



AT SAPPA PARK, Patti Uehlin (above) lifted the lid of her grill to check on her entries for the Up in Smoke Barbecue Contest. Judy and Robert Groneweg (below)

got meat ready for the judges on Saturday.

— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

Teams grill food

By KIMBERLY DAVIS
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Campers and mobile homes lined the grassy area in front of the shelter house at Sappa Park on Friday night and Saturday as fragrant smoke started to fill the park.

Those who camped out were ready first thing in the morning to throw their entries on the grill for the annual Up in Smoke Barbecue Contest that afternoon.

Each of the 12 teams was given a pork butt, a beef brisket and two racks of ribs to cook. The teams could also enter the open class with whatever they wanted to make. They also needed to make beans, but had to provide their own.

This year, the planning committee — Cindy Lincoln, Patti Uehlin, Connie Riedel, Jill Reichert, Judy Groneweg and Sherrie Bergling — added a dessert category. Entries included pineapple upside-down cake, bread pudding, a cheesecake, (See CONTEST on Page 8A)



Antique thresher show set

Parade, demonstrations to be offered at fairground

The 31st Annual Mini Sappa Antique Thresher and Engine Show starts Saturday at the Decatur County Fairground, with a new date, lots of old machinery and a forecast for highs around 80 and some sunshine, at least on Sunday.

The forecast does include a 20 percent chance of showers or thunderstorms Saturday and Saturday night.

Events will include demonstrations of old-time farm equipment, a parade each day, free train rides, activities for kids, many restored tractors and other types of equipment on display, and a concession stand both days.

Long-time members can look back over 30 years of shows. The club which runs the show formed in 1981, with the first show that year. Treasurer Maxine Wright said she and her husband Harvey attended the first show and then joined the antique club in 1982.

While the show formerly was held in October, it was moved to the third weekend in September a few years ago after several windy, cold show days.

Mrs. Wright said it's important to keep history going by preserving old equipment. It's fun, she said, to see how mom and dad and the

grandparents used to do things on the farm.

Families used to work hard together, she said. They had to work hard, but they also got to play hard together.

Mrs. Wright said her husband likes to buy old tractors, fix them up and then either sell them or keep them.

This year at the show, she said, she will help run the concession stand in the 4-H building. The stand will be open both days, serving chicken and noodles, chili, quarter-pound all-beef hot dogs, chili cheese dogs, nachos and homemade pies.

The quilt show has been moved to the 4-H building on the grounds. Mrs. Wright said they invite women who have knitting or crocheted projects they are working on to come visit and sit in the parlor there and work during the show.

Both days, there will be kid games and things for children to do.

Reva Marshall said she and her husband Jim got involved with the group in 1983. Mrs. Marshall said she helps book vendors for the show, and has six coming so far. Lots of times, she said, they don't know until the day of the show which vendors will be there.

(See SHOW on Page 8A)

Activities planned for homecoming

By DECATUR DICTATOR STAFF

Decatur Community High School Students at Decatur Community High School are showing their school spirit as they gear up for the 2011 Homecoming football game at 7 p.m. Friday.

The coronation of the Homecoming king and queen will take place during an assembly, at 1:30 p.m. Friday in the high school auditorium.

Queen candidates are Samantha Anderson, Brooklyn O'Hare, Serena Stacy and Megan Wentz.

King candidates are Garrett Berry, Brent Juenemann, Shane McEvoy and Conner McHugh.

Speaking at the assembly will be football coach J.D. Johnson, 10-year Homecoming Queen Kaitlyn Unger and Athlete of the Past Rusty Grafel.

Lia Jimenez, daughter of Principal and Mrs. Ben Jimenez, will be the flower girl, and Gage Scott, son of Mr. and Mrs. Justin Scott, will be the crown bearer.

The parade will start from the City

Park at 2:30 p.m. Friday, go to the Good Samaritan Center, then turn down Penn Avenue. It will feature the homecoming court, the high school bands and class floats.

Leading up to the assembly and parade, the students are decorating windows, working on their floats and participating in Spirit Week.

Monday was Pajama Day, Tuesday Camo Day and today is Hillbilly Day. Thursday will be the popular "Would You Still Be My Friend if I Wore ..." Day, and Friday is the traditional Red, Gray and White Day.

They will begin planning their floats at 7 p.m. on Thursday, then at 8 p.m. they'll gather in front of the school for the bonfire. Students will walk down Commercial Street and then turn down Penn Avenue.

The Red Devils will play the Leopards from LaCrosse at 7 p.m. Friday at Smick Field.

From 8 to 11 p.m. Saturday, students are invited to the homecoming dance at the high school.

Oberlin Post Office has new officer in charge

The Oberlin Post Office has a new officer in charge.

Janet Knappert of McCook started in Oberlin on Monday, Aug. 22, in the post office here. Basically, she said, the officer in charge has the same responsibilities and liabilities as a postmaster, just a different title. At the office in Oberlin, said Mrs. Knappert, a postmaster can work the window and sort mail, although they don't carry the mail.

She said the paperwork which put her as the officer in charge in

Oberlin gives her a minimum of 90 days, but can last as long as the Postal Service wants.

Mrs. Knappert has been a clerk at the post office in McCook. She said she also served seven months as the officer in charge in Curtis, Neb. She said she was asked if she wanted to take the job in Oberlin.

She started with the Postal Service in September 2004. Mrs. Knappert said it was actually kind of weird the way it worked. She was in the (See WOMAN on Page 8A)



Janet Knappert

Girl Scout season gets a start

By KIMBERLY DAVIS
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The Girl Scout season has started, but it's not too late for girls to get signed up.

Girls from kindergarten to 12th grade can take part in Girl Scouts, said Becky Ayers, area membership specialist.

The program, she said, helps build character and leaders for tomorrow. The program helps the girls be active citizens in their community and state. They learn how to care about the earth and become more aware on how to make a difference.

The program also helps build bet-

ter self-esteem and strong leaders, Mrs. Ayers said. It's about making the world a better place and training better leaders.

Through Scouts, she said, the girls learn by doing different activities. They don't learn just about themselves, but about government, science and history.

This year, the juniors, fourth and fifth graders, are taking a trip to Kearney, Neb., to learn about the Great Platte River Road Archway Museum over Interstate 80.

In April, the troops will be invited to a 100-year kickoff celebration in Greensburg. Mrs. Ayers said the

girls will learn about how green that community has become since the tornado several years ago.

The troops just went to Hays for an overnight lock-in in the mall.

She said Saturday will be "He and Me" Fishing Fun Day and Campout at Lake Atwood. Fishing starts at 1 p.m., with supper around 5 p.m. and a campfire at 8 p.m.

Daughters and their dads or male guardians can spend the night on

(See TROOP on Page 8A)

