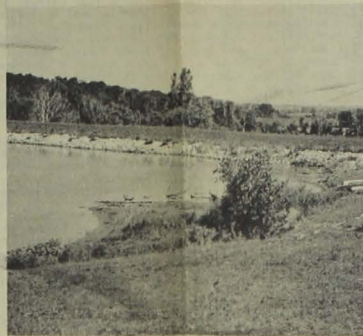


SCRAP BOOK



**Gully
it's big**

And it is deep. That's Roger Hansen of the Soil Conservation Service almost lost in this gully on the Miami Lake road. An erosion control structure is being built at this point to control the sediment and drainage into the lake.



Sedimental journey

You'll pardon the pun, but the sedimental journey taken by this topsoil has created this point of land at Miami Lake and it could continue and sharply reduce the lake's usage.



**Washin'
on down**

The newly constructed road along the east side of Miami Lake has created some problems with more gulley per mile than any comparable road. These banks are due for seeding and perhaps sodding under the resource conservation program.

Miami Lake erosion control project started

A two-part erosion control project along the 1 1/4 mile road on the east side of Lake Miami should control the silting and the washing of sediment into the recreation and fishing lake in Bluff Creek Township, its sponsors feel.

The two part project has been started this past week with E. L. Cooper of Albia receiving the \$11,910.89 project of the extending of one road outlet flume, the excavation

of a channel leading into Miami Lake and the construction of three erosion control structures.

Cooper hopes to have the construction completed this fall, weather permitting.

The second part of the project involves the regrading of three miles of road ditches. An area of 17 acres along the road will be seeded, mulched, and possibly sodded to establish an adequate vegetative cover in the

eroding areas. This phase of the project is to be completed in the spring.

Sponsors of the project at Miami Lake are the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, the Monroe County Conservation Board and the State Conservation District, the Monroe County Conservation Board and the State Conservation Commission.

Announcement of the project

was made by Michael Galer, chairman of the Monroe County Resource Conservation and Development Committee and Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Chariton Valley R C & D executive board. The project is funded through the latter in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service. All needed land rights have been provided by the county and state agencies involved.

The project was started

when the local supervisors asked for assistance in stabilizing the erosion along the road on the east side of Miami Lake. An excessive amount of sediment has been entering the lake at an annual rate of five acre feet a year. This is the equivalent of five acres of sediment, one foot deep.

Sponsors of the project point out that the sediment disposition would appreciably reduce the expected life of the

lake, would create a muddy water condition harmful to the aquatic life, reduce the esthetic value of the lake, making it less pleasing to the eye, and reducing the economic impact from the fishing and hunting activities.

Kaldenberg pointed out that "by eliminating the excessive amount of sediment now being washed into the lake, we're helping maintain Miami Lake as a recreation attraction for the people of Monroe

County and the surrounding area."

DISTRICT MEET—

Members of Howard Cessna Post No. 136 of the American Legion and members of the auxiliary will attend the annual fall conference of the Fifth District American Legion Saturday at Newton. The convention banquet will be at noon Saturday at the Legion building.

Albia
a growing place



The Albia Union-Republican

Volume 107 Number 45

Albia, Iowa

Thursday, Nov. 5, 1970

14 Pages

Highway group asks for help on pond value

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District heard a request from Garwin Stein, appraiser for the Iowa Highway Commission, for technical assistance in determining the estimated replacement costs of farm ponds which will be destroyed in the relocation of Highway 5 south of Albia.

The district commissioners heard the request at their recent meeting.

The commissioners also reviewed the progress of the Miami Lake Erosion Control Project, part 1, which is now 95 per cent completed.

Watersheds located in the soil conservation district were discussed in relation to potential feasibility for assistance under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program, known commonly as the Small Watershed Program.

Two watersheds located in the district with the best potential for assistance under the law are the Soap Creek and Whites Creek watersheds the commissioners said.

Cooperative agreements between the district and the following persons were approved: Robert Heffron, Gullford Township; and Lois Nowlan, Cedar Township.

Revised conservation plans were approved with Dr. W. J. McEniry of Jackson Township and Russell Maddy of Cedar Township.

Nursery orders being accepted

Orders for nursery seedlings to be used for spring reforestation, erosion control and wildlife habitat are now being accepted, announced Gene Hartel, state forester for the Iowa Conservation Commission.

Evergreen trees available include several species of pines. Several hardwoods are also being offered for interplanting in native woodlands to improve the composition of the trees being grown by Iowa landowners. Wildlife plants are available as well as the popular wildlife packets which feature 250 seedlings, particularly beneficial to Iowa wildlife.

Hardwood and conifer seedlings and wildlife shrub plants will be shipped or can be picked up from the Forest Nursery at Ames sometime between the latter part of March and early May. If landowners do not wish to pick up their trees at the nursery, they will be shipped at the purchaser's expense.

Free forestry service is provided by Conservation Commission foresters with offices

at Adel, Chariton, Marshalltown, Anamosa, Fairfield, Muscatine, Charles City, Red Oak, Elkader and LeMars. These district foresters are available to provide advice in tree planting. They can assist landowners in deciding the kind of trees to plant and in determining any cost sharing available under federal conservation programs.

Persons interested in placing an order or securing additional information are urged to contact Conservation Commission personnel or county offices of the Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service or the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, said Hartel.

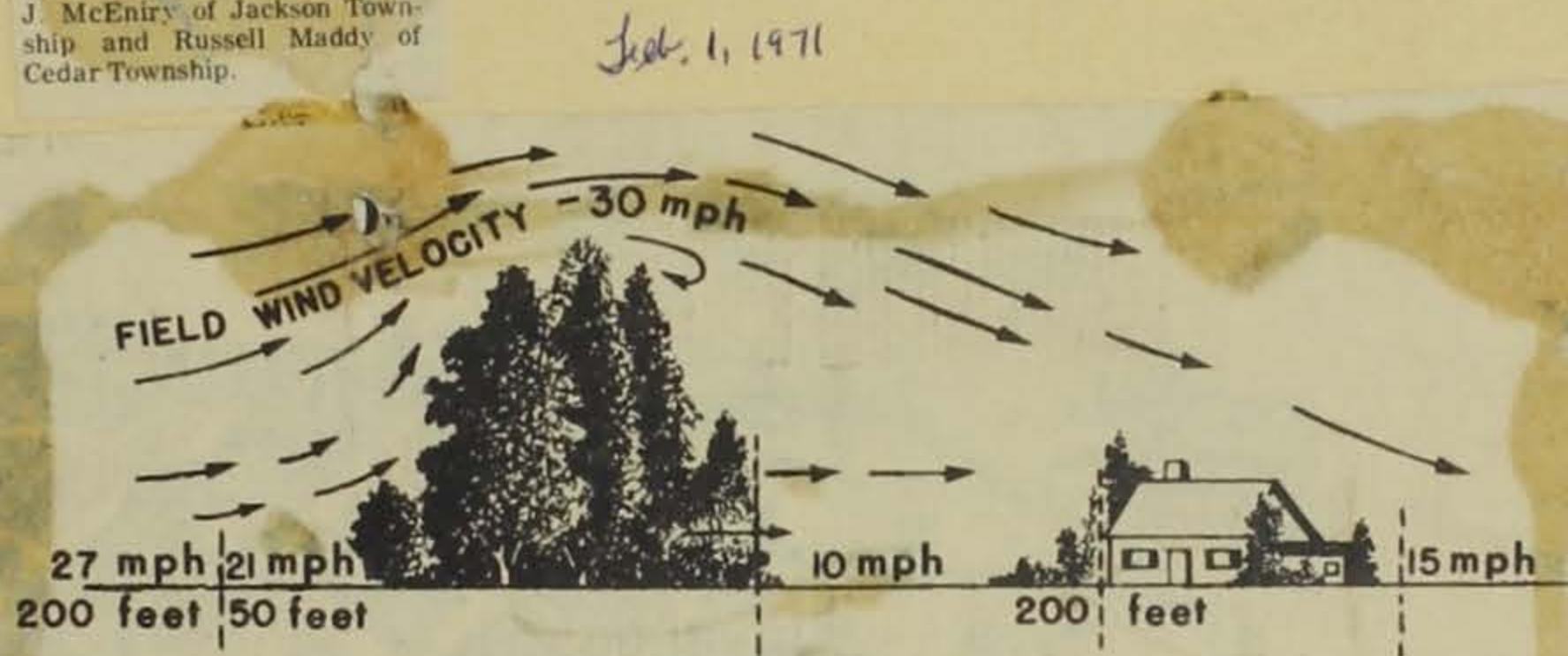
Seedlings available

Orders for nursery seedlings to be used for spring reforestation, erosion control, and wildlife habitat are now being accepted by the State Conservation Commission announced Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Kaldenberg said as in previous years the soil district is cooperating with the State Conservation Commission in helping individuals order trees.

Numerous evergreen trees are available along with hardwood trees. Also available this year is the popular wildlife packet which features 250 plants that are beneficial to wildlife. Kaldenberg said these wildlife packets are especially useful around farm ponds where they will attract wildlife and beautify the landscape.

Kaldenberg stated that persons interested in securing additional information should contact the Soil Conservation Service in the Post Office Building.



Windbreaks reduce wind currents: Part of the air current is diverted over the top of the trees and part of it filters through the trees. Farmstead, livestock, and wildlife windbreaks should be relatively dense and wide to give maximum protection close to the trees. Field, orchard, and garden-type windbreaks need not be so wide and dense.

Windbreaks cut noise, add beauty and shelter

By JOHN BOTTS

Does your cow need an overcoat this winter? Actually any animal, including man, needs protection from the wintry blasts of the Iowa winds. Of course, it would be ridiculous to try to put overcoats on livestock. However, there is a way to take the sting out of the Iowa winters. We could utilize windbreaks more than we do.

Many of us commonly associate windbreaks with the Great Plains. In the windswept expanses of the Great Plains, windbreaks have proved their economic, social, scenic and environmental worth.

Windbreaks, too, are a part of the farmstead setting in the Corn Belt. They have, in fact, widespread and varied uses that materially improve the physical environment in Monroe County.

The M. S. Forest Service took the lead in windbreak work back in 1930 with its Shelter Belts, but in 1942, SCS was assigned departmental responsibilities and it still carried this out through the local

soil conservation districts.

Traditionally, foresters have assumed the leadership in assisting landowners to set out and maintain windbreaks. But windbreaks are not just a forestry practice, nor are they a biology or an agronomy practice. Windbreaks are a conservation practice, one to which all of the disciplines have contributed.

Windbreaks are the conservation measure that probably affects as many facets of our environment as any single one we employ. From an environmental standpoint, windbreaks:

Affords protection to the urban resident as well as the farmers—

Prevents soil losses from blowing—

Reduces noise from highways, playgrounds, aircraft, and other sources and noises—

Alters the "microclimate" of fields and responses of the plants to temperature, carbon dioxide and water in a beneficial manner—

Provides livable outdoor shelters for livestock—

Offers homes, food and shel-

ter for wild birds and small animals—

Creates beauty—

Protects homes and farm buildings from the wintry

blasts—

And reduces the steady and often mentally exhausting gales to a gentle breeze around a farmstead.

Our skin normally at a temperature of 91.4 F., loses heat quickly when there is a wind fanning it. The stronger the wind, the greater the cooling effect.

The following table is based on a study by U.S. Army research teams of the effect of wind on human skin surfaces in Antarctica and other places. A single number, called the wind-chill index—gives the combined effect of wind and temperature. For example it is not uncommon for Monroe County to have a temperature of 10 degree F. with 25 mph wind. From the tables we can see that exposed skin is dealing with an equivalent temperature of "29 degree. A dense windbreak could reduce the 25mph wind to 8 to 10 mph, which in turn raises the temperature at "skin-point" to 9' degree or a 20 degree differential in temperature—

More information about windbreaks can be obtained by contacting the Monroe Co. Soil Conservation District Office. SCS will furnish information on soils and the different species that are best suited for the soil for your windbreak site.

The Monroe County *News*

Volume LXXXVI No. 15
8 Pages

Albia, Iowa
Monday, April 12, 1971



This is Albia

This aerial view of the City of Albia was been provided by the Monroe County Soil Conservation service. It was taken in October 1967 by a U.S. Army aerial map plane from a height of approximately 10,000 feet. On scale one mile is approximately six and one-half inches. The upper part of the map is north, with the Albia City Reservoir at upper left and the Albia Country Club lake at middle right. U.S. 34 extends across the bottom of the picture and Iowa 137 north in the center of the picture. The Monroe County Court-house is designated by the arrow in the center.

Resource group voting Thursday

Two members of the Monroe County Resource Conservation and Development Committee will be named in balloting Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Albia Chamber of Commerce office.

All residents of Monroe County are eligible to vote.

The year-old organization assists individuals, groups and governmental agencies in the planning and development of their natural resources. They are part of the four-county Chariton Valley RC&D Project which is coordinating developments in the four counties in the Rathbun Area—Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, and Wayne Counties.

Nominated for the two vacancies are Raymond Davis, representing the civic groups in the community, and Carroll Rhine, as industrial representative. Nominations can also be made from the floor and Ollie Kaldenberg, president of the county committee, points out that all county residents of legal age are eligible voters in this balloting.

The civic group division will be for a three-year term and the industrial representative a two-year term.

Following Thursday night's balloting the new county steering committee will name its chairman, vice chairman, and

secretary.

Projects accomplished during the past year — the first year of organization — will be outlined at the meeting.

Members of the Monroe County RC&D Steering Committee who served during the charter 1970 year are: Ollie Kaldenberg, representing the Monroe County Soil Conservation District; John Scott representing the Monroe County Board of Supervisors; and Ralph Goode representing business; Gary Belzer representing agriculture; Robert W. Larson representing industry; and Michael Galer, civic group representative.

Feb. 22, 1971

Carroll Rhine, Raymond Davis to RC&D group

The presidents of the Albia Chamber of Commerce and the Albia Jaycees were Thursday night elected to the Resource Conservation and Development Committee in balloting at a meeting at the chamber office.

Carroll Rhine, president of the chamber, was named to a two-year term as industrial representative, and Raymond Davis, Jaycee president, was named to a three-year term as a civic group representative.

Following the election of the two committee members Ralph Goode was named chairman of the county steering committee, Ollie Kaldenberg vice chairman and Gary Belzer secretary.

Goode, Kaldenberg and Rhine were named to the four-county executive board of the Chariton Valley RC&D Project.

At the meeting Kaldenberg, who has served as chairman for the past year, reviewed the projects started during the first year of the organization:

An erosion control project was started on the road east of Lake Miami, and sediment producing areas along the road have been stabilized.

A survey has been made with assistance offered in determining the need for erosion control structures along the highway prior to relocation.

A mosaic map for use in

land planning has been completed for Albia and the surrounding area.

A four-county recreation specialists has been asked for to assist individuals and groups developing the recreational resources of the area.

A four-county resource inventory and map showing historic points of interest and tourist attractions is being developed.

A recreational and land use study for the Rathbun impact area was asked and Farmers Home Administration has financed this with a \$46,000 grant with a contract with Stanley Consultants of Muscatine.

Progress is being made in a county-wide water system study and the four counties in the Rathbun Area are working together on the rural water system.

An inventory of potential watersheds within the project area has been completed for the four counties.

An industrial area soil testing program is being developed in the four counties with information on proposed sites.

Jame Soap Creek watershed group

The Monroe County Soap Creek Watershed Committee representatives Mervin McDanel and Eldred Estlack along with Soil District Commissioner William McGrath met with Soap Creek Watershed representatives from Appanoose, Davis, and Wapello Counties Thursday afternoon in Bloomfield.

Representatives of the four

counties expressed their interest in a Soap Creek Watershed Project. Action taken by the group included the formation of the 4-County Soap Creek Watershed Committee. Charles Chidkering of Bloomfield was elected Chairman of the newly formed committee. Charles Mervin McDanel of Moravia was elected secretary.

The 4-County Soap Creek Watershed Committee will prepare an application for assistance under Public Law 566, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act. This application would be an expansion of an application submitted by Appanoose County on South Soap Creek in 1962.

April 29 was set as the target date for the completion of the amended application which will include the entire Soap Creek Watershed.

April 8, 1971

FARM CLASS—

The last class meeting of the Monroe County Adult Farmers will be Monday at 7:45 p.m. in the vocational agriculture room of the shops building, Albia Community High School. John Botts and Roger Hansen will discuss "Soil Conservation and Pollution".

April 29, 1971

Conservation speeches May 5

The Monroe County Soil Conservation Speech Contest will be held May 5 at 3:30 p.m., Albia High School according to Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The topic for this year's contest is "Soil and Water Management Benefits My Community." The contest is open to all Monroe County Students in grades 7-12. Cash awards will be given to the first and second place winners.

The Soil Conservation Speech Contest is sponsored locally by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District and statewide by The Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company.

April 29, 1971

Miami work for Kiburz

Kenneth Kiburz of Afton has been awarded the contract for the second part of an erosion control project at Lake Miami. Ralph L. Goode, chairman of the Monroe County RC & D Committee announced Tuesday night.

The \$18,184.25 project involves grading and shaping of road ditches, fertilizing, seeding, mulching, sodding and other erosion control measures adjacent to 1.4 miles of road along the east side of Lake Miami.

In other business the RC & D Committee reviewed the Chariton Valley Recreation Map recently developed and approved a project proposal from the Monroe County Conservation Board for the development of the Lake Miami recreation area.

April 5, 1971

Soils district agreements

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District has approved cooperative agreements with the following individuals:

Lloyd and Robert Dykstra, 97 acres, Mantua Township; Mervin McDanel, 415 acres, Urbana Township; Sterling B. Martin Jr., 358 acres, Wayne Township; Floyd Wilcox, 79 acres, Troy Township; Richard Roberts, 150 acres, Pleasant Township; and Gary Bannell, 160 acres, Franklin Township.

Conservation plans were approved with the following landowners:

Richard Roberts, 150 acres, Pleasant Township; Lloyd Dykstra, 240 acres, Pleasant Township; Oakview Cemetery, 41 acres, Troy Township; Lloyd Goode, 88 acres, Troy Township; and Lloyd and Robert Dykstra, 97 acres, Mantua Township.

March 18, 1971

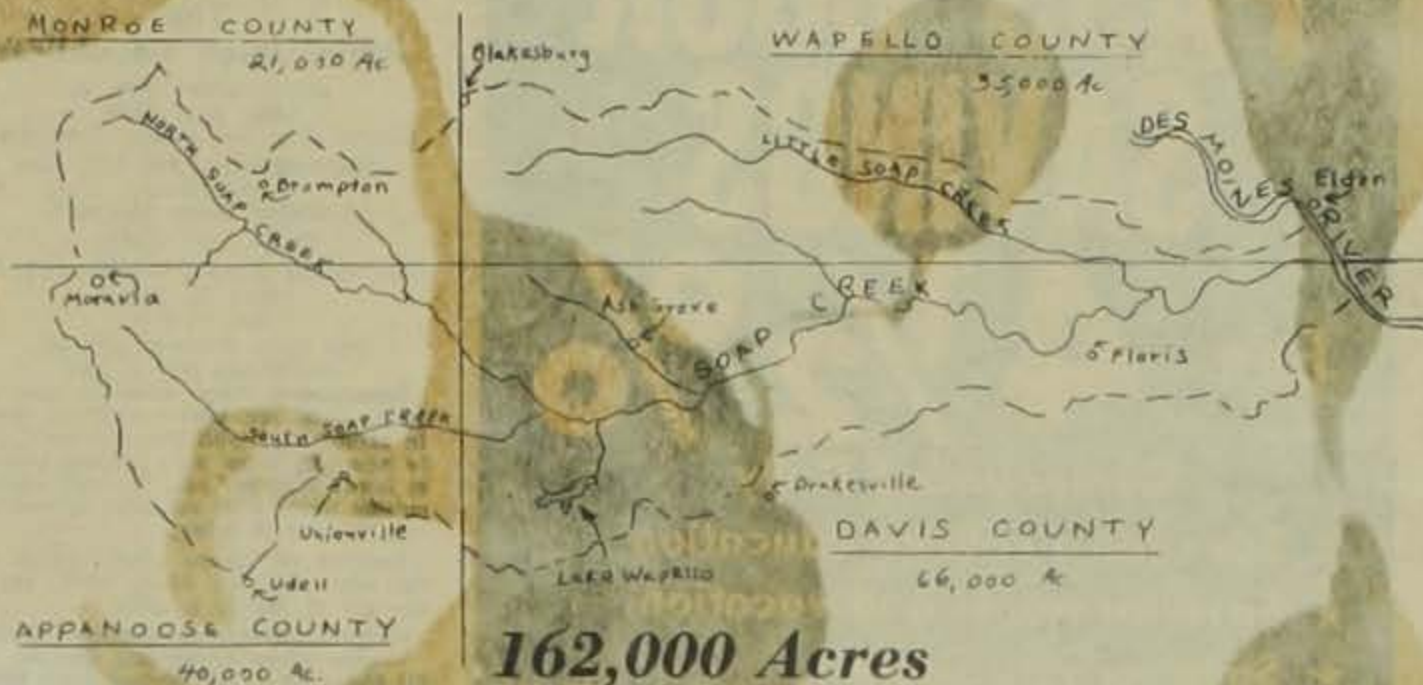
May 10, 1971 9-2

4-county Soap Creek watershed studied

Monroe County landowners and operators in the Soap Creek watershed met Tuesday night in the Blakesburg Community Building to discuss the possibility of a complete watershed conservation treatment program for the Soap Creek watershed.

Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners William McGrath, DeWayne Johnson, and U.S. Soil Conservation Service personnel Roger Hansen and John Botts were present to explain the requirements of a small watershed project as it would apply to the area under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act Public Law 566. The primary objectives of such a project would be to reduce bottomland flooding and stabilize gully erosion.

The 162,000 acre Soap Creek watershed involves four counties — Davis, Monroe, Appanoose, and Wapello, 21,479



162,000 Acres Soap Creek Watershed

acres of the watershed is located in Monroe County.

A six-man Monroe County Soap Creek watershed Committee was elected at the meeting. Those elected were: Dallas Faber, Mervin McDanel, Eldred Estlack, Dean Grinstead, Herman Leffler Jr. and Ronald Goode. Dallas Faber

was elected chairman and Ronald Goode secretary of the committee.

Mervin McDanel and Eldred Estlack were appointed by the committee to represent Monroe County on a four county Soap Creek watershed executive committee which will have its first meeting March

25 in Bloomfield. These two men along with McGrath representing Monroe County Soil Conservation District and Harold Waters, chairman of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors will represent Monroe County at this four county Soap Creek watershed meeting.

April 22, 1971

Scouts plant trees at Miami

Albia Boy Scouts, in a project sponsored jointly with the Monroe County Soil Conservation District and the Iowa Conservation Commission, Saturday planted 1,500 trees on the west side of Miami Lake in the Bluff Creek Township.

Species planted included red pine, whitepine, ponderosa pine, jack pine, Austrian pine, and Scotch pine.

The trees were provided by the conservation commission.

Directing the project were James Bulman, district forester, Roger Hansen of the

local SCS office, Scoutmaster Francis Cole, and Assistant Scoutmaster John Weir.

Hansen pointed out that "as the trees grow they will beautify the area and provide additional wildlife cover and stabilize the soil erosion."

April 29, 1971

Ask Rathbun plan, resource inventory

Members of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District board at their recent meeting approved a request for a resource inventory and plan for the Lake Rathbun Watershed.

The request was received from the Iowa State Conservation Commission. Local SCS personnel will begin working on the watershed inventory and subsequent watershed plan this spring.

A memorandum of understanding between The State Conservation Commission and the Monroe County Soil Conservation District on the Lake Rathbun Watershed was also signed at the meeting.

Ollie Kaldenberg reported that the 4-County Soil Judging Contest between Monroe, Appanoose, Lucas and Wayne Counties will be held May 14 in Wayne County. A soil judging team from the Albia Voc-Ag Department is planning on entering this contest.

In other business cooperative agreements with the following landowners were approved:

Albia Country Club, 97

acres, Troy Township; Larry Derby, 240 acres, Franklin Township; Anna Anderson, 80 acres, Troy Township; and Leonard Beary, 460 acres, Union Township.

Conservation plans developed with the following landowners were reviewed:

John Bain, 240 acres, Bluff Creek Township; Floyd Wilcox, 79 acres, Troy Township; Cecil Stanton, 80 acres, Urbana Township; and Robert Tento, 200 acres, Jackson Township.

May 14, 1971

Conservation art displayed

Entries in the conservation art contest sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District will be on display Saturday on the courthouse lawn.

In case of rain the display will be on the first floor of the courthouse.

Judging of the art contest will be Saturday morning with ribbons and cash awards being presented to the three top placings.

The contest, open to all students in grades 8 through 12 in the Albia Community School District, will feature entries with a conservation theme - from man's abuse of natural resources to his proper planning and use of these resources, according to Ollie Kaldenberg, county district chairman.

Mary Hollinrake speech winner

Mary Hollinrake, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hollinrake, Rte. 1, Lovilia was named the winner of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District Speech Contest held Thursday afternoon at Albia Community High School.

She received a \$10 check as first place award and will be entered in the regional conservation speech contest to be held in Ottumwa this summer.

Second place honors in the contest went to Joni Weir, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Weir, Albia. She received a \$5 check from the Monroe County Soil Conservation District for second place.

The topic of this year's Soil Conservation Speech Contest was "Soil and Water Management Benefits My Community."

Steve Davis, Albia High School speech instructor judged this year's contest.

May 14, 1971

Soil Stewardship Week May 16-23

Soil Stewardship Week, a nationwide observance which places emphasis on man's obligation to God as stewards of the soil, water, and other related resources, will be observed locally, May 16-23, according to Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

"The World and They That Dwell Therein," the theme of this year's observance, underscores the responsibility which each citizen has in fulfilling his or her role as caretaker of the realm. The Monroe County Soil Conservation District and some 3,000 companion districts throughout the nation along with their state and national associations are sponsoring the event for the 17th consecutive year.

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District has distributed to churches of all faiths program blanks, and booklets created particularly for this year's observance.

The materials were prepared by the National Association of Conservation Districts, in consultation with a Soil Stewardship Advisory Committee composed of leading churchmen in the nation. The com-

mittee consists of the Rt. Rev. John George Weber, National Catholic Rural Life Conference; the Rev. Harold S. Huff, Methodist Church; the Rev. Henry A. McCanna, Town and Country Church; Dr. C. Wilson Brumley, Southern Baptist Convention; and Osgood Magnuson, Department of Church and Country Planning.

May 17, 1971

Conservation art is shown

First prize in the conservation art contest, sponsored locally by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, was awarded Saturday to Wayne Messamaker and John Reardon for their painting "My Country Tisn't Clean", showing air and water pollution resulting from a factory.

The prize was \$25 in cash.

A second place \$15 prize went to Sharon Martin for her painting "Which Do You Want?" contrasting a healthy beautiful environment with an unclean, dirty environment.

Richard Carlson showed "Troubled Sater", illustrating water pollution by detergents. He was given the \$5 third prize with honorable mentions going to Cheryl McCombs and Wayne Messamaker.

Robert T. Bates and Mrs. Clell Smith were the judges. Approximately 60 entries were displayed.

June 24, 1971



Farm ponds get fish

Willie Barnes of Pine Bluffs, Ark., a summer biological technician with the Bureau of Sport Fish and Wildlife, is fishing—for some of the 2,400 large mouth bass delivered Tuesday to farmers in this area for placing in their farm ponds. The fish were delivered by Barnes and Frank Paruka and came from the federal hatchery in Muscatine which so far this season has delivered 1,200,00 large mouth bass through the area.

ISU student in soil office

Jerry Sindt, a soil conservation student trainee, has started working in the Soil Conservation Service office in Albia.

A native of Holstein, Sindt will be a senior at Iowa State University, majoring in ag business.

He will be working in the Monroe County office under the supervision of Roger Hansen, district conservationist.

June 21, 1971

Iowa farmers, landowners improve environment

By Roger Hansen

Iowa farmers and landowners are doing something positive about improving the quality of the environment.

They have created over 35,000 acres of water area in Iowa over the past few years in the form of small farm ponds. Wilson T. Moon, State Conservationist, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, said while most ponds are built primarily for livestock water, almost all of them are used for other purposes too. Most

of them are stocked with bass, bluegill, and sometimes channel catfish.

Moon said over 1,000 such ponds were constructed last year in Iowa. Many farmers are further developing the pond areas for wildlife by tree, shrub, and grass plantings in fenced areas around the ponds.

In commenting on the thirty-fourth annual observance of Soil and Water Conservation Week, June 20-27, Moon said 71,000 farmers have

conservation plans designed to control erosion and improve the total environment.

The terraces built on Iowa farms last year, if laid end to end, would reach from Des Moines to New Orleans. Fifty-seven thousand miles of terraces now protect Iowa's hillsides from erosion, her lakes from sedimentation, and the streams from harmful pollutants.

Soil Conservation Districts are actively encouraging the planting of trees not only to

control erosion but to provide environmental improvement. Farmstead windbreaks are popular in Iowa. They not only provide a barrier against cold wintry blasts, they are designed for use by wildlife as well.

The inclusion of landscaping trees and shrubs also adds beauty to the landscape. Over 1,500 acres of trees are planted annually on individual farms.

Moon said soil and water conservation has become a

major enterprise in Iowa. There are 875 contractors who do soil conservation work either full or part-time.

In 1970 there was \$18 million dollars spent in the installation of conservation practices on Iowa farms.

The problems of managing soil and water are found both in the city and the countryside. Land use is changing rapidly especially around expanding urban areas. Vegetative cover is removed, natural drainage patterns bro-

ken, and soils are used for new purposes. Soil Conservation Districts can now provide assistance in solving erosion problems connected with urban development. Interpretation of soil surveys can be made for city planners, residential and industrial developers and realtors to assist them in selecting suitable sites for development.

Soil scientists of the Soil Conservation Service cooperating with the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station are

involved in one of the nation's most active soil survey programs. Over 28 million acres have been surveyed to date. The Iowa State Legislature has made \$100,000 available annually since 1967 to the State Soil Conservation Committee for a series of soil surveys. In addition, 25 counties have made financial commitments to supplement federal and state assistance in connection of the survey programs in their county.

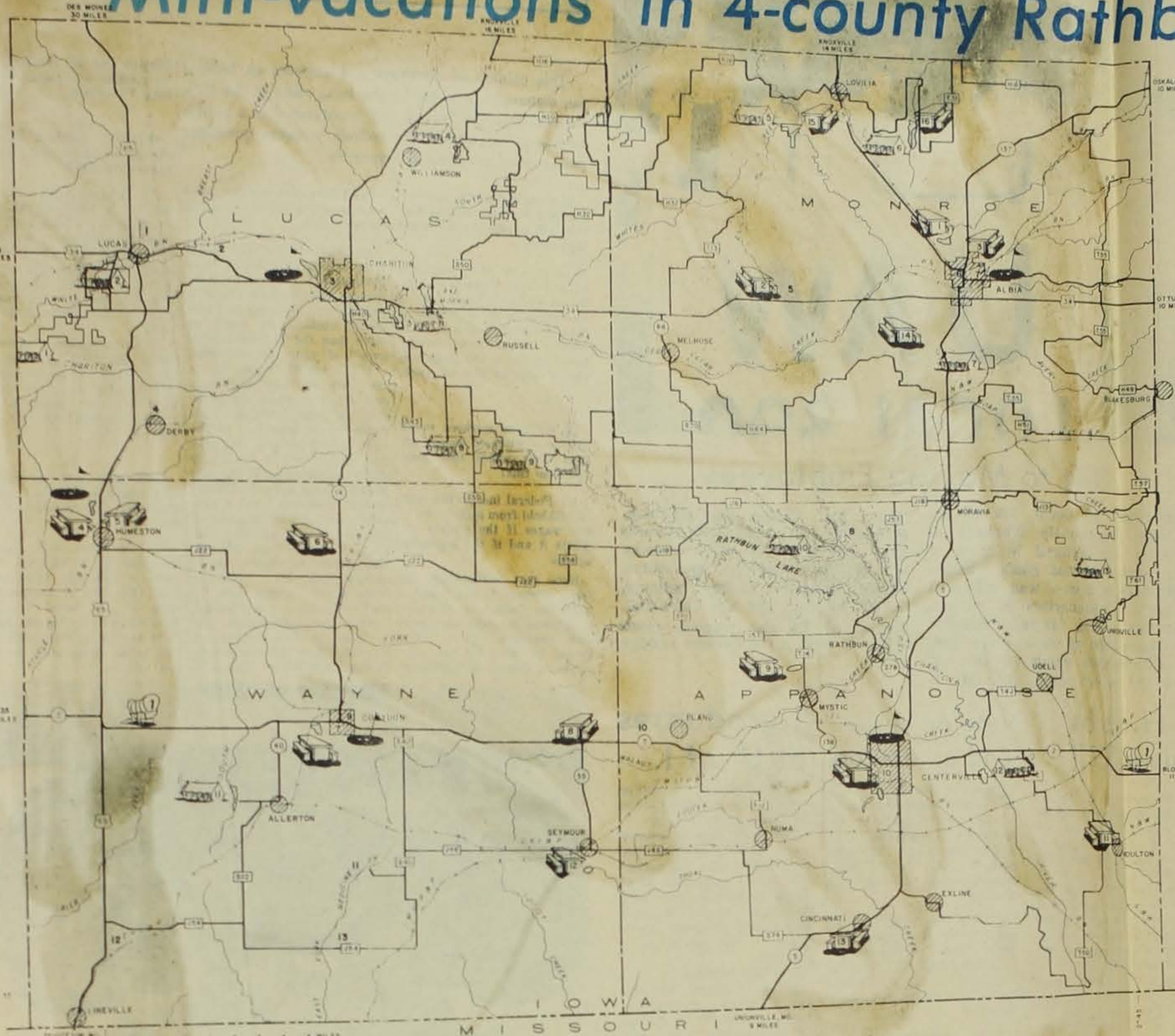
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June 7, 1971

9-3

Stringfellow,
and JoEllyn D.
.5.
orlos Lenger.

'Mini-vacations' in 4-county Rathbun area



For area residents who want to get away from home—and still not get too far away—the four-county Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development Project has recently completed an inventory of the public recreation resources in Monroe, Appanoose, Lucas and Wayne Counties.

The map of the Rathbun Lake area lists the municipal parks and recreation areas, the state recreation areas, and the historic sites in each of the counties.

Organizations in the four counties have also outlined tourism routes and in each instance they connect with tourism routes in adjoining counties so that one can follow the map through the four counties.

Monroe County, one of the first in the state to have a county conservation board, four years ago presented a "Plan for Outdoor Recreation" in which the scenic route through the county was outlined.

The plan was a forerunner of other plans developed for the area and working with state officials members of the Monroe County Conservation Board developed a sign designating the Scenic Route for Monroe County. The signs are installed all along the route through the county and various sites are listed by numbers.

At the present time the county conservation board is having printed 5,000 copies of the map outlining the scenic route through the county, designating the places of historic interest, and telling something of the background of each of the points listed. The maps are expected to be available within the next 10 days.

The Monroe County Conservation Board has suggested using the Monroe County map or the four-county map accompanying this article as a means of getting off the paved highways and into the country-side for a "mini-vacation", whether it's a long week-end or a Sunday afternoon drive.

Copies of the map reproduced here will be available soon on a brochure being published by the Rathbun Lake Association.

- MARKED TOURISM ROUTE
- SUGGESTED ACCESS ROUTE
- MORMON TRAIL
- GOLF COURSE
- STATE LINE
- COUNTY LINE
- HIGHWAY
- RAILROAD
- CITY
- DRAINAGE
- LAKE OR RESERVOIR

The Monroe County News

Albia, Iowa

Vol. LXXVI No. 23

Monday, June 7, 1971

6 Pages

LEGEND

MUNICIPAL PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS

1. WATERWORKS PARK: 203 AC., PICNIC., FISH.
2. GEORGETOWN REST AREA: 3 AC., PICNIC., CAMP.
3. ALBIA CITY PARK: 17 AC., PICNIC., FLD. SPTS., SWIMMING, GOLF.
4. LAKESIDE PARK: PICNIC., FISH., GOLF, SWIMMING.
5. HUMESTON PARK: PICNIC (ELEC.), PLAYGROUND.
6. POSTON PARK: PICNIC.
7. CORYDON PARKS: PICNIC (ELEC.), PLAYGROUND, GOLF, SWIMMING.
8. LITTLE FLOCK REST AREA: PICNIC. AND PLAYGROUND.
9. MYSTIC PARK: 10 AC., PICNIC., PLAYGROUND, FISHING.
10. CENTERVILLE PARKS (3): 50 AC., PICNIC, BOAT., FISH., SWIMM., GOLF, AND CAMPING.
11. MOULTON PARK: PICNIC. AND PLAYGROUND.
12. SEYMORE PARK: PICNIC. (ELEC.), FISH., AND HUNTING.
13. CINCINNATI PARK: PICNIC., CAMP., AND PLAYGROUND.
14. ALBIA RESEARCH FARM: 545 AC., PASTURE MANAGEMENT STUDIES.
15. GLADSEN-CARMACK PARK: 40 AC. SCENIC PICNIC AREA.
16. MIAMI LAKE PARK: 40 AC. PICNIC AND CAMPING AREA OWNED BY COUNTY.

STATE RECREATION AREAS

1. GRAND RIVER STATE FOREST RESERVE
2. STEPHENS STATE FOREST
3. RED HAW STATE PARK
4. WILLIAMSON POND
5. LAHART AREA
6. LAKE MIAMI
7. COTTONWOOD PITS
8. COLYN AREA
9. BROWN'S SLOUGH
10. HONEY CREEK STATE PARK
11. BOB WHITE STATE PARK
12. SHARON BLUFF STATE PARK
13. UNIONVILLE STATE FOREST GREEN

ACTIVITIES

	BOATING	CAMPING	SWIMMING	FISHING	HUNTING	PICNICKING	TENT CAMPING	TRAILER CAMPING
1. GRAND RIVER STATE FOREST RESERVE	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
2. STEPHENS STATE FOREST	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
3. RED HAW STATE PARK	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
4. WILLIAMSON POND	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
5. LAHART AREA	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6. LAKE MIAMI	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
7. COTTONWOOD PITS	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
8. COLYN AREA	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
9. BROWN'S SLOUGH	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
10. HONEY CREEK STATE PARK	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
11. BOB WHITE STATE PARK	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
12. SHARON BLUFF STATE PARK	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
13. UNIONVILLE STATE FOREST GREEN	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

HISTORIC SITES

1. LUCAS - BIRTHPLACE OF LABOR LEADER JOHN L. LEWIS.
2. ROCK MUSEUM - EXHIBITS OF MANY MINERALS AND ROCKS, NATURE TRAIL.
3. LUCAS COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM - ATTRACTS THOUSANDS ANNUALLY.
4. DERBY OPERA HOUSE - OLDEST OPERATING OPERA HOUSE IN IOWA.
5. ST. PATRICKS' CATHOLIC CHURCH - EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE AND BEAUTIFUL.
6. ALBIA TOWN SQUARE - RECENTLY RESTORED 19th CENTURY SQUARE.
7. GOVERNOR KENDALL'S HOUSE - PREVIOUS RESIDENCE OF IOWA GOVERNOR KENDALL.
8. NATIVE PLANT RESERVE - EXHIBITS OF NATIVE FLORA.
9. WAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM - OVER 20,000 ITEMS.
10. LITTLE FLOCK CHAPEL - MINIATURE CHAPEL.
11. RICHARDSON CHAPEL - MINIATURE CHAPEL WITH ORIGINAL PULPIT.
12. LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE - COUNTRY SCHOOL WITH PICNIC FACILITIES.
13. RILEY MEMORIAL GARDENS - MANY FLOWERS, SHRUBS, AND CHAPEL.

June 28, 1971



Farmers take tour

Approximately 80 Monroe County farmers had a chance to see their farms from the air in a series of trips arranged for last Saturday by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District and the First Iowa State Bank. Two planes were rented from Midwest Aviation Co. in Ottumwa for the soil conservation week tours. Shown here with a planeload of county farmers is Merrill Blumer, left, pilot for one of the planes and Raymond Davis, vice president of the First Iowa State Bank.

July 1, 1971

THANK YOU

Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioner Ollie Kaldenberg, DeWayne Johnson, Lloyd Clark, Albert Etcher and Bill McGrath would like to thank all the farmers who participated in the Conservation Air Tour and First Iowa State Bank for sponsoring this event.

August 9, 1971

Soil group okays resource surveys

A request from the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission for two resource inventories was approved by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District at their recent meeting.

The inventories requested include one of land uses and roads in Lake Rathbun's immediate area, and one of the areas of public recreation in the county.

In other action at the district's meeting, Ollie Kaldenberg was named the district's outstanding commissioner for 1971. Kaldenberg was honored for his work in promoting soil and water conservation and resource development in the district.

Cooperative agreements were approved with Robert Cappuccino, 60 acres in Urbana Township; George Harpole, 216 acres in Cedar; John Brandon, 100 acres in Troy; and Thomas

Robb, 120 acres in Monroe Township.

The district commissioners also reviewed conservation plans which have been developed with the following land owners: Melvin Bain, Larry Derby, Henry Fynaardt, John Whipple and Robert Flannigan, Pat Sinnott, and Sterling Martin. In addition, plans for Cottonwood Pits and Lake Miami were also reviewed.

Start next week on water survey in 4 townships

Monroe County is moving a step closer to a rural water system throughout the county as the Monroe Rural Water Association next week starts a re-survey which will provide the engineering firm with information for the design of the system.

Residents in Mantua, Troy, Bluff Creek and Pleasant Townships received this morning letters from the local group asking that they come into the local office, established in the Soil Conservation Service office in the Post Office building, and go over the resurvey to make certain all information is correct.

Schedule for next week are:
Tuesday, Aug. 31—Mantua Township
Wednesday, Sept. 1—Troy Township
Thursday, Sept. 2—Bluff Creek Township
Friday, Sept. 3—Pleasant Township

Members of the directors of the association will be available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each of these days to explain the rural water system and to answer questions residents may have.

An additional time of Monday, Sept. 13 from 2 to 8 p.m. has been set for those who can not make their scheduled time.

Four additional townships of Cedar, Union, Wayne, and Guilford are being scheduled for Sept. 7-10 and the last four townships in Monroe County are being scheduled Sept. 14-17.

Joe Hollinrake, president of the water group points out that everyone who signed up originally for the rural water (and there were nearly 600) and all those who have reconsidered and now want to become a part of the system should come in and recheck their information.

He added that "this survey is important, for in areas where little interest is shown, no water mains will be constructed, and it will be years before these areas have an opportunity to acquire water service through the association."

Directors have pointed out that the system will be designed on the basis of the information provided by association members. The same

procedures are being followed in Appanoose County, which has completed most of its resurvey work and has hired an engineering firm. In Lucas County the resurvey is being done and that county is about to hire the engineering firm. Wayne County is reorganizing for its survey work.

Hollinrake pointed out that it is difficult to anticipate costs, but on the basis of other systems in operation "it is anticipated that the minimum monthly charge would not be in excess of \$10 or \$15 per month including reasonable lawn sprinkling and garden watering."

After the costs of the project are determined by the engineer the members will be contacted regarding the monthly rate for the amount of water they stated each would need. At that time they'll be asked to sign a water user's agreement. This will cover water charges, easements, right-of-way for construction of the physical facilities (pipeline, water meters, standpipe, etc.).

→ Aug. 26, 1971

August 19, 1971

Rural water system go-ahead is given

Monroe County's proposed rural water system Wednesday night not only got the go-ahead signal but directors got the organization off to a fast start by:

1. Authorizing a re-survey of each of the townships in Monroe County and asking that it be completed within the next several weeks;
2. Authorizing the executive council to hire an office secretary, buy the necessary equipment and start operating;
3. Accepting an offer of the Soil Conservation Service for office space on the second floor of the Post Office building;
4. Authorizing interviews with engineers for the project and asking for a recommendation on the hiring of an engineering firm;
5. Authorizing the go-ahead with the filing of articles of incorporation by James J. Jenkins, attorney for the group.

The actions were taken at a dinner meeting Wednesday night at the Albia Country Club with the two Albia banks—First Iowa State Bank and Peoples National Bank—acting as hosts.

Meeting with the group last night were Robert Koch of Oskaloosa, district super-

visors for the Farmers Home Administration; E.H. Scales, Albia office manager for the FHA; Kenneth Owens of Centerville, president of the Appanoose County Water Association; Charles McCarthy of Centerville, RC&D supervisor; Richard Johnson, county extension director; and Roger Hansen of the Soil Conservation Service.

Owens told the group of current progress in Appanoose County and outlined the re-survey methods used by his organization. He pointed out that 80 to 90 per cent of the people in rural Appanoose County expressed an interest in a rural water system. The systems in each of the counties will be financed by a 95 per cent loan from the Farmers Home Administration.

Appanoose County has a loan approved for a portion of the county. Monroe County's project has proceeded to the point where state FHA officers suggested a formal incorporation, the setting up of an office, and the hiring of an engineering firm.

Koch told the group that the FHA wants 80 per cent sign up in the area and that Monroe County is close to that point with nearly 600

members in the county rural water association now. He also pointed out that the need for such service must be demonstrated and suggested water sampling of present farm water usage.

Owens in his remarks pointed out that though minimum charges and costs of connecting to the system can be estimated now on the basis of the experience of other rural systems, the final determination for any particular system can be made only after the engineering firm completes its studies.

Officers of the Monroe Rural Water Association, Inc. (the name formally adopted Wednesday night) are Joe Hollinrake, president; Maurice Scieszinski, vice president; Henry Fynaardt, secretary, and Mrs. Dale Maddison, treasurer.

Members of the executive council are Hollinrake, Charles Mock, and Phillip Brock.

At the meeting Wednesday night Mrs. Maddison reported a balance of \$11,749 in the association treasury, adding that this is invested in time certificates of deposit until it is being needed. The money was obtained through \$20 initial fees paid by members for a feasibility study.



Officers named

Officers of the Monroe County Rural Water Assn., Inc., are, left to right, Joe Hollinrake, president; Henry Fynaardt, secretary; Mrs. Dale Maddison, treasurer; and Maurice Scieszinski, vice president.



Hosts at dinner

Hosts at the Monroe County Rural Water Assn., Inc., Wednesday night are shown here with FHA representatives. Left to right are A.J. Westendorf, vice president of the Peoples National Bank; E.H. Scales, manager of the Albia FHA office; Robert Koch, Oskaloosa, district FHA supervisor; and Robert L. Kaldenberg, president of the First Iowa State Bank.

Sept. 20, 1971

9-4

Rural water system signup totals 700

Total membership in the Monroe Rural Water Association, Inc. reached the 700 mark Friday as 116 new members have been signed in the current re-survey period and 406 of the original signers have had their information re-surveyed.

But, Joe Hollinrake, president of the association, pointed out, there are still 168 members who signed up for the rural water system originally who haven't been in and had the information verified.

Hollinrake urged each of these members to take time tonight, Tuesday or Wednesday to get into the association office in the Post office building and get the information verified so it can be turned over to the engineer.

Hollinrake also reminded residents in all parts of the county who are interested in a rural water supply to get in and sign up now. He pointed out that French-Reneker-Associates, Inc. of Fairfield, the engineers for the rural water system have started computerizing the information preparatory to the preliminary design of the system and he said that all of the local information must be compiled and ready for forwarding by Sept. 30.

Hollinrake pointed out, too, that additional customers can not be added as easily as had been done in the early days of rural electrification. Pipelines will be sized for the present and projected usage of the members and when new members wish to obtain water from the system, it won't be quite as easy to dig up a four-inch water line and replace it with a six-inch line.

The office of the association will be open from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. today, from 4 to 10 p.m. Tuesday and from 4 to 10 p.m. Wednesday for the final signup of new members and for the re-survey of members who signed up a year ago.

So far the response in Mantua Township has been the greatest with a total of 96 members in that area.

The total signup of both new members and former members who have been in for a re-survey of the information is:

Mantua Township	96
Troy Township	80
Bluff Creek Township	54
Pleasant Township	44
Union Township	36
Cedar Township	31
Wayne Township	35
Guilford Township	60

Monroe Township	39
Franklin Township	11
Jackson Township	20
Urbana Township	16

Hollinrake pointed out that these figures do not include 168 former members who have not yet been in for a re-survey of their information.

He repeated that the plan must be economically feasible and members who have signed up will do well to contact their neighbors to make certain that they have also signed so that all farms in a given area may be served at the lowest possible cost.

The Monroe Rural Water Association, Inc. last week hired French-Reneker-Associates, Inc. of Fairfield to provide the engineering for the proposed rural water system in Monroe County. The latter firm has contracted for engineering services also from Bartlette and West of Topeka, Kan., a firm which has engineered 50 water districts in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. The two engineering firms are collaborating on the design of the rural water system for Appanoose County also.

Sept. 20, 1971

Conservation workshop set

Iowa teachers will get a chance to pick up helpful ideas and techniques in teaching conservation again this fall. This year's conservation fall workshop will be held at the 4-H Camp near Luther, Iowa, Oct. 1 and 2.

The two-day session will emphasize new teaching aids and materials, according to Dr. Paul Joslin of Drake University. Joslin is President of the Iowa Conservation Council which sponsors the workshop. Other parts of the program include soil conservation tours, displays, and discussions with conservation and education leaders.

Total cost of the session is very nominal according to Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Kaldenberg said the workshop is open to teachers and others in public, private and parochial schools from kindergarten through the twelfth grade.

Anyone interested in more details should contact the Monroe County Soil Conservation District office in the Albia Post Office building.

August
26, 1971



'Operation Listen' comes to Albia

Federal government officials and state officials were here today for an all day hearing at the courthouse. Shown at the hearing table are, left to right, D.H. Awtry, executive secretary ASCS, representing the U.S. Department of Agriculture; H. Sharrott, acting regional administrator, Department of Housing and Urban Development; S. Cornelli, regional director, Office of Economic Opportunity; Governor Robert D. Ray; Max M. Mills, regional director, Department of Health, Education and Welfare; J. Kemp, regional federal highway administration, Department of Transportation, N. Hadsell, deputy administrator, Department of Labor, and G. Jepson, deputy administrator, Small Business Administration.

Governor Ray opens 'Operation Listen'

Top U.S. government administrators in the "people" programs came to Albia today to listen and they heard nearly two dozen local residents tell them what is right and what is wrong with their programs.

And they heard Gov. Robert D. Ray say that "I, too, use Albia as an example of how people can make the difference. I use it as an example of what can be done in what is basically a bootstrap operation and the community pride this generates. You'll see

a proud people in Albia."

Governor Ray was preceded on the program by Wayne Lauffenberg, director of program and planning for Iowa, who told the federal administrators that "we like to point to Albia as a community example of what can be done if the people really want to get it done."

J. Logan Cain, who was in charge of local preparations for "Operation Listen" welcomed the group to the community.

Max Milo Mills, chairman of

the regional council of U.S. Federal Region VII, told the packed hearing in the Monroe County court room, that "basically we are evaluating ourselves and our programs."

The first two presentations this morning were concerned with agricultural programs.

William McGrath, who is president of the county cattlemen's group, told the federal officials that Monroe County is 55 per cent pasture land and "we need more emphasis on pasture

improvement and less on the feed grain program as far as the area is concerned."

He praised the work of the Farmers Home Administration but commented that "lately there's been more of a shift to urban development than I'd like to see on the part of the FHA."

McGrath suggested that the area needs more money for development and more professional help in management. He asked for provision for cow loans which can be repaid over a longer period and suggested perhaps government guaranteed loans.

He praised the extension and SCS as two federal agencies "most responsible for environment and water and pollution control", adding that these agencies were in the work before ecology became a household word.

McGrath also asked for increased emphasis on farm marketing and said that at present the "marketing service is where the labor organizations were in 1910 and 1920."

Responding to questions by Governor Ray on cow-calf operations McGrath said that "people are now recognizing Southern Iowa as a cheaper place to produce beef."

Ollie Kaldenberg, Bluff Creek Township farmer, was the second person to speak on the farm programs and he urged increased emphasis on soil conservation. Tracing the start of the local program back to 1944 he pointed out that only 40 per cent of what needs to be done has been accomplished and we need much more emphasis on the program.

He praised the planned rural water system in the



Welcome Gov. Ray

Governor Robert D. Ray was welcomed at the Albia Municipal Airport this morning on his arrival to "Operation Listen", an all-day session today at the Monroe County Courthouse. Shown outside of the governor's plane are Governor Ray, William McGrath, Robert D. Kaldenberg, Carroll Rhine, president of the Albia Chamber of Commerce, Councilman David Johnson, J.E. King, and Sheriff Dennis M. Carr.

★ 'Listen'

—Continued on Page 2.



William McGrath



Ollie Kaldenberg

Talk on farm programs

August 30, 1971

Start this week on water survey in 4 townships

Monroe County is moving a step closer to a rural water system throughout the county as the Monroe Rural Water Association this week starts a re-survey which will provide the engineering firm with information for the design of the system.

Residents in Mantua, Troy, Bluff Creek and Pleasant Townships received this morning letters from the local group asking that they come into the local office, established in the Soil Conservation Service office in the Post Office building, and go over the resurvey to make certain all information is correct.

Schedule for next week are:
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Members of the directors of the association will be available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each of these days to explain the rural water system and to answer questions residents may have.

An additional time of Monday, Sept. 13 from 2 to 8 p.m. has been set for those who can not make their scheduled time.

Four additional townships of Cedar, Union, Wayne, and Guilford are being scheduled for Sept. 7-10 and the last four townships in Monroe County are being scheduled Sept. 14-17.

Joe Hollinrake, president of the water group points out that everyone who signed up originally for the rural water (and there were nearly 600) and all those who have reconsidered and now want to become a part of the system should come in and recheck their information.

He added that "this survey is important, for in areas where little interest is shown, no water mains will be constructed, and it will be years before these areas have an opportunity to acquire water service through the association."

Directors have pointed out that the system will be designed on the basis of the information provided by association members. The same

The Monroe County Rural Water Association is in business.

The new telephone number in the office in the Post Office building is 932-7427.

Miss Lucille Roberts will be the clerk in the office and Mrs. John Botts will be working part time in the office.

The survey work gets under way Tuesday.

procedures are being followed in Appanoose County, which has completed most of its resurvey work and has hired an engineering firm. In Lucas County the resurvey is being done and that county is about to hire the engineering firm. Wayne County is reorganizing for its survey work.

Hollinrake pointed out that it is difficult to anticipate costs, but on the basis of other systems in operation "it is anticipated that the minimum monthly charge would not be in excess of \$10 or \$15 per month including reasonable lawn sprinkling and garden watering."

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so that an accurate compilation can be given the engineer.

The executive board of the association has been interviewing engineering firms on the design of the rural water system and a recommendation on the hiring of an engineering firm is expected the first part of next week.

Scales reported a 33 per cent increase in the number of signups in Pleasant Township Friday.

Thursday, and Guilford Townships signups Friday.

Residents of the last four townships will be signed up next week and a make-up is scheduled for next Monday.

E. H. Scales, manager of the Albia office of the Farmers Home Administration, emphasized that all residents, even though they may have signed up a year ago, should report at the rural water association office in the second floor of the Post Office building and have all of the information checked

Dec. 27, 1971

Present tentative design of 4 county water system

A preliminary layout for the proposed Monroe County rural water system was presented to the executive board of the county's Rural Water Association during a meeting Tuesday of its governing board.

The plans were the first draft of a tentative layout of water mains and feeder lines for the water system. French-Reneker Associates, Inc. of Fairfield, the association's consulting engineers, prepared the design.

Donald French, of the Fairfield firm, showed plans for a four county water system, in addition to a more detailed layout for a Monroe County system. French's plan for the county calls for feeder lines to be placed to the property line of every person thus far expressing interest in the rural water system concept.

The joint four county system—made up of Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties—would be supplied primarily from Lake Rathbun, where a large treatment plant would be located, French said. However, a smaller reservoir or well near Chariton would supply much of the needs of Lucas County, according to the engineering plans.

French is expected to provide a more detailed plan of a four county water system when the governing boards of the county associations meet in early January.

According to Joe Hollinrake, chairman of the Monroe County association, as of last week 846 families had made application for water. In addition, he said four developments—areas with a water system of their own—had also applied. Hollinrake indicated there were other families living near the Monroe-Wapello County line which have applied.

He said the association expects to finish taking applications in early January. Hollinrake noted, however, that applications are still being accepted from interested rural families.

Details on the application process and an appointment to complete the application may be obtained by calling 932-7427. The association's offices are located on the second floor of the Albia Post Office.

Much of the discussion at Tuesday's meeting of the Rural Water Association centered on the benefits a four county system offers, as compared to separate systems

in each of the counties.

The merits of a multi-county system are the central water source, treatment plant and management possible with such a system which aren't possible with individual water systems in each county.

French told the board members that the four county system would therefore result in major economies in the areas of operation and

maintenance.

The key to the future of a Rathbun-area water system rests with the federal government. The water associations in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties have jointly applied to the federal government for a loan from

★ Water—

—Continued from Page 1.

the Farmers Home Administration to finance construction of such a four county system.

However, the multi-county concept for rural water associations is new and has never been tried before in the United States. Therefore, it is not known whether the government will approve a loan to the four counties.

The Monroe County association went on record Tuesday as favoring a four county system if the funding could be arranged with the government.

If the federal government does not give its okay to a four county loan, the association is prepared to fund and construct a system here in smaller segments.

Jerry Gronvold, a representative of French-Reneker Associates, said the design being drawn up for Monroe County in the four county system could be adapted and developed in smaller phases if necessary.

However, the decision to progress with a Rathbun-

area water system of Monroe County system hinges on the federal government's decision whether or not to fund county project.

September 7, 1971

Rural water signups up 11% in week

Signups for the Monroe Rural Water Association, Inc. have increased by 11 per cent so far during the current sign-up program it was reported this morning.

The association a year ago had 574 members and when the last week's signup ended Friday afternoon at total of 636 were reported.

Residents of Union Township are signing up today. The schedule for the balance of this week calls for Cedar Township signups Wednesday, Wayne Township signups

Thursday, and Guilford Townships signups Friday.

Residents of the last four townships will be signed up next week and a make-up is scheduled for next Monday.

E. H. Scales, manager of the Albia office of the Farmers Home Administration, emphasized that all residents, even though they may have signed up a year ago, should report at the rural water association office in the second floor of the Post Office building and have all of the information checked

September 2, 1971



Checking rural water progress

Mrs. John Botts, secretary for the Monroe Rural Water Association, here marks on a Troy Township map the location of another home signed up in the association. Four more townships will be re-surveyed next week and the balance the following week in the county-wide re-survey.



Another sign-up for rural water

Wilbur Henderson, Rte. 3, Mantua Township, gets information about the Monroe Rural Water Association from Mrs. Kenneth Hinton. In Henderson's township a total of 92 homes have signed up for the rural water system with 10 new members signed in the re-survey Tuesday.

Study 4-county Rathbun Region rural water plan

A 4-county rural water system for the Rathbun Region moved a step closer this week with representatives from Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, and Wayne Counties meeting in Washington, D. C. with officials from the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture, and Congressman John Kyl.

The meeting was held in the office of James Smith, administrator of the Farmers Home Administration. The Economic Development Administration and Rural Conservation and Development offices were also represented.

Congressman Kyl said that the Federal officials indicated approval of the regional concept, saying that the local organizations are on the right track and moving in the direction the U. S. government wants to go on projects of this nature.

Representing the rural water associations and the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission in the presentation in Washington Monday were Ivan McCullough, Russell, president of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission; Kenneth Owen, Centerville, president of the Appanoose Rural Water Association, and vice president of the 4-county rural water group; and Charles Pierce, Chariton, chairman of the four-county rural water group and president of the Lucas Rural Water Association.

Accompanying the Rathbun representatives were Robert Pim, Des Moines, state administrator for the Farmers Home Administration; and Wilson Moon of Des Moines, chief of the Soil Conservation Service in Iowa.

Also accompanying the group were two of the engineers, Donald French of

French Reneker Associates, Inc. of Fairfield and Dean Connett, representing Hoskins Western Sonderegger, Inc. of Lincoln, Neb. The Fairfield firm is the consultant for the Monroe and Appanoose County rural water groups and the Lincoln firm the consultant for the other two counties.

Kyl said that the local groups will now proceed with further studies preparatory to filing formal applications for assistance. The multi-county, coordinated water development is a new concept, not previously presented to the Federal departments. The four counties are included in a Rural Conservation and Development unit by official designation. Local planning groups in the four counties have determined that a rural water system is the most essential element in the economic development for the area. Need and use surveys



have been completed and much essential engineering has been completed.

Congressman Kyl had high praise for the four-county Resource Conservation and Development Committee

personnel and the Rathbun Regional Planning Com-

★ Rural water

—Continued from Page 1.

mission, pointing out that "these people have put a tremendous amount of time and effort in early consideration of the project. In working with the committees and all other local elements involved, I have again been impressed by the total cooperation and the unselfish seriousness of purpose. That cooperation bodes well for ultimate accomplishment in what is a very large project".

The origin of the project dates back to 1968 when the four-county Rathbun Regional Planning Commission received the report on the "Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan for the Rathbun Region". This plan was prepared by Harold Hoskins and Associates, Inc. of Lincoln, Neb. under a Farmers Home Administration Grant.

The plan for water and sewer development was presented Dec. 5, 1968 to local officials in the four-counties and to interested citizens. At that time the 20-year action program anticipated the region-wide development to serve all of the town residents and 50 per cent of the rural residents by 1975 and Dr. Frank Hough, professor of economics at Graceland College in Lamoni and chairman of the Decatur County Soil Conservation District, will be the speaker at the 6:30 p.m. banquet.

Merle M. Illingworth Jr., president of the Albia Rotary Club, will present to three outstanding district co-operators soil conservation awards from the Albia civic group.

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL CONSERVATION STATE OF IOWA

Notice of election of commissioners for the Monroe Soil Conservation District, encompassing land lying in the county of Monroe in the state of Iowa:

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

Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of March, 1972, between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., an election will be held for the election of commissioners for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Polling places for the election are as follows:

First Christian Church Service Center, Albia, Iowa.

Eligible voters residing within the district shall cast their ballots at one

of the polling places. Eligible voters who will be absent from the district on the day of election, may apply in person, or in writing, to the County Auditor at Albia, Iowa, for "absentee ballots". Each applicant for an absentee ballot shall state his name and address when application for such ballot is made.

Department of Soil Conservation
By: George K. Arman
Chairman, State Soil Conservation Committee
Department of Soil Conservation

March 16, 23

SCS dinner speaker is Frank Hough

Dr. Frank Hough, professor of economics at Graceland College, Lamoni, and chairman of the Decatur County Soil Conservation District, will be the speaker at the Monroe County Soil Conservation District banquet Tuesday night.

The banquet at 6:30 p.m. will be at the First Christian Church.

Polls for the balloting for district commissioners will be open from 3:30 to 8 p.m.

Merle M. Illingworth Jr., president of the Albia Rotary Club, will present to three outstanding district co-operators soil conservation awards from the Albia civic organization.

Acting as master of ceremonies for the banquet will be Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Entertainment will be by the vocal music department of Albia Community High School.

Tickets for the dinner can be obtained at the SCS office in the Post Office.

Dr. Hough owns his own



Dr. Hough

farm and is a partner with Dr. William T. Higdon, president of Graceland College, in a farming operation called "Little River Farms, Inc."

He attended the University of Missouri in Columbia, receiving his bachelor of science degree in 1961 with honors. He received his doctor of philosophy degree in agricultural economics there in 1965.

Dr. Hough has been an instructor in economics at the University of Missouri and in 1965 became assistant professor at Graceland. Since 1967 he's been an associate professor and chairman of the Social Science Division. He's been named to "Who's Who in American Education" and in 1969 was named "Outstanding Young Educator".

March 23, 1972

March 27, 1972

Balloting for soils board post

March
27, 1972

Polls will open at 3:30 p.m. and close at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the First Christian Church in balloting for two members of the Monroe County Soils Conservation Board.

Four nominees are on the ballot for the two posts: William F. McGrath of Jackson Township, Samuel Kool of Pleasant Township, Lloyd Morgan of Franklin Township, and Raymond Vance of Urbana Township.

McGrath is an incumbent. The other incumbent whose term expires, Albert Etcher, is not seeking re-election.

Other members of the five-man board of commissioners include Ollie Kaldenberg of Bluff Creek Township, Lloyd Clark of Union Township, and Dewayne Johnson of Monroe Township.

Dr. Frank Hough, professor of economics at Graceland College in Lamoni and chairman of the Decatur County Soil Conservation District, will be the speaker at the 6:30 p.m. banquet.

Merle M. Illingworth Jr., president of the Albia Rotary Club, will present to three outstanding district co-operators soil conservation awards from the Albia civic group.

March 27, 1972

Rathbun Commission named area wide planning group

The Rathbun Regional Planning Commission has received notification from the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Omaha Area Office that it had been certified as the area wide planning organization for Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties.

Word was received by Ivan McCullough, chairman of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission in a letter stating that the Commission's 1972 Annual Work Program was an outstanding example of a regional planning organization on a non-metropolitan

level in Iowa.

Guy J. Birch, area director for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, went on to state in his letter of certification that the interest in progress in the area wide planning

process would be of benefit to the four counties as well as the city members of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission.

McCullough said that receiving word on the certification of the commission ended a five-year effort by the commission members to gain recognition and certification from the federal government as an on-going planning commission.

The Rathbun Regional Planning Commission was officially organized in 1967 by action of the four Boards of Supervisors in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe, and Wayne Counties. Since that time, the commission has undertaken several major projects which have had an effect on the long term development of the area.

Projects such as the 1968 Rathbun Region Water and Sewer Plan were instrumental in the development of the rural water activities that are going on in the four counties.

In 1970 the Commission was funded through Farmers Home Administration for the development of a recreational plan and impact study around Rathbun Lake. The plan completed in 1971 is being used by state, federal, and local agencies as well as private people who are interested in commercial developments in the Rathbun Lake area.

The Planning Commission in 1971 revised its organizational structure to include municipalities prior to the recent application for area planning certification from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Under the new structure all communities may co-operate with the county boards of

supervisors in the planning effort.

The Commission is made up of a 16-man board which is appointed by the co-operating municipalities and county boards of supervisors.

Currently the following members represent each county area.

APPANOOSE—Byron Felkner, Robert Malmberg, Joe Sherrard, Earl Boyer

LUCAS—Ivan McCullough, Vern Vogel, Robert Parker, Jim Cooper

MONROE—J. Logan Cain, Henry Kolling, Bob McGinnis, Ralph Goode

WAYNE—George Moser, Ben Grismore, Gail Harndon, Farris Wade

McCullough indicated that along with certification the planning commission anticipates HUD funding after July 1 to begin the first of a three-year comprehensive planning program. Areas of concern to the region where planning is needed are housing, land use, transportation, solid waste, rural water, low in-

come minority groups, economic development, employment, environment, law enforcement, health, education, and community facilities.

Moving out on one of these concerns, the executive board of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission has applied for financial assistance from the Environmental Protection Agency for funding to do a comprehensive sanitary solid waste disposal plan for the municipalities and county governments in the four-county region.

The commission has received assurance that this application would receive top priority from EPA and that, if funds are available, they might receive assistance prior to July 1.

A direct benefit to the area from the certification of the planning commission comes from the review process where the commission assists communities in offering bonus grants for municipal sewer and water projects.

5-4-72

Consider Conservation

Soil Stewardship Week, May 7-14

It's the will and the skill of responsible man
To protect and use wisely the treasures
of land—

The waters and wildlife, the forests and fields,
Plus the bounty of beauty God's countryside yields.

It's the fight against ignorance, waste, and
greed

To save the resources that all men need.
It's the foe of erosion, forest fire, and flood
Three agents of ruin, pollution, and mud.

It's the vision and work to add something
good

To the home, to the farm, to the whole
neighborhood.

It's new lawns and new gardens; a lake
built to please;

It's roadsides with grass and hilltops with
trees.

There's a lot to be done for the state of
our living

But each gain requires your share of self-
giving.

Consider conservation. Consider it well.

March 30, 1972

9-8

Conservation pays today Hough says

"Conservation pays—not only for future generations and for our children and our grandchildren, but conservation pays today. You and I get the benefit," Dr. Frank Hough, economics professor at Graceland College, Lamoni told those attending the Monroe County Soil Conservation District banquet Tuesday night.

Dr. Hough also remained his audience of the new image of conservation leaders, of the broader scope of their services, of the more dramatic impact being made by conservationists. "Conservation is now urban as well as rural . . . conservationists are just as interested in having your yard seeded

properly, in seeing that your sewage is disposed of properly, as in terracing on the farm."

The speaker told his audience that "the cry today is ecology and pollution correction. We don't have to sell conservation. And though that conservation has done a good deal we have still fallen far short of our potential."

He urged conservationists to get involved in politics, in finances, in social issues.

Dr. Hough outlined five things which he said must change before we can make full use of our resources:

1. "We've always done it this way". We in Iowa haven't succeeded in conservation because we have only seen Iowa as a corn state and we haven't seen Iowa as a pasture state.

2. "Our grasses dry up the first of July". Dr. Hough urged more research and more use of warm weather grasses. The tonnage is good and farmers using them are getting results, he asserted. He also suggested that the state universities in the mid-west could spend much more time and research on grasses.

3. "Financing cow loans is still a problem". We're still treating the cow as something the farmer is buying to sell instead of a production asset, Dr. Hough said. The safest loan a banker can make

Honored

Mrs. Jessie Howells, who was named 1970 District Teacher of the Year in conservation received her award Tuesday night at the Soil Conservation District banquet at the first Christian Church.

She taught junior high school science in Albia for 21 years until her mandatory retirement in 1970 and since then has taught in Russell.

Her daughter, Mrs. Dean Thomann of Agency and a granddaughter, Christine, were here to see her receive the award Tuesday night.



Conservation awards

Three Monroe County farmers received Tuesday night from Merle Illingworth Jr., right, president of the Albia Rotary Club, plaques for their conservation work over the

years. Receiving the awards were, left to right, Henry Fynaardt of Pleasant Township, Edward Mahoney of Jackson Township, and Price Bain of Bluff Creek Township.

2 elected

Two commissioners were elected by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District in balloting Tuesday.

A total of 92 votes were cast. All eligible voters in the county were eligible to vote in the election.

Named to six year terms were: William F. McGrath, Jackson Township, who farms 460 acres there; and Raymond Vance, Urbana Township, who farms 652 acres.

McGrath is an incumbent and Vance replaces Albert Etcher who did not seek re-election.

Soil speech contest is next Monday

Students in grades 7 through 12 in schools in the county are eligible to compete in the Soil Conservation Speech Contest which will be held Monday, May 14 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium here.

The topic for this year's speech contest will be "Better Soil and Water Conservation Through Community Action."

The local contest is sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company.

The regional contests will be held in June or July. The state level the first place winner wins a \$250 scholarship plus a \$100 cash prize.

4-24-72



Dr. Hough

4-20-72

Julius asserts:

Iowa small towns not dying but changing

Iowa's small towns are not dying, but are undergoing change, an Iowa State University extension economist told the Rural Development Conference-Workshop here Monday.

Representing Albia and Monroe County at the workshop were Walter Judge of the board of supervisors; Dennis Homerin of the city council; Richard Johnson, county extension director; John Frieden of the Soil Conservation Service; and E. H. Scales of the Farmers Home Administration.

Marvin G. Julius said Iowa's small towns are the most stable of the four types of community settlement patterns in the state. He addressed nearly 400 persons attending the conference-workshop sponsored by the Iowa USDA Rural Development Committee.

"Iowa's small towns experienced growth from 1900 to 1920," Julius explained. "At one time they were complete retail and service centers, but this function has declined since

the era of the automobile in the 1920's.

"But taken as a group, there are almost as many people living in small towns—those up to 2,500 population—as there were in 1920. Agricultural-business firms are the main economic base of these towns, though they no longer are the complete retail center for the area. People there must depend on other towns for some of their retail and other services, and may have to rely more strongly on other towns in the future."

Julius believes people will continue to live in Iowa's small towns, though the state will have to rely upon the cities and larger towns if it is to continue its modest growth.

Discussing Iowa's land and water resources, Minoru Amemiya, ISU extension agronomist, told the conference that we have sufficient technology to avoid environmental degradation and additional technology is being generated.

"Improving our environ-

ment may be costly but an even larger problem is the lack of understanding of the benefits of a quality environment," Amemiya said. "It is hard to put a dollar value on esthetics—how valuable is a good-appearing community? Or how do you put a dollar value on the well-being of people?"

Stressing the importance of the day's topic, Marvin A. Anderson, dean of university extension and acting dean of the College of Agriculture, chairman of the rural development committee, said there are more than 130 bills before Congress dealing with rural development.

"There is substantial interest in rural development by our national leaders and it is recognized as a significant concern," Dean Adner-son added.

The one-day conference-workshop was designed to help leaders throughout the state understand programs and procedures in solving community problems.

May 18, 72

Conservation speech winner named Monday

Ron Sterk placed first in the speech contest sponsored by the Monroe County Conservation District and held Monday night at Albia Community High School.

Denna Stuchel and Bernie Weir placed second and third, respectively.

Sterk and Miss Stuchel received cash prizes. Miss Stuchel is an eighth grader while the others are Albia High School students.

May 22, 1972

Ron Sterk places 1st at contest

The annual Soil Conservation Speech contest held Monday, May 15, at the Albia High School was won by Ron Sterk, a sophomore at Albia. Sterk received ten dollars and a blue ribbon for the first place finish. Finishing second was Dena Stuchel, an eighth-grader at the Albia Middle School. Dena received five dollars and a blue ribbon for her second place showing while Bernie Weir received a blue ribbon for third place.

The judges for the year's event were Mr. Ollie Kaldenberg, Rev. William Douglass, and Mrs. Marie Cain. There were ten participants for the contest, eight from the Middle School and three from the high school.

5-4-72

City still says no to disposal plans

The Albia City Council, still at odds with the Monroe County Board of Supervisors on the planning for the sanitary land fill on a four-county basis, is inviting Charles Miller, state environmental engineer in the Department of Health, to meet with the Albia council.

The resolution inviting Miller was by a four-two vote of the council with George Hellyer, David Johnson, Dr. D. W. Cunningham and Ed Steinbach voting yes and Dennis Homerin and David Campbell voting no.

Part of the same motion was to write a letter to the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission (with a copy to the Board of Supervisors) explaining that the city's question on the sanitary land fill in no way reflects on the four-county unit but is simply a difference of opinion between city and

council as to who should pay.

Charles McCarthy, director of the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development Project, told the council at Monday night's meeting that 32 towns in the four counties have voted to participate and each of the four counties are participating and Albia is the only governmental unit not in the planning group for the sanitary land fill.

He pointed out that planning will be done with a 75 per cent grant and with 25 per cent funded by local groups. All communities must submit to the State of Iowa by November of this year a solid waste disposal plan.

Members of the city council in discussions—which at times became quite heated—Monday night pointed out that the city had had a sanitary land fill, that rent and operation is costing Albia

residents \$751.66 a month and that those outside of the city are using it without charge. The exception is the Town of Blakesburg which has arranged for use of the Albia fill and is paying a yearly rental to the City of Albia.

The cost for the participation by the city in the four-county solid waste disposal planning would be \$1,800.

Members of the council raised the question as to whether if both county and city paid whether residents of Albia wouldn't be taxed twice for the same project. It was pointed out later that this would not be the case since county funds would come from a sanitary waste disposal fund levied in the townships only.

The council at the meeting also approved a bid of \$160 for James Conley to repair the bath house at the Albia Municipal Pool.

May 22, 1972

Art entries on display

Entries in the annual art contest sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District will be on display Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The contest, open to all students in grades six through 12 will include the five categories of oils or acrylics; water colors or tempera; pencil, India ink or charcoal drawings; pastels; and collage and posters.

Ribbons will be given the first three places in each

category and cash prizes of \$25, \$15 and \$5 will also be awarded. Each student is limited to two categories and one entry per category. Entries must include a scene depicting a positive phase of soil and water conservation or environmental problems and solutions.

The cash award entries will remain the property of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Judging will be Saturday on the courthouse lawn in Albia.

Art prize to

Rhonda Mosbey

Rhonda Mosbey won the \$25 first prize in the conservation art contest sponsored recently by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Second prize—\$15—went to Janette Sofranko, while Sandy Templer received the \$5 third prize.

Judges for the contest were Robert T. Bates and Mrs. Clell Smith, both of Albia.



Plotting

Robert Kaldenberg, left, and Raymond Davis, center, of the First Iowa State Bank plot one of the numerous air tours of Monroe County farms given to over 50 farmers Saturday in a joint venture of the bank and the county Soil Conser-

vation District. At the right is David Munt of Midwest Aviation in Ottumwa, one of the pilots. The air tour, now in its second year, is designed to promote conservation practices on county farms.

July 20, 1972

THIRD PLACE—

Ronald Sterk, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sterk, won third place in the Region 9 Soil Conservation Speech Contest held Tuesday at the Holiday Inn in Ottumwa. He represented the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Sterk received a \$10 check and a certificate.

July 24, 1972

SCS selects outstanding commissioner

Ollie Kaldenberg, 52, Rte. 5, chosen earlier as Monroe County's entry as the 1972 outstanding Soil Conservation Service commissioner, was named last week as the Region 9 winner and now advances in state competition in the current year's selection.

Kaldenberg has served as district commissioner since 1964 and has been chairman

of the county group since 1968.

He owns and operates 335 acres and rents an additional 200 acres of land. His livestock operation in partnership with his son, Tom, includes 135 cows, 600 hogs, 35 heifers, and 200 feeder calves.

His grain program generally consists of 155 acres of corn, 110 acres of

soybeans, 20 acres of oats, 25 acres of alfalfa hay and the remaining portion in pastureland.

Kaldenberg on his farm has a conservation cropping system and an extensive program of pasture renovation and management. He has constructed a pond for livestock water, constructed 7.8 acres of waterways, installed 3,743 feet of tile, and has constructed 800 feet of tile-outlet terrace.

Kaldenberg, a member of the board of the Albia Community School District, served as president during the 1971-72 school year. He's a long-time Sunday school teacher at the Otterbein United Methodist Church and served a year as superintendent. He's been Bluff Creek Township assessor since 1950 and a member of the Monroe County Board of Health since 1970.

As a soil district commissioner he has also served on the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development Committee and on the four-county executive board. He was active in the development also of the Monroe County Rural Water Association.

July 24, 1972

\$15 million four-county rural water system funds OK'd

Plans for a \$15,000,000 rural water system serving more than 3,000 rural customers in the four-county Rathbun Region of Monroe, Appanoose, Lucas, and Wayne Counties, were announced Saturday in Chariton by Congressman John Kyl of Bloomfield.

Stressing that this water system "is just not another project but it is the beginning step in a development program," Kyl said the project will be financed by a \$3,000,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration, by \$11,000,000 in loans from the Farmers Home Administration, and by \$1,000,000 in local funds.

Kyl pointed out that "We are looking for things which need to be done to bring about development and really make this area viable economically. One thing which was needed most was water." The Bloomfield congressman pointed out that Rathbun Lake has attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors to the four-county Rathbun Region and has brought a number of business and recreational developments. "If we are going to take care of these people we are going to have to have a good, reliable source of water."

Kyl said officers of the Rathbun Regional Water Association and the engineering firms on the project will be in Denver Thursday presenting their final engineering reports to EDA officials in the regional office there.

Responding to questions Kyl would not say when the project "would really get going" but added "The money is there when we need it, though there are a few

engineering factors to be taken care of first." Donald French of French, Reneker and Associates of Fairfield, engineers for the Monroe County and Appanoose County portions of the project, said that usually three years elapse from the time of funding to the initial operation.

Termed the largest single rural development project in Iowa, Kyl in the press conference thanked the members of the four local water boards for their work on the project over the last 18 months. "If everyone in the four counties worked as hard as the members of the four water boards did there would be no problems here," he asserted.

Present at the press conference were Robert Pim, state director of the Farmers Home Administration; Wilson Moon, Des Moines, Soil Conservation Service; Donald French of French, Reneker and Associates of Fairfield, engineers for the Monroe County and Appanoose County portions of the project; and Dean M. Connett of Hoskins-Western-Sonderegger, Inc. of Lincoln, Nebr., engineers for the Wayne and Lucas County portions of the project.

French told the press conference that the water treatment plant will be located near the lower end of Rathbun Lake with a number of regional water mains going into the four counties from which service lines will be run.

In Monroe and Appanoose Counties French estimated there will be 600 miles of water mains, about 12 elevated storage tanks and stand pipes, and about 1684 customers who will be served. This is

about 87 percent of those indicating an interest in rural water in an earlier sign-up as members of the local water associations.

Connett said that in Wayne and Lucas Counties there will be between 400 and 500 miles of water mains serving nearly 1,400 customers or about 83 percent of those indicating an interest. The two western counties in the Rathbun Region will have about 14 elevated tanks and stand pipes.

Connett pointed out, in response to questioning, that in some areas in each of the four counties the density of interested persons is not up to standards so that these can not be served as yet. He added that "ultimately we want to make rural water available to all who are interested."

Connett commented that a comparison of individual systems and the multi-county system were made but that the main advantage of the Rathbun Region concept is the lower total operating cost and better service. "By investing money in pipelines we are investing in something with a longer life than wells and mechanical equipment."

He pointed out that towns in the four counties will be contacted to see if they are

★ Rural water
—Continued on Page 4.

More information on the rural water system for the four counties will be found on Page 4 of today's Monroe County News.



Rural water

—Continued from Page 1.

interested in an interconnection system.

Kenneth Owens of Centerville, chairman of the four-county group said that "the thing we hope to achieve is bringing about better health through a better quality of water. We also hope to help economically. We have had a number of people leaving the four-county area, so we hope to bring people back into the area. This is what we think of as rural development."

He pointed out that in the rural areas there are shortages of water at some times of the year. In July, August, September of last year over four million gallons were hauled into the area, "expensive when figured at \$6 to \$10 per thousand gallons", he pointed out.

Owens commented also that much of the water in the area is not fit for human consumption, that many wells are shallow and are affected to a large extent by surface conditions.

The state FHA director, Robert Pim, pointed out that the loans going to the non-profit water corporations in the four counties will be used to lay pipe and purchase right-of-way. The loan to the Rathbun Regional Water Association will be used to finance the treating of the water from the Rathbun Lake and the regional group will treat this water and sell it back to the four counties.

Congressman Kyl added that "there isn't any danger of the lake being drained" by the water consumption.

Kenneth Owens reinforced this opinion by pointing out that with four million gallons a day being taken out of Rathbun

Lake in a year's time it would lower the lake level by only six inches. He added that the average rainfall here is 32 inches and "that's just what falls into the lake and doesn't include the run-off into it."

Gerald I. Gronvold of French-Renneker-Associates, Inc., said that the Corps of Engineers has given permission for the four-county water association to take up to 40 million gallons per day from the lake. However, he said present plans call for only about four million gallons to be taken daily. He added that the funding announced Saturday "was better than we had expected." He pointed out that the local water groups had expected they might get four or five smaller fundings over a 10-year period.

In outlining a tentative time-table Gronvold said the final engineering work will take about a year and in that period necessary easements can be obtained. He estimated that bids will be taken in 1973 and a 1975 estimated completion day was given.

Plans are for the treatment plant to be located on a 12 acre site, probably below the dam, with this site providing the large amount of land needed for emptying sludge removed in the purification process. A million-gallon capacity storage facility will be located adjacent to the treatment plant.

Gronvold said plans will be for the plant to operate normally for eight-hours daily with water to be stored in this million-gallon facility plus the stand pipes and elevated tanks in the four county area. Tentative plans call for a general manager, three plant operators, a distribution superintendent, and several other distribution men and clerical help.

Rathbun Regional Water Association

Kenneth Owens, Centerville, chairman.
Charles Pearce, Russell, vice chairman.
Joe Hollinrake, Lovilia, treasurer.
Henry Henderson Jr., Corydon, secretary.
Ralph Goode, Albia, director, in addition to the above four officers.

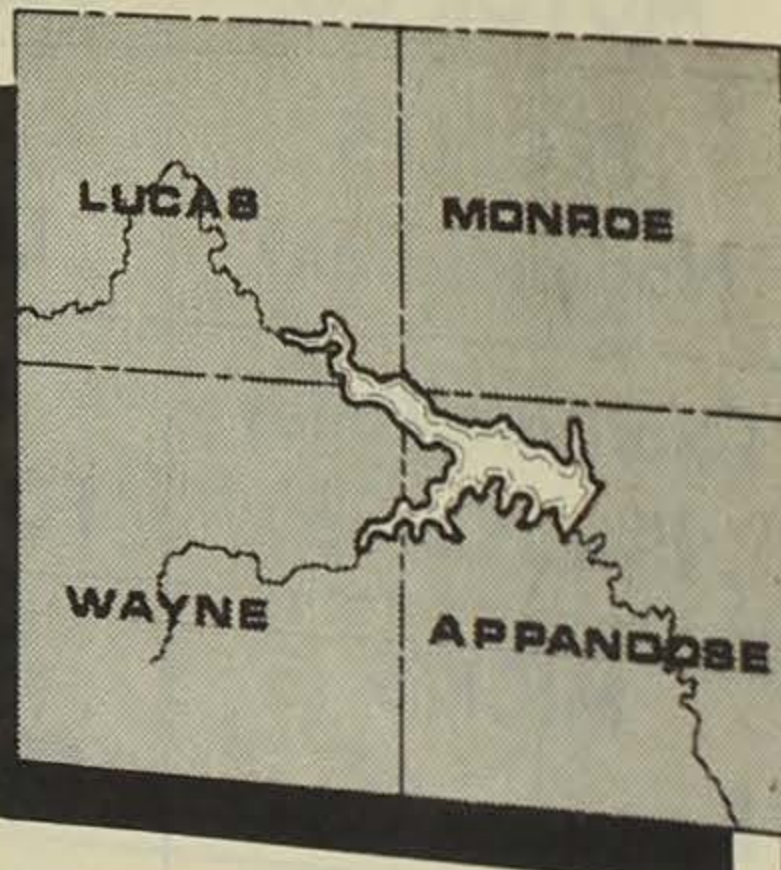
Monroe County Rural Water Association

Joe Hollinrake, president.
Maurice Scieszinski, vice president.
Henry Fynaardt, secretary.
Mrs. Dale C. Maddison, treasurer.
Directors—Albert Etcher, Union Township; Joe Hollinrake, Cedar Township; Henry Fynaardt, Pleasant Township; Mrs. Dale Maddison, Bluff Creek Township; Maurice Scieszinski, Wayne Township; David Sinclair, Jackson Township; Maurice Sinclair, Franklin Township; Phillip Brock, Guilford Township; John Peterson, Monroe Township; Wilbert Hoover, Mantua Township; Charles Mock, Troy Township; Raymond Vance, Urbana Township.

\$15,000,000 announcement

Framed by the television cameras at a press conference Saturday noon in Chariton Congressman John Kyl of Bloomfield announced a \$3,000,000 Economic Development Administration grant and \$11,000,000 financing from the

Farmers Home Administration, which with \$1,000,000 in local funds will build a four-county Rathbun Region rural water system serving over 3,000 customers in Lucas, Wayne, Appanoose and Monroe Counties.
Photo by Randy Evans.



In Monroe County

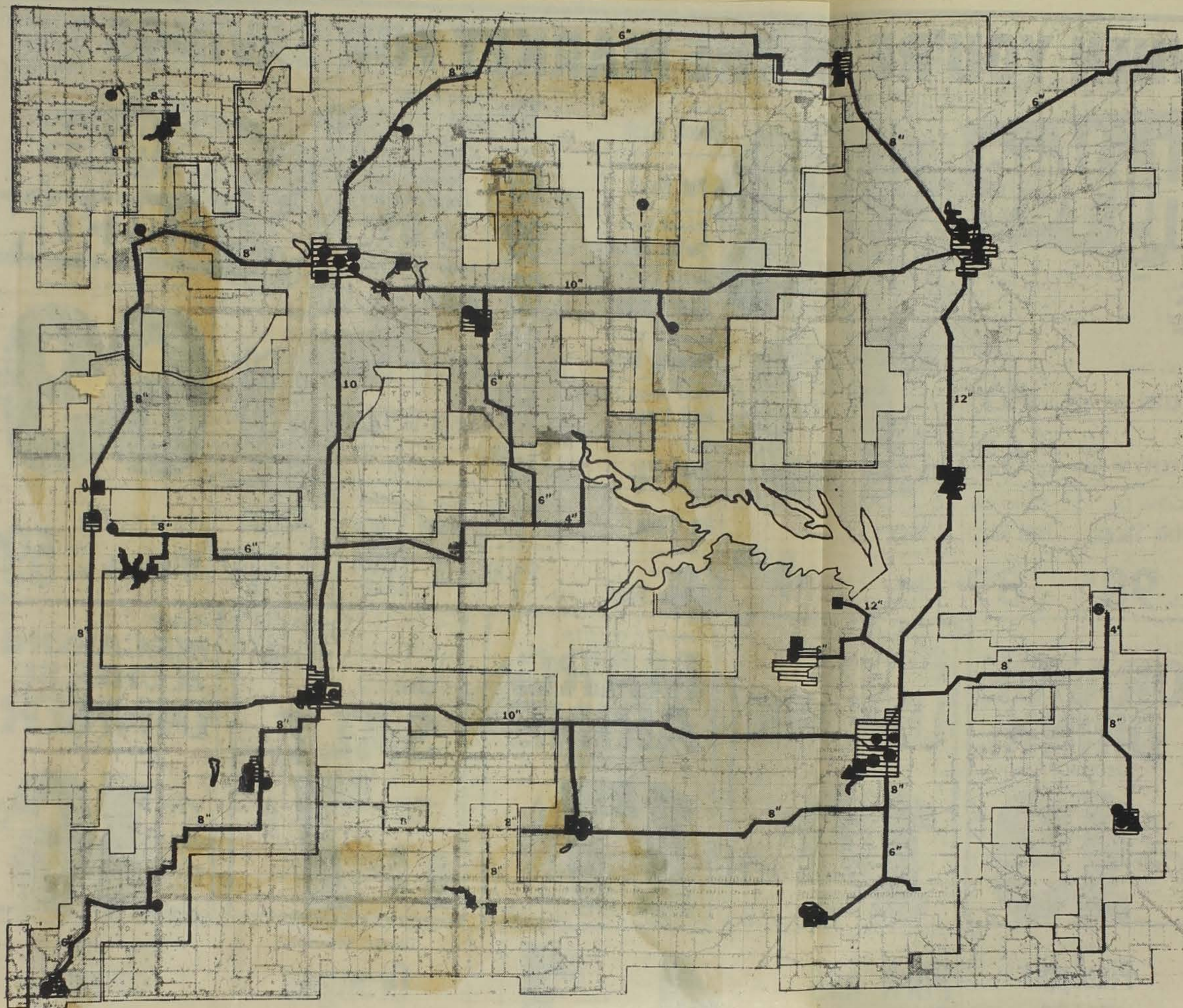
The rural water system is expected to service approximately 60 per cent of the rural area.

The system will serve 743 rural subscribers in Monroe County. This represents approximately 83 per cent of the rural water users who indicated an interest by becoming members of the Monroe County Rural Water Association.

Water service will also be offered to the Town of Melrose and it is estimated that approximately 62 customers will be served in that town.

Service will also be offered to developers in the Rathbun Lake area.

It is possible that there may be agreements made for interconnections between the rural system and those in the City of Albia and the Town of Lovilia to increase the dependability of both.



Here's a 4-county rural water system

The four-county plan for the rural water system in the Rathbun Region, with funding announced last Saturday by Congressman John Kyl, has been through a five-year planning stage thus far. The original planning for a "Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan" for the Rathbun Region was done by Harold Hoskins and Associates, Inc. of Lincoln, Nebr. and was formally presented to the Rathbun Regional Planning Com-

mission and interested persons on Dec. 5, 1968 at a meeting in Russell. At that time Ivan McCullough, chairman of the commission wrote that "The twenty year Action Program anticipates the development of region wide rural water system to serve all of the town residents and 50 per cent of the rural residents by 1975, with full coverage of the region within the next two decades."

At that time the Lincoln, Neb.

firm prepared a water plan for the four-county area, delineating the main lines, interconnecting all of the communities in the Rathbun Region and providing both for the treatment plan and the storage reservoirs. This storage plan, as it was presented in the original study, is reproduced above with the main water lines outlined in black. This plan was based on the preliminary studies and is the basis for the present de-

tailed studies being made by the two engineering firms now involved in the four counties.

French-Reneker-Associates, Inc., of Fairfield is preparing the engineering studies and detail plans for Monroe and Appanoose Counties and Hoskins-Western-Sonderegger, Inc. of Lincoln, Nebr. is preparing the plans for Lucas and Wayne

The two engineering firms and officers of the Rathbun Region Rural Water Association are in

Denver today going over the engineering with Economic Development Administration officials.

The above map locates the main towns and their service areas, locates the water treatment plans, impounding reservoirs, and the storage reservoirs. The above plan is basic to the four-county rural water system, but in studying the plan it should be remembered many communities have made im-

provements in their water systems since the 1968 study. Also the location of the lines was indicated in this feasibility study but these may be slightly modified by the need for servicing the customers who are members of the rural water associations in each of the four counties in the area.

A comparable service plan for sewer systems for the four-counties was also included in the original study.

August 17, 1972

Urges completion of county soil survey

The Monroe County Conference Board has been asked to take "immediate and favorable" action on a proposal for a county-wide soil survey.

The board is made up of representatives of each of the taxing bodies in the county.

A motion favoring such a soil survey was passed unanimously at a meeting Wednesday night of various governmental representatives.

Appearing at the meeting were John Frieden, of the Monroe County Soil

Conservation Service office, and Area Conservationist Ernest D. Aust of Shenandoah. They explained the survey procedures, costs and benefits.

They said that such soil surveys have either been completed or are in various stages in 71 of Iowa's 99 counties. The cost, they said, would be approximately \$52,000 for Monroe County, with the cost to be spread over eight years and paid for with a half mill property tax.

The two pointed out that the

project is a long-range affair and will be completed in approximately eight years if the initial action is taken now. The results of a survey of the county can be used over the next 40 to 50 years, Frieden and Aust said.

A soil survey would be used by the SCS, by various planning groups, utilities—including the rural water and sewer associations—and by prospective industries. Other possible uses would include equalization of assessments on the basis of soil types.

Water sign-up is continuing

Monroe County residents interested in signing up for rural water may do so at the Soil Conservation Service office through Aug. 31.

The office, located on the second floor of the Albia Post Office, is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

A \$20 sign-up fee is required.

The Rathbun Regional Water Association announced Monday that the sign-up period was being extended to allow interested families to sign before the engineers are given the go-ahead to draw the final plans for the project.

After Sept. 1, persons signing up will be charged an additional fee depending upon the cost of the necessary alterations to the engineering plans.

Aug.
24, 72

August 21, 1972

Re-open rural water sign-up

The Rathbun Regional Water Association has decided to re-open sign-ups for the proposed rural water system in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties.

Kenneth Owen of Centerville, association chairman, said today that additional families may sign up for rural water during the two week period which ends Aug. 31.

Rep. John Kyl announced in July that \$14 million in federal funds has been earmarked for the four county water system. In making his announcement, Kyl said that 83 per cent of the current signers for rural water would be served by the proposed system.

However, Owen said today the remaining 17 per cent of those

expressing interest in hooking on to the water system cannot be served at this time because of insufficient interest in certain areas. This means, Owen said, that the cost of piping water to this 17 per cent would be too high.

But Owen did say that additional funding is available if the number of signers in the weak areas could be increased. "The sad part of it is, in some cases it would only take one or two more signers to open up additional areas to the rural water system," Owen said.

Owen also said that the association's consulting engineers have said that every additional signer in the areas already scheduled to be tied into the water system would lower the

cost of the water service to everyone.

"It is in the best interest to try to get as close to 100 per cent sign-up as possible," Owen said.

To facilitate the additional sign-ups, Owen said offices will be opened in each of the four counties. The offices are located at:

Appanoose County, Resource Conservation and Development Project office, 310 W. Washington St., Centerville; Lucas County, Bill Murry Building, 1130 Braden, Chariton; Monroe County, Soil Conservation Service office, Post Office Building, Albia; and Wayne County, SCS office, 500 E. Marion St., Corydon.

Owen said that following the

close of sign-ups on Aug. 31, the information received will be passed along to the engineers so that the final project design can be drawn.

"Right now adjustments can be made in the preliminary design," Owen said. "But once we have started the final design, people who want water service will have to pay additional charges for alterations in the construction plan."

He said the alterations may cost in the neighborhood of \$300 or more.

"The association doesn't want to penalize anybody, and have, therefore, decided to delay for two weeks the beginning of the final construction plans," Owen said.

Sept. 1972

Pasture day set

The annual Monroe County pasture day is scheduled for Thursday evening at the Bill McGrath farm, located about 4½ miles southwest of Melrose.

Local farmers have been invited to attend the event, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Co-sponsoring the pasture day are the Monroe County Soil Conservation District and the county Extension Service.

The main emphasis will be on pasture weed control, with McGrath to discuss his procedures of pasture establishment, fertility and management of the pastures during the grazing season.

Al Seim, area Extension crop production specialist, will also discuss getting practical high producing

pastures. Bob Loudon, area conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service, will discuss the warm season grasses for pastures.

Sept. 1972

Region 9

Ollie Kaldenberg...

... Operates 535 acres in Monroe county. In partnership with his son, he raises 600 hogs, feeds 200 beef calves, and keeps

a herd of 135 beef cows.

He's been a district commissioner for 8 years and currently serves as chairman. He serves on the 4-county R C and D executive board and was active in organizing the Monroe County

Rural Water Association.

He's been a Sunday School teacher, school board member, township assessor, and member of the County Board of Health.

Mr. and Mrs. Kaldenberg have 2 sons and a daughter.



Kaldenberg

Sept. 14, 1972

Kaldenberg receives conservation award

Ollie Kaldenberg Monday evening was named one of nine outstanding soil conservation district commissioners in Iowa.

He was honored at the awards banquet in Des Moines which was part of the 26th annual conference for soil conservation district commissioners. The three day conference ended Tuesday.

Kaldenberg, route 5, Albia, was selected for the award by the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners in cooperation with Wallace's Farmers magazine. The recipients are selected for their service to the soil conservation district program on a district, regional and state level, plus their community activities.

Kaldenberg has been a commissioner in the Monroe

County Soil Conservation District since 1964. He has served as chairman for the last four years. Prior to his election as a commissioner, Kaldenberg served one year as an assistant commissioner.

He owns and operates 335 acres, and rents an additional 200 acres.

Conservation practices in use on his farm are conservation cropping systems, pasture renovation and management, farm ponds, grassed waterways, tile, and tile outlet terraces.

His livestock operation includes 135 beef cows, 600 hogs, 35 heifers, and 200 feeder calves.

Kaldenberg has been a member of the board of directors of the Albia Community Schools since 1965, and currently is serving as its president. He is a member of

the Otterbein United Methodist Church, and has been a long-time Sunday school teacher. He was Sunday school superintendent in 1970.

He also has been Bluff Creek Township assessor since 1950, a member of the Monroe County Board of Health, and is the Soil Conservation District's representative on the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development steering committee for the county. He also served on the executive board for the four county RC&D board. Kaldenberg has also been involved in the organization of the Monroe County Rural Water Association.

He and his wife, Dorothy, have three children, two sons and a daughter.

Tile terraces, good cropping practices, grassed waterways are all part of his work



Sept. 14, 1972

Approve soil survey for county

State approval is expected within two weeks on the proposed bid price for a soil survey of Monroe County.

The county Conference Board voted unanimously Friday to proceed with a survey of the soil types in the county. The board voted to submit a \$52,000 bid to the state for final approval.

The \$52,000 represents one-third of the total estimated cost of the survey. The costs will be divided equally among the federal Soil Conservation Service, state Soil Conservation Committee, Iowa State University and the county.

Officials anticipate that less

than 1/2 mill will have to be levied for eight years to finance the county's \$52,000 share of the total cost.

If the state committee—composed of representatives from the SCS, Soil Conservation Committee, and ISU—accepts the local bid, soil scientists from the SCS will begin the survey within about four years. Another four years will be required for completion of the survey.

The length of time involved in the survey work is due to the small number of soil scientists in the state.

The survey will involve making aerial photographs of the entire county. With these photo maps, the soil scientists will go into the county and make soil borings. These borings up to 5 feet in depth will then be analyzed to determine the type of soil found in that particular area. This information will then be recorded on the aerial map.

Monroe County is one of the last counties in south central Iowa to begin a soil survey. Surveys are

now underway or will soon begin in 71 of the 99 counties in the state.

The last survey of the soils in the county was made in the early 1930s. However, it was incomplete and was not detailed.

Results from a survey can be used for the next 40 to 50 years, Conference Board officials said. The survey could be used by the Soil Conservation Service, various planning groups, utilities, rural water and sewer associations, and prospective industries. Another possible use of the survey information would be to equalize assessments on the basis of soil types.

Expect ok shortly on survey bid

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SOIL LOSS LIMIT REGULATIONS WITHIN MONROE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Under authority set forth in Chapter 467A, Code of Iowa, 1971, as amended, the commissioners of Monroe County Soil Conservation District, with the approval of the State Soil Conservation Committee, have formulated soil loss limit regulations applicable to said District.

A copy of the proposed soil loss limit regulations may be obtained at the Monroe County Soil Conservation District office, Post Office Bldg., Albia, Iowa.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m., October 16, 1972, at Monroe County Soil Conservation District Office at which time and place an explanation of the regulations will be made and opportunity will be given for any landowner or occupant of land who would be affected thereby to be heard for or against the proposed regulations.

COMMISSIONERS OF
MONROE COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT
By Ollie Kaldenberg
Chairman

Oct. 5,
1972

Oct. 9, 1972

Hearing set on soil loss limits

A public hearing has been scheduled for Monday, Oct. 16 on the proposed soil loss limit regulations in the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The hearing begins at 10 a.m. in the Soil Conservation District office in the Albia Post Office.

Persons who are likely to be affected by the regulations may attend the hearing and present their views on the proposal.

The regulations being proposed by the Soil Conservation District would establish allowable rates of soil loss by wind or water erosion for land in Monroe County.

The rates of loss, expressed in tons per acre per year, would apply to agricultural land, non-agricultural land and construction sites.

The proposed maximum rates of soil erosion permitted for agricultural land would vary from one to five tons per acre per year, depending on the soil type.

The proposed regulations would declare soil erosion a nuisance if it results in or contributes to damage by siltation to any internal improvement of a conservation district, or if it results in damage to property other than that of owners or occupants of the land on which the erosion is occurring.

The proposed regulations would establish allowable rates of soil loss by wind or water erosion in the county.

For non-agricultural lands, the maximum permitted rate of erosion would be an average of five tons per acre per year.

Non-agricultural lands would include public parks, industrial parks, airports, public and private recreation lands, roads, streets and highways.

For construction sites, the proposal calls for no more than five tons of soil loss per acre each year. Such sites would include housing developments, shopping centers, industrial park developments, commercial building sites, highways, drainage channels, floodways, water impoundment structures and other similar projects.

The General Assembly passed a bill in its last

session which requires counties to establish these maximum possible limits for soil erosion.

The bill provides that abatement of nuisance proceedings may be started against violators of the soil provisions. Action may be brought by the commissioners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, the owners of any property damaged by the erosion, or by the board of the conservancy district whose internal improvement is damaged.

The proposed regulations also specify the duties of the commissioners. Under the proposal, the commissioners have the right to adopt, amend or repeal any regulations they deem necessary in order to

establish the soil loss limits. However, all regulations adopted must be approved by the State Soil Conservation Committee.

The commissioners will also have the authority to classify land in the district on the basis of topography, use and other factors affecting soil erosion. They may also establish different loss limits for different classes of land in the district.

Under the proposal, complaints that damages have resulted from excessive erosion must be filed in writing with the County Soil Conservation District. The district's commissioners will then investigate the complaints to determine if the soil loss limits are being violated.

Notice of the commissioners' findings would then be presented to the owners of the land involved in the regulations violations, and a voluntary abatement of nuisance would be sought.

When an administrative order is necessary, it would be issued by the district commissioners to the parties found to be in violation. The order would advise the parties of the action required.

On construction sites, work needed to control soil erosion would have to be started within five days from the issuance of the administrative order. Violators would have to complete the required work within 30 days.

On other land classifications, owners would have six months in which to begin corrective measures and 12 months in which to complete them.

Copies of the proposed soil regulations are available at the county Soil Conservation District office in the Albia Post Office.

Oct. 16, 1972

9-12

The regulations set allowable rates of soil erosion in county

Soil loss limits adopted

Regulations establishing allowable rates for soil erosion in Monroe County were adopted this morning by the county Soil Conservation Commissioners.

Their okay of the regulations came following a 10 a.m. public hearing. No members of the public were present at the hearing.

The regulations would establish allowable rates for soil loss in the county by wind and water erosion. The rates—in tons of soil per acre per year—would apply

to agricultural and non-agricultural land and construction sites.

Soil erosion which contributes to damage by siltation of any internal improvement of a conservation district, or if it results in damage to property of a person other than the owner or occupant of the land on which the erosion is occurring would be declared a nuisance under the terms of the regulations.

Establishment of such soil loss limits was required

under terms of a bill passed during the last session of the Iowa General Assembly.

The bill provides that abatement of nuisance proceedings may be started against violators of the soil regulations. Action may be brought by the commissioners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, the owners of any property damaged by the erosion, or by the board of the conservancy district whose internal improvement is damaged.

For non-agricultural lands, the maximum rate of soil loss to be permitted would be an average of five tons per year.

On agricultural lands, the maximum allowable rate would be from one to five tons per year, depending upon soil type.

The maximum rate of soil erosion on construction sites would be no more than five tons of loss per year.

Under the regulations approved this morning, complaints that damages

have resulted from excessive erosion must be filed with the county Soil Conservation District. The district's commissioners will then investigate the complaints to determine if the soil loss limits are being violated.

If a violation is found, the commissioners would then present their findings to the land owners involved and a voluntary abatement of the nuisance would be sought. An administrative order could force violators to comply if they do not voluntarily do so.

Nov. 2, 1972

EDA approves water application

The four county regional water system in Monroe, Lucas, Appanoose and Wayne Counties moved a step closer today.

Rep. John Kyl announced shortly before noon the receipt of a telegram from Fred Van Remortel, director of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office of the Economic Development Administration.

The telegram, in regarding the application of the Rath-

bun Regional Water Association, Inc. for funds, read:

"On the basis of our review of preliminary application and supporting engineering documentation, it appears this project will comply with all statutory requirements for funding in this fiscal year.

"You will recall that we have earmarked \$3 million from this year's appropriation for this project. We are prepared to stand by this commitment."

Final okay received for soil survey

Cooperating groups in the soil survey program in Iowa have accepted the Monroe County Conference Board's offer to participate in a standard soil survey in the county.

The county's share of the survey cost will be \$52,000, and will be paid in equal six month installments over the four year period the soil survey is being taken. A half mill tax levy would be used to finance the survey.

Present plans are for the survey to begin in the county in the spring of 1977, following completion of the field work on a similar survey in Wapello County.

Erwin O. Aust, of Shenandoah, area conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service, will supervise the survey in Monroe County. He will be working with John Frieden, district conservationist, and with the Monroe County Soil Conservation District in completing the survey here.

Results from the soil survey would be used for the next 40 to 50 years by various planning groups, utilities, prospective industries and also to possible equalize assessments on the basis of soil types, conservation officials say.

November 9, 1972

Dec 1, 1972

Jan. 29, 1973

Forms available for trees

Applications are now available for seedlings from the state forest nursery at Ames.

The forms may be obtained at the Monroe County Soil Conservation District office on the second floor of the Albia Post Office. The various types of trees will be delivered next spring by the nursery. State conservation officials said that again this year, autumn olive seedlings are available, and field trials show that the tree is an acceptable alternative to honeysuckle or ninebark.

Information on the cost of the trees, plus ordering procedures, is contained on the application.

Seeking director for rural water group

Applications are being accepted by the Rathbun Regional Water Association for the post of executive director of the four county rural water group.

Kenneth E. Owen of Centerville, chairman of the water association, told the Monroe County News that the executive director would be responsible for completing the work required before construction could begin on the \$15 million project in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties.

"We have to get someone to spend more time on this rather

than just volunteer help," Owen said. He said an estimated 4,000 water agreements have to be signed, and nearly 10,000 easements have to be obtained before the project can continue.

Owen also said that the executive director would be involved in organizing bookkeeping procedures and keeping records of the water association. He would also assist in selection of a site for the association's large water treatment plant.

He said a director is needed to handle this work in order that the

project can be readied for construction. "With a two to three year construction program, and with the size of the project, inflation is really hurting us," Owen said. "Once all agreements are finalized, then it's full steam ahead. Whatever time we can save is money in our pockets."

Owen stressed that the contributions made thusfar by volunteers have been of great assistance in organizing the water association, and will also be needed to bring the large project closer to construction.

Jan. 25, 1973

Report urges corrective steps

State takes look at reservoir pollution

State officials were in Albia last week studying a proposed resource conservation and development project at the Albia city reservoir.

The inspection by representatives of the state Soil Conservation Service (SCS) was made to determine the feasibility of a proposed project which would include a number of conservation measures designed to curb further pollution of the city reservoir.

A study report prepared for the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and

Development (RC&D) executive board said that plans are aimed at locating and correcting "critical sediment sources and possible pollution hazards" which are causing deterioration of the quality of the reservoir water.

Working with the RC&D group on the project have been the Monroe County Soil Conservation District and the Soil Conservation Service.

The project was first proposed in 1971 by the trustees of the Albia Municipal Waterworks, and has been given a

"high priority" rating by the RC&D group.

If the state SCS gives its okay for the project, final plans will then be drawn and forwarded to Washington, D.C. where the final approval from federal RC&D officials would be needed. Local officials are hopeful that 100 per cent cost-sharing funds from the federal government will be available to underwrite the costs of the project, estimated to run in the neighborhood of \$25,000.

The Chariton Valley RC&D report states, "At times during the year, the incoming raw water (into the reservoir) can become polluted from the excessive erosion on the uplands and feedlot runoff."

The report recommends that three tile-outlet terraces, two erosion control dams and a pollution abatement facility be constructed to halt the sheet and gully erosion and feedlot runoff.

Sheet erosion from croplands is presently the largest source of sediment washing into the reservoir, the report says, while feedlot runoff is presenting "a potential hazard" to the reservoir.

The report said, "Land use is generally good in the (reservoir's) watershed, with more than half the watershed used as permanent pasture and hayland. However, additional

soil conservation practices are needed," the report continued.

"Quality water for Albia is necessary not only for human needs," the report noted, "but to stem the outflow of people by attracting new and expanding existing industries."

The seven property owners whose land drains into the reservoir have all signed agreements of cooperation with the county Soil Conservation District.

The 55 acre lake has a watershed area totaling 703 acres. The reservoir drains into Miller Creek, which in turn flows into the Des Moines River below Eddyville.

A second RC&D project in the early planning stages is for roadside stabilization work along 5.75 miles of Monroe County roads.

Plans call for seeding, fertilizing, mulching and sodding of critical areas along road shoulders and ditches where sheet and gully erosion has been a major problem.

Estimated cost for the work is just below \$31,000.

The project is similar to one completed about two years ago along a county road on the east side of Miami Lake.

State SCS officials are now reviewing the preliminary project study report. The Chariton Valley RC&D group has already approved the work, giving it a "high priority" rating.

March 22, 1973

Taking entries in conservation speech contest

Entries are now being accepted in the annual soil conservation speech contest.

The 1973 contest, which has the topic of "Long-range Community Benefits from Proper Land Management," is sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of Iowa, Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co.

Local students in grades seven through 12 are eligible to enter the contest. Information on entering the contest is available at the local Soil Conservation District office, from 4-H club leaders and from Lincoln Middle School and Albia High School principals.

Speeches given by the contestants must be at least five minutes long, but no longer than 10 minutes. Contestants may use note cards.

The local contest will be held April 16, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Albia High School auditorium. A \$10 cash prize will go to the winner, with \$5 to be given to the second place finisher.

The local winner will earn the right to compete in the regional contest. Nine regional winners will then compete in the state contest.

April 16, 1973

More sponsors for 'Jamboree'

Two additional conservation contractors have joined in the sponsorship of a Fishermen's Jamboree, to be held in Monroe County on May 19, 20, 26, and 27.

Aiding the Monroe County Soil Conservation District in sponsoring the contest are Carl Proctor of Blakesburg and Mervin Ellison of Moravia.

Cash prizes will be awarded for the best catches in the various species contests.

Entry tickets for the two weekend jamboree are available at the HyVee Food Store, soil conservation office, and from commissioners of the Soil Conservation District.

April 9, 1973

Fishermen's Jamboree' planned

Plans for a "Fishermen's Jamboree" in Monroe County next month have been announced by the country Soil Conservation District.

Fishermen will be competing on May 19, 20, 26 and 27 for \$25 cash prizes to be awarded for the largest bass, channel catfish, bluegill and crappie landed during the contest. The jamboree will be held at designated farm ponds in the county and at Cottonwood Pits.

Participants in the contest need not be residents of Monroe County. However, a \$1 entry blank must be purchased in advance of the contest for each specie a participant will be fishing for. Receipts from the entry fees will be used to promote conservation interests, education and activities in Monroe County.

Entry blanks may be purchased at the Soil Conservation District offices, located on the second floor of the Albia Post Offices, at the Coast to Coast Store, Gambles Store, Gibson Discount Center, Western Auto Store, at the participating farm ponds, or from conservation district commissioners Ollie Kaldenberg, Raymond Vance, DeWayne Johnson, Lloyd Clark or William McGrath.

In addition to the \$100 in prize money, the four above stores will be awarding prizes to contest participants who are 12 years of age or younger.

Donating the cash prizes in the specie contests are conservation contractors Elster Cooper of Albia, Prather Brothers Construction of Chariton and Zeck Brothers Construction of Knoxville.

According to jamboree rules, fishing will be from sunrise to sunset. Fishermen must first have their entry blanks verified before fishing, contest officials said. No fishing from boats will be allowed. Fish caught during the contest are to be weighed in at the Gambles Store.

Contest officials emphasized that an entry blank for each fish entered must be purchased prior to the catch.

Farmers whose ponds will be open to contest participants are: John Schleier, Troy township; Ray Gardner, Bluff Creek; Paul Morehead, Bluff Creek; Bob Gibbs, Bluff Creek; DeWayne Johnson, Monroe; Price Bain, Bluff Creek; John Bain, Bluff Creek.

Also, Henry Fynhaardt, Pleasant; Lyle Haslehuhn, Pleasant; Paul Koffman, Monroe; Kenneth Ellison, Monroe; Ronald Goode, Urbana; R. R. Pearson, Urbana; Joe McGrath, Jackson; Leo Caster, Monroe; and John Spencer, Albia.

April 16, 1973

Speech contest is postponed

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District has postponed its annual conservation speech contest.

The contest was originally scheduled for tonight, but it will be held at a later date, district officials said.

9-13

April 23, 1973

Conservation teacher award nominations open

Nominations are now being accepted for the "Outstanding Conservation" teacher award in the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The local award winner, who will be selected before July 2, will advance into regional competition, and possibly could advance into the state contest, being sponsored by the Iowa Conservation Education Council and the Des Moines Register and Tribune.

All school teachers in the county are eligible to be nominated for the award. Elementary and high school teachers will compete in separate categories.

The objective of the awards program is to recognize school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our national heritage of natural and human resources.

Any Monroe County resident may nominate a teacher for the conservation award, and teachers may submit their own names for consideration. Nominations are to be submitted to the local Soil Conservation office by June 1.

Teachers nominated will be asked to complete a contest questionnaire, and furnish two letters of recommendation (one from a school administrator and one from a person selected by the teacher).

Those teachers entered in the contest will be judged on the basis of their effectiveness in creating a

favorable climate for conservation education in the classroom, organizing conservation field trips that are meaningful to students, creating an awareness of conservation and environmental problems at the local, state and national levels, and motivating students to promote conservation of natural and human resources.

Selecting Monroe County's outstanding conservation winner will be the county Soil Conservation District commissioners, the county extension director and the district conservationist.

Conservation speech contest is rescheduled

The annual Monroe County Soil Conservation District speech contest will be held Wednesday, May 2, beginning at 3:30 p.m. in the Albia High School auditorium.

The contest was scheduled to be held earlier this month but was postponed.

The annual contest is sponsored by the Soil Conservation District and is a prelude to the regional and state contests. This year's topic is "Long Range Community Benefits from Proper Land Management."

Students in high school and junior high are eligible to participate in the contest.

The public has been invited to the May 2 presentation of the speeches.

April 23, 1973

Ag. Extension Office
Box 506
Albia, Iowa 52001

Neighborhood Park
on Back Side



Monroe County News

Albia, Iowa, Monday,
April 23, 1973

Rural water

Federal grant delayed, but Rathbun project still 'go'

By RANDY EVANS

Rathbun Regional Water Association officials, denying recently published news reports that the planned four county water system is in jeopardy, said last week, "We're going to build a rural water system."

A story in the Centerville lowegian earlier this month said that release of \$3 million in grant funds from the Economic Development Administration (EDA)—considered to be a key source of financing for the multi-million dollar project—is in doubt. The rural water project could be killed, the newspaper's story said, because a federally-required environmental impact study is holding up release of the grant.

In statements attributed to Robert L. Case, of the state Office of Planning and Programming, the newspaper said that if the \$3 million grant isn't "forthcoming," the "ultimate consequence of the EDA delay will be an abandonment of the entire project."

Hearing set

A public hearing on a request of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., to withdraw water from Lake Rathbun for a four county rural water system is scheduled for May 9.

The hearing, before the Iowa Natural Resources Council, begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Agricultural Building in Centerville.

At that time, persons for or against the request of the

water association will be heard. Persons testifying at the hearing must also furnish written copies of their testimony at that time.

Expected to testify are county supervisors, health officials, representatives of chambers of commerce, and officials of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission. However, any other persons who might be affected by the rural water project can also testify.

However, officials of the rural water association told the Monroe County News that a four county system will be built even if the federal grant isn't received.

Kenneth E. Owen, of rural Centerville, chairman of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., said Sunday, "People are depending on us to come

through with the best possible project we can. We haven't given up on it (the rural water project) at all ... we're going to build a water system with or without the grant."

Federal financing of the rural water system was announced last summer by John Kyl, then Fourth District Representative. The financing included \$11

million in loans from the Farmers Home Administration and the \$3 million grant from the EDA.

But without the EDA grant, the water system will apparently be of a more limited design. "With the grant," Owen said, "we would be able to serve the fringe areas (of the project area) that we wouldn't otherwise."

However, the rural water official is still hopeful that the EDA grant funds will be released within a few weeks, and that planning for the project can proceed.

Gov. Robert D. Ray recently appealed to the White House to get the funds released. And, Owen said, Kyl, now with the U.S. Department of the Interior, is working in Washington, D.C. to secure the release of the grant. "He's still working for us as hard as ever," Owen said.

Reservation of the EDA

Water

Continued on page 2

\$26,000 to under Ray

Water

Continued from Page 1

A major share of the welfare payments in Monroe County that are now being paid from local

grant was confirmed last November to water association officials, but President Nixon's freeze on government spending bottlenecked release of the federal money for a time. But now, it is a study of the environmental impact of the four county project that is standing in the way of the release of the grant.

Compounding the problem is the fact that the study, which may take six to seven months to complete and get approved by the federal government, may not be finished before the EDA is phased out as a government agency.

Rathbun water association officials are wanting to secure the release of the EDA grant in order that final planning for the project can continue while the environmental study is being made. Ralph Goode, route 3, Albia, a member of the association's board of directors said, "We're trying to use every available asset that we can to get this (the EDA grant) released."

Owen said the water association would know "in a few weeks" whether the EDA funds will be released before the study is completed.

The environmental study is a sore subject with officials of the Rathbun Regional Water Association. Owen said his group believed that they had complied with all federal requirements in order to be funded by the EDA during the present fiscal year.

However, on Jan. 18, an EDA environmentalist, Phillip Reese, raised questions about aspects of the project, and its effect on the environment. But Owen said, "I can't think

that there's any major problem."

He said that during a telephone conversation later that month between officials of the water association and officials of EDA's Denver, St. Louis and Washington, D.C. offices, the four county project was cleared and an agreement reached regarding environmental aspects of the project.

But the EDA again pressed for an environmental impact study in February. In a letter to the water association on Feb. 16, officials of the EDA's Denver regional office said that a full-scale impact study would have to be made in order to assess the environmental implications of the project.

Water association officials are looking upon the EDA's change in stance regarding the impact study as an attempt to back out of funding the project. When Nixon's moratorium on EDA expenditures was lifted, Owen said, the Denver office found that it was over-committed and more grants had been guaranteed than there was money available. And the Rathbun project was one of the projects the Denver office tried to back away from, Owen said.

"We found ourselves on the short end of the totem pole," Owen told the Monroe County News.

The water association chairman has little doubt that the Rathbun project would receive favorable marks from an environmental study. "We're sure we will be helping the environment considerably by providing water to those who don't have it," Owen said.

One problem the water system will create, he

said, involves waste disposal in the small towns in the four counties that will be hooking onto the system. These towns are now studying possible disposal systems, Owen said.

Once final word on the fate of the EDA grant is received, Owen said, the project engineers can be given the green light to proceed with drawing the final plans for the project. But Owen said that the environmental study could delay the go-ahead, since the final agreement with the FHA must first be signed.

While the Rathbun association is marking time awaiting the start of the final engineering, Goode said Monroe Countyans who have not yet signed up for rural water still have time. He said there would be no additional cost for those signing up at this time, but that once the engineers begin drawing the final project design, persons signing up would be charged the added engineering costs.

Once the system is designed and the engineers' plans are completed—which will take from eight to nine months—water association officials will then begin the task of securing the necessary easements, estimated at between 10,000 and 12,000, and collecting the balance of the water users' fees.

Engineers for the \$20-million project are French-Reneker Associates of Fairfield and Hoskins-Western-Sondergegger, Inc. of Lincoln, Neb.

The water association hired its first full-time project director in March, Harold W. Akins, formerly of Baxter, is now employed by the Rathbun Regional Water Association.

Conservation awards presented

May 3, 1973

9-

Two Albia teachers have been recognized by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District for their efforts in promoting conservation education.

The two, Mrs. Peggy Haluska and George Mackey, were chosen by the

district's soil commissioners, and will now advance into the regional contest. The regional winners will then move into the state contest.

Mrs. Haluska was the winner in the elementary division of the contest, and

Mackey was the winner in the high school division.

The yearly awards program is sponsored statewide by the Des Moines Register and Tribune and the Iowa Conservation Education Council. The program is designed to recognize teachers for their outstanding service in creating a public awareness of the need to safeguard natural and human resources.

Mrs. Haluska, a Lincoln Middle School sixth grade science teacher for the past four years, has in her teaching program stressed the interdependence of plants and animals in our environment. Presently, her students are learning about this balance in nature by setting up a balanced aquarium to show this interdependence.

Her students have also learned of man's dependence on plants, and the importance of plant roots in preserving soil cover. "We're always striving to make kids aware of conservation—whether it's air pollution or what," she said.

Conservation, she said, "is something that we fit into our curriculum all the time."

An ecology project which her students promoted several years ago was the placing of trash containers around the Albia square. Her students appeared before the City Council here in their efforts to obtain the containers.

Mrs. Haluska, an Albia native, previously taught high school biology and science in the Oxford, Iowa schools.

Mackey, a general biology instructor at Albia High School, said the biggest conservation project his sophomore students have been involved in is the development of an outdoor classroom west of Albia.

The 13-acre tract of wooded land was leased to the school by Albia attorney Hugh W. Lundy, for use by school children in the local district.

Mackey's students have planned several projects for the classroom, including



Mrs. Peggy Haluska



George Mackey

the installation of a number of soil erosion controls on the steep hills in the classroom area. Also under study by the students is the possible construction of a small pond on the site to serve both as an erosion control device and also as a biological study device.

The outdoor classroom would also include a nature trail, with a number of stations along the trail where various conservation measures would be illustrated. The trail is to be constructed by Mackey's students.

Also planned for the area is the planting of some vegetation on the floor of the wooded area. These plants would serve as habitat for wildlife in the area, Mackey said.

Mackey, who is also in his fourth year as a teacher in the local school district, taught previously in the Earlham schools. The Missouri native also taught in schools there before moving to Iowa five years ago.

May 3, 1973

Sterk wins conservation speech contest

Ron Sterk won first place Wednesday in the annual conservation speech contest, sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Second place in the contest went to Bernie Weir, while Helen Olsen received third. Fourth place went to Joe Stuchel.

Sterk will now advance into the regional contest, to be held in Ottumwa in July.

Judges for Wednesday's contest were Mrs. Marie Cain, John Frieden and Raymond Vance.

Rathbun water hearing is set for Wednesday

The Iowa Natural Resources Council will be conducting a public hearing in Centerville Wednesday on a request by the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., to withdraw water from Lake Rathbun.

The hearing, which is open to any interested person, begins at 10:30 a.m., and will be held in the courtroom of the Appanoose County Courthouse.

The water association is seeking state approval for withdrawing the water, which will be used in the rural water system now being developed in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties.

Wednesday's hearing will give those persons in favor of or against the water association's request the opportunity to present their views to the state body. No decision on the association's request will be made Wednesday, however.

Those persons wishing to testify must register

at the start of the hearing. In addition to their oral presentations, those persons must also furnish two typewritten copies of their statement.

Howard Akins, project director for the regional water association, said his group hopes persons representing area boards of supervisors, local health officials, representatives of area chambers of commerce, along with officials of the four county water associations will testify at Wednesday's hearing.

However, Akins said, any other person can also testify before the Natural Resources Council.

The council's approval is one of the required steps needed before construction on the \$20 million rural water project can begin. Officials of the water association have expressed little doubt that their request will be approved by the resources council.

May 7,
1973



May 17, 1973

Outdoors with Lundy

Albia attorney Hugh W. Lundy, left, and members of George Mackey's biology II class at Albia High School last week took advantage of a sunny afternoon to visit

the outdoor classroom high school students are developing west of Albia. Land for the classroom site is being leased to the schools by Lundy. The

classroom project was arranged by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, with the district paying all taxes on the 13 acre site.

May 17, 1973

9-15

Fishermen's Jamboree opens here Saturday

Dozens of fishermen are expected to be taking tackle and bait in hand this weekend and next and heading for several "fishing holes" in Monroe County during the first annual Fishermen's Jamboree.

The fishing contest is being sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, with receipts from the contest to be used to promote conservation interests, education and activities locally.

Competition in the jamboree will be from sunrise to sunset on Saturday and Sunday, and again on May 26 and 27. Fishermen landing the largest bass, channel catfish, bluegill and crappie during the contest will be awarded \$25 cash prizes. In addition to this prize money, participants 12 years of age and younger will also be competing for several other merchandise prizes.

The jamboree will be held at Cottonwood Pits, southeast of Albia, and at the following farm ponds:

John Schleier, Troy township; Ray Gardner, Bluff Creek; Paul Morehead, Bluff Creek; Bob

Gibbs, Bluff Creek; DeWayne Johnson, Monroe; Brice Bain, Bluff Creek; John Bain, Bluff Creek; Henry Fynhaardt, Pleasant; Lyle Haslehuhn, Pleasant; Paul Koffman, Monroe; Kenneth Ellison, Monroe; Ronald Goode, Urbana; R. R. Pearson, Urbana; Joe McGrath, Jackson; Leo Caster, Monroe; and John Spencer, Albia.

Entry blanks may be purchased at the Soil Conservation District's office, located on the second floor of the Albia Post Office, at the Coast to Coast Store, Gambles Store, Gibson Discount Center, Western Auto Store, and at the Hy-Vee Food Store.

The \$1 entry blanks must be purchased in advance of the date a person is fishing in the contest. Contest rules also stipulate that an entry blank must also be purchased for each specie a participant will be fishing for.

Fishermen must have their entry blanks verified at the pond site by contest officials prior to fishing. Fish caught during the contest are to be weighed in at Gambles.

Rules also state that no fishing from boats will be allowed.

May 21, 1973

Judging Saturday in conservation art show

Judging in the annual Monroe County conservation art contest will be held May 26 on the lawn of the Monroe County Courthouse.

The contest is sponsored by the county Soil Conservation District, and is open to junior high school and high school students. Four categories will be included in the contest: oils or acrylics; water colors or tempera; pencil drawings, India ink or charcoal drawings; and pastels.

Blue, red and white ribbons will be awarded in each of the four divisions by the judges. Also, \$25 will be awarded to the top over-all entry, while \$15 will go for the second place finishers and \$5 for third place.

Each entry in the contest is required to depict some positive phase of soil or water conservation. Entries must be at least 12 by 15 inches in size and

be suitable for framing. Each student may enter two categories, with one entry per category being allowed. No partnership entries will be allowed.

The name, grade and address of the artist must be placed on the back of each entry.

Entries that were entered in previous art contests sponsored by the Soil Conservation District are not eligible for this year's contest.

The top three entries will become the property of the Soil Conservation District for one year following the contest. The three entries will be on display at Albia's two banks. Entrants may claim their artwork following the one year display period, contest officials said.

All entries in this year's contest will be on display in the courtyard on May 26, weather permitting. They may be viewed by the public from 9 a.m. to noon.

Stewardship week being observed

Soil Stewardship Week, a nationwide observance which emphasizes man's obligation to God as stewards of the soil, water, and other resources, is being observed in Monroe County through June 3, according to Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the county Soil Conservation District. "Changing Challenges," theme of this year's observance, invites local residents to increase their understanding, expand their perspective, and consider their responsibilities to the challenges and changes of the world around them. Kaldenberg said.

During the week's observance, the Soil Conservation District will be distributing soil stewardship materials to the various churches in the county. Available upon request to churches of all faiths are program blanks, bulletin inserts, posters and booklets created for this year's observance. Members of the local Soil Conservation District's stewardship committee are William F. McGrath, Lloyd Clark, and DeWayne Johnson.

May 28, 1973

May 31, 1973

Ferguson wins art contest

Bill Ferguson was named the winner Saturday of the \$25 first prize in the annual conservation art contest sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Second place in the overall competition went to Bruce Lindberg, while third place was awarded to Karen Casper. They received \$15 and \$5, respectively.

Ferguson was also the winner in the water color division of the contest. Beth Tierney finished second in the division, and Marilyn Conway was third.

In the oils division, Mrs. Casper was first, while Linda Dicks and Deb Overmyer finished second and third.

Lindberg was the top finisher in the pastels division. David Teno finished behind Lindberg in second place, while Judy Williams finished third.

Jim Irwin was judged as the top entrant in the pencil and charcoal division. Mary Koffman was second.

The winning entries in the art contest will be on display at the Peoples National Bank and the First Iowa State Bank.

May 31, 1973

Fishing contest winners named

Cash prizes totaling \$100 have been awarded to the winners in the Fishermen's Jamboree, a two week fishing contest sponsored by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The contest was held over the past two weekends at a number of farm ponds in the county and at Cottonwood Pits conservation area.

Receiving \$25 each for having the largest catch in the four species contests were:

Randy Wallen, bass, 2 pounds; Otto Carter, catfish, 3 and five-sixteenths pounds, and bluegill, $\frac{5}{8}$ pound; Mickey Steele, crappie, thirteen-sixteenths of a pound.

In addition to the cash

awards, Wallen received two rod and reel sets for having top entries for youngsters 12 years and younger. Wallen had the largest bass and bullhead, while a second boy, John Carter, received a rod and reel for having the largest bluegill in the youth contest.

Wallen's bullhead weighed a half pound, while Carter's bluegill tipped the scales at $\frac{3}{4}$ pound.

Contest officials said the four persons were the only entrants in the jamboree who turned in fish for weighing. More than 40 entry fees were received.

Contest sponsors expressed disappointment in the turnout for the jamboree.

June 7, 1973

Erosion control project okayed

The Monroe County Board of Supervisors this week signed an agreement with the Soil Conservation Service to undertake a \$31,000 roadside stabilization project.

Involved will be seeding, fertilizing, mulching and sodding of about 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles of county roads where sheet and gully erosion have been a critical problem.

The work will be along a 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile section of road in Jackson Township west of Melrose, and two areas of Bluff Creek Township. Part of the Bluff Creek work will be along the east side of Lake Miami, from the dam north to a "T" inter-

section. A similar project several years ago stabilized the ditches south from the dam.

The agreement signed by the supervisors means that the county approves the plans, which were drawn by the SCS with the assistance of the county engineer, and agrees to pay 20 per cent of the total cost. The remaining 80 per cent to be paid with resource conservation and development (RC&D) funds which will be channeled through the SCS.

Bids on the project will be taken later by the county. Work is expected to start sometime in August.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Editorial ☐

Advertisement ☐

Cons. picture ☐



Washed away

A roadside stabilization project, which will begin next month, will correct areas such as this one where erosion is a critical problem.

Surveying the damage to this ditch, which is located north of Lake Miami, is Dave Beary, an assistant to County Engineer Ralph Sears.

Contract is awarded for roadside erosion control

The Kiburz Construction Co. of Afton was awarded a contract Monday by the Board of Supervisors for a roadside erosion stabilization project.

Cost of the project is \$31,408. The county will be paying 20 per cent of the total cost, while federal resource conservation and development (RC&D) funds, channeled through the Soil Conservation Service, will pay for the remaining 80 per cent.

The total cost had been estimated at \$31,000.

The project involves regrading, seeding, fertilizing, mulching and sodding some five and three-fourths miles of ditches along Monroe County roads. The work is designed to halt sheet and gully erosion which have been a critical problem in these areas.

Scheduled to be included in the project is a three and a half mile stretch of a county road in Jackson Township, west of Melrose. Also included are two areas in Bluff Creek Township, including an area on the east side of Lake Miami north of the dam to a "T" intersection.

In a similar project several years ago,

ditches south from the Miami dam were stabilized in an effort to control erosion.

Work on the project is expected to get underway early next month, with completion to come within 60 working days.

Two other firms submitted bids on the project. Wayne Hennies Construction Co. of Donnellson had a bid of \$38,825. The bid of the second firm, D and G Construction of Corydon, was not opened because of the failure to the firm to furnish a bid bond.

Plans for the project were drawn by the Soil Conservation Service, with the assistance of the county engineer's office.

John Frieden, conservationist with the SCS, said as much as 20 tons of soil has been lost per acre on the areas scheduled to be corrected by the control project. Frieden said such erosion, when left unchecked, presents a danger to the county, adjacent landowners, and to road users.

Frieden lauded the county on its interest in adopting good land use planning, such as illustrated by the roadside stabilization project.

September 7, 1971



Seeding at Lake Miami

Workmen of the Kiburz Seed Co. of Afton were this week completing a \$20,000 erosion control project on the Lake Miami road. Mott Construction Co. of Centerville had the contract for the dirt work and Kiburz is completing the seeding, the installation of the burlap on some

of the waterways, and in some instances, the installation of sod on the waterways. The above picture taken on Labor Day shows the crew finishing up a sodded waterway on the east side of the Lake Miami road. Work was expected to be completed Tuesday or Wednesday.

Fairfield firm hired for rural water plan

The Monroe Rural Water Association, Inc., this week hired French-Reneker Associates, Inc. of Fairfield to provide the engineering on the proposed rural water systems in Monroe County.

The Fairfield firm, chosen after interviews with a number of consulting engineers, has prepared a number of comprehensive county waste, water and sewer plans under the Farmers Home Administration grant program. Earlier this year the firm was named as the consulting engineers for the Appanoose Water Association.

Donald French, president of the firm, met Wednesday with directors of the county association to outline the steps which must be taken to provide rural water service in Monroe County.

Accompanying French was Harry Bartlett Sr., president of the firm of Bartlett and West of Topeka, Kan. The latter firm has engineered more than 50 water districts in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska and French has arranged for their assistance in the design of the Appanoose and Monroe County projects.

French told the local group Wednesday that the four county associations in the Rathbun Region are unusual and unique in their county-wide approach to rural water service. The usual approach in other areas, he pointed out, has been to form smaller associations to develop only the areas which had the highest economic feasibility, a practice he likened to "eating the heart out of the melon".

He pointed out that "when the areas of high population density are developed without regard for the problems of



Rural water engineers

Joe Hollinrake, center, president of the Monroe Rural Water Association, Inc., here looks over the sign-up in one of the townships with Donald French of Fairfield, whose firm has been hired as the consulting engineer, and Harry Bartlett Sr., president of a Kansas firm which has engineered more than 50 water districts in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.

those areas with low population density, it makes the job of serving the latter areas even more difficult".

The Monroe Rural Water Association has been conducting an intensive campaign for the past two weeks to determine the interest in all parts of the county. Joe

Hollinrake, president of the association, emphasized that anyone interested in a rural water system should make that interest known because the degree of interest will have a major effect on priorities for funding for Monroe County.

He pointed out that also the

degree of interest will determine whether water mains can be extended in a certain area.

Hollinrake appealed to all residents of the county who want water to help "sell" their neighbors and get them signed up. He pointed out that it is presently planned to have all surveys completed and given to the engineer by Sept. 30 so he can process the information.

As the interest surveys are completed, they will be compiled by the engineer on data processing punch cards, a map will be prepared showing the location of those interested in the service, and the information will be submitted to the Farmers Home Administration for its evaluation.

French took a number of the applications with him when he left Wednesday and others are being forwarded to him this weekend so that the work of processing the information provided by the property owners has already begun.

The regular sign-up will be completed this week with residents of Jackson Township signing their surveys today

★ Rural water

—Continued on Page 2.

Sept. 16, 1971

★ Rural water

—Continued from Page 1.

and the residents of Urbana Township scheduled for Friday.

Three late afternoon and evening signups were announced for next week by Hollinrake. Anyone in the rural areas of the county who has been missed in the sign-up for the rural water system, or those who have not been re-surveyed, can come into the office in the Post Office building:

Monday, Sept. 20, 2 to 10 p.m.

Tuesday Sept 21 4 to 10

Sept. 16, 1971

4-county Soap Creek watershed approved

A proposed 162,000 acre Soap Creek watershed has been approved by the State Watershed Advisory Board following a tour of the four-county area comprising the watershed in Monroe, Wapello, Davis and Appanoose County.

In giving approval to the project the state board said of the four county area that "much conservation work has been done, but much also remains to be completed." The four counties must "get as much conservation as possible on the land".

The approval allows the four-county system to apply for federal watershed funds under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Public Law 566. This law provides assistance for projects up to 250,000 acres.

Above that size the projects are handled by the Corps of Engineers as major flood control projects.

The Soil Conservation Service in the four counties will have charge of preliminary planning and the program of conservation will be accelerated to make certain that 75 per cent of the land within the watershed is adequately treated and has erosion controls.

At the present Monroe County has 28.5 per cent of its land in crops, 56 per cent in pasture, and 11 per cent in woodland, plus 4.4 per cent in other uses.

Roger Hansen of the county SCS office pointed out that the large amount of pasture and woodland will be help in controlling the erosion on the

total acreage of the watershed.

Of 990 acres recommended for contouring, 725 are already cropped on the countour. A total of 21 miles of terracing is recommended in the watershed area within the county and 7.8 miles has been terraced at the present. A total of 11 miles of diversion terraces should be constructed, with 5.6 already completed. The number of farm ponds in the Monroe portion of the watershed should be increased from 74 to 120.

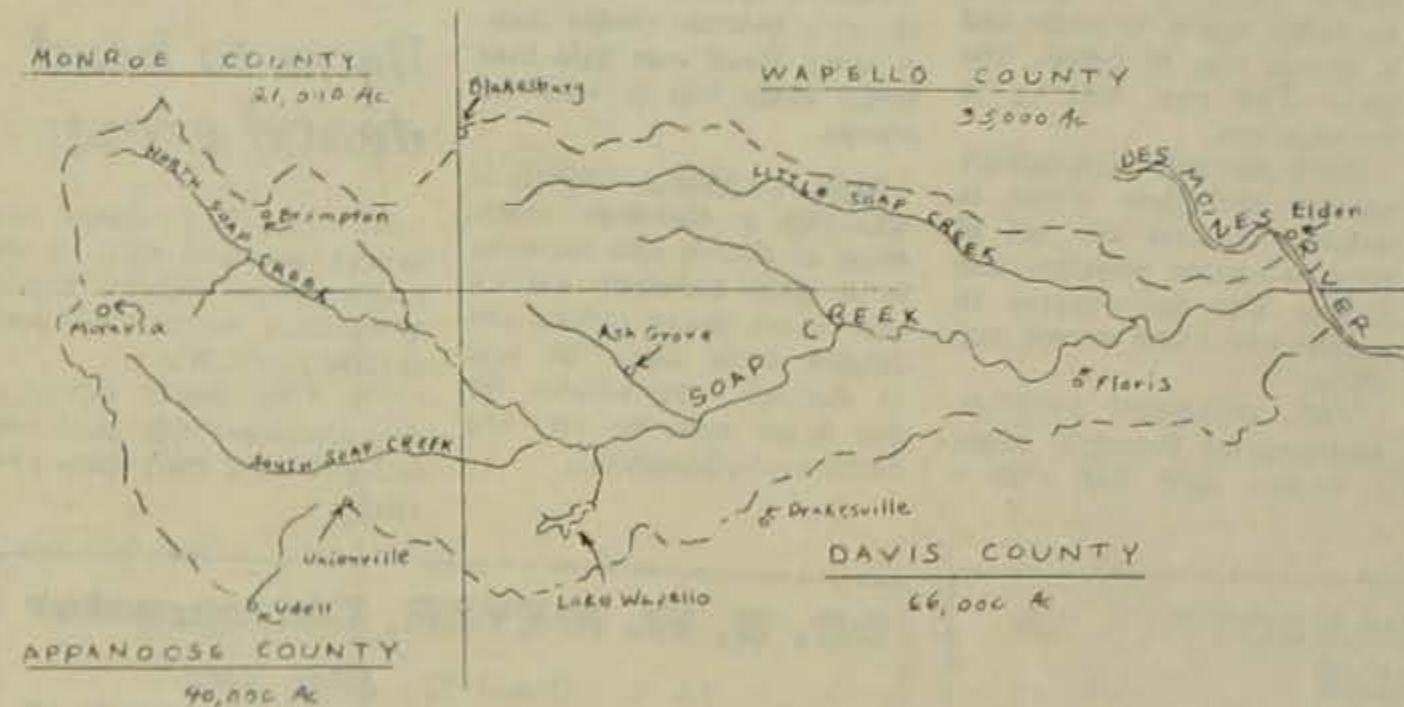
The pasture renovation and pasture management programs will do much to help speed the watershed, Hansen pointed out. In Monroe County 63 per cent of the land owners in the Soap

Creek area have signed agreements with the Soil Conservation Service and 54 per cent of these land owners have a conservation plan for their farm.

Marvin McDanel and Eldred Estlack are the county representatives on a four-county Soap Creek watershed executive committee.

The membership of the Monroe County Soap Creek watershed committee includes Dallas Faber, Dean Grinstead, Herman Leffler Jr., Ronald Goode and McDanel and Estlack.

The 162,000 acre Soap Creek watershed involved four counties—Davis with 66,000 acres, Wapello with 35,000 acres, Appanoose with 40,000 acres and Monroe with 21,000 acres.



Soap Creek Watershed of 162,000 acres

Dec. 13, 1971

Hansen moving to Centerville

Roger Hansen, 1117 D Ave. E., district conservationist for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District here, will begin his new duties as the district conservationist in Appanoose county Monday, Dec. 27.

The appointment of Hansen to the Appanoose County post was announced today by Erwin O. Aust, area conser-

vationist for the Soil Conservation Service.

Hansen, a graduate of the Wisconsin State University, had previous work with the SCS in northeast Iowa before taking over the post locally.

He and his wife, Connie, and two children will move to Centerville as soon as arrangements can be made for housing.

Feb. 7, 1972

District forester offers advice on tree planting

James Bulman, district forester for the Iowa Conservation Commission, has offered farmers and land owners in Monroe County help and advice on the kinds and number of trees to plant in the area.

Bulman pointed out that there is no charge for these services and his office works in Monroe, Wayne, Appanoose, and Lucas Counties. He adds that the office can give help in ordering and use of a planting machine is also available.

The forester called attention to the fact that proper shelter is important in maintaining numbers of wild animals and birds and that the trees and shrubs are planted to provide food and shelter for songbirds, game birds, deer, and other birds and animals.

Tree plantings, which provide wind, dust and noise barriers, in addition to enhancing the scenery, also have a high monetary value when considered in terms of soil erosion control and for timber products, Bulman added.

Bulman estimated the cost of tree planting at approximately \$20 an acre, but pointed out that some government cost sharing programs can

reduce this cost by about \$8 an acre.

Better land on farms is often planted for walnut or Christmas tree production and the tree plantings also make good farmstead windbreaks, he pointed out.

The forestry program is applicable to areas larger than 10,000 square feet in rural areas and covers areas around farm ponds, eroded land, steep or stoney land and inaccessible areas.

Bulman said his office can inspect sites, figure the number, kind and cost of the trees needed, and help order the trees.

His office also has information available on cost sharing programs and on the care and maintenance of trees before and after.

The district forester can be contacted on Rte. 3, Chariton or by telephone evenings.

Jan. 13, 1972



Frieden

J. Frieden is new SCS head here

John Frieden, a native of West Union, has been named conservationist for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District here, replacing Roger Hansen who began his new duties in Centerville on Dec. 27.

Frieden was graduated in January 1970 from Wisconsin State University in Stevens Point, Wis. and has been with the Soil Conservation Service in Red Oak.

He's married to the former Patricia Lewey of Waukon and they have one son, 1½ years old.

Frieden began his new duties here Monday.

Feb. 10, 1972

County RC&D to hold meet, elect member

The Monroe County Resource Conservation and Development Committee will hold its annual meeting Thursday, Feb. 17 in the Albia Chamber of Commerce office and will elect a committee member.

The meeting and election starts at 7:30 p.m.

All residents of the county who are of legal voting age can attend and vote in the election.

The committee, one of four similar committees operating in the four counties in the Rathbun Region, was organized in March 1970 to initiate projects to develop and to conserve the natural resources in the area.

Committee members include one named by the county soils district, one by the Board of Supervisors, and one each named to represent agriculture, industry, business and civic groups.

Ralph L. Goode, business representative, is chairman and Ollie Kaldenberg, representing the soils district is vice chairman. The agriculture representative, Gary Belzer, is secretary. Other members are Carroll Rhine, representing industry; John D. Scott, representing the Board of Supervisors; and Raymond Davis, representing the civic organizations.

The election will be for the agricultural representative for a term of three years starting March 17, 1972.

A nominating committee has been named and nominations for the post can also be named from the floor at the annual meeting. Write in candidates are also valid.

RC&D meet Thursday

Gary Belzer and Earl Albertston have been nominated for the vacancy on the Monroe County Resource Conservation and Development Committee.

The annual meeting of that group will be held Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Albia Chamber of Commerce office.

All residents of Monroe County who are of legal voting age are considered eligible voters and can vote in the election and take part in the meeting.

The county committee is made up of six members—one named by the Soil Conservation District, one by the Board of Supervisors, and one each to represent agriculture, industry, business, and civic groups. The latter four are elected.

Feb. 24, 1972

Ralph Goode heads RC&D

Ralph L. Goode has been re-elected chairman of the Monroe County Resource Conservation and Development steering committee with Ollie Kaldenberg being re-named vice chairman and Gary Belzer secretary.

Belzer was re-elected as the agricultural representative on the committee in balloting Feb. 17 and John Scott was re-named as the Board of Supervisors representative.

Feb. 14, 1972

June 11, 1973

9-16

Plans are presented for 4-county waste disposal

Plans for an areawide solid waste collection and disposal system were unveiled last week at a meeting in Chariton of the solid waste advisory committee of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission.

The plan, drawn up by Steven F. Laughlin, solid waste project director for the planning commission, would be placed into operation prior to July 1, 1975, in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties. Prior to implementation of the waste disposal system, however, Laughlin will complete a final, more comprehensive planning study.

In a 51-page feasibility study report presented at last week's meeting, the planning commission recommends that a Rathbun regional solid waste authority be formed to manage all public solid waste systems in the four county area. The authority would operate some of the collection systems in the counties, and all of the disposal sites, unless contracting with private waste agencies is shown to be an economic advantage.

The planning commission envisions that the authority would manage one sanitary

landfill in each of the four counties, along with a collection service in the rural portions of the Rathbun region and the urban area not presently served by a private hauler.

The report presented last week did not specify where these landfills would be located, or where the exact sites of rural collections would be.

The planning commission estimated that it would cost \$1,345,000 to get the four county system in operation. This would include \$74,050 for the storage system (the collection boxes and service equipment); \$52,000 for the collection system (two loader trucks to empty collection boxes); \$1,017,917 to purchase and develop the four landfill sites; and \$200,000 for closing the existing dumping sites.

Establishment of the waste management system would be financed with a resource conservation and development (RC&D) loan through the Farmers Home Administration, the report said. A \$1.2 million loan would be repaid over 30 years at a rate of 3.649 per cent. Some local money would also be needed to place the system in operation.

At the present time, a

solid waste collection service is provided only to persons living in some incorporated communities in the four counties, the study points out. The 19 private haulers now in the area collect solid wastes in 15 cities and towns, but this represents only about 38 per cent of the total population of the Rathbun area counties, the study report stated.

"The Rathbun regional solid waste authority proposes to collect the solid wastes generated by the bulk of the remaining 62 per cent group in the future," the report said.

In addition to the establishment of four sanitary landfills, the study report also recommends that a system of mobile containers be placed in strategic points in the rural areas of the four counties. The report said a sufficient number of the large collection containers would be placed so that 90 per cent of the residents will be within five minutes driving time from a container.

These containers would be picked up and emptied twice a week, with the refuse being transported to a nearby landfill by truck.

In the introduction to the planning commission's

report, Laughlin wrote, "Currently, there are a multitude of problems associated with solid waste in the region. There is little, if any, regulation of storage, collection and disposal."

"Only 38 per cent of the region's residents receive collection service. Open burning of wastes is practiced widely in violation of state law. And disposal of wastes is not being carried out in a sanitary manner with due regard for the environment," he wrote.

However, Laughlin said recent legislation in the state waste projects throughout the state. "It is the intention of governing bodies in the Rathbun region to comply with this legislation and to establish an efficient, economical, sanitary system of handling solid wastes," the report said.

Under Iowa law, cities, towns and county governments must provide "sanitary disposal projects for the final disposition of solid wastes by their residents, and thereby protect the citizens of this state from such hazards to their health, safety and welfare that result from uncontrolled disposal of solid

wastes" by July 1, 1975.

The Rathbun plan, when completed on July 1, 1974, will propose a regional plan for solid waste management which will serve all citizens, and will enable all local governments to satisfy state Department of Environmental Quality requirements and deadlines Laughlin said. The planned system will also "substantially" reduce the solid waste management costs to each local government by eliminating duplication of effort in planning, establishment and operation of a sanitary disposal system, the preliminary report said.

The planning commission's solid waste study is being financed in part through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Laughlin said in the report that implementation of the waste disposal system is expected to begin late this year or early in 1974.

In studying the current solid waste situation in the four counties, the planning commission determined that just under one ton—.93—of solid wastes are generated per person each year in the area. This includes wastes from residential, commercial, industrial, construction demolition and municipal sources.

However, the study found, there is no uniformity in the methods of storing solid wastes or in the resulting sanitary conditions. Only Chariton and Centerville have ordinances relating to solid waste storage, but these are not generally enforced, the report stated. In other communities served by private refuse collection services, the private collector has regulated storage practices

Wastes

Continued on page 2

Continued from Page 1

to some degree, the report notes.

The report estimates that last year in the four Rathbun counties, 40,387 tons of solid wastes were generated, based upon the area's 1970 population totals. This includes the following totals:

	Tons-Year
Appanoose County	14,259.3
Centerville	6,074
Rural citizens	4,562
Moravia	650
Federal parks	229.3
State parks	73
Lucas County	9,491
Chariton	4,658
Rural citizens	3,663
Russell	550
Monroe County	8,702
Albia	3,860
Lovilia	595
Melrose	179
Rural citizens	4,068
Rec. areas	1
Wayne County	7,935
Corydon	1,741
Rural citizens	3,427

The planning commission's study found that disposal of solid wastes is now accomplished primarily in open dumps located throughout most of the four county region.

Landfills are currently being maintained in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties, although, as the study report notes, many residents dispose of their refuse "in any manner convenient to themselves."

The study report held that the landfill now operated by the city of Albia "has the potential to be an acceptable site" in the final waste management system.

However, the report noted, "the lack of preliminary engineering site design and poor operating procedures such as blowing paper, minor fires, intermittent supervision and non-continuous covering, renders the operation unsightly and substantially less than a sanitary landfill."

Private haulers collect refuse from residents of Lovilia and Melrose, hauling it to the Marion County and Chariton landfills, respectively.

The Appanoose landfill is operated by a private individual under contract by the city of Centerville and the Board of Supervisors, and is open to all residents of the county. In Wayne County however, the landfill is operating by those providing a collection services to four towns in the county, and is not open to the public. In Lucas County, Chariton operates a disposal site in the flood plain of the Chariton River, giving rise to concerns about possible pollution of Lake Rathbun.

During 1972, nearly \$76,500 was spent in the four counties for waste disposal, the planning commission's report stated. This included \$28,100 in

Appanoose County, \$23,362 in Lucas, \$13,960 in Monroe and \$11,050 in Wayne County.

The Monroe County total included \$13,000 in the city of Albia and \$960 in Lovilia. The Board of Supervisors spent no money for waste disposal, the report shows. (Melrose operated its own dump site a year ago, and had no reported costs.)

Looking to the future, the report said a stabilization in the population decline in the four counties and an eventual rise in population, along with the visitors and summer residents attracted by Lake Rathbun will cause the total amount of wastes generated to increase.

Projections show that by the year 2000, just over 17,000 tons of wastes will be generated in a year, as compared to nearly 8,400 in 1970. In Lucas County, the total tonnage is estimated at 18,278 in 2000, compared with 9,137 in 1970. For Wayne County, the total is forecast to increase from the 1970 level of 7,543 to 14,345 in 2000.

The biggest increase, however, will come in Appanoose County, where Rathbun visitors and those maintaining second homes near the lake will cause an even greater waste increase, the report indicates. The county's 1970 tonnage of 13,700 compares with the estimated 34,236 tons for 2000 and 39,008 tons by 2005.

Although sanitary landfills will be relied on primarily to handle the waste disposal under the planning commission's recommendation, the study report stated that recycling is expected to become a part of the total waste management system. "The Rathbun regional solid waste authority will encourage local units of government and private interest groups to set up recycling centers," the study report said.

Rural water grant released

The last hurdle was cleared Wednesday for the long-awaited four-county rural water system in the Rathbun region.

Gov. Robert Ray announced Wednesday morning that officials of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., had been invited to Washington D.C. to complete formal signing of a \$3 million grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Making the trip to the nation's capitol to accept the EDA grant were Ralph Goode, of Albia, chairman of the board of the rural water group, and Kenneth Owen, of Centerville, executive director of the association.

For the last several months, Ray has been pressing federal officials to complete the authorized funding for the \$15 million rural water project in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties.

In his announcement the governor said it has been the EDA grant which has been holding up the project, due to a lengthy environmental impact report, which the agency said was required before final release of the federal funds to the Rathbun group could be made.

Ray's announcement Wednesday means that the impact study has met all EDA requirements and with the release of the federal

grant, work on the large rural water project can continue. State officials said the final engineering work on the project is being completed, and actual construction is expected to begin within a year.

The EDA first committed funds in November 1972 for the Rathbun project, but later balked at approving the grant, saying that a study of the project's environmental impact was needed. The governor's office said that Ray has made repeated contacts with federal officials, including numerous appeals to the White House, to get the funds released prior to a June 30 deadline for funding in fiscal year 1973.

The EDA grant, coupled

with long-term low-interest loans from the Farmers Home Administration (FHA), will provide the financing for the project, which is designed to deliver water from the sprawling Lake Rathbun to farms, communities and private residences in the four counties.

The Rathbun project, Ray said, "is considered to be the first of its kind in the nation of this magnitude. It is truly a rural development project and now that the area has a resource such as Lake Rathbun, the long dreamed of goal of a plentiful supply of water can soon become a reality."

The \$3 million EDA grant is expected to be matched by FHA funds already

committed and together would finance the pumping system and a purification plant at Lake Rathbun. Additional FHA funds that have also been committed would finance the extension of water lines to customers in the four counties.

Before construction of the water system can begin, between 10,000 and 12,000 easements must be obtained, and the balance of the water users' fees must be collected by water association officials.

Designing the water system—which will serve about 5,000 persons—are French-Reneker Associates of Fairfield and Hoskins, Western, Sonderegger, Inc., of Lincoln, Neb.

June 28, 1973
Monroe County Soil Cons. Office
Box 347
Albia, Iowa 52531

Albia Union-Republican

ALBIA, IOWA 52531 THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1973

12 PAGES

Views past, present operations

Ray tours coal mines

A delegation of state officials, led by Gov. Robert Ray, was scheduled to be in Monroe County today as part of an inspection trip of the coal mining regions of south central Iowa.

The governor was to be accompanied on the helicopter tour by Lt. Gov. Arthur Neu, House Speaker Andrew Varley, Senate Majority Leader Clifton Lamborn, Senate Minority Leader James Schaben, House Majority Leader Edgar Holden and House Minority Leader Dale Cochran.

Others scheduled to be making the trip included Commerce Commission Chairman Maurice Van Nostrand, director of the Iowa Soil Conservation Department William Greiner, State Geologist Dr. Samuel J. Tuthill, and Asst. State Geologist Orville J. Van Eck.

The governor and his party were scheduled to land at the

the Weldon Coal Co., located about three miles south and two miles west of Lovilia. They were also to tour the shaft mine of the Lovilia Mine Co., located south of Weller.

Tuthill, who also serves as chairman of the Governor's Fuel Supply Advisory Committee, said the purpose of the inspection tour is to familiarize governmental leaders

A report and pictures on the governor's trip today will appear in Monday's Monroe County News. News Editor Randy Evans was to accompany state officials on the helicopter tour.

with the coal operations that are going on in the state and the results of coal extraction activities of the past.

With the nation facing an energy crisis, Tuthill said,

the manner in which it has been extracted in the past and some of the methods now in use have a totally destructive environmental impact.

Tuthill has told Ray, however, that it is possible to extract coal in a manner that does not remove the land for agricultural uses if those who use the energy are willing to pay an increased cost for it.

In announcing today's trip, Ray's office said legislative leaders and state officials have agreed that the state mining laws need to be reconsidered in light of both the environmental and the energy crisis. Today's tour is designed to give the top leadership of the state a clearer understanding of the state's mining problem, Ray's office said.

Tuthill, who planned and organized the



July 2, 1973

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

1. Sealed bids will be received by the Auditor of Monroe County at his office Albia, Iowa, until 11:00 o'clock, A.M. CDST on July 23, 1973, for the various items of construction work listed below.

2. A certified check, drawn upon a solvent Iowa bank, in an amount as set forth in the proposal form, made payable to the County Auditor, shall be filed with each proposal. This check may be cashed and the proceeds retained by the County as liquidated damages if the bidder fails to execute a contract and file an approved bond for the faithful performance thereof within fifteen days after the acceptance of his bid.

3. Plans, specifications and proposal forms for the work may be seen and may be secured at the office of the County Auditor or County Engineer.

4. All proposals must be filed in the forms furnished by the County sealed and plainly marked. Proposals containing any reservations not provided for in the forms furnished may be rejected and the County board reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids.

5. Attention of bidders is directed to the Special Provisions covering the qualifications of bidders and submitting or assigning of the contract.

Chariton Valley R.C. & D. Measure
Plan 154 Erosion Critical Area Treatment at various sites in Monroe County.

1. Seeding & Fertilizing 18.6 Acres
2. Mulching 18.6 Acres
3. Ditch reshaping 820.0 Sq. Yds.
4. Sodding 628.0 Squares
5. Jute Mesh over sod 719.0 Squares
6. 18" Cmp Entrance Culvert 80.0 Lin. Ft.
7. Top Soil 129.0 Cu. Yds.

June 27, 1973, Board of Supervisors of Monroe County

Atty David I. Grimes
June 28 Catharine Brothers, Deputy
July 2

Coal tour

trip at Ray's direction, was to take the party in a helicopter fly-over of areas that have been strip mined and now require land rehabilitation.

The flight, in two Air National Guard helicopters, was to travel from the Des Moines Airport along the Des Moines River, passing south of Red Rock Reservoir over a mine site five miles east and two miles north of Knoxville, in Marion County, in which attempts have been made to reclaim eight of the 18 acres of the site.

The flight was scheduled to then proceed east over the site of a limestone quarry that has been leveled and seeded. It is located about one mile north and one mile west of Harvey. The tour route then swings south to a large region of "orphaned land" that stretches from a point two miles east of Pershing to a point three miles east of Attica—an area in which no extensive reclamation has been attempted.

The air tour was to then turn east, passing over Bussey and continue eastward over coal mining sites in Jefferson and West Des Moines Townships in Mahaska County. The state officials will be able to see a

large pyrite waste disposal pile from a coal cleaning plant that operated in West Des Moines Township. The large pile still remains unvegetated although the cleaning operation was terminated between 1912 and 1917.

A large site three miles south of Oskaloosa along Highway 137 was also to be overflown by the group. No reclamation of this land has been attempted, and state officials have said that it serves as an example of land degradation that results from coal extraction techniques still in use in the state.

To the northeast, about two miles south and one mile west of Rose Hill, the helicopters were to pass over two sites. One has been leveled but not reseeded, and the other is a 23-acre tract that has been leveled and reseeded in red clover. Ray's office said these sites given an opportunity to compare the effectiveness of the two techniques in mined-area reclamation used in the state at the present.

The flight route then turns west from this point and passes over a half-section site about four miles west of Oskaloosa. Here, the mined area has been leveled but without regard to the type of earth material left

Will publish court proceedings

The Albia Newspapers announced today that beginning July 1, publication of proceedings in the county's judicial magistrate court will begin.

For the past year, the newspapers have not published results of cases in justices of the peace courts because of difficulties encountered in obtaining docketed results from the county's four JPs.

However, beginning next week, the newspapers will publish all traffic charges and other mis-

Madge Scott, the

Magistrate

"scheduled" violations and the amount of the fine for each charge, as specified on the uniform traffic citation are:

Illegal parking, \$2; registration or license plate violation, \$5; improper lights, \$10; improper muffler, \$10; other defective equipment, \$10; speeding, up to 10 miles per hour over the limit, \$20; having an unattended motor vehicle, \$10; failure to dim lights, \$10; violation of a restricted license, \$20.

jail of not more than 30 days. In cases other than where a person is arrested by an officer on a warrant, a second citation can be requiring the violator appear at a scheduled hearing before the magistrate. Carr said violations, Carr said include fish and game peace disturbances, liquor laws, and cases where an off violation being con-

July 2, 1973



The signing

Officials of the Monroe County Rural Water Association, Inc., were on hand in Centerville recently, for the signing of the letter of conditions for a Farmers Home Administration loan to construct a rural water system here. Present were, from left: Seated, state FHA Director Robert Pim, board Chairman Joe

Hollinrake, FHA Chief of Community Facilities Lloyd Scott. Standing are association board members Wilbert Hoover, Raymond Vance, Henry Fynaardt, and Charles Mock, Monroe County FHA Supervisor E. H. Scales, and Ralph Goode, chairman of the Rathbun Regional Water Association board.

Area rural water officials sign loan condition letter

Representatives of four county water associations and of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., met recently in Centerville to sign letters of conditions for \$11.5 million in loans from the Farmers Home Administration (FHA).

The loans will be used, along with a grant from the Economic Development Administration, and with local money, to construct a rural water system in the four Rathbun counties: Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne.

Present at the recent meeting were the boards of directors of the county associations, officials of the Rathbun association, and state and local officials of the FHA.

Ralph Goode, of Albia, chairman of the Rathbun group, said the letter of conditions entered into by the FHA and the five associations primarily stipulates the amount of funding to be produced locally, as well as the amount to be held in reserve for debt service, and operation and maintenance. It also established deadlines for bid letting on the initial phases of the project.

The FHA has approved loans to the five associations totaling \$11,514,000. This includes: Appanoose County, \$2,700,000; Lucas, \$2,700,000; Monroe, \$1,933,000; Wayne, \$1,181,000; and the Rathbun association, \$3,000,000.

Goode said hundreds of new members have signed up for the rural water since the preliminary engineering reports were prepared. Goode also said that new applications are being taken daily, and therefore, an up-date of the preliminary report will be required.

This latest information

will aid the rural water boards in determining the amount of additional loan funds that will be needed for the completion of the project. Goode estimated that this would be about \$4 million.

Goode also said that member-users must provide 5 per cent of the construction costs, which will mean that local residents will be required to supply about \$1 million of the total cost of the project. This will be raised, he said, through the connection fee and membership fee which each user must pay when he becomes a member of his county association.

Goode estimated that the hook-up charge to member-users will total \$200, which includes the \$20 contribution already made by the subscriber. But Goode said this total is subject to change.

Based on the present sign-up and the estimated costs, the total project cost is placed at \$19,614,000. The FHA loans will be retired over a 40 year period at a 5 per cent interest rate.

Construction on the project is expected to begin next spring, with the anticipated completion to come in late 1975.

Goode said that the success of the rural water project to this point can be attributed primarily to the "excellent cooperation that has existed between the various boards, local residents and government agencies."

"The future success that we hope for can only come about through the continued cooperation of everyone," Goode said. "Construction will be completed and service provided much earlier if all prospective users cooperate on the signing of

water users agreements, provide easements of right-of-way, and the payment of the hook-up charge."

Goode said the rural water association will notify subscribers of the proper time to sign the agreements and easements and to pay the hook-up charge.

"Promptness in handling these individual obligations will save both time and especially money," Goode said, "as inflation has become a very major factor to be reckoned with on this project."

Local residents attending the Centerville meeting included Goode, county FHA Supervisor E. H. Scales, Monroe County association chairman Joe Hollinrake, and board members Wilbert Hoover, Raymond Vance, Henry Fynaardt and Charles Mock.

Representing the FHA at the meeting were state Director Robert Pim, FHA Chief of Community Facilities Lloyd Scott, and district FHA Supervisor Bob Koch.

June 25, 1973



Henry Fynaardt is shown in his field which is equipped with tile outlet terraces.

Officials point to less erosion

Conservation proves worth in '73

Various soil conservation practices in use on some Monroe County farms this year have proven their value, conservation officials here are saying.

John Botts, a conservation technician with the Soil Conservation Service in Monroe County, viewed the unusually wet spring: "If someone needs convincing that he needs conservation practices, this is the year that does it."

Botts explained that the conservation practices—and particularly tile outlet terraces—have prevented many valuable tons of Monroe County's topsoil from washing down streams with the heavy runoff.

"Conservation is kind of like buying fire insurance," Botts said. "You never know when you are going to need it." "But this was the year," he said.

Botts said those farmers here who have "bought their insurance" by installing the tile outlet terraces on their farmland have halted much of the soil erosion which would otherwise have occurred.

With these terraces, he said, soil loss can be held to between 350 and 700 pounds per acre in a year. Although Botts said this total may sound high, he said soil authorities have maintained that topsoil can rebuild itself if the

losses are held to four tons per acre or below in a year.

But without some type of protection on hilly farmland, Botts said this soil loss in a year's time can go to upwards of 10 tons per acre.

"I don't think most people realize how much soil they loose until they have something to catch it," Botts said. "Those who see it piled up against the fence row don't know how much goes on down the creek," he noted.

Tile outlet terraces have gained acceptance as a conservation tool in

Terrace drawing

PAGE 2

the last 10 to 15 years, Botts said, but have been constructed in Monroe County in just the last four or five years, however.

Botts said more of the terraces have not been constructed in the county in past years because of the cost of tile and the construction costs. "Farmers weren't used to that kind of outlay for something they would cover up in the ground," he said.

"But with the high price of land, it makes it a little more feasible to spend

that kind of money," he continued. "When land was cheaper, though, they couldn't see that."

Botts compared this situation to repairing a car:

"If you have a \$500 car and someone tells you that it needs a \$300 overhaul, you aren't going to want to do it. But if you have a \$2,000 car, you don't think so much about it."

Tile outlet terraces consist of a number of graded terraces with a corrugated metal intake pipe sticking through the ground on the uphill side of the terraces. The intakes—which have numerous holes in their sides—are connected with a tile conduit running underground down the slope and draining into a pond stream, or waterway.

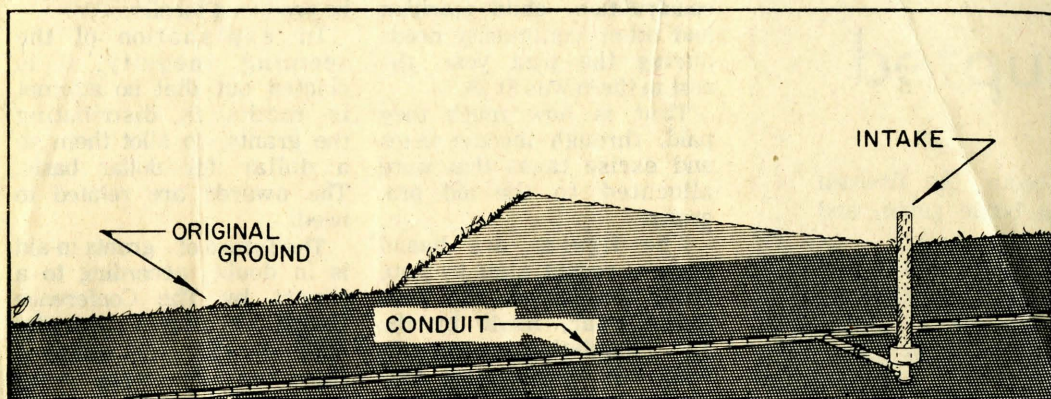
Such terraces are designed to store a heavy runoff behind the terrace around the intake pipe. This allows for gradual draining of the water through the intake and down the tile conduit.

As a result, the drainage of the water is slow enough so that crop damage and erosion is prevented.

A second benefit which results from such terraces is the pollution control.

Conservation

Continued on Page 2



Cross-sectional view of tile outlet terrace

Conservation

Continued from Page 1

Botts explained that chemical runoff is diminished because of the settling effect around the intake pipe. He said soil particles, which have various insecticides and farm chemicals attached to their surface, are suspended in the runoff water, but settle out around the base of the intake, stopping the soil and chemicals from being washed into the stream or pond at the bottom of the slope.

"To me," Botts said, "That's one important aspect of the tile outlet terraces: You eliminate this pollution problem."

Another benefit tile outlet terraces have is the elimination of the need for grassed waterways. Since all runoff drains away through the underground tiles, waterways are not needed, and therefore, more farmland can be under production.

The elimination of the waterways, plus the construction of the terraces in parallel fashion allows the use of large farm equipment and also eliminates point rows. With standard terraces and grassed waterways, Botts said "you've got some pretty fertile land out of production."

Although tile outlet terraces cost more to construct than do conventional terraces, he said farmers can recover this added expense by not having to take farmland out of production. As he explained, farmers are able to continue farming where a waterway would be.

Botts said one farmer in Monroe County picked up between one and a half and two acres of land that had been in waterways because of the ability of tiling to dry out an area that previously had been a wet waterway.

Botts said the cost of installation of

tile outlet terraces is about double the cost of conventional terraces. It costs about \$100 an acre for the grading work and installation of the tile, Botts said, although the exact cost varies from project to project, depending upon the land.

Prior to a decision by the Nixon administration last year, the federal government—through the Rural Environmental Assistance Program—would share the cost of installing such conservation practices with the affected farmer. But despite the end of REAP funding, Botts said a "high number" of local farmers have expressed an interest in planning conservation work this year.

One Monroe County farmer who remains convinced of the value of conservation practices is Henry Fynhaardt, who farms close to 700 acres with his son northeast of Albia.

Fynhaardt has about a mile of tile outlet terraces on his farm, along with 8,200 feet of standard terraces. He also has a half mile of diversions, five and a half acres of grassed waterways, and 70 acres of improved grassland seeding.

He is now planning to construct more tile outlet terraces on a farm he recently purchased.

Fynhaardt has been active in conservation work, and has received the Rotarians conservation award. He was also a district winner in 1960 in the Register and Tribune's annual conservation awards program.

Assistance in planning tile outlet terraces, or any other soil conservation practice, is available through the county Soil Conservation Service office, located on the second floor of the Albia Post Office.

July 2, 1973

But environmental problems present

Ray hopeful for state mining rejuvenation

(Editor's note: The following report was written by Editor Randy Evans after a tour Thursday with Gov. Robert Ray and other state officials of the coal mining region of southern Iowa.)

Iowa officials are anxious to see a rebirth of the state's once flourishing coal mining industry, but they expressed opinions last week that tougher state laws are first needed to regulate mining operations in Iowa.

A contingent of state officials, led by Gov. Robert Ray, spent the day Thursday looking over mines in Monroe, Marion and Mahaska Counties. Their helicopter tour took them over areas "orphaned" many years ago by strip mining operations, other areas where various types of reclamation efforts have been undertaken on former mining sites, and to two coal mines still operating in the state.

The day-long tour was organized to familiarize the state's governmental leaders with the coal mining operations that are going on at the present time in Iowa, and also with the results of mining activities here in the past.

Ray noted that the state's coal reserves—estimated at 6.5 billion tons—could offer a partial solution to the nation's growing energy crisis. However, the governor said that before such utilization of the coal reserves can occur, steps must be taken to insure that neither the environment or the land above the coal deposits are destroyed.

Ray and other state officials said more strict laws are needed to protect coal lands from the destructiveness that strip mining can bring. During their tour Thursday, the group saw examples where remains of strip mining operations today are not able to support plant life—even though the mining operations halted up to 50 years ago.

State Geologist Samuel J. Tuthill, tour organizer, explained to the legislative and governmental leaders that Iowa's coal offers a great source of energy, "but the manner in which it has been extracted in the past and some of the methods now in use have a totally destructive environmental impact."

One of the major problems with Iowa coal is its high sulfur content. When burned, the smoke produced will be in violation of the air pollution standards which take effect in 1975.

The 1973 Iowa Legislature appropriated \$243,000 for research into ways of making the state's coal supplies useable. Ray said he is sure that a process can be found to "scrub" the sulfur out of Iowa coal.

"I'm convinced that we are going to expand the coal industry," the governor said, "but we

are going to do it only if it is environmentally sound. Iowa could well be a leader in the coal industry . . . but right now we need the technology to scrub out the sulfur."

The majority of the coal produced in Iowa today goes to utilities to be burned in the production of electrical power.

Looking at a second environmental aspect of strip mining, Tuthill said, that it is possible to mine coal in a manner that does not remove the land from possible agricultural uses once mining ceases. But, he said, those who use the energy source must be willing to pay an increased cost for it.

Presently, Iowa law requires strip mine operators to level off the mounds of earth that are left after mining is completed. There are no requirements, however, to force mine operators to return the topsoil to its original position, state officials were told.

However, Tuthill and his staff geologists ex-

plained to the officials that it is difficult to return coal lands to a useful level of production without preserving the topsoil. "The key," Tuthill said, "is to put the topsoil back on top and not bury it."

In strip mining operations, the geologist said, this could be accomplished for less than 25 cents per ton of coal mined if the large draglines used to get to the coal seams would pile the topsoil separate from the other soil types, toxic materials and other mining wastes.

When a strip pit is closed, Tuthill said the land could be returned to a state of productivity by first pushing the various waste soils and materials into the pit, and then covering this with the topsoil.

Segregation of the stripped materials so that soil can be replaced over toxic materials, grading spoil piles into stable slopes, and immediate reseedings will return the area to some level of productive use within a relatively short time.

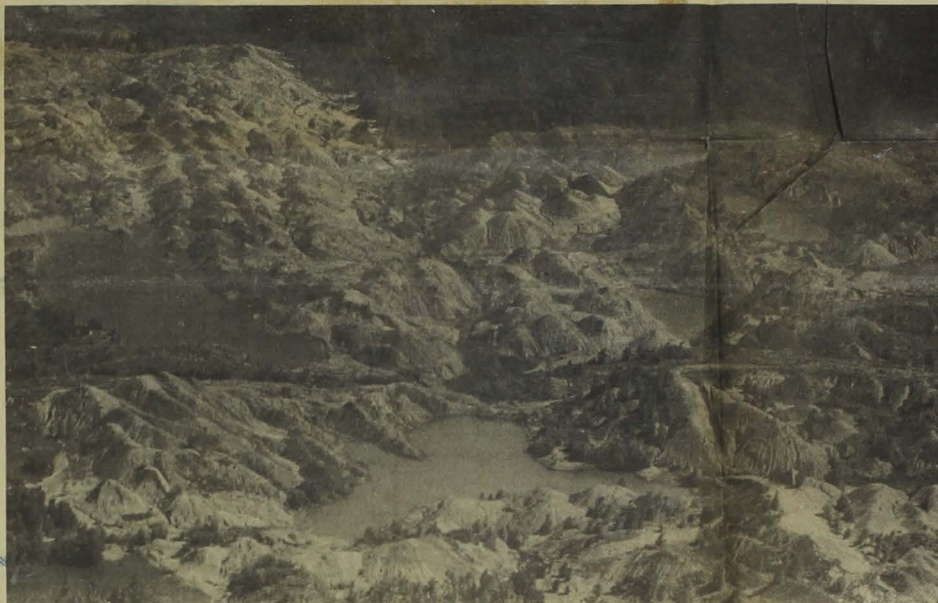
Mining practices used previously and at the present time, state officials learned, make it difficult for the mining sites to be used for agricultural purposes because plant growth on the coal mining spoils is restricted or prohibited by the acidity of the soils, the compacted surface of these areas and by the dark color of the spoils masses.

State geologists explained that these three factors result in toxic elements being produced in the soil which hamper plant growth, in restricted plant rooting because of the soil compaction, in poor water penetration, and in intolerable temperatures and low available moisture during hot summer months because of the dark color.

Officials of the Iowa Geological Survey said Thursday that about 48,000 acres of Iowa land

Coal

Continued on page 2



A large area of "orphaned" land, left several decades ago by strip mining operations in southern Iowa, was among the former coal sites viewed Thursday by state officials. This area of mining spoils is located between Pershing and Tracy in Marion County.

Way at debt

development corporation might the help of local business and professional people in again financing land purchase until it can be developed and an industry located on the site.

Corporation officials urged the present noteholders to convert their present notes into new notes to enable the group to purchase Williams' land. Presently, Albia business people hold a total of \$15,000 in notes—money which was used to construct the original Trojan plant and the 1968 addition. This is in addition to financing the corporation has through the First Iowa State Bank and the Peoples National Bank.

Previously, a total of \$10,000 had been repaid on money loaned by Albia

business people and payments to the banks have remained current.

J. E. King, treasurer of the industrial corporation, said that the group will this week complete repayments of all of its obligations to local business people and to the two Albia banks. "We have been able to make all payments on time and to pay all interest and principal in full," King stated.

The letter from the corporation, suggesting the exchange of notes to purchase the new property, pointed out that the community has had visits from two industrial prospects within the past two weeks, and that the group is still working with each firm, hoping for their decisions to locate plants in Albia.

l be 4 p.m., and lock box service will be available. There will be no window sses. service. Mail collections from the ental will courtesy boxes in the city will be made will afternoon, and regular arrivals and every. not city offices, and the local federal offices Post will not be open, as their employees 1 to observe the holiday.

Monday, July 2, 1973

Coal

have been disturbed by surface mining operations. This includes areas where sand, gravel, limestone, dolomite and gypsum have been mined, in addition to coal.

Of the total areas disturbed, about 11,800 acres have been involved in coal mining, geologists said, and only about 800 acres of this total have been reclaimed to some extent after mining has been completed.

Tuthill told tour participants Thursday that reclamation efforts are needed in these remaining 11,000 acres and in all other areas where strip mining is being undertaken to "bring order . . . something productive out of the chaos and results from strip mining."

Reclamation efforts viewed by the state officials varied from none in areas where the land remains today much as it was when mining ceased several decades ago, to areas where the mining remnants have been leveled and where some seeding has taken place, to the experimental Hull Reclamation Site near Oskaloosa.

At the Hull site, the state has spent some \$40,000 to study the feasibility of reclaiming the onetime coal mine area. Some 30 acres of the 212 acre mining site have been leveled, and seeded. In some areas, thick plant covers hide the identity of the area, while in others, plants have refused to take hold because of the high acid content of the soil.

Plantings at the Hull site, which is located about four miles west of Oskaloosa, included a variety of grasses, and hardwood and conifer trees. The area was last mined in 1938, and until the experimental reclamation project was undertaken in 1969, only volunteer vegetation was found on the mining site.

Officials of the Geological Survey said Thursday that without any reclamation attempts by man, the large banks of mining spoils left from strip mines will erode, oxidize and be leached away until "a soil of sorts" is formed. But, geologists said, such a natural reclamation project can be a protracted process, as illustrated by some of the very old surface mines that are still eroding and are still barren of vegetation cover.

But Ray questioned the value of such reclamation efforts. "This looks a lot better," the governor declared as he viewed the Hull site, "but it still isn't productive." The gains made at the Hull area, he said, have been "cosmetic."

He suggested that instead of spending large sums of money to reclaim deserted strip mining areas, the funds should be used to develop ways of using the existing supplies of coal found in the state.

Tuthill said, however, that the cost of reclaiming lands for agricultural purposes would be much less than at the Hull area if the work was done while the mining equipment was still at the site.

While other state officials questioned the growing ability of the Hull area, they also noted that it would be possible to use such areas for grazing, recreational purposes, and as wildlife cover.

After viewing the areas "orphaned" by strip mining in Marion and Mahaska Counties, the governor's party then flew into Monroe County where they set down to get a first-hand look at the two types of coal mining going on in Iowa today.

Ray stopped first at the Weldon Coal Co.'s strip mine, located southwest of Lovilia. The group then proceeded to the shaft mine in western Monroe County that is operated by the Lovilia Coal Co. The two mines are among the 11 in the state that are presently operating—compared to more than 500 which were operating in Iowa during the mining peak.

At the Weldon mine, which produced about 36,000 tons last year—its first year of operation—state geologists explained the mine's operation.

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July 2, 1973

9-18



Gov. Robert Ray views operation deep inside Lovilia Coal Co. mine

State officials tour coal mine areas

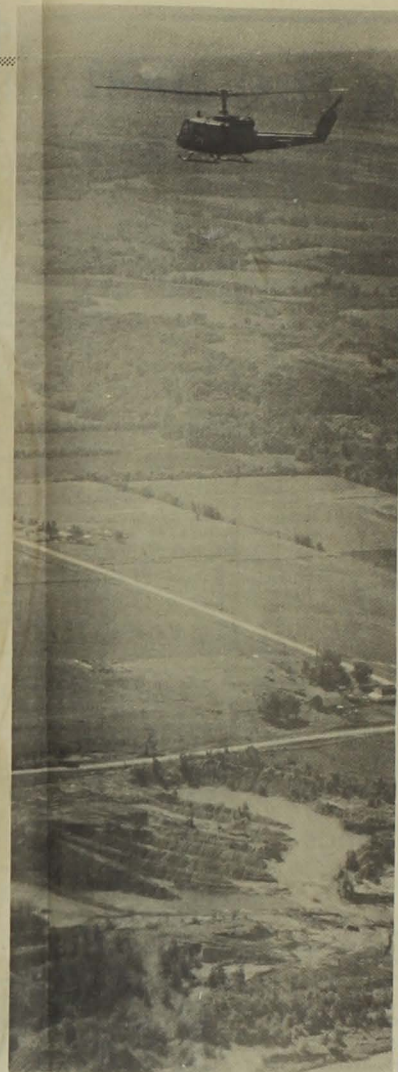


Gov. Robert Ray takes a look at the Weldon Coal Co.'s strip operation

Gov. Robert Ray lead a delegation of state officials on a tour Thursday of three of the major coal producing counties in Iowa.

The group traveled by helicopter and viewed the scarred terrain left by the past era of coal strip mining in southern Iowa. They also stopped to tour the Weldon Coal Co. mine near Lovilia, and the shaft mining operation of the Lovilia Coal Co., located south of Weller.

The state officials made the tour to learn more about the present coal mining operations here, and to view the effects of past mining operations.



Ray's helicopter flies over

Burnie cattle feeders day.

Autonomous 4-county planning group unlikely

Hope has apparently dwindled that Gov. Robert Ray will come to the rescue of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission and preserve its autonomy. And the planning commission's executive board is prepared to recommend tonight that the group merge with the Indian Hills Regional Planning Commission into a new 10-county organization.

The Rathbun group had appealed to Ray a month ago to designate the four-county Rathbun area as the state's 17th planning and administrative area. Presently Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties are included in the 10-county Area 15.

The appeal to the Iowa governor was made by officials in the four counties because effective July 1 (with the start of a new fiscal year) the Rathbun area was required to merge with the other counties already members of the Indian Hills organization if they wish to continue

receiving state and federal money for planning purposes.

But an assistant to Ray, Wythe Willey, said Wednesday that he "doubted very much" whether the governor would change the executive order which established the 16 planning areas. "It would be a pretty drastic change in policy," Willey said, if Ray supported the Rathbun organization's appeal.

Members of the executive board of the four-county association, along with city and council officials from each of the four counties are scheduled to meet tonight in Chariton to decide the fate of the Rathbun group.

J. Logan Cain, of Albia, a member of the planning commission's executive board, said, "The way it is standing right now, it looks as though

Planning

Continued on page 2

we are going to be forced to go in (with the Indian Hills commission)."

The executive board is going to recommend to the boards of supervisors and city councils in the four counties that the Rathbun counties join "for the time being," Cain said. A decision whether to join or remain separate from the Indian Hills planning commission can be made only by the governmental bodies in the counties.

But should the governmental representatives at tonight's meeting vote for the merger, Cain said the Rathbun group would not be dissolved. "We will go right ahead. We will be forced into operating with Indian Hills (planning commission) as a 10-county area ... but the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission will still be planning projects in the four counties."

Cain explained that although funding for planning projects in the Rathbun region would come through the Indian Hills planning commission, and that any projects undertaken in the four-county area would have to be approved by the 10-county organization, the Rathbun group would remain active.

But Cain emphasized, "This is all unofficial until after Thursday's meeting, because the boards of supervisors and city councils may not want to go along with (the merger)."

The recommendation by the executive board was based on a "no dice" reaction to the Rathbun group's autonomy request by Robert Tyson, head of the state Office of Planning

and Programming, Cain said. Tyson's department has the responsibility of funneling state and federal funds into localities for planning purposes.

In a telephone interview Wednesday, Willey said the governor's preliminary decision on the request of the Rathbun area officials is that it is impractical for a 17th planning region to be established.

"It's a matter of him having to substantially change five years of a set doctrine," Willey said, "and that would be very difficult."

Willey said if Ray allowed the request of the four-county area, "then he probably would have a lot of others wanting to change too."

But Ray's assistant said the governor has made no final decision on the request yet.

Arguments put forward by area residents in the meeting with Ray earlier this year "carried a lot of weight and were very persuasive," Willey said. "But the problem is that the region is just too small under the federal guidelines. Its population is just too small," he explained.

Willey said, however, that Ray is studying the possibility that the Rathbun planning commission could remain as a review board for federal and state projects in the four counties.

"I know they are skeptical (about the merger)," Willey said, "and you certainly can't argue with their success, for the things they have been able to do in the four-county area have really

July 23, 1973
Sterk, Weir

in contest

Ron Sterk, son of Albert Sterk of rural Albia, and Bernie Weir, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Weir of Albia, were among the participants in the Region 9 soil conservation speech contest, held July 18 in Ottumwa.

Mike Ledger of Fairfield won the regional competition and earned the right to advance to the state contest, to be held in conjunction with the annual conference of soil conservation district commissioners.

The contest is jointly sponsored by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co., of Grinnell, and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

been tremendous. But I think that if the four-county area continues to work together in the 10-county area, they will carry a lot of weight there," Willey continued. "They're bound to."

Since its formation in 1967, the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission has been able to secure funds from the federal government for a variety of projects. But with the start of the new fiscal year this month, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has indicated that its planning funds will be dispersed to only one multi-county planning units in each of Iowa's 16 planning and administrative regions.

But under HUD's new policy, both the Rathbun and Indian Hills commissions cannot receive planning money. But without a merger of the two organizations, no planning funds for the coming fiscal year will be received.

The new federal regulations stipulate that HUD money can only go to a planning commission which represents at least 75 per cent of the residents of a planning and administrative region—in this case, Area 15.

The Rathbun commission has the required percentage of representation for its four counties, but alone, neither the Rathbun or Indian Hills groups have the required 75 per cent of the entire 10-county area.

Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk and Wapello Counties formed the Indian Hills commission several months ago. Only Mahaska and Van Buren Counties are not members of either commission.

July 26, 1973



Washed away

A roadside stabilization project, which will begin next month, will correct areas such as this one where erosion is a critical problem.

Surveying the damage to this ditch, which is located north of Lake Miami, is Dave Beary, an assistant to County Engineer Ralph Sears.

Contract is awarded for roadside erosion control

The Kiburz Construction Co. of Afton was awarded a contract Monday by the Board of Supervisors for a roadside erosion stabilization project.

Cost of the project is \$31,408. The county will be paying 20 per cent of the total cost, while federal resource conservation and development (RC&D) funds, channeled through the Soil Conservation Service, will pay for the remaining 80 per cent.

The total cost had been estimated at \$31,000.

The project involves regrading, seeding, fertilizing, mulching and sodding some five and three-fourths miles of ditches along Monroe County roads. The work is designed to halt sheet and gully erosion which have been a critical problem in these areas.

Scheduled to be included in the project is a three and a half mile stretch of a county road in Jackson Township, west of Melrose. Also included are two areas in Bluff Creek Township, including an area on the east side of Lake Miami north of the dam to a "T" intersection.

In a similar project several years ago,

ditches south from the Miami dam were stabilized in an effort to control erosion.

Work on the project is expected to get underway early next month, with completion to come within 60 working days.

Two other firms submitted bids on the project. Wayne Hennies Construction Co. of Donnellson had a bid of \$38,825. The bid of the second firm, D and G Construction of Corydon, was not opened because of the failure to the firm to furnish a bid bond.

Plans for the project were drawn by the Soil Conservation Service, with the assistance of the county engineer's office.

John Frieden, conservationist with the SCS, said as much as 20 tons of soil has been lost per acre on the areas scheduled to be corrected by the control project. Frieden said such erosion, when left unchecked, presents a danger to the county, adjacent landowners, and to road users.

Frieden lauded the county on its interest in adopting good land use planning, such as illustrated by the roadside stabilization project.

July 16, 1973

Final decision expected next month

Planning commission merger postponed

A decision on a possible merger of the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission and the Indian Hills Regional Planning Commission was delayed Thursday night during a meeting in Chariton of government officials from the four Rathbun counties and members of the Rathbun commission's executive board.

A final decision on the merger—which was recommended by the executive board—was postponed in order to give governmental representatives the opportunity to discuss the merger with other officials in their counties and cities.

The Rathbun Regional

Planning Commission was notified earlier this year that it would not be eligible for federal and state planning funds after the close of the 1973 fiscal year on June 30, because of a policy change in Washington, D.C. by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Effective with the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, HUD began distributing its planning funds to only one multi-county planning unit in each of Iowa's 16 regions. The HUD regulations also require that the multi-county unit receiving such funds must represent at least 75 per cent of the citizens of the entire region.

This means that in order to remain eligible for planning monies, the Rathbun planning commission and the Indian Hills Regional Planning Commission—which was organized earlier this year—have to merge.

Although no merger was agreed to Thursday night, approval is expected to be given during a meeting sometime next month.

If accepted, the merger would mean that the four counties in the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission—Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties—would join the four counties currently members of the Indian Hills group: Davis, Jefferson,

Keokuk and Wapello Counties, Mahaska and Van Buren Counties, the two other counties which are included in Area 15 have refused to join either planning commission.

Officials in the four Rathbun counties have been skeptical of the proposed link-up with the Indian Hills commission, fearing that such a merger would swallow up the four counties and cause them to lose their effectiveness in planning.

In a direct appeal to Gov. Robert Ray a month ago, officials from the four counties pointed to the success stories already recorded by the Rathbun planning commission as one

reason for maintaining the commission's autonomy. The planning commission has been actively involved in planning the four-county rural water system (on which construction begins next year) and a four-county solid waste disposal system (which is still under study).

Officials from the four counties asked Ray to preserve the planning commission's identity by designating the four lake counties as the state's 17th planning area.

But officials of Ray's office last week held little hope that the chief executive would grant the Rathbun group's request.

Kaldenberg elected to conservation directorship

Ollie Kaldenberg, route 5, Albia, last week was elected Region 9 director of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

Kaldenberg was chosen to replace Ed Klott, of Ottumwa, during a regional meeting July 18 in Ottumwa.

The Monroe Countyman has been a member of the county Soil Conservation District Commissioners since 1964. He was also an assistant commissioner for one year. Kaldenberg has served as chairman of the Monroe County commissioners for four years.

Last September, Kaldenberg was one of nine Iowans named as outstanding soil conservation district commissioners in the state.

Kaldenberg owns and operates a 335 acre farm north of Albia, and rents an additional 200 acres. His conservation practices include conservation cropping systems, pasture renovation and management, farm ponds, grassed waterways, tile, and tile outlet terraces.

In addition to his work in soil conservation in the county, Kaldenberg has also been a member of the board of directors of the Albia Community Schools since 1965, and has served as its president. He has also been a township assessor, a member of the county Board of Health, member of the executive board of the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development project.



Ollie Kaldenberg

July 26, 1973

FHA oks \$1 million for solid waste system

A loan to finance the construction of an areawide solid waste collection and disposal system was approved last week by the Farmers Home Administration (FHA).

Loan funds totaling nearly \$1 million to develop the system in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties were earmarked for the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency, an organization formed earlier this year to operate the four-county system.

Announcement of the approval of the loans by the FHA was made Wednesday by Rep. William Scherle.

William F. McGrath, of Melrose, chairman of the regional services agency, said the loan money will be used to purchase landfill sites in each of the four counties, and to also purchase collection equipment for the system.

The loans, which were channeled through the

FHA under the Resource Conservation and Development Program, will be repaid over a 30 year period, at 3.649 per cent interest.

McGrath said the FHA loans will be held by the federal agency until next year when construction of the sanitary disposal system gets underway. The loans were applied for at this time, however, McGrath said, because of their low interest rate. He said officials of the regional services agency feared interest rates on revenue bonds would be higher than the FHA loan rate.

The FHA loan includes \$250,000 to serve about 5,100 families in Appanoose County, \$240,000 to serve just over 3,400 families in Lucas County, \$230,000 for 3,120 families in Monroe County, and \$230,000 for about 2,850 families in Wayne County.

A preliminary study report on the four-county disposal system was completed earlier this summer by the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission.

That report recommended that a solid waste authority be formed to manage all public solid waste systems in the counties. The authority would operate some of the collection systems in the counties, and all of the disposal sites, unless contracting with private waste agencies is shown to be an economic advantage.

The study report envisioned the establishment of one sanitary landfill in each of the four counties, along with a collection service in the rural areas and urban areas not presently served by a private hauler.

The sanitary disposal system must be in operation prior to July 1, 1975, under Iowa law. However, before implementation of the system can begin, a final study report must be completed by the planning commission. Steven F. Laughling, solid waste project director for the planning commission, said he expects work on the disposal

system to begin late this year or early next year.

The preliminary study report proposed that a system of mobile containers be placed at strategic points in rural areas of the county in sufficient numbers to allow residents of these areas to deposit their solid wastes in these containers. The containers would then be picked up and emptied twice a week, with the refuse being transported by truck to the nearest landfill.

Exact location of the four landfill sites and of the rural collection containers will be determined during the completion of the final, more comprehensive planning study.

The total cost of implementing the four-county disposal system was estimated at \$1,345,000 by planning commission officials in their preliminary study report. Some local money would be needed to supplement the FHA loans.

July 30, 1973

Aug 2, 1973

Sept 10, 1973



The signing

Officials of the Monroe County Rural Water Association, Inc., were on hand in Centerville recently, for the signing of the letter of conditions for a Farmers Home Administration loan to construct a rural water system here. Present were, from left: Seated, state FHA Director Robert Pim, board Chairman Joe

Hollinrake, FHA Chief of Community Facilities Lloyd Scott. Standing are association board members Wilbert Hoover, Raymond Vance, Henry Fynaardt, and Charles Mock, Monroe County FHA Supervisor E. H. Scales, and Ralph Goode, chairman of the Rathbun Regional Water Association board.

Area rural water officials sign loan condition letter

Representatives of four county water associations and of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., met recently in Centerville to sign letters of conditions for \$11.5 million in loans from the Farmers Home Administration (FHA).

The loans will be used, along with a grant from the Economic Development Administration, and with local money, to construct a rural water system in the four Rathbun counties: Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne.

Present at the recent meeting were the boards of directors of the county associations, officials of the Rathbun association, and state and local officials of the FHA.

Ralph Goode, of Albia, chairman of the Rathbun group, said the letter of conditions entered into by the FHA and the five associations primarily stipulates the amount of funding to be produced locally, as well as the amount to be held in reserve for debt service, operation and maintenance. It also established deadlines for bid letting on the initial phases of the project.

The FHA has approved loans to the five associations totaling \$11,514,000. This includes: Appanoose County, \$2,700,000; Lucas, \$2,700,000; Monroe, \$1,933,000; Wayne, \$1,181,000; and the Rathbun association, \$3,000,000.

Goode said hundreds of new members have signed up for the rural water since the preliminary engineering reports were prepared. Goode also said that new applications are being taken daily, and therefore, an up-date of the preliminary report will be required.

This latest information

will aid the rural water boards in determining the amount of additional loan funds that will be needed for the completion of the project. Goode estimated that this would be about \$4 million.

Goode also said that member-users must provide 5 per cent of the construction costs, which will mean that local residents will be required to supply about \$1 million of the total cost of the project. This will be raised, he said, through the connection fee and membership fee which each user must pay when he becomes a member of his county association.

Goode estimated that the hook-up charge to member-users will total \$200, which includes the \$20 contribution already made by the subscriber. But Goode said this total is subject to change.

Based on the present sign-up and the estimated costs, the total project cost is placed at \$19,614,000. The FHA loans will be retired over a 40 year period at a 5 per cent interest rate.

Construction on the project is expected to begin next spring, with the anticipated completion to come in late 1975.

Goode said that the success of the rural water project to this point can be attributed primarily to the "excellent cooperation that has existed between the various boards, local residents and government agencies."

"The future success that we hope for can only come about through the continued cooperation of everyone," Goode said. "Construction will be completed and service provided much earlier if all prospective users cooperate on the signing of

water users agreements, provide easements of right-of-way, and the payment of the hook-up charge."

Goode said the rural water association will notify subscribers of the proper time to sign the agreements and easements and to pay the hook-up charge.

"Promptness in handling these individual obligations will save both time and especially money," Goode said, "as inflation has become a very major factor to be reckoned with on this project."

Local residents attending the Centerville meeting included Goode, county FHA Supervisor E. H. Scales, Monroe County association chairman Joe Hollinrake, and board members Wilbert Hoover, Raymond Vance, Henry Fynaardt and Charles Mock.

Representing the FHA at the meeting were state Director Robert Pim, FHA Chief of Community Facilities Lloyd Scott, and district FHA Supervisor Bob Koch.

Farmers urged to apply now for cost-sharing

Thirteen applications for cost-sharing money were approved recently by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Projects approved had a total cost of \$10,458.50, of which \$5,229.25—half the total cost—will be paid by the district with cost-sharing funds it received recently from the state.

Monroe County had a total allocation of \$10,000, and the remaining balance—\$4,770.75—will be disbursed by the district's commissioners at their Sept. 27 meeting.

The commissioners have

encouraged Monroe County farmers to sign up now for cost-sharing assistance on conservation projects they are planning.

The state allocations were approved this year by the Iowa Legislature, the first time such funds have been approved by the state.

Up until December 1972, local farmers could receive federal assistance through the Rural Environmental Assistance Program—for conservation projects. That program, however, was eliminated by the Nixon administration.

August 7, 1973

Conservation funds received

Monroe County has received \$10,000 from the state for use in cost-sharing with farmers on permanent soil and water conservation projects here.

Announcement of the receipt of the funds from the state Department of Soil Conservation, was made this week by Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

Since December, when the Nixon administration halted the Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP), no money has been available to farmers to share the cost of installing a variety of conservation practices.

However, Kaldenberg said the district is now in a position to accept requests from Monroe County farmers for cost-sharing on such practices as parallel and graded terraces, grassed waterways and outlets, erosion control dams, and diversions.

In order to qualify for possible cost-sharing money, farmers must have already or will enter into a conservation cooperator's agreement with the local Soil Conservation District. Under the agreement, the farmer acknowledges that he has or intends to develop and follow a conservation plan for his farm that is

acceptable to the district, and that he will maintain the practices for which cost-sharing assistance is requested. The conservation practices must be properly planned and installed in order to qualify for cost-sharing funds.

Kaldenberg said the \$10,000 received by the local district represents the first time that state money has been made available to Iowa farmers for sharing the cost of soil conservation practices.

The \$10,000, however, represents only a fraction of amount of federal funds that were received in Monroe County during 1972 under REAP. More than \$96,000 was received here, with the money going to partially finance the construction of 31 farm ponds, 11 other erosion control structures, 14,520 feet of tile outlet terraces and 47 acres of grassed waterways. The REAP funds were also available for seeding, and for pollution abatement practices—such as feedlot runoff controls.

In providing for conservation cost-sharing, the Legislature has required that not more than 50 per cent of the estimated cost of installing the various conservation practices can be paid for

with cost-sharing funds.

The Legislature also provided that a small part of the appropriated funds could be used to abate erosion nuisances under the conservancy district soil loss limit regulations, approved last year by the Local Soil Conservation District. The state soil loss limits law specifies that cost-sharing must be furnished in an amount of at least 75 per cent or more of the total cost before a landowner can be required to install control measures to abate an erosion nuisance.

Kaldenberg said that the number of cost-sharing agreements that the local conservation district will enter into under the state funding will be limited. He urged farmers wishing to receive cost-sharing assistance to contact the Soil Conservation District office immediately.

Applications will be reviewed by the county's soil conservation district commissioners on Aug. 30, and on every fourth Thursday thereafter.

Kaldenberg added that the staff of the local soil conservation district office will provide technical assistance to landowners and operators who request cost-sharing funds.

Construction begins next year

Rural water office to open here; membership forms still available

The Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., will open an office in Albia Monday.

Announcement of the upcoming opening was made today by Joe Hollinrake, chairman of the Monroe County Water Association, Inc.

Hollinrake said the local office will be located in the front of the First Iowa State Bank building, (formerly Sybenga's Studio). The office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays, and personnel will be on hand to

provide information to interested persons regarding the time schedule for construction, water user agreements, easements, new signers, and other general information regarding the planned four county rural water system.

Mrs. John Botts of Albia will be in charge of the local office. Her office telephone number is 932-7427.

Hollinrake said the Monroe County Water Association will be able to accept applications for membership until such time as the final

design and planning of the large project dictate a cut-off date. However, he said advance notice of this date would be given.

In making today's announcement, Hollinrake said, "We hope everyone will assess their present and future needs for water, as this is possibly the best opportunity they will ever have to assure themselves of an abundant supply of high quality water."

The chairman continued, "It is difficult to measure in dollars and cents the value of

this type of water supply, for from a health standpoint alone its benefits are unlimited. We hope that every person would, in the next few weeks, explore the possibilities of rural water and give them thorough consideration," he said.

Construction on the project—which has an estimated cost of \$19.6 million—is scheduled to begin next spring, with completion coming in late 1975.

The project is being financed through Farmers Home Administration loans that total \$11½ million, a \$3 million Economic Development Administration grant, in addition to local funds.

The Monroe County Water Association last week received a letter from state FHA officials confirming payment authorization to the local group. The Monroe County association has borrowed \$1,933,000 from the FHA at 5 per cent interest.

The first of 38 installments on the loan will be paid on Jan. 1, 1975.

When completed, the Rathbun water system will provide purified water to residences, businesses and farms in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties.

8-16-73

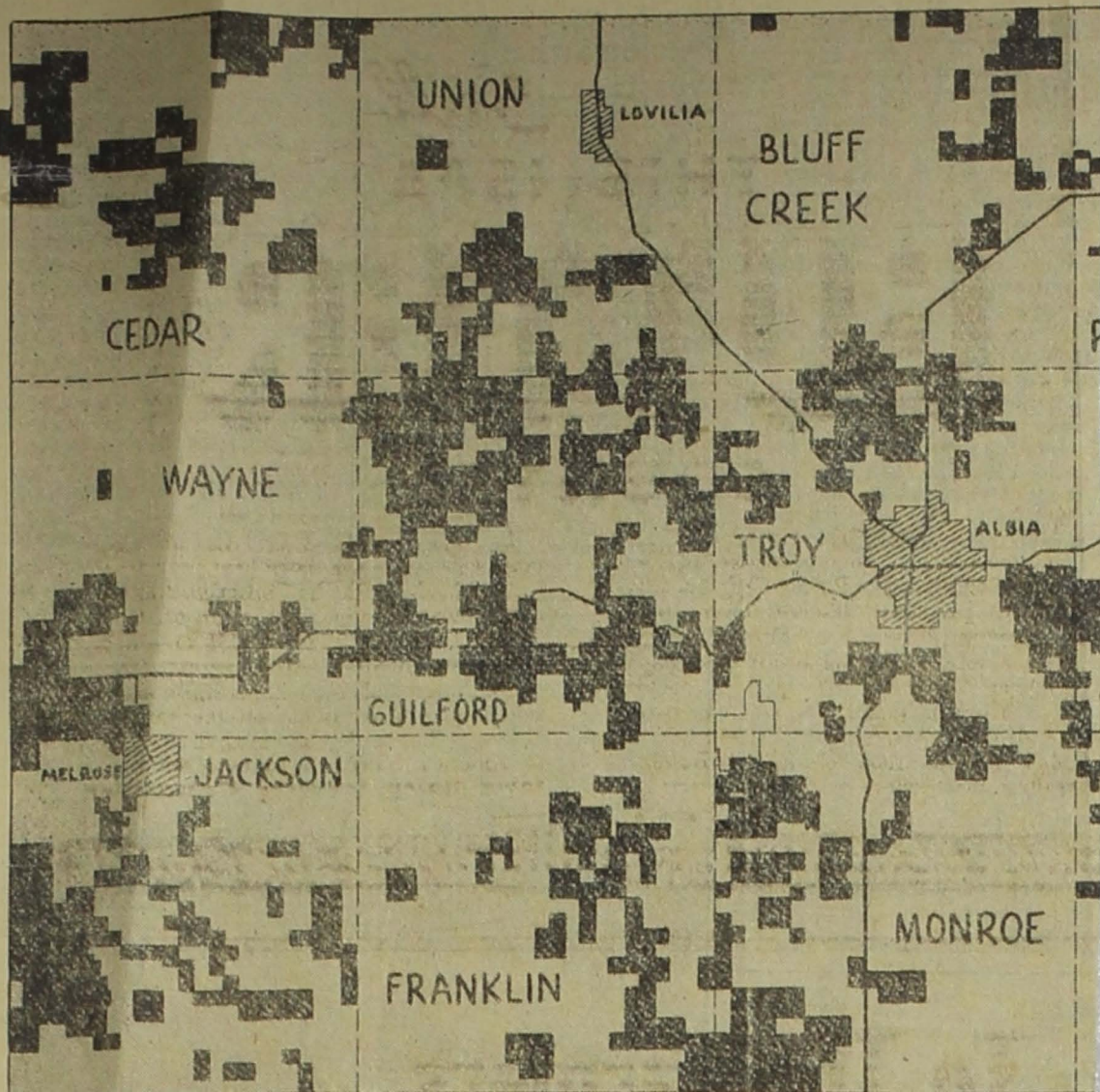
Farmers Contour 236,000 Acres

Iowa farmers set an all-time record during 1948 in applying soil conservation practices to their land.

Soil conservation district co-operator's reports bear this out. Farmers put 236,000 acres of land on the contour, bringing the state's total up to 845,000. They added 9,000 acres of cover crops to bring the state total to 25,000 acres.

During the year 26,000 more acres were strip cropped, more than 9,500 acres of Iowa pastures were improved, 2,000 miles of terraces were built, and 19,000 acres of land were made more productive by drainage.

The farmers are planning these improvements so that they fit their farms. A total of 15,000 farmers in the state have now developed complete farm conservation plans with technical assistance of the Soil Conservation Service. These plans cover 2,800,000 acres. During the calendar year of 1948 alone, service technicians helped 3,269 farmers develop complete plans which increase farm income as much as a third control, erosion and hold more rainfall on land. They gave assistance to 3,000 other farmers with one or more conservation practices.



Here's a map of the soils conservation projects in Monroe county. The solid portions on the map indicate farms taking part in the soils program. All of these farms have applied for assistance and the majority have the field conservation survey maps. At the present there are 25 conservation groups in Monroe county. Two groups in Urbana

township, included in the above map. These two groups were drawn two weeks ago. The total number of farms represented by this map is 339. There are 1,100 farms in Monroe county, and 191 of these farms have

319,150 Iowans Attend Conservation Events Held in State During Year

Iowa farmers are conscious of the need for conserving their soil and are eager to learn how they can carry out good land-use programs on their farms. This was shown by their interest in soil conservation field days, tours, demonstrations and plowing contests during 1948.

Total attendance for these events scattered throughout the state was an estimated 319,150. This is more than double the estimated attendance at similar occasions during 1947.

State and national events drew the largest crowds, accounting for 229,500 of the total attendance. These included the All Iowa Soil Conservation Field Day on the Ben Cole farm in Clarke county, the

National Plowing Contest and Soil Conservation Field Day in Dallas county, the National Plow-Built Terrace Contest in Shelby county, the Forage Field Day in Jones county, the Pilot Rock Soil Conservation Field Day and Plowing Contest, and the Conservation Sunday sponsored by the Warren county Soil Conservation District as a follow-up to the field day held in 1947.

Demonstrate

Conservation practices which are essential to good land-use programs in the particular areas were demonstrated at all of these events.

Twenty-three local and county-wide contour plowing contests and field days drew 28,500 people. Soil

conservation and other improved farm practices demonstrated at these events included preparation of grass waterways, building terraces, pasture improvement, gully control, drainage, contour cultivation, diversion ditches, weed spraying and plow adjustment.

These same practices and others were demonstrated before 22,400 people attending 13 local and county-wide field days. These were held in Des Moines, Louisa, Black Hawk, Mahaska, Monroe, Muscatine, Cass, Wayne, Jefferson, Decatur, Appanoose, West Pottawattamie and Johnson counties. Particular emphasis was placed on soil conservation demonstrations.

Oct. 11, 1973

Conservation week now being observed

This week is soil and water conservation week in Iowa, and Gov. Robert Ray has declared that "the orderly development and wise use of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation programs are essential to sustain and enhance both rural and urban standards of living."

The governor, in his proclamation, said such conservation programs also protect and improve the state's environment "for the benefit of all citizens."

Ray said, "the state of Iowa and the 100 soil conservation districts within the state are coordinating and conducting a constructive program of soil and water conservation, flood prevention and related natural resources development to meet the demands of today's farms, ranches and cities."

"It is imperative that we continue our efforts in soil and water conservation programs, watershed programs, resource conservation and development projects and in our conservancy districts, where opportunities are available to advance this important work," he said.

Note big increase in conservation tillage in Iowa

Iowa corn and soybeans acreage planted by some type of conservation tillage or minimum tillage jumped by nearly 90 per cent this year, according to a survey by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

"Our survey shows that 5½ million of the state's estimated 18.8 million acres of corn and soybeans were planted without the use of the moldboard plow," says State Conservationist Wilson Moon. "This means that more than one-fourth of the corn and soybeans were planted by some type of conservation tillage."

Moon says some of the big increase in conservation tillage is due to the increase in total acres of corn and soybeans planted this year. "With the emphasis on

production, conservation tillage and other conservation measures are more important than ever before," Moon says. "Iowa farmers are being asked to produce all they can, but they must also protect their land."

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

Even better erosion control was provided with special conservation tillage machines and methods. The most popular of these special methods was the chisel plow, used on more than a million acres. Other top erosion control methods, in order of popularity, were till planting, 265,184 acres; rotary strip tillage, 147,510 acres; and no-till planting, 110,414 acres.

"This reduction in fall plowing, especially of soybean land, has been encouraging," Moon says, and he cautions farmers against fall plowing this year. Waiting to disk, chisel, or use another method in the spring saves time, energy, money, and soil, he says.

January 1974

Nov. 8, 1973

Still taking applications for cost-sharing money

Although the Monroe County Soil Conservation District has already distributed some \$10,000 in state funds for local conservation projects, the district is still taking applications from local farmers for additional funds that are expected.

Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the district's commissioners, said district officials anticipate that more money will become available after Jan. 1. The district has a balance of \$129 on hand from the \$10,000 it received earlier this year from the state.

Kaldenberg said applications for cost-sharing on various conservation practices can still be made by Monroe County. The district's approval for the cost-

sharing funds cannot be given until after the first of the year when funds become available.

The cost-sharing money is distributed by the Soil Conservation District to farmers installing terraces, erosion control dams, waterways and diversions. The amount of cost-sharing money awarded on each project is based upon 50 per cent of the estimated cost or actual cost, whichever is smaller, Kaldenberg said.

Kaldenberg said, however, that funds are currently available for another cost-sharing project, which is administered by the state Department of Soil Conservation. Under this project, he said, cost-sharing funds are available for landowners located in the 4,000-acre Lake Miami watershed, and

the 6,500 acres of the Rathbun watershed that are in Monroe County.

Applications for these cost-sharing funds are also to be made at the Soil Conservation District office, located on the second floor of the Albia Post Office.

Monroe County's \$10,000 allocation from the state—in the first statewide distribution of conservation cost-sharing funds—was the third lowest total in the eight-county south central Iowa region.

Lucas County received the lowest amount, \$7,000, while Wapello County was allotted \$9,000. A total of \$10,000 went to both Monroe and Davis Counties, while \$14,800 was granted to Appanoose County. Marion received \$15,700, Wayne received \$16,100, and Mahaska County received \$18,100.

Nov. 15, 73

Nov. 26, 1973

Preliminary plans for water system get board's okay

Preliminary plans for the construction of the four-county rural water system have been accepted by the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., and the green light has been given for the project designers to proceed with the final plans for the multi-million dollar system.

The preliminary plans were presented to the association by the two consulting engineering firms working on the project. French-Reneker-Associates of Fairfield has been preparing the plans for the eastern half—Appanoose and Monroe Counties—of the project, and the Omaha, Neb. firm, Hoskins-Western-Sondergerger, is doing the planning for the Lucas County and Wayne County portions of the project.

Acceptance of the preliminary plans by the water association was hailed as a milestone in the development of the regional system by Kenneth Owen, of Centerville, executive director of the association.

The board of directors of the Rathbun association at their recent meeting gave the two engineering firms the go-ahead to proceed with the final design of the project.

Construction is expected to begin early next year on the project which carries a price tag of an estimated \$19 million. Completion of construction is planned for late 1975.

Members of the association's board of directors met recently with officials of the Farmers' Home Administration—the source for the bulk of the funding—to review the preliminary plans for the project and to establish guidelines for the final design and construction of the water system.

Attending that meeting were Cecil Rose, national engineer for the FHA's Washington, D.C. office; Robert Pim, state FHA

director; and Lloyd Scott, chief of community facilities for the FHA.

Also attending the meeting were Jack Cowan, district FHA supervisor; Gene Crosby, Appanoose County FHA supervisor; and Chuck McCarty, Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) project coordinator.

The water association had to secure additional financing for the project due to additional water users being signed, and because of the effects of inflation on the estimated construction costs for the system.

Earlier this month, officials of the four county water associations met with the Rathbun regional association directors and signed letters of condition with the FHA to secure additional funding and to lay out broad guidelines which the association will follow throughout the construction phase of the

project.

The latest funding package that has been put together for the project includes loans totaling \$17,876,900 from the FHA, a \$3 million grant from the Economic Development Administration, and an estimated \$328,000 in local user contributions.

The total estimated construction costs, reserve and operating and maintenance fund is projected at \$21,804,900, water association officials said.

The major job facing officials of the water association now is the securing of easements and water users agreements. Abstractors in the four-county area will this week begin title searches and preparations of easements. Each individual land owner will be contacted in the coming weeks for a right-of-way easement to lay the

Rural water

water pipe for the system.

In addition to an easement, each subscriber will be asked to pay a connection fee and sign a water users agreement with the association. That job of obtaining the signatures and collecting the fees is expected to begin in early December.

Owen and Ralph Goode, of Albia, Rathbun association chairman, both expressed appreciation for the patience that subscribers have shown over the past months and for their cooperation in the development of the project.

According to Goode, "There is a major job facing

us locally in the securing of easements and water users agreements. We will be relying heavily on each subscriber coming in on the day set aside for their townships to sign their water users agreements and easements," he said.

Notices of when and where residents of the various townships will be asked to come in to sign the two forms will be given later.

At the present time, Goode said, the Rathbun association has about 6,200 water users, three bulk towns, and 10 towns that are now without a central water system.

12-3-73



Money for conservation

Monroe County farmer Duane Wilson, right, last week became the first farmer in the county to receive cost-sharing money from the state for permanent soil conservation work on his farm, northeast of Albia. Wilson received the check from Carol Presley, clerk of the Monroe

County Soil Conservation District. The money went to Wilson for his installation of an erosion control dam. The cost-sharing Wilson received was part of a \$10,000 allocation received by the local soil conservation district from the state.

On year's activities

Soil district makes report

The annual report of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District was published this week, and during the past year, the report notes, there was both good and bad news in the area of soil conservation.

On the negative side was the wet 1972 fall, and the delays in harvesting that resulted. Also listed as a minus was the termination of the Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP), which had provided Iowa farmers with over \$9 million in cost-sharing funds.

The weather was also again responsible for a negative item: the April 9 blizzard that killed hundreds of head of livestock, and the rains that followed, eroding tons of the state's topsoil.

But on the positive side, the report notes, many landowners became convinced of the value of soil conservation practices during the fiscal year. "Although our conservation construction work was hindered by the termination of REAP and (by) bad weather, our requests for conservation planning and technical assistance increased," the report states.

Also during the year, the Iowa Legislature passed the conservancy law, making soil conservation mandatory to prevent damage by sediment. Also, state funds

were made available for the implementation of the law.

Locally during the past fiscal year, plans for roadside erosion control over the next five years were drawn, and a request for a soil survey of the county was approved. Erosion control projects for the Albia city reservoir and for the Lake Miami watershed began.

Conservation projects completed included the installation of 22,000 feet of parallel tile-outlet terraces, five erosion control structures, 20 ponds were built, and 23 acres of waterways were grassed.

The local Soil Conservation District also initiated the establishment of the Hugh W. Lundy Outdoor Classroom during the past fiscal year. The classroom will be used by the Albia Community Schools.

Conservation seats for Sears, Rhine

Two Albians Monday were appointed to vacancies on the Monroe County Conservation Board.

Named to the board were Ralph Sears and Carroll Rhine. They replace Robert L. Larson and Lowell Williams, who resigned.

The appointments of the two were made by the Board of Supervisors.

In other action Monday, the supervisors approved an increase in the death and accident benefits paid to county employees under the county's insurance plan. The benefits were raised from \$4,000 to \$10,000.

The insurance is purchased through Loren Hardinger, of Albia.

The supervisors also gave approval to a five-year plan for roadside stabilization treatment in Monroe County. The plan was prepared for the Monroe County Recourse Conservation and Development project board with the assistance of the Soil Conservation Service.

12-6-73

12-13-73

January 1974

To begin signing water easements, users' agreements

Another step in the plans for the Rathbun rural water system begins this week, when signing of water user's agreements and easements gets underway.

Ralph Goode, of Albia, chairman of the board of directors of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., said the association will start signing the agreements and easements today.

Subscribers in each township in Appanoose, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties will be notified in advance of the day they are to report to their county's water association office to complete their part of the agreement, Goode said.

Representatives of the water association and residents of the various townships will be available at the county water offices to help in answering questions relating to the massive four-county system and the individuals' water service.

Final plans for the nearly \$20 million project—which is believed to be the largest such project of its kind in the nation—are now being drawn by the water system's engineers, and construction on the project is expected to begin sometime this year.

Goode also announced that rates for the rural water system have been set by the

board of directors. "The many uncertainties that exist today, the rising costs and shortages of materials, have caused many problems in developing the financial structure and the rate schedule," Goode said. "It is obvious that both must reflect the present economic conditions, which we are all watching with an anxious eye."

Under the rate schedule, which has also been approved by the Farmers Home Administration—the principal lender in the project—the monthly costs of the water will be:

- up to 2,000 gallons: \$10.50 per month.
- 3,000 to 5,000: \$3 per 1,000 gallons.
- 5,000 to 10,000: \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons.
- 10,000 to 20,000: \$2 per 1,000 gallons.
- over 20,000: \$1.25 per 1,000 gallons.

For example, a water bill for 4,000 gallons in one month would be computed as follows: \$10.50 for the first 2,000 gallons; \$3 for each of the next 2,000 gallons; equalling \$16.50.

The minimum monthly charge will be \$10.50, he said, and users will be asked to pay at least this minimum for one year. After the one year, Goode said the users would then

be free to discontinue the water service if they wished.

Goode said that considerable time has been spent by the association's directors in developing the rate schedule. The directors, he said, "have been keeping in mind the need to keep the rates as low as possible and yet provide the necessary income to service the debt and meet the costs of operation and maintenance."

Goode said the association board realized that many questions will need to be answered for the water users in Monroe County and the other three project counties. But he urged every interested person here to take the time to go to the county water office and visit with an association representative.

The Monroe County office is located on the second floor of the Albia Post Office. The telephone number there is 932-7427.

No exact schedule for signing the easements and user's agreements has yet been drawn up for Monroe County. As title searches and easements are completed for each township here, residents of those townships will then be asked

Water

to come to the local office and complete the agreements.

A total of 10 townships in the four counties are presently completed and ready for signatures.

When the agreements are signed, users will then be asked to pay the membership and tap-on charge—which Goode said remain unchanged since the beginning of the preliminary design of the four-county project.

Goode said that officials of the water association had estimated the total cost for a water hook-up to be \$200, of which \$25 would be the membership fee and \$175 the

tap-on fee.

The membership fee would be refunded at some future date should a water user decide to discontinue his water service, Goode said. No individual user can hold more than one membership.

Goode said in most cases, users have already paid a \$20 subscription fee for each hook-up, thereby leaving a balance due of \$180, he said. For those users, both domestic and agricultural, who have subscribed for more than one water hook-up and paid the \$20 subscription fee on each, only \$155 additional will be due, he said.

Continued from page 1

Developers in the four-county region will be contacted individually during the sign-up period, he said.

Goode expressed his appreciation and that of the water board for the patience and cooperation shown by the hundreds of people participating in the rural water project.

"We hope that the health, the social and the economic benefits that this project will provide will be just reward," Goode said.

January 1974

Supervisors ok county road plans

Nearly \$1¼ million will be spent on the secondary road network in Monroe County during the present year, according to plans approved Wednesday by the Board of Supervisors.

The supervisors gave their approval to the 1974 secondary road budget and construction program. The plans and budget had previously been okayed by the Iowa Highway Commission.

The year's plans, prepared by County Engineer Ralph F. Sears, list total anticipated expenditures of about \$830,000 in local money and about \$370,000 from the farm-to-market road fund.

The 1974 construction plans include two major projects: the grading and surfacing of county road H-16 west from Lovilia for

three miles, and the start of construction on a yet to be selected route from Melrose south to the Appanoose County line.

The two projects are being paid for with farm-to-market funds.

The project near Lovilia was included in last year's road plans, but weather delays made it impossible for the grading contractor to complete his work last year, as had been planned. County officials said plans still call for the road to be graded this year and paved.

The Melrose project is still in the planning stages, with two possible routes for the road being considered by the Board of Supervisors. A public hearing on the two routes will be held early this year, county officials said, with a decision on the location of the route to be

made following the hearing.

Proposed routes for the road include one that would closely parallel county road S-70 after being relocated along the west edge of Melrose, north to Highway 34, and a second alternative that would include relocation of the road through Melrose before connecting with the county road on the south edge of the community.

Original plans called for grading the selected route in 1974, with paving to be completed the following year. However, Sears said delays will likely push the grading back to 1975 and the paving to 1976.

The 1974 work program also includes the construction of a new bridge and railroad crossing in sections 4 and 5 of Franklin Township, in the Tyrone

community.

The plans, Sears said, call for the relocation of the county road to the northeast of the community. A new bridge over Cedar Creek will replace the present one lane bridge, he said, and the relocation will also give improved sight distance at the Burlington Northern Railroad crossing.

Farm-to-market road money will be used to finance construction this year of a new bridge in section 16 of Franklin Township, and to grade, drain and surface one mile section of road between section 1 of Union Township and section 6 of Bluff Creek Township.

Two other locally funded projects include construction of a culvert flume and stilling basin in section 20 of Bluff Creek Township along the east side of Lake Miami.

Local money will also finance a number of roadside erosion control projects throughout the county, Sears said.

If funds are available, the engineer said two other bridges—one in section 14 of Cedar Township and the other in section 7 of Franklin Township—might be constructed.

The 1974 plans also call for the rocking of about 200 miles of gravel roads in the county, Sears said. Maintenance will also be done on the Hiteman road, he said.

Of the total road budget—excluding farm-to-market

New federal
cost-sharing plan
replaces REAP

Jan. 28, 1974

ASCS office to handle conservation program

The Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office will be responsible for administering the new 1974 Rural Environmental Conservation Program.

The new program, which replaces and modifies the old Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP), has several new aspects of interest to Monroe County residents.

According to officials of the county ASC committee, the new cost-sharing phase of the program could be extremely beneficial to farmers in Monroe County. It provides for a minimum of 50 per cent and a maximum of 75 per cent return to the user for all expenses he incurs—including labor costs—while establishing conservation or forestry

practices on his land.

Also under the 1974 program, an applicant can either elect to apply for a single one-year program of conservation improvements, or select a three to 10 year continuing program.

The extended period of time now allowed will be most beneficial to those wishing rather extensive conservation improvements on their land, but who prefer to spread them out over a period of years, ASC officials said.

All applications for RECP funds must be made directly to the Monroe County ASCS office, 10 Second Ave. W. Complete information and details about specific parts of the program will be available there in the near future.

Roads

Continued on Page 2

funds—construction will account for an estimated \$173,000, while maintenance will take another \$268,500. By comparison, the county's 1973 expenditures for these two big items were \$93,400 and \$317,000, respectively, Sears said.

The total local secondary road budget of some \$830,000 compares with 1973's

estimated total of \$813,500.

The 1974 road budget also includes \$85,000 for new equipment purchases, \$74,400 for engineering, \$63,500 for equipment maintenance; \$47,100 for operations expenses, \$52,800 for tools, materials and supplies; \$28,300 for administration costs; \$25,500 for road signing and snow removal; and \$9,000 for property assessment expenditures.

The revenue side of the 1974 secondary road budget indicates that Monroe County's share of the road use taxes will account for the bulk of the anticipated receipts. That total is estimated at about \$554,000.

Local taxes will bring about \$211,000 into the road fund while another \$57,000 will be received in resource conservation and development (RC&D) funds. Miscellaneous receipts are estimated at \$62,500.

The big question mark that

hangs over the county's road plans for 1974 is the effect the nationwide energy crisis will have.

Sears said the county has had no problems in obtaining gasoline and diesel fuel for its equipment during the past months, although the outlook for the future is unknown.

One possible stumbling block may be difficulties contractors have in getting adequate fuel supplies to carry out the projects in this year's construction plans, he said.

Still another offshoot from the energy crisis is the possible effect gasoline rationing may have on the amount of road use tax funds the county receives. The likely reduction in the sale of gas will also mean a reduction in road use money, since the funds come from taxes on gasoline sales.

But the exact effect is anybody's guess, state and county officials say.

Continued from page 1

Jan. 17, 1974

County's first township now ready for water signers

The signing of agreements and easements for the Rathbun rural water system will get underway in Monroe County next week.

Joe Hollinrake, chairman of the Monroe County Rural Water Association, said residents of Pleasant Township are being asked to report to the association's offices on Tuesday and Wednesday to complete their water users' agreements and easements.

The office, located on the second floor of the Albia Post Office, will be open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Hollinrake urged each rural water subscriber in the township to report to the water office sometime on either day and complete the necessary forms. By doing so, he said, subscribers can save the water association much time.

Hollinrake also said that officials of the Rathbun Regional Water Association will be on hand at the local water office to answer any questions. Pleasant Township residents may have about the planned water system.

"Even though you may think you do not want to complete your contract," he noted, "you owe it

to yourself to come in and become better informed."

At the time the user's agreements are signed, persons must pay the connection fee of \$175 and the membership fee of \$25. In most cases, however, \$20 of the \$200 total has already been paid, Hollinrake said.

Residents of the other townships in Monroe County will be asked at later dates to report to the water association's Albia office to sign their user's agreements and easements. As title searches and easements are completed for each township, residents there will be notified of the time they are to report.

Engineers are now drawing the final plans for the nearly \$20 million project. First contracts for the network of water mains are expected to be let later this year. Officials of the four-county association also are planning to award a contract yet this year on the large water treatment plant, to be constructed near Lake Rathbun.

When completed, the Rathbun system is expected to be the

largest multi-county rural water system in the nation.

Directors of the Rathbun association have adopted a schedule of monthly water rates that will be used when the system is placed in operation.

The minimum monthly charge—for up to 2,000 gallons—will be \$10.50. For the next 3,000 gallons, water users will be paying an additional \$3 per 1,000 gallons; while for 5,000 to 10,000 gallons each month, a user would be paying \$2.50 for each 1,000 gallons over the \$10.50 minimum.

The rate schedule also calls for a \$2 per 1,000 gallon charge on amounts over the first 2,000 gallons when between 10,000 and 20,000 gallons are used in a month. Customers using more than 20,000 gallons will have to pay \$1.25 per 1,000 gallons on all water over the minimum.

Under the terms of the water users agreement, customers will be asked to pay at least the \$10.50 monthly minimum for one year. After 12 months, users would then be free to continue the water service at the scheduled rates, or to discontinue the service.



Jan. 24, 1974

He was tops

Don Etcher, right, Monday night received the first annual Monroe County "Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year" award from the

Albia Rotary Club. Presenting the award were Henry Kolling, left, and John Botts, members of the Rotary's agriculture relations committee.

Jan. 21, 1974

To receive award from Rotarians

Etcher named outstanding farmer

A rural Lovilia dairyman, Donald Etcher, has been named Monroe County's "Outstanding Young Farmer for 1973" by the Albia Rotary Club.

The 29-year-old Etcher will be honored by the Rotarians at their meeting tonight at Swee's Family Restaurant. Etcher is the first recipient of what will be an annual Rotary award.

Etcher operates a 626-acre dairy farm in partnership with his father, Albert. Ninety-four head of Holstein cows are milked daily by Etcher, and the Grade A milk production there has been at 1.3 million pounds yearly.

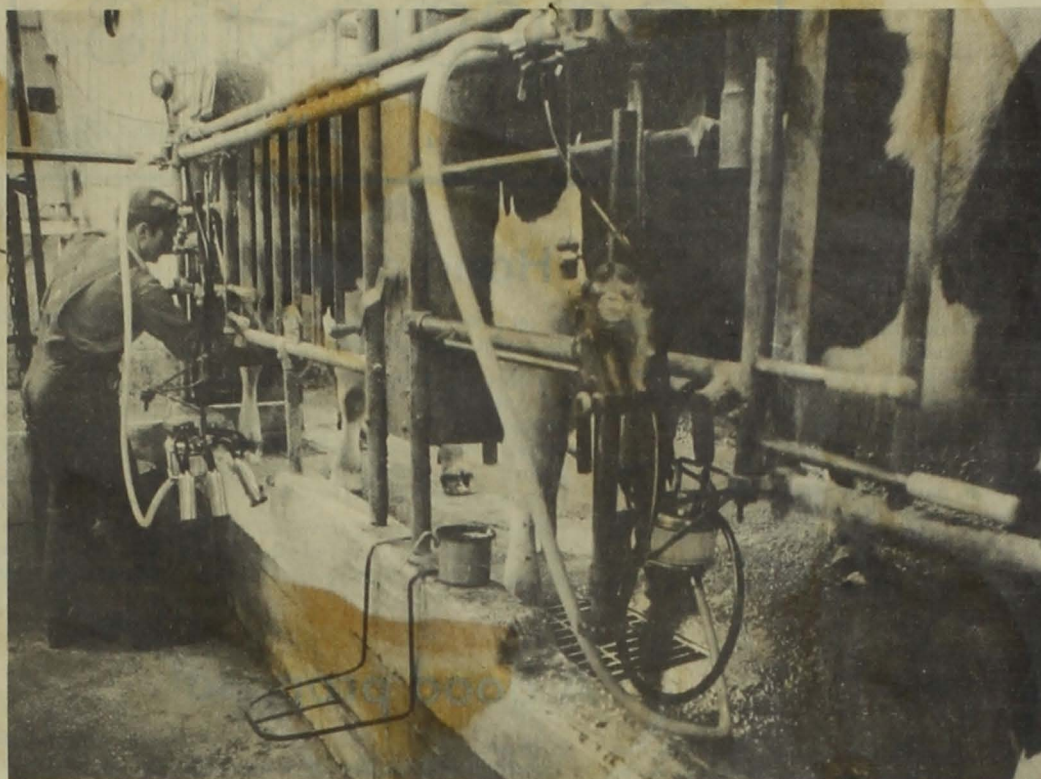
Etcher, who was also named as the "Outstanding Young Dairyman in Iowa" last year by the Iowa division of the Mid-America Dairymen's Cooperative, is a third generation dairy operator.

Following his graduation from Lovilia High School in 1962, he joined his father in the family dairy business, replacing his grandfather, Frank, who entered retirement.

But the younger Etcher has not spent all his time milking cows and hauling feed. Etcher and his wife, Barbara, are also involved in a number of community activities. They are youth counselors in their church, and 4-H leaders. Etcher is a Sunday school teacher, and is an assistant Sunday school superintendent. And he served three years on the board of directors of the Albia Community School District.

The Etchers' farming operation includes 356 acres in corn, soybeans and hay, 180 acres in improved pastureland, and 70 acres in woodland and wildlife habitat.

The upland that is not in pasture and hay is protected from erosion by using contouring and terraces, and much of the Etchers' bottomland is protected from runoff from the hills by



Donald Etcher at work in his 'office'

using diversion terraces. They have installed over 86,000 feet of drainage tile on the wet bottomland fields. And three farm ponds have been constructed to provide adequate water for the dairy cows. The Etchers' pastureland is fertilized and clipped each year to control weeds and brush.

Etcher credits the increased milk production of the family's dairy herd with the improvements that have come in the herd's blood lines through artificial insemination. He keeps careful records of the strengths and weaknesses of each cow, and breeds these animals artificially as a means to get desired

improvements in each cow.

Dairying is a family affair for the Etchers—and that's as it should be, Etcher says. Mrs. Etcher keeps many of the records, and the Etcher children assist in the milking operation.

The Etchers are parents of four children: Scott, 10; Sandy, 9; Steve, 8; and Shawn, 1½.

Etcher's father remains active in the management end of the dairy, while his grandfather—although retired—is still involved in operation of the weaning barn.

The elder Etcher began the family dairy business more than a half a century ago, later passing the major

responsibilities on to his son, Albert, who in turn has turned the operation over to Donald.

And someday, Donald says, the dairy will go to his sons, they they want to follow in their dad's footsteps. "This is what dad did for me, and this is what I want to do for the boys," Etcher noted.

Without such an opportunity to "work into" a farming operation, Etcher said it is impossible today for young people to begin farming careers. "Fifty years ago, a young man could have gone out and started a farm or dairy operation," Etcher explained. "But today, he

couldn't because of the great investment required. The interest would just eat him up."

But Don Etcher was not always sure dairying was what he wanted for a career. During his senior year at Lovilia High, Etcher took college entrance examinations. But in the end, being a "country boy at heart," he decided against a college career in favor of joining his father in partnership.

Etcher admits that he wouldn't enjoy being a city resident. "But a lot of people want to live in towns, and I'm glad they do. I'll furnish them the milk."

Goode resigns from commission

The Board of Supervisors Monday accepted the resignation of Ralph Goode as the county's representative on the Rathbun Regional Planning Commission.

In a letter to the board, Goode cited the increasing amount of time he is having to spend as chairman of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc. "Since the rural water planning and work is involving considerable time, I find it difficult to give sufficient time and thought to the planning group as it requires," Goode said.

A replacement for Goode was not named by the supervisors.

In other action Monday, the board approved an agreement with the Burlington Northern Railroad dealing with the planned relocation of a county road

in Tyrone over the railroad's tracks.

Reconstruction of the road, rail crossing and nearby bridge is scheduled to be completed this year.

The supervisors also:

—**approved 25 cent per hour pay increases** for Donna Post and Sharon Peterson, employees of the County Home;

—**agreed to allow claims** only once a month, instead of twice a month;

—**received 50 claims** totaling \$10,449 for deaths of livestock. The board agreed to pay about 27 per cent of each claim, since the dog license fund—where money for the claims is obtained—contains only about \$2,700;

—**rejected six other livestock death claims**, totaling about \$1,000, because they were improperly filed.

More than 35 Monroe Countyans have signed water users' agreements this week, the first week of the sign-up for the Rathbun rural water system. Pleasant Township residents Henry Fynaardt, center, and Mrs. Marjorie

(Mike) Galer, right, got a first hand look at plans for the four-county system during a conversation with Mrs. Luzon (John) Boths, of the water office staff. Mrs. Galer was the first in the county to sign her water user agreement.

Sign-up begins



Jan. 24, 1974

Jan. 24, 1974

Jan. 28, 1974

New federal
cost-sharing plan
replaces REAP

ASCS office to handle conservation program

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The new program, which replaces and modifies the old Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP), has several new aspects of interest to Monroe County residents.

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practices on his land.

Also under the 1974 program, an applicant can either elect to apply for a single one-year program of conservation improvements, or select a three to 10 year continuing program.

The extended period of time now allowed will be most beneficial to those wishing rather extensive conservation improvements on their land, but who prefer to spread them out over a period of years, ASC officials said.

All applications for RECP funds must be made directly to the Monroe County ASCS office, 10 Second Ave. W. Complete information and details about specific parts of the program will be available there in the near future.

Feb. 4, 1974

Livestock facilities meetings are slated

Planning livestock facilities will be the topic for a meeting for all Monroe County farmers this week.

The topic will be presented in a series of two meetings. The first will be held Thursday, from 1:15 to 4 p.m. in the basement of St. Mary's Church.

Ubbö Akena, state director of environmental quality, will discuss new pollution regulations for the farmer. Also, Soil Conservation Service representatives will discuss planning and managing a windbreak on a farm.

The second session will be held Feb. 14 from 1:15 to 4 p.m. at the church here. Cliff Iverson, area livestock specialist, will discuss swine facility layouts and beef facility layouts.

Gary M. Peterson, Monroe

County extension director said persons thinking of remodeling livestock facilities or constructing a new facility should not miss the Feb. 14 session.

Jan. 31, 1974

Goode stresses importance of early water sign-up here

The sign-up for rural water service in the four-county Lake Rathbun area is progressing "pretty well on schedule," Ralph Goode, chairman of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc. said today.

"It is very important that all users come in as soon as possible, as it appears we are still running a race with inflation," the Albion said. "The sooner all necessary papers—water user's agreements and easements—are signed, the sooner the system will be completed."

The sign-ups have thus

far been held in two Monroe County townships—Pleasant and Bluff Creek—and will be held at later dates in the remaining townships.

Goode emphasized that it is important for residents of the four-county area to keep in mind that the system will be designed for people who sign user's agreements now, and not for those that may sign up one year, two years, three or five years from now.

"The association hopes to provide service to everyone," Goode explained, "but it can only be done if most users sign up at this time. This is extremely true in the small towns where a large

number of potential users are concentrated, and only a few sign up at this time.

"The water line will only be sized to serve those who sign up now and for those that wish to come on a few years from now," he continued, "the line size will not be nearly adequate to serve them."

McGrath to RC&D office

March 12, 1974

William F. McGrath was re-elected chairman of the Monroe County Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) steering committee during the group's annual meeting Monday.

Ollie Kaldenburg was again named vice chairman of the committee.

The steering committee is responsible for initiating resource conservation and development projects in the county. Such projects have included roadside erosion control work around Miami Lake, and development of a countywide plan for roadside seeding and erosion control.

Taking office at Monday's meeting was George Mackey, newly appointed representative for the county. Other members of the committee include Gary Belzer, Ray Davis, and Ralph Goode.

Feb. 7, 1974

Conservation planning offers farmers a valuable service

If you are a farmer or other landowner who hasn't been involved in the soil and water conservation movement, there's a good chance you are missing out on a valuable service, one Monroe County farmer has declared.

That service, according to Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, is the development of a long-range conservation plan for your entire farm.

"A good plan will help you get the maximum production out of your land," Kaldenberg said, "and at the same time keep soil losses within limits of Iowa law."

The completed conservation plan includes soil and planning maps of an individual's farm, an outline of plans for land treatment and conservation, and suggestions from a Soil Conservation Service conservationist.

The plan also includes information on fertilizer requirements of a person's soils and other management guides.

The conservation plan is prepared free of charge by the SCS, but the service must be formally requested from the county's Soil Conservation District, Kaldenberg said.

About 670 farmers—75 per cent of all farmers in Monroe County—have requested the planning service, he said.

Kaldenberg said John Frieden, district conservationist, and John Botts, conservation technician, will assist farmers in Monroe County in planning and laying out conservation practices. "These men and the farmer go over the entire farm to look for erosion problems and alternative solutions," he explained. "They might suggest several good sites for a pond or tile outlet terrace, for example."

This examination would give a farmer a chance to learn about the different kinds of conservation treatments that are available, he said.

"You make all the decisions, and can change your plan at anytime," Kaldenberg said. "Or, if you ever wanted to, you could cancel your plan completely."

"We would like to see everyone in the county develop a plan that would assure future generations of a productive soil and a beautiful countryside," Kaldenberg declared.

"And the way to have this is for farmers to plan conservation for their entire farm, rather than put in treatment in a hit-and-miss fashion," he continued.

The offices of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District and the Soil Conservation Service are located jointly on the second floor of the Albia Post Office.

off
the
cuff



By GARY M. PETERSON
Monroe County extension director

(Guest columnist this week is John Frieden, district conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service in Monroe County.)

PLANNING WINDBREAKS

A windbreak is a narrow belt of trees planted to give a farmstead protection from winter winds. In addition to protecting the farmstead, a well planned windbreak will add beauty and value to your farm, hold the snow, provide shelter and food for wildlife, reduce traffic noise and hold the soil and water.

Cooperators in the more than 3,000 soil and water conservation districts in the United States with technical assistance from the U.S.D.A.'s Soil Conservation Service, plant more than 4,000 miles of windbreaks annually.

THE PROTECTION that a windbreak gives your farmstead can be seen when the fuel needed for winter heating is cut by as much as one-third. Even more value can be seen after a snow storm. The snow will be between or near the rows of trees. It will reduce the drifting around your buildings, lots and driveways.

A good, well-planned windbreak may mean the difference between death and survival for the many game birds, such as the pheasant and quail. Other forms of wildlife receive food and shelter as well. This makes no difference if in the country of the city. These windbreaks will contain both evergreens and flowering shrubs which add beauty to your farmstead. Traffic noise can be reduced 50 per cent by planting a barrier of trees in

the form of a windbreak.

To obtain these benefits, care should be taken in planning your windbreak. Select a site so it will be on the north and west sides of the farmstead, since this protects from the prevailing winter winds which are from the northwest.

Since the windbreak will be a permanent or long time improvement, buildings, future building sites, slope of land and drainage patterns should be considered when selecting the location. A good rule of thumb is to place a windbreak between 100 and 300 feet from your home.

SELECTING THE species is very important. The kind of trees to plant will depend largely on the location and the soils, and more than one species should be planted. This will allow the windbreak to still function properly if one species is lost from disease or insects. A few species that are recommended in this area are: white pine, red pine, Douglas fir, Norway spruce, blue spruce, Austrian pine, Scotch pine, Russian olive, ninebark, honeysuckle, and autumn olive.

A well-planned windbreak will consist of at least three rows of two of these trees—evergreens preferred—and one row of flowering shrubs. Recommended row spacings for evergreens are from 12 to 20 feet apart with trees 12 to 18 feet apart in the row. Spacing of shrubs are 2 to 4 feet in the row, with rows 12 to 16 feet from the tree rows. Trees that do not survive the first year should be replaced the next planting season.

The earlier, the better (March to April) in the spring is the best time for planting. At this time trees are still dormant and moisture conditions are better, allowing for better survival. Fall planting, for this area, is not recommended.

ONCE TREES are planted, they MUST be protected from livestock, rodents, pets, poultry, etc. This may mean a fence will have to be provided to protect the plants.

Weed control is most important in the establishment of your windbreak. Chemicals such as Simazine, are often the easiest and most effective means of controlling weeds. Remember to always follow label directions when using chemicals.

Additional information and technical assistance in planning your windbreak can be obtained from the Monroe County Soil Conservation District office, second floor, Albia Post Office building.

Feb. 14, 1974

Ray heads groundbreakers for new Rathbun Hatchery

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the multi-million dollar Rathbun Fish Hatchery will be held March 21, and Gov. Robert D. Ray will head the list of state officials who will be on hand for the festivities.

Preliminary construction has already begun on the first phase of the hatchery project, and when completed it will be the largest intensive warm water fish hatchery in the world.

The groundbreaking is scheduled to start at 4 p.m., with personnel from the Iowa Conservation Commission to join with Ray and officials of the four-county Rathbun Lake Association. Following the groundbreaking, a dinner will be held in Rathbun.

The hatchery—which is expected to be in partial operation later this year—is being constructed on a 300-acre site below Rathbun Dam on land leased from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Iowa Legislature has already appropriated about \$2 million from conservation trust funds to finance construction of the first phase of the hatchery. The natural resources appropriations subcommittee of the House last week gave its approval to a \$1.8 million appropriation from the state general fund to complete financing for the massive hatchery. The bill now goes to the House appropriations committee, after which it still must be acted upon by

the entire House and Senate.

When completed sometime next year, the Rathbun hatchery will be able to annually produce about one million channel catfish, along with about 10,000 muskies, 200,000 striped bass, and about 32 million walleye fry. Fish produced at the hatchery will be stocked into lakes and reservoirs across the state.

Water for the hatchery will be taken from Lake Rathbun at a rate of 10,000 gallons per minute. It will be purified and then warmed before being circulated through the 20 fish rearing ponds that will make up the massive hatchery complex.

The total cost of the hatchery is estimated at \$3.8 million.

The first phase of the project, which is being done by Connor Brothers Construction Co. of Sigourney, includes grading the site, and the construction of eight rearing ponds, two pollution control ponds, three residences for hatchery personnel, and the first wing of the hatchery building. Completion of the first phase is expected to come later this fall.

The second phase will include completion of the hatchery building, construction of a visitors center, and construction of 12 more rearing ponds.

Conservation Commission officials are estimating that more than 300,000 persons will visit the hatchery each year.

March 4, 1974

Soils banquet Tuesday

March 25, 1974

Wayne Scholtes, professor of soils and forestry at Iowa State University in Ames, will be the speaker at the bi-annual awards banquet of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District Tuesday.

The banquet will be at 7 p.m. at the First Christian Church. Tickets at \$3 per person can be obtained from soils commissioners.

The Albia Rotary Club will be presenting conservation awards to three persons and two individuals will be named as master corn and soybean growers for 1973.

All eligible voters in the county can vote for persons for two six-year terms as district commissioners, Lloyd Clark and DeWayne Johnson are the incumbents.



Wayne Scholtes

March 11, 1974

Conservation awards to be given

The biannual awards banquet of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District will be held in Albia on March 25.

The banquet will get under way at 7 p.m. in the basement of the First Christian Church, according to Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Soil Conservation District's commissioners. Kaldenberg encouraged residents of Monroe County to attend and learn more about the conservation programs that are being carried on in the county.

Tickets for the dinner are \$3 each, and can be purchased from Kaldenberg or the other conservation district commissioners.

During the evening, the district, along with the Albia Rotary Club, will be



Wayne Scholtes

presenting conservation awards to three persons. Two other persons will be honored as the county's 1973 master

corn and soybean growers.

Also scheduled is the election of two persons to serve six-year terms as commissioners for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. The seats are presently held by Lloyd Clark and DeWayne Johnson.

Delivering the address at the banquet will be Wayne H. Scholtes, professor of soils and forestry at Iowa State University.

Scholtes, a native of Iowa, has been on the staff of the Ames school since 1950. Previously, he worked as a forester and soils scientist with the Lake States Forest Experiment Station in Wisconsin, the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Indian Service, and with the U.S. Soil

Conservation Service.

Scholtes has twice been named as "professor of the year" in the ISU College of Agriculture, the first faculty member to receive the honor on two occasions. He has also been named as a fellow of the American Society of Agronomy.

He is a member of the Soil Science Society of America, the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Conservation Society of America, Iowa Academy of Science.

Members of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District's board of commissioners include Kaldenberg, Johnson, Clarke, William F. McGrath, Raymond Vance, Lloyd Morgan and Albert Etcher.

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL CONSERVATION STATE OF IOWA
NOTICE OF ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE MONROE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT, ENCOMPASSING LANDS LYING IN THE COUNTY OF MONROE IN THE STATE OF IOWA.

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

Notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of March, 1974, between the hours of 3:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M., an election will be held for the election of commissioners for the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

polling place for the election are as follows: First Christian Church basement.

Eligible voters residing within the district shall cast their ballots at one of the polling places. Eligible voters who will be absent from the district on the day of election, may apply in person, or in writing, to the County Auditor at Albia, Iowa, for "Absentee Ballots". Each applicant for an absentee ballot shall state his name and address when application for such ballot is made.

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL CONSERVATION
By Donald L. Johnson
Chairman, State Soil Conservation Committee
Department of Soil Conservation
March 14, 21

Groundbreaking is Thursday on massive Rathbun Hatchery

Gov. Robert Ray will break ground Thursday afternoon for the massive Rathbun Fish Hatchery.

The ceremony will be held at the hatchery site below Rathbun Dam, beginning at 4 p.m. Other dignitaries participating in the program will include John Link, a

member of the Iowa Conservation Commission, Fred A. Prievert, director of the commission, and officials of the Rathbun Lake Association.

When completed next year, the \$3.8 million project will be the world's largest intensive warm water fish hatchery.

The Rathbun facility will annually be able to produce about one million channel catfish, along with about 10,000 muskies, 200,000 striped bass, and about 32 million walleye fry.

Fish produced at the hatchery will be stocked into lakes, ponds and reservoirs across Iowa.

The hatchery is being constructed by the Conservation Commission on a 300-acre site below the dam on land being leased by the state from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The hatchery complex will eventually include 20 fish rearing ponds, pollution control facilities, a visitors center, an elaborate hatchery building, and residences for hatchery personnel. Water from Lake Rathbun will be purified and warmed before being circulated through the rearing ponds at a rate of 10,000 gallons per minute.

More than 300,000 persons a year are expected to visit the hatchery and tour its facilities.

March 19, 1974

Monday, March 25, 1974



Ground breaking viewers

State and area officials Thursday broke ground on the new \$3.8 million Rathbun Fish Hatchery. Among the participants in the ceremony were Gov. Robert Ray, Iowa Conservation Commission Director

Fred Prievert, and Rathbun Lake Association Pres. Robert Beck. An Iowa Conservation Commissioner, John G. Link, above addresses the large crowd that was on hand for the ground

breaking. When completed late next year, the hatchery will be the largest and most modern fish producing facility in the world.

\$100,000 available locally for farm conservation work

April 4, 1974

April 15, 1974

More than \$100,000 will be available to farmers in Monroe County this year to fund conservation projects on their farms.

The money is available under the state cost-sharing program, now in its second year, and under two federal programs, the Rural Environmental Conservation Program (RECP) and the Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP).

Farmers can receive up to 75 per cent of the cost of installing certain conservation practices—including establishment of permanent

vegetation cover, planting trees, and construction of water impoundment reservoirs, terrace systems and diversions.

The state program will be administered by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, and about \$10,000 will be available locally to share the cost with farmers for four conservation practices: terraces, erosion control structures, diversions and grassed waterways.

The state financed program will provide up to 25 per cent cost-sharing.

The Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASCS) committee is administering the two federal programs in the county. A total of \$34,000 has been allocated here for the new RECP, and \$69,000 will be available to farmers under the reinstated REAP.

Cost-sharing under the two programs can be up to 50 per cent of the total cost.

Mary Ellen Anderson, executive director of the Monroe County ASCS, said the 1974 RECP includes provisions for long-term conservation agreements in which farmers will be allowed to complete installation of conservation practices on their farms over a period of three to 10 years.

The long-term agreement involves farmers having conservation plans developed with the aid of the Soil Conservation Service, and signing a contract to have the plan implemented over the three to 10 year period in return for the guarantee of federal cost-sharing for 50 per cent of the total cost.

John Frieden, district conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service, said the long-term agreements will provide farmers with a guarantee that the federal government will continue to provide cost-

sharing funds for conservation work, even though the federal programs providing such money may be eliminated at some time in the future. Farmers, however, would be bound by the contract to carry out the plans.

The conservation plans on which long-term agreements are to be based must be approved by the Soil Conservation Service, Mrs. Anderson said.

Farmers making requests for the long-term program have been asked to bring their farm conservation plans with them to the ASCS office. Applications for the long-term agreements will be accepted only during the month of April, she said.

Cost-sharing under the reinstated REAP also covers a number of other conservation practices, including seeding, development of facilities for livestock water, liming and clearing of competitive shrubs.

Officials of the Soil Conservation District and the ASCS said farmers can receive cost-sharing on 75 per cent of approved

projects—50 per cent from the federal government and 25 per cent from the state government.

Frieden said those farmers who were approved last year through the state program but who didn't start implementation of their conservation practices can cancel their existing agreement—which was for 50 per cent cost-sharing—and sign up this year for both the federal and state programs, thereby gaining cost-sharing on an additional 25 per cent of the total.

This provision will allow farmers to get more conservation work done this year on a cost-sharing basis, Frieden said.

Officials of the two departments encouraged local farmers interested in the cost-sharing programs to contact either the Soil Conservation District office or the county ASCS office for further information and application procedures.

Requests for cost-sharing must be filed with the appropriate department before work can be started on any conservation practice.

McGrath again heads agency

William McGrath of Melrose was named chairman and James Cooper of Chariton was elected vice chairman during the recent organizational meeting of the executive committee of the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency.

Others elected at the meeting, held in Albia, were Art Streepy of Centerville, secretary; and George Buoy of Corydon, comptroller.

McGrath appointed Cooper to head the service agency's liquid waste committee; Vern Vogel will be chairman of the rural fire committee; and Bernard Aulwes will direct the solid waste committee.

The executive committee voted to back the experimental coal mining project being proposed by Gov. Robert Ray. Said McGrath, "The board felt this program was vital to the area and that they should help in promoting and developing this idea as much as possible."

The services agency was organized last year to study and implement services needed and desired by residents of the four-county Lake Rathbun area. The first service, that of solid waste collection and disposal, is expected to be in operation later this year.

May 9, 1974

Melrose girl wins soil speech contest

Judy Williams, a freshman at Albia High School, Monday earned the right to advance into the district soil conservation speech contest to be held later this summer in Ottumwa.

Miss Williams, of route 2, Melrose, won the \$10 first prize in the Monroe County contest which was sponsored by the local soil conservation district.

She was the lone entry in the contest which was open to students in grades seven through 12.

The topic for the 1974 contest is "Land Use Policy: A Pattern for Prosperity." The speech contest is sponsored in Iowa by the women's auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co.

May 16, 1974

Stewardship week to begin Sunday

Soil Stewardship Week, a nationwide observance which emphasizes man's responsibility to protect and conserve soil, water and other natural resources, will be held May 19 to 26, according to Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

This year's theme, "A Different Place," emphasizes "how the many changes now occurring in the nation affect our continuing responsibility to be good stewards of the land," Kaldenberg said.

He cited the energy crisis, environmental pollution and the growing concern over land use as examples of changes and developments

affecting the use of America's natural resources.

"We hope," Kaldenberg said, "that during Soil Stewardship Week that Monroe County residents will pause for a moment to consider their responsibilities for the protection and use of the Lord's earth."

Among the local churches that are scheduling special stewardship services are the Trinity United Methodist, First Christian, St. Paul's Lutheran, Grace Episcopal, St. Mary's Catholic, St. Patrick's Catholic and St. Peter's Catholic.

Members of the soil stewardship committee in Monroe County are Raymond Vance, Lloyd Clark and DeWayne Johnson.

May 2, 1974

Soils speech contest here on Monday

Junior and senior high school students from Monroe County will be eligible to compete Monday in the Soil Conservation Speech Contest, sponsored locally by the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The contest will be at 3:30 p.m. Monday in Room 32 at the Albia High School. The 1974 topic is "Land Use Policy—A Pattern for Prosperity".

Winners will compete on a regional basis and the regional winner will advance to the state contest. \$925 in prizes is being awarded in the contests by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company.

Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the county district, in commenting on efforts to recognize Resource Conservation Week in Iowa, pointed out that "We grow our food on it, build our homes on it, and get much of our fun and relaxation from it. In short, our lives depend on it. Yet we continue to lose soil at an average rate of 13 tons per acre per year on Iowa cropland. It's enough to build a six-foot wide, 1 foot deep bicycle path from here to the moon."

"This soil erosion is doubly serious because the lost topsoil not only reduces food output but clogs reservoirs, road ditches, streams and lakes."

Persons wanting help in protecting their land can call on the Monroe County Soil Conservation District for help, he added.

June 10, 1974

Air tour June 22

Monroe County farmers will have a chance to see their farms from the air and observe the condition and progress of this year's crop as part of an airplane tour sponsored by the First Iowa State Bank and the Monroe County Soil Conservation District.

The tour will be held Saturday, June 22 as part of the observance of Soil Conservation Week.

Farmers who want to take the tour at a specific time will be scheduled as closely as possible according to the tour sponsors.

Reservations for the tour should be in to the county SCD office by Friday, Ollie Kaldenberg, district chairman, said today.

Sign-up deadline is July 10

Rural water in '75 seen

A key date in the development of the massive four-county rural water system is July 10, and officials of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc. are reminding area residents desiring rural water service that they must sign up by that date.

And for the first time, official indications when the water system is expected to be placed in operation were given by association representatives.

Ralph Goode of Albia, chairman of the association, said in an announcement today, "Those people who have signed up by July 10 can reasonably expect to have water service in late 1975."

According to Goode, the association is scheduled to advertise for bids on the large distribution mains and the storage facilities by Sept. 1, with contracts to be awarded by Oct. 17. The additional service lines will be bid six weeks later, he indicated.

The sign-up of water association members and the collection of hook-up fees is "lagging somewhat" in some areas of Appanoose, Lucas,

Monroe and Wayne Counties, Goode pointed out.

Said Goode, "It is the board's hope that this will improve in this last week of regular sign-up." He warned residents of the Rathbun area that it is essential that the sign-up be completed and governmental regulations for the project to be met by July 10.

Otherwise, he said, "Construction will be delayed or dropped in those areas that do not have the necessary requirements for construction."

In Monroe County, about 775 persons have signed up for rural water service, a total about 75 per cent of those who originally indicated an interest in rural water. Officials of the Monroe County Rural Water Association, Inc. said today.

Prior to July 10, the hook-up fee and membership fee will total \$200, Goode said, from which a \$20 credit will be accepted if a subscription fee was paid previously.

After next week's deadline, Goode said new applications for

rural water service will be subject to approval by the board of directors of the association, based on the availability of water at particular locations.

The cost of the hook-up fee will increase after July 10, Goode has stated, because of additional engineering work which would be incurred in designing extra persons into the four-county water system.

In today's announcement, Goode expressed pleasure with the decision by the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency to make application for funding to construct the maximum amount of rural fire protection into the rural water system.

Said Goode, "The water association can do very little in providing fire protection to rural patrons, but with the participation of the regional services agency, rural fire protection can be maximized. This will add considerably to the benefits the signer will derive

Water

Continued on Page 2

over

July 8, 1974

Soil scientist assigned here

A soil scientist has been assigned to the Albia office of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Gary Lindgren, a Stanton native, last week began his duties here. He will also be working in Davis, Clarke, Decatur and Ringgold Counties.

Lindgren has been with the SCS for the past three years, and has been assigned to Soil Conservation Service offices in West Union and Elkader.

Lindgren's duties here will include identifying soil types on specific tracts of land and showing the location of these soils on aerial photo maps. He will also be able to make recommendations on whether particular types of soils are suited for planned uses of individual tracts of land.

He will be preparing soil maps for those farms in the five county area that previously have not been



Gary Lindgren

mapped.

Lindgren earned his bachelor of science degree in agronomy in 1970 from Iowa State University.

He and his wife, the former Linda Anderson of Monroe County, are living southeast of Albia. They are parents of a two-year-old son.

July 8, 1974

Thank You

We, the commissioners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation district wish to extend our appreciation to those who participated in the air tour.

We want to thank, also, the First Iowa State Bank for their support and cooperation.

We're extremely grateful.

Monroe County
Soil Conservation District

July 8, 1974

Speech contest set for Friday

Judy Williams will be representing the Monroe County Soil Conservation District Friday in the Region 9 conservation speech contest to be held in Ottumwa.

Miss Williams advanced into the regional competition after winning the local soil conservation speech contest earlier this year.

The annual contest is sponsored statewide by the Association of Conservation District Commissioners.

July 8, 1974

Conservation art contest is set locally

Monroe County artists are being encouraged to enter the annual social conservation art contest, being sponsored at the Monroe County 4-H and FFA Fair by the county's Soil Conservation District.

Artists of all ages are eligible to enter the competition. The theme for this year's contest is "Conservation in Rural America."

Entries are to be about 20-by-24 inches and are to be mounted. Artists can use oil paints, pastels, watercolors, pencil, pen and ink and charcoal in preparing their entries.

The Conservation District will present a \$25 first prize, \$15 for second place and \$10 for the third place winner.

Entries are to be brought to the Conservation District's booth at the fairgrounds on Aug. 5. Judging will take place the following day.

Aug. 12, 1974

Mrs. Daub wins soil art contest

Mrs. Lee Daub won the \$25 first prize in the Monroe County Soil Conservation District's art contest, held last week in conjunction with the Monroe County 4-H and FFA Fair.

Finishing second in the contest was Mrs. Dortha Asher. Mrs. Asher and Bruce Lindberg also tied for third place.

The theme of this year's art contest was "Conservation in Rural America."

Jeff Sullivan of Albia and Jean Hollinrake of Lovilia won two transistor radios given away by the conservation district during drawings at the fair.

July 15, 1974

Aerial mapping completed in 11-county Iowa region

An atlas of planning and management maps of an 11-county region in south central Iowa was presented by the Iowa Geological Survey during a recent meeting in Centerville.

The atlas is the first step toward collection of comprehensive planning information on a regional and statewide basis for Iowa. The study was conducted using satellites and aircraft to map current land uses in Monroe County and the other 10 counties in the 11-county region.

Land use information was coupled with information on mineral resources, forest lands, water resources, and highly productive soils to produce maps of critical planning areas.

The effort for the first time incorporated economic and sociological information with information on the

natural characteristics of the landscape.

The project was funded under a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior to the Iowa Geological Survey's remote sensing laboratory in Iowa City.

Used in the study was the Earth Resources Technology Satellite (ERTS) while orbits the earth at an altitude of 575 statute miles. Also used in making the study were NASA U-2 flights, flown at 71,000 feet and used to map land use.

Throughout the project, IGS personnel met with area representatives on the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development executive board, Extension directors, district conservationists, state Conservation Commission personnel, and officials of the Rathbun Lake Association, the Rathbun Regional

The Monroe County News

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Albia, Iowa 52531
Monday
July 15, 1974

Planning Commission and county and municipal governments in the area.

Copies of the atlas produced during the study are available at the public libraries in the four Rathbun region county seats.

June 24, 1974



Air tour Saturday

More than 60 Monroe County farmers got an opportunity to view their farms from the air in a tour sponsored Saturday by the First Iowa State Bank and the Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Henry Fynaardt, Pleasant Township farmer, is shown boarding the plane. Raymond Davis, executive vice president of the bank is at right.

Al-Mon-Co Community Builders

This page is sponsored regularly by Albia and Monroe County business and professional leaders, promoting that which makes this community a better place for each of us.

No. 168 in a series.

AUTOMOBILE DEALERS

Albia Motor Company
Roy Brooke Motor Co.
Dues Chevrolet Co.

BANKS

First Iowa State Bank
Peoples National Bank

CLEANERS

Iowa Cleaners

CLOTHING

Williams Clothing Co.
Loeb's

CONTRACTORS

Della Vedova Bros. Const. Co.

DEPARTMENT STORES

Gambles
J. C. Penney Co.

DRUG STORES

Hess Drug Store
Newton Rexall Drug

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

Kraber Electric

ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER

Albia Light & Railway Co.
Chariton Valley Electric Coop.

FUNERAL HOMES

Geyer-Lewis Funeral Home
Humeston Funeral Home
Downs-Theulen Funeral Home

FURNITURE

Gambles
Humeston's
Mick Furniture & Appliance

GAS—Natural

Iowa Southern Utilities Co.

GIFTS

Davis Paint Store
Duncan Book Store

GROCERS

Hy-Vee Food Store
Albia Super Valu

HARDWARE

Western Auto Store

INSURANCE

Woodcock Insurance

NEWSPAPERS

The Monroe County News
The Albia Union-Republican

PAINTS & WALLPAPER

Davis Paint Store
Duncan Book Store

PLUMBING & HEATING

Shroyer Plumbing & Heating

SHOES

Ralph N. Ewers Store
The Shoe Box

TELEPHONE

United Telephone Co. of Iowa

TIRES

Oehler Bros. Firestone

WOMEN'S APPAREL

Loeb's
Teitel's
Gambles

Coming Events—

July 4—A legal holiday, all business places closed.
July 17—Sidewalk Day in Albia.



Conservation Farming

A Concern for the Future

Monroe County this year observes 30 years of Soil Conservation, 30 years of caring and preserving for future generations.

Heavy rainfalls and the resulting damage this spring have made the use of soil conservation measures even more imperative and their lack even more evident.

Today's farms in Monroe County boast 1530 farm ponds, 123,540 feet of parallel terracing, 1,195,225 feet of gradient terracing, 496,994 feet of diversion terracing, 15,872 acres of contouring, 117 grade

stabilization structures, and 1,091 acres of waterways.

Just figures? Perhaps, but figures which indicate Monroe County farmers are showing a responsible concern for the land which is ours. They're concerned about future generations.

And with three out of four farmers in the district cooperating with the Monroe County Soil Conservation District the future of our land is in good hands.



Ray names McGrath to DOT position

July 1, 1974

William F. (Bill) McGrath, 46, Melrose farmer and a member of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, was today named to Iowa's new Department of Transportation.

Gov. Robert D. Ray announced the appointment of McGrath and the six other members of the new commission in a press conference this morning in Des Moines.

The department was a top Ray priority in the last General Assembly and under the legislation it is given broad authority to develop transportation policies for the state of Iowa. Eventually it will bring all of Iowa's transportation agencies into one unit.

In making the announcements this morning the governor said, "This new commission faces a giant task . . . one no person can reasonably expect will be finished in a matter of months or even years.

"We have heard talk and debate about the need for improvement in the field of transportation in Iowa . . . for a wider use of transportation resources and for a delineation of options available. I am pleased with the diversity of the knowledge we have in these seven commissioners.

"Today's frustrations in transportation will not vanish overnight because of the new state commission," Ray said. "Nor will all of the problems be solved overnight. This we know.

"But we also know that because of what we begin today the future of transportation in Iowa is more promising now than it has been before."

Included in Ray's appointments are three members of the present Iowa Highway Commission which is scheduled to continue one more year during a phase-in period for the new commission.

These include New Hampton banker Robert Rigler, 51; Coon Rapids farmer-businessman Steve Garst, 47; and Harry Reed, 47, of Winterset, an automobile dealer.

The new legislation also called for appointing one member of the Iowa Aeronautics Commission to the new DOT board. Ray selected Mrs. Ann Pellegrino, 37, of rural Story City, for the new post.

Three other Iowans not presently serving on state boards were also named by Ray to the transportation commission. These included McGrath; Allan Thoms, 36, mayor of Dubuque; and Stanley Schoelerman, 50, Spencer livestock buyer and chairman of the transportation committee of the National Cattlemen's Association.

Initial terms of the seven commissioners will be staggered with four-year terms for Rigler and Schoelerman; three-year terms for Garst and Reed; two-year terms for Pellegrino and McGrath and a one-year term for Thoms. Subsequent appointments will be for four years.

Commission members will receive \$40 per diem when in session. Reed, Rigler, Schoelerman, and McGrath are Republicans. Thoms and Garst are Democrats. Mrs. Pellegrino is an independent.



William McGrath

Rigler, a former state senator and state majority leader, is president of the Security State Bank of New Hampton. He is a Ray appointee to the Iowa Highway Commission, beginning service on that board in 1971.

Reed, an officer in Reed Motors, Inc. was also named by Ray to the Iowa Highway Commission in 1971.

Garst, president of the Garst Co., of Cedar Rapids, has been a highway commissioner since 1968.

Mrs. Pellegrino, 37, recently named to the Iowa Aeronautics Commission, is an author-lecturer and housewife. She is a licensed commercial pilot and in 1967 traced the route of Amelia Earhart in a 30th anniversary solo flight around the world.

Schoelerman is a partner of Peterson Sheep and Cattle Co., Inc., of Spencer, and also serves as chairman of the transportation committee for the National Cattlemen's Association.

McGrath, who farms near Melrose, is chairman of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors and chairman of the four-county Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency. He is also on the executive board and chairman of the four-county Chariton Valley Resource, Conservation and Development Project Committee.

Thoms, an officer in the Dubuque Bank and Trust Co., was elected mayor of Dubuque in 1973 after two years service on the Dubuque City Council.

The appointments are subject to Senate confirmation.

July 11, 1974

Officials put county's 1974 soil losses at estimated 578,000 tons

Heavy rains this year in Monroe County have washed an estimated 578,000 tons of topsoil from farm fields into streams and ditches in the county.

That estimate comes from John Frieden, soil conservationist in Monroe County with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. Despite the severity of the county's soil losses, Frieden said conservation practices already in use by many farmers in the county prevented the erosion this year from being even worse.

Because between 60 and 70 per cent of the farm land in Monroe County is in grasses and pastures, the county has been more fortunate than many in the state in escaping extremely severe soil erosion this year, he said.

However, Frieden pointed out that nearly 58,000 acres of land here that is being row cropped this year has already suffered soil losses of 10 tons or more per acre—a total that is more than twice the amount of acceptable soil loss for an entire year from a single acre.

In isolated fields in the county, Frieden estimated that soil losses have been as high as 40 to 50 tons per acre.

By comparison, fields in some parts of the state have been estimated to have lost nearly 100 tons of topsoil per acre thus far this year, a loss that measures about one-third of an inch per acre.

According to the conservationist, an "acceptable" soil loss in Monroe County varies from between 4 and 5 tons per acre in a year. At such a level of erosion, he said, soil is still able to rebuild itself and replace the lost topsoil.

"But if you exceed that limit," he declared, "it's a losing battle and you are just throwing the soil down the drain."

Many farmers in Monroe County may not be aware of the extent of the erosion on their land, Frieden said, since an acceptable loss of 4 or 5 tons per acre in a year is only about 1.32nd of an inch thick over a square acre.

"When they see a big gully advancing each year, they notice this erosion," he explained. "But if it's just a thin sheet over an entire field, it's not as noticeable, although the soil loss may be the same."

"But whether they notice it or not, the erosion is still there," he said.

What may be a thin sheet of erosion now will continue to worsen until gulleys begin to form in fields, Frieden said, unless proper conservation practices are begun.

The lack of concern by some farmers for the soil losses puzzles Frieden. "I imagine if you went out and asked to buy a ton of a farmer's topsoil it would be quite expensive. But sometimes he thinks nothing about filling up a whole grader ditch full of it."

Frieden noted, however, that more farmers are seeking help from the SCS and the Monroe County Soil Conservation District in planning soil conservation work on their land, and the heavy rains of the past two years is one of the main reasons for the increased interest.

The solution to erosion problems is not the same for all fields in Monroe County, he said, and elaborate terrace systems and erosion control structures may not be needed to solve all soil loss problems.

With the soil types found in Monroe County, Frieden said a "good percentage" of the land that is row cropped needs to have tile-outlet terraces installed if it is to be continuously cropped year after year.

But there are other possible solutions that could reduce the volume of soil loss, he pointed out. A shorter crop rotation system could increase the amount of time that land is in meadow and the use of contour cropping could have an effect on soil loss.

But Frieden noted that the best soil conservation practice on cropland is the tile-outlet terrace. Terraces in the past have not been well accepted by farmers because of the inconvenience caused by the old style contour terraces.

The newer terraces, however, are laid parallel and are designed to fit modern farm machinery, allowing farmers to economically crop the land being terraced. A side benefit of the tile-outlet

Conservation

Continued on Page 2

terraces, Frieden noted, is that land that previously was taken out of production for grassed waterways for contour terraces is now being left in production with tile-outlet terraces which carry away runoff water through underground tiles instead of along grassed waterways.

Among the other major conservation practices in use in Monroe County are erosion control structures, waterways and ponds.

Another factor in the increased interest in conservation work this year is the availability of state and federal money for cost-sharing on

soil saving practices.

Frieden estimated that about \$70,000 in conservation work will be obligated during 1974. Funds are available to farmers from the state conservation cost-sharing program, the new Rural Environmental Conservation Program and from the Rural Environmental Assistance Program.

Farmers can receive up to 50 per cent cost-sharing on erosion control projects, and under a new feature of the federal government's program this year, cost-sharing is

available for long-term conservation projects.

Under the long-term program, Frieden explained, the government will guarantee that cost-sharing funds will be available to allow a farmer to install all needed conservation work on his farm over a three to 10 year period.

Information on the cost-sharing programs can be obtained at either the Monroe County Soil Conservation District office or the Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office.

July 22, 1974



Soaking the seeding

The wetting down of the newly sodded ditch along the side of the roadway in Bluff Creek Township was done to insure a good stand for the sod and also for the grass which will be

seeded starting August. 10. But the workers took advantage of it, too, to get in the way of the hose and escape a bit of the sweltering heat.



'Stapling' the sod

Here a workman uses giant metal "staples" to fasten the jute mesh to the sod and hold it in place until the grasses take root. (Story and another picture on Page 1.)

Sept. 5, 1974

By council, supervisors

Landfill meeting set

A special meeting among representatives of the Albia City Council, the Board of Supervisors and the maintenance contractors at the city-county landfill has tentatively been scheduled for next week.

The meeting, to be Monday at 7 p.m. at the City Hall, is being held in order to work out temporary procedures for continuing operation of the existing landfill while final plans for opening of a new joint landfill serving Monroe and Lucas Counties are completed.

The contract for maintaining the landfill—located southeast of Avery—expires on Oct. 1. Officials of the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency, the group looking at a two-county landfill as a solution to sanitary disposal of solid wastes, had earlier expected that the new landfill would be in operation by this fall.

Mayor Bernard Carr said at Monday night's City Council meeting, however, that opening of the new landfill is not expected until sometime next year.

In the meantime, he said, a temporary contract with Paul and Albert Wignall who maintain the current landfill, must be worked out.

The city is now paying about \$8,000 annually for maintenance of the dumping site.

In other action at Monday night's meeting, the council gave first reading to a proposed ordinance that would prohibit parking along the south side of E Avenue East between North 10th and North 13th Streets.

The council agreed to take up the proposed ordinance at its Sept. 16 meeting after hearing objections to the planned parking ban from Ralph F. Sears, who lives along E Avenue.

The council had the

ordinance drawn up after Mayor Carr reported that he had received several complaints from motorists about potential hazards to traffic and pedestrians created by parked cars along both sides of the street.

However, the council delayed a decision on the proposed ordinance until city officials have the opportunity to sound out residents along the street to determine whether they would voluntarily cooperate in improving traffic flow along the street.

July 22, 1974



Sodding roadside ditches

A crew from the Kiburg Seed Co. of Afton is shown sodding a ditch along a highway in Bluff Creek Township. The roadside erosion control is being

done north of the Miami Lake dam. The current project is one covering 5.75 miles and costing \$31,408 and is part of a five-year plan for erosion control

along roads in the county. (More pictures Page 2.)

5-Year \$799,000 plan

Seek erosion control

Monroe County—with the Board of Supervisors and Soil Conservation Service as well as the Chariton Valley R C and D Project taking the initiative—has embarked on a massive five-year plan of roadside erosion control.

The complete program calls for more than 600 acres of planting over 154 miles of secondary roads in the county and the total cost is estimated at \$799,215.

The cost of these projects is being shared by the federal government with 75 per cent being paid through funds channeled through the Soil Conservation Service and 25 per cent being paid from county funds.

The overall plan was developed by the Soil Conservation Service here and John Frieden, director of that county office, had high praise for county officials and their part in development of the roadside erosion control projects.

Frieden pointed out that the projects are being developed only on roads which

are in good condition and which are not subject to grading in the immediate future. The funds are not available for roads which were graded after January 1970. Frieden said that the federal government feels that these roads should have been cared for at the time of construction.

The first project under the five-year plan is under way now—a total of 5.75 miles in three segments, one a portion of three miles on H-40 east of Melrose, another a portion on the north-south road along the east edge of Miami Lake and north of the dam, and the third in three sections of Bluff Creek Township.

The current project, led to the Kiburg Seed Co. of Afton was at a total cost of \$31,408 miles.

Included in the project at the three locations will be seeding and fertilizer, straw mulch, ditch re-shaping, sodding, jute mesh, top soiling, and in some instances small erosion control

structures.

Frieden said that the contract is to be completed this fall. Seeding on the project is expected to be started about August 10.

In a statement outlining the need for the road work the county supervisors, county engineer Ralph Sears, and the SCS, pointed out that the project "will eliminate traffic hazards—will reduce downstream sediment damages—will reduce maintenance costs—will improve environment—and will enhance the beauty of the area."

It was pointed out that the benefits will be almost completely public and that benefits to landowners will be minor.

One project on which contracts will be let shortly will be one covering 14.4 acres and a total of 8.5 miles in six of the 12 townships in the county. The total cost of this next project is estimated at \$51,900.

Sept. 16, 1974

Tourist attraction—

Modern fish hatchery at Rathbun taking shape

The new 4.8 million warm water fish hatchery being constructed for the Iowa State Conservation Commission at Rathbun Dam, is beginning to take shape.

Terry Jennings supervisor of fish hatcheries in Iowa reports, "much" the work that has already been accomplished for items below ground, unseen, but so necessary to the successful operation of the hatchery."

An on the site inspection of the new hatchery gives one the impression of the

tremendous importance and the intensity of the project.

Covering between 40 and 60 acres below Rathbun Dam, one can vision the 20 fish rearing ponds, two pollution control basins and the lagoon sewage system taking up the bigger portion of the area. Each of the fish rearing ponds will be a concrete structure 48 by 48 feet. The two water pollution catch basins, immediately to the west of the rearing ponds will collect all the water from the hatchery building and the rearing ponds. In the process

of passing through the ponds, the waste material drops out so when the water is dumped into a connecting canal leading back to the Chariton River, it is as pure as when it entered the hatchery system.

The foundation has been poured for the hatchery storage building. The rearing ponds and the 30,000 square foot hatchery building are still on the drawing boards, but construction is expected to start as soon as the sewage lagoon and the pollution control basins are completed.

Construction is moving

ahead on three residences on the project which will house the hatchery manager, his assistant and the man who will supervise all of the equipment at the hatchery.

The three homes are three bedroom, kitchen, living room, entrance hall, bath and a half and full basement. Each home also as a double-car garage attached.

One gets the impression of spaciousness in the homes because of the design. The homes are of the same general concept as the hatchery building with

high vaulted roofs.

Work will soon begin on the first eight of the eventual 20 rearing ponds. These will be adjacent to the hatchery building. A rather complex water system will feed the ponds from water first arriving on the project through a 30 inch main connected to Rathbun Lake.

On the project, the water passes through a screening process to remove debris and foreign matter, then passes to an aerator basin where it is checked for oxygen content and tested for purity. Then

and only then, the water moves to the hatchery building where the actual use of the water begins in the rearing of fish.

The first Conservation Commission man to live on the job will be Vernon Spykerman. He will be the hatchery manager. No timetable has been set for his move. Spykerman is currently at the Big Springs Hatchery in northeast Iowa.

Jerry Conley, who heads up the Fisheries division for the Commission, reports that much of the work

accomplished to date is due to requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and to provide accommodations for the handicapped. As an example, ramps to permit wheel chairs are to be provided so they can enter the hatchery building. Environmental considerations are also evident in the pollution control basins.

The hatchery, when completed, is expected to become a tourist attraction in its own right. Hundreds of thousands of people will want

to visit the facility to see the process whereby fish are raised.

In the future, the area surrounding the hatchery might be taken over by the wildlife section of the Conservation Commission. Conley explained the area might possibly be used for nature trails, plots for various types of plant life and other things in natural habitat.

Hatchery

Continued on Page 6.

Conley envisions people spending an hour or so or even an entire day at the hatchery observing and learning of the processes involved in a fish hatchery.

What started out as a \$3.7 million dollar project has now grown to \$4.8 million. Anticipated is \$700,000 in federal funds. The Iowa Legislature appropriated \$1.8 million and the remainder will come from the Fish and Game Trust of the Iowa State Conservation Commission. The latter money is derived

from the sale of fish and hunting licenses in Iowa.

An on-site inspector lives with the project during construction. He insures that all phases of the construction are as per specifications and that all materials conform to the building requirements.

Completion of the Rathbun Fish Hatchery will add yet another big asset to this area. Fish to be stocked over the entire state might well start their life at Rathbun Fish Hatchery.

Sept. 1974

Thank you

Your recent support of Soils
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advertising was deeply appreciated.

With such cooperation we are
optimistic about protecting our most
valuable Natural Resource
in Monroe County--our soil

The Commissioners of the Monroe
County Soil Conservation District

August 2, 1974

For resort lodge complex

Commission approves Rathbun land purchase

The \$9.5 billion resort lodge complex at Rathbun Lake moved a bit closer this week with the approval of the purchase of 335 acres of land needed for the recreation complex.

Purchase was approved by the Iowa Conservation Commission Tuesday at its meeting in Des Moines. The average land cost came to \$2,323 per acre.

The individual offers included: Aubrey Seals, \$193,750 for 77.5 acres; Grace and Clarence Whitehead, \$80,325 for 40 acres; Donald Whitehead, \$136,250 for 57.5 acres; and Hiner Brothers, \$368,000 for 160 acres.

Robert Fagerland, superintendent of land acquisition for the commission said that two parcels remain to be acquired, one of 9.67 acres and one of .34 acres.

The total land involved in the resort lodge complex is 850 acres but in this project 500 acres will come from the federal government and the remaining 350 acres from the \$1 million appropriation to the Iowa Conservation Commission.

In other action at its meeting in Des Moines Tuesday the Iowa

Conservation Commission approved \$1,900,000 for the completion of the Rathbun fish hatchery and \$20,000 for improvement on boat ramps at the reservoir. These funds are askings in the capital improvements list and are for consideration in the 1975-77 legislative appropriations.

Fagerland, told the Union-Republican this morning that negotiations are under way for the remaining two small parcels in the resort lodge complex. He indicated that appraisal work and legal work, fencing, and surveying will also come out of the \$1,000,000 appropriation by the Iowa legislature.

The site for the Rathbun complex is southeast of Iconium on a peninsula of land bordered on one side by Honey Creek and on the other by Ham's Creek.

Included in the plan is a lodge estimated at \$5,568,000, cabins estimated to cost \$658,800, other recreational facilities estimated at \$1,005,000. These include three pools, recreations areas, tennis courts, boat docks, a beach area, 18-hole golf course, a golf pro shop,

Sept. 30, 1974

Teachers will study tips on conservation

The Iowa Conservation Education Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the over-all development of conservation education in Iowa, will conduct a two-day conservation workshop this Friday and Saturday at Camp Ewalu near Strawberry Point.

There will be a wealth of information available on environmental education to teachers at the elementary or secondary level. Participating teachers will lead discussions on schoolyard ecology, outdoor classrooms on school sites, school camping, and teacher education on the local level among other items.

The following teachers from the Albia school system will be attending the workshop: George Mackey, Colleen Putnam and Peg Haluska.

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District is the local coordinating group for this activity and would like to thank People's National Bank for its support in covering the cost of tuition.

10-14-74

Conservation aids taught

Colleen Putnam and Peg Haluska, both teachers in the Albia school system attended the Iowa Conservation Education Council's Eastern Iowa Conservation Education Workshop at Camp Ewalu near Strawberry Point Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4-5.

Some 140 teachers gathered there to exchange information about time-tested and innovative activities and programs dealing with all aspects of environmental education.

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

and maintenance facilities.

Also included in the total are the water and sewer facilities, the roadways, the parking and landscaping for the area.

The lodge would have 143 rooms with provision for a 50-room expansion and would have a capacity for 225 persons in the dining room and an additional 240 persons in the meeting room.

At the present time the Rathbun Lake Association has named a committee headed by John Rhodes of Chariton to work on the various means of financing the construction of the project. Under active consideration (though it must be approved by the legislature) is the use of industrial revenue bond financing comparable to that used to finance expansions by Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp. and Monroe Plastics in Albia and by other industries in the Rathbun-Region.

Once the final project is approved it will take a year to complete the design of the complex and another 18 to 24 months for construction, its backers estimate.

Thursday, September 12, 1974

How to control erosion

Sediment continues to be the major pollutant of surface waters in Iowa from the standpoint of quantity.

Sediment results from sheet and rill erosion of uplands and from erosion activity in gullies and drainageways. Other sediment sources include roadside erosion, flood erosion, erosion from construction activities such as those in urban and industrial developments, mining and industrial wastes, and landslides.

The most direct approach to solving sediment problems is by controlling soil erosion through use of proper land and water management practices or structures. To minimize sediment yield, soil erosion must be minimized.

Consequences of soil erosion are loss of topsoil, deposits of sediment on lower lying agricultural land which reduces its suitability for crop production, and reduced channel and reservoir capacity by siltation.

Other consequences of soil erosion include physical and chemical pollution of surface waters that result in accelerated eutrophication and contamination of lakes, ponds and streams; damage to water treatment and handling facilities; increased cost of water treatment for urban and industrial use; damage to fish and wildlife habitats; and degradation of recreational facilities.

We cannot, as yet, control rainfall, but we can select land use practices and measures that reduce the movement of soil and water.

Erosion control practices do one or more of the following: Reduce or dissipate the energy of falling raindrops or moving water; reduce the quantity of runoff; reduce the velocity of runoff; manipulate soils to increase resistance to erosion. The objective is to keep the soil in place. The best method is to maintain a vegetative cover such as with total grassland agriculture. For many farmers, this is not a feasible solution. The most erosive rainfall occurs during June and July when row-cropped fields have insufficient growth to provide a protective canopy over the soil.

Erosion can be controlled by modifying the length or steepness of slopes. Contour farming slope modification in its simplest form. Crop rows are oriented on the contour, generally with a slight slope towards a sod waterway. On moderate slopes, contouring can reduce soil loss about 50 per cent. But it does not readily adapt itself to large, multi-row equipment because of resulting point rows and irregular field shapes.

Row cropping in conjunction with sod-based rotation is another effective soil conservation practice, especially with alternate strips of a sod crop and a row crop across the slope. Such strip cropping reduces slope length of land in row crops. In addition, grass or sod strips slow water as it flows down the slope, causing sediment to drop out.

Terracing, one of the oldest practices to control erosion, involves a combination of ridges and channels layered across the slope to trap water and to conduct it as a nonerosive velocity to suitable surface or subsurface outlets. Broad-based terrace systems established on true contours have inherent restrictions as in contouring—point rows, irregular field shapes and difficulty in maintaining grassed waterways. Modern terrace system, now being constructed in parallel alignment, overcome these obstacles.

Tillage practices can play an important role in soil erosion control. The moldboard plow-disk harrow sequence of operation produces a soil surface most conducive to runoff and soil loss because of the resulting clean, smooth, finely divided soil surface.

Primary tillage operations using implement other than a moldboard plow—such as a chisel, disk, till planter, slot



Before and after

Roger Hansen, former district SCS conservationist, stands in an eroded roadside ditch in the top picture while the bottom picture is a graphic

illustration of the result of soil control. The project, on the Lake Miami road, is a part of a 5-year roadside erosion control plan.



Switchgrass

These cattle have plenty of feed because they're in a pasture that "beats the heat". The grass is switchgrass, a native Iowa grass that produces at full capacity in July and

August. Chuck Conger and Joe Pearson (Monroe county cattlemen) are now experimenting with the warm season grass pastures and will soon have pastures that "beat the heat".

planter, or rotary tiller—are referred to as conservation tillage. "minimum" tillage, mulch tillage, or reduced tillage. Some of these systems deter soil erosion by creating rough surfaces that provide surface storage, reduce runoff, and delay or prevent surface crusting. Other tillage methods provide increased subsurface storage. Tillage methods that leave all or part of previous crop residues on the surface protect the surface from raindrop forces and enhance water intake. In addition, the plant residue mulch retards soil water loss through evaporation. When managed properly, non-conventional tillage systems can be used

with no sacrifice in production.

Soil movement by wind can also be a problem, especially on level to gently sloping lands that have been clean tilled in the fall. Cropping systems and soil conditions that leave a rough soil surface protected with plant material are effective in reducing soil movement by wind.

If present levels of row crop production are to be maintained or increased in Iowa a greater degree of soil erosion control will be required. Slope modification measures, combined with soil and water conserving tillage practices can be effective in reducing soil erosion. Care

must be exercised in selecting land for additional row crops. Land must be used according to its capacity. Keep in mind that hay and pasture crops can be profitable if well managed.

Iowa land use—

Between 1945 and 1969, the total land in farms in Iowa declined 2.6 percent. The percentage figure is now large over a 24 year period, but that 2.6 percent is also the equivalent of more than 1,300 square miles—an area equal to two average-size Iowa counties.

Progress towards long-term goals--

Busy year in conservation for Monroe County in 1974

A report released by Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

By John Friedman
District Conservationist
Hey, Soil and Water Conservation Week is here, and Governor Robert Ray has proclaimed this week of September 8-15, as a special recognition and awareness of Soil and Water Conservation in Iowa.

To some people this week will pass by unnoticed, but to others the orderly development and wise use of Monroe County land and water resources through our soil and water conservation program will have a special meaning. For any program to function with success, an organized effort must exist.

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District is the organization. The District is represented by five elected commissioners who are charged with the responsibility of planning for and carrying out soil and water conservation in the county. This is a very important responsibility and you the voters of Monroe County have chosen the following men to represent you: Ollie Kaldenberg, Bill McGrath, Raymond Vance, Duane Johnson, and Albert Elcher. The Soil Conservation District plays a very important role in the soil conservation movement when you consider the fact that between all Federal agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts there exists a joint memorandum of understanding which dictates that each agency must develop its program to fit the long range planning goals established by the soil conservation district.

Because of this the Monroe

county soil conservation district would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Soil Conservation Service, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Farmers Home Administration, and the Extension Service for the efforts put forth in promoting soil and water conservation in Monroe County.

Many things have happened in Monroe county this year for the good of soil conservation and it's difficult to single out just one and acclaim it's above all the rest.

For instance, the Monroe County Board Supervisors developed a five-year plan with the aid of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, Soil Conservation Service and the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development Committee for a project for the control of roadside erosion along all secondary roads in the county.

Consider the tile outlet terraces Ray Dhority installed to control erosion on his cropland, or the erosion control dam and diversion Marion Forsythe built to control the erosive action of a gully. In fact, there were over 150 applications for assistance to develop solutions to erosion problems this past year. Because cost-share funds are limited some problems will have to wait until next year. But the ever increasing number of landowners wanting solutions to their erosion problems is encouraging. Each conservation practice installed no matter how small is one step more toward completing the conservation needs of Monroe County.

An important development which took place this year which deserves special emphasis is the new cost share



program administered by the ASCS called the Rural Environmental Conservation Program. At no other time has the Federal cost-share program been so explicitly directed toward the control of soil erosion. Under the program there 14 soil conservation practices which are eligible to the farmer for cost sharing. Each of the 14 practices are eligible for cost-sharing only if the practice will solve a significant soil erosion problem. Practices which are only production oriented have been eliminated from the new program. This means more cost-share for the money spent.

The RECP also includes the Long Term Agreement program where a landowner

may elect to complete all the needed soil conservation on his farm based on a soil conservation plan approved by the soil conservation district. The Long Term Agreement is from 3-10 years depending upon the severity of the problems and the funds available to the applicant to match the 50 per cent cost-share funds received from ASCS to complete the work.

Our hats are off to Duane Chance, Robert Wilson and Ray Gardner for becoming the first long term agreement landowners. Their willingness to complete all the needed soil conservation on their farms has been a dedication to protecting our environment for the present and future generations to come. Our congratulations extend also to those of you who were interested in the long term agreement but were unable to complete it because of the limited funds available for this year's program.

Cost-share funds were also available from the soil conservation district. The cost-share funds were allocated on a 25 per cent basis and were used to match 50 per cent funds allocated by ASCS. This gave the farmer 75 per cent cost-sharing for

permanent long term conservation practices. Undoubtedly this cost-share arrangement encouraged many farmers to control soil erosion of their farms. State and Federal cost-share funds for permanent long term conservation practices totaled \$56,400.00 for 1974. Hopefully the funds will be used this year providing we have good construction weather and materials are available.

Conservation practices completed this year include 20,000 feet of tile outlet terraces, 8 erosion control dams, 6 diversion terraces, and 5 grassed waterways. will control thousands of tons of sediment which would normally pollute our lakes, muddy our streams, fill our road ditches, and destroy the beauty of our landscape.

The Commissioners of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District extend their invitation to anyone in the District who needs assistance in solving any soil or water conservation related problems. The assistance is free, so please take advantage of it, as the Commissioners believe it is imperative that we continue our efforts in soil and water conservation.

Farm productivity--

Output per man hour on farms is 30 times higher than 20 years ago. In manufacturing industries, output per man hour is 1.8 times higher than 20 years ago. The output per man hour on farms is increasing nearly as fast as in industry. An unmatched record of efficiency.

Cropland increases--

The number of acres in cropland increased 11.2 percent from 1945 and 1968. The additional cropland came from forest that had been cleared, land that had been drained or converted from pasture or other uses.

What can happen

Erosion control built-in during the construction of a mile of road near Lake Miami is demonstrated by the two pictures. Serious erosion is shown in the left picture with the control shown in the above picture.

USED EQUIPMENT

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444 Corn Head	
67 J D 55 Comb	with 13' Platform and
234 Head	
IHC 234 Corn Picker	
J D 237 Corn Picker	
J D 830 SP Windrow	with Conditioner
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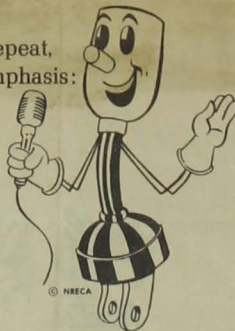
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The return you get from a good crop yield will offset by far the money it costs on an average to restore your land to a good, rich, productive soil. Preventing erosion is also money saved by keeping the usable soil productive. If you have unanswered questions, consult the Department of Agriculture representative in your area.

First Iowa State Bank

2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

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Oct. 16, 1974

ASCS election

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) Community Committee election will be held Dec. 2 this year, the Monroe County ASCS committee has announced. Ballots will be mailed to voters about 10 days prior to the election which will be conducted by mail.

A slate of at least six nominees will be developed for each community. Farmers are presently receiving letters informing them of the right to nominate candidates by petition.

The ASCS communities in the county are known as: Bluff Creek, Cedar, Franklin, Guildford, Jackson, Mantua, Monroe, Pleasant, Troy, Union, Urbana and Wayne.

A blank petition suitable for nominations is printed on the back of each letter mailed. Each petition submitted must be: 1) limited to one nominee; 2) signed by at least three eligible voters in a community; 3) included with a certification that the nominee is willing to serve if elected; 4) received at the county ASCS office not later than Tuesday, Oct. 29.

If six or more eligible candidates are nominated by proper petition, no further nominations will be made. If less than six are nominated, the present Community Committee will add the number of nominees necessary to complete the slate of candidates.

If a person nominated by petition is found ineligible, he will be so notified and given 15 days in which to appeal.

Persons nominated should be currently engaged in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work.

November 18, 1974

Brings total cost of Rathbun facility to \$5.5 million

Fish hatchery contract approved

The Iowa Conservation Commission last week in Des Moines approved the second phase of the Rathbun Fish Hatchery contract, bringing the total cost of the project to \$5.5 million.

Construction of the hatchery is due for completion in the spring of 1976. "The Rathbun Hatchery will be the finest of its kind in the world when it is completed," Jerry Conley, head of the Department of Fisheries for the Conservation Commission, said.

Conley noted that the hatchery is expected to become a tourist attraction for this area, estimating that possibly more than a half-million people a year will visit the hatchery. The new contract for the hatchery will provide for a visitation center, Conley said.

The \$5.5 million will be funded by

\$2 million from the Iowa Conservation Commission's fish-trust fund which is supported by fishing licenses, \$1.8 million from the Iowa General Assembly, \$700,000 from the federal government, and an added \$1-million request that will be placed before the State Legislature when it goes into session next January.

Conley pointed out that if the legislature fails to approve the \$1-million request, then some construction items will be deleted and additional fish-trust funds will be utilized.

Conner Brothers of Sigourney was awarded the second-phase contract. That company is also doing the first-phase work.

Conley said that the Conservation Commission decided to go ahead with the total contract in order to

establish a firm figure on construction costs which have been inflating rapidly.

The portion of the hatchery that will be utilized to conceive and raise catfish fry will begin operation in 1975, Conley said, adding that he expects good production immediately in the catfish hatchery.

The second-phase contract is expected to complete the entire project except for landscaping, a bulk-feeding facility and some interior development in the visitation area, Conley said.

Conley noted that the bulk of the work presently completed by Conner Brothers is underground. He said that work to be done during the second phase will "make for a greater visibility showing" to visitors at the hatchery site.

ASCS election is underway

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) Community (township) Committee elections for Monroe County are currently being conducted by mail, the county ASCS office in Albia has announced.

The election will be held until next Monday, Dec. 2, when all ballots must either be postmarked for return mail or personally returned to the ASCS office on the corner of A Ave. and Clinton St. The election began last Friday, Nov. 22, after ballots were mailed.

The ASCS office noted that eligible voters should have received a secret ballot in the mail with instructions on how to vote for candidates in their respective townships. Participation in the ASCS election is open to all farmers in Monroe County.

The ballots will be tabulated on Dec. 9 at the county ASCS office.

Officials at that office also noted that the Monroe County ASCS Convention will be held after ballots are tabulated, on Dec. 14 at the American Legion Hall in Albia beginning at 10 a.m. that Saturday.

County ASCS officials said that voters may vote for either one, two, or three—but not more than three—of the candidates running for Community Committees from their respective township. Any ballot with

more than three names marked will be declared invalid.

After voting, farmers are requested to seal their marked ballot in a completely blank envelope. They are requested not to write on this envelope and not to enclose any other material besides the ballot in it.

They are then asked to seal this blank envelope in the envelope identified as "ASCS Ballot". They are then requested to sign and date the certification on the back of the "ASCS Ballot" envelope. Ballots will also be declared invalid unless properly certified.

Farmers voting may then mail the ballot (no postage required), or return it personally to the ASCS office. Ballots must be postmarked or returned to the ASCS office by next Monday, Dec. 2.

The list of the candidates running for the Community Committees from their respective townships follows:

Bluff Creek—Dean E. Bettis, Keith Hoyt, Ollie Kaldenberg, George Moore, Gerald C. Peterson, and Charles Scott.

Cedar—Jim Beary, John E. Hirschak, Leroy Hogeland, George Kasper, Steve Kurimski, and William Welsh.

Franklin—Delbert Calhoun, Larry Derby, Tom Hartz, Pat Knowles, Tom Teno, and Glen West.

Gulford—David Flattery, Robert Heffron, Joseph P. Judge, Walter E. Lahart, Paul Silverio, and Joe Sinnott.

Jackson—James P. Coady, Jack Elkin, David Heffron, Edward J. Ryan, Eugene Scieszinski, and J. Eugene Walsh.

Mantua—Wilbert Hoover, Raymond L. Jones, Tracy Long, Donald McGee, Robert Overmyer, and Bill Spaur.

Monroe—Walter Gardner, Jr., DeWayne Johnson, Paul V. Koffman, Jerold J. Luse, Donald Tibbals, and Frank Woodward.

Pleasant—Donald Berto, Henry DeJong, William Hughes, Roscoe Mart, Richard Roberts, and Adrian VanHalm.

Troy—Earl Albertson, Lawrence C. Amoss, Harold Benson, Kenneth Bettis, Lloyd Goode, and William C. Trinkle.

Union—John Blomgren, James Bonnett, Leo Chance, Marvin McCombs, Floyd Parker, and Dallas Tucker.

Urbana—Eldred H. Estlack, Vaughn Faber, Dean Grinstead, Herman Leffler, Jr., Mervin McDaniel, and Arthur Townsend.

Wayne—Robert H. Carr, William R. Judge, J. Edward Murphy, Larry Scieszinski, Louis Scieszinski, and Maurice Scieszinski.

Logan's tree

Albia's Logan Cain, who died Sept. 26, was honored last Friday at luncheon and tree-planting ceremony by friends, Rathbun Lake Association, and Recreation, Conservation and Development Commission for that lake. Cain, who was 66, was instrumental in Rathbun Reservoir's planning and development since its beginning....as well as numerous other community activities in this area. At luncheon, many people recalled memories of Cain and his contributions. Among them were Claude Bean (directly below, right), Henry P. Kolling (bottom, left) and Bill McGrath (bottom, right). Kolling said that, as far as community organizations in Albia and throughout area are concerned, "We can never replace Logan....the only thing we can do is go on....we'll never replace him." Above, Ollie Kaldenberg was one of many people who shoveled dirt in tree-planting ceremony. Below left, McGrath stands at Cain's memorial tree, a white pine, after ceremony. Tree is located at dedication site on point of land at Rathbun Reservoir just across bay from southeast corner of dam.



Dec. 4, 1974

Jan. 13, 1975

Meet to study area land, water problems

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

The first meeting was held today at 1 p.m. in Audubon at the Home Federal Savings and Loan Building there; the second at Red Oak on Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Gold Crown Restaurant; the third meeting will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. in Creston at the Southwestern Community College; and the final one will be held Thursday at 1 p.m. in Centerville at the Indian Hills Community College, Building No. 7.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District Commissioners plan to attend the Centerville meeting.

Dec. 11, 1974

Soil conservationist notes changes

Rewarding 30 years for Botts

John Botts, 56-year-old soil conservation technician, last week observed his 30-year anniversary of service with the Soil Conservation Service in Monroe County. The anniversary date was Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Botts is a native of the rural-Bloomfield area in Davis County and graduated from high school in Bloomfield. He came to Albia and Monroe County from Rock Island, Ill., where he had worked in a dairy.

He attended the Soil Conservation Training Center in Carbondale, Ill., in 1947 and since has taken several extended courses at various Soil Conservation training centers.

Botts lives at 645 North Third St. with his wife, Luzon. They have two children, Rick, a pharmacist in Des Moines, and Mrs. Diane Patton of Sac City.

During his 30 years with the Soil Conservation Service in Monroe County, Botts said he has noted several changes in agriculture and approaches to the conservation of soil.

"One major one is that we had to change our approach on building terraces in order to accommodate larger machinery," Botts said. "Now farmers are building broader slopes on terrace ridges and incorporating more uniformity in spacing to eliminate point rows."

He also noted that the structure size of ponds has also changed drastically over the past 30 years.

"Now the fill sizes, on the average, are three times larger than 30 years ago," he said. "Dry summers like we experienced last summer serve as proof to farmers that the old, smaller-size ponds were not adequate to carry them through a drought."

"The increase in livestock numbers over the years has also dictated that the farmer now needs more water for his animals," he added.

Botts pointed out that the increase in land prices over the years has also dictated to farmers "that they should spend more money to conserve what they have." This added interest by agricultural people, he noted, has made his job of convincing farmers of the need for soil conservation much easier.

Another change he noted was that "economic pressures have forced farmers to eliminate row-cropping on marginal crop land. In essence, this has brought about better land use," he pointed out.

Botts said that it has been "a very rewarding 30



John Botts

years" he has spent with the Soil Conservation Service in the county.

"When you work in the same community for so long, most people become friends of yours," he said. "And when you have an opportunity to help them solve their problems, you get emotionally involved in their successes and disappointments."

In conclusion, Botts noted that one of the most satisfying aspects of his job has "been seeing kids you used to work with on various programs grow up to become adults who you then work with to help them preserve their land..."

"... It makes you feel like perhaps you had a part in helping develop their attitudes toward the soil," he concluded.

Feb. 5, 1975

State Forest nursery taking seedling orders

Orders for tree seedlings to be used for Spring reforestation, erosion control and wildlife habitat are now being accepted, Gene Hertel, state forester for the Iowa Conservation Commission, has announced.

According to Hertel, the plants are very low in cost while their value to conservation is immeasurable.

Evergreen trees available include several species of pines. A number of hardwoods are also being offered for interplanting in

native woodlands.

Hardwood and conifer seedlings and wildlife shrub plants will be shipped or can be picked up from the State Forest Nursery at Ames sometime between April to early May.

Persons interested in placing an order or securing additional information are urged to contact Conservation Commission personnel or county offices of the Soil Conservation Service, Extension Service, or the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Feb. 5, 1975

Ford proposes support for Rathbun item

A \$350,000 federal grant for flood-control construction at Lake Rathbun has been proposed as part of President Gerald Ford's list of federal water projects for fiscal year 1976.

The federal money is one half of the federal share of the hatchery construction authorized by Congress and distributed through the Army Corps of Engineers.

Half of the federal money will come under Phase I of the hatchery project (to be completed in April and the additional \$350,000 under Phase II (now under construction and expected to be completed by the end of 1976).

The federal government is a source of funds for the \$5.5 million project which is primarily financed by the state and the Iowa Conservation Commission.

The hatchery is now being constructed on 375 acres set aside for the project in 1965.

Oct. 1974

Sign up now for pond fish

Iowa landowners who wish to receive fish for farm pond stocking in 1975 must sign up for the program before next Mar. 1, the Iowa Conservation Commission has announced.

Sign-up will not affect those landowners whose ponds were stocked this fall with bluegills and catfish. These ponds are already scheduled to receive bass this spring, a Commission official said.

Landowners who are interested in receiving fish next year must have their ponds examined to qualify. For particulars, the farmers should contact their District Soil Conservation Service office, their local State Conservation Commission officer, or their conservation commission wildlife biologist.

According to the Conservation Commission, landowners must sign up several months in advance to allow time for the ponds to be examined for qualification and so that the Fisheries Section will be able to raise the necessary number of young fish. Those who sign up for 1975 will receive bluegills and catfish next October.

Feb. 19, 1975

Unless preventive measures taken to counter threat

See bad year for soil erosion

A warning to farmers in Monroe County and surrounding areas to take preventive measures against another potentially dangerous year for soil erosion has been issued by John Frieden, district conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service.

Frieden noted that indications are that farmers in the area intend to plant a record acreage of corn and soybeans this spring. However, he added that this increased acreage going under the plow could be potentially dangerous for a high amount of soil erosion.

Soil erosion in Iowa, including Monroe County, last year was the worst it had been in 25 years, Frieden said. He added "that the potential is there for a repeat, or even worse, year unless precautions are taken."

"The trend to intensive row-cropping has steadily increased erosion possibilities in recent years," Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation

District, said.

Kaldenberg pointed out that in Iowa this year, corn and soybean acreage planting intentions are for 20.4 million acres to go into these crops, a 1.4 per cent increase over last year. This 20.4 million-acre figure also represents a 33 per cent increase over row crops from 10 years ago.

"Last year's wet spring, followed by the summer drought, caused a shortage of forage, and many farmers took corn stalks off their fields for winter feed," Frieden said. "This lack of stalks opens up even more of a chance for erosion on cropland."

He explained that most conservation practices take time to become established building terraces, ponds, and windbreaks among other practices.

"But one practice, conservation tillage, takes effect immediately and can be practiced this spring," he

added. "Leaving the plow in storage and using a disk, chisel, or other machine to prepare land for planting is the first step."

Frieden explained that these operations help to leave crop residue on top of the ground to protect against erosion.

"But they can be overdone," he added. "Too many trips with a chisel or disk can cover residue, and that defeats their purpose."

He said that "the true test is whether enough residue is left on the soil surface. . . . Generally, 3,000 to 4,000 pounds of residue per acre left on top of the soil reduces erosion by half."

Frieden noted that interested farmers can get recommendations on how to produce more on intensive row-crop land while still protecting their soil from the Soil Conservation District office on the second floor of the Post Office building in Albion.

Expect rural-water construction bids will total \$5.6 million

Ralph Goode of Albia, chairman of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., announced today that the first notice of public hearings and letting of the bids for construction of part of the rural-water system has been advertised (Monday, Feb. 10).

Official notice was publicized for service area seven and eight in Monroe County (the northeast part of the county including all of Bluff Creek and Pleasant townships, the approximate northern two-thirds of both Troy and Mantua townships, the approximate eastern half of Union Township, and the northeast corner of Guilford Township).

Notice was also publicized for service areas 16 and 20, in Wayne and Lucas counties (mostly composed of the southern third of Lucas County and northern tip of Wayne County), and for service areas two and three in Appanoose County (mostly composed of the southern third of the county with the exception of Wells Township in the extreme southeast portion of the county).

(A map of service areas will be in next Monroe County News.)

The public hearings and letting and bid openings will be held Mar. 12 and 13 at the Municipal Building in Centerville, Goode said.

The opening for service areas two and three will be Wednesday, Mar. 12, at 10 a.m.; the opening for service areas 16 and 20 will be the same day at 7 p.m.; and the opening of bids for service areas seven and eight will be Thursday, Mar. 13, at 10 a.m.

The proposed construction will consist of 583 miles of pipe, five elevated storage tanks varying in size from 50,000-gallon to 250,000-gallon capacity, Goode said.

He pointed out that these offerings are designed to serve 1,383 customers who will be hooked onto the rural-water system. The estimated construction cost of these bids is expected to be slightly over \$5.6 million.

Service area one, in Appanoose County, and service area six, in Monroe County, should be offered for bid by the end of February, Goode said. He felt the other service areas

will be offered for bid shortly after that.

"It is our sincere hope that the bulk of the construction on the entire project can be underway during next summer," Goode said.

He added that the plan for construction and financing has been put together in "very difficult times due to the tremendous fluctuation in costs as well as the over-all economic conditions."

"Costs of construction of this type has improved from the association's standpoint," he said, "and I am optimistic that favorable bids (in the way of cost) will be submitted."

Goode also announced that plans for service area eight, mostly in Monroe County, will be submitted to the engineer for final design next Tuesday, Feb. 18.

This service area is composed of Cedar, Wayne, Guilford and the southwest portion of Union townships in Monroe County. It also includes a small portion of Marion County located in its southern extremities adjacent to Cedar Township in Monroe County.

Tuesday will be the final day subscribers can be assured of being included in the original design, Goode said. Applications for service will be taken after that date. However, determination for service, in regards to the feasibility of including late subscribers in the original construction, will be made by the Rathbun Regional Water Board and the engineers, Goode said.

Service area six, which includes the remainder of the eastern half of Monroe County, will be in the final design stage after today (Wednesday) Goode said. "It is hoped this service area can be advertised for bids within two weeks," he noted.

Goode added that Feb. 21 is the last day for subscribers to sign up for service in service areas 10, 11 and 12 in Lucas County. As in Monroe County, they can sign up after that...but will not be assured of being included in the original construction.

Areas to be served by this service area include most of Benton, Washington, Lincoln, Cedar, English, Pleasant and a small portion of Warren townships in Lucas County. Included also is the village of Columbia in Marion County, some rural subscribers near there, and the town of Williamson in Lucas County.

Goode said that the City of Chariton and the Rathbun Regional Water Association have worked out an agreement where Chariton will serve these three service areas in Lucas County with water...not to exceed five-million gallons a month. This agreement will last until the association's treatment plant at Rathbun is completed.

"It is our hope that within three weeks all water-user agreements and easements can be finalized and the engineer directed to complete the final design of these service areas and offer them for bids," Goode said.

Farmers will discuss preventing soil erosion

"Preventing soil-erosion loss" will be the theme of the fourth of a series of adult farming classes to be held Monday night, Mar. 17, starting at 7:30 p.m.

The classes, sponsored by Albia Community High School, are held in the uptown vocational agriculture building at 114 A Ave. East.

Lee Daub, vocational agriculture instructor at the high school, said that next Monday's speakers will be from the Monroe County Soil Conservation Service, including John Botts and John Frieden.

The program will deal with water and wind erosion problems, Daub said.

He added that the speakers will explain what programs are being offered through the Soil Conservation Service. There will then be a question-and-answer period held at the conclusion of this presentation.

This program is a make-up one from Feb. 24, when it was postponed because of the snow storm and blowing winds on Feb. 23.

The classes are free and open to those interested in

farming in Monroe County and the surrounding areas. Each class lasts approximately 2 to 2½ hours.

March 12, 1975

Soil Conservation District announces speech contest

The Monroe County Soil Conservation District will sponsor a speech contest to be held on Monday, Mar. 31, at 4 p.m. at the auditorium in Albia Community High School.

This contest, which is on the district level, is open to residents of the county. It is the first step for those

wishing to compete in the regional and state contests.

Students in grades seven through 12 are eligible to enter. The district winner will then advance to the regional contest to be held in either June or July.

At the district meet, students will be divided according to whether they're

in Lincoln Middle School or the high school. First- and second-place plaques will be awarded at both levels of competition.

However, it should be noted that all students, regardless of their grade, will be competing for the district title. Only the district winner advances to the regional contest.

The regional contests in Iowa are being sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co.

There are nine regions in Iowa. Region 9, of which Monroe County is a part, also includes, Lucas, Wayne, Appanoose, Wapello, Mahaska, Davis, Keokuk, Jefferson, Van Buren, Henry, Lee and Des Moines counties.

The topic for this year's contest is "Land-Use Planning—Insurance for Mankind."

Entrants must be residents of Iowa. All previous first-place regional winners are ineligible. Speeches must be between 5 and 10 minutes long, otherwise penalties will be assessed.

Contestants will be permitted to use notes on 3-by-5-inch or similar cards, although individual judges could downgrade them for the use of these cards.

Speeches will be judged on originality, aptness of thought, accuracy of information, and the manner in which they are delivered.

Contestants will be required to answer two questions by the judges. It is noted that the same questions should be asked of all contestants and should pertain to the topic.

There will be \$1,230 in prizes awarded to top contestants who reach the regional and state levels.

At the regional level, winners will receive \$30 for first place, \$20 for second, \$15 for third, and \$10 if the judges should determine the quality of other speeches merit a special award.

At the state contest, winners will receive a \$300 scholarship and \$110 for first place, \$85 for second, and \$60 for third.

March 26, 1975

Announce new conservation program for U.S. farmers

The United States Department of Agriculture has announced a 1975 Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) designed to encourage the application of

enduring soil and water conservation practices on the nation's farms.

The program will be funded at the \$190-million level authorized by Congress. This amount includes funds to fully finance long-term agreements signed under the 1974 Rural Environmental Conservation Program currently projected at \$33.75 million.

The 1975 program will offer both annual and long-term conservation agreements with farmers, the Monroe County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office in Albia has announced.

The program will share with farmers from 50 to 75 per cent of the cost of carrying out approved soil, water, and woodland conservation practices.

Under long-term agreements, cost-sharing will be scheduled over a period of from 3 to 10 years. The agreements will be based on conservation farm plans approved by local Soil Conservation Districts.

The program will be administered by the ASCS

through its farmer-elected committee system.

The Soil Conservation Service will provide planning and technical assistance on servicing of practices and long-term agreements.

Contracts involving woodlands also will get technical aid from the United States Forest Service. The Extension Service will assist with educational support.

All three agencies will provide program development and policy overview assistance through county, state, and national program development groups.

Local soil conservation districts will also provide support through assistance with long-term agreements and program development.

Details of specific practices, all designed to protect soil, water, and woodland resources on a permanent basis, will be announced later, the Monroe County ASCS office said.

Propose public works program at Rathbun

\$926,000 project would help develop lake, shore up sagging employment picture

March 17, 1975

A public works program costing close to \$1 million is on the drawing board for Rathbun Lake and various parks throughout the four-county Rathbun region.

The program already has the backing of several local service and government agencies. However, it must be approved by other governmental agencies before it will become a reality. Projected cost is \$926,000.

The program is designed to employ 75 people over a 14-month period in the four-county Rathbun region of Monroe, Appanoose, Lucas, and Wayne counties.

If approved this spring, as hoped, it would pump money and manpower back into the area's sagging economy and employment situation. Although it would just begin to make a dent on unemployment in the area—it would help.

According to the latest figures, unemployment rose to 6.5 per cent in January in Monroe County.

Appanoose County is in the worst shape of the four counties in the area, with an unemployment figure of over 10 per cent during the same month. Lucas and Wayne counties' unemployment rates have also risen recently, but not as much.

If adopted, the program would advance Rathbun Lake by at least two or three years in relation to development at the lake. It would also help various public park areas throughout the four-county area.

Work programs are being developed for Lake Miami in Monroe County, Red Haw State Park in Lucas County, the Bob White recreational area in Wayne County, the Chariton River Greenbelt area in Lucas County, and the Corydon, Lineville, and Humeston reservoirs, all in Wayne County.

The Moravia Garden Club also has a project proposed in the Buck Creek West area. The Wayne County Conservation Board has other projects proposed.

"If we get this program, Rathbun Lake will take a giant step forward in its development and ability to attract and service people who use it," T.J. Thompson of Promise City, chairman of the Forestry, Recreation and Beautification Committee of the Rathbun Lake Association, stated.

"We have the jump on other areas devising similar projects...so I think, our chances are good when it comes to getting the funds for the project," Bill McGrath, chairman of the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency, said.

The program, originally suggested by the Rathbun Lake Association, has been formulated by Indian Hills Community College.

Last Thursday it received the endorsement of the four county Conservation Boards in the Rathbun area, a United States Army Corps of Engineers representative, and the Iowa State Conservation Commission.

The program had previously received the backing of the Rathbun Lake Association, the Recreation, Conservation and Development agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency.

As currently approved, Indian Hills Community College would administer the program. A project director, to be named if the program becomes a reality, would be put in charge of it.

The program will now be submitted to representatives of the U.S. Department of Commerce to see if funding can be arranged.

Steve Poort, an Indian Hills spokesman, said the program "could be in operation around the first of May...with good luck."

However, this could prove to be overly optimistic. Several other programs instituted, or being instituted, in the four-county area have also originally made early

projection dates for completion, or approval, of their programs...only to run into all the red tape—and delayed target dates—associated with governmental agencies on which they depend for funds.

But if it does shortly become a reality, it will not only come at a good time to shore up the sagging employment picture in the area, but also at a time when the number of people flocking to Rathbun Lake for recreation purposes is growing by leaps and bounds.

The lake experienced an increase of 44 per cent in visitation days during 1974 when attendance at Rathbun grew to 1,742,000 visitations.

A maze of public works projects will be submitted for approval. The Rathbun Lake Association, Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency, and Recreation, Conservation and Development agency are currently working on ways to secure early governmental approval.

At Rathbun Lake, the public works

projects would involve such items as the removal of dead trees, tree planting, development of hiking trails, erosion control, motor bike trails, camping pads, development of group camping areas, wildlife shelters and nesting areas, revegetation of lands surrounding the lake, fence removal, plantation management, and soil bank stabilization.

The projects at the other areas—public parks—in the four-county region will be similar in scope...but not as extensive as individual areas.

It was pointed out that nearly 21,000 days of work for the 75 people to be employed should be required.

Bob Morrissey of Indian Hills Community College has assembled the information for the project. The college was commended by the individual groups involved in this project "for doing a good job" of formulating plans.

March 19, 1975

Albia Union-Republican

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3 SECTIONS

Pleasant surprise as contracts let for four-county area

Rural water bids beat estimate by \$1.1 million

The economic condition of the country finally took a swing toward helping this area...when bids let last week for construction on Rathbun Regional Water Association projects came in much less than had been expected.

Bids were let last week for work in Service Areas 7 and 8 in Monroe County (and small portions of Mahaska and Wapello counties), Service Areas 16 and 20 in Lucas and Wayne counties (and Decatur and Clarke counties to the east), and Service Areas 2 and 3 in Appanoose County.

Service Areas 7 and 8 cover the approximate northeast quarter of Monroe County. Service Areas 2 and 3 include the southern quarter of Appanoose County with the exception of the extreme southeastern township. Service Areas 16 and 20 cover the southern quarter of Lucas County, plus the northern tip of Wayne County.

There were several contracts let at the Centerville headquarters of the rural water association. These contracts were for 583 miles of pipe and five elevated storage tanks with capacities ranging from 30,000 to 250,000 gallons.

Bids let came in at \$4,479,350, well below the \$5.6 million estimated when bids were advertised last February.

Bids for Service Areas 7 and 8 in Monroe County totaled \$1,176,317, almost a half-million dollars less than the estimated \$1,630,631.

Bids were competitive and highly contested. They also came from parts of the Midwest and other areas of the country.

Forty-two companies from 12 states purchased plans for the project. Bids, meanwhile, came from Kansas, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Indiana, and, of course, Iowa.

Iowa "has had a lot of bid openings the last few months" and it's attracted contractors from many areas, Dean Connert of Hoskins, and Sonderegger, one of the engineering firms involved in project, said.

"We've had inquiries from as far as New Jersey. That contractor we couldn't make this bid letting, would make the next one," he said.

Owen, director of the rural water association, expressed surprise with the fact bids came in less than anticipated.

"Because of the economic situation tight money, we were beginning to have an inkling this would happen," Owen said. "It had been elsewhere, but we couldn't

be sure of what the bids would be here until we opened them."

Association Board Chairman Ralph Goode of Albia said, "We're very pleased. We've had more than the usual number of bidders and they're very competitive."

"It just happened that we hit the right time to advertise and let our bids. Money is tight, contractors are hungry for work, and it's the right time of the year...They're (contractors) eager to get going," Goode added.

With the savings on the estimated cost, the rural water association is now toying with the idea of stepping up its bid pace on the estimated \$25-million project.

Those who will be using the rural water system in Monroe County received good news just the day before the first bids were opened.

Apparently in an effort to get everything tied together before bids were opened, the rural water association came to an agreement with the City of Albia the night before the first bids were opened.

The association agreed to terms of the Albia Waterworks Board for the city to supply the system with water at a cost of \$1.24 per 1,000 gallons.

This water will be supplied to the association prior to its treatment plant being completed. Owen set a year from next fall as the earliest time the plant will be ready for operation.

Prior to that time, and as individual water lines are completed

Rural water

in Monroe County, the association will be buying water from Albia and supplying it to its customers.

Bids for Service Area 6 in the southeast corner of Monroe County will be open Apr. 16. Service Areas 6, 7 and 8 approximately comprise the eastern half of the county.

These service areas will be receiving water originating from Albia prior to completion of the association's treatment plant. Individuals will start receiving this water in phases...as various construction projects are completed.

There had been some doubt expressed by the association about supplying Albia water to the eastern half of Monroe County prior to the completion of the treatment plant.

Owen, and others, expressed a feeling that Albia wasn't supplying the water at cost. And there was a threat the association might throw out all bids connected with construction in Monroe County until its treatment plant was completed.

However, this matter has now been settled. The City of Albia has a reciprocal agreement to buy water from the association as it needs it in the future...after the treatment plant is completed.

However, it could cost the city more than when association water is supplied to other cities in the four-county area.

Chariton and Humeston signed similar agreements to supply water to the association for \$1.15 per 1,000 gallons...and Centerville signed an

agreement for 75 cents per 1,000 gallons.

Contract 4, which was for distribution lines of over six inches in diameter in Service Areas 7 and 8, was awarded to Northern Pipe Line of Burnsville, Minn., at a cost of \$93,589.

There were nine other bidders on this contract, with the high one being \$343,349. The estimated cost was \$290,661.

Contract 5, for pipe under six inches in diameter in the same service areas in the county, was awarded to Iowa Road Builders at \$800,728. There were eight other bidders on this project, with the high one being \$1,048,007. All bids came in under the estimated cost of \$1,157,070.

Contract 6 was for the construction of a 250,000-gallon elevated storage tank approximately four miles northeast of Albia on Highway 137. It was awarded to Pittsburgh Des Moines Steel at a cost of \$182,000.

Three other companies bid on this contract, with the high bid being \$228,060. Estimated cost was \$213,000.

These were the only contracts that involved Monroe County. But the trend was the same throughout...bids coming in lower than expected.

Pointing to two-inch 160 pipe, Connert provided an example of the favorable marketing. The unit price on this item was 45 cents per lineal foot. The project calls for 421,000 lineal feet.

The price on this item started down about three months ago and is

now the lowest it has been in 1½ years," he said.

Turning to another matter, Jim Milani, lawyer for the association, said, "people don't realize the amount of work that has gone into this project or the impact it is going to have."

We started working on this about 2½ years ago and have handled 8,000 easements. That in itself is quite a project...without even considering the other aspects of work that's had to be done.

Rollings Construction Co. of Tulsa, Okla., and Universal Tank and Iron Works of Indianapolis, Ind., each got a good share of contracts awarded.

Rollings submitted the low bid for pipe in Service Areas 2 and 3 in Appanoose, bidding \$920,976.

That company was also low bidder for pipe in Service Areas 16 and 20, touching parts of Wayne, Lucas, Decatur and Clarke counties. Rollings' bid was \$1,970,312 for this project. Northern Pipeline got edged by \$30,000 for the contract, with the high bid amounting to \$2,249,769.

Universal bid \$268,595 on two 150,000-gallon elevated tanks in Service Areas 16 and 20. It also submitted the low bid for tanks in Appanoose County.

"These two days (of bid lettings) were big ones for the Rathbun Rural Water Association," Owen summed up. "And it looks like we're finally starting to roll on getting this project completed."

Continued from Page 1

March 5, 1975

Monroe Co. Soil Cons.
P. O. Box H-82
Albia, Iowa 52531

March 5, 1975

Rural-water system closer to completion

Advertise bids for plant

If things go as planned, the Rathbun Regional Water System should move a step closer to completion this week.

Ken Owen, executive director of the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., has reported that the association's target date to advertise for bids on contracts to construct the treatment plant is this Thursday.

Owen said this phase of the construction is estimated to cost over \$13 million. The treatment plant itself is expected to cost more than \$3 million.

The plant will be built along the road to the town of Rathbun approximately one-half mile off the road going over the dam on Rathbun Lake. Water will be pumped from the channel just downstream from the dam.

Owen noted that bids advertised for this week will actually consist of several contracts.

Beside the treatment plant, there will be advertisement of bids to construct two elevated million-gallon storage tanks, one to be located just west of Moravia and the other approximately four miles northeast of Plano.

Bids on the large pipe from the plant to the Plano storage tank will also be advertised for. However, bids for the main pipe to the Moravia tank will be advertised for at a later time.

There will also be advertisement of bids for some secondary pipes branching off the main pipe to the Plano tank... as well as other pipes throughout the system.

The \$25-million total rural-water system is being financed through a 40-year loan from the Farmers Home Administration and a \$3-million grant from the Economic Development Administration.

Owen pointed out that five per cent of the anticipated cost has been raised from fees charged customers throughout the system's area of service. A \$175 initial fee plus a \$25 membership fee.

The initial fee is now \$195, plus the \$25 membership fee which is refundable when you cease being a customer.

The vast system primarily involves Monroe, Lucas, Wayne and Appanoose counties, but also touches most counties (including portions of Missouri) adjacent to the four-county base.

"Since we're a regional system, we're paying no attention to county lines," Owen said. "In fact, we're trying to break down people's association with county lines and other existing barriers."

When completed, the system will include 1,800 miles of pipe. It will also include the treatment plant, which will be capable of handling an average of four-million gallons of



Treatment plant for Rathbun rural-water system bids are to be advertised for this week

water a day, with a peak of eight-million gallons when ideal conditions exist.

There will be the two million-gallon storage tanks, plus several more smaller elevated, secondary storage tanks to be constructed throughout the area.

Owen explained that the system was designed to handle approximately 4,640 users, including both rural and semi-urban (village residents) users.

He said approximately 8,000 individual easements have already been secured to allow construction on

private property.

"To a certain extent, we've designed for the future... so we won't be caught in a bind in case of a sudden rise in the number of users," Owen said. "We'll have to grow into the capabilities the plant is able to produce."

The rate schedule the association will operate on initially includes monthly water charges of:

—\$10.50 for the first 2,000 gallons used. This is a minimum charge and is good for one, or 2,000 gallons, used.

—\$3 per 1,000 gallons for amounts used between 2,000 and 5,000 gallons.

—\$2.50 per 1,000 gallons for the amount used between 5,000 and 10,000 gallons.

—\$2 per 1,000 gallons for the amount used between 10,000 and 20,000 gallons.

—And \$1.25 for each 1,000 gallons used in excess of 20,000 gallons.

Owen noted that the rates "were established slightly above indicated construction costs." He explained that "inflation was thus allowed for."

"The rates are based on the estimate we think we can provide water for," he said. "They will be determined, if changes are made at

some later date on the cost of the debt service and the cost of maintenance and operation of the system... We're a non-profit organization, so we won't have to allow for profit."

Owen said it is possible rates could come down, but he "doubt this will happen."

"As water usage goes up, the per-gallon cost of supplying should

Rural water

Continued on Page

Albia Union-

VOL. 112 NO. 10

ALBIA, IOWA 52531

WEDNESDAY

Lauded for guiding Criminal Code revision through Senate

Glenn 'busiest of Legis.

Sen. Gene W. Glenn isn't one of the easiest men in the Iowa Legislature to get in contact with. He's generally far too busy.

Some legislators have time for an idle chat with a reporter. Some don't. Gene Glenn doesn't really have the time, but he makes it.

"I generally put in a full day that stretches into many nights," Glenn said. "And I usually do quite a bit of study on weekends."

talking about his own schedule.

"I seem to be getting busier with each session (of the Legislature)," stated Rep. Charles Poney, who like Glenn is from Ottumwa. "But, fortunately, I'm nowhere as busy as Glenn across the hall (in the Senate) is."

Poney, who represents in the House much of the same territory Glenn does in the Senate, added that "Gene is probably the busiest of the six of us legislators representing

in great demand."

Glenn, 46, represents the Senate's Forty-fifth District, which includes Bluff Creek, Pleasant, Mantua, and Troy townships (including the City of Albia) in Monroe County.

Glenn is quite possibly one of the most qualified men—in terms of

Meet your legislator

SECOND IN A SIX-PART SERIES

April 21, 1975

Monroe Co. Soil Cons.
P. O. Box H-82
Albia, Iowa 52531

Rural water bids continue to beat estimates

Latest round of bid-openings push total to \$3.3 million under predictions

Good news for farmers and others living in the rural areas of the Rathbun region continued to roll in late last week.

The Rathbun Rural Water Association held its third bid-opening in Centerville last Wednesday and Thursday. And the results continued to put smiles on the faces of those associated with the association.

Bids continued to come in well under estimates!

"Bids for distribution lines are running about 29 per cent under estimate and those for storage tanks are running 15 to 17 per cent under estimate," Ken Owen, executive director of the association, said.

Counting those opened last week, the total of all bids received are approximately \$3.3 million under estimate.

All low bids received amount to almost \$13 million (\$12,985,996.25). This may sound like a lot, but it's much better than the \$16-million-plus figure estimates would have put the

bids at.

"We happened to be fortunate and be in the right place at the right time," Owen said. "Due to the economy, many contractors haven't had as much work lately as they've wanted... and they're being real competitive with their bids."

Owen also indicated that Iowa is a good place to be right now when securing bids for construction work.

"There are a lot of construction contracts being let in the state," he explained, "and a lot of contractors are being drawn to Iowa to bid on these projects. Our project is about as big as they come right now, so we're getting more than our fair share of bids."

Owen noted that with the way bids have been coming in, he feels the association can hold to its initial published water rates.

The big item on the agenda of bid-openings last week was for the treatment plant to be located near the outlet channel for Rathbun Lake.

Three of the four submitted bids beat the estimate. Moorhead Construction Co. of Moorhead, Minn., submitted the low bid of \$3,062,220, about \$94,000 less than the second-lowest bid of \$3,156,130. The other two bids amounted to \$3,200,268 and \$4,237,490.

Moorhead Construction Company's bid was almost a half-million dollars under the \$3.65-million estimate.

"That bid was for everything pertaining to the treatment plant and withdrawal system at the site," Owen said. "The total estimate for the plant had been stated at \$3.9 million. However, the extra \$250,000 over the \$3.65 estimate took into account engineering costs."

Of interest to those living in Monroe County were three bid-openings for projects in Service Area 6, located in the southeast quarter of the county. This service area basically includes Monroe and Urbana townships, but also takes in small portions of Troy, Mantua, Guilford and Franklin townships.

Bids for projects in Service Areas 7

and 8 (in the northeast quarter of Monroe County) were opened at the first bid-opening in mid-March.

Low bids for the three projects in Service Area 6 totalled \$1,227,283, about \$263,000 under the estimate of \$1,492,500.

One of the bids was for a million-gallon storage tank (one of two such tanks the association will have built to be located just west of Moravia. The other two bids were for distribution lines (water mains).

Owen noted that even though similar distribution lines might be built in one service area, in many cases two bids (and two contracts) are required because of the way the lines are being financed.

"Some of the lines are being financed exclusively by a loan from FHA (Farmers Home Administration) and others are being financed jointly by FHA and EDA funds," he explained.

Chicago (Ill.) Bridge and Iron Works was the low bidder on the storage tank, barely beating its nearest competitor.

The Chicago company bid \$434,700 on the project, about \$5,000 less than the \$439,975 second-lowest bid. The only other bid on the project was \$469,400. Chicago Bridge and Iron Works' bid was \$125,000-plus under the \$565,000 estimate.

The two bids for the distribution lines attracted many more bidders, with 11 companies submitting bids on the first project and 12 companies bidding on the second one. For the most part bidding was competitive.

Western Mechanical Contractors of Garden City, Kan., submitted the low bid of \$305,421 in the first project, less than \$2,000 under its nearest competitor. The second-lowest bid was \$307,263, with the highest of the 11 bids being only \$392,000.

Herberger Construction Co. of Indianola had the low bid in the second project. Its \$487,162 bid was approximately \$7,000 less than the second-lowest bid of \$493,257. The 12 bids ranged to a high of \$580,846.

Owen noted that there was not an estimate available for the two separate contracts for distribution

lines. However, he said the combined estimate for the two projects had been \$932,500, which was \$140,000 higher than the combined low bids of \$792,583.

Bids for contracts similar to those in Service Area 6 were also opened for three projects in Service Area 1 in northwest Appanoose County.

The three projects included the other million-gallon storage tank—to be built east of Plano—and two distribution-line contracts.

Universal Tank Co. of Indianapolis, Ind., submitted the low bid for the storage tank. Its \$447,195 bid was over \$12,000 higher than the bid submitted by Chicago Bridge and Iron Works for the tank to be built near Moravia. Estimates for both storage tanks were \$565,000.

Rollings Construction Co. of Tulsa, Okla., which had submitted several low bids in the earlier bid-openings,

Rural water

Continued on Page 2

Two Johnny-on-the-spot youths help policeman extinguish grass fire

You've probably heard of a policeman rescuing an 11-year-old boy

the nearest hydrant that it would have taken a lot of...

The Monroe County News

Vol. 90 No. 16

Albia, Iowa April 21, 1975

One section

April 21, 1975

2—THE MONROE COUNTY NEWS—Monday, April 21, 1975

Says first subscribers will get water before end of this year

Rural water

Continued from Page 1

did it again Thursday. That company submitted low bids for both contracts for distribution lines in Service Area 1.

Rollings submitted bids of \$1,157,695.90 and \$606,634.50. Owen noted that there again were several bidders for both these contracts.

Owen added that there had never been a firm estimate for these two contracts, but that it was believed the two contracts combined would run about \$3 million. Rollings' two bids amounted approximately \$700,000 less at \$1,764,330.40.

All in all, low bids for the seven projects involved in the bid-openings last week amounted to \$6,501,028.40. This was almost \$1.7 million less than the \$8,197,300 that had been estimated.

Low bids submitted in the first phase of the bid-openings last March totalled \$4,479,350, more than \$1.1 million less than the \$5.6 that had been estimated for those projects.

And bids came in another \$488,000 under the estimate for the second phase of the bid-openings that took

place two weeks ago.

The second-phase bid-openings were for distribution lines and two storage tanks in Service Areas 10 and 11 in eastern Lucas County. Total low bids for these projects were \$2,005,675.

The low bids for the distribution lines amounted to \$1,770,902. The two storage tanks (one being 75,000 gallons and the other 150,000 gallons) had combined low bids of \$234,675.

Owen noted that no contracts have yet been awarded for any of projects bid on in all the bid-openings.

"We'll be awarding contracts real soon," he said, "and then we'll get to work on advertising for bids for the next phase of the bid-openings."

Owen anticipates the next bid-openings will take place in another six weeks to two months. He said the association is going into the final design for Service Area 9 in northwest Monroe County, Service Area 14 in Lucas County, and Service Areas 17 and 18 in Wayne County.

"Bids for these four service areas will be advertised for shortly and opened in the next bid-opening," Owen said.

He added that the contracts for Service Area 5 in southwest Monroe County—the final service area in the county—could also be advertised for

with the other contracts.

"However, we're not sure if we'll do this then," Owen said. "At the least, we'll be advertising for bids for Service Area 5 shortly after the others."

Owen said he anticipates construction will start on the rural water system by early June.

"I don't know how much of the construction will start then...but at least some of it will," he explained.

He added that he also feels some subscribers to the association will be getting water service by the end of this year.

"There is almost no question about it," he said. "Water will be flowing through our lines by the end of 1975."

These subscribers will be supplied water by cities in the area until the treatment plant is completed. The association has signed agreements with the cities of Albia, Centerville, Chariton, and Humeston to do this.

Owen still foresees the treatment plant being built by the fall of 1976 at the earliest.

"We want to give them (the contractor) the time to do it right," he said. "This isn't a project you hurry up... But I'm still anticipating that our full system should pretty well be built by the end of 1976."

Capitol letter

County News

Monday, January 27, 1975

Two Sections

Council again backs CVRSA's bid for federal funding

Albia is 'back in fold' on liquid-waste planning

The final act of a three-act play was presented here last Friday night when the Albia City Council again decided to "join the fold" and give its approval to join with other governmental bodies in the four-county area of Monroe, Lucas, Appanoose and Wayne counties in authorizing the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency (CVRSA) to seek federal funding for liquid-waste plan for the area.

The council had originally passed a resolution last Oct. 7 indicating its intent to join with other governments in the area to seek the federal assistance.

However, it rescinded this resolution at a meeting last Monday night after hearing a plea from Bob Buss, an engineer from Centerville, that raised doubts as to the

advisability of seeking this federal assistance for liquid-waste planning.

The main thrust behind Buss' argument was that by seeking this federal aid, authority to do liquid-waste (sewer, etc.) planning in cities—and other governmental areas in the four-county area—would be transferred to the CVRSA. Thus, it was felt there would be a lack of "home rule" if federal assistance were granted to the area for liquid-waste planning.

"This plan may be good for Rathbun Lake and the watershed surrounding it, but that doesn't make it good for the cities in the area," Buss said.

Proponents and supporters of the plan then requested Albia Mayor Bernard Carr to call a special council meeting where their side of the issue

could be presented. That's what Friday's meeting was all about. Buss, too, was there to counter anything he felt was erroneous with the liquid-waste supporters' presentation.

When it was all over, the council took the view that liquid-waste planning would be good for the area, and Albia, after all...and voted, 5-1, to again join other governmental bodies in the area in seeking federal assistance. Dr. D.W. Cunningham cast the lone dissenting vote, favoring to not seek federal aid.

At issue was Section 208 of Public Law 92-500, the federal water-control

Liquid waste

Continued on Page 2

Liquid waste

pollution act of 1972. This section was originally included in the law because Sen. Edmund Muskie of Maine and other congressmen thought there was a need for area-wide planning when it came to controlling water pollution.

"They had seen through the years where individual communities, particularly metropolitan areas, needed to plan in order to contend with their sewage problems together," Larry Ferguson said at Friday's meeting.

Ferguson, chief of planning for the Water Quality Division of the State Department of Environmental Quality, was the chief spokesman for those favoring liquid-waste planning.

Ferguson noted that the law wasn't originally envisioned to include planning for rural areas.

"But a few months ago we talked to the (CVRSA's) Liquid Waste Committee and discovered a unique situation exists in this area where many of the same problems facing metropolitan areas in regards to liquid-waste planning also exist here," Ferguson said.

He noted that at that time, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) district office in Kansas City, Mo., was interested in pursuing the possibility of securing liquid-waste planning for the area. The final decision as to whether or not the area will get federal funds rests with EPA's central office in Washington, D.C., he said.

"It was considered a long shot at that time—and still is—that you can get federal assistance anyway," Ferguson said.

Section 208 requires that first the governor must designate a planning area and planning agency (CVRSA in this case) be eligible for funds. EPA must then approve the request, first at a district office (Kansas City in this case) and then in Washington, D.C.

"If 208 funding is accepted, it provides 100-per cent funding for planning to deal with a liquid-waste study," Ferguson said. "That's all 208 is, planning only."

To set the stage for Friday's meeting with the Albia City Council, the Rathbun Lake Association held a meeting in Centerville last Thursday to explain "everything you wanted to know about 208 liquid-waste planning and forgot to ask." In attendance were 27 city and county officials from the four-county area served by CVRSA.

RLA President Bob Beck of Centerville noted that "if we've made a mistake along the way, and I would have to conclude it is a mistake, we didn't inform ourselves as thoroughly as we should have about what 208 funding is—its implications, promise, and potential."

Buss had claimed that "the resolution by governments in the area is to develop and implement a liquid-waste plan," contending that accepting planning locks communities into later steps.

"What are we gaining and what are we sacrificing," Buss added. "I think such planning is great for the lake, but it is not so for the communities and towns in the area."

He contended that sewage-treatment planning has already been completed by such towns as Albia, Moravia, Moulton, Allerton, Humeston and Centerville. Thus, he said, planning for a portion of the four-county area's 43,000 people is already complete.

He said that the law specified that full (100 per cent) grants can be received for such planning by June 30, but that after that time the percentage would fall back to 75-per cent funding. "There would be no benefit if the plan is not approved by June 30, as 75-per cent funding can be received with other grants," he said.

He pointed to the Des Moines area's 18-month long struggle for application approval as an indication that the four-county proposal may

not be approved by the June 30 deadline.

He contended that once involved in the plan, the agency regulating it (CVRSA) could regulate all liquid-waste planning for individual communities in the area. "Home rule" would thus be nullified, he said.

Ferguson disputed some of these claims. Chief among them was his contention that home rule need not be disrupted.

"You, the people in the area, will be the ones drawing up the plan," he said. "You'll be the ones to put into it what you want—and see as being needed for the area."

He noted that the plan once drawn would not be binding for all time. "Situations and problems change," he said. "At any time you feel the original plan is not meeting the needs of the area, or individual communities, it can be changed."

He noted that if the plan is not approved by all communities and governmental bodies involved, then there is "no plan".

"There can't be a plan unless it is approved by everyone involved," he said. "If it isn't then EPA would have sunk a lot of money into the area for nothing as the plan would become non-functioning."

He pointed out that the specifics of some of his contentions were not spelled out in the law, "but that is, nevertheless, what is meant."

He noted that he felt "there is a need for water control around the lake....Counties involved sometimes don't have the same plan....But if this 208 plan is implemented, then everyone would work together to solve the same problems."

He pointed out that the Rathbun area is the only other area beside Des Moines to have applied for 208 funding in Iowa.

"This is also the first rural area to indicate an interest in obtaining 208 funding," he said. "We don't know of another rural area in the nation where this has been done."

"...We've talked to people in Washington....they've come to Iowa and, when we bring up Rathbun and the rural area here, they're real interested because this is the first rural area in the nation being considered for 208 planning."

"....It's been indicated to me that you (the people of the area) take much pride in your lake," he added. "The last thing you want to see is it become another polluted lake like Red Rock...."

When told that some of the planning for the Rathbun Lake area is late, that it should have been done before the lake was completed, Ferguson said, "That's exactly why you need it now....to make sure it is done."

He also added that a "mechanism is needed to be developed to ensure the various development

projects around the lake pay their own way....and the expenses involved will not be put back on cities around the lake."

When asked what benefit the plan would be to Albia, Ferguson said, "If you feel that Rathbun Lake does not affect you....that you have no stake in its growth and development, then none. If you feel the lake will be beneficial to Albia, then it's obvious that you need orderly development of the lake."

"From my viewpoint, you (Albia) have everything to gain and nothing to lose by approving the planning process."

When asked what it would cost Albia in terms of money once the plan is finished, Ferguson said, "That's up to you. You're the ones who will draw up the plan. What you want it to do, it will do. You can reject the plan once it is completed. Then there would be no plan."

"But, hopefully, you won't get in that situation. You'll be working together with other governmental bodies in the area....and will be talking back and forth to avoid a situation like this."

This plan will provide a mechanism for local people to do the planning for their own area....to say these are our water problems and this is how we'll solve them."

He added that each city has its own water-control plan.

"The cities have solved their own problems in the past and will do so in the future," he said. "This area, unlike Des Moines, does not have the need every city to have the same plan. Situations and problems are different in each city here....and it is not pertinent that every city do the same thing."

The Liquid Waste Committee of the CVRSA is requesting a grant of \$25,000 in federal funds to incorporate the liquid-waste plan for the Rathbun Lake area.

A public hearing was held in Centerville today (Monday) at 1 p.m. by the State Office for Planning and Programming. It is being held to discuss Gov. Robert Ray's designation of the four-county area as a region eligible for federal assistance for liquid-waste planning.

With Albia again supporting the resolution of area governments trying to acquire this grant, perhaps the "long shot," as Ferguson called it, will move a step closer to reality this afternoon.

Ferguson noted that even if the request should bog down in bureaucratic red tape, EPA has been putting pressure on congress to move the time period to obtain 100-per cent federal funding for liquid-waste planning ahead another two years. It is hoped this will be done before June 30, when the present time period to obtain this 100-per cent funding expires.

June 18, 1975

Monroe Co. Soil Cons.
P. O. Box H-82
Albia, Iowa 52531



Laying water line

Crews of Northern Pipeline of Bemidji, Minn., began laying pipe Friday for Rathbun Regional Water Association on John McDonald farm along road extending east of Albia from Fourth Ave. Crews from other construction companies are

expected to start work on water line in county shortly. Some subscribers to rural water system in Service Areas 7 and 8 in county should be supplied water this fall, Jim Warner, engineer for the association, said.

Strikes on Findley farm near Lovilia early this morning

Tornado tops list of damages

A probable tornado that struck near Lovilia led a list of damage caused by rash winds, accompanied by much lightning, thunder, and rain, early this morning (Wednesday).

There were also several utility lines reported knocked down in the county by the storm. Damage to some other isolated buildings was also believed but not confirmed.

Although not confirmed, a tornado is believed to have struck the Albert Findley farm one-quarter mile east of Lovilia. Findley, who lives alone, was seeking the safety of his home at the time the storm struck and did not see a tornado.

But the amount of damage

occurring to several outbuildings on the farm pointed to a tornado having swept past.

Findley was reported as "scared to death" at the time of the storm. However, he was not injured, nor were any farm animals.

A list of damage on the farm shows:

—A large tin barn completely destroyed.

—Two corn cribs also destroyed.

—An empty hog house flattened and destroyed.

—A roof on another shed occupied by hogs was blown in on the animals. However, none of them were injured and they were moved after the

storm.

—A white granary was tipped over and rolled about 30 feet into another building where it came to rest.

—A machine shed, along with the poles staked into the ground, was pulled out of the ground.

—The roof to Findley's home was damaged, along with several windows in the house blown out.

The incident at the Findley farm occurred at approximately 8 a.m.

The heavy wind and lightning which accompanied the storm in this area also caused an outage of electricity in the Melrose area.

Crews from the Iowa Southern Utilities Co. were on the scene

shortly after the storm and power was expected to be restored by noon.

Norman Braun, manager of the Chariton Valley REA, reported a few individual outages on the cooperative's lines, most of them caused by lightning which caused the individual fuses to blow.

United Telephone Co. of Iowa reported that the extended area service between Albia and Melrose was disrupted and a few circuits west were also disrupted.

Both United and Northwestern Bell Co., which maintains the long distance lines, had repair crews on the scene and service was expected to be restored shortly.

Albia Union-Republican

VOL. 112 NO. 25

ALBIA, IOWA 52531

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18, 1975

2 ECTIONS

Awarded for two-year study in Rathbun region

Get \$325,000 liquid waste grant

The four counties of the Rathbun Lake region, including Monroe County, will share in a \$325,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that has just been awarded to study liquid waste disposal need and management in the area.

The announcement was made by Gov. Robert Ray's office Tuesday.

The Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency (CVRSA) will be the recipient of the grant which will cover a two-year planning study by consultants hired by the agency.

It is one of the first such grants of its kind to be authorized in Iowa... and, according to previous reports, the first to be authorized a multi-county agency in a rural area.

The CVRSA is an inter-governmental coordinating agency created by 31 city and county governments in the Rathbun region to handle programs affecting any two or more counties in the region.

Earlier this year, Governor Ray had designated the four-county area (Monroe, Lucas, Appanoose, and Wayne counties) as a Waste Treatment Planning Region, making it eligible for the federal grant. The CVRSA was designated the agency to handle and supervise this study if the grant was approved.

However, the application for the grant didn't get the approval of the Albia City Council without a back-and-forth squabble.

The council voted to approve solicitation of the grant last October. Then early last winter, after a session with Robert Buss, an engineer from Centerville, it changed its mind and withdrew its support from the plan.

After the urging of CVRSA officials, the council then held a special meeting just prior to the public hearing the governor's representatives held in Centerville to receive comments from area residents, governmental officials, and other interested groups, on whether or not this area should be designated for the study.

After listening to opinions from a state Department of Environmental Quality official at its special meeting, the council once again changed its mind and voted to back solicitation of the grant.

That, the Centerville hearing was held with Albia backing the plan.

Buss based his fight against the plan wording in EPA regulations governing such grants. He felt this endangered "home rule" in the area.

However, both DEQ and Office of Planning and Programming officials countered that the plan was in no way binding on local governments.

They claimed that local governments originally indicating support for securing the grant could withdraw from the plan once it is formulated if they decide it does not

meet their needs, or that the plan will endanger the home-rule concept for their populace.

Buss countered that the wording of the EPA regulations led one to believe that once indicating support for developing the plan, a governmental body could not withdraw from the plan... and was at all times bound to what the governing agency (CVRSA in this instance) dictated.

After eventually losing his battle in Albia and at the Centerville hearing (where support for the grant far

outweighed those opposing it, he and other officials carried their fight to the governor's office.

But the governor designated the area as eligible for the grant.

The grant requires no matching funds. Area government officials have spent almost two years writing grant applications to receive the funding.

EPA grant

Continued on Page 2

June 18, 1975

EPA grant

Continued from Page 1

Among those officials was Bill McGrath, president of CVRSA and a member of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors.

"We've worked a long time for this grant, and feel it can be of great benefit to our area," McGrath said.

He said the development of a liquid-waste management program for the four-county area "would assist the small towns, the unincorporated areas and the larger communities equally," and can provide them with a base by which "future growth and development can occur."

"The program would not hinder any individual community's ongoing planning efforts for their own sewer collection and treatment system, but would supplement the individual community's effort," McGrath added.

"Another important element" of this study noted by McGrath is the identification of pollution "to our underground and surface water sources.

"This is particularly important for the future protection of Lake Rathbun, as it is the regional water supply for the four-county area," he said.

"We now have the means of looking at our four-county area's water-quality problems in a broad comprehensive way," McGrath said. "It is hoped that the overall plan will be of assistance to the local communities in developing their individual plans as future construction is required in each of our communities through either growth or replacement of existing facilities as they deteriorate.

"We hope that when the planning program is completed, it will make our area more attractive and enhance the opportunities for growth in recreation, industry, agriculture and the business sector," he concluded.

The money for the planning study will be paid by the EPA directly to the CVRSA. There has been no indication how soon the CVRSA will begin drawing the funds.

April 2, 1975

Crall tops Soil Conservation Districts' annual speech contest

Kathleen Crall, 16, won the Monroe County Soil Conservation District's annual speech contest held at the high school in Albia Monday afternoon.

Ms. Crall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Crall of 412 Third Ave. East in Albia, now advances to the regional contest to be held either next June or July.

Ms. Crall, who won the high school division of the district contest Monday, was also declared the over-all winner at the district level.

Judy Williams, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Chidester, Rt. 2, Melrose, finished second in the high school division.

Dawn Peterson, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Peterson, 516 North Eighth St., Albia, was the winner of contest for Middle School students.

Chris Sears, 13, daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. Ivan Sears, Rt. 1, Melrose, took second in the Middle School division.

Only the over-all winners of the district contests (Ms. Crall in Monroe County) are eligible to advance to the regional contests. Both of this district's division winners and runners-up were presented plaques by the Soil Conservation District, however.

The topic of this year's speech is "Land-Use Planning—Insurance for Mankind."

Ms. Crall will compete against winners of the other districts in Region 9 of the Iowa Soil Conservation Service.

There are nine regions in the state, with regional winners advancing to the state contest.

Beside Monroe County, Region 9 includes Lucas, Wayne, Appanoose,

Wapello, Mahaska, Davis, Keokuk, Jefferson, Van Buren, Henry, Lee, and Des Moines counties.

There will be \$1,230 awarded in prizes to those who finish among the top speakers in the regional and state levels of the contest.

At the regional level, winners will receive \$30 for first place, \$20 for second, \$15 for third, and \$10 if the judges should determine the quality of other speeches merit a special award.

At the state contest, winners will receive a \$300 scholarship plus \$110 for first place, \$85 for second, and \$60 for third.

The regional and state contests will be sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Co.



Top speakers

Kathleen Crall, 16, of Albia (right) receives plaque for winning Monroe County Soil Conservation District speech contest at high school Monday. Bill McGrath (left), Soil Conservation District commissioner, presents plaque to Ms. Crall. In background are Judy Williams, 16, of rural Melrose,

Dawn Peterson, 13, of Albia, and Chris Sears, 13, of rural Melrose. Ms. Williams finished runner-up in high school division of contest. Ms. Peterson won Middle School division and Ms. Sears finished second behind her.

March 24, 1975

Albia, Iowa, Monday, March 24, 1975



Looks at his land

Ollie Kaldenberg, Rt. 5, north of Albia, takes a look at his land recently, thinking of all it has produced for him over the years. Kaldenberg farms with his son, Tom. Today (Monday) is Agriculture Day, both in Iowa and on the national level. Several local

merchants and other businessmen, in conjunction with The Albia NEWSpapers, wish to take time to honor the farmer today. Special ads in recognition of farmers can be found on Pages 4 and 5 of this issue of Monroe County News.

April 30, 1975

Annual observance slated for next week

'Test of Strength' is theme for Soil Stewardship Week

Soil Stewardship Week, an annual nationwide observance which emphasizes man's responsibility to protect and conserve soil, water, and other natural resources, will be held next week (Sunday, May 4, through Sunday, May 11), Ollie Kaldenberg, chairman of the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, has announced.

Kaldenberg, of Rt. 5, Albia, noted that this year's theme, "Test of Strength," emphasizes "how many changes now occurring in the nation 'test our strength' and affect our continuing responsibility to be good stewards of the land."

Among the churches in the district (county) scheduling special Soil Steward services are St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Melrose, St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Georgetown, and the Trinity

Methodist, the First Christian, Lutheran, Episcopalian, and St. Mary's Catholic churches, all in Albia.

Kaldenberg cited food and energy shortages, environmental pollution, and the growing concern over land use as examples of changes and developments affecting the use of America's natural resources.

"It is hoped," Kaldenberg said, "that during Soil Stewardship Week, millions of Americans will pause for a moment to consider their responsibilities for the protection and use of the Lord's earth."

Members of the Monroe County Soil Stewardship Committee are Bill McGrath, Ray Vance, DeWayne Johnson, Albert Elcher, and Kaldenberg.

The Soil Conservation District, upon request, will provide local

churches with programs, bulletin inserts, and copies of this year's observance booklet.

This material was prepared by the National Soil Stewardship Advisory Committee of the National Association of Conservation Districts. The advisory committee is composed of churchmen.

This year, 1975, will mark the twenty-first consecutive year that the Monroe County Soil Conservation District, along with almost 3,000 similar districts throughout the United States, has sponsored Soil Stewardship Week.

The custom of setting aside special "Rogation Days" (days of prayer) for this purpose began more than 1,500 years ago in France, when French peasants prayed for help after crop failures had brought widespread hunger.

They're backbone of nation, state, and county

Farmers are saluted on Agriculture Day

Today (Monday, Mar. 24) is Agriculture Day, both on the state and national level.

Numerous local merchants and other business people have joined The Albia NEWSpapers in saluting the farmer with special advertisements on Pages 4 and 5 of this issue of The Monroe County News.

We surely all realize that without the farmer, the cities of Monroe

Comment BY THE EDITOR

County (Albia, Lovilia, Melrose, etc.) would probably barely be in existence—if at all.

The farmer is the backbone of the nation, the State of Iowa, and, especially, Monroe County! American farmers have undergone a great transition since the American Revolution. At that time approximately 85 per cent of the population of the country lived and worked on farms. Today only about five per cent of the population lives on and works the land.

Yet . . . the people of this country are the best fed in the world. Americans spend only approximately 15 per cent of their income to eat. This is the lowest percentage in the world!

And beside supporting the appetites and health of Americans,

farmers support industry as well. Farmers have a great effect on the well-being of this country in many respects.

Agriculture is the largest buyer of industrial products. American farmers spend \$40 billion each year to cover production expenses for food and fiber.

Almost everything starts on the farm! Every hour of every day Americans come into contact with food, fiber, and other products that all start on a farm.

For example: meat, poultry, dairy products, fruits and vegetables, cotton, textiles, wool, corn and soybean, oils, wheat, peanuts, sugar, leather, tobacco, wines, beer, chemicals, pharmaceuticals . . . almost everything you can think of starts on a farm in one way or another.

In Monroe County alone, it is estimated that the net income of farmers is at least \$10 million a year.

According to the latest figures (for 1973), the average farm in the State of Iowa had a net income of \$16,539 per year.

If Monroe County's 911 farms (as counted in 1973) had a net income of just \$13,000 a year, that would boost the total net income for farms in the county to almost \$12 million.

The value of farm land in the county is close to \$100 million. The 911 farms in the county total 249,227 acres, an average of 274 acres per

farm.

With the average value of farm land in the county listed at \$34 per acre (as of last November), the total value of all farm land in the county is over \$93 million. And that does not even include the buildings and equipment on these farms.

This value is all computed when it comes to farmers paying their share of taxes to support the county.

Probably in excess of 25 per cent of the county is engaged in farming. And this percentage would soar when all the directly related agri-businesses are computed into the county's economy.

Still more important, practically every local business depends on the farmer for support, no matter whether the percentage of support be 100 or 10 per cent.

In 1972, cash receipts from the sale of farm produce in Iowa totaled \$4.7 billion. Over a half-million people worked and lived on the 132,610 farms in the state, according to 1972 figures.

The average size of the Iowa farm was 254 acres that year, with a total of 33,711,000 acres in farm land.

The net income from Iowa farming was \$1.64 billion. All these figures have grown since then, it is projected.

Agriculture Day

Continued

The realized gross income of farming in Iowa swelled to almost \$5.2 billion in 1972 when \$318.5 million in government payments, \$35.6 million in farm home consumption, and \$144 million in rental of farm dwellings were added to the \$4.7 billion in cash receipts from farm marketings.

To add depth to the scope of farming in the state, in 1973 there were over 333,000 tractors on Iowa farms, 30,700 combines, 88,100 pickers, 48,000 balers, 94,000 hay rakes, 123,000 pickups and trucks, 159,000 power elevators, 217,000 plows, 20,800 harvesters, 110,500 mowers, 118,000 spreaders, 110,000 corn planters, 61,300 grain drills, 50,000 internal combustion engines, and 19,300 hay conditioners.

All these machines had to be bought somewhere, supporting a good segment of

the state's economy. Farmers are big users of capital . . . and they produce big capital for the state . . . and Monroe County. It is also estimated that over 35,000 hired hands and over workers are employed on farms. Thus, farms directly create jobs for others beside the owner.

Dollar figures weren't as readily available for Monroe County as for the state, but it should be noted that according to the assessor's 1971 annual farm census in Monroe County and enumeration for the winter ending of 1974:

—There were 33,588 acres of corn harvested in the county.

—29,692 acres were harvested for grain, producing 2,351,821 bushels.

—3,762 acres were harvested for silage, producing 47,895 tons.

—23,906 acres of soybeans were harvested for beans, producing 585,683 bushels.

—1,464 acres of oats were harvested, producing 47,895 bushels.

—31,308 acres of hay were harvested, producing millions of bales.

—150,837 acres were in pasture land.

—And there were over 40,000 acres reserved for other uses.

—56,906 hogs were marketed from the county in that period. Over 9,000 sows were also farrowed.

—25,058 beef cows had calved. An additional 1,312 milk cows had also calved.

—2,259 grain-fed cattle were marketed in 1973 from the county.

—4,300 lambs were born during that year, with 3,042 grain-fed sheep and lambs marketed.

—There were also over 500

commercial broilers produced, with over 5,000 hens and pullets of laying age on hand.

It all adds up to the fact that the farmer is the lifeblood of the county, and on this, their day, we salute them!

April 28, 1975

County Soil Conservation office moved

The Monroe County Soil Conservation Service office has been moved from the post office building to 14-B Second Ave. West in Albia. The move took place late last week.

The Soil Conservation Service's new office is located in the same building that houses the Farmers Home Administration and Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service offices.

April 9, 1975



HOG LAGOON—This photo shows part of lagoon (in bottom left-hand corner) which catches waste materials from sloped hog-finishing site at Everett Gardner farm along Rt. 5 north of Albia. Hog pens are at top of photo.

Gardner farm along Rt. 5 north of Albia. Hog pens are at top of photo.

Finishing site saves time, feed getting hogs to market quicker

There's a lot of hogs at the Everett Gardner farm along Rt. 5 north of Albia...but they're not taking up much room.

That's because of the new hog-finishing site Gardner began operating last January.

With the new operation, Gardner's hogs finish sooner and get to market quicker...eating less feed in the process.

The new hog-finishing site is a long row of adjoining pens. Each pen has an enclosure in the back (enclosed on the sides, back and partially down the top of the front) and is open in the front.

The floor is cement which slopes toward an embankment, which in turn falls into a lagoon.

"The pens are sloped to carry off waste materials," John Botts of the Monroe County Soil Conservation Service said. "The hogs will then work the manure and waste materials off...and they will be carried down the embankment into the lagoon."

The pens each have a swinging gate which can be used to either enclose the hogs in their separate pens, or to further enclose the animals in the back end of each pen.

The Soil Conservation Service helped design the lagoon. Botts noted that it is designed to catch all animal waste with the run-off operation. Gardner's lagoon is designed for 450 units of hogs.

Rain usually washes the cement floors off, but they can also be hosed down.

"The lagoon is designed to have one-cubic foot of capacity for each pound of hog," Botts said.

He noted that some of the waste materials might have to be piped from the lagoon sometime in the future.

"Presently, the lagoon isn't equipped with this pipe, but it can be easily put in," Botts said. "If the waste material is piped off, it can then be used for fertilizer."

Botts noted that there are two other similar lagoons in

Monroe County, belonging to Dale Maddison and Kenny Hinton.

"However, both Hinton and Maddison have different set-ups," Botts said. "They have a flushing system incorporated with their hog pens...and then the waste material is carried by sewer lines to the lagoons, which are located a fair distance from the pens."

Botts noted that the Soil

Conservation Service made the survey for, and then designed, the lagoon. The design was then sent to the state Department of Environmental Quality for approval before it was built.

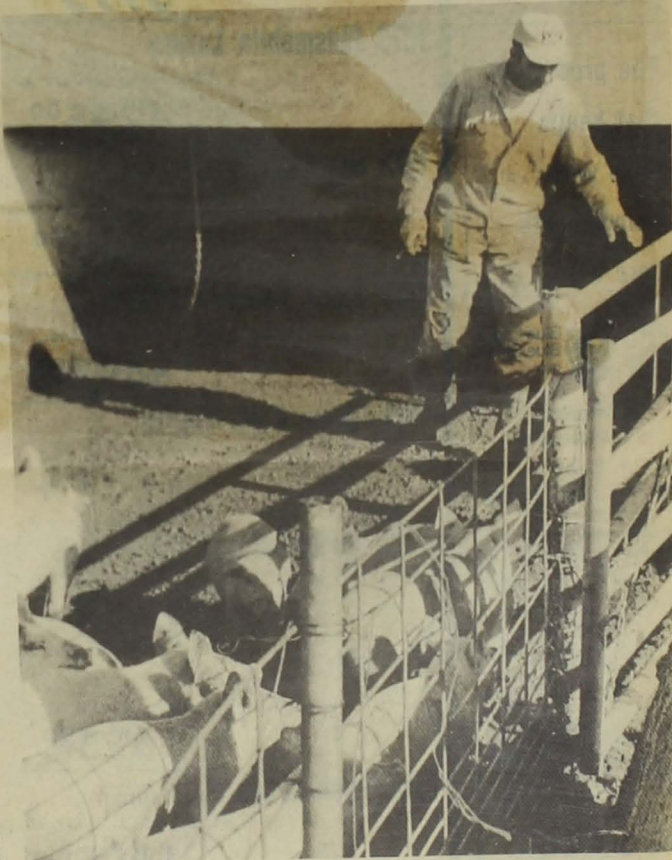
"The operation is expensive to build, but not as expensive as you might think," Gardner said. "And it does save a lot of work later on."

It was noted that hogs of similar sizes are always kept

together in respective pens.

The smaller the pigs, the more you put in an individual pen. But as the hogs grow, they are split up into different pens to allow the larger animals some "living" room.

"The pigs go right from the farrow house, to the pens, to market," Gardner said. "And some of the work of raising them and feed is saved along the way."



CHECKS ON HOGS—Everett Gardner, Rt. 5, Albia, checks on condition of hogs in one of pens in his

new hog-finishing site which went into operation last January.

may 21, 1975



Trees to go grow on

Third-graders in Monroe County were presented black walnut seedlings by County Soil Conservation Service District last week. Trees, which came from Red Haw State Park Nursery near Chariton, were presented to youngsters to instill sense of value of trees as they watch their's grow. It was noted that seedlings would take 35 years to reach maturity, over four times age of third-graders. Youngsters were also given list of instructions to take home with their tree. Pictured here with their trees at Jefferson School in Albia are (left to right) Jeff Main, Jill Buol, Miss Bernice O'Neill (their teacher), Sheila Lahart, and Tommy Woollums.

May 14, 1975

Accepting applications for ASCS cost-sharing

The Monroe County office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) is now accepting applications for requests from farmers for cost-sharing practices.

Under the ASCS's operational procedures, all approved practices that were in effect under the 1970 National ACP Program and all 1974 RECP Practices are eligible to be included in the 1975 program.

The County ASCS Committee wishes to emphasize that the objective of the cost-sharing program is to provide for the assurance of carrying out soil and water

conservation measures that farmers would not perform without the assistance of this cost-sharing.

Also included in the 1975 program will be the long-term agreement provision. The sign-up period for filing requests for a long-term agreement ends June 13.

Monroe County is also designed for the 1975 Forestry Incentive Program.

The County ASCS Committee urges farmers interested in soil and water conservation practices to contact the local ASCS office in Albia to review practices that are available. Funds are limited, it was noted.

July 23, 1975

Kaldenberg attends confab on soil, water conservation

Ollie Kaldenberg of rural Albia, Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District commissioner, attended the Upper Mississippi Region seminar held at Bettendorf last week.

More than 200 district officials from eight Midwest states participated in the three-day meeting.

George R. Bagley of St. Joseph, La., farmer and president of the National Association of Conservation Districts, keyed the meeting Wednesday morning. The group also heard Mrs. Louise Moon, president of the Iowa League of Women Voters, Wednesday.

Guest speaker at Wednesday night's banquet was Russell Train, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. Iowa Gov. Robert Ray addressed the group Thursday morning. Thursday night the group took a boat ride down the Mississippi River.

Exploring the theme "Land Use and Abuse", local governing officials of conservation districts in the states represented exchanged ideas and experiences. Some form of land-use regulation, whether at local, state, or national level, appears to be

in the future, they agreed.

Reports indicate the job conservation is far from being done. It was noted that in most states less than half the land is adequately protected from erosion.

Recent pressure to produce more farm products may have delayed going to programs of conservation the officials decided.

"Even though we've been pushing conservation for 25-30 years in Monroe County, there is still a lot of land in under good conservative management," Kaldenberg said.

"Practicing conservation still the choice of the

landowner, but the weight of responsibility gets heavier as population pressures mount," he added.

June 4, 1975

enviro gram



By JOHN BOTTS
Soil Conservation Technician

Two weekends ago, I decided to do one of those "fun jobs". I was assembling a precut children's picnic table for our neighbor's 4-year-old Carri and 2-year-old Matt Argo.

I was almost through, but the manufacturer of the table had failed to drill one of the pilot holes. Rather than get the electric drill, I was using one of those ratchet type hand drills.

Holding the 3/4-by-1 1/2-inch brace between the index finger and thumb, I drilled a hole in the brace and on the last vigorous push on the drill, it bounced out of the hole and drilled a hole completely through my finger.

My wife, Luzon, drove me to the Monroe County Hospital. There, Dr. Crane gave me a tetanus shot and sent me on my way. There isn't much a doctor can do about plugging a hole.

The purpose of this story is to point out how careless we can be.

Each year, we see farmers plowing steep hills and planting them to row crops or continuous cropping on gently rolling land without any protection by terracing.

It is a safe bet that severe erosion will take place with the rain-fall pattern we have in Iowa.

I will make you a promise. I will keep my tetanus shots up to date and use the proper tools. I hope you will take the necessary precautions with the land.

ICC aims to eliminate stunted fish, heavy weed growth

See better fishing at Cottonwood Pits

A program to bring better fishing to the Cottonwood Pits in Southern Monroe County will begin today (Wednesday), Jim Bruce of Moravia, fisheries biologist for the Iowa Conservation Commission (ICC) has announced.

Bruce said the ICC, which controls the three ponds making up the Pits, is "in the process of renovating the water by eliminating the stunted fish population and heavy weed growth."

"The three pits are all well weeded in and have a large stunted fish population," Bruce said. "Consequently, there has not been very good fishing there the past few years."

The three ponds total 15 acres of water.

Bruce said that today personnel from the Fisheries Section of the ICC will begin applying the chemical rotenone to the waters. The chemical kills the fish by paralyzing their gill movement. Suffocation follows.

The only thing recent shockings at

the Pits have revealed is a population of stunted panfish," Bruce said. "In fact, we didn't turn up a bass and only a few small bullheads in our last shocking."

Bruce noted that there have been a few larger fish caught recently in the Pits, "but very few... and mostly bluegills."

"The most notable recent fish from the Pits was a one-pound 15-ounce bluegill Dennis Thompson of Albia caught last May. He has just been recognized by the ICC for this catch."

Bruce said that the ICC will allow the effects of the rotenone to wear off and then re-stock the ponds this fall with channel catfish and bluegill. Bass will be re-introduced to the ponds next summer. All three species will be re-stocked as small fingerlings.

He said there will be 15,000 bluegills re-stocked (1,000 to the surface acre), 1,500 channel cat (100 per acre) and 3,000 bass (200 per acre).

Bruce pointed out that the ICC will be re-stocking the fish under

a new concept it has recently been using.

"The Commission has recently been stocking small fingerlings to the carrying capacity of a body of water," he said. "That way you don't get an out-of-control reproduction situation that leads to overpopulation and stunted fish."

He noted that when a lower population of fish is introduced into a body of water, "prolific growth and reproduction result...which lead to stunted fish."

He explained that stocking larger fish has the same result.

"The larger fish are near reproduction capabilities...and without any, or many, natural enemies for the first few batches of fry they produce, you can also get overpopulation and stunted fish."

Cottonwood Pits

Continued from Page 1

He said "best results are achieved by stocking small fry at near carrying capacity of the water."

"This helps prohibit prolific reproduction," he explained. "The fish might reproduce on a regular basis. But with the original stocked fish then adults, most hatched fry will be eaten."

He said that the bluegills are being stocked before the bass in order to make good forage for the largemouth when they begin to reach maturity.

He added that the catfish are also being stocked first to help them reach maturity, noting that in clear water catfish fry are extremely susceptible to being eaten

by larger fish.

"The clearness of the water in the Pits should eliminate any successful catfish reproduction," he said. "There are some nesting areas for the channel cat, but most, in not all, fry that hatch will soon be eaten."

Bruce said that in conjunction with the "renovation program at the Pits, the ICC will start its weed-control project in late spring or early summer next year. He noted that the problem weeds are rooted aquatic vegetation.

"We'll start our program to control the weeds just before the vegetation hits its peak growing season," he concluded.

August 27, 1975



Botts honored

John Botts (left) recently was honored with award for his "outstanding performance during 1974 in helping increase number of tile outlet terraces" in Monroe County Soil Conservation District. Presenting award to Botts is Ernie Aust of

Shenandoah, area conservationist. Botts is soil conservation technician for Monroe County district. Terraces Botts designed and helped lay out were increased by 50 per cent in district during last year.

Sept. 10, 1975

Tab McGrath 'outstanding' conservationist

William F. (Bill) McGrath of Melrose was named one of nine outstanding soil conservation district commissioners at the conservation district commissioners' annual conference in Des Moines recently.

Recipients of the award are selected for their service to the soil conservation district program on a district, regional, state and national level.

McGrath also serves as chairman of the Chariton Valley RC&D Project, on the executive board and as chairman of the Monroe County Chariton Valley RC&D Steering Committee.

He has been a commissioner on the Monroe County Soil Conservation District for the past five years and is currently serving as vice-chairman of the district governing body.

Sept. 10, 1975



Control erosion

Members of Monroe County Board of Supervisors and directors of Soil Conservation District inspected new erosion-control projects along roadside ditches in county earlier this summer. In above photo, part of group inspects grass cover along road ditch near Charles Scholtus farm

approximately seven miles southeast of Albia. Left to right are county engineer Ralph Sears, soil conservation directors Ollie Kaldenberg and Albert Etcher, county supervisors George Klobnak and Harold Waters, and soil conservation director Bill McGrath.



NEW SOD—Inspecting new sod with jute mesh over top are (left to right, above) McGrath, Sears (in background), and Kaldenberg, chairman of soil conservation directors in Monroe County. This sod was planted west of Albia on roadside

ditch near Tom Luttrell farm. This is Soil Conservation Week in Iowa. As a salute to those working in, and participating in, soil conservation, The Albia NEWSpapers will print a special supplement next week.

Hunters 'buy' 8.25-million acres of wetlands for birds

Of the some-13.5-million acres preserved for migratory bird habitat in the United States, 8.25-million acres (61 per cent) are preserved as a direct result of hunting-oriented programs, the Iowa Conservation Commission pointed out in a recent report.

"This basic fact sums up the critical role America's duck and goose hunters play in the conservation of both waterfowl and a host of other wetland species from marsh

wren to osprey," the commission stated.

Of these 8.25-million hunter-financed acres, 5.2-million acres are owned or controlled by waterfowl hunting clubs.

The Commission noted that these private wetland and marsh areas are not only managed to provide prime waterfowl habitat, but they are also "kept out of the hands of those who would drain, dredge or 'develop' these irreplaceable natural

habitats."

Last year for example, it was pointed out that a group of South Carolina duck hunters, members of the Santee Club donated their 25,000-acre coastal tract to a land conservation agency.

Much sought after by commercial interest, this \$20-million piece of real estate will now remain as part of the nation's wildlife heritage.

The commission noted that the private efforts of

waterfowlers have also been instrumental in preserving Canadian breeding grounds, where more than 70 per cent of all waterfowl originate.

In its 38-year history, Ducks Unlimited, an organization supported largely by U.S. waterfowlers, has raised more than \$35 million to create drought and flood-proof habitat covering two-million water acres and encompassing 11,000 miles of shoreline on 1,200 projects across Canada.

Waterfowl hunters also make significant contributions to federal and state habitat programs, the commission said.

Since 1934, all waterfowl hunters 16 and older have been required to purchase an annual Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp, commonly called a "duck stamp."

Revenue from duck stamp sales is now about \$11 million annually and, to date, this program has collected over \$153 million for the acquisition of some two-million acres of waterfowl production habitat and National Wildlife Refuge lands.

In Iowa, approximately \$70,000 is collected annually from the sale of state duck stamps.

The \$1 stamps are required for all waterfowl hunters regardless of age. This money is used for waterfowl habitat and wetland restoration projects.

Additionally, the commission pointed out that monies expended on sporting arms and ammunition include an 11-per cent tax which is earmarked for state wildlife restoration programs, including acquisition and development of migratory bird habitat.

Since this tax was imposed in 1939, over \$518 million has been collected to provide the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program with funds for land acquisition of over one-million by the states.

Conservationists agree that the key to wildlife populations is proper habitat. And in the case of waterfowl habitat, the commission stated that the facts are clear.

"No other group has done, and is continuing to do, more to preserve and enhance the native environment of migratory birds than America's waterfowl hunters," the commission said.

Look at RC & D roadside projects Thursday

Inspect erosion-control work

An operation and maintenance inspection of completed Chariton Valley Resource, Conservation and Development (RC and D) projects will be conducted this Thursday by Monroe County's Board of Supervisors and Soil Conservation District, John Frieden of the Soil Conservation Service has announced.

"The purpose of the inspection is to insure that the improvements made for completed RC and D projects are properly maintained and operating

effectively," Frieden explained. "Works of improvement in need of repair will be identified and plans for correcting the problems will be made."

Members of the board of supervisors are Harold Waters, George Klobnak and Bill McGrath, who is also a Soil Conservation District commissioner. Other commissioners are Ollie Kaldenberg, DeWayne Johnson, Albert Etcher and Raymond Vance.

Frieden and Monroe County Engineer Ralph Sears will assist with the inspection.

Frieden pointed out that the projects to be inspected are three roadside erosion-control measures which encompass approximately 15 miles of erosion-control work along roadsides.

The work already completed involves reshaping, fertilizing, seeding, sodding, jute meshing, and mulching of county secondary road ditches.

Frieden noted that small erosion-control structures have also been installed in the ditches to control soil erosion.

Seventy-five per cent of the money to complete this work comes from federal RC and D funds, with the remaining 25 per cent coming from Monroe County's secondary road funds.

Approximately \$81,000 in the federal RC and D funds have been obtained for roadside erosion control in Monroe County, Frieden noted.

"The roadside erosion-control work that has been completed will help protect Monroe County's investment in roads as well as eliminate severe traffic hazards and reduce downstream sediment damages," Frieden said.

He added that the erosion-control

work should also help reduce road-maintenance costs, improve the environment, and enhance the beauty of the area.

Frieden said that an example of this work can be seen along the road bordering the east side of Miami Lake.

"The road ditches near Miami now have a good grass cover to keep soil in place," Frieden said. "Prior to this project, sediment entered Miami Lake from the eroding road ditches in excess of 10 tons of soil loss per acre, per year.

"In comparison, this would amount to approximately 150 dump-truck loads of soil deposited every year in the lake from the 21.5 acres of road ditches," he added. "Needless to say, this particular project has increased the useful life of Miami Lake for many years to come."

It was noted that the sponsors of these roadside erosion-control projects—which are Monroe County's Board of Supervisors, Soil Conservation District, and Soil Conservation Service—feel "this type of work is worthwhile based on the total economic impact on the community."

Because of this the sponsors have developed a five-year plan to complete all needed roadside erosion-control work in the county.

Panel to submit recommendation to governor then

Liquid-waste meeting records open 2 weeks

The first "official" step in a process that could result in the Chariton Valley Regional Services Agency (CVRSA) being designated as a liquid-waste treatment planning agency for the four-county area of Monroe, Lucas, Appanoose and Wayne counties was taken Monday at a public hearing held in Centerville.

Bob Tyson, director of the Iowa Office for Programming and Planning (OPP), chaired the three-man panel designated by Gov. Robert Ray to hold the hearing. Other members of the panel were Joseph E. Obr, director of the Water Quality Management Division of the Iowa Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Pete Hamlin, OPP's environmental coordinator.

The meeting was held to gather testimony for or against—but not to answer questions about—the governor's possible designation of the four-county area as a region eligible for federal assistance under Section 208 of Public Law 92-500.

Tyson said at the close of the meeting that its record will remain open for two weeks so that additional written comments can be entered into it. Comments can be forwarded to OPP, 523 East Twelfth St., Des Moines 50319.

At the end of the two-week period, the panel will study all comments related to the hearing—and Tyson will make a recommendation to Governor Ray. If the governor designates CVRSA as the four-county area's liquid-waste planning agency, it will then become eligible for federal planning funds for the program.

It is possible that 100-per cent federal funds for planning will be available, if the agency submits its application and the Environmental Protection Agency approves it by June 30. If that deadline is not met, funding would be for 75 per cent of planning costs.

Centerville Engineer Bob Buss, the man who persuaded the Albia City Council to withdraw its support in the attempt to get 100-per cent federal funds for planning (before the Council again changed its mind and decided to back the plan after all), was at the meeting, again serving as spokesman for the opposition to the plan.

Buss, the last of 17 pro and con speakers at the meeting, ended it with some dramatic oratory by using quotes from PL 92-500, which he believes makes planning under Section 208 undesirable for most communities in the area.

After the meeting had concluded, John Houlihan, a representative for Region VII of EPA in Kansas City, said, when asked if his interpretation of Section 208 coincides with Buss': "We're not interpreting the law in the same manner... But he (Buss) is not alone, as a lot of other people including congressmen and senators

are also trying to interpret 208."

Houlihan noted that EPA will send out letters urging 208 funds applicants to submit their applications by the end of March so they can get the applications approved by June 30.

Jim Cooper of Russell, Lucas County supervisor and chairman of CVRSA's Liquid Waste Committee, said that the agency will "have the application ready for review by Mar. 27 or 28."

Buss was one of two speakers appearing in opposition to the designation. The other was Kenneth Newell who represented the Humeston City Council, located in northern Wayne County.

Appearing in support of 208 planning were Centerville Attorney Tom Anders, legal counsel for CVRSA; Cooper; Larry Ferguson, chief of planning for the Water Quality Division of DEQ and the man who countered Buss and persuaded the Albia City Council to again back the plan at a meeting last Friday night; Appanoose County health nurse Lorraine Ramos, representing the board of health there; Ed Walsh of the Monroe County Board of Health; CVRSA head Bill McGrath of Melrose, a Monroe County supervisor; Chariton City Manager Bernie Auwles; Mrs. Oscar Gavronsky of the Centerville Housing Authority; Harold Waters of Lovilia, chairman of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors; Cleo Sellers of the Lucas County Board of Supervisors; Monroe County health nurse Jackie Morehead; Bob Beck of Centerville, president of the Rathbun Lake Association and Centerville Chamber of Commerce's industrial committee; Centerville Mayor Percy Norris; and Ken Owen, head of the Rathbun Regional Water Association. The Albia City Council was represented by Garden Engineering of Oskaloosa.

Houlihan gave a brief description of Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 at the hearing's outset. He said the law "establishes a mechanism for intensive water quality-waste control planning and management."

Although the act "focused on solving problems generally associated with urban-industrial concentrations, other areas will be considered if it can be determined that problems will exist, or already exist, within a 10-year planning period."

One year after designation, the planning organization must have in operation a "continuing areawide waste treatment management planning process," Houlihan said. He added, "The initial plan and designation of management agencies to carry out the plan must be submitted no later than two years after the planning process is in operation."

EPA will consider the following criteria in its approval process: 1) Assurance that the units of local government are authorized to and will join together in the planning process to develop a coordinated waste treatment management system; 2) assurance that the planning organization will be capable of timely commencement and completion of the initial planning; and 3) consideration of the relationship of the planning organization with management and regulatory agencies to carry plan."

Anders said the CVRSA meets the requirements necessary for designation. He said lake visitations to Rathbun lead to "concentrations of people four times the permanent population, and thus creates new water pollution problems."

"It is of the utmost importance that studies be conducted to protect Rathbun, the primary water source for the four counties, from pollution."

McGrath said "we need front-end planning money" to deal with future problems.

Beck maintained that this past year's 1.7-million lake visitations indicate the initial predictions of over 3-million visitor days by 1985 may have been conservative. He added that the lake will produce at least 500 new jobs by 1985.

Speaking on behalf of the Humeston Council, Newell said that town "has performed planning and completed sewer and treatment facilities. Our sewer system improved with a lagoon we built in 1966, a new lagoon is planned and application has been made."

He added, "we feel we have done adequate planning...and would lose total control of sewage treatment processes...to lose control of internal affairs is not equal to any benefit."

He felt the area planning was inconsistent with Governor Ray's stress on local development.

Humeston is one of three communities not supporting the CVRSA designation. The other two are Allerton and Udell.

Buss's objection was not with waste treatment for Rathbun or its watershed.

He said he was surprised that cities passed resolutions supporting the area planning concept without knowing the full provisions of the act.

Buss said DEQ has assured communities that they may reject the plan after it has been drawn up if they don't like it. He added that such a provision is not contained in PL 92-500 itself.

Citing PL 92-500 and the EPA's "Rules and Regulations," he said "any plan shall include land use...establish a regulatory program...and the acts and regulations are full of powers mandatory under federal law."

Tab McGrath 'outstanding' conservationist

William F. (Bill) McGrath of Melrose was named one of nine outstanding soil conservation district commissioners at the conservation district commissioners' annual conference in Des Moines recently.

Recipients of the award are selected for their service to the soil conservation district program on a district, regional, state and national level.

McGrath also serves as chairman of the Chariton Valley RC&D Project, on the executive board and as chairman of the Monroe County Chariton Valley RC&D Steering Committee.

He has been a commissioner on the Monroe County Soil Conservation District for the past five years and is currently serving as vice-chairman of the district governing body.

Sept. 10, 1975

Jan. 29, 1975



Windbreak (left) near Robert Flanigan home along old Highway 34 east of Albia at Monroe-Wapello County line.

Holds soil, water, snow . . . insulates homes . . . adds beauty

Windbreaks protect farmsteads

A windbreak is a narrow belt of trees planted to give a farmstead protection from winter winds.

In addition to protecting the farmstead, John Frieden, district conservation for the Monroe County Soil Conservation Service, noted that a well-planned windbreak will add beauty and value to your farm, hold the snow, provide shelter and food for wildlife, reduce traffic noise and hold the soil and water.

Cooperators of the more than 3,000 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the United States with technical assistance from the Soil Conservation Service, plant more than 4,000 miles of windbreaks annually.

Frieden explained that the protection a windbreak gives a farmstead can be seen when the fuel needed for winter heating may be cut by as much as one-third.

"Even more value can be seen after a snow storm," he added. "The snow will be between or near the rows of trees. It will reduce the drifting around your buildings, lots and driveways."

Frieden said that a good, well-planned windbreak may mean the difference between death and survival for the many game birds, such as the pheasant and quail. Other forms of wildlife receive food and shelter as well.

Frieden explained that it makes no difference whether a windbreak is in the country or city. They provide equal protection.

Windbreaks should contain

both evergreens and flowering shrubs which add beauty to a farmstead, Frieden said. He noted that traffic noise can be reduced 50 per cent by planting a barrier of trees in the form of a windbreak.

To obtain the above benefits, Frieden said care should be taken in planning windbreaks. He said to select a site so it will be on the north and west sides of a farmstead, as this protects from the prevailing winter winds which are from the northwest.

Since the windbreak will be a permanent or long-time improvement, buildings, future building sites, slope of land and drainage patterns should be considered when selecting the location.

Frieden explained that a good rule of thumb is to place a windbreak between 100 and 300 feet from your home.

Selecting the species of trees is very important, he said. The kind of trees to plant will depend largely on the location and the soils, and more than one species should be planted. Frieden pointed out that this will allow the windbreak to still function properly if one species is lost from disease or insects.

A few species that are recommended in this area are: Douglas fir, white pine, red pine, Norway spruce, blue spruce, Austrian pine, Scotch pine, Russian olive, ninebark, honeysuckle, and Autumn olive.

Frieden said a well-planned windbreak will consist of at least three rows, two of these trees (evergreens preferred) and one row of flowering shrubs.

Recommended row spacings for evergreens are from 12 to 20 feet apart with trees 12 to 18 feet from the tree rows.

Frieden emphasized that trees that do not survive the first year should be replaced the next planting season.

"The earlier, the better (March or April) in the spring is the best time for planting," Frieden said. "At this time trees are still dormant and moisture conditions are better, allowing for better survival."

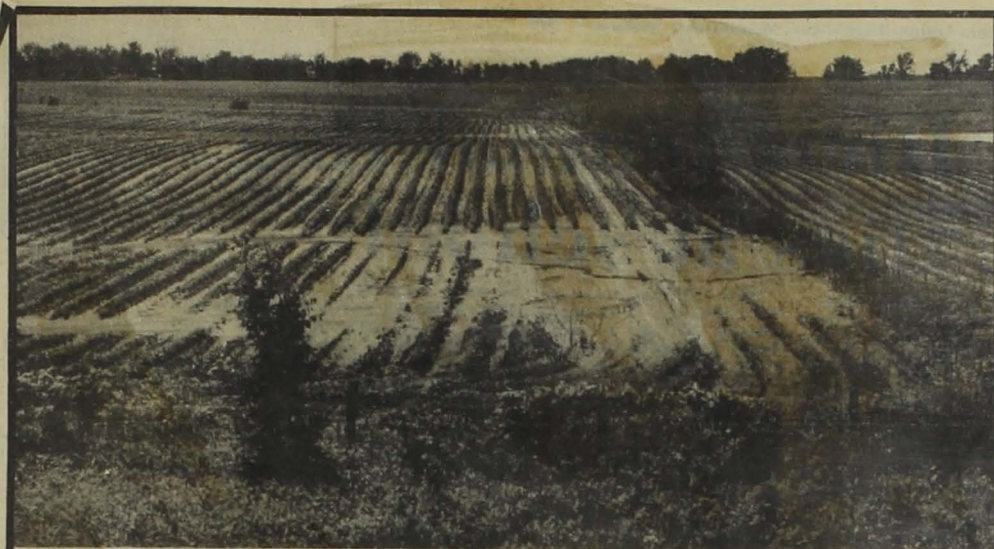
He added that fall planting in this area is not recommended.

Once trees are planted, they must be protected from livestock, rodents, pets, poultry, etc. This may mean a fence will have to be provided to protect the plants.

Frieden pointed out that weed control is most important in the establishment of a windbreak. Chemicals such as Simazine are often the easiest and most effective means of controlling weeds, he said.

"Remember to follow label directions when using chemicals, though," he added.

Additional information and technical assistance in planning a windbreak can be obtained from the Monroe County Soil Conservation District office.



The Monroe County Soil Conservation District has helped numerous county farmers install tile outlet terrace systems on their farms in past few years. Above photo shows picture of eroded field in need of terrace. Below photo shows field on Earl Albertson's farm north of Albia that recently had two outlet terraces installed on it.



July 30, 1975

Look at RC & D roadside projects Thursday

Inspect erosion-control work

An operation and maintenance inspection of completed Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC and D) projects will be conducted this Thursday by Monroe County's Board of Supervisors and Soil Conservation District. John Frieden of the Soil Conservation Service has announced.

"The purpose of the inspection is to insure that the improvements made for completed RC and D projects are properly maintained and operating

effectively," Frieden explained. "Works of improvement in need of repair will be identified and plans for correcting the problems will be made."

Members of the board of supervisors are Harold Waters, George Klobnak and Bill McGrath, who is also a Soil Conservation District commissioner. Other commissioners are Ollie Kaldenberg, DeWayne Johnson, Albert Etcher and Raymond Vance.

Frieden and Monroe County Engineer Ralph Sears will assist with the inspection.

Frieden pointed out that the projects to be inspected are three roadside erosion-control measures which encompass approximately 15 miles of erosion-control work along roadsides.

The work already completed involves reshaping, fertilizing, seeding, sodding, jute meshing, and mulching of county secondary road ditches.

Frieden noted that small erosion-control structures have also been installed in the ditches to control soil erosion.

Seventy-five per cent of the money to complete this work comes from federal RC and D funds, with the remaining 25 per cent coming from Monroe County's secondary road funds.

Approximately \$81,000 in the federal RC and D funds have been obtained for roadside erosion control in Monroe County, Frieden noted.

"The roadside erosion-control work that has been completed will help protect Monroe County's investment in roads as well as eliminate severe traffic hazards and reduce downstream sediment damages," Frieden said.

He added that the erosion-control

work should also help reduce road-maintenance costs, improve the environment, and enhance the beauty of the area.

Frieden said that an example of this work can be seen along the road bordering the east side of Miami Lake.

"The road ditches near Miami now have a good grass cover to keep soil in place," Frieden said. "Prior to this project, sediment entered Miami Lake from the eroding road ditches in excess of 10 tons of soil loss per acre, per year."

"In comparison, this would amount to approximately 150 dump-truck loads of soil deposited every year in the lake from the 21.5 acres of road ditches," he added. "Needless to say, this particular project has increased the useful life of Miami Lake for many years to come."

It was noted that the sponsors of these roadside erosion-control projects—which are Monroe County's Board of Supervisors, Soil Conservation District, and Soil Conservation Service—feel "this type of work is worthwhile based on the total economic impact on the community."

Because of this the sponsors have developed a five-year plan to complete all needed roadside erosion-control work in the county.



It's your choice

"It's your choice" could be theme of Soil Conservation Week this week in Iowa. Two above pictures boldly show land...before and after soil conservation practices are undertaken. Both photos were taken along road to Lake Miami. Photo to left was taken prior to

Lake Miami Erosion Control Project by Soil Conservation Service. Photo to right was snapped about a year after erosion control project was started there...and shows new sod waterway and new

seeding along road. Project was undertaken in early 1970's. As a salute to those working in, and practicing, soil conservation, The Albia Newspapers will print a special supplement next week.

Farmers will discuss preventing soil erosion

"Preventing soil erosion loss" will be the theme of the second in an 11-part series of adult farming classes held at the uptown vocational agriculture building, 114 A Ave. East, this Monday night at 7:30. Lee R. Daub, vocational agriculture instructor at Albia Community High School, has

announced. The evening classes are being offered through the high school. They will all be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday nights through Apr. 21, with the exception of one Thursday in late March. The first class was held last Monday.

The classes are free and open to those interested in farming in Monroe County and surrounding area. Daub said. Each class will last approximately 2 to 2½ hours.

Daub said that next Monday's speaker, to be named later, will be from the Soil Conservation Service in Monroe County. The program will deal with water and wind erosion problems. Daub noted.

He added that the speaker will explain what programs are being offered through the Soil Conservation Service, along with a question-and-answer period for those attending.

Daub noted that those who wish to attend did not have to register in advance. He added that you may attend all or just one of the meetings, "hopefully all."

Feb. 19, 1975

enviro gram



By JOHN BOTTS
Soil Conservation Technician

April 30, 1975

The editor said he would run my picture above this column if I would write one occasionally. I'm a big enough "ham" to do just about anything to get my picture in the paper.

I want to let you know the Soil Conservation Service office has been moved from the upstairs in the post office building to the new addition to the Ag Building, 14B Second Ave. West.

We had professional movers do the job. But, you all know on moving day everyone has their work "cut out" for them. As Dave Fynaardt and I were picking up the last bits, he asked: "How many steps have you gone up in all the years the SCS office has been located here?"

I had no idea. We counted the steps and there are 27. Twenty-seven steps, an average of six trips per day, 50 weeks a year for 28 years...that adds up to well over 1,125,000 steps.

Ralph Edwards of the Postal Service wondered how far out in space that would have put me if all those steps were on a continuous incline? I suspect, I would be about 140 miles high.

Incidentally, those tile outlet terraces we staked for Robert Wilson down in Urbana Township Friday would look just as good from 140 miles up as they do on the ground.

Bob, I have found out one thing. It takes less energy to walk on the level than to climb stairs.

I guess the same holds true with farming. It takes less energy to farm across the slope rather than going up and down the hill.

Come see us! One step up and you are inside the front door.

