

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

December 2019

1950s





(above) Ankeny Press-Citizen, December11,1958 (left) Ankeny Press-Citizen, January 1, 1959

Watch the Ankeny Area Historical Society website for upcoming events! www.ankenyhistorical.org. Vintage valentines will be back soon!

*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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Pete Logli Dies; Pioneer Ankeny Grocer, Businessman



P. A. Logli, Well known Grocer

Services were held Saturday at Ankeny Methodist Church, with burial in Highland Memory Gardens for Pete A. Logli, 79, Ankeny grocer, who died of a coronary occlusion Thursday at his home.

Born in Italy, he had been in the grocery business in Ankeny about 50 years.

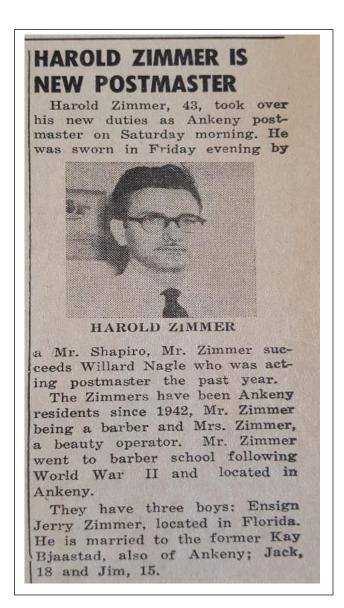
He was a member of the Ankeny Methodist Church, charter member of the Independent Grocers Alliance, charter member of the Ankeny Odd Fellows, and member of the Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce.

Survivors include his wife, Ottavia; five daughters, Mrs. Clara Struthers and Mrs. Dena Randolph of Ankeny, Mrs. Anita Birdsall of Des Moines, Mrs. Dora Peterson of Fresno, Cal., and Mrs. Lecia Johnson, of Seattle, Wash.; two sons, Reco and Richard of Ankeny; seven grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. Clementa Ponsi of Highland Park Illinois.

Ankeny Times, December 5, 1957



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Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 11, 1958



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Melvin Anderson Named as Superintendent: Will Begin Duties January 1st. Ray Peltz, president of the

Ankeny Board of Education, has announced the hiring of Melvin D. Anderson as superintendent of the Ankeny Community Schools effective January 1, 1959, replacing Ralph Jorgensen who recently resigned. Anderson comes to the Ankeny Schools with an excellent academic as well as professional background. He is highly recommended by many people in all walks of life. At present, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson live in Toledo but expect to move to Ankeny and are building a new home in Northlawn. The Andersons will live temporarily in the superintendent's house on the school property. At present, Mr. Anderson is employed by the State Department of Public Instruction. He has been principal and superintendent of the Early Consolidated School and was in the Rolfe Consolidated School. From 1948 to July 1, 1958, Mr. Anderson was the superintendent of the Toledo Independent Schools.



Education: Mr. Anderson was graduated from Colin High School, received his B.A. Degree from Iowa State Teachers College and an M.S. Degree from Iowa State College. He is a member of the Lion's Club also Masonic Lodge and a member of the Methodist Church. The Anderson's have a daughter, Jo, who is married to a Lieutenant in the army who is an instructor in Guided Missiles and is stationed in El Paso, Texas. Their son Richard, is a graduate of Iowa State College, married, and lives in Redwood Falls Minnesota. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, December, 4, 1958*

Ankeny High School Begin Wrestling Program: The first wrestling match in the history of Ankeny High School took place recently as the local wrestlers were downed at State Center by a score of 37-12. Wrestling, which is fast becoming a popular sport in Iowa high schools, is coached by Bob Vander Linden. Wrestling Squad: The wrestlers and weights on the squad include Lynn DeLapp 95, Gary DaLasta 103, Tom Syster and Duane Bateman 112, Larry Dunbar 120, Pete Fontana 127, Jim Zimmer and Karl Reynolds 133, Jesse Smith and Dirk Jorgensen 138, Dave Thomas 145, Darrel Hefte, Jack Gordon, Don Johnson 154, Ted West, Gary Vignaroli, Jim Moon, Jerry Stanley 165, Bob Whilhelm 175, Larry DeMoss, Dick Bianchi, Russ Johnson, Hwts. Schedule: Dec. 14 at Carroll (Kuemper), Jan. 11, Carroll here, Jan. 25 State Center here. Meets are also being scheduled with the Des Moines schools. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 3, 1959*



Ankeny Press Citizen, November 27, 1959



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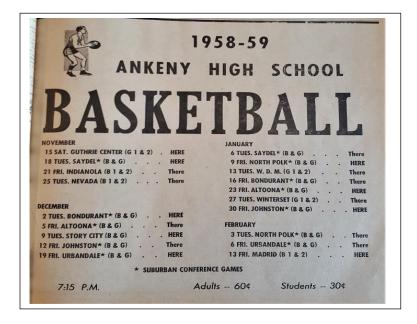
Court Christmas party was held Saturday evening, December 18, Howard Kultula. at the Legion Hall in Ankeny. About 35 families attended the pot luck supper and party given by and dancing were enjoyed. Door Ray Baugher and Melvin Hennon, prizes were supplied by the operators of the Mel-Ray Trailer Trailer Park management and the Court. Prizes were given to every many businesses in Ankeny, which family present.

In the picture, shown serving are Ray Baugher and Melvin Hen- Baughers with an electric blanket non. Children are, from left to and Mr. and Mrs. Hennon were right, Sonja Berhow, Debbie presented a Toast Master liquifier.

The annual Mel-Ray Trailer Foulk, Carol Ann Kultula, Derrell Thomas Burrows Hoy,

Charles Feight and Eddy were present for entertainment. Music were greatly appreciated.

The group presented the Ray









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The two grand openings held Friday and Saturday of last week were attended by hundreds of visitors. Many beautiful flowers from Ankeny merchants filled the Lint's Store as well as the Toy Villa. Free coffee and donuts were served at both places.

Drawings at Lint's: At the Lint's store the following people won prizes: Mrs. Robert Reynolds, the flocked Christmas tree; other gifts: Mrs. Lewis Rice, Mrs. Carmen Zimmer, the Rev. A.D. Mohr, A.H. Chestnut, Arnold Huisman, Mrs. Edna Davidson, K.M. Bower, Mrs. H.W. Roberts, Paul Kochheiser, Mrs. Thad Taylor, Bob Jensen, Anna Campbell, Mrs. Kenneth Kochheiser, Hattie O'Keen, Dick Dawson, Arlo Reynolds, Mrs. Ron Fontana, Cindy Lammert, Mrs. Roger Linser, Dave Essick, and Virginia Alexander.

Toy Villa Winners: Those whose names were drawn for gifts at the Toy Villa were as follows: top prize, train set, to Mrs. Daryl Voshell. Other gifts went to Charlotte Heathcote, Steve Genovese,

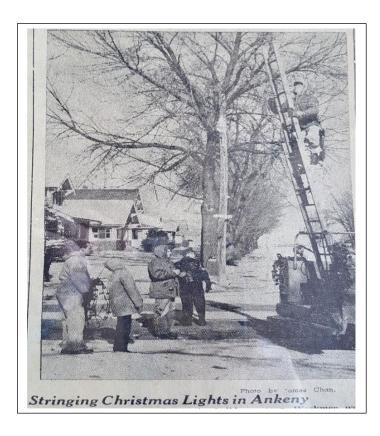


Mrs. Ray Houser, Mrs. Verna Wilkson, Juanita Stanfield, Barbara Lande, Connie Tow and Gary Porter. Others whose names were drawn were Tom Zunkel, Mrs. Edna Davidson, Jane Hoy, Kathryn Erisman, Eldon Smith and F.M. Belding, Jr. *Ankeny Times, December 5, 1957*



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Stringing Up Christmas Lights in Ankeny: Getting all "prettied up" for the holiday season. Workmen were seen earlier this week spreading holiday cheer around town by stringing colored Christmas lights along Main Street in Ankeny. Pictured on the ladder is Robert Adams, assisted by Herb Zunkel of the Iowa Power and Light Company. Earl Hildreth can be seen directing traffic. Two interested bystanders are unidentified. *Ankeny Times, December 4, 1958*

Mrs. Arlie DeHoet is shown with her Christmas table arrangement which caught the judge's eye at the recent Ankeny Garden Club Show and won a blue ribbon. Using a red felt table cloth, fringed in white, the arrangement uses milk white dishes with apple decal, evergreens, varnished nuts, and frosted grapes. Mrs. DeHoet was quick to point out that this holiday motif was a co-operative project using materials supplied by another Garden Club member, Mrs. Walt Lane, and was arranged by Mrs. DeHoet. *Ankeny Times, December 5, 1957*

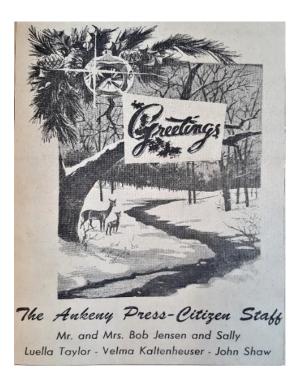




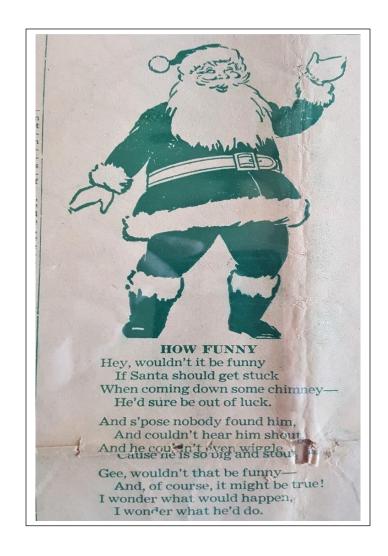
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(upper left) Ankeny Press Citizen, November 27, 1959 (left) Ankeny Press Citizen, December 24, 1959



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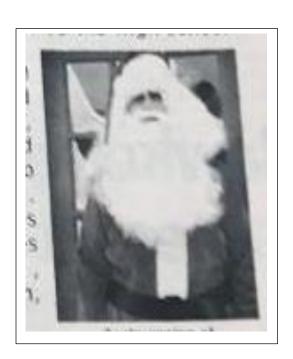
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Floppy, Duane and Santa here Saturday. Attention youngsters!

Have you registered for your prize at the Christmas Party? This week-end Santa will be at all local shopping centers as well as at the high school gym. The fun starts at 1:00 p.m. as Floppy and Duane join Santa, shrine clowns, and DMACC students to entertain you. Registration for prizes ends Friday. Prizes include bikes, toboggans, and much, much more! *Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 7, 1972*





Dr. Higgins (eye doctor) greeting. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 21, 1972*

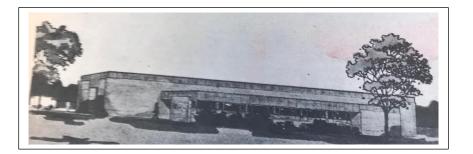


Dr. Weigels (dentists) greeting. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 21, 1972*



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Break Ground for N.W. Bell center. Construction work will begin next week on a \$140,000 Northwestern Bell work center to be built on a site near the intersection of Magazine Road and Cortina Drive. Don Baker, telephone company manager, said the structure will contain space for four installation, repair and construction crews and will house 30 vehicles. The 11,000 square foot building will be brick-faced with metal trim. It is expected to be completed late next summer. Contractors for the project are Spencer Construction Co., Spencer general; Ted Cutler Co., Des Moines mechanical; and Fitz Electrical Contractors, Inc., Dallas Center – electrical. Baker said the new facility will help Northwestern Bell keep pace with the Ankeny area's growing telephone needs. "The total number of telephones in the community has grown from 3,080 to 7,227 in just the past five years," he said. "That's a 141 percent increase." (edit: NW Bell was the predecessor to AT&T, and the building has changed ownership over the years.)

Neither wind, nor sleet nor biting cold stopped these Ankeny businessmen from witnessing the ground-breaking for the new Northwestern Bell Building out in Industrial Park. Looking on as Joe Flatt and Larry Cairns attempt to penetrate the frozen turf are from I-r: Jim Marienan, Doug Downs, Reno Bertogli, Larry Cairns, Rex Devine, Dean Minor, LaVerne Steinick, Dale Miller, Jeff Segin, Lawrence Jones, Gene Riley, Ken Christenson, Ken Scholes, and Dave Hoover. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, December14, 1972*



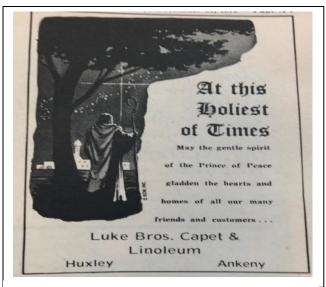


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Here's Mr. Kauzlarich. Mr. David Kauzlarich, the clever and sometimes amusing sophomore English teacher, is in his eleventh year at Ankeny. A native of Melcher, Iowa, Mr. Kauzlarich attended St. Ambrose College at Davenport and majored in English and social studies. He received his masters' degree at the University of Iowa. During this past summer, he attended two workshops. One was a drama workshop at South Dakota; the other an acting workshop at the University of Minnesota. Also this summer a beard has sprouted from Mr. Kauzlarich's face. "I grew my beard mainly for a change," Mr. Kauzlarich reflectively stated. "The reaction hasn't really been unfavorable," he added suspiciously. "I enjoy teaching English," Mr. Kauzlarich cautiously stated. "My main concern is to get my students to accept more responsibility." Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 7, 1972



Luke Bros Carpet ad. *Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 21, 1972*





Struthers Bros (motorcycles, etc) ad. Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 21, 1972



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Hildreth dies; last rites today. Last rites for Sheriff Wilbur T. Hildreth, 63, who died late Monday of a heart attack at his Ankeny home, will be held today at 2:00 p.m. at the Beaverdale Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in Lincoln Cemetery at Alleman. Sheriff Hildreth was stricken about 11:30 p.m. according to his son, Marvin Hildreth. The Ankeny Fire Department's rescue unit was called to the home, but the sheriff was pronounced dead at the scene, his son said. Hildreth was born April 22, 1909, on a farm near Alleman and has been resident of Polk County all his life. He had served as Polk County Sheriff since 1954, and lost his re-election bid to Jack Woodward in November. Hildreth was active in many organizations which included the National Jailers Association, the National Rifle Association, the Polk County Pistol Club, Polk County Peace Officers Association, the Nation and State Sheriffs Association and the Farm Bureau. He was also a member of the Drake Quarterback and Tipoff Club, Drake Booster Club, Dowling Club, Des Moines Pioneer Club, Shrine and Masonic, Chamber of Commerce, Eagles, Elks, Moose, Lions, and various business clubs. He is survived by his wife and four children. Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 21, 1972

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Long time struggle ends – Oralabor to get water and sewer funds. A rugged campaign for sewer and water facilities for the residents of the Oralabor area, just south of Ankeny, is soon to come to favorable results. The struggle, which has been going on for several years, will become a reality with the aid of federal funding and additional help from the campaign of Human Development of the Catholic Church of the United States. The announcement of the \$10,000 grant from the Catholic Conference was provided last week after a drive by Jack Leinen, former president of Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Parish Council. Leinen's successful bid came after two refusals from the council because of tardy requests, but finally hit pay dirt on his latest try. The money from the Catholics will be used for hook-on fees for residents from water and sewer mains from Ankeny. Residents wishing a portion of the money will be required to apply to the Oralabor Improvement Committee which will decide the amount appropriated by the amount of need per residence. "We applied for this money with the idea of 'no strings attached', and that's just what it will be," stated Leinen, now a city council member. The federal government announced earlier this fall that it would provide \$195,000 (or 90%) for a project to connect the area with the mainlines from Ankeny with the city picking up the other 10%. Ankeny Press-Citizen, December 14, 1972



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Christmas Walk Winners – The winner of the 1995 Christmas Walk was the home of Greg & Sue Mulhall. They are pictured above with their daughter, Karen. Their home was decorated by Plaza Florists. All homeowners received complimentary dinners to the Golden Corral. The Masons and the Neveln Community Resource enter were sponsors and they wish to thank the Mulhall and the other homeowners Bill and Pat McCullough, Steve and Louanne Wedeking, Harvey Joanning and Pat Keoughan, and Gary and Colleen Welch. Thanks also go to the other florists: Carmen's, Nolin's, Ankeny Flowers, and Hy-Vee Floral. Over 300 people viewed all five homes. Proceeds will be used for Dollar for Scholars and for the renovation of the Neveln Community Resource Center. Ankeny Press Citizen – Dec. 12, 1995



Ankeny Press Citizen – Dec. 5, 1995





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Ankeny cheerleaders named to all-state squad- On Sunday, Nov. 19, nearly 300 cheerleaders from around the state registered to try out for the Iowa All State Cheerleading squad. The tryouts are competitive as only 24-to 30 cheerleaders are selected each year. For the tryout, each cheerleader is judged and videotaped performing a cheer, dance and jumps. Two senior Ankeny varsity cheerleaders, Sept Hope and Michele Witt, were selected for this honor.

Ankeny Press Citizen - Dec. 12, 1995

City buys Smith Oil land for fire station expansion – The city of Ankeny and a landowner have reached an agreement on a parcel of land where the city intends to expand the main fire station. The Ankeny City Council on Monday agreed to pay \$120,000 for a two-acre parcel at 206 SW Maple. The land is the site of V.W. Smith Oils, Inc, a business operated by Doug Smith. Smith has agreed to remove all gasoline tanks and will convey the property to the city on April 1, 1996. Monday's agreement ends 15 months of negotiations with the property owner and sets in motion long-awaited plans to expand the fire station at 716 SW Third Street. *Ankeny Press Citizen – Dec. 5, 1995*

City tries again with State Street – The city envisions the 1,100-acre south and east of John Deere as a massive commercial/industrial park. But the immediate goal is a new roadway through west Ankeny. Metzger, city manager, said the city and Corps of Engineers are operating under the premise that they have identified the problem areas at the ISU farm and the other areas are suitable for construction. But, EDA official are forcing the city to prove otherwise. *Ankeny Press Citizen – Dec. 12, 1995*



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Mike Goedeke, right, treasurer of Ankeny Building Association, gives a \$500 donation to Judy Hines far left, with the United Way's Ankeny Service Center, The school nurses and United Way work together in aiding families with needs during the holidays.

Ankeny Press Citizen – Dec. 24, 1996

100-acre recreation area proposed in Prairie Ridge – As part of planning for a 100-acre recreation area in Ankeny, city officials and private recreation interests are discussing the use of a bond issue to pay for improvements. Community Development Director John Peterson said the city may need to consider a referendum in late 1997 to develop land in the Prairie Ridge Center. The bond issue referendum would be used to develop 100 acres of city land for youth soccer, baseball, softball and football fields Representatives of those youth programs say a total of 3,000 youths now participate in those sports and demand will increase as Ankeny grows.

A concept plan shown Monday also includes two parking lots with a total capacity of 1,000 cars, a large concessions area and bike paths. The concept plan is a proposal for the development of land north and west of Northview Middle School and south of Eighteenth Street. City Manager Carl Metzger said that land is underdeveloped and is rented out for farming also discussed was the need to purchase up to and Sue Rasmussen, an Ankeny School District nurse 30 acres of land west of what the city now owns. Ankeny Press Citizen - Dec. 10, 1996

Ash Drive realignment will change look of Hawkeye Park - Ash Drive and Hawkeye Park will be drastically changed this summer, when a new intersection is constructed at First Street and Ash Drive. Ankeny City Council recently awarded a \$129,650 contract with Snyder & Associates engineers for the design construction of the road realignment. It is to cost about \$700,000. The contract is scheduled for completion prior to the 1997/1998 school year. The former Hawkeye Park pool site has been proposed as a site for a new fire station, rather than expanding the station at its current site located on SW Third Street. Ankeny Press Citizen – Dec. 24, 1996



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Hockey Anyone??

While the fog paints the trees behind them, these Ankeny boys concentrate on hockey Friday on a mini-rink they created on the Hawkeye Park pond. The boys scooped the snow off the pond and used their shoes to make the goals. Pictured (from left) are: Josh Frakes, Andy Else and Zak Kottke. *Ankeny Press Citizen – Dec.* 24, 1996

Join the Ankeny Area Historical Society! It's easy – click on the link on the website www.ankenyhistorical.org and click on "Become a member by credit card or PayPal" or "Become a member by mail." It just takes a minute ... but it's worth a million!