

# Ankeny through the decades...

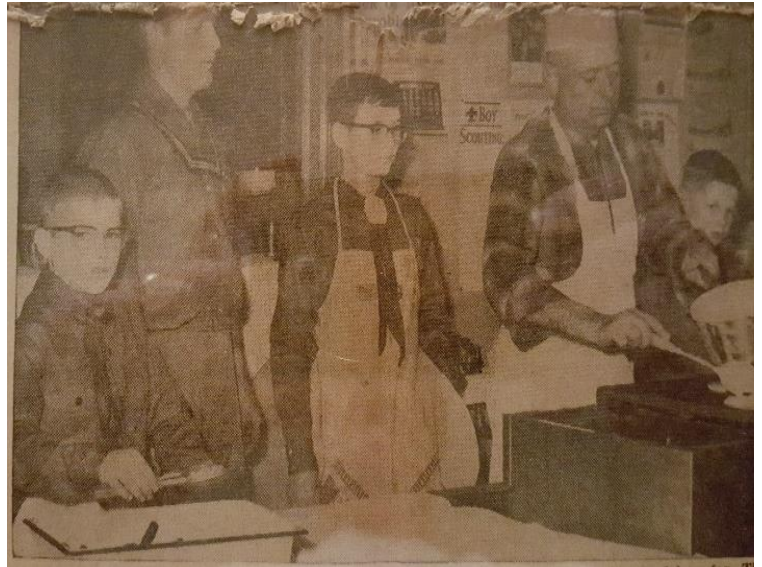
recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

February 2019



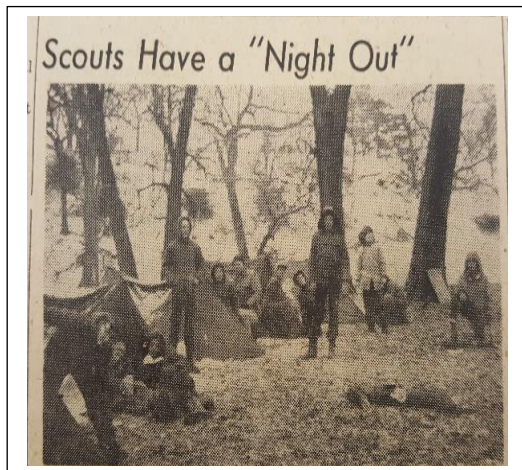
## 1950s

The Pancake supper put on by the Ankeny Boy Scouts was the most successful so far. They served over 300. The pancake flour was furnished to the scouts, and they furnished the rest of the food. Mr. Lael Moon and his committee baked the cakes. Pictured: Donald Lewis, Cecil Ballard, Scout Master; Henry Wilkins, Forrest Brown, making the pancakes is a supervisor of Iowa Breeders Co-op, and Everett Lewis, Jr. *Ankeny Times*, February 12, 1959



Nineteen members of the Ankeny Boy Scouts camped out last Friday night, February 22. The light snow that fell on Friday afternoon didn't bother the scouts as they traveled to the Price Morris timber and pitched their tents for outing. With tents pitched, the scouts made a fire and prepared their supper. On Saturday morning, the boys did compass work, trailing, cooking, and fire building. The boys were accompanied by Scout Master Cecil Ballard.

Boys going on the overnight campout were: Dick Bianchi, Stephen Harkin, Darrell Hefte, James Johnson, Terry Lowe, Donald Madole, James Parrish, Michael Rogers, Norman Tjossem, John Weigel, David Wheeler, James Knoop, Michael Justice, John Davis, Pat Ramsey, Russell Johnson, Larry Corv, Robert Beck, and Floyd Neubauer. *Ankeny Press Citizen*, February 28, 1957



\*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](mailto:history@ankenyhistorical.org).



## Ankeny Area Historical Society

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February 2019



## Dedication Services Baptist Church

Dedication services of the new church building of the Ankeny Baptist Church will be held Monday through Wednesday evening February 16-18 in Ankeny. The Rev. A.M. Veltman, one of Chicago's outstanding preachers and Bible teachers, will give the dedication sermon. Mel Johnson, a foremost Gospel singer, will provide special music.

The church organized in Ankeny in 1957 with 40 persons signing the charter and has grown by leaps and bounds with nearly 200 attending church here. The new building measures 45 x 96 and has a seating capacity of 300 with the possibilities of adding another 125 seats. There is ample room for a Sunday School of 600. *Ankeny Times, February 12, 1959*



Participating in the services were: from left, standing, Rev. John Kain, Perry, Iowa; Rev. James Huff, Chariton, Iowa; Rev. A.D. Mohr, pastor of the Ankeny Baptist Church, Rev. Bob Gardner, Baptist State Missionary; Rev. Robert Opfer, Marshalltown, Iowa. Seated from left to right, Rev. Wm. Kaltovich, Saylorville; Rev. A.M. Veltman, guest speaker from Chicago; Mel Johnson, gospel singer; and Rev. Donald Brong, Monroe, Iowa. *Ankeny Times, February, 19, 1959*

## 1950s



Ankeny Press Citizen, February 14, 1957



Ankeny Press Citizen, February 7, 1957



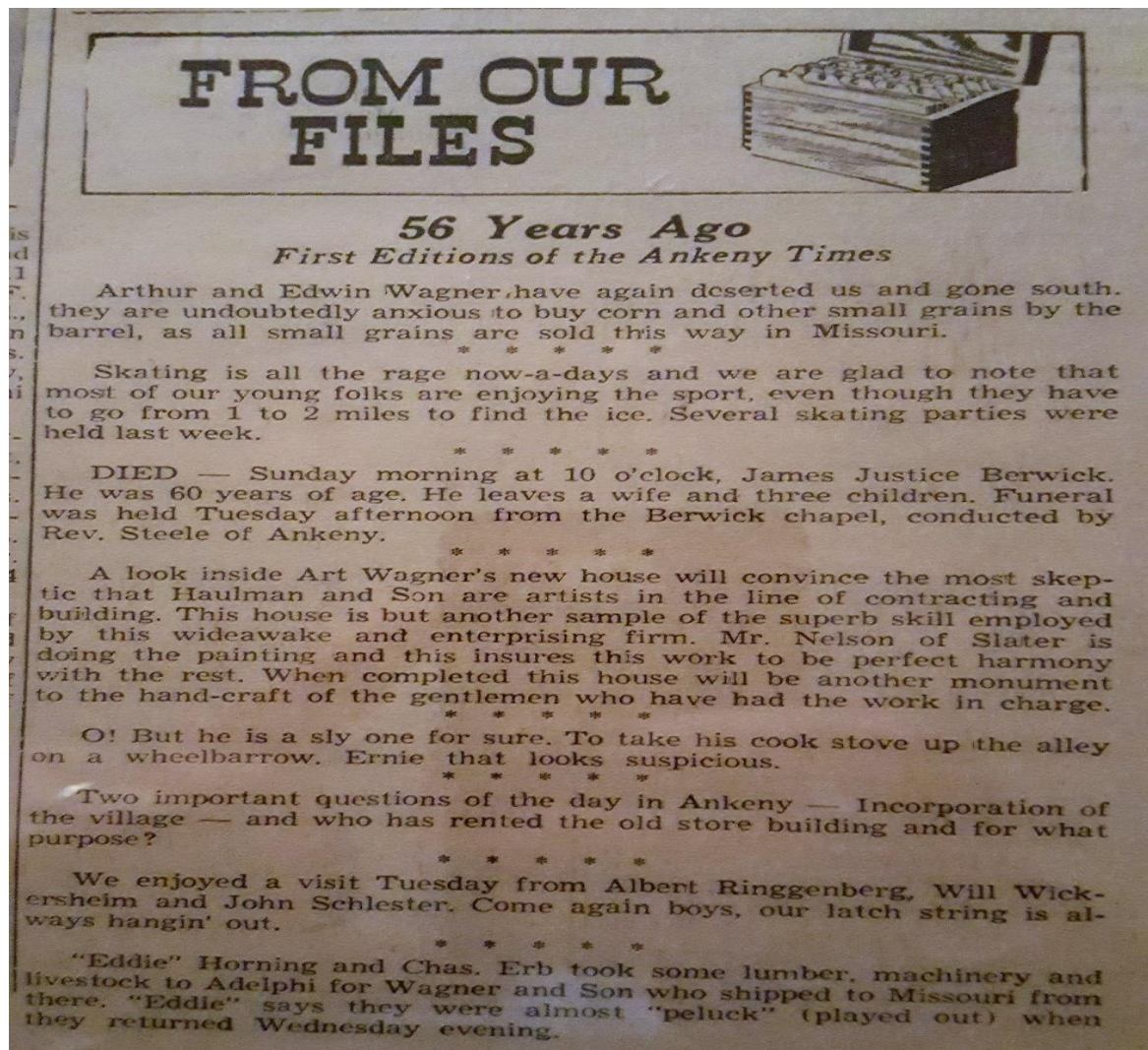
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February 2019



## 1950s



(1903 news) Ankeny Times, February 26, 1959

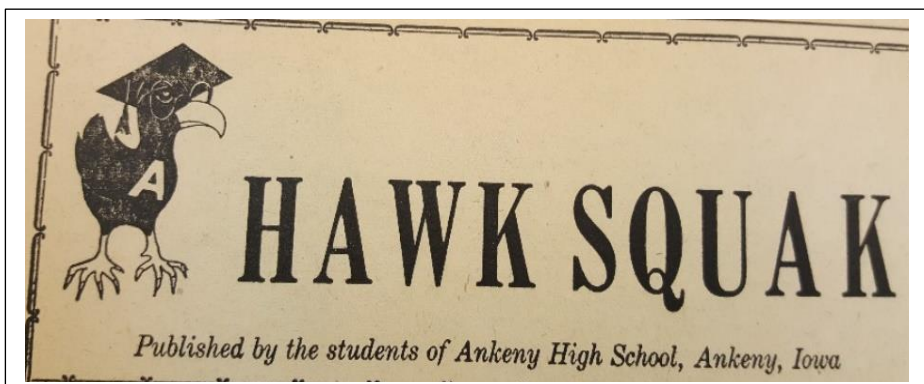
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February 2019



## 1950s



**Girls Lose in Sectional Finals; Madrid Boys Here Tomorrow**, by Roger Scholes, Sports Editor, Hawk Squak

The Ankeny girls team had to accept the runner-up spot in the sectional tournament as they were beaten by Johnston in the finals 53-34. Ankeny advanced to the final round by downing Saydel on Thursday night by a 47-27 score. Judy Rogers was high point getter in that game collecting 19 pints in the foul-filled contest. Saydel received 30 gift shots.

In the Johnston tilt, the Hawks had a "cold" night as they tallied only 10 baskets from the field. This and the 27 points collected by Fitzsimmons, accounted for the victory for Johnston.

**Johnston Favored:** Johnston, the tourney favorite, held a 16-6 lead at the end of the first quarter and nearly doubled that at the half. The score at intermission read 30-18. The second half went much the same for the Hawkettes missing many shots. The final gun sounded and the score stood 53-34, ending the 1956-57 basketball season for the Ankeny girls. Jennie Giofreddi tallied 18 points to lead the Hawkettes. Paulinne Badger had a total of 12.

**The Ankeny Boys team** will play host to the invaders from Madrid tomorrow night. Both the boys first and second teams will play in the opener starting at 7:15 at Parkview. The game originally scheduled to be played at Ogden last Friday night will be played on Tuesday, February 19.

*Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 14, 1957*



## Seniors of The Week

Our seniors for this week are: Marsha Howard and Tim Lunn.

Marsha joined us last September from Elkhart. The subjects she is taking are bookkeeping, typing, American government and home economics. She is also in girls glee club and mixed chorus. Roller skating and basketball are two of her favorite sports. When asked her pet peeve, Marsha answered, "Government quizzes". After completing her schooling she hopes to become a dental assistant or engaged in office work of some kind.

Tim came to Ankeny from Des Moines, in the second grade. The subjects he is taking are biology, English, psychology, and American government. Tim is in boys' glee club and mixed chorus. Track and football are his favorite sports. He reports his pet peeve is girls that call him up all hours of the night. After Tim graduates he hopes to join the Navy in San Diego.

Good luck in the years to come, kids.

—Carla De Raad



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February 2019



## 1970s



**Pediatrician Opens Practice Here.** Dr. Jaya Bilgi has opened an office in Ankeny for the practice of pediatric medicine. It is located at 2202 NW First Street, phone 964-7117. Dr. Bilgi is a native of Mysore, India, and studied medicine in England and Canada and served his residency in pediatrics at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines. He has taught classes at Iowa Methodist Medical Center and during last summer and early fall was a member of the Iowa Pediatric Diagnostic Traveling Team that attended Iowa's state hospitals.  
*Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 9, 1978*

**Krantz Solos.** Kevin Krantz of Ankeny, Iowa, was selected as one of the high school soloists to perform during the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Dorian Vocal Festival held at Luther College Jan. 22-23. Krantz, a bass, was chosen as a soloist by audition during the festival. Participating in the festival were nearly 1000 students from 243 high schools in Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The six soloists performed during the Grand Concert Monday evening, Jan. 23 along with the festival choir and Luther's Nordic Choir. Krantz lives at 7210 NW 21<sup>st</sup>, Ankeny.  
*Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 2, 1978*



**AEA Contract Ratified.** The two major moves the Ankeny Community School Board ratified a contract with the Ankeny Education Association and gave initial consideration to the budget for the upcoming school year. Teacher's contract: Two of the major changes to include an addition to the base pay which will raise the starting salary and the payment of the family minimum coverage for health insurance. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 9, 1978*

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## 1970s

**Hawkettes Top Stat Sheets.** Team wise the Ankeny girls basketball team is first or second in every department in the Central Iowa Conference statistics. The stats released were for games through January 21<sup>st</sup> compiled by Ted Wacht. The Hawkettes are tops in the field goal percentages having shot 56.5% in CIC games. Cherie Andersen leads the conference with 64.4% shooting and Cathy Kunz is fourth with 56.4 and Mary Yori is seventh at 52.3%. SEP is second in this, department having shot 51.4% in CIC games. Ankeny leads the CIC in rebounding having pulled down 356 rebounds for a 32.4 average per game. SEP is second with 342 rebounds. Tina Bertogli is third in the CIC with 71 rebounds. Cherie Andersen is 13th with 51. Ankeny leads the CIC in interception standings with 220. They are way out in front with SEP in second with 155. Tina Bertogli has 68 interceptions to lead the way. Ankeny is second in the CIC at the free throw line with 67.%5, and they lead the CIC with 53 blocked shots. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 2, 1978*



**Mary Yori -A Girl for All Seasons.** By the time Mary Yori graduates this spring, she will have earned 15 letters for her athletic endeavors, making her the top female letter winner in Ankeny's history. She will have four each in track, summer and fall softball plus three for basketball. Ankeny Athletic Director Fred Smith says that a girl who's a good, all-around athlete may expect to get six to ten letters, but is highly unusual for her to earn more than that. "Mary is probably as fine an athlete as there is the state of Iowa," Smith says. "We're proud to have her in our school system." *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 9, 1978*

*Remember, if you want to become a member of the Ankeny Area Historical Society, you can do that on our website. If you have some history to share, contact us at [history@ankenyhistorical.org](mailto:history@ankenyhistorical.org).*

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**Foreign Student Views America.** While walking through the halls of Ankeny High School, if one really tries, he could probably spot a new face among those of the usual crowd. The changes are great that this face would belong to one named Claire Stelle de Castro, a recent arrival to Ankeny as a part of the Youth for Understanding program. Claire comes from Baranquilla, Columbia, a city with a population of approximately 1,000,000 residents. She has come to the United States mainly to learn English but would also like to learn more about the customs of America, and share her experiences with others. During her six-month stay, one of the main things she wants to do is to visit the many museums in this area in order to learn more about the history and also because there are few that exist in Columbia. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 9, 1978*

**Capture "I" Ratings at Districts -- Speech Groups Advance.** *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 9, 1978*



Pictured right to left: Roger Blakesly, Cindy Tiano, Andy Snetselaar, Kim Weber, Wes Greenwood, Brad Habercorn, Cindy Sadoris, Kim Koon.



Front row, L. to R: Roger Blakesly, Vanessa Rolison, Joyce Tubaugh, and Kristi Garner.

Second row, L. to R: Wes Greenwood, Dean Semler.

Third row, L. to R: Brigit Barnes, Cindi Tiano, Kim Koon, Melanie Coburn, and Vicki Rohlf.



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February 2019



## 1970s



*Leaning Tower of Pizza, Restaurant of the Month. Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 3, 1977*

**Housing Density Discussed at City Council Meeting.** In two matters before the Ankeny City council on Monday night, high versus low density housing development was at issue. Before the council is a request from Shattuck Realty for approval of a plat calling for development of twenty-nine 20,000 square-foot single-family residential lots (*editor's note: each lot would be about a half-acre*). Their development would include the use of septic tanks. This plat is outside the corporate limits of Ankeny but within two miles of those limits, which gives the city of Ankeny certain rights of approval on the plat. It is located south of Ankeny to the east of the houses along NW 16<sup>th</sup>. This lot site for homes with septic tanks is in line with county and state requirements. The city of Ankeny, however, requires a minimum lot size of one acre for single family dwellings with septic tanks. City attorney Pat Brick pointed out that the council could only approve minor variances with city zoning regulations and that the difference from one acre to 20,000 square feet for lots with septic tanks is more than a 50% difference. The council decided to delay denial or approval of the Shattuck plan until it took a look at the city's present ordinance.

The Plan and Zoning Commission had earlier recommended that the council deny approval of the Shattuck plat and it would have taken a four-fifths vote of the council to override their recommendation. The Plan and Zoning Commission had also recommended approval of Ordinance No. 645 which is addressed to lowering density (dwelling units per acre) in multiple dwelling developments and to prohibiting residential development in commercial zones. Mayor Ollie Weigel and councilmen James Bradshaw and Larry Cairns spoke in opposition to this ordinance. Mayor Weigel felt that move should be made to high density allowances. Cairns sighted the increased value of property and added that the developers have not crowded the density regulations that the city already has. Bradshaw stated that lower density regulations would create a need for more street and utility systems per dwelling unit. It was felt that the proposed site plan ordinance being developed would answer some of the density questions raised and the council declined to move for a hearing to discuss Ordinance No. 645. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 9, 1978*



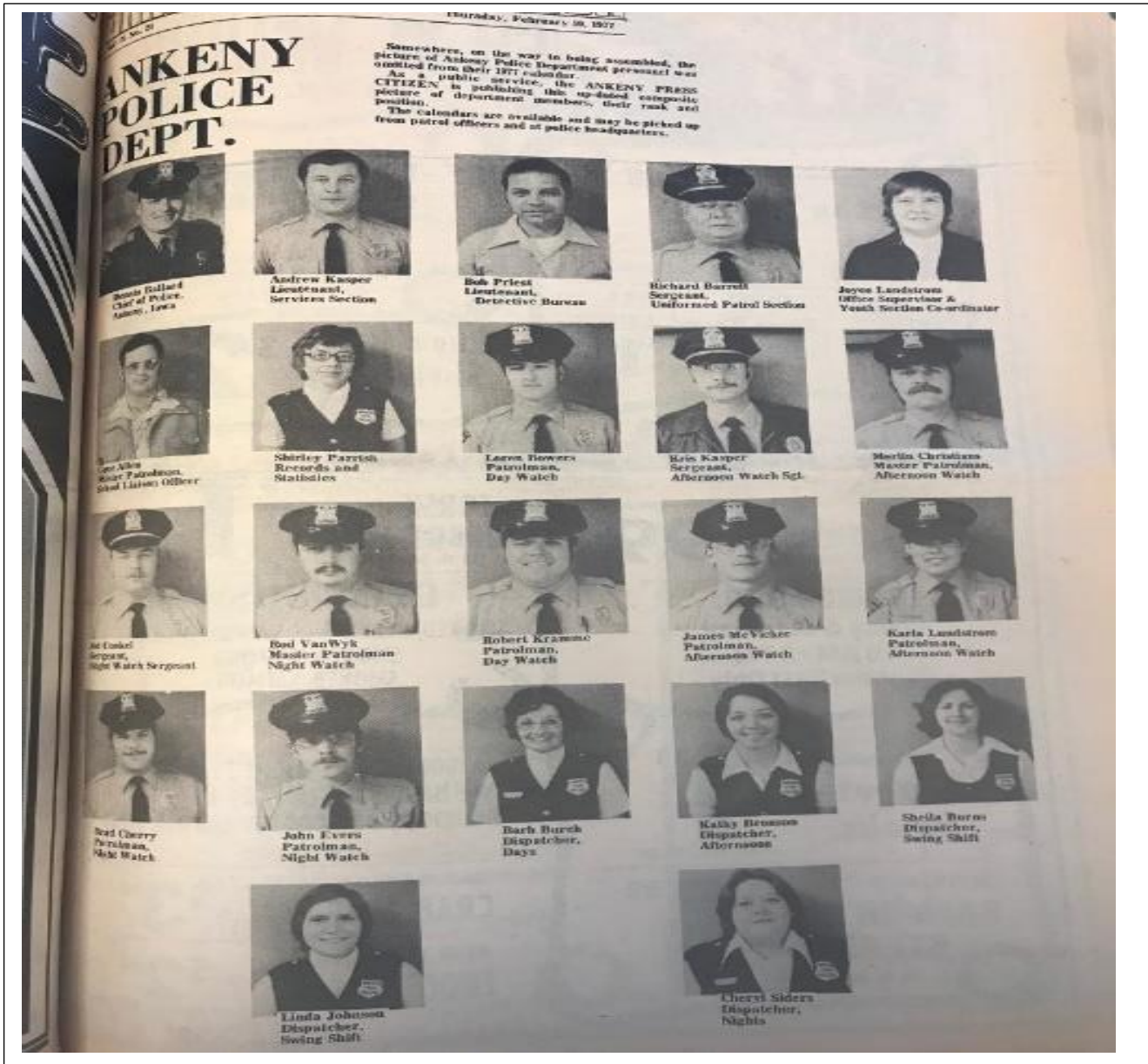
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## 1970s



Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 10, 1977

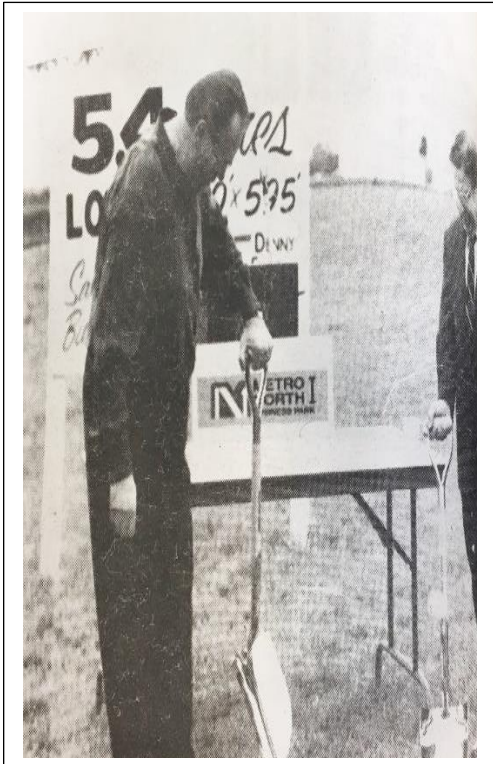
# Ankeny through the decades...

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February 2019



## 1990s



**Positive growth for Metro North:** "We expect to see continued and positive growth in the future for the Metro North Business Park," said Jeff Segin of Denny Elwell Investment Company. Recently completed at the business park is the new 67,500 sq. ft building that was finished in December, 1991. Segin said his company is working with two different companies who are interested in leasing the facility, although no lease has yet been finalized. Presently located at Metro North is Casey's corporate headquarters. Techniplas Inc. moved to Metro North in 1991 with a facility.

Denny Elwell (left) is pictured breaking ground with Ankeny Mayor Ollie Weigel at Metro North I Business Park. Elwell just completed building one of the many facilities that is available for lease. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 5, 1992*

**Federal Money Allocated for Area Airport:** Word from Washington, D.C. late last week was that federal money had been set aside for the northeast Polk County airport project. The Federal Aviation Administration has allocated \$2.7 million to begin the building of a small-plane airport at Ankeny's northeast corner. The Polk County Aviation Authority needs an estimated \$6.62 million for the first stage of the project and had raised over a million dollars from private coffers and local taxes. The federal money allocated at this time is earmarked for land acquisition, site preparation and drainage. The northeast Polk County airport is to be built approximately a half mile east of I-35, just south of SE Oralabor Road (NE 78<sup>th</sup> Ave.) beside the Metro North Business Park. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 5, 1992*



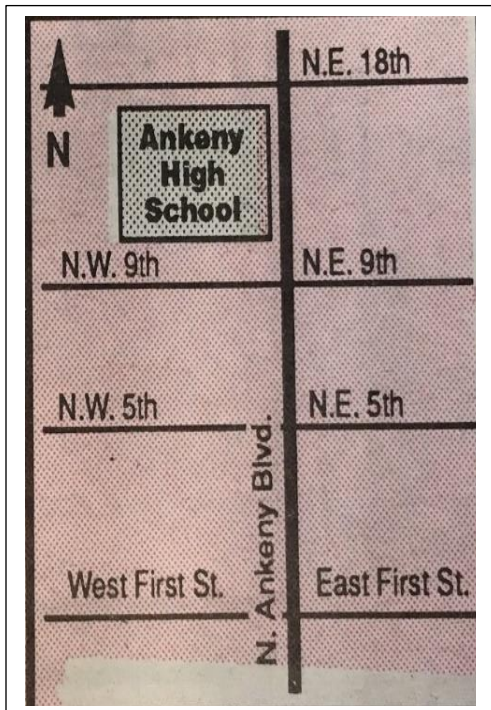
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February 2019



## 1990s



**Brazelton opens Decorating Den**

Pat Brazelton officially opened Decorating Den at 2821 NE 94<sup>th</sup> Ave. on Monday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 with a ribbon cutting. She is pictured above with family, friends and chamber members. Over 200 attended the grand opening. Decorating Den is the only full service international interior decorating franchise. Owners drive "Color Vans" equipped with thousands of samples of fabric, draperies, furniture, carpet and wall coverings directly to customers' homes and offices where they offer free decorating consultations and affordable custom service. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 12, 1992*

**One mile of four-lane street** - Four-lane from just north of East First Street to NE 18<sup>th</sup>. Plans and specifications have been completed for the US Hwy 69, North Ankeny Boulevard Improvement Project to take place in Ankeny this year. The project includes construction of approximately 1.1 miles of four-lane urban street from just north of East First Street to just north of NE 18<sup>th</sup> Street.

Ankeny's City Council authorized the project as the plans and specifications had been completed, and the bidding process is ready to begin. The City of Ankeny will publish notice of letting and hearing on Wednesday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> with the actual bit letting date set as date set at Thursday, Feb. 27, 1992. March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the date set for a public hearing, review bids and designate low bidder. Notice to proceed will be issued March 25<sup>th</sup> and the completion date is expected November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1992. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 26, 1992*

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February 2019



**Pat Brewbaker is Citizen of the Year – Dennis Adamson, Educator of the Year** - The Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce had its annual dinner meeting on Saturday at the Ankeny Golf and Country Club. Pictured above (top left) Ankeny Community Superintendent Dr. Ben Norman, the 1991 Citizen of the Year, is shown congratulating Pat Brewbaker, the 1992 Citizen of the Year. Pictured above (top right) Dennis Adamson is shown shaking hands with 1991 Educator of the Year, Rosemary Cavanaugh. Adamson was selected as Educator of the Year for 1992. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, February 12, 1992*

*Be sure to check our website for upcoming events at the Ankeny Area Historical Museum!*