



PICNICKERS PICKED goodies to fill their plates (above) during the annual Back-to-School Picnic last Wednesday in City Park. Rhonda May (below) played flute with the Area Community Band. — Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

Town gathers for picnic in park

Fried chicken, baked beans, watermelon, cantaloupe and every kind of pasta salad and dessert imaginable covered the potluck tables at the Back-to-School Picnic last Wednesday.

The chicken and beans, from Raye's Grocery, was purchased by the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce, the Oberlin Business Alliance and the Oberlin School District. The beans too were provided.

All of the other dishes were brought by picnic goers. All of the salads were placed at one end, desserts, including chocolate chip cookies, brownies, angel food cake and other goodies, at the other.

Chamber Manager Tammy Sporn said about 267 people registered and 240 tickets were given

away at the dinner.

While the Area Community Band played in the band shell, people were able to stack their plates with food and sit down to enjoy the breeze.

Afterwards, *The Oberlin Herald* gave away prizes and \$1,000 in scrip money for the Oberlin merchants annual \$1,000 Shopping Spree.

Coaches from the junior high and high school had a chance to tell about the upcoming season and what they expect. New staff mem-

bers and teachers were introduced and kids had the chance to sneak away and play a game of football or basketball in City Park. The younger ones headed to the playground for a shot at the swings. Before the evening was over, hospital Administrator Lynn Doeden won a free membership to the Chamber for the year in a drawing using tickets handed out with the meal.

Everyone was gone from the park before dark.



IN CITY PARK, Chloe Harmon, 4-year-old daughter of Trevor and Beth Harmon, played on the swings during the annual community picnic.

— Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

