



May 2014

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 256 Indianola, IA 50125

Phone-515-961-8085

(Highway 92 West, 1400 West 2nd, turn north into fair grounds)

E-mail- contact@warrencountyhistory.org

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WCHS MEETINGS

Tues. May 27

7:00 pm

**Becky Wiegand &
Stacy Scheuernbrand**

Indianola Ballooning

Sat. June 14

Executive Board

9:30 am

LCF

10:30 am

Tues. June 24

Heritage Farms

7:00 pm

Sat. July 12

Executive Board

9:30 am

LCF

10:30 am

**July No General
Meeting Due to
Warren County Fair**

**Submit Warren
County farm pictures
& stories by June 30
for LCF Ag Book**

**Bring to museum or
contact Jerry Beatty
961-3088**

WCHS AWARDED GRANTS



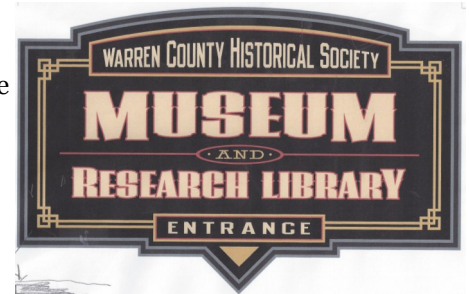
John Parker Sr. discussed the museum eastside mural proposal at our April meeting. We have received a \$2,500 grant from the Warren County Philanthropic Partnership. Now we need to raise the other half.

We are currently seeking \$2,500 in matching funds from our membership and

friends. (As of May 18 we have raised over \$800). If you would like to donate, you can access PayPal at our website: www.warrencountyhistory.org, or send a check to WCHS, Box 256, Indianola, IA 50125. We are a 501(c)3 organization so all donations are tax deductible.

We appreciate your gift. John said that he thought (weather permitting) the mural could be completed by Warren County Fair time in July.

John has offered to paint this sign on the west side of the museum above the entrance door. Graciously, he and his wife are making this sign a gift to us.



INDIANOLA 5th GRADERS PIONEER SCHOOL

Thanks to the many volunteers that made our May Pioneer School a success. It takes about 40 of us to staff the six days.



3 boys working hard putting corn husk dolls together.

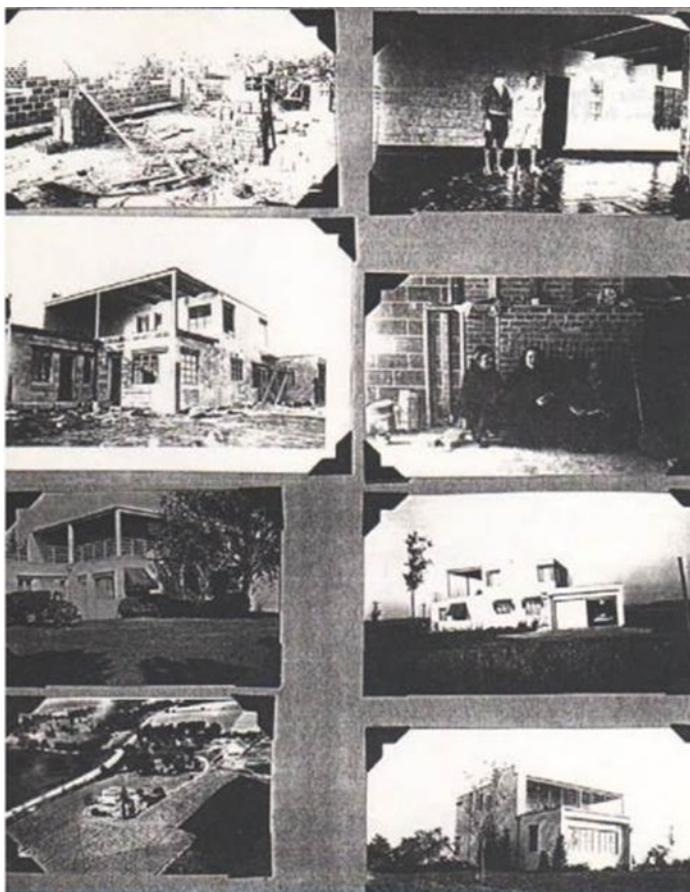


Teacher Bill Larson putting students to work writing on slates.



Marie Moffitt on WC Quakers

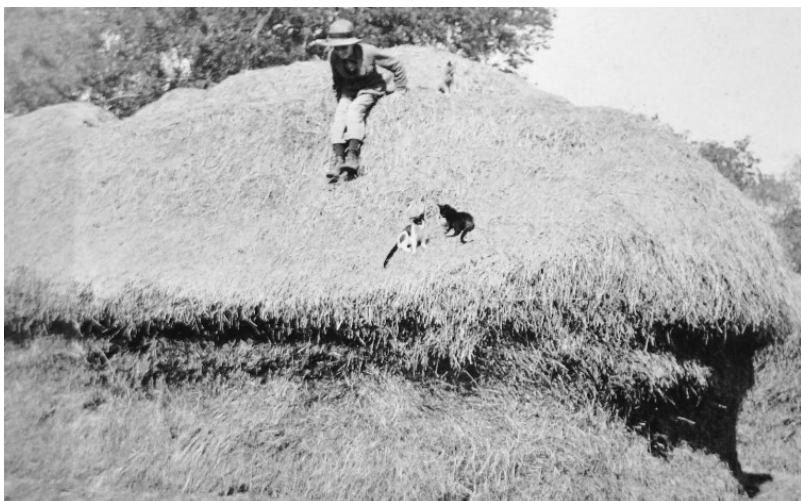
12834 Carpenter Trail, Carlisle house on Highway 65/69 built by the Ford family probably was modeled after the Stran-Steel 1933 Good Housekeeping house seen at A Century of Progress, Chicago World's Fair. The home has been renovated and added onto over the years. Current owners are the Fetters-Steen family Carlisle, IA



LOOKING FOR WARREN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PHOTOS & STORIES FOR LOG CABIN FESTIVAL 2014

Get your Ag photos & stories to us by June 30

Remember childhood days on the farm, when you slid down the haystack? Albert Baxendale watching farm cats basking in sun. Seldom do you see a haystack anymore. Do children slide down giant hay bales today? **Photo submitted by Virginia Gee.**



From: FAVORITE QUOTATIONS of INDIANOLA PEOPLE

Printed by Herald Printing House 1898

J.O. Watson—Alas! How very painful is all payment.

Mrs. T.T. Anderson— Look on the bright side and if there is no bright side, polish up the dark side.

M.R. Barker—He that by the plow would thrive
Himself must either hold or drive.

Franklin

Harry E. Hopper—The fairest action of our human life
Is scorning to revenge an injury.

Lady Elizabeth Carew

Mary I. Berry—He gives nothing but worthless gold
Who gives from a sense of duty Lowell

Hattie E. Spray—If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches, and poor men's cottages princes' palaces. Shakespeare



Ellis, Civil War Vet, Dies December 19, 1931 Probably Last Iowa Survivor of Battle of Shiloh and Libby Prison

**Libby Confederate Prison, Richmond, VA.
Only a marker is left. Photo National Archives**



(PLEASE MAKE OUT AND RETURN IN DUPLICATE)
ORIGINAL

Name ELLIS, FRANCIS M.	Rank 3rd Serg.	Company H	U. S. Regiment, State Organization, or Vessel 8th IOWA INFANTRY	Date of Death Dec. 19, 1931
Name of Cemetery NORWALK	Located in or near— City NORWALK		State IOWA	Division WARREN COUNTY, IOWA
TO BE SHIPPED TO: MINNIE E. ELLIS (Name of consignee) at NORWALK, WARREN COUNTY, IOWA (Give town, county, and State)				
POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE NORWALK, IOWA				
DO NOT WRITE HERE				
Verified LEE, MASS. FEB 3 1932	I hereby agree to accept the headstone at above destination, freight prepaid, and properly place same at decedent's grave.			It is understood the stone will be furnished and delivered at the railroad station or steamboat landing above indicated, at Government expense, freight prepaid, and agreed it will be promptly removed and set up at private expense.
Order 403158	Address NORWALK, IOWA			Applicant Minnie E. Ellis
From 3-18-32	Date of Issue JAN 4 1882			Registration No. 1811 913001

Francis Marion Ellis, youngest son of Julian and Martha Spicer Ellis, was born October 29, 1843. He enlisted in the Union Army Company H, 8th Iowa Infantry August 12, 1861 at age 17, as a 7th Corporal. He was taken prisoner by the Confederates at the Battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862. He was in prison seven months and eleven days. Ellis was promoted to full Sergeant on March 1, 1863 and mustered out September 28, 1864 in Davenport.

He served in the Battle of Shiloh April 6 1862, the second largest battle of the war. The 8th Iowa was almost entirely captured in this battle, but were given credit for helping save the day, by refusing to retreat, having received no orders to do so, when troops on both flanks had fallen back. In full knowledge that they would not receive reinforcements, and that it would only be a matter of time until they would be completely surrounded, their stand enabled the scattered and disintegrated Union forces in their rear to rally and eventually turn defeat into victory. It was here that Mr. Ellis was captured and confined at Macon, Georgia and then Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia. He told of gruesome hardships to which they were subjected. Weighing over 180 pounds when he entered Libby Prison, he was only a skeleton of ninety pounds when paroled October 18 and exchanged November 16, 1862. During his military service, he had served in all Southern States except Texas and Florida.

He moved to Warren County immediately following the war. On December 10, 1869 he was married to Mary Louisa Egbert. They had twin sons James and Julian, and one daughter, Katherine. Louisa died November 10, 1883.

Ellis married Minnie E. Glaze/Glase March 24, 1885. Minnie's father was W.S. Glaze/Glase, who was born in 1821 in Virginia. He may have been the W.S. Glase who was the first postmaster in Pyra (now Norwalk) June 18, 1856. Her mother was Amanda.

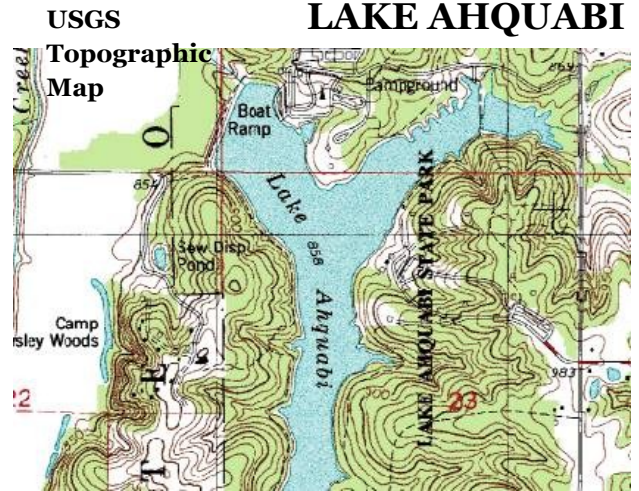
They farmed in rural Greenfield Township, Section 20. Three children were born: Raymond W., Ruby May, and Richard G. Mr. Ellis resided in or near Norwalk for 65 years. He died December 19, 1931 and is buried in the Norwalk, Cemetery.

From: Francis Marion Ellis obituary found at WCHS.

A MUSTER ROLL of Members of _____ Post, No. _____ located at _____ County of _____																
Department of _____ Grand Army of the Republic, mustered or admitted by Transfer DURING THE SIX MONTHS ending the _____ day of _____ 189__																
Con-secutive No.	No.	NAME	Age	Birthplace	RESIDENCE	OCCUPATION	ENTRY INTO SERVICE				FINAL DISCHARGE				Length of Service, Months	Cause of Discharge
							Date	Rank	Co.	Reg't or Ship	Date	Rank	Co.	Reg't or Ship		
190		Francis M. Ellis 61		Julian Marion Ia	Ks	Carpenter	Nov. 12, 61	Co. E	51. Ind.	Jan. 25, 62	Co. E	51. Ind.		Gen. Order		
191		J. M. Drigman 47		Canada	Peabody Vt	Farmer	Feb. 63	Co. A	64. Ill.	Jan. 25, 62	Co. A	64. Ill.		Wounded		



CCC men at lunch while getting rocks from quarry. Quarry was west of lake.



Ahquabi was Iowa's third manmade lake and the only one the CCC worked on at its beginning to completion. The Civilian Conservation Corps was a peacetime army assigned to work in public lands such as national and state parks. The U.S. Army operated the camps while the Federal Agriculture and Interior Department provided supervisory personnel.

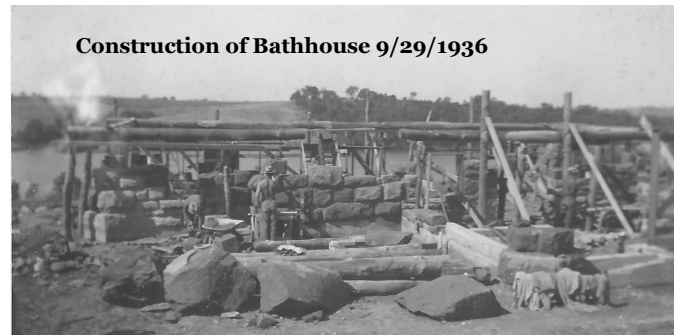
Mary Louise Brownrigg of Norwalk won the \$10 prize for submitting the winning name, Ahquabi (Native American word meaning "the Resting Place").

Indianola purchased 561 acres of the 770 acre park tract by transferring money from the light fund to the water fund. Indianola was granted a right to tap the lake for city water supply in an emergency. It also provided fencing and loaned machinery used in construction. The Warren County Board of Supervisors constructed the road to the park entrance and also loaned construction equipment. Iowa Fish & Game (now known as DNR) provided for the construction of a dam and creation of the lake. The dam was 1,000 feet long, 35 feet high, and 230 feet wide at the base.

Most of the work was done by Company 769 of the CCC, which arrived in Indianola May 1934. They were housed at Camp Allerton located on the Warren County Fairgrounds. The following buildings were built to house Company 769 on our current fair grounds: 9 barrack buildings, officers quarters and a recreation building. Times were hard and many men left their homes and families to join the CCC to have a job and learn a trade.

2,600 man days were spent on the spillway, 4,800 bags of cement, and 71,500 pounds of reinforced steel. Rock for the shelter house, lodges, and buildings were quarried by the CCC. (See top photo)

The park opened May 29, 1936. During peak years, there were 3 rafts, a 17 foot three deck diving tower, dressing rooms and swim gear rental baskets for over 1,000 people. The lake swimming area was where people learned to swim and cool off during the summer before there was an Indianola Swimming Pool or air conditioning.



Construction of Bathhouse 9/29/1936



Camp Allerton Kitchen



Camp Allerton Barracks



Boathouse

NEW EXHIBIT

Gerald Schimmelpfennig's pens, ink wells,
& Sheaffer items.

Sheaffer Jewelry, Ft. Madison



In Ft. Madison, Iowa during 1912., Walter Sheaffer, an Iowa jeweler, founded the Sheaffer Pen Company based on an innovation eliminating the need to use an eye dropper to fill fountain pens.

Sheaffer created the first commercial lever-fill pen in 1913.



OTHER RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Thanks to Kathy Shupe King we will soon have an outdoor privy added to our Heritage Village. Arrangements are being made to move and install it. *Of course, it will be for display only.*

Nona Goode Wessels donated letters & scrapbooks.

Wanda (Higens) Solheim donated Spring Hill Methodist Church Cookbook.

Paul & Myrna Barkley donated The 130th Anniversary of Norwalk Christian Church.



Judy McClymond donated Flip Pal Mobile Scanner, and two trays for scanning negatives.

Merilea Chase donated a three tier sewing basket and portable wooden dressmaker's desk carried from home to home by the dressmaker to make clothes for families.

Norma Norris donated the following items: German Bible 1788, local advertising items and many pencils, Earl Norris' sheriff posse shirt and army uniform, wall metal match holders, 1893 Modern Spelling Book, 3 small handmade tool, fair premiums, text books and hymnals, Simmons scale, 4 photo albums, miscellaneous tins & bottles, hand carved wooden tooth pick holder, military papers, Pow Wows, hymnals, newspapers and Warren County History 1879.

Martha Richards provided written information, and VHS and record tapes about the town of Ford.



**World War II,
Lacona Scrap Metal Drive**

WARREN COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE

Alice Brito, Chairperson for Warren County Relay for Life is hosting a ceremony honoring cancer survivors June 14th at the Indianola Middle School 12:00 pm to 12:00 noon. If you are a cancer survivor please contact Alice at 961-3058 or E-mail allicus1956@gmail.com. She is also looking for Pie Bakers for the Pie Auction.

Dr. Florence Annie Armstrong

Florence Annie Armstrong teacher, economist, and journalist was born in Indianola February 12, 1884 to R. Sanford and Laura Van Pelt Armstrong, born 1851 in Ohio to Daniel Hoff Van Pelt (October 6, 1824-March 6, 1902) and Martha Elizabeth Shinn Van Pelt (April 13, 1829-February 28, 1903).

Her grandfather, Daniel Van Pelt, was an Iowa pioneer of a Dutch family From Ohio. D. H. Van Pelt and family came to Iowa in 1852, with his parents, who settled near Mt. Pleasant. Three years later he moved to Indianola, and built up an estate of fifteen hundred acres of rich agricultural land two and a half miles north of Indianola.

Annie graduated from Indianola High School, Simpson College, BA; Radcliffe College, MA; SUI, PhD (Economics); and graduate study at Columbia and American Universities. She taught at University of California (Berkeley), Florida State College for Women, Hunter and Simpson College.

Laura E. Van Pelt, mother of Florence Armstrong, helped found Simpson's womens literary society, the Zetaethan (1867). A generation later, Miss Armstrong was a member and a president of the same society. Annie was a leader in YWCA and played basketball for a season on the champion women's team.

Her professional work included research at Brookings Institute, 1922 to 1924, U.S. War Department 1918-1922, and as an economist in the Social Security Administration 1934-1950.

Dr. Armstrong worked for Women's Right to Vote and promoted the Equal Rights Amendment. She served as finance chair, vice chair, editor of Equal Rights and acting chair of the National Woman's Party.

The National Woman's Party (NWP) was a woman's organization founded by Alice Paul and Lucy Burns in 1913 that fought for women's rights during the early 20th century particularly for the right to vote. The NWP put its priority on the passage of a constitutional amendment ensuring women's suffrage. After the Nineteenth Amendment gave women the vote in 1920, the NWP turned its attention to passage of an Equal Rights Amendment (**ERA**) to the U.S. Constitution.

Living in Alexandria, Virginia, she always maintained and visited the family home at 109 East First, Indianola. After her death January 22, 1962, this residence was torn down and the joint Baptist/Presbyterian parking lot was created.

Her papers were given to Harvard.

From: Activity Blue Book, Iowa Women, Who's Who in Women's Activities, page 9 March 16, 1950 by Josephine Baumgarten
Indianola Record Herald, January 1962, Obituary
The Blue Book, History of Contemporary Women, 1914,



Florence A. Armstrong

Gone but not forgotten Our Absent Fair Ones Their Bright Smiles Haunt Us

YOUNG LADIES WHO HAVE GONE OUT FROM INDIANOLA The Indianola Herald, November 2, 1899

Mallie Alexander -Dallas, Texas
Laura Allen -married Charles B. Cheney, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Ida McAdam Anderson -Atlantic
Maude Anderson -newspaper Ft. Collins, Colorado
Elma Armstrong -teaches Payson, Utah
Sarepta Austin -married Jerry Parago, Des Moines
Ada Baker -training school Chicago
Emma Baker -North Western University, Evanston, Illinois
Susan Winchell Bare -Lucknow, India
Susie Henderson Beck -Gibbon, Nebraska
Fannie Alexander Bennett -California
Vivian Hinshaw Bilharz -Audubon
Susie Dyke Blake -Pagosia Spring, California
Lettie Braden -married James Ross railroader, Washington
Blanche Bryant -married Charley Johnson, Des Moines
Capitola Richards Bryson -Ft. Dodge
Jesse Bryson -Menlo
Jennie Williamson Burke -Salt Lake City, Utah
Effie Busselle -married Dr. E.B. Henderson, Maren-go
Julia Butler -married W.A. Perry, Mapleton
Agnes Buxton -married Charles B. Little Chicago
Elizabeth Buxton -married J.M. Kittleman, Chicago
Lulu Calhoun -teaches Clarinda
Abbie Creighton Christy -Phoenix, Arizona
Ollie Coe Callison -Salt Lake City, Utah
Eloise Carpenter Chandler -Boston, Massachusetts
Alice Law Cheshire -Galena, Kansas
Lou Irons Clark -Ida Grove, husband runs mill
Mary Clark -married John Scott Jr., Sioux City bank cashier
Mona Clayton -married H.B. Stewart, lumber Chariton
Florence Cochran -married Wm Buchanan, Des Moines
Mary Condit - Mt. Vernon, Texas
Florence Andrews Contance -Spencer
Irene McCleary Cook -nurse Duluth, Minnesota
Fannie, Laura & Mayme Cooke - Des Moines
Ina Culbertson -married T.D. Murphy, editor of Red Oak Independent
Cora Harvey Elliott -married Will Elliott, Burlington
Jane Elliott -teaches music at Richmond
Tina Elliott - Mt. Pleasant
Lizzie Embree -Married Lot Wilson, Winterset granite/marble
Mary Henderson Essler -Tacoma, Washington
Nell Fortney -milliner Ocheydan