A publication for and about the town of Naper, Nebraska

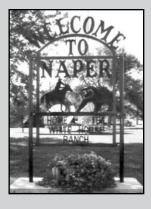
The Naper Historical Society

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 11, Issue 2

Summer 2013

When You Call 9-1-1...

The Naper Volunteer Fire Department was organized May 11, 1965. Jim McLaughlin was elected the first fire chief. In November 1965, the village purchased the theater building at a tax sale for \$75. The space was used for the fire trucks, and today, the east end of the building is used to garage the ambulance. The west end of the building is the VFW Post Home. Fire trucks are now stored in the former Department of Roads building on the north end of town, which was purchased by the Rural Fire District in 2006. The Naper Rural Fire District, also organized in 1965, covers about 83,500 acres.

The first call to the fire department in 1965 was to the Ed Higgins farm. The only equipment available was gunny sacks and cream cans full of water. (Reality check: Who knows what a gunny sack or a cream can is?) Later that fall, they got a surplus truck from the Nebraska Forest Service, which was driven to Rapid City to be equipped with a pump, tank and hoses. Over the years, several other trucks and ambulances have been purchased by the fire department or the rural fire district. The firemen now use a 1980 Chevy brush truck, 1973 Ford brush truck, 1985 IHC pumper, 1984 750 Ford 1200 tender, and 2007 Ford 450 being turned into a grass rig.

When Naper was but a new village, the hose cart was stored under the band stand/gazebo in the center of Main Street. Later, the shed next to the alley behind Ted Wentz's house (which was burned in December 2012) was the "fire station" for the hose cart.

The fire chiefs since organization of the department have been Jim McLaughlin, John Sieh, Loren Sieh, Alan Nicolaus and, presently, Bryon Vogt. Current members are Bryon, Alan, Dan Ahlers, Tom Brauer, Lee Cadwallader, Hoyt Cline, Tony Drueke, Vern Goodman, Brand Heyden, Skye Higgins, Heath Hitchcock, Kevin Koenig, Brad Ludemann, Shelby Melton, Kevin Neumiller, Corbett Sachtjen, Rick Sieh, Ryon Vogt, Vernon Vogt, Kody Whitley, Tim Whitley and Guy Polenske.

The firemen have been serving steak suppers as fund raisers for many years. Folks come from far and near to enjoy the good food and company.

The Naper Rescue Unit has been operated by volunteer EMTs since 1976. Currently certified EMTs are Linda Goodman, Charlotte Nicolaus, Barb Jons, Rindy Zink and Ellen Bengtson. Beth Drueke is a First Responder. Firemen are put into



Joe Janousek, representing the Niobrara Valley Goodwill Board, presents a check to Fire Chief Bryon Vogt, to be used for purchase of new equipment.

service as drivers of the 1980 Ford ambulance unless no one is available, and then the EMTs get behind the wheel. EMTs and First Responders must take an extensive course to be certified and then keep current with continuing education bours.

2012 was a wicked year for fires. There were two different bale fires near Springview. At least seven days were spent at the Hall and Wentworth fires south of Burton. Two days were spent on lightning fires near Naper. Several trips were made each to Bristow, Lynch, Butte, Spencer and Stuart. In August, several days were spent west of town at Higgins and Allpress fires. A flatbed trailer of bales was on fire on the highway south of Jamison and another fire started at Manfred Petersen's farm and spread to the pasture close to Shepperd's Feed Lot.

And always, there are firemen to respond to the call.

Thanks to Bryon and Sharon Vogt, Linda Goodman, Loren Sieh and the Naper Centennial Book for information for this article.



The Circuit Rider

HELEN CERNY PUTNAM: Counting her blessings and faith

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 topping to visit with former Naper High School graduates, such as a visit with Helen Cerny Putnam, helps keep a wonderful past alive. Putnam and Cerny families both left their marks in the Naper community, as related in the story that follows.

Helen Marie Cerny was born November 14, 1931, at Grandpa Cerny's homestead east of Naper with attending physician Robert Seasongood. She was the third child of Clement and Lydia (Brockman) Cerny. Her brothers were "Beezie" and Bill and her sister was Jean.

Dear old mom was a great cook with recipes all in her head and not on paper. Now Helen wishes she would have asked more questions! Most of Helen's clothes were sewn by her mother. She never had a boughten dress or coat until high school. Clothes were sewn from hand-me-downs of the Cerny family dresses and coats.

All a person knew was farm life in Boyd County, and farm families had many hardships during those days. The children always walked to school during the cold winter months wearing four and five buckle overshoes which kept their feet dry but not warm. The teacher always helped the kids "buckle up" to walk the three-quarters of a mile back home at 4 p.m. Arriving home, all had chores to do but also had snacks, usually with homemade bread. Brother Beezie would dip his in sour cream! Gypsies stopped at the farm one night and spent the night in Helen's parents' bedroom.

As a kid, Helen recalls the cold, cold winters, threshing time and all the canning her mother did. Their entertainment was a battery radio, Chinese checkers and card games. Aunt Janet Cerny would finger wave Helen's hair when she spent the night at Grandpa Cerny's house. Grandpa was a quiet man and said very little. The aunts named Helen "Poopie" but no one remembers why!

As seventh graders, the students had to go to Butte to take tests is physiology and hygiene to see if they would be passed to the eighth grade. At the end of the eighth grade, tests were taken in eight subjects before being allowed to enter high school. Helen recalls distribution of fruit commodities to the rural schools during World War II. Helen attended Basin District #4 through the eighth grade, then four years at Naper High School, graduating May 19, 1949.

High school teachers were really great with just a couple "weird" ones. Freshman memories include initiation and the "Kiss Me" signs. Junior and senior class plays were at the town hall. Sneak Days were to Omaha and Lincoln. The vehicle Helen was riding in got "hot"—remember, Gavnell?

Helen lived for 18 months with her folks in Butte as husband Lawrence Freeman was drafted into the army and was stationed in Augsburg, Germany, after their marriage in 1951. During that time, Helen worked for an insurance agency in Butte for \$25 per week and babysat for 50¢ per hour. Lawrence returned in 1954 and they lived in Rapid City, Ft. Pierre, and Mobridge, SD. In 1966, they moved to Soda Springs, ID, where Helen worked as a dental assistant and lab tech for seven years. In 1976, Helen began working for Caribou Memorial Hospital and became a certified medical transcriptionist. Lawrence passed away in 1976 from a massive cerebral hemorrhage.

In 1990, Helen married Bob Putnam and they lived in California for 18 months, then moved to Meridian, ID. He had served in the Navy from 1950–1954. In 2010, Bob passed away from cardiac arrest.

Helen has two sons, Larry of Bellevue, WA, and Roger of Soda Springs, ID, and one daughter, Tammy of Boise, ID. All are very kind and respectful of her. She thanks her parents for their love and support. She counts her blessings and faith that have sustained her through her 81 years of life. She'll never forget old Naper and the Saturday night dances. Helen treasures her many Naper friends and say they know of whom she's speaking, including cousin JoAnn and her dearest friend in Burke.

Ah, memories of the past in Naper, a great community, a good honest era in history.

Until next time—adios.
■



Bob and Helen with an old favorite, Roy Rogers.



THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY TO STOP A BULLY

By Marilyn Sieh

y grandmother and her older brother came home one day from their rural school and told their mother that a couple of boys followed them from school picking on them. The next time this happened, my great-grandmother was ready! She hid in the bushes close to where the kids walked home from school and when her children had walked past her, my great-grandmother stood up with her Long John Shotgun in her hands, shot in the air, and that was the end of the bullying! In this day and age, she would have gotten into a lot of trouble, but it sure took care of the problem way back then.



E-MAIL CONTACT:

If you need to contact Naper Historical Society, you can e-mail

papabear@threeriver.net.

Check out the website

napernebraska.org

and see what we've got!

MAIN STREET NAPER IN 1910



aper's Main Street doesn't look much like this today. Notice all the trees and the 1910 automobiles. In the background, you can see Mike and Tammy Haney's home. I wonder who lived there in 1910? Would it have been the Briggs family who owned the livery barn?

On the left side of the picture but not visible are several businesses, including Zimmerman's Drug Store and Bailey's Hardware. The drug store is now owned by Margaret Ludemann and Denny Jorgensen. They plan to have it demolished unless someone is interested in starting a business in the building. You can contact them by writing in care of Naper Historical Society, Box 72, Naper, NE 68755, or e-mail papabear@threeriver.net. Your message will be forwarded.

Molly Zimmerman had a parrot that could talk. After her death, the parrot went to live with Mr. and Mrs. John Radford where it policed the porch and made sure folks coming in had clean feet! It didn't pay to try to sneak in after cleaning the barn. "@#%# on your shoes! @#\$# on your shoes!"

Bailey's Hardware Store, a two-story edifice, was just south of the Drug Store and north of Blakkolb's Store (now the site of the Naper Post Office). It was sold and moved out of town to "Stack's Corner" just east of Jamison. While on its journey on old Highway 12, the last corner proved too much for the structure and it toppled off the moving equipment. It was righted and repaired, although it lost its top story, and for years was a place to stop for a snack or some groceries if you were traveling to Jamison or Burke. The building still stands although it has been many years since it was open for business.

Support Our Local Merchants

A&M Enterprises

Trenching, pump installations, backhoe work, plumbing 832-5388

Bob's Auto Body

Auto body repair 832-5766, Box 223

Curl Up & Dye Beauty Shop

Haircuts, styling, coloring 832-5573

Drueke Trucking

Local and long-distance grain hauling 832-5610

K&S Mobile

Welding and equipment repair, on-site service 832-5125

Lynn's Upholstery

Covering chairs, couches and other furniture 832-5461

M&L Lawn Service

Mowing, trimming, fertilizing, tilling, seeding, spraying 832-5422

Naper Café and Lounge

Breakfast, dinner, supper, bar 832-5272

Naper Transport

Sand and gravel hauling 832-5955

Nick's Auto Sales & Dish Satellite TV

Used cars, oil changes, parts, tire repair, new tires 832-5166

U.S. Postal Service 832-5977

If we don't support our local merchants...who will? Spend here: Keep Naper strong!

Greetings from Helmi Ludwig

Wilmette, IL March 25, 2013

To the Editor of the Naper Paper:

ong time "no see," I agree, but then LIFE is a carousel; it turns and turns and we hold on the best way we can because we know the best possible World we have is that moment while we hold onto it.

A true pleasure it was for me to receive the Naper Paper, Spring 2013. The stories of yesterday, those of reaching back from before yesterday, of course, and the introduction of new contributors like Travis Heermann, whose father's help and friendship I treasured during my years of "belonging" (did I really ever? Maybe I talked myself into it, wishful thinking, because I realized how closely knit the "fabric of belonging" of Naper's native people was).

I enjoyed every moment though being there, my heart was on fire when, in expectation of "Wiedersehen" I drove the last 13 miles from Butte, and after seven years, I knew every turn, every farm and name on them; I knew when the cross on the only mountain around came in sight, I was close; I would be there, passing the cemetery, home, the village. Well, those were the times, my friends.

I wrote a poem in 2009 when I sold the house in Naper. I imagined I had to prove something when I bought it so foolishly, maybe, it was an illusion.

Those are the memories we thrive on.

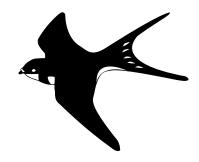
I'm sending you a small contribution; it makes me feel connected.

I also would like to give the Historical Museum a book called *NEBRASKA*. I must have picked up this book while visiting libraries, where, I don't know anymore. Naper might have a copy already. The book is *A Guide to the Cornhusker State* published by Viking Press, New York, in 1939, is illustrated and has a separate map of 1939 Nebraska in a pocket inside the last page and the binding. Fascinating—I love it.

Do you still have a post office? I remember Beverly Zink, great lady, a real asset to Naper.

Greetings, Helmi R. Ludwig

(Ed. Note: Yes, we still have a post office but Beverly has transferred to the Spencer office. Sharon Vogt is the officer in charge in Naper. We miss Bev and appreciate Sharon. You can mail the book to the Historical Society and we'll place it in the museum. Thank you very much.) ■



NEBRASKA ON MY MIND

By Helmi Ludwig

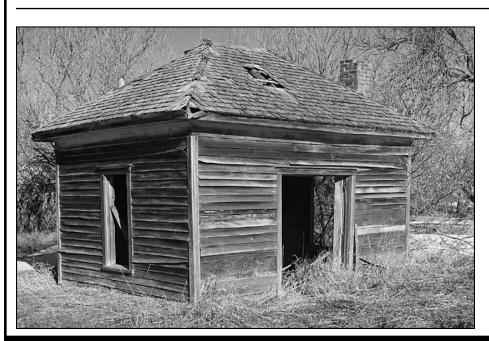
I'm longing to be there Where the fields are green As far as your eyes can see

Where the birds are singing When high and higher they fly A fading little point on blue Their home a never-ending sky

Where you can hear the bells ringing On the necks of cattle grazing

Where the corn is standing high Moved by the wind so softly in amazing Waves of light and shadows They reach my heart they make me sigh

There I do want to be still unbend Soon I hope so I can say I went



ANOKA JAIL

This is what remained of the Anoka Jail located about a mile northwest of Naper on the farm that was sold at auction March 20. The building was razed recently. Former dwellers on this farm were the John Radford family, Jerry and Janet Goodman and family and Wayne and Marilyn Faatz and family.

THE BASIC RULES FOR CLOTHESLINES — CLOTHESLINES ??? What the heck are they?

- 1. You had to clean the line before hanging anything—walk the length of the line with a damp cloth wrapped around the line.
- 2. You had to hang the clothes in a certain order. You would hang the whites with whites and always hang them first.
- 3. NEVER hang a shirt by the shoulders—always by the tail.
- 4. Wash on Monday! Never hang clothes on the weekend and for goodness sakes, not on Sunday!
- 5. Hang the sheets and towels on the outside lines so the "unmentionables" would be on the middle lines.
- 6. Sub-zero or not—hang the clothes. They'll freeze dry.
- Leaving the clothes pins on the line was tacky. Always gather the pins when taking the dry clothes down. In fact, women would make special clothespin aprons or clothespin bags to hold them.
- 8. Efficiency demanded you would pin the clothes up so each item would share a pin with the next item.
- 9. Clothes off the line before dinner time, neatly folded and ready to be ironed.





Left to right: Leona Mayer, Emmaline Adams, Edna Mayer (Broekemeier), Irene Fischer (see Circuit Rider in the last *Naper Paper*)



REMEMBER WHEN?

By Marilyn Sieh

/ e had cap pistols. You may even have had a gun belt to hold your pistol. The "ammunition" was a thin roll of double paper divided into small squares each of which held a small amount of black powder. This roll would fit in the side of your pistol under a metal sliding cover and then feed through your pistol. When the hammer hit the middle of the square there would be a loud POP! If you didn't have a gun or wanted to try a variation, you would lay these strips, flattened out, on the sidewalk and hit them with a hammer or other solid tool. Sometimes you could crush them with the heel or sole of your shoe and get them to pop. ■



Letters, 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

I have such wonderful memories of our friendship with Irene Weickum and was saddened to hear of her passing.

Jim, I, Rudy, Irene, and Adolph Schultz went to Hidden Paradise near Long Pine for dances on Sunday night. In the winter we went sledding down the big hill at Schultz's Ranch. Stan was little but he went with us. It is a miracle that we didn't get hurt, but we loved doing it. Then we'd go in the house at the Schultz place and Otto would have a lunch fixed. (Ed. note: Rumor has it he made wonderful homemade noodles.) We bought our home in Naper from Rudy and Irene where Loren lives now. We had the barn where we kept a cow. Stan milked the cow and sold milk on a route through Naper. He was rich and always had money.

Velda Sieh McLaughlin Stahlecker

The very best to everyone. Thanking you for all you do,

Marjorie (Elayne Weickum's sister)

Thank you for sending the *Naper Paper*. I do so enjoy getting it. It brings back so many memories. Hope this helps a little with expenses.

Delores Stahlecker

Thank you to everyone who works on the *Naper Paper*! It is a great way for those of us who grew up there to keep the connection with our little town. You are doing a great job! Naper will always be my hometown. Enclosed is a check. Thanks again.

Lois Kibby Chittum

Thanks for sending the extra *Naper Paper* when I thought my copy was lost. Both *Naper Papers* arrived the same day, April 2.

Walter Serr

Hello, everyone:

Another year down the tube, but as usual it's great to get the *Naper Paper*. We do so enjoy reading it.

We had 2" of snow the last week of

March which for us is quite rare. Hoping to get some garden in but it's been too cool and damp.

Hope all is well with everyone at Naper.
Orland and Carolyn Cline

Past due with this check! So finally here it is. I do so enjoy that paper.

It's been winter here, snow about every other day, then warms up enough to melt it, then it's ice. We oldsters don't care for it and I guess no one else does. I trust you are getting moisture so no more summers like the 2012 one and the fires.

Thank you all and may you all have a wonderful 2013.

Lorraine Creasey

A note to tell you we can't wait for the *Naper Paper* to come again. Enclosed a check for help wherever you need it.

Lavonne Boes

We sure enjoy the paper. Thanks.

Gary and Mary Vogt

Thank you so much for sending the *Naper Paper*. I'm not sure if some nice person is having it sent to me or how I happen to get it but enjoy reading about so many people I know from that area—and many more I used to know who are gone now! You are doing a good job with the paper keeping alive the community there. Am sending a small token of appreciation. Keep up the good work.

Ruth Sutton (Sutton Ranch north of Bonesteel—an old timer here.)

Please use this for the *Naper Paper* in memory of Marguerite and Reo Ludemann. I really enjoy the newsletter—well done.

Cathy Lenz

Belated happy birthday to you, Mabel, and hope 2013 is going well for you both.

Didn't get any Christmas cards sent and didn't realize until I started doing my taxes that I hadn't sent a check for the Naper Museum in 2012, so I'll enclose one now.

Will you please forward it for me?

We have had lots of ice and snow but keep hoping for rain this spring. The subsoil moisture of which we had too much in 2010 and 2011 carried us through the drought last year. Our crop was good and prices the best I've ever had.

My family is fine. Everyone home for Christmas and will be home again this summer. Bobbie sends her best. She and my oldest son live here in Britton, a big help for me.

Best wishes for good health and rain this year.

DeLores Henehan

Here is a check to renew my *Naper Paper*. Sorry I didn't get this done earlier, but I lost Delbert on his birthday (October 15). I also had knee surgery. I'm doing good again and trying to get back to my way of life with help from God, prayers and family.

Velda Hannahs



DID YOU KNOW...

The Naper Paper is a readerproduced publication? This means that we thrive only when we hear from you! Got a great story? A memory? A joke? Maybe a bit of history of the region? Or do you know someone in the area that has something interesting and exciting to say? How about an upcoming event that you want to publicize? Write and let us know!

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



The Ol' Homesteader

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

ots goin' on with the Naper folks...

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER ...

Doris Dummer Olson received a special Christmas present: a grandson, Brentley Dean, born December 25.

Jon and Ashley Zeisler welcomed Jordyn Grace on January 22. Richard and Sheryl Zeisler are grandpa and grandma.

Joe and Kelsey Zink Schochenmaier became parents March 7 when Gage Dean Schochenmaier was born. Grandparents Jeff and Rindy Zink now have enough grandsons to field their own baseball team! Greatgrandmother is Louise Neumiller Zink.

Bill and Linda Schultz are happy to report Zion James Grebel was born March 22 to Jeremy and Victoria Bernt Grebel.

Erin Zink, daughter of Drs. Mark and Lauri Zink, granddaughter of Louise Neumiller Zink, was married to James Cantrell in Lincoln, NE, March 31.

Janet Cerny Sattler celebrated her 103rd birthday April 26. A photo of her class at Naper was in Volume 10, Issue 1 of the Naper Paper.

Bob and Jamie Zeisler Nordstrom are parents of Cash William, born May 15. Grandpa and grandma are Craig and Stacy Zeisler; great-grandma is Joan Zeisler.

Lester Neumiller has a new greatgrandson, Drake David Anderson, born May 17 to Josiah and Krystal Hogan Anderson. Dave and Marcia Neumiller Hogan are grandparents.

SCHOOL KIDS ARE BUSY, BUSY, BUSY...

Boyd County girls won the NVC Conference. Macy Ahlers (daughter of Dan and Tara, granddaughter of Wayne and Virginia Schonebaum Ahlers), Samanatha McCarthy (daughter of Darrin and Connie, granddaughter of LeRoy and Maxine Windmeyer McCarthy), and Amber Bendig (daughter of Kelly and Monica, granddaughter of Herman and Grace Faatz Bendig) were excellent performers at the game.

Samantha McCarthy and Henry Ahlers (son of Dean and Roxie Ahlers) participated in the Class C Powerlifting meet and came home with honors.

Samantha McCarthy, Amber Bendig, Kelly McCarthy (daughter of Kevin and Angie, granddaughter of LeRoy and Maxine), and Jessa McCarthy (daughter of Darrin and Connie, granddaughter of LeRoy and Maxine) were members of Boyd County Schools' track team. Blake Ahlers, Jesse Cline, Ridge Higgins and Justin Drueke represented Boyd County at the junior high track meet.

Samantha was recognized with the Nebraska State FFA degree for her participation in Entrepreneurship SAE. Samantha McCarthy and Jamie and Kelli Mashino (daughters of Dustin and Tammera Mitchell Mashino) received awards at the State FFA convention. Alex Bendig was declared State Champion in Sheep Production Entrepreneurship Plaement and had his proficiency submitted for national competition.

Samantha McCarthy and Amber Bendig were competitors in the FBLA Leadership Conference. Jamie Mashino and Amber Bendig were named state FCCLA champions.

Zander Kluckman (son of Jim and Blair Vogt Kluckman, grandson of Kelly and Lois Nicolaus Vogt, great-grandson of Charlotte Nicolaus and Don and Gloria Beem Vogt), Christian Gosch (son of Pastor and Amy Gosch), Evan Reiman (son of Casey and Lisa, grandson of Jack and Jean Reiman and Wayne and Virginia Schonebaum Ahlers), and Kelly McCarthy had perfect attendance.

Kelli and Jamie Mashino, Ridge Higgins (son of LaVern and Brenda Klien Higgins, grandson of Lelia Boucher Higgins and Margaret Vogt Klien Schmitz), Jesse Cline (son of Hoyt and Julie, grandson of Marvin and Judy Hoyt Cline), Amber Bendig, Dylan Reiman (son of Casey and Lisa), Henry Ahlers and Samantha McCarthy were on the honor roll at West Boyd.

Katelyn Haney (daughter of Mike and Tammy, granddaughter of Bob and Barb Wentz, great-granddaughter of Elsie Wentz), Samantha McCarthy and Henry Ahlers are 2013 graduates of West Boyd School. Samantha received a scholarship from the Niobrara Valley Good Will Fund.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY...

The Naper VFW Auxiliary sponsored the Easter egg hunt March 30. Spring had quite a time deciding it was time to arrive. March and April blessed us with ice, sleet, snow, rain, wind ... well, yes, that is spring, isn't it?

AND WE WAY GOODBYE TO OLD FRIENDS...

Irene Weickum, age 96, passed away March 10. She had been a life-long resident of the Naper area and was famous for her garden and flowers.

Warren Kern, age 92, passed away February 20, 2013, at his home in Florissant, MO. He was born and raised east of Naper.

Albert Allpress, age 104, passed away April 24, 2013. Manfred Peterson, age 91, passed away May 6, 2013. Both Albert and Manfred were members of early pioneer families and World War II veterans. They had both been interviewed by the Circuit Rider and their stories were published in the Naper Paper.



Seeing double at the Easter egg hunt: Stephanie Whitley Cadwallader with twins Rylan and Kinsley, Sarah Nicolaus Bachman with twins Avah Lucille and Ella Jo, Heidi Vogt Melton with twins Aaron and Landon, and Mirandy Best with twins Kristopher and Justin.



Naper Paper

Naper Historical Society PO Box 72 Naper NE 68755

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT US POSTAGE PAID NAPER NE PERMIT # 1

In This Issue...

- **■** When You Call 9-1-1...
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- Main Street Naper in 1910
- **■** Greetings from Helmi Ludwig
- Anoka Jail
- **■** Plus: The Ol' Homesteader, Letters

... AND MUCH MORE!



Left: Naper firemen Ryon Vogt and Lee Cadwallader on the job.

Right: Fire in the canyons south of Burton.

Read all about the Naper Volunteer Fire Department on the front page of this issue of the *Naper Paper*.