recalling Ankeny news from the 1950's, 1970's, 1980's* January 2018

1950s

Ankeny's New Mayor, Charles Freight, is pictured conducting a Town Council meeting Monday night January 6. Mayor Freight was formally installed in office January 2 at a special meeting. Pictured with Mayor Freight seated around the table is Atty. Allen Shepard, Councilmen Paul Dougan, Earl Lewis, Edward Howell, Warren Ferguson, Lyle Foust and town clerk, Anne Varnum. *Ankeny Times, January 9, 1958*



Ankeny PTA. A special program is planned for the regular meeting of the Parent Teachers' Association scheduled for Monday evening, January 20 at the Parkview Auditorium. Mrs. Noel Liechty announced the guest speakers previously planned were cancelled due to the flu epidemic, will appear at the January program. Featured will be Mr. Howard Blanchard, Vocational Guidance Director for Des Moines Public Schools, and Mr. Paul Dingman, head of the Child Guidance Clinic. "Teenage Behavior" will be discussed and will afford the parents opportunity of participating in a question and answer period. Ankeny Times, January 9, 1958

To Conduct New Survey of the Ankeny School Situation: The Board of Education passed a resolution at its regular meeting January 5, 1959, instructing their new superintendent, M.D. Anderson, to ask the Department of Instruction to conduct a new survey of the Ankeny school situation. If possible, college experts will be engaged to work with the Department of Public Instruction in making a careful study of growth trends, building needs, and priority of new projects. In a community where building developments and population changes are taking place board members feel that the best advice obtainable is needed before launching any new projects. *Ankeny Times, January 8, 1959*

*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: <u>history@ankenyhistorical.org</u>.







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1950s

Application for Postmaster in Ankeny Open Until Jan. 28. An examination for postmaster at Ankeny, Iowa, \$4,890 a year, will be open for receipt of applications until January, January 28, 1958. All possible steps through special publicity to civic and other community organizations to encourage well qualified persons to apply for the examinations. Competitors for the postmaster vacancy must have one year of experience showing they have the ability to conduct and manage the community's postal business efficiently and supervise employees so that customers are satisfied with the service.

Applicants must take a written test. Those who pass will be assigned final ratings on the basis of this test, and on their experience, ability, and character. There is a one-year residency requirement and the applicants must have reached their 18th birthday on the closing date. Persons over 70 years of age maty not be appointed. *Ankeny Times, January 9, 1958* Mayor Appoints Library Board: Mayor Charles Freight has announced the appointment of members to serve on the Library Board for the proposed library of Ankeny. Mesdames Francis Hall, Noel Liechty, J.A. Henderson, and Alvin Chestnut have consented to act on this board. The will of the Kirkendall Brothers has made it possible for the library to be built. Location, type of building, and other problems will have to be discussed before the actual building can start. A library has been one of the things Ankeny residents have wanted for a long time. *Ankeny Times, January 8, 1959*

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1950s

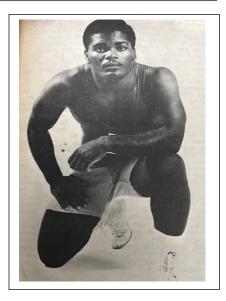


1970s

Announce Second Annual First Baby Contest for Ankeny. Ankeny first baby of the year, little Lisa Sue Paulus will give up her crown this week to the new first baby of 1970. The second annual contest appears in this issue of the Press-Citizen. The Press-Citizen contest is eligible to any Ankeny resident and is co-sponsored by several Ankeny merchants who offer valuable prizes for the new child. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 1, 1970*

(John Timothy Hummel is the winner of the second annual first new baby contest co-sponsored by several Ankeny merchants and the Press-Citizen. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 8, 1970*)

Jason Smith Unbeaten in Opening of Final ISU Mat Season. Jason Smith, former state high school champion from Ankeny, is in the midst of his final collegiate year of wrestling at Iowa State University in Ames. As a senior in high school he carried a record of 27 pins in 29 matches. This year as a senior at I.S.U., Jason sports a record of 4-0, making Jim Haug of Nebraska his latest victim. Smith is now fluctuating weights between 167 pounds and 177 pounds. During the season of 1968, Jason as a sophomore held a record of 8 wins, 3 losses and 3 draws. Also as a sophomore, he won the world collegiate championship in Turkey at 190 pound class, came in second at the Big 8 Tourney and in the NCAA Tourney. *Ankeny Press Citizen, January 15, 1970*



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1970s

Jerry Bucklin Buys Ray Ahlberg Chevrolet. Jerry Bucklin has purchased Ray Ahlberg Chevrolet on Highway 69 in Ankeny, effective January 1. Bucklin is formerly of Newton where he was Sales Manager of Hawkeye Chevrolet. He was with the Newton firm for the past eight years. Ray Ahlberg announces plans to retire after coming to Ankeny 21

years ago at the Highway 69 location. He has been a Chevrolet dealer for 42 years. Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 8, 1970



Lorna and Dean Albaugh celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. *Ankeny Press Citizen, January 18, 1973*

City Council Sets 1970 Paving Program. Hear Objectors to Commercial First Rezoning. The Ankeny City Council set the 1970 street paving program at its regular meeting Monday night. The council announced that plans are being made to pave West First Street from the Ankeny Bowling Alley west to the Ankeny Airport and then south on Linden Street until it connects with Ordnance Road. It is proposed to be 45 feet wide. Under the Paving Plan, property owners in the area will be assessed for the cost of the six inch payment in a slab 31 feet wide. The amount of paving that is more than 31 feet wide will be paid at the general expense of the city. The council has set a public hearing on the matter to be held at 7:30 p.m. on January 26 at the council chambers at City Hall. Property owners subject to assessment for the proposed improvements, or any other person having an interest in the proposal, may appear and be heard for or against at the proposal. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 8, 1970*



Dr. Carlson Named Broadlawns Chief of Hospital Staff. Doctor Rodney R. Carlson, M.D. has been elected to the position of Chief of Staff at Broadlawns Polk County Hospital. He took over the new position last Thursday, having been elected to the top position by other doctors on the Broadlawns staff. Dr. Carlson attended Buena Vista College at Storm Lake previous to Medical School at the University of Iowa where he graduated in 1962. He interned at Broadlawns Hospital and spent a second year there in general practice residency. He began his Ankeny practice at 215 Walnut Street in 1964. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 22, 1970*



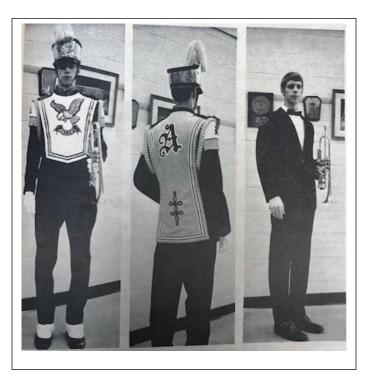


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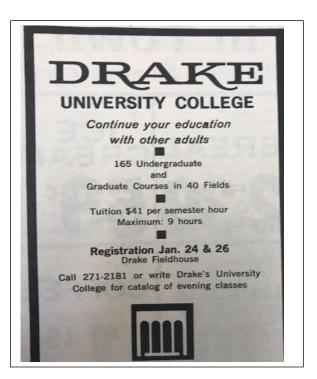
1970s

New band uniforms chosen. Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 8, 1970

Look at the cost of Grand View College (\$38/hr) and Drake University (\$41/hr) in 1970! *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January* 22, 1970









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1980s

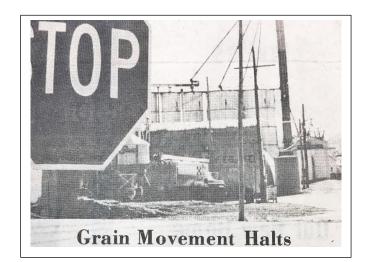
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Nearly all of the grain movement in the Ankeny area stopped last week as elevator managers and local farmers were swallowing the impact of the partial U.S. grain embargo of grain sales to the Soviet Union. President Jimmy Carter responded to the Soviet presence of military troops in Afghanistan by allowing the sale of eight million tons of grain covered by a treaty. The Soviets had expected to buy 25 million tons of grain from the United States.

Russ Miller of the Ankeny Farmers Supply told Monday morning, "We are now buying, but only a few beans have moved through since the embargo and corn movement has been zero. I have had several farmers call this morning about selling as their farm loans are due and they need the money but I don't know yet if they will sell their grain or go into their bankers".

The Ankeny area is fortunate in that there is no grain piled outside. The northwest area of the state is being forced to sell their corn at the reduced market price because the corn is damp. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 17, 1980*

The first meeting for Ankeny's annual celebration- FUN AND FEED DAYS will be held Wednesday, February 6th, at the Frontier Deli at 7:30 p.m. The annual three day event features parades, entertainment, sporting events, concessions, contests and exhibits, and will be held July 11, 12, 13 this year. Anyone willing to help with suggestions or planning or groups requesting special considerations from the planning committee is asked to attend. The meeting is open to the public. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 31, 1980*





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1980s

Main Street is down but not out. Though geographically still in the center of town downtown Ankeny is no longer the center of commerce. During the last 20-plus years, business has gone out to meet the rapid growth of homes. Last week there were several business properties in uptown Ankeny that were for rent. Plans are underway with the formation of a redevelopment committee, to revitalize that portion of the city that generally falls into the original 1875 plat.

Early Ankenyites would gather at the general merchandise store and exchange news of the day's events. Up and down Main Street (3rd Street) stores were built with protective porches and benches, wooden sidewalks and hitching posts. "Main" Street in 1887 began to be a busy place. The village boasted of a general merchandise store, restaurant, drug store, lumber yard, harness and furniture maker, hotel, livery stables, barber shops, blacksmith shop, and a railroad depot located on the west end. Main Street was the stage for rousing band concerts, political speakers, and parades on the Fourth of July and other processions. The face of Main Street has changed over the years. Fires in 1932 and 1940 have rearranged location of some businesses and closed others. The "main" street has grown into shopping centers in all parts of the city. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 17, 1980*



Former Hawkette Wiese Leads 6-6 ISU Gals – Former Ankeny High School basketball player, Karen Wiese, is leading the scoring statistics for Iowa State Cyclone Women's Basketball team. Karen had built a team high 11.3 scoring average after the Big Eight team had made twelve appearances on the floor. Karen had a team high of 23 points for the Cyclones 79 to 64 victory over Nebraska. Wiese, a six foot forward for ISU, was the leading scorer for the Ankeny Hawkettes her senior season in 1977. She averaged 28.6 points per contest. She was selected as third team all-stater. The 1976-1977 Hawkettes finished the season in the second round of the state tournaments with an upset loss to Belmond. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 24, 1980*