



READY TO DRIVE their trucks in the Jennings Firemen's Fun Day Parade were two future manure haulers, the McKenna brothers (from left), of Jason and Chandra McKenna of Norton. Stratton, 3 1/2, and Axton, 2. The boys are the sons

Firemen's Day fun for everyone

The 21st annual Jennings Firemen's Fun Day was held on Saturday with many current and former Jennings residents and supporters from nearby farms and area towns joining their friends and their relatives for the day.

About 60 persons participated in the Health Fair, receiving one of the most comprehensive and affordable panel of blood tests available, said Marge Hartzog. Participants were screened for a C-reactive protein and Vitamin D level.

"These tests are usually very expensive and were available to participants at a very low cost, which helps assess the risk for a heart attack and helps predict osteoporosis in addition to other health problems," she said.

As usual, the day began with the sale of 120 dozen kolaches of seven varieties. They were sold out before noon, along with several dozen homemade cinnamon rolls.

Kids were kept busy with pony rides, courtesy of Peggy Westmorland; barrel-train rides by Greg Otter; a coin search, courtesy of The Bank; and the giant slide, a dunk tank and a new addition to the Fun Day, a large inflatable slide and "moon walk," provided by Jump-a-

Rama from Selden. All rides were free, compliments of the Jennings Fire Department.

A Wobble Trap Shoot, held at the Bill Heilman farm, drew about 40 shooters 13 to 65, who contributed nearly \$1,200 to the proceeds. Winners of the Annie Oakley shoot were Mr. Heilman, Seth Otter and Jimmy Kruse. Winner at the five stand was Eric Fleckenstein.

The American Legion bake sale netted \$400 to be used for improvements to the Legion Hall, and 12 Legion members participated in the parade.

The museum was a busy place, with over 100 visitors from Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Kansas viewing the artifacts. The bingo tables were busy all day.

Lunch was served by the firemen, then came the parade, which had over 40 entries. It was led by the Norton and Oberlin American Legion Riders and Oberlin and Jennings American Legion Post members.

Jim Gallentine played "The Star Spangled Banner" while the crowd saluted the U.S. flag flying over the fire house, a flag which had once flown above the Jennings Schools. Dignitaries in attendance included

State Sen Allen Schmidt, a Hays Democrat, and State Sen. Ralph Ostmeier, a Grinnell Republican, who will be running against each other in the fall in Sen. Ostmeier's 40th District.

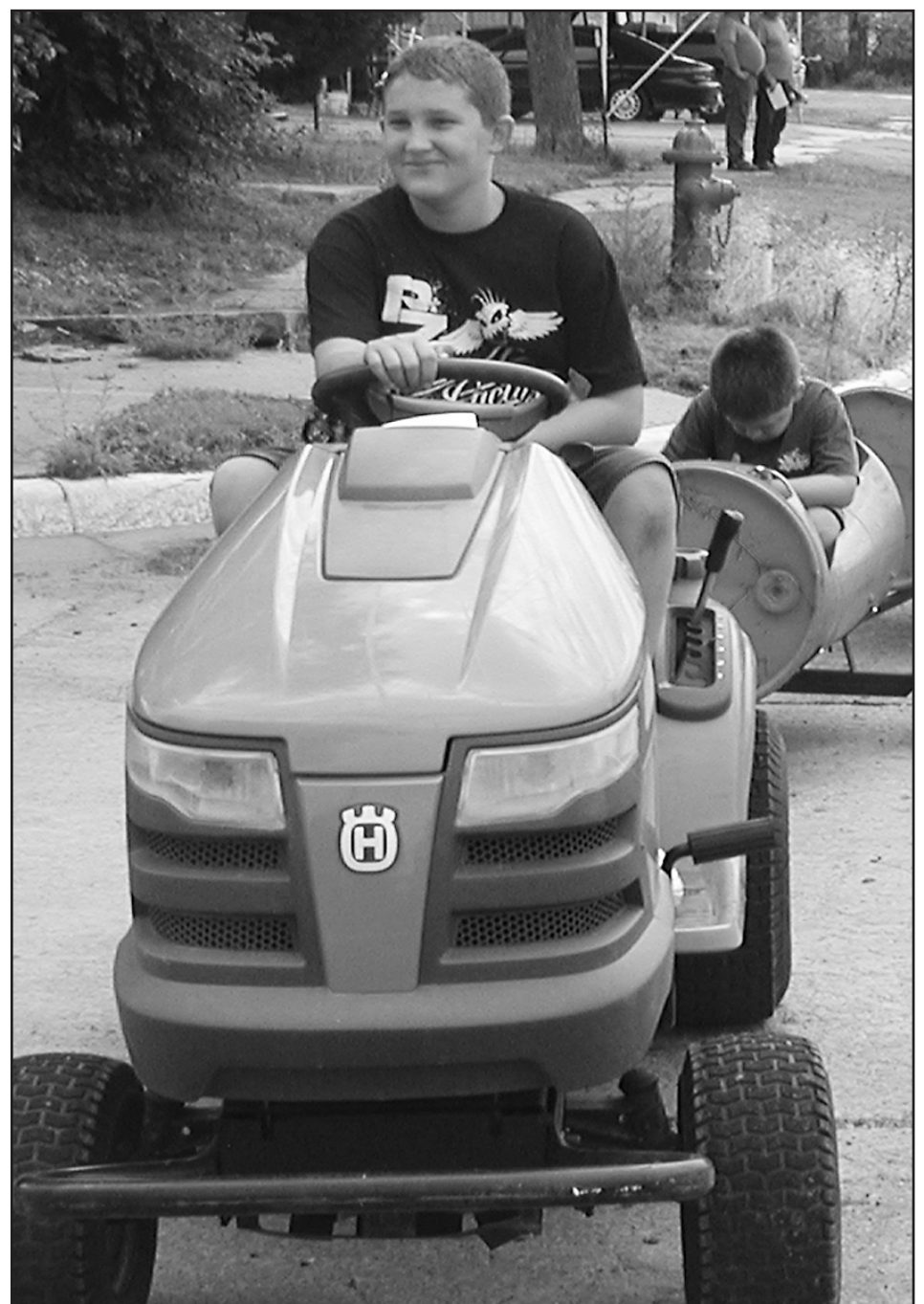
Following the parade, more than 30 children ages 4 to 12 years participated in the pedal tractor pull.

Nine teams from Jennings, Oberlin, Lenora and Norcatour competed in the firemen's barrel competition. Winners were Jeremy and Eric Green, Jennings.

Seven girls entered the queen contest. The winner was Malilah Green, with McHaley Carter as runner-up.

Following the supper and crowning of the queen, Stacy Hartzog, emcee for the parade and day's events, gave a moving talk chronicling the day that firefighters have named "Hell Day," the day that fires burned over 7,000 acres in Decatur County. His talk was based on the accounts of Stann Hartzog, Jennings assistant fire chief.

The evening concluded with an auction of items donated by area businesses and individuals and a street dance, with music provided by Mobil Music Express.



PULLING A BARREL TRAIN during Firemen's Fun Day looked like fun for Seth Otter, Lenora. His friend, Will Bruggeman, rode in the front barrel.



REFLECTING THE PARADE'S theme of "Too Hot to Handle" (left), this bunch of cool cuties rode on the float that promoted the Historic Building Preservation Committee. A military dump truck (above) was driven by Daryl Hartzog.