



THE FATHER-AND-SON TEAM of Stacy Hartzog, Olathe, (above, left) and Daryl Hartzog loaded recyclable metal on a flatbed trailer. The metals were sold for over \$1,000 to help support community improvements. Former

Jennings resident Roger Tacha of Oakley (below) came back to help his old hometown. He used his chain saw to fell a dead tree by the Czech Museum in downtown Jennings.

Fix up Pick up Clean up

Jennings gets spruced for spring

In its fifth year, the Jennings City-wide Clean-up has become a tradition. Organized by former mayor Marge Hartzog, the event is highly anticipated each spring.

Teams of volunteers show up to help keep the little town looking its best. Several former residents look forward to the clean-up as a good excuse to come home.

Even though it was bitterly cold Saturday morning, about 35 volunteers turned out to give their time and efforts to their hometown. There is nothing too big or too small to be picked up for disposal. Some residents asked for handyman services to nail down tin on a roof or carry heavy items to a garage. Many used the day as an opportunity to work on their own property, knowing the volunteers would help load and haul off any tree limbs or yard debris.

At least 22 locations were on this year's list. Residents called Mrs. Hartzog with their needs and she assigned helpers for each one. If large items like chairs, old televisions and car parts needed to be picked up, she sent a crew of men with a front-end loader and a dump truck; for smaller items or yard debris, a crew with a skid-steer loader would be dispatched.

Area farmers and construction companies donated the use of dump trucks, flatbed trailers, big tractors with a bucket and lift and skid steers.

Crews used not only the Jennings Landfill, but three truckloads of debris went to the Decatur County Landfill. Two large trailers of recyclable metals went to F & F Iron in Norton, netting the city a check for over \$1,000 to be used for commu-

nity improvements.

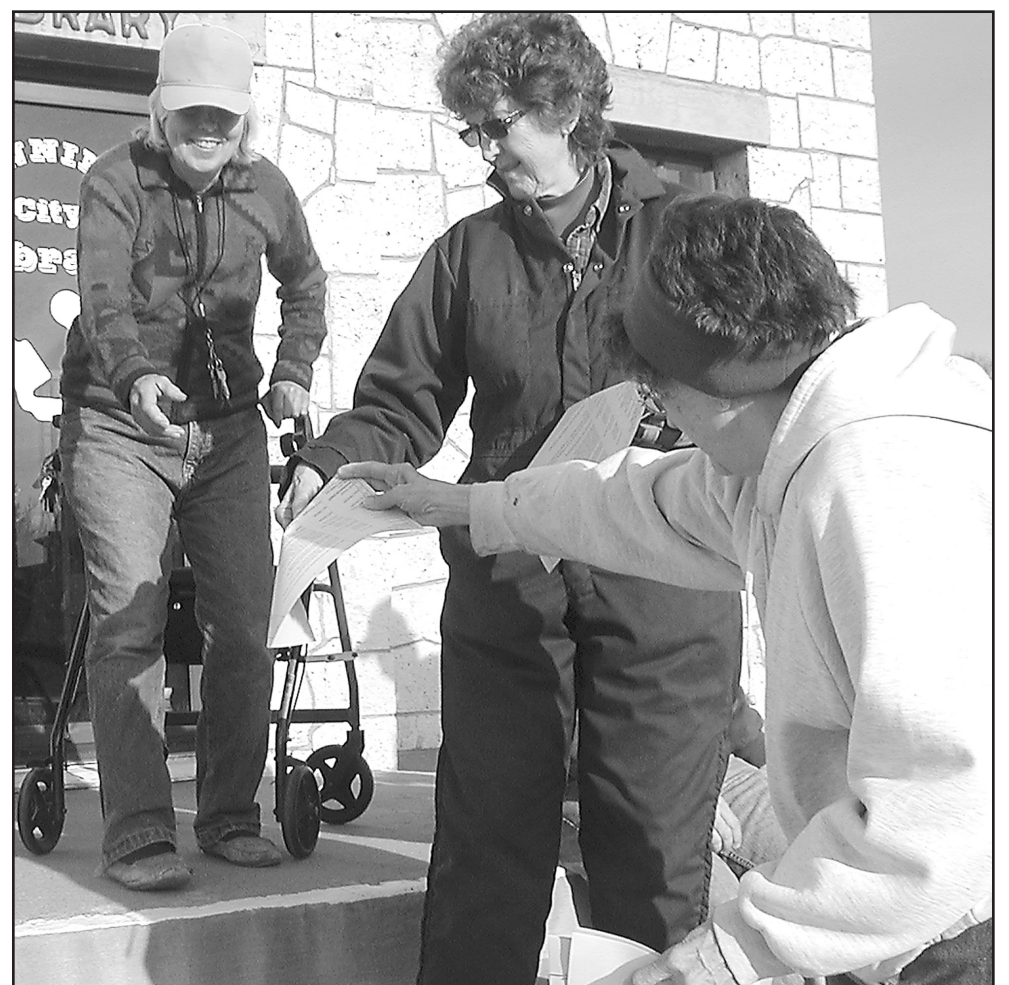
At noon, a potluck lunch was served at the Broken Wheel Bar and Grill in Jennings. Dave and Donna New provided hot dogs, drinks and table service, with salads and desserts brought in by residents who weren't able to help with the clean-up and other volunteers.

After lunch, the volunteers went back to work, winding up the day about 6 p.m. Everyone met back at the Broken Wheel for supper and socializing.

"We could not do this by ourselves," Mrs. Hartzog said. "We really appreciate those people who love their hometown of Jennings and come back every year, and those from the surrounding area who always show up to help. I can't say 'Thank you' enough."



CARRYING TRASH from a garage to a pick-up point on the curb were (above, from left) Stan Shimek, Joseph Carter and Stacy Hartzog. Former Mayor Marge Hartzog (at right in white jacket) handed out assignment sheets to volunteers on the steps of the Jennings City Hall as the annual citywide clean-up got started early Saturday. Receiving their orders were Linda Davis-Stephens (on left) and Dorothy Vacura.



Story and photos by Carolyn Plotts