

By JESSICA CRAWFORD • Daily Leader

Those doing business at City Hall today will find something missing – the smiling greeting of administrative assistant Peggy McVickers.

Friday afternoon, Mcvickers ended the chapter of her life titled, “Liberal, Kansas” and by this time this morning, she is in San Antonio, Texas beginning the next chapter.

“I worked for the Department of Kansas Work Center and they were closing down the office,” McVickers explained. “So (Liberal’s economic development director) came and offered me the job.”

When Mcvickers took the job, she knew it was the right move for her and never looked back. Her experience over the past year and a half, according to Mcvickers has been everything she had hoped it would be.

“It has been wonderful and these guys have been great,” she said.

“They have been playing jokes on me today, being it is my last day – it has been a fun week.”

This past Sunday morning, Mcvickers and her husband pulled out of Liberal and were San Antonio bound. The process has been bittersweet for Mcvickers thus far. However, when she reaches San Antonio to find her grandchildren waiting for her – any doubting of the decision to make the move at this time in her life will be out the window.

“We get to move closer to our children and grandchildren,” Mcvickers explained. “I have a daughter in Wichita that may be moving down that way as well.

“I think I will take a little break when I get down there as far as jobs go,” she added. “But I definitely have a few prospects that are rather exciting.”

Mcvickers has enjoyed the changes she had seen throughout her tour of duty at City Hall. Not only have there been physical changes regarding the building, she has been able to take on quite a few more duties as well.

“The move has been neat,” she said. “When we were at the depot we only saw a handful of people. But when we moved here it has been great because there has been so much more interaction, much more people.

“And it has been great for me I have got to work with wonderful people,” she said. “Being right here in the middle of everything, I have been able to take on a lot more duties.”

Human Resources Director Jeff Parsons has enjoyed working with Mcvickers and is very excited for her, however, will definitely miss her – and her skills.

“She is great to work with and is terrific with the public and we are going to miss Peggy. She will be hard to replace,” Parsons said.

“We do wish her the best, and it is terrific that she gets to be closer to her grandchildren,” he continued. “We completely understand – but we are really going to miss her.”

Mcvickers has made friendships and memories in Liberal that will never be forgotten. However, she looking forward to the new life she and her husband will be beginning near their children and grandchildren.

“I am going to miss the people definitely. It has been so rewarding here and the friendships made have been wonderful,” she said as she wiped the tears she could no longer hide. “It is going to be tough.

“It is going to be a whole new life,” she concluded. “Being able to be around our kids and grandkids – it is really time for me to be with them.”