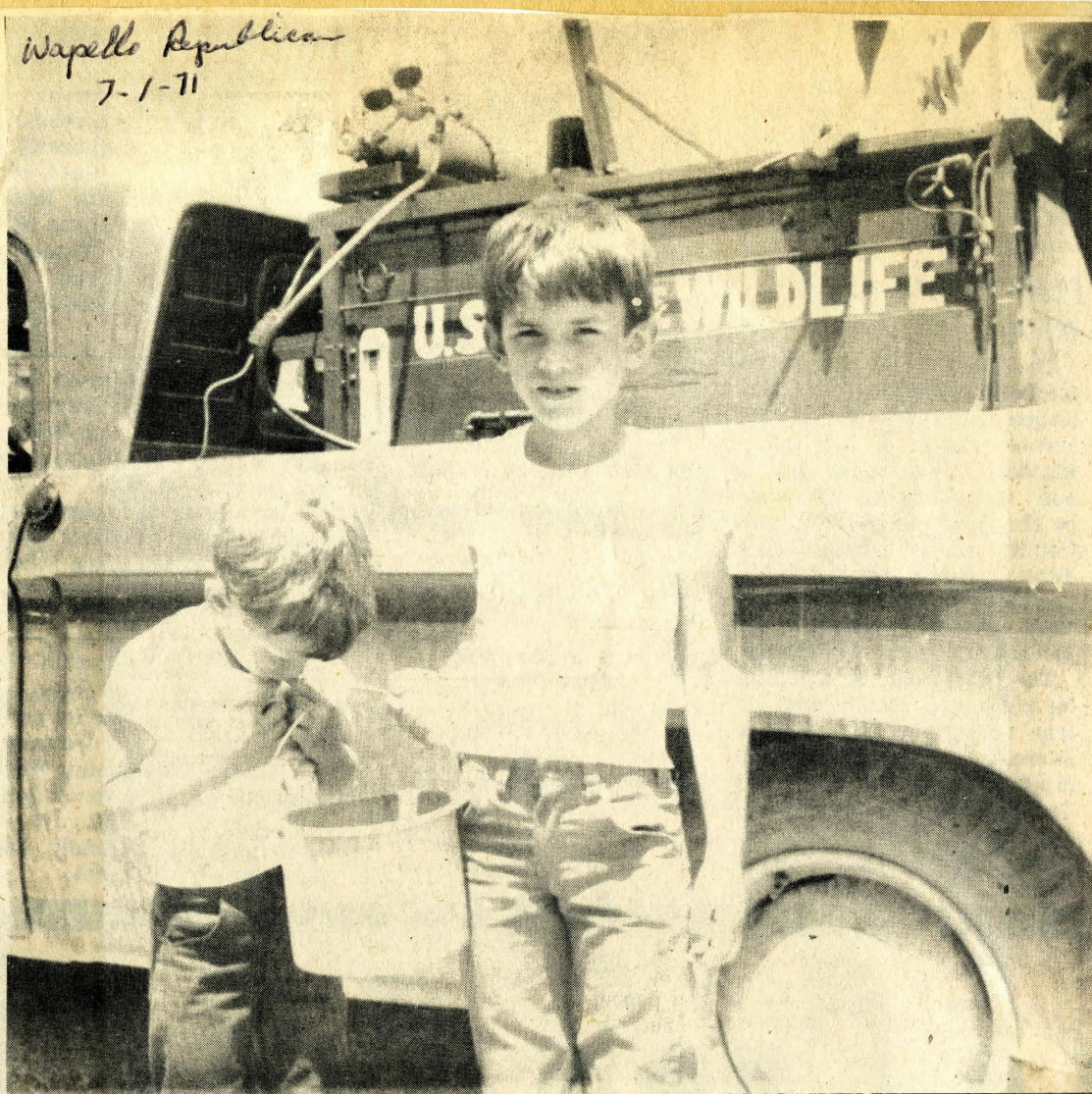


Wapello Republican
7-1-71



Terry and Tony McElhinney of Wyman are looking forward to exciting bass fishing in a couple of years. The little bass fingerlings, several hundred of which had plenty of room in the

pail, will provide good fishing and tasty eating in two years. The pond being stocked is located on the Dundsdale Farm near Wyman and was constructed as a source of water for

cattle. Terry will be in first grade and Tony in third grade at Wyman Schools this fall. They are sons of the Hubert McElhinneys.

1100 Bass For County Farm Ponds

Eleven hundred largemouth bass were stocked in five farm ponds in Louisa County this past week. The department of Interior, Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife provided the fish to the farmers through the Louisa County Soil Conservation District.

The bass fingerlings which were only about one inch long

will grow to be six inches long by this fall and by the second fall will be ten inches long or longer. Starting the second year after the fish are stocked, harvesting the fish crop is important to provide good fishing. This usually requires about five hundred man hours per acre per year.

Fish are stocked at the rate of about two hundred fingerlings per surface acre. The pond must be one-half acre in size to be

eligible for stocking.

Anyone wishing to stock a pond should contact the Louisa County Soil Conservation District Office for information and the necessary application forms, said Harry Bryant, Soil Conservationist.

Picking up fish Wednesday were Mrs. Frances Dunn, Wyman, Roy L. Miller, Columbus Jct., Leonard Phillips and Wayne Reed, Wapello and Leroy Rauhaus, Oakville.

Spokesman

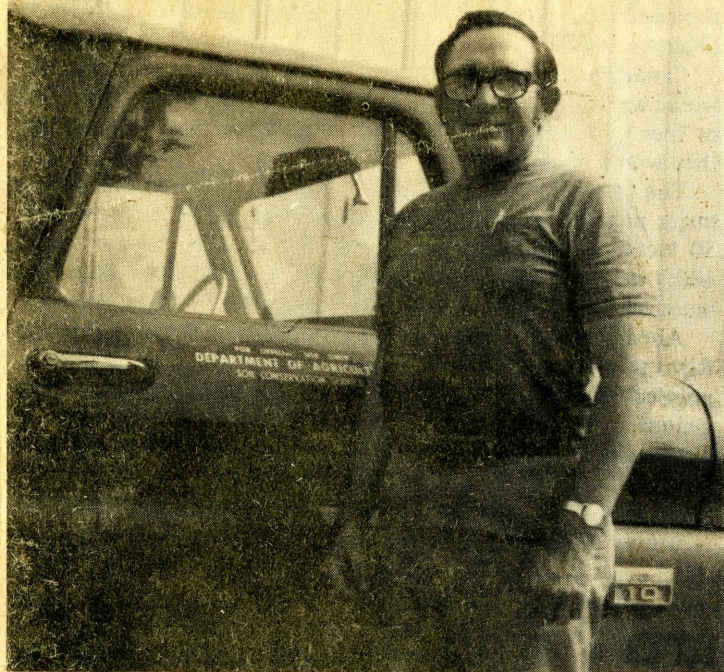
Sept. 11, 1971



Arnold Winegar honored

Wayne Barnes (right), chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District Commissioners, presents Arnold Winegar a plaque for 25 years of faithful service to the Louisa county district. Arnold will be retiring as district conservationist in Louisa county the middle of September. A party in his honor was held at the Colonial Inn in Wapello and was attended by over 100 friends and co-workers.

Besides the plaque, a money tree was presented to the Winegars by the commissioners. The fruit of the money tree was used to purchase a remote control garage door.



Named Louisa County Soil Conservationist

Harry Bryant, soil conservation technician for Des Moines County since 1966, has been appointed Louisa County Soil Conservationist. Bryant will be replacing Arnold Winegar who will retire in September. Winegar has been with the Louisa County office since 1948.

Bryant began work in the Wapello SCS office in June and will move his family to the area as soon as suitable housing is found.

He is a graduate of Seymour High School, attended Iowa State University at Ames for two years and received his degree in

agronomy from Western Illinois University at Macomb, Ill. this month. He worked in the Corydon office before going to Des Moines County.

His wife, Janice, is a Home Economics teacher at Danville and formerly taught in the Morning Sun schools.

They have five children who will be attending Wapello Community Schools this fall: Dean, a sophomore, Bruce, a freshman, Beth, 8th grade, Blair, 6th, and Steven, 5th grade.

Other staff members in the Louisa County office are William H. Matthews, soil technician, and Mrs. Fred Stone, clerk.

Spokesman 9-24-76

Plan bus tour to Farm Progress show Wednesday, Sept. 29

The district soil commissioners and Extension Service personnel have planned a bus tour to the Farm Progress Show near Van Horne on Sept. 29, according to Wayne Barnes, chairman of the district commissioners.

Barnes said farm operators and their wives are invited to go on the tour. He urged early reservations to be made by Sept. 27 at the Louisa County SCS office or at the Louisa County Extension Service office in Wapello.

The cost will be approximately \$5 per individual. The rendezvous point will be at the Wapello Sale Barn at 7:44 a.m.

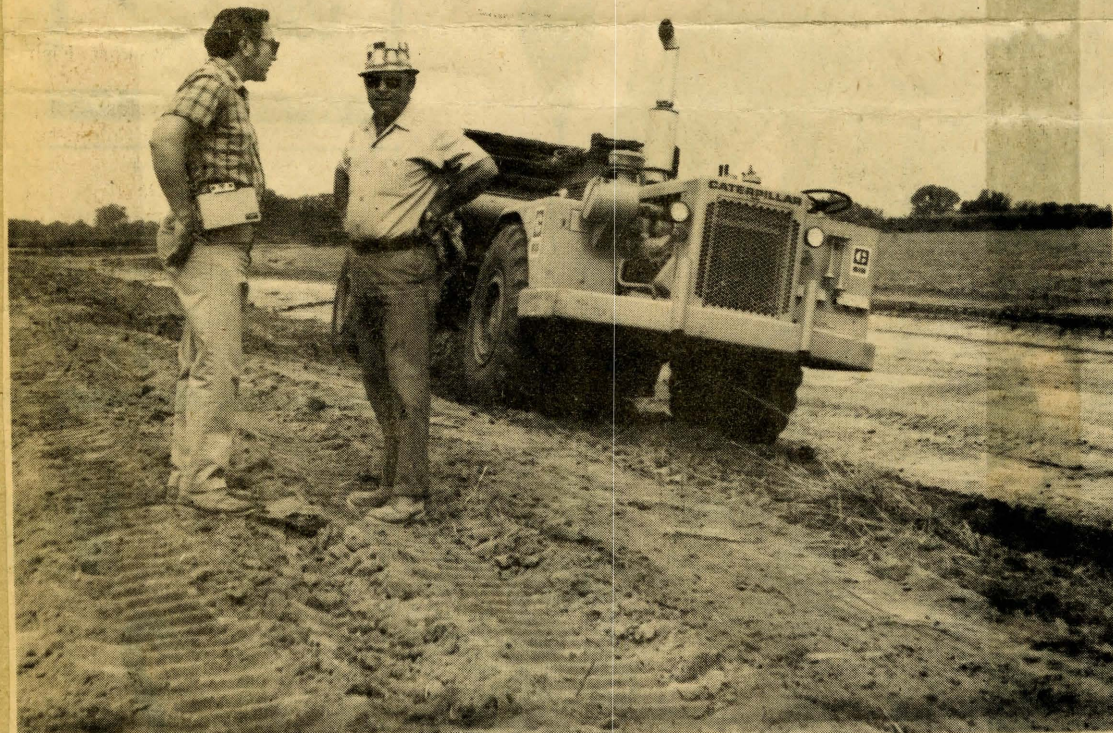
Minimum tillage equipment and demonstrations will receive major emphasis on the tour. However, participants will have an opportunity to observe many other kinds of equipment and demonstrations.



The earthmoving machine scrapes the dirt from the low side, loads it and deposits it on the sloping terrace. Grass

waterways had been established in the field for the prevention of erosion but with the use of herbicides had been difficult to

maintain, according to Soil Conservationist Harry Bryant.



Projects Aid In Stream Pollution Problem

Part of an overall conservation plan on the Bill Beik farm north of Wapello is 2,600 feet of tile outlet terrace which has been constructed this summer.

With conservation and pollution such vital subjects, the Louisa County Soil Conservation Service stresses the importance and need for such projects. This is the most effective way of keeping silt out of our streams, says Harry Bryant, soil conservationist. If we can keep the silt out of the streams, many of our chemicals will not get there because they attach themselves to soil particles, he said.

All the water that drains off the field above these terraces must leave through a tile. The tile system is designed to release the runoff water at a slow enough rate that it cannot carry any soil particles with it.

This terrace system was designed by Arnold Winegar and William H. Matthews who work for the Soil Conservation Service in Louisa County. Earthmoving contractor was Chuck Allgood of Winfield and tile contractor was Kenneth Springsteem of Morning Sun.

Any farmer needing help with conservation projects should contact the SCS Office in downtown Wapello.

Harry Bryant, Louisa County Soil Conservationist, (left), discusses the progress of a 2,600 foot tile outlet terrace project on

the Bill Beik farm with contractor Chuck Allgood. The farm is located one mile north of the Louisa County Home.



Congressman Fred Schwengel points out the problem faced by the community due to the breaking off the Iowa River

bank on the east edge of the city. Pictured from left are Bob Spence, council for the Public Works subcommittee, Sch-

wengel, Wapello mayor elect, Arthur Bolton, and Col. Bunch, commanding officer of the Rock Island Corp of Engineers.

Public Works Subcommittee Officials View Wapello Erosion Problem

Members of the Public Works Subcommittee on Conservation and Watershed Development plus national and state conservation officials arrived in Wapello Tuesday morning by Helicopter to view the Iowa River streambank erosion problem.

Congressman Fred Schwengel of the First District, ranking Republican on the Subcommittee, headed the tour in the absence of Congressman James Kee, chairman, who had a last minute change of plans and was unable to attend. Accompanying Schwengel was Bob Spence, council for the Subcommittee.

Driving here by auto from Rock Island was Colonel Bunch, commanding officer of the Rock Island Corp of Engineers and Fritz Gurley, engineer for the Corp.

The helicopters sat down in the vacant lot at the Elementary Building and were met by Wapello attorneys,

businessmen, and mayor-elect Arthur Bolton. The tour included a stop at the river north of the Iowa River bridge and at the problem area near the Donald Havenhill residence.

At a coffee held at the E.A. Hicklin home, W.O. Weaver expressed the concern of the community over the land lost to the river. Mr. Spence responded with the statement that he was 'appalled by what he saw.' Weaver stated later that he felt the tour went very well and that our point had been put across.

Estimates of cost of rip rap and jetties for the control of the situation are to be drawn up by Col. Bunch and forwarded to Mr. Schwengel.

Schwengel has introduced a bill to give the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the authority to handle situations such as exist at Wapello. Kee is co-sponsoring the bill.

Other stops made by the party Tuesday were at Muscatine and Fairfield.



Retiring Louisa County Soil Conservationist Honored

Over one hundred friends and business associates honored retiring Louisa County Soil Conservationist Arnold Winegar at a dinner at Colonial Inn in Wapello Monday night.

His retirement the middle of September will mark twenty-five years in the Louisa County office. Over 50 of those attending the event were from area Soil Conservation Offices.

Members of the Louisa County office staff and the District Commissioners, represented by Chairman Wayne Barnes, presented Winegar with a plaque commemorating his service to the county.

A money tree, to be used for a remote control garage door, was presented to him from friends and area SCS personnel. He was also honored with a decorated birthday cake with lighted candles for his birthday which is this month.

Participating in a short program following the dinner was Bill Brune, Assistant State Conservationist from Des Moines, John Eckes, Area Conservationist from Fairfield, Marion Clark, retired area engineer from Fairfield and George Apland, District Conservationist from Muscatine County.

Arnold Winegar graduated from the University at Ames, spent a short time in Virginia,

and returned to Iowa to work at the State Hospital at Woodward. He earned his master's degree in Texas and the family then spent three years in the Virgin Islands where he worked for the Department of the Interior. On returning to the mainland, he joined the Department of Agriculture, spending a year at Newton and moving to Wapello in 1946.

The couple has two sons, Captain Rodger Winegar of Lincoln, Neb. and Roy Winegar of Forest City. Both are married and have one son. Mrs. Winegar is an instructor in the Wapello School System.

In thanking the group for the honor, Mr. Winegar commented on the fact that although he grew up and went through college during hard times and the depression, he is thankful he was raised in a family that didn't let stress hold them down. For instance, he said, when a hailstorm came through the area, wiping out the crops, his mother went out, gathered up the stones and made ice cream.

Wayne Barnes (right center) representing the Louisa SCS Office and the District Commissioners presented a 25 year plaque to retiring Conservationist Arnold Winegar at a dinner in his honor Monday night. Looking on are (left) John Eckes of Fairfield and George Apland (right) of Muscatine County.

2-10-71

Wapello

SCS Has Help

Cal, Just
morning Sun

For Soil Losses

Spr. Kerner

SOIL LOSSES CAN BE REDUCED

Soil losses from excessive rainfall can be controlled by tile outlet terraces according to an article released by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. In tests conducted by the USDA Agricultural Research Service and Iowa State University the average soil loss from tile outlet terraced fields was less than 750 pounds per acre or only 5 percent of the soil loss that would have occurred if the terraces had not been installed. The uncontrolled soil loss would have been approximately 15,000 pounds per acre. These tests were conducted in four different areas of Iowa and on four different soil types.

Terraces with tile outlets are receiving increased acceptance as an erosion control measure throughout southeast Iowa and the cornbelt. The use of tile to remove surface water ponded in the depression areas above terraces permits construction of parallel terrace system that can be farmed efficiently with modern equipment on hilly and rolling topography. These terraces are designed to contain and temporarily store the runoff from the worst average rain that is expected to occur in a 10 year period. By temporarily storing the runoff the velocity of the water is reduced and soil particles being carried by the water are deposited in the ponded area. The excess water is carried off in 24 -48 hours through the underground tile.

Over a period of years the natural erosion and deposition process that takes place tends to level the ground between terraces. Farmers are realizing the economics involved because no productive land is wasted in grassed waterways, expensive chemical and fertilizers are not lost from the farm along with the valuable top soil.

The Soil Conservation Service in Wapello will discuss with land users how these terraces can be used on their land, and assist with planning, surveying and construction of the system. Government cost-sharing is available for terrace construction through the Rural Environmental Assistance Program administered by the ASCS.

Wapello Republican

Oct. 14 1971



Bill Matthews, (right) soil technician for Louisa County, explains the purpose of a catch basin constructed on the John Hupp farm west of Wapello. Others pictured are Howard

Tour Conservation Projects On Louisa County Farms

The annual Louisa Soil Conservation District tour was held Wednesday, Sept. 22 with approximately 15 governmental cost-sharing projects visited. Procedures and explanations of the problems encountered and corrected was explained by William H. Matthews, soil technician from the Louisa County Soil Conservation office.

Projects viewed on the tour included ponds for erosion control and fish and wildlife conservation on the Sam Walker, Ed Grimmer, L.C. Rohret, and Gene Snyder farms, a windbreak on the Lee Harris

farm, tile outlet terraces at the Darwin Campbell, William Beik and Martin Hoeg farms and waterway structures on the Paul Humiston, Ralph Ball, John Hupp, Melvin Jennings, Mitchell Allen Rolin Smith and Bernard Gajewski farms.

The tour was followed by a picnic supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stone.

Attending the tour and supper were SCS District Commissioners, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gieselman, Mr. and Mrs. Olin Jennings, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Greene, SCS staff, Mr. and Mrs. William Matthews, Mr.

Gieselman, front, Fred Stone, Gaylord Elliott, John Wanfalt, and Harry Bryant.

and Mrs. Harry Bryant, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stone, ASC Committeemen, Ralph Crawford, Ray Kuntz, and Jack Gipple, ASC office staff, Janice Hoehle, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Gajewski, Erma Dale Webster, and John Cutkomp, Louisa County Extension personnel, Gaylord Elliott and John Wanfalt and Mr. and Mrs. Sharon Murray.



The end of a pleasant and informative afternoon. Pictured roasting "tube steaks" are

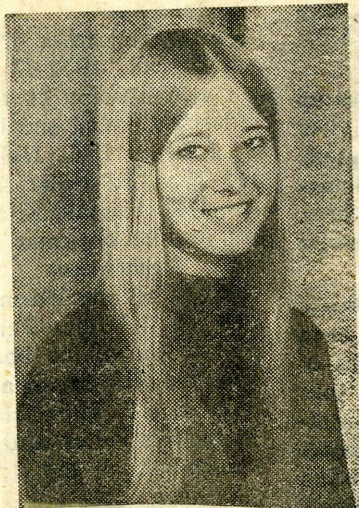
(from left) Bernard Gajewski, Ray Kuntz, Ralph Crawford, Wayne Barnes, Jack Gipple, John Cutkomp, and

W. R. Completes Unit 11-18-71

Management Course

Harry Bryant, District Soil Conservationist for Louisa County, just completed a two-weeks management course at the Mid-Regional Training Center in Lincoln, Neb. The course involved the skills of planning, organizing and supervising a work unit in the soil conservation field.

The training center, maintained by the Soil Conservation Service, serves eleven states in the midwest. Instructors are brought in from various colleges and also include qualified Soil Conservation Service personnel throughout the United States.



Annette Jennings wins regional speech contest

July 27, 1972 Spokesman
Inspelle
Col. JCT
Muscatine

Annette Jennings, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal Jennings of Winfield, was named winner of the Region 7 annual speech contest.

The contest was held July 6 at the Seven Villages Restaurant, Interstate 80, Amana Interchange.

Annette earlier in the year won the Louisa County Soil Conservation District speech contest to qualify her for the regional contest. She competed with nine other winners in Southwest Iowa.

Second place was won by Mary Schnack of Cedar district and third place went to Linda Peterson of Scott district.

The topic of this year's con-

test was Better Soil and Water Conservation Through Community Action.

First prize was \$25, 2nd \$15 and 3rd \$10.

Annette has earned the right to compete in the state contest which will be held in Des Moines in September. Prizes at the state contest are a \$250 scholarship to the college of the winner's choice and \$100 in cash. Second prize is \$75 and third prize is \$50.

Presentation of contest awards was made by Roger Thompson who represented the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, co-sponsors of the contest.

WON THIRD PLACE IN STATE CONSERVATION SPEECH CONTEST



9-21-72 Morning Sun
Winpello
Col. Jct.

Annette Jennings, rural Winfield, representing the Louisa County Soil Conservation District, received third place in the State Conservation Speech contest held last week in Des Moines.

Ed Herron, representing Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, made the award of fifty dollars cash prize to Annette. Grinnell Mutual is co-sponsor of the contest with the Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District commissioners.

The speech contest involved some 260 high school students throughout the state. The topic which all entrants had to talk on was "Better Soil And Water Conservation Through Community Action".

Annette is a senior in the Winfield-Mt. Union High School and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royal Jennings.

✓ Wapello
Col. Jct
Farm Bureau

Sept 28
Wapello Register



Fred Stone



LeRoy Krueger

Area Farms Conservation Winners

Conservation winners entered in the Register and Tribune conservation contest by the District Soil Commissioners have been announced.

Fred Stone, route two, Wapello, was named winner in the owner-operator division. Mr. and Mrs. Stone purchased the farm in 1948 and started a conservation program with the assistance of Arnold Winegar, conservationist at that time. The farm plan is nearly completed and includes seven farm ponds, over two miles of terraces, 16,000 feet of tile, five acres of grassed waterways for terrace outlets, 130 acres of contouring, one acre of tree planting and nine acres of wildlife habitat.

Leroy Krueger of Crawfordsville, operator and Mary Stewart, Washington, owner of a 200 acre farm in Elm Grove township, were chosen winners in the landlord-tenant division. Practices on this farm include over three miles of terrace outlets, 164 acres of contouring, two miles of tile drains, one erosion control dam, a farm pond and 22 acres managed to provide cover for wildlife.

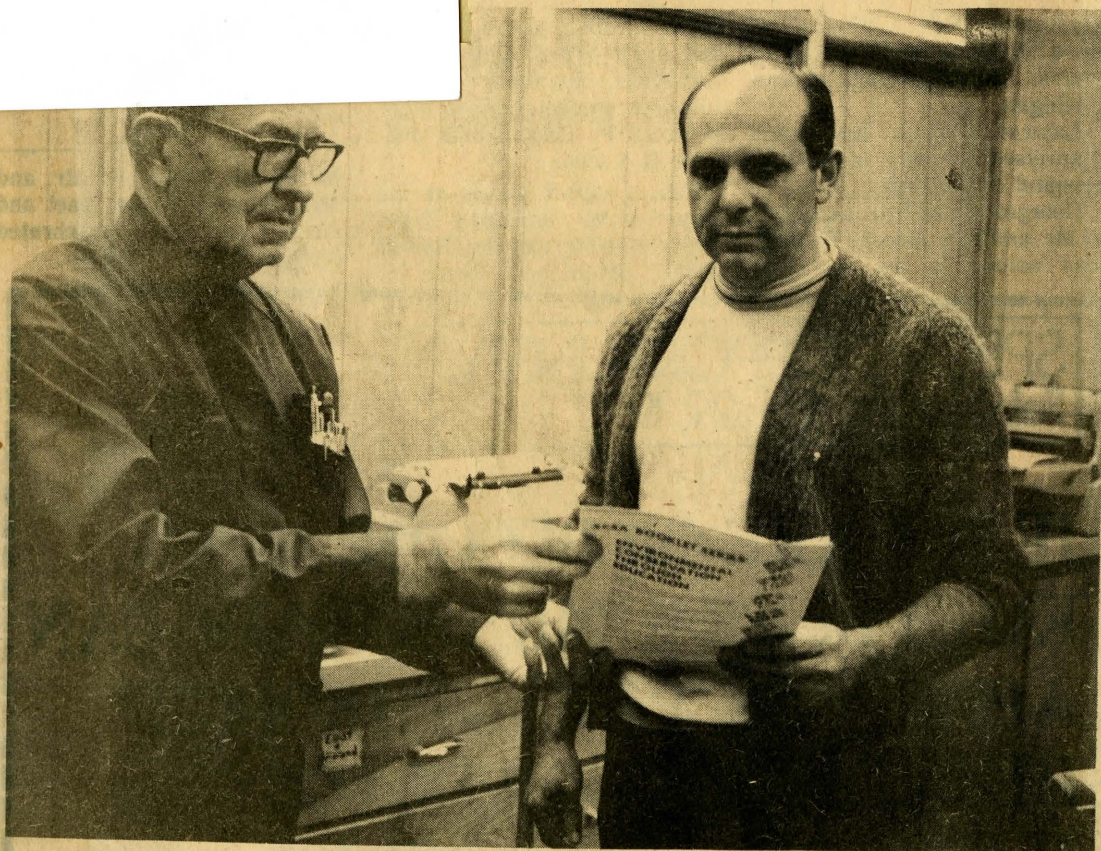
Mrs. Stewart became a cooperator of the Soil Conservation District in 1960. Mr. Kruger has been the tenant in that period of time.

The winning farms will enter competition against other winners in southeast Iowa to determine who will compete on the state level.



Mary Stewart

2-17-72 Wapello Republican
Spokesman



Conservation Booklets To County Students

Bill Matthews of the Louisa County Soil Conservation Service (left) discusses the new Conservation Education Booklets presented to the Wapello School with Bill Denning, elementary principal.

1750 booklets published by the Soil Conservation Society of

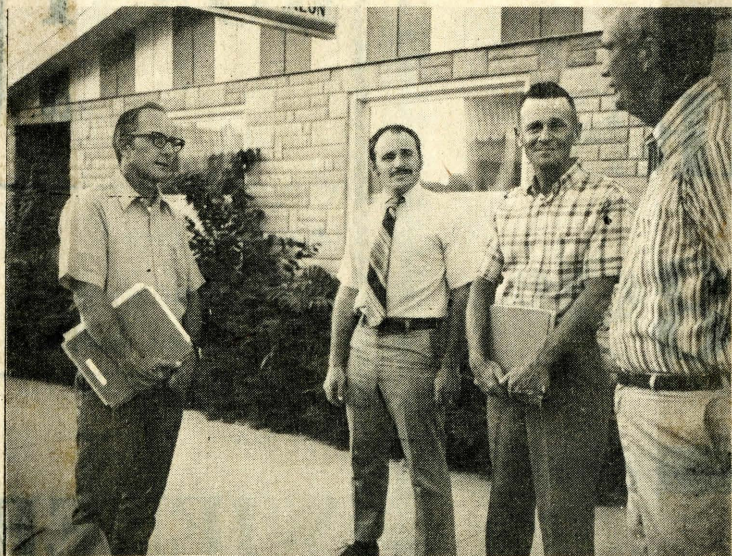
America pertaining to "A Better Environment" were purchased by the Soil Conservation District and distributed to all the schools in the county. Providing this material to young people will help them to better understand environmental problems and programs. The seven booklets

cover topics of: Help Keep our Land Beautiful; How Plants Effect our Environment; Making A Home for Wildlife; The Story of our Land; The Wonders of Water; Working Together for a Liveable Land; and Food and the Land.

Aug. 3-1972

Wayne Barnes
Col. J.C.T.

Conservation Camp



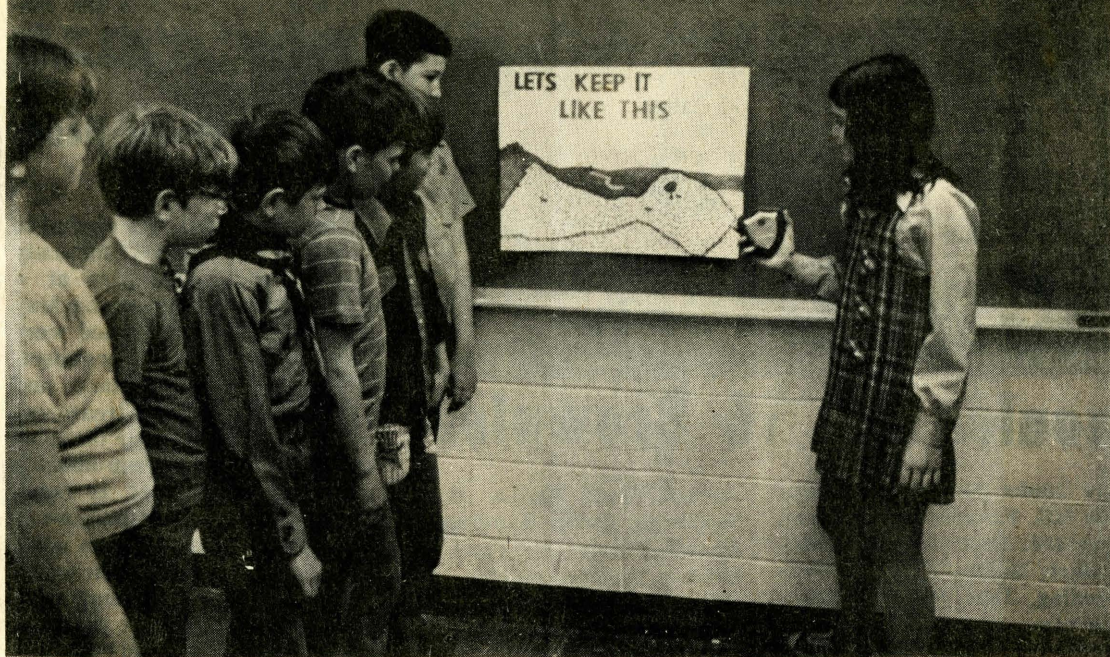
John Buster, second from left, tells Bill Greene and Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction and Wayne Barnes of Letts, about the Teachers Conservation Camp he recently attended near Guthrie Center.

The three-week camp was an outdoor classroom to learn about the management of Iowa Natural Resources and help the teachers have a better un-

derstanding of our environment.

Mr. Buster teaches social studies in the Columbus Junction School system. He was sponsored by the Columbus Junction Teachers Association and the Louisa County Soil Conservation District.

Barnes, Greene and Jennings are commissioners for the Louisa County Soil Conservation District.



Conservation Poster Winners Told

Sherri Van Gent, 5th grader in the Wapello school system, was runner up in the conservation poster contest sponsored by the Louisa County Soil Conservation District. Looking at Sherri's picture are other entrants from the 5th grade. They are (from center): Donny Hamilton, David Ecklund, Larry Wilson, Leslie

Boling, Clinton Ryan and Lori Schneider.

First place winner of the conservation poster contest for 5th through 8th grades was Tammy Morrison, 5th grader at Columbus Junction.

The winner for the high school and adult division was Annette Jennings of Winfield.

The winners of 1st and 2nd place in each division were awarded trophies. All other entrants received award ribbons for their efforts. The posters will be on display during the county fair in the booth sponsored by the Soil Conservation District.

*June 1, 1972
wapello*

Wapello

Nov 2, 1972



Conservation Practices In County

Bill Matthews, of Wapello Soil Conservation Technician, checks to see if 4000 feet of tile outlet terraces built, on the Lemma Fuller farm northwest of Morning Sun, meet soil and water runoff requirements. The terraces are built to store two inches of runoff water from the drainage area and release it into tile at a slow enough rate so that silt particles do not leave the farm. By keeping the silt particles on the farm the chemicals and fertilizer used on the field also stay on the farm because most chemicals attach themselves to soil particles.

Other features of tile outlet terraces are: They can be made parallel and straight eliminating point row and odd areas, and there is no longer a need for grossed waterways because the waterways are blocked so they cannot wash out, this means less idle land needed to control gully erosion.

Orleaf Caparoon, the operator of Mrs. Fuller's farm, is very enthused about the new terraces. He's been farming the old style crooked terraces on his own farm for twenty years and likes the new look in conservation farming.

Tom Huston of the Columbus Junction State Bank manages the farm for Mrs. Fuller and feels that the terraces will pay for themselves because the ground can be farmed more intensively without the loss of soil.

The Soil Conservation Service in Wapello laid out and designed the terrace system for Mrs. Fuller. Some cost-sharing for construction was received from the Louisa County ASCS through REAP (Rural Environmental Assistance Program).

Conservation

Week Oct. 1-8

Soil Conservation Week in Iowa this year will be observed Oct. 1-8, according to William Greiner, director of the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation.

In previous years, a week in June was set aside to recognize the importance of soil and water conservation programs in the state. The fall date was chosen this year because the June date was so close to Soil Stewardship Week, usually observed in May.

These soil and water conservation, flood prevention, and related natural resources development programs are carried out to meet Iowa's rural and urban needs to improve the quality of our environment.



Farm Conservation Practice Benefits MS Community

4-13-72

Spokane
M.S.
Wapallo

Everett Lee of Morning Sun helped the Soil Conservation Service survey about a mile of tile outlet terraces on his farm on the edge of Morning Sun recently.

The terrace will be built this summer and will take all of the water leaving Mr. Lee's field by underground tile around the edge of Morning Sun's proposed Sewer Lagoon.

These terraces will also trap soil that moves from the spring field so that it will not fill

up the diversion ditch that protects the Lagoon from runoff surface water. This should mean less maintenance cost to Morning Sun in keeping the Sewer Lagoon functioning properly.

This is a good example of a farmer doing conservation work that will benefit the whole community by keeping his soil, fertilizer and other chemicals on the farm where they will serve the purpose intended and at the same time not pollute our rivers and streams.

Hold conservation contractors' meeting

The Louisa County Soil Conservation District held a conservation contractors' meeting in the district office to discuss current development in the field of soil conservation.

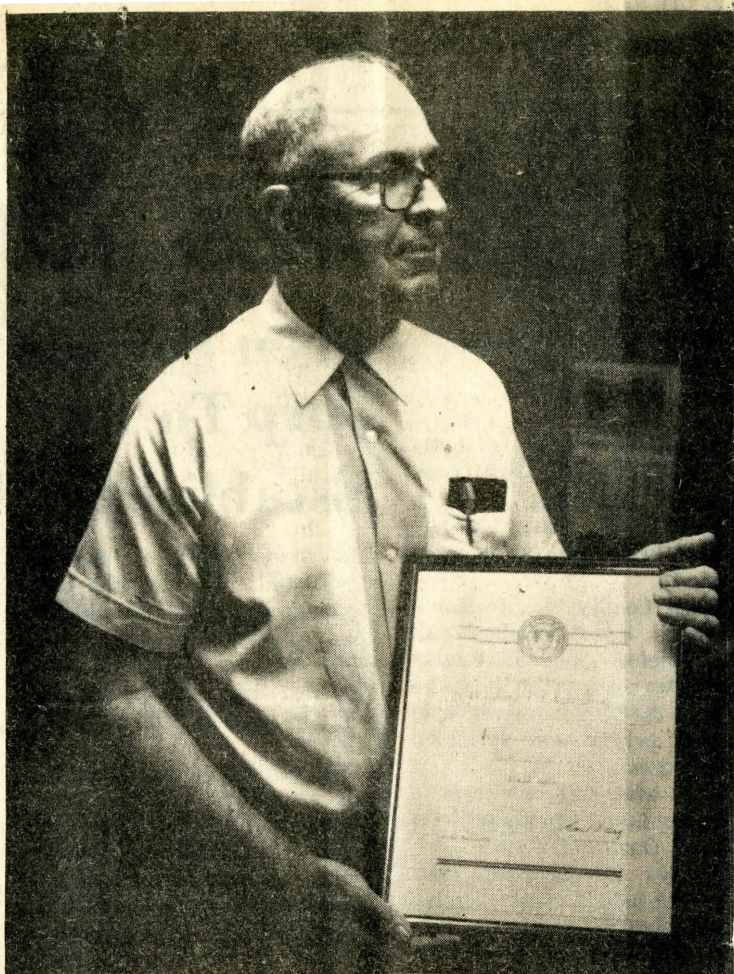
Specifications for building ponds, dams, waterways and installing tile were presented by Bill Matthews, local soil conservation technician, and Stan Simmons of the area soil conservation staff at Fairfield. A slide presentation on Tile Outlet Terraces was presented by Simmons and discussed.

James Mullahy and Janice Hoehle of the Louisa County ASCS office, discussed the current REAP cost sharing programs and the preparation of claims for payment by contractors.

Ten contractors that service Louisa county were present. A noon luncheon was provided by the soil conservation district.

1-21-72
Spokesman
Wapello
Call. Jct.

Morning Sun



Honored For 20 Years As Soil Technician

Bill Matthews, Louisa County Soil Technician, recently received recognition from Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture, for twenty years of service in the United States Department of Agriculture.

Bill started work as conservation technician in Louisa County on Feb. 26, 1952, and

received training from Arnold Winegar, District Conservationist at that time. Bill has left his mark on the land of Louisa County in these twenty years by the many terraces, ponds and other conservation practices that he has laid out and supervised.

*Aug 24 - Wapello
H. H. Sear
Col. J. C. Jett
Spokane*

Invite county FB members to attend soil conservation meeting

Members of the Louisa County Farm Bureau have been notified of a meeting planned to discuss resource and conservation need in the Flint River sub-basin of the Iowa-Cedar Rivers' basin. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 24, at the

Legion Hall in Mediapolis beginning at 8 p.m.

Items of interest on the agenda include discussion of the basin study and needs for information from the people, an informative review of the inventory of the sub-basin by members of the technical staff and discussion, and to review the meeting and consider the need for future meetings or organization.

This will be an informal event and anyone interested is urged to participate and question at any time.

Iowa Soil Conservancy Law

1-18-73
Wapello

Topic Of Public Meeting Here

A soil conservancy and tillage meeting, followed at 2:30 p.m. by a public hearing on the question of adopting proposed soil loss limit regulations for the district, will be held in Wapello Wednesday, Jan. 24. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at the V.F.W. Building with a lunch provided at noon by some county banks.

Minoru Amemiya, Extension Agronomist of Ames, will discuss the new Soil Conservancy law and soil erosion control in detail and the implications it has for farmers in Louisa County. George Ayers, Extension Engineer of Ames, will talk about tillage considerations.

District winners of the Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards, sponsored by the Des Moines Register and Tribune, will be presented certificates following the lunch. They are: Div. I (owner-operator) Fred Stone of Wapello; and Div. II (owner-tenant) Mrs. Mary Stewart, Washington and Leroy Kruger, Crawfordsville.

During the public hearing scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m., all persons who are likely to be affected by the proposed regulations may attend and will be given an opportunity to present their views concerning the proposed regulations, according to Warren Greene, chairman of the Soil District Commissioners.

The proposed soil loss limit regulations are on file and may be reviewed at the Louisa County Soil Conservation Office in Wapello prior to the date of the hearing.

Set Election District SCS Commissioners

The election of commissioners for the Louisa Soil Conservation District will be held Wednesday, Jan. 24. The polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the V.F.W. Hall in Wapello, according to Harry Bryant, District Conservationist.

Expiring are the six year terms of Jack Parsons, Wapello, and Howard Gieselman of Morning Sun. Neither man is

CS Sponsors

Ministers invited on conservation tour

Ministers of Louisa county were invited on a soil and water conservation tour by the Louisa County Soil Conservation District. Bill Matthews, soil conservation technician, was in charge of the tour which started with a presentation on conservation planning and soil characteristics which affect the suitability or limitation of a soil for different uses.

At the Frank Mauer farm, the group looked at a large pond. The pond dam had been seeded to tall fescue to protect it from wind and water erosion and give it a well kept appearance. Two wood duck houses had been built and placed around the pond. The pond is protected from excessive siltation by tile outlet terraces which filter the water before it goes into the pond.

At the Indian Hills Golf Course a large pond was again looked at. The main attraction here was the Emerald Crownvetch which covers the dam. This legume grows very well on poor soil or subsoils which are problem areas to get seed to grow on, and provides a good ground cover to protect it from washing.

Tile outlet terraces was the conservation practice looked at on the Clayton Robertson farm. These terraces built earlier this year will control soil and water runoff from about 25 acres of cropland.

The group stopped at the Bill Paris farm where they saw a large erosion control pond which had been built to cover an eroding gully. A tile outlet diversion had been built to stabilize and protect a large sand outcropping that was eroding and could not be seeded, because of water running across it from the farm buildings.

They also looked at a chisel plow which is being used in the county to prepare ground for cultivation. The chisel plow is fast replacing the conventional moldboard plow as a means of tilling the soil. Some of the advantages of the chisel plow are, mulch is left on the surface to protect the soil, deeper tillage allowing more water and air to enter the soil, lower operating costs because fewer trips are required over the field.

At the Paul Gustifson's farm, the group looked at a grassed waterway which had been constructed to carry excess water off his farm at nonerosive speed. Tile had been placed along each side of the waterway to allow it to dry enough so good grass could grow and cover the waterway.

A farmstead windbreak at the David McCulley farm was the final stop on the conservation tour. Besides protecting the farm buildings from wind, the windbreak will provide shelter for wildlife and adds beauty to the farmstead and landscape.

A cube steak picnic was prepared by the wives of the soil conservation district commissioners at the Toolesboro Indian Mounds to conclude the afternoon program.

Order Fish By March 15

2-3-72

Spokesman
Wapello
morning Sun
Col. Jett.

Application for stocking fish in farm ponds should be made now, at the Soil Conservation office in Wapello. No order for stocking fish this year can be accepted after March 15.

Species available are large mouth bass and channel catfish. No stocking will be approved by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife if any predacious fish are in the pond. Pond will be stocked only once unless the pond has been drained or is renovated. Ponds must be at least one-half acre in size with a minimum depth of eight feet.

The Soil Conservation Service will provide help in managing and stocking recommendations for farm ponds.

Order trees now

Application blanks are now available at the Louisa County Soil Conservation office in Wapello to order trees from the state nursery. Orders should be sent in as soon as possible so that the trees can be processed and delivered for early spring planting.

A new plant, autumn olive, is being offered this year for wildlife plantings. It produces an abundant supply of bright red, sweet flavored berries cherished by birds and other wildlife. In the early spring it has a sweet scented yellow flower. It can be used around ponds and other odd areas where wildlife is encouraged.

About 15 trees and shrubs are available from the state nursery. These trees and shrubs must be used to establish new stands of trees, improve existing forests, for erosion control or for wildlife plantings. They can not be used for windbreaks, for shade or ornaments in yards.

See Kepman
Wapello
Col. J. C. Smith
March 5, 1962

1-28-72

Plan Public Hearing On Soil Loss Regulations

*Aug 24 - Wapello
Col Ia*

District commissioners for Louisa County, at their regular monthly meeting on Aug. 21, tentatively approved the Soil Loss Limit Regulations for the district as set forth by the State Department of Soil Conservation.

A public hearing for land users who it may effect will be held later before final adoption. These regulations will be put into effect on agricultural land, non-agricultural land and construction sites.

A conservation tour is being planned for the Ministers of the county on Sept. 13. The various

government agencies will be taken on a tour Oct. 4.

New cooperator agreements with the district were approved for Sheldon Williams, Ronald Lamp, Tony Houseman, Harry Haight, Bill Small and Kenneth Grim. Basic conservation plans were approved for William Boulton, Frank Hanson and Kay Jackson.

Jim Hodges of the Wapello Republican was invited to the meeting to discuss and make plans for printing the district calendar and annual report of the district.

SCS Poster Contest

Expanded This Year

3-30-72

The annual poster contest sponsored by the Louisa County Soil Conservation District has been expanded this year to include entries from fifth through twelfth grades and interested adults.

Entries will be judged in two divisions. Division I will include fifth through eighth grades and Division II, ninth through twelfth and adults. Prizes in each division will be a plaque for first, trophy for second and ribbons to all others. Entry deadline is April 14.

Posters may be taken to the Soil Conservation Office in Wapello or will be picked up by calling one of the following commissioners: Howard Gieselman, Morning Sun; Bill Greene and Olin Jennings, Columbus Jct., Wayne Barnes, Letts or Jack Parsons, Wapello.

Posters may be of any size or shape and must tell a conservation story. They become the property of the district and will be displayed at the Louisa

SCS Speech

Contest Told

The Louisa County District Commissioners are again sponsoring a Speech contest for students (grades 7 through 12). The topic for this year's contest is "Better Soil and Water Conservation Through Community Action". Speeches must be at least five minutes long, and no longer than ten minutes. They will be judged on originality, aptness of thought, accuracy of information and the manner in which they are delivered.

Contestants will be asked two questions by the judges. The same questions will be asked each contestant.

Entrants must compete in the contest conducted by the Soil Conservation District in which they reside.

Contestants in the district contests will be permitted to use notes, if the notes are on 3" x 5" index or similar card. The use of cards will not be prohibited in the regional and state contest but use thereof will be considered by the judges in reaching their determination.

Prizes at the district contest are \$15 for 1st, \$10 for 2nd, \$5 for 3rd and all others will receive \$1.00.

Contest will be held March 23 at the Columbus Junction State Bank at Columbus Junction starting at 7:30 p.m.

Deadline for entering is March 17. Students interested in entering should contact the Soil Conservation Office at 220 N. 2nd St. in Wapello or call 523-6411.

Soil conservation is topic of Wapello farm women meeting

Muscatine
2-19-13

WAPELLO—Wapello Township Farm Bureau women met recently in the home of Mrs. Marguerite Allen, with Mrs. Edith Cutkomp and Miss Mabel Kemp as co-hostesses. There were 21 members and one guest, Mrs. Ben Murray present. The meeting opened at 10:30 a.m. with Mrs. Doris Gerth presiding. Devotions were led by Mrs. Virginia Whicher, taking the scripture from I Corinthians, and reading a story concerning Abraham Lincoln, and telling of the origin of Valentine Day. She closed with prayer.

Mrs. Gerth gave the report of the county committee meeting, telling that the dates for the foreign student weekend are set for April 27, 28 and 29, and that Rural Womens Day will be in Oakville on March 29. Each township will furnish one door prize, and the meeting starts with the coffee hour and registration from 9-10 a.m.

Mrs. Emma Eversmeyer reported on water pollution and soil conservation, reading an article on the increase in the amount of water used, the quality, the methods of saving and the pollution of water.

Mabel Kemp reported on the Farm Bureau scholarships, saying they were started in 1946, the amount given by each county, 18 awards given each year, the qualifications necessary to be eligible for these.

Following the potluck dinner served at noon, Harry Bryant, from the Louisa

County Soil Conservation office, showed slides and talked on "Consider the Soil First—Using Soil to its best Usability". These showed the different types and layers of soil, and the effects of erosion, with methods of combating same.

Mrs. Rose Kerr reported on the Safety on Highways, stressing that you should watch what the other driver is doing, and what to do when a car is coming toward you.

Mrs. Grace Reif reported

on Health Hoaxes—saying you should know what you are getting, and not always listen to the advertisements. She mentioned specifically foods, mattresses, reducing belts, and diet pills.

Following the reports, an exhibit of various hobbies, made by the members was shown and explained, and patterns given, if members wished them. The remainder of the afternoon was spent on cutting pieces to be made into lap-robe quilts for the patients at the Wapello Nursing Home. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Leona Reutinger on March 12.

Tammy Morrison, a fifth grade student at Columbus Community, won first place in her division in the 1972 conservation poster contest sponsored by the Louisa Soil Conservation Commission. Tammy was awarded a trophy for ranking first in the fifth through eighth grade division.

The 26 other Columbus Community students, who entered the poster contest, received ribbons. The fifth and sixth grade students were Beth Duke, Susan Pretz, Keith Bloomer, Patti Sands, Karen Mincer, Julie Faler, Sandra Beebe, Barbara Richman, Dean Rees, Debra Hartsock and Richard Hammons.

Junior high entrants were Jim Brown, Janet Kennard, Tom Podaril, Susan Richman, Barbara Cmelik, Scott Gentzler, Kathy Baird, Vicky Kemp, Jo Anne Friis, Bob Edwards, Chan Williams, Kevin Boyd, Patty Schuetze and Kay Rees.

Steve Keeler also entered in the high school and adult division of the poster contest.

Entries from other schools in Louisa County included eight from Wapello and two from Winfield.

*June 1, 1972
wapello*



Time To Plan New Housing

4-20-72

4 papers

It's Spring -- birds on the wing -- and time to consider how you can attract more robins, wrens and bluebirds to your neighborhood.

Steven and Blair Bryant who live near Wapello, are putting up a wren house, hoping some wren family will move in for the summer. Other ways of attracting birds to your neighborhood are suggested in a new brochure, "Invite Birds to your Home - Conservation Plantings for the Midwest". This brochure

prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service, is in limited supply at the Louisa County Soil Conservation office.

The brochure describes and illustrates a number of trees, shrubs and other plants that attract birds. It suggests how to create a landscape design, mentions the need of various plants for sun, soil and water, and lists the plant foods preferred by common mid-western birds.

Wapello - Mar 30, 1972
also Col Jct. F.B. Spokesman



Winfield Girl Wins SCS Contest

Annette Jennings was named winner in the Louisa County Soil Conservation District annual soil and water conservation speech contest held Thursday evening at the Col. Jct. State Bank. She was winner over four other contestants who presented speeches on "Better Soil and

Water Conservation through Community Action". Miss Jennings will compete later this summer in a Regional speech contest to determine a winner for southeast Iowa who will then compete for state winner.

Those who competed in the contest this year are pictured (left to right, front row)

Charlotte Hiller, Columbus Jct.; Kelly Bell, L & M School; (back row, left to right) Lyn Schlutz, L & M; Annette Jennings, Winfield and Mike Jennings, L & M. Serving as judges for this year's contest were Martha Moore, Columbus Jct., Virgil Corey, Morning Sun and Bill Greene, Columbus Jct.

Burl. Hawkeye 10-15-71



Huston



Ross



Krieger

Winners in soil judging

FARMINGTON — Winfield-Mt. Union won first place in the Southeast Iowa soil judging contest on the Paul Grossman farm west of Harmony high school Wednesday.

On the team are Mark Huston, who was also individual first place winner, Jim Underwood, Paul Klopfenstein, and Keith Hudson.

Second place individual was Steve Krieger, Mediapolis; Tony Ross, Bonaparte, was third.

Second place team was Har-

mony; third, Mediapolis; fourth, Mt. Pleasant; fifth, Central of Argyle; sixth, Wapello.

Vocational agriculture instructors from the six chapters participating were: Harmony — Glenn Halbrook; Mt. Pleasant — Roger Garnjobst; Winfield — Wayne Corriel; Mediapolis — Jim Howell; Central — Ron Asher; Wapello — Horold Hain.

The contest was held under supervision of Ron Snyder, district conservationist from Keosauqua.

60 attend soil conservation district meeting

F.B. Spick
2-17-73

About 60 people attended a meeting in Wapello Jan. 24 to learn more about the Iowa Conservancy Law which charges soil conservation districts to establish and administer regulations limiting rates of soil erosion on land within the district. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Louisa Soil Conservation District held a hearing for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the soil loss limits of 3-5 tons per acre per year on agricultural land, depending on soil characteristic, and 5 tons per acre per year on non agricultural land and construction sites.

The regulations were accepted by those present and declares that soil erosion is a nuisance if it results in or contributes to damage by siltation to property other than that of the owner of the land on which such erosion is occurring or damage by siltation to any internal improvement of a conservancy district.

Complaints that damages by sediment resulting from erosion are occurring on land of another must be filed in writing with the soil conservation district.

District commissioners investigate complaints and determine if soil loss limits are being violated.

Notice of the determination by the district commissioners is given to owners alleged to be in violation of limits and voluntary abatement of the nuisance is sought. If further action is required, an administrative order is issued, 75 percent cost-sharing must be arranged for, on agricultural land.

Wapello - 11-1-73

Appoint Newell To SC Board

William T. Newell, who owns farms near Letts and lives in Wapello, has been appointed to the Louisa County Soil Conservation committee.

Newell succeeds Bill Greene, who went to Alburnett as a vocational agriculture teacher. Greene previously was a vocational agriculture instructor at Columbus Community high school.

Chairman of the district (county) committee is Olin Jennings and vice chairman is Leonard Chatfield, both of Columbus Junction. Members are Faye Crull, Letts, and Virgil Corey, Morning Sun, while Mrs. Eleanor Stone, SCS state clerk, is secretary.

Aug 30 Wapello
**ATTEND FAREWELL FOR
AREA CONSERVATIONIST**

Employees and former employees at the Louisa County SC Office attended a farewell event for Area Conservationist John Eckes of Fairfield at the Captains Table in Washington Friday night. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. William Matthews, Eleanor Stone, and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Winegar.

Conservation Aid Available In County

7 papers
Apr 26, 1973

Throughout Louisa County the finishing touches are being put on plans for cropping or construction projects conceived over the long winter months and the machinery is poised to begin carrying them out. "Bill" Greene, chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District, points out that an important part of planning considerations should be measured to assure the control of erosion from unprotected land.

He cautioned that "Never in history has the conservation and wise development of our natural resources been more important. Soil, water, forests, fish and wildlife, open space, natural beauty all are highly vulnerable to misuse and waste."

At the local level, officials of soil conservation districts are working to conserve and develop these resources for all people. Greene emphasized that soil conservation consultation and planning services are available through the District office and these services are provided without charge to urban and rural residents alike.

Serving the Louisa County Soil Conservation District along with

Wapello
Col. J.C.T.
OCT 11, 1973

Conservation News

by Virgil Corey

Did you ever wonder what goes on in a typical meeting of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District Commissioners? If so, this article is intended to answer your questions. The items of business are not the same for each meeting, but the agenda is always as full.

At a recent meeting Mr. Jim Gabriel, instructor at L—M School and Mrs. Sandra Congable, instructor at Columbus Community School, reported on their three weeks of workshops in the Teachers Conservation Camp at Burlington for which they received 3 hours of college credit. Each of the instructors related experiences and displayed their material which filled large notebooks. They were very enthusiastic about the camp and have since worked to set up a 12 acre nature study area near the Columbus Comm. School for use by the school faculty and students and also by other area schools.

The District Commissioners financed the tuition to the camp for Jim and Sandra with some of the profit from the sale of ads for the calendar. Those individuals and institutions who placed ads on the calendar can take much satisfaction in knowing that their money is put to good use.

The District Commissioners also discussed and took action on a complaint filed with the Commissioners by the County Supervisors regarding a farm from which silt had filled the road ditches.

Action under House File 73 which was enacted by the 64th General Assembly, the Commissioners viewed the site, determined that the complaint was valid, and instructed the District Conservationist to proceed to establish the soil loss for the farm and to recommend remedial measures. He determined that the soil of the farm over a period of 5 years of normal rainfall and under cultivation to row crops was 48 tons of soil per acre per year. A given formula is used to make such determinations. The farm must be placed under soil conservancy.

The Commissioners reviewed and approved four initial Agreements totalling 1165 acres. These farms will be mapped and set-up for good soil conservation practices.

Three basic plans totalling 280 acres were approved and one revision of 200 acres was adopted. These plans may include terraces, contouring, grassed waterways, or farm ponds.

Also the Commissioners reviewed applications for cost sharing in establishing permanent soil conservation practices. Those being approved for cost sharing are Howard Gieselman, Morning Sun; C & A Inc., whose farm is in Union township; Richard Dutton, whose farm is in Grandview township; Charles Hoag, Columbus Junction; Robert Walker, Wapello; David McCulley, Wapello; Frank Mauer, Morning Sun; Darrel Willey, Columbus Junction and Martin Hoeg, Wapello. A limited funds are still available.

Conservation Notes

Dec 27/73
Col. JCA

by Olin Jennings Chm.

A summarization of Louisa Soil District's 1973 achievements seems appropriate at this time.

At a Public Hearing in Wapello January 24th the Soil Loss Limits Regulations were adopted and elections held for District Commissioners. Elected were Leonard Chatfield, Fay Crull, and Virgil Corey.

Bill Newell was recently appointed to serve out Bill Greene's unexpired term.

Virgil Corey is representing our District on the Four County Regional Planning Committee consisting of Henry, Lee, Des Moines, and Louisa Counties. This committee is the first of its kind in Iowa.

An Educational Council was established with representatives from area schools. Workbooks were purchased and distributed to the county schools. An outdoor classroom is now located at Columbus Junction with others in the county being planned.

Sandy Kongable of Columbus Community Schools and Jim Gabriel of L-M attended the Teachers Conservation Course held at Burlington this past summer. Tuition was paid by District Commissioners.

2500 church bulletins and 25 pastor's books were purchased by the District and distributed by commissioners to churches of the area for use during Stewardship week May 27 - June 3.

Our local speech contestant winner, Kent Ostrem from Columbus Community Schools gave his speech at the Regional Contest held at Amana in July.

These educational projects are partially funded by calendar ad sales. We would like to express our appreciation to the advertisers that support our calendar publication, making these projects possible.

A new soil survey approved by local officials has received State approval.

The District has received a \$7000 State allocation for cost - sharing practices in the county through the efforts of Gov. Ray and the State Soil Conservation Dept. as a replacement for the discontinued REAP program.

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

July 1, 1972 thru June 30, 1973

New District Cooperators	55
Basic Cooperator Plans Prepared	28
Revisions of Old Conservation Plans	14
Diversion Terraces	3960 feet
Farm Ponds	10
Erosion Dams	10
Open Drainage Ditch	9255 feet
Tile Drainage	164,920 feet
Tree Planting	23 acres
Grassed Waterways	53 acres
Tile Outlet Terraces	16,155 feet

Conservation Outdoor Seminar

Col JCT
OCT. 11



The Louisa County Soil Conservation District and the Louisa County Conservation Education Council sponsored a one day seminar on outdoor classrooms, Thursday, Sept. 27th. Sylvan Runkel, retired biologist for the Soil Conservation Service, was the featured instructor.

The morning session was held in a twelve acre wooded area the Columbus Junction School is developing into an outdoor classroom. Here they covered many of the woodland plants that make up a woodland community. In

the afternoon the group went to a native prairie area near Conesville to study the plants that make up a prairie community. The session concluded with a series of slides showing how the plants and animals of these different communities work together to balance nature or how man can up-set this balance by the things we often do.

There were teachers attending from the L-M Schools, Morning Sun Schools Columbus Junction Schools and the Mediapolis Schools.

County Plans To Update 1918 Standard Soil Survey

Aug 30, 1973
Wapello

Louisa County has begun action to update its 1918 Standard Soil Survey.

The decision to obtain a new soil survey was made recently by the County Conference Board, a group made up of the County Board of Supervisors, the County Board of Education and mayors of each municipality. The question has been under discussion for a number of years and was finally approved this year because of increasing need for the study.

A soil survey is one of the first priorities for certification of the Regional Planning group of which Louisa is associated with Lee, Des Moines and Henry counties. Lee already has its survey while Des Moines and Henry have surveys scheduled with in the next year or so.

Urban sprawl is one of the biggest factors necessitating a new soil study, according to Harry Bryant, Soil Conservationist. Some soil types are not satisfactory for basements, septic tanks, roads, etc. needed in new housing areas.

Even with action begun now, completion of the survey will probably not be until 1978, Bryant noted. The work of boring and computing the results is done by Soil Conservation Service

scientists and there is a long waiting list. Forty-four Iowa counties have completed surveys, while 17 are in the process and 18 are waiting to begin.

Cost of the program, which will be approximately \$50,000 according to John Dykstra, Clerk of the Conference Board, is divided equally by three governmental bodies, county, state and federal.

Eleanor Stone *all papers* honored for 10 *9-20-73* years of service

Eleanor Stone, clerk for the Louisa County Soil Conservation District, was awarded a certificate of recognition for 10 years of service. The presentation was made at the awards banquet at the 27th Conservation District Commissioners of Iowa on Sept. 10 at Hotel Savery in Des Moines. The conference was held Sept. 9 thru 11.

Commissioner Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction and wife and Harry Bryant, district conservationist, Wapello, also attended the conference.



ELEANOR STONE

3-29-73
4 papers



Officers of the newly formed Environmental and Conservation Education Council are John Buster, Columbus Junction School, chairman, on the right; Fred Shettler, L—M School, vice chairman, left; and Mrs. Mildred Caldwell, Morning Sun School, secretary, center. The organization sponsored by the Louisa County Soil Conservation District will coordinate the efforts of the district to provide more meaningful assistance to educators in adapting curricular and materials to schools, organize and conduct conservation conferences and workshops, and develop and encourage the use of materials for teaching about the environment and resource conservation.

Those present at the meeting were Harold Hain, Wapello Schools; John Buster, Don Schnell, Columbus Junction Schools; Fred Shettler, Tom Wilson and William Gabriel, L—M Schools; and Mildred Caldwell and Fred Stone, Morning Sun Schools. Calvin Beebe, representing the Science Club at Columbus Junction, Herb Newell and Mrs. Earl Eversmeyer along with the Soil Conservation District Commissioners, Bill Greene, Olin Jennings, Leonard Chatfield, Fay Crull and Virgil Corey, assisted with the organization. Art Roseland, Biologist and Stan Tate, Forester of the Iowa Conservation Commission and Harry Bryant and Bill Matthews of the Soil Conservation Service were present to advise the group.

Erosion Costs Money For Louisa County Farmers

Dec 27
Col Set
Wapello
Mo.

According to Harry Bryant, District Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service, a survey made by the University of Missouri showed that loss of valuable top soil means money down the drain for farmers.

The height of young plants, survival rate and yields are all adversely affected by erosion. Production costs also may increase by as much as 56 percent in severely eroded areas.

The Missouri scientists also found that moderate erosion dropped net income down \$18.32 per acre; and severe erosion cut into the farmers pocket-book at the rate of \$33.20 per acre.

Bryant noted that Louisa County has been hard hit this past year by heavy rains causing severe erosion on many acres of cropland. The coming year could be as bad or worse because of the increased emphasis on all out production; whereby many acres of land that has been in pasture and hay will be plowed. If this land is farmed without conservation practices erosion is bound to happen.

Good conservation of our soil and water does not cost, it pays.

Four Soil Conservation Districts Join Forces

Wapello
May 3, 1973

Cooperation in conservation of soil resources in southeast Iowa took a giant step forward Wednesday as four soil conservation districts joined forces to work with planing and development groups in Iowa Area XVI.

District Commissioners from Des Moines, Lee, Henry and Louisa Counties joined in Mt. Pleasant to draw up working agreement to act as one body in future cooperative activities.

"The main desire of our districts, under this new agreement, is to make our services more effective in working with regionwide planning and development groups," stated Jim Hawkins, of Argyle. Hawkins was selected chairman of the new coordinating board comprised of a district commissioner from each of the four counties.

Other representatives include vice-chairman Dale Walters of Mt. Pleasant, secretary Rex Troute of Burlington and Virgil Corey of Wapello.

The action of the districts in this cooperative venture is the first of its kind in Iowa. Until now, the approach to conservation was strictly within county boundaries.

Geode Wonderland approved

By NANCY BRENDLINGER

—Staff writer—

WAPELLO — Five conservation projects have been approved for Louisa County by the recently-authorized Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) board, according to Larry Hunt, soil conservationist in Wapello.

Although the Geode Wonderland RC&D — covering parts of Louisa, Des Moines, Lee and Henry counties — has been in planning for several years, the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) received word of its funding in February. SCS administers the program.

The five projects in Louisa County include:

—A five acre lake, to be built at the Langwood 4-H Reserve near Grandview.

—Two river access developments at River Forks near Columbus Junction and Cappy Russell, Oakville, under the county conservation board.

—Expansion of the Toolesboro museum by the Louisa County Tri-centennial

committee.

—Paving of the road from Lake Odessa to Wapello by the county board of supervisors.

—A park in Fredonia.

To be approved, a project must be accepted by the county RC&D board and the district board. After approval, it must still fit certain criteria for RC&D to help with cost sharing.

"In a lot of cases, a project is not eligible for RC&D money, but for technical assistance. Ralph Dewey, Burlington, has been hired as a full time coordinator. Part of his job is to find other sources of funding for the projects," said Hunt.

Geode Wonderland is the third RC&D to be approved in Iowa, although they can be found throughout the United States.

Some projects completed in southern Iowa include a museum and landscape beautification in Ringgold County and a native grass seeding plot of 10 acres.

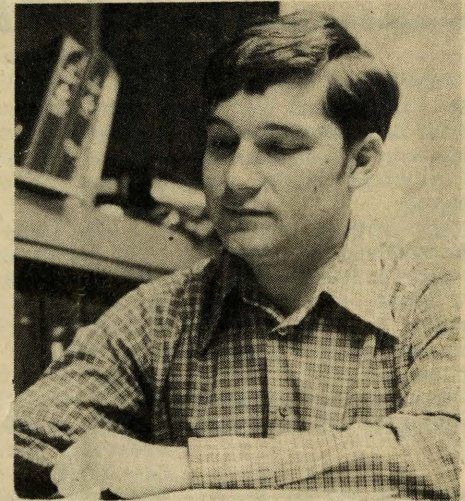
Between 50 and 100% cost sharing can be available through the RC&D for projects

helping badly eroded areas, flood prevention, soil and water management, stocking wildlife and fish, recreational development and water quality management.

Although Hunt works with the RC&D, his major project as soil conservationist is with farm soil conservation. Hunt encourages farmers to use tile outlet terraces to help prevent excessive erosion.

"They were new a few years ago, but now people are really building them," said Hunt. "We also encourage conservation tillage, leaving residue on the ground to protect the soil.

Hunt came to Louisa County after training in Burlington. The SCS also has a new technician, Sam Edgar, who began working about a month ago in Wapello.



Larry Hunt
Soil conservationist
Louisa County



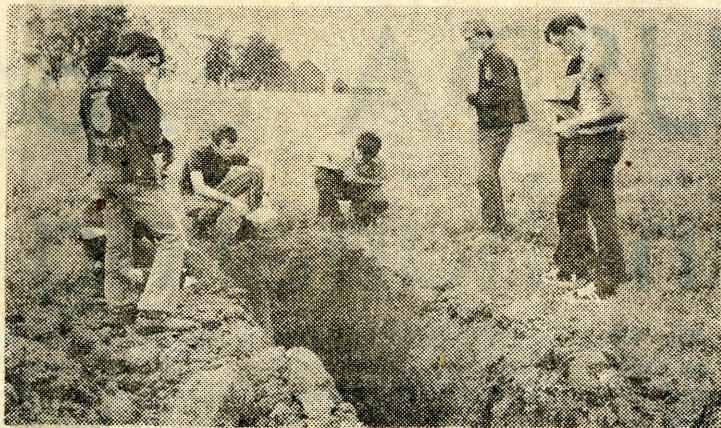
Greene Heads Soil Commissioners

Bill Greene (at left) of Columbus Junction was elected chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District at its last regular meeting. Newly elected to the board was (from left) Fay Crull of Letts, Virgil Corey of Morning Sun and

Leonard Chatfield of Columbus Junction. Olin Jennings is the other member of the five man board which coordinates the activities of other Federal, State and local agencies in helping to bring about the conservation, development and wise use of

land, water and related resources.

The board recently purchased a film strip entitled "Consider The Soil First" which is available for use at public meetings. The film shows how costly misuse of land can be avoided through the use of a soil survey when building a home, building roads or any other type of land use.



Shown are Future Farmers of America participating in the Southeast Iowa Soil Judging Contest.

Hold SE Iowa Soil Judging Contest

The Wapello and Columbus Junction Future Farmers of America took part in the Southeast Iowa Soil Judging Contest held near Danville on Oct. 11. Schools participating besides Wapello and Columbus Junction were Mediapolis, Winfield-Mt. Union, Mt. Pleasant, Harmony, Central of Argyle and Ft. Madison.

The Mediapolis FFA took first place in team scoring and also in the two high individual scores. The Wapello team placed fourth.

Representing the Wapello chapter were Dean Schneider,

Marlin Spitznogle and Jerry Stalkfleet. Schneider and Spitznogle placed sixth and seventh individually. Harold Hain is their advisor.

Representing the Columbus Junction chapter were Brad Haisly, Ed Pleese, Glen Walker and Glen Staley. Larry Everett is their advisor.

The contest consists of a written test about soil, and the judging of three different soils. On the site where each of these soils occur, a hole 2 feet wide, 6 feet long and 3 feet deep is dug before the contest. The soils are then judged on surface features, soil features, land capability, land use management and productivity.

The contest is sponsored by the Louisa, Henry, Des Moines, Lee and Van Buren Soil Conservation Districts. A plaque is given to the winning team, and the top three individual scores each receive a

THE WAPELLO REPUBLICAN

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COUNTY, CITY OFFICIAL PAPER

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY—SINGLE COPY 15¢

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1973

Iowa River Reaches New High

Council Accepts Plat Of New Addition To City

The Wapello City Council in regular session Thursday night, April 19, read bids from two companies for three phases of sewer construction for the city. H.C. Buescher Construction of Burlington submitted the low bid of \$65,041.54 for the entire project. The second bid was received from Rose Brothers Construction of Keokuk for \$76,544.50.

City Engineer Don Kahn of Burlington noted that some changes in the plans could lower the cost of the project by about \$2,000 and recommended the Council negotiate with the low bidder.

The sewer work contemplated is located in the areas of Water, Mechanic, and Merchant Streets and near Surrey Road and Roy El Road.

The plat of a new addition to the city was accepted by the Council. A tract of nearly ten acres or 21 lots to be known as Summy's Addition will begin development in the near future,

according to John Summy, owner. The area is located in the southwest section of the city, bordered on the west by U.S. Highway 61.

Attorney William O. Weaver, representing the Wapello Development Corporation asked for an approximate date of completion of a water tower if the project is given the go-ahead by the Council. Weaver explained that the information would be added to a fact file for the Iowa Development Corporation for referral by industries interested in the area. Kahn estimated that specifications could be prepared for bidding by October 1.

A bid for floorcovering for City Hall from L and D Furniture was approved at \$618. A bid was also received from Patrick's Inc. for \$697.

The Council approved the support of Justice of the Peace Neal Kemp for the position of Judicial Magistrate.



A bridge over 100 feet long was washed off its foundations following rains measured unofficially over seven inches

Friday and Saturday. The bridge is located about six miles south of Wapello on the River Road. The bridge shows little

damage, according to County Engineer Frank Cmelik but the County doesn't have equipment large enough to lift it out of the

creek, he noted.

Ladies' Church Group Plans Name Change

The Women's Society of Christian Service of the United Methodist Church of Wapello will hold a special service Friday, May 4 changing the name of the group to United Methodist Women. The service will be held at a breakfast at the church at 8:30 a.m.

Officially, the name will be changed at the Iowa Conference meeting in Ames on Sept. 15.

Woman's Society of Christian Service started in September, 1940, after the two Methodist Churches united, bringing together the Ladies Aid, Foreign and Home Missionary groups. There was a total of 112 charter members. Thirty-one members received special memberships.

On June 1, 1968, the title was changed to Women's Society of Christian Service and 143 signed as charter members. Eighteen special memberships were given during this period, including one to Mrs. Emma L. Williamson Templin of Phoenix, Ariz. who was the second president of the 1940 group and also served as a district officer.

All women, whether or not

they are now members of the organization, are urged to participate in this special service and are invited to become members of the new organization.

BIRTH

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Devore, Morning Sun, announce the birth of a daughter, Jennifer Shea born Tuesday, April 17 at Burlington Hospital. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Devore, Wapello, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pulse, formerly of Morning Sun.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Schrader, Sioux City, are the parents of a son, Kevin Todd born April 14, weighing 6 lbs. 12½ oz. at St. Luke Hospital in Sioux City. Grandparents are Mrs. R.J. Cotter, Wapello, and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Schrader, Victor. Kevin was welcomed by a brother Brian James, 5 years old.

MARKETS

Top Butchers...\$34.50
Top Sows...\$31.25
Courtesy Wapello Hog Markets

COURT HOUSE RECORD

-Transfers	-Records	-Court	-Jail
-Roads	-Claims	-Taxes	-Licenses

On Deans' List At ISU, Ames

Several area students were named to the Deans' List for the winter quarter at Iowa State University, Ames.

They are: from Morning Sun, Teresa E. Delzell; Mediapolis, Sandra K. Carligen, Linda C. Goodwin, Jane E. Roules, and Ronald D. Schmidgall; Sperry, Steve C. Schrader; and from Columbus Jct. Debra S. Bennett and Larry Everett, Wapello.

River & Weather

On April 18 the Iowa River stage was 10.8 and 14.3 on April 25. There was 4.86 precipitation during the week, according to Helen McKimney, observer.

Area Student Head Resident

Jim Everett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Everett of rural Winfield was selected as a Head Resident at Iowa State University at Ames. Among his responsibilities will be to act as counselor and advisor to members of his house. He will also interpret and enforce policies and procedures of the University and the Department of Residence. Jim is presently a sophomore majoring in Pre-Vet.

The Iowa River set a new all-time record here Sunday cresting at 18.75 feet according to U.S. Army, Corp of Engineers, Rock Island, Ill. The former record was 17.4 feet set in 1969. Flood stage at Wapello is 10 feet.

The record raise came as a result of torrential rains in the area Friday night and Saturday. An unofficial seven to seven and one-half inches were measured by area residents. The deluge caused flooding and structural damage to basements, overflowing of streets and yards.

The record floodwaters broke through Iowa River levees in three places Sunday, causing the flooding of 5,000-6,000 acres of farmland and the evacuation of more than a dozen families. Household equipment and a number of hogs were moved out of the Meyerholz Lake area east of Wapello by boat.

A break in the District 14 levee north of Wapello and west of U.S. Highway 61 was reported Sunday morning. The levee in District 11 east of Wapello collapsed about a fourth of a mile south of the Iowa River bridge Sunday night. A break in the levee at the south end of the Lake Odessa area caused the flooding of a number of summer cabins and some permanent homes.

Jake's Place, a store operated by Mr. and Mrs. Ira Delang at Schafer's Point on Lake Odessa stood in water within a couple feet of the eaves Tuesday afternoon.

Water was cutting through a short flank levee about six miles east of Wapello Tuesday adding to the stress of farms in Levee District No. 8 near Oakville. The District 8 river levee has several breaks caused by earlier spring floods.

The Louisa County Board of Supervisors received reports of over 60 bridges and culverts washed out in the county from the heavy run-off. A 100 feet through truss bridge about six miles south of Wapello was washed off its foundation by water and brush. A number of mudslides including one on Jamison Hill on Highway 61 south of here caused one-way traffic for a time.

U.S. 61 north from Wapello was closed because of water running across the road about 9:30 p.m. Sunday. It was opened about 1:00 p.m. Monday. Iowa Highway 99 to Burlington was closed until Tuesday.

The Iowa River had dropped to 14.3 feet Wednesday morning at Wapello. A 10 foot level is expected here by Saturday, according to Corp officials.

Postal Week Set Here

Postmaster Donald Havenhill announced plans today for "POSTAL WEEK" to be celebrated here April 29 through May 5.

Postmaster General E.T. Klassen said the Postal Week observances are "an appropriate occasion for recognition of the vital responsibilities assigned to the mail service and a valid time to take stock of the challenges which must be jointly met by postal people and by the millions of citizens throughout America who depend upon the mail as an essential part of their personal and business lives.

The Wapello Post Office will join with the nation's 31,000 other post offices in issuing 10 special stamps honoring postal employees, selling "first-day-of-issue" stamps and envelopes.

An open house and tour of the local facilities will be held in this observance on April 30. Customers attending this "Postal People Day" will be given attractive free souvenir envelopes.

Local Student On Dean's List

Ron Jackson, Wapello, has been named to the Dean's List at Muscatine Comm. College for the winter quarter. Ron's grade point falls in the category of 3.50-3.99 which constitutes a High Honors student.

School Board Okays

Aug 30 Wapello

Open House Set

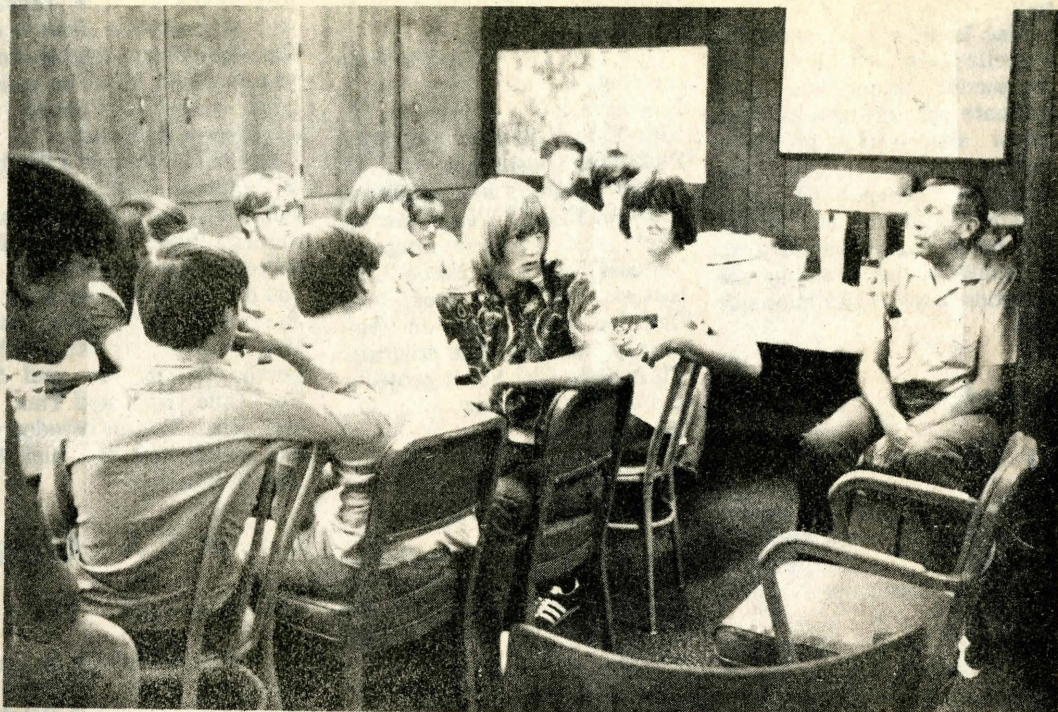
An Open House will be held Wednesday, Sept. 5 at the Soil Conservation District Office at its new location at 222 N. 2nd. St in the downtown business district. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The office, formerly occupied by the Fashion Beauty Salon, has been completely re-decorated.

The District Commissioners will be on hand to explain the services of the office and exhibits will be on display. Also available to answer questions will be Harry Bryant, Conservationist, William Matthews, Technician and Eleanor Stone, Clerk.

Refreshments will be served with a gift for those coming in for a visit.

Louisa County District Commissioners are Olin Jennings, Columbus Jct., chairman, Maye Crull, Letts, Leonard Hatfield, Columbus Jct. and Virgil Corey, Morning Sun.



SEP 13
Wapello

Over 100 at SC Open House

Approximately one hundred people attended the open house of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District held September 5. Pictured above is one of the two Vocational

Agriculture classes from the Wapello School that attended the open house.

The district has had an office in Wapello since 1945 but recently moved into a remodeled

office at 222 North Second Street.

Soil interpretations, recommendations for land use and treatment and alternative land uses are available from the district office.

Pasture Management Ideas

From Local SCS Office

The efficiency of many pasture programs can be improved by adding an acreage of warm season grass such as Switchgrass, Indian grass or Big Bluestem, to the pasture program, according to Harry Bryant, District Conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Warm season grasses make their best growth during the hot dry months of July and August when the cool season grasses such as Bluegrass, Bromegrass,

Orchard grass and Fescue are dormant. Therefore by having a portion of your pasture in the warm season grasses you will have more pasture throughout the grazing season.

"Dry matter yields of 3.8 tons per acre for Switchgrass and Indian-grass are reported by Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center at Elsberry Missouri", says Bryant. This is a six year average on plots fertilized with 100 pounds of Nitrogen per acre and harvested

12-27-73
Wapello
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Col. JCT
at 4 and 6 week intervals. In the same tests tall Fescue yielded 3 tons per acre and Reeds Canarygrass 3.5 tons per acre.

Bryant says warm season grasses have potential for summer pasture in Iowa. Anyone interested should visit the Soil Conservation office in Wapello and discuss the purchase of seed and management need for these grasses. A sample of these grasses can also be seen in the office.

Plant a windbreak

As you drive across the countryside of Iowa you will observe places, groves of trees or farmstead windbreaks. Some of these appear to be quite old. Many of them have partially succumbed to the ravages of storms, age, diseases and even to that monster of progress, the bulldozer.

Why were these trees planted? There are probably a variety of reasons. Many of the early settlers came from the countries of Europe, where the love of trees was an inherent part of their culture. Secondly, they realize the usefulness of trees, particularly on the prairie lands of this state, as a means of shelter from the hot sun and hot winds of summer. Thirdly, and probably the most important, as protection from the frigid blasts of winter as the wind howled around the lonely log cabin or sod hut.

Many of these early settlers did not live to see the fruits of their labor reach full maturity, but their children and grandchildren did. Even to this day some of us are still benefiting from the foresight of these early pioneers.

A farmstead windbreak, with a little care and maintenance, is a permanent part of the landscape. It protects and beautifies the farm and provides shelter for wildlife.

A good windbreak will help reduce the effects of a bone chilling blast of frigid northwest wind. Studies show wind velocity behind a 30 foot tall windbreak may be reduced 50 percent as far away as 240 feet from the planting. In some cases this will reduce the fuel bill as much as one third. Livestock will also be much more comfortable, thus reducing the feed bill. No other improvement will replace windbreak as protection from the winter winds.

Evergreens are generally best for windbreaks because they hold their needles throughout the year, and thus maintain their efficiency in breaking the wind. Most evergreens will give good protection in 8-12 years. They will often reach 20 feet in height in 15 years.

If you haven't already planted your windbreak it won't be 20 feet high this year. Why wait? Let's plant one this year so that 15 years from now you will have one 20 feet high. In the meantime, you and your family will get a lot of enjoyment in planning it and many, many more hours of enjoyment in watching it grow and in watching the wildlife which is attracted to it.

Windbreak bulletins can be secured at the extension office or at the Soil Conservation office.

The Soil Conservation Service personnel will assist you in selecting the trees which are adapted to your particular soil. They will also help you in planning the layout of the windbreak.

Spokesman
Wapella
Morning Sun
Sol. Jet.

2-21-73

REAP Cut Off, Not Death Sentence For SCS Office

The cutting off of REAP (Rural Environmental Assistance Program) by President Nixon as of Dec. 22, 1972, has raised questions in the minds of Louisa County residents as to the effect it will have on conservation offices in the county.

"As far as the Soil Conservation Service is concerned, we will continue to assist farmers and other land users with their problems in soil and water conservation, even though the President has cut all financial assistance for construction of needed conservation work", said Harry Bryant, District Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service.

"We will continue to survey, design and supervise the construction of conservation work when it is requested through the Soil Conservation District", he continued.

"Actually the installation of cost-sharing practices required only a small amount of our time. We have spent most of our time helping farmers apply practices without cost sharing, and interpreting soils information for

wise land use. This involves providing the land user with information pertaining to the soil characteristic that may restrict or limit its uses for certain things. For example, agricultural ground may have slight limitation for growing crops but it might have severe limitations for residential development because of a high water table, giving a wet basement or septic tank problems. After the limitations are known a wise decision can be made to possible alternative land users or corrective steps can be taken before a financial loss is encountered."

In the cost-sharing program, the ASCS handled approvals and financial arrangements for the participants and the SCS personnel did the technical work.

In Louisa County in 1972, REAP funds were used in the amount of approximately \$50,000 with the farmers in the program spending an additional \$100,000, Bryant noted.

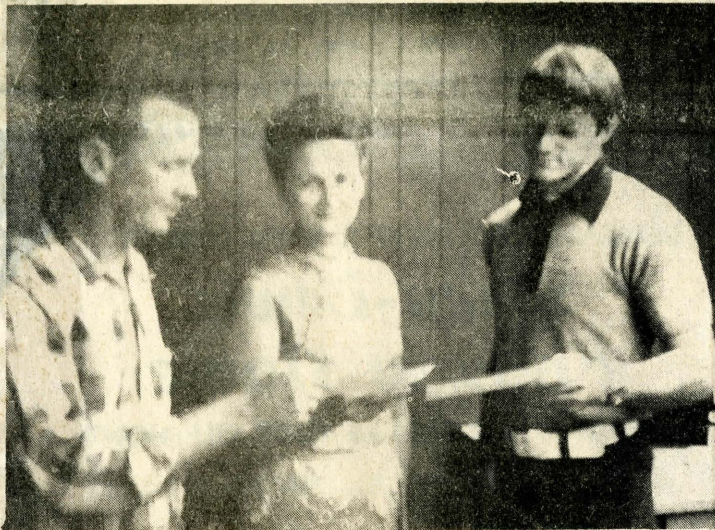
The Wapello Republican

Thursday, January 25, 1973

Wapello Iowa 52452

Receive Conservation Awards

~~Sept 6~~
Sept 6
Wayne
Col, JCT



Sandra Kongable, sixth grade teacher in the Columbus Junction Schools and Jim Gabriel, Jr. High teacher in the L—M Schools received \$50 scholarship to attend the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp held near Burlington recently. The Louisa County Soil Conservation District made these scholarships available. Olin Jennings, chairman of the district made the presentations.

The three week course emphasized the use of the outdoors as a classroom. This concept of relating the environment to the student is rapidly becoming the accepted way of teaching.

Record Flood Inundates Area



The floodwaters, with all the damage, have created fun for area persons who have been gigging carp and buffalo out of road ditches. Bob Taylor (left) and Sam Murray hit the jackpot Wednesday morning with this 36 pound buffalo caught near the Sumner Hayes farm on highway 99 east of Wapello.



Hogs were loaded in crates and transported out of the flood area near Meyerholz Lake by boat after the District 11 levee broke Sunday night. Several hogs, unwilling to swim to the loading area, were left behind in belly-deep water but were reported to be safe after the waters receded Tuesday.



Farm buildings east of Wapello were nearly roof high after floodwaters covered the area. Highway 99 from Wapello to Burlington was closed Monday when water ran across the road.



The Louisa County softball swim meet following torrential rains Friday and Saturday. The field was completely covered by water.



The store, operated by Raymond Green at Sand Run on Lake Odessa, was surrounded by several feet of water Tuesday.



Torrential rains washed out four bridges and over fifty culverts on secondary roads in Louisa county during the weekend. This is a scene about seven miles south of Wapello near the Bernard Gajewski farm.



Ralph "Pete" Peterson attempts to net a fish swimming across the road beside his home east of Wapello.



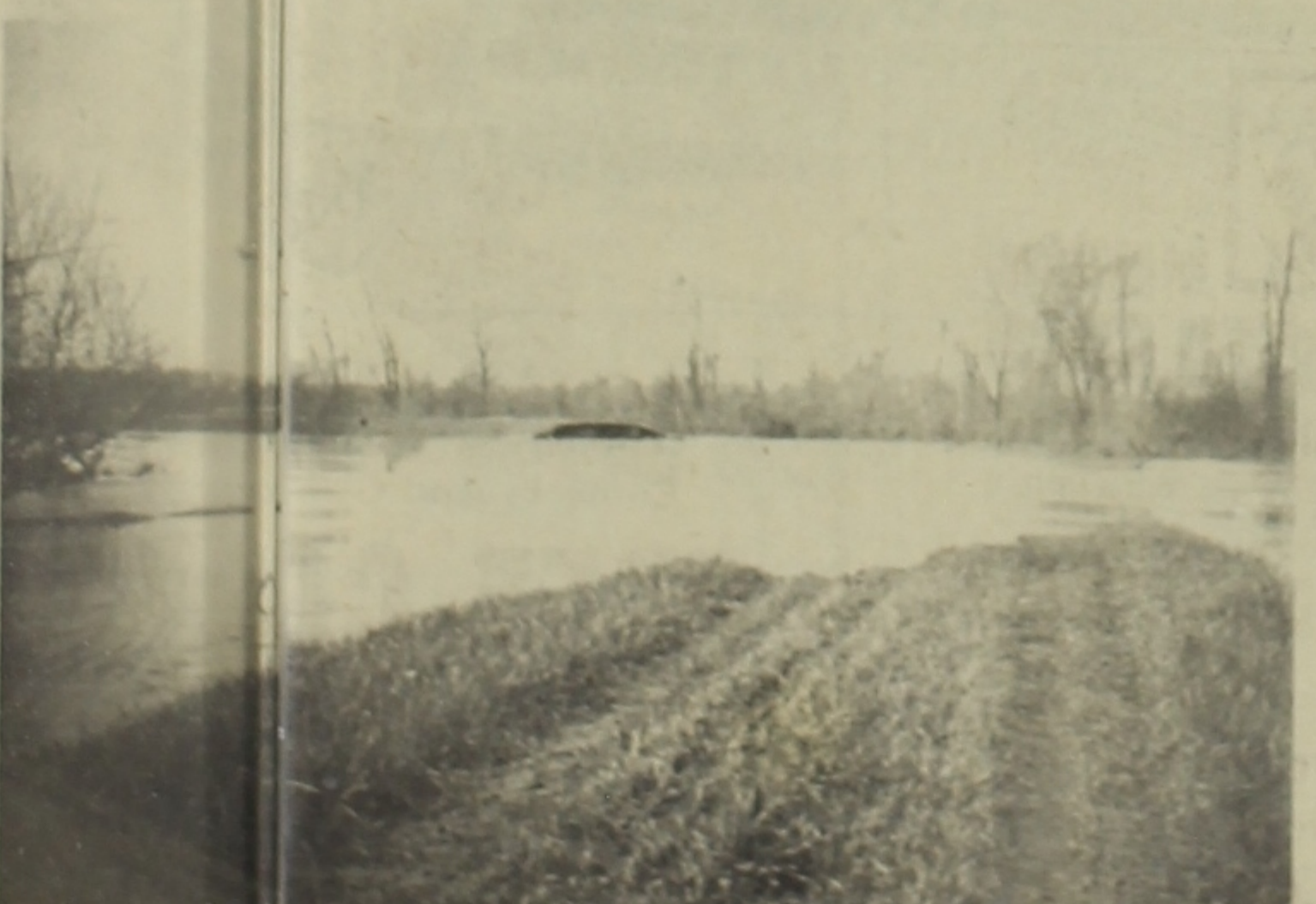
Floodwaters nearly cover windows at Jake's Place on Lake Odessa following the collapse of a portion of the levee Sunday.



Jake's Place, several trailer homes and the public restrooms were all equipped with running water, following the break in the levee at the south end of the Lake Odessa area.



New tenants were in the process of moving into this home in the Meyerholz Lake area when the floodwaters hit. A resident of the area rescued a wild rabbit which had taken refuge on the fuel oil barrel beside the house.



The Iowa River, on its way to a record crest here Sunday, cut a huge hole in the District 11 levee south of the River bridge forcing the evacuation of about a dozen families.



Richard Thorngren, who lives in the Meyerholz Lake area, attempted to drive his car out Monday morning but was thwarted by the floodwaters. Thorngren's home was still surrounded by water Tuesday.



Water goes over the top of a short flank levee near the Bob Erwin farm between Oakville and Wapello. The breaks were allowing more flooding in the District 8 area.



Kent Ostrem, (left), a freshman at Columbus Community High School was named winner of the Soil Conservation District

Speech Contest held at Columbus Jct. Monday night. Kelly Bell won second place and Todd McCleary, third.

SC Speech Winners Told

Kent Ostrem was chosen first place winner in the Louisa County Soil Conservation District Speech contest held March 19 at the People's National Bank meeting room in Columbus Junction. Topic of this year's contest was "Long-Range Community Benefits from Proper Land Management". Kent will now represent the Louisa District at the Regional Contest held in July at Amana.

Second place winner went to Kathy Bell and third place to Todd McCleary.

Judges for the contest were

Dale Faulkner, District Conservationist of Washington County, Mrs. Virgil Corey of Morning Sun and Leonard Chatfield of Columbus Junction.

Each year the Louisa District Commissioners, Bill Greene, Columbus Junction; Olin Jennings, Columbus Junction; Fay Crull, Letts; Leonard Chatfield, Columbus Junction and Virgil Corey of Morning Sun, sponsor the contest. Prizes are \$15, \$10, \$5 and all other receive \$1. Ribbons are also given. The contest is open to all students, grades 7 through 12.

Wapello
6-21-73



SCS Office Moves To New Complex

The Louisa County Soil Conservation Service recently moved into a completely re-decorated office complex in the northwest corner of the McKeever building on South Second St.

The SCS, located in Wapello since about 1946, assists landusers of the county in using land and water resources and advises in treatments needed to overcome problems and limitations of the soil. The service is free of charge to both rural and urban landusers.

Employed in the office are Harry Bryant, District Conservationist, William H. Matthews, Soil Technician and Eleanor Stone, Clerk.

Serving as District Commissioners are Olin Jennings, Bill Greene, Leonard Chatfield, Fay Crull and Virgil Corey.

The office in the back of the building, formerly occupied by the SCS, is now being utilized by Art Roseland, Wildlife Management Biologist, Stanley Tate, District Forester, and Douglas Betz, Farmer's Home Administration.

Also located in the building on the southwest corner is the

Employees of the Louisa County SCS office study contour maps of the area which are used to assist landowners in the best use and treatments for soil and

water resources. Standing from right, is Harry Bryant, District Conservationist and William Matthews, Soil Technician. Seated is Clerk, Eleanor Stone.

which is the agency for the administration of federal farm programs.

Jim Mullahy is County Executive Director. Program assistants are Erma Dale Webster, Janice Hoehle and Verna Gajewski. John Cutkomp is General Field Assistant.

The ASCS County Commissioners are Ray Kuntz, Jack Gipple, and Ralph Crawford.

The office has been operating out of Wapello for about 40 years.

The office of Dr. W.C. McWilliams is located in the center aisle of the building.

SCS Sponsors Contractors Area Meeting

2-1-73
Wapello

An all-day meeting of earthmoving and tiling contractors was held Thursday, Jan. 25 at the National Guard Armory in Mt. Pleasant. The meeting was sponsored by the Soil Conservation Districts of Louisa, Des Moines, Henry and Lee counties.

The purpose of the session was to instruct and discuss SCS specifications on critical area planting, farm ponds, erosion control structures, terraces and tile. Also emphasized was the fact that the services of the SCS are still available to contractors and farmers for technical assistance in layout, planning and design of conservation practices.

Chairman of the afternoon session was SC technician Wm. H. Matthews of Wapello.

Attending from Louisa county were: Wapello, Mike Mackey, Harold Beeding, Rex Pine, Ronald Beeding, Allan Foster, Harry Dickey; Letts, Bobbie Kemp; Morning Sun, Kenneth Springsteen; Columbus Jct., Whitey Kemp. Also attending was Harry Bryant, Louisa county District Conservationist.

Set Election District SCS Commissioners

The election of commissioners for the Louisa Soil Conservation District will be held Wednesday, Jan. 24. The polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the V.F.W. Hall in Wapello, according to Harry Bryant, District Conservationist.

Expiring are the six year terms of Jack Parsons, Wapello, and Howard Gieselman of Morning Sun. Neither man is running for re-election.

Candidates for the vacancies are Gary Mincer of Riverside, Leonard Chatfield, Columbus Jct. and Fay Crull, Letts. Mincer and Chatfield reside in the same township, therefore, only one can be elected.

Voters will also be electing a commissioner to fill a four-year unexpired term vacated by the resignation of Wayne Barnes of Letts. Virgil Corey of Morning Sun is a candidate for the post.

The commissioners, a governmental sub-division of the state, meet monthly the 3rd Monday at the SCS Office in Wapello. "Their activities are directed towards promoting a sound soil and water conservation program within the district which will benefit the people involved as well as the public as a whole." Bryant noted. "Control of soil erosion and the control of water along with proper land use through soil interpretation are the benefit received from these activities," he said.

Soil Conservation District News

Aug 3rd
all papers

by Leonard Chatfield

"Just what is a soil commissioner, and what does he do?" This is a question that has been asked of me a few times since I have been elected to serve as a commissioner, and I shall try to give a few direct answers.

A district commissioner is one man on a team of five co-workers who are the key to the success of a soil conservation district. These men have the task of co-ordinating the efforts of all agencies, organizations and individuals with responsibilities in natural resources conservation and development in the district. Being so essential, soil conservation demands the attention and leadership of commissioners who serve for the satisfaction of making vital contributions to the future welfare of the district and state.

The Louisa County District Commissioners and their wives attended the July Regional meeting held in conjunction with the Regional Speech contest at Amana. Several contestants presented some excellent speeches with new concepts and approaches to soil conservation. First place winner was from Mid-Prairie school district and will be advancing to the state contest to be held on September 9 during the Annual Conference for Soil Conservation District Commissioners in Des Moines.

Soil Loss Limits Set

2-1-13
Wapello

Soil loss limit regulations were adopted for the Louisa county Soil Conservation District at a public hearing held Wednesday in Wapello.

The District was required to establish limits and provide for implementation of the regulations as set up in the Code of Iowa by the 64th General Assembly.

The maximum rate of soil erosion approved for the District is five tons per acre per year which includes agricultural, non-agricultural and construction sites. Under the provisions of the soil loss limit law, the Commissioners will investigate written complaints filed on damages by soil erosion. If the complaint is valid, the situation must be remedied with the assistance of a cost-sharing program, either public or private.

Only two objections to the adoption of the limits were expressed at the hearing which attracted approximately 60 District landowners and tenants.

At the close of the hearing, the results of the election of District SCS Commissioners which was held Tuesday, were announced. Elected to fill an unexpired four year term was Virgil Corey of Morning Sun. Named to six year terms were Ray Crull, Letts and Leonard Chatfield, Columbus Jct. Other Commissioners are Warren Greene and Olin Jennings, both of Columbus Jct.

Lunch for those attending the hearing and the soil tillage meeting preceding was furnished by the Columbus Jct. State Bank, People's National Bank, Columbus Jct., State Bank of Wapello and Iowa State Bank, Morning Sun.

Soil Stewardship Week will be observed May 27 through June 3

Soil Stewardship Week, a nationwide observance which emphasizes man's obligation to God as stewards of the soil, water and other resources, will be observed, May 27-June 3, according to Warren (Bill) Greene, chairman, of the Louisa Soil Conservation District.

Changing Challenges, the theme of this year's observance, invites you to increase your understanding, expand your perspective, and consider your

responsibility to the challenges and changes of the world around you.

The Louisa Soil Conservation District and some 3,000 companion districts throughout the nation along with their state and national associations are sponsoring the event for the 18th consecutive year.

The Louisa Soil Conservation District will distribute to churches of all faiths, attractive program blanks and booklets created particularly for this year's observance.

*F.B. Wiggall
May 24, 1973
C.P. Jett*

July 1, 1973

State Cost-Share Funding For Soil Conservation

Aug 16 1973
all papers - Wapello

Bill Greene, chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District, announced today that an allocation of funds has been made to the district by the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation for use in cost-sharing with farmers on permanent soil and water conservation practices.

The district is now in a position to accept requests from soil conservation district cooperators for cost-sharing on such conservation practices as

terraces, waterways, diversions, erosion control dams, tree planting, and certain other practices. Further information can be obtained at the soil conservation district office located at 222 North 2nd Street, Wapello, Iowa.

Greene pointed out this is the first time that state moneys have been made available to cost-share on soil conservation practices in Iowa. The Iowa General Assembly stated that not more than 50 percent of the actual cost of installing conservation practices could be paid from these funds. It was also provided that a small part of the appropriated funds may be used to abate erosion nuisances under the conservancy district soil loss limit regulations. The law specifies that cost-sharing must be furnished in an amount of at least 75 percent or more of the cost of the practice before a landowner can be required to install control measures to abate an erosion nuisance.

Greene further pointed out that practices installed in the cost-share program must adequately control erosion, must be properly planned and installed as a condition to payment under the program. The staff of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District will provide technical assistance to those landowners and operators requesting cost-share funds.

The Iowa Department of Soil Conservation allocated \$7,000 to the Louisa County Soil Conservation District for cost-sharing. However, the number of cost-share agreements that can be entered into during the year will be limited. Therefore, those wishing assistance should make their desires known at the district office immediately.

Attend State Soil Conservation Meeting

Leonard Chatfield and Olin Jennings, district commissioners, Mrs. Jennings, Eleanor Stone, clerk, and Harry Bryant, district conservationist Louisa County Soil Conservation District, were among the more than 500 people attending a state meeting at the Starlight Village Motel 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 Lydon 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.

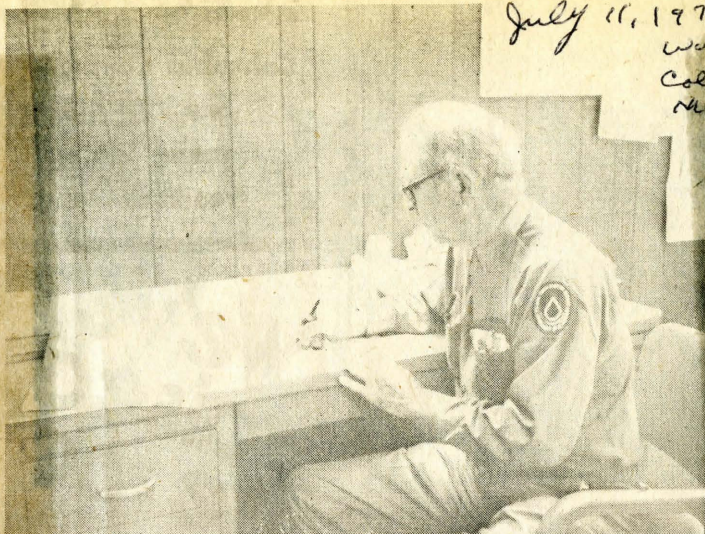
Kyl said there is not enough money being spent on conservation or enough interest in taking care of soil and water resources.

Former President Schwartz cited the need for complete dedication and belief in conservation from State officers and other men involved in conservation work. It involves much time and out of the pocket expense for them. State funds are inadequate for reimbursement. Ten districts are not paying the voluntary dues to the fund that provides for mileage and expenses of State officers.

Louisa Co. has kept their dues paid through their calendar ad sales. These calendar ad sales also support local projects such as the speech contest. On Tuesday, Sept. 10 George Golinghorst of Scott Co. representing our Southeast Iowa Region 7 was elected President of the Iowa State Conservation Commissioners.

Virgil Corey of Morning Sun was seated as vice chairman of Region 7.

July 11, 1974
Wapello
Col. Jot
Morning Sun



Bill Matthews

William H. Matthews, soil conservation technician for the Louisa County Soil Conservation district, retired June 30 after 22½ years of service.

A retirement open house is planned for Mr. Matthews and wife Mary, July 26 at Fellowship Hall of the Wapello United Methodist church. Friends are invited to call from 6:30 until 9 p.m.

2-25-74

Wapato

Farmers Urged To Stop Erosion With Terraces

everything is in crop and tile and earth moving both is involved. If construction can be planned when the field is in hay or small grain, chances of getting it all done in one year is much better.

Federal cost sharing is uncertain at this time. There will be some state funds, but unless you have a conservation plan, that will delay you more. For more information contact Harry Bryant of the Soil Conservation Service in Wapello.

Terraces continue to be the most needed erosion control practice in Louisa county. There is a total of about 168,000 acres of cropland in Louisa county, of this about one-half or 86,000 acres is losing excessive amounts of soil through soil erosion.

Louisa county farmers had plans and survey work done to build about 75,000 feet of terraces last year but because of a late, wet fall only 15,000 feet were built this spring, weather permitting.

Another 75,000 feet of terraces could have been ready to build in 1974 if materials and technical help for survey and designing the systems had been available.

The past year marked a definite change in the attitude of farmers toward terraces. This change was brought about by three things. First, the past 2 years have been extremely erosive because of the heavy rains. Second, the government has been pushin watching how the new tile outlet terrace systems are working on neighbors's farms, and most of them like how they've controlled erosion.

Terraces can reduce soil loss by shortening the slopes and slowing down the movement of water. Tile outlet terraces go one step further by trapping the sediment that moves between the terraces, therefore they also keep the chemical and fertilizers on the farm.

Research on soils similar to those found in Louisa county has shown that tile outlet terraces will control soil loss to as low as 1/2 ton per acre per year. Tile outlet terraces combined with minimum tillage can provide extremely effective erosion control on rolling ground where a rotation with hay is no longer used.

Just as farming methods have changed, so have terraces. The terraces are signed for the large modern machinery. Grassed waterways are no longer required to carry off excess surface water. Point rows are nonexistent or held to a bare minimum.

A farmer needs to plan a year or two in advance before constructing these terrace systems. Materials are hard to getdown. Surveying and designing the system takes time. Installation is hard to get down when

Wapello
Oct. 2



F.F.A. Teams In Soil Contest

Three feet deep trenches give area FFA boys an inside look at soil types to determine

The Wapello and Columbus Junction Future Farmers of America took part in the Southeast Iowa Soil Judging contest held near Danville on Thursday, Oct. 11. Schools participating besides Wapello and Columbus Junction were Mediapolis, Winfield-Mt. Union, Mt. Pleasant, Harmony, Central of Argyle and Ft. Madison. The Mediapolis FFA took first place in team scoring and also in the two high individual scores. The Wapello team placed fourth.

capability and productivity. Teams from eight area schools competed in the Soil Judging

Representing the Wapello Chapter was Dean Schneider, Marlin Spitznogle and Jerry Stalkfleet. Schneider and Spitznogle placed 6th and 7th individually. Harold Hain is their advisor.

Representing the Columbus Junction Chapter was Brad Haisly, Ed Pleese, Glen Walker and Glen Staley. Larry Everett is their advisor.

The contest consists of a written test about soil, and the judging of three different soils.

contest held last week near Danville.

On the site where each of these soils occur a hole two feet wide, six feet long and three feet deep is dug before the contest. The soils are then judged on surface features, soil features, land capability, land use management and productivity.

The contest is sponsored by the Louisa, Henry, Des Moines, Lee and Van Buren Soil Conservation Districts. A plaque is given to the winning team and the top three individual scorers each receive a trophy.

Pasture Management Ideas **From Soil Conservation Service**

From Soil Conservation Service

According to Harry Bryant, district conservationist for the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, the efficiency of many pasture programs can be improved by adding an acreage of warm season grass such as Switchgrass, Indian grass or Big Bluestem, to the pasture program.

Warm season grasses make their best growth during the hot dry months of July and August when the cool season grasses such as Bluegrass, Bromegrass, Orchard grass and Fescue are dormant. Therefore by having a portion of your pasture in the warm season grasses you will have more pasture throughout the grazing season.

"Dry matter yields of 3.8 tons per acre for Switchgrass and Indian grass are reported by Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center at Elsberry, Mo," says Bryant. This is a six year average on plots fertilized with 100 pounds of Nitrogen per acre and harvested at 4 and 6 week intervals. In the same tests tall Fescue yielded 3 tons per acre and Reeds Canarygrass 3.5 tons per acre.

Bryant says warm season grasses have potential for summer pasture in Iowa. Anyone interested should visit the Soil Conservation office in Wapello and discuss the purchase of seed and management need for these grasses. A sample of these grasses can also be seen in the office.

He likes soil commission 'job without pay'

By JIM RUDISILL
Neighbors staff

The pay is low, in fact nothing, with only expenses reimbursed; the term is long, six years; and the work can demand a lot of effort.

But, the purpose involved, conserving soil resources for future use, is important enough to have convinced Kester Gladfelder, Wapello, to devote over four years to the cause.

Gladfelder is the chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District, a post he has held for the past two years.

He, along with four other area men, assist soil conservation workers plan local efforts aimed at reducing soil losses and promoting good soil management.

While the other area men are farmers however, Gladfelder is a Wapello pharmacist who describes himself as a frustrated farmer.

Frustrated because after being born and raised on a farm in southern Iowa, Gladfelder was forced to abandon agriculture because of an asthma condition.

The condition has not dimmed his desire to see good soil management techniques practiced, and while a city dweller may seem to be an odd person to have on a soil commission, Gladfelder said this is a current trend.

He explained the state soil conservation office suggested the local groups attempt to get urban people involved.

"They felt conservation doesn't just stop at city limits," he said.

The suggestion was issued about the same time a vacancy developed on the Louisa county commission, and Gladfelder was asked to accept the position.

"I always wanted to be a farmer," Gladfelder admitted with a nod, and the opportunity to work with a soil conservation group became the next best thing after his asthma prevented that occupation.

The job however has had its frustrations; like the article he recently read where more soil is being lost through erosion that ever before.

Or, the frequent lack of interest in new techniques and

an unwillingness to actively participate with the soil commission.

"I've enjoyed the work," Gladfelder is quick to counter however.

One part of the job which has been especially pleasing for Gladfelder has been attending conservation short courses at Iowa State University.

New techniques and practices are described at the meetings, and Gladfelder said they have been especially interesting and helpful.

One new technique which has been receiving a lot of attention lately has been the idea of minimum tillage.

Gladfelder said minimum tillage is one of soil conservationists' biggest hopes, although problems with insect control, weed control and farmers' acceptance are proving troublesome.

"Our biggest hope (in reducing erosion) is in this thing of

minimum tillage," Gladfelder said, adding farmers must be convinced their yields will not suffer if they use the new method.

Gladfelder fits in well for this education assignment however, because prior to becoming a pharmacist he taught school in Appanoose county and Wapello.

But education of farmers to use the technique is just one part of increasing interest in soil conservation.

Gladfelder said an effort must be made to increase farmer participation in the commission itself.

"I think there ought to be a long list of farmers wanting the job of commissioner," he said.

It is a worthwhile job, he continued, and while he has enjoyed it, he does not plan to run for re-election when his term expires next year.

"This is a type of job that should be passed along because everyone learns from it," he said.

Louisa urges work be done this year

By JIM RUDISILL
Neighbors staff

Jim Ranum, Louisa county district soil conservationist, has urged farmers interested in constructing soil conservation structures to consider doing the work this summer.

According to Ranum, most farmers usually wait until fall to have the work done, in order to raise row crops on the land.

However, contractors during this time frequently are busy, forcing many jobs to be carried over into the next year.

In addition, earthwork during the fall is not as easy as in the summer, when dry conditions make soil easier to move.

"You get better quality work during the summer," Ranum explained, because the earthwork is easier.

He suggested farmers consider planting a small grain, such as oats or rye, or next year winter wheat, if they want a crop from the land.

He also suggested using the set-aside program to compensate for the loss of row crops during summer work.

Another benefit, besides the general availability of contractors in the summer and the better quality work, is the cost share factor on the work.

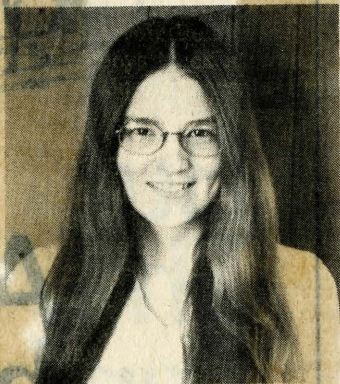
Ranum said work which is approved first is the first to get the money in the cost share program, and since summer work would be done sooner than the fall work, it would receive priority.

Under average conditions, the combination of reasons which Ranum said make summer work a better idea, can actually save a farmer 10-15% of the regular cost of the work.

He suggested before any work is done, a farmer should stop in at the SCS office in Wapello to make sure the work conforms to conservation specifications, making it eligible for cost sharing.

Jennings Wins Speech Contest

4-18-74



LINDA JENNINGS

Linda Jennings, a junior at Columbus Junction Community School, won the Louisa County Soil Conservation District speech contest.

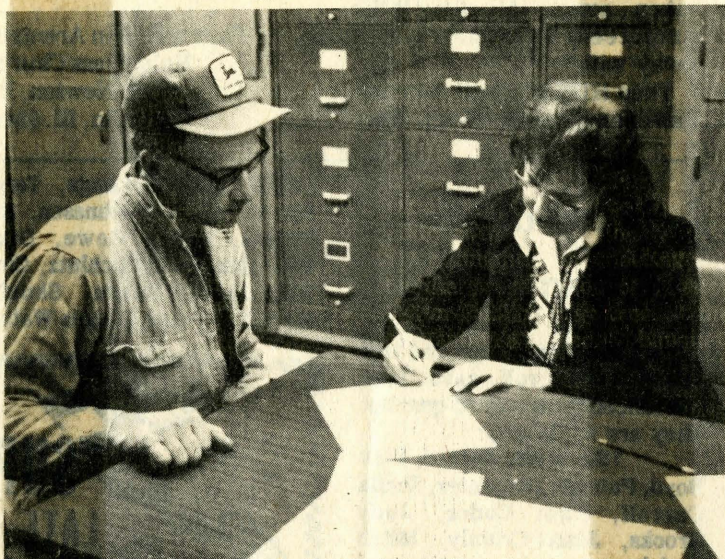
The winner won fifteen dollars cash prize and will advance to regional competition this summer to compete against other district winners.

Linda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction.

Jody Humiston of L & M School won runner-up honors and received ten dollars cash prize. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Humiston of Letts.

Letts Farmer Applies For Soils Long Term Contract

4-18-74



Dick Bieri, Letts area farmer, signs the first long-term agreement for soils co-operation at the Louisa county SCS office. Assisting is Mrs. Eleanor Stone, clerk.

Dick Bieri of Letts has filed for a long term contract to carry out conservation work on his farm in Grandview township.

Bieri is the first farmer in Louisa county to sign such a request. In signing, he has agreed to apply all of the needed conservation practices on his

farm within the next ten years. When he has completed all of the conservation work this farm will have total erosion control.

The contract guarantees in return, that cost sharing will be available from the federal government to carry out conservation work for the length of the contract. At the present time the state government is also carrying out a cost sharing program for the long term contract. It's therefore possible to receive a maximum of 75 percent cost-sharing from the two units of government to apply the needed conservation work.

These funds are limited at the present time but interest and cooperation will determine the future of this program.

Anyone interested in a contract of this sort should contact either the ASCS office or the SCS office in Wapello.

Louisa One Of Four Counties In Proposed Geode Wonderland

Louisa county will probably eventually become part of a four county government planned program to conserve and develop resources called "Geode Wonderland."

The "Geode Wonderland" would consist of Louisa, Lee, Henry, and Des Moines counties. A 36 page application to the state and federal governments to form this Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program was recently completed. The application says regional planning is essential for proper land use, soil conservation, recreation, etc.

The RC&D application, written by citizens from the four counties, must be approved by a string of state and federal bureaucracies, which will probably change parts of the application. These bureaucracies include the state Office of Planning and

Programming, the governor's office, the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) office in Des Moines; and the SCS office in Washington.

Once the proposed RC&D is approved, Washington would send a fulltime administrator to the area to help local governments and organizations with projects. The administrator would give advice on how to apply for state and federal funds for local projects.

For example, the city of Wapello will need thousands - perhaps millions - of dollars to solve the river bank erosion problem. The RC&D administrator could help local officials get the funding from Des Moines or Washington.

The four county area is named the Geode Wonderland, the application says, because, "The geode, official state rock of Iowa, becomes a significant symbol for the southeast area of the state. It is here in the four counties composing Geode Wonderland where we find of the few deposits of this geological 'spectacular' in the world..."

"And as the potential beauty of the geode is held within its glove-like confines, so the potential development of Geode Wonderland lies within this RC&D project."

The application says that of the four counties, Louisa has the lowest population (10,700), the largest per centage of people over 45 (50 per cent), the highest average age (31), and the highest percentage of agricultural workers (32 per cent).

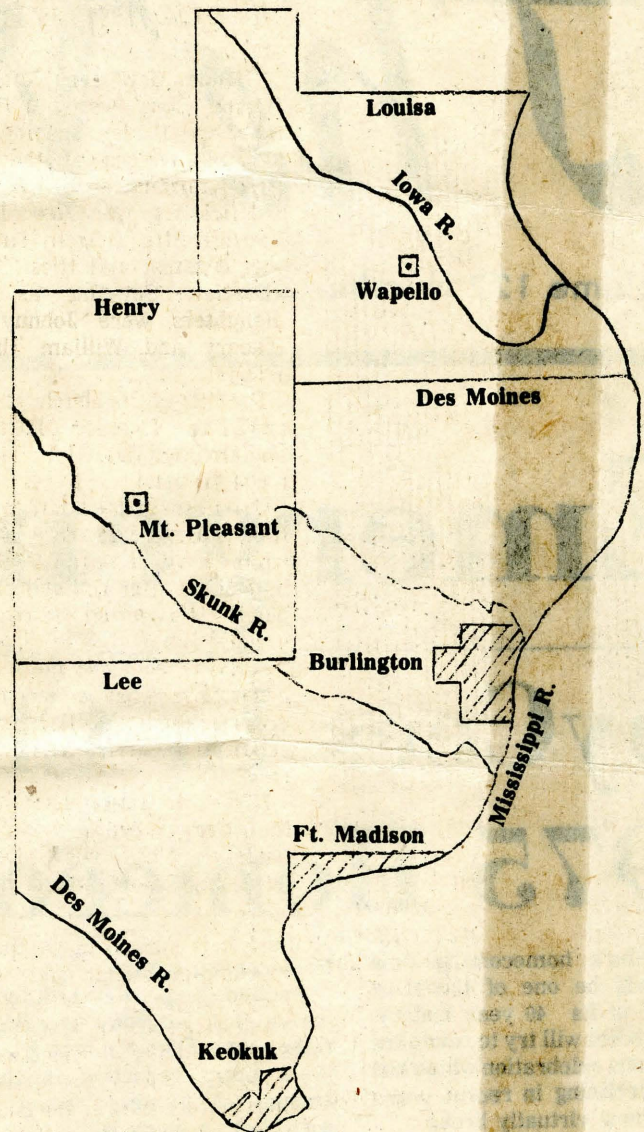
The application includes a long list of problem areas in the four county area ranging from soil erosion to poverty. "Recent encouragement to produce corn and soybeans without restriction has led to using some critical soil areas for these crops. Excessive erosion has occurred and these areas are in prime need of land use conversion," the report said.

In Louisa county, the report said that 8,300 acres of woodland need reforestation, 10,900 acres of woodland should be converted to grassland, and 8,300 acres of cropland need permanent vegetation.

The latest available statistics in 1969 show that 9.8 per cent of the Louisa county families had incomes below the poverty level, compared to 8.9 per cent in the state. "These data suggest that there are families in the area who do not have sufficient family income to meet their needs for a minimum quality of life. This suggests another area for study and action by both decision makers and citizens in the Burlington area," the report said.

It continued, "...the leaders and citizens of the Burlington area will be challenged to provide both the quality and quantity of goods and services to meet the demands of the existing population and the additional people that will likely be living within the four county area by the year 2000.

These goods and services will include health care, employment opportunities, schools, libraries, churches, streets, public water supplies, energy supplies, public sewage systems, garbage disposal, police protection, parks, playgrounds, civic centers, shopping centers, transportation systems, and others."



Louisa county is one of the four counties in a proposed "Geode Wonderland." The government project would assist local governments and organizations conserve and develop resources.

2-28-79
All papers

Soil Conservation Awards Presented At Luncheon

Louisa County Soil Conservation District Commissioners served as hosts at a luncheon at Harold's Place in Columbus Junction honoring Mr. and Mrs. Del Farrier of Columbus Junction and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dutton of Mt. Pleasant, local winners in the Des Moines Register and Tribune contest, and news editors and wives of Louisa county newspapers.

The Register and Tribune contest is sponsored by the Des Moines Register and the local soil conservation district. It is to honor farmers in the county for doing an outstanding job of conservation farming.

Mr. and Mrs. Farrier received the award for their 160 acre farm in Columbus City township. It was entered in the owner-operator division of the contest. Mr. Farrier has established 119 acres of contouring, 2 acres of grassed waterways, 19,000 feet of terraces of which 4,000 feet are the newer tile outlet terraces, 1 farm pond, 10,000 feet of tile and 17 acres of conservation tillage.

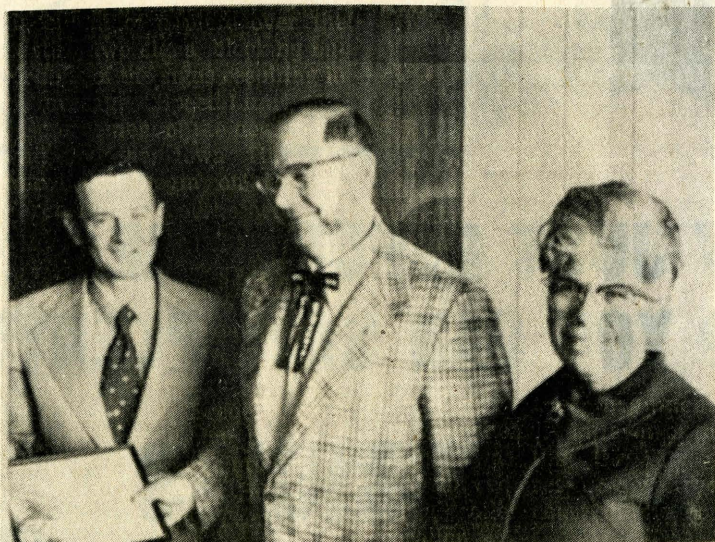
Mr. and Mrs. Dutton's 300 acre farm is located in Grandview township and was entered in the class for farmers who have been cooperators for less than two years with the district. Mr. Dutton has installed 39 acres of contouring, 4250 feet of tile outlet terraces, 3000 feet of tile and 1 acre of critical erosion area planting.

The editors were honored for the cooperation given the district in promoting conservation through the printing of news articles throughout the past years.



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dutton, Mt. Pleasant, receive the Register & Tribune cooperator

conservation award from Olin Jennings, Soils Chairman.



Olin Jennings, Louisa Co. Soils chairman, presents the Register and Tribune owner-operator

conservation award to Mr. and Mrs. Del Farrier, Columbus Junction.

Soil conservation speech contest is slated on April 8

The Louisa County Soil Conservation District is again sponsoring the soil conservation speech contest for Louisa county students (grade 7 through 12).

The topic for this year's contest is Land Use Policy — A Pattern for Prosperity. Speeches must be at least 5 minutes long and no longer than 10 minutes. They will be judged on originality, aptness of thought, accuracy of information and the manner in which they are delivered.

Contestants will be asked two questions by the judges. The same questions will be asked each contestant.

Contestants in the district contest will be permitted to use 3x5 note cards.

The winner of the district contest will advance on to a regional contest and the regional winner will advance to state competition.

Prizes at the district contest are \$15 for first, \$10 for second and \$5 for third and all others will receive \$1. Regional and state prizes total over \$295.

The contest will be held April 8, at the Peoples National Bank meeting room at Columbus Junction at 8 p.m.

The deadline for entering the contest is April 5. Students interested in entering should contact the Soil Conservation District office at 22 North 2nd Street, Wapello, Iowa or call 523-6411.

Burlington Hawkaye 7-5-74

Steering unit set for RC&D

The Resource Conservation and Development council for Area XVI is well on the way toward reality.

Twenty-three of the 24 persons who will serve on the steering committee, or council, were named Wednesday night.

Organization of county and area councils from this group began with Jim Hawkins of Argyle serving as temporary chairman and Ralph Dewey, district conservationist for Des Moines county, temporary secretary.

Des Moines, Lee, Louisa, and Henry counties will be represented here July 16 when a Soil Conservation Service information specialist visits the area to assist RC&D project members in promoting the area concept.

Goal is to improve the economy and environment of the whole area through conservation, development and better utilization of its natural resources.

The group will meet at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 7 in Room 211 of the Burlington Federal Building to elect permanent officers and approve constitution and by laws.

Application for an RC&D grant is scheduled to be filed by Sept. 5.

Representatives from each county include one supervisor, one soil district commissioner and four at-large citizens. One more is to be appointed from Henry county. Members are:

DES MOINES — Merle Kelly, Burlington, supervisor; Ray Pilling, Mediapolis, soil commissioner; Olive Sullivan, Jim Settles, Milton Distelhorst and Sherman Smith, all of Burlington.

HENRY — Carroll Crane, Lockridge, supervisor; Dale Waters, Mt. Pleasant, soil commissioner; Leland McCosh, Winfield; John Carty, Winfield, and Gerald Lehman, New London.

LEE — Robert O'Malley, Ft. Madison, supervisor; Jim Hawkins, Argyle, soil commissioner; Charles Burke, Wever; Maurice Krebill, Donnellson; Patsy Partridge, Keokuk, and Wayne Sanders, Ft. Madison.

LOUISA — Leonard Elliott, Wapello, supervisor; Virgil Corey, Morning Sun, soil commissioner; Bob Fulton, Columbus Junction; Bill Small, Wapello; Russell Gast, Letts, and Mrs. Owen Jennings, Columbus Junction.

Suggests Methods To Control Soil Erosion In County

1-10-74
wapello

The use of Louisa County's farm land has been rapidly changing to a more intensive use of two crops, especially soybeans. This is leading to a critical situation concerning soil erosion, says Harry Bryant, District Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service.

Erosion will be an even bigger threat this year because of no requirement of set-aside acres and the demand for more production from the nation's farmers. Most of the marginal ground that has been idled in the past will be put into crop production this year, and other ground that has had a rotation will be farmed intensively to row crop.

With these conditions it is very possible that soil erosion could be the worst in history. For example, some good two to four percent prairie soils will lose fifteen to twenty tons of soil per acre this spring if it is under a cropping system of corn and beans and fall plowed. Two to four percent slopes is considered flat ground by most Louisa County farmers on eight to ten percent slope. Soil losses may be as high as 60 tons per acre if it is kept in continuous corn and beans.

How can farmers compete with this erosion problem and still produce more? For continuous row cropping; the comparatively new type of tile outlet terraces is the surest and longest lasting way of controlling erosion. But terraces should be part of a long range plan because they take time and money to install.

Certain tillage and management practices can be used by themselves or in conjunction with terraces to reduce erosion. This is usually accomplished by tilling the soil so the soil remains open longer for water intake and by retarding surface runoff. The soil surface can be kept open longer by protecting it from the direct impact of raindrops by using a crop residue mulch. Also leaving the surface cloddy it is more resistant to break down by raindrops. The no-plow method of tillage accomplish both of these conditions.

Where ground is steeper than two to four percent probably a combination of terraces and tillage practices would be required to hold down soil losses.

Farmers concerned about erosion on their farm should

come to the Louisa County oil Conservation District office and request a long range plan for controlling erosion on their farm.

9-18-75

Attend Conference

The 29th annual conference of the Soil Conservation District Commissioner of Iowa was held in Des Moines last week. Louisa County District Commissioners, Olin Jennings, Virgil Corey, and Bill Newell attended the conference. Jennings was honored as the Outstanding District Commissioner for Region 7.

It was announced at the conference that three workshops for teachers interested in conservation education will be held in October. The dates are Oct. 3-4 Camp EWALUA at Strawberry Point, Oct. 10-11 State 4-H camp at Luther, and Oct. 10-11 Camp Hitchcock at Crescent. Interested teachers from Louisa county can get more information at the Soil Conservation District office located at 222 North Second Street in Wapello or call 523-6411.

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COLUMBUS GAZETTE

VOLUME EIGHTY-EIGHT

COLUMBUS JUNCTION, IOWA 52738

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1975



Louisa County Conservation Award winners for 1975 are, from left to right, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bieri, operators, Mrs. Fred Wier, owner, all from Letts, Iowa, and Leonard Chatfield, Columbus Junction, chairman of the Louisa County District Commissioners who presented the certificates. A dinner was held in their honor recently at Columbus Junction. The farm was chosen for the award because of the conservation work that has been applied.

District commissioners from the Louisa District making the selection were: Leonard Chatfield, chairman; Virgil Corey of Morning Sun; Kester Gladfelder, Wapello; Bill Newell, Letts; and Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction.

Conservation boosters honored at conference

By BOB SOGARD

Hawk Eye Farm Editor

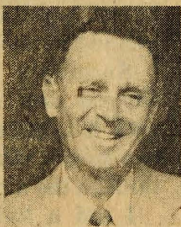
There were two Burlington teachers and two Hawk Eyeland farmers among the honorees when the Soil Conservation District Commissioners of Iowa held their 29th annual conference at Des Moines last week.

Cited as eastern Iowa regional winner in conservation competition was Dillon Graber of Wayland. He operates a 208-acre farm in southern Washington county. Graber has 80 acres of the place terraced and 159 acres farmed on the contour. There are 22 acres of pasture that have been renovated and he's built a farm pond and soil erosion control structure. He uses a conservation tillage program on 100 acres.

Regional winners among conservation teachers included Beverly Lundy of Burlington's Corse school, elementary division, and Elizabeth Pollock, James Madison Middle school, secondary school division.

Outstanding district commissioner for Region 7 is Olin Jennings, Louisa county district. He has served as a commissioner for the past six years and was chairman from 1973 to '75.

Jennings has supported conservation education for young people by promot-



Olin Jennings

ing outdoor classrooms, speech contests and poster contests. In 1974 he served as farm host for the area soil judging contest. He's also involved in the Geode Wonderland Resource, Conservation and Development project, is chairman of the Louisa county RC&D committee and also is on the four-county executive board.

Olin and his wife, Norma, have five children, Marilyn Ann, Betty Jo, Linda, Alan and Janice. They farm 480 acres south of Columbus Junction.

Jennings bought the run-down farm in 1957. He filled deep gullies, built five erosion control ponds, all new fences, seeded waterways, renovated pastures, tiled, straightened or eliminated meandering eroding streamlets and built badly-needed terraces. He is renovating 21 acres of timberland for use as a young walnut tree forest preserve area.

William Brune, state conservationist for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS), told the commissioners: "More than 100,000 Iowa landowners are cooperating with

local soil conservation districts to protect soil on their farms. They've made substantial progress but the bulk of the work is ahead.

"One fact that makes progress look slow in Iowa," Brune said, "is the increase in raw crop acreage. Land that was adequately protected with rotations 10 or 15 years ago is subject to severe erosion when it's continually cropped."

SCS figures show that since 1960 more than 4.5 million acres of land have been treated for erosion, but in that same time row cropping increased by over five million acres.

Min Amemiya, extension agronomist at Iowa State university, observed that Iowa's worst soil erosion in 25 years occurred the past two years. He also blamed intensive row cropping and heavy spring rains that fell on bare, cleanly cultivated fields. He urged more conservation tillage.

Frank Schaller, ISU extension agronomist, said pasture renovation by a method called interseeding can reduce soil erosion compared with the conventional method of plowing or disking, then seeding.

Interseeding of legumes in pasture is done with a special drill that opens a slit or trench in grass sod. Seed placement and coverage are shallow, Schaller said. Paraquat, a contact herbicide, can be sprayed on the existing grass to retard growth until the new seedlings are established.

It was announced at the conference that three workshops will be held over

County Farmers Build Terraces

10-30-75

The following Louisa County farmers have completed tile outlet terraces: Bill Hook, Paul Gustifson, Larry Boysen, Warren McConahay, Lloyd Meyerholz, Stephen Bausch, Frank Baird and Darrell Schenk.

This information was reported

at the October meeting of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District in Wapello. Initial agreements of Phil Klopfenstein, Jack Bunn Jr. and Donald Wilson were approved, as well as the basic plan of Norman Stone.

Farmers Hope For Decent Spring

The bitter cold winter winds are now blowing over the county's farm land which is hard with frost, but in just five weeks, weather permitting, farmers will be cultivating their land in preparation for a season that will hopefully produce better weather than last year.

Like last year, farmers will be pinched by the high cost of fuel, as well as shortages and high costs for the petroleum based fertilizers.

It is impossible to tell the percentages of corn and soybeans farmers are planning, especially this early in the season. If the county is not plagued with the heavy spring rains that have hit the past two years, farmers will tend to plant more corn, which has a longer growing season.

On the other hand, the continued fertilizer pinch could induce farmers to plant more soybeans, which require less fertilizer.

Jim Pogemiller, manager of

Farmer's Elevator and Exchange in Wapello, said, "I think we'll have as much, if not a little more fertilizer than last year," Although he does not have enough fertilizer to meet the total demand, he said he refuses to buy it on the black market for higher prices. "If everyone stayed away from the black market, the price would go down," he said.

The elevator can not take on any new customers, but the customers it now has will get enough, "if they use good judgement and do not go overboard he said.

One positive result of the shortage may be that farmers will stop using more fertilizer than they need. It could also encourage some crop rotation, which is a natural way of returning nitrates to the soil.

The heavy rains last spring, combined with the increased acres of cropland, resulted in one of the worst years of soil erosion on record, according to district soil conservationist Harry

Bryant.

Bryant is urging farmers to not overwork the soil, to leave as much crop residue on the ground as possible, and to disk soybean stubble rather than plow it.

Residue left on the ground will reduce the impact of rain, and act as a mulch to keep in moisture.

Bryant said farmers should consider the no-till planting methods, which have been used in western Iowa and southern Illinois. The method can be used for corn, but is better on soybeans.

A herbicide is used to kill the grass and weeds in the field and the mulch is left on the ground. Without any other cultivation, the crop is then planted. A special attachment in front of the tractor prepares a narrow seed bed about five inches wide and two or three inches deep.

"It's probably one of the cheapest ways to control erosion and conserve energy," Bryant said.

Harry Bryant, Gerry Gill To Leave Wapello



Harry Bryant

6-19-75

Harry Bryant, District Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service at Wapello, has been promoted to the Williamsburg, Iowa, field office, according to Eldon Weber, Area Conservationist, of the Soil Conservation Service. Bryant will take over his new duties July 21. His duties there will be assisting the Iowa County Soil Conservation District with soil and water conservation resource problems.

Bryant started with the Soil Conservation Service in 1962 at Corydon, Iowa as a part time Soil Conservation Technician. In 1966 he became a full time Soil Conservation technician in the Burlington Field office. In 1971 he became Soil Conservationist and later District Conservationist in the Wapello Field office.

Bryant attended college at Iowa State University from 1950-1952 and received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Western Illinois in 1971. He served with the armed forces in Korea during the Korean conflict and farmed in Wright and Wayne counties before joining the Soil Conservation Service in 1962.

Mrs. Bryant is a home economist and has taught in the Corydon, Danville and Morning Sun school systems. The Bryants have five children: Dean, a Freshman at Western Illinois University, Bruce, a Freshman at Iowa State University; Beth, a senior; Blair, a sophomore and Steven a Freshman in high school.

The Bryants will be moving to the Williamsburg area as soon as suitable housing can be found.



Gerry Gill

Gerry Gill will leave Wapello Friday after serving five years as the Wapello district manager of the Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge.

Gill, 37, will be replaced by Tom Early, who will take over Monday. Early now works at the Seny National Wildlife Refuge in the Upper Michigan Peninsula.

Gill's wife Kathy works at the Wapello State Bank. They have four children. Gill has been active in cub scouts for four years, coached a little league team for four years, and was president of the Lions Club in Wapello before it folded.

"We will miss Wapello. We had a lot of friends here. When you settle in one place for more than two years, you develop roots that are hard to pull," he said.

Gill works for the Fish and Wildlife Service in the U.S. Department of the Interior. He has managed three wildlife units in the Wapello district; the Louisa unit in the north end of Lake Odessa, the Big Timber unit, three miles north of the Louisa unit, and the Keithsburg unit in Keithsburg, Ill.

Gill will become a wildlife biologist in charge of wildlife management programs at the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge in Cartersville, Ill.

He will help develop management programs for deer and Canada geese populations. "I'm hoping I'll become more involved with biological programs and less involved with administrative work," he said.

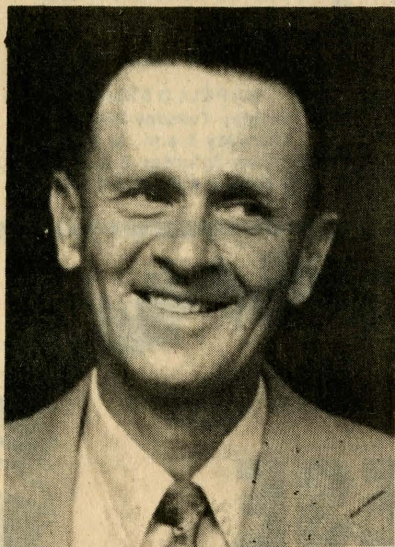
He considers the job a step towards his ultimate goal becoming a wildlife researcher.

Jennings Named

Outstanding

Commissioner

7-17-75



Olin Jennings

Olin Jennings, District Commissioner for the Louisa County Soil Conservation District, was recently chosen from the 12 districts in Region Seven as outstanding district commissioner. Olin has served as a commissioner for the past 6 years and was chairman from 1973 to 1975.

Jennings has been involved in the Geode Wonderland Resource, Conservation and Development project. He is chairman of the Louisa County RC&D committee and is also on the four county executive board.

Olin, and his wife Norma, have 5 children, Marilyn Ann, Betty Jo, Linda, Alan and Janice. The Jennings farm, is 480 acres south of Columbus Junction.

More has been accomplished on the Olin Jennings farm than first meets the eye or appears on office records as it was probably one of the worst examples of soil stewardship in Louisa County when purchased by the Jennings family in 1957, says Jennings.

Unimproved, badly eroded, heavily infested with cuckleburrs and other noxious weeds, with tumbledown unusable fences and buildings, this farm has had to undergo an entire renovation from all aspects.

Purchasing an old bulldozer, Jennings filled gullies deep enough to bury a couple bulldozers, built five erosion ponds (receiving government payments on two), built new fences, seeded waterways, renovated pastures, tiled, straightened or eliminated meandering eroding streamlets, and built needed terraces.

Twenty-one acres of timberland is currently being renovated for use as a young walnut tree forest reserve area.

Despite the unusual weather conditions and heavy rainfall, Jennings has worked through the years to make his farm a model for soil conservation.

4-4-75

Linda Jennings To District Speech Contest



LINDA JENNINGS

Linda Jennings will represent Louisa County Soil Conservation District in a Regional Speech contest later this summer. Linda's speech on "Land Use Planning — Insurance for Mankind" earned her thirty five dollars and a chance to compete for larger cash prizes and a scholarship in regional and state contests.

Linda is a senior in the Columbus Community School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Olin Jennings.

Louisa agencies cite needs for conservation

. . in resource development

WAPELLO — Louisa County has become part of a four-county government planned program to conserve and develop resources. The program is called "Geode Wonderland Resource Conservation and Development," or "Geode Wonderland RC&D."

The Geode Wonderland consists of Louisa, Lee, Henry and Des Moines Counties. A 36 page application to the state and federal governments to form the RC&D was recently completed.

The RC&D application, written by citizens from the four counties, has been approved by the state office of

planning and programming, the Governor's office, the State Soil Conservationist, and awaits approval by the Soil Conservation Service in Washington for funding.

For example, the city of Wapello will need thousands, perhaps millions, of dollars to solve its river bank erosion problem. The RC&D administrator would assist local officials in getting funding from Des Moines and Washington.

Project measure applications are now being taken by the local Soil Conservation Districts to be reviewed and approved by the county

RC&D council for planning priorities. Some of the early applications include a lake for rural water and water systems for the towns of Salem and Hillsboro in Lee County.

A bike trail connecting points of interest in the four-county area and equipment for the Historical Museum at Toolsboro are other projects being considered. Project measure application forms can be obtained at each of the Soil Conservation District offices.

Harry Bryant
District Conservationist
Wapello

. . . . in wildlife

An acre of corn or a stock cow on the back 40 each have certain life requirements which must be met by a farmer on his land before a crop of corn or a healthy calf can be produced.

The same is true of wildlife. Many life requirements of wildlife are met on the farm as a by-product of farming and therefore most farms have at least some wildlife present.

This situation is rapidly changing, though, with the end of set-aside and the all-out

push for more production. If a landowner can't sacrifice some row crop ground from the fall plow or shorten a rotation, he may consider other low cost or no cost alternatives to improve wildlife habitat.

What about the odd areas which you cannot farm. Could they be protected or improved for wildlife? Do you have a farmstead windbreak which can save fuel cost, beautify your home and improve wildlife habitat?

How about that timber edge? It may support a covey of quail and improve production of those shaded, sapped-out end rows if managed properly. Have a pond? Why not consider managing the area around it for more wildlife production?

Other landowners with an interest in wildlife are doing these things.

Art Roseland
Wildlife biologist

. . . . in soil testing

Fertilizer costs and shortages make soil sampling a more important consideration for 1975 — especially if fields have not been tested in the past three years.

Remember, a soil test recommendation can be no better than the sample from which it was taken. Stop at the county extension office, Wapello, or phone for the publication "Take a Good Soil Sample" and review the

procedure.

Extension agronomists have developed a publication "Getting the Most Out of N for Corn." It provides recommendations for nitrogen rates on corn for producers who have not been able to purchase their needs. This publication is also available at the county extension office.

Again, a reliable soil test is the best guide for efficient application of P and K fer-

tilizers.

Soil test recommendations from the Iowa State University testing lab are coming back in a reasonable time, currently, as compared to weeks in past years. Soil sample bags and information are available from the county extension office and there will not be any postage on the samples.

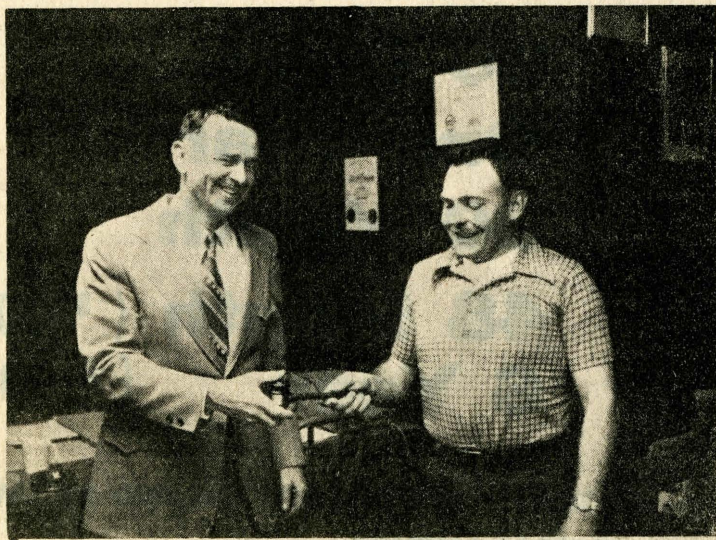
Gaylord Elliott
County extension director

Louisa Soil Conservation Elects

5-9-75



Pictured from left to right are Leonard Chatfield of Columbus Junction, Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction, Kester Gladfelder, Wapello; Virgil Corey, Morning Sun and Bill Newell of Letts. They are the Louisa County Soil Conservation District Commissioners. Just recently an election was held. Olin Jennings and Bill Newell were elected to a six year term and Kester Gladfelder to a 4 year term. Leonard and Virgil are the other two making up the five man board.



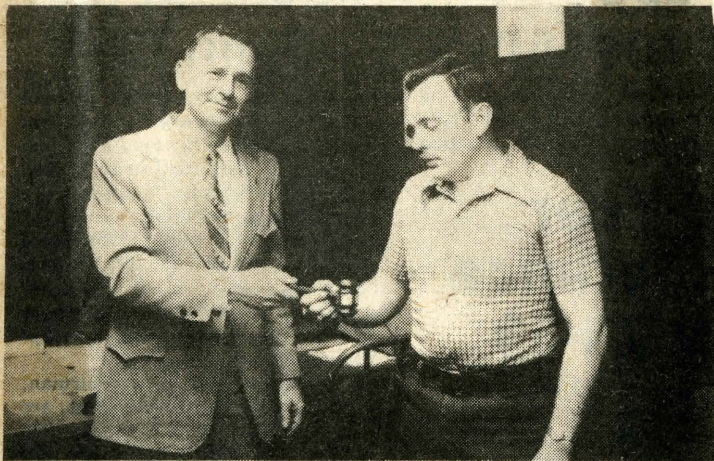
Pictured on the left is Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction, handing the gavel to Leonard Chatfield, new chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District. Commissioners reorganized at their last meeting naming Chatfield as chairman. Eleanor Stone was retained as secretary-treasurer of the district.

3-75 not sent as
news article

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Another event with a poor turnout was the Soil Conservation District speech contest on land use planning Monday night.

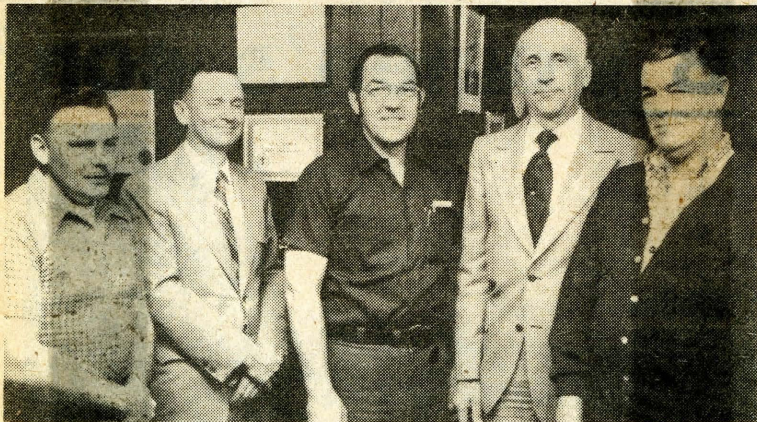
Only one girl competed.

Like food and energy, land use planning will affect virtually everybody. But only one student from the entire county was interested enough to speak about it. Some of the fault lies with the soil commissioners, the newspapers, and the teachers for not adequately promoting the contest. But most of the blame lies with the apathetic junior high and high school students who are more concerned with sports, cars, and the opposite



New chairman

Pictured on the left is Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction handing a gavel to Leonard Chatfield, new chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District. Commissioners reorganized at their last meeting, naming Chatfield as chairman. Eleanor Stone was retained as secretary-treasurer of the district.



SCD commissioners

Pictured from left to right are: Leonard Chatfield and Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction; Kester Gladfelder, Wapello; Virgil Corey, Morning Sun; and Bill Newell, Letts. They are the Louisa County Soil Conservation district commissioners elected in the recent election. Olin Jennings and Bill Newell were elected to a 6 year term and Kester Gladfelder to a 4 year term. Leonard and Virgil make up the five man board.

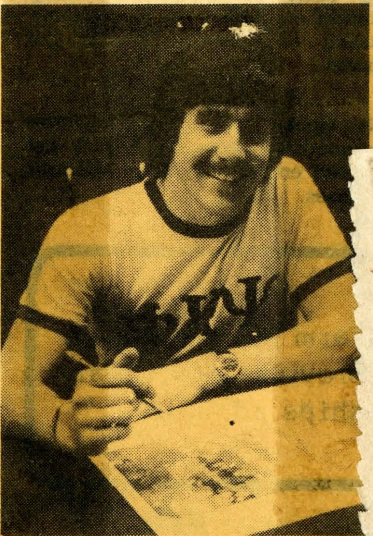
SCS hires 3-1-75 Jeff Smith as new technician

Jeff Smith has been hired to serve as conservation technician for the Soil Conservation Service in Louisa county. He will be working out of the SCS office in Wapello and be under the supervision of Harry Bryant, district conservationist.

Jeff is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith of Morning Sun. He is a graduate of the Morning Sun High School and the University of Missouri at Columbia. He graduated with a degree in forestry in December, 1974.

He will be working directly with farmers in applying conservation work in Louisa county.

We invited farmers to stop in the office and talk over their future plans.



JEFF SMITH

Teacher Preaches No-Till Farming

It would be hard to find a bigger fan of no-till farming than Wapello voc-ag teacher Harold Hain.

Hain and his son Robert recently harvested their first crop planted under the no till method. Hain is bursting with enthusiasm.

"People ask me if I talk about

no till farming in my class, and I tell them of course I do. There's so many advantages that I have to teach it," he said.

"No till farming is in the same position as hybrid seeds were the first year they were introduced. I think it will catch on just as much," Hain said.

There is absolutely no plowing, discing, or other

cultivation under no till farming. The planter digs a strip two and a half inches wide and two and a half inches deep. Before the corn or soybeans emerge, the ground is sprayed with paraquat, which kills all weeds on contact.

Hain said it costs between \$6 and \$10 to apply paraquat. This is offset by the reduced cultivation costs. The paraquat is inactivated when it touches the soil, leaving no poisonous buildup.

The crop residue from the previous year is left on the surface, rather than plowed under. This protective layer virtually eliminates wind and water erosion, Hain said.

Here are some of the other advantages Hain listed:

-It only requires a planter, a sprayer, and a harvester. This lighter equipment requires less horsepower, and only a third as much fuel as conventional methods. The lighter equipment reduces soil compaction.

-Because it reduces erosion, it opens up more hilly land to crops.

-The uncultivated soil retains more moisture. This is

especially important in hot, dry summers.

-There is no crusting over of the soil surface, which sometimes prevents crops from emerging.

He conceded that no till has a few disadvantages: The soil takes longer to warm up in the spring when it is not plowed and exposed to the sun. This can delay planting about a week.

The crop residue on the ground can create a fire hazard. Finally, a no-till field "looks bad" compared to a freshly plowed field of rich black soil. But these factors are easily offset by the advantages, Hain said.

Another local farmer who uses no till is Harlan Hayes, who lives on the five mile lane about a mile and a half west of Wapello. For the last three years, Hayes has used the no till method on about 20 acres of land that in the past has been exposed to serious wind storms.



Harold Hain and his son Robert are shown checking the corn in their field which was planted under the no-till method.

Terraces are ²⁻¹⁶⁻⁷⁵ most needed ^{F.B.} erosion control

Terraces continue to be the most needed erosion control practice in Louisa county. There is a total of about 168,000 acres of cropland in Louisa county, of this about one-half or 86,000 acres is losing excessive amounts of soil through soil erosion.

Louisa county farmers had plans and survey work done to build about 75,000 feet of terraces last year but because of a late, wet fall only 15,000 feet were built. The other 60,000 feet will be built this spring, weather permitting.

Another 75,000 feet of terraces could have been ready to build in 1974 if materials and technical help for survey and designing the systems had been available.

The past year marked a definite change in the attitude of farmers toward terraces. This change was brought about by three things. First, the past 2 years have been extremely erosive because of the heavy rains. Second, the government has been pushing for all land to be cropped. Third, farmers have been watching how the new tile outlet terrace systems are working on neighbors' farms, and most of them like how they've controlled erosion.

Terraces can reduce soil loss by shortening the slopes and slowing down the movement of water. Tile outlet terraces go one step further by trapping the sediment that moves between the terraces, therefore they also keep the chemical and fertilizers on the farm.

Research on soils similar to those found in Louisa county has shown that tile outlet terraces will control soil loss to as low as $\frac{1}{2}$ ton per acre per year. Tile outlet terraces combined with minimum tillage can provide extremely effective erosion control on rolling ground where a rotation with hay is no longer used.

Just as farming methods have changed, so have terraces. The terraces are signed for the large modern machinery. Grassed waterways are no longer required to carry off excess surface water. Point rows are nonexistent or held to a bare minimum.

A farmer needs to plan a year or two in advance before constructing these terrace systems. Materials are hard to get. Surveying and designing the system takes time. Installation is hard to get down when everything is in crop and tile and earth moving both is involved. If construction can be planned when the field is in hay or small grain, chances of getting it all done in one year is much better.

Federal cost sharing is uncertain at this time. There will be some state funds, but unless you have a conservation plan, that will delay you more. For more information contact Harry Bryant of the Soil Conservation Service in Wapello.

3-13-75

They Work Together

In agriculture, it is helpful if the farmer next to you is also your friend.

A good example is a group of four farmers about a mile north of Grandview who are good friends: Paul Bell, Ray Bieri, Warren Stineman, and Russell Gast. They have worked together on possibly the largest soil conservation project in the county.

The project covers four farmers, 150 acres of land thousands of feet of clay tile, and a total cost of about \$15,000.

For years, water has been washing away some of the best soil in the world at a rate of about eight to ten tons per acre per year, which is considered "severe erosion." The land loses an estimated one inch of top soil every 12 years.

With engineering help from the Soil Conservation Service, and funding assistance from the ASCS, the farmers are now installing a system of parallel terrace-dams and clay tiles. When the project is completed this spring, "they can walk away from it and never have to worry about it during their lifetimes," said district conservationist Harry Bryant.

The water drains from three farmers' fields into a creek on Stineman's land.

Six terrace lines, parallel to the crop rows, have been built. They vary in height from two to five feet. These dams hold the water back after big rains. The

water then drains into a pipe above ground, which is connected to underground clay tiles. The plastic standpipe is about four feet high, and contains holes for the water to drain into.

The water from these tiles eventually drains into one 12 inch outlet tile on Stineman's property. Gast said he prefers clay tiles over plastic because they won't collapse and because they can't be chewed by rodents.

"I've got clay tiles in the ground that are 50 years old, and they still work," Gast said. Bryant said clay and plastic tiles both work well.

Gast acknowledged that government money will pay a substantial part of the cost. But he said it is a good investment for the public because it will stop erosion, and because when his land is improved, his yields and income are increased, and he pays back more in taxes.

Bieri added, "We have an obligation to do anything we can do to conserve this land. If we don't, then in 10 years it will be all farmed out and washed down the river."



Russell Gast (left), Paul Bell (center) and Ray Bieri have co-

operated together on their farms north of Grandview on the

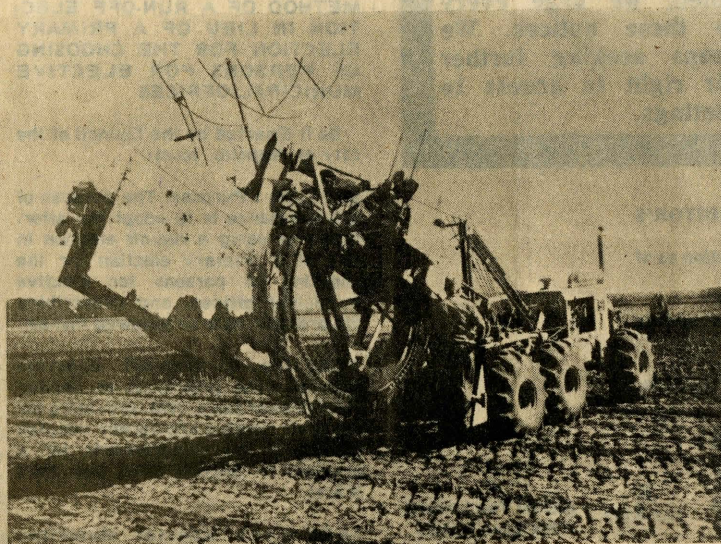
largest private soil conservation project in the county.

This is The Article Printed on Field DAYS.

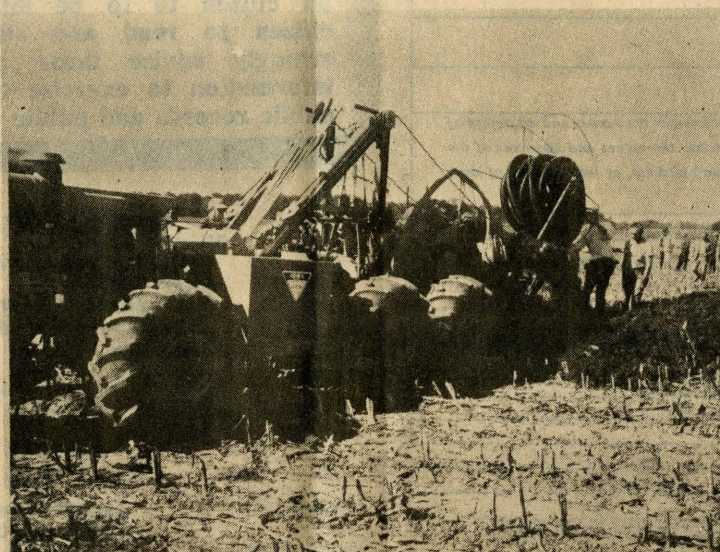
Louisa County

The Wapello Republican
Thursday, October 2, 1975
Wapello, Iowa, 52653
Page 8

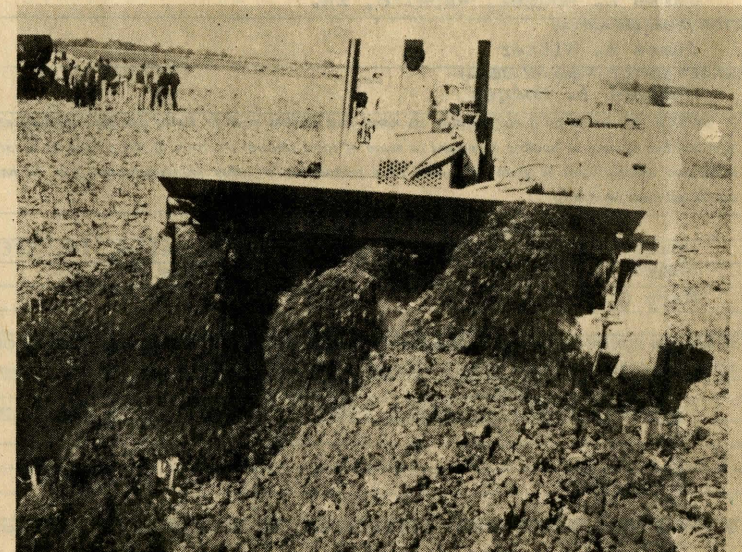
Trenching Techniques Shown At Field Day



This view shows the back of the trencher before it started digging....



Here the trencher is shown digging. Notice the dirt it is spewing out, and the roll of tubing in the back....



After the trench is dug, it is refilled by this auger backfiller.

Over one hundred farmers and contractors attended a drainage field day demonstration last Friday and Saturday at the Bartenhagen farm.

The demonstration featured speicher trenchers which are capable of simultaneously digging and laying over 30 feet of plastic drainage tubing per minute.

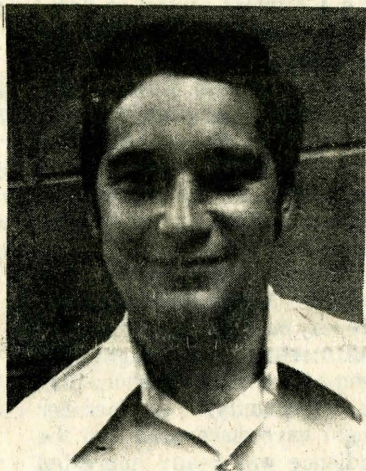
Jackson Excavating laid about 10,000 feet of tubing on an 80 acre field. The tile machine, one of three in the county, costs \$63,000.

The tubing was covered by an auger backfiller, worth about \$50,000, owned by Roscoe Brown Sales Co. of Lenox, Ia.

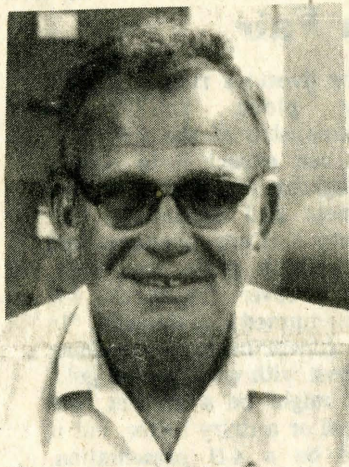
Also on hand were a number of other drainage contractors. The Wapello fire department ran a first aid stand, and the Eagles Auxiliary sold refreshments.

Two New Men At SCS Office

07-17-75



Larry Hunt



Oren Champ

Larry Hunt, 27 of Burlington, will be the new soil conservationist for the Wapello office of the Soil Conservation District. Starting Monday, Aug. 4.. He replaces district conservationist Harry Bryant, who leaves Wapello this Friday for a SCS position in Williamsburg.

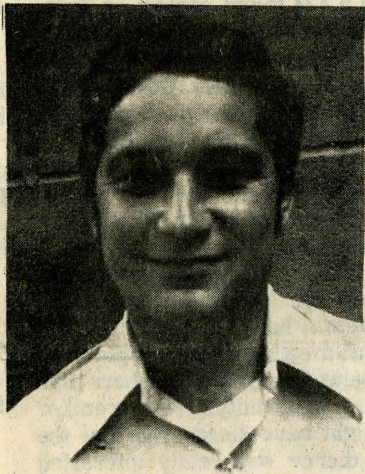
Hunt has worked in the Burlington SCS office for a year. He is a 1974 graduate of the

University of Missouri in Columbia. Hunt and his wife Judy have a five year old son Lance. They are looking for housing in the Wapello area.

Another new man in the Wapello office is Oren Champ of Burlington, who started in Wapello two weeks ago. Champ works half time in Wapello and half time in Burlington.

Two New Men At SCS Office

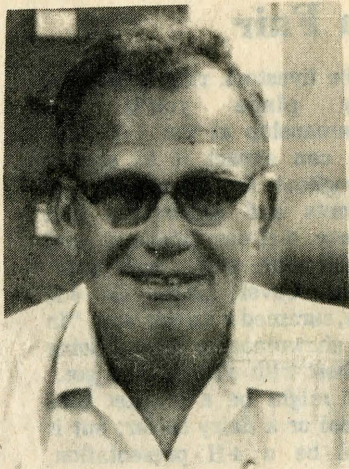
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Wapello conservationist receives promotion

WAPELLO — Harry Bryant, USDA Soil Conservation Service district conservationist at Wapello, has been promoted to the Williamsburg field office, according to Eldon Weber, area conservationist, Fairfield.

Bryant will assume his new position July 21, assisting the Iowa County Soil Conservation District with soil and water conservation resource problems.

Bryant started with the service in 1962 at Corydon as a part time soil conservation technician. In 1966 he started full time as a technician in the Burlington office. In 1971 he became soil conservationist and, later, district conservationist in the Wapello office.

Bryant attended Iowa State University from 1950-52, receiving a bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill., in 1971. He served in Korea and farmed in Wright and Wayne counties before joining SCS.

Jan Bryant is a home economist, having taught in the Corydon, Danville and Morning Sun. The Bryants have five children.

They will be moving to Williamsburg as soon as suitable housing is found.



HARRY BRYANT

Exponent-Journal 6-18-75

3-14-75 Warnings From Soil

Conservationists

Farmer intentions for planting a record acreage of corn and soybeans this year has brought warnings from soil conservationists that the increased acreage makes another potentially dangerous year for soil erosion.

Erosion in Iowa and in Louisa County was the worst last year it had been in 25 years, and the potential is there this year unless precautions are taken, they advise.

"The trend to intensive rowcrop has steadily increased erosion possibilities in recent years," says Olin Jennings, chairman of the Louisa County Soil Conservation District. In Iowa, corn and soybean acreage planting intentions for this year are 20.4 million acres, a 1.4 percent increase over last year. It's a 33 percent increase in these rowcrops from 10 years ago.

"Because there was more corn and beans this caused a shortage of forage, and many took corn stalks off

their fields for winter feed. This opens up even more chance for erosion on cropland," says Harry Bryant, District Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service.

Most conservation practices take time to become established, like terraces, ponds, windbreaks and others. But one practice, conservation tillage takes effect immediately and can be practiced this spring. Leaving the plow in storage and using a disk, chisel, or other machine to prepare land for planting is the first step. "These operations help to leave crop residue on top of the ground to protect against erosion," Bryant says. "But they can be overdone. Too many trips with a chisel or disk can cover residue, and that defeats their purpose. The true test is whether enough residue is left on the soil surface. Generally, 3,000-4,000 pounds of residue per acre left on top of the soil reduces erosion by half."

You can get recommendations on how to produce more on intensive rowcrop while you protect your soil from the soil conservation district office in Wapello.

Wapello 2-25-75

Wilson And Winder Win Conservation Award

Mr. and Mrs. J. Loyd Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Winder of Wapello have been awarded the 1974 Iowa Soil Achievement Award, presented by the Des Moines Register and Tribune, and by the Iowa Farm Register.

Wilson manages the farm, which is south of Wapello, and Winder is the tenant. Newton Wilson owns the land.

The farm's erosion control program, started about five years ago, includes about two miles of terraces, erosion control dams, and waterways.

District conservationist Harry Bryant said, "If we had all the farms in the county as well under control as this farm, we'd have the job well done."

Crop And Land Conditions Lead To Soil Erosion

10-21-76

Early harvest and dry weather is causing concern among soil conservationists in Iowa about serious soil erosion. Their main worry is that soybean and corn land will be plowed after harvest, exposing the soil to the wind and rain this fall and next spring.

"We had a fall like this last year, and more than 8 million acres of land was fall plowed and opened up to wind drosion. Much of that did blow, and we had dust in the air and soil piled up in road ditches last winter. We'd like to keep that from happening again," says William Brune, state conservationist for the U. S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS). The erosion problem has already been aggravated by the dry weather this year, which has encouraged farmers to chop corn for silage, a process that uses all the plant.

Brune urges farmers to leave

of the ground for soil protection. "Research shows there's no yield advantage from fall plowing soybean land," Brune says. "And if tillage is done on cornland, we hope it's some kind of reduced tillage that doesn't bury all the corn residue and destroy what soil protection there was."

SCS agronomist John Maddy says the key to stopping wind erosion on flatter soils is to leave at least half of this year's residue on the soil surface.

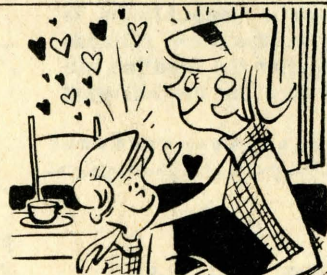
"If you leave half of this year's stalks on top of the ground, you stop most wind erosion. And you generally cut water erosion in half. The amount left is the key rather than the machine used."

Maddy says the chisel plow, an increasingly popular substitute for the moldboard plow, is a good tillage tool. It leaves residue on the soil surface, and you can take advantage of its ridging by chiseling per-

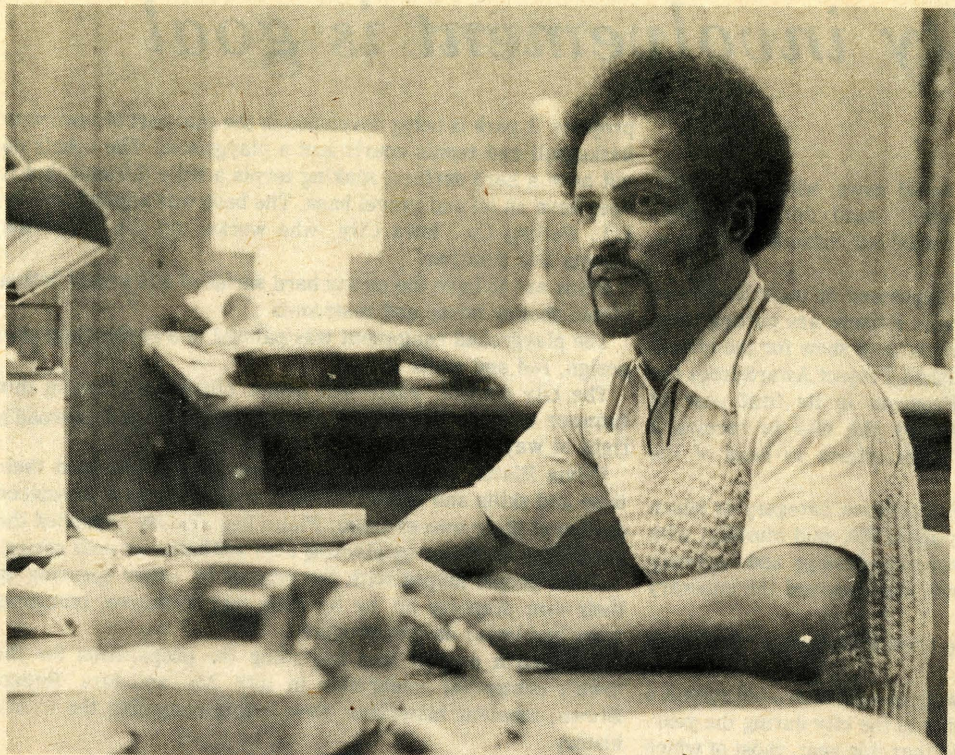
pendicular to prevailing winds.

"Our topsoil simply won't last if we keep losing it at our present rate," Brune says. "On unprotected sloping soils, we've only six to eight inches of topsoil left, and we're losing an inch of that every 12 years."

Information on crop residue systems, called "conservation tillage" or "minimum tillage," is available from the Louisa county Soil Conservation office in Wapello, or any other county office.



Among the greatest things parents can give their children, most psychologists agree, are themselves. They recommend parents be available to their children whenever they're needed.



(Journal photo by Ann Toner)

Louisa County technician

Bill Baugh began working as a soil

technician at the Louisa County Soil Conservation office this week.

'Erosion can be controlled'

By ANN TONER
Staff writer

WAPELLO — Poor conservation practices can cost a farmer up to 60 tons of top soil per year per acre, but 20 tons per acre is the average in the Midwest. Proper soil conservation can cut those losses to five tons per acre, said Bill Baugh, soil conservation technician recently posted to the Wapello office of the Soil Conservation Service to serve Louisa County.

His territory, Louisa County, is similar in size, 250,000 acres, and topography to the county he just left, Fayette County. According to Baugh, Louisa County has a good terracing program, but there is still a lot of work to be done and conservation practices to be instituted in the age-old battle against erosion.

A soil conservation technician's job is partly technical and partly public relations, said Baugh. He visits farms where there are erosion problems to be dealt with, surveys the problem, then writes up a set of recommendations for cutting erosion loss.

There is no cost for the visit or the advice, and the only obligation to take that advice comes if the farmer or group of farmers apply for and receive funds to tackle the erosion problem through the state or federal government. Funds are available from both which will pay up to 50% of the project.

If a cost sharing plan is used, Baugh must see that the erosion control structures meet specifications before payment is made on the project. And with terracing costing 70-80 cents per foot, or roughly \$3,500 a mile or \$140 per acre, those cost sharing funds come in handy.

And considering the value of good farm land, Baugh believes conservation practices

are an investment which is worth the money.

A soil technician does a lot of his work in the field said Baugh, both in his public relations efforts to "sell" farmers on soil conservation projects, and in the actual projects themselves — surveying, designing the erosion control structures, staking, recommending conservation practices, and supervising and checking construction.

Baugh believes there is no such thing as a hopeless erosion control problem. "There's always a way it can be controlled," he said. "It may mean long rotation or permanent seeding, but there is a way to solve just about every problem if people are willing to find out and put those ideas into effect, and it can be done without taking the land out of some kind of production."

Baugh radiates enthusiasm about his job as a soil conservation technician. "I love working with people," he said. "I like being indoors and outdoors and accomplishing something worthwhile."

"You go out and assist a farmer," he continued, "then come back a year, two years, five years later and you can see that the project is still there, still working and it gives you something to be proud of."

Soil conservation is nothing new to Baugh. Born in Virginia, he grew up on a small farm outside Ottumwa. After graduation from Cardinal High School there and a stint in the Air Force, he began with the SCS as a soil conservation aide in Ottumwa, then served as a soil conservation technician in Northwood for two years and Fayette County (West Union) for six years before moving to Louisa County.

Baugh and his wife Marian have three children, twins Gerald and Geneva, 10 and Shannon, 5.

Erosion Control With Crown Vetch ⁶⁻²⁵⁻⁷⁶



Steve Atherton, Executive Officer of Louisa County Conservation Board, is checking growth on Crown Vetch at Fred T. Schwob river access at Wapello.

The Louisa County Conservation Board has turned to Emerald Crownvetch for erosion control. Steve Atherton, the Board's Executive Officer is shown pointing out the most recent planting made at the new Virginia Grove Park. Crownvetch is a proven method of stopping erosion on critical areas.

In 1972 the Louisa Soil Conservation District assisted the Board with a Crownvetch planting at the Fred T. Schwob River Access in Wapello. The Crownvetch stabilized the badly

eroding area. The purple and white flowers of the vetch are now in bloom and add beauty to the area. As an extra benefit the vetch also crowds out weed species and requires little maintenance.

The new planting at Virginia Grove will also be used as part of an outdoor classroom to demonstrate critical area control.

Anyone interested in using Crownvetch for an erosion problem can receive technical assistance from the Louisa Soil Conservation District at 222 North 2nd St., Wapello, Iowa.

Farmers Urged To Stop Erosion With Terraces

everything is in crop and tile and earth moving both is involved. If construction can be planned when the field is in hay or small grain, chances of getting it all done in one year is much better.

Federal cost sharing is uncertain at this time. There will be some state funds, but unless you have a conservation plan, that will delay you more. For more information contact Harry Bryant of the Soil Conservation Service in Wapello.

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A farmer needs to plan a year or two in advance before constructing these terrace systems. Materials are hard to get down. Surveying and designing the system takes time. Installation is hard to get down when

Dec. 23, 1976

M.S. Farmer Honored



Jerry Ball, Morning Sun, was honored last week by the Soil Conservation Service for the soil conserving practices he has implemented on his farms.

According to Ball and SCS reports, over the last year and one-half, he has built around 10 terraces, a sod waterway, has put in tile, and has also experimented with new machinery designed to disc and chisel plow the land at the same time and cut down on soil lost through wind erosion.

Ball said however that he has been using conservation techniques for several years. "This was the first time I was ever given anything for it though," he said. "This is a real surprise."

In addition to being judged on the conservation techniques, Ball was also judged on land treatment, general farm husbandry and community service.

In the photo above, Virgil Corey, Morning Sun, a soil conservation commissioner, hands Ball a plaque recognizing his conservation accomplishments, while Ball's son Glen, who assisted in the projects, looks on.

In addition to the plaque, a check for \$800 was also given to Ball from federal funds appropriated for conservation practices.

Engineering work done by us but no credit in the article.

Oct. 28, 1976

New County Park Being Developed

A 76-acre park, complete with its own little lake, is being constructed by the Louisa County conservation Board about 10 miles southwest of Wapello.

Planning for the park, Virginia Grove Recreation and Wildlife Park, was started in April of this year by Steve Atherton, county conservation officer.

According to Atherton, the park, when completed, will include fishing in a four-acre lake, camping and picnicking facilities, nature trails and a restored school house.

Cost of the project has been set at \$40,940, with 50 per cent of the funds coming from federal sources and the rest being local money.

Work on the pond is presently being completed and Atherton said he hopes to be able to stock it with fish sometime next year, depending on the precipitation over the winter.

The rest of the park, including access roads, should also be completed sometime next year.



Atherton stands in front of the earth dam constructed to form the four-acre pond that will be

stocked next summer. Atherton said the pond will vary from a depth of around 25 feet near the

dam to around eight feet in other areas.



A woodlot on the 76-acre park will be developed with hiking

trails, picnic areas and an access road. Parts of the park may

be able to be used next summer.

New Law And Plan May Lead To Clean Water

A program that may lead to clean water in Iowa by 1983 is now being organized around the state. The program, called the 208 Plan, calls for an inventory of soil erosion areas in an attempt to develop standards for different types of soil conditions.

The standards would be used to try and decrease the erosion, through management techniques, to allow all water in the state to be fishable and swimmable by 1980. According to Ralph Dewey, a project coordinator for the Soil Conservation Commission, the water will not have to be pure enough to drink, but people will have to be able to swim in it.

In order to develop these inventories, Iowa has been divided into several district conservancies. A meeting was recently held at Williamsburg by the Iowa-Cedar Conservancy District, which includes most of Louisa county. According to Olin Jennings, Columbus Junction, who represented Louisa

county, the meeting was held to report on local progress, and to hear of work in other parts of the state to identify critical soil erosion areas.

Jennings explained that soil erosion is the main pollutant in Louisa county, and local officials "will be going into areas with different soil types and determining the amount of erosion being suffered in those areas.

A current state law, passed in 1973, allows only five tons of soil per acre per year to be lost through erosion, and the 208 Plan will be used to determine those amounts. If a land owner is found to be losing more than the allowable five tons per acre, local officials can force that person to take corrective measures, including heavy construction, or simple crop rotation.

Those measures, if construction is needed, could be 75 per cent state funded, according to the law. In addition, the new

law allows any person who is directly affected by the erosion, to make a complaint to authorities to have the problem corrected. Failure to correct the condition is punishable by a fine or a jail sentence, although Dewey said that no case had gone that far yet.

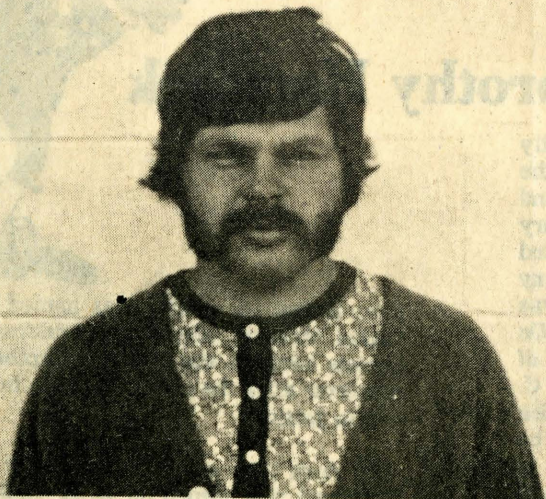
Jennings said the new law is unknown to many farmers. He said that publicity on the law has not been adequate and although some cases have been considered in Louisa county, there is a problem with farmers knowing about them.

Because the state is now organizing the drive to clean up the water in Iowa, farmers need to know about the new law and the 208 Plan, Jennings said.

In addition to belonging to the Iowa-Cedar Conservancy District, small portions of Louisa county are also included in the Skunk River Conservancy and the Northeast Iowa Conservancy.

New Soil Conservation Officer

9-23-76



A new soil conservation officer has been hired for the Louisa County office of the Soil Conservation Service. Jim Ranum, 27, of Elkader is presently working for the Clayton county office and will begin his work in Louisa County Oct. 12.

Ranum is married and has two children. In addition to his work in Clayton county, he has also worked in Worth, Polk and Franklin counties.

Ranum is replacing Larry Hunt, who is moving to Farmington, Mo. to farm.

New Soil Technician For County

11-26-76



A new soil technician has been assigned to the Louisa County Soil Conservation District. Bill Baugh, originally of Virginia, will begin his new duties Dec. 6.

Baugh originally began working for the SCS at its Otumwa office in May, 1965. He

has also worked at Northwood for two years, and at West Union, his present location, for six years.

Baugh and his wife Marian have three children, twins Gerald and Geneva, age 10, and

Shannon, age 5.

As soil conservation technician, Baugh will assist county land users in planning and applying soil and water conservation practices on their land.

SCS Office Has Personnel Change

Jeff Smith, of Morning Sun, has been transferred from the local Soil Conservation Service office to the SCS office in Decorah. The position he filled locally was part-time, while the

new position will be a full-time one.

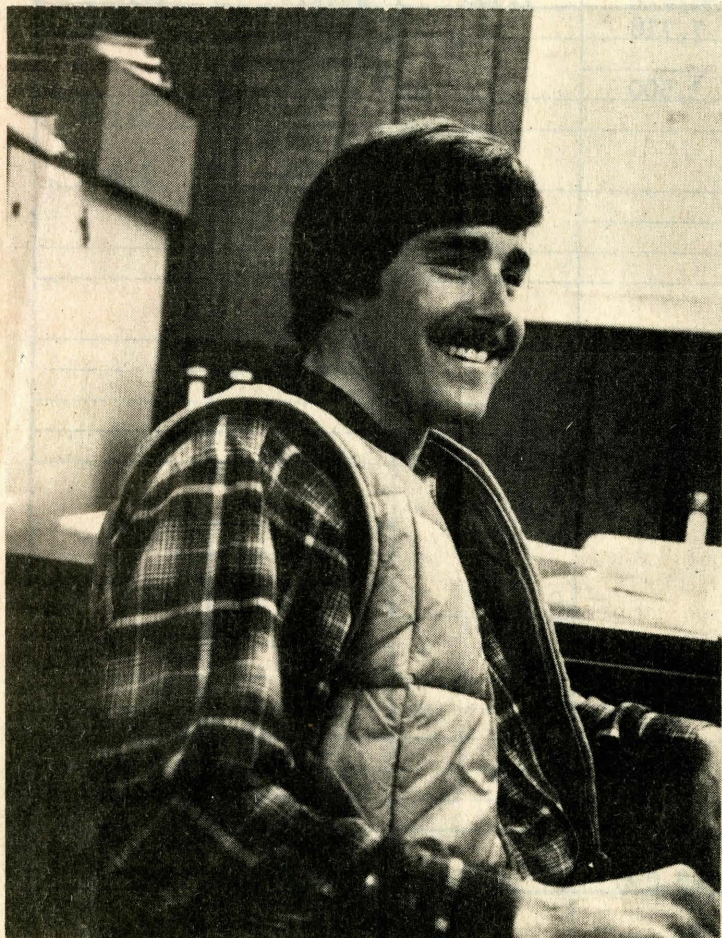
Friday, February 13, was his last day here, and he began in Decorah on February 17.

Hired by the SCS to fill the

vacancy created by the Smith transferal, was Sam Edgar of Columbus Junction. The position filled by Edgar will be part-time.

Edgar's wife, Marlene, is employed by the Louisa County

Extension Service. The couple has four children, Marsha, 18, a student at N.E. Missouri State in Kirksville, Debbie, 13, Sharon, 11, and Doug, 7, all students in Columbus Junction.



Jeff Smith



Sam Edgar

2-19-76

Tillage Show

Scheduled

12-9-70

In Mt. Pleasant

A tillage show is scheduled for Jan. 13, at Mt. Pleasant, to "show and tell" about the latest in farm equipment designed to leave crop residue on the soil surface. The show, which will begin at 9 a.m. in the National Guard Armory, will be sponsored by the Geode Wonderland Resource Conservation and Development, which covers Henry, Lee, Des Moines, and Louisa counties.

The "show and tell" program will include presentations from the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, Iowa State University Extension Service and Agriculture Research Service Specialists, as well as demonstrations of various kinds of tillage equipment.

Ralph Dewey, RC&D Coordinator at West Burlington is working out details on the tillage show program, and he is attempting to schedule the top mulch tillage representatives from equipment companies. Equipment companies interested in participating should contact

Ralph E. Dewey

P. O. Box 208

West Burlington, Iowa 52655

Telephone 319-754-7636

Complaints Possible Under Soil Erosion Regulations

2-10-77

Landowners or tenants who feel their property is being damaged by sediment caused by excessive soil erosion on another landowners' property, may file a complaint in writing with the Louisa County Soil Conservation District commissioners, a news release from the district office reported this week.

According to the release, persons who wish to file a

complaint should first check with the commissioners or the district office staff. These people are available to assist in any reasonable way to resolve questions on erosion that may be exceeding the soil loss regulations.

The commissioners and the staff also encourage land owners to voluntary use good farming practices and employ

the necessary permanent structures that will limit the soil loss through erosion, and within the soil loss limit regulations.

Members of the soil district commission are: Kester Gladfelder, Wapello; Virgil Corey, Morning Sun; William Newell, Letts; Olin Jennings, Col. Jct., and Leonard Chatfield, Col. Jct.

Development of Toolsboro And Canoe Trails Planned

Planning is now in the informational and fact gathering stages for possible expansion of the Toolsboro Indian Mounds area, Lowell Horton, an official of the Iowa State Historical Society, said last week.

According to Horton, a hiking trail along the bluff area near the mounds, a canoe debarking point, additional acquisition of mounds in that area and development of a prairie area for educational purposes are being considered in the planning.

"I'm particularly interested in developing a prairie area for educational purposes," Horton said, adding that the entire development plan however would be both recreational and educational.

The only actual change in the site recently has been land acquisitions that have brought several other mounds into the site. Full development of these mounds may be several years away though, Horton said.

Development of the other plans may occur in three or four years, if the initial planning is favorable. The hiking trail would include a plant study area, with plants being identified by signs.

Horton said this approach towards more development at the site would not detract from the atmosphere of the mound area, but would be compatible

with it.

He is working with the Louisa County Soil Conservation office and the Geode Resource Conservation and Development District in West Burlington in planning the development. More meetings are scheduled in the future.

In a related development for recreational canoeing in that area, Ray Beard, Wapello, said this week that he is planning a 50-mile canoe trail in and around Lake Odessa.

Beard, who is an official in the

Hy-La Boy Scout District, which includes Louisa County, said that the trail may begin in Wapello on the Iowa river, go downstream to the Mississippi, then follow the Mississippi upstream, through Lake Odessa and the Mark Twain Wildlife Refuge and then back downstream on the Mississippi.

Permission for a portion of the trail has already been given and Beard said he hoped to have much of the planning and marking of the trail completed by the end of the summer.

Meeting Held On Soil ⁴⁻¹⁴⁻⁷⁷ Erosion

An informational meeting between contractors and conservation officials interested in a state-wide effort to improve water quality through better pollution control techniques was held Tuesday, April 12, to discuss progress in the effort.

Dean Pettit, soil conservatist from Fairfield, who is also the contact person for Louisa County conservation officials, told the group that the state-wide effort, called the 208 Plan has a number of goals that have been mandated by the legislature.

Among these are to complete studies on determining the major problem areas for soil erosion throughout the state, beginning construction of erosion control methods, and eventually obtaining clear water by the mid-1980's.

Pettit said that although these goals would seem to be unrealistic, they at least offer a starting point for work to begin.

Currently state law forbids erosion of more than three to five tons of soil per acre per year to be lost from farmland, and this law is part of the basis on which the clean water standards were adopted.

Pettit also explained a soil survey that was recently taken from area farmers on their opinions of soil conservation. According to the survey, several farmers in this area would be willing to use soil conserving measures on their farm, and also share in the cost.

RC & D 4-7-77

Committee

To Meet April 12

There will be a meeting of Resource Conservation and Development of Louisa County Tuesday, April 12, at 7:30 p.m. at the soil conservation office in Wapello. Election of officers for the coming year will be held, and there will also be some measures that will need to be approved.

Dean Pettit, resource planning coordinator, will be present to discuss 208 planning, and bring the group up to date on what has already been done.

This is an open meeting and any interested people are urged to attend.

SOIL CONSERVATION HOLD MEETING

2-11-77

A meeting of earthmoving and tiling contractors was held January 27 1977, at the Louisa County Soil Conservation District office in Wapello. There were 20 contractors present. Contractors represented were: Stephens Construction, Chuck Allgood, Keith Bloomer, Ron Murry, Ron Beeding, Moyers Construction, Bobbie Kemp & Son, Story Tiling Construction, Jackson Tiling & Excavating Co., Kenneth Springsteen and Del Roth of the Levine Co.

Jim Ranum, Soil Conservationist discussed district policy, types of terraces in the district and scheduling.

Bill Baugh, Conservation technician discussed construction, survey, design, stake and check out and blue prints of terraces.

Stan Simmons, Engineering technician from Fairfield, showed slides of terraces with different types of conservation tillage and discussed contractor check out, intakes and tile location and design. Discussion was made by contractors.

The noon lunch served to contractors was supplied by district commissioners, Virgil Corey, Morning Sun; Leonard Chatfield, Columbus Junction; Olin Jennings, Columbus Junction; Bill Newell, Letts; and Kester Gladfelder, Wapello.

If you are interested in any type of conservation practice, please call 523-6411 or stop in the office at 222 North 2nd Street, Wapello and visit with Jim or Bill.

soil survey con't.

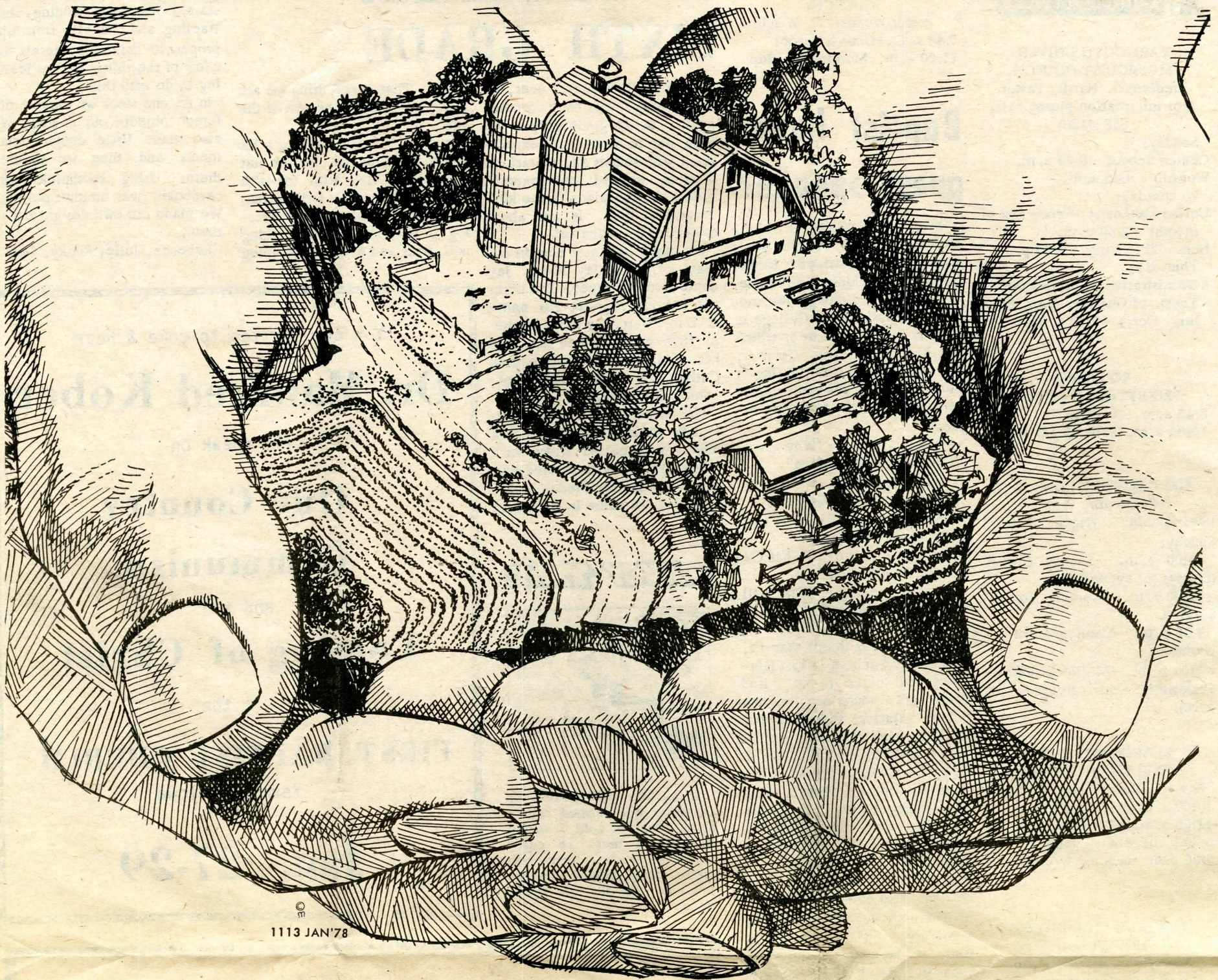
WATER QUALITY FARM SURVEY

1. Name of county in which you have a farming operation or own land_____
2. How much land do you farm?_____acres
3. Do you feel soil erosion caused by water runoff is a problem on this farm(s)? Yes_____ No_____
4. Do you feel there are water quality problems caused by erosion in your county? Yes_____ No_____
5. Are you satisfied with the quality of the water in your county or drainage area? Yes_____ No_____
6. Do you follow fertilizer recommendations from soil tests on your farm (s)? Yes_____ No_____
7. How often do you have the soil on your farm(s) tested?_____
8. If soil conservation practices must be installed to improve water quality, what source(s) of funds should be available? (check as many as you like)
Federal funds_____ State funds_____
Local funds_____ Other_____
No funds _____
9. What method would you favor for financial assistance to farmers in applying conservation practices? (check as many as you like)
Cost share _____ What percent?_____
Long term low-interest loans _____
No assistance _____ List type
Other _____
10. Do you favor an acreage set-aside program to allow conservation construction during the summer? Yes_____ No_____
11. If public money is used for installation of soil conservation practices should farm operators be held responsible for all maintenance of these practices? Yes_____ No_____

Note: Please return the completed form to -

Louisa County SCD
222 North 2nd St.
Wapello, Iowa 52653

3-17-77



Conserve the Land with **TENDER LOVING CARE!**

The future of this land is in our hands. We are supplied with an abundance of nature's treasures from coast to coast. Our farms prosper on the rich fertile soil. Our countrysides, parks and preserves attest to its beauty.

But we cannot abuse our natural resources and expect them to thrive. Air and water pollution, litter, and elemental waste are the biggest threats to our environment! Let's stop this destruction *now* and start caring about our precious land. Conservation is everybody's job.

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Fall farm construction needs preliminary work

By JIM RUDISILL
Neighbors staff

The fall construction season for soil conservation projects is rapidly approaching, and district soil conservationist Jim Ranum, Wapello, is reminding everyone who is planning some work to keep some considerations in mind.

He said a contractor should have been contacted by now because, weather cooperating, construction can begin as soon as the crops are harvested.

"It's a good idea to check with your contractor to make sure you're on their list," Ranum said.

It is also a good idea to check with the Soil Conservation Service to see the necessary survey and other preliminary work has been completed, he said.

If the preliminary work has

not been done, he explained, it would be necessary to complete it as soon as the crops are out before the work can be started.

Ranum also suggested cost-share participants check with the SCS to make sure everything is in order on their allocations.

He said the cost-sharing programs allow farmers to share 50% of the conservation projects' costs with the government.

He added the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) in Wapello has a limited amount of ACP cost-sharing funds still available from last year, but most of the state's cost-sharing money has been allocated.

However, an additional allocation from the state may

be available if the county office can demonstrate a need for the money, Ranum said, adding interested persons should visit either the ASCS office or the SCS office to check into the programs.

The district conservationist said people who would like to have some work done on their farms next year can also begin applying for money.

"We can get all the preliminary planning done," Ranum said, so the work can get completed either during the next spring or summer.

This fall around 17 construction projects should be completed, he said, with terraces and ponds the most common conservation practice being built.

Any farmer is eligible for the programs, Ranum said.

Louisa farmers see 'no till' in action

By SHERRY SPRINGSTEEN
Neighbors staff

COLUMBUS JUNCTION — Clean, plowed fields used to be the sign of a conscientious farmer. By plowing, the farmer readied the soil for next spring's chemicals and insured against insect problems.

But with rising concern about soil erosion, many farmers are reversing their tillage methods. Instead of leaving deep, black furrows, some farmers are planting right through the previous crop's debris. The "clean" field is being replaced with a "trashy" one.

No-tillage farming sounds just like its name. The theory behind the practice is: the less the soil is disturbed, the more soil is saved. The farmer uses chemicals to replace mechanical tillage. Trips across the field are limited to three times: once to apply fertilizer and chemicals, once to plant, and the final harvesting of the crop. Cultivation can be done, but is not necessary.

Old corn stalks and field trash make a ground cover that holds soil against erosion.

No-tillage is particularly beneficial in dry years because the ground cover seals in moisture. No-till can also be used with soybeans and other crops.

No-till methods have been encouraged in the state for the past ten years, but this is the first year farmers in Louisa County have experimented with the practice. An Allis-Chalmers no-till slot planter was made available free of charge through the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation

Service office (ASCS) and the Ortho Chemical Company for any farmer in the county who wanted to try a no-tillage system.

Corn test plots on the Ramon Reutinger, Glenn Jennett and Olin Jennings farms were toured by area farmers and ASCS and Ortho representatives. All three farmers said they would be interested in using the planter again after their first attempts at no-till farming.

Reutinger's plot, near Morning Sun, had a healthy 24-25,000 stand per acre. But Reutinger said he hadn't applied enough herbicide to get the best weed control.

The plot at Glenn Jennett's farm, Morning Sun, was planted late and averaged only 14-17,000 population. Jennett also attributed cattle grazing on the ground earlier that spring as part of reason for the poor no-till results.

Olin Jennings plot, Columbus Junction, showed the best example of no-till's benefits, the farmers on the tour agreed. Even though the plot was planted late and the stand averaged only 17,000, areas usually subject to erosion in the field had been held fast by the trash.

All three sites were previously corn ground, but there was no sign at any plot of volunteer corn. The farmers also reported no sign of insect problems on the test plots. Bill Baugh, ASCS technician, said that most experts now agree that insect problems on



(Neighbors photos by Sherry Springsteen)

Close inspection

No-till corn test plot at Olin Jennings farm, rural Columbus Junction, gets an critical eye from Lee Harris, Morning Sun. The 'trash' between the rows is a

mark of no-till farming, a conservation practice which encourages farmers to plant new crops through the old crop's residue. Trash forms a ground cover that protects soil from erosion.

no-till ground will be minimal unless the field carries over 4,000 lbs. of trash per acre.

Bob Jones, Ortho representative, explained that the cost of using paraquat and X-77, the chemicals used to "burn down" weeds on no-till land, averages \$10.30 per acre. "Compare that to the cost of plowing, chiselling and cultivating the ground," Jones said.

With less traffic across the field, a farmer's operating costs and equipment expenses should decrease. Jim Ranum, ASCS conservationist, said that farmers will find it unnecessary to buy large horsepower tractors with the no-till system. "A 6-row no-till planter only requires a 60-80 horsepower tractor," said Ranum.

Conservation results are dramatic with no-till. According to Ranum, the best results are obtained in fields which are farmed on the contour. He figured on a typical field with 6% slope, 200 ft. slope length, the usual soil loss from fall plowing will be 11 tons of soil per year. With no-till practices, the same field would lose only four tons of soil per year.

"The field looks trashy and often corn looks behind until August," said Ranum. But despite appearances, Ranum said ASCS encourages no-tillage farming as a number one method of conservation. "It's also economical, time-wise and dollar-wise for the farmer," he said.

Surveying the field

Louisa County farmers tour the no-till plot at Glenn Jennett's farm, rural Morning Sun. The tour of three area farms was sponsored by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office and Ortho Chemical Company. Use of a no-till planter, provided free of charge through the ASCS, will be available for Louisa County farmers next year.



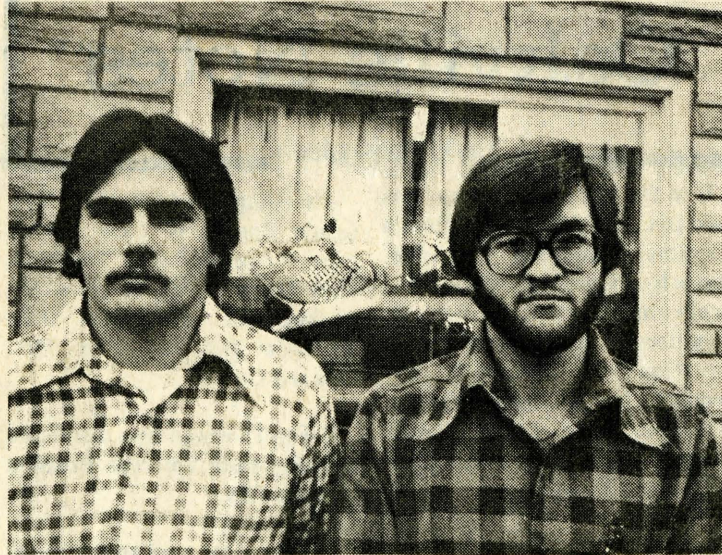
New Soil workers

Two new employees have joined the Louisa Soil Conservation staff in recent weeks. They are Bruce Bryant and Bruce Dake.

Dake replaced former technician Bill Baugh, who transferred to Des Moines county. Dake is a native of Blakesburg, Iowa. He graduated from Blakesburg High School in 1977. Since then he has been

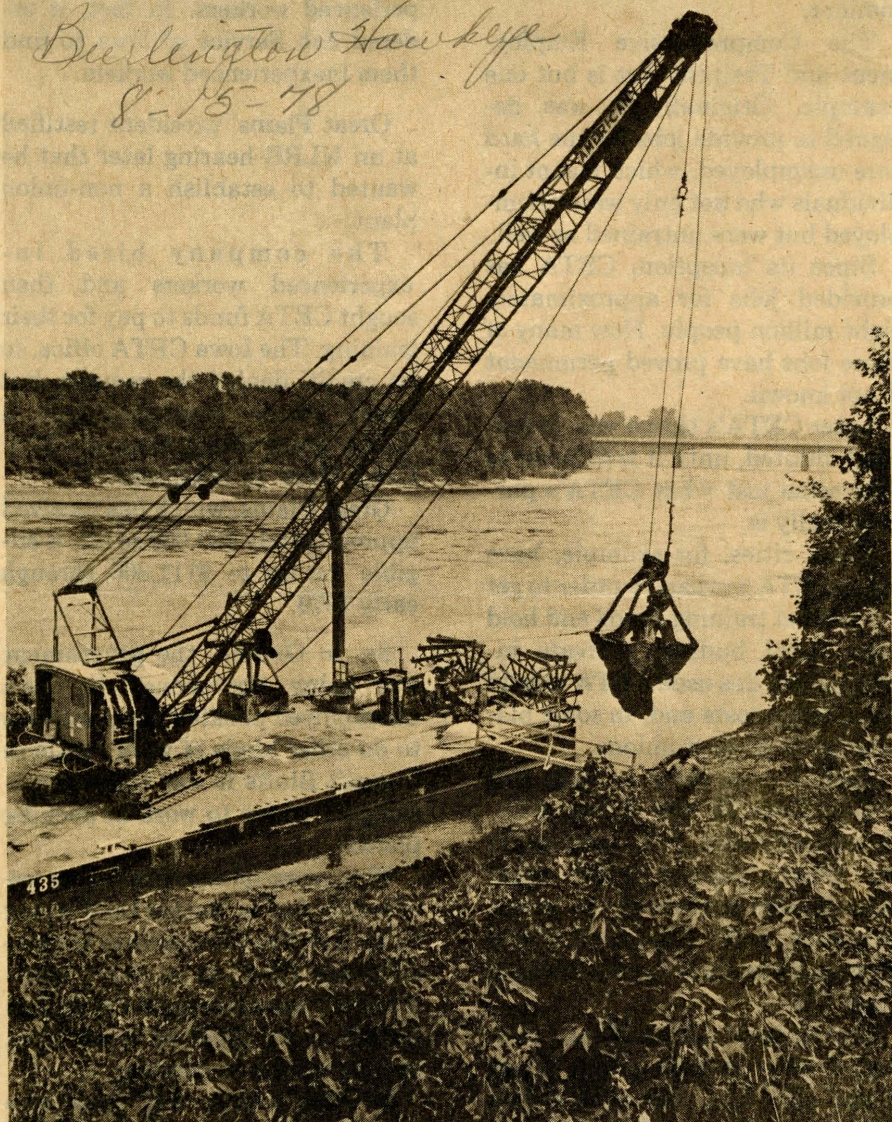
working for the Soil Conservation Service in Sigourney and Washington.

Bryant will be working as an assistant to the staffs of Louisa and Washington counties. Bryant graduated from Wapello High School in 1975. He attended Iowa State University at Ames for two quarters and has since worked for Oakville Feed and Grain.



Bruce Dake and Bruce Bryant

Burlington Hawkeye
8-15-78



Saving the bank

A CRANE on a barge of the J.F. Brennan Co. was digging a trench Monday on the west bank of the Iowa river at Wapello, first step in an experimental project to control a long-standing erosion problem. Iowa 99 bridge is in the background.

Wapello experiment with erosion control

By LES PECK

WAPELLO — For years, Wapello residents have worried about their town falling into the Iowa river.

Construction is underway here on an experimental project to control erosion of the riverbank at the east edge of the Louisa county seat.

J.F. Brennan Co., La Crosse, Wis., holds a \$196,000 contract with the Corps of Engineers for the work along approximately 1,600 feet of the west riverbank north of the Iowa 99 bridge. The project is being paid entirely by federal funds.

The Corps developed the erosion plan after reviewing photographs from as far back as 75 years ago, according to Don Logston, of the design branch at the Rock Island, Ill., district office.

Houses and streets have been threatened as the river has steadily chewed into the bank.

Timber jetties will be installed along 600 feet of the upstream section. Logston said it's hoped that silt will collect behind the jetties, deflecting the water from a direct hit on the bank.

For the next 370 feet, nylon matting filled with grout (a material identical to concrete except it has no aggregate) will be placed, which will stop the water from hitting the bank.

The lower 600 feet, Logston said, will have Koellner jacks, bundles of steel

rods, installed at intervals to slow the current and allow silt to be dropped, Logston said. It's hoped that willows and other vegetation will grow to protect the bank.

The erosion control procedure, developed in the Southwest, is still a "hit or miss deal," Logston said. There have been successes and failures with other installations.

Work here is to be completed this fall. "Three or four years from now we will know" how it works, Logston said.

8-79



An oasis in a desert

This is how Vernon Jennett feels about his pond constructed this past spring. Vernon has a well with a very limited supply of water. He has been hauling all his livestock water from town and this was becoming very expensive.

Vernon contacted the Soil Conservation Service to assist him in planning a pond to help alleviate his problem. The SCS suggested a draw that, if an embankment was provided, had the proper drainage to supply him with enough water for his livestock. The pond would be reasonable close to his farmstead and water could be piped where needed.

Vernon agreed to the site and the pond was constructed with a 1½ inch plastic pipe running through the embankment up to the buildings.

This fine work was performed by Moyers Construction.

Vernon also received an incentive payment from ASCS to help off set some of the cost.

Other benefits received by building a structure such as this are: It makes an excellent crossing in a gully that otherwise may have been impassable, it eliminates an erosion problem in a gully which continually cuts back and best of all it makes an outstanding recreational center. Properly managed it can become a swimming pool, a favorite fishing hole, the best picnic grounds and a good prospect for hunting in the fall.

If you have any of the above problems on your mind, contact the Soil Conservation Service at 523-6411 and they will be most receptive to your problem.

The Columbus Gazette

"The Dependable Voice of Louisa County Since 1887"

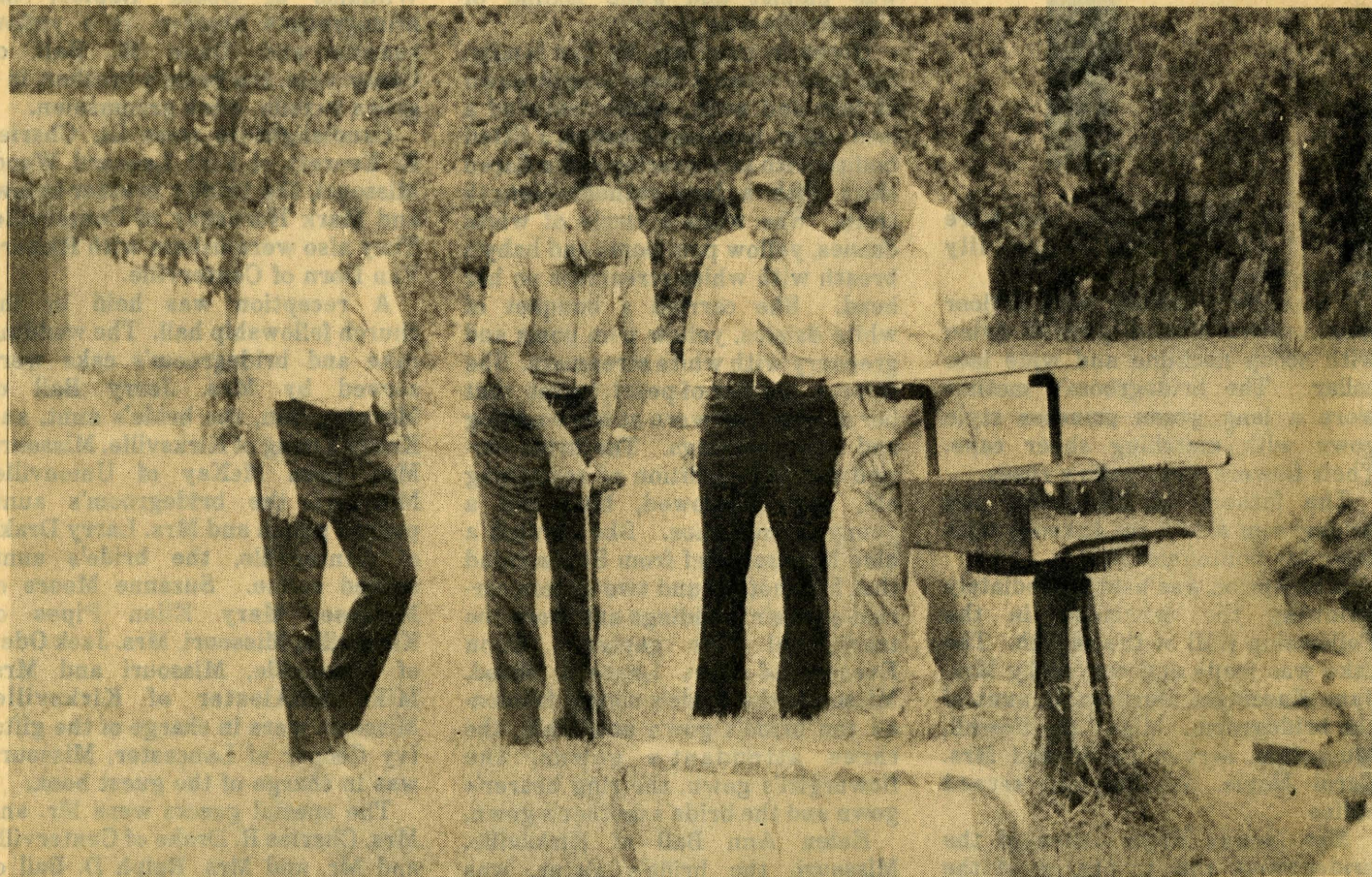
Vol. 92

No. 27

Thursday, July 5, 1979

15 cents

"First acre" ceremony kicks off county soil survey



Louisa County Supervisor Junior Coon probes into the ground at the "First Acre" ceremony held at Virginia Grove Park Wednesday, June 27. Observing from left are state conservationist William Brune, Senator Charles P. Miller of Burlington and the science party chief Melvin Brown.

County Extension director Gaylord Elliot opened the "First Acre" ceremony of the Louisa County soil survey Wednesday, June 27. The ceremony was held at Virginia Grove near Morning Sun. This will be the first soil survey since the year 1918. Funding for the project will be divided among Louisa County, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (SCS), and the USDA. Total cost of the project will be \$150,000.

Representatives from the cooperating agencies spoke about the survey featuring William Brune, State Conservationist; Carroll Hobson of the Iowa Soil Conservation Committee; Kenneth Bruene, a representative of the Iowa Soil Conservation; and Dr. William Oswald, assistant dean of the extension service at Iowa State.

William Brune said, "When the survey is completed it will be one of the most valuable pieces of resource information a farmer could have."

Kenneth Bruene compared the price statistics of 1918 to those today. One of the biggest changes in price was that of land. In 1918 land could be purchased for \$40-\$50 per acre. In 1977 the average price of land per acre was \$1500.

Dr. William Oswald said, "The soil survey goes through a number of phases. The first phase, which the county has already done, is realizing the need for a survey. The second phase is getting the information for

the survey. The final phase is getting the information compiled and published so that it can be used. It's going to be a long process, but it will be worth it."

John Dykstra, county assessor, Jim Ranum, district soil conservationist, and Jerry Miller, extension area agronomist, interpreted the uses that the soil survey will have for the people of Louisa County.

"The survey will help to refine the assessments of farm land in our county," said John Dykstra.

It will help farmers in the areas of tillage and the applying of herbicides and fertilizers according to the soil types. By knowing the soil type and capabilities a farmer can get the greatest yield potential from the land.

Besides helping farmers the soil survey results can be useful in other ways. One of these is the field of engineering. Engineers can use the results in locating and designing dams, reservoirs, buildings and roads and in planning flood control, drainage and irrigation.

Realtors and home builders can use the results in analyzing land value, land foundations, drainage, waste disposal and plant life.

The information can also be useful in land planning and zoning, in locating potential markets for agribusinesses such as the fertilizer business and in designing routes for energy pipelines and telephone cables.

Senator Miller, one of the

extinguished visitors, said, "I was in the legislature when the idea first came up to help fund the soil survey programs. I was very glad to be a part of it. I hope that farmers will utilize the information from the survey to get the best yields from their land."

The men who will actually be doing the soil survey are soil scientists Mel Brown, Benny Clarks and Dick Lynch.

Mel Brown speaking for the group told how they will be taking the survey. They will be starting on a section of the county walking back and forth to determine the thickness of the surface land, the color, texture and finally the specific soil type. It will take approximately three years to complete the survey. The three soil scientists will start in Morning Sun township.

Most of the information gathered will be kept in their head until it can be recorded on a field map. Brown stated that during the summer months they will be walking ground such as timber and other ground that does not have a crop planted. Then in early spring and late fall they will be surveying the ground bearing crops in the summer.

Everyone is urged to talk with the soil scientists as they will know more about the land in our county than anyone else. They will know a lot of minute information that will not be included in the book but can help a farmer learn a lot about his land.

Louisa district completes conservation activities

By JIM RUDISILL

Neighbors staff

Several Louisa County Soil Conservation District activities were completed last year, according to the Soil Conservation Service office in Wapello.

District commissioners Leonard Chatfield, Olin Jennings, Kester Gladfelder, Hilton Harris and Tom Utter completed the district's resource inventory.

A county resource coordinating committee held a meeting at Wapello with good attendance.

Material for public display of photos was purchased and will be ready for use soon.

A no-till tour of the Ramon Reutinger, Vernon Jennett and Olin Jennings farms was held.

Commissioners completed the work load analysis of the long range program, and also agreed to get aerial infrared photographic maps for complete county coverage.

Conservation awards were presented to Milton Hayes as owner-operator; and Lewis Dallmeyer as operator of the farm owned by the Leo Rozum estate.

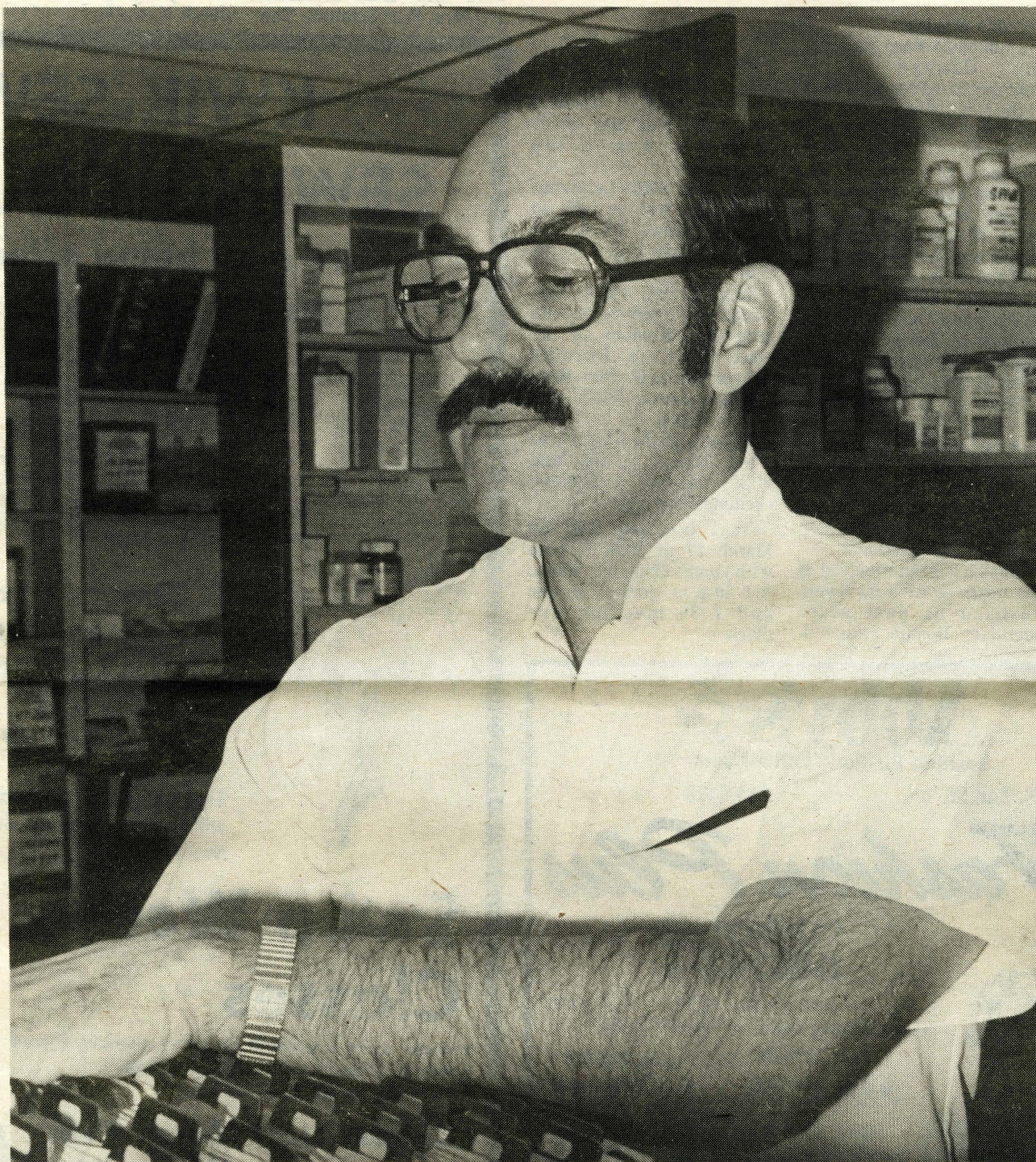
A terrace field day was held at the Herman Wagenknecht farm near Cotter, and a soil judging contest and a speech contest were also held.



Neighbors

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BY THE MUSCATINE JOURNAL



(Neighbors photo by Jim Rudisill)

Everyone's concern

Soil conservation is becoming everyone's concern, and Kester Gladfelder, who owns Gladfelder Pharmacy in Wapello, is no exception. Gladfelder has been a Louisa County soil conservation commissioner for the past five years

and chairman of the commission for the last two. Although the rest of the commissioners are area farmers, Gladfelder said he has enjoyed his tenure as commissioner, especially since he was raised on an Iowa farm. This issue of Neighbors takes a look at soil conservation in Muscatine and Louisa counties, including Gladfelder's comments on page nine.



Pastures That Last All Summer

by Jim Ranum

There may be an answer to pasture shortages during the hot summer months of July and August.

Early results from native warm-season grasses indicate they may help stretch summer grazing programs.

Called warm-season grasses because they reach peak production during the warmest times of the year, such species as Indiangrass, switchgrass, and big bluestem are being tested by several farmers in southern Iowa.

"These grasses green up late in May and are in full production by early July," explains Ernie Hintz, agronomist for the USDA Soil Conservation Service. "This is the same time brome grass, orchardgrass and other cool-season grasses taper off."

Hintz says warm-season grasses may produce as much forage in warm months as cool-season grasses do early and late in the grazing season. They would support the same number of cows and calves in July and August.

Incorporating them into pasture programs is good soil conservation because, if properly managed, they prevent overgrazing of cool season pastures.

Merlin Bintz, who farms near Minden, has used 30 acres of native grasses for four years. "What pleased me was seeing my cows content under shade tree on a hot summer day when other cows were out in the sun looking for food," says Bintz.

Dr. Thomas McMillian, physician and farmer near Leon, was surprised to find no native grass pastures in Iowa when he moved from Nebraska three years ago. "We had them on a ranch there, and I think they'll work here. Evidently, they've been overgrazed, not fertilized and just not managed right if they've been tried here before," he says.

So far, tests haven't indicated which native grass is the highest producer. The most popular is switchgrass because its seed costs least and it's easier to get started. Hintz feels all three of the grasses could have a place in a summer pasture program.

He says the grasses are still in the testing stage, but adds he is encouraged by early results.

"But warm-season grasses won't work for everyone," he warns.

"They're quite susceptible to overgrazing." Hintz recommends them only to pasture managers who will graze them properly.

To manage warm season grasses, rules for cool season grasses should be forgotten, he continues.

"For example, they shouldn't be grazed closer to the ground than 8 to 10 inches. Cool season is 3 to 4 inches.

"To get the most production you should take half and leave half of the plant by weight," Hintz says. "If you don't turn cattle in too early, this works quite well. Opening the pasture about July 1 means the grass is about two feet tall. Taking half leaves the grass stubble 8 to

10 inches tall."

Controlling competing growth is needed on native pastures. "We tried a recommended herbicide applied in mid-May, and it knocked out all the bluegrass, orchardgrass and weeds. Result was that the switchgrass nearly jumped out of the ground," says Hintz.

Since their growing pattern is different than cool season grasses, warm-season grasses should also be fertilized differently. Fertilizing switchgrass in early spring, as for brome grass, would give weeds a boost.

It should be fertilized in late May and with a lower rate of nitrogen.

"Properly managed, I think warm season grasses can fit well in a pasture program," Hintz says.

"Overgrazing will kill them. Farmers who don't control grazing would be better off with a deferred grazing program with something more durable, such as birdsfoot trefoil.

Warm-season grasses can give summer-long pastures

by Jim Ranum

There may be an answer to pasture shortages during the hot summer months of July and August.

Early results from native warm-season grasses indicate they may help stretch summer grazing programs.

Called warm-season grasses because they reach peak production during the warmest times of the year, such species as Indiangrass, switchgrass, and big bluestem are being tested by several farmers in southern Iowa.

"These grasses green up late in May and are in full production by early July," explains Ernie Hintz, agronomist for the USDA Soil Conservation Service. "This is the same time brome grass, orchardgrass and other cool-season grasses taper off."

Hintz says warm-season grasses may produce as much forage in warm months as cool-season grasses do early and late in the grazing season. They would support the same number of cows and calves in July and August.

Incorporating them into pasture programs is good soil conservation because, if properly managed, they prevent overgrazing of cool season pastures.

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my cows content under shade tree on a hot summer day when other cows were out in the sun looking for food," says Bintz.

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ANNIVERSARIES ENGAGEMENTS BIRTHDAYS

Tiffany-Ita

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tiffany wish to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Cheri, to Kenny Ita, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ita of Danville. An April 7 wedding is being planned at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Wapello. All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Cheri is a graduate of Columbus Community High School and is employed at Columbus Junction State Bank. Kenny is a graduate of



Cutkomp 40th

Mr. and Mrs. John Cutkomp, Rural Morning Sun, will celebrate

Backslope terraces stop more erosion

On any slope which is terraced, grassed backslope terraces will stop about 20 to 50 percent more erosion than broadbase terraces. The difference becomes greater on the steeper slopes and becomes less on flatter slopes. The reason for this difference is the methods used to construct the two kinds of terraces.

Broadbase terraces are built by cutting a channel and pushing the dirt downhill to form the ridge. Cutting the channel on the uphill side increases the steepness of the

land above the terrace which increases somewhat the amount of erosion above the terrace. Since the terraces reduce the distance the water can run, however, the total amount of erosion is still reduced after terracing. Grassed backslope terraces are built by pushing the dirt from below the terrace up to form the ridge. By constructing terraces this way the slope of the land is actually flattened slightly which reduces the amount of erosion occurring. With broadbase terraces the erosion is reduced by cutting off the water and shortening the distance it is allowed to run. With grassed backslope terraces we not only control erosion by shortening the distance the water runs but we also reduce the erosion by flattening the slope so the water does not run off so fast.

Grassed backslope terraces are needed most on fields which have over 10 percent slope. On these steep slopes the difference in erosion between the grassed backslope and broadbase terraces is very significant. Also on these steeper slopes the broadbase terraces become too steep to farm safely.

The other advantage of grassed backslope terraces is that because of the flattening effect these terraces have on the field slope, row-crops may be planted more intensively without causing excess erosion.

Grassed backslope terraces fit into many situations where they protect the soil better than broadbase terraces. If you think they might work for you stop in at the Soil Conservation District office.

Conservation Award Winners Are Announced



Newly elected commissioner Hilton Harris above (right) presents award to Milton Hayes (left).



Commissioner Tom Utter (right) presents award to Lewis Dallmeyer (left).

Newly elected soil conservation district commissioners Hilton Harris and Tom Utter presented awards to Lewis Dallmeyer and Milton Hayes, winners of the local Soil Conservation District award program. who live in South Dakota. Together they have installed many conservation practices in the past including terraces and ponds.

Harris who is elected from Marshall Township made the owner-operator award presentation to Milton Hayes. Hayes farms 550 acres east of Wapello. Although much of his land is bottomland, he was selected because his sloping land is farmed with a rotation.

According to District Conservationist Jim Ranum, a good rotation with several years of hay and pasture is one of the best soil conservation practices a landowner can use.

Utter who was elected from Concord Township, presented the award to Lewis Dallmeyer. Dallmeyer was presented the award in the landlord-tenant division along with the landlords Martha and Molly Rozum

Conservation tillage not new idea

Some of the new plows run along a few inches beneath the surface of the ground. Others have the effect of slicing through. And there are all manner of variations in between.

Farmers already are beginning to adopt the new system. In some localities, where only a few years ago 95 percent of the farmers burned off their wheat stubble every year so as to make it easier to plow for the following year's crop, nearly all the growers are now using plows that leave a considerable part of the stubble on the surface. They have stopped burning and are finding that the wheat-stubble litter, or straw scattered over the field, has a powerful effect, not only in increasing yields but in preventing soil from washing and blowing.

This new system is sometimes referred to as "subsurface tillage." Some call it "trashy fallow," and many of us are hoping that it will eventually be referred to as the "stubble-mulch" method. The new method will not be a cure-all, of course, but it is proving to be a most efficient tool in an ever-increasing number of farming areas.

By personal observation, by the results of scientific study and by the practical experience of farmers, the Louisa County Soil Conservation service believes it is becoming increasingly evident that the passing of the turning plow from general use in field cultivation would be a boon. Some day it may be regarded as a notable event in history.

Conservation? What's the answer?

In these days of fast-rising prices and the rat race of keeping up with the Joneses, we are all quickly caught up in looking out for number one. The day of helping our neighbor just because he is our neighbor seem far apart and few between. This is a scary realization when you stop and think about it.

We have often heard the tales expressed by our gray generation how neighbors for miles around would congregate together to raise a new barn, to get the harvest in on time or to help after a disaster.

I feel that it is again time to congregate together in our communities to fight a battle against our number-one disaster, soil erosion and water pollution.

Let's not ease our guilt by saying this is only a problem solved by the farmer. True, he does own the land where the source of the problem lies, but he needs the moral and dollar support of his good neighbors in town. Without them, the problem will get larger and larger, like it has in recent years.

Everyone should know the major problem that soil erosion has become. It is a known fact that for every bushel of corn raised, two bushels of soil can go down the stream or creek — in other words, down the drain never to be used again. With Iowa farmers raising thousands of metric tons of corn a year, this is an enormous amount of soil being lost.

There are some soils in your county that are predicted to be gone in 15

to 25 years, that is, washed down to a subsoil which is unproductive - a soil that will not grow anything but weeds because it costs too much to fertilize. That soil will become extinct in those areas.

So what is the answer? There is a government agency trained just for this type of problem called the Soil Conservation Service. They advise building tile outlet terraces, using a relatively new planting method called no-till.

Terraces are an earth embankment with a tile drain like you have for your bathtub. These are spaced accordingly to break up the slope of a field to stop the rain water run-off from carrying away the soil.

No-till planting utilizes a specially-equipped planter that does all the tillage needed for planting in one pass over the field. It only disturbs about a 3-inch strip where the seed is planted. The reason it is called no-till is because all of this is done in the previous year's residue, thus eliminating the plow, the disk, etc.

The Soil Conservation Service says these are two of the better methods used.

We have the answer, but a lot of work to do. With the cooperation of town and country, it can be done. If you have any comments or questions, call your local SCS.

We have a responsibility to our future generations to leave them a land fertile and productive. This is one responsibility we cannot shrug off.

Construction And Soil Conservation

The fall construction season will soon be upon us. As we all remember last fall the weather determines how fast crops come out and construction can begin. Assuming the weather cooperates there are a couple considerations anyone planning to do some construction should consider.

First you need to have a contractor. This time of the year is the busiest for contractors since practically everyone wants to get started as soon as crops are out. It's a good idea to check with your contractors to make sure you're on their list.

Next check with the Soil Conservation Service to see if they have the work done or if they need to do some survey as soon as crops are out.

For those who have cost-share it's good to do a double check to make sure. If you do not have any but need some there are two sources available. The ASCS office in Wapello has ACP cost-share, however, they get their allocations October 1 and do not have much old funds left. The Soil Conservation District has state cost-share, however, they have to have spent most of theirs. There is a possibility they may get an additional allocation if they can

County Coordinating Committee Meets

Harlan Wiederrecht has announced that a meeting of the Louisa County Resource Coordinating Committee will be held March 6 in Wapello at the I.S.U. Building at 1:30 in the afternoon to discuss the progress of 208 Water Quality Planning.

Iowa has been required by the 1972 Clean Water Act to develop a plan to control Non Point Sources of Pollutants. These pollutants include sediment and chemical runoff from all lands including farmland. The departments of Soil Conservation and Environmental Quality are charged with developing the plan.

At this meeting, the Louisa County Resource Coordinating Committee will be evaluating proposed practices to control non

point pollution. Discussion will also focus on a suggested method of implementing the pollution control program.

"This meeting will be one of a very few opportunities for local people to have a say in the type of control program to use in Iowa,"

Wiederrecht said. "We need to shape the program to our needs or else someone will do it for us."

The implementation program would require pollution control measures in watersheds that contribute to a water quality problem. The Department of Soil Conservation maintains that its proposal allows for a number of incentives and alternative pollution control practices.

The public is urged to attend this meeting of the Louisa County Resource Coordinating Committee. This public input will be reviewed by the conservancy districts before final decisions are made next summer.

County no-till contest this year

The Louisa County Soil Conservation District is sponsoring a no-till yield contest this year.

The contest will run along the same guidelines as the Master Corn Growers contest. Cash prizes will be awarded with \$100 for first place, \$75 for second and \$50 for third.

A no-till planter is available for use. Contact the Louisa Soil Conservation office at 523-6411 for further information.

Deadline to enter soil conservation speech contest is March 15

The Louisa County Soil Conservation District Commissioners are again sponsoring the soil conservation contest. The contest, open to all students grade 7 through 12, who live in Louisa county, has a \$250 scholarship and a \$100 cash prize for the state winner.

The topic for this year's contest is Long Range Community Benefits From Proper Land Management. The speeches must be at least 5 minutes long and no longer than 10 minutes. They will be judged on originality, aptness of thought, accuracy of information and the manner in which they are presented.

The local contest will be held at the Peoples National Bank Activity Room in Columbus Junction on March 19 at 7:30. First place winner in the local contest will receive \$15, second place \$10, third place \$5 and all others \$1.

The first place local winner will then advance to the regional contest, where the prizes will be \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place and \$10 for third place.

The regional winner will then compete in the state contest, where the first prize will be a \$250 scholarship and \$100 cash. Second prize is \$75 and third \$50.

Deadline for entering the contest is March 15. Students interested in entering should contact the Soil Conservation District Office, 220 North 2nd Street, Wapello, or call 523-6411.

3-1-73 F.B. Spelman
Wapello Col get morning Sun

Double cropping has limited success

By JIM RUDISILL
Neighbors staff

Louisa County District Soil Conservationist Jim Ranum has reported that although double cropping is not a common practice in this area, it has been tried with limited success.

The main factor, Ranum said, is the availability of moisture for germination.

He explained that after a first crop, usually winter wheat or oats, is harvested, the ground is worked for a second crop, generally soybeans. This causes a moisture loss which may be essential for a good yield.

By using a no-till planter, however, Ranum said, this moisture loss may be prevented, since no field

preparation is needed. The no-till method will also save time because planting can be done as soon as the old crop is picked.

Because winter wheat will mature sooner than oats, it is the best choice as a first crop, he added, although an early oat can be used as an oatlage and harvested before it's ripe to save time.

Ranum emphasized though that regardless of the first crop, the best second crop would be soybeans for this area.

The local Soil Conservation District, along with Chevron Chemical Company, will provide an AC no-till planter for anyone wishing to try this conservation farm practice, Ranum said.

Fall construction season near for conservation structures

WAPELLO — The fall construction season for conservation measures and structures is near.

Bill Baugh, Louisa conservationist technician, said, "Assuming the weather cooperates, there are a couple of considerations anyone planning to do some construction should consider.

"First, you need to have a contractor. This time of the year is the busiest for contractors since practically everyone wants to get started as soon as crops are out. It's a good idea to check with you contractors to make sure you're on their list.

"Next check with the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) to see if they have the work done or if they need to do some surveying as soon as crops are out," Baugh added.

He said there are two sources of cost-share payments. The ASCS office here has federal funds, most of which are exhausted. New allocations come Oct. 1. The Soil Conservation district has state cost-share funds, most of which have been spent. There's a possibility of further allocations if the SCD can show the need. Both offices should be checked.

First Louisa soil survey since 1918 to begin

The first soil survey in Louisa county since 1918 will begin Wednesday.

On that day, workers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (SCS) will complete their survey in Des Moines county and begin in Louisa.

Expected completion date is July 1, 1983. Total cost is about \$150,000.

Louisa county assessor John Dykstra said Louisa has gone without a new soil survey as long as any county in Iowa. The SCS is making new surveys in all counties in Iowa. Surveys have been completed in 37 counties, others are in progress and some are scheduled for the 1980's and 1990's.

Survey workers will examine soil type and quality in all parts of the county. They will also examine the county's topography, the layout of waterways and ditches, flooding potential, land availability for crop production and other variables.

These variables will be computed into corn suitability ratings for different parts of the county. Corn suitability rating measures soil potential for growing corn. One aim of the state-wide surveys, said Dykstra, is to develop greater uniformity in corn suitability ratings from county to county.

Dykstra said he thinks it will take three years to complete the actual survey and one year to compile the results.

The survey results will be useful to people in many different fields, according to information released by the Iowa State University extension service, which is responsible for survey public relations.

"The soil survey is not only an inventory of soil resources but also includes ratings, limitations

and potentials for many uses for each soil type in the inventory," according to extension service information.

Farmers can use survey results, according to information released from the USDA. The USDA said survey results give facts and suggestions related to improving farm management. In its corn suitability ratings, the survey gives yield potentials for various soil types under conditions of exceptional farm management and of typical farm management, the USDA reported.

According to the extension service, survey results can help in planning herbicide application rates, irrigation rates, tillage systems, soil testing, and soil and water conservation.

The results can also be useful to assessors, Dykstra said. Corn suitability, he said, is an important factor in making land assessments. He added, however, assessments do not always correspond directly to corn suitability because assessments might be lowered, for example, if suitable soil is unavailable due to frequent flooding.

Dykstra said survey results will not lead to extensive or surprising alterations in assessments. Rather, he said, the results will allow "refinements."

He said he maintains his corn suitability ratings for Louisa and, in making assessments, has always considered the variables that will be examined in the soil survey.

The soil survey results can be useful in other fields beside farming and assessment, according to extension service and USDA information:

--Engineers can use the results in locating and designing dams, reservoirs, buildings and roads, and in planning flood control, drainage and

(Con't. on p. 3)

irrigation.

--Conservationists can use the results in helping farmers plan soil and water conservation programs.

--Realtors and home builders can use the results in analyzing land value, land foundations, drainage, waste disposal and plant life.

--Results can also be useful to wildlife workers in planning wildlife area improvements, in designing ponds and in locating hunting, recreation and fishing sites.

--Results can also be useful to public officials as they plan land acquisitions.

--Results can also be useful in land planning and zoning, in locating potential markets for agribusinesses such as the fertilizer business, and in designing routes for energy pipelines and telephone cables.

Dykstra said a soil survey updating the 1918 results is useful because new techniques and machines for working with soil have developed and because there are now new methods of analyzing soil types.

Still, he said, soil patterns do not change rapidly and so the 1918 results, at least for his assessing purposes, are still applicable.

The soil survey cost of about \$150,000 will be evenly divided between Louisa, the SCS and the USDA. Louisa has about \$30,000 of its \$50,000 share already set aside, Dykstra said. Full payment will not be due until the survey is completed.

State-owned land in Louisa will be included in the survey, Dykstra said, but Louisa will not have to pay that cost.

Dykstra said the county signed a contract with the USDA in 1973, meaning the county's cost will be about half as much as if the contract had been signed at this year's price.

The survey will be a cooperative effort between the SCS, the extension service and the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station in Ames.

Dykstra said county residents can keep survey workers off residents' property but that rarely happens.

The survey will officially start with a "first acre" ceremony Wednesday at Virginia Grove park at 1:30 p.m.

Harry Bryant Has Been Promoted



HARRY BRYANT

Harry Bryant, District Conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service at Wapello, has been promoted to the Williamsburg, Iowa, field office, according to Eldon Weber, Area Conservationist, of the Soil Conservation Service. Bryant will take over his new duties July 21. His duties there will be assisting the Iowa County Soil Conservation District with soil and water conservation resource problems.

Bryant started with the Soil Conservation Service in 1962 at Corydon, Iowa as a part time Soil Conservation Technician. In 1966 he became a full time Soil Conservation Technician in the Burlington Field office. In 1971 he became Soil Conservationist and later District Conservationist in the Wapello Field Office.

Bryant attended college at Iowa State University from 1950-52 and received a Bachelor of Science degree from Western Illinois in 1971. He served with the armed forces in Korea during the Korean conflict and farmed in Wright and Wayne Counties before joining the Soil Conservation Service in 1962.

Mrs. Bryant is a Home Economist and has taught in the Corydon, Danville and Morning Sun School Systems. The Bryants have five children Dean, a freshman at Western Illinois University; Bruce, a freshman at Iowa State University; Beth, a senior, Blair, a sophomore and Steven a freshman in high school.

The Bryants will be moving to the Williamsburg area as soon as suitable housing can be found.

Jennings To Speak At Tillage Meeting

Vivan Jennings, ISU Extension Weed Control Specialist will speak at a meeting, Sept. 12 in the Vo. Ag. Building, Wapello, at 7:30 PM. All grain producers are urged to attend.

Jennings will discuss weed control relating to minimum and mulch tillage practices. Weed control in minimum tillage has created problems for some producers.

Dean Pettit, DISTRICT Conservationist, Fairfield will present slides relative to "Best

Management practices for Soil and Water management" according to Harlan Wiederrecht.

Wiederrecht said Louisa County was organized into "small area watersheds" some months ago. This was done to help farmers approach problems in water management on a group basis rather than individually.

This meeting is sponsored by the County Soil Commissioners, RC & D and the County Extension Service.

Landowners

Meeting March 27

The Louisa Soil Conservation District is sponsoring a landowners meeting this Monday, March 27th, 7:00 p.m. at the Soil Conservation office in Wapello.

Meeting is open to any landowner who is interested or planning conservation practices this year. Discussion will center on construction times, cost share and ASCS programs. Any person with conservation questions should attend since there will be representatives of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation and Soil Conservation Service present to explain programs and answer questions.

Less tillage saves time, fuel, and soil

by Lynn Betts
Soil Conservation Service

FARMERS didn't use a moldboard plow on 20% of Iowa's corn and soybean land last year.

Instead, they prepared seedbeds for nearly 3 million acres with conservation tillage tools, discs, field cultivators, chisel

plows, etc., according to a recent survey by the Soil Conservation Service.

"Why did they discard their plows? Because they wanted to save soil, water, time, and dollars," says John Maddy, agronomist for the Soil Conservation Service. Conservation tillage sys-

tems protect the soil by leaving residue on the surface. Losses from water-caused erosion can be cut 90% over conventionally tilled land and wind erosion can be completely eliminated with these systems.

Softening the impact of raindrops on the soil is one goal of

conservation tillage, explains Maddy. Research indicates the impact energy of rainfall on a square mile of Iowa land each year is equal to 10,000 tons of TNT. An acre of Iowa soil, then, is bombarded with a force of 16 tons of TNT each year.

"Something has to shield the soil from that and the wind," says Maddy. "Crop residue can."

Conservation tillage systems leave varying amounts of residue cover. The most effective for erosion control are those that leave the most residue distributed evenly over the soil surface.

"Most conservation tillage systems now available do a good job. The machine operator is the key. Use the machine the way it is intended to be used. If you can't get the image of a clean field out of your mind, and try to prepare a seedbed like you would with a conventional machine, you won't get the protective "umbrella" cover of crop residue," Maddy says.

If you're considering conservation tillage, you've got 4 major systems to choose from. Maddy reviews the alternatives and offers these thoughts on how to use them effectively.

Chisel plow . . .

The most popular conservation tillage machine in Iowa is the chisel plow. It is most prevalent in northern Iowa, but is being used statewide. Some farmers chisel and plant in one trip across the field, but most do it separately.

You might want to chisel twice before planting, first at a depth of 8 to 9 in. and then again as a smoothing operation.

"As a rule of thumb, each time you chisel plow you cover 20% of the residue," Maddy says. "Too many trips across the field defeat your purpose. Leaving 3000 to 4000 lb. of cornstalk residue per acre on the soil surface reduces soil loss by 50% over conventional tillage.

"With 100-bushel/acre corn, you would have about 6000 lb. of residue. After 2 chiselings, you would still be in the 3000 to 4000-lb. range if you were careful not to cover residue."

Last year, 6000 farmers planted about 900,000 acres, using the chisel plow to prepare a seedbed. "Altho many started on soybean land, they are moving into cornstalk residue as they gain experience," says Maddy.

Till planting . . .

The till planting system is most popular in northwest Iowa, altho it too is used in all parts

of the state. Last year, over 1000 farmers used it on 250,000 acres.

In till planting, the new seed is planted in last year's crop row. "The soil in this ridge is the warmest, driest, and most friable soil in the field," says Maddy. The till planter pushes crop residue between the row, protecting that soil from erosion. Maddy cautions that the till planter must be used on the contour, to prevent water from running downhill in the row.

Rotary tillage . . .

Rotary tillers were used on 400 Iowa farms last year. The seedbed should be prepared only in the row where the seed is to be planted for best erosion control.

The undisturbed area between is covered with crop residue. If all the soil surface is tilled, most of the residue will be covered and the conservation value is lost, Maddy warns. He also advises not to till too deeply for the same reason.

Slot (zero) tillage . . .

One of the most promising conservation tillage systems for erosion control is slot or zero tillage. Its main advantage is that it plants with a minimum of soil disturbance.

Special planter shoes or a rolling, wavy coulter are used to prepare a place less than 3 in. wide to plant the seed. The system was developed for planting in sod or grain fields, and can reduce soil loss to a negligible amount if crop residue has been left on the ground after harvesting.

"That means it's important to leave residue on the ground, since most farmers are planting on corn and soybean ground rather than sod," Maddy says. "Discing, chiseling several times before planting, or any other kind of soil disturbance covers crop residue." Planting in the old row and using herbicides for weed control help, too.

Altho only 500 farmers in the state used this system last year, it has doubled since 1971.

No plow . . .

If you don't have a special tillage machine, you may be one of the many farmers in the state who are planting without plowing. Using machines already on the farm, they usually begin experimenting with soybeans. They prepare the seedbed with discs, field cultivators, or similar tools in the spring.

Leaving soybean residue on the soil thru winter and spring goes a long way in stopping wind erosion on soybean soil. This simple procedure is the fastest growing form of tillage in the soybean producing area of the state. In some communities,

Maddy says, it is hard to find any fall plowed soybean fields. More than 21,000 farmers planted 1,600,000 acres this way in 1971.

Planting corn and soybeans in crop residues is a much different operation than planting systems of the past, and you will want to consider the total system from planting to harvest before you convert, Maddy says. Each farmer has a little bit different situation—soil conditions, the amount of residue his machinery will handle, and other variables. Weed control and when and how

to apply fertilizer and chop stalks are other management considerations.

"You can't go half way with a conservation tillage system," says Maddy. He cites farmers who unsuccessfully try to cut corners in taking care of weeds as one example. Some buy a conservation tillage planting machine, but try to cultivate with their old cultivators, which won't work well in heavy residue.

Then, too often, they disc or cover the residue at planting time to make it easy to cultivate

with their old cultivator. This doesn't work, either, because they lose the soil protection the residue would have provided.

So it is important when you select a method, whether it is till planting, no-till planting, chiseling, or other form of conservation tillage, that you keep in mind your management plans before and after the field is planted. It's possible to protect your soil and get good yields at the same time. Ask some of the 28,000 Iowa farmers who are doing it.

Louisa county pastures an improving investment

Pasture improvement may be a better investment on Louisa County farms than it has been in several years.

"Much of our pasture land has run down because fertilizer prices have risen while cattle prices have been low," said Jim Ranum, local district conservationist with the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

"But with the improved cattle price situation an investment in fertilizer, labor, and perhaps reseeding can pay real dividends in the form of increased beef production.

"We have an estimated 26,000 acres plus of pasture in Louisa county and proper fertilization

and maintenance of these acres could increase farm income and our overall local economy."

He said in addition to providing forage for cattle, improved pasture is an excellent conservation measure that controls erosion and sedimentation, improves water quality, and creates natural beauty.

"Recommendations differ according to soil tests, soil types, kind of pasture, condition of the grass, and other factors," Ranum said. People seeking detailed assistance on specific problems should contact Ranum at the Soil Conservation Service office, 523-6411.

Muscatine Island water discussed at meeting

by John Dornfeld
Gazette News Editor

The Muscatine Island water table has been going down over the past few years and the quality is not what it used to be.

Thirty-five people met with two state legislators, a representative of Governor Ray and an engineer for the Iowa National Resources Council Wednesday night to find out what could be done about the situation.

The meeting was held in the Louisa County Court House in Wapello and was sponsored by the Geode Wonderland Resource

Conservation and Development agency of Fairfield.

Wayne Geiselman, the engineer, told the crowd that because of industrial, commercial, residential and agricultural development since the turn of the century, the water table and quality have gone down.

Since the table is replenished by the Mississippi River, the Muscatine Island area should not have supply problems until the year 2000.

He said thanks to a 1977 study conducted by both the Iowa and U.S. Geological Survey offices, data

exists showing who uses the water, how much they use and whether their usage went up or down over the years.

He mentioned that Muscatine Island is unique this way. In most areas of the state, no such data exists.

According to the study, the two largest users of water from the Muscatine Island area are Monsanto and City of Muscatine.

Monsanto uses about 5.3 billion gallons a year and Muscatine uses roughly 5.165 billion gallons yearly, Geiselman said.

Grain Processing Company in Muscatine uses approximately 2.4 billion gallons a year, Thatcher Glass of Muscatine uses 456 million gallons a year, about 340 million gallons are lost to evaporation each year and roughly 300 million gallons are used for irrigation, Geiselman said.

Starting in 1983, Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Company will have the right to use up to 2.021 billion gallons yearly at the Louisa Generating Station, Geiselman said.

He also mentioned that water from the Muscatine Island area was exempt from the Iowa Water Rights Law until the early 1970's.

The law, Geiselman said, requires that the highest priority for use of the water goes toward "the most beneficial use possible."

Although "the most beneficial use possible" has never been defined under the law, Geiselman said it has come to mean domestic residential use.

He said this is unique. In states

west of Iowa, the water goes to the user who claimed it first. East of Iowa, it goes to the user nearest the water.

He said the pollution problems involve nitrates and minerals in the water.

No law exists to protect water table levels and if the level goes deeper than a well is dug, due to industrial expansion as an example, it is not necessary for the industry to compensate the shallow well owner, Geiselman said.

What to do about the lack of data and compensation was discussed by the two legislators, Senator Frosty Schwengels of Fairfield and Representative Vic Stueland of Grand Mound.

Stueland mentioned that 20 state and federal agencies have "something to do with water" but none can answer questions concerning water quality, quantity or jurisdiction over the water.

Schwengels suggested, and Stueland agreed, that an agency should be set up by the state to gather water data and answer questions on water rights, quality and quantity.

He said such an agency could get its personnel from state agencies already in existence and the money could come from cutting waste in social programs.

Bill Kruse, Governor Ray's representative, told the crowd he was sent to the meeting to find out what the state can do concerning water issues.

Since the meeting was purely informational, no decisions were reached.



Wayne Geiselman, an engineer for the Iowa Natural Resources Council, explains the history of water usage in the Muscatine Island area since the early 1900's at a meeting Wednesday night, December 2, in the Louisa County Court House. The meeting was sponsored by the Geode Wonderland Resource Conservation and Development agency of Fairfield.
(Gazette photo by John Dornfeld)

Stop erosion . . .

New style terraces are easier to farm

by Greg Lepper

GRASS backslope terraces can pay for themselves on many Iowa farms. Farmers who have tried them like them.

They are also called parallel tile outlet terraces. They work well on both light and heavy soils with slopes of 1% to 18%.

Hardin county has been a leader in terracing. Farmers there give many reasons why they've installed these terraces.

"Parallel terraces have cut out a lot of point rows and waste space for me," says Gerald Modlin. He installed terraces on 29 acres of land in 1974. The land had been in wide base terraces with grass waterway drains.

Dean Mill, district conservation technician for Hardin county, says the steep, grass backslopes of the terraces don't take any more land out of production than the older waterways drains.

"Yet these parallel terraces let farmers use large equipment that wouldn't fit on the older type terraces," he adds.

Carroll Hobson, chairman of the Hardin county conservation district board of commissioners, has had terraces on his farm for many years. One of his 50-acre fields had to be farmed in 6 separate fields before he put in the parallel terraces.

"Those terraces have made farming easier. They've conserved my soil and moisture and they've increased the land value," says Hobson. "But the greatest benefit isn't an economic one.

"That soil is an irreplaceable resource. Once it's gone, it's gone forever," says Hobson. "Plus, if the soil washes away, it adds to the pollution of rivers and lakes.

"It's easy to see that terracing is good for the community," concludes Hobson.

How much soil do you save with terraces? Let's take a typical field in continuous corn. Assume it has a 6% slope 300 ft.

soil movement in the field, according to research done by John Lafflin, of the USDA agriculture research service.

Of that 5 tons, only 5% will leave the field thru the tile.

How much does that topsoil loss hurt you? A 2% to 5% slope that loses 15 tons per acre each year loses one inch of topsoil every 11 years. At that rate, a Clarion-Webster soil could lose all its topsoil in 2 generations of farming.

A University of Missouri study shows that moderately eroded

soil will produce nearly \$20 less annual net income than a non-eroded soil. This loss includes fertilizer and chemicals washed away, lower yields, and needed extra tillage.

What's terracing going to cost you? It will probably average between \$150 and \$250 an acre. Much depends on whether you can use present tile mains and how much earth moving has to be done.

Information from 5 terracing

jobs done in Hardin county in 1974 showed an average cost of \$208 per acre.

In 1974, the farmer had to pay only 25% of that cost in most cases. Federal cost sharing programs covered 50% of the cost. Iowa cost sharing funds picked up the remaining 25%.

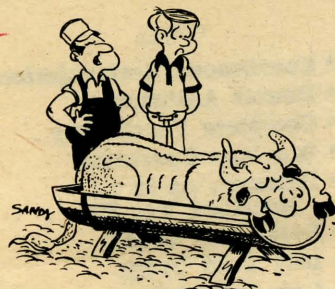
Neither federal nor state governments had decided by press time on how much money will be available for similar programs in 1975.

At last year's cost sharing rate, the average job in Hardin

county cost the farmer about \$52 per acre.

Applying the University of Missouri figure of \$20 an acre extra income from noneroded land, it would take less than 3 years to pay for the terracing.

FEWER point rows and easy slopes are two of the real attractive features of the new style grass back-slope terraces.



"You're a college kid, you explain cattle bunks to him."

No-till a good idea

by Jim Ranum
District

Soil Conservationist

Some new plows run a few inches beneath the surface of the ground. Others slice through. There are many variations in between.

Farmers already are beginning to adopt a new system. In some localities, where only a few years ago 95 per cent of the farmers burned off their wheat stubble every year to make it easier to plow for the following year's crop, nearly all growers are now using plows that leave a considerable part of the stubble on the surface. They have stopped burning and are finding the wheat-stubble litter, or straw scattered over the field, has a powerful effect, not only in in-

creasing yields but in preventing soil from washing and blowing.

This new system is sometimes referred to as "subsurface tillage." Some call it "trashy fallow." Many are hoping it will eventually be referred to as the "stubble-mulch" method. The new method will not be a cure-all, of course, but it is proving to be a most efficient tool in an increasing number of farming areas.

By personal observation, the results of scientific study and the practical experience of farmers, I believe it is becoming increasingly evident the passing of the turning plow from general use in field cultivation would be a boon. Some day it may be regarded as a notable event in history.

No-Till Planter Planned For County

The Louisa Soil Conservation District will sponsor a no-till planter for use by interested farmers this spring. The planter which is furnished by Ortho Chemical Company will be available for any farmer who wishes to try a demonstration on his farm.

According to James Ranum, Louisa County's District Conservationist the planter will be available for farmers use for one day. Details of how to use the planter will be discussed on Jan. 23 at the 1st Presbyterian Church in Mediapolis at 1:30 p.m. This will be a joint meeting for farmers from Louisa and Des Moines Counties. It offers a chance for Louisa County residents to visit with farmers from Des Moines County who tried no-till last year and want to try again this year.

Ranum also says that ASCS is assisting with the demonstrations by cost sharing ten dollars (\$10) per acre for up to ten (10) acres.

Any person interested in a demonstration plot but unable to attend the meeting may contact Mr. Ranum at the Soil Conservation office in Wapello — phone 523-6411 — for information.

BUSINESS NOTE

Harry Bryant, Soil Conservationist and Eleanor Stone, District Clerk, of the SCS Office located in Wapello, attended a 17-county informational meeting at Washington Wednesday, July 25. Purpose of the meeting was to study a cost-sharing program to be initiated by the State Department of Soil Conservation.



No-till contest planned

By JIM RUDISILL
Neighbors staff

A no-till yield contest will be held in Louisa county this year, with rules closely matching the Iowa Master Corn Growers guidelines.

According to Jim Ranum, district conservationist, farmers who participate in the district sponsored contest will be eligible to win the \$100 first prize.

Second prize will be \$75 and third prize, \$50.

The district's no-till planter will be available to use on the plots.

No special application procedures are required, and for more information, contact the Louisa County Soil Conservation District office in Wapello.

No-till corn production to be discussed

Conservation tillage will be the topic of discussion in the student center at the Columbus Junction High School on Tuesday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. Guest speakers will be Mr. Bob Jones and Mr. Wayne Frederich.

Mr. Bob Jones, a representative of Ortho Chemical Company, will share his experiences using herbicides in no-till corn production.

Mr. Wayne Frederich, a Springdale, Iowa farmer, will show slides of his equipment and the results of his no-till corn production. Mr. Frederich has some 10 years experience with the chisel plow and 5

years of no-till production to share with us.

The public interest in the area of soil conservation is growing today with the no-till method of farming one answer to the problem. The emphasis of this problem was made in the Des Moines Register of Wednesday, February 28, as a bill was introduced in the Iowa House to prohibit fall plowing of soybean fields.

The public is cordially invited to attend this informative meeting on soil conservation, which affects everyone. The meeting is being sponsored by Columbus Community Vocational Agriculture Department and the Louisa County Conservation District.

No-till
meeting
slated

The Louisa Soil Conservation District is sponsoring a no-till meeting Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at the meeting room of the ASCS office in Wapello.

Anyone interested in a no-till plot or information about it should plan to attend. Bob Jones, Ortho Chemical Company representative, will be on hand, as will farmers who had demonstrations last year.

The AC no-till planter will be available again this year for demonstrations. Guidelines will be discussed at the meeting.

Interseeding pastures will also be discussed for anyone who is considering renovating a pasture.

Pastures can be profitable

By Jim Ranum, District Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service

Many of the pasture areas which still exist in Louisa county have developed what is known as cow spot disease. This isn't a major problem but it does point out that cows are not a very good fertilizer spreader. It also points out that we're not managing our pastures to the fullest extent.

Like most natural resources, our pastures need a certain amount of capital investment before they become a profitable enterprise. Even as late as 1970, 95 per cent of the nitrogen, 85 per cent of the phosphorous, and 90 per cent of the potassium was applied to cropland. Cropland at that time made up only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total agricultural land. This meant $\frac{1}{3}$ of the land was getting 90 per cent of the nutrients being applied. This doesn't leave much for the pasture land.

If even a third of the nutrients applied to agricultural land were applied to the pasture land, cow spot disease wouldn't be noticeable.

Fertilizers aren't the only answer. Pastures don't take care of themselves. Management practices are needed to make pasture production a profitable enterprise. The easiest management practice is pasture rotation. This can increase production by as much as 50 per cent, and it gives plants a chance to rest and recover from grazing.

Most pastures are cool season grasses and summer production is limited. Warm season grasses can fill the void and give the needed production during hot summer months.

There are special problems,

grasses. They cannot be overgrazed like cool season grasses, or they will be killed. They also take more care to establish. But once established, warm season grasses provide an alternative to low summer production.

Legumes in a grass pasture will reduce the need for nitrogen fertilizer, but legumes increase the need for better potassium and phosphorous fertilization. Legumes also have a shorter life span, and usually need to be re-established occasionally. This can be accomplished by frost seedings or with interseeding in the grass stand.

Pastures add to a profitable enterprise by equalizing labor needs over longer periods of time. Limiting the enterprise to cropland causes peaks and slumps in the labor required. There is some labor needed through the year but peak times are in late winter and early spring and in the early fall. These times are usually not busy cropland times. The enterprise will realize an increased income to labor potential on the farm.

As I look at Louisa county, we are cropping the life out of some land which should have remained in pasture. I hear the excuse that it is not profitable to pasture the land. I would like to challenge anyone to put half the cost of a corn crop into pasture land production.

With equal management to both systems, economic return from the pasture land on the more sloping land will be equal to or greater than returns from cropland. There is also the side benefit that soil erosion is controlled under well-managed pastures.

No Till Planter Use Planned

The Louisa Soil Conservation District will sponsor a no-till planter for use by interested farmers this spring. The planter which is furnished by Ortho Chemical Company will be available for any farmer who wishes to try a demonstration on his farm.

According to James Ranum,

Louisa County's District Conservationist the planter will be available for farmers use for one day. Details of how to use the planter will be discussed on Jan. 23 at the First Presbyterian Church in Mediapolis at 1:30 p.m.

This will be a joint meeting for farmers from Louisa and Des Moines counties. It offers a

chance for Louisa county residents to visit with farmers from Des Moines county who tried no-till last year and want to try again this year.

Ranum also says that ASCS is assisting with the demonstrations by cost sharing ten dollars (\$10) per acre for up to ten (10) acres.

Any person interested in a demonstration plot but unable to attend the meeting may contact Ranum at the Soil Conservation office in Wapello - phone 523-6411 - for information.

Pasture Improvement Meeting Set

A Pasture Improvement meeting is being held Monday night, April 2, 7:30 p.m. at the Student Center in Columbus Junction High School. The meeting will feature Dr. Harvey Thompson, Extension Agronomist with Iowa State University. He will be discussing new grass and grass legume mixtures adapted for pastures. A full season grazing slide show

will be presented by the Soil Conservation Service.

Ron George, Biologist with the Iowa Conservation Commission, will discuss his experience with warm season grasses.

Willard McCracken will be on hand to answer questions on interseeding legumes. Mr. McCracken has a Zip-interseeder which will be available to use for demonstration plots.



Public Forum Discusses Water Resources In Muscatine Island

A public forum on water resources was held at the Louisa County Courthouse in Wapello on December 2 to discuss water in the Muscatine Island and Port Louisa area.

At the meeting, Wayne Gieselman, chief engineer of the Iowa National Resources Council spoke on the quality and quantity of water available in the area.

He pointed out that the water supply was unique, due to the fact that it was on a lower plane than the river, and recharged very quickly.

He addressed the different uses of the water from the city of Muscatine to farm irrigation, and laws governing water ownership and use. He noted that a 1957 law states that water is owned by the public, and that the beneficial use laws states that water shall be used for the most beneficial use.

Gieselman said that no one has a higher right to water, although, it is inferred that domestic uses are first on the priority list since they are allowed to use up to 500,000 gallons without a permit.

Representative Vic Stueland and Senator Forrest Schwengels discussed legislation on water and pointed out that a big problem that would have to be dealt with were landfills, which Gieselman said should be stopped.

Leland Roudybush, representing the Port Louisa Water Use Resource Committee, voiced concern with the affects of increased industrial, agricultural, municipal, and domestic use of water found in the Muscatine Island Aquifer would have on the quantity and quality of the water.

Public Hearing Set

The Temporary Land Preservation Policy Commission will conduct a public hearing, Jan. 30 in the county courthouse, in Wapello according to Bob Barnes, chairman of the commission. The hearing will start at 7:30 p.m.

Barnes said the commission was organized in compliance with Houe file 210 last August. The act stated the membership for the commission was to be composed of three individuals from the following local government bodies--county supervisors, soil conservation district commissioners and mayors or town council members.

Other members of the commission are R.E. Poffenbarger,

Oakville; Bill Beard, Grandview; Leonard Elliott, Wapello; Jr. Coon, Morning Sun; Dale Schlutz, Grandview; Leonard Chatfield, Columbus Jct.; Olin Jennings, Columbus Jct.; Kester Gladfelder, Wapello and Gaylord Elliott Wapello.

The goals of the commission are to provide for the orderly use and development of land and related natural resources in the county and to preserve private property rights and prime agricultural land for agricultural production. The commission's policy is also planned to guide the development of critical areas, key facilities, large scale development, future housing, commercial, industrial and recreational needs.

Regional Agencies Join Work Forces

Doors were opened to a future of progress and cooperation recently as the soil conservation districts of southeast Iowa joined in a working agreement with the Southeast Iowa Area XVI Regional Planning Commission.

Commission chairman Jack Waldhoff of Burlington signed the document for the planning commission. James Hawkins of Argyle penned his signature on behalf of the soil districts of Lee, Louisa, Henry and Des Moines Counties. Hawkins is also a member of the regional planning commission.

"We are looking forward to the use of the volumes of soil information the districts have gathered over the year," Waldhoff stated. "Too often this basic data has been left out of the planning process and it is our intention to use all the soil in-

formation the districts can give us."

"This type of agreement is the first of its kind in Iowa," Hawkins claimed. "Soil districts are more aware of regional land use problems than they have ever been before, and we look on this Memorandum of Understanding as unlocking many opportunities to use our expertise."

Hawkins also pointed out that leadership in the regional planning field has led the county planning commissions to enter into similar agreements with local districts.

"We are already receiving requests from cities and towns for soil and land use planning assistance," Hawkins went on. "Our four counties have joined in a mutual agreement, so that we are no longer standing alone in the battle for wise land use."

Save energy with conservation tillage

"I hear a lot about saving energy with conservation tillage systems," says a southeast Iowa farmer. "But they usually mean saving fuel. I think it's just as important to save my own energy."

He has a lot of company. Conservation tillage means less tillage. Fewer trips across a field save the farmer's time and energy as well as fuel.

The planting system offering the most savings in fuel is no-till. Planting is done directly in the last year's crop residue or in sod with no other field preparation with this system. Planting is done in one trip across a field; and according to University of Nebraska studies, it takes about a half gallon of diesel fuel an acre. That contrasts to four trips across a field (plowing, discing, harrowing and planting) at four and a half gallons of diesel fuel an acre, with conventional tillage systems.

"The conservation tillage system saves fuel in the spring, when the crunch is most likely to come in energy shortages," says James Ranum, district conservationist for the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

He conceded that no-till systems are not widespread in the county, but that reduced trips across the field by any kind save energy.

SCS Advises Leaving Crop Residues Near Surface

The increase in conservation tillage acreage (leaving crop residues on the soil surface during planting) in Iowa has been astounding, according to information received from the Soil Conservation Service.

Figures indicate the practice has grown from very few acres in 1967 to more than nine million acres 10 years later.

"But there's a problem with those figures," SCS Agronomist Ernie Hintz said. "That is, on about a third of those acres, less than 1,000 pounds of crop residue was left on the surface at planting time. Reduced tillage, to be sure, but not leaving enough residue on the soil to do an effective erosion control job."

It takes 3,500 pounds of residue per acre to generally cut water erosion in half. One trip across a corn field with a disc buries half the residue, by rule of thumb. So if a farmer were to

start with 7 - 8,000 pounds per acre, which is normal, with one discing he can be down to 3,500 pounds an acre of protection on the surface.

If you feel there is a real need to disc, but no deeper than three or four inches. This will leave the residue you covered near the surface. In recent research we have found this residue also benefits water erosion control.

We have the machines to leave protective residues on the soil surface. The problem no longer seems to be to get farmers to use them; it's a problem of keeping them from over-using them.

We agree with conservation officials who urge use of no-till or till planters, and limited use of chisel plows, discs and rotary equipment. Our soil is important, and this system is an important way to save it.

Soil and water speech contest set

The Louisa County Soil Conservation District is sponsoring a speech contest October 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. at the Wapello School. Topic for this year's contest is "Soil and Water - Key to Our Future".

The contest is open to students in Louisa County in grades seven through 12. Prizes are: 1st \$25,

2nd \$15 and 3rd \$20 with all others receiving \$1. Winner of the local contest will advance to the Regional contest.

Contact the Soil Conservation office in Wapello for more information and for entering. Phone 533-6411 or write 222 North 2nd Street, Wapello, Iowa

Soil and water conservation



week is September 17-23

Soil conservation recognizes three in Louisa County

Three Louisa County farmers and landowners have been awarded soil conservation awards by the Louisa County Soil Conservation District.

According to Jim Ranum, district soil conservationist, the awards include both a new cooperators and an established landlord-tenant.

Named as a new cooperators with the program was Milton Hayes, who farms about 560 acres south of Wapello.

Hayes plants a corn-oats-meadow-meadow rotation on his rolling cropland, which Ranum said is probably the best soil conservation

technique which can be practiced.

In addition, Hayes has constructed a pond on his land, is planning a second, has built grass waterways and is planning to install erosion control devices along the border of his cropland and meadow.

The other award winners, from the landlord-tenant division, are Leo Rozum, owner; and Lewis Dallmeyer, Columbus Junction.

The 300-acre farm, which was signed to the program in 1950, has several conservation structures on it, including over 10,000 feet of terracing,

more than 7,000 feet of diversions, three acres of grassed waterways, five acres of critical area planting, 20 acres of contouring, two

erosion control structures and one pond.

An additional 1,500 feet of terracing is planned for this year.

Soils District Widens Area

The Louisa County District Soils Commissioners have entered into Memorandums of Understanding with the extension service, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation service, the Forestry service, the Fish, Biology and Wildlife service and the Louisa County Program and Planning Commission.

These agreements enable each of the local governmental bodies to call upon the Soil Conservation Service for assistance and the SCD can receive aid from them when requested.

This arrangement will enable the Soil Conservation Service to be of maximum benefit to all of the people of Louisa County, urban as well as rural.

The District Commissioners have also entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Four-county Soils Commissioners organization. These four counties are Louisa, Henry, Des Moines, and Lee county. This will help to coordinate the programs in areas of mutual effort in water-sheds and similar practices that extend across county lines.

The Louisa County Program and Planning Commission is a part of the Area XVI O.P.P. and through them the Louisa County Soil Conservation office is tied in with the Area office of Program and Planning.

Areas receiving Federal monies in the future must have an area plan for development. The Louisa County SCD will therefore have a part in the development of the Area XVI growth which will best serve the needs of all the people in the four county area.

Commissioners of Louisa County are: Virgil Corey, Morning Sun; Fay Crull, Letts; Leonard Chatfield, Columbus Junction; Bill Newell, Wapello and Olin Jennings of Columbus Junction.

Soil Stewardship Week Is May 7-14

Soil Stewardship Week will be observed May 7 to 14 throughout the State of Iowa by proclamation of Governor Robert Ray. Organizations and citizens of Iowa are urged to participate in soil and water conservation programs and activities which have been vital to the states and nations continued success and progress.

The Soil Conservation Office in Wapello has distributed bulletins to county churches for use during the observance and material has been made available to ministers for use in their sermons.

Soil Survey Being Prepared

A survey seeking farmers' advice on soil conservation and water quality is being prepared for 70 randomly chosen farmers in Louisa county, Harlan Wiederrecht, chairman of the Louisa County Resource Coordinating Committee announced last week.

The survey will aid the county committee in advising the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation on plans that are intended to improve the water quality of the

nation's rivers. This plan was mandated by amendments to the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

In Iowa and Louisa county, this means that non-point pollution, such as soil erosion and agricultural runoff; as well as point pollution, such as industrial and municipal waste discharges, will fall under the law's control.

Wiederrecht said the committee hopes to aid in the development of a plan that will

perform this duty, while creating the least hardship on individuals.

Although the committee is sending out 70 surveys to randomly selected individuals, anyone may fill in the survey in this article and mail it to the Louisa County SCD, Wapello, Iowa 52653 to express their views and opinions.

Results of both surveys will be reported later.

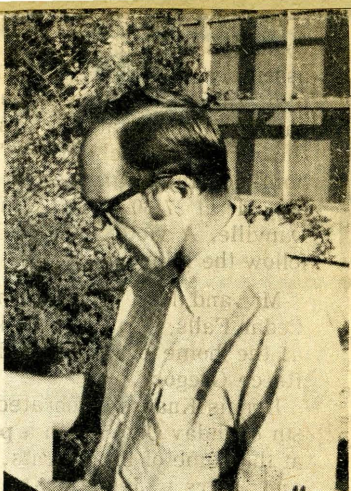
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Some Call It Trashy Fallow

Some of the new plows run along a few inches beneath the surface of the ground. Others have the effect of slicing through. And there are all manner of variations in between. Farmers already are beginning to adopt the new system. In some localities, where only a few years ago 95 percent of the farmers burned off their wheat stubble every year so as to make it easier to plow for the following year's crop, nearly all the growers are now using plows that leave a considerable part of the stubble on the surface. They have stopped burning and are finding that the wheat-stubble litter, or straw scattered over the field, has a powerful effect, not only in increasing yields but in

preventing soil from washing and blowing. This new system is sometimes referred to as "subsurface tillage." Some call it "trashy fallow," and many of us are hoping that it will eventually be referred to as the "stubble-mulch" method. The new method will not be a cure-all, of course, but it is proving to be a most efficient tool in an ever increasing number of farming areas.

By personal observation, by the results of scientific study and by the practical experience of farmers, I believe it is becoming increasingly evident that the passing of the turning plow from general use in field cultivation would be a boon. Some day it may be regarded as a notable event in history.



Republican & Gazette
Attends Teacher's

Conservation Meet

Bill Greene, Vocational Agricultural instructor at the Columbus Community school, attended the Fall Teachers' Conservation Workshop at the 4-H camp at Luther on Oct. 1 and 2.

Topic for this year was "Cooperating with Nature." Included in the two-day workshop as methods of teaching conservation through field trips, indoor exhibits and demonstrations and visual aides. Field trips were taken to Boone county farms to study methods of teaching basic principles of soil and water conservation on farms.

Awards for outstanding conservation educational efforts were presented at a dinner Friday evening.

The workshop was sponsored by the Iowa Conservation Education Council Department of Public Instruction, Iowa Department of Soil Conservation and the State Conservation Commission.

W-pello
OCT. 4



Teachers Test Outdoor Classroom Concept

The Louisa County Soil Conservation District and the Louisa County Conservation Education Council sponsored a one day seminar on outdoor classrooms, Thursday, Sept. 27. Sylvan Runkel, retired biologist for the Soil Conservation Service, was the featured instructor.

The morning session was held in a twelve acre wooded area the

Columbus Junction School is developing into an outdoor classroom. Here they covered many of the woodland plants that make up a woodland community. In the afternoon the group went to a native prairie area near Conesville to study the plants that make up a prairie community. The session concluded with a series of slides

Teachers from area schools experimented with outdoor classroom teaching at a one-day seminar near Columbus and Conesville recently. Instructor was Sylvan Runkel (left), retired biologist for the SCS.

showing how the plants and animals of these different communities work together to balance nature and how man can upset this balance by the things he often does.

There were teachers attending from the L & M Schools, Morning Sun Schools, Columbus Junction Schools and the Mediapolis Schools.

Tillage Conference Announced

“Managing Tillage for Conservation” will be the theme of a conservation tillage conference to be held Jan. 27, 1978 from 8:00 A.M. to 3 P.M. at the Ottumwa Coliseum.

The purpose of the conference will be to acquaint farmers with ways to more successfully use conservation tillage methods. It will feature talks by Iowa State University and Soil Conservation Service specialists, a champion corn grower and conservation farmer, and a discussion of tillage systems by a panel of farmers. Additionally, there will be displays of equipment and pesticides used in conservation tillage systems.

To hold Teachers' Conservation Camp at Burlington

4-13
4 pages

The Teachers' Conservation Camp will be offered regionally, for the first time, in Burlington from July 9-27. The 24 year old camp has always been held at Springbrook State Park in the past.

This change brings a great opportunity for both elementary and secondary teachers in this area to gain 3 hours of college credit while learning to use the outdoors as a classroom.

This concept of relating the environment to the students in an outdoor classroom is rapidly becoming the accepted way of teaching.

The program is jointly sponsored by the University of Northern Iowa, Iowa Department of Public Instruction, Iowa Conservation Commission, Iowa Department of Soil Conservation, Soil Conservation District Commissioners of each county and other agencies and organizations interested in conservation.

Application should be made as soon as possible to Bernard L. Clausen, Director, Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613.

Information on scholarships and the cost can be obtained at the Louisa County Soil Conservation District office in Wapello.

Top concerns are soil erosion and food production

WAPELLO — Soil erosion and food and fiber production top the list of concerns Louisa County residents feel are important to them, according to the results of a questionnaire which the Louisa County Soil Conservation District sent to people.

The questionnaire was developed as part of the Resources Conservation Act of 1977, which directs the USDA Soil Conservation Service (SCS) to analyze soil and water resources in detail every five years.

The act also requires the 100 soil conservation districts in Iowa and the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation to develop a comprehensive five-year conservation program.

An important part of the appraisal is to determine whether current programs are effective in protecting natural resources, according to the SCS. This means public input into the appraisal, which led to the questionnaire.

Jim Ranum, district soil conservationist, said the concern indicated by Louisa County residents for soil erosion should fit in well with the district's primary objective to control silt.

According to Ranum, soil erosion on cropland, along with its effects on crops, sediment control and costs will mean the district will continue to try and get farmers interested in prac-

"It's getting to the point where people are going to have to be taking a serious look at conservation," Ranum said.

Hopefully, he added, the questionnaire will help boost the conservation program not only in the county, but throughout the state and the nation.

"It could have a pretty serious influence on conservation," Ranum said, explaining the Forest Service had been able to increase its influence in areas because of a program similar to the appraisal the SCS is undertaking.

"We're hoping that is what's going to happen with this," he said.

The information obtained from the questionnaire, Ranum went on to explain, will become part of the data used to formulate a state-wide conservation program and eventually a national policy.

Finally, once a national and a state plan is created, the local district offices will use it as guidelines in drawing up specific policies for their areas.

In addition to the major concerns residents were asked to list, minor concerns were also requested. According to Ranum, Louisa county respondents indicated air quality, water management (irrigation) and mining as conditions least concerning them.

Water Quality Meeting Scheduled

A meeting to update the 208 Water Quality program and the Conservancy District programs will be held June 6, 1979, 7:30 p.m. at the ISU building in Wapello.

Ken Breune, Field Representative with the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation, will explain the status of the Conservancy Districts and the functions of the local County Resource Co-ordinating Committee.

The public is invited to attend.

Wet Spring Could Be Ahead

If the high soil moisture predictions hold true this spring, wet fields could put many area farmers behind schedule at planting time.

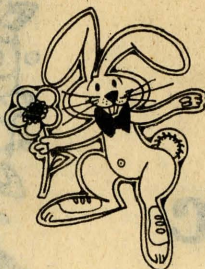
"This spring may be like 1974 and 1975 when it wasn't easy to get in and out of the field," says Jim Ranum, district conservationist for the USDA Soil Conservation Service. "Those wet springs prompted a number of farmers to skip moldboard plowing of their fields - they just disced, or chisel plowed, and then planted. And I think they found they really didn't need to do all that work they had in the past."

Reduced tillage will be important again this year.

"With conservation tillage, you can be in the field planting when your neighbor is plowing, discing, or harrowing," he says. The condition your soil is in, the amount of crop residue you have to work with, and the type of planter you have are important points to consider.

Over-working the ground before planting not only causes later planting - it also covers crop residues. Those residues are valuable in preventing soil erosion by wind and water. In soybean land in particular, residues are easily buried. "This land is ideal for no-till or till plant system."

The Soil Conservationists say that if fertilizer and herbicide incorporation are needed, they recommend shallow chiseling or discing. This leaves residue on the soil surface and in the top two to three inches of soil for erosion protection.



Wildlife Review

Art Roseland

Wildlife Biologist

Discussions among professional wildlifers often center on new farming methods with could be economically attractive to farmers and improve wildlife habitat. Currently, no-till, minimum tillage and warm-season grass pastures offer the most practical potential. Warm season grasses in pasture programs may be of special value because their use can greatly increase production of wildlife.

Native, warm-season grasses like switchgrass, bluestems and Indian grass are now being used in pasture improvement programs, especially in south-central Iowa. Cattlemen like the system because it assures them of good quality forage during the hot, dry summer months when typical pasture varieties produce poorly.

Wildlife buffs also like the native grass rotation because it provides much improved nesting conditions for a variety of species including pheasants, quail and songbirds. It has been estimated that if one-fourth of the permanent pasture in Iowa were converted to switchgrass,

more than a million and a quarter acres of potential upland wildlife nesting cover would result.

Typical management calls for seeding from 10 - 40 per cent of pasture lands to switchgrass or other natives. They are grazed during mid-summer period, when cool season grasses and legumes are dormant. Field tests conducted by ISU agronomist show crude protein and digestibility values only slightly lower than those of brome grass, with each harvested at comparable state of maturity. Annual dry-matter yield of switchgrass usually exceeds that of brome even if the switchgrass is fertilized a lower nitrogen rates. Switchgrass was also found to produce well during dry years. It is also adapted to a wide variety of soil types, will tolerate flooding, and does remarkably well on poor soils.

Warm season grasses offer good potential for both improved pasture management and wildlife management. For further information stop by the Soil Conservation District Office or the Conservation Commission office in Wapello.

Woman begins SCS job here

By **BOB SOGARD**
Hawk Eye Farm Editor

Soil samples and fairway divots — Debra Brus digs them both.

She is the first soil conservationist in Iowa bucking for a district conservationist position with the Soil Conservation service. Two or three others are a year or two behind her.

Brus, pronounced as in Bruce, is a trainee in the Des Moines county SCS office. She succeeds Lowrance (Larry) Hunt, 27, who has been in the office here for 11 months and who will take the soil conservationist post at the Louisa county SCS office in Wapello Aug. 3. Hunt will succeed Harry Bryant, who will become district conservationist of Iowa county in Williamsburg on July 21.

Bryant, another "graduate" of the Burlington office, was conservation technician here for five years and was named soil conservationist at Wapello

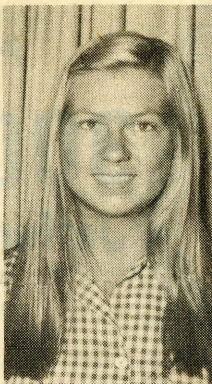


Larry Hunt

in 1971. Later, he was named district conservationist there.

Hunt, who came here last August from Farmington, is a 1974 graduate of the University of Missouri, Columbia, where he majored in fishing and wildlife conservation. He and his wife, Judy, have a five-year-old son, Lance. The family will move from Middletown to Wapello when he can arrange housing.

The new appointee here is a May graduate of Iowa State university,



Debra Brus

where she was awarded a BS degree in agronomy. "It seems like I've always wanted to be in agronomy, at least since we moved to a farm when I was 15," she said.

She's a native of Blue Grass, a Scott county community west of Davenport on US 61. Her parents, Ted and Bev Brus, live on their 20-acre farm just outside of Blue Grass. They have an older daughter, Dianne.

Debra was a student trainee in Clinton county last summer, working with a soil survey crew out of DeWitt. "It was hard work, especially slogging around mucky soil to take samples," she said.

Brus started in horticulture, because "there weren't that many women in agronomy," but then she decided to "jump in with both feet" and switched back to her first interest.

At Iowa State, she sang in the a capella choir, was active in Spanish club, but her main extra-curricular interest was golf. She played No. 3 position on the women's team. She also played on the golf team while

attending Davenport West high school.

When she was accepted by the SCS, she was scheduled for the Mason City office, then Sioux City and finally officialdom decreed Burlington for her first post. She lives in an old, brick apartment house at Fifth and Walnut.

"They said that (district conservationist) Ralph Dewey's a good trainer," Brus reported. "There's lots going on here, including the Resource Conservation and Development project and the Standard Soil Survey, and the land is varied. It's a beautiful part of the state."

Dewey will be acting district conservationist for Louisa county while Hunt is acting soil conservationist in the Wapello office.

She likes this part of the Mississippi Valley and hopes that when she gets an office of her own, it's in eastern Iowa.

Will this deeply tanned blonde be the first female district conservationist in the state? Don't bet against it. Fore! May I play through?