

Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950's, 1970's, 1990's*

July 2019



1950s

Two New Routes Needed for New Service

Willard L. Nagle, Acting Postmaster, has received word from Congressman Paul Cunningham that the Post Office Department has granted Ankeny city mail and parcel post delivery. This has also been confirmed by postal officials. Effective date for the new service will be Saturday, September 6, 1958. All person desiring delivery are urged to make the necessary preparations in advance of the beginning service. All houses must have visible house numbers and mail boxes or a slot in the door marked "mail". Acting Postmaster Nagle further stresses that all the correspondents should be informed of the change and that numbers and streets are now required.

Two Carriers: Mr. Nagle further stated that according to preliminary plans, two carriers will be employed here. Carrier sorting cases will not have patrons' names, only street addresses. Failure to have street addresses will delay mail. Well known businesses in town will not use the number and street on their return mail.

Boxes will still be available for those not desiring delivery. Mr. Nagle also stated that all persons wishing house delivery should file a written request at the post office giving complete name and address. This should be done immediately. *Ankeny Press Citizen, July 31, 1958*

New Postal Rates Announced

Effective August 1, 1958

First Class Letters	4c an ounce
Post and Postal Cards	3c each
Airmail (Not Exceeding 8 ounces)	7c an ounce
Air Post and Postal Cards	5c each
Third Class Mail (Including unsealed printed Greeting Cards)	3c first 2 ounces 1½c each additional ounce
Weight limit for Third-Class Mail is Increased up to But Not Including 16 Ounces	
Consult Postmaster Concerning Other Changes.	

Things You Should Do Now

1. All houses must have visible house numbers and a mail box or a slot in the door marked "mail". No delivery will be made to houses without these.
2. Notify all your correspondents that house number and street are now required for delivery here.
3. All patrons wishing house delivery must file a written request with the Postmaster immediately giving name and address or mail will be held at the post office in the lock boxes. General delivery will be only for transients, not permanent residents.
4. Delivery will not be made to any house not having an all-weather walk from street to doorway.

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



Ankeny Area Historical Society

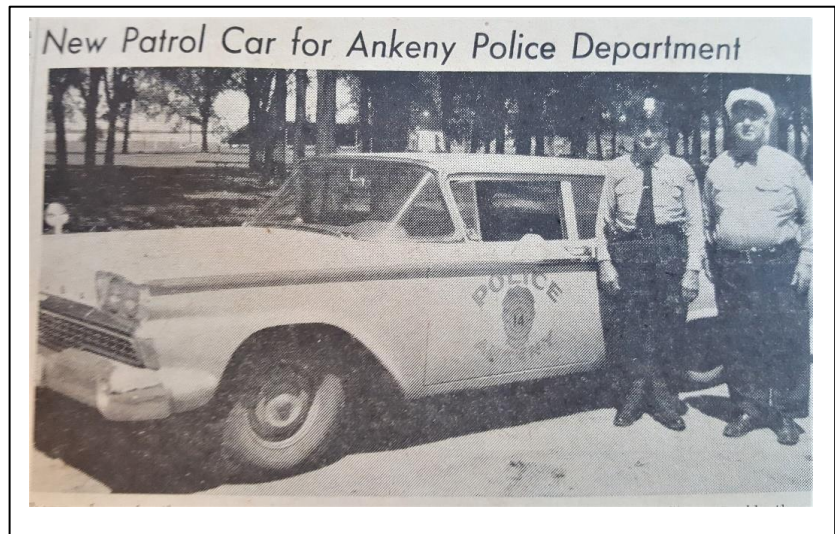
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Shown above is the new patrol car recently purchased by the time. The 1959 model is light green with gold lettering on the sides. The 1956 model, previously used by the [police department, had a total of 53,000 miles and many more hours on the motor. The car is in contact with the Polk County Sheriff's office at all times, and 14 shown on the side is the call number used by that office. Shown beside the new patrol car is Police Chief Earl Hildreth on the left and Officer M.J. Borgstrand. *Ankeny Press Citizen*, July 31, 1958

Foreign Students Speak at MYF

Three United Nations trainees were guest speakers at the meeting of the Methodist Youth Fellowship last Sunday evening. These young people have spent the last nine months learning about the United Nations and are now taking a month's tour of the United States learning about our way of life.

The young people were Rubella Manuel of Malaya, who was a guest at the home of Mrs. Marion Kochheiser. Frederick Breiteinstein of Finland, who stayed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Mathis, and Kanta Gutta of New Dehli, India, who was a guest of the W.A. Bemis family. During the course of the MYF meeting, the young people answered many questions pertaining to the politics, teen-agers, and general way of life in their home country. Faye Kochheiser, Sharon Triplett and Mr. Hershel Durham, sponsor, planned the very interesting meeting. *Ankeny Press Citizen*, July 10, 1958

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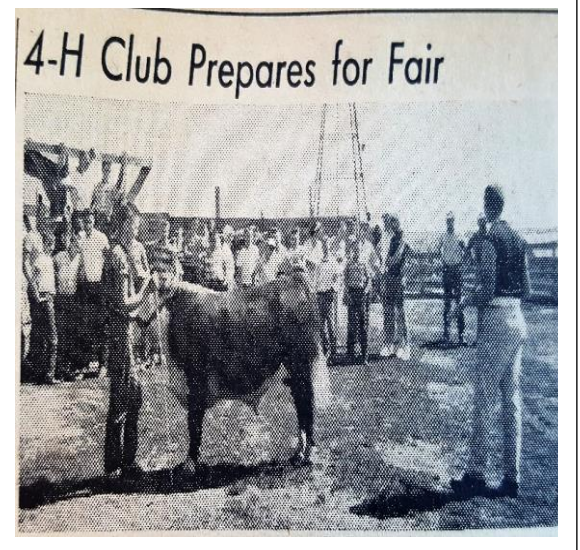
Voters will Decide on Two Issues: A special town election has been called for August 18, at which time two issues will be presented to the voters of Ankeny.

Municipal Garage Building: One of the issues to be brought before the voters will be that of a municipal garage building, to be used for the storage, repair and servicing of town motor vehicles and other equipment. The ballot calls for contracting indebtedness for such purpose not exceeding \$30,000 and the issue of bonds for the same..... At present, there are no facilities for housing the town fire trucks, motor vehicles and other public owned equipment.

Term Change: The second matter to be voted upon on August 18, will be the change of the length of term for members of the town council. At present, councilmen are elected to two-year terms every two years. The question to be submitted to the voters will be changing from two-year terms to four-year terms. Council members will be elected to the four-year terms in alternating even numbered years. If this issue is passed by voters, it will mean their will never be a complete change of the council at one time. At each regular election voters will only vote on either two or three councilmen. *Ankeny Press Citizen, July 16, 1959*

Two Polio Cases are recorded in Ankeny: Two polio cases were recorded in Ankeny during the past week. Mrs. John Harkin, 206 Logan, is a patient at Iowa Lutheran Hospital where she is undergoing treatment. She has the non-paralytic type but is expected to be hospitalized for several weeks. Mrs. Harkin received two polio shots, one just recently.

Billy Marvin, 13 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Marvin of 646 Kenworthy, is a patient in Blank Memorial Hospital in Des Moines. He has received four polio shots. His case was diagnosed as non-bulbar. Billy is progressing very satisfactorily and doctors anticipate a speedy recovery. *Ankeny Press Citizen, July 30, 1959*



Polk County 4-H fair-goers should see some fine young livestock showmen during the County Fair August 11-13. Some 120 4-Her's attended the five fitting and showing demonstrations, with one of the showings at the Harvey Haines farm just northeast of Ankeny. In the picture is Norman Haines holding one of his calves as John Ulland demonstrated the grooming and showing of beef animals. Clark Uehling, Ankeny Boys 4_H Club member assisted.

Marvin Moeckly, an Ankeny Boys 4-H Club member and Ed Moeckly, the leader of the club, demonstrated throwing a heifer to trim hoofs, as well as explaining clipping, grooming and showing of dairy cattle. *Ankeny Press Citizen, July 23, 1959*

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ANKENY LEGION POST ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At the last regular meeting of the Albaugh-McGovern Post 42 of the American Legion, officers were elected for the coming year. They are as follows:

Commanding Officer — Vincent Vanderah, who replaces Lowell Lein as commander.

First Vice President — Everett Albaugh.

Second Vice President — Cecil Ballard.

Adjutant — Hubert Buehler.

Sargent-At-Arms — James Blair and Duane Ballard.

Chaplain — Cornelius Hutton.

Finance Officer — Ira Cory.

Historian — Bob Jensen.

Service Officers — Asa Hutton, Chairman; Reco Logli.

Trustees — Ed Howard; Francis Pardoe. Those serving as Trustees again this year are Sam Muehlenthaler, Jr., Robert Eckles, and Paul Allen.

The first meeting in August will be held on the 14th.

Ankeny Press Citizen, July 17, 1958

The Ankeny Dodgers -- North Polk Champions



Shown above are members of the Ankeny Dodgers, champions of the North Polk Little League. Back row from left to right are: Larry Cory, John Struthers, Terry Pierce, Gaylan Slye, and Jim Seehorn. Center row: Terry Cory, Gerold Slye, Steve Good, Ricky Logli, and Dale Hanke. Kneeling are: Tom Davis, Pat Canney, Bryce Hanke, Tom Ballard, and Gary Hildreth. The Dodgers lost their first game in the Des Moines City Tournament of Tuesday, bowing to the East Des Moines Club, 9-0. Managers of the team are Frank Whiteley and Wayne Rowland, and the team is sponsored by the Ankeny Lions Club. *Ankeny Press Citizen, July 17, 1958*

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Handing out literature in the campaign for Vernon L. Bennett, who is seeking re-election for the 61st seat in the Iowa House, are Ankeny's Mike and Eric Norris. The Norris brothers are the pride of Ankeny wrestling, Eric as two-time state champ and Mike as a runner-up and a champ with one year left. Recipients of the brochures are Mr. and Mrs. Ron Fontana while Bennett looks on. *Ankeny Press-Citizen*, July 27, 1972



Plan Open House for Adams. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Norris C. Adams Jr will be hosting an Open House on Sunday, July 9th, in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary. The reception will be held from 2 to 5 at 302 East 3rd St, Ankeny. Friends and relatives are invited to attend. No invitations are being sent. *Ankeny Press-Citizen*, July 6, 1972



The Jax of Harmony, barbershop quartet, this past week participated in an international Barbershop Quartet contest in Atlanta Georgia. They placed 20th out of the top 45 quartets in U.S. and Canada. From l-r, John Mininger, Mike Rehberg, Jerry Pike, and Roger Spahr of Ankeny. *Ankeny Press-Citizen*, July 13, 1972

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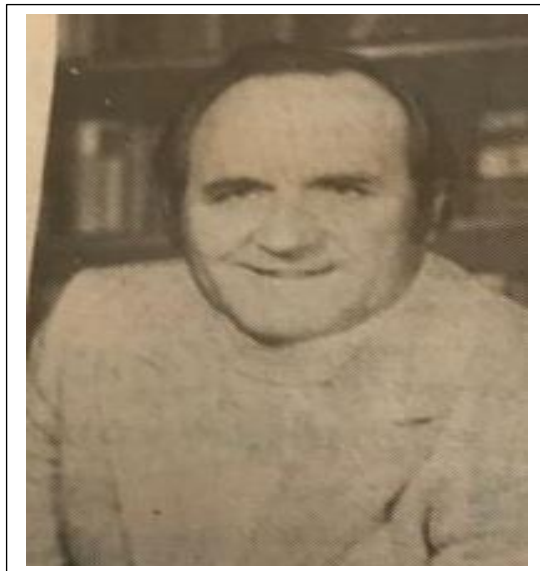
1970s



The Coral Bells, sponsored by Ankeny State Bank, ran up a record of 16-0 season play this summer. This is a first in Junior Miss action. The Bells are from I-r front, C. Yori, J. Huber, M. McCabe, and R. Elwell. Second row I-r, D. Mundt, M. Yori, S. Coyne, and M. Beard. Back row I-r, Betty Mundt, M. Smith, L. Smith. J. DeVoss, L. Echhardt, T. McGinnis, Ray Yori. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 27, 1972*

Leedom Takes Over Rotary

Club Reins. Gene Leedom has been elected as president for the Ankeny Rotary club in the 1974-75 year. His officers will consist of Jerry Crosser as vice-president, Gene Riley as treasurer, and Thornton Bentall as secretary. Leedom replaced Milton Aunan as the Rotary Club's president. He and his wife, Mable, have four children. Leedom is a member of professional realtor groups and the Westchester Evangelical Free Church. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 4, 1974*



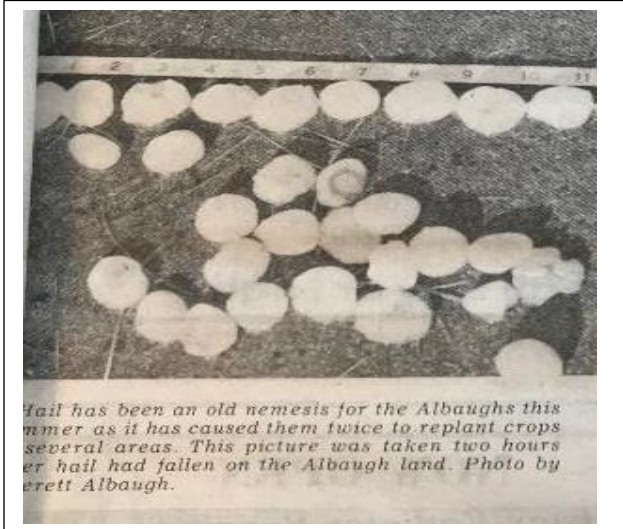
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Hail has been an old nemesis for the Albaughs this summer as it has caused them twice to replant crops in several areas. This picture was taken two hours after hail had fallen on the Albaugh land. Photo by Everett Albaugh.

Weather conditions hurt area farmers. “This is probably the worst we’ve experienced for this time of the year,” states Everett Albaugh about his farming operation that he farms with brother Norman. Some say that farmers never had it so good but they would eat their words if they saw what the Albaughs were hoping to salvage out of their field. The two men farm around the Ankeny area, and a lot of their crops have now been replanted due to practically every phase of summer weather. “We had around 24” of rain before the storm came around here and 30” is normal for the year. Now we’re almost around there. The wind has done a lot of damage to our crops, also.” A lot of the Albaughs’ corn has to be discarded due to the brisk winds. The corn leaves wrapped around each other causing them to tie up and stop the needed growing procedures. Hail damage has destroyed plenty of the corn along with beans as they have left numerous bruises. Everett and Norman are hoping to save up to one-half of their crop. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 4, 1974*



Stock car fever races in Ankeny. The raceway scene has been infiltrated by several Ankeny drivers this year. Two that have made impressive showings this year are Dan Bach and Doug Anderson. Both are nearing the end of their first complete racing season. Bach really got an unofficial start last year for about two weeks. He, Steve Fontanini (one of this crewmen), and several others put together a car in a week. They save a lot of money on parts. “We hit the junkyards and go around to people we know for parts, said Steve. Denny Star and Bill Cox have also put in a lot of time helping Bach and Fontanini. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 25, 1974*

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After the tornado in June, several Ankeny stores offered sales to customers. Shown are ads from Flatt's Clothing and Bacot Frontier Furniture. *Ankeny Press-Citizen*, July 11, 1974

Akers, Duncan named all-state track selection.

Ankeny track co-captains Tom Akers and Jim Duncan landed spots on the Iowa Association of Track Coaches all-state selections. Akers set one Ankeny school record in the 120 high hurdles with a :14.6 effort and was ranked among the state's best in this category. Tom also recorded a time of :19.5 in the 120 yard low hurdles for one of the state's fastest. Duncan finished second in the state long hump event with a leap of 22' 2-1/4". Jim was a member of the Hawks 440, 880, medley, and the mile relays which set personal bests for the 1974 track season. They led Ankeny to championships in the CIC indoor, CIC outdoor, Hawk Relays, Urbandale Relays, and the Ram Relays. *Ankeny Press-Citizen*, July 25, 1974

Bruna Pieracci sees dream come true. There are few people in the world without a special dream that they hope to fulfill at some time or other. Many never have the chance to realize their particular dream, but Brunna Pieracci of 314 Logan in Ankeny saw her dream of a lifetime come true. As a small child of 2 she came to the United States from Italy and has always had a desire to return to the home where she was born. Three years ago she saw the fulfillment of that desire as she made a return trip to Frassinoro, Italy, to the home where she was born. Though her parents didn't really speak much Italian here, her father having been away from Italy for some years, Brunna and her sister taught themselves by reading the newspapers. Reading material was in very short supply and they read everything they could find. She readily admits that her English would have done no good whatever in Italy and that one must know the language. *Ankeny Press-Citizen*, July 13, 1972

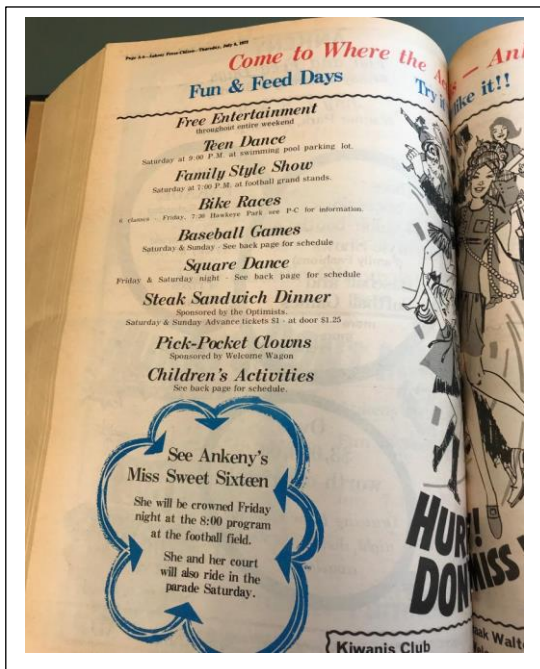
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Fun and Feed Days ad. (This festival became Summerfest.)
Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 6, 1972

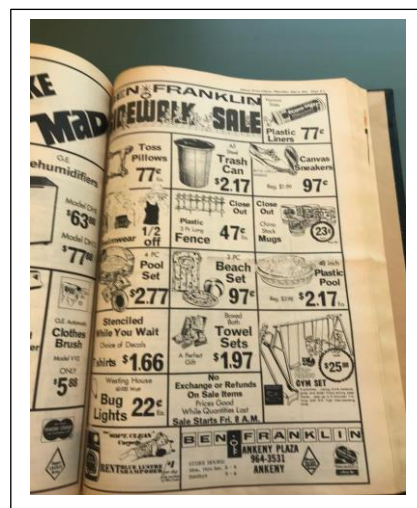


Sweet 16 brigade. Jean Wilkinson (center, front) was crowned Miss Sweet 16 at Fun and Feed Days. Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 13, 1972



Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 6, 1972 -->

←Ankeny Press-Citizen, July 20, 1972



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Ageless Iron Expo is a boon for Ankeny – Organizers for the Ageless Iron Expo originally estimated that the debut of the antique tractor show would attract up to 30,000 guests. In the end, that number was doubled. Over the four days of the event, 55,000 people paid gate admission and approximately 10,000 people came as vendors and exhibitors. Ageless Iron Expo, held July 1-4 at the Ankeny Expo Park, was sponsored by Successful Farming magazine. It featured more than 1,000 antique tractors of all makes and models. *Ankeny Press Citizen*, July 4, 1994

Saturday July 15th
from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Dennis Gibson
from the
San Diego Chargers



will be in person at Brenton Bank to sign autographs from 10:30am-12:00 noon.

☆☆ PLUS ☆☆

Bring in your number from Summerfest to claim your prize.
Grand prize is a trip to Kansas City.

BRENTON Bank
Member FDIC
Brenton Savings Bank, FSB
910 East First Street • 965-2300



Tug-of-war champs

The Summerfest tug-of-war champions are pictured above. Front row, left to right: Dave Madole, J.R. Milani, James Odson, Bob Suarez; back row: Chris Torrents, Bryce Odson, Jason Van Hoozer, and Joede Kayser.

Summerfest Tournament Winners, *Ankeny Press Citizen*
July 11, 1994

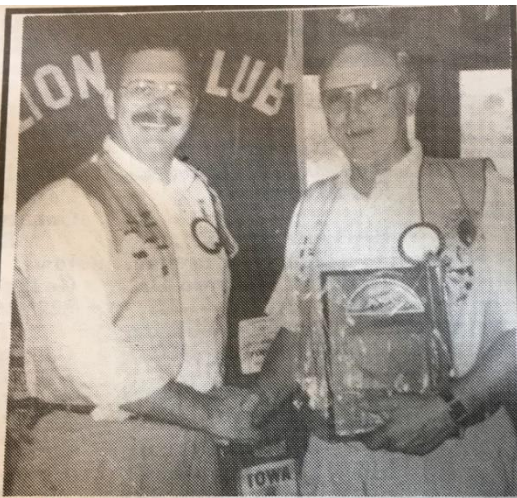
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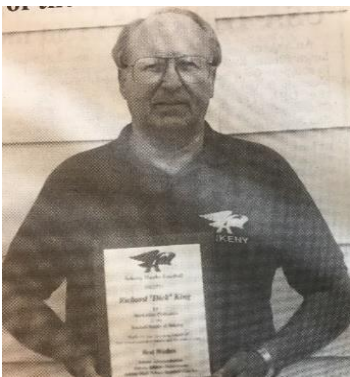
Ankeny Lions Club President Paul Boughton, left, presents Bob Scott with the "Lion of the Year" award for outstanding achievement and involvement in club activities.

Ankeny Press Citizen, July 25, 1994



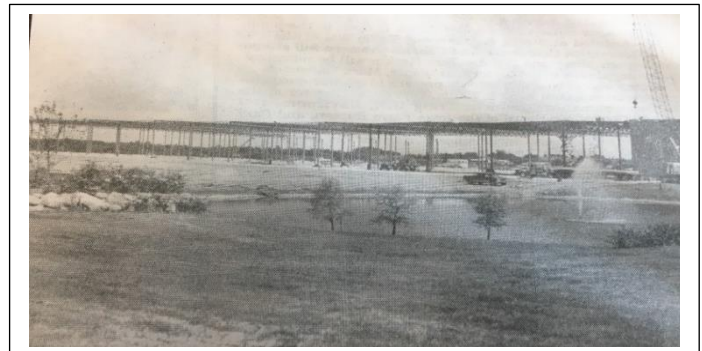
Boy Scouts from Troop 182 recently visited Camp Mitigwa. Pictured are (back row) Derek Lyons, Doug Enright, Ryan Shweers, Rick Eichner, Dennis Mothershed, (middle row) Jeremy Page, Nate Sanderson, Eric Hofer, Justin Shapiro, Drew Walker, Eric Dirks, Nick Page, Steven Udelhofen, (front row) Ryan Weigel, Justin Gumm, Alan Shaklee, Matthew Mothershed, Kevin Shannon, Adam Case. Not pictured: Mike Mothershed.

Ankeny Press Citizen, July 11, 1994



Ankeny's King of Baseball Diamonds – Longtime volunteer Dick King was honored Friday for his "meritorious dedication to the Baseball Hawks of Ankeny." King, who serves as the official scorekeeper and the PA announcer at all of the Hawks' home games, is pictured with the plaque that was awarded. *Ankeny Press Citizen, July 18, 1994*

Expansion at Tone's in Ankeny – Work is well under way at the Tone's plant in Ankeny. The 369,000 square-foot addition will more than double the size of the spice operation. Construction is expected to be completed in 1996. *Ankeny Press Citizen, July 25, 1994*



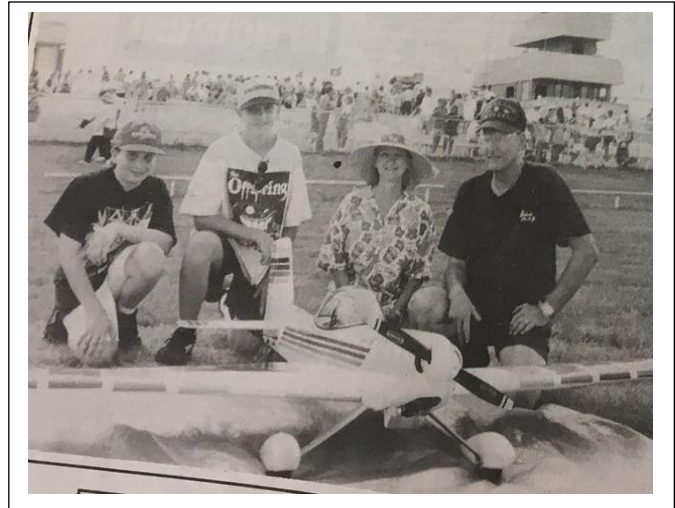
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Greater Des Moines Aviation Expo 1995 – There were plenty of things to keep people's attention at the Aviation expo last week. (Left) The wingspan of the PBYGA Catalina from the Confederate Air force provides shade for plenty of Expo-goers. (Right) Bill, Carol, and Brio Hendricks and Nick Weeks show off a radio-controlled model airplane. *Ankeny Press Citizen*, July 25, 1994

Be sure to check out the website www.ankenyhistorical.org for upcoming events and activities!