

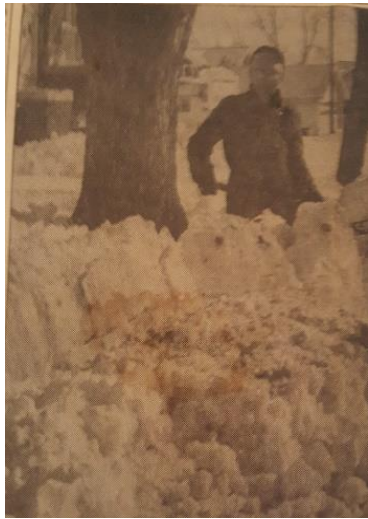
Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1980s*

March 2018

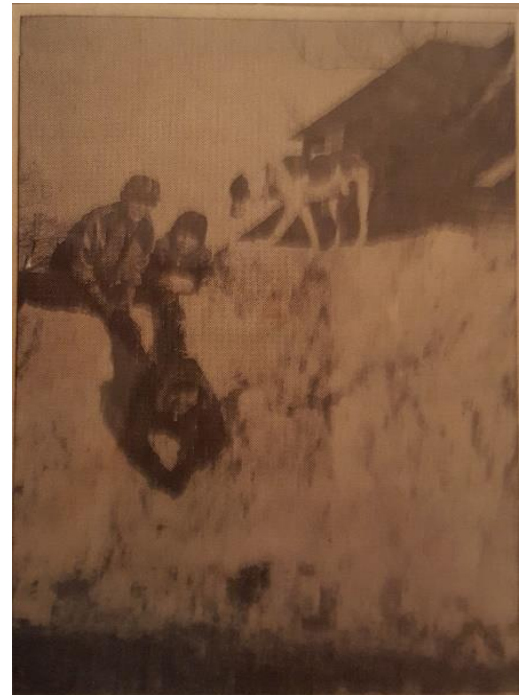


1950s



Iowa Or Sun Valley?

What more could a boy ask for than an unexpected vacation from school and plenty of deep snow to lure him outside for some winter fun? These boys are making the most of the situation. From left to right they are: Pat Emery, 14, of 106 Walnut; Larry Clark, 10; and Roger Ramsey, 10. Cocoa, the dog, seems willing to join in on the fun. *Ankeny Times, March 19, 1959*



THERE WAS A SIDEWALK HERE SOMEWHERE!

Waist-Deep snow in front of the Ankeny Congregational Church confronts E.J. Sheppard as he contemplates the big job ahead of him clearing off the sidewalk. *Ankeny Times, March 19, 1959*

Same Song Second Verse. Just as Iowa residents thought that Old Man Winter had dealt the final blow of the season and optimists had stored the snow shovel in the back of their garage, along came a second blizzard Saturday, March 14, which dumped four inches of wet, sticky snow. A tour around town Sunday morning revealed Ankeny residents repeating last week's activities-- digging out snowbound cars, and shoveling driveways and sidewalks. Street Department works overtime: Ray Padelford, Supt. of Utilities stated: It was a bad one. We worked Saturday night until midnight then had to quit, but started in again at 5:30 a.m. Sunday and worked until 5 p.m. *Ankeny Times, March 19, 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: history@ankenyhistorical.org.



Ankeny Area Historical Society

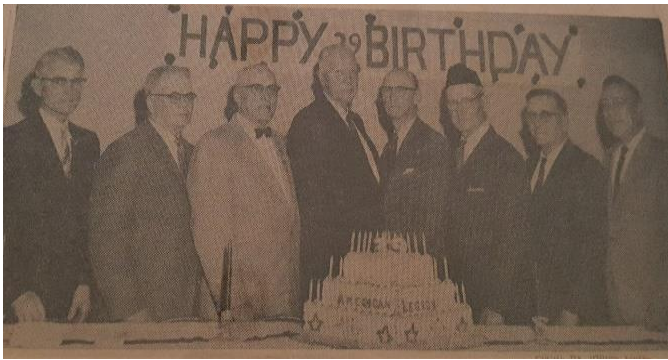
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1950s



Three members of the Albaugh-McGovern American Legion Post 42 were honored and presented life membership cards at the 39th birthday banquet Sunday. They are from left, John Harvey, Jack Donaghy, Wm. Donaghy, Ed Neveln, Charles McLean, Ed Howard, Fred Swartfager, and Lloyd Brewbaker. *Ankeny Times*, March 20, 1958



Kiddlywinks: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kochheiser of Rural Route 1 of Ankeny are the proud parents of these three. They are: Audrey Jean, 3, Linda Mae, 2, and Allan Ralph just 11 months. Audrey goes to Sunday School at the Methodist church in Ankeny and Linda will go when she is two years old. Linda is quite busy trying to “keep up” with Audrey as she imitates her antics. Another important member of the family is the pet dog, Tootsie. *Ankeny Times*, March 5, 1959

Three File in Ankeny School Election: Three persons filed as candidates in the Ankeny election March 10. There are two candidates for one three-year term on the school board, and one for treasurer. Candidates for school board are; Victor V. Johnson, the incumbent; and George Plager. Johnson has served on the board since 1952. Noel J. Liechty has filed for treasurer to succeed himself. **Pay-As-You Go-Plan:** Voters of the school district will give consideration to the board’s proposed pay-as-you-go plan. The proposed 2 ½ mill increase in the school levy would be used for the expanded needs of the present system. *Ankeny Times*, March 6, 1958

Bakery Now in New Location: Fontana Bakery and Grocery completed moving over the weekend and are now “back to business as usual” in their new location next door. The interior of the new store location has been completely remodeled and now features many new and ultra-modern fixtures and equipment, all aimed at better service to the public. Customers will find such equipment as large deep freezers, vegetable counters, ice cream counters, check out counters and other expanded facilities. New baking ovens and equipment have been installed in the upstairs. The management states, “We’ll be ready to swing into high gear next Monday morning.” *Ankeny Times*, March 6, 1958

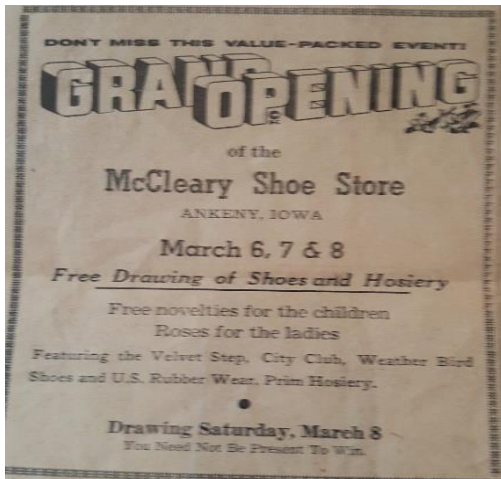
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Grand Opening at McCleary Shoe Store, Mar. 6,7,8: The door to McCleary's Shoe Store opened for business this week, and will hold their official grand opening Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Abel and Lucille McCleary invite the public to stop by and look over their complete line of name brand shoes and hosiery. The store has been completely remodeled and is ready to serve you for footwear for every member of the family. The management has held a fitting demonstration at the store this week with a representative of International Shoes in charge. There will be a free drawing for prizes on March 8. Abel says there will be roses for the ladies, gifts for the kiddies, and free drawing of shoes and hosiery. *Ankeny Times, March 6, 1958*



1970s

\$250,000 loss in D&P blaze last week-end. A disastrous fire Sunday morning caused some \$250,000 damage to the Denniston and Partridge Lumber Company. The fire at 611 Third in uptown Ankeny was called by Fire Chief Marvin Frisk to be the worst in over 30 years. More than half of uptown Ankeny was destroyed in 1938. The fire was also one month to the day since the Daryl Crees home was destructed. Reporting the blaze at 3:12 a.m. were two Ankeny boys, Bill Duncan and Randy Sanger. The pair ran to the station, and it was just minutes before fighters and trucks were at the scene. Sanger and Duncan reported that the flames were spotted through a small window at the very top of the building. Investigators surmised that the fire could have been started in the driveway of the building and that the fire had graduated a good deal before it was detected. Lost in the driveway portion were two flatbed trucks, two trucks, a car and two fork lifts. Also totally destroyed were all of the offices, supplies and half of the lumber supply. Since some lumber was saved and records are kept at Newton, Iowa, D&P officials thought that business delays would be minimal. *Ankeny Press Citizen, March 22, 1973*

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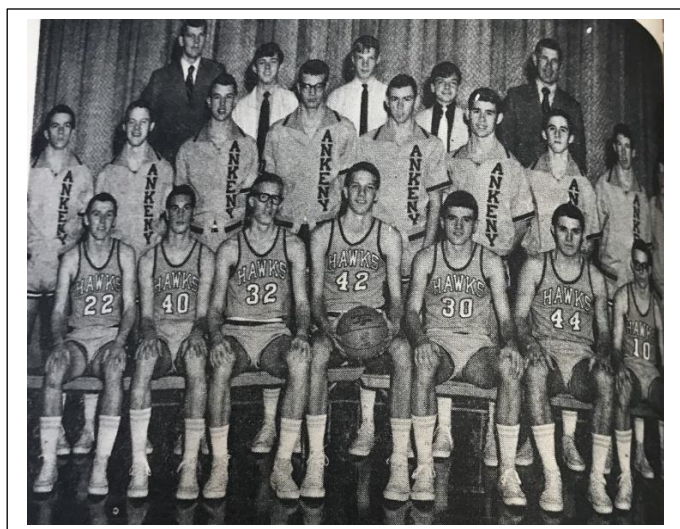


1970s

‘Greener Ankeny’ plans to begin. The Ankeny Jaycees have announced that they will again conduct their annual “Greener Ankeny” project this year. The program grew out of desire to see Ankeny streets, particularly those in the newer areas of town, lined with trees in future years. Working in conjunction with local nurserymen, the Jaycees sell trees at low cost to homeowners who pledge to plant them in the parking along the street. In the past, block chairmen have attempted to recruit all the property owners on a block to plan at least one tree. There is no limit on the number of trees any one household may purchase.

Ankeny Press Citizen, March 15, 1973

Set teachers base salary. Approve \$7,000 for beginning B.A. teacher. The Ankeny Board of Education approved a \$7,000 base salary for the coming year Monday night by a 3-2 vote following a lengthy discussion. Approval came after two other proposals had been defeated by 2-3 votes. On the action that was finally approved, Directors Don Zuck and Dr. Lawrence Gray opposed the proposal and William Marvin, George Plager, and president John Lundstrom favored the action. *Ankeny Press Citizen, March 25, 1971*



BB team takes conference title *Ankeny Press Citizen, March 5, 1970*

Outstanding citizenship awards given to six. Six awarded for outstanding community service were presented Monday night at the annual chamber of commerce awards banquet. They were given to (from left) The Ankeny Volunteer Fire Department and accepted by Dale Frisk; Ed Thayer, outstanding teenager; Don Haines, State president of the Iowa Jaycees; Mrs. Marion Kochheiser, president of the Ankeny Garden Club; and Milton Anan, president of the elementary Parent-Teacher Association. Carmen Zimmer, a member of the chamber’s board of directors and active in civic affairs, was also awarded an outstanding citizen award. *Ankeny Press Citizen, March 18, 1971*

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1970s



Marvin & Mae Dean Frisk 25th anniversary

Ankeny Press Citizen, March 11, 1971



DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) Ankeny
Press Citizen, March 26, 1970

Citizens honored. Honored at the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce meeting for outstanding citizenship Monday night were, from left, Gordon Rorebeck, Betty Rorebeck, and Robert Priest. In back are Jerry Fulton, Don Hick and Bob Wagner. Others honored were Marvin Frisk and Mary Peters. *Ankeny Press Citizen, March 12, 1970*



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Retirement Village Ankeny developer Rodney Lein appeared before the council with preliminary plans for the construction of a 36 to 70 unit retirement village he is proposing to develop in central Ankeny on land generally bounded by SW First and SW Third Streets between SW Des Moines and SW Kline.

According to Lein he is in the process of acquiring, or has acquired, about two thirds of that property. Lein has not yet been before the Plan and Zoning Commission with a final plan but came before the council at this time to get council opinion about a trade-off on the water and sewer systems improvements at that site. The council referred the matter to the city staff for cost and effectiveness study. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, March 5, 1981*

Undefeated in Conference Play. For the first time ever, the Ankeny Hawkettes went undefeated in the Central Iowa Conference as they took the league title with a 14-0 record. The Hawkettes raised their season mark to 19-1 last weekend beating winless Boone 91 to 57, then squeezed by South Tame 66 to 64. The will face Valley in first round of sectional play next week. Below, Ankeny's Connie Yori baffles the Boone guards as she scored two points with a back-handed layup. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, March 19, 1981*

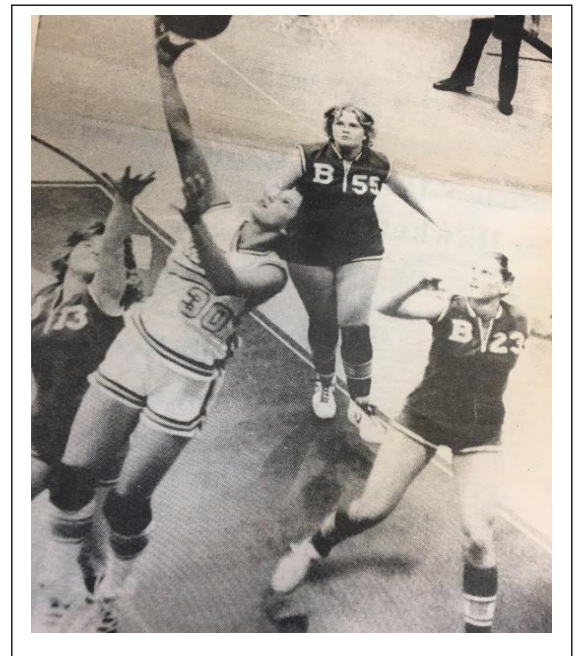
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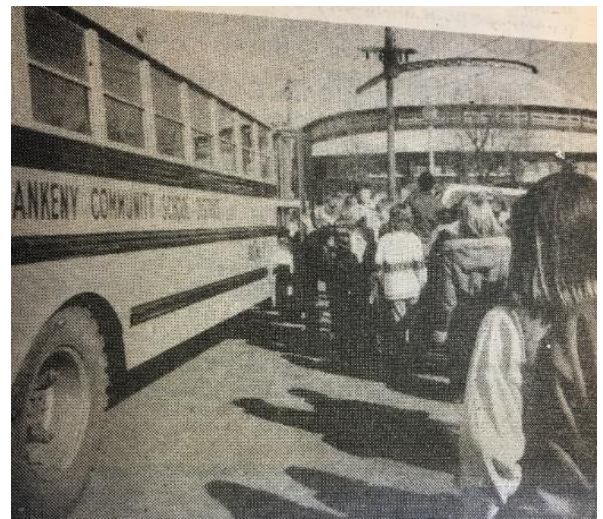
1980s

No Peas, Please. An experiment is underway at Terrace Elementary to find out just how much food is being wasted in the school cafeteria. Under the direction of school nurse Sue Rasmussen, student helpers scrape uneaten food into separate buckets for each portion. The leftover food will be weighed, and Mrs. Rasmussen will meet with the school dietician to compile data on serving portions, etc. The experiment is being conducted with Terrace 6th graders, and uneaten portions for six or seven days will be used. Sixth grade teacher Janet Singer says they picked several days when unpopular foods were being served, and several days when hot lunch featured popular items.

Terrace Principal David Turner says Terrace does not have the personnel to stand over each child to make him eat his vegetables; however, there is a rule that if a child wants seconds he must have eaten either his fruit or the vegetable. Turner hopes that the results of the study will help school personnel evaluate the hot lunches served at Terrace. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, March 5, 1981*

300 Fifth Graders Get First Hand Lessons At Iowa Beef Expo. Ankeny school kids got a look at the world of big-time cattle buying last week at the 1981 Winter Iowa Beef Expo. The beef expo is held each year at the State Fairgrounds; and 300 Ankeny 5th graders were special guests, getting a first-hand lesson on Iowa beef production showing beef selling.

Jerry Struck of the Iowa Department of Agriculture's Livestock Division served as MC in an hour long program which was presented to the youngsters. They learned the difference between and Angus and a Hereford, and were told how cattle are bred, (1 cow plus 1 bull plus grass plus hay equals 1 80-pound calf.) After the program, each 5th grade class was taken on a tour of the cattle barns where beef producers were "dressing up" their cattle to be shown. "Dressing up: a cow included bathing, clipping, brushing, and even back-combing tails. The children saw quite a few of the 1,000 cattle – including 14 different breeds – which were shown at the five day expo. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, March 12, 1981*



HEAD 'EM UP, MOVE 'EM OUT!" Just like a cowboy who rounds up and counts his herd, Ankeny teachers counted heads before heading back home from the State Fairgrounds. Only two "strays" had to be corralled before the buses could depart. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, March 12, 1981*

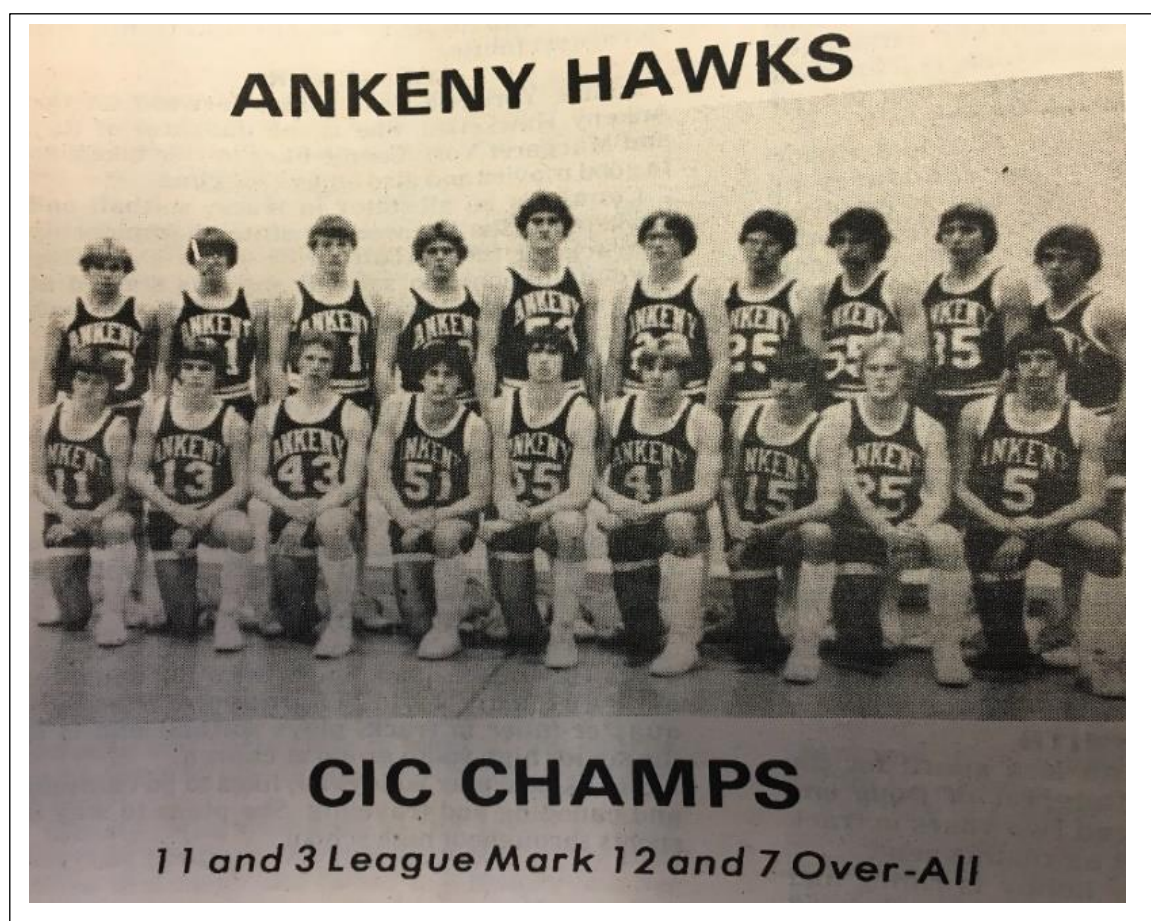
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