

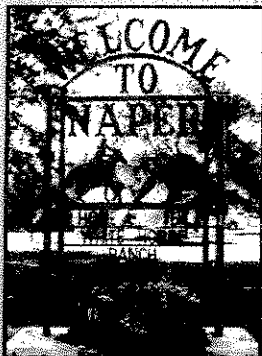
**A publication  
for and about  
the town of  
Naper, Nebraska**

**The Naper  
Historical Society**

**Our Mission:**  
The mission of the Naper Historical Society is to preserve, interpret, display, communicate, promote and honor history, original structures, special places and artifacts of the people and culture of Naper, Nebraska, and the surrounding area. The Naper Historical Society intends to accomplish this mission by operating a museum, publishing a newsletter, sponsoring events, and in other appropriate ways. The Naper Historical Society will initially focus on four themes: School Days, Life in Naper Through the Years, White Horse Ranch, and Naper 28 Plane Crash.

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# Naper Paper

Volume 9, Issue 2

News of 1st Quarter 2011

## Library News

In 2010, 641 books were donated to the Naper Library. There were 541 books checked out. At various events including quilt shows, silent auctions, photography exhibits and an art display and drawing demonstration by Sandra Brauer, 632 people visited the library. Stop by and see how many good reads you can find. ■

**Ann Anderson, member of Niobrara Valley Electric Goodwill Board, presents a check for \$250 to be used for door repair to Pam Muller, librarian, and Phyllis Camin, library board member. They are standing directly in front of the bookcase donated by Jo Davis.**



## REMEMBER WHEN? Naper Town Pasture

By Marilyn Sieh

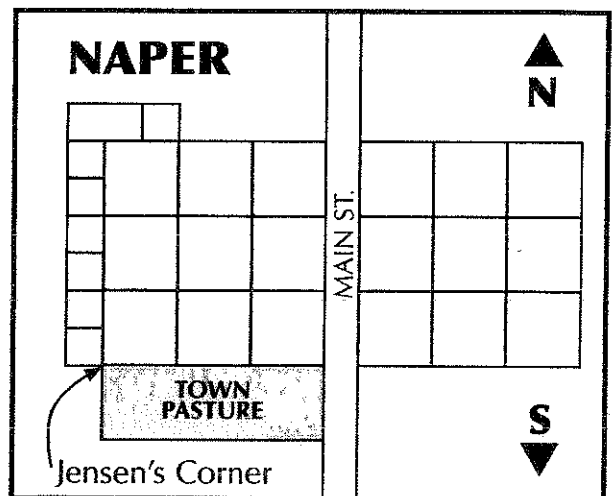
According to a 1904 map of Naper, there was a 40-acre parcel of land located on the southwest side of Naper. It was platted as the First Addition with lots being the size of the lots of Main Street, which are smaller than the other lots in town. Apparently there was no need for more lots for the village, so it was turned into a community pasture where any citizen in town who wanted to have a milk cow could put her in this pasture to graze, and the owner would have his own fresh milk.

Luree Barnes wrote in her book, *The History of Boyd County* (1938), that for many years there was an annual tournament in Naper where there were races, ballgames, etc., in the pasture just south of Naper, now known as the Jensen pasture. Ludwig (Louie) Jensen and his daughter Anna lived on the southwest corner lot of town where Lawrence and Bertha Nagel lived for years.

Velda Sieh Stahlecker remembers as a young girl staying with her great aunt and uncle for a week each summer. She would accompany her cousin to the pasture, where he milked the family cow. She said there was a well located there where they pumped water for their cows. This arrangement seemed to work very well for everyone.

One enterprising young man owned two cows, bottled the milk and sold it to the residents of Naper.

But there is a little more to tell about this community pasture. It so happened there was a prankster who lived just a stone's throw from the pasture. He would, once in a while, in the wee hours of the morning, walk out into the pasture and milk one of the cows whose owner he wanted to trick. What a surprise when the owner came to milk his cow later and she had no more milk to give! ■





The Circuit Rider

## Gaynell Keller: Friends, pets and a horse named Steve

At sundown a mysterious rider is seen drifting along the horizon. Old timers believe he's a Sandhills Ghost or Spirit who's trying to keep the Pioneer Spirit alive. His mission: To interview favorite long-time residents of Naper, in order to help us remember our noble past. No one can actually point to specifics, but all swear, "He's out there..."

**S**now was everywhere. Snow banks reached unreal heights. Temperatures were in the low 20s. The Great Plains of Nebraska were a challenge to the early settlers.

As the Circuit Rider and his horse plowed their way to the Rockholm Ranch, surely Gaynell would have a roaring fire built in the pot-bellied Great Northwestern stove. It has been a long time ago that Chris Rockholm had hired the Circuit Rider as a teen-ager to chop cockleburs! Old friend Chris had since passed away, but surely Gaynell would have a cup of hot coffee for an old classmate!

Gaynell Marie Rockholm Keller was born August 7, 1931, in Spencer to Chris and Inez Carlson Rockholm. She lived on the same farm in South Dakota her entire life until she married. Her brother, Freddie Dale, was stillborn in 1927, so she grew up as an only child.

This farm now belongs to Jo Ann Cerny Jons and her son Verlyn Jons. Jo Ann is Gaynell's cousin, and she came to be like a sister during the growing-up years. Jo Ann had an older brother, Jimmy. The three went to a country school about two miles from their house for the first five years. When she was ready to enter the sixth grade, she and Jo Ann both transferred to Naper, from which they both graduated.

Growing up in the '30s was a lot different than it is now. Life was simpler and you learned to entertain yourself. Gaynell spent a lot of time reading, helping Mom, cleaning and learning how to cook. Threshers would come to the farm and Gaynell would have to help her mother and grandmother cook.

She and Jo Ann would get together to play. Squaw Creek was close, and after playing in



Gaynell Rockholm with her horse Steve

it, they would get leeches on their feet. One time when she and Jo Ann were playing, they made up their minds to crawl up the end of the Ponca Creek bridge. They would walk across the railing to the other side. The scary thing was that the Ponca was really high from a recent rain. Jimmy tattled on them and they both got "scolded!" Neither could swim!

Gaynell had a horse named Steve, which she would ride over to Jo Ann's in the summertime. This was the only transportation that she had. Steve was ridden into the hills often and to Vera Peppel's

house for music lessons. On the way home, Steve was always in a hurry, so she'd let him run wide open!

Gaynell had birthday parties to which she would invite friends—Jo Ann Cerny, Arlene Nicolaus, Virginia Rochholm, Helen Cerny and Ann Ludemann, who was about three years old at the time.

One of her earliest memories was of the Indians who lived at the top of the hill from their place. Mark and Ella Stone Arrow and Ernest Stone Arrow would come by for eggs and an old "chickie." Once, Mark wrote on Gaynell's blackboard in Indian, "Gaynell is a good girl." At least that's what he said that he wrote! He always played the piano for her, too.

There were always plenty of dogs and cats around to play with. She remembers hooking up their dog Brownie to pull her sled, loaded with wood, to the house in the wintertime. Often, her Dad would come to the house from the barn and tell her "get that dress off this cat." One year, she had a bunch of ducks and a pet chicken named "Phonsie."

Her Dad told her a story about a fat dog that the Indians had choked with ropes. They then hung him over a fire and "roasted him." He then was hung on the clothesline to dry, as was other meat.

Gaynell's teen years were spent going to school in Naper. She had a lot of good teachers—Mildred Tiefenthaler, Irene Fischer, Ioan Reber, Avis Breyer and Leo Marx.

On "town nights," kids would sit on the stone walls in front of Daldorf's Drug store. (If walls could talk????)

The Gaynell Keller story will continue in the next issue of the *Naper Paper*. ■

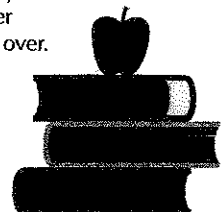
### NAPER PAPER UPDATE

Seven hundred thirty papers are sent to folks across the United States (and one to Canada) four times a year. Our staff members are all volunteers. The only expenses for the paper are printing and postage and total \$1,500 yearly. We operate entirely on your generosity and contributions. We appreciate your goodness and financial support. Just a reminder that if you'd like to make a contribution to the *Naper Paper*, checks may be sent to:

The Naper Paper  
c/o The Naper Historical Society  
PO Box 72  
Naper, NE 68755

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Y**ears ago, a young woman could teach school until she got married. If she married during the school year, she could finish out that year's contract and then her teaching career was over. Women were paid less than men and elementary teachers were paid less than secondary teachers. ■



## Christian Kulms Immigrate to United States by 1910

By Judy Cline

Great-great grandfather Alexander Kulm was born in 1821 or 1822 in Bershad, Russia, during the Napoleonic Wars. At an early age, he moved with his family to Gluckstal, where he married Magdalena Eisenbeis on May 15, 1851. A son, Jacob, was born March 14, 1852, in Gluckstal, later called the Cherson region in the Black Sea area of the Ukraine (south Russia). When Jacob was 8 years old, his parents joined a group of other German families and, pooling their money, purchased a huge block of land. They built their own village and called it Neu Gluckstal. They laid out streets and built houses and barns. Once they had their newly created village finished, they divided up the farmland and developed it.

Great-grandfather Jacob married Dorothea Bauder when he was 25 years old. They had a son named Christian who was born April 4, 1881, the third of 10 children. In January 1901, Grandfather Christian married Fredericka "Ricka" Schlecht, born February 9, 1879. Christian was a pioneer farmer on the "Long Steppe" (Great Wide Plains) of Russia. He cleared the land and planted wheat and corn.

Christian's older brother immigrated in 1902, and in 1908, Christian's three other brothers immigrated to the United States. When the crops were harvested in 1910, Christian, Ricka and their family and Christian's parents and younger sister sailed for the United States. Ricka's mother and stepfather also went, as Ricka's sister Kathy and brother had gone several years earlier and settled by Winner, SD. Christian hoped in America there would be better opportunities for him to own a farm and provide a better living for their family. Christian sold their belongings and started their journey with only the hope and determination of a better life in America. There were fifteen in their party traveling together. Christian and Ricka had six children born before they came to the U.S.: Ernestine, called Erna, (Forsch Huelle); Fredericka, called Freda, (Forsch Schweigert); Lydia (Neumiller); Katherine, who died as an infant; Pauline (Lamberti Christensen) and Christina, who died at 13 months. They sailed October 27, 1910, on the North German ship Lloyd SS Neckar. They docked at Baltimore, MD, November 9 and immediately took a train to South Dakota. The train went only as far as Gregory, so their relatives met them and took them on to Winner with team and wagon.

Christian obtained work in road construction. His father-in-law had a relative

in Naper. Christian began working there for a farmer and moved his family to Naper on January 12, 1911. Their next child, Christina (Windmeyer Parks), was born just a few days after moving to Naper. Christina was named after her sister who had died in Neu Gluckstal. She was the first of the family to become an American citizen. In August 1912, Arthur (Gladys Smith) was born and in August 1914, Rudy (Clara Ahlers) was born. Alma (Thibault) was born in 1916, and Elsie (Cline) in 1917.

Christian spoke German and Russian and knew some Polish and Hebrew, but the language barrier was his greatest problem during his first years in the U.S. After working for a farmer for over a year, Christian was able to rent a farm and some equipment and start farming. The fall after Arthur was born, Christian rented a farm 10 miles southwest of Naper across the Keya Paha River, the Braasch farm.

In 1918, they moved to a farm seven miles west of Naper (the Younker place), where Esther (Scheurer Foti) was born in 1920 and Lester (Eva Nora Van Haitsma) was born in 1924. When they moved, they moved in a large surrey with side curtains. It was drawn by two horses. Their belongings were hauled by wagon. Christian bought his first car in 1919.

Christian's dream of owning his own farm came true in 1931 when they bought the Heimerdinger place, four and one-half miles southwest of Naper. Over the years, they built a new barn, outbuildings and a house. It took five years for them to get all the buildings done while also doing the farmwork. Arthur and Gladys lived on the farm while the buildings were being constructed. Christian and Ricka finally moved into their own home in 1936. The home they built was their pride and joy. Sadly, in 1938, Ricka became ill, and after two years, she died of stomach cancer on July 14, 1940.

Christian rented the farm to his daughter



Christian and Ricka Kulm

Elsie and her husband, Wilbert Cline, in 1943 and moved to Idaho to live with his daughter Alma and her family. Christian passed away on January 24, 1944, in Idaho. Upon Christian's death, Wilbert and Elsie purchased the farm, where they lived until 1976, except for a few years when they lived in White River, SD. They raised their children on the farm: Janet Eggert, Wayne (Betty Kolar), Verna (Roger) Campbell, Marvin (Judy Hoyt), Orland (Carolyn Helms), Gary (Jeanette Green) and Keith Stanley, who died December 10, 1951. In 1976, they sold the farm to their son Marvin and his wife, Judy, who also raised their family on the farm: Keith (Lora Sieh), Scott (Susie Essen), Hoyt (Julie Frost), Shelda and Pamela. Wilbert and Elsie retired and built a home in Naper.

In 2006, Marvin and Judy sold the farm to their son Hoyt and his two children Haily (Wickersham) and Jesse. Hoyt married Julie Frost in 2008. One hundred and one years after Christian and his family came to the United States, he would be happy to know his great-grandson Hoyt Cline owns the farm, the buildings that he built are still in use after four generations, and his great-great-grandchildren are living in the house that he and Ricka built. ■

## REBEKAH LODGE 229

By Alice Hansen

Naper Rebekah Lodge 229 was formed about December 1, 1907. They met the first and third Thursdays of each month. I don't know where they met or the time of day they convened. In 1907, there were 30 members according to the tax they paid at 20 cents per member. The only officer listed on the 1907 semi-annual report was secretary Anna Jensen.

The Rebekah Lodge is an auxiliary of the Odd Fellows Lodge. The brothers can belong to the Rebekah Lodge; therefore, many husbands and wives belong to this organization. On June 30, 1912, there were 63 members and the tax was 15 cents per member. The 1912 members (sisters) included Clara E. Crosby, Louise Ericson, Anna C. Van Every, Hattie Van Every, Anna Jensen, Marie Anderson, Vera T. Zink, Etta Bennett (my grandmother), Clara Bolton, Jennie Logerwell, Manzell

Himes, Viola Cork, Lydia P. Sears, Dortha P. Ogle, Alice Tienken, Mollie Zimmerman, Thea A. Wilson, Jennie K. Linehart, Sarah Kibby, Katherine Linton, Ella McManigal, Florence Adamson, Anna J. Foss, Stella M. Frazier, Paula Carlson, Mable McCown, Minnie Hansen, Grace Anderson, Vena Wakefield, Alma Anderson, Anna C. Peppel, Clara R. Fast, Edna McManigal, Sarah A. Zimmerman, Emma E. Jugler, Mabel O. Cooper, Elsie S. Smith, Rettie Wils, Anna Hansen (Alma Bennett's mother), Mary E. Kibby, Vera E. Ericson, Julia Reber, Lillie Thibault, Cornelia L. Naper and Emma B. Standerford. The 1912 list of brothers include Peter Anderson, L. Jensen, C. Guy Crosby, G. A. Erickson, Charles E. Bennett (my grandfather), Louis Peterson, Wm. Himes, Henry Tienken, Emond McManigal, George J. Frazier, Chas. S. Foss, Fred Carlson, Orville McCown, J.P.

Anderson, G.E. Peppel, Godber Hansen (Alma Bennett's father), E. Tim Wilson, E.R. Seasongood, R.J. Kibby and W.K. Thomas.

Etta Bennett conducted installation of the officers in 1917. Goldie Bennett (my aunt) was elected Noble Grand in 1927. Etta Bennett was elected Noble Grand and Stella Cunningham was elected Vice Grand in 1930. Naper Rebekah Lodge 229 surrendered their charter on September 9, 1942. The Assembly President, Evelyn Lane, and Assembly Secretary called on former members and found there was no chance of reviving the lodge.

All of this information was received from Garnet Rinaker, Assembly Secretary for the State of Nebraska.

From May 3, 1907, Naper Enterprise public notices: "IOOF Naper Lodge No. 311 meets every Wednesday night. G.A. Erickson N.G., H. Anhorn Secy." ■

## Alfred Camin Explores

By Alfred E. Camin

I lived about a mile from District 53 School. On the way to school, there was an empty two-room house. One night, four of my sisters (Amanda, Edna, Delma and Ruth) and I, along with Cecil, Walter and Clarence Klein, decided to cross the creek and enter the house. We went through the house. There was a table in each room. Each table had meat on it. One table had a large skinning knife. The table in the other room had a big straight knife. I had never seen knives that big. When I told my mother about the knives and meat, she threatened to give me a whipping. To this day, I often wonder what was in that old empty house in the middle of the pasture. In those days there were no deer in the area. ■

Right: This photo was taken at Ernie Larsen's 90th birthday party on July 17, 2010. Pictured are Wayne Kenzie and Marvin Humpal (standing), Ernie Larsen and Alfred Camin (seated).



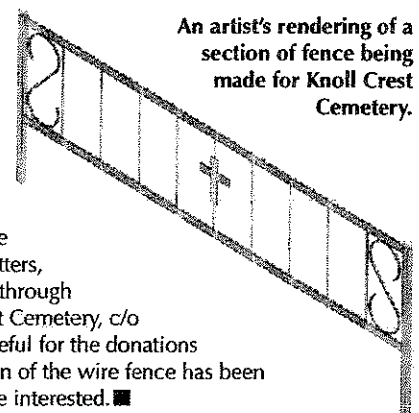
## KNOLL CREST CEMETERY FENCE PROJECT UNDER WAY



Ann Anderson, member of the Goodwill Board of Niobrara Valley Electric, presents a check for the fence project to Ramona Bentzen and Charlotte Nicolaus.

Harold Klasna of Spencer is building the fence for the Knoll Crest Cemetery. It will be made of iron in ten foot sections and painted black. Each section of the fence will cost approximately \$150 and about 120 sections are needed. The completion date is tentatively set for early September.

The *Naper Paper* is the most direct route to get information to families whose loved ones are buried there, so instead of sending individual letters, the cemetery board is appealing to each of you through this publication to send donations to Knoll Crest Cemetery, c/o NHS, Box 72, Naper, NE 68755. We are so grateful for the donations already received. Thank you, everyone! A section of the wire fence has been removed and sold and more is available if you're interested. ■



An artist's rendering of a section of fence being made for Knoll Crest Cemetery.

## Where in the World Are We? (Part 5)

The farthest east house in Naper is Joy Vogt's house, which was built by Joe and Bertha Schmitz in 1967. Of note is the rock in the shape of the state of Nebraska on the north side of the garage. The next house north from Joy is where Charlotte Nicolaus lives. She and Harley built the house in 1980. Years ago, John Herra had a butchering place here. The slaughterhouse was in the draw to the northeast.

Crossing the street west is the home where John and Marie Herra once lived. Henry and Violet Stahlecker purchased the house in 1955 and moved there in 1958 from Dustin. Matt and Ellen Bengtson and family now own and live in the house. West of Bengtson's home is the home of Phyllis Camin. Years ago, John Wentz lived here in an older home, then Ed and Martha Cerny. That house was torn down and the present house moved from the Rhinehold Breyer farm by Marlin Breyer. Dennis and Phyllis purchased the house from them.

South of Phyllis's home live Verna and Roger Campbell. This house was moved to town from the Art and Julia Martin's farm (now Lelia Higgins' farm) by Laurence Ahlers, later purchased by Edna and Ernie Juracek, then Lyndon and Kara Vogt lived there with their sons for several years before selling it to Verna and Roger. East of their house is a garage now owned by Joy Vogt, but at one time was the location of a modular home owned by Frank and Theresa Stoltenberg. It was purchased and moved by Joe and Mary Higgins to their ranch west of Naper.

Heading west and starting on the northeast corner of the block was a vacant lot and then the house that was the home of Ella Bechtold for many years, which is now owned by Art and Pat Martins. The house next door was moved to town by Alfred Boucher, then owned by Nate Jeffords. It was remodeled by Garry and Roma Jeffords and is now the home of Art and Pat Martins. The vacant lot to the south was the site of the house owned by Jacob Boucher, then Hap Gentle, then Lillie Vance. George Hotaling donated 40 acres to the town site and built a house on the corner lot; Dorwin Smith then lived there, operating the telephone office. Later, Everett and Frances Smith and then Cecil and Mary Swallow ran the telephone exchange until Three River Telco was established. Harley and Charlotte Nicolaus bought the house and lived there from 1958 to 1980. The house was destroyed, and Dale Nicolaus now owns the lots. East of Dale's lots is a unique log house

under construction by Rob Johnson. At one time, Dan and Mae Cline lived there, then August Ahlers.

Heading to the next block west, on the northeast corner, is the bulk propane storage tank owned by Sapp Bros. The west side of the block is Main Street described in previous articles. Tim and Bonnie Whitley live on the southeast corner of the block. This was formerly the site of the Pentecostal Church. The building was the German Congregational Church, which had been moved from west of Naper. During construction of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in 1959, the UCC congregation met in this building. The house north of Tim and Bonnie is the former Pentecostal parsonage. Spec and Dorothy Whitley lived there for many years, and now Red Fuhrer calls it home.

On the northwest corner of the next block west is a house moved to town by Vernon Ike, who had a hardware store on Main Street. Others who lived there are Harry and Hazel Helenbolt and Art and Elsie Wentz. It is now owned by Robert Boneschans, Eddyville, IA. The next house south is the site of the old light plant for Naper Village, a small jail and the town bell. Ray Stoltenberg moved this house to town; Frieda Nicolaus purchased it from Stoltenbergs and moved to town in 1961. Vernon and Linda Goodman bought it from the Nicolaus family.

The northeast corner of the next block was the site of an older frame home that once belonged to the Strackes, parents of Ruth Blakkolb. Later, Edith Windmeyer and her mother Jeretta Fee lived there. After the house was torn down, Brad Ludemann moved a trailer to the lot. The northwest corner of the block is the home of Jon Dyer. It was known as the Tienken house, which had been built by Henry Tienken, owner of Tienken Lumber Company. Gust and Lena Weickum owned the house later and had boarders for many years. Dennis and Linda Cline bought the house, remodeled it and sold it to Kelly and Lois Vogt. It then was owned by Kelly and Monica Bendig and now Jon Dyer. Jon's wife was Donna Weickum, granddaughter of Gust and Lena.

Just south of Jon's home is a modular home owned by Willis and Sally Goodman. This was the site of a house owned by Mary Stahlecker, mother of Henry Stahlecker, Annie Ulrich, and Clara Bechtold; then bought by Hap and Sylvia Gentele; then Willis and Sally, who lived

in it for a few years before getting the new home. South of their house is a home built by Wilbert and Elsie Cline when they moved from the farm, now owned by Marvin and Judy Cline. At one time, John Quest lived in the old house on this lot. He then sold it to Frank and Sally Green. Sally lived there with her sister Chloe Wright for many years. The southeast corner of the block is the site of the First Congregational UCC, built in 1959. The original church was built in 1899, the first church in Naper.

North of the church is the home of Ray and Mary Fuhrer. Hans Sieh lived in this house at one time, then Art and Julia Martin bought and remodeled the house. After the Martins moved to California, the house was sold to Ray and Mary. The next house was once the home of Paul and Minnie Stoltenberg. Claus and Daisy Vogt lived here when they moved to Naper. Bertha Fuhrer then bought it, and after her death, it was sold to Zada Hoyt. Scott and Susie Cline now own the home and use it as their vacation home when they visit in Naper.

The next block west, northeast corner, is what is said to be the oldest house in town. It was Fred Putnam's house. He was an early manager of Krotters, then worked in the bank. Walt and Vera Stahlecker bought the house when they retired from the farm. It is now owned by Dave and Cora Hesper. The house west of Hesper's was formerly owned by Charley Klein, purchased by Glenn and Janice Allpress in 1960 and now owned by Albert Allpress.

Across the street west is the former Bill and Ida Maertin home. They lived here for many years and ran Maertin's store. It is now owned by LaVerna Sieh. South of this house is Dorothy Cline's trailer home, newly painted and shingled! Next door south on "Jensen's Corner" is the house that was the home of Ludwig Jensen long ago. Lawrence and Bertha Nagel lived there for many years. Back across the street to the east is the home of Teresa Goodman. George and Annie Sieh moved the house to town from their farm west of town. East of Teresa's home is Bob's Body Shop, owned and operated by Bob Wentz. The house was formerly home to Lester and Delilah Andersen, postmaster in Naper for many years. Bob and Barb added on and remodeled the house.

And now you've been all around the town. How many places do you remember? How many places did we forget? ■



## WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE?

### The Rest of the Story

By Velda Sieh Stahlecker

In Volume 8, Issue 4, "Where in the World Are We? (Part 3)," there are corrections concerning the house Jake Blum lived in.

Jake bought the house from my great-grandparents' estate. They raised my mother (Hertha), as she was an orphan at the age of 7. Mom's dad was dead before she was born. Her mother had remarried after my mother was born and they moved to Idaho. In 1916, when Mom was 7, her mother died. Grandpa and Grandma Herrmann went to Idaho for the funeral and brought Mom's three older brothers and Mom home with them. Mom lived with her grandparents and the boys, John, Gotthilf and Aerhart, lived with aunts and uncles.

In the mid '20s, Grandpa built that house and they moved to town. Uncle Fred Herrmann took over the farm. Mom slept in the upstairs with her aunts Alma and Maggie. They had that narrow window to the east. Mom and Dad were married in 1929, I was born in 1930 and remember going there to visit and seeing the horse robe on the couch in the living room.

Grandma Herrmann died in 1937, Grandpa preceded her in death. I think Uncle Jake was administrator of the estate and sold the house to Jake Blum. Reinhold and Hattie Mayer bought the house. Later, Edna Mayer Broekemeier lived there with her mother Hattie. Vionne Berg owns it now. ■

### VFW CANOPY PROJECT UNDER WAY

The canopy over the sidewalk to the VFW—where we all love to head on Saturday nights for burgers and fries!—was in a state of disrepair and recently replaced. It was a costly project, and if anyone has extra "burger and fries" money they'd like to give to help the cause, it would be greatly appreciated. Stop by and see how good the new canopy looks.

If you'd like to donate, checks made payable to the VFW can be sent in care of Naper Historical Society, Box 72, Naper, NE 68755. ■

## Sylvester Hall Reunion Held

By Velda Stahlecker

This museum, formerly the post office and general store in Mills, was established in memory of Earl and Bertha Sylvester, early settlers of the area. Bertha was appointed Postmaster on January 31, 1940. Ruth Gessner, the Sylvesters' daughter, was Postmaster after her mother retired. The post office was closed several years ago, and the Mills community is now served on a rural route.

There are many pictures of Keya Paha County settlers on the walls of the main room. Their history is preserved in books to be used for reference. They also have a file of *Naper Papers*. They have a special veterans room with pictures of servicemen from the Spanish American War, World

War I, World War II, Korean War, Desert Storm, Afghanistan and Iraq. This room is a history lesson. Area ranchers have their brands burned on the wall of another room, with display of cowboy hats that belong to some of the early settlers.

At the reunion on September 19, 2010, a potluck dinner was followed by special entertainment. "The Ballad of Ira Hayes" was played and sung by Dean Shepherd. Stanley Cabelka on the keyboard and Mike Syfie on the guitar played many old favorites such as "Waltz Across Texas" and "I'll Be There Before the Next Teardrop Falls." The story of "Taps" was recited by Ruth Gessner, accompanied by background music. ■

## THE 2010 SPECIAL OLYMPICS GAMES IN LINCOLN

Teresa Goodman and Jamie Warnke brought home medals after competing in the 2010 National Games Special Olympics in Lincoln. Jamie brought home a gold medal in the 4 x 100 meter relay, received a silver medal in the long jump, third in the 100-meter run, and fourth in shot put. Teresa brought home a silver medal in the 100-meter walk, third place in the standing long jump, fourth place in the softball throw, and fifth in the 50-meter walk.

The two girls were in Lincoln for a week

competing for the Nebraska team. There were 3,000 athletes from Nebraska and 47 other states. ■



USA NATIONAL GAMES • NEBRASKA



Some "ladies of the club" a long time ago. In the middle of the front row, next to the lady with the baby, Etta Bennett; in the second row, third from the right, Mrs. Quest; second row, far right, Mrs. Andersen, Wayne Andersen's grandmother. No idea where or when the photo was taken—any ideas? We'd love some help. Notice the enameled cup hanging on the pump.



## The Ol' Homesteader

*Ol' Homesteader returns with another heap of news and happenings from in and around our fair town...*

**T**here's always something goin' on around here...

**THE YOUNG'UNS:** Jon Alford (son of Jim and Becky, grandson of Edward and Lois) and Kendell McCarthy (son of Kevin and Angie, grandson of LeRoy and Maxine Windmeyer McCarthy) received post-season basketball honors.

The West Boyd music department again satisfied appetites and entertained at their annual spaghetti supper and pops concert. Spring concerts were also very well done.

Zander Gosch (son of Pastor Justin and Amy Gosch), Austin Koenig (son of Kevin and Staci Zink Koenig, grandson of Jeff and Rindy Zink, great-grandson of Louise Zink), Kelly McCarthy (daughter of Kevin and Angie), and Henry Ahlers (son of Dean and Roxie) had perfect attendance for the third quarter.

Janet Ahlers (daughter of Dean and Roxie), Amber Bendig (daughter of Kelly and Monica, granddaughter of Herman and Grace Faatz Bendig), Alex Bendig (son of Kelly and Monica, grandson of Herman and Grace), Jon Alford, Luke Zeisler (son of Sheryl and Richard), Jamie Mashino (daughter of Dustin and Tammy Mitchell Mashino), Dylan Reiman (son of Casey

and Lisa Ahlers Reiman), Alix Mashino (daughter of Dustin and Tammy), David Engelhaupt (son of Leonard and Karen Bechtold Engelhaupt), and Kelly McCarthy were named to the honor roll for the third quarter.

Luke Zeisler and Alex Bendig were recognized and honored during the 83rd Nebraska State FFA convention.

**SOME NEW FACES:** Todd and Pam Dummer are parents of Roland James, born January 25. Ronald and Deb Whitley Dummer are grandparents.

Grant Christian Beranek was born February 24 to Jeremy and Joy Bentzen Beranek. R.C. Bentzen of Omaha is grandpa and Ramona Bentzen of Naper is great-grandma.

Lee and Stephanie Whitley Cadwallader welcomed twins Rylan Max and Kinsley Rae on April 14. Grandparents are Tim and Bonnie Fuhrer Whitley, Lyle Fuhrer is great-grandpa.

**COUPLES:** Jenna Connot and Jesse Reiman (son of Lawrence and Jane, grandson of Jack and Jean) were married October 30.

Katlyn Brown and Justin Nelson (son of Ivan and Nancy Wentz Nelson, grandson

of Bob and Barb Stoltenberg Wentz, great-grandson of Elsie Wentz) were married March 26.

Candace Joy Binder and Marcus Alford (son of Jim and Becky, grandson of Edward and Lois) had a May 14 wedding.

Karla Keller (daughter of Tim and Rita Ahlers Keller and granddaughter of Gaynell Keller) and Ryan Leriger were married May 21 in Omaha.

Herman and Grace Faatz Bendig celebrated their golden anniversary with a reception, karaoke and dancing at the Naper Hall on April 23. Lotsa fun there!

**OUR FINAL GOODBYES:** Kent Vogt, a 1980 graduate, passed away in Omaha February 4.

Elenora Kortmeyer Bryan passed away March 19 in Rapid City. She grew up south of Naper and had lived in Rapid City for many years.

Marguerite Ludemann left us March 27. She had lived in Boyd County for all but three of her 101 years and left behind many memories. She was valedictorian in 1928, the first class to graduate from the twelfth grade in Naper High School.

Melvin Blum passed away April 6. He grew up south of Naper and had lived in O'Neill for many years. ■



## Letters and More Letters...

Send your cards and letters to:

The Naper Paper, c/o The Naper Historical Society,  
PO Box 72, Naper, NE 68755

Thought you might enjoy this clipping. I did.

A farmer in Texas sent a 25-pound watermelon to a friend who had moved to Alaska. "Just thought you'd like to see a sample of the cucumber crop this year." His friend sent back a 10-pound cabbage with a note attached: "Cucumber crop terrible up here, but we're having good luck with Brussels sprouts."

Bennetta Roth

In the *Naper Paper* News of the Fourth Quarter 2010, I saw that copies of the 1976 book are available. Please find enclosed \$6 for a copy plus a donation. I continue to watch for Broekemeier/Heermann information. Also pleased to trace UNL

Huskers player Joe Broekemeier to his Naper ancestor. I attended and became friends with Lou Ann Stahlecker Heermann at Norfolk Beauty School 1960-1961. If anyone sees her, tell her "hi" from me. Also Karen Gentele.

Jeanne Brockemeier Loewe

Hello! Always enjoy hearing what is going on back home. Enclosed is a token of my appreciation of your efforts. Thank you.

Lauri Bentzen McNulty

Please find a check for the paper. We look forward to each issue and the interesting stories.

Don and Betty Stoltenberg Bentz

Enclosed is a check to keep the paper coming. Enjoy it very much to keep in touch with the news.

Mrs. Clarence Cline

Please find a donation for the *Naper Paper*. We really enjoy it and look forward to it. It keeps us up to date on Naper and its people. Keep up the good work.

Russ and Sandy Whitley

Thanks again for putting out the *Naper Paper*. I always look forward to reading each issue. It always seems to awaken some of those old memories from the "Good Ole Days!"

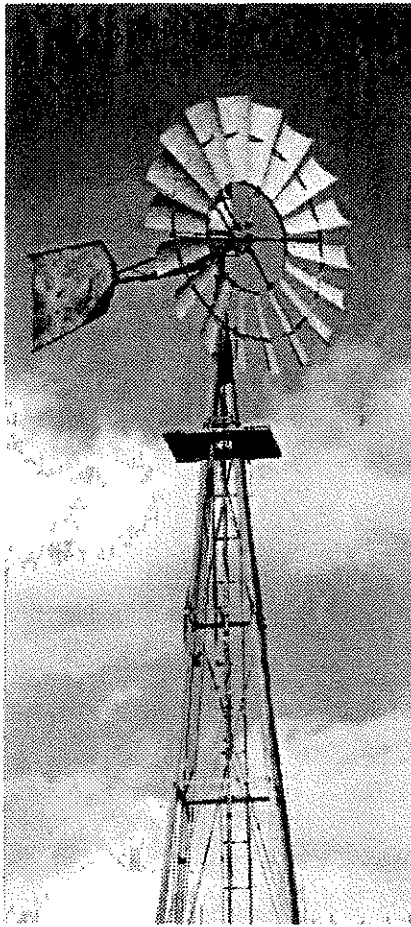
Leroy E. Ahlers

Hello again,

Another year gone. Who knows where? But the grass is green and life is good. Keep up the good work—the wife and I so enjoy the paper.

Please find donations for the funds.

Orland Cline



# Naper Paper

Naper Historical Society  
PO Box 72  
Naper NE 68755

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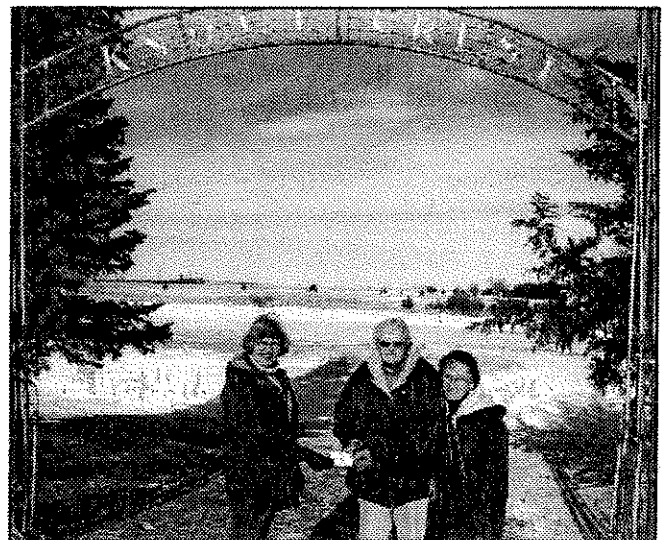
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- Library News
- Naper Town Pasture
- The Christian Kulms
- Naper Paper Update
- Where in the World Are We?
- Plus: Circuit Rider, Ol' Homesteader

... AND MUCH MORE!



Read about the Knoll Crest Cemetery Fence Project on page 4.