

ALBION COMMUNITY CENTER

1984-1988

Scrap Book

March 13, 1984

Former Albion School Building May Become Community Center

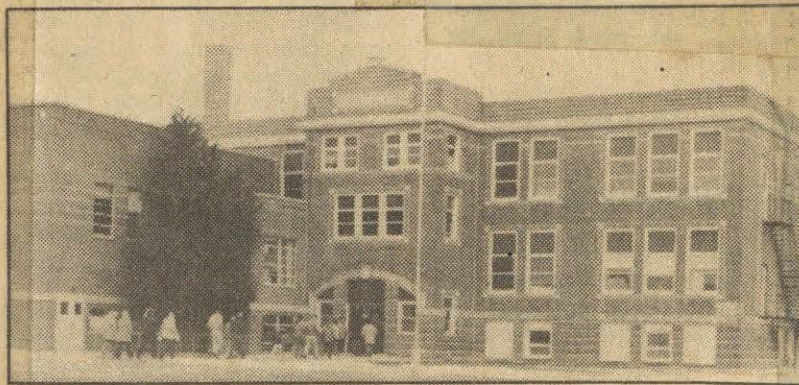
ALBION—(Special)—Following an inspection tour of the former Albion School building Saturday morning, some 50 interested citizens met in the community room of the fire station to discuss the fate of the building, which has been the target of increasing vandalism.

Councilman Corwin Keeler chaired the meeting and a question period brought forth several ideas for use of the building, with the general consensus being to try to turn it into a community center.

A volunteer community committee, consisting of Jacob Kvinlaug and Doug Betts, co-chairmen, Kenneth Arnote, Mary Dooley and Carolyn Giesking, was organized to secure information on the feasibility of different uses and available funding. The committee will report to the council at its March 19 meeting. Area residents are urged to contact committee members to voice their wishes concerning the building.

Council members stressed the importance of parents warning their children not to play near the building, where they could be hurt by broken glass, and to remind them that trespassers inside the building will be punished. All residents are asked to report those seen trying to enter the building, to prevent any further vandalism.

A volunteer effort to board up windows will be coordinated by the committee and Betts and Kvinlaug ask anyone willing to donate plywood for the project to contact them. Betts is asked to contact Betts at 488-2429 or Kvinlaug at 488-2712.



"WHAT WILL BE the fate of our former Albion School building?" is the thought of Albion residents as they visit the building for an open house inspection held Saturday. A committee was formed to look into

turning the building, which contains a full-sized gym, small training pool, seven carpeted classrooms and six other large classrooms, into a community center. (Photo by Marylouise Long)

Times Republican
March 20, 1984

Marshalltown isn't the only city doing things, either. Albion residents are trying to decide what to do with the old school building acquired after the school district closed it. One suggestion is a community center, an intriguing idea that also holds a great deal of promise if remodeling and operating costs aren't too prohibitive. One of the reasons for the school district closing the building was the high cost of maintaining it, which can serve as a caution light to planners as they look at ways to utilize a town landmark. It is commendable that Albion residents have enough pride and confidence in their community to try to seize an opportunity to make the area even more appealing.

March 22, 1984

Albion Fire Chief's Resignation Tabled

ALBION — Fire Chief Keith Balvanz submitted his resignation effective immediately to the Albion Council when it met this week in regular session. The council tabled a decision on the resignation for 30 days.

Dow-Sat of Iowa, Inc., recently advised the council members that it "cannot economically build and operate cable systems in a community the size of Albion." A decision on transferring the franchise was tabled by the council.

Council members approved the immediate and secondary repairs to the Albion School Building as presented by the Albion Area Community Center Advisory Committee, and also adopted a resolution establishing a fire truck replacement trust fund for building up capitol funds for eventual replacement of the fire truck.

In other business, the council approved Kenny Arnote to serve as the contact person for those scheduling use of the Albion ball diamond for the summer of 1984, and tabled a decision concerning a petition for voluntary severing of territory by Melvin Schimel.

The council approved ordinance 9, which provides that each candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office on the ballot are elected. This was done after the election held recently which made a run-off election necessary, which cost taxpayers nearly \$800.

March 27, 1984

Albion Group Plans Clean-Up Of School Building; Asks Help

Albion Community Center Inc., a non-profit organization being formed to oversee the transformation of the unoccupied Albion school building into a community center, announces a clean-up day at the school Saturday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m., weather permitting.

Interested area residents are asked to bring items such as brooms,

mops, power and hand tools, extension cords, paint rollers or brushes, rags and containers or cardboard boxes to help with the clean up efforts, donating whatever amount of time they can.

Donations of materials have been received from Marshall Lumber, Ward Lumber, Stewart Lumber, Denniston & Partridge Lumber, and Diamond Vogel Paint. Additional donations of 1/4 or 3/8-inch plywood or Blandex would be appreciated. Monetary donations are also being solicited and may be sent to the Albion Community Center Inc., Box 216, Albion, 50005, or deposited directly to the ACCI account at Fidelity Brenton Bank.

The Community Center board of directors hope to have the gym and some meeting rooms ready for summer use this year. "We know this is going to be a huge undertaking," acknowledged Jacob Kvinlaug, temporary co-chairman, "and we're going to have to have a lot of support and real help from the whole area to make it work."

ACCI board members met Friday evening at Kvinlaug's home to discuss plans for the clean up day and form committees on fundraising, building repair and activities scheduling. The board is currently composed of six members: Kvinlaug, Doug Betts, Karen Betts, Ken Arnote, Mary Dooley and Gene McRill. Additional board members will be appointed at the next meeting of the group, April 6 at 7 p.m. at the fire station. Carolyn Giesking serves as the liaison with the city council. A youth advisory board is also being formed.

Committee appointments made Friday evening were: Mrs. Betts, Miss Borton and Arnote, fundraising; Kvinlaug and Betts, building repair and research, and Mrs. Dooley, scheduling. Persons interested in serving on the board for one-year terms, or volunteering their services on sub-committees, should contact any of the current board members.

"We have a lot of potential for community service with this community center," Kvinlaug added, "and we're all excited about the possibilities."

WHAT ARE VOLUNTEERS?
VOLUNTEERS ARE LIKE DIAL SOAP -
THEY CARE MORE, DON'T YOU WISH EVERYONE
DID?
VOLUNTEERS ARE LIKE PEPSI -
THEY'VE GOT A LOT TO GIVE.
VOLUNTEERS ARE LIKE V05 HAIR SPRAY -
THEIR GOODNESS HOLDS IN ALL KINDS OF
WEATHER.

March 31, 1984
Cleanup DAY at School



Clean up Day at School
march 31, 1984



April 10, 1984

Albion's Community Center Incorporated

Articles of incorporation for Albion Community Center Inc., are on file in the office of the Marshall County Recorder. Jacob R. Kvinlaug is the incorporator.

Directors include Kvinlaug, Douglas Betts, Kenneth Arnote, Mary Dooley, Carolyn Giesking and Karen Betts, all Albion.

April 27, 1984

Albion Center Work Planned Saturday

ALBION — A second work day at the Albion Community Center will be held Saturday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Volunteers are requested to again bring hand tools and cleaning equipment, coming when convenient and donating whatever time they can. Additional work will be done on the roof, windows and gym floor, along with thorough removal of broken glass in the carpeted rooms. The group will also take inventory of items left in the building.

Plans for the work day were finalized when the community center board met this week. Arrangements for the aerobics classes which will begin at the center May 7 were also completed.

As the first step in furnishing the community center, the board approved a "buy-a-chair" project, with the name of persons donating money to buy a folding chair to be placed on that chair.

The next meeting of the board will be May 8 at 7 p.m. in the community room of the Albion Fire Station.

Albion Center Notes Alumni Donations

ALBION — Donations of \$75 from three Albion alumni were noted when the Albion Community Center board met last week. The group suggested several changes in the proposed lease with the City of Albion for the former school building and approved the final version which will be submitted to the Council at their May 21 meeting.

The Community Center board finalized plans for a bake sale and "buy-a-chair" drive on the Fidelity Brenton Bank grounds on Sunday, May 20, from 4 to 7 p.m. in conjunction with the bank's open house. Donations of baked goods are being solicited and should be brought to the Community Center table by 3:30 p.m. that Sunday.

Another work day was set for Saturday, May 19, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the community center.

A town meeting to make plans for a Labor Day fundraiser for the community center, with area clubs and organizations participating, will be held Tuesday, May 22, at 7 p.m. at the community room of the fire station. All interested persons are urged to attend.

Labor Day Plans Start At Albion

ALBION — Preliminary plans were formulated for a Labor Day weekend fundraiser to benefit the Albion Community Center during a planning meeting Wednesday night, and another meeting for all persons interested in the event was set for Wednesday, May 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the community room of the Albion Fire Station.

The list of events includes a hog roast, teen dance and adult dance in the Community Center gym on separate nights with live bands, assorted games, face painting, car-parts swap and an auction of new and used items. Anyone willing to donate items to the auction, large or small, may contact Dwayne and JoAnne Mittelstadt at 488-2283, Karen Betts at 488-2429 or call Mrs. Mittelstadt at the Albion Library at 488-2226.



BIG ENOUGH TO RIDE! — Jared Kvinlaug-Lewis, 16-month-old son of Linda Lewis and Jacob Kvinlaug, Albion, took time out of his busy schedule to demonstrate the size of the stuffed Garfield being raffled in Albion. The raffle, being held as a fundraiser for the Albion Communi-

ty Center during the Labor Day weekend festivities in Albion, was donated by Coach House Gifts. Raffle tickets are available at the library in Albion, and the drawing will be held during the teen dance on Friday, Aug. 31.



FACE-PAINTING — Linda Lewis gives a face-painting preview to Heather Willcox, 10-year-old daughter of Garry and Mary Willcox of Albion. Face-painting is just one of many festivities planned in Albion

for its Labor Day celebration. Those wishing to have an artistic-looking face will have the chance on Monday, after the 9 a.m. parade until about 4 p.m. (Staff photo by Mary Dooley)

August 8, 1984

Albion Plans Two Dances

ALBION — Two dances, one for teens and one for adults, have been scheduled during the Labor Day weekend as part of the fundraising activities for the new Albion Community Center, and raffles will be held during both dances.

The teen dance will be held Friday, Aug. 31, from 8 to 11 p.m. in the Albion gym with Mike Uhde as DJ. Admission is \$1 per person at the door.

A huge stuffed Garfield valued at more than \$200, donated by Coach House Gifts, will be one of the raffle prizes at the teen dance. Other raffle prizes are two large pizzas at DiGiacomo's and an AM portable radio with headphones from Radio Shack. Raffle tickets are 50 cents each or three for \$1.

The adult dance on Saturday, Sept. 1, also in the gym, will feature the music of "Texas." Tickets are \$5 per couple or \$3 for singles, are available in advance at the Albion Library, and Western Supply in Marshalltown and from many Albion residents.

The adult raffle will be for a "get-away weekend" complete with gift certificates for motel accommodations, supper, theater, breakfast and lunch donated by the following Marshalltown businesses: Regency Inn, Fox Lounge, Thunderbird restaurant, Dubinsky Theaters, Country Kitchen and Perkins.



Dining Room

This Year's Labor Day Events At Albion Special

ALBION — Albion has always prided itself on the Labor Day festivities it has put on over the years and this year's weekend-long schedule carries with it a special atmosphere of pride and celebration: The town's first manufacturing plant, Donco Air Products, will hold its open house and dedication ceremony Saturday morning to coincide with the weekend fundraising events to benefit the townspeople are turning into a community center.

Sen. Charles Grassley will head up the list of dignitaries on hand for the Donco ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony set for 9 a.m. Saturday. Also expected is a representative of the Iowa Development Commission, along with Gene McRill, Albion Industrial Development, Inc., president, and Larry Raymon, Donco president.

Tours For Public Set

Tours of the Donco plant for the general public will follow the ceremony.

Aides to Sen. Grassley indicated he will also attend the Albion Lions Club pancake breakfast which will be served from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Albion gym preceding the Donco ceremony.

A highlight of the Saturday schedule for children will be the pet show from 1 to 3 p.m. on the Community Center grounds. Entrants must be between four and 13 years of age, showing a pet either on a leash or in a container. The pet must have been owned by the entrant's family for at least one month and no hooved animals are allowed.

Pet show categories include: Dog — longest tail; shortest ears; longest hair and best trick; Cat — largest; longest whiskers and most unusual; Other — tamest; largest and most unusual. A special event will be the Best Costume; participants may dress the pet only or both themselves and their pets. Prizes of first, second and third place will be awarded and all prize winners will compete for Best of Show.

Other Events Planned

Other events planned for the weekend include: slo-pitch mixed league softball tournament Friday evening through Sunday evening; teen dance this Friday, 8 to 11 p.m.; auto parts swap meet, Saturday and Sunday; book and craft sale, Saturday and Sunday; adult dance to "Texas" at the gym Saturday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; rummage sale Sunday and Monday; parade, Monday at 9 a.m.; auction, Monday noon; horseshoe tournament Monday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and game stands all day Monday.

As with the effort to keep the school open three years ago, this Labor Day weekend fundraiser to turn the old school into a community center has drawn the greater Albion area together in a feeling of pride and hope for creating an active center to benefit all area residents.



PETS OF ALL VARIETIES are being groomed ... and costumed ... in the Albion area in preparation for Saturday's pet show, set for 1 to 3 p.m. at the Albion Community Center grounds as part of the weekend-long Labor Day activities to benefit the Community Center. Vanessa Arney, 9, daughter of Herb and Teresa Arney, rural Albion, practices "showing" her pet duck ... while dreaming of blue prize ribbons. (Staff photo by Mary Dooley)

*Times Republican
August 31, 1984*



Dining Room



STOP OUT AT THE ALBION LABOR DAY WEEKEND FESTIVAL

- ★All Proceeds go the Albion Community Center, Inc. formerly Albion school house.
- ★A Camping area north of the Community Center will be available.
- ★Food, beer and soft drinks will be on sale all weekend.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31st

Pork Producers Serving—

- 6:00 pm — Softball Tournament begins at ball diamond.
- 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm — **TEEN DANCE** in Gym at Comm. Center with Mike Uhde as D.J.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1st

Softball Tournament Continues

- 7:00 am to 9:00 am — Lions Club Pancake Breakfast at Comm. Center
- 8:00 am — Auto Parts Swap opens East end of Community Center yard.
- 9:00 am to Noon — **DONCO AIR PRODUCTS TOUR** - Hayride shuttle from Comm. Center to Donco.
- Come See Our New Factory
- 11:00 am — Pork Producers Serving.
- 10:00 am to 5:00 pm — Arts & Crafts Fair & Book Sale.
- 11:30 am to 12:30 pm — Cornflake Cloggers.
- 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm — Bluegrass Band - The
- 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm — Unstrung Heroes from Dubuque.
- 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm — Pet Show Judging - south side of bldg.
- 9:00 pm to 1:00 am — **DANCE with TEXAS** playing - Beer & Food Available.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2nd

Softball Tournament Continues

Car Parts Swap Continues

Pork Producers Serving

Noon - Book Sale Continues

- 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm — Gigantic Rummage Sale - Lower level at Comm. Center.
- 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm — Square Dancers in Gym.

MONDAY, SEPT. 3rd

Rummage Sale Continues

- 8:00 am — Coffee and Rolls at Community Center.
- 8:30 am — Lineup at City Park for Parade.
- 9:00 am — Parade from City Park to Community Center.
- 10:00 am — Stands Open at Albion Comm. Center — Dunk Tank, Jail, Dart Throw, Ring Pop Throw, Cake Walk, Face Painting, Clowns, Raffle Table, Break Dancers.
- 11:00 am — Complete Meal served by Marshall Co. Pork Producers.
- 11:00 am — Horseshoe Tournament Opens Southside of Community Center.
- 12:00 Noon — **AUCTION** at Gym with new and used items.
- 3:00 pm — Raffle Drawings in Gym (Raffle tickets may be purchase at Albion Caseys).

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS - Albion Caseys, Fidelity Brenton Bank, Ia. Valley Mutual Ins., Marshall Co. Pork Producers, Otilie Seed Farms, Ia. River F.S., Donco Air Products, McGregors, Carpet Country, Iowa Electric, Coach House Gifts, Albion Lions' Club, Kathy Brindle, Chas. Long, Albion Our Own Hardware.

We extend a great big Thanks to all the Businesses and Merchants, too numerous to mention, that have donated thousands of dollars worth of merchandise and services.

Join Us for This Exciting Weekend!

Everyone Will Be There!

Ad Sponsored by Fidelity Brenton Bank





CELEBRATIONS AND BALLOONS are naturals together, especially when combined with children, and the helium balloons which Crescent Dutton (left) and Brenda Peshel are shown blowing up under the climb-

ing poles on the Albion Community Center grounds were a popular sale item at the Labor Day weekend fundraiser for the fledgling Community Center. (Staff photo by Mary Dooley)



ALBION'S FUTURE and its heritage were linked during dedication ceremonies Saturday for Donco Air Products when its site was officially designated as Lafayette Industrial Park, after the original name of the town. Sen. Charles Grassley (right) praised Donco President Larry Raymon (left) for his decision to stay in Iowa and build

in a small community, and he applauded the local townspeople for the initiative they showed in convincing Donco to choose Albion. Some 200 area residents were on hand for the dedication and ribbon-cutting, which the Senator did with, appropriately, a pair of tin snips used in the Donco plant. (Staff photo)

Albion Celebration Raises Funds For Center; Industry Welcomed

ALBION — Exhausted and elated described the many Albion area residents who put in long hours prior to and during the Labor Day weekend to stage the three-and-a-half day fundraiser to benefit the fledgling Albion Community Center, the former school building.

With some money still to come in and a few bills yet to be paid, officials said the total gross receipts will be close to \$9,000, and termed the weekend "tremendously successful ... beyond our wildest dreams!"

The money is targeted first for window replacements, a public address system and installing a drop-ceiling in the gym, along with furnaces for the gym and classroom areas beneath the gym, according to Jacob Kvinlaug, ACC board president.

Raffle Winners Told

Winners for the raffles conducted during the weekend were: Microwave - Herb Arney, Albion; \$100 - Tim Wunn, Marshalltown, and Shirley Miller, Albion; Stuffed Garfield - Kenny Arnote. Bob's Best won the slo-pitch mixed league softball tournament and first place in the horseshoe tournament went to Cecil Byers, LeGrand.

Saturday's Pet Show blue ribbon winners were: Best of Show - Hima-

layan cat shown by Jeanette Smith, Route 1; who also showed the Best Cat; Best Dog - Edie Davis, Albion; Best Other Animal - Brian Sinclair, Albion, rabbit; Best Costume - Jody Simpson, Albion, Bassett hound.

Division winners were: Dog - longest tail, Jody Simpson; shortest ears, Amy Mulstay; longest hair, Kim Balvanz; best trick, Edie Davis. Cat - longest whiskers, Vanessa Arney; most unusual, Jeanette Smith; Other Animals - tamest, Kent Keeler, hamster; largest, Brian Sinclair, rabbit; most unusual, Justin Arney, tree frog.

First place parade winners on Monday were: Famous people, Travis Roe, Superman; Fantasy, Katie Anderson and her horse "Juggy"; Floats, Traci Oaks and Sarah Dooley family and friends, "Our Heritage To Our Future" Storybook, Katrina Wiser, "Old Woman in a Shoe"; Animals, Jody and Billy Simpson, "A Hunting I Will Go"; Star Wars, Cassidy Randall



Gym

Other Games—East
mon Forecast

July 19, 1984

Sweet Corn Festival Funds To Benefit Four Projects

With proceeds earmarked for the Albion Community Center, Marshall County Parks improvements, the Sweet Corn Scholarship Fund and Marshalltown Community College, the 1984 Sweet Corn Festival at the Marshalltown Mall will get under way this Saturday and Sunday.

Among the highlights of the festival this year will be four street dances at the mall, a run for charity and entertainment including local favorites as well as statewide celebrities Floppy and Duane Ellett.

Street dances will be from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturday at no charge. "Rising High" will be in the Younkers Court from 6 to 10 on Saturday and will feature country, rock and 50s favorites by a Green Mountain band. Dance contests will also be part of this event. Dave Bellegante, Colo, will be in the center stage court at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Saturday. He has been a state championship fiddler for three consecutive years.

The Central Iowa Square Dance Club will be in the Walgreens Court from 6 to 10 with free lessons given during their stay. There is no charge to watch, but participants must pay \$3 a couple to dance. Chuck Ratliff of Newton will be the caller.

In addition, free arcade games will be open at the Land of Oz from 7 to 9 p.m. Adult supervision will be provided.

Other entertainment scheduled for throughout the weekend in the center Younkers Court will include the Cornflake Cloggers on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and Sunday at 1 and 2 p.m. Floppy and Duane Ellett will perform Saturday at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m., and local children are invited to come and tell silly riddles and beep the famous Floppy nose. It is noted that autographs will be given between performances.

Willis Knight, a folk artist from Iowa City, will perform Saturday at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. on his mandolin and other folk instruments. He will sing Iowa ballads. "Unstrung Heroes" will be at the mall Sunday at noon, 1:30 and 2:30 singing black spirituals, folk rock and contem-

porary ballads. They will accompany themselves on the banjo, guitar, dulcimer and autoharp.

"Four Hands in a Cloud of Dust", a puppet show from Tama, will be performing Sunday at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Bob and Kerry Aiken are behind the scenes for this event.

Toby KID, a clown from Baxter, will be at the mall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday with his juggling and other acts. He will make free balloon animals for the children.

The Sweet Corn Festival run for charity will be Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. The 5K and 10K races will be held in three age divisions with Masters, Open Men's and Open Women's events. Awards will be given for first place, and the run will commence in the east parking lot behind JC Penney. Check-in time is from 7 to 8 a.m.

In other racing action, a Big Wheels Race will be held at Godfather's Pizza Saturday at 10 a.m. Children ages 3-6 are invited to participate, with first prize in each of the two age group categories being a 12-inch black and white television. Second through fifth place finishers will receive gift certificates for Godfather's Pizzas.

What Sweet Corn Festival could be complete without a sweet corn stand? The one at Marshalltown Mall will be in the Sears Court Saturday and Sunday from noon to 3 p.m. while supplies last. The Iowa produce will be sold 12 ears at \$1.50 or 15 cents an ear. Sweet corn caps, T-shirts and polo shirts will also be for sale.

Food stands will be in the center court Saturday and Sunday and will include specialties prepared by Marshall County groups.

July 23, 1984

Albion Labor Day Event To Aid Center

ALBION — Labor Day Weekend in Albion will be three days of fun and fundraising, as the community pitches in this time to support the fledgling Albion Community Center. Similar events in the past raised money to try to retain the school (now the site of the Community Center) and later to support the new

Municipal Library. But this effort even exceeds those, as a wide variety of events are being scheduled throughout the holiday weekend.

Friday evening, Aug. 31, a Mixed League Slo-Pitch Tournament for B and C League Teams will begin, to run through Sunday. A teen dance will be held in the Community Cen-

ter gym from 8 to 11 p.m. with Mike Uhde as disc jockey. That Friday evening dance also will feature the raffle of a huge stuffed "Garfield." Marshall County Pork Producers will serve porkburgers the entire weekend, beginning Friday night.

Pancake Breakfast Set

The Albion Lions Club will hold a pancake breakfast Saturday morning, followed by an arts and crafts fair Saturday at the town park, and a car parts swap meet on the Albion Community Center grounds both Saturday and Sunday.

An adult dance Saturday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the ACC gym will feature the music of "Texas." The ball tournament will end that evening prior to the dance.

Sunday afternoon events will include a rummage sale from 1 to 5 p.m. and a performance of square dancing at 2 p.m. at the Community Center.

On Labor Day, Sept. 3, a costumed Kiddie Parade will start off the events at 9 a.m., marching from the town park to the ACC grounds. Teresa Arney is in charge of the parade. A wide assortment of carnival-type games, including a cake walk and pop toss, will run throughout the day on the Community Center grounds. That day, the Pork Producers will serve a complete dinner.

Auction Sale Labor Day

A large auction with new merchandise as well as lots of used items will begin at 1 p.m. that Monday. Among the early listings are a snowblower, used refrigerator, and professional dental services.

Persons wishing to donate items for the auction may contact JoAnn Mittelstadt at 488-2283 or at the library at 488-2226. Donations for the rummage sale may be directed to Jan Borton, 488-2478.

Facilities for camping during the weekend are also being arranged and campers are welcome, planners note.

The next planning meeting will be held Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Albion Community Center, and all persons willing to help with any of the fundraising events are urged to attend or to contact Karen Betts, 488-2429, with offers of assistance.



Jake K. fixing B.R.
partitions



Larry Smith
Dale Borton

Albion's Labor Day Events Have Special Importance

ALBION — A Labor Day weekend packed with games, sales, music and dancing, food, fun and tours is taking shape in Albion, with proceeds from the celebration designed to launch the Albion Community Center into full operation.

For those who love a bargain, there will be several opportunities! An auto swap meet will run from 7 a.m. Saturday through 5 p.m. Sunday; a book and craft sale will be held both Saturday from 10 a.m. on and Sunday from noon. Both of those events will be outside on the Community Center grounds (former schoolgrounds). Anyone interested in selling their own crafts may still reserve an exhibit space at \$5 by contacting Linda Lewis, 488-2712.

A huge rummage sale of clothes and household items will run from Sunday at 1 p.m. through Monday afternoon in the newer classroom section under the gym. Items for that rummage sale have poured in from around the countryside, those in charge report.

Auction-goers will have both new and used merchandise to choose from at the Monday noon auction at the Community Center. New items donated by area merchants include brown-and-beige carpeting, three double rolls of wallpaper, two gallons of exterior stain, silver platter, Weed-Eater, coffeemaker, craft items, grocery gift certificate, and services including a front-end alignment and dental services. Used items range from televisions, a Kirby vacuum cleaner, snowblower and lawnmower to memorabilia from the old Albion Consolidated School.

At least three raffles will be conducted during the weekend. The first drawing, during the teen dance Friday night, will be for the giant stuffed Garfield. A "Get-Away Weekend" will be raffled during the adult dance Saturday night in the gym. The drawing for the microwave oven, donated by Casey's, and the two \$100 bills donated by Iowa Valley Insurance, will be held at 3 p.m. Monday in the gym.

For the competition-minded, there will be a mixed league slo-pitch softball tournament, beginning at 6 p.m. Friday and concluding with championship awards at 8 p.m. Sunday. Teams interested in entering should contact Aaron Catron, 488-2948 or Karen Betts, 488-2429.

Competition of another form will be featured in a pet show Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. Several categories will be judged, including best-costumed pet and best of show and ribbons will be awarded. Registration forms are available at the Albion Library.

Monday's parade will feature costumed kids with their decorated bikes and wagons, all competing in

different categories for prizes. Divisions include: The final competitive event of the weekend will be a horseshoe-pitching tournament Monday from 9 to 11 a.m.

Music and dancing will be interspersed throughout the weekend. In addition to the teen and adult dances, demonstrations are scheduled by the Cornflake Cloggers at 11:30 a.m. Saturday and by a square dance group on Sunday from 2 to 3 p.m. in the gym. Bluegrass music will be played by the Unstrung Heroes from Dubuque in two sets Saturday, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Tours of the new Donco Air Products manufacturing plant, Albion's first industry which just opened Monday, have been set up for the public on Saturday of Labor Day weekend from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The traditional game stands, from the dunk tanks to cake walks, ring toss to balloon throws, will be set up on the Community Center grounds Monday from 9 a.m. throughout the day. To add to the fun, clowns will sell balloons all weekend, and face-painting will also be available throughout the three-day event.

An abundance of food has also been arranged. Marshall County Pork Producers will serve grilled porkburgers throughout the weekend, beginning Friday at 5 p.m. and thereafter each day at 11 a.m. On Monday, a complete meal featuring porkburgers will be available from 11 a.m. on.

The Albion Lions Club will hold a public pancake breakfast Saturday at the gym, with serving to start at 7 a.m. A hot dog stand will operate on the Community Center grounds on Monday and coffee and rolls will also be available starting at 8 a.m. on Labor Day.

Tables and chairs for the Albion Community Center have been purchased from earlier fundraisers, along with some other equipment and repairs for the former school building which the town purchased from Marshalltown School District. All proceeds from the Labor Day weekend events will go toward further improvements and programs at the Community Center.

The final planning meeting for the Labor Day weekend celebration will be held Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Community Center.

August 25, 1984

Albion 'Kiddie' Parade Grows

ALBION — The Albion Labor Day parade has grown from a "kiddie" parade to include antique tractors, machinery and cars, a contingent from the Za-Ga-Zig Shriners with their miniature cars and a parade favorite, horses.

A 1938 Chevy fire truck will lead off the parade, and a miniature fire truck will be featured, along with a new full-size fire truck.

Clowns marching with the parade will give away candy donated by Lillie Mae Candies.

The children's portion of the parade will have costume competition in seven categories: Wild West, famous people, animal costumes, Star Wars, fantasy characters, storybook characters and floats.

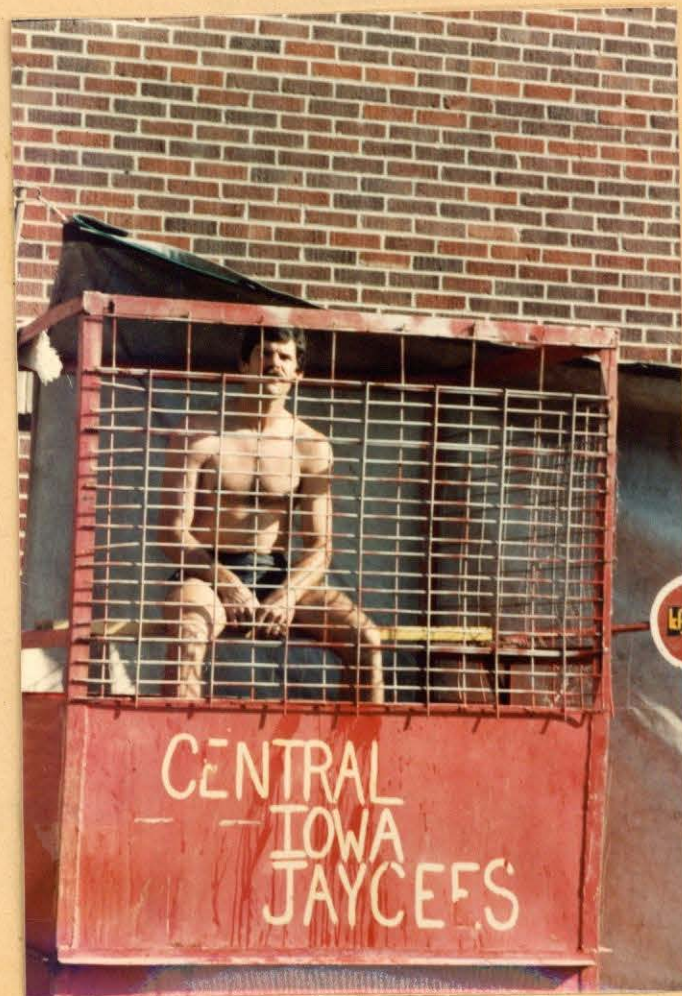
Prizes given the winners in those divisions will be free tickets for the game stands open that Monday: dunk tank, dart throw, ring pop toss, cake walk, jail and face-painting.

Children entering the costume competition are to be at the city park at 8:30 a.m. Sept. 3 to enter.

Other persons wishing to participate in the parade may contact Doug Betts, 488-2429.

The three-day celebration at Albion over the Labor Day weekend will benefit the Albion Community Center.

Sabbat Weekend 1984



Saturday weekend 1984



November 7, 1984

Work Day Set At Albion Center

ALBION — A work day to finish installing the furnace gas lines in the Albion Community Center will be held Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. The replacement of some windows is also planned during the work day and volunteers are urged to attend.

During the ACCI board meeting held Tuesday night, the purchase of indoor athletic equipment was approved for use this winter.

Fees have been set for rental of single rooms or the gym at the community center. To obtain a fee schedule, contact Jacob Kvinlaug, board president, at 488-2719, or Karen Betts, secretary, at 488-2429.

Coming events were noted, including the Nov. 17 teen dance; the Liscomb Firemen's dance rescheduled for Dec. 15, and an ACCI benefit dance on Feb. 16 with music by "Country Pleasure" from Waterloo. It was reported that the Halloween party drew some 50 area children and will become an annual event.

Board meetings have been set for the first Tuesday in each month, with the public invited to attend. The board will next meet on Dec. 4.

November 10, 1984

Albion Teens Will Make Dance Plans

ALBION — Albion teens will meet at the Albion Community Center at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday to finalize plans for the Nov. 17 teen dance. During the planning meeting, chaperones will be lined up and the group will schedule workers for refreshments.

All area teenagers will be invited to attend the dance, on Saturday, Nov. 17. Admission will be \$1.50 per person.

December 7, 1984

Albion Center Progress Noted

ALBION — Updates on improvements made at the Albion Community Center were given when the board of directors met this week. It was noted that hanging furnaces had been installed in the gym, bathrooms constructed on the main floor near the gym, and progress was being made on converting one of the large north rooms nearby into a kitchen/dining room.

Persons willing to donate labor on the kitchen and other projects are asked to contact Dwayne Mittelstadt.

Donations were reported of four tables and 40 chairs from the Albion Fire Department, which was matched by the Community Center, along with an additional donation from Dwayne and JoAnne Mittelstadt, bringing the total to 10 tables and 80 chairs. Monetary donations were received from Ruth McQuigg, \$10, and Mary Dooley, \$25. Doug Betts reported that a furnace boiler donated by the law firm of Brooks, Ward and Trout when they moved into new offices, has been moved to his shop and he will refurbish it for use in the Community Center.

Karen Betts announced the coming events at the Center, including the Liscomb Firemen's Dance on Dec. 15, and a kids' fun day during Christmas vacation. Plans for that event will be finalized at the next meeting of the board, set for Dec. 18.

The board changed the regular monthly meeting night to the third Tuesday of each month.

September 10, 1984

Albion Event Highly Successful

Editor, Times-Republican:

The Albion Labor Day Weekend Festival was a great success. A big thank you goes to all the businesses and merchants that kindly supported our effort to raise money for the renovation of the former school house into the Albion Community Center. We raised over \$8,000 during the three-and-a-half day event.

Many Albion residents, adults and teenagers alike, worked the entire weekend. They deserve a very special thank you for their energy and

dedication to this community project.

Albion is a small town with a big future. The townspeople are working on many different projects to provide services unheard of in other towns of equal size. So, if you're out for a drive this weekend, come visit Albion. See for yourself what a lot of hard work can produce. Pride is alive in Albion.

Albion Community Center, Inc.
Box 216, Albion 50005

December 3, 1985

ACCT Help Appreciated

Editor, Times-Republican:

The ACCT—Albion Community Center Teens—would like to thank the chaperones for helping us at the dance. We would also like to thank the people who put in the furnaces and fixed the windows before the dance.

We encourage all people between the ages of 13-19 to come to the meetings. The next meeting is Dec. 19, then every third Wednesday of each month thereafter.

ACCT, Box 216
Albion, 50005

December 22, 1984

Albion Community Center Plans Holiday Season Fun Day Dec. 29

ALBION — A Kids Fun Day at the Albion Community Center gym was set for Saturday, Dec. 29, when the ACC board met recently. Children ages 6-10 are invited to use the gym from 10 a.m. to noon for basketball, volleyball and other indoor games; youth age 11 and up may use the gym free of charge from 1 to 3 p.m. that Saturday. Adult supervision will be provided but additional adult help for any of those hours is also sought.

The board approved use of the gym for Park and Rec activities planned for local children for seven Saturdays this winter. Activities planned and supervised by Park and Rec personnel are now set for Jan. 12 — Feb. 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. Specific information will be announced by the Park and Rec Department.

The 1985 fee schedule for rent of Community Center facilities was finalized as follows: meeting rooms — \$10 per hour with each additional hour \$5 extra; gymnasium — \$15 per hour with each additional hour \$10, with a daily rate of \$125 to rent the gym from 10 a.m. the day of the event until 10 a.m. the following day. In addition, a clean-up deposit of \$25 will be required, refundable following inspection.

It was noted that the hourly gym

rental rate is lower than was charged by the Marshalltown School District when it maintained the building as a school; the deposit was imposed in order to keep clean-up and maintenance costs at a minimum for the fledgling Community Center. Dorothy Keeler has agreed to keep the calendar and schedule all events; persons wishing to rent the facilities may contact her at the Town Hall, 488-2244.

Board members discussed plans for a kitchen/dining area in a room on the gym level and emphasized that a great amount of work remains to be done before the building is ready for many events people have inquired about. They approved hiring local men if possible to assist in installing the gridwork for the lowered ceiling in the gym during the winter months. Area persons interested in such work should contact Jacob Kvinlaug, ACC board president.

Mary Dooley was appointed to look into the possibility of establishing a preschool in the Community Center in the fall of 1985. Anyone interested in working on that committee should contact her.

The next board meeting will be Jan. 15 at the community room of the Albion Fire Station.



A BIRD'S EYE VIEW — You can't be afraid of heights and have a job like Lee Vassett's. Vassett, Marshalltown, is installing ceiling

panels in the Albion Community Center gymnasium. A crew, working under the direction of Albion Community Center board president

Jacob Kvinlaug, plans to have the ceiling lowered by the middle of next week. (Staff photo by Kathy Martin)

February 13, 1985



HE'S INTO INSULATION — Kevin Waltemeyer, Albion, is cutting insulation 6 1/4 inches thick for the Albion Community Center gymnasium. Workers are rushing to lower the ceiling before Saturday when a dance will be held there to benefit the community center. Country

Pleasure, a band from Waterloo, will play from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. in the newly-remodeled gym. Admission is \$2.50. Although the ceiling is being lowered to conserve energy, it will not be lowered enough to interfere with sports activities. (Staff photo by Kathy Martin)

March 23, 1985

Albion Center Picks Officers

ALBION — Dick Wilkening of Marshalltown was elected president of the Albion Community Center Board of Directors during the group's annual meeting this week. Other officers chosen include Dwayne Mittelstadt, vice president; Mary Lou Tappe, secretary, and Jacob Kvinlaug, treasurer.

Wilkening announced that a special meeting, to get input from area residents on programs they would like to see sponsored at the community center, will be held Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Albion Municipal Library. He urged everyone interested to attend.

A work day will be held this Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing throughout the day, to get the kitchen, dining room, rec room and bathrooms ready for dry wall.

ACC Teen Committee members reported that their game room will open in April. They also announced plans for a pizza party with volleyball and basketball for teens, ages 12-19, to be held Sunday from 5 to 8 p.m. for a 50-cent contribution.

Tentative plans were discussed for a Labor Day fundraiser for the community center. A work schedule was set up with at least two persons responsible each month for opening the building for scheduled events and overseeing clean-up afterward. Those in charge for April are Dick Wilkening and Jim Wilkening; Dale Borton and Dwayne Mittelstadt, May; Jacob Kvinlaug and Mrs. Tappe, June.

The first reading on changing the by-laws to expand the board of directors and to change the annual meeting date to the third Tuesday of March was given.

Coming events set at the community center include a Pony Express Dance March 30 and an Iowa Polka Club dance April 21.

March 27, 1985

Albion Center Asks Volunteers

ALBION — Volunteers to continue remodeling work at the Albion Community Center were requested during that group's special public meeting Tuesday evening, by Vice President Dwayne Mittelstadt. He set a work day for this Saturday and asked that volunteers be at the Community Center by 9 a.m. Coffee will be furnished, he noted.

During the meeting, further plans were reviewed for the kitchen being built on the second floor near the gym, and the installation of a separate furnace for that area was also discussed.

Two dances were planned as fundraisers for the community center. The first, on April 13, will feature '50s and '60s music played by Disc Jockey Greg Smith. That adult dance will run from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. On May 10, "Texas" will play for the second benefit dance.

It was noted that two dances have been booked at the community center by other groups, and ACC volunteers were scheduled to serve the March 30 Pony Express dance and the April 21 Iowa Polka Club dance.

The ACC Teens Committee's request, that the open gym on Monday evenings be continued, was approved for volleyball, with all ages welcome.

The next regular meeting of the community center board is April 16, according to Dick Wilkening, president.

3-13-85

Albion Advisory Group Will Meet Tuesday

The Albion Community Center advisory board will discuss upcoming activities as well as the volunteer program and progress of the remodeling program when it meets Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Albion Municipal Library.

The meeting is open to the public and all interested persons are urged to attend, said Board President Richard Wilkening.

A fundraiser dance is scheduled for Saturday with D.J. Greg Smith playing songs from the '60s and '70s. All ages are welcome from teen through adult. The Iowa Polka Festival will be held in the Community Center gym April 21. This event is also open to the public.

April 9, 1985

Albion Center Needs Volunteers

Editor, Times-Republican:

The concerned people of the Albion Community Center fought hard to get the Albion school back into the community. The Albion Community Center is really coming along great so far. The gym has been fixed up really nice, and right now they are in the process of putting in a kitchen, dining room, recreation room for the kids, plus all new bath facilities. The gym is being rented out at nights for sports, and there are dances planned to raise more money to keep the center going.

But what we really need is more volunteers. We have several activities we would like to get going, but we need more support from the

community. We still have a lot of work to get done and we could use any help for cleaning, carpenter work, or odd jobs. We will be working this Saturday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and we would appreciate any help.

And to all of those people who have worked very hard on the Community Center so far I would like to thank you for all your time and effort because without you there would be no Community Center. And a special thanks to all the kids who have helped; they've done a terrific job.

Richard G. Wilkening,
Albion Community Center
1415 W. Linn St.

n, Iowa, Wednesday, March 27, 1985

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It was noted that two dances have been booked at the community center by other groups, and ACC volunteers were scheduled to serve the March 30 Pony Express dance and the April 21 Iowa Polka Club dance.

The ACC Teens Committee's request, that the open gym on Monday evenings be continued, was approved for volleyball, with all ages welcome.

The next regular meeting of the community center board is April 16, according to Dick Wilkening, president.

3/23/85

Albion Center Picks Officers

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Wilkening announced that a special meeting, to get input from area residents on programs they would like to see sponsored at the community center, will be held Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Albion Municipal Library. He urged everyone interested to attend.

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4/9/85

Letters

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community. We still have a lot of work to get done and we could use any help for cleaning, carpenter work, or odd jobs. We will be working this Saturday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and we would appreciate any help.

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Richard G. Wilkening,
Albion Community Center
1415 W. Linn St.

Albion Planning Labor Day Fete

ALBION — Plans for a one-day celebration on Labor Day were discussed at the Tuesday evening meeting of the Albion Community Center board. The fund-raising activities to benefit the Community Center will include a slo-pitch tournament, as well as carnival-type game stands. A benefit dance just prior to the Labor Day event was set for Aug. 31.

Dick Wilkening, ACC president, announced a special meeting to make further plans for Labor Day activities. That meeting will be held Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Albion Library, and all area residents with ideas for Labor Day, or who are willing to assist in any way, are urged to attend.

A schedule of volunteers was set up to work at the Iowa Polka Festival on Sunday. That dance, from 2 to 6 p.m., is open to the public, it was noted.

Albion Center Plans Discussed

Plans for the forthcoming Labor Day celebration were discussed when the advisory board held its monthly meeting at the Albion Library Tuesday night.

Along with a three-day softball tournament, plans were set for a Saturday night dance, to be held in conjunction with an Iowa Chop dinner served by the Pork Producers. A Labor Day "trash and treasures" sale is also being planned with a signup list for tables, available at the Albion Library.

The next planning meeting will be Tuesday, June 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Volunteers are still needed and the public is urged to attend.

Albion Labor Day Planning Builds

ALBION — Plans for numerous Labor Day activities, all of which will benefit the Albion Community Center, are being formulated and will be discussed further at a planning meeting Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Library.

In addition to an Iowa Chop dinner preceding the dance Aug. 31, at which "Gold Rush" will play, other activities include a mixed league slo-pitch tournament and various carnival stands.

A "trash and treasures" sale is being organized by Jan Borton for Sept. 2, with table space renting for \$5 per space. Persons wishing to bring their own homemade crafts, artwork, or rummage, or groups who want to sell items to benefit their organizations, should contact Mrs. Borton at 488-2478 to reserve the number of spaces they need.

Local volunteers are being solicited to assist with the Labor Day events and are encouraged to attend the Tuesday evening planning meeting at the Albion Library.

Albion Center Sets Fundraising Events

ALBION — Several fundraising events, including a slave auction, are being planned by the Albion Community Center Teens during July, to purchase items which the teens group wishes to donate for the community center.

The first event will be a car wash on Saturday, July 13, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the cement driveway in front of the Gale Linsenmeyer home on Main Street.

A two-day garage sale is set for Saturday and Sunday, July 20 and 21, at the Albion Park. Hours for the garage sale are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. that Saturday and 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday; Kool-Aid and iced tea will be available. Persons wishing to donate items to the garage sale are asked to call Kim Mercer at 488-2767.

The slave auction will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, July 20, as the garage sale concludes that day at the town park.

The proposed ACCT events were approved by the Albion Community Center board at its recent meeting, during which further plans for the Albion Labor Day activities were discussed.



ALBION COMMUNITY CENTER game room provides a spot for local youth to try their skills at video games and the pool table, as Travis Bittner, Chip Uhde, Paula Waltemeyer and Kim Mercer demonstrate. Hours for the game room, which is supervised by adult volunteers, are posted on the

Community Center door, at Casey's, the Post Office and the Albion Library. In addition, the game room is open during dances, including the 50s and 60s dance set for this Saturday evening.
(Staff photo by Mary Dooley)

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Albion Labor Day Planning Continues

Additional events and attractions were added to the list of Labor Day activities being planned as a major fundraising event for the Albion Community Center, during this week's planning meeting.

A teen dance will be held Friday night, Aug. 30, with Chuck Carpenter of KDAO as disc jockey. On Labor Day, stagecoach rides and kiddie rides will be available, a garden tractor pull will be held, and the Black Powder group will set up teepees and hold hatchet and Bowie knife throwing contests within their membership for the public to watch.

At the meeting, Jan Borton reported that some 10x10-foot areas are still open for rent to those with garage sale or craft items to sell. To reserve a space, contact Mrs. Borton at 488-2478.

Jean Garrett, in charge of adult entries for the 10 a.m. parade on Labor Day, reminds persons interested in participating, including those planning to ride horses in the parade, to contact her in advance at 753-5035.

While most of the events will take place on Labor Day, the weekend lineup includes:

- Aug. 30 — Teen dance.
- Aug. 31 — B and C mixed slo-pitch tournament from 10 a.m. with pork and bratwurst sandwiches and beer truck available; pork chop and pork patty dinner, 6:30-8 p.m.; Gold Rush dance, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

• Sept. 1 — Slo-pitch tournament continues with pork and bratwurst sandwiches and beer truck available.

• Sept. 2 (Labor Day) — Lion's Club breakfast, 6-9 a.m.; Slo-pitch tournament continues, 10 a.m.; Parade, both children and adult divisions, 10 a.m.; Stands all day — horseshoe pitching, ring toss, dunk tank, cake walk, dart throw, nickel throw, softball throw, football throw, woodcarving table, raffle table, garage/craft sale; stagecoach and kiddie rides; garden tractor pull; food stands and dinner available, all on Community Center grounds.

The next planning meeting will be held Tuesday, July 23, at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Library. Those not yet involved in the planning but who are willing to help with activities are urged to attend.

Letters

Youths Pitch In At Albion

Editor, Times-Republican:

We would like to thank a small group of Albion children and teens for their great work at the Community Center. These kids have worked for more than a year on the old school house helping the adults. They are so dedicated that no job is too big for them to take on. Some of the jobs that they did were messy dirty jobs that most adults would never volunteer to do. We wish we could thank them with money, but we cannot. The only pay they will get is that they hold a special place in our hearts. They are "special" and Albion is so lucky to have these kids as they are a great asset to our town.

They have their recreation room all done, and it is already a great success. They have a pool table and about 14 video games in it. And it is being enjoyed by young and old. They post their times to be open at Casey's, the Library and Post Office. The kids would like to encourage the people in the surrounding areas to come and enjoy it too. It is always supervised.

They have had teen dances, a car wash, garage sales and a slave auction. They were all a success, except

the slave auction and none of the adults in Albion came to bid on them. They were very disappointed because they had really looked forward to working for people.

But the ones of us on the board who were there did at first feel sorry for them, but I just thought to myself they have been slaves enough for the Community Center and they deserve a big hand and a long rest. As they are already looking forward to our Labor Day Celebration now we know they will end up helping us make the weekend a huge success. God bless you all and your determination will keep our Community Center going for all the people in Albion.

Dwayne & JoAnne Mittelstadt
Albion, 50005

Albion Seeking Parade Entries

ALBION — The need for more Labor Day Parade entries was stressed when directors of the Albion Community Center met this week. It was noted there will be no entry fee, and registrations are not required. More parade details can be obtained, however, by calling Jean Garrett at 753-5035 or Doug Betts at 488-2429.

Also in connection with Albion's Labor Day, there are still spaces available in the Trash and Treasure Sale; persons can bring flea market, antique or craft items. Jan Borton, 488-2478, has more information on this event.

It was reported that during the holiday weekend, there will be a Classic Car display and teen dance. The teen dance will be held Aug. 30 in the Community Center gym featuring KDAO disc jockey Chuck Carpenter.

A second dance was set for Aug. 9 in the Community Center featuring disc jockey Danny Hauser. Money raised will be used to improve the center.

The Community Center board's next meeting will be Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Anyone who would like to help is welcome to attend.



RAFFLE ITEMS GALORE have been donated for the Albion Labor Day weekend celebration, with all proceeds to be used for further improvements at the Albion Community Center. Jan Borton of Albion displays some of the more than 75 items given by area merchants to be raffled during the teen dance Friday, Aug. 30; the adult dance Saturday, Aug. 31, and on Labor Day during an indoor game and at a raffle table. Items pictured

include a pearl pendant from Earl's Jewelry; coffeemaker, Drugtown; insulated picnic bag, Fareway; rainsuit, Marshalltown Sports Center; traveling grill, Hy-Vee; carved duck, Custom Wood Carving; interior latex paint, Ward Lumber; popcorn, Party Pac and gift certificates from Godfathers, Bonanza, DiGiacomo's and Zenos.
(Staff photo by Mary Dooley)

Albion Labor Day Events Touted As "Best Ever"

ALBION — Though they started out this year to plan just a one-day Labor Day event, as a fundraiser for the Albion Community Center, the celebration has mushroomed to include activities on all four days, Aug. 30- Sept. 2, and planners now declare it will be "one of the best Labor Day celebrations ever at Albion!"

One of the highlights which has received considerable attention at recent planning meetings is an Iowa Chop supper set for Saturday, Aug. 31, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the new dining rooms at the community center. Cost of the full meal, including baked potato, vegetable, drink and ice cream, is \$5. The same meal, but with a pork pattie instead of the chop, will be available at \$2.50. Tickets are available now and will also be sold at the door. A dance with music by "Gold Rush" will follow the supper, from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. in the community center gym.

A dance for teens will start off the weekend, on Friday, Aug. 30, from 8

on the community center grounds immediately following the parade. They include: ring toss, dunk tank, cake walk, dart throw, nickel dish throw, football toss, softball toss, wooden carving table, raffle table and trash and treasures tables.

Persons wishing to rent a 10x10-foot space for craft, produce or garage sale tables may still contact Jan Borton to reserve those spaces.

Along with a hot dog stand and coffee and rolls, which will also be open before the parade, a noon meal of a grilled pork pattie, with homemade baked beans and potato salad furnished by women of Albion's two churches, will be served in the community center dining rooms at a cost of \$2 each. Noon-time entertainment will feature square dancing by the Central Iowa Square and Round Dance Club and music by Jerry Whitmore's Band.

Labor Day afternoon events include a garden tractor pull starting at 1 p.m., an indoor table game and a

TR
8/22/85 **Swing Your Partner**



SQUARE DANCING POPULARITY in Central Iowa spans all age groups, from retirees like Ida and Henry Judge, 113 Newcastle, to youngsters still in school. The Central Iowa Square and Round Dance Club offers lessons beginning Sept. 15, and will be performing demonstration dances Sunday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Marshalltown Mall and during the Albion Labor Day celebration over the noon hour Sept. 2 at the Albion Community Center, to stimulate interest in joining the club and taking lessons. (Staff photo)

T-R

8-26-85

Letters

Big Labor Day Coming For Albion

Editor, Times-Republican:

Labor Day was a day set aside for special recognition of the working person. Labor Day Weekend is a time to reward our toil with some well deserved fun and relaxation. So, if you're tired of your regular schedule of events and ready for some good times for the whole family, join us in Albion. Albion residents are hard at work planning one of the best Labor Day Weekend Celebrations ever.

Some of the major events for the weekend are as follows:

Aug. 30, Friday—Teen dance, 8-12 p.m. at the Albion Community Center.

Aug. 31, Saturday—B&C Slo Pitch Tournament at the Albion Ball Park; pork chop dinner, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Center; adult dance 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Center.

Sept. 1, Sunday—Sunday Service at City Park, 9 a.m.

Sept. 2, Monday—Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast, 6-9 a.m. at the Center; parade, 10 a.m. with floats and bands; games for all ages, kiddie rides, live entertainment, food, garden tractor pull, antique cars, Black Powder Club, activities and tee pees, arts and crafts tables, and much, much more at the Center.

All proceeds will go to the Albion Community Center. We have made immense progress during our first year at the Center—renovation of the building into a comfortable useful center and providing activities for young and old alike has taken place.

Please join us for a great weekend.

**Albion Community Center,
P.O. Box 216, Albion, 50005**

8-12-85
**Albion Planners
Study Strategy**

ALBION — All persons in charge of stands for the Labor Day festivities, planned to benefit the Albion Community Center, are requested to attend the next planning meeting, set for Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the ACC dining room.

Details for running a bingo game as part of the Labor Day activities will be discussed. All interested persons, including any who have not yet become involved in the event, are welcome to attend the Tuesday meeting.

8/28/85

CLIP AND SAVE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ALBION LABOR DAY WEEKEND CELEBRATION

*All proceeds go to the Albion Community Center, Inc.

★ Friday, August 30: 8:00-12 ★

TEEN DANCE

(Chuck Carpeter D.J.)

★ Saturday, August 31 ★

B&C MIXED SLO PITCH TOURNAMENT

Starting Time 10:00 a.m.

Food and Drink Available

PORK CHOP SUPPER

(Marshall County Pork Producers)

6:30-8:00 p.m. in ACC Dining Room

\$5.00 Pork Chop Plate

\$2.50 Pork Patty Plate

ADULT DANCE

"Gold Rush" in ACC Gym

9:00-1:00 p.m./\$2.50 per person/Raffle Table

★ Sunday, September 1 ★

CHURCH SERVICE

Albion City Park 9:00 a.m.

(Bring Lawn Chairs)

B&C MIXED SLO PITCH TOURNAMENT

Continues at 10:00 a.m.

Food and Drink Available

★ Monday, September 2 ★

LIONS CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST

6:00-9:00 a.m. in ACC Gym (freewill offering)

PARADE LINEUP

9:00-9:30 a.m. at Albion City Park

PARADE BEGINS

10:00 a.m.

Albion Main Street (S-75)

Floats, Marching Bands, Clowns, Fun!!!

GAMES FOR ALL AGES

ACC Grounds (Following the Parade)

Super Prizes, Raffle Table, Ring Toss, Dunk Tank, Cake Walk, Dart Throw, Nickel Toss, Football Toss, Cream Can Toss

Kiddie Rides 50 cents

Trash & Treasure Tables

B&C MIXED SLO PITCH CONTINUE

Food and Drink Available

PORK PATTY LUNCH

11:00-1:30 in ACC Gym

Live Entertainment:

Jerry Whitmore's Band

Marshall County Square Dancers Association

GARDEN TRACTOR PULL

1:00 p.m. N.W. of ACC by Bus Barn

Weigh-in at 11:00-12:00 at Iowa River

Farm Service, Albion

6 Classes from 12 HP to Hot Rod

\$10.00 Entry Fee/100% Payback 50%-30%-20%

Larry Smith, 488-2391

ADULT GAME (not allowed to print name of game)

1:30 p.m. in ACC Building

Large Selection of Prizes & \$

BLACK POWDER CLUB

Will be set up on Lot SW of ACC grounds. They will hold many contests throughout the day. Tee-Pees will be set up for public viewing.

HORSESHOE PITCHING TOURNAMENT

Sign-up at 2:00 p.m./Pitching Starts 2:30

NE Corner of ACC Grounds.

ANTIQUE CAR SHOW Continues all day

STREET ROD SHOW Continues all day

FREE: Helium balloons and records will be given out by KDAO during day-long remote broadcast from the ACC grounds.

*Major Sponsors: Albion Caseys, Donco Air Products, Brenton Bank and Trust Co., Iowa Valley Mutual Insurance, Baxter Oil Co., Solargas Div., Otilie Seed Farm, Charles Fairall, Martha Ellen Tye, H&F Distributing, Commercial State Bank, Walmart, Mr & Mrs. Russel Davis, Best Rental

Games, Albion Gym, Labor Day.
1:30(adv)

T-R

Letters

Youths Pitch In At Albion

Editor, Times-Republican:

We would like to thank a small group of Albion children and teens for their great work at the Community Center. These kids have worked for more than a year on the old school house helping the adults. They are so dedicated that no job is too big for them to take on. Some of the jobs that they did were messy dirty jobs that most adults would never volunteer to do. We wish we could thank them with money, but we cannot. The only pay they will get is that they hold a special place in our hearts. They are "special" and Albion is so lucky to have these kids as they are a great asset to our town.

They have their recreation room all done, and it is already a great success. They have a pool table and about 14 video games in it. And it is being enjoyed by young and old. They post their times to be open at Casey's, the Library and Post Office. The kids would like to encourage the people in the surrounding areas to come and enjoy it too. It is always supervised.

They have had teen dances, a car wash, garage sales and a slave auction. They were all a success, except

the slave auction and no adults in Albion came to bid. They were very disappointed because they had really looked forward to working for people.

But the ones of us on the street were there did at first feel for them, but I just thought they have been slaves enough. Community Center and the kids are a big hand and a long run. They are already looking forward to the Labor Day Celebration next weekend. They will end up helping us have a huge success. Thank you all and your determination to keep our Community Center for all the people in Albion.

Dwayne & JoAnne Mitt
Albion

Albion School Building Still Town Focus

By MARY DOOLEY
(Staff Writer)

ALBION — Four years ago, the end of May marked the end of Albion Elementary School ... the end of a tradition of education in Albion that included the first high school in the county ... and the end of a battle staged by townspeople to keep the school that meant both convenience and identity for their children.

But in the ensuing years, the town purchased the building and grounds from the Marshalltown School District, and a nucleus of people ... many of them the same ones who

worked together to try to save the school ... have worked to transform the school building into the Albion Community Center, which may again mean convenience with recreational and educational facilities, along with a focus for town identity.

While the town owns the property, it does not finance operations at the Community Center, and dances such as the one scheduled for this Saturday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., featuring "Gold Rush," provide the main source of income, along with an annual Labor Day fundraiser.

Other dances to benefit the Community Center are set for June 8

with Smitty and Nulla playing 50's and 50's music; June 29 with music by "Silver Creek" and Aug. 9 with Dan Hauser, disc jockey.

Donations from individuals, clubs, local firms and rental of the full-size gym supplement the Community Center's income, and when the Albion High School Alumni Association held the 50th annual banquet at the Community Center this spring, the group took up a collection to help with expenses. But Dick Wilkening, current board president, admits that generating finances remains an ongoing problem.

"We'd like to buy more chairs," Wilkening says, as he and several others set up tables and chairs ringing the gym in preparation for the dance. The Community Center owns 20 tables and 180 chairs, but for dances, they have to borrow an additional nine tables and 40 chairs from the Liscomb Community Hall, which takes about six people nearly six hours by the time they get the chairs, carry them up the ramp to the gym, set up and then take them all down, clean up and transport them back to Liscomb after a major event.

An inventive group of volunteers, headed by Wilkening, Albion's Dwayne Mittelstadt, Doug Beck, Jacob Kvinlaug have made many changes in the second floor (gym level) while holding the costs to a minimum. The next project is typical of their inventiveness: Wilkening says they will utilize the lumber from bleachers they took out to build some 12 tables. In the past year, they and other volunteers have put in two restrooms, installed an acoustical ceiling and hung four space heaters in the gym.

They are in the midst of transforming the former media center just down the hall from the gym into a kitchen with two dining rooms, one for small and the other for large groups.

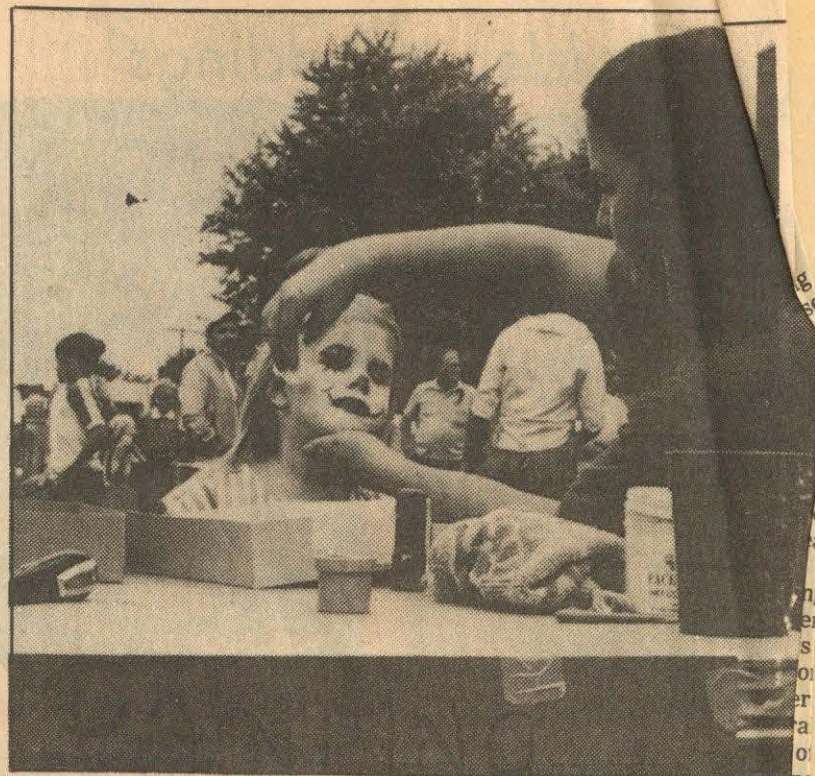
Another classroom has been turned into a game room for kids of all ages, complete with 12 video game machines and a pool table. Dubbed the "Kid's Palace," the room is currently open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 p.m., with adult supervision provided.

As in many major long-term projects, a continual supply of volunteers is needed, and Wilkening says that while the nucleus of active workers remains enthusiastic, they really need more area people to pitch in, both to help finish the kitchen before the Labor Day events, and to work on that fundraiser.

Mary Lou Tappe, ACC secretary, notes that volunteers for both large and small jobs are still needed. A planning meeting for Labor Day will be held Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the



ALBION HONOR QUEEN — Among the many dignitaries in the Albion Labor Day Parade Monday is Velma Augustine, 82, a lifelong resident of the community. For the occasion, she wears a regal feathered hat, dress and fox fur piece of her mother's along with her grandmother's watch. Miss Augustine, who maintains her own home on the edge of Albion, is active in three clubs in Albion and three in Marshalltown. Other related photos are on page 7. (Staff photo by Mary Dooley)



ALBION LABOR DAY festivities featured face painting, food and clowns among the many weekend activities designed to benefit the Albion Community Center. Colleen Wilcox powders the face of Tim

Albion's Labors Provide Festive Holiday For Many

On Labor Day, the Albion community labored with a dual purpose: to provide a fund-raising boost to the community center and a fun Labor Day weekend to the throngs of people who came for the dances, parades, ball tournament, meals and games.

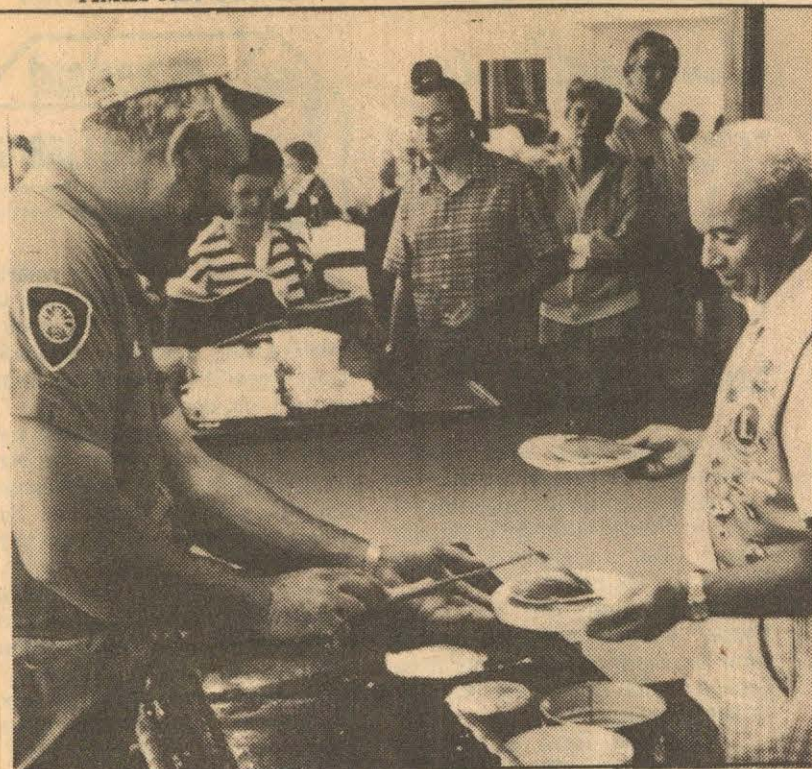
And throngs there were, numbering well over 1,000, as Main Street was lined with spectators for the 45-minute parade Monday morning, which drew compliments for its variety and size. The Lions Club pancake breakfast and the noon meal, served by Albion United Methodist and United Presbyterian women with porkburgers grilled by Marshall County Pork Producers, each served more than 500 people until supplies were exhausted. Including the pork meal Saturday night prior to the adult dance, a total of 900 bratwurst, 1,600 porkburgers and 220 Iowa Chops were grilled and served.

The weather, at first a worry with showers forecast, cooperated with a slightly overcast morning that turned hot and sunny, but with a good breeze for the outdoor games and activities.

While the parade entries in the adult division were not on a competitive basis, judging was done in the children's parade, with winners placed as follows: Wild West - Jessie Hays, 1; Justin Arney, 2; Sara, Laura, David and Joe Baitinger, 3. Famous People - Justin Hays, 1; Melissa and Sarah Dooley and Traci Oaks, 2; Clinton Wilcox, 3. Pet - Kim Balvanz, 1; Heidi Cook, 2; Amanda Tuttle, 3. Storybook - Josh Kvinlaug, 1; Heather Wilcox, 2; Katrina and Zachary Wiser, 3. Clown - April and Bo Schelling, 1; Kelly Pemberton's group, 2; Josh Harding, 3. Floats - Valesta, Beth and Derick Speicher, 1; the Butler group, 2; Katie Baker, 3. Judges were the Rev. Harold Schirm, Gail Schenk and Lowell Whitmore. Winners in other competitions will follow in a later article.

Although all the tallies are not yet in, Jacob Kvinlaug, Community Center treasurer, estimates gross receipts are close to \$9,000 which should net the center about two-thirds of that amount. Some of that amount will be used for continuing remodeling of the community center, which was formerly the Albion school, and the remainder will go for operating expenses for the coming year.

And at the weekend's end, those who had labored long and hard cleaned up the grounds, sank relieved into chairs ... and began planning for next year's event!



Weese, 2, of Marshalltown, whom she has just painted. Albion Lions Club members Keith Balvanz, Gene McRill and Alan Dooley serve pancakes during the breakfast in the new community center dining



room. In her clown costume, Barb Arnote adds a touch of gaiety to the dart throw as little Katrina Wisner of Albion tries her hand.

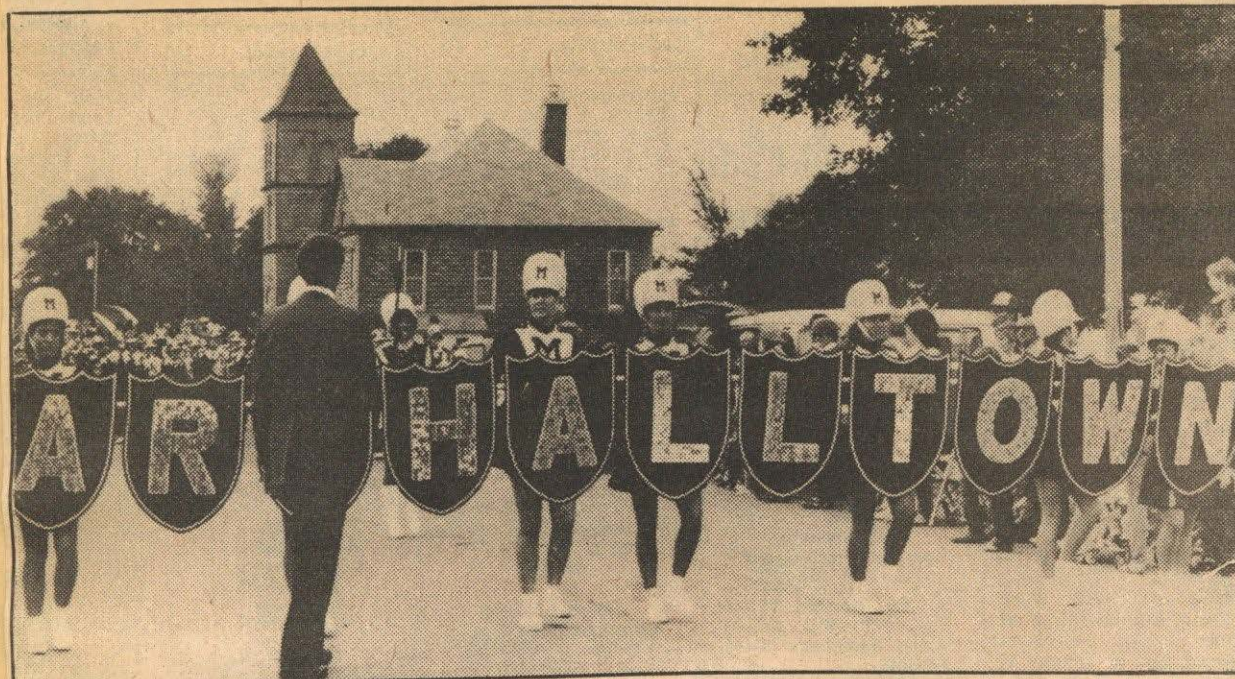
(Staff photos by Mary Dooley)



TO MARKET, TO MARKET float, complete with fat pig, was so appropriate for Denise Tuttle (left), her daughter Amanda, 3, waving her hat to parade spectators, and Amanda's grandfather, Lee Garrett, because Garrett was in charge of grilling hundreds of pork



burgers, chops and bratwurst during the weekend events at Albion. Young and old alike enjoyed the activities, but by late Monday afternoon, many in Albion were just as tired as Tess Christensen, 2 ... but a good kind of tired, as they had labored for their community.



MARCHING IN THEIR first parade of the new school year, the Marshalltown Bobcat Marching Band stepped smartly down Albion's Main Street on Labor Day, pictured here being directed by

Jerry Ellingson. Their participation added color to the parade and readied them for the football season which starts with a home game this Friday night. (Staff photo)

Albion Events Gross \$8,854

ALBION (Special) — Final Labor Day reports will be given when the Albion Community Center board meets again Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the community center.

In a special meeting this past week, with 20 persons in attendance and Duane Mittelstadt presiding, it was noted that while gross receipts totaled \$8,854 from the weekend fundraising activities for the community center, a net amount was not yet available since not all bills were in.

The ACC Teens presented a new microwave to the community center with proceeds from fundraisers they had held, along with the teen dance and game room profits. The donation of an electric can opener by Viola Chesick of Gladbrook was also acknowledged.

Coming events scheduled at the community center include the Albion Firemen's dance this Saturday night with Gold Rush playing, and a 50s and 60s dance with Jim Smith on Sept. 21.

It was noted that the community center telephone number, 488-2228, is now listed in the new telephone directory.

T-R

Letters

Albion's Labor Day Successful

Editor, Times-Republican:

The Albion Labor Day celebration was a big success. We wish to thank everyone who participated in the slo-pitch tournament, parade and games. The great number of people who turned out from surrounding areas was heartwarming. Your financial support and kind words of encouragement are much appreciated.

Our success was due in large part to the generous individuals and businesses who made contributions to the Albion Community Center Labor Day celebration. We thank

you all for your help.

The Albion Community Center now has sufficient funds to operate for another year. We wish to let everyone know we have done extensive renovation on the building.

We are now ready to accept reservations for dances, dinners, family reunions, etc. For those making plans for a large gathering, please consider the Albion Community Center; we are ready to accommodate their needs. Call 488-2226 or 488-2283.

Albion Community Center
Box 216, Albion, 50005

Labor Day 1985









10/15/85

Vows Told



Mr. and Mrs. Klaas

ALBION (Special) — Jan Cook and Dave Klaas were married Sept. 7 in a 7 p.m. double ring ceremony at the Albion Community Center, with the Rev. Earl H. Witt officiating. Nuptial music was by Dennis Perry, who accompanied himself on the guitar.

Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fox of Britt and Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Klaas of State Center.

The bride, escorted by her father, chose a full length gown of ivory taffeta with an off-the-shoulder sweetheart neckline and lace bodice with short ruffled lace sleeves and a full skirt and cathedral train edged with lace. Her matching hat held her waltz length veil.

Attending the bride were her daughters, Chris and Heidi Cook, in matching sude rose floor length gowns. Jamie Cook, son of the bride, served as best man. Guests were seated by Brian Kadner and Dan Klaas, who also lit the candles. Jennifer DeGroote of Shell Rock registered the guests. Deb Schiebel of Beaman was the bride's personal attendant.

Following the reception, hosted by Cliff and Carolyn Giesking, a dance was held with music by "Show-down."

Mrs. Klaas is a graduate of Britt High School and Mr. Klaas is a graduate of West Marshall High School. They are both employed by Lennox Industries, and are at home in Albion.

10/25/85

Albion Center Rates Listed

ALBION (Special) — Rental rates for the Albion Community Center gym were lowered, from \$125 down to \$75, at the last meeting of the community center board, and hourly rates for sports events in the gym were also lowered. Rates for renting the kitchen and dining rooms, which are now completed and ready for use, were also established at that meeting.

Community Center rates are now as follows: Kitchen and small dining room, \$25; Kitchen with both dining rooms, \$35; Gym for dance or private party, \$75; Gym for sports, \$12 per hour.

A deposit of \$25 for the use of any part of the Center will be charged and then refunded if the area is left clean with no damages. Anyone wishing to use the Center may call 515-488-2226 or 488-2283.

It was noted that the Ray and Diane Isenhower family had donated a clock for the gym.

Scheduled events in October include a Republican fundraiser with bratwurst dinner Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m. and a Children's Halloween party Oct. 29, at 6:30 p.m., for ages 2 through 5th grade, with activities by age groups, prizes, food and ghosts, sponsored by the ACC Teens.

On Friday, Nov. 1, the Community Center will sponsor a costume adult Halloween dance with prizes, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Music will be by "Silver Creek."

A benefit to help cover heat bills of the Center will be held Saturday, Nov. 9, with "Gold Rush" playing.

All proceeds from the Nov. 16 Pony Express dance, with "Silver Creek" playing, will go to Camp Sunnyside.

The board agreed that after Jan. 1, "jam sessions" by area musicians will be scheduled, open to the public.

Albion Center Now Upgrading Furnaces

ALBION (Special) — The heating system at the Albion Community Center is being updated, and there will be no open gym until notice is given that all four furnaces are operating correctly. That announcement was made during the Tuesday evening meeting of the ACC board, held at the Albion Library with Dwayne Mittelstadt, vice president, presiding.

The board approved a new rule that minors will not be admitted to adult dances without their parents, and the group noted an urgent need for parents to volunteer to chaperone both open gym and teen dances. The next teen dance will be Dec. 6, with Alan and Mary Dooley heading up the chaperone committee.

"Gold Rush" band will observe their 10th anniversary with a special adult dance at the Albion Community Center Dec. 7.

In other business, the board noted that the September electric bill was \$369 and the October bill was \$530. The board will meet again Dec. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the ACC dining room. All meetings are open to the public and those interested in the community center are especially encouraged to attend.



11/26/85 Albion Center Needs Involvement

Editor, Times-Republican:

We are basically new members to the established community of Albion. We were genuinely pleased to see the starting of a community center. We were in the military for 20 years and lived in many places, but I don't think we ever saw anything like a community like Albion. When they want something, they go for it and move anything that gets in their way.

The Community Center is an old school building that still needs a lot of work and money. The Community Center currently has two major problems.

One is heat. After a \$530 electric bill and not knowing what the gas bill is, every effort will be made to correct the heating problem to make it more efficient.

We apologize for those who attended our dances and were uncomfortable because of the temperature. The problem is being worked out.

Problem No. 2 is that parents and

children have been asking about open gym for our youth this winter. Parents say that they thought the Community Center was for the community. This is true, but we need more of the community to help.

The game room is usually open at these times but the game room supervisor gives her time to the Community Center and cannot possibly supervise both rooms.

I am not on the ACC Board, just a concerned parent and citizen. The next meeting is Dec. 4, 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center dining room. It is and always has been open to the public.

We have had businesses from all around contribute to the Community Center. If they have faith in the ACC, then why not more of the community itself. Please give some of your time.

Lynette Chesick, P.O. Box 21
Albion, 50005

1-24-86 More Improvements At Albion Center

ALBION (Special) — Work has been completed on the furnaces, including lowering them to increase heat in the gym, and a portable auxiliary heater has been purchased, it was reported at this week's meeting of the Albion Community Center board. The gas stoves have been replaced with others from donations, it was noted.

Monetary donations to the community center were received from DONCO, the local manufacturing firm, and from Brenton Bank. A piano has been donated by the Garry Willcox family of Albion.

President Richard Wilkening announced the following coming events: a dance this Saturday with "Gold Rush" playing, and a 4-H soup supper Feb. 15 followed by a "jam session" with Dennis Perry in charge.

The Park & Rec group will use the gym from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays until Feb. 15, it was noted.

2/21/86 Albion Center To Get PA System

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Community Center Board approved purchase of a public address system, when the board met recently.

Plans for a Labor Day celebration are dependent upon enough community workers signing up to help. Sign-up sheets are at the library and other town businesses.

Barbara Arnote will begin chaperoning an after-school recreation period at the community center beginning Monday, and will be asking other parents to assist.

It was noted that the teens group meets on the third Monday of each month at the library, and new officers are Kelly Anderson, president; Mike Weiny, vice president, and Paula Waltemeyer, secretary and treasurer. The group plans a bake sale at the community room of the fire station on April 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Albion Lions Club will sponsor an antique farm and small toy show at the community center April 5 and

6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lunch will be served those days in the kitchen.

Other coming events at the community center are: March 1 - dance with "Gold Rush"; March 8 - Central Iowa Nifty 50s Auto Club dance; March 15 - 2nd Golden Gloves Tournament; March 22 - volleyball tournament; March 28 - teen dance with Danny Hauser as disc jockey.

Election of officers and board members will be held at the March 18 meeting.

March-86 Albion Center Board Picks New Officers

ALBION (Special) — Dwayne Mittelstadt was named president of the Albion Community Center board of directors at their recent meeting, held in the Albion library. Other officers elected were Larry Smith, vice president; Jan Borton, secretary, and Tom Chesick, treasurer.

The board voted to amend the by-laws to expand the board from 12 to 20 members.

It was noted that the Iowa Valley Employment and Training program will provide a group to do many jobs in the Albion community this summer. Plans were told to upgrade the community center parking lot.

New Community Center Teens officers were reported, with Bobby Abrahams, president, and Mike Weiny, vice president.

Coming events scheduled for the community center include: Albion Lions Club antique toy show, April 5 and 6; Dance to Smitty and Nuala, April 12; Albion Alumni Banquet, May 17, and Iowa State Polka Club, May 18.

The next board meeting will be April 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

4-9-86 Albion Center Board To Meet Tuesday

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Community Center board will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room of the center to discuss plans for a Labor Day celebration and fundraiser.

Jan Borton, secretary, announced all area residents are encouraged to attend the meeting for ideas and volunteer help for an Albion Labor Day event this year.

Preparations are currently being made for the following events at the center: Smitty and Nuala, April 12; a "jam session," April 19, with Everett Whitmore in charge; the Albion Alumni Banquet May 17, and the Iowa State Polka Club, May 18.

4-22-86

Albion Center Buys Popcorn Machine

ALBION (Special) — A new popcorn machine has been purchased and items listed for the near future including the repair of the roof, current work on parking lot and tentative plans for Labor Day celebration at the recent meeting of the Community Center Board with Dwayne Mittelstadt, president, presiding.

The 1985 audit of the treasurer's books by Dorothy Keeler was given. It was also announced that an auction will be held Sept. 1 of donated items, new and used. Those wishing to donate may call Joanne Mittelstadt at 488-2283 or 488-2226 to list items. Many events of past years have been cancelled due to lack of volunteers.

The next meeting of the board will be May 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Community Center dining room.

5-28-86

Albion Program Leader Chosen

ALBION (Special) — A crew leader and crew have been selected for the summer youth program in Albion it was announced at the recent meeting of the Community Center Board. Crew leader will be Lyle Roffiter with this program sponsored by Iowa Valley Employment and Training and donations being solicited for the repair materials.

It was noted a donation of \$25 has been made from the Women of the Moose of Marshalltown for gym

equipment.

Plans continue for the "Old Timers Day" Labor Day celebration, Sept. 1. Parade space may be made by contacting Bess Rowley, 488-2426; flea market space, Jan Borton, 488-2478, and auction donations, JoAnne Mittelstadt, 488-2283 or 488-2226.

Anyone interested in volunteering or needing information are invited to the next meeting of the board, June 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Community Center.

6-24-86

Albion Celebration Given New Name

ALBION (Special) — Albion Community Center board of directors met recently and re-named the Sept. 1 Labor Day celebration "Old Timers' Day '86."

The center is accepting donations of items for the auction and a craft table for the Sept. 1 celebration. Spaces to rent are available for flea market, trash and treasure sale, Farmers' Market and collectible items. Interested persons may contact Jan Borton, 488-2478. Persons and groups interested in signing up to participate in the parade should contact Bess Rowley, 488-2426.

It was noted that the crew of the Summer Youth Program is now working on the roof and the gym floor.

The next meeting of the Community Center board will be July 15, with all interested persons invited to attend.

7-17-86

Kitchen Utensils Given Albion Center

ALBION — A number of kitchen utensils were presented by Bess Rowley to the Albion Community Center board when the group met recently at the center. They were donated by the Albion United Methodist Women's Society.

An appreciation picnic has been set for the Summer Youth Program participants Aug. 6 with their families invited with leader Lyle Roffiter.

Mike Weiny reported a teen dance is being planned for Friday, Aug. 29, during the Labor Day weekend "Old Timers '86" celebration in Albion.

Volunteers, both teens and adults are urged to attend the next board meeting July 29, at 6:30 p.m., at the Albion Municipal Library.

Albion Plans Slate For '86 Labor Day

Aug 1, 1986

ALBION (Special) — A timetable for the Labor Day weekend events planned at the Albion Community Center has been set up.

The first event will be a teen dance, Friday, Aug. 29, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. with Danny Hauser as disc jockey. A slow pitch tournament will begin Friday evening and continue through Sunday for mixed leagues, with concessions available the entire weekend.

On Saturday evening, Aug. 30, a dance will feature the music of "Gold Rush" from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. A community church service on Sunday is planned to begin at 9 a.m. in the park. Those attending are to bring lawn chairs.

The Old Timers Day '86 activities on Monday, Labor Day, will begin with the Lions Club pancake breakfast from 6 to 9 a.m. The parade, including both children and adult divisions, will begin at the park at 9 a.m. Bess Rowley and Doug Betts are parade chairmen and invite all interested parties to contact Mrs. Rowley, 488-2426.

The flea market will open at 8 a.m. on the Community Center grounds. Spaces 10-by-10 feet are available for rent to persons wishing to sell their own crafts, open-market or garage-

sale type items. To reserve space, call Jan Borton, 488-2478.

Stands open all day during the Labor Day celebration include a cake walk, dart throw, dunk tank, fish pond, ring toss, horseshoe pitch (beginning at 10 a.m.) and a craft table.

A new feature for children ages 5 and under is the straw stock penny scramble to be held at 11, 12 and 1 p.m. Stagecoach rides and food stands will be available.

Lunch will be served in the dining room at the Community Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Entertainment will include the Lenihan Step Setters performing in the gym at 11 a.m.

An auction of new and used donated items will begin at 2 p.m. Persons with donations are urged to call JoAnne Mittelstadt, 488-2283 or 488-2226, by Aug. 22.

In other Community Center business, the group scheduled a clean-up week for Aug. 9-14 in preparation for fall rental of the facilities. Fall events begin Aug. 16 with a dance featuring "Smitty and Nuala" from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The next Community Center planning meeting will be Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. and any area persons interested in helping with these activities are invited to attend.

Albion Sets Old Timers' Weekend

The "Old Timers' Weekend" activities have been set for Albion on August 29 through September 1.

A mixed league slow pitch tournament will start at 6 p.m. on Friday, August 29, continuing all weekend. A teen dance will be held from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. on Friday.

Another dance is planned for Saturday, August 30 from 9 p.m. to 1 p.m., with music by Gold Rush.

On Sunday, August 31, there will be a 9 a.m. church service in the city park. Those participating are asked to bring their own lawn chairs. The slow pitch tournament will be concluded Sunday night.

On Labor Day, September 1, the Lions Club will serve breakfast from 6 to 9 a.m. in the dining room of the Albion Community Center. The parade will begin

lining up at 8:30 a.m. and the parade will begin at 9 a.m. from the city park.

Events planned that morning include a cake walk, dunk tank, dart throw and a straw stack penny hunt, which will take place at 11 a.m., 12 noon and 1 p.m.

A horseshoe pitching tournament will be held at 10:30 a.m., with sign-up to begin at 10 a.m. Other activities include pop toss, fish pond and a craft table. A flea market will also be available in the area.

In the community center, the Pork Producers will serve dinner beginning at 11 a.m. Entertainment will be available in the community center during the dinner.

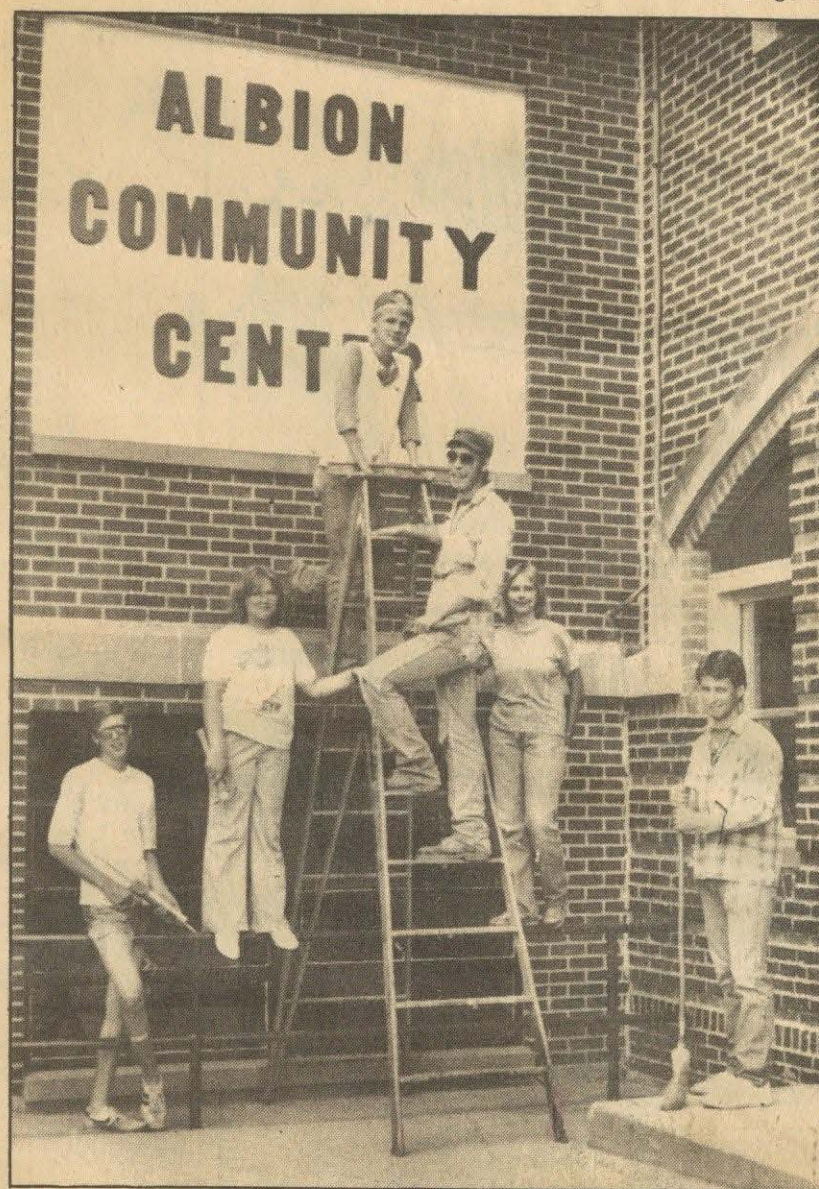
At 2 p.m., an auction will be held, offering some new and used items, including furniture, dishes, lamps, snowmobile helmets, sinks, medicine cabinet and appliances.

Information about the parade can be secured by calling Bess Rowley, 488-2426; flea market by calling Jan Borton, 488-2478; donations for the auction by calling JoAnne Mittelstadt, 488-2283 or 488-2226 by August 22.

The Albion Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Churches will assist with the meal to be served by the Pork Producers. Homemade craft items may be left with Mary Lou Tappe or Betty Tomlinson by August 25.

Aug. 6, 1986

Page 15



Staff photo by Mary Dooley

NEW IN ALBION — A new sign for the Albion Community Center is just one of many improvements accomplished at the center this summer by the JTPA crew in Albion, (from left) Mark Mitchell of Clemons, Shawn Crowell, Bobby Abrahams, Randy Waltemeyer, Karla Walker, all of Albion, and Lyle Rossiter, crew leader. During the nine-week program which ends Friday, the five youth have spent about 30 hours a week tarring the roof, refinishing the gym floor, painting and boarding up some windows, paneling and enclosing the main stairway, and cleaning the lower classroom level of the former school building. Work in the community included painting curbs and fire hydrants, making picnic tables, and shampooing the rug at the library. The ACC board will thank the crew for their work, and those who donated supplies or money, this Wednesday evening with a picnic at the community center.

Albion Rewards Contributors To Community Center Building

ALBION (Special) — Certificates of appreciation for contributions of funds or materials were presented to those who have helped with the Community Center building at a picnic recently at the Center, it was reported when the Community Center board met Tuesday.

Receiving certificates, in person, were Barnes Farms, Baxter Oil Co., Iowa Valley Mutual Insurance and Brenton Bank and Trust Co. Certificates were mailed to Martha Ellen Tye, Ottilie Seed Farm and Donco. A tour of the building was conducted to view work done by the crew. Forty-five attended the picnic for the JTPA participants and Lyle Rossiter, crew leader, with several staff JTPA representatives also present.

The board also discussed Labor Day committee reports. Entries for the 9 a.m. parade may be made with Bess Rowley, 488-2426; flea market space is still available for rent by calling Jan Borton, 488-2478 and anyone with donations of new or used items may call JoAnne Mittelstadt, 488-2283 or 488-2226 by Aug. 22.

The Pork Producers will provide grilled meat with the Albion Methodist and Presbyterian Churches completing the meal to be served in the

dining room at the Community Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ted Gunderson will be in charge of the horse shoe pitching which starts at 10 a.m.; homemade craft items may be left with Mary Lou Tappe or Betty Tomlinson by Aug. 25.

The final Labor Day planning meeting will be Aug. 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Municipal Library. Dwayne Mittelstadt is president of the Albion Community Center board.

REST OF THE BEST

- ALBION: Old Timers' Weekend '86, Aug. 29-Sept. 1. Tournaments, dances, parade at 9 a.m. Sept. 1, food.
- AMES: "Christian Petersen Remembered," Aug. 31-Oct. 15, The Octagon Center for the Arts.
- AMES: Homecoming '86 Celebration, Aug. 30-Sept. 7.
- DES MOINES Botanical Center: Feather Fair, show by Mid America Caged Bird Society, Aug. 24.
- DES MOINES Civic Center: Jay Leno, comedian, Aug. 30. \$10, \$12.50. Reservations: (515) 288-4487 in Des Moines area; (515) 292-4487 in Ames area.
- DES MOINES Art Center: "The Cranbrook Vision," final day Aug. 24. Also, "Visions: The Painted Room — Christopher Brown," Aug. 26-Oct. 12, and "Aaron Siskind: Fifty Years," Sept. 5-Nov. 16.
- DES MOINES: Family Night, Aug.

31, Living History Farms.

- DES MOINES: Iowa State Fair, final day Aug. 24.
- JOHNSTON: Fun Fest, final day Aug. 24.
- MADRID: Labor Day Celebration, Aug. 30-Sept. 1, Car show, craft fair and flea market.
- NEVADA: Lincoln Highway Days, final day Aug. 24.
- PERRY: Town and Country Days, final day Aug. 24.
- SAYDEL Septemberfest, Aug. 30-31. Food; parade; arts, crafts and flea market; carnival; games; contests and fireworks.
- STUART: Good Egg Days and Homecoming '86, final day Aug. 24.

We must have items for this page at least 12 days before the publication date. Deadline for the Sept. 7 paper is Tuesday, Aug. 26. Write Events Column, Sunday Register, Box 957, Des Moines, Ia. 50304. No phone calls, please.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Old Timer's Weekend '86, Aug. 29-Sept. 1. Mixed league slo pitch tournament. Teen dance. Gold Rush Dance. Church service in the city park. Lion's club breakfast. Parade. Games. Pork Producer's dinner.

Marshall County's Guide to Going Places

"Marshall County's Guide to Going Places" is a public service provided by the Marshalltown Mall.

Festivals

- Old Timers' Days '86 Dance, August 30, 9 p.m. — 1 a.m., Albion Community Center. Dance to Gold Rush. Proceeds to Albion Community Center.
- Old Timers' Days '86, September 1, Albion Community Center, beginning at 6 a.m. Pancake Breakfast from 6 - 9 a.m., Parade at 9 a.m., Pork Dinner from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Horseshoe Tournament at 1 p.m., Auction, new and used items at 2 p.m. Games and stands all day.
- Smitty & Nuala's Fan Appreciation Free Dance, September 6, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., Albion Community Center, Free admission.
- Albion Fire Department Benefit Dance, September 13, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., Albion Community Center. Proceeds to Albion Volunteer Department for equipment.
- Polka Club of Iowa, September 14, 2 - 6 p.m., Albion Community Center. Open to the public.
- Grand Marshall Dance, September 20, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., Albion Community Center. Proceeds to the Albion Community Center.
- Marshalltown High School Homecoming Week, September 25, Parade, 6 p.m., downtown Marshalltown. Bonfire and Coronation following at Marshalltown High School. September 26, 7:30 p.m., Marshalltown High School. Football game at the Marshalltown High School Athletic Complex.
- Liscomb's Volunteer Firemen's Dance, October 4, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., Albion Community Center. Proceeds to the Liscomb Volunteer Fire Department for equipment.

Des Moines Date book 8-21-86

Old Timer's Weekend '86 — Festivities at park and community center in Albion Aug. 29-Sept. 1 include: Aug. 29: mixed league slo pitch tournament, 6 p.m.; Teen Dance, 7:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m., admission \$1.50 ... Aug. 30: Tournament continues; Gold Rush Dance, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., admission \$3 ... Aug. 31: church services in the park, 9 a.m.; tournament continues ... Sept. 1: Lion's Club breakfast, 6 a.m.-9 a.m.; parade at 9 a.m. from park to Community Center for festival (cake walk, dunk tank, dart throw, straw sack penny hunt, horseshoe tournament, pop toss, fish pond, craft table and more). Albion, 10 miles northwest of Marshalltown. For more information call 1-488-2478.

8-23-86



Staff photo by Jim Hamann

JAMMING ON THE PORCH — The “Arthritic Rhythmatics”, the winners of the Iowa State Fair’s instrumental band contest during the Older Iowans Day last Friday, practice on the front porch at 118 N. Center Street, Friday evening, preparing themselves for their next performance in Albion on Labor Day. The band, whose band members include, from left, Audrey McLeland, Marge Carlson, Les Kunc on

accordion, Helen Rechtenbach on the washboard, Orville Borgerson on the bones, and Peggy Funke on the drum, competed against 22 other bands in the competition and received the blue ribbon even though they were working with the handicap of two missing members, Irene Wood and Ruth Bailey, who were absent because of illness.

EIDORA 8-22-86

Everyone's Welcome To

OLD TIMER'S WEEK-END '86

At The Albion Community Center - Albion, Ia.

Aug. 29—Mixed League Slo Pitch Tournament (Ends Aug. 31) Aug. 29—TEEN DANCE 7:30-11:30; \$1.50 (D.J., Dan Hauser) Aug. 30—GOLD RUSH DANCE 9-1; \$3.00 Aug. 31—Church Service In the City Park, 9 a.m. Sept. 1—Lion's Club Breakfast, 6-9 a.m.	Sept. 1—PARADE Beginning at City Park, 9 a.m. —Games, Horseshoe Tourney, Flea Market, & More throughout the day —PORK PRODUCERS DINNER - \$3.00 Complete meal served beginning 11 a.m. —AUCTION, 2 P.M. Furniture, Appliances, & much misc.
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August 27, 1986

OLD TIMER'S WEEKEND '86

Albion Community Center, Albion, Iowa

- August 29th** Mixed League Slo-Pitch Tournament 6 pm
TEEN DANCE (D.J. Danny Hauser)
Admission \$1.50; 7:30 pm-11:30 pm
- August 30th** Tournament continues (with games and
Pork Producers)
GOLD RUSH DANCE - Admission \$3.00
9:00 pm-1:00 am
- August 31st** Church Service In The City Park - 9:00 am
(Bring your own lawn chairs please)
Tournament Continues (with games and
Pork Producers) and the tournament
will be completed that night
- Sept. 1st** Lion's Club Breakfast - 6:00 am-9:00 am
(In dining room of Community Center)
Parade Line-Up 8:30 am; Starting Time 9:00
Sharp (In the city park)

It will go north to the Community Center for all of these events.

- Cake Walk •Dunk Tank •Dart Throw •Pop Toss
- Fish Pond (Everyone wins something) •Craft Table (Everything
hand made) •Trash & Treasure Tables
- Straw Stack Penny Hunt — times 11:00-12:00-1:00 (children ages 1-5)
- Horseshoe Tournament - sign-up time 10:00 am; starting time 10:30 am

PORK PRODUCERS DINNER

(In the Community Center) \$3.00 for a complete meal at 11:00 and entertainment
in the gym while you eat. "The Lenihan Step-Setters & the Marshalltown
Arthritic Rhythmatics (State Fair 1st Place Winners)

Coke Truck Will Sell: coffee, pop, pork patties, brats & kraut, snow cones &
ice cream bars. It will open at 8:00 a.m.

AUCTION in the gym at 2:00 sharp. New and nice used things. Furniture,
dishes, lamps, snowmobile helmets, sinks, medicine cabinet,
and a lot of nice appliances.

THE GAME ROOM WILL BE OPEN ALSO FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN VIDEO GAMES!

Old Timer's Weekend '86, Albion. Mixed league slo pitch tournament. Teen dance. Gold Rush dance. Church service in the city park. Lion's Club Breakfast. Parade. Cake walk. Dunk tank. Dart throw. Straw stack penny hunt. Horseshoe tournament. Pop toss. Trash & treasure tables. Fish pond. Craft table. Pork Producer's dinner. Auction.

Aug 27, 1986

Aug 27, 1986

Albion Finalizes Plans For '86 Labor Day

ALBION (Special) — Final plans for the Labor Day "Old Timers" '86 celebration in Albion were reviewed at the Tuesday evening meeting of the Albion Community Center board, with 20 members and volunteers in attendance. The annual Labor Day weekend event serves both as a celebration and as the main fund raiser for the Albion Community Center.

Most of the events will be held on Monday, Labor Day, but two dances, a slo pitch tournament and an ecumenical church service are scheduled prior to the Labor Day celebration. The mixed league slo pitch tournament, on the ball diamonds north of the Community Center, will begin Friday at 6 p.m. and continue through Sunday, concluding that evening. A teen dance, with music by Danny Hauser, disc jockey, will be held in the Community Center gym from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Friday. Admission to the teen dance is \$1.50 per person. "Gold Rush" will play for the dance set for Saturday at the Community Center from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission to that dance is \$3 per person.

Sunday's ecumenical outdoor church service will begin at 9 a.m. in the Albion town park. Those attending are asked to bring their own lawn chairs.

On Monday, the Albion Lions Club will open the day's activities with a breakfast from 6 to 9 a.m. in the dining room of the Community Center. A food stand on the Community Center grounds will open at 8 a.m.

Parade line-up starts at 8:30 a.m. Children participating in the "kiddie parade" with floats, bicycles or pets are asked to be at the town park shelterhouse by 8:30 a.m. for judging and line-up. The children will lead the parade, which will start promptly at 9 a.m., heading north from the town park up Albion's main street to the Community Center. Some 60 adults units have registered for the main parade.

Other events of the day will be a cake walk; games such as dart throw, pop toss and fish pond; a strawstack penny hunt for children ages 1-5; horseshoe tourney, craft table and flea market.

A complete meal, featuring pork grilled by the Pork Producers and side dishes and dessert by the Albion Methodist and Presbyterian Women, will be served starting at 11 a.m. Entertainment during the meal will be provided in the gym by the Marshalltown Step Setters.

An auction of new and nice used items, from furniture, dishes, lamps and appliances, to snowmobile helmets, sinks and a medicine cabinet, will start at 2 p.m. in the Community Center gym.

For those interested in video games, the Community Center game room will also be open.

During Tuesday evening's planning meeting, it was announced that final reports on the fund-raising results of the Labor Day events will be given in a Sept. 9 meeting at the Albion Municipal Library.



ALBION LABOR DAY — Parade participants in Monday's Labor Day activities include the Albion Minor Girls Softball Team, Central Iowa champs in their division this summer, who rode the specially-decorated 1938 Chevy Engine No. 1 of the Albion Fire Department, driven by Evan McRill. From left, are coaches Jackie Fiscus and Kristy Keeler, with team members, wearing their medals; (back row) Kim Balvanz, Heidi Cook, Janelle

Sinclair, Renee Bailey, Michelle Stanley, Melissa Dooley and Kathy Melohn; (front row) Dusty Edwards, Tonya Olmstead, Angie Kutzner and Vanessa Arney. Team members not pictured: Stephanie Anderson, Amy Lander, Amber Stubbs and Heather Willcox. The Old Timers '86 celebration raised some \$8,000 for the Albion Community Center. A picture page on the Labor Day activities is planned for Saturday's T-R.

Staff photo by Mary Dooley

Photos and Text
by Mary Dooley



OLD TIMERS DAY it may be called, but kids play a vital and colorful part in it, as evidenced by these parade entrants in the clown division: Sara Baittinger, 9, Jill Tudeen, 3, and Andrea Betts, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ months.

T-R Country

Albion's annual Old Timers Day event — for the children and spectators — means great fun on Labor Day. For the Albion community, it means lots of planning and pulling together — and for the Albion Community Center, it means the funds to continue operating for another year.

Along with two dances and a weekend-long softball tournament, the Labor Day event raised nearly \$10,000 — not enough to coast through the coming year, but hopefully enough to cover the fuel bills and pay for a new exhaust system for the gym, says Dwayne Mittelstadt, ACC president. With generous donations from annual contributors, the Community Center should be able to continue as a focal point of the community.

A wide variety of activities are scheduled in the building, formerly the Albion School, which was purchased by the town and turned into a community

center after the Marshalltown district closed it in 1981. Now it houses a video game room for teens, winter Park & Rec activities for area kids, open gym for older youth, and this winter will feature a new morning program of walking in the gym for persons with heart problems.

With gym and dining room facilities, the Community Center is rented already through much of 1987, for dances, a polka festival, anniversaries and wedding receptions, boxing tournaments, basketball and volleyball practice, and a street rods exhibition.

The Old Timers Day, started decades ago in Albion as a town celebration, has become a major fundraiser for causes important to the community: the Save Our School effort, opening the Albion Municipal Library, and now operating the Albion Community Center. Good times for good causes.

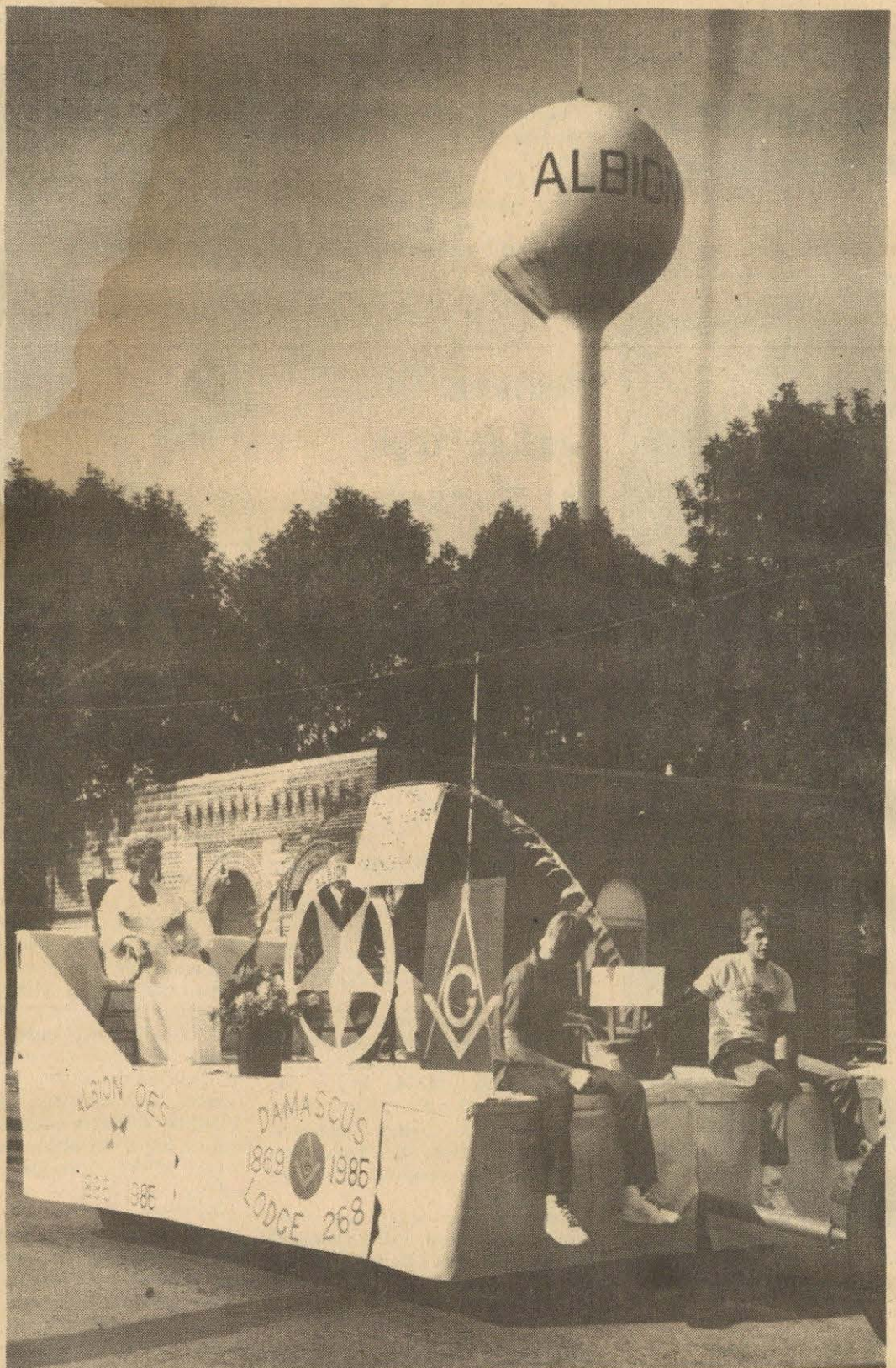


PARADE GRAND MARSHAL is Grace Graves, 92, who still maintains her own home in Albion, in the house she has lived in for the past 52 years.



SCRAMBLING FOR PENNIES hidden in the strawstack on the Community Center grounds, youngsters get some assistance from their mothers and grandmothers. Other

children clamber onto the stage coach in the background, for a ride around Albion on the "Overland Stage Line."



ALBION'S MAIN STREET turns into a parade route lined with spectators for a six-block stretch, as floats from churches and organizations highlight the Old Timers Day parade. Riding the float, "All Thru The Years: Love - Friendship," are Pat Nichols, Albion Order of the Eastern Star worthy matron, Dick Tomlinson, (partially

hidden by the rainbow) Damascus Lodge worshipful master; Steve Snider and Brad Nichols, seated by the "pot of gold" full of educational loans. Also featured in the 45-minute parade were clowns, Scottish Highlanders, antique cars, horses and mules, and numerous politicians.

l town, Iowa, Saturday, September 6, 1986

Good Times For A Good Cause



BUSTLING WITH ACTIVITY, the Albion Community Center grounds holds a variety of game booths, such as the cake walk in the background, during the Labor Day fundraising

event. Members of the MacKenzie Highlanders and the Marshalltown Kennel Club visit in front of the former Albion School building after marching in the parade.



DART THROWING ADVICE, and a chance to try from close-up, is given the youngest participants, at the booth

manned by Aaron Catron, assisted by Randy Waltemeyer (far left).

9-10-86

Albion Center Getting Active

Albion Event Successful

9-9-86

Editor, Times-Republican:

We are very proud and happy today! The sun shone on our parade and on the faces of all the people.

Many thanks to all who helped make the Albion Old Timers Day '86 a success: to the merchants and individuals from Albion, Marshalltown and surrounding communities for their donations; to our volunteers for many hours of work, backaches and smiles; and most of all, to everyone who supported us by attending our weekend of fund raising events.

As we are not funded by the town of Albion or any other organization, the proceeds will be used for operating expenses for the upcoming year. Without your support, the continued operation of the Albion Community Center would not be possible. Thanks again to everyone.

Jan Borton, Secretary
Box 216, Albion, 50005
on behalf of the Albion
Community Center Board

Editor, Times-Republican:

Five years ago our school building had sat empty, vandalized and was in really bad shape. The Town Council after purchasing it from the Marshalltown school system turned down the opportunity to renovate it. So a few determined individuals took on the task as volunteers and leased the building to restore it. So it was then called The Albion Community Center Inc.

We can't begin to count the endless hours that this group spent trying to restore it into a useful building. People don't realize how dedicated this group has been. They have given up vacations, a lot of their family time, taken days off at their work, and any fun days to complete this task.

This year we were lucky enough to qualify for a crew from JTPA with an excellent crew leader. They put on a new roof, resurfaced the gym floor, put new windows in etc., that we could not do by ourselves. We worked along with these young people and learned a lot from them. But the main thing that they taught us was that they wanted our Community Center to be an asset to Albion and they were proud of it. After the crew

was done some of our young people volunteered hours up there to help us finish it before our Labor Weekend Celebration '86. We will never be able to thank them enough.

We want to thank all of you (who) have worked so hard to make "Little Albion" into a "Special Albion." We have new people that are moving into our town and it has prospered just in the last year.

Our Community Center now has bookings for many activities from organizations all over the State of Iowa. And they love to come here as they have told us. We have bookings into November of 1987.

This is the reward that this determined group has achieved for their town. We just want to say God Bless each and every one of you for giving from your heart and of your time. You have a very special Community Center in Albion created by very special people. And God willing we will continue to share our challenge for many years to come.

Albion Labor Day Weekend '86 was a tremendous success. Thanks.

Dwayne and JoAnne Mittelstadt
Box 113, Albion, 50005

Community Center At Albion Reviews Activities Slate

9-19-86

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Community Center board, at its recent meeting, heard committee reports on the Labor Day celebration; approved bills totaling \$1,700, and discussed installation of an exhaust system.

The fall schedule of events begins Saturday with a dance to the music of "Grand Marshall." A clothing exchange is planned for Sept. 26-27 by the Albion Municipal Library Story Hour mothers. The Liscomb Firemen have scheduled a dance Oct. 4. The season's first chili/vegetable soup supper and jam session with area musicians playing, will be Oct. 11. This supper will benefit the local AFS exchange-student program and the jam session proceeds go to the community center.

The next community center board meeting will be Oct. 21 with all interested area residents invited to attend.

Albion Planning 'Haunted House'

Oct. 29, 1986

ALBION (Special) — A "Haunted House" party for children age 10 and under will be held Thursday at the Albion Community Center. Sponsored by the ACC Teens, it will be held from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., and will include refreshments.

Announcement of the event was made during the regular meeting of the ACC Board. Other business included a review of insurance coverage, by Tom Moeller, Koehler-Moeller Insurance, Inc., Marshalltown. The board decided that a certificate of insurance will be necessary for all persons renting the facility.

Coming events at the community center include a jam session Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m., with Dennis Perry in charge and all area musicians invited to attend, and a teen dance Nov. 22, 7:30-11:30 p.m. with "Airplay Productions," Fort Dodge, playing. The next board meeting will be Nov. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Municipal Library.

Albion Center Sets Events

Nov 22, 1986

ALBION (Special) — The winterization of the Albion Community Center is being completed, according to a report at the board meeting Tuesday evening. Two smoke busters were purchased for \$2,130 to be installed in the gym.

Plans were made for the following coming events: Nov. 29, benefit Swift strikers dance with Smitty & Nula; Dec. 6, Fifties & Sixties dance by Airplay Productions, and Dec. 13, Gold Rush dance.

Due to lack of volunteers, any action on an "open gym" for the young people has been postponed and local parents are asked to assist in the supervising of gym activities. Any interested parents may contact the board members or call 488-2226.

The next board meeting is Dec. 16 in the Municipal Library.

Dec 19, 1986

Plans Made For Family Open Gym

ALBION (Special) — Plans for a free family "open gym" for all ages on Wednesday evenings at the Albion Community Center were made when the center's board met this week. Anyone interested in supervision may contact Pat Westphal or Barb Arnote, who are in charge of scheduling adult supervision.

Terry Gray, Marshalltown, representing Parks & Recreation, attended and indicated a need for applicants to assist with winter activities in January through March.

A calendar of open dates for the community center will be posted in areas of the community. Discussion centered on revision of a fee schedule for 1987 and the current sales tax law.

Coming events are: Dec. 31 — New Year's Eve dance with "Grand Marshall, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; Jan. 10-11 — Silver Gloves Championship, three sessions on Saturday afternoon, evening and Sunday afternoon; Jan. 17 — "Gold Rush" dance; Jan. 24 — Friends of the Library soup supper.

The next meeting of the ACC board will be Jan. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the library, open to the public.

18 Elected To ACC Board Of Directors

ALBION (Special) — At the recent annual meeting of the Albion Community Center Inc., 18 members were elected to a one-year term on the board of directors.

Items of business discussed were work schedules for spring cleaning and painting; cancellation of Labor Day weekend celebration due to lack of volunteers, and a report on solicitation of volunteers and funds for both the summer youth program materials and the senior citizens room.

The teen group requested open gym on Friday, March 24, when schools are closed for spring vacation. The gym will be open for students age 10 and younger, 10 a.m.-12 noon, and for students ages 11-19 from 1-4 p.m.

Coming events were planned as follows: Smitty and Nuala dance, March 28; Albion Lions Club toy show, April 4-5; Gold Rush dance, April 11; Smitty and Nuala, April 18, and teen dance by the band "Void" on April 24.

The next meeting of the ACC board will be April 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Library.

1-23-87

Albion Lions Donate \$800 For Center

ALBION (Special) — A donation of \$800 from the Albion Lions Club was reported at the last Albion Community Center board meeting in the library here.

It was noted that Teresa Arney is now supervising the Park & Recreation at the Center, Saturdays, 12:30-3 p.m., through March 7. Kenneth and Barb Arnote, along with Bob and Pat Westphal, are in charge of family open gym on Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Sundays, 2-4 p.m.

Recently 28 serving trays, three dining tables and several articles have been added to the dining room and kitchen. A request was made to take the necessary steps to make a room on the first floor available for a senior citizen and club room. Furniture and donations are needed for this room.

A nominating committee, consisting of Deb Kadner, Charlotte Hunt, Bob Westphal and Kenneth Arnote, was appointed to report at the Feb. 17 meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

Events announced for the coming month are: Feb. 1, Iowa State Polka Festival, 1-6 p.m.; Feb. 14, jam session for Valentine's Day, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.; Feb. 21, Gold Rush dance, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; Feb. 28, 4-H and AFS chili supper, 5-7 p.m., and Smitty and Nuala dance, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

It was also announced that the Lions Club toy show is scheduled for April 4-5 at the Albion Community Center.

Mittelstadt Again Heads Albion Center

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Community Center board met recently for election of officers, with Dwayne Mittelstadt being re-elected president. Other officers named were Charlotte Hunt, vice president; Jan Borton, secretary, and Tom Chesick, treasurer.

It was announced that the last open gym, free to the public, would be on Wednesday, March 25. In other action, Hunt Electric was hired to do a major project of electrical work at the center.

Coming events scheduled at Albion Community Center for the next month are: March 7, "Blue Denim" country-western dance; March 13, Pony Express dance with "Homesteaders;" March 14, jam session; March 21, "Country III" country-western band from Grinnell; March 28, "Smitty and Nuala," and April 4-5, Albion Lions Club toy show.

The annual meeting of the community center will be held March 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Library.

May 1, 1987

Albion Community Center Board Airs Coming Events

ALBION (Special) — A report was given on the response to a recent mailing asking for volunteers and donations at the Albion Community Center Board's last meeting. The projects discussed were on upcoming youth programs, and it was noted that the piano has been tuned, a donation from the Lions Club.

Events booked at the center for the month of May are: May 2 - Smitty & Nuala dance; May 9 - Gold Rush dance; May 15 - Flat Land Country Band; May 16 - Albion Alumni Banquet; May 23 - Good Times Street Rods exhibition and Smitty & Nuala dance; and May 29 - benefit for Headstart, Country & Western

"Dixie" band.

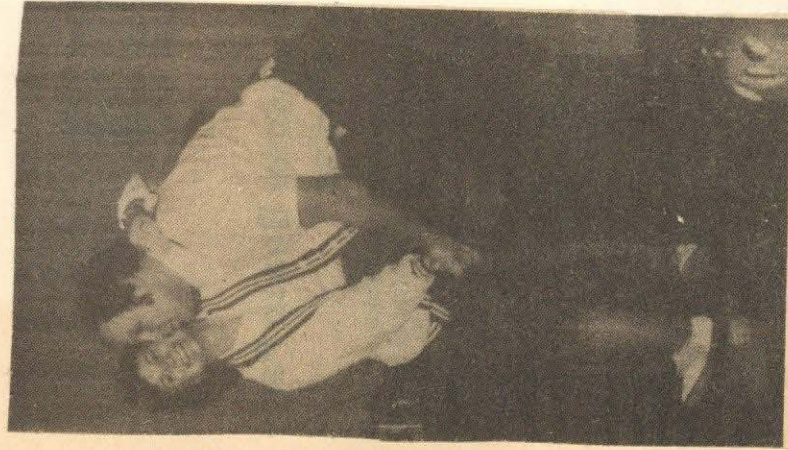
The next meeting will be May 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion library with everyone welcome.

Minnesota Ballroom Operators Association, Inc.

ENTERTAINMENT

BITS

Volume 14, No. 7 February/March 1987



Smitty & Nuala.

Smitty and Nuala, Central Iowa's favorite record hop DJ team

Text and photos by Jeff Bolte

Do you like Surf music, Motown, or the British Invasion? Smitty won't play those, rather something called "Rock 'n' Roll," the American stuff from 1953 to 1963. Add some rockabilly, rhythm and blues, and the result is a purist's delight.

Smitty says, "Our show is roots oriented because we feel that is the *true* rock 'n' roll. We grew up during that period as did many in our audience, so we *lived* many of those songs. What we consider the *true* rock 'n' roll era was from 1953 to 1963. Every emotional experience a teenager had during that period could be related to a song. That's why we try to keep our shows as authentic as possible by playing the original rockabilly and rock 'n' roll hits."

Rock 'n' rollers around Central Iowa know Smitty and Nuala. I saw their show at the Albion, IA, Community Center (near Marshalltown) in October. I met Smitty at one of the Holly tributes at the Surf.

Smitty and Nuala (pronounced Newla) are a husband/wife DJ show from Marshalltown, Iowa. Their record hops combine early rock 'n' roll, skits, lip synch, and audience participation. They play public and private shows on weekends only except the winter months.

Smitty and Nuala's show has more than just music. If you aren't dancing, there's usually some action to watch. Smitty introduces a song and does a lip synch along with instrumental break

Nuala does lip synch and skits with Smitty or alone. Sometimes they dance. While looking up requests, its straight DJ. Skits I saw included "Norman," "Bridget the Midget" featuring daughter Katie, and "Monster Mash."

The audience got involved with dances. Nuala ran a "Limbo Rock" contest. Other group dances included the Twist, the Locomotion, and the Stroll. There was also a costume contest parade to "The Walk."

The audience included members and friends of the Good Times Street Rod Club of Marshalltown, and a Welshman, Raymond Pearce. Mr. Pearce exclaimed, "You talk funny!" I spoke perfect English.

The folks at the Albion Community Center were kind enough to let me distribute *Bits* at the Center. The Center is used for a variety of events from polka fests to basketball. The teenagers run the videogame room. The Center staff is all volunteer. The bar serves mix and beer. The school part of the building is vacant. Albion is about 8 miles north and west of Marshalltown.

Smitty and Nuala will be back at the Albion Community Center March 28. For booking Smitty & Nuala, call 515-752-5140.

Letters

Albion Center Continues To Grow

Editor, Times-Republican:

In three short years, the Albion Community Center has changed an empty, deteriorating building into a place where there is activity almost every day or evening. This can truly be called a "community" center when everyone has invested part of themselves into it.

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to all who have responded to our recent

request for donations of time and money. The financial support and encouragement of new volunteers will hopefully enable us to continue our work.

Jan Borton, Secretary,
Albion Community Center, Inc.
Box 216, Albion, 50005

May 10, 1987

Saturday Banquets Still Possible

Editor, Times-Republican:

This letter is for the Albion Alumni.

At the Albion Alumni banquet, the alumni were informed that they could no longer have banquets on Saturday nights at the Albion Community Center. This statement was totally wrong. The 1988 banquet has already been booked for Saturday, May 21, 1988. It will continue to be on Saturday nights as long as wanted.

This was in the original plans when the Community Center was incorporated and we plan to keep up with the tradition.

We feel this statement put a damper on the evening as well as a chance to hear the announcement of a senior

citizen center being constructed within the Community Center. The senior citizens are so excited and proud that they wanted to share their joy. The senior citizens did receive a sizable donation from one of the alumni and we thank you for that.

The second word on our sign on the building is "community" and we will continue to stress this.

Thank you for your support.

JoAnne and Dwayne Mittelstadt, Jan and Dale Borton, Tom and Lynette Chesick, Charlotte Hunt, Albion Community Center Board, P.O. Box 216, Albion, 50005

May 20, 1987



Staff photo Karyn Groseth

A WORTHY PROJECT — At the Albion Community Center Tuesday, Connie McBurney (right), appeared on behalf of KCCI-TV, Channel 8, Des Moines, to present the award for KCCI's Community Betterment Contest to Albion Town Mayor Dwayne Mittelstadt (center) and Bess Rowley, president of the Albion Senior Citizens Group (left). Included in the award was a check for \$500 which will go towards helping to remodel the basement of the center for a planned "Senior Citizens Room."

Albion Is Providing Senior Citizen Center

ALBION (Special) — This summer, the Albion Community Center will indeed serve the entire community, as a senior citizens center is added on the first floor (new wing), joining the current youth center which has operated for several years on the second floor of the building.

The senior citizens center is a special project of the active Albion Senior Citizens. The group has a membership of 45, and meets for potluck dinners the third Wednesday of each month. Their meetings will be moved from the fire station to the community center when the new room is completed.

The project received a \$500 boost this week when it was named one of the top five winners in a Community Betterment Contest sponsored by Channel 8 TV, Des Moines.

The money will be used to help remodel the middle room on the first floor of the building. Insulation, paneling, a ramp at the west door, and a fire escape with a ramp for exit only on the south side of the room, will be installed.

The City Council had earlier voted to allow \$1,500 for materials only, and the Albion Senior Citizens have received an additional \$1,000 in cash donations. Equipment donated to date includes a furnace, air conditioner, electric stove, double kitchen sink, and a pool table. The room, which had been an elementary classroom, is already carpeted. Five tables and upper cupboards have been purchased; base cupboards and a refrigerator are still needed.

Bess Rowley, president, entered the project in the Channel 8 community betterment contest on behalf of the

Albion group. She and Mayor Dwayne Mittelstadt, who is also president of the Albion Community Center Board, accepted the award from Connie McBurney in a ceremony Tuesday afternoon.

Dave Cardin, reporter for TV 8, and Sharon Rooney, from the promotion department of KCCI, were also present, as were several senior citizens and other interested persons from the Albion area.

Ms. McBurney, who had the original idea for the award, said that the Albion Community Center project was one of five selected by a panel of judges which included one Iowa town mayor and a representative of the Iowa Department of Economic Development. The selection was based on the feasibility of the project, the value to the community and the commitment of the organization sponsoring the proposal.

Ms. McBurney said she was "quite surprised" at the number of responses, with a total of 163 project proposals entered "from all over Iowa." Channel 8 will air coverage of the event at the Albion Community Center during their Friday news broadcast at 6 p.m., featuring interviews with both Mayor Mittelstadt and Mrs. Rowley. Later in September, when the local project is expected to be completed, Ms. McBurney says she intends to return to Albion to do a "follow-up story."

Aug 22, 1987

Community Center Closes For 2 Weeks

ALBION (Special) — Several volunteer projects currently underway were discussed by the Albion Community Center board when it met recently. The kitchen is to be remodeled for Lee and Jean Garrett catering service; the Senior Citizens room to be made accessible and changes made in the bar area.

The summer youth crew will begin work at the center and in the town this week, June 22. The Community Center will be closed for two weeks for the yearly repair and painting.

A state application has been made for a liquor license to serve mixed drinks at dances held in the center.

Coming events for July are: July 11 - Darrel Lee Baker's wedding reception and dance with "Hardtimes" band, open to the public, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; July 18 - "Smitty & Nuala," Jim Shipley's 50th birthday, public invited, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

The next board meeting will be July 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Library.

1, Iowa, Wednesday, August 5, 1987

Community Center Board At Albion Airs Remodeling

ALBION (Special) — Albion Community Center Board, at its recent meeting, discussed remodeling projects necessary to meet state requirements for food and bar licenses.

Lee and Jean Garrett gave an update of their catering business at the Community Center. Two basketball hoops are to be installed on the outside grounds. New windows and a door have been installed on the south of the senior citizens room. Further remodeling is being done.

Coming events are: Smitty and Nuala for the "Niftys Fifties Club", Aug. 8; Teen dance with "Visions Band", Aug. 14; Flat Land County Band, Aug. 22.

The next meeting will be Aug. 18 at the Albion Municipal Library with everyone welcome.

Aug 24, 1987

Community Center Needs Aired

ALBION (Special) — Among items of business discussed at the latest meeting of the Albion Community Center board was the need for installation of an air conditioning system for the gym, to comply with state license requirements. An estimate of \$17,000 for the unit and installation has been received.

The board earmarked \$2,500 from the general ACC account for that project, along with \$4,000 already donated from area individuals. A fundraising drive is planned, and the Sept. 12 "Smitty & Nuala" dance has been designated as a benefit for the project.

Board members emphasized that any donations of money, labor and material are invited, to assure that the community center can continue to operate.

Also discussed were the rental leases for the senior citizens' room and Garrett's Catering Service. Both were

approved.

Oak Cable Systems will donate free cable service for the senior citizens' room, it was announced. An automatic washing machine has been donated to the center by The Appliance Doctor. It will be used to wash such things as mop heads, dish cloths and towels.

Coming events: Aug. 29, Gold Rush dance; Sept. 5, Legend dance; Sept. 12, benefit for ACC air conditioning, Smitty & Nuala dance; Sept. 26, Silver Creek dance.

The next meeting of the board will be Sept. 15 with all interested persons invited to attend.

Iowa faces vast changes, but small towns still live

July 12, 1987

By BOB NANDELL



With the current spate of studies and projections calling for the demise of Iowa small towns, it would seem that residents of those towns should be nailing boards over their windows and moving on.

What confounds demographers, geographers and politicians alike is the fact that, in spite of all socio-economic odds many of them still seem frighteningly healthy. During the past decade many of them caught economic colds, but not all

those colds have turned into pneumonia.

Their main streets may have an empty building or two, and what once was the local school building may now be a community center in towns such as Albion, but the citizens resolutely reject calling it quits.

There are Iowa towns that trace their roots to ethnic groups of immigrants who decided to go no farther in the westward trek of the past century. There are towns founded at the junction of rivers or railroads, at the location of a long-disappeared stagecoach stop, blacksmith shop, coal mine or flour mill.

Names of Iowa small towns roll off the tongue like words printed on the page of a history book, and by following one highway long enough across the state you will pass through towns with names like New Boston, Donnelson, Swedesburg, Crawfordsville, Shueyville, Jamesville, Janesville,

Main Streets may have an empty building or two, but the citizens resolutely reject calling it quits.

Plainfield, Nashua and Saint Ansgar.

To find out a few of the reasons the small towns are not ruins left by folks teeming into what sociologists like to call "regional population centers" does not require working on a doctoral thesis but rather requires taking time to pull up a chair in the local barber shop or the grain-elevator office and just listen for an hour.

You will find there that small towns are places where Cub Scouts and American Legion members still sell poppies on Memorial Day.

They are where people still fly the flag from their front porch every day and don't worry about the possibility that it might be stolen.

Small towns are where obituaries are still front-page news in the weekly and where columns of agate type record how the city council spent every penny of its monthly budget.

Small towns are where an old man can ride a bicycle down to the post office and not be laughed at or get run over, and where youngsters can hitch a sway-backed pony to a light post while they run in to get candy at the grocery store.

Small towns are where a bank counter check is as good as cash money, and everybody in town knows who has money or doesn't, or at least thinks they do.

SMALL TOWN

Continued from Page 1C

Small towns are where friendly mutts still wander unchained and chicken houses still occupy a few backyard corners.

Small towns are where the fire siren on top of city hall tells you when it is noon or six o'clock and youngsters use the latter signal as notice to head home for supper.

Small towns are where some folks can hold a grudge against each other over some incident that happened 20 years ago, but still be polite to each other on Sunday.

Small towns are where an out-of-county license plate can be spotted two blocks away, and visitors will surely be asked where they are from sometime during their stay.

Small towns are where a crowd still shows up for the Fourth of July parade, even if there are only a dozen youngsters in the band and the floats are a few vintage convertibles and crepe-paper-decorated tractors.

Small-town government is still at the stage where citizens can tell the mayor off in person, council members can be called anytime of the night, and where tallying election votes takes a clerk with a lead-pencil, instead of a computer, all of five minutes.

Small towns are where the town marshal sometimes doesn't even wear a uniform, and his squad car may be a pick-up truck that does double duty hauling parts for the town maintenance shed.

Small towns are where the fire-department response

times are excellent not because of high-tech equipment but because two members of the force have a bet going on who will get to the fire house first in order to get to drive the truck.

Small towns are where some retirees find themselves working longer hours after being volunteered for a myriad of community-development committees than they did when they were working for pay.

And small towns are where people still think America works because they work to earn a living, and where people insist on being free to do pretty much what they please with a minimum of governmental interference.

Small towns may not have cable television, but may have a computer terminal in their bank lobby linking them to the latest information from commodity and stock markets.

They may not have political polls, skyscrapers, social galas, traffic jams, freeways, but they may have youngsters who mow two or three neighboring yards as well as their own, a four-wheel-drive-truck owner who plows a dozen driveways just for the fun of making the snow fly, and a banker who personally buys half the town's municipal bonds because they aren't getting sold anywhere else.

Small towns are a fine-woven fabric of people that may fray at the edges during hard times or may fade a bit with age. But to tear that fabric completely so as to ruin it is almost impossible.

The threads of intensely personal likes and dislikes that make this fabric up and give it strength are seemingly longer and stronger than today's threads produced by government statisticians or oscillating economic trends.

Bob Nandell is a Register photographer.

SMALL TOWN

Citizens 'do it themselves' to save

By JACK HOVELSON

Of The Register's Waterloo Bureau

DUNDEE, IA. — This tiny town needs a new fire station, so the residents are building it themselves.

When Murray, Ia., wanted to get rid of a couple of deteriorated downtown buildings, the people there made it a community project.

Janesville's town library needed more room and the school lacked playground equipment. Citizens have volunteered to meet the needs.

In Albion, the abandoned school building was saved from destruction when eight citizens formed a non-profit corporation that transformed the structure into a community center that is used almost daily.

And volunteers at Sioux Center transformed their hospital's rooftop into a pleasant relaxation and social courtyard.

Scores of other volunteer projects around Iowa could be added to the list.

Prompted By Sagging Economy

This "do-it-yourself" impetus by Iowa's communities, especially smaller ones, is prompted by a sagging economy that has left governments with less money for public improvements.

"The town applied for a federal block grant four years ago to get money for a new fire station, but it got turned down," said Dundee Fire Chief Randy Mescher. "It's going to take around \$30,000 to build a new station, but the town only had around

\$10,000 it could spend for it."

The 15-member volunteer fire department of Dundee, population 164, decided to spearhead a fund-raising effort and donate its labor to get a new building to replace the 60-year-old structure.

Approximately \$7,500 has been raised, some from donations ranging from \$10 to \$2,000, and the rest from projects such as a chili supper and cleaning 16 cabins at nearby Backbone State Park, which earned the firefighters \$600 this spring.

Land Donated

Land for the new 50-by-60-foot building, which also will be the Town Hall, was donated by three Dundee citizens.

"We've had as many as 31 people working on the building at a time," Mescher said. "We go down there in the evenings and on Saturdays. We hope to move into it by the end of September."

Edwin Allen, director of technical services for the League of Iowa Municipalities, said small-town do-it-yourself projects have been in vogue for years. Fire stations, he said, seem to be the most popular undertaking.

"City halls are the least popular. The people seem to think that their city officials don't need a plush place. Firemen have seen to it that they have a good image in their communities," he said.

"Barn-Raising Fervor"

A "barn-raising fervor" often develops, he said, when people take on a community project.

"We always want to point out to the city governments that they are taking on some risks with volunteer labor because if anyone gets hurt it can be a problem," Allen said.

In Murray, Town Clerk Laurel Adair said two dilapidated downtown brick buildings had become hazards because children were playing in them.

The town, population 620, bought the buildings for \$3,300, but it was the people, members of the Murray Betterment Club specifically, who tore them down and began raising \$1,200 to develop the lots into a town park featuring a gazebo built by volunteers.

"I didn't dream we'd ever raise the money, but we've got \$1,045 of it so far," said Adair.

Janesville Mayor Jim MacKay said his town was faced with a \$10,000 to \$15,000 expenditure to expand the building that houses a town library and town clerk's office. Volunteer labor is cutting the cost to around \$5,000.

New Playground

The town's schoolyard has an elaborate new playground complex that Janesville School Superintendent Jeffry Sales said probably would have cost \$10,000 to \$15,000 if bought commercially. Girl Scouts took it on as a project and it was constructed with volunteer labor.

Townpeople in Albion a few years ago fought a bitter but losing court battle to keep their school open. After it was closed by the parent Marshalltown school district, the Albion school building became a target for vandals and was headed for ruin.

Formed Corporation

That's when eight Albion citizens formed a non-profit corporation to do something with the building. The town council bought it for \$500 and leases it to Albion Community Center for \$10 a year.

The building is used for dances, wedding receptions, reunions, group meetings and teen-ager activities, and soon will have a senior citizen center in two basement rooms.

Volunteers in Sioux Center came up with about \$6,000 to convert a rooftop area at the combined hospital-nursing home building to a pleasant courtyard with trees, planters and picnic tables specially constructed for handicapped people.

It didn't cost the hospital a cent, said acting administrator Kevin Schmidt.

Air Conditioning Fund Ahead...

Sept 10, 1987

Albion Community Center Must Meet State Ultimatum

By MARY DOOLEY
Staff Writer

ALBION — The plaque on the big stone at the edge of the old schoolgrounds proudly tells its heritage: site of the first county high school and then the Albion Seminary, where youth received an education from the mid-1800s.

The sign on the sturdy brick building proudly tells its current usage: Albion Community Center. It has been pointed to statewide as an example of what a small town can accomplish and offer area residents in the wake of losing its school.

But the public and private dances, teen dances, wedding receptions, family reunions, alumni banquets, sports events, political fund-raisers, game room for teens and free open gym for the area — all may come to a halt if the Albion Community Center cannot raise \$17,000 by the end of this year to meet state inspection requirements.

An Ultimatum

Just when the community center is at the strongest point in its three-year history — when it is booked solidly through 1987 and has only "some openings" through December, 1988, when a new catering service has opened in its kitchen facilities and a hard-working group of senior citizens has nearly completed a renovation project to turn two rooms on the ground floor into their own senior citizens center — a state inspector has issued the ultimatum: install central air conditioning to meet restaurant licensing requirements, or close down.

Though the dedicated dozen volunteers have weathered some tough financial times for the center, and solved some complicated technical problems in remodeling it, "That was the big blow right there," said JoAnne Mittelstadt, a driving force behind the center, and wife of the board's president.

The board of directors realizes that air conditioning would be a big plus for the center. The hot spell this summer demonstrated that: volunteers had to check the coolers every night, and during some events, there were as many as 14 fans running at a time, trying to keep people and the coolers cool enough. The cash register took on so much humidity, they had to dry it out with a hair dryer.

More Efficiency

"Everything will run much more efficiently with air conditioning," said Lynette Chesick, another key board member and wife of the treasurer. Cost of running the air conditioning is not expected to cost much more than running the fans did, since the building has brick walls and the gym ceiling has been lowered and well insulated.

Nearly all of the work has been done on a volunteer basis, so the board sought all the volunteer labor and materials it could for the air conditioning project. Even so, the lowest bid was still a hefty \$17,000.

And that figure will go up even higher, if the board can't meet the end-of-the-year deadline to avoid anticipated price increases.

So far, about \$7,000 has been raised in donations and pledges. The board hopes to raise the other \$10,000 through additional donations, a fund-raising dance this Saturday night with "Smitty and Nula" and another one Nov. 28 with "Gold Rush."

Volunteers Short

The board has ruled out a mail appeal, not wanting to spend the money for mailing costs. In prior years, Labor Day celebrations have been staged as fund-raisers, but the group says frankly that keeping the center staffed on a totally volunteer basis year-round takes all of their energies; there just are not enough volunteers to undertake and man that kind of a weekend effort any more.

Though the group actively involved on a consistent basis is small, they quickly point out that many people have volunteered materials, tools and equipment, technical

know-how, money and labor — and continue to do so. "That's really what's kept us going," declared Lynette.

"Not everyone can put in the time we have," she pointed out, but she said the group considers all of those who have given other types of donations to be volunteers, too.

No one has a count on the man-hours that have been poured into transforming the old school, closed in 1981 by the Marshelltown school district because of declining enrollment, into a multi-purpose community center. But for several families, including the Dale Bortons, Tom Chesicks and Dwayne Mittelstadts, it has nearly consumed their spare time, and even some of their vacations.

"That's why our camper's up for sale," laughed JoAnne. "But we enjoy it or we wouldn't do it," she added quickly.

Improvements Galore

Lynette noted that \$89,000 has been taken in since the center first opened, and \$82,000 has been put back into it in improvements. And that figure doesn't begin to represent the actual value of those improvements. Only four items have been purchased new — the cash register, popcorn maker and two large Smoke Eaters. "Everything else has been rejuvenated from donated items," the women explained proudly.

A crew lowered and insulated the ceiling in the gym; volunteers made removable frames to hold insulation on the inside of the huge gym windows in the winter; remodeled the shower room in the basement so it is usable; painted the interior of the building this summer; built a canopied bar area and installed coolers. For the past two years, a summer youth crew has worked on community center improvements; this year they re-surfaced the gym floor.

Window glass has been a large replacement item, not because of vandalism, but just because the glass is old and the latches are hard to turn to open the windows. Before the town bought the building from the school district to lease to the Community Center board, it stood empty and was vandalized repeatedly. "We haven't had any vandalism since the big cleanup three years ago," stated Lynette. "The kids are proud of it themselves."

Informal Understanding

That's evident in their ongoing help at the center. The board has an informal understanding with them, that if they want to use the gym to play basketball on Sunday afternoons, they come in early to help clean it up after Saturday night dances.

The board prides itself on how clean and well-run the public dances are. Since beer and now mixed drinks are served, volunteers are strict about enforcing age limits, as well as the state law that people not bring in their own beverages. JoAnne noted that many families are beginning to bring their children to some of the dances, because the atmosphere is friendly and there is a game room just down the hall. All of that, teamed with the large gym floor and stage, plus the parking area right next to the building, have made the community center popular for a wide variety of events. Said Lynette, "The best comment is, they book for a year in advance."

If they can raise the \$17,000 for air conditioning, board members envision expanding the use of the community center. "We'd like to get some Continuing Education classes up here," said JoAnne. Three rooms on the lower level could be used for that, in the same area as the senior citizens center.

Although raising that amount of money in just three months is a major challenge, Albion Community Center volunteers are determined. "The main thing that's kept us going," said JoAnne, "is out-of-town and even out-of-state people who come in and say, 'We wish we'd done this with our old school.'"

Albion Center Issue Is Given Clarification

ALBION — Personnel in the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals, which oversees Food Service Establishment (FSE) licenses, have clarified an impression given in Thursday's T-R that the Albion Community Center automatically would be closed down if it did not comply with FSE code requirements. Enforcement of the state code is left to the county attorney, according to Art Anderson, Inspection Division administrator, and there is a lengthy appeal process available.

The code states that openings to the outside should have tight-fitting screens or otherwise be closed to prevent entry by insects, flies, birds and rodents. In the community center, neither doors, entrance ramps nor windows (which open to the outside with interior handles) are screened, and are generally open during events to increase air circulation.

Marilyn Dellavou, who inspected the building, said she gave the center a high rating. But she said she told Lynette Chesick, a center volunteer

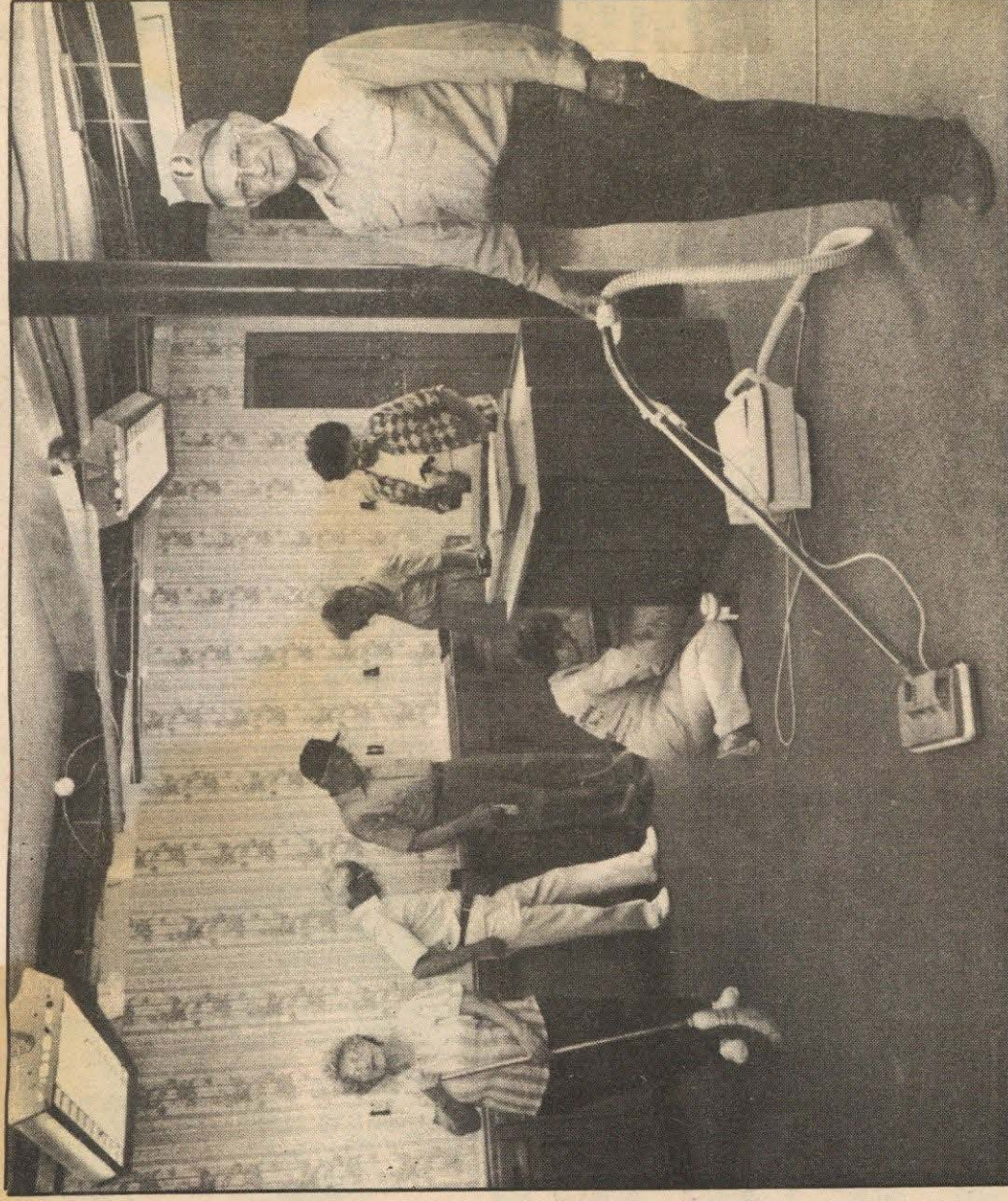
who conducted her through the building, about the need to cover or close openings, and during their conversation pointed out that some restaurants opt for air conditioning rather than screens.

Volunteers at the community center said they had several contractors look at the building, and all indicated custom-designing such screening would be extremely expensive. Therefore, said Mrs. Chesick, the group decided the most cost-effective way to comply with the state code was to install air conditioning.

"If somebody's got a better idea, we're all for it," declared Mrs. Chesick, "but nobody's come up with one."

The fund-raising drive currently underway has raised \$7,000 in donations and pledges, and needs another \$10,000 to assure air conditioning for the community center.

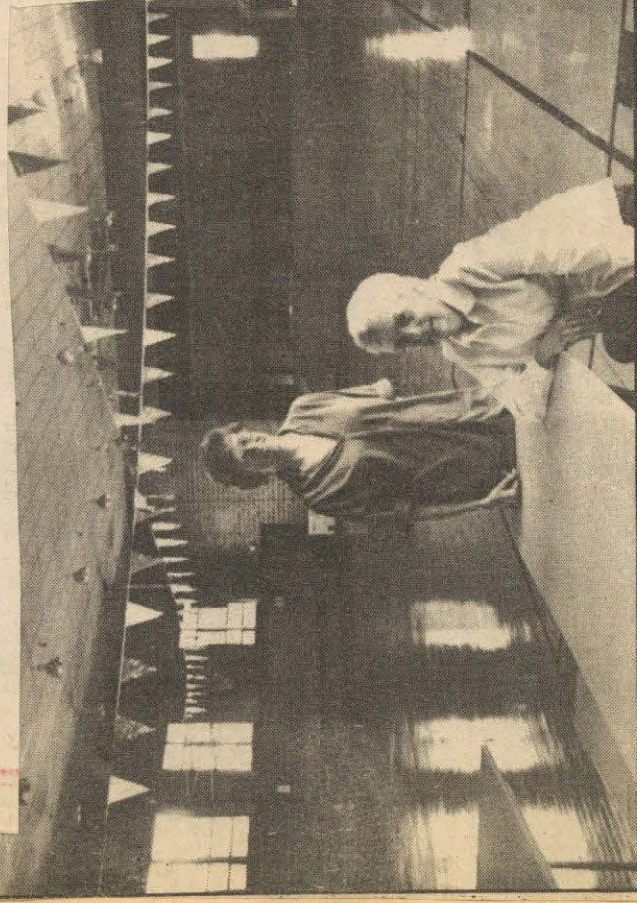
A benefit dance for that drive will be held this Saturday, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., at the community center, with music by Smitty and Nuala.



Staff photo by Mary Dooley

GETTING READY — In preparation for a return visit by Connie McBurney, KCCI-TV, to the Albion Community Center, senior citizens are completing work on their own room in the lower level of the building. Paneling has been installed paneling and this group of workers was hurrying to get the cupboards in before the Wednesday visit. Pictured (from left) are Fern Hays, Stan Rasmussen, Harold and Marie Poling, Allene Charlton (with hammer),

Ardella Arterburn (seated) and Cleo Poling (running the vacuum cleaner). Funds for the senior citizens room came from many donations, and the cupboards were purchased with KCCI's Main Street USA award. The Albion Senior Citizens group will hold their regular noon potluck dinner Wednesday in the new room for the first time. Bess Rowley, president of that group, invites all area citizens to attend and to stay for the 1:30 p.m. visit by Ms. McBurney.



FACED WITH CLOSING — The Albion Community Center must install air conditioning to comply with state regulations or close its doors to the numerous activities already booked for the large gym area through 1988. Lynette Chesick (standing) and JoAnn Stadst are among a dozen dedicated volun-

teers who run the center, and are now spearheading a drive to raise \$17,000 for the air conditioning project. They hope to raise part of the money with a benefit dance this Saturday, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., with music by Smitty and Nuala. Merchants have donated more than \$100 in prizes to be raffled during the dance.

Community center, state feud over air conditioning

By LOU ORTIZ
Register Staff Writer

Officials of the Albion Community Center say the state is forcing them to raise \$17,000 for air conditioning so they can serve popcorn and nachos.



But officials in the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals, which recently conducted an inspection, deny the center was told to install air conditioning.

Lynette Chesick, a member of the center's board of directors, said the center was told either to install air conditioning or screens on windows in the gym where dances are held and snacks are served.

"We had to apply for a restaurant license to serve the popcorn and nachos — and that surprised us, too," she said.

Chesick said the board, which already has raised \$7,000 for the project, has no alternative but to install air conditioning because the windows are constructed in such a way that makes screening almost impossible.

"If we put the screens up we wouldn't be able to get the windows open, and we wouldn't have any ventilation," said Chesick. She said state officials were concerned that without screening or air conditioning, the snacks would draw "flies, mosquitoes or whatever."

Marilyn Dillavou, an inspections department supervisor, said she found "a lot of flies on the premises" during a July inspection.

"I told them they had to do something to prevent the flies from coming in. But I could never tell anybody to install air conditioning," she said. "There was a misunderstanding there."

Art Anderson, administrator of the department's inspection division, said

the matter was of no great concern, but when officials of inspected facilities don't comply with repeated deficiencies the matter is referred to the county attorney.

Dillavou said she told center officials the windows and doors had to be screened if they were opened. As an option, she said, they were told they could also use "gummy-fly strips" inside and insect sprayers outside near the entrance.

But Chesick remembers it differently. "They gave us the option of screening the windows or getting air conditioning," she said. "We had to stop and think about it because it blew our minds."

"They didn't say they would shut us down," she said, "but that was a threat that was hanging over us. We're not going to take that chance, so by hook or by crook, we're going to get that air conditioning."

Albion Mayor Dwayne Mittelstadt said state officials also instructed the center to make other changes he "found hard to believe," including installation of a three-stall sink even though the center uses disposable plates and cups and never washes anything.

The center, a former school, has been the pride of the city since it was opened in 1983, said Chesick. It has a gym and a game room, holds weekly dances attended by young and old, and soon will provide space for senior citizens, she said.

"It has brought a lot of pride to the community and there isn't anybody who won't help us with donations, money or services," she said.

Chesick said money that has been raised for the air conditioning has come from individuals and organizations. Center-sponsored dances also are used to help raise money.

Albion Community Center Unit Reviews Fund, Coming Events

ALBION (Special) — At this week's meeting of the Albion Community Center board of directors, Tom Chesick, treasurer, reported that the benefit dance Saturday night brought in \$1,768 for the air-conditioner fund. Prizes donated by area merchants and a hand-made dry sink from Darrel Baker, Marshalltown, were raffled at the dance.

Volunteers are being called to help install two outdoor basketball hoops on the Community Center grounds.

Fall activities discussed included men's basketball, set to begin Sept. 24.

The weekend schedule of dances through October is as follows: Sept. 26 — Silver Creek; Oct. 3 — Liscomb Fire Department dance with Gold Rush; Oct. 10 — Pony Express dance

with Silver Creek; Oct. 17 — Country III with Mike Gross; Oct. 24 — KSO Tom & Jerry d.j. show; Oct. 31 — Good Times Street Rods Halloween dance (costumes optional) with Smitty & Nuala.

The next meeting of the ACC board will be Oct. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Albion Municipal Library.

English Visitors Enjoy Stay Here

Editor, Times-Republican:

Ray and myself have just spent a few weeks holiday in Marshalltown, with Mr. Don Fisher of 6 S. 7th St., and Mr. Charles Hibbs and family. As our holiday in Marshalltown is coming to an end, we would like to thank everybody who made our stay so very enjoyable and memorable. Namely the above people and all the Leavy family. We would also especially like to thank Mr. Gregg Smith and his wife Nuala for spending a great deal of time showing us around Marshalltown and neighboring areas. If it were not for all the warmth and friendship given by these wonderful people, our holiday in Marshalltown would have been less fulfilling and enjoyable.

We would also like to say what a wonderful time we both had on Saturday when the Marshalltown parade was in full swing. We were

most impressed with the whole event. It showed us both how very proud the people of Marshalltown are of their town, flag and country.

Also we would like to express our thanks to all the people who were present at the Rock and Roll dance in Albion on Saturday night. We were once again made to feel most welcome, which made the event even more enjoyable. Thank you to the owners of the building and the wonderful lady called Betsy. We sincerely hope they raise the money they need to install the air conditioning system so urgently required in the building.

It is obvious to us both what a warm and friendly town you are and also how proud and dedicated you all are of this wonderful country the United States of America.

We shall return to Marshalltown in the future, once again to see all our new friends and also to experience what it feels like to be amongst what we believe to be the most hospitable people we ever met.

Ray Pearce and Chris Turner
South Wales, England

Senior Citizens At Albion Host Connie McBurney

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Senior Citizens' regular monthly meeting Wednesday was held for the first time in their new room at the Albion Community Center, with a special guest, Connie McBurney of KCCI-TV Channel 8.

John Faulkner, vice president, presided in the absence of President Bess Rowley, who was hospitalized that morning. A group of 30 senior citizens attended the noon potluck meal, with Edna Cruzan and Fern Hays in charge.

Highlight of the meeting was the special visit of Ms. McBurney. She came with a camera crew to report on how the group used the money from KCCI's Community Betterment Award. New baseboard and hanging cupboards were purchased for the room, and Jerry Kutzner donated the counter top.

Ms. McBurney commented, "We're so happy to be a part of a community project that reaches so many people and does what they want it to do."

She interviewed Faulkner, Marie Poling, secretary, and Bud Robinson, treasurer, and told the group her filmed report will be shown Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m. on Channel 8.

An open house will be held when the Senior Citizens room is completed.

The Oct. 21 meeting of the group will feature bingo, with each person asked to bring a 50-cent gift.

Albion, Iowa, Monday, October 26, 1987

Albion Teens Ask Open Gym; Need Adult Help

ALBION (Special) — At the Albion Community Center meeting recently, Amber Stubbs and Jamie Cook, representatives from the Albion Teen group, asked that an open gym be held on Monday nights. They would like volleyball and basketball on alternate weeks. Adult volunteers for supervision are asked to call 488-2226.

A Valentine teen dance has been scheduled for Feb. 13, 1988.

Barb Hagstrand, coordinator of Iowa Valley Continuing Education, indicated an interest in renting the community center facilities for dance classes in the spring. Other items discussed included several work projects for winterization.

Coming events are as follows: Oct. 31 - Good Times Street Rods Halloween dance with Smitty & Nuala; Nov. 7 - Gold Rush dance; Nov. 14 - Mike Gross "Country III" benefit for ACC air conditioner fund; Nov. 21 - Smitty & Nuala; and Nov. 28 - Gold Rush dance.

The next meeting of the community center will be Nov. 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Albion Municipal library.

Board Agrees To Rental Of Facility

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Community Center Board gave approval, at its recent meeting to rental of the facility for adult dance classes from Iowa Valley Continuing Education.

In other action, Todd Parish was appointed treasurer to complete the term of Tom Chesick, who resigned. Richard Jackson of Marshalltown will be the DJ for the teen Valentine dance.

Upcoming events include: Nov. 28, Gold Rush dance, benefit for air conditioner; Dec. 5, Country III dance; Dec. 11, Jam Session, all area musicians welcome; Dec. 12, Gold Rush; and Dec. 31, New Years dance with Smitty & Nuala with advance tickets.

The next meeting of the board will be Dec. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion Municipal Library.



Photo furnished

ALBION BENEFIT — "Gold Rush" will return "home" to the Albion Community Center Saturday evening, Nov. 28, in a benefit with proceeds going toward the Center's air conditioning. Helping provide the music for the 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. dance will be, from left, Van Switzer, Liscomb, Bob Christenson, Marshalltown, Tim Case, Beaman, Al Vibbard, Liscomb, and Vic Switzer, Liscomb. The musicians are cooperating with KXIA-FM radio in sponsorship of the benefit. Gold Rush has made a number of appearances in the former school building, beginning there before the remodeling began for the Community Center.

Albion Center Active Place

Editor, Times-Republican:

Thanksgiving is over far too quickly, except to the Albion Community Center board as we are giving thanks every day for very special people.

The radio station KXIA-FM did one fantastic job advertising our Benefit Dance on Nov. 28. We will never be able to thank them enough. The Boys in Gold Rush are great and we thank them from the bottom of our hearts for the great success of the night. We had so many wonderful people remark about how much fun they had and many donated money and best wishes for our continuing success of our Community Center.

We have had many bands rent our Center for dances and thank them all. But a special thanks to Smitty & Nuala and Gold Rush as they have put our

center on the map. Four years ago no one knew where Albion was and now we go out of town and people will say "Oh that is the town that has the Center that we have heard about." People have made the remark that we went there to a Polka Festival, ballroom dances, boxing, anniversaries, retirement parties, weddings, The Lion's Toy Show, basketball and many other affairs.

We are proud of our Community Center and wish to thank everyone who comes to our events for the great support that they keep giving us.

Thanksgiving for our board is all the time with the super people that we have met from all over, which even includes Wales. God bless you all!

The Albion Community Center Board
Box 216, Albion, 50005

Jam Session Friday To Aid Albion Center

ALBION (Special) — A benefit jam session will be held Friday at 8 p.m. at the Albion Community Center.

Entertainers featured will include Dennis Perry, Carl Martin, Gary Goetch, Al Bell, Dick Paul, Everett Whitmore, Hap Ray and Mike Gross and the Country Three.

Local musicians are invited to come and join in for the session. Admission will be by donations which will go towards the air conditioner fund for the community center.

Other coming events at the community center include the Christmas dance Dec. 12 with Gold Rush, and the New Year's Eve party featuring Smitty & Nuala. All tickets for the New Year's Eve dance will be sold in advance, and that event is nearly sold out.

For more information, contact Mrs. Dwayne Mittelstadt at 488-2283 or 488-2226.

Albion Community Center Looking At Coming Events

Dec 28, 1987

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Community Center board met recently with Dwayne Mittelstadt presiding. Items of business included thank-yous to Dorothy Keeler for audit of treasurer's books and to Arnold Hanke, Marshalltown, for refrigeration service done at the center. Two furnace fans have been purchased from

Kapaun & Brown for \$700.

It was reported tickets for the New Year's dance with Smitty & Nuala are completely sold out. Admission will be only for people with tickets; no tickets will be sold at the door. It is asked that no one bring in beverage or food as refreshments will be available.

Coming events noted include: Jan. 2 - 8:30 p.m. birthday dance with Mike Gross, public welcome, free admission; Jan. 8 - 8 p.m. jam session, admission by donation; Jan. 9 - 9 p.m. Betty & Dale DeShamp's 25th anniversary dance with Smitty & Nuala, public welcome, free admission; Jan. 16 - 9 p.m. Gold Rush; Jan. 27 - 7 p.m. tool auction from Nebraska.

The next board meeting will be Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

Jam Session For Albion Benefit

ALBION (Special) — A benefit "Jam Session" will be Friday at 8 p.m. at the Albion Community Center. The donation admission will be used for the air-conditioner fund.

Entertainers to be featured are Dennis Perry, Jerry Allen, Carl Martin, Gary Goetch, Al Bell, Everett Whitmore, Hap Ray, and Mike Gross and Country 3. Any local musicians are invited to join in this session.

February Schedule Released For Center

1-26-88

ALBION (Special) — The Albion Community Center board approved the use of the center for adult volleyball, starting the first week in February, when it met recently.

Other events scheduled at the Center include: Jan. 27, shop equipment and tool auction, 7 p.m.; Feb. 5, Hunt and Smith wedding dance with Flat Band, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Feb. 13, Teen Dance, 7-11 p.m., Richard Jackson, DJ; Feb. 20, Gold Rush; Feb. 26, Jam session, 8 p.m., by donation; Feb. 27, Smitty and Nula.

The next board meeting will be Feb. 16 at the library.

Airconditioning Fund Gets \$300 Donation

2-24-88

ALBION (Special) — It was announced at the recent meeting of the Albion Community Center that a donation of \$300 has been received for the airconditioning fund from the Marshalltown Mall water-fountain (money).

Among coming events for the center are: Feb. 26, Jam Session with all area musicians invited, 8 p.m. to midnight, admission by donation; Feb. 27, Smitty & Nula, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; March 12, Pony Express Dance, Country Three with Mike Gross, \$2 in advance, \$3 at the door; March 19, Gold Rush, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; and March 26, Ferguson Fire Department with Smitty and Nula, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., breakfast will be available.

Election of officers will be held at the next meeting, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the library with nominations from the floor. The public is invited to attend.

Albion Community Center Tabs 2 Couples As Board Members

March 26, 1988

TIMES-REPUBLICAN, Marshalltown

ALBION — New board members have been named for the Albion Community Center. They are: Jeff and Marjorie Mathis, and Dal and Nancy Hookie.

Elected for office were Dwayne Mittelstadt, president; Charlotte Hunt, vice president; Nancy Hookie, secretary; and Jan Borton and Dale Borton, treasurers.

The committee agreed that they want a crew from the Iowa Valley Youth Program for the summer. The final bid was approved for the air-conditioning, and it will be installed

soon as possible even though the community center remains short of funds.

Coming events at the center are the Legend Dance April 8, the Golden Gloves Boxing Exhibition April 9, and Smitty and Nuala April 16.

The next meeting will be April 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albion library.

