

Clarke District
Oscola

SCRAP BOOK



George Buckett 63

Clarke County Soil Conservation District

FORWARD

We, the Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners of the Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation District wish to thank the people of the district for their very fine support in helping carry out the best District program.

We wish to thank all agencies and organizations for their very fine support to the district.

We are in an energy crisis and I am sure if everyone carries his load in conserving our natural energy we will surely succeed.

Adrian Fuller, Commissioner

District Activities

We, the District Commissioners would like to summarize some of the highlights of the past year, so that you may better understand the activities of the district.

JULY

David Johannes attended the three week conservation camp at Springbrook State Park. He was sponsored by the Clarke County Soil Conservation District and Clarke County State Bank.

Commissioners attending the regional meeting at Bedford were Doyce Miller and Adrian Fuller.

AUGUST

The District had a very fine booth at the County Fair.

Soil Loss limit Regulations were approved by the District and the hearing was held with the State Committee.

Merrill McCarty was elected to serve on the R.C. & D. board for the coming year. The Commissioners visited with the County Supervisors on the proposed soil survey for the county.

Keith Ticknor discussed the annual plan of operations with the commissioners.

SEPTEMBER

The commissioners and youth of the area set up plans to organize a Youth Board as part of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District.

Mrs. Norma Anderson, Osceola, Mrs. Maxine Kimball, Osceola, Ronald Henry, Woodburn, Everett Fenn, Murray, and Dr. Fred Wood, Osceola, were appointed Assistant Commissioners for the coming year.

The educational booklet "The Earth, Our Home in Space" was ordered and distributed as needed.

Doyce Miller, Adrian Fuller, Richard Gonseth and Keith Ticknor attended the Annual Commissioners Conference held in Des Moines.

OCTOBER

The District sponsored teachers conservation workshop and two teachers took part, they were Paul Chestnut and Lola Hunt.

Adrian Fuller distributed the proclamation sheets for the Soil & Water Conservation Week.

Terry Bonnett and John Davenport, Youth Board members, reported on their election of officers.

Surveying of the White Breast Watershed was completed.

The R.C.&D. project at Clarke Community school was approved.

NOVEMBER

The Youth Board announced plans for a tree planting project for 1973.

DECEMBER

Richard Gonseth, Keith Ticknor and Adrian Fuller attended the meeting held at the Adult Evening class at Murray, for the purpose of discussing the new conservancy law and to answer any questions.

JANUARY

The Commissioners Annual Short Course was attended by Doyce Miller, Norma Anderson, Richard Gonseth and Keith Ticknor.

A pot luck dinner was held at the fair grounds in honor of Kenneth Henry, winner of the Register and Tribune contest.

FEBRUARY

Doyce Miller attended the National Association of Conservation Districts annual conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Election of officers was held in the White Breast watershed.

MAY

Soil Stewardship booklets were distributed to all churches in the county by Adrian Fuller.

JUNE

The election was held in the district. Richard Gonseth was elected for a six year term, Merrill Thornton for a six year term and Adrian Fuller for a four year term.

Assistant Commissioners appointed for the next year are Ronald Henry, Everett Fenn, Mrs. Norma Anderson, Mrs. Maxine Kimball and Dr. Fred Wood.

Watershed Activities

A lot of water has gone down the creek and under the bridge (sometimes over the bridge) this past year. With water levels reaching near record highs, several times, the need for the watershed program was never more evident. Many thousands of dollars of damage to crops, roads, fences, bridges and farm land has been left behind.

The National Environmental Policy Act and the environmental impact statement has shown its effect on the watershed program in the form of delays and slowdowns. Having to review already approved watershed projects and write environmental impact statements for them has increased the serious backlog of watershed planning. Communities, such as Clarke County, who are wanting watershed project help to meet the problems of flood prevention and water supply needs are having to wait longer. These frustrating delays do have a bright side. They give the local people more time to broaden and expand their visions so that a more complete plan will result.

The two organized watersheds in Clarke County have been delayed in their progress. The work plan being developed for the White Breast watershed has fallen behind schedule approximately one year. The Long Creek watershed is still awaiting its turn for planning.

Even with the slow down in watershed progress, the county watershed boards have continued with their responsibilities. The White Breast watershed directors completed the land treatment survey and this is being analyzed now. The Long Creek directors also made good progress on a land treatment survey.



Converting a deep eroding gully at the Clarke Community School into a pond for use by students and teachers as an outdoor classroom, require an extensive construction project. Erik Adams, contractor, is in the early stages building the dam.



The Conservation Youth Board planted 16 green ash trees on West Cass street. This was the beginning of a continuing street tree planting project. These participating in the

planting are Debbie Martley, Kathy Carroll, Chris Baker, Greg Kent, Darci Kent, Tim Pontier, Larry Hamilton, Jim Fors, John Davenport, and Bart Emery.

District Accomplishments

FARM PLANNING AND SERVICING

Activity	Unit	Fiscal 1973
District Cooperators	No.	38
Landowners or operators Assisted	No.	282
Landowners or operators applying practices	No.	145
Conservation and Resource Plans	No.	34
Conservation Plans Revised	No.	5
Inventories & Evaluations prepared	No.	8
Group Plans	No.	5
Office Callers	No.	971
Telephone Calls	No.	757

CONSERVATION PRACTICES APPLIED

Critical Area Planting	Ac.	61
Pasture Planting	Ac.	1200
Ponds & Erosion Control Structures	Nol	44
Diversion Terraces	Ft.	4255
Farmstead Windbreaks	Ac.	1
Grassed Waterway	Ac.	78
Pipeline	Ft.	8669
Open Drainage Ditch	Ft.	1797
Spring Development	No.	4
Tree Planting	Ac.	17
Land Adequately Treated	Ac.	1882

District Operates With 2 Budgets

The District operates with two budgets provided by the State Soil Conservation Committee from State Appropriations.

1-M Budget	
1972-73 Appropriation	\$ 700.00
Commissioners expenses (mileage, meals)	\$ 323.37
Office Supplies	86.15
Printing	143.80
Material for Demonstration	40
Office expense	101.19
Total expended	\$ 654.91
Released	\$ 45.09
2-M BUDGET	
1972-73 Allocation	\$14,382.00
Gross Salaries	\$12,834.00
District's share - F.I.C.A.	713.49
District's share - I.P.E.R.S.	449.19
Health Insurance Credit	288.00
Life Insurance Credit	67.38
Travel	6.00
Total expended	\$14,358.06
Released	23.94

District Fund

The District fund is not appropriated, so we must depend on donations from our cooperators, businessmen and friends to supply this fund.

The District fund is used to pay State and National dues, which amounts to \$250.00, activities such as local awards, conservation booklets for schools, membership in the Soil Conservation Society of America, Osceola Chamber of Commerce and other expenses which cannot be taken from the state budget. The balance on hand July 1, 1972 was \$136.91, receipts were \$846.17, expenditures were \$905.79, leaving a balance on hand June 30, 1973 of \$77.29.

RC&D Activities

RC&D, Resource Conservation and Development, includes a great number of varied activities. Since its beginning in the seven counties of Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Union, Adams, Taylor and Adair, it has been found that the development of natural resources and human resources can not be separated. Because of this, many changes have taken place in the organization so that all problems can be dealt with. It was also found that many problems of the counties were too great for the county to solve by itself, but by working cooperatively with the other counties, in a regional approach, real progress can be made.

The Clarke County RC&D Board members, Bob Toland, Chairman, Jack Jeffreys, Vice-Chairman, Melvin Goeldner, Secretary-Treasurer, Merrill McCarty, Elva Wolfe and Clayton Scott have spent a great amount of time representing Clarke County's interests in the seven county area. This year the RC&D board incorporated, gained certification as a Regional Planning Agency and received authority as a clearinghouse (A-95 review) for all projects receiving federal funds.

With this foundation to work from, Pat Lana was hired as a Regional Planner for the area. He has started the Area Agency on Aging, the Rural Water Study Committee, an investigation of a Regional Housing Authority, and has coordinated many other RC&D activities.

This year many soil and water related projects received funding through the RC&D. Here in Clarke County the erosion control dam at the Clarke Community Schools was approved and let for bids. Low bidder was Frank Adams of Thayer with a bid of \$7991.30 for construction of the dam, fencing, mulching and seeding.

The development of a rural water system for the area has been the number one priority of the RC&D since its beginning. We moved considerably closer to attaining

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED

Soil Conservation Service Personnel Assigned	District Conservation Technician
Keith A. Ticknor	
T.J. Laing	
Area Personnel	
Erwin O. Agst, Shenandoah	Area Conservationist
Richard W. Birchmier, Shenandoah	Civil Engineer
Lawrence Dorgan, Creston	Civil Engineer
RC&D	
Herbert M. Kayser, Creston	Project Coordinator
RC&D	

STATE EMPLOYEES

Mrs. Arlene Garner	District Clerk
Dale Chidister	Conservation Aide

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Richard Gonseth	Chairman
Doyce Miller	Member
Adrian Fuller	Member
Merrill McCarty	Member
Merrill Thornton	Member

ASSISTING THE COMMISSIONERS

Everett Fenn	Ass't Commissioner
Ronald Henry	Ass't Commissioner
Mrs. Norma Anderson	Ass't Commissioner
Mrs. Maxine Kimball	Ass't Commissioner
Dr. Fred Wood	Ass't Commissioner
Bill Sirow	County Extension Director

this goal during the past year. A rural water committee, with representative from each of the seven counties, was established and has been successful in working together towards a seven county rural water plan. They will be conducting a survey of all rural people to determine the water needs.

Other projects in the planning stage include a land treatment project above the Osceola City reservoir, road side erosion control and the development of East Lake Park.



Erosion in the county road ditches is a serious and widespread problem in the county. A survey of the county roads to locate serious erosion areas is being conducted. With

financial assistance from RC&D in cooperation with the Board of Supervisors, plans are being made to correct this erosion.

State Cost-Sharing

This year showed both a loss and a gain. We saw the loss of REAP cost-sharing which has slowed the application of soil conservation practices. Then the Iowa State Legislature appropriated 1.5 million dollars to the State Department of Soil Conservation to be used for the installation of permanent soil conservation practices. Clarke County was allocated \$10,000 of this money.

The District Commissioners are assigned the responsibility of receiving applications and using this money so that it will do the most good towards conserving soil and preventing erosion. The funds will be used to cost-share, with landowners, 50 per cent of the cost of installing permanent practices. Clarke County will receive \$10,000 for each fiscal year 1974 and 1975.



Approximately 10,000 cubic yards of dirt are now in place, making up the dam that will create a 1.5 acre pond. Funds, in the amount

of \$8,300, were obtained from the Iowa RC&D for building the dam, seeding, mulching and fencing.

August - 1973

Oscula Tribune - 8/21/73

Soil Surveys Are 'Must'

A modern soil survey is the basis for sound soil and water management, crop production, and land use programs. They are the best asset we have for the wise use of soil resources to meet a wide range of needs and for the orderly development of our land resources.

In the Midcrest area, only two counties have published modern soil surveys. These

are Adams and Taylor counties. Two more counties, Madison and Union, have finished soil surveys but the material has not been published. A draft of the final report is available for inspection in Union County.

A soil survey is in progress in Adair county. Clarke, Decatur and Ringgold counties do not have modern soil surveys, but there has been some interest expressed in trying to get a survey started.

For those counties with modern soil surveys and for those interested in having one made, some of the uses and benefits are as follows: the farmer can use a soil map to determine his cropping and fertilization systems, location of terraces, drainage and waterway needs; relative market value and assessed value of land can be estimated by farmers and others in-

terested in buying land and by tax assessors; highway design and construction can be improved by use of a soil survey; problems related to building and housing foundations and sewage disposal systems can be minimized by studying soils data available in a soil survey report.

These are example uses of a soil survey report that nearly every resident of the Midcrest area can derive some benefit.

Rural Water Program Given OK

Culmination of two and one-half years of planning and work resulted in the signing of an agreement between the Clarke Rural Water District No. 1 and the Farmers Home Administration for a \$174,000 loan. Approval of the loan, made Friday, September 7, will give the go-ahead for a 20-mile rural water line in Clarke County — the first rural water cooperative of this magnitude to be approved in Iowa.

Doyce Miller, president of the local group, stated that installation of the pipe will begin immediately as pipe has already arrived. Depending upon the weather, patrons of the new water line hope to have it in operation this fall.

Planning for the water district entailed contacting potential water customers who lived on farms in an area north and northeast of Osceola. Directors of the water district secured an engineer, Tri-State Engineers of Manchester, who made a preliminary survey to determine feasibility and costs.

Following this, board members met with the Water Board of the City of Osceola to determine if city water could be

secured, amounts and charges. An agreement was reached and a contract signed whereby the city would sell water in amounts not to exceed 10 percent of city water usage to the rural water district.

In order to qualify for funding from F.H.A., a total of 80 percent of the people living along the proposed water line had to agree to sign for the utility. President Miller reported that over 90 percent of those along the route agreed to participate.

A \$25 fee from each of these customers was collected at the start of the planning to aid in paying engineering costs. In addition, a \$178 tap fee will be made at the time the water line comes in front of the farm and connection is made. Each individual patron must pay for the cost of bringing the water from the main line to his buildings.

The \$174,000 F.H.A. loan was made to the Rural Water District on a 40 year basis and will serve the 74 customers who signed as members. Don Dingman, local manager of the F.H.A. office negotiated the loan.

President Miller stated that with the construction starting immediately, members will

More About—

Rural Water

(Continued From Pg. 1)

be notified as to the exact location of the line and that in some instances where it will cross corn and bean fields, members will be advised to make provision to harvest the crops early.

Thompson Construction of Pacific Junction has contracted to do the work and started Monday. The line will be looped from the northeast part of Osceola to extend approximately four and one-half miles north in a circular pattern and return. A pressure of 40-pounds per square inch will be maintained in the pipes.

Directors of the board are president Miller; Gary Pool, secretary until just recently when the job was assumed by Evelyn Kent; Jack Cooley, vice-president; Charles Morgan, treasurer; Gerald Pedersen; Ron Reed, acting secretary; Bill Sirowy and Larry Van Werden, attorney.



HERE IT IS: Don Dingman (right) hands a \$174,000 check to Doyce Miller, president of the Clarke Rural Water District No. 1. The occasion was the approval of the Farmers Home Administration loan for the building of a 20-mile rural water line in Clarke County. The group met in the offices of Reynoldson, Brown and Van Werden Friday afternoon where the final approval was made. Standing, left to right are, Jack Cooley, vice-president of the group; Darrell Book, area F.H.A. Ad-

ministrato: Larry Van Werden, attorney for the group; Dorman Otte, state F.H.A. community project supervisor; Gary Pool, secretary at the time the water district was organized; Jim Hochstetter of Tri-State Engineers; Eddie Thompson of Thompson Construction; Ron Reed, director; and Gerald Pedersen, director. Seated are Charles Morgan, treasurer; Evelyn Kent, secretary and president Doyce Miller.

Miller commended all of the board members for the tremendous amount of work and time spent in organizing the project and especially to Gary Pool for his interest and time.

"We feel that the hard part of the job is over," he said, "and now we're waiting for the water to become a reality to our farms. We feel that a good many more of these types of water services to rural areas will be seen in Iowa. We're proud to be the first."

xxx Osceola Sentinel - 9-13-73

Richard Gonseth Receives Ken Wagner Award

Richard Gonseth received the Ken Wagner Award at the 27th Annual Conference for Soil Conservation District Commissioners. The award was presented at a banquet held at the Hotel Savery in Des Moines on Monday, September 10.

The Ken Wagner Award is given annually to Iowa's Outstanding Young Soil Conservation District Commissioner who is actively engaged in farming and is 35 years of age or younger.

Gonseth, 34, has received numerous 4-H awards and was district winner in the Des Moines Register and Tribune Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Contest

in 1965.

His farm operation, which started in 1963, consists of 370 acres, with 105 acres planted to corn and the other 265 for hay and pasture. He feeds 800 head of hogs and 30 beef cattle, and has a 65 head beef cow.

His farm is managed according to a conservation plan and conservation practices, such as farmstead windbreak, grass waterways, three farm ponds, pasture improvement, terrace, and contouring are much in evidence.

He is active in his soil conservation district program and is the current chairman, a post he has held for the last two years.

He was instrumental in organizing a 20 member Conservation Youth Board, and has served as chairman for his district's education, stewardship and watershed committees. He assisted with the organization of the Long Creek Watershed in his district and the seven county Southern Iowa RC&D Project.

Gonseth is also active in community affairs. He was the county 4-H president in 1958, past president of the Osceola Jaycees, past secretary-treasurer and president of the Rambling Riders Cycle Organization and currently serves on the township election board.

WORK UNDER
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Miller, president
reported that pi

Soils Tour Planned

The Osceola Chamber of Commerce held a meeting on Tuesday, September 11. After welcoming Schrader Plumbing and Heating as a new Chamber member, the Chamber turned to new business.

Dillard Fenley reported that Melvin Goeldner was attending a meeting in Creston, in the hopes of finding additional information on the senior citizen's activities building.

Mary Ellen Kimball gave a report on the fine arts committee. This report included members of the committee, goals for the committee and dates of upcoming fine arts events.

Jim Schaefer, of the airport committee, reported that federal aid for construction of an airport in Osceola has increased from 50 per cent to 75 per cent. The Federal Government would have to approve the location for the airport.

Dillard Fenley reported that work has already begun on the Clarke County Rural Water System.

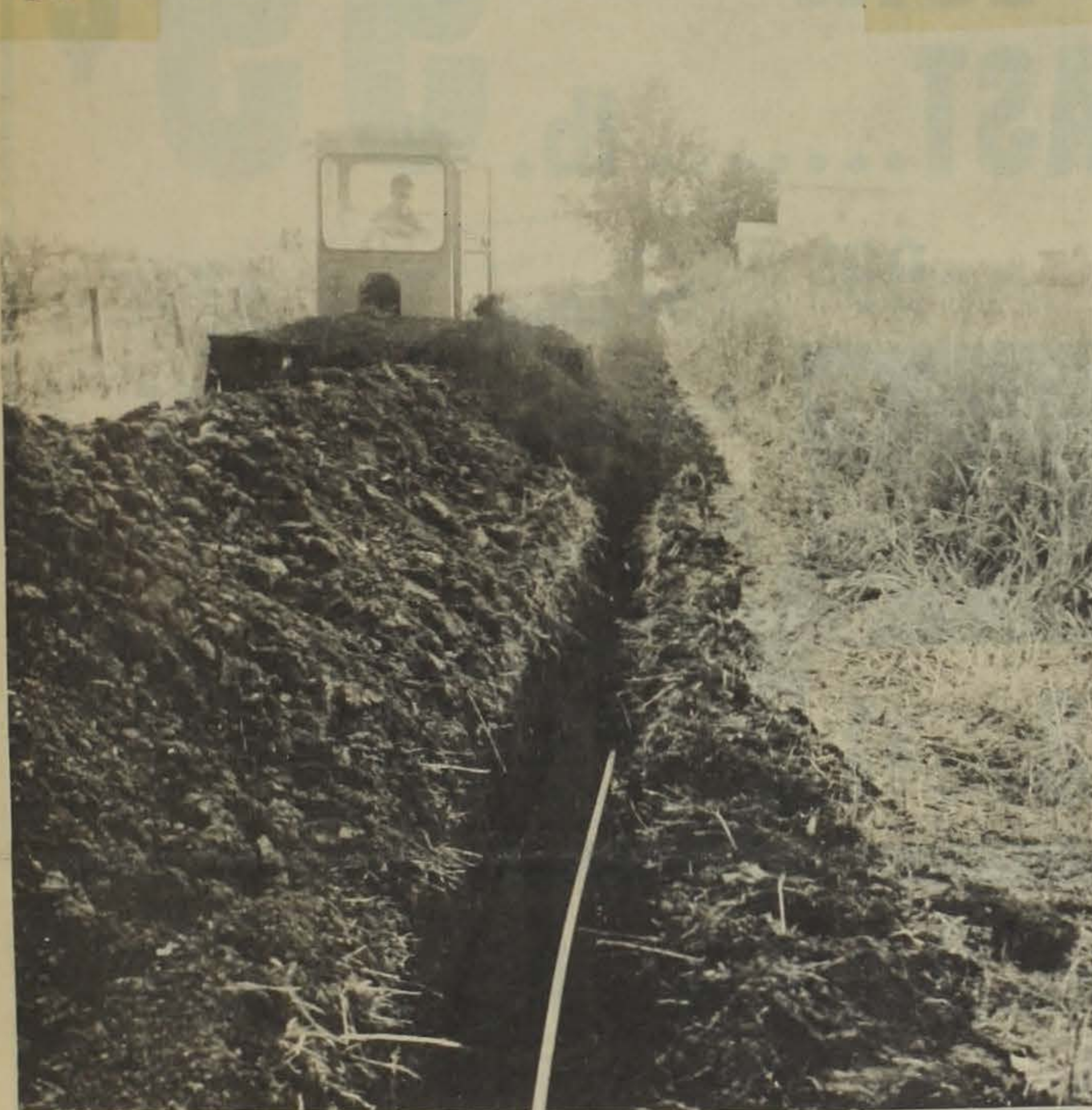
The Chamber will sponsor a flea market on Saturday, September 22. The event, a first in this area, will be held on the Courthouse lawn. The public is invited to bring whatever wares they wish to sell, trade, or bargain for. The promotion committee also brought up the possibility of a turkey shoot in November.

The playground equipment for East Lake Park has arrived and is being assembled.

Keith Ticknor reported that the Soil Conservation Commissioners are sponsoring a tour of terraces, ponds, waterways, and new ideas in conservation. Those interested should meet at the high school at 12:30 on Wednesday, October 3. Further information may be had from Mrs. Maxine Kimball.

Mayor Jeffreys spoke of the lack of a "Welcome to Osceola" sign at the edges of town. President Fenley referred this to the fine arts committee.

Osceola Tribune 9-18-73



WORK UNDERWAY: Laying of the new rural water line moved ahead Friday despite cloudy weather and wet ground. Doyce Miller, president of the new rural cooperative water district reported that pipe laying should take about 20 days and a mile

per day of pipe can be laid, providing weather permits. The above picture was taken a mile northeast of Osceola and shows the back filling equipment covering the newly laid pipe.

Plan Conservation Tour for October 3

An educational conservation tour of Clarke County under the sponsorship of the Clarke Soil and Water Conservation District is planned for Wednesday, October 3.

Adrian Fuller, chairman of the rural-urban relations committee, stated that this is the first time a project of this type has been attempted and that persons interested in joining the tour are invited.

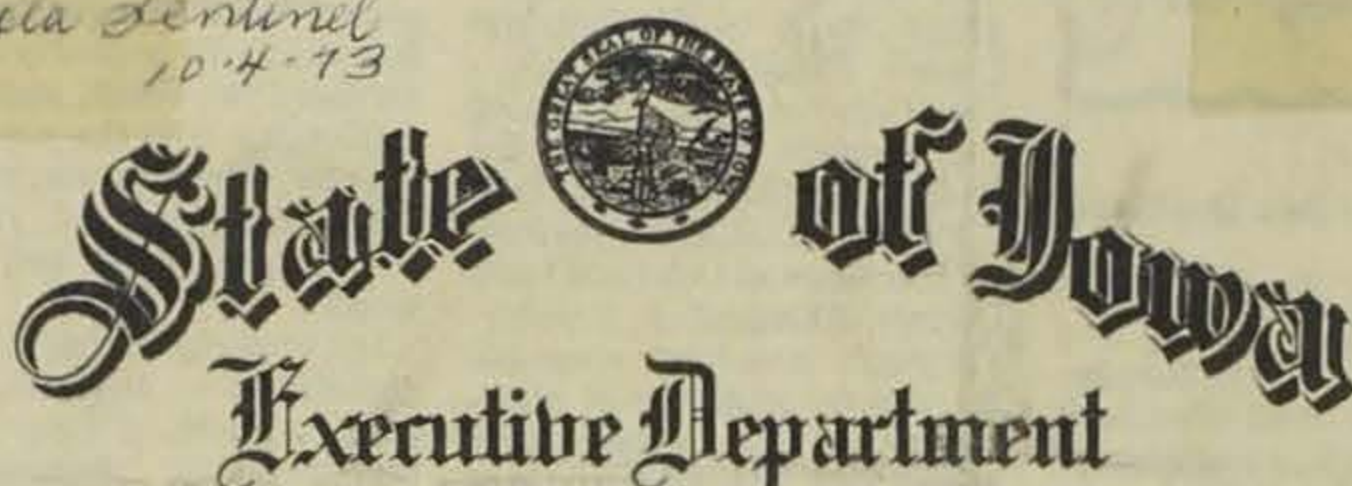
The tour will last for two hours and will start at 12:30 from the west side of Clarke Community High School. Fuller stated that a practice run would be made in advance of the actual tour to give the committee an idea of timing and actual stops that might be made.

Keith Ticknor, head of the local Soil and Water Conservation office and Bill Sirowy, extension director, are aiding in planning the tour.

A total of three buses are planned for the trip with two of them slated to take sixth grade children and the third bus to accommodate all adults who may wish to make the trip.

A rain date of October 10 has been set. All persons interested in making the tour are asked to contact Keith Ticknor at the Soil and Water Conservation office.

Oscula Sentinel
10-4-73



IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

Proclamation

Whereas, the orderly development and wise use of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation programs are essential to sustain and enhance both rural and urban standards of living, and to protect and improve the environment of this state for the benefit of all citizens; and

Whereas, the State of Iowa and the one hundred soil conservation districts within the state are coordinating and conducting a constructive program of soil and water conservation, flood prevention and related natural resources development to meet the demands of today's farms, ranches and cities; and

Whereas, it is imperative that we continue our efforts in soil and water conservation programs, watershed programs, resource conservation and development projects and in our conservancy districts, where opportunities are available to advance this important work:

Now, Therefore, I, Robert D. Ray, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim the week of October 7-14, 1973, as

Soil and Water Conservation Week

in Iowa, and urge all citizens of our state to participate in soil and water conservation programs or lend assistance to those responsible for conducting these programs so that even greater progress can be made and more emphasis devoted to this important work.



In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 24th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-three.

Robert D. Ray
Governor

Attest:

Michael S. B. Hart
Secretary of State

Offer Workshop To Teachers

Three conservation education workshops will be offered for Iowa teachers this October, Howard Hughes, president of the Iowa Conservation Education Council, announced.

One will be held at Camp Ewalu near Strawberry Point on October 5 and 6; the other two workshops will be October 12 and 13 at the State 4-H Camp near Luther and at Camp Hitchcock, approximately 15 miles north of Council Bluffs.

The two-day sessions are intended to give teachers first hand learning experiences in environmental studies.

Richard Gonseth, chairman of the Clarke Soil Conservation District, said the three workshops offer about the same material; three locations are being offered in an effort to bring the workshops closer to home for teachers. Gonseth recommends area teachers attend the workshop at the State 4-H camp or Camp Hitchcock.

The Clarke SCD plans to provide scholarships for any teacher that would like to attend. Those interested should contact the district office for reservation forms or more information.

Oscoda Tribune - 10/2/73



BIOLOGY POND

Outdoor Classroom Planned

An outdoor classroom is being built behind Clarke Community Junior-Senior High School for the students studying biology and conservation. A pond is now in the process of being built, and is supposed to be completed this fall.

The pond will be open to the

public, but it is mainly for the students. No picnics or camping will be allowed.

The area itself is 10 to 12 acres. The pond will take up only 1½ acres of this land. Each year a new addition is being planned; such as, new trees and shrubs, various grasses, a bridge and many others. The pond will be stocked with fish. After the principle things are in, the area will be left for nature to improve.

Oscoda Tribune - 10-16-73 Youth Conservation Committee Organizes

During the 1972-1973 school year a new organization was started by Mr. Johannes, Mr. Ticknor, and few interested Clarke students, grades 7-12.

Their aim was to help improve the environment around Clarke Community. In the

Spring of '73 the group planted trees along West Cass. This cost the people who owned the lawn nothing. They planted 16 trees and during the early summer of 1973 they aided in helping to plant 54 trees on Clarke Community High School and Junior High lawns. This saved the school time and money plus teaching the students some techniques of planting.

The Youth Conservation Committee was reunited on October 4, at the Soil Conservation Service office located at 820 North Main.

The meeting was called to order by President Terry Bonnett. New plans for the group's next project, to get more involved in conservation, were discussed. The date for the next meeting was set for October 7, at 8:00 p.m.

New officers for 1973-74 were elected. Paul Owens will be representing the committee as president with the aid of vice-president Terry Bonnett. Chris Baker will serve as both secretary and treasurer.

The committee is looking for new and interested students grades 7-12. You will have to meet a few basic requirements, such as attendance rules and active interest. If you are at all interested contact your science teacher or Mr. Johannes.

The next meeting is set for October 21, at 8:00 p.m. at the SCS office. Everyone interested is invited to attend.

Oscoda Tribune Conservation Tour Is Rescheduled

10/4/73
The conservation tour scheduled by the Soil and Water Conservation District office has been postponed until Wednesday, October 10.

Adrian Fuller, commission member, stated that rain and mud caused postponement of the event. The public is invited to attend the tour that will start from the south side of the Clarke Community High School at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 10.

In event weather does not permit the tour to proceed this Wednesday, it will be cancelled.

Oscoda Sentinel Rains Slow

Water Project

Wet weather is being cited as the reason for delay on the rural water co-op.

Doyce Miller, chairman of the co-op board reported that half of the water lines have been installed. Installation of meter pits and pipe hookups to houses has not yet been completed.

"We were going to have water in the pipes by the first of November, but now I wouldn't even guess," said Miller. "If we have decent weather, we can have water in the pipes yet this fall. But if the weather keeps up the way it has been, we may not get it in until spring."

Heavy Rains Damage Crops, Flood Lowlands

Recent rains and flooding in southern Iowa has caused late harvesting of crops and severely damaged beans. The continuing rains the first half of October brought a total of 4.42 inches of moisture during the first two weeks to fields that were already sodden with rain from previous soakings.

Heavy rains early Thursday morning in central Iowa caused flooding of lowland

areas. Many fields were flooding, highway 69 south of Osceola had from four to six inches of rain over the road and county roads on the Clarke-Decatur borders were flooded by swollen waters of Long Creek and Bee Creeks. Highway 34 near Lucas was flooded by water for several hours and traffic had to be rerouted north and south to wait until waters had receded.

Up to five inches of rainfall was recorded in parts of Iowa with but 2.8 inches received locally during the same period of time.

Sunshine on Saturday and Sunday brought about what is universally hoped to be a change in the weather. Forecasts call for better conditions for the balance of the week.

Weather observer Art Bright recorded the following statistics during the past week:

Date	H.	L.	P.
Wed., Oct. 10	72	55	
Thurs., Oct. 11	68	57	2.80
Fri., Oct. 12	67	37	.65
Sat., Oct. 13	73	45	
Sun., Oct. 14	80	48	
Mon., Oct. 15		50	



COUNTY ROAD?: Right, this is a half-mile section of county road that was underwater last Thursday afternoon following heavy rains over central Iowa. The picture was taken looking west of the farm home of Richard Cook Jr. About five inches of rain was received from Wednesday noon to Thursday noon in the area.



STRANDED: A dragline belonging to Russ Music of Garden Grove is stranded as Bee Creek floods. The dragline is setting on an eight-foot high bank and water entirely covered the tracks. The picture was taken on the Randall Cox farm, four miles northwest of Van Wert. Cox estimated over 300 acres of corn and beans were under water due to the flooding.



WATERFALL: This waterfall occurred on Joe Ramsey's ground just south of Osceola Thursday morning following a three-inch rain during early morning hours. The water washed away the road bed that was

established as the tube was not large enough to handle the volume of water. White Breast Creek overflowed banks and inundated low lands.

Judge Hass In Ruling — "No Polluting of Whitebreast"

In a ruling handed down Monday, October 15, District Court Judge A. V. Hass ruled in favor of the City of Osceola in denying a petition seeking a mandatory injunction to require the city to place no more than 400 pounds of BOD into their lagoon sewerage system.

The injunction was sought by the Iowa Department of Environmental Quality as a result of an alleged overloading of Osceola's lagoon system. The first filing

by the state office was made on May 22, 1973, and asked for a permanent injunction. An amended petition was filed August 7, asking for a temporary injunction and the case was tried in district court in Clarke County.

Larry Van Werden served as counsel for the city in the hearings which started on August 29 and continued on three different occasions until October 11.

When Osceola Mayor Jack

Jeffreys was asked what the ruling meant to the city, he retorted that it meant the city could proceed with plans to enlarge their existing sewerage facilities as they had started to do when it had been learned the Jimmy Dean Meat Co. was going to locate in Osceola.

Preliminary plans had been submitted in March of this year to the state. These plans called for an additional anaerobic lagoon to be built in a phase one stage to take care of the increased load on the

existing lagoons. These plans were disapproved after they had been in the hands of the state engineers for 70 days. It was at this time a permanent injunction was filed against the city, then amended and a temporary injunction filed leading to the court case.

In finding for the City of Osceola, Judge Hass stated in part, "the defendant (Osceola) would be placed at the absolute mercy of the plaintiff (State) if temporary injunction issued since the latter could continue to defer

the defendant's improvements that plaintiff must approve before construction can proceed and then cite defendant for contempt at any time there appears to be a violation of input or effluent permit loads."

Robert Buss, Hall Engineering, Inc., of Centerville, was retained by the City of Osceola, as engineer on the project and has submitted preliminary plans for the enlargement of the lagoon system which have been

approved by the DEQ. It is hoped to have the new sewerage system in operation by 1974.

Judge Hass stated in part in ruling on the case, "Under the evidence, plaintiff's burden of showing pollution or probable pollution of Whitebreast Creek is now carried - the most that can be said is that pollution may possibly exist next spring if present overloading of organic materials continues and the lagoons discharged in time of low flow to the stream's detriment."

Water System

Ralph Goode, chairman of Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., today announced the incorporated towns that have public water systems are Lucas, Monroe, and Unionville. The franchise elections on November 6, 1973, will be held in conjunction with the Municipal elections, which will be held on the same date. He stated that it is held at this time in order to save the cost of the election. The towns and the Rathbun Water Association, and should also achieve voter participation in the November elections.

The city councils in the 11 towns of Rathbun, Plano, Numa, Exira, Unionville, Promise, and Millerton, Melrose and Vinton have taken appropriate action to present the proposition to voters and let them make a decision as to whether or not to be served by the Rathbun water system. In the event which produce a favorable vote on the proposition, residents would be served the same as all other customers in the system.

R. Goode expressed his hope there would be a large participation in the elections on this issue and added that this is an opportunity for the residents to avail themselves of the public water system which had never been able to enjoy.

Osceola Sentinel - 10-18-73



REPEAT: The above picture is almost a repeat of last year's flooding of highway 69 south of Osceola. The picture was taken at 9 a.m. and shows from four to six inches of

water over the highway. An almost identical picture was published in the Tribune just one year ago in September when rains caused flooding of White Breast Creek.

Osceola Sentinel
Johannes Attends
10-23-73
Teacher Workshop

David Johannes of Clarke Community High School attended the Council's Western Iowa Teachers Conservation Education Workshop at Camp Hitchcock near Honey Creek Iowa, October 12 and 13. Some 60 teachers gathered to exchange information about time-tested and innovative activities and programs dealing with the workshop theme of "Teachers's Involvement in Environmental Education."

Johannes participated in two days of sessions that included field trips, projects, activities, mini labs and small group discussions as well as providing outstanding speakers.

Marion Union
10-4-73
Communities To
Vote On 4-County
Water System

Ralph Goode, chairman of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., today announced that the incorporated towns that do not have public water systems in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne counties, Iowa will be holding franchise elections on Nov. 6.

These elections will be held in conjunction with the Municipal elections, which will be held on this same date. He stated that it was being held at this time in order to reduce the cost of the elections to both towns and the Rathbun Water Association, and should also achieve a greater participation in the November elections.

The city councils in the 11 towns of Rathbun, Plano, Numa, Exline, Udell, Unionville, Promise City, Clio, Millerton, Melrose and Williamson have taken appropriate action to present the proposition to the voters and let them make the decision as to whether or not they wish to be served by the four county water system. In those towns which produce a favorable vote on the proposition, residents will be served the same as all other customers in the system.

Mr. Goode expressed his hope that there would be a large participation in the elections on this matter, and added that this is an excellent opportunity for the residents to avail themselves of the public water system which they would never be able to enjoy otherwise.

Osceola Sentinel 11-8-73



DAMAGE: Heavy rains and flooding can have disastrous results when land is not properly protected by conservation practices. These drifts of silt were deposited by White

Breast creek in the roadway of a dirt road near the Clarke and Lucas County line. Is this part of your farm?

Increases In Iowa

Iowa corn and soybeans acreage planted by some type of conservation tillage or minimum tillage jumped by nearly 90 percent this year, according to a survey by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. "Our survey shows that 5-1/2 million of the state's estimated 18.8 million acres of corn and soybeans were planted without the use of the moldboard plow," says State Conservationist Wilson Moon. "This means that more than one-fourth of the corn and soybeans were planted by some type of conservation tillage."

Moon says some of the big increase in conservation tillage is due to the increase in total acres of corn and soybeans planted this year. "With the emphasis on production, conservation tillage and other conservation measures are more important than ever before," Moon says. "Iowa farmers are being asked to produce all they can, but they must also protect their land."

Conservation tillage, the practices of leaving crop residue on the surface, is highly effective in reducing wind and water erosion. About three-fourths of the corn and soybeans were planted after disking, or using a field cultivator or some other machine without a moldboard plow. This leaves some plant residue on the surface for erosion control.

Even better erosion control was provided with special conservation tillage machines and methods. The most

popular of these special methods was the chisel plow, used on more than a million

acres. Other top erosion control methods, in order of popularity, were till planting, 265,184 acres; rotary strip tillage, 147,510 acres; and no-till planting, 110,414 acres.

700 Acre Lake To Be Built Near Corning

The largest contract to be let by the Soil Conservation Service for construction of a watershed dam was signed Wednesday morning at the Adams Soil Conservation District Office in Corning, Iowa. Mr. O.E. Moody of Moody Construction Company, Hamburg, Iowa signed a contract with the Soil Conservation Service for the construction of the dam known as Site M-1A in Walter's Creek Watershed. The Iowa State Conservation Commission and Corning Water Board will also share in the cost of the construction. After three unsuccessful bid openings during the last six months, this contract was negotiated with Mr. Moody at the price of \$540,659.

Mr. Leo Sturgeon, Contract Specialist from the Des Moines SCS Office stated this is the largest contract let by the Soil Conservation Service in Iowa and will create the

largest PL-566 watershed lake in Iowa.

Sponsors of the Walter's Creek Watershed project are the Adams Soil Conservation District, the Adams County Board of Supervisors and Conservation Park Board, City of Corning Water Board, and the Iowa State Conservation Commission.

Erwin O. Aust, Area Conservationist at Shenandoah for the Soil Conservation Service reported that the Walter's Creek Watershed was first organized in 1954 by the Adams Soil Conservation District and a board of Directors was elected representing the landowners in the 31,560 acre watershed, located north of Corning. The watershed area was approved for planning and a work plan was completed in 1964. The first construction took place in the watershed in 1967 and this contract represents the fifth construction contract to

be let. The previous four contracts since 1967 have completed the construction of thirty-seven small upland structures costing in excess of \$500,000. Of the upland structures that have already been built, thirty-three are water impoundment structures, and in total have created over 200 acres of water impoundments, the largest one being fifteen acres in size.

The dam will create a 700 acre lake within a 1,900 acre park area which has already been purchased and is being developed for recreation use.

This site is known as a multi-purpose site since the dam will be constructed to provide flood control to the Walter's Creek Valley downstream, as well as gully stabilization, recreation, wildlife habitat, and water supply for Corning.

The local people in the Walter's Creek Watershed have worked diligently over the years to apply good conservation practices such as small erosion control dams, terracing, grass waterways, farm ponds, and exercising good land use with crop rotations to protect the drainage area. This upland treatment provides needed insurance that the dams will last and provide flood control, erosion control, recreation, and a good quality water supply for a minimum number of years.

Moody Construction hopes to do minor construction this fall, and begin on earth fill construction next spring. The dams consists of over 291,000 cubic yards of earth fill.

Protect Land From Soil Erosion - Butz

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz asked the nation's farmers to use sound conservation practices on crop land that is being brought back into production in 1974.

"First of all, use of sound conservation practices will itself help increase production," Secretary Butz said. "As the No. 1 guardians of the nation's natural resources, farmers have a responsibility to themselves and future generations to use the soil wisely. Farmers have made great progress in the last 35 years in conservation farming, and with planning they can meet the increased demand for food in 1974 without stepping backwards," the Secretary said.

He asked the Soil Conservation Service to give "first priority" to helping farmers and ranchers with their conservation plans. He also called on the Extension Service and state and local Cooperative Extension staffs to renew their efforts to demonstrate that "conservation farming pays—that it is more productive."

Farmers are expected to bring several million acres of former "set-aside" land back into full crop production in 1974 to meet the increased demand for agricultural commodities. The Department of Agriculture also anticipates that farmers will be farming their land more intensively as they try to increase yields per acre.

"It is vital that we protect the land from soil erosion with proven conservation practices, such as contour plowing, stripcropping, terracing, and minimum tillage," Mr. Butz said.

"While there is plenty of additional land in the United States that can be used for crop production without endangering our basic soil and water resources, there are also millions of acres of farm and ranch land with soils so prone to blowing or water erosion that they should never be used for crops," he said.

"Such land should remain in grass or under other vegetative cover," Mr. Butz said. "We do not want to risk starting another Dust Bowl."

The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) works through nearly 3,000 local soil and water conservation districts to help farmers and ranchers develop and carry out conservation plans, and with their national organization, the National Association of Conservation Districts. Both the SCS and Cooperative Extension Service work directly with farmers, advising them on conservation techniques to protect and improve their land and water.

Osceola Tribune
Public Notices
 11-13-73

NOTICE

The Osceola City Council at its Regular Meeting on December 4, 1973 at 7:00 p.m. will consider the following proposal and take action thereon:

PROPOSAL - That the City of Osceola, Iowa, transfer and convey a certain parcel of land lying outside of the present territorial limits of said city to CLARKE COUNTY, IOWA, in fee for development, maintenance and management by the Clarke County Conservation Board, for park, recreational or other related purposes, said property being known as "East Lake Park" and being legally described as:

The East half of the Southwest Quarter (E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section Sixteen (16), Township Seventy-two (72) North, Range Twenty-five (25) West of the 5th P.M., EXCEPTING therefrom a tract of land described as commencing Sixteen (16) rods East of the Northwest corner thereof, thence East Forty (40) rods, thence South Sixteen (16) rods, thence West Forty (40) rods thence North Sixteen (16) rods to the Place of beginning; and ALSO EXCEPTING all that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$) of said Section Sixteen (16), lying on both sides of the Centerline of Primary Road No. U.S. 34 as shown on Official Plans for Project F-FG-5(1) - 24-20, containing 2.5 acres, more or less, exclusive of the original established road, as conveyed to the State of Iowa by Warranty Deed recorded in Book 68, Page 350 on October 10, 1966 in the Office of the Recorder of Clarke County, Iowa.

Notice given in accordance with Sections 368.39 and 618.14 of 1973 Code of Iowa.

OSCEOLA CITY COUNCIL
 By: Dan Cline
 Dan Cline
 City Clerk, City of Osceola
 Osceola, Iowa

Osceola Tribune 11-6-73
**Cool Season
 Grasses Need
 Grazing**

The efficiency of many pasture programs can be improved by adding an acreage of a warm season grass to be used in conjunction with cool season grasses. The cool season grasses can be grazed in the early and late parts of the grazing season and the warm season grasses grazed during midsummer. This scheme provides a larger and more uniform supply of forage and greater seasonal animal gains can be expected. Furthermore, the cool season grasses can be given a rest

Osceola Tribune 11-6-73
**Murray Roadside Park
 Nears Completion**

Between showers, in the latter half of September, members of the Murray Lions Club carried out important projects in the development of the wayside park on U.S. Highway 34.

The area was mowed, roadway banks fertilized and seeded and twelve trees planted.

Among those who completed the different phases of the work were: Gene Burgus, Monty Chew, Floyd Edwards, Loren Gaumer, Paul Loy, Gary Robins, Darrell Siefkas and Leonard Wolfe.

Since late in 1970 it has appeared that this park was the most feasible for the Clarke County Conservation Board to complete first. It was then that it was learned the plot of land might be obtained. After much negotiation and planning a renewable twenty-five year lease was arranged

between the Iowa Highway Commission and the Clarke County Conservation Board. The consideration is mutual benefit.

A suitable park road has been constructed and surfaced with crushed rock. A shelter has been built. Presently a latrine is under construction.

Among projects still to be carried out in this park are: securing picnic tables and playground equipment; planting of more trees and shrubbery and mapping of an outdoor classroom trail.

The Clarke County Conservation Board was established by a vote of the people in 1962. Its present membership, appointed by the Clarke County Board of Supervisors are: Harold Bonnett, Bob Cooley, Floyd Edwards, Melvin Goeldner and Howard Ruble.

Osceola Sentinel 11-22-73
**Interest in Controlling
 Soil and Water Is High**

Interest in soil and water conservation in Iowa is as high as it has ever been, according to Wilson T. Moon, State Conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service in Iowa. Moon says conservation progress figures and recent legislative action both support the contention that Iowans, whether they be landowners or concerned citizens, are more interested than ever in conserving soil, water, and other natural resources.

A SCS survey shows that conservation tillage, the practice of leaving plant residues on the soil surface for erosion control, increased by 90 percent from a year ago. One-fourth of the state's corn and soybean land was planted using disks, field cultivators, or some other machine to help protect the soil, Moon reported. Since conservation tillage requires fewer trips across a field, it also conserves energy, he adds.

In 1973, 880 miles of terraces were built in Iowa. If all the terraces built in the state were laid end to end, they would stretch to the west coast and back 18 times. About a thousand acres of trees were planted to help control erosion and give wildlife food and shelter; about 700 ponds were built for the same purpose with added recreational benefits.

Soil survey field work has been completed in 44 Iowa counties, with surveys published in 19 counties. Federal, state and local

monies are pooled to make the Iowa soil survey program one of the most successful in the nation.

More than two-thirds of Iowa's landowners are cooperating with Soil Conservation Districts to voluntarily improve rural and urban environments. Most have a conservation plan they use as a guide in establishing conservation measures over the entire farm or tract of land.

"Soil and Water Conservation Week, October 7-14, is a good time to review progress in conservation," Moon says. "I think the record is an enviable one. Yet, there is much to be done - soil and water conservation is a never-ending task. With the current emphasis on food production, conservation measures will be needed more than ever before."

The Iowa Legislature recently provided soil conservation districts 1.5 million dollars annually for the next two years to cost-share on permanent soil conservation measures. The cost-share rate is 50 percent with district cooperators who voluntarily apply soil conservation practices. Cost-sharing will also be available to meet responsibilities under the Soil Conservancy Act, passed by the Legislature in 1971.

CCHS to Have 'Outdoor Classroom'

A 14 acre classroom? Yep, a 14 acre classroom at Clarke Community High School in Osceola.

When most people think of a classroom they think of it as being 30 feet wide and 40 feet long, but the newest idea to be developed is an outdoor classroom that encompasses using nature to aid in the learning process. And the newest classroom to be added to CCHS is located just west of the present building.

Pooling the ideas of school personnel, members of the Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation District and with the cooperation of the Resource Conservation and Development Committee, plans were made for the development of the area into a classroom that could be used in many ways.

To start with, an erosion control dam was needed to stabilize two large gullies that had been formed on the ground located just west of the school building and were

cutting into school property.

Cost of the project was estimated to be around \$13,000 with a contract for the earthen dam costing \$8,300. This cost included construction of the dam, fencing and seeding. Payment of this part of the project was made through federal funds obtained through the Southern Iowa RC&D.

In addition, approximately four acres of land was donated by Charles Morgan for the project with Morgan clearing and filling three waterways leading into the pond at his own expense. This cost was estimated by Keith Ticknor, head of the local SWCD office, to be \$4,700.

The dam, just completed last week, is composed of 10,300 yards of fill and is 29 feet high at its maximum height. It is designed to have a maximum water depth of 22 feet and the pool surface area will cover an area of 1.5 acres.

The overflow pipe consists (Continued on Page 9)



OUTDOOR CLASSROOM: What appears to be earth construction work in the foreground is just that. Silhouetted against the sky is the junior and senior high complex of Clarke

Community Schools. The new 14 acre "outdoor classroom" tract is located just west of the buildings within walking distance of the schools.

More About—

(Continued From Pg. 1)

of a 12-inch pipe 120 feet long that will drain to the west. The pond, when full, will hold approximately 4,366,484 gallons of water. The structure was built by Frank Adams of Thayer.

What are the plans for the outdoor classroom? Many. David Johannes, instructor at CCHS, has plans to develop the area into a classroom with the planting of trees and shrubs, making of nature trails, building a bridge, having a wildlife area, creating a study area where

all classes may benefit from the lessons to be learned from nature.

Response has been universally favorable from instructors who foresee a good many uses for the area.

Which may be the start of other classrooms that are measured by acres rather than by square feet.



AT THE START: Rough ground is shown before the dam was installed. Upon completion of the project, trees, shrubs, nature

trails and a wildlife area will be part of the outdoor classroom.



AT WORK: Earth moving equipment is shown at work during the time the one and one-half acre pond was being formed. The

pond will remain at approximately 22-foot depth in the deepest place. The above picture was taken looking northeast.

RC&D Board Reviews Area Projects

The project board of the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project, Inc., met at Southwestern Community College on Thursday, November 15. Among items on the agenda were county progress reports, consideration of a proposal to establish a Regional Housing Authority, and the announcement of a Federal Regional Council meeting.

The Osceola Chamber of Commerce donated \$100.00 for the Area Agency on Aging. The money will be used to pay for Clarke County's share in AAA projects including the lunch program for persons over 65 years of age.

Clarke County's conservation project, the outdoor classroom at Clarke Community High School, has been completed recently. The project was inspected and approved on Monday, November 19 by members of the state inspection board.

Two other projects in Clarke County are still underway. The survey of county roadside banks for erosion control is approximately half finished and will be finished by spring. A committee is being formed in the hopes of supplying water to all rural homes which desire piped water.

A proposal for a Regional Housing Authority (RHA) was submitted by SIRPA. SIRPA drafted the proposal after HUD indicated that they are interested in this type of assistance.

Bill McNarney, OPP Housing Specialist, stated that the government is interested in consolidating housing projects because of high operation costs. Under the proposed measures, units would be leased to low-income renters, and the difference would be made up by HUD.

Carl Zimmerman explained the need for housing in the Area XIV. Eighty units are now in operation and 98 are under construction. Zimmerman talked with local housing authorities and has estimated about 1000 requests for housing.

The RHA would become a viable authority after several steps. The first step, approval by the RC&D Project Inc., has already been made. The proposal must then be presented to local governments. The local governments in turn must submit a letter of intent.

Johannes Honored for Conservation Work



David Johannes

David Johannes, biology instructor at Clarke Community High School, was the recipient of a barometer at an awards banquet held Wednesday, November 14, at Mount Ayr.

Johannes was selected regional winner in a 10-county area of the Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards after being chosen winner of the district.

He has been active in soil conservation work through classroom activities where he is sponsor of the Science Club, co-sponsor of the Youth Conservation Board and chairman of the development committee for the 14-acre "Outdoor Classroom" planned at Clarke Community Schools.

To improve his knowledge of conservation he has attended the Iowa Conservation Camp and the Fall Conservation Workshop near the DeSoto Bend Wildlife Refuge in western Iowa. He has a BA degree in Biology from the University of Northern Iowa at Cedar Falls.

The Achievement Awards Program is sponsored by the Des Moines Register and Tribune and the Farm and Home Register in cooperation with the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners, State Soil Conservation Committee, Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service, State Department of Agriculture, Iowa Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America, Iowa Conservation Education Council and the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

The award of the barometer which was given by the Register and Tribune was for earning the "Outstanding Conservation Teacher Award".

Mr and Mrs. Johannes live at 310 East May Street in Osceola.

Aging Group Receives Grant

The Area Agency on Aging for Area XIV is announcing a Title VII grant from the State Commission in Aging. This money will be spent for the establishment of congregate meals for people over 60 in Adair, Adams, Ringgold, Taylor and Union counties and continuation of meals in Clarke and Decatur counties.

Some other supporting services such as transportation will be included in the plans.

Local task forces are presently considering plans for meals to be served for people over 60 in Clarke County and will release information as soon as decisions are made.

Further information may be obtained from Bonnie Reasoner of the Osceola Community Center.

To Discuss Whitebreast Watershed

All persons interested in the Whitebreast watershed program are invited to a meeting concerning the project on Monday, December 3, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the basement of the United Federal Service office building on West McLane Street in Osceola.

Chuck Cobb of the Soil Conservation Service Watershed Planning Party in Des Moines will be the speaker for the evening. He will answer any questions persons may have concerning watershed plans in this part of Clarke County and southern Iowa.

Plan Survey for County-Wide Water

Twenty-five Clarke County residents met last Wednesday evening to begin making plans for a county wide rural water system.

The purpose of the meeting was to identify township representatives who would survey Clarke County to determine the need for a rural water program. Charlie McDonough, acting chairman of the group was pleased with the attendance as well as the discussion response.

Clarke County is one of seven counties participating on an area rural water committee which was formed under the guidance of the Southern Iowa RC&D. Representing Clarke County at the area meetings are Charlie McDonough, Orval Coffman and Jim Handrock.

Plans are to conduct and complete a county wide survey by February 1, 1974. Items on the survey include: adequacy of the present water

supply, amount used, and projected usage. A twenty-five dollar fee will be collected at the time of the survey which will be used to conduct an engineering feasibility study.

Another public meeting will be held on Monday, December 10, 7 p.m. at the 4-H Building in Osceola. Purpose of this meeting will be to designate a board of directors, elect officers, and finalize plans for surveying rural residents in the county. Five to eight persons per township will be needed to conduct the survey so interested residents are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Residents attending the first county meeting were: Doyle Township: Eugene Foland, Clinton Mullen and Seymour Schaa; Fremont Township: James Vawn, Frank Barnard and Charlie McDonough; Green Bay Township: Bernell Waller, and Charles Phillips; Knox Township: Robert Fuller, Adrian Fuller and Leland Hunt; Liberty Township: Amos Ames, Kent White, Orval Coffman and Merrill McCarty; Osceola Township: Morris Gonseth, and Perry Diehl; Troy Township: Everett Bierce, Everett Arnold and James Baird; and Ward Township: Mike Miletich. Also attending were Charles Bacon, ASCS; Don Dingman, FHA; Keith Ticknor, SCS, and Bill Sirowy, Extension Service.

Townships not represented at the this meeting were Franklin, Jackson, Madison and Washington. Residents of all townships are encouraged to have representative at the next meeting which is open to the public on December 10th.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1974

Begin County-Wide Rural Water Survey

A county-wide survey of farmers in Clarke County will be held within the next seven to 10 days, Charlie McDonough, chairman of the rural water committee reported this week.

"We ask all farmers in the

county to cooperate with the volunteer survey teams when they come to visit with you," said McDonough. He explained that three meetings have been held to organize groups from townships to meet with those farmers who have not yet been contacted or attended any of the meetings.

"We already have one area with a 100 percent sign-up," said McDonough, "and hope to get enough sign-up in the remainder to go ahead with preliminary engineering work."

The goal of the rural water committee is to provide water to every farm in the county through a central water system or several water systems. McDonough explained that the rural water system does not plan to use the water supply that serves Osceola and the pilot rural water project presently under construction.

"The feasibility studies will show where dams should be built to provide water in various parts of the county or even in another county if it is more convenient. We may have two, three or more large ponds to provide water for the rural systems—this is what has to be determined by the engineering studies," he said.

"But first of all it is important that we find out the degree of interest on the part of the farmers. Anyone who is interested or has questions concerning the project should attend our next meeting," he urged.

The meeting will be held Monday, January 7, in the ASC office on North Main Street in Osceola starting at 7:30 p.m. A progress report will be given at the time from groups of farmers who have already started their survey in the townships. Questions will also be answered.

Osceola Tribune Rural Water 1-7-74

Meet Slated

Contact work is continuing on explaining the rural water program to farmers in Clarke County, Charles McDonough, chairman of the committee, reported this week.

A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, in the Murray Community Center for farmers from Madison, Troy, Knox and Doyle Townships. The proposed program will be explained and questions answered at the 1:30 p.m. meeting.

McDonough stated that any other interested persons are also invited to attend.

Osceola Tribune Jan. 22, 1974

Now Is Time To Plan For —

Spring Tree Planting

The State Forest Nursery at Ames has announced that they are now accepting orders for tree seedlings. Interested persons should place orders to

ensure that they will have the trees when they are ready to plant. Spring is just around the corner, so make plans now before the busy season

arrives.

The tree seedlings are available at a cost of \$20 - \$25 per 1000. As in the past, the minimum order is 500 plants,

but this year persons can order different kinds of trees in multiples of 100. Wildlife packets, containing 200 trees and shrubs beneficial to wildlife, can be ordered separately for \$5.00.

Wildlife packets contain 50 evergreen trees and a variety of shrubs that are excellent for planting around ponds or in odd areas on the farm. Tree seedlings are also good for planting in odd areas, or in steep areas for erosion control. The trees will attract wildlife, yield Christmas trees in the future or may provide a field wind shelter for livestock.

Walnut plantings were popular last year, even though the State Nursery provided only walnut nuts for planting. This year they have 6-12 inch Black Walnut seedlings available. These will probably go fast, so those wanting walnut seedlings had better order them soon.

Order blanks from the Soil Conservation Service office or from the District Forester at Creston are available. Orders will be delivered to the SCS office so that they can be picked up when they arrive. This method of delivery has lowered shipping charges.

John Tibben, District Forester at Creston, said that he has two tree planting machines that can be loaned out to anyone doing tree planting.



HAVE SOME: John Tibben, District Forester, hands Kenneth Sickels who farms near Van Wert, a bundle of seedlings for planting. The action took place last April

when the local Soil District office made seedlings available to county residents. Dale Chidester observes the proceedings from the left.

Osceola Sentinel 2-21-74

Soil Conservation District To Sponsor Speech Contest

Plans for the 1974 Soil Conservation Speech Contest for Clarke county youth have been announced by Richard Gonseth, chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District.

Topic for the contest this year will be "Land Use Policy—A Pattern for Prosperity".

District commissioners will be meeting in the near future to determine the dates for the contest and the prizes.

The contest is open to all junior and senior high school students in the county. For more information about the contest, they may contact any of the five Soil Conservation District Commissioners: Richard Gonseth, Doyce Miller, Adrian Fuller, Merrill

McCarty or Merrill Thornton or the district office in Osceola.

Winner of the Clarke county contest will advance to the regional contest where prizes will be \$25, \$15 and \$10 for first, second and third place.

Winner at the state contest will receive a \$250 scholarship plus \$100 in cash. There will also be a \$75 cash prize for second and \$50 cash for third.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1974

Osceola Sentinel

Plan Tuesday Meet Of Rural Water Group

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1974

Osceola Sentinel

Set Final Sign-up for Rural Water Program

Final sign-up for farmers interested in the rural water program for Clarke County must be made by Monday, April 1, Charles McDonough, committee chairman announced this week.

Plans are proceeding for a preliminary study to be made in those townships where sufficient interest has been shown to warrant a rural water program. An 80 percent

sign-up is necessary to make the program workable, McDonough pointed out.

For those farmers who do not sign at the present time, the cost to join will be greater at a later date when additional work has been completed. McDonough also noted that system planning will be done only for those townships where it appears there is enough interest.

Township directors have been attempting to contact all farmers within their area. McDonough reported that in those instances where farmers have been to prior meetings or have been contacted and have had the program explained to them, that there has been a good response.

"Right now, we need to know where we stand," he said.

Farmers are asked to contact their township director if they have not already been contacted. Township directors include Orval Coffman for Liberty, John Webb for Washington, Merrill Thornton for Jackson, Keith Morris for Green Bay, Morris Gonseth for Osceola, Bob Fuller for Knox, Mike Milletich for Ward, Dale Jones for Doyle, Michael Mack for Franklin and Chuck McDonough for Fremont.

In addition, Keith Ticknor and Bill Sirowy can help answer questions pertaining to the water proposal.

Madison and Troy townships have evinced little interest in the project to date.

Signup for the Clarke County Rural Water System is continuing, Charles McDonough, chairman of the steering committee an-

nounced this week.

A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday evening, March 5, at the 4-H building in Osceola to explain the goals of the group that is interested in securing water for farms throughout the entire county.

McDonough stated that a map of the county has been drawn to show the number of farmers within each township that have signed up at the present time. He stated that he was encouraged by the interest shown to date, but that work still remains to be done before preliminary engineering work can be started.

Workers in townships have been contacting neighbors to explain how the rural water system will operate. Since the original plan was initiated in early January, many farmers have been contacted and others have not. It is hoped that these who have not been contacted will attend the March 5 meeting when the plan and approximate costs will be explained.

"We're going to send out reminder cards for the meeting this week," McDonough said, "and we're asking farmers to bring their neighbor with them when they come. We hope to have enough signers to go ahead with this by the end of March."

YCC Meet February 18

Starting at 7:30 p.m. on February 18 the Youth Conservation Committee began their meeting at the SCS Office, located at 820 North Main. Old business was briefly discussed and the talk of new projects was underway.

Every member received a list of projects for the outdoor classroom which contained 24 different ideas. The group is planning to help in developing the outdoor classroom which is located west of the high

school. Planting trees will be one of the first jobs that needs tackling. The group can acquire seedling trees and shrubs from the Iowa State Forest Nursery at a very low cost.

Mr. Melvin Moe, a wildlife biologist from Mt. Ayr attended the meeting and offered many helpful tips for the outdoor classroom. He mentioned to the committee that the pond could be stocked with certain fish, free from the state. Certain requirements must be met first though.

During the meeting it was discussed who and how the committee could get other groups or clubs interested in helping. A few suggestions were the seventh and eighth grade science classes, and maybe the fifth and sixth graders could help plant trees. Any class or organization interested should talk to Keith Ticknor, Mr. Johannes, or Mr. Dolecheck, because there is plenty to be done.

Some of the other plans are to transplant cattails in the marsh (if possible) and also build bird houses and martin houses. Wood chips will be needed and also railroad ties for steps. Large rocks would also be helpful in beautifying the area.

There have been funds set aside in the school budget so the outdoor classroom can be developed a little at a time. The Youth Conservation Committee is going to do their best in helping to develop the area, but it is a very big job and all help will be appreciated.

The next meeting for the committee is set for March 4 at the SCS Office at 7:00 p.m. All members are asked to attend and new members are welcome.

Osceola Sentinel - 3-28-74

Conservation Board

Reviews County Needs

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting Tuesday, March 19 at the Courthouse. Members present were Jim Asmus, Harold Bonnett, Floyd Edwards, chairman Melvin Goeldner and Executive officer Frank Riley. Guests present were Rick Schultz and Joe Swartz, both of the Iowa Conservation Commission.

According to law, the County Historical Society is

eligible to receive funds from the County Conservation Board. After some discussion the Board voted to give the Historical Society \$25 per month.

Needs of the Murray Roadside Park were discussed. The immediate needs are picnic tables, grills, garbage cans and play equipment. The most pressing thing at East Lake Park is the need for an overall plan. Also, the possibility of receiving R.C. and D. funds for East Lake Park was discussed.

Rick Schlutz discussed the need for setting speed limits at both Murray Roadside Park and East Lake Park. The Board decided to set the speed limit at 15 MPH and limit traffic to the designated roadways.

Joe Swartz discussed renewing a management agreement involving the lake at East Lake Park. The agreement is with the State Conservation Commission and concerns the fish population of the lake. The Board decided to renew the agreement.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 16 at the Courthouse.

Osceola Tribune
Johannes Attends
 4-2-74
**Environmental
 Workshop**

David Johannes, an instructor at Clarke Community High School returned from an environmental educational workshop held near Guthrie Center.

Topics covered at the workshop included investigation of the natural and social environment and better methods of teaching preservation of the environment.

A total of 75 educators from over the entire state participated in the program.

Osceola Sentinel 4-4-74
 Extend Sign-up For —

County-Wide Water Project

Between 250 and 300 Clarke County farmers have signed up for the proposed rural county-wide water project that is being proposed, Charles McDonough, chair-

man of the county committee reported this week.

"We feel that the sign-up has gone well in those areas where farmers have been contacted," he said, "and with

the interest that has been shown, we will go ahead with preliminary engineering."

Officers of the program for Clarke County stated that the taking of applications will

continue through the month of April in order to permit those who may not have been contacted and who wish rural water, may still be included in the initial sign-up.

Purpose of the group is to provide water to all farms in the county that desire it. This may be done after a study is made to determine the best water resources, possible routes for lines and an estimate of the costs involved. The preliminary engineering report will provide answers to these questions.

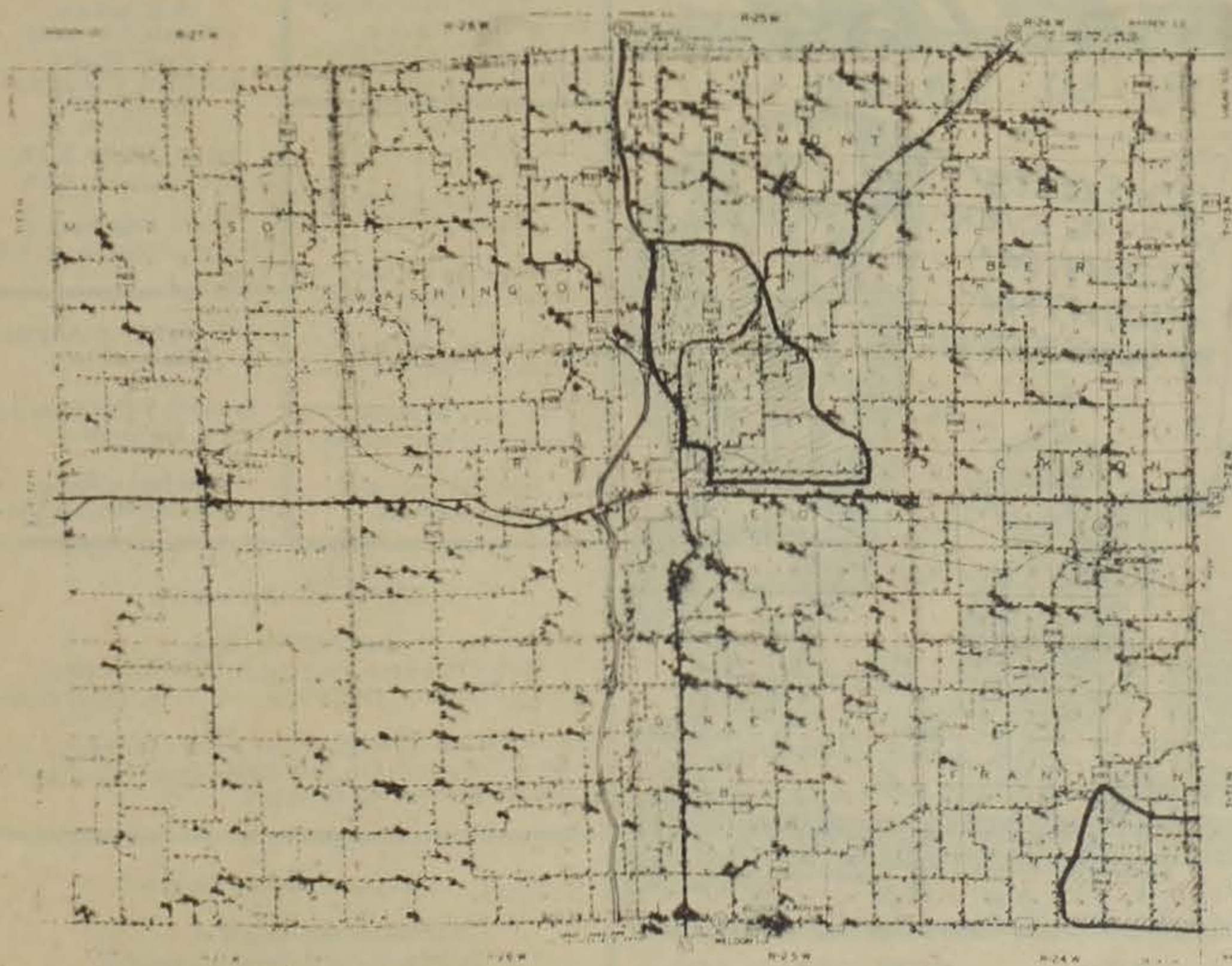
Keith Ticknor pointed out that at this point it is not known how many water sources will be needed. To accommodate all farms in the county, as many as four or five different sources may be needed.

Rural Water District No. 1, the first project to be undertaken in Clarke County, is presently under construction and farmers served on this line should have water by mid-summer. This area is located to the north and east of Osceola.

A second district covers part of Clarke County in the southeast corner of the county. This district is part of the Rathbun District and will serve farmers in part of Franklin Township.

An 80 percent sign-up is desired in a given area for those who desire water. A high percentage of sign-up has been reached in those townships where interest has been shown and contacts made by township directors.

Farmers who desire to learn more about the project or wish to sign up may contact their township director or see Charles McDonough, Keith Ticknor or Bill Sirowy.



The map of Clarke County pictured above shows areas where farmers have signed for rural water. The cross-hatched area to the north and east of Osceola outlines the area of Rural Water District No. 1. The cross-hatched area in the lower right hand

part of the county shows the area included in the Rathbun Regional Water Association. The black pins in the remaining townships shows the farms that have presently signed to have a water engineering survey made.

Land Use Policy Discussed at Meet

A land use policy is an all inclusive and comprehensive approach to solving problems related to the use or misuse of land, Paul M. Coates, Extension Political Scientist at Iowa State University, told a Midcrest Area audience, at a recent meeting.

"The recognition of a need for a land use policy is nothing more than the realization that land is the common base from which society operates. A sound policy on how land is used might do the following", Coates said. Halt helter skelter consumption of land; reduce pollution; conserve timber, wildlife, agricultural land, and other natural resources; reduce conflicts between individuals and between individual and society; insure sound use of all resources.

Coates addressed a land use policy educational meeting sponsored by the Midcrest Extension Area Office of the Iowa State University Extension Service. Some 50 persons attended the meeting held in Creston.

"In the past, we have had slum clearance programs, reforestation programs, or pollution control. All these have been national efforts and all have been directly related to the use of land. We have always attacked these problems separately, when in reality, they are all part of the same problem—prudent and wise use of our land resources", Coates said.

Charles P. Gratto, Iowa State University Extension Economist of Ames, said recognition of changes in our economy also is contributing to the need of a land use policy.

"In the past, we've assumed we've had an economy where there was an unlimited supply of resources, where wastes could be disposed in unlimited space without damage to our environment, and where there was always an unlimited supply of space for our population and its economic activity", he said.

"We now know this is a fallacy. Some people suggest that our economy must be viewed as a spaceship. The spaceship economy assumes no renewing of the supply of resources and no disposal of wastes. Recycling becomes a fundamental fact of survival.

"While a pure spaceship economy may never be necessary, more serious students of ecology are saying we must move in that direction", the ISU economist said. "Some clues to the requirements of the spaceship economy can be gained by examining the activities within Apollo 17.

In Apollo 17, he said: Recycling is a fact of survival; No one can make a move without affecting his companions; the good of the individual must come second to the good of the group; All must follow the accepted rules of behavior; there is a definite limit to the number of occupants.

Translating these conclusions to our world, it appears that eventually we will: Not be allowed to produce anything without regard to society; Ease of recycling will have to be considered when

producing; Individual rights and property rights are related to the good of society, not to the individual alone; Careful planning of production and consumption (use of resources and of space) will be a legal fact; Population must be limited.

"Obviously, these restrictions will be quite a change from the past. And whether we'll have to change to that degree depends on how

far we are forced to adapt the spaceship economy. But these concerns may become realistic within our lifetimes, or in the lifetimes of our children.

"Such restrictions may have to be viewed much like traffic lights. Traffic lights restrict one individual's movement and limit his freedom, but make travel safe for all of us, thus enhancing our rights", Gratto concluded.

Osceola Sentinel
4-4-74

Pasture Management Is Important

Pastures without a doubt are our most neglected crop in this area and also the crop with the most potential for improvement.

Carrying capacity or pounds of beef per acre can either one be at least doubled when going from an unimproved bluegrass pasture to a bluegrass pasture with moderate amounts of fertilizer and weed control. The number of animals that can be carried on a given number of acres or the pounds of beef per acre can be at least tripled by going from unimproved pasture to a birdsfoot trefoil-grass pasture or to a tall grass pasture with 75-100 pounds of nitrogen.

When should a grass pasture be fertilized? This depends on when you need the grass. Each pound of nitrogen will produce about 20 pounds of dry matter up to about 100 pounds of N per acre on bluegrass and up to about 200 pounds of N per acre on tall grass pastures. Because bluegrass, brome, orchard, fescue, and Reed canary grass are all cool season grasses, most of their production is in May and June. By putting nitrogen on the last of May or first of June, grass production can be increased for summer grazing. By applying N about August 1, grass production can be greatly increased for grazing in October, November and December.

A good pasture program will provide other sources of forage besides cool season grasses for use in July, August and September. This could come from birdsfoot trefoil, sudan grass, meadow aftermath or even from our old warm season grasses like switchgrass.

Legume grass pastures do not need nitrogen if the legume comprises at least 50 percent of the stand. They do

have a greater need for phosphorus, potash and lime. A good soil test is the best guideline for recommended amounts.

Any good pasture program must include a good weed control program. A regular clipping program will generally be all that is needed. On grass pastures, one and one-half pounds of 2,4-D per acre in as much water as the sprayer will deliver when the weeds are four to eight inches tall will give good weed control if the pasture is well fertilized and not overgrazed.

When all costs are figured, our unimproved bluegrass comes in a poor second to any of the improved pastures. Improved or renovated

pastures are even cheaper than renting extra unimproved grass

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1974

Schedule 4-County Meeting April 21

A four-county meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 21, at the Clarke Community Junior High Auditorium and will feature A. V. Krebs of the Agri-business Accountability Department, Washington, D.C. Sponsored by the Osceola Ministerial Association, the meeting is designed to explore the future of rural communities.

Krebs, is a corporate research associate, and asks 10 questions that he feels will aid in developing a line of thought concerning the future of the entire rural community.

Some of the questions asked concern the control of farm production, questioning the bigness of agriculture, the independence of American farmers, the continuing availability of a seemingly endless food supply and the role the federal government plays in food production.

Krebs will be assisted with the meeting which will start at 1:30 p.m. by Gerald Brown of the Iowa Council of Churches; E. W. Mueller, Augustana College; F. B. Daniel, Iowa Farm Bureau; Marvan Nissen, N.F.O.; John McRaith, Catholic Rural Life Conference; and local personnel of the four-county Soil Conservation and extension offices.

All persons in the four-county area comprised of Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold and Wayne counties are invited to attend.

REAP Announces Additional Program

An important option has been recently added to the conservation cost-share program in Iowa. With this option, the farmer has several alternatives for obtaining cost-share assistance for the installation of permanent soil conservation practices.

The new Rural Environmental Conservation Program (RECP) authorizes the ASCS County Committee to enter into long term agreements with the farmer for carrying out several conservation practices. The agreement may extend over a

period of three to 10 years. Once the farmer has entered into an agreement with ASCS he is guaranteed federal funds for 50 percent of the cost of installing each practice that is listed in the agreement. In addition to the 50 percent federal cost-share, the farmer entering into a long term agreement will have priority for getting an additional 25 percent cost-share from the state cost-share program making a total of 75 percent cost-share available on the practices under the long term agreement.

The long term agreement plan encourages farmers to carry out whole-farm long term conservation plans. It also makes it possible to carry out conservation practices where benefits in relation to costs are long deferred.

One of the important benefits of long term agreements is that funds are assured for the life of the agreement so that the farmer knows what to count on each year. Other advantages include being able to sign up once for a complete conservation package and complete the work according to a conservation plan on schedule. Contractors can also plan in advance and schedule your work so that you can get it done when you want.

Applications for long term agreements must be received during the month of April only. Therefore, if you are interested in this program, you should make an application immediately.

Additional details on the long term agreement option can be obtained in the SCS office or the ASCS office.

Osceola Sentinel 4-18-74

REAP Funds are Reinstated for '73

The total authorized funding level of \$225.5 million has been released for the reinstated 1973 Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP), the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today. \$140 million of the \$225.5 million had been initially allocated to the states when the program was announced in the fall of 1972.

Kenneth E. Frick, Ad-

ministrators of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), the Agency that administers the program, said the total funding will be allocated to the states according to conservation needs.

The 1973 REAP was terminated in December 1972. It was reinstated in March 1974, following a U.S. District Court decision reversing the termination action and extending the 1973 program through December 31, 1974.

Under the extended REAP, farmers can apply for Federal cost-share assistance for soil and water conservation and environmental protection measures needed on their farms.

REAP will continue to be funded and administered by ASCS along with the recently announced 1974 Rural Environmental Conservation Program (RECP). RECP carries forward some features of REAP, but was designed to strengthen conservation and environmental protection measures. The newer program also has provisions for development, management and protection of private forest lands.

Participation in REAP and RECP is open to all eligible farmers, regardless of race, religion, color, sex or national origin.

In addition to ASCS, other USDA Agencies involved in the operation of REAP and RECP are the Soil Conservation Service, Forest Service and the Extension Service.

The Soil Conservation Service will provide technical assistance, advice and recommendations on policies for soil and water conservation practices including the conservation planning needed for long-term cost-share agreements.

The Forest Service will provide advice and recommendations on policies for all aspects of forestry practices and technical service, including planning assistance to the applicant.

Extension Service will provide educational support and assistance for increasing the effectiveness of the program.

Oscula Sentinel - May 9, 1974



TREE PLANTING: Shown above are part of the fifth grade class taught by Mrs. Leland Hunt at Clarke Community Schools. The class of 100, under the supervision of David Johannes and Keith Ticknor, aided in plant-

ing approximately 150 Scotch Pine and White Pine in the 14-acre outdoor classroom located just west of the Junior High School. In addition to the trees, 150 shrubs were planted with the assistance of the sixth grade class.

Oscula Tribune 6/4/74

Discuss Requisites for Rural Water Plan

Representatives from rural water organizations in Adams, Adair, Clarke, Decatur, Taylor, Ringgold, and Union counties met together May 23, in Creston. James Almquist, Area Extension Director, reported that state FmHA officials had designated Russ Booth as FmHA's staff member to work with the seven-county rural water organization.

Russ Booth, FmHA supervisor, discussed FmHA procedures and requirements for obtaining rural water funding. He stated that FmHA will work with the seven-county organization in developing an area-wide plan. As service areas within the seven-county plan meet sign-up criteria and develop a water source, FmHA will process loans to the seven-county organization for the service areas. Booth explained that a pre-application notice needs to be sent to FmHA as soon as officers are elected.

Towns in the area will need to be contacted regarding their interest in obtaining water. Towns will have the option of granting a franchise to a rural water association or owning the town distribution system and buying water from an association. If the franchise option is preferred, households will need to pay the \$25 membership fee.

Persons present were Lowell Hickman and Algie Link, representing Ringgold county; Robert Briggs, Paul Ackley, and Vane Walston, Taylor county; Paul Kline and Leo Walsh, Union county; Charles McDonough and Mike Miletich, Clarke county; Paul Flowers, Adams county; W. E. Don Carlos and Ralph Wollenhaupt, Adair county; and Loral Hullinger, Decatur county.

The seven-county members voted on a name for the organization. The name selected is Southern Iowa Rural Water Association.

The next meeting is to be June 17, 8:00 p.m., at the Area Extension Office in Creston.

Oscula Sentinel 5/30/74

Water Sampling Slated

A sampling of the quality of water in the Southern Iowa seven county area will be taken May 30 through June 1.

Purpose of the sampling is to further determine the quality of water and the need for a rural water system in the seven county area.

The three day sampling is part of the Rural Water Quality study being conducted by Iowa State University Sanitary Engineering Dept. for Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project Inc. in its Rural Water Development program.

Two farmsteads per township will be contacted over the seven counties. No municipal samplings will be taken at this time, since previous data has been compiled.

Initial contact will be by Tom Ganville and Gary Patton, under the direction of Dr. Al Austin of Iowa State University.

Results will be tabulated and summarized by July 1. Reports will be available upon request from the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project, Inc. after July 1.

Osceola Sentinel 6-13-74

Estimate Bridge, Road Damage at \$100,000

Damages to Clarke County roads may run as high as \$100,000, Clarke County Engineer James Connell reported Tuesday. Recent rains and flooding have washed approaches away to three bridges, he stated, and several other bridges were damaged as a result of high water following rains that amounted to as much as five inches in parts of Clarke and adjoining counties.

Connell stated that he hadn't made a complete check of all roads and bridges in the county as yet, but that a total of six bridges on county roads have been damaged in his rounds to date.

A rough estimate of the cost to repair and replace bridges that were damaged would come to about \$57,000, Connell stated and the other damage was done to roads that were under water and had rock washed away. No amount of damage was available at this time.

Repair work will be started as soon as priorities are determined.



WASHED OUT: This 48-foot bridge on the Otto Huss farm northeast of Osceola was one of the county bridges that succumbed to high waters over the weekend. The bridge spans

Squaw Creek and the approach to the bridge gave way after rains totaling five inches fell in the area. It was one of six bridges in Clarke County damaged by flood waters.

Osceola Tribune - 6-25-74

Rural Water Group Asks Federal Funding

Directors of the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association elected as their chairman Mr. Waldo Don Carlos of Greenfield. Vice-chairman is Paul Flowers, Corning; Secretary is Robert Briggs, Gravity, and Treasurer is Loral Hullinger

of Leon. The association made formal application to Farmers Home Administration for Federal assistance.

The directors set January 1, 1975 as the deadline for signing up for rural water. Each county in the area will be continuing to increase its rural water memberships. Each director will be contacting the communities in his county to determine which communities are interested in joining the rural water association.

The hiring of an engineering firm to do the area rural water feasibility study will occur in the near future. Preliminary contacts are being made.

The Southern Iowa Rural Water Association adopted as policy the following motion relating to county rural water memberships: "An advanced \$25.00 tap-on-fee is to be collected for each liveable dwelling. The first \$25.00 paid to SIRWA is to be considered a membership fee."

Osceola Tribune - 6-25-74

Discuss Progress On Conservation Projects

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting Tuesday, June 18, at the Courthouse. Members present were Floyd Edwards, Bob Cooley and chairman Melvin Goeldner. Others present were guests, Melvin Moe and Rick Schlutz of the State Conservation Commission, John O'Neill, Dale Reasoner and Clint Mullen of the Hopeville area and Frank Riley, executive officer.

The progress being made at the Murray Roadside Park was discussed as there are

now ten picnic tables at the park and trash barrels are appropriately placed. There still needs to be grills and playground equipment placed in the park as well as building walkways. The possibility of having some form of opening ceremony was discussed. East Lake Park was discussed and it is hoped that a site planner will be present at the next Board meeting so an overall plan can be worked out for the entire East Lake area.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, July 16, at 8 p.m. at the courthouse.

Oscala Tribune
7-16-74

Thayer Girl Wins District Speech Contest

Karla Boots, 18, of Thayer was named winner of the Region 8 Soil Conservation Speech Contest held July 11, at the Bedford State Bank in Bedford. Karla represented the Union County Soil Conservation District in the regional competition and received a certificate and a check for \$25 as first place awards. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Boots.

Seventeen year old Warren Angus of Mount Ayr, received second place honors, including a \$15 check and a certificate.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Angus, Warren represented the Ringgold County Soil Conservation District.

Oscala Sentinel - 8-15-74



This Switchgrass pasture is providing ample forage for these cows in Southern Iowa. This "beat the heat" grass grows best in July and August. There are about 1000 acres of warm

season grasses being utilized by cattle this year in Southern Iowa. Photo courtesy of Soil Conservation Service.

Oscala Tribune
9-3-74

River Basin Study Started

A River Basin Study of the Southern Iowa Conservancy District has been started,

according to Wilson Moon, State Conservationist for the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Preliminary work has been conducted by SCS personnel in Taylor County.

"Quite a number of people are curious about the survey work and what it means," said Moon. "The purpose of the river basin study is to develop an inventory and evaluation of land and water resource problems and potential solutions. This includes flooding, need for water supply, recreation and the potential for future development, among other things."

The entire area of Iowa that drains into the state of Missouri is being studied.

"This whole study ties in perfectly with the PL-566 Watershed Program, RC&D Program, and rural water programs," says Richard Gonseth Chairman of the Clarke Soil Conservation District. "It will benefit programs of local people."

All information gathered in the study will be available for use in planning activities, such as the White Breast Creek Watershed Project, and the Southern Iowa Rural water project. The information will be valuable to the Clarke soil conservation district, Gonseth said, as well as other state and local planning agencies.

Public meetings will be held later this year to more fully explain the study. Survey teams will be working in the county periodically.

The Iowa Department of Soil Conservation, Iowa Natural Resources Council, and Southern Iowa Conservancy District are state sponsors for the study. The three USDA agencies conducting the study are the Forest Service, Economic Research Service, and Soil Conservation Service.

Oscala Tribune
8-6-74

Name Lana New Director Of SICG

Patrick Lana has been named to the new position of Executive Director of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments, (previously the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project, Inc.)

The appointment was made by the Executive committee on Friday, July 26 and announced today by Earl Wheelen of Maloy, Chairman of the Council. The appointment is subject to concurrence by EDA.

Lana, a native of Swisher, Iowa has served as Planning Director of South Iowa Regional Planning Agency, the areawide planning division of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments. Previously he was a community planner in the Central Iowa Regional Association of Local Governments, and is a graduate of Iowa State University, Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning. Lana is married and has two children.

The Southern Iowa Council of Governments is currently sponsoring the Area Agency on Aging and its elderly programs; the Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project; and the Southern Iowa Regional Planning Agency. It is also continuing to assist in the development of the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association and the Regional Housing Authority. Operating funds for the council are from local units of government, EDA, HUD, USDA, and HEW, with policy being set by the appointed representatives of local governments.

Purpose of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments is to provide the framework of local leadership to plan and implement projects for the overall development of Area XIV, which includes the counties of; Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union.

The new position was made possible by a \$50,000 grant from EDA. The council is now embarking on an areawide Economic Program.

Meeting in Ft. Dodge

Richard Gonseth, Doyce Miller, Adrian Fuller, and Maxine Kimball all District Commissioners in Clarke County Soil Conservation District, were among the more than 500 people attending a state meeting in Fort Dodge September 8-10. A new record was set for attendance at the 28th Annual Conference for Soil Conservation District Commissioners of Iowa.

David Unger, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Conservation Districts, praised Iowa as one of the most progressive states in soil conservation work. He told the group their work would be more challenging in the next 10 years, as they would become more involved in surface mine reclamation, sediment control, agricultural runoff pollution, and land use planning.

He cited the need for districts to get more technical assistance by rebuilding the corps of Soil Conservation Service personnel. He also said the soils information and other resource material available from Districts inevitably will involve them in land use planning.

Bryan Erb of the Lyndon Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, explained how National Aeronautics and Space Administration computers, scanners and electronic equipment gathers resource information from satellites. A number of agriculture agencies are devising ways to use the information.

The group learned about agriculture in the Soviet Union from Dr. Ivan Gavva, agricultural counselor of the Soviet Union in Washington, D. C. Dr. Gavva called war the single largest destroyer of soil. According to Gavva, only one percent of the Soviet Union's land receives more than 28" of rainfall a year. Irrigation, water conservation, and crop rotations are concepts being concentrated on in the Soviet Union.

Assistant Secretary of Interior John Kyl brought commissioners up to date on the Mined-Land Reclamation Act now in conference in Congress. The bill would

establish a nationwide program to prevent adverse effects to society from coal mining operations and would involve local districts and agencies in implementations.

Kyl said there is not enough money being spent on conservation or enough interest in taking care of soil and water resources.

SOIL CONSERVATION
820 N MAIN
OSCEOLA IA. 50213

Oscula Tribune
9-10-74

State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

Proclamation

- Whereas,** the orderly development and wise use of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation programs are essential to sustain and enhance both rural and urban standards of living, and to protect and improve the environment of this state and maintain an adequate food supply for people all around the world; and
- Whereas,** the State of Iowa and the one hundred soil conservation districts within the state are coordinating and conducting a constructive program of soil and water conservation, flood prevention and related natural resources development to meet the demands of today's farms, ranches and cities; and
- Whereas,** it is imperative that we continue our efforts in soil and water conservation, watershed programs, resource conservation and development projects and advance the programs of our conservancy districts and other areas where opportunities are available to accelerate this important work;

Now, Therefore, I, Robert D. Ray, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim the week of September 8-15, 1974, as

Soil and Water Conservation Week

in Iowa, and urge all citizens of our state to participate in soil and water conservation programs or lend assistance to those responsible for conducting these programs so that even greater progress can be made and more emphasis devoted to this important endeavor.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 28th day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-four.

Attest:

William E. Schlot
Secretary of State

Robert D. Ray
Governor

Osceola Tribune - 9-24-74



Using a test kit to determine the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water, Mr. Dave Johannes leads his Bio 104 - Ecology Environment students in an outdoor classroom experiment.

Osceola Tribune - 9-24-74



Row, Row, Row, The Boat! Two Bio 104 students drop containers into the outdoor classroom pond to get samples of water at various levels.

Osceola Sentinel SOIL 11-14-74

The disastrous soil losses this past spring are still fresh in the minds of most Iowa farmers, but many are plunging into another crop year doing the same things that made last spring's soil losses the worst in 25 years, according to Wilson Moon, state conservationist for the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

"We see many farmers fall plowing, and removing corn stalks for silage, bedding, 'big bale' feed, and other uses. We know many people are short on hay, but taking away that protection for the soil opens the door for the same kind of soil losses we had

this year," Moon warned.

"Corn stalks, bean stalks and other residue aren't wasted when they're left on the ground, as some advertisements would have you believe," Moon says. "The stalks are organic matter, and organic matter is the life of the soil. You won't get productivity without organic matter in the soil."

John Maddy, agronomist for SCS in Iowa, joined in Moon's harvest time warning to farmers. "Organic matter and top soil are more important in drought periods and when fertilizer is not readily available," Maddy said.

"It takes more than fertilizer, new varieties and large machinery to grow a bumper crop," he added. "High levels of organic matter are essential for high yields," Maddy said.

Osceola Tribune

Two Attend 10/22/74

Conservation Workshop

May Cooper, Fourth grade teacher and Leona Eddy, third grade teacher in Clarke Community Schools, attended the annual Iowa Conservation Education Council workshop near Luther, on Friday, October 11.

Participants were involved in work sessions regarding aquatic, forest, and soils investigations. Nature photography, learning activity packets, and environmental games activities were also offered during this day's activities. The Iowa Soil Conservation Service presented the Saturday, October 12, program. Area Soil Conservation speech and display winner awards were also presented at this meeting.

Osceola Sentinel 11-14-74

Rural Water Program Progress on Schedule

Charles McDonough, Chairman of the County Rural Water Committee, reported that plans for the Southern Iowa Rural Water project are progressing on schedule. Even though little has been reported on the project this past summer, a lot of work was being accomplished by the seven county Rural Water Association Board.

Mike Miletich, Clarke County, was appointed as chairman of a committee of three to screen engineering firms interested in the project.

Serving with Miletich is Lowell Hickman, Ringgold County and Paul Kline, Union County. All engineering firms have been interviewed and the name of the firm selected will be announced soon.

McDonough stressed, that since an engineering study will be starting, it is important that everyone interested in obtaining water get signed up now so that they will be included in the study.

Persons wanting to sign up should contact any one of the following Board members: Orval Coffman, Liberty

Township, John Webb, Washington Township, Merrill Thornton, Jackson Township, Keith Morris, Green Bay Township, Morris Gonseth, Osceola Township, Bob Fuller, Knox Township, Mike Miletich, Ward Township, Dale Jones, Doyle Township, Michael Mack, Franklin Township, and Charles McDonough, Madison Township. You may also sign up in the Soil Conservation Office or in the County Extension Office.

All sign-ups should be in by January 1, 1975. After this date, the membership fee will

increase from \$25 to \$35.

A water quality study was completed this summer by Iowa State University. The results of the study will be published at a later date. This information will be useful in obtaining funding and in determining the kinds and locations of water supplies.

A formal application to F.H.A. for financial assistance was also made this summer. In addition, steps are being taken to obtain federal grant assistance for part of the engineering and other costs.

Osceola Tribune
11-26-74

Receive Check For \$5,638.35

The regular meeting of the Clarke County Conservation Board was held Tuesday, November 19, at 8:00 p.m. in the courthouse. Members present were Floyd Edwards, Harold Bonnett, Chairman, Melvin Goeldner, and executive officer, Frank Riley. Guests present were Bob Butts, from the W. G. Jacques Company of Des Moines and Keith Ticknor, District Soil Conservationist.

First item of business was the announcement that the Conservation Board had received a check for \$5,638.35 from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. This is the second payment for the Murray Roadside Park under the cost sharing program. This makes a total of \$7,569.47 that the Board has received under this program.

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ASC Committeemen Elected for 1975

Results of the election of ASC community committeemen for 1975 were announced today by Merrill McCarty, Chairman of the Clarke County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Committee. Farmers elected to the committees include:

DOYLE — J. T. O'Neill, Grand River; Garland Holland, Thayer; Marvin Blair, Grand River; L. Dale Reasoner, Grand River and Francis Chamberlain, Murray.

FRANKLIN — Darrel Kelso, Weldon; Wayne Whitham, Woodburn; Raymond Jamison, Weldon; Edwin Herndon, Woodburn and Lloyd R. Phillips, R. 4, Osceola.

FREMONT — Robert Creveling, R. 5, Osceola; Keith Davis, R. 4, Osceola; Albert L. Hildreth, R. 4, Osceola; Dean Halvorsen, R. 5, Osceola and James Horton, R. 4, Osceola.

GREENBAY — Chas. W. Phillips, R. 3, Osceola; Norman Owens, Weldon; Harold A. Marshall, Weldon; Tommy Whitham, R. 4, Osceola and John P. (Jack) Klein, Weldon.

JACKSON — Frank A. Pontier, R. 4, Osceola; Condon Clark, Woodburn; Loren Herndon, Woodburn; Roger Grimm, Woodburn and Ronald Whitham, Woodburn.

KNOX — George McCann, R. 3, Osceola; David C. Curnes, R. 3, Osceola; Richard Barr, R. 3, Osceola; Larry Redman, R. 3, Osceola and Everett L. Morgan, R. 3, Osceola.

LIBERTY — Kenneth

Henry, Woodburn; W. Kent White, Woodburn; Vernard Wilkins, Woodburn; Donald Perry, Woodburn and Ronald Henry, Woodburn.

MADISON — Raymond Wallace, Murray; Terry A. Smith, Murray; Lane Siefkas, Murray; Bill Sheesley, Murray and Larry Miller, Murray.

OSCEOLA — Billie Chase, Route 4, Osceola; John Nervig, R. 4, Osceola; Charles Kent, R. 4, Osceola; Kenneth Van Winkle, R. 4, Osceola and Oral Eddy, R. 3, Osceola.

TROY — Monty L. Chew, Murray; Galen Nadolsky, Murray; Wayne Phillips, Murray; Gary Robins, Murray and Elmer Nash, Murray.

WARD — Wendell McCarty, R. 2, Osceola; Floyd Edwards, R. 2, Osceola; Bill Kelso, R. 3, Osceola; Merrill Dorland, R. 3, Osceola and Keith Weakland, R. 2, Osceola.

WASHINGTON — Wayne B. Nelson, Truro; Lester Patterson, R. 2, Osceola; Robert Snyder, Truro; Aubrey Simmerman, Truro and Jerry Kelly, R. 2, Osceola.

Positions listed in sequence of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Regular Member, 1st Alternate and 2nd Alternate.

The ASC community committee chairman, vice-chairman and third member automatically become delegates to the county convention, where farmers are elected to fill vacancies on the County ASC Committee. Alternate community committeemen become alternate delegates to the convention. The ASC County Convention

will be held Saturday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. at the Osceola Public Library basement. After county committeemen are elected, the delegates determine which of the regular committeemen will serve as committee chairman and vice-chairman for 1975.

ASC county and community farmer committees are in charge of local administration of national farm programs as Feed Grain Production Adjustment, Rural Environmental Conservation Program, Price Support for agricultural commodities, Wool subsidy and farm storage and drying equipment loan program. In 1974 95 percent of all the farmers in the county took part in one or more of the programs administered by the ASC committees.

Osceola Sentinel 12-12-74

TILE

Mr. Landowner:

Last year those of you that wanted to put in tile couldn't get it. The farm owners and contractors that bought tile last winter and got it on the farm, got their tiling done this spring. Those that did not get tile last winter, very few of them were able to get tile this spring and consequently were not able to get their tiling done. In my opinion it will be worse next year and probably higher. During the winter months while the machines are shut down, my supplier assured me a limited but steady supply of tile. So do yourself and your contractor a favor, order and stock your tile this winter, and be first on the list and ready to go this spring. Limited supply weekly, first come first serve basis.

If you are interested in tile for next year:

Phone 515-333-4453

only after 7 p.m. in evening or

Write:

Roscoe Brown, Lenox, Iowa 50851

9512

Osceola Sentinel
12/26/74

Youth Group

To Pick Up

Xmas Trees

Members of the Youth Conservation Committee of Clarke Community High School will sponsor a Christmas tree pickup for residents of the community. Trees will be picked up Friday and Saturday, January 3 and 4.

Osceola will be divided into two parts with students starting on their rounds at 9:30 a.m. and working both days. Persons who live in the country and wish to dispose of their trees may leave them behind the high school where they will be collected.

Members of the Conservation group stated that the trees will be chipped and used to cover a trail that will be used on the outdoor classroom west of the building complex.

Osceola Tribune
11-26-74

Receive Check For \$5,638.35

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Osceola Sentinel 12-12-74

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Town & Country Journal 11-21-74

Rural water project progressing

Charles McDonough, Chairman of the County Rural Water Committee, reported that plans for the Southern Iowa Rural Water project are progressing on schedule. Even though little has been reported on the project this past summer, a lot of work was being accomplished by the seven county Rural Water Association Board.

Mike Miletich, Clarke County, was appointed as chairman of a committee of three to screen engineering firms interested in the project. Serving with Miletich is Lowell Hickman, Ringgold County and Paul Kline, Union County. All engineering firms have been interviewed and the name of the firm selected will be announced soon.

McDonough stressed, that since an engineering study will be starting, it is important that everyone interested in obtaining water get signed up now so that they will be included in the study.

Persons wanting to sign up should contact any one of the following Board members: Orval Coffman, Liberty Twp., John Webb, Washington Twp., Merrill Thornton, Jackson Twp., Keith Morris, Green Bay Twp., Morris Gonseth, Osceola Twp., Bob Fuller, Knox Twp., Mike Miletich, Ward Twp., Dale Jones, Doyle Twp., Michael Mack, Franklin Twp., and Charles McDonough, Madison Twp.. You may also sign up in the Soil Conservation Office or in the County Extension Office.

All sign-ups should be in by January 1, 1975. After this date, the membership fee will increase from \$25 to \$35.

A water quality study was completed this summer by Iowa State University. The results of the study will be published at a later date. This information will be useful in obtaining funding and in determining the kinds and locations of water supplies.

A formal application to F.H.A. for financial assistance was also made this summer. In addition, steps are being taken to obtain federal grant assistance for part of the engineering and other costs.

Osceola Sentinel 12-12-74

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12-31-74

Picture - youth Bd. picking
up Christmas Trees

Osceola Tribune
**Speidel Joins
CCSC Staff**
1-21-75



David Speidel

Joining the Clarke County Soil Conservation staff this fall is David Speidel, according to Keith Ticknor, District Conservationist.

Speidel, a native of Missouri assumed his new position of Soil Conservationist in October of 1974. He is a graduate of Southwest Missouri State College in 1973 with a major in Agronomy and minor in Chemistry.

Following his graduation from college he spent some time farming before coming to Osceola.

Osceola Tribune
**Problems Facing
The Farmer**
1-21-75

Today people have much interest in the problems farmers face, the future of agriculture and their future. There are several practices and farming systems which farmers use to solve their problems and assure a future for agriculture. The oldest, most simple and common practice is crop rotation. The rotation of crops is a planned succession of different crops on the same land. A common rotation would be: corn, soybeans, oats (a cover crop) and two years of meadow.

The reasons and benefits for a good rotation system are many. Early in the growing of crops, farmers noticed that some crops would do better

when the crop followed a different crop. Also, that some fields would play out in a few years and they would have to be returned to a natural state before they would become productive again - if at all. The benefits of a good rotation are several, but the major ones would be. (1) Close growing crops reduce erosion, and severe erosion permanently reduces fertility. (2) Close growing crops and a year-around living cover improve the soil's tilth (looseness).

This is done by the internal working of the roots and organisms which open the soil up and dry it out uniformly, rather than drying from the top only. This leaves a loose and fertile soil which is much more productive than an over worked soil. There is just simply a world of difference between a live healthy soil which has been respected and one that has been worked half to death.

It should also be mentioned that rotations help control weeds and insects. A legume in the rotation will supply a cheap supply of nitrogen. Also, a good rotation will provide a uniform income by having equal yield producing acres planted to each crop. This also distributes the work load and machinery requirement for the farm.

Osceola Sentinel
Schedule
1-9-75

Public Meetings

A series of public information meetings will be held in Southern Iowa to explain a broad resource study of the area. The meetings will be held to get local problems and ideas for improvements included in the study, called the Southern Iowa River Basin Study.

The meeting for this area will be held January 15, 1 p.m., at the Southwestern Community College in Creston.

"We would like your participation at these meetings," says George Annan, State Committee representative for the study. "The purpose of a River Basin Study is to develop an inventory and evaluation of land and water resource problems and potential solutions. These include flooding, need for water supply and recreation that have potential for future development, as well as social and economic problems. We need all ideas possible."

"The entire area of Iowa that drains into the State of Missouri is being studied. The area takes in all or parts of 25 counties. It will take several years to gather the needed background information before a final report is written," Annan says.

All information gathered will be available for local and state use in planning resource improvements.

The Iowa Department of Soil Conservation, Iowa Natural Resource Council, and Southern Iowa Conservancy District are state sponsors for the study. Three USDA agencies conducting

(Continued on Back Page)

the study are the Forest Service, Economic Research Service and the Soil Conservation Service.

Representative from these groups will be at the meetings to explain the study and record local ideas for study.

Local people or representatives of special interest groups who desire studies to be made which would be of benefit to them are encouraged to attend.



Contour Farming A—

Good Conservation Practice

There has been much concern about our depleting resources which supply many of our industries. The Agriculture industry does not have as great of a problem in this respect, since its major resource, the soil, is a renewable resource. The trick is to keep the soil where the farmer can use it. Contour farming is a practice which does that.

Contour farming is working the field with the lay of the land, such that the furrows created run only at a slight grade. But often fields are worked square with the field boundary and across the slope. Farming across the

slope is done at a right angle to the general drainage of the field. The problem which results from this type of operation is that the water that collects in the level furrows may have to run down steeper furrows and then break over the rows or run into a waterway uncontrolled.

Contouring reduces this runoff by making each furrow a small dam allowing water to soak in. Contouring is most effective on moderate slopes and this is improved when used with other conservation practices. When contour farming is used religiously, the soil is saved, and in addition other benefits may be

realized. (1) With the extra water, yields may increase. (2) Farming on the contour goes around the hill which takes less fuel than going up a hill. (3) Stopping the erosion will save fertilizer and seed from being washed away and prevent the need for replanting. (4) Fertilizer will be saved by enabling the farmer to gear his fertilizer and plant population to one soil type rather than juggling between two or three different soil yielding abilities. This is possible since these different yielding potentials may be found to be separated on a hillside when farmed along the contour.

Contour farming is the least

expensive mechanical practice that a farmer can apply and he doesn't have to wait to apply it. This makes contour farming a good conservation practice to apply now to land being put back into production or longer crop rotations. And when time and money permits more intensive practices to be applied, there will still be good soil left to make it worth while.

Now is a good time to decide what fields should be contoured and how they should be laid out. The Soil Conservation Service can do this at no cost from now till planting time. If you would like help please contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Osceola Sentinel Seedling Orders

Now Being Taken

Orders for tree seedlings to be used for spring reforestation, erosion control and wildlife habitat are now being accepted, Gene Hertel, State Forester for the Iowa Conservation Commission announces. According to Hertel, the plants are very low in cost while their value to conservation is immeasurable.

Evergreen trees available include several species of pines. A number of hardwoods are also being offered for interplanting in native woodlands. Wildlife cover shrubs are available as well as the popular wildlife packet, which features 200 seedlings particularly beneficial to Iowa wildlife.

Hardwood and conifer seedlings and wildlife shrub plants will be shipped or can be picked up from the State Forest Nursery at Ames sometime between April to early May. Persons interested in placing an order or securing additional information are urged to contact Conservation Commission personnel or county offices of the Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service, or the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

For free forestry advice on tree planting and other timber matters, Hertel encouraged Clarke County residents to contact the District Forester, P.O. Box 2, Creston, 50801.

Osceola Tribune Conservationists

To Denver 1-28-75

The Youth Conservation is an active club in the school and community. They have participated in many outdoor activities; such as planting trees and gathering old Christmas trees for chipping. The chips are being used for a path through the outdoor classroom.

Two members of this club will be sent to Denver, Colorado for a National Conservation Convention. They are Chris Baker, the president of the club and Belinda Wickham, who is vice-president. Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Fuller will travel with the girls. They will leave by car February 1st about 10:00 a.m. and will travel until they arrive at North Platte, Nebraska, where they will spend the night. In Denver they will stay in the Hilton Hotel.

The convention will be held in the Hilton Hotel also. Many guest speakers and other conservationists are on the agenda to speak. On the 5th of February the girls will travel via train back to Osceola.

An undertaker married a snake charmer and had their towels marked "Hiss" and "Hearse."

RC&D Members List '75 Priorities

Reorganization of the Clarke County Recreation, Conservation and Development board was held at their Friday, January 10, meeting which was held in the Soil Conservation Office in Osceola.

Chairman Richard Hill was elected to serve as chairman of the Board with Clayton Scott as vice-chairman.

Melvin Goeldner was elected to serve as secretary-treasurer with Goeldner to also serve as chairman of the area recreation and forestry committee and Ron Henry to serve on the area RC&D committee.

Discussion was held as to needs within the county with chairman Hill suggesting a combined program of the three county communities to accomplish the needed projects.

Projects that are needed by county residents included sewer and water, additional housing, solid waste disposal and a hardsurfaced runway for the airport.

Osceola Mayor Jack Jeffreys reported that the Osceola Water Board is considering raising the dam at West Lake. He felt the priority needs of Osceola were paving first, raising dam second; a second water tower at the industrial park and looping water mains.

The group approved the review of the airport plan as presented.

RC&D Group To

Meet Feb. 25

The Clarke County RC&D Board is sponsoring an informational meeting on Southern Iowa's Initial draft of the Areawide Development Plan completed by Southern Iowa Council of Governments. Citizens of Clarke County are invited to attend the meeting to give their viewpoints on the issues raised in the area's comprehensive plan.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 on February 25, at the SCS Office in Osceola.

Copies of the Areawide Development Plan are available for inspection at Soil Conservation Service in Clarke County or the Southern Iowa Council of Governments Office, in Creston.

Oscoda Tribune
Soil Is 3/4/75

Renewable

Farmers use soil conservation practices to maintain their fields productivity from one generation to another. Since the soil is a renewable resource, a resource which can be used over again, the first thing the farmer has to do to assure continued productivity is to keep the soil on his farm. The most effective conservation practice which does this on an erosive soil is terraces.

Terraces retard the flow of water and thereby reduce this flow down to a nonerosive rate as the water leaves the field. Terraces can often be made to "fit" the field and the type of farming employed. If a field is suited to contouring, graded terraces are well suited for this type of field and will allow the field to be row cropped much harder, safely than it could if farmed only on the contour. Those fields which lay well, but have an erosion problem, a parallel terrace will do a good job of stopping the erosion without getting in the way of farm machinery. In some fields both parallel and contour terraces can be worked into a terrace system to make the best system that is easy to farm.

In addition to providing erosion protection, terraces, by removing the excess water from a field, will allow the field to "dry out" sooner. This is accomplished by keeping the excess water from the upper slopes off the lower portion of the field. This is a very valuable additional benefit which is received by incorporating a terrace system into a farm operation.

How much a field needs to be terraced depends on how hard the farmer wants to farm the field now and in the future, how the land lays, the shape of the field, and the type of soil. Also, the amount of additional benefits the farmer would receive depends on these factors. The Soil Conservation Service can determine both the fields that need to be terraced and the benefits that would be received. If you have any questions on terraces or the type of conservation practices you should use on your fields, please feel free to ask the Soil Conservation Service.

Oscoda Sentinel 2-27-75
**Discuss Possibility of
Raising East Lake Dam**

The regular meeting of the Clarke County Conservation Board was held Tuesday, February 18, 8 p.m. in the courthouse. Members present were Jim Asmus, Bob Cooley, Floyd Edwards and chairman Melvin Goeldner. Other present were Joe Schwartz, Fisheries Biologist of the State Conservation Commission, Rick Schlutz, Conservation Officer of the State Conservation Commission and Dave Spiedel of

the Soil Conservation Service.

Goeldner reported on attending an area Conservation Board meeting at Glenwood on January 23, an R.C. and D. meeting at Creston on January 29 and a meeting in Ames on February 3, 4 and 5.

The Board discussed the location of the horseshoe courts at East Lake Park. At the January 21 meeting the Board discussed improving the courts. There is a possibility that in the process of raising the dam the base of the dam would be widened. This might require the horseshoe courts to be relocated.

Schwartz reported on the survey of the fish population in the lake at East Lake Park.

Spiedel visited with the Board about the development of East Lake Park. He presented the Board with a time-table for the development of a plan.

The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m. with the next meeting of the Conservation Board being held Tuesday, March 18 at 8 p.m. at the courthouse.

Oscoda Tribune 2-4-75
**Farmers Hear
Of Land Use**

Several Clarke County farmers met Thursday night, January 30, in the courthouse to hear information pertinent to the possibility of land use in Iowa. The meeting, conducted by Keith Ticknor and Alan Teel, dealt with the decisions that might affect use of land in Iowa if laws are implemented along this line.

The workshop showed that considerations are broader than the details of local planning, zoning and building regulations. Comprehensive planning and the use of broad regulations to implement a plan for minimizing conflicts over future land use, minimize cost of future development, maintain more land for agriculture and to preserve sites, corridors and land quality that is beyond the horizon for private economic decisions.

Population levels in coming years and the situations that may arise without planning were discussed.

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Oscoda Tribune 3/4/75
**Conservationists Discuss
World Food Needs**

Doyce Miller, Maxine Kimball, Adrian and Irene Fuller, Chris Baker and Belinda Wickham, were among 2,000 conservationists participating in the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) convention in Denver, Colorado, February 2 to 6.

One of the groups major concerns is current land use legislation before the U. S. Congress. NACD approved a resolution to work for and support federal land use legislation that recognizes local concerns and the economic as well as environmental values.

NACD also approved a resolution to improve America's pastures and rangelands. The resolution stated that the projected increase in demand for red meat and the diversion of feed grains for human food and other uses are of vital importance. George R. Bagley, NACD president, St. Joseph, Louisiana, addressed the convention and called on conservation districts and other local and state governing bodies to accept greater responsibilities in resource protection and development.

In other excerpts from his speech Bagley asserted, "We

need increased support from the decision making officials in the executive branches of state and federal government...this is the time to state our case. It doesn't mean that we want to detract from the importance of schools, air quality, or mass transit. It does mean that we want soil and water right up there — sharing the focus of attention and priority with other high-ranking needs and goals of America."

Oscoda Tribune 3/4/75
**Soil District to
Sponsor Poster Contest**

Adrian Fuller, Commissioner, Clarke County Soil Conservation District, announced that the District will sponsor a conservation poster contest for all sixth grade students in Clarke County during the month of March.

Theme for the contest is "Soil and Water Conservation—our Strength for the Future". First prize winner will receive a \$10 check. In addition, there will be five \$5.00 prizes and ten honorable mention. All posters will be displayed at the 1975 Clarke County fair.

Posters should be 12" x 18" to 16" x 24" and on tag board

or on construction paper pasted on a cardboard backing. All work is to be free hand drawing. Nothing should be pasted on or protruding from the poster.

Students must put their name, address, school and teachers name on the back of the poster. Posters should be turned in to each sixth grade teacher and will be picked up March 26.

The posters will be judged on originality, neatness, simplicity and subject matter. Names of the judges will be announced at a later date. Judging and awarding of prizes will be completed during the first part of May.

Development of East Lake Park

Surveying at East Lake park was started last week so that detailed plans can be made for repairing the dam and developing the area for recreation. The survey work was done by T. J. Laing, Dale Chidester, Elmer Vanderpluym and David Speidel of the Soil Conservation Service.

Holes were drilled through the ice every 50 feet on the lake to determine the volume of the lake and the degree of

siltation that has taken place. It was found that the lake was deeper than expected.

The deepest place was 16.5 feet and was found between 100 and 200 feet upstream from the dam. The water continued to be quite deep over most of the lake with water still eight to ten feet deep near the upper end. This should relieve the concern that the lake would have to be dredged in the near future.

The ice was approximately

a foot thick and four inch holes were drilled through it.

Consideration is being given towards replacing the old concrete spillway with a 30 to 36 inch pipe similar to what is used in many farm ponds. To do this, the dam will have to be raised and rebuilt. The present spillway has broken up and nearly washed out so that it is beyond repair.

Other plans in the park will include opening all of the area up for use by adding roads in the northeast side and the west side.

Picnicking and camping will be improved by adding shelterhouses, restrooms, campsites and other facilities.

By reviewing old newspapers and minutes of city council meetings, it was found that the dam was built in 1915 and 1916 for use as a city water supply.

It was designed by Hall Engineering of Centerville and built by James O'Leary. Some residents who are past middle age, may have either worked on the dam or remember when it was built.

A copy of the engineering plan for the dam has not been found and more information about how it was built is needed. Persons having information about the dam, are asked to call the Soil Conservation Service office.



IT'S DEEP: A check is made of the depth of East Lake by members of a Soil Conservation Crew. T. J. Laing does the chore of cutting a hole through the ice as depth measurements are taken. The measuring rod is shown by his

left foot. Depths of the lake were found to be between 10 and 15 feet as most of the lake remains unsilted. Pictured left to right are Elmer Vanderpluym, Dave Speidel, Dale Chidester and T. J. Laing.

Give Slide

Presentation On Pastures

Bob Cooley of Saylor-Cooley Grain Co. and Ortho Chemical Company gave a slide presentation to several interested farmers on a method of renovating old pastures for greater forage production.

This method uses paraquat and a no tillage type planter to interseed improved grasses and legumes in old pastures.

The paraquat (a chemical) is sprayed on the old pasture first—let's say bluegrass. This chemical causes the bluegrass to go dormant (stop growing) for three to six weeks. Then the planter which can cut a slit in the sod is used. This planter gives very good soil to seed contact for good germination. With the old pasture in a dormant state no competition is given the new seedling, but without any loss of soil moisture from plowing and disking and with the dead grass leaves overhead acting as a mulch, results in an excellent water conservation practice. This is like mulching and watering a garden, but how often can you mulch and water a 20 or 40 acre field?

And then after three to six weeks the bluegrass will start growing and you'll have a new improved pasture without any risk of soil erosion.

Several of the farmers there thought it was a great way to renovate small, odd shaped pieces and steep hill sides.

With about 30 percent of Clarke County being so steep that if plowed up for just one year of row crop could have five tons or more soil lost per acre. This new method would be a great boost to Clarke County's pastures. Spring is the time to renovate your pastures, so if you would like more information Saylor-Cooley Grain, the SCS or the County Extension can help you.

Soil Conservation —

Warning on Soil Erosion

Last year an increased acreage was plowed up and planted and erosion was the worst in 25 years. This year the potential is the same again unless precautions are taken.

The stakes are especially high here in southern Iowa. Where farmers are keeping land in row crops longer, the soil becomes increasingly weaker and more prone to erode. Often on the side slopes, the old glacial till is close to the surface and may become exposed. This till is often an old buried soil that has been covered over by rich wind blown top soil. So in fact when a Southern Iowa farmer gambles another year or two of row crop before he seeds it back down, he is putting up his rich, but thin, top soil for an old, worn out "second hand" soil. These stakes are terribly high with such poor odds,

since this old clay will never produce economically.

It is dependent of commercial fertilizer (which is getting higher) and it is so heavy that it could take 60 to 100 percent more horsepower, just to plow the same field.

To compound the problem, last year's wet spring and then the drought, caused a shortage of forage. To correct this problem farmers took corn stalks off their fields for winter feed. The loss of this protective cover gives an even greater chance for erosion on cropland this spring.

Right now the conservation practices which can be applied this spring before planting time are contouring, conservation (minimum) tillage, seeding problem areas down to hay or small grain and some terraces could still be built. These practices, with the exception of terraces, do not cost, and they may increase net return.

You can get recommendations now from the Soil Conservation District office on how to produce more on those fields which you plan to row crop more years than in the past, while you protect your soil.

Osceola Sentinel
4-3-75

Conservation — Full Time Job

If you have a farm you always have something to do. What to do first, when to do it, what it will cost, and will it pay are the big questions you have, but a conservation plan will answer a lot of them. It provides a blueprint for developing your farm into what you would like to have. This conservation plan is a detailed analysis of your farm's problems and lists the solutions by management of the farm's key factors, its Soil and Water.

Water management and soil erosion control practices are the key to having a productive farm. With this in mind, your plan will start out with a detailed inventory of your farm's soils and their capabilities. The farm layout, the type of operation that you have and what you would like to develop your farm into are all taken into account. Then with your past experience and the Soil Conservation Service's experience, your plan is made which will answer your questions and provide a means to solve your problems.

The final decisions of what needs to be done to solve your farm's problems are made by you with the advice of the Soil Conservation District personnel. And the schedule of carrying out these decisions are made by you and according to your financial ability.

Whether you want to apply some conservation practices this spring, this fall, or next year is your decision. But whenever you do, the Soil Conservation Service will help you. If you would like this help please feel free to ask your Soil Conservation District.

Osceola Tribune 3-25-75

Hopeville Square Is Conservation Project

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting Tuesday, March 18, at 8 p.m. at the courthouse. Members present were Floyd Edwards, Harold Bonnett and chairman Melvin Goeldner. Others present were Frank Riley, executive officer, Keith Ticknor and Dave Speidel of the Soil Conservation Service and Rick Schlutz Conservation

Officer of the State Conservation Commission.

The Board discussed the youth leadership camp to be held at Springbrook Park, getting summer help through the Neighborhood Youth Corp program, and the Budget.

Frank Riley reported that the Hopeville Square Park has been officially transferred to the County Conservation Board. The Board discussed some improvements that might be made at the Hopeville's Park during the summer.

The Board then discussed the Murray Roadside Park with the main item being the hardsurfacing of the park road.

Keith Ticknor and Dave Speidel discussed the progress being made on the R.C. and D. project at East Lake Park. The Board signed an agreement to allow R.C. and D. to give technical assistance to the Board in Forrestry and shrubbery work.

A final item of business was that the Board decided to post East Lake Park for NO hunting. The meeting adjourned at 9:30. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 15, 8 p.m. at the courthouse.

Osceola Sentinel
3-7-75

Watershed Board To Meet April 7

Don Short, Chairman of the White Breast Watershed Board, announced that they are holding a meeting for all landowners in the watershed. The meeting will be held Monday night, April 7, 8:00 p.m. in the Soil Conservation office.

Questions will be answered about the present progress of the project, proposed structure sites, additional water supplies for Rural water and for Osceola and expected progress in the near future.

All persons living in the White Breast watershed or owning land in the watershed are encouraged to attend.

Osceola Tribune 4-8-75

Two Groups to Sponsor Conservation Contest

The Clarke County Ministerial Alliance announced that they will sponsor an essay contest in cooperation with the Soil Conservation District during the month of April. The contest is planned as a way of marking National Soil Stewardship Week (May 4-11).

Theme for the contest is "Test of Strength: Stewardship of Soil". Prizes will be given to two groups, ages 13-15 and ages 16-18. First prize for each group will be \$25 cash plus a Bible. Second and third prize winners in each group will receive a Bible.

Essays should be from 300-500 words in length and express personal feelings and thoughts on the theme of soil stewardship. This may in-

clude comments as to how soil stewardship benefits an individual and their community, what they can do to care for the soil, what they have done to conserve soil, or why they think their church should have an interest in stewardship of soil.

All essays should be mailed to the Soil Conservation office (820 A North Main, Osceola) before April 25, including their name, address, age and grade with the essay. Anyone living in Clarke County is eligible to enter even though they may go to a school outside the county.

Judges will be selected from a combination of members of the ministerial group and Soil Conservation District. Judging will be completed and winners notified by May 4. This will allow winning entries

to be published in the newspaper during Soil Stewardship Week.

Persons having questions about the contest may contact the pastor of their church or the Soil Conservation District Office.

Approve Projects

Members of the Southern Iowa Council of Governments met in Creston on Friday, April 4, with three RC&D measures approved.

The forestry and shrub plan

for East Lake Park in Osceola received board approval as did updating the Lamoni Comprehensive Plan. The third measure receiving board approval was to obtain technical forestry services for Clarke County.

Recommendations for the constitution and by-laws for the organization were discussed. The by-laws and constitutions will be discussed and acted upon at the April 24 meeting in Corning.

The executive board meeting will be held in a different county each month with the board member from that county hosting the group for a tour of the project within that particular county. The meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Roger Blobaum and Patrick Lana, board members, were selected to meet with a Congressional delegation consisting of Senators Dick Clark and John Culver and Representative Tom Harkin in Washington D.C. on Wednesday, April 23.

Frank Hanna was approved as Executive Director and Chairman pending a satisfactory check was found of his references.



Farmers Look To Fields

If you are a farmer, it's about that time of the year when you're getting that fever to get out and gear-up for spring planting. It is also the time to plan what con-

servation practices you are going to apply this year. Last year told the story with seed, top soil, and fertilizer washing off the slopes, ditches forming in fields and the bottoms were soaking wet. Hoping to get a jump on the weather is fine, but planned, well managed conservation practices designed to beat the weather are a sure thing.

Just what can you (the farmer) do now? What you can do is make a plan of how you will solve your problems so that your farm will be more productive and will continue to be so in the future.

How do you make this plan? First of all, because you have farmed your land for years a certain way, you know your farm and its problems. But what if you want to try something different to solve a problem, would it work and solve the problem? Your Soil Conservation District can help you answer that. The first thing to do then, is to become a District Cooperator and request aid in making your conservation plan. The

District provides this service at no cost, only to those who request it and are interested in carrying on a conservation program.

When you start making your conservation plan, your past experience of your farm, the Soil Conservation Service's experience, your farmland capabilities and what you desire to develop your farm into, are used to make the plan. Then you will have a program to follow that will work and will return the most back to you by getting you in the best position to take on another hard spring and those after.

Osceola Tribune 4-22-75

Name Winners in Soil Poster Contest

During the month of March the Clarke County Soil Conservation District Commissioners sponsored a poster contest for sixth grade students in all schools in Clarke County. This was a special project which was initiated and carried out by Adrian Fuller. The subject was "Soil and Water Conservation—Our Strength for the Future."

Fifty-eight interesting posters were turned in by the sixth grade students from Clarke Community North Elementary, Weldon Elementary and Murray Community Schools. Teachers who had students participating were Wm. Turpin, Miss Wendy Ekblad, Mrs. Merle Saddoris, Dorsey Derrick, Clarke Community, and Mrs. Wanda Davidson, Murray.

Judging was held on April 6 in Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church in Osceola. Judges were Mrs. Norma Anderson, Mrs. Doris Canavan and Melvin Goeldner.

Winning first prize over all was Melinda Ingram, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max Ingram of Murray. Five second place prizes were awarded to the following: Raydean Robins, son of Mr.

and Mrs. Gary Robins of Murray; Danny McNeal (Murray), son of Mr. and Mrs. John McNeal, Jr., Osceola; Bob Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Turner, Osceola; Deanne Snider, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Snider, Murray; and Kirk Ticknor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Ticknor, Osceola. In addition to these, 15 posters received Honorable Mention.

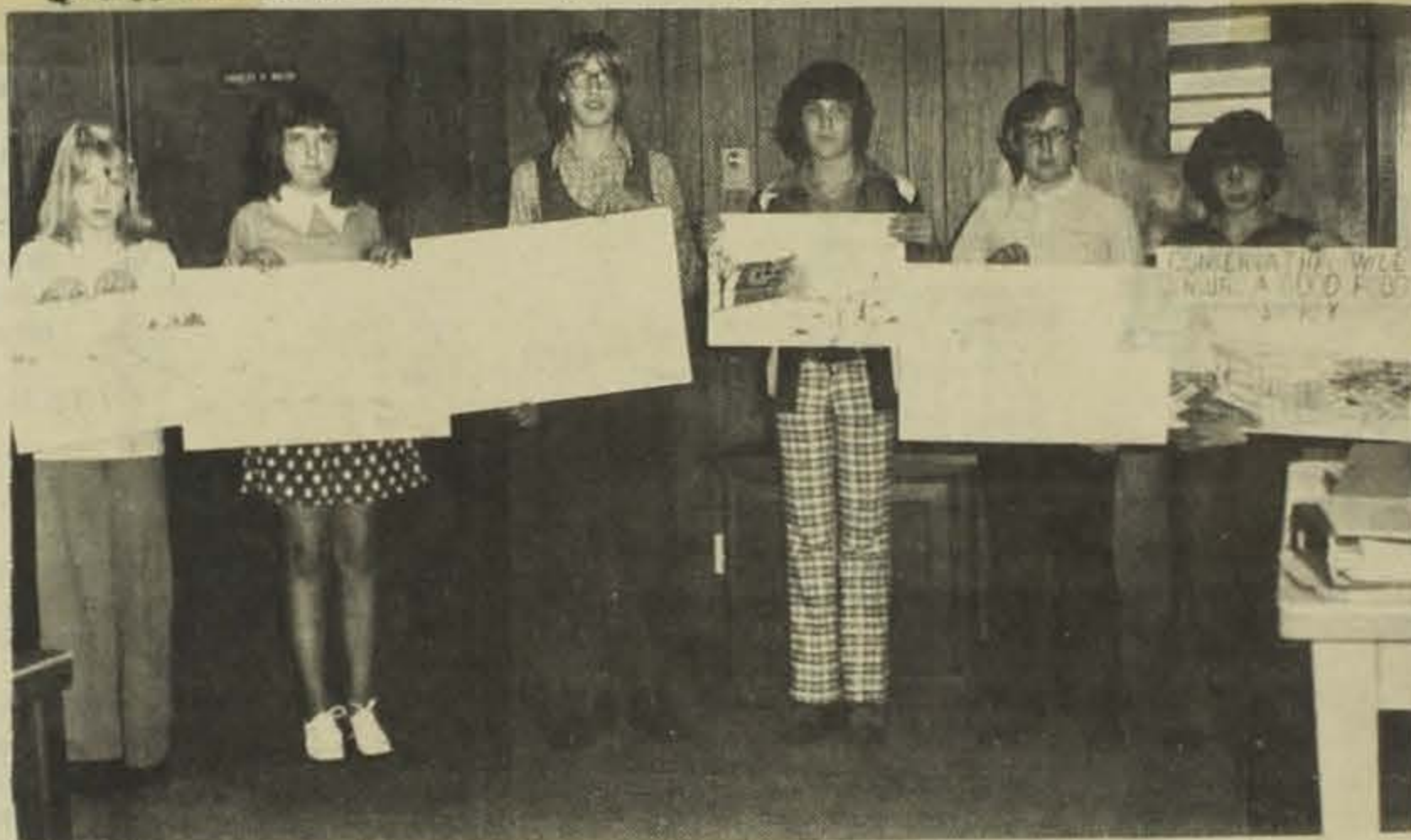
It is planned to exhibit all of these posters in the Soil Conservation booth at the Clarke County Fair in August, and the public is invited to see them at that time. It is also planned to have a poster contest next year with details to be announced at that time.



PRESENTS CHECK: Adrian Fuller presents a \$10 check to Melinda Ingram for her first place winning poster. The contest was based on a theme of conservation and food supply.

Other winners were Raydean Robins, Danny McNeal, Bob Turner, Deanna Snider and Kirk Ticknor.

Osceola Tribune - 4-22-75



POSTER WINNERS: Winners in the Clarke County Conservation District's Poster Contest are shown above with their winning entries. Left to right are: Melinda Ingram,

Deanna Snider, Danny McNeal, Raydean Robins, Bob Turner and Kirk Ticknor. The winners are all students in Clarke County schools.

Osceola Tribune 4-29-75

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting, Tuesday, April 15, 8 p.m. at the courthouse. Members present included Floyd Edwards, Bob Cooley, Harold Bonnett and Chairman Melvin Goeldner. Others present were Frank Riley, executive officer, and guests Ralph Eyberg, Keith Ticknor and Dave Speidel.

Due to information received from the State Conservation Commission stating that it is illegal to use County funds to pay for an individual to Summer Conservation Camp, the Board decided not to send anyone this year.

The Board discussed the Hopeville Park and decided to finalize plans for the Park at the May meeting. Keith Ticknor and Dave Speidel, both of the Soil Conservation district, discussed repairing the dam at East Lake Park. After some discussion the Board voted not to raise the water level in the lake. This means that after the dam is repaired the water level in the lake will remain the same as it is now.

Ralph Eyberg of Ames, who

is developing the overall plan for East Lake Park, then met with the Board to discuss some details of the plan. The next meeting of the Clarke County Conservation Board will be Tuesday, May 20 at 8 p.m. in the courthouse.



Conservation Technician Dale Chidester New Conservation Technician for Wayne Co.

Dale L. Chidester, rural Weldon, has accepted the conservation technician position with the USDA Soil Conservation Service in Corydon, according to Gerald Bowen, Jr., district conservationist.

Chidester joined the

Corydon field office staff on April 14. He will replace Earl McCullough who retires on April 30, Bowen says.

Chidester is a native of Nebraska, moved to Iowa in 1939 and graduated from LeRoy Consolidated High School in 1943. He

served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-1945. He started working as a conservation aid in Clarke and Decatur counties in 1963 and worked there until his recent transfer, Bowen said.

Chidester is married, has three children and will reside on his farm near Weldon. □

Farmers Weekly - 4-30-75

Students Eligible

For Speech Contest

This year's Soil Conservation Speech Contest will be held on June 19 at 8 o'clock in the evening in the Soil Conservation office.

The topic this year is "Land Use Planning - Insurance for Mankind". All Clarke County students (grades 7 through 12) may participate on the district level. Awards will be given, first place \$25, second place \$15, and third \$10.

The contestants will give a five to 10 minute speech, and in addition the judges will ask each contestant two general questions about the topic. Speeches will be judged on originality, aptness of thought, accuracy of information and the manner in which they are delivered.

The district first place winner will compete on the regional level with nine other district winners. The regional winner will go to the state level to compete.

To enter, contact the Soil Conservation District office, Vo-ag instructor, or 4-H Club leader. They will be able to supply information on the topic.



ESSAY WINNERS: Pictured are the winners in the Clarke County Soil Conservation Week Essay Contest. Subject of the essays was "Test of Strength: Stewardship of the Soil". The contest was jointly sponsored by the Clarke County Soil Conservation District and the Clarke County Ministerial Alliance. A

first prize of \$25 and a leather-bound Bible was awarded to Chris Baker and each runner-up received a leather-bound Bible. Pictured left to right are Tim Bonnett, Larry Landphair, Jeff Bonnett and Chris Baker. Father Larry Hoffman (right) made the presentations.

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1975

Osceola Sentinel

Soil District Election

Slated for May 16

PUBLIC NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL
CONSERVATION
STATE OF IOWA

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
CLARKE COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT,
ENCOMPASSING LANDS
LYING IN THE COUNTY OF
CLARKE IN THE STATE OF
IOWA:

To all qualified electors
residing within the Clarke
County Soil Conservation
District:

Notice is hereby given that
on the 16th day of May, 1975,
between the hours of 10 a.m.,
and 4 p.m., an election will be

held for the election of com-
missioners for the Clarke
County Soil Conservation
District.

Polling places for the
election are as follows:

Clarke County Courthouse.

Eligible voters residing
within the district shall cast
their ballots at one of the
polling places. Eligible voters
who will be absent from the
district on the day of election,
may apply in person, or in
writing, to the County Auditor
at Osceola, Iowa, for "Ab-
sentee Ballots". Each ap-
plicant for an absentee ballot
shall state his name and ad-

dress when application for
such ballot is made.

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL
CONSERVATION

By: Donald L. Johnson,
Chairman, State Soil
Conservation Committee

Department of Soil
Conservation

t-18.2



Everett Fenn



Glen Kimes



Phillip Henrichs



Milton Miletich

Election of Soil Con-
servation District Com-
missioners will be held
Friday, May 16, when two
members will be selected to
serve on the five-man board.

Election hours will be from
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the
polling site in the Clarke
County courthouse. All per-
sons qualified to vote in the
county are eligible to vote in
the soil commissioner elec-
tion.

Four candidates are
available to fill the two
positions. The candidates are
Everett Fenn from Troy
Township, Phillip Henrichs
from Washington Township,
Glen Kimes from Osceola
First Ward and Milton
Miletich from Osceola Third
Ward.

The terms are for a six year
period with the term ending
April 3, 1981. The two can-
didates receiving the highest
number of votes will fill the
vacancies.

Terms presently expiring
are those of Merrill McCarty
and Doyce Miller.

Publish Essays of Soil Stewardship Contest

Baker, Bonnet

Win \$25 Awards

I feel that, as an individual, I can and will accomplish a great deal in the way of conserving our precious soil. Groups, of course, may be more effective than one lone soul, but that's all it takes to get things started. One concerned human being.

There is an extensive need for land use planning, erosion control, pollution abatement, flood prevention, and water supplies here in our own county, as well as our country. To satisfy this need, citizen involvement is called for, which there will never be enough of.

Church groups and school classes, are only beginning to have an interest in conservation. It is a start and a strong one at that. Church groups and organizations could benefit greatly by being active stewards of the soil. Classes or projects could be designed to improve ones own property, from farm land to lawns. Churches could appeal to the young people of their congregation and give them opportunities to plan and develop an area of land. More and more young people throughout the country today have an active interest in environmental matters. Given time, knowledge, and supplies to work with, these people will produce things very beneficial to soil conservation. The only way to learn, I believe, is by doing. Experience is what we all need in conservation, but we are lacking this, without anytime to waste. We must act now.

Schools are helping in this aspect. Biology classes, beginning in grade schools, are starting to study and practice conservation. Outdoor classrooms are being developed in many of our schools throughout the nation. Extra-curricular activities are also being brought into existence. Students are being made more aware of our environment and of its desperate need for protection. They are realizing that this land will some day be our soul responsibility and the time to learn about conservation is now. Youth Conservation Boards are resulting because of this type of interest and concern.

There is an extensive amount of projects that such groups could participate in or sponsor. The first major step in getting things started is making people aware that you are trying to accomplish measures in conservation. Prepare talks and demonstrations for local and civic citizen organizations. Exhibits for community display, at fairs, would be effective. Distributing conservation materials at meetings, conferences, schools, and church meetings could help spread your interest. Schools could have a "Conservation Column" in the school paper. Surveys could be made and posted of roadbank erosion conditions the district. In schools or even in church a youth conservationist of the year could be selected and given notable recognition for their efforts.

Once people are aware of what is happening, further steps can be taken. This is where people learn by doing.

Assistance is needed in the maintenance and conservation management of property, recreation areas, athletic fields, campsites, nature trails and parks. Planting trees, clearing away debris and collecting litter are only a few maintenance jobs that could be accomplished successfully by groups.

Many activities could be prepared for special events such as Arbor Day and Soil Stewardship Week. A community inventory of conservation needs could be launched at this time, getting everyone involved.

I want very much to be an active part of these types of programs more than anyone else does. As an individual I can participate in any activity for conserving our soil. I feel we need to improve our world and the only place to start, is conservation.

Actively participating on the Youth Conservation Board, and serving as president this school year, I feel I have helped to make improvements in our school and community. I've assisted in planting trees on some of the city parkings and in many projects including our outdoor

classroom. Our youth board stocked the pond there last fall and plans are made to stock again this spring. The outdoor classroom was the site in which over 300 seedling trees were planted last spring and the process is continuing this spring. Christmas trees were also collected throughout the community by board members. The trees were chipped for later use in making a trail from the school down to the pond in the outdoor classroom. I and another member of the board were chosen to attend the Twenty Ninth Annual Convention For the National Association on Conservation Districts. The convention was held in Denver, Colorado February 2-6, 1975. During our attendance there, I gained knowledge of new conservation practices and many of which may be beneficial for our outdoor classroom and even for our country. The trip was well worth the time and expenses because the knowledge I gained couldn't have been more effective.

These are the main conservation practices I've participated in actively, I do have plans of continuing to "test my strength as steward of the soil."

Chris Baker
10th Grade
Age 16
Osceola, Iowa

TEST OF STRENGTH: STEWARDSHIP OF THE SOIL

In the beginning God created heaven and earth, and later he created plant life. He said, "Let the earth bring forth vegetation seed bearing plants and fruit trees." Then God created man-kind. He said, "Let them have dominion over everything on earth." Thus you can say God made man stewards of the soil.

As a farmer and a steward of the soil my farm has to provide food for my family and also families who don't live on farms. It is my duty to keep my soil in top fertility and production to this end.

To keep this fertility strong, soil conservation measures have to be used. Although we need rain to produce abundant crop, these same rains can wash away valuable top soil and flood out valuable crops.

Two of the most common soil conserving practices are crop rotation and contour farming. Which also helps to keep the land in a high state of fertility. Other conserving practices are grassed waterways, terraces, soil erosion dams, ponds, and trees.

Our government recognizes the need for soil conservation, so each county is furnished with trained personnel to assist us in these measures. These soil conservation measures are a test of strength because they involve time, and expense but most of all, more work. It would be easier to plant, fertilize, and harvest. Without my soil conservation measures the future farmers would suffer for the depletion of the soil.

One farmer today has the responsibility of feeding forty to fifty people and even so there are millions of people suffering from hunger, and so soil conservation is a moral responsibility to feed the hungry.

In our church we have rogation day which is on April 25 and three days before the ascension, namely, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On these days special services are offered to seek God's blessing on our farms and also for a bountiful harvest.

Simply speaking, it is also said that God helps those who helps themselves, and by soil conservation I not only help myself, but my family, my neighbors, my town, my country, and further generations.

Jeff Bonnett
8th Grade
Age 14
R.R. 5
Osceola, Iowa

Elect Kimes, Henrichs to SCS Posts

Glen Kimes and Phillip Henrichs were elected to six year terms on the Clarke County Soil Conservation District board at the Friday, May 16, election.

Keith Ticknor, district conservationist, reported that the two new commissioners will take office immediately and will fill the vacancies of Merrill McCarty and Doyce Miller.

In a close race, the two winning candidates polled 40 and 34 votes respectively with Everett Fenn and Mike Miletich following closely with 31 and 30 votes respectively.

uthern Iowa Farmer's Weekly, May 21,
StuThern 1975

Clarke Co. Soil Conservation Elects Officers

The Clarke County Soil Conservation District held their election for two commissioners last Friday, May 16 at Osceola.

Candidates were Everett Fenn, Phillip Henrick, Glen Kimes and Milton Miletich.

Glen Kimes and Phillip Henrick were both elected to six year terms. These are non paid positions with the duties of promoting soil conservation.

Waldo Don Carlos Presents-

Oscula Tribune
5-27-75

Rural Water Map to FHA

Waldo Don Carlos, chairman of the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association (SIRWA) Board presented Russell Booth, FmHA's designated Area Rural Water Representative, with the Rural Water sign-up map of the seven member counties. This map shows the location of all the farms in Region 14 which are signed-up for the rural water program.

The map is the result of sign-up efforts by the county water associations of the seven counties in Region 14. Each county has one voting representative which serves on the SIRWA Board, which was responsible for the area-wide map. The counties and their representative which make up the SIRWA board are: Adair, Waldo Don Carlos; Adams, Paul Flowers; Clarke, Mike Miletich; Decatur, Leon Kessel; Ringgold, Lowell Hickman; Taylor, Robert Briggs; and Union, Paul Kline.

At the time the map was presented to FmHA, the total number of sign-ups was 3131. This was approximately 72 percent of the total possible sign-ups in the area. In order for FmHA to make loan money available to a water project, 80 percent of the potential users of the system must be signed up. The number of rural water sign-ups by county was: Adair, 410; Adams, 544; Clarke, 312; Decatur, 502; Ringgold, 392; Taylor, 479; and Union, 492.

It is anticipated that because of the large area covered by SIRWA, numerous water service areas will be designated. When each service area has its 80 percent sign-up and has a water source, individual application for that service area will be forwarded to FmHA.

The maps are now in the FmHA office in Des Moines, where the FmHA Engineers are studying it to determine if a rural water project is economically feasible. The

engineers will also try to identify service area boundaries based upon the sign-up. Service areas identified by FmHA which have 80 percent sign-up and appear to be economically feasible will be given approval to hire an engineer to do a feasibility study. Feasibility studies when completed will be reviewed by the SIRWA Board and FmHA. If approved by both the SIRWA Board and FmHA, the final engineering study will be completed and construction of the system will begin.

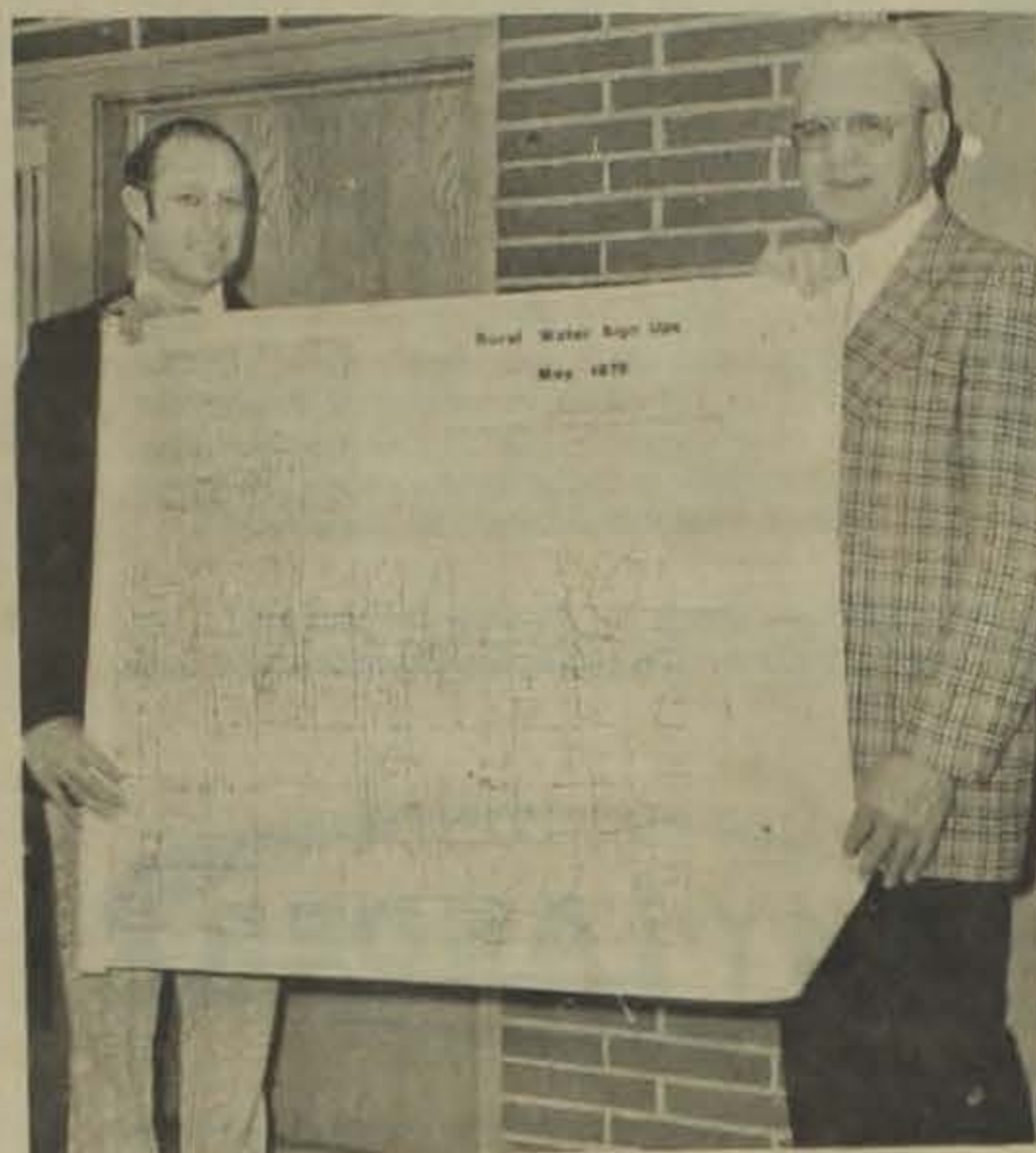
The rural water system is set up not only to provide farmers with an adequate source of good water, but also to provide water to incorporated and unincorporated towns in the seven county area. At the present time, only 28 municipal water systems are in service in Region 14. There are 47 in-

corporate areas and numerous unincorporate

towns in the area. In addition to the municipal water systems, the area has one rural water system which is in operation, another is expected to start construction this fall.

One of the major problems facing the water project is a lack of a source of good quality water in a sufficient quantity. One possible solution to this problem is the use of impoundment sites. Such possible sites are in varying stages of completion. Some examples of possible impoundment sources are: Lake Icaria in Adams County; Three Mile Project in Union County; and the Little River Project in Decatur County.

For further information on the Rural Water Project, contact Charles McDonough, water board chairman, or other members of the water board.



Waldo Don Carlos (right), chairman of the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association Board, presents a map showing the location of rural water sign-ups in seven counties to Russell Booth, FmHA's area rural water representative. To receive a loan from FmHA, 80 percent of the farmers in the area must sign up for the program. Presently, only 72 percent of the farmers have done so.

Oscula Tribune
RC&D Board

6-26-75

Tells Plans For Parks

The Clarke County Conservation Board held its regular meeting Tuesday, June 17, at the Clarke County Courthouse. Members present were Jim Asmus, Harold Bonnett, Floyd Edwards and Chairman Melvin Goeldner. Others present were Frank Riley, executive officer and guests, Keith Ticknor and Dave Speidel of the Soil Conservation Service. Playground equipment, picnic tables and grills have been ordered for the Hopeville Park. Construction of new latrines for the Hopeville Park was also discussed.

A contract has been signed with the Benderoff Company of Des Moines for hard surfacing the roadway and parking lots at the Murray Roadside Park. Also a tentative date of August 3 has

been set for the dedication of the Murray Roadside Park.

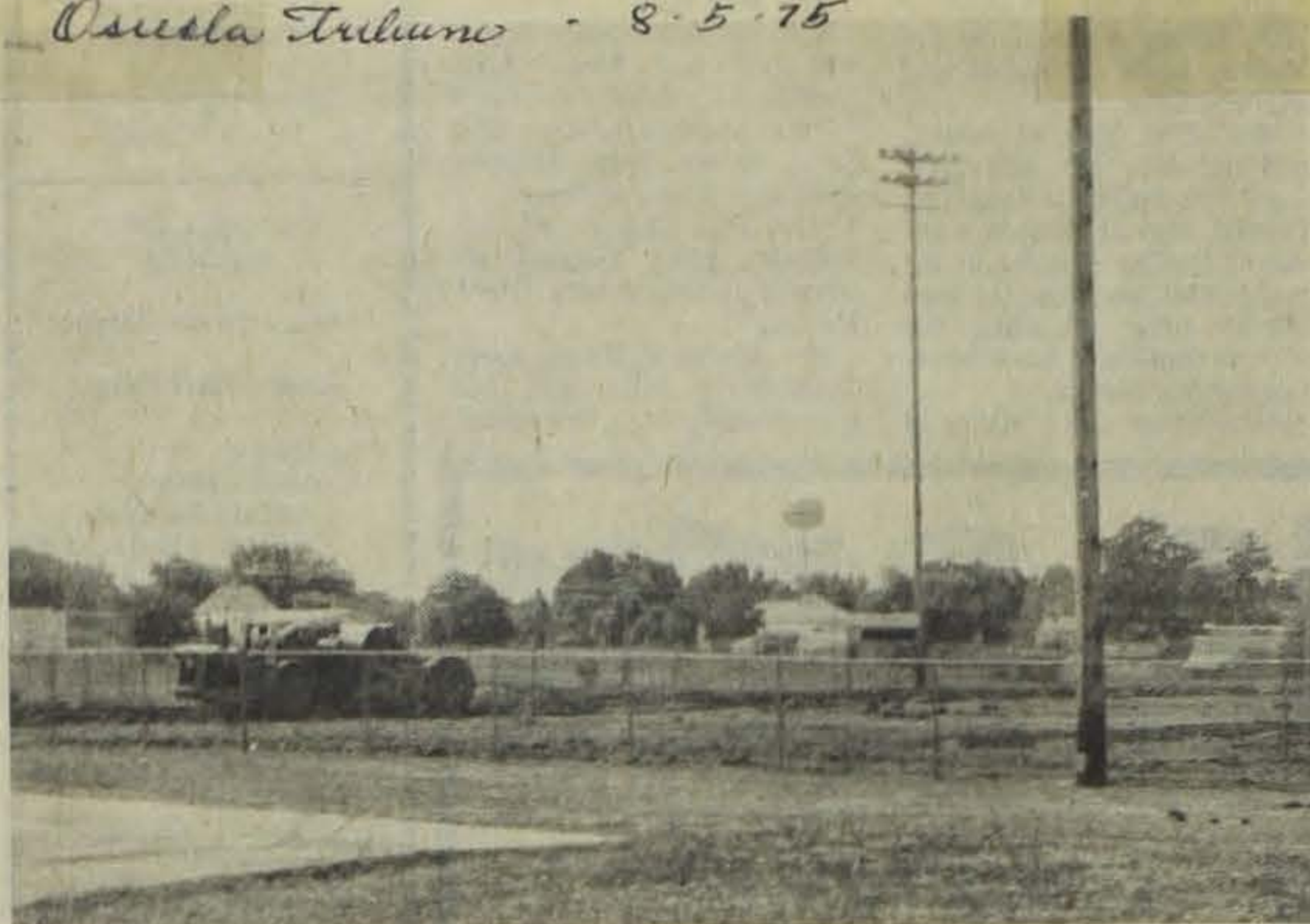
Concerning East Lake Park, four new picnic tables have been built for the park. For several reasons, one of which was safety, the wiring has been changed at East Lake in that there will no longer be electrical outlets at the park.

The existing wiring and outlets were outdated and since any repair would be only temporary, the Board decided it would be best to disconnect the outlets. When the permanent camping area is developed in another part of the park there will be electrical outlets there.

Keith Ticknor of the Soil Conservation Service and a representative of R. C. and D. discussed developing a plan for East Lake Park. Several alternatives were discussed as to possibilities for developing the park.

The Board feels that the park should fit the needs of Clarke County and would welcome any suggestions and ideas for developing East Lake Park. Members of the Conservation Board are: Jim Asmus, Harold Bonnett, Bob Cooley, Floyd Edwards, and Melvin Goeldner. The executive officer is Frank Riley. The next meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, July 15, 7:30 p.m. at East Lake Park.

Osceola Tribune - 8-5-75



LEVELING: Earth moving equipment is shown in the background of the Clarke Community High School baseball diamond. Dale Gracey was busy last week in leveling the diamond and outfield to specifications.

The earthwork was necessary to permit a five foot six inch centerfielder to see homeplate. Seeding of the leveling project will be done in the near future.

Osceola Tribune
8-5-75

Woodburn Receives Grant

The town of Woodburn has received a \$60,000 community development block grant from the Housing and Urban Development. The grant award is the culmination of nearly 10 years of effort on the part of town officials to win federal funds to complete their municipal water system.

Congressman Tom Harkin made the announcement Friday, August 1, and praised the work of Mayor David Stearns, the City Council and private citizens who worked so diligently for the project.

"I can think of few communities more deserving," he said, "I am pleased they were successful."

Osceola Sentinel 8-7-75

Doyce Miller Honored For 18 Years Service

Doyce Miller was presented a plaque by the Clarke County Soil Conservation District recognizing him for dedicated

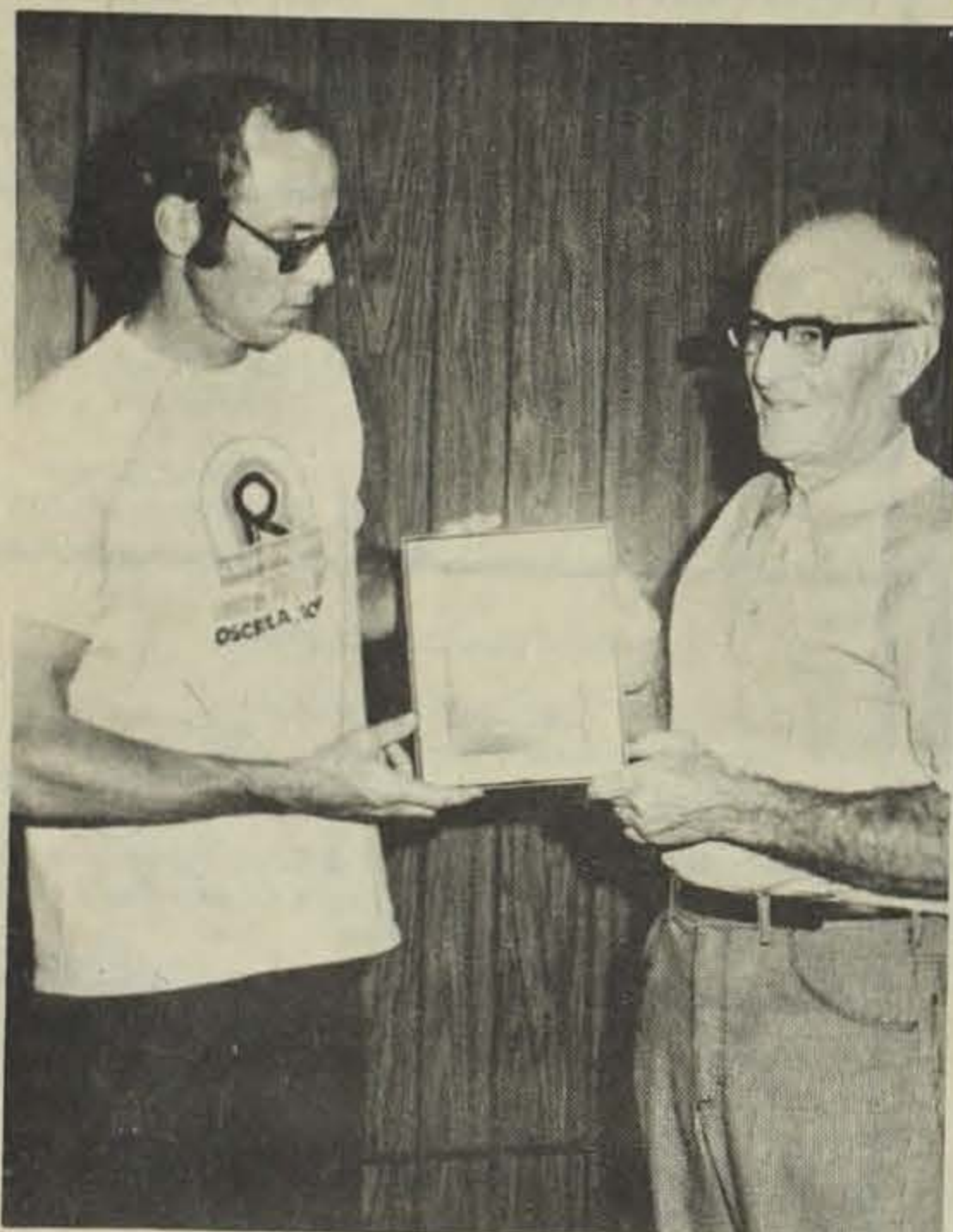
service as District Commissioner. Doyce served as a District Commissioner for 18 years and has been active in

all phases of Soil Conservation in Clarke County. In addition, he served as Region 8 Director for six years and has participated in state and national conservation activities.

Doyce was instrumental in establishing the watershed program in Clarke County which includes the White Breast watershed and the Long Creek watershed. He also was an original board member of the Southern Iowa R.C.&D. project. He stressed the need for rural water in this area and as a result the R.C.&D. gave first priority, over all other needs, to developing a rural water system for the seven county area.

For many years he was an advocate of long term cost-sharing with farmers for applying soil conservation practices. In 1974 a long term cost-share program was established by ASCS making it possible for farmers to be guaranteed cost-sharing for applying conservation practices over a three to five year period.

Doyce has seen many accomplishments and changes during his term as District Commissioner. Even though he chose not to run for commissioner in the last district election, he plans to continue serving the district as an assistant commissioner.



Richard Gonseth presents an engraved plaque to Doyce Miller for his 18 years of service to the soil conservation board.

Osceola Sentinel 8-7-75

Announce Cost-Share Conservation Plans

Richard Gonseth, Chairman of the Clarke County Soil Conservation District announced that they will start to take applications for cost-sharing on conservation practices immediately. The district recently received notice that Clarke County was allotted \$15,000 cost-share funds for the fiscal year 1975-76.

Cost-share funds will be used to pay 50 percent of the cost of erosion control dams, terraces, diversion terraces, grassed waterways and critical area planting.

This is the third year the state has provided cost-sharing on conservation practices. The last state legislature appropriated 2½ million dollars to the Department of Soil Conservation for cost-sharing. Of this, \$1,928,600 was allocated to the individual counties. Five percent of the total appropriation (\$125,000) was set aside to be used on soil loss limit complaint agreements.

The remaining sum (\$446,000) will be used for cost-share on special projects. One

example of a special project is cost-sharing on conservation practices in the watershed of Lake Rathbun to prevent siltation of the lake. Landowners east and north of Weldon (in the Chariton Creek area) can receive cost-share from the funds set aside by the state for special projects.

Applications for cost-share funds should be made at the SCS office, 820 A North Main Street, in Osceola.

Oscola Sentinel
Teacher to 8-7-75
Workshop

David Johannes, science teacher at the Clarke Community School, earned three hours graduate credit recently by completing the Environmental Education course conducted by Drake University. The 10-day course was held at Springbrook State Park.

The Clarke County Soil Conservation District sponsored Johannes by paying a part of the tuition for the course.

Johannes has assisted the Soil Conservation District by developing an outstanding Youth Conservation group. He has also provided leadership in the planning and development of the Outdoor Classroom.

Progress Report
9-18-75

Oscola Sentinel 2

Plans Proceed for White Breast Watershed

Plans are still underway for the White Breast (Creek) Watershed project. Members of the watershed board are now awaiting a work plan being written by the State Soil Conservation (SCS) Committee.

After the plan is completed, a public hearing will be held locally for a review and approval of the project. Then the plan must also be reviewed and approved by Congress. Following this, bids can be let and construction can begin.

The delay in the project has been due to the National Environmental Policy Act. This act required that the state committee had to review already approved watershed projects and write environmental impact statements for each of them.

This increased the already serious backlog of watershed planning, making communities, such as Clarke County, who wanted watershed project help to meet the problems of flood prevention and water supply, wait even longer.

Work in the form of water quality studies is being done while the work plan is being written. Some wild life studies have been done.

A planning authorization for the project came from the federal soil conservation office in August, 1971. The plan as accepted calls for the building of 12 structures in Clarke County and three in Lucas County. The plan as approved is different from the original proposal that consisted of one large dam.

The area covered by the project consists of 57,000 acres in Green Bay and Franklin townships in Clarke County. The size of the ponds and lakes created by this structure will vary in size from less than 10 acres to the 302 acres. This largest lake would affect approximately six land-owners.

At the time of this approval, the estimated cost of the

project, involving federal funds, was more than \$1 million. Local people must provide land easements and right-of-way agreements.

In addition to flood control, the project is designed to make water available for farm and industrial uses and to create areas for additional recreation projects.

Prior to the go-ahead from Washington, much work has already been done on the project. A preliminary investigation of the project by the state SCS office was begun in the fall of 1969 to evaluate the flood control sites and the cost-benefit ratio.

Work done before the evaluation included the making of air photos, maps, ownership patterns and a survey by state engineers.

Following the federal approval, watershed board members completed a land treatment inventory of the watershed area. A watershed structure cannot be built until at least 75 percent of the land in the drainage area above the structure is adequately treated or within acceptable soil loss limits. Results of the inventory showed that this requirement would be met in the White Breast Watershed area.

Also, low level aerial photographs were taken of the watershed and extensive survey work was conducted to obtain ground control information for the aerial photos.

There has been interest in some type of watershed project for White Breast Creek for more than 12 years. In 1963 the White Breast Watershed Board was organized. The board applied for federal assistance in constructing a dam on White Breast in the southeastern part of the county that would create a 2,000 acre lake surrounded by a recreational area.

In 1965 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who surveyed

the area, announced that they could not support the project since the recreational benefits of the lake would exceed the conservational benefits. With this announcement interest in the watershed program dwindled.

In 1968 interest in the White Breast Creek Water-

shed was received when the State Soil Conservation District approved projects similar to White Breast.

Officers of the watershed board are: Don Short, chairman; George Nelson, vice chairman; and Hugh Carroll, secretary-treasurer.

Other members of the board from Clarke County are Doyle Waller, Charles Rodgers, Lloyd Phillips, M. M. Miletich, Ernest Winter, Arthur Anderson, Richard Gonseth, Bernard Engler, Louis King, Bill Oehlert and Don Dale.

Board members from Lucas County are Harold Leonard, Gerald Allen, Jack Obermeir and Bill Boyd.

Oscola Sentinel 4-18-75
Ceremonies to Mark

Opening of Murray Park

An informal ceremony for the opening of the Murray Roadside Park is planned for Sunday, September 28, between 2 and 3 p.m.

Officers and other concerned citizens will participate. Among them will be

representatives of the State Department of Transportation and the State Conservation Commission.

Major projects at the park have been completed. They include road building; construction of shelter house and latrine; seeding; tree planting; installation of playground equipment, picnic tables, grills, trash containers and a park sign.

Matching funds from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation have helped the Clarke County Conservation Board to bring the park to its present state.

Current members of the Board are Jim Asmus, Harold Bonnett, Bob Cooley, Floyd Edwards and Melvin Goeldner. Frank Riley serves as executive officer and Chester Wilkins shares in maintenance.

Now Southern Iowa Council of Governments

The Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Project (RC&D), Inc. has undergone a number of changes in its structure and operation in the past five years.

Last year its name was changed to the Southern Iowa Council of Governments (SICOG). This name change came about because of the confusion created by calling both the overall organization and one of its agencies by the same name.

SICOG is a program to develop natural, physical and human resources. Through its agencies it carries out projects to improve the welfare, health and economic well-being of rural and urban people alike.

The membership of SICOG is made up of the members of each RC&D board in seven southern Iowa counties, plus a representative from each of seven interest groups in the area. Richard Hill of Murray

is chairman of the council.

Each county RC&D board has six members appointed by elected officials. Each member represents a specific area of interest in the county.

The Clarke County RC&D Board is composed of Hill, chairman, representing the Clarke County Board of Supervisors; Clayton Scott, vice chairman, representing the City of Osceola; Melvin Goeldner, secretary-treasurer, from the Clarke County Conservation Board; Ron Henry, serving on the area RC&D committee, representing the Clarke County Soil Conservation District; Jack Jeffreys, City of Osceola; and Russ Davidson, Murray and Clifford Mason, Woodburn, sharing the board position that represents small, incorporated towns.

The county board is responsible for studying the needs in the county, accepting proposals from persons or groups and setting priorities

for possible projects in the county. It then refers the project proposals to one of SICOG's agencies.

The seven counties included in SICOG, in addition to Clarke, are Adair, Adams, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor and Union. This seven-county area is also known as Area XIV.

The seven members of the council that represent interest groups come from the area college at Creston, labor unions, Business and Professional Women, industries of 50 employees or more, Chambers of Commerce, Rural Electric Cooperatives and school boards.

SICOG's Purpose

SICOG is a coordinated planned approach to speed up the conservation and development of all resources in the area.

It has its basis in the Food and Agricultural Act of 1962. Under this act, Congress authorized the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

to give technical and financial help for projects.

It was developed for the purpose of providing a framework through which local people could meet with others in the seven-county area to develop plans that make maximum use of the resources of the area.

A coordinated planned approach speeds up the development of the entire area. In addition, the unified efforts make projects possible that could not be undertaken on a single county basis.

This year SICOG submitted the first rural integrated Grant Administration application in a four-state area, and possibly the first in the United States. The application went to the Federal Regional Council in Kansas City.

The intent of this program is to apply for many federal projects ranging from water development to human resources delivery programs in one application. This first application included 37 projects for a requested total of \$1.3 million.

Planning Agency

The planning arm of SICOG is the Southern Iowa Regional Planning Agency. This agency develops the plans for all project proposals that are submitted. It works with other agencies to ensure that it is not duplicating other projects or services, while developing proposals.

Last year the agency completed an initial Areawide Development Plan, which is an overall economic development program and comprehensive plan for the area.

It also helps other SICOG agencies with their activities in the form of writing programs, seeking funding and coordinating the various agencies involved in a certain program.

In addition, the planning advisory service gives assistance to communities in preparing federal grant applications.

Last year it assisted Woodburn in preparing its water application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It also helped Woodburn and Murray in their applications for Rural Fire Protection. The two towns received the requested grants for fire fighting equipment and breathing apparatus.

RC&D Activities

Although other agencies have been added to the original program, Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development continues to be an important part of the overall development program.

Since the program began, nearly 200 project proposals, developed at the local level and involving millions of dollars in USDA funding, have been or are being implemented in the seven-county area.

The sponsoring agencies for the Southern Iowa RC&D Project are the county boards of supervisors and the soil conservation districts in the counties. Since these projects involve conservation measures, the soil conservation services provide technical assistance. All projects undertaken by the board are reviewed by the Executive Board of SICOG.

The first RC&D project for Clarke County was construction of an erosion control dam west of the Clarke Community Junior and Senior High building. Not only did the dam stop erosion in two large gullies that were cutting into school property, it provided an area that was developed into an outdoor classroom.

Federal funds through RC&D provided \$9,200 for the construction of the dam, fencing and seeding. In addition, Charles Morgan donated four acres of his land for the project and cleared and filled three waterways leading to the pond.

The original idea for the dam came from school personnel. They were assisted in planning the project by the Clarke County Conservation District, who designed the dam.

A proposed project for Clarke County at the regional RC&D is now studying is the East Lake Park Development Project, which is presently in the preliminary planning stage.

Another proposal submitted to the agency is a roadside treatment project to prevent further erosion along certain county roads.

A proposal in the planning stage by the county RC&D board involves a land treatment project to prevent silt from entering the reservoir west of Osceola.

A summary of other agencies under the council follows. A more complete description of activities of some of the agencies appears in other stories.

Agency on Aging

The Area XIV Agency on Aging began operating in 1974 to provide comprehensive areawide planning, program development, interagency cooperation, technical assistance and publicity for senior citizens.

Activities of the agency include the nutritional, transportation and informational and referral programs in Clarke County.

Rural Water Association

During 1974, the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association began efforts to solve the quality and quantity water supply problem in Area XIV.

This agency with the assistance of the Midwest Extension Service, the Soil Conservation Service and the county water associations surveyed the area for signs. Last spring it presented a map of the area showing the rural water signups to Farmers Home Administration engineers, who studied the map to see if a rural water project was feasible.

Housing Authority Created

SICOG received approval last year from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to create a Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority.

This regional housing authority is the first ever to be developed at a grass roots level. This has created a great deal of state and national interest. The housing authority has applied to HUD for 100 low-rent housing units in four counties, including Clarke.

Economic Development Grant

Last year SICOG received an Economic Development grant. This grant will enable them to establish an Economic Development Committee. The committee will be involved in making area communities and counties more attractive for economic development. Possible projects undertaken by the committee might be in assisting communities in improving their industrial parks in order to attract more industry to the area.

Plans to Expand

Members of the council feel that the group is moving from its initial planning efforts of the last fiscal year to actual program development this year.

In the future SICOG intends to expand its capabilities by tying together under one administrative structure, all available local, state and federal resources to work toward common objectives for the environmental, physical, social and economic development of the area.

This would help eliminate conflicting or duplicating proposals and programs, but more importantly, provide a more unified planning process through which the area's citizens would have a more effective structure to review, debate and implement their objectives.

Nov. 1 Is Cutoff Date

For Rural Water Signup

Cutoff date for rural water signups for people in the SIRWA Rural Water Area (Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, and Union counties), according to Waldo Don Carlos, Chairman of the seven-county organization will be November 1, 1975.

The reason for the November 1 cutoff date is that a preliminary engineering study is being negotiated with a consultant engineering firm. In order for the engineering firm to complete the preliminary engineering study, it must know the number of water users to be included, about how much water each user will use, and the location of each user. This preliminary engineering study will determine the amount of water to be used by the rural water system, the individual water service areas, and show where the

water mains are to be laid.

It is important that a person desiring water from the rural water system sign up prior to the engineering study. A water system has a very definite limit on the volume of water which can flow through it.

Some design for growth over the life of the system is built in, but this is minimal since it adds to the initial cost and to the upkeep of the system. Only those people signed up by November 1, 1975, and included in the preliminary engineering study can be guaranteed water service from the rural water system. Those not in the engineering study would receive water only if there was an adequate water supply available and with the permission of the existing water users on the system.

To sign up for the rural water system or to find out more about it, contact your local rural water board representative, the County Extension Office, Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Office, or Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Office on or before November 1, 1975.

Conservation Board Completes Three Projects in County

Since 1970, the Clarke County Conservation Board has acquired three county parks.

The Murray Roadside Park, located just south of Murray, off Highway 34, was developed by the Board and officially opened this summer.

Planning for the park began in 1972. The U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation provided matching funds for the construction of facilities in the park. In order to receive those funds, the board was required to submit a 5-year plan to the bureau.

A comprehensive development plan of the Murray Park and other possible projects of the board was prepared by Yale C. Moeller of Des Moines.

Also in 1972, the board signed a 25-year lease with the Iowa Highway Commission for the 12 acres of land to be used for the park. In addition, the board purchased three-fourths of an acre for an access road.

Earthwork on the park began in September, 1973. By the end of the year, the road leading to the park had been graveled, the park had been seeded, trees had been planted and the shelter house had been built.

The development of the park continued in 1974, with the building of the latrines, the painting of buildings and the installation of picnic and play

equipment. There are 10 picnic sites at the park.

Members of the Murray Lions Club helped by seeding the area and planting trees.

Finishing touches were added this year, with the planting of additional trees and shrubs and the hard surfacing of the driveway this summer.

In 1974, the Conservation Board took over the management of the East Lake Park from the City of Osceola. Plans are underway to develop the entire 70 acres. Presently, only about five acres are used for the park.

Last year, \$3,000 worth of playground equipment was donated by civic groups and other interested organizations.

Recent improvements include the repairing of the horseshoe courts. The board also plans to buy new picnic tables for the present park area.

It is hoped that work can begin in the next 12 months on replacing the spillway at the lake. The present spillway has been deteriorating in recent years. Because of the high cost of construction of a new spillway, it will be replaced by a 30 to 36-inch concrete pipe.

In order to meet state standards, the dam will have to be raised and rebuilt, with the base being widened. The water level will remain the same.

Plans call for RC&D sharing in the cost of the project.

The present lake of 13 acres was built in 1915 or 1916 and served as the water source for the City of Osceola until the 1930s.

The widened dam will cover the present horseshoe courts, so new courts will be built.

Other plans the board has for the park include opening up all the area for use by adding a road on the east side.

Picnicking and camping facilities will be expanded by adding shelterhouses, restrooms and other facilities.

A nature study trail may also be added.

This year the board acquired the deed to the Hopeville Square Park. This came about after residents and former residents asked if the board might be able to take over the park and make improvements.

After some investigation, it was discovered that the county owned the park, since under law the land was to revert to the county when the town was no longer incorporated. The Board of Supervisors then turned the park over to the Conservation Board.

Improvements the board is now making include the addition of picnic table and playground equipment and the building of new latrines.

Frank Riley is executive officer of the Conservation

Board. He oversees the parks, helps with the projects of the board, keeps a record of the meetings and takes care of correspondence. He and Chester Wilkins, who is in charge of maintenance of the parks, both became parttime employees of the board in 1974.

Board members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Melvin Goeldner is chairman. Other members are Jim Asmus, Harold Bonnett, Bob Cooley and Floyd Edwards. Board members receive no salary.

The Board of Supervisors appropriates money to the board each year. The board was formed in 1962, for the purpose of developing, maintaining and making available to the people of the county, public parks, preserves, recreational centers, county forests and other conservation areas.

The board is also responsible for encouraging the orderly development and conservation of natural resources.

Ninety-seven of Iowa's counties now have conservation boards.

Other possible projects members of the board foresee are the creation of other parks throughout the county and the building of a recreation area at the site of the largest proposed Whitebreast water structure.

Osceola Tribune - 9-30-75

RURAL WATER!

DO YOU WANT IT ???

Deadline for membership in the
SOUTHERN IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOC.
is November 1, 1975

Anyone wanting to be included in the rural water association serving Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, and Union Counties is to contact their county rural water board of directors or one of the following offices located in their county- County Extension, SCS, ASCS, FmHA—on or before November 1, 1975. This is the deadline for members to be included in the 7 county engineering study. This study will determine eligibility for the rural water system.

Those landowners not signed up for rural water by November 1, 1975, may not be able to join the rural water association at a later date.

Waldo Don Carlos

Chairman, Southern Iowa
Rural Water Association

OCTOBER 9, 1975

Rural Water Sign-up

Deadline Is Nov. 1

A meeting of the Clarke County RC&D Rural Water Association Board was held at the SCS Office Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Charles McDonough. Mike Miletich reported on the activities of the Southern Iowa Rural Water Association. Two major items were discussed: 1) Pending approval of the Engineering Contract by FHA the engineering firm of Hoskins - Western - Sondegger will be contracted with to do a feasibility study of the seven

county project to determine the amount of water needed and the possible sources from which to draw. The cost of the study will be 48 thousand dollars. 2) Before the study is started, hopefully within the next three months. All sign-ups must be made by November 1, 1975, in order to have the information ready for the engineering contractor.

Mr. Miletich emphasized that anyone who wants to be on the rural water system will (Continued on back page)

Nov. 1 Last Day For Rural Water Signup

Saturday, November 1, is the last day for rural area residents to sign up to participate in the Southern Iowa Rural Water association. That reminder comes from Waldo Don Carlos, chairman.

The rural water system is set up to provide farmers with an adequate source of good water, and to provide water to incorporated and unincorporated towns in the seven-county area.

Work on the rural water project is ready for the preliminary engineering study, according to Don Carlos. The engineering study is based on the number of signups on November 1. It determines who will get water.

Those signed up by November 1 will be given first preference as the water system is designed.

First preference is important, says Don Carlos, because the water system has a definite limit on volume of use. The design is based on number of signups and water usage claimed by those signed up.

Some design for growth is built into the system, but this is minimal since it adds to the initial cost and upkeep of the system.

Those not signed up by the deadline run the risk of never getting on a rural water system.

Anyone interested in membership in the rural water association serving Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, and Union counties, contact their county rural water board of directors, county extension office, SCS, ASCS, or FmHA on or before November 1.

have to be signed up by November 1, 1975. He also mentioned that land owners, even though they do not have a house on a particular location, should have a tap-on any land parcel which they might at some time want to have rural water.

Those present at the meeting were: Charles McDonough, Richard Hill, Orval Coffman, Keith Ticknor, Merrill Thornton, Alan Teel, John Webb, Mike Miletich, Dale Jones, Fred Redfern and Keith Morris. Anyone wishing to sign-up for the tap-on fee (\$25.00) should contact one of these persons.

It was emphasized again that the more sign-ups we have the more feasible the project becomes. It was also mentioned that it would be sad for a family not to get rural water because they weren't willing to invest \$25.00 before November 1, 1975.

