

Over two inches of rain cover area

It seemed to rain and rain and then pour last week, leaving streets and terraces full of water.

According to the weather spotter in Oberlin, the city received 2.66 inches of rain in a three-day period from Tuesday to Thursday.

The storms flooded many streets in Oberlin, kept lawns drenched and filled up the wetlands and creek at Sappa Park.

The recent storms have brought the year to date moisture over what the area had received a year ago to date.

At this time last year, Oberlin had received 10.41 inches of moisture while so far this year it has received 10.54. Precipitation for the month May was 4.79 inches.

The Decatur County dispatch office didn't have any reports of damage in the storms last week.

The rain, said Brian Olson, multi-county agronomist with Kansas State University Extension Service, came when the wheat was entering a time frame that it was going to need some moisture. Two or three weeks ago would have been better, but the recent rain will help carry the crop through this high demand period.

A lot of the wheat is blooming, said Mr. Olson, and the earlier planted crops are

heading.

Those rain storms, he said, are just going to add bushels to the wheat in northwest Kansas.

There were some fields that were teetering on giving up, said Mr. Olson. It was a very timely rain.

It seems that the wheat crops along U.S. 36, across the state from east to west look the best. He said there seems to have

been more moisture along that highway. If someone were to head west out of Wichita towards Garden City they would see that things don't look the same. It's a significant difference in the crops, because of moisture, in those two directions.

While it might not be the best wheat this part of the state has had, said Mr. Olson, there is going to be a crop and hopefully there will be a good price to sell it.

Antique cars on display this weekend

It's a weekend full of antique cars, motorcycles, mobile homes and tractors in Oberlin and Selden.

Up first is the Last Indian Raid Museum's Summerfest and Car Show at the south end of Main Street.

The show starts with a cruise-in from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday in front of the museum office. Museum board members plan to serve grilled hot dogs and chips. The Oberlin Business Alliance will be selling root beer floats and KFNF Radio will do a live broadcast.

Starting at 7 a.m. Saturday, the museum board will put on a pancake feed in the Old Bohemian Hall.

Registration starts at 8 a.m. for the car show, which will include classic cars, motorcycles and vintage sports vehicles.

Anyone wanting to tour the 15 buildings at the Last Indian Raid Museum can do so from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Seeds of Creation gift shop will be open.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., lunch will be served in front of the museum for a donation.

Trophies will be given in several classes, with voting for the People's Choice Award at 1 p.m. Awards will be given out at 4 p.m.

Anyone still wanting to get in can do so by calling Dana Marintzer 475-2325 or the museum at 475-2712.

On Sunday, it's time for the 18th

Tractorcade to go south

The Mini Sappa Antique Club will sponsor a Tractorcade to the Selden Antique Tractor Show on Sunday. They will gather at 8 a.m. at the Decatur Co-op bulk plant on south Highway 83, east side of highway.

Tractors 35 years old and older with rod gears are welcome. Speed will be 10 miles per hour. Tire and mechanical condition need to be safe for the 20-mile run. Brakes that are standard equipment on the tractor need to be operational.

This is a one-way Tractorcade and transportation will be available to take participants back to the Deatur Co-op location in Oberlin.

For details on requirements, call Bob and Liane Martin of Herndon at (785) 322-5563, or cell, Bob at (785) 322-7004 or Liane at (785) 626-0184.

Annual Antique Tractor and Classic Car Show in Selden. The event, hosted by the Selden Community Foundation, gives anyone the chance to display their antique (See SHOWS on Page 8A)

Norton official decides to seek state senate seat

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
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Norton County Commissioner John Miller has announced that he will run for the Kansas Senate, setting up a race against a veteran incumbent.

Miller was the first to file for the 40th District seat now held by Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer of Grinnell.

The district covers 18 counties in northwest Kansas, including Decatur, Norton, Cheyenne, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Rawlins, Gove, Graham, Greeley, Lane, Logan, Ness, Rooks, Scott, Trego, Wallace and Wichita.

Miller, a farmer-rancher who has been a Norton county commissioner since 1996, said Monday that his commission term will be up in 2012 and he had already decided not

to run again.

"Protecting our rural way of life is my No. 1 priority," Miller said. "I want to take my experience as a county commissioner, farmer and small-business owner to Topeka to ensure that our voice is being heard. Western Kansas is the foundation that our state was built on, and its health is vital to our long-term economic success."

"Rural Kansas is at a crossroads. We can - and must - do everything in our power to create jobs, protect local services and jump start an aggressive revitalization of the rural communities that this state was built upon. That's what I will be focused on doing, and I look forward to traveling the district and talking with voters."

(See NORTON on Page 8A)

Vacation Bible School starts early Tuesday

Pandamania Vacation Bible School starts Tuesday at the Oberlin United Church.

The program for kids from kindergarten through fifth grade runs until Friday.

Each day there is a different theme with lessons including "God Made You," "God Listens to You,"

"God Watches Over You" and "God Loves You No Matter What."

Registration forms are available at the Oberlin Library, Raye's Grocery and the five area churches. It costs \$1 for each child to attend.

The kids will do a daily noisy coin for the House of Hope in Haiti bringing pennies on Tuesday, nickels on Wednesday, dimes on Thursday and quarters on Friday.

Vacation Bible School starts at 9 a.m. and ends at noon.



AT THE OBERLIN CEMETERY on Memorial Day Bob Castle (below) pointed out one of the military gear decorated crosses to his grandson. Angela Corcoran (above right) sold poppies to Edith Tate. — Herald staff photos

Military honored Monday

Hundreds of people stood in the wind Monday to honor veterans as the Oberlin American Legion, the Sons of the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary held ceremonies at the city cemetery.

While volunteers normally put up hundreds of American flags donated by families of veterans, the wind didn't allow it this time. Smaller flags were placed next to the gravestones at the cemetery.

Capt. Chris Coco, assistant professor of military science and Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor at Kansas State University, talked about his time in Iraq.

Capt. Coco thanked all the veterans present and the families of veterans. He said he has a large amount of respect and adoration for those who have served and fought for their country.

He said both of his grandfathers fought in World War II. These men and their stories of bravery are a large part of why he decided to serve in the military.

Growing up in north central Kansas, he said the community seemed to always be there to support him and his friends. Many of the residents had served in the military and would tell their stories.

That all helped lead him to obtain a bachelor's degree and an officer's commission while attending K-State.

Shortly after that, he became part of the 714th Maintenance Company with the Kansas Army National Guard, which was sent on a combat mission into Iraq. Capt. Coco said the 714th was made up of soldiers of all kinds (See VETERAN on Page 8A)

