

Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1940's, 1960's, 1990's*

November 2017



1940's

Commend Boys for Good Behavior:

Now that Halloween has past we should express our appreciation for the small amount of damage or mischief of pranksters. Often following the celebration of Halloween one can observe many of the smaller buildings resting upon their sides or ends as results of mysterious happenings. Fewer turn-overs were reported. Perhaps it all goes to show that in these war days boys are more interested in conservation than in destruction. At any rate we commend our boys for their good behavior. *Ankeny Times, November 12, 1943*

Come to the Ankeny Area Historical Society Cookie Sale and Santa's Treasure Hunt on December 2, 2017.

Mark your calendars!

Ankeny Wins Hawkeye Conference: The local football team wound up a successful season Wednesday night by defeating Johnston High 6-0. The Hawkeyes connected on a pass from a spread formation in the last 22 seconds of the game to score. The season record is as follows: Ankeny 13 Johnston 6, Ankeny 18 Colfax 0, Ankeny 12 Madrid 6, Ankeny 6 Woodward 0, Ankeny 19 Nevada 0, Ankeny 24 Story City 0, Ankeny 6 Johnston 0. *Ankeny Times, November 12, 1943*

Football Banquet at High School: The Ankeny High School Football Squad was honored at a banquet. Sixty-four attended which included twenty one members of the squad, the Ankeny School faculty, Members of the Board of Education and their wives, and the fathers of boys on the squad. Supt. E.W. Neveln opened the program and introduced L.E. Brewbaker who acted as Toastmaster. Speeches were given by Coach Rysdam, Duane Robinson Senior Quarterback, and Dr. J.W. Foster, Pres. Of the Board of Education. Miss Elaine Kester and the Home Economic Classes prepared and served the menu. Members of the squad were Duane Robinson, Clark Lathrum, Joe Capitani, Paul Gorham, Bill Mason, Keith Kraft, Harold Pinegar, Harris Manny, Bob Mason, Cato Gioffredi, Henry Parmenter, Richard Logli, Arthur Weiss, Bob Eckles, Robert Smith, Jimmie Miller, John Lundstrom, Cecil Ballard, and Todd Tischner. *Ankeny Times, November 12, 1943*

Wording has been reduced to fit the space in some cases. Additional decades will be covered in future issues. Please join the AAHS or send comments via email at: history@ankenyhistorical.org.



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Evening Classes to Open: The Men's and Women's Adult Evening Classes will have their first meeting Nov. 17 at the school house. Mrs. Ilene Kester, Home Economics instructor, is in charge of the women and Mr. Jasper Risdal, Voc. Ag. Instructor is in charge of the men.

Men Council Members for 1943-44: Wm. Keil, Wilbert Alleman, Floyd Hirsch, Art Fletcher, Robert Moeckly, E.A. Sexauer, Lorin Woods. Programs for year: Protein Feeds, Cutting Choring Labor, Remodeling and Repair of farm buildings, Poultry Problems, Certified Insemination, Carcass Selling of Livestock, Herb Plambeck, and Disease of Livestock.

Women Council Members for 1943-44: Mrs. Merle Blair, Chairman, Mrs. Charlotte Perry, Mrs Jennie Kile, Mrs. Lela Hirsch. Programs for Year: Making a Jiffy Dress Form, Patterns Alterations Sewing Techniques, Construction of Clothing, Poultry Problems, Homemade Xmas Gift Suggestions, Interior Decoration of Children's Rooms, Making Slip Covers, Refinishing Furniture, Herb Plambeck, and Gardening Suggestions. *Ankeny Times, November 12, 1943*

Can't get enough Ankeny history? Come see the current exhibits (November 2017). We currently have an exhibit about water and the Great Western fireworks factory. We also have displays covering the Ordnance Plant, Uptown stores, the schools, and many other areas of local history, as well as a library full of information about Ankeny, the surrounding area, and the families who have lived here. We have old yearbooks, too – some dating back to the 1920's.

Stop in and see the displays and artifacts that bring Ankeny area's past to life. Best of all – it's free! Call 515.965.5795 to see when the museum is open or to schedule an appointment or tour.

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Kiwanis Community Auction Set for Saturday. The Ankeny Kiwanis Club will be conducting its eighth Community Auction on Saturday night, November 12 at the Ankeny Sales Pavilion (*now the location of Ankeny Sanitation in 2017*) beginning promptly at 7 p.m. This is a project in which everyone can participate for the benefit of all.

Its main purpose is to multiply the number of worthwhile things needed in Ankeny. The sale is well known for its services. As the annual sale approaches, Ankeny Kiwanis Club can look back with considerable satisfaction on the things they accomplished. All Kiwanis Club members had a busy schedule under the direction of club President Harold Swartsfager and his Committee Chairmen. They are: Concessions – Othie McMurry; Door Prizes – Lee Gookin; Bake Sale – Mrs. Harold Howard and Mrs. Othie McMurry; Soliciting – Floyd Harrison, Victor Johnson, and Milford Johnson; Mystery Boxes – Larry Kahrs; Donated Merchandise – Ivan Howard; Decorations – Verle Harness; Publicity – George Laurinas; Clerking the Sale – Lloyd Brewbaker, Noel Liechty, and Wayne Rowland of the Ankeny State Bank. *Ankeny Times, November 10, 1960*

Seniors To Present Play Fri., Sat. Seated front row, left to right, are Donna Bruce, Dixie Knowels, Lynn Susic, and Diana Odegaard. Second row, left, Betty Jo Brown, right, Mary Good. Standing, Janet Howard, student director; Merle Bechtol, Everett Lewis, John Hall, Tom Bower, Steve Miller, and David Kauzlarich, director.

The Ankeny senior class play will be presented Friday and Saturday evenings, November 6-7, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium, and will be directed by David Kauzlarich, English and drama teacher. The play, entitled "The Curious Savage," is a comedy concerning a wealthy lady committed to a mental institution by her "money hungry" children. Actions of the supposedly sane people, and actions of the mental institution inmates leaves a question. Everyone is cordially invited to attend for an evening of humorous entertainment. *Ankeny Press Citizen, November 5, 1964*



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Elementary PTA Hears Discussion of the Hot Lunch Program in the Ankeny Schools. The Ankeny Elementary PTA meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 9, at the Central Elementary School. The minutes were read by Mrs. Gene Muehlenthaler, and the treasurer's report by Mrs. Wm. Day. Mrs. Keith Silver, room representative, gave a report on the homeroom coffees which were held last month. These coffees were well attended by mothers, and had an average attendance of 57%. Mrs. Silver thanked everyone who had helped to make them possible.

PTA president, Mrs. Gerald Tomlinson, reported on the sidewalk project. She also stated that volunteers to help the Polk County TB and Health Assoc. with the annual mailing of Christmas seals were needed. Anyone interested in helping is to contact Mrs. Frank Moran.

Program chairman, Richard Logli, introduced the afternoon kindergarten children from East Elementary School, who, accompanied by Mrs. Harlan Rigby, presented two nice musical numbers. Superintendent Keith Hopkins was then called upon, and he introduced the Ankeny lunch program workers. Mr. Hopkins said that Ankeny's lunch program was a Type A program. This means that it has a lunch menu which is a balanced diet and consists of: ½ pint of milk; 2 ozs. Of protein; ¾ cup veg. or fruit; 1 slice of bread; 2t. of butter. This requirement is more than sufficiently met daily. Food is all prepared in the one kitchen in the high school, and is then transported by the lunch truck to the other schools. An average of 1,300 children are fed daily. Ankeny's government aid consists of 20% of the total commodities used; therefore, leaving 80% to come from the lunch program. *Ankeny Press Citizen, November 2, 1964*

Municipal Junior Council Elected. Shown here are the newly elected junior councilmen of Ankeny High School. Front row, left to right, Sharon Cheely, Steve Justice, and Kay Kahrs. Back row, left to right, Steve Hicks, Dave Chown, Bruce Hokel, and Mike Hopkins. Steven Justice was elected junior mayor of Ankeny, with Sharon Cheely, Dave Chown, Steve Hicks, Bruce Hokel, and Mike Hopkins elected as junior councilmen in the election for Junior Municipal Council held October 27. The new junior councilmen will be assigned to a member of the regular council. They will attend the regular municipal council meetings held on the first Monday of each month. *Ankeny Press Citizen, November 5, 1964*



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Ankeny Garden Club Elects '64-65 Officers. The Ankeny Garden Club met Friday, November 13, at the Ankeny National Bank, with 28 members present. Election of officers for 1965 was held as follows: Mrs. Victor Good, president; Mrs. Gregg Crouch, 1st vice president; Mrs. Anthony Vulcano, 2nd vice president; Mrs. P.J. Harvey, treasurer; and Mrs. Floyd Percy, secretary. Mrs. Lael Moon announced that the Ankeny Garden Club received two blue ribbons at the meeting of the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa in Ames on November 4-5. One was the Blue Ribbon Club Award, and the other was the Year Book Award. Mrs. Milford Johnson read an interesting article on "Garden Therapy." Mrs. Norman Andrews gave a talk on the "The Arrangement and Culture of the Chrysanthemum," the flower of the month. *Ankeny Press Citizen, November 17, 1964*

Remember the chicken at the Breese House? *Ankeny Press Citizen, December 24, 1964*

1990's

2,200 Citizens Sign Petitions Against Airport: The Ankeny City Council refused to consider pulling their support from the Airport Authority they voted to establish and Mayor Ollie Weigel told an overflow council chamber audience that their objections to the proposed airport location should be directed to the Federal Aviation Authority, the Environmental Protection Agency and other federal agencies involved with site approval. Mayor Weigel's remarks followed presentation of 2,200-plus signatures of Ankeny residents opposed to a northeast Polk County airport on the southeast border of the city. Attorney, Robert Nading, who represents the group, outlined a list of objections to the site, located east of I-35 and the Metro North industrial park and south of Orabalor Road. *Ankeny Today, November 8, 1990*

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Ankeny State Bank and Altoona State Bank announced plans to merge the two banks. The name of the combined bank will become Community State Bank. Dale C. Froehlich, President of Ankeny State Bank, said, "The banking industry is constantly changing and we feel that the merger will enable our banks to compete more efficiently and effectively. Our customers will be better served in the future by one combined community banking organization. The new name of Community State Bank reflects our commitment to meeting the needs of the communities of Ankeny and Altoona." Ankeny State Bank has approximately \$100 million in assets and has served the Ankeny community since 1902. Altoona State Bank was chartered in 1960 and has approximately 35 million in assets.
Ankeny Press-Citizen, November 24, 1992

The Ankeny City Council took the first step in closing part of SW 2nd Street after a lengthy but genteel public hearing on the matter in front of an overflow crowd at the council chambers Monday. The City Council approved a resolution that sets forth the terms and conditions for the vacation and sale of a specific section of SW 2nd Street between Walnut Street and its intersection with northbound and southbound alleys. The resolution was approved on a 4-1 vote with Councilman John Voigt as the lone dissenter.

The street vacation has been proposed by officials from the Ankeny First Methodist Church to accommodate a \$2.1 million expansion project. The church plans to expand northward across 2nd Street to property that the church owns. That property now serves as a parking lot. *Ankeny Press –Citizen, November 4, 1992*

The Ankeny City Council approved the purchase of an ambulance and agreed to pay for a master plan of Otter Creek Golf Course during a special meeting Monday. The Council passed a resolution to have an architectural and design firm create a master plan for Otter Creek, Ankeny's public golf course. The Council agreed to hire William and Associates for \$9,700. Otter Creek Manager Kevin Beard said a master plan is needed so future projects can all work together in a cohesive plan. The Council also approved the purchase of an ambulance from Smeal Fire Equipment of Rock Rapids, Iowa for \$81,289. As part of the contract, Smeal will buy the old ambulance for \$10,000. Fire Chief Tom Strait said the new ambulance will replace a 1981 ambulance that had about 80,000 miles. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, November 11, 1992*

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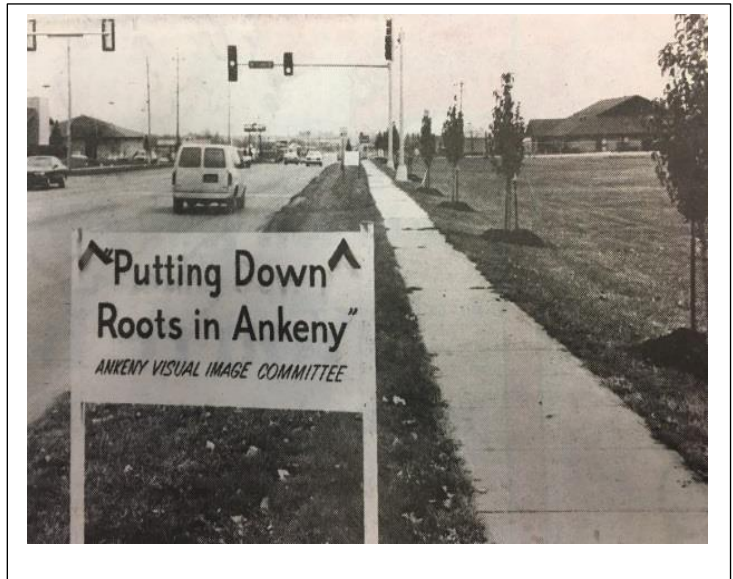
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A year of planning and hard work was fulfilled on Saturday when members of the Ankeny Visual Image Committee and other volunteers planted about 130 trees along East First Street. The group was also helped by City of Ankeny workers who drilled the holes and moved the trees into place. The trees stretch from Delaware Avenue to just west of Trilein Drive. The species of trees selected are Cleveland Select Pears and Indian Magic Crabapples. Saturday's project cost about \$16,000. AVIC hopes to plant trees from Trilein Drive to Ankeny Boulevard in the spring. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, November 4, 1992*



The Ankeny Arts Council on Saturday, November 7, is sponsoring the 12th Annual Santa's North Pole Village. The Arts and Craft Festival is held at three locations again this year—Ankeny Senior High School, Parkview School, and Lakeside Center, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be shuttle buses so people will find it easy to travel between festival location. As the largest civic sponsored craft show in the state of Iowa, we have in the past boasted of having over 350 exhibitors, many of whom come from every state surrounding the state of Iowa. The food concessions are run by civic and non-profit organizations. Beef burgers will be served by the American Legion Post, nachos & cheese and caramel & apples by the American Business Women Assoc. and pop and coffee by the Ankeny Christian Church. School-made cinnamon rolls, huge and fresh from the oven will be served by the school cafeteria staff starting at 8 a.m. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, November 4, 1992*

Comments? Send them to us at history@ankenyhistorical.org.