along with misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia. Osborn also had an outstanding \$2,998 warrant issued out of Craig County for failure to pay court fines, reports said.

Police speculated that Allen and Osborn gained access to the home by using a key that had been hidden for the son to gain entry to feed the dog.

Both women were still being held at the Craig County Jail as of noon Wednesday. Allen is jailed with bail set at \$12,500 and Osborn was being held without bail on a cash bond for her outstanding warrant, jail records show.

City progresses with land acquisition for library

Denton Thomason

Journal Reporter

The Vinita City Council took another step forward in the process of purchasing land owned by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad during a short semi-monthly meeting held Tuesday night.

The city is pursuing the purchase of a lot of railroad-owned land, located on the northwest corner of Scrapper Street and Illinois Avenue, where the old Safeway building sits. The city plans to transform the old building into a new library/civic center.

City Attorney Leonard Logan expressed that it is in the best interest of Vinita to acquire the property and the council approved to have an environmental study done as part of the acquisition process.

The study will cost between \$2,500 and \$3,000.

In other news, the council approved for local attorney Joe Gardner to serve as the municipal judge.

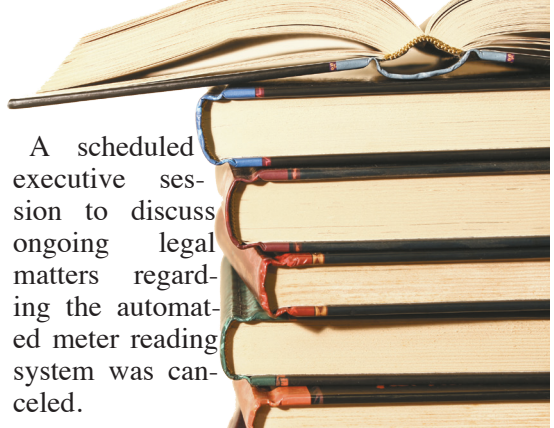
Gardner had been alternating that duty with former municipal judge Bryce Lair, who tendered his resignation in February.

Gardner will now be the full-time judge with attorney Kevin Dodson to serve as an alternate.

As requested by the Vinita Police Department, the council approved to promote officer Ryan Kester to the rank of sergeant.

The council also approved invoices of \$168,344 and \$15,268 for the federal grant

project that is funding the ongoing runway extension project at the Vinita Municipal Airport. That the project is 84 percent complete at this time.



A scheduled executive session to discuss ongoing legal matters regarding the automated meter reading system was canceled.

Today's Inserts



STREET SCENES

Deann Bruce talking about the Hall-Halsell Elementary Book Fair ongoing ... Lorraine Pitts get better soon ... Denise Sparkman sending a reminder that VHS progress reports will be out next Tuesday ... Ally Miller gathering information on FFA activities ... Jake says I tried paying my bills with a smile, but they wanted money.