

Park closing delayed

The Honey Creek State Park road work will not start until July 15th, one week later than the original schedule. This announcement was made by Joe Murphy, park superintendent.

Honey Creek State Park will be closed as road work starts. It will be opened as soon as possible, but announcements will follow on this.

Five and seven-tenths miles of road-way will be asphalt surfaced. While it is regrettable that the State Park facility must be closed, in the long run this road work is needed.

Honey Creek has been a particularly attractive area for campers and picnickers. Boat access to the park will be continued.

Thousands enjoyed an ideal weekend

By ROBERT K. BECK

The first summer weekend was ideal in this newly blossoming recreation area and it brought people out by the thousands.

Dick King, operator of the Standard Oil Station in Centerville, closed his station at 2 p.m. Saturday because his allocation had been used.

"Drivers are out in droves," explained King. "Trailers, campers and people going to Rathbun Lake have created an added demand. Business is rushing."

The King observation seemed to be well substantiated.

Bob Frush, operator of Buck Creek Cafe near Rathbun Lake, said, "We had a record weekend, even larger than Memorial Day."

Don Roush at Klanton's near the Honey Creek State Park, said that weekend traffic was big, but he said that fishing tackle sales were down. Thus, his business was only about 70 percent of the big Memorial Day weekend. However, it was the biggest non-holiday weekend this year.

The Rathbun Lake Marina reported that boat activity tripled over the normal weekend and was a record for the year.

Robert Hiatt, Rathbun Reservoir manager, said there were a record number of boats on the lake over the weekend. He placed the number at an estimated 700, topping the previous record of 600.

Rathbun Lake can safely accommodate 2,000 boats according to an official survey by Stanley Engineering Company.

All of this unusual activity was produced by the first summer weekend of ideal weather conditions. Hiatt described it as "ideal lake weather."

In the Centerville area the Saturday high was 90 degrees and the low 63. Sunday it

was 84 and 69. There was no rain.

Hiatt said that Sunday was the peak day for Rathbun campers. There were 10,000 campers. This was even greater than the Memorial Day weekend.

However, lake visitation was an estimated 47,000 including Honey Creek State Park. This compares with the giant 135,000 visitations over the three day Memorial Day weekend.

"The difference in the two crowds (Memorial Day and this past weekend) was the fact that people in this weekend were out moving around. They were on the lake in their boats. They were water skiing. They were driving around. Their activity level was different," explained Hiatt.

Over the Memorial Day period it rained for three days and people were confined. They weren't moving around.

Frush said that he handled 700 people in his Buck Creek Cafe over the weekend. "That's a lot of people for us," Frush stated.

Clyde Long, operator of the Centerville Bluebird Cafe, stated Sunday morning that Rathbun Lake people were standing in line waiting for tables. "It's hard to predict a lake crowd. Apparently, the lakiers were moving around a lot this weekend," Long observed.

Hiatt said that rangers sold more camping permits over the weekend than any other weekend, including Memorial Day. A fee of \$2.00 a night is collected.

Joe Murphy reported all regular camping areas filled at Honey Creek State Park but there was some overflow area still available.

If favorable weather conditions prevail until the fourth of July, Hiatt said that he expected between 150,000 and 200,000 people at the lake.

There was only one thing that wasn't great over the weekend. Fishing was generally poor, although Frush said that he heard about an occasional fisherman catching his limit. Hiatt said that some were reporting fair bass catches and "walleye seem to be hitting if you can find the right spot."

The lake level now stands at 907.30, which means that all roadways are above water.

Many campers are staying through this week. Some have left their camping units so that they can protect their spot with the idea of returning Wednesday for a long-long July 4th weekend.

Roush said that he expected to do 300 percent more business over July 4th than he did at the time of Memorial Day weekend. Frush said, "This past weekend was just the preliminary round for the July 4th period."

Roush stated that they sold 300 dozen doughnuts this past weekend and will sell 1,000 dozen over the July 4th period. Over Memorial Day they sold 500 dozen.

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Picture of the month - July



About the picture

If you want to put a little color in your life, see a sunset over beautiful Rathbun Lake. No prettier sight can be found anywhere in the world. This fact is given overwhelming support by the thousands and thousands who view the colorful happening each evening.

Vapor streams from overhead jets break this clear blue sky. Other times low hanging clouds add to the beauty. Really no two sunsets are ever alike! Iowaegian photo by Robert K. Beck.

Special hours

The Wayne County Historical Museum will be open all day, Thursday, July 4, from 9 00 a.m. until 5 00 p.m.

Five scramble to safety as boat fire breaks out

By ALEX PAUL

A blazing flash fire ripped through the interior of a 17 foot Crestliner speedboat docked at the Rathbun Lake Marina for repair Friday evening but quick thinking and positive action by the dock crew and the owners of the boat prevented any injuries or serious mishaps.

The boat, owned by Doctor Jamie Pehrer and family, formerly of Columbia, South America, and presently of Bloomfield, had been taken to the dock slip for mechanical repair and was in the process of having the carburetor checked by the Marina mechanic when a backfire through

the motor sent flames spurting over the engine and throughout the sides of the boat.

Spontaneous flames shot through the boat as those on board, two mechanics, Doctor Pehrer and two sons scrambled over the sides of the boat onto the dock unharmed.

Rapid reaction by the dock crew saw fire extinguishers shooting onto the flames. Within split seconds the fire was suffocated completely.

After the thick black smoke cleared, the actual damage to the boat was revealed as burned upholstery and skis with a portion of the floor slightly charred.

Although the boat was fiberglass, there was very little damage done except for a small portion in the right rear corner of superficial extent.

Water safety patrolman Ed Nelson investigated the accident and estimated the damage to the boat at \$300.00. There was no damage to the motor or wiring control of the vessel. This accident attests as testimony to the validity of the rule of carrying fire extinguishers and unloading persons from crafts while fueling.

Over half of voters registered

By CHARLE

Over one half of the Appanoose County has registered to vote according to Mrs. Etta Appanoose, county commissioner.

So Mrs. Laurson registered slightly over 50 percent of the voters and there are approximately 18 years and over in the county.

Mrs. Laurson has been in the county 18 years and her office during the year.

It is pointed out that the counties that have voter registration lists receive a voter identification the voting districts and place.

If the voter exercises regularly, no further necessary.

But Mrs. Laurson registration is necessary under the current law residents of cities and to population size had to

Chariton youth

By The Assoc

Donald Lee Fleeman, died in a one-car accident. His body was found Sunday, July 1, 1974, U.S. 65 one mile south of Chariton.

Officials said Fleeman was asleep while driving and off the road. He was the driver of a car which was covered with from view.

Allerton center

Allerton—This community place in history observes its 100th birth centennial celebration July 1-4.

People are coming from all over the state and border to border to event promised to contain entertainment and reunion relatives.

The community has been for the celebration. The Committee has asked that their flags from July 4th.

It has been noted that there are in high demand and with rooms available are Margaret Aselmeyer in Allerton.

Rides for kids

Seymour—Kiddie rides for Old Settlers' midway won't be far for the July 12 and 13 and they're locally owned.

Lapland Shows, Inc. has hired Robert Merritt, John Merritt and Randolph. The men bought a Missouri operator and a bring them up to Iowa requirements.

"We'll have something for a ride," Robert Merritt stated.

Republican Senator went donkey riding

By THEDA K. LONG

Senator Richard Ramsey, Republican, dressed in Levi's and a hat went mule riding Saturday evening. A little strange mode of transportation for a Republican wouldn't you say?

The occasion was the donkey ball game held in Seymour Saturday evening. Although Sen. Ramsey was not a scheduled rider, when one politician and a dedicated one, strange things are bound to happen. On the donkeys was even giving the Republican support by wearing Ramsey bumper sticker on his, the mule's, bumper!

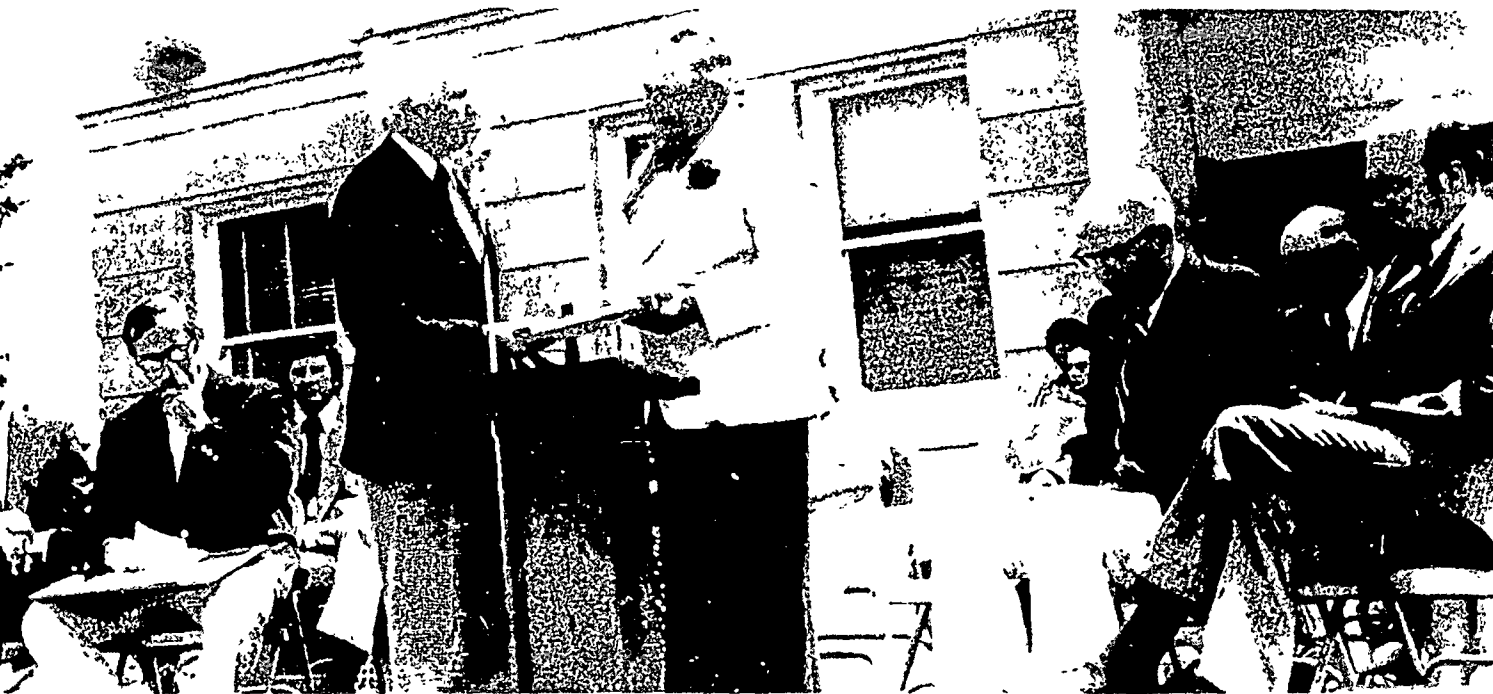
The donkeys were supplied by an entertainment company but riders were all local people. The two teams Mule Backers and The Trot played to a draw.

"It was really hectic, no one was really interested in who was winning reported one who watched.

The event was sponsored by the Seymour Community Club to finance the upcoming Old Settlers celebration July 12-13-14. The share the proceeds for the organization was \$140 although some expenses had to come out of this amount.

So it really looks like the Seymour Community Club was the RE winner, after all!

Unionville...a bicentennial community



A special honor

Unionville, Mo., Mayor C. D. Pittman receives the Bicentennial Flag and certificate from Missouri Congressman William Hungate in ceremonies Friday. This act bestows on Unionville the honor of becoming the 17th such community in Missouri to be designated a bicentennial community to help observe the 200th anniversary of the nation in 1976. Photo by Clyde Holbrook.

By CLYDE HOLBROOK

American flags flew majestically in the breeze in Unionville, Missouri, Friday as the business area and many homes displayed "Old Glory" in anticipation of the important day in Unionville history.

Unionville officially received an American flag, flown over the nation's capital June 26, 1974. A bicentennial flag and a certificate to go with it designating Unionville as a Bicentennial Community, were presented to the community.

Congressman William Hungate presented the American flag to presiding Judge Wayne Freshman. Frank Harrington, regional director of the

American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, presented both the flag and the certificate to Congressman William Hungate who in turn presented it to Unionville Mayor C. D. Pittman.

Both the American flag and the bicentennial flag were taken to the flag pole by representatives of both Boy and Girl Scouts and hoisted to the top of the flag pole in the Unionville courthouse park.

A very distinguished guest of the occasion was the honorable William C. Phelps, Lieutenant Governor of Missouri.

Congressman Hungate and Lt. Gov. Phelps both had high words of praise for the people of Unionville. They expressed

their ideas that it was "people like those in Unionville and all of Putnam County working together who were the grass root Americans keeping our country strong."

Judge V. C. Rose was master of ceremonies for the event. Also on the program was Mrs. Marly Jarman who sang the national anthem. Rev. Donald Bruner gave the invocation. Jack Comstock sang "You're A Grand Old Flag."

The God Squad from the First Christian Church sang "God Bless America" to conclude the program.

Dignitaries and guests were then hosted to a dinner at the Unionville Methodist Church.

Opposition to zoning approval

Dave Lotridge, 734 North 11th Street, says that he is investigating the possibility of further action to prevent the rezoning of the Park Avenue area from R-2 to R-3.

The area was rezoned last week by action of the Centerville city council. Dr. W. A. Heffron has announced plans to build four unit apartment complexes in the area near the Little League ball park.

The city council over-ruled the Planning and Zoning Commission. This Commission had not approved the four unit apartments. The council declared it was responding to the acute need for housing in Centerville.

The Centerville industrial committee has told the city council that further industrial growth has been handicapped until the housing bottleneck is broken.

The industrial committee, meeting with the city council, stated that at least 100 new homes are needed in the city on an immediate basis, and probably another 300 to 500 homes in the next five years.

Mayor Percy Norris said the council felt that in view of the urgency of the local housing problem that the 16 housing units proposed in the Heffron development should be approved.

Lotridge stated Monday that he has 33 names on a petition opposing the R-3 zoning approval. This petition, he stated, seemed to have no influence on the city council.

Lotridge also stated that he was objecting to the possibility that the zoning change opened the area to other things, such as potential commercial establishments.

Lotridge said that his primary objection was breaking down the zoning set-up and opening the area to new kinds of business ventures.

Lotridge wanted to know why zoning was set up in the city unless it was going to be followed.

ISU names Purkis

Iowa Southern Utilities Co. announced today the hiring of William D. Purkis, former news director of Radio Station KCOG in Centerville, as a public relations representative. He succeeds Ed Merkle, who resigned recently.

Purkis, a veteran of eight years in the broadcast news business, carries out a variety of public relations assignments, including news media contact, presentations before employ and public groups, and preparation of material for use in the firm's employee publication, INTOUCH.

He is a native of Rochelle, Ill., and a graduate of Drake University where he was awarded a bachelor of arts degree in journalism in 1966.

Purkis, 29, and his wife, Martie, reside at 301 S. 12th St., Centerville, with their children, Michael, 7, and Kristin, 4.