

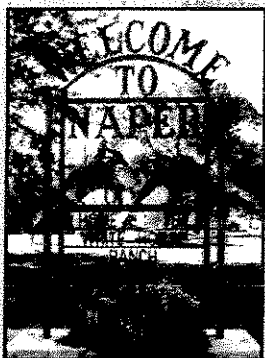
**A publication
for and about
the town of
Naper, Nebraska**

**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 3

News of 2nd Quarter 2011

Chief Yellow Horse

By Marilyn Sieh

Native Americans have been a big part of our local history. We published a story about the Milks Camp Powwow (Volume 8, Issue 4). Now how about a story of an individual who lived in this area whom people knew? Next thought—who might that be? There the idea stalled until I read the obituary of a good friend of mine, Marguerite Ludemann, from which I quote the following: “Marguerite’s favorite story from her childhood was of riding home from school in the back of Chief Yellow Horse’s wagon atop the tarp that covered the leftovers from the butcher shop. She would stand and braid his hair while Yellow Horse drove the ponies on the two-mile stretch north of Naper.”

Here I knew someone who grew up knowing a native chief. How interesting! What else could I find out about Chief Yellow Horse?

Chief Yellow Horse was the best known chief in this area from the time he was a young brave until he was an old man. He was adopted by Chief Swift Bear in northwestern Nebraska. He married Chief Red Cloud’s daughter, whose name was Leader Wife or Mary. Red Cloud was a very famous chief and is now named in the Nebraska Hall of Fame. Yellow Horse fought the Utes, Shoshones, Cheyennes, and Arikaras. He was always chosen to represent the band with which he stayed as a warrior. In 1866, he came to Fort Laramie in Wyoming, where he became a peaceful Indian. He became the head guide for Chiefs Red Cloud and Spotted Tail, who were guarding the Black Hills to keep the white people out. When Crazy Horse surrendered at Fort Robinson and escaped alone to the Spotted Tail Agency near Long Pine, it was Yellow Horse who went and brought him back to the Red Cloud Agency authorities in northwest Nebraska.

Indians liked to participate in the parades of the area and were invited into the towns to help celebrate special occasions, such as the Fourth of July. Chief Yellow Horse was very popular and at an older age was invited to the Ak-Sar-Ben Parade in Omaha. He went with the local Bonesteel Cowboy Band where he marched in front of the band as the drum major. He was dressed in full regalia including his beautifully beaded moccasins but found that the cobblestones made his feet sore.

When I told Marguerite’s daughter Ann I was writing this story, she gave me a book in



Elsie Reichel and Chief Yellow Horse

which Marguerite had been interviewed. Veryl Walstrom, DVM, of Verdigré, NE, wrote *My Search for the Burial Sites of Sioux Nation Chiefs*, in which Marguerite tells of Yellow Horse making an unexpected visit to the Naper School in 1923. Before leaving, he gave her teacher the wampum he had in his possession. Marguerite got an A+ when she wrote a story about his visit. He lived many years in a small three-room house on the top of Ponca Hill on the east side of the Naper–St. Charles highway. His great-granddaughter, Mrs. Orville Hansen, lived near St. Charles, SD.

He had been baptized by an Episcopal missionary in southern Dakota territory. He passed away November 20, 1924, shortly after his wife’s death. Marguerite and her family attended Chief Yellow Horse’s funeral. She told of the Indians dancing to drum beats and chanting over his casket. After his funeral at Milk’s Camp Congregational Church, he was buried in the Swift Bear Cemetery southeast of Herrick. His wife has a marker but he has none. So ends the life of Chief Yellow Horse.

(Unless otherwise noted, information taken from old newspapers.) ■



The Circuit Rider

Gaynell Rockholm Keller: The Circuit Rider continues her story

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..."

Getting to school in the winter was rough. Chris would bring Gaynell into town with a team and wagon on Sunday so she could attend school. Nathalie Sattler sometimes spent the week with Gaynell. One time Nathalie put Gaynell's hair in tiny pin curls to be ready for their senior photos. Pictures were taken by the O'Neill Photo Company in O'Neill. The seniors got a free lunch at a local café. Costs compared to today are interesting. The bill for senior pictures was \$38.30 which included two 8x10s, two dozen folders, and two dozen billfold size. The class ring cost \$11, Pep Club jacket \$8.90, shoes \$5.95 and the formal \$19.95. Her folks gave her a cedar chest for graduation that cost \$65.

When Gaynell was a senior, Ruby Tienken was the primary room (grades one, two, three and four) teacher. Mrs. Tienken was snowed in at the ranch on the north side of the Niobrara River and couldn't get to school. Gaynell filled in for her. One day turned into a week. Some of the students in the room were Ann Ludemann, Bob Wentz, Nina Bentzen, Marilyn Smith and Mardell Martin. When Mrs. Tienken finally returned, she gave Gaynell \$20 for her efforts.

Graduation time was coming close and Gaynell was the valedictorian. She received a scholarship to Wayne State for tuition, but since she wasn't going to use it, she gave it to Wayne Anderson.

After graduating, Gaynell began to wear the engagement ring that she had had for some time. She was now officially engaged to the man that she would marry, Elmer Eugene Keller, known around Naper as "Bill." They were married May 23, 1949, with Marvin and Pauline Stoltenberg as attendants. The Kellers moved to the farm four miles east of Naper. Their first son, Randy, was born in 1950. Timothy Eugene was born in 1952. Carla Ann was born in 1955 and passed away one day before she was a month old. Cindy Kay was born in 1957.

In 1972, a mobile home was purchased and moved to the farm they purchased from Elmer and Nellie Keller. Randy and his wife then moved into the "little round house" on the other farm. The circular house was built of sod and divided into two rooms, a kitchen/dining room and a bedroom. An addition for a living room and another bedroom had been added at

some time. (The story of the "little round house" and a block of sod are displayed in Heritage Hall.)

In 1953, Gaynell's parents moved to the farm just north of Naper. Memorial Day, 1973, Gaynell's mom called and said her dad had a massive heart attack and passed away in the front yard at the age of 73. Inez lived on the farm for four more years and then poor health caused her to move into the Butte Health Care Center. At age 86, Mrs. Rockholm passed away in the Lynch Hospital in 1983.

In December of 1979, the Kellers moved to the farm north of Naper. Their son Randy was then farming with them. In June of 1987, Eugene was stricken with lung cancer and after a brave two-year battle, passed away in 1989 at the age of 61. Gaynell is still on the same farm enjoying the company of her three children and their spouses, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She is an active member of both First Congregational UCC and Women's Fellowship.

After bringing up many "old times," the Circuit Rider must visit other members of the great community of Naper. Adios! ■



2011 POW WOW HELD
Milk's Camp Traditional Wacipi was July 22, 23 and 24 at Milk's Camp northwest of Naper. The Men's Traditional Special was sponsored by the Tamayo family in honor of Willie Tamayo. Pictured is Judy Andrews Hanson at the 2010 Milk's Camp Pow Wow.

PLAY BALL!

By Jim Kluckman



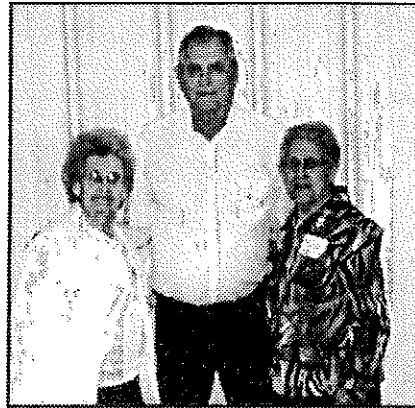
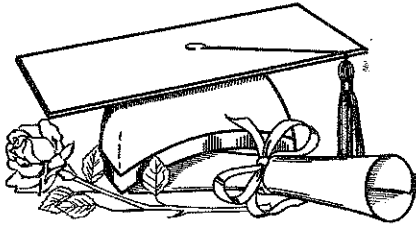
The GDS Memorial Co-ed Softball Tournament was held Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 28th from noon until about 9 pm at the ball field in Naper, NE. The tournament was named in honor and memory of Glen Dean Solinger (grandfather of Jim Kluckman and great-grandfather of Zander and ReNae Kluckman of Naper) who passed away October 2010.

The weather was great for softball. Six teams entered. First place went to NC Allstars from Winner who received a first place trophy and \$300. Second place went to the Mad Dogs from Bonesteel who received a second place trophy and \$200. Third place went to Super Troopers from Naper and Bonesteel. They received a third place trophy and \$100. One injury occurred in the tournament. Chad Zachrison from Sioux Falls (brother-in-law of Jim Kluckman) played for the home team. He suffered a broken leg in a collision with Jim in the outfield on the first play of the home team's first game. Sorry, Chad!! He has since recovered and is doing well now.

We had a lot of sponsors that helped out, too! Special thank you goes out to all the individuals and businesses that sponsored the tournament: The Bendig Family, Chad Bentz, Chasing Hawk Family, Dennis Klein Family, Gregory Lanes, Kluckman Family, Koenig Construction, Koenig Lumber, Naper Cafe & Lounge, Solinger Family, Wentz Family, Whitley Family, and Zachrison Family. Without each and every one of them this tournament would not have been possible. Thanks to everyone who showed up to watch the games, too. Over all, it was a great day and tournament with a great crowd. Looking forward to doing it again next year! ■

ALUMNI BANQUET

The 58th annual NHS Alumni banquet was held May 28. This is the 10th year for the scholarship program. ■



1941 graduates: Florence Wetzler Porter, Ray Fuhrer and Lelia Boucher Higgins



1951 graduate: Nathalie Sattler Taranto



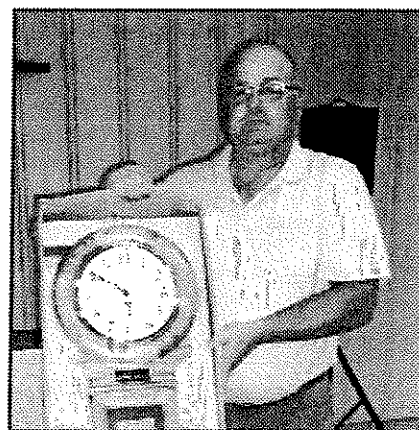
1961 graduates: Dolly Dawson Spitzenberger, Judy Vogt Lewis, Dennis Green and Judy Hoyt Cline



Class of 1971: Tim Keller, Bonnie Vogt Geckler, Joel Sieh, Doug Schochenmaier, Keith Fuhrer, Bob Allpress and Bud Honke (seated)



Class of 1981: Sandra Schmitz Meyer and Bryon Vogt



Mark Zink presented a clock to the Naper Library from the class of 1980 in memory of Kent Vogt.



2011 graduate Logan Titus Ahlers receives her scholarship from Sharon Sattler Vogt.

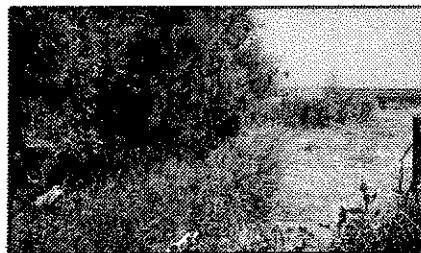
LET'S LOCATE THE CEMETERIES

Since the Knoll Crest Cemetery has started its fence project, it might be interesting to visit the sites of cemeteries in the west end of Boyd County. Information for this article is from the Boyd County Clerk's records, Naper Centennial Book, Heritage Hall displays.



Oakdale Cemetery

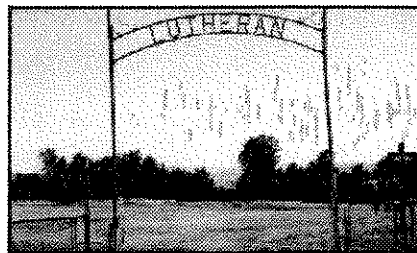
The Oakdale Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in this area. C.A. Kibby and Lizzie Kibby, his wife, deeded four acres to the cemetery on May 13, 1891, document recorded May 20, 1891. It is part of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 27, Township 34 North, Range 16 East, described as "the southeast corner of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ inside the limits of the public highway in Holt County." To drive to the Oakdale Cemetery, go five miles west of Naper and five miles south. Elof Erickson made the sign which now hangs above the cemetery gate. In 1883, Mr. Matson was buried in the cemetery. Caroline Holten (*Naper Paper*, Volume 8, Issue 1) is buried there under a stone that reads "C. Holten, died March 13, 1895, 43 yrs." Another stone: "John G, son of R.B. and Sarah W. Smith, December 21, 1879, lost his life from a sandbank caving on him June 11, 1888." Among other families represented are Higgins, Hoyt and Green. The Oakdale Cemetery is sometimes referred to as Garwood Cemetery but no reference to Garwood was found in the county records.



Unmarked cemetery

On January 16, 1894 (recorded March 16, 1894), Edward Timmerman deeded parts of Section 11, Township 34 North, Range 15 East to Rt. Rev. Richard Scannell, Bishop of Omaha. The land was described as the northwest corner of the section, then 33 1/3

rods east, 24 rods south, 33 1/3 rods west, then 24 rods north, containing five acres. Another parcel containing three acres being 22 rods square was included but later deeded to Adolph Arp. Rev. Scannell's will left the property as well as Lots 4 and 5, Block 3, Village of Naper, to Rev. Jeremiah J. Harty, Bishop of Omaha, in 1917. Rt. Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Bishop of Omaha, deeded Lots 4 and 5, Block 3, Village of Naper and part of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 11 to Sacred Heart Church of Naper on October 27, 1931 (recorded October 29, 1931). To find the cemetery, go two miles east of Naper, then one mile south. The cemetery is unmarked.



Lutheran Cemetery

Carl Hauf deeded three acres (24 rods by 20 rods) in the northwest corner of Lot 2, and Gottlieb Schoenefeldt deeded three acres in the northeast corner of Lot 3, both in Section 6, Township 34 North, Range 15 West, to the Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery on June 6, 1894. February 5, 1926 (document recorded February 8, 1926), Jake Berg, John Camin and Louis Kortmeyer, as trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran Zion Church, deeded the land to the New St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Naper. The Lutheran Cemetery is along Highway 12, 1.5 miles west of Naper. Wilhelm Schultz, grandfather of Bill and Bob Schultz, built the gates for the cemetery. He was a blacksmith in Naper and some of his tools are displayed in Heritage Hall. Early burials are in the east end of the cemetery. Elizabeth Hoffman (1825-1898) and Minnie Dow (1876-1900), wife of J.A. Dow, are two of the early graves. Later burials are in the west end and include family names of Mayer, Ahlers, Stahlecker and Vogt.



Baptist Cemetery

Henry Schock, deed two acres in the shape of a square in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 35, Township 35 North, Range 15 East, to the First German Baptist Church January 29, 1896. The document was recorded January 31, 1896. The Baptist Cemetery is on old Highway 12 three miles west of Naper. The church formerly located at this site was sold to the Lutheran congregation in Naper and added to the east end of the frame church (St. Paul's Lutheran) in use until 1962. Johanna Siewert was buried there in 1901 and Justina and Olga Merchen both in 1903. Family names include Schock, Wetzler, Stahlecker and Rabe.



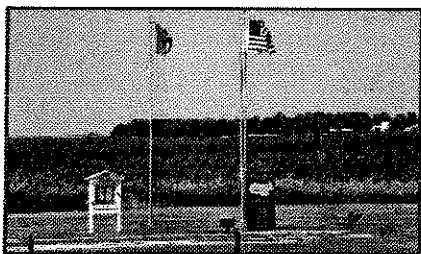
Unmarked Congegational Cemetery

For \$25, Godfried Martin and Julia Martin, his wife, deeded a parcel of land in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, Township 34 North, Range 16 West, to the German Congregation Church of Christ on June 23, 1894, document recorded August 10, 1894. The acreage is 2.5 miles west of Naper on the south side of Highway 12. The church deeded it to Rev. John Sattler June 18, 1896. Rev. Sattler of Bon Homme County, SD, deeded it to the German Congregational Church of Christ for \$25 in 1899. It was described as beginning 62 rods west of the northeast corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, thence west on the north line 22 rods, south 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ rods, east 22 rods, north 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ rods, containing three acres for a church and cemetery. "In the late 1890's, a sod church was built two and one half miles west of Naper for the German-speaking people of the Congregational faith. Later, a wooden church was built approximately one mile north of the sod church. No definite date for the final services in either church is known, but it is believed to be in the late 30's for the frame church" (from *Naper Centennial* book, page 11). Perhaps this explains the unnamed and unmarked cemetery.



German Congregational Cemetery

John Merchan and his wife Rebecka deeded part of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 31, Township 35 North, Range 15 West, to the German Congregational Church May 23, 1899, deed recorded May 27, 1899. The parcel was two acres, beginning 72 rods south of the northwest corner of the section, 21 rods south, 15 rods and four feet east to a stake, then 21 rods north, then 15 rods and four feet west, located two miles west and one-quarter mile south of Naper on old Highway 12. In August of 1899, Daniel Schweigert and Samuel Holmgren, as trustees of the church, signed a mortgage for \$250 to build a church. The mortgage was released in 1916. Several years ago, Hulda Stahlecker Holmgren told Larry Anderson that she and her family attended that church. She remembered that there would be a horse or a team and buggy tied to every fence post around the church yard. About 1935, the church on this property was sold to the Assembly of God Church and moved to Naper. The grave of Conrad Hein (1857-1906) has a wooden marker and is enclosed in a picket fence. A tall narrow stone on the north end of the cemetery is inscribed "Jacob Grening und kinder Getoibet in wirbelsturm," literally "killed in a cyclone," June 20, 1891. Jacob Grening, age 46, Mari Katerina, age 8, Anna Maria, age 6, Johannes, age 4, and Jacob, age 2, perished that day. Two of August Andersen's children were killed in the same storm and buried at Knoll Crest.



Naper 28 Memorial

Knoll Crest Cemetery was begun with a deed dated February 15, 1902, filed December 29, 1905, from Eliza Ann Wakefield, administrator of the Mason Wakefield estate, to the Naper Cemetery Association. Mason Wakefield was probably the first person buried there in March, 1901, about a year before the land was purchased for the cemetery. The cost was \$22.50 for a parcel of land in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 33, Township 35 North, Range 15 East, beginning in the southwest corner, then east 390 feet, north 189 feet, west 390 feet and south 189 feet. May 14, 1906, R.R. and C.L. Naper, husband and wife, deeded the same land for \$10. For \$150, A.S. Kandyba deeded 2.32 acres to the Naper Cemetery

Association March 29, 1935. That parcel was described as part of the E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ beginning 33 feet north of the half section corner between Section 4 and Section 33, then 615 feet west, 165 feet north, 615 feet east, 165 feet south. Joe and Bertha Schmitz deeded one acre for \$75 in E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ west of the original cemetery (the cemetery name in this instrument is Knoll Crest) July 14, 1952, recorded February 9, 1954. Knoll Crest Cemetery is just east of Naper along Highway 12. George Sutherland (1807-1919) is probably the oldest person buried in Knoll Crest. Charles Alexander, Jr., lost at sea in 1943, and Isaac Bowen (1838-1865) have memorial stones. Bowen was a Civil War veteran who spent 18 months in Libby Anderson Prison and then was lost when the Sultana sank. Seven other Civil War veterans rest in Knoll Crest as well as veterans from both World Wars and the Korean Conflict. A veterans' memorial and a memorial to the Naper 28 are located on the west end of Knoll Crest. The Historical Society keeps flags flying and the memorial lighted from May 1 to October 1 every year.



Mount Zion Cemetery

The Mount Zion Cemetery is four miles east and one and one-half miles north of Naper. There are no documents recorded for this cemetery as it is on school land (NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 36, Township 35 North, Range 15 West). The graves enclosed in fences are Author H. Armfield, Eunice Ruth Armfield, Philinda Armfield, Matilda Andrews (second wife of R.S. Andrews), R.S. Andrews, Ellmina Andrews (first wife of R.S. Andrews). Located outside of the fences are markers for Ella Vogt, Gerald Broadbooks, S. Clyde Dillon, and Vera Fay Bennett. (There are two books in Heritage Hall about Vera Fay Bennett.) The Wild Rose 4-H Club cleaned this cemetery in 1999 and has kept it up. When Kelsey Zink was the only member left in the club, she and her mom would mow it every Memorial weekend and put flowers out. Now grandson Austin Koenig is helping his grandmother Rindy Zink keep up the cemetery. Thank you, Rindy Zink, for the information and all the care you've given the cemetery. Raiza S. Andrews and Matilda Andrews, his wife, donated one acre, part of Lot 2, Section 30, Township 35 North, Range 14 East, to the Free Methodist Church of

North America and a church was built there. The document was dated August 13, 1900, and recorded December 1, 1900; the same document dated April 23, 1904 and recorded April 23, 1904. The parcel began 31 rods north of the southwest corner of Lot 2, then 10 rods east, 16 rods north, 10 rods west and 16 rods south. The church was moved by teams of horses to Bonesteel in the early 1930s.



Leatherman Cemetery

The Leatherman Cemetery is located on the White Horse Ranch. Richard A. Wright deeded 120 square rods (in the NE corner of S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, going west 10 rods to a stake, south 12 rods to a stake, east 10 rods to a stake, north 12 rods to the point of beginning, containing .75 acre) of Section 35, Township 34 North, Range 15 West, to Franklin Leatherman. The deed was dated December 16, 1911, and recorded December 23, 1911. Both Cal and Ruth Thompson are buried there.



Sacred Heart Cemetery

Sacred Heart Cemetery is the most recently designated. For \$1, Joe and Bertha Schmitz deeded part of the E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ (165 feet north, 168 feet west, 165 feet south, 168 feet east, located west of the acre deeded to Knoll Crest) November 18, 1963, recorded November 22, 1963. Graves in the Sacred Heart Cemetery are oriented north and south rather than the conventional east and west. It is reported the priest who served the Naper parish at the time decided on burials north and south.

UPDATE ON KNOLL CREST FENCE

Of the approximately \$18,000 needed to complete the job, \$12,000 is on hand. The cemetery board says thanks to everyone who helped on July 14 and to everyone who has contributed to the project. They are very grateful for the money received—and will gratefully accept more! ■



The Ol' Homesteader

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

The Ol' Homesteader keeps checkin' up on all the doin's in Naper...

THE KIDS'RE BUSY: Amber Bendig (daughter of Kelly and Monica, granddaughter of Herman and Grace Faatz Bendig), Jamie Mashino (daughter of Dustin and Tammy Mitchell Mashino), Dylan Reiman (son of Casey and Lisa Ahlers Reiman, grandson of Jack and Jean Reiman and Wayne and Virginia Schonebaum Ahlers), Alix Mashino (daughter of Dustin and Tammy), Alex Bendig (son of Kelly and Monica), Jon Alford (son of Jim and Rebecca, grandson of Ed and Lois), David Engelhaupt (son of Leonard and Karen Bechtold Engelhaupt), and Luke Zeisler (son of Richard and Sheryl) all hit the books and made the honor roll at West Boyd. Austin Koenig (son of Kevin and Stacy Zink Koenig, grandson of Jeff and Rindy Zink), Evan Reiman (son of Casey and Lisa), Dylan Reiman, Gina McCarthy (daughter of Darrin and Connie, granddaughter of LeRoy and Maxine Windmeyer McCarthy), Ridge Higgins (son of LaVern and Brenda Klien Higgins, grandson of Margaret Vogt Kline Schmitz and Lelia Boucher Higgins), Kelli Mashino (daughter of Dustin and Tammy), and Jessa McCarthy (daughter of Darrin and Connie) had perfect attendance at West Boyd. Yep, as I've said before, the Ol' Homesteader has a good many memories of the honor roll and perfect attendance. Hmm... Alex Bendig qualified for the state track meet May 20 and 21 at Burke High School in Omaha! (Yep, I remember all that running too...) Kendall McCarthy (son of Kevin and Angie McCarthy, grandson of LeRoy and Maxine) played in two all-star football games in June—Sertoma East-West game and Nebraska-Kansas All-Stars. (Ol' Homesteader doesn't remember the football so much...) Kendall McCarthy, Luke Zeisler, and Logan Titus-Ahlers (daughter of Danny and Tara Ahlers, granddaughter of Wayne and Virginia) all graduated from West Boyd in May. Erin Richardson (daughter of Lee and Karen Bentzen Richardson, granddaughter of Ramona Bentzen) graduated from West Holt High. Joy Cline Bechtold received a degree in accounting from Northeast Community College. A whole lotta learnin' there.

AND STILL BUSY DURING VACATION: The Naper Library had a summer story time for youngsters, culminating with the puppet show "Killing a Dragon." Smokey the Bear showed up July 1 with books for the children.



Smokey the Bear and friends at the library.

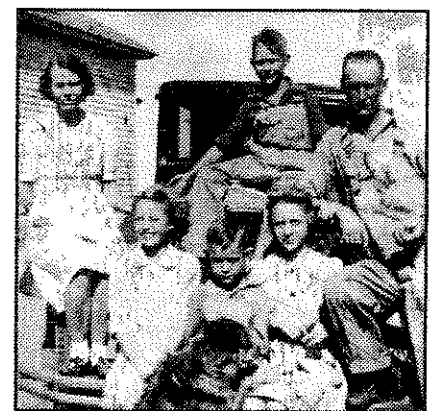
Camp Turned Around, Vacation Bible School, was held June 20, 21 and 22 at the VFW. Vacation Bible School at St. Paul's Lutheran Church was held May 23-26. The annual campout at the parsonage was a good time July 14! The Ol' Homesteader thinks this is almost too much fun!

THE ADULTS KEEP GOIN' TOO! Guy Polenske won second place with his very well done saddlebags in the World Leather Debut at the Rocky Mountain Leather Trade Show in Sheridan, WY, May 19-21. Dennis and LouAnn Stahlecker Heermann celebrated their 50th anniversary the weekend of June 3 and 4. On May 28, The Naper Library had a display of star quilts beautifully handmade by Judy Hanson and Twila Emme. They were outstanding! The Naper Historical Society sponsored its spring trash pickup May 7. The historical people also served lunch at the Lucille Sieh Estate sale June 12 and at Jim and Mabel Sattler's farm sale July 24. (Note: "historical" doesn't necessarily mean old, but it might mean tired.) The VFW Post conducted Memorial Day Services at the Naper Auditorium on May 30. Tanner Hilgert was the speaker. The community chorus, accompanied by Bev Zink, provided music during the service, as well as processional and recessional music. The color guard participated in the service at the cemetery. The Cline family held their family reunion in Naper and at the VFW Club over the July 4 holiday. Marvin and Judy Cline celebrated their 50th anniversary during the reunion. What fun! The Rockholm descendants gathered at the Larry and Ann Anderson home July 1, 2 and 3 for their fourth reunion. They get together every three years and started in 2002. The Circle of Friends continues to have bingo the first Saturday of every month at the VFW and pitch games at the Café on Wednesday afternoons. Thrivent matched funds raised at a hamburger and hotdog feed

July 17 to help with medical costs for Merle "Butch" Riesselman. He's been hospitalized since May 22. The family of the late Dennis and Rose McCarthy had their family picnic dinner on July 9 at the Burke Park. LeRoy and Maxine and granddaughters Jessa and Gina attended. LeRoy and Maxine McCarthy celebrated their 45th anniversary July 23 with their family.

NEW FACES: Kris and Sara Zeisler Thayer welcomed Landon Charles on April 3. Richard and Sheryl are grandparents. Barron and Katie Sachtjen Andrews welcomed Jaxson Kenaston Ray on June 16. Grandparents are Byron and Brenda Andrews of Bonesteel and Terry and Michaela Sachtjen of Naper. Hoyt and Julie Cline are parents of Juliana Kay, born July 24. Marvin and Judy are grandparents. July 24 is also their granddaughter Jessica Cline's birthday!

GOODBYE TO OLD FRIENDS: DeWayne Dummer, who graduated from Naper High School in 1949, passed away April 26, 2011. He had lived near Kansas City since his discharge from the Army in 1954. Anton Hambek, whose story was told in the last issue of the *Naper Paper*, left us May 18. He had been a lifelong resident of Gregory County, living just west and north of Naper. Sylvia Mayer passed away May 20. Her sons Tim and Keith farm northwest of Naper. Clinton Reber, the youngest of John and Ada Reber's 13 children, died June 3 at his home in Norfolk. He had farmed at Naper and then carried mail in Colorado and Nebraska. Vionne Berg Forsch passed away July 25. She graduated from Naper High School in 1944 and had the distinction of being continuously employed as a dental assistant for sixty years. What an amazing accomplishment! ■



CERNEY FAMILY, 1940: (Top row) Lydia, Beezie and Clem, (seated) Helen, Bill and Jean. (See letter at right.)



Letters and More

Send your cards and letters to:

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

Enclosed is a check—Please use wherever needed—for the *Naper Paper* or whatever. Thanks for all you all do!

Ed and Lois Alford

I am enclosing a check. I know us retired and semi-retired people work cheap but it has to cost some real money to produce and mail the *Naper Paper*. I do enjoy reading the stories about the old days. My wife Linda is from Aurora, NE, and also enjoys reading it. "The Class of 1960 Rules!!"

Ralph Kulm

Greetings,

Enclosed find a check for two sections of the new fence, one in memory of the Doyle family and one in memory of the Alexander family. Also find a donation for the *Naper Paper*—enjoy all the news.

Jim and Darlene Doyle

Enjoy the paper, reading the many family histories and Naper stories. One such family story, the Herrmanns, brings back memories. I remember LaDale. Once he threw a baseball to me. I didn't see it coming but I heard it when it went right by my left ear! I looked back at him and will always remember the grin on his face.

I have many memories of the people and growing up around Naper. I remember the town as it was in the 1930s, the old town hall and dances, Zimmerman store north of Blakkolb store, the Pavilion between Boucher store and Bentzens and the Power Plant. Charlie Klein's gas station rest rooms were the most modern thing in Naper at the time.

I remember the town celebrations in the '30s and '40s. Once they had a rodeo, real cowboys came in to compete. Naper town marshal John Radford with his "blackjack" threw a couple of them cowboys in the old wooden jail—very exciting for us young boys.

The one great blessing of my time at Naper was to see the young men come home after WWII ended. Our prayers were answered.

I will always with pride call Naper my home. Check enclosed for the *Naper Paper* and for one section of fence at the cemetery in remembrance of Clem and Lydia Cerney. Most of you know me as Beezie Cerney.

Clem J. Cerney

Enjoy the *Naper Paper* so much. Keep it coming.

DeLoris Serr Taliaferro

Naper Paper Folks,

I enclose two checks: one for the *Naper Paper*—Keep up the great work! One for the Knoll Crest Cemetery. My parents Rudolph and Zelma Becker and my brother Paul are buried there.

Sincerely, Mavis Hambek

I really look forward to receiving the *Naper Paper*. Enclosed is a check to help with the expenses. It's great to think back to all the good times of youth.

Sincerely, Nina M. (Bentzen) Bahm
P.S. My handwriting hasn't improved any!

I enjoy reading the *Naper Paper* each time it arrives! I brings back fond memories of my high school years at NHS. Thanks for keeping the history of a small town alive!

Terry Mills Hartzler

Sending a donation to help with the Naper cemetery fence. Looks like it will be nice when it is completed. Thanks to all who are working on this project. We have a lot of family that were put to rest in that cemetery.

Larry and Karen (Reber) Juracek

Please find a check enclosed for the paper. Always enjoy reading it—enjoy the many articles of the history of Naper.

Colome, SD, friends, Gerry and Linda Leber

Thank you for the *Naper Paper*.

Paul J. Sprenkle

Got my paper today. I saw a lot of familiar names that more than likely were kids and grandkids of the people I remember. I still enjoyed it. Keep up the good work.

As of this date, all the kids of Fred and Mary Hermann live in Washington and Oregon and are still getting oxygen. "My fingers are crossed."

Thanks, LaVere Herrmann

Enclosed is a donation for the *Naper Paper*—I enjoy reading it.

"Bud" Alexander

Enjoy the paper and like to read where people lived and now live in Naper. Visited many times with Uncle Frank and Aunt

Sally Green and Aunt Chloe Wright and the Goodman's. Am sending a little postage for now.
Grace E. Schultz

I look forward to reading the news from "back home." Thanks to everyone who contributes to putting together the *Naper Paper*.
Sharla Mills

Toward the end of May, I visited Lincoln, NE (for my 55th University of Nebraska College of Nursing class reunion), and Naper (for my 60th Naper High School class reunion). OK, so now you know how old I am.

Of course in Naper I toured the Heritage Hall and the White Horse Ranch Museum. The time, talent and tenacity of the volunteers is substantially evident in the cataloging and display of artifacts and memorabilia. The high school graduation photo gallery alone is a true tribute to each graduate and the educators. One needs more than a couple of days to really appreciate the holdings. What a nostalgia trip. The Naper Library was my next stop. Wow, you have an impressive collection given the duration the library has been open. (I spotted some of my favorite authors—Jean Auel, Tony Hilleman, Jane Austin.)

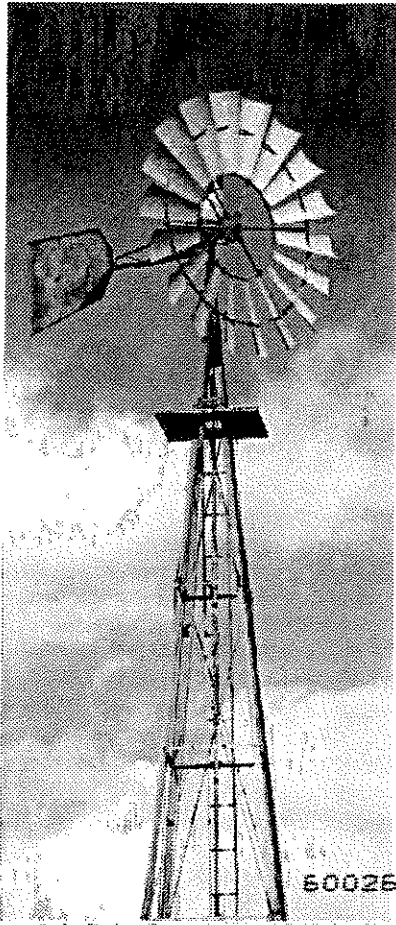
In Lincoln, I visited the Nebraska Historical Museum looking for the White Horse Ranch display. Not finding it, I asked to meet with the head curator, Debra Arnez, who explained that because of limited space and large historical holdings, not all items could be displayed all the time. The current display was focusing on Willa Cather. Ms. Arnez offered to, and did, give me a printout of the museum's White Horse Ranch collection, which I left with Mabel.

Also, while in Lincoln, I was fortunate to meet with Hope Partridge, the organizer of the Nebraska Quilt Project (objective was to keep quilts made by Nebraskans in the state) which led to the creation of the International Quilt Museum. Its collection dates from the 1820s to the present (traditional and contemporary) housed in an out-of-the-ordinary ultramodern building.

To those of you who keep the *Naper Paper* full of varied and interesting reading, I doff my hat! The publication is a treasure of historical information, people and news. Enclosed find two checks—one to help keep the *Naper Paper* coming and the other for the cemetery fence project.

My visit to Naper are, unhappily, too far and few between but each time I come away refreshed by the graciousness, generosity and ingenuity of the community. What a proud heritage I enjoy as a Naperite and a Nebraskan.

Nathalie Sattler Taranto



Naper Paper

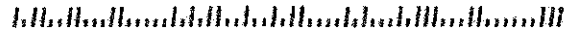
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IN THIS ISSUE...

- Chief Yellow Horse
- Play Ball!
- Alumni Banquet
- Let's Locate the Cemeteries
- Plus: Circuit Rider, Ol' Homesteader, Letters

... AND MUCH MORE!



NAPER CRUISES AGAIN

June 25 saw lots of flashy cars, pickups and motorcycles on Main Street (above). More than 20 cars were in the show and many more cruised. Free root beer floats were offered in front of Naper Grocery. The hamburger and hot dog grill, beer garden, karaoke and dance provided food and fun for the folks. Casey Heerman, driving a 1929 Ford, and Chris Nolan, with a 1969 Super Bee, won the People's Choice Awards. The event was sponsored by area businessmen. Below: Main Street during the Straw Bale Saloon poker run July 30.

