


**TODAY'S NEWS**

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

 **83° 55°**  
For a full weather report, turn to Page 5B.

**COMING TUESDAY**



**American Profile**  
• Hometown Get-Togethers: Memorial Meats for Great Gatherings is published. **Inside**

**SPORTS**

**Ohio State holds off Purdue**  
• The defense came through for the Ohio State Buckeyes Saturday as they defeated Purdue 16-3. **1B**

**DEATHS**

Obituaries and/or death notices for the following people appear on Page 3A today:  
• David S. Plattfoot  
• LaVera C.E. Zorn Hagelberger  
• Dorothy L. Kruse  
• Kenneth R. Bartrug  
• Ethel M. Kettler  
• Delbert Stucke

**INDEX**

Agriculture .....10A  
City, County records .....2A  
Classified .....6-10B  
Comics .....4B  
Horoscope .....7A  
Localife .....6-7A  
Nation/World .....5A  
Obituaries .....3A  
Opinion .....8A  
Sports .....1-3B  
State news .....4A  
Tween 12 and 20 .....7A  
Weather/Sudoku/Dear Abby/Out of the Past/Dr. Donohue .....5B

**WEEK IN PICTURES**

Experience a slide show of the week's best feature, news and sports images from Sidney Daily News photographers.



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**THOUGHT FOR TODAY**

"There are some things one can only achieve by a deliberate leap in the opposite direction. One has to go abroad in order to find the home one has lost."  
— Franz Kafka, Austrian author (1883-1924).

For more on today in history, turn to Page 5B.

**NEWS NUMBERS**

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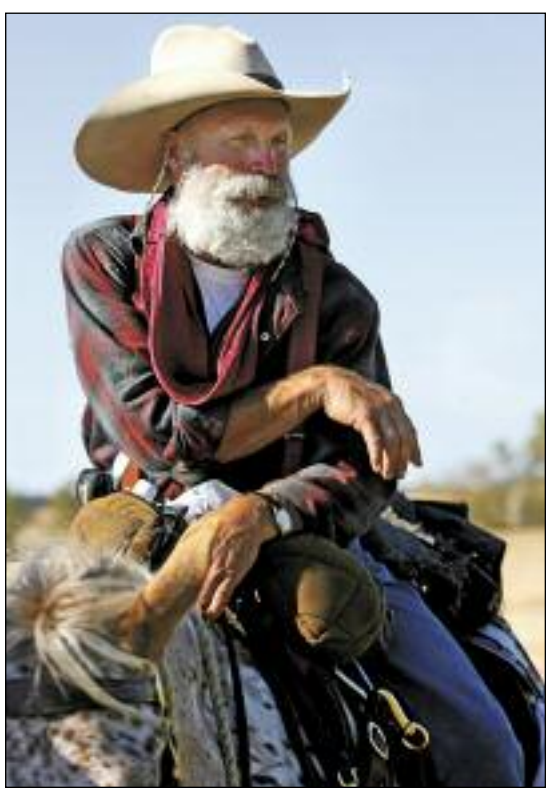
SDN Photo/Erin Pence

**JOHN WAYNE** Haynes rides his Appaloosa horse, Misty, down Kuther Road Sunday morning as his other horse, Harley, and dog, Sheila, follow. Haynes says the highlight of his journey thus far has been all of the friendly people he has met.

# Home on the range

## Cowboy makes his way through county

**BY DARRIN MICHAEL**  
dmichael@sdnccg.com



SDN Photo/Erin Pence

**JOHN WAYNE** Haynes, 55, of Hudson, Mich., traveling south, passed through Shelby County Sunday afternoon. Haynes, who recently quit his job, decided to make the six-month journey south from his home state on horseback to visit his brother in Santa Fe.

And so the stranger came, riding on horseback through the back roads of Shelby County with nothing but time on his hands and his dog Sheila to keep him company.

Headed south, the cowboy said he went by the name John Wayne — John Wayne Haynes, that is.

Any Shelby County resident out for a stroll on Kuther Road Sunday afternoon may have noticed a real life cowboy making his way down the side of the rode on horseback.

The stranger, John Wayne Haynes, 55, recently began a journey, along with his two Appaloosa horses, Harley and Misty, and dog, Sheila, to head south to Santa Fe, N.M., where his brother lives. He began his adventure on Oct. 2.

"It's something I've always wanted to do," said Haynes. "I've been on other horseback trips which have lasted as long as two weeks, but never one this long."

Haynes added he estimates the journey will take between five to six months. He is hoping to get as far south as possible before it starts to get too cold.

Haynes, who is a Hudson, Mich. native, says he decided to make the trip down south after quitting his job as a butcher at Bob

Evans Farms Inc. in Hillsdale, Mich., nearly three weeks ago. Thus far, he says the trip has been a worthwhile experience.

Many Shelby County residents slowed down as they passed Haynes in their cars Sunday to get a glimpse of the adventurer. Additionally, many of those who reside on Kuther Road also came out to watch the stranger as he went along.

"I've met so many nice people along the way," he said. "I've been offered food, money, needs for the horses and the dog."

Haynes added that he stayed in Botkins Saturday evening, and much to his luck, a resident offered to let him keep his horses in their barn for the night.

"Everyone has been just great."

In planning the trip, Haynes said he had to have his horses properly vaccinated so the Appaloosas would be able to travel across state lines. He adds the next goal on his journey is to reach the Ohio River as soon as possible and immediately start heading west.

"After I leave Shelby County, I plan to keep heading south," Haynes said.

"Once I hit the river, it's on to Texas."

To comment on this story, visit [www.sidneydailynews.com](http://www.sidneydailynews.com) and click on the Online Forum button.

# Batter up

## Botkins celebrates Founder's Day

**BY DARRIN MICHAEL**  
dmichael@sdnccg.com

**BOTKINS** — Former mayors of the village, the Sidney Civic Band and a vintage baseball team from Columbus were all on hand to help make Saturday's Founder's Day Celebration at the Botkins Community Park special.

The celebration honored the village's 150th anniversary since being founded.

"Things went pretty well," said Village Administrator, Michael VanBrocklin, one of the many who helped make the sesquicentennial celebration possible.

"The weather was beautiful and it helped provide an excellent turn out."

To lead off the celebration, Pastor Bob Carter from St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Botkins, opened with prayer and the Rev. Pat Slonecker, of Immaculate Conception Church, Botkins, closed the presentation.

Mike Gehrlich, master of ceremonies for the celebration read resolution honoring the anniversary before introducing some of the village's past mayors.

Mayor of Botkins in the 1970s, Steve Maurer, and mayor from the 1980s, Bill Gauntt, spoke about their time in the village and as mayor. Current mayor of Botkins Steve Woodruff and Botkins Local Schools Board of Education President Brad Reed also spoke during the opening ceremony.

Following the presentation, Steve Maurer kicked off the day's "vintage" baseball game by giving a dramatic presentation of "Casey at the Bat", a baseball poem written in 1888 by Ernest Thayer.

Coming out on top in the game was the Ohio Village Muffins, a vintage baseball team organized by the Ohio Historical Society. Though a close game, the Muffins defeated a group of volunteers from Botkins called the "Botkins Reds" 9 to 8. The team's name paid homage to the village's former baseball team.

The day's festivities also included a entertainment provided by the Sidney Civic Band.

"Director Phil Chilcote and the band were excellent," said VanBrocklin.

See **FOUNDER'S**/Page 2A



SDN Photo/Lucas Merrill

**MICHAEL MAURER** of Botkins, pitcher for the Botkins Reds throws the ball to a batter during the Vintage Base Ball game at the Founders Day Celebration at Botkins Community Park on Saturday.