

In this issue:

Scholarship winners	PG 1
Sports Wall of Fame Inductees	PG 2
Tombstone Trial: The Iowa Connection	PG 2
Wells Spicer	PG 2
Buck's Sawmill Cabin	PG 3
Veterinary Clinic Update	PG 3
WWI	PG 4
Centerdale	PG 5

World War I Facts

- Approximately 1 / 3 of military deaths were caused by the Spanish Flu.
- Over 20 million Americans planted Victory Gardens reducing food consumption 15%.
- WWI cost the US over \$30 Billion.
- Thousands of soldiers were disfigured or disabled and underwent reconstructive surgery or wore facial masks. Some never left convalescent homes after their return.
- WWI is the 6th deadliest conflict in World History.
- T.E. Lawrence aka Lawrence of Arabia, was a British author who Allied intelligence in the Middle East.
- The Ottoman, Russian, German and Austro-Hungarian empires collapsed after WWI.

COMING EVENTS

Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 29
12:30 PM

CCHS Prairie Village
Grounds

Entrée and drinks provided.
Bring a dish to share and your
own table service. A program
presented by the Pioneer
Cemetery Commission will
follow in the South Bethel
Church.

A Day on the Prairie: Music on the Prairie

Saturday, September 15th
10AM—3 PM

CCHS Prairie Village

Games, Demonstrations, Activi-
ties, Food, Village buildings will be
open, and more
Fun for the whole Family

WHAT AM I?



A change making machine.

NEWSLETTER

Congratulations to the 2018 J. Curtis and Frances Frymoyer Scholarship Winners

Tessa Fields, North Cedar High School
Madelyn Alorningstar, Lisbon High School
Zoe Rezac, Tipton High School
Allison Ryan, Tipton High School
Amanda Wiese, Durant High School



2018 Sports Wall of Fame Inductees

Shane Light, Wrestling, Lisbon

Lee Crawford, Football Coach, Tipton

Marilee Oldorf, Volleyball Coach,

Lincoln and North Cedar

1999-2000 North Cedar Girls Basketball Team, 2A State Champions

CALLING ALL MUSCIANS!

We will be celebrating 100 years of music at this year's Day on the Prairie. We are looking for musicians to play in our Prairie Village buildings. We have a number of open slots, you can play one or more times for approximately 20 minutes each time. We are looking for musical groups, ensembles, and soloists. If you have musical talent you can share please contact Tanya at 563.886.2899 or cchs-mus@netins.net.

**You
make it
happen**

The Tombstone Trial: The Iowa Connection

This play was brought to us by the Wallace Winkie Foundation, Belle Plaine, and the Pella Historical Society and Museums, Pella in February and May this year. In the May presentation CCHS board member Hobert Flory graciously helped the troupe out and filled in for a couple of the roles. The original script was assembled from the transcripts from the hearing presided over by Justice of the Peace Spicer. In both presentations the performance was much enjoyed by the audience. Below are some of the photos from the play.

Wyatt
Earp



Justice of the Peace Spicer



Prosecuting Attorney



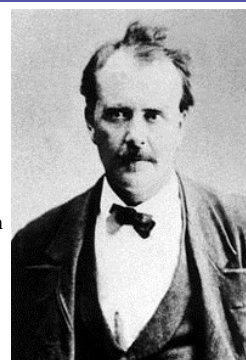
Defense Attorney



Wells Spicer

Wells Spicer moved to Tipton with his family as a young boy. He finished his schooling here then worked as a clerk for William H. Tuthill, lawyer, banker and storekeeper. With Tuthill's instruction he was able to enter the Iowa bar. At about the same time he also started the *Cedar County Advertiser* aka *The Tipton Advertiser*.

While in Cedar County he worked as a lawyer and served as a militia volunteer. He married Abby Jane Gilbert and they had a son Earnest. Eventually Spicer moved to the Utah Territory and was admitted to the Utah bar with a specialization in mining suits and claims. While in the Utah territory he served as a lawyer, opened a hotel in Corrine City, worked a mine he leased near Beaver, Utah and contributed to the "*Daily Tribune*" in Salt Lake City and "*Utah Mining Gazette*". He was appointed US Commissioner by the Supreme Court, hearing cases in Bingham, Utah and served 2 two year terms. After which, and after a separation from his wife, he moved to Tombstone Village, Arizona. Here he partnered in a retail shop, furnished the capital for a daily newspaper in Don Cabezas, Arizona, was appointed special correspondent for the "*Arizona Daily Star*", and resumed his prospecting endeavors. Eventually he was named a justice of the First District Court, the role in which he presided over the preliminary hearing of the Earp Brothers for the murder of the McClary Brothers at the infamous shootout at the O.K. Corral. (Both families were also from Iowa – the Pella and Belle Plain communities.) The purpose of this hearing was to determine if the Earps should stand trial for murder. Both sides presented as if they were in trial and at the conclusion Spicer concluded that there was not enough evidence to support a trial, the Earps were free to go.



"Three men hurled into eternity in the duration of a moment."

Column header from The Tombstone Epitaph of October 27, 1881.



Buck's Sawmill Cabin

Thanks to board member Mike Rekemeyer the old sawmill out in the "back 40" was up and running for our annual Day on the Prairie last year. Back in the day it was known that every good sawmill was operated by a good sawyer. This led to memories of Buck (Richard) Mitzner who for some time ran a sawmill of his own.

The son of Carl Joseph and Margaret Elizabeth Lichtenwalter Mitzner, Buck was born May 15, 1927 in Colesburg. He graduated from Tipton high school in 1945. Buck was a farmer but also worked in trucking and sawmilling. He enjoyed working in the timber and was proud to run a sawmill and produce quality lumber. He served in the U.S. Army from Jan 2, 1951 to Oct 2, 1952, during the Korean Conflict. Buck was a member of the Methodist Church, the Tipton VFW, and the American Legion. He enjoyed traveling the United States and maintaining family connections. Buck passed away Jan 26, 2007 at the Cedar Manor Nursing Home in Tipton. (*The Tipton Conservative and Advertiser*, January 31, 2007)

Buck came about his fondness for lumber and working as a sawyer naturally.

His father, Carl Mitzner, was one of Iowa's 6 pioneer tree farmers who was recognized by the forest industries at the Silver Anniversary Tree Farm Field Days Saturday, May 21, 1966. The 6 charter tree farm owners and their acreages at the time were Mitzner (30 acres), Charles Cummings, Fairfield (16 acres), Van Buren Foundation, A.J. Secor, manager, Keosauqua (440 acres), James T. Sterwart, Columbus Junction (103 acres), and Gerald Meyer, Garnavillo (55 acres).

A total of 449 Tree Farm acres in 1955 marked the beginning of this conservation movement in Iowa which encouraged the growing and harvesting of trees as a crop on privately owned, tax paying land while requiring protections from fire, insects, disease and destructive grazing.

Tree farms in Iowa at the time totaled 176 farms with 11,491 acres cumulatively.

Besides the growing of repeated timber crops tree farming, sponsored nationally by American Forest Products Industries, Inc., provided additional benefits of wildlife habitat, water conservation, soil stabilization, and recreation. The Tree Farm System began in 1941 with the 120,000 acre Clemons Tree Farm owned by Weherhaeuser Company in Montesano, Washington and at the time had grown to 30,000 tree farms with 67,000,000 acres in the 48 contiguous states.

The awards to the charter tree farmers were presented



Veterinary Clinic Update

We have raised the majority of the funds for the construction of a building that will contain a reproduction of Dr. Edward Speer's Veterinarian Clinic (Stanwood) and an exhibit room dedicated to the history of Veterinarian Medicine in Cedar County. We have had a couple of recent generous donations and have been awarded funding from Humanities Iowa to reach this point. However, additional funds are needed to fund the remaining cost of constructing the new building and setting up the exhibits. If you would like to contribute to this new building please send a check to CCHS, PO Box 254, Tipton, IA or you can make a donation on our website: cedarcounthistoricalsociety.com.

by Harry S. Mosebrook, feature speaker of the field day and public affairs manager, Eastern Region, Weyerhaeuser company, New York City.

The ceremony was part of a two day forestry event that featured logging, milling demonstrations, woodland management practices, and the construction of a lake, dam and logging roads. Sixteen newly certified Iowa tree farmers received Tree Farm signs to mark their property signifying that they were raising trees as a crop in the best interest of their communities. Woodland owners in Iowa continued to follow the lead established by the six charter tree framers in 1955. (*Tipton Conservative* May 19, 1966)

Although the cabin is named "Buck's Sawmill Cabin", this particular structure did not ever belong to Buck nor did he ever reside in it. The cabin was constructed in 1990 by Alan Paustian, Baldy (Keith) Biggs, and Maury Miller. It was used for Tipton's 1990 Sesquicentennial as a type of headquarters. After the celebration was over it was purchased and donated to the Cedar County Historical Society. It was moved from its original location of the courthouse square to the fair grounds near the historical society's agricultural museum. There were a couple of different ideas for its use but for various reasons they were not able to be implemented. (*Keith Whitlach*) It served as extra storage for large, weather tolerant artifacts donated to the historical society until it was recently moved to the Prairie Village at the historical society's site just north of Tipton.

Now the cabin has been given a new life to share two

stories of Cedar County history (that of Buck and of the cabin itself) and to provide our visitors with a snapshot of how a bachelor sawyer might have lived in the early half of the 20th century.



**Are you a
vendor?**
Reserve a table
today!



ALL CRAFTERS AND VENDORS

Join us for our first Day on the Prairie : Village Trading Post. This year we are offering booth spaces of approximately 10 ft by 10 ft for only \$25 to any crafter or vendor who wants to share their family friendly wares or message from 10am to 3pm on September 15th. Contact Tanya at 563.886.2899 or cchsmus@netins.net to reserve your space now, before they are all gone. (Only space will be provided, you will need to provide your own table, chairs, canopy, etc.)

Cedar County Life 1918

Here are some excerpts from the *Tipton Conservative* that reflect how WWI impacted the lives of Cedar County Residents. This continues our focus on the 100th anniversary of WWI. I have tried to reproduce these as they appeared including, spelling, grammar, typos, etc.

"Painting 'Em Red" at Clarence

Those who painted the words "Pro-German", "Slacker", and "Don't Talk" on the buildings of Fred Rieckoff and Louie Lubkeman on Monday night had little fear of being punished for so doing. As long as the war lasts those who allow themselves to become under the slightest suspicion of being in sympathy with the kaiser are liable to just such treatment with small chance of anyone being punished. Feeling of that sort is getting stronger every day and the time will soon be here that even silence will not protect the kaiserites. They will be in the same position the boy was whose father told him when he went to town to keep his mouth shut so people wouldn't find out he was a fool. On his return home he told his father keeping his mouth shut didn't make any difference they found out he was a fool anyway. — Clarence Sun (*Tipton Conservative*, January 9, 1918)

FUEL RULES AND REGULATIONS

With Recommendations of How to Reduce Consumption of Coal

Under authority delegated to me as fuel administrator for Iowa, the following orders and regulations are hereby ordered to be in effect in the state of Iowa commencing Monday, January 28th, 1918, and until repealed or amended. The object of this order is to assist by prompt measures, conservation of coal and to help prevent a serious coal famine which is threatening us at the present time.

Retail Stores: All stores engaged in the purchase and sale of merchandise shall be open to the public not earlier than 8:30 a.m., and will close not later than 5:30 p.m.

Drug Stores: Drug stores will be open not earlier than 7:30 a.m., and close not later than 10 p.m.

Billiard Rooms, Pool Halls and bowling alleys may be open not earlier than 10 a.m., and shall be closed not later than 10 p.m.

Confectioners: Confectioners to be open not earlier than 8:30 a.m., and close not later than 10 p.m.

School Buildings: No school in which no classes are actually held shall be heated on Saturday except to such a degree as is necessary to keep the pipes from freezing.

Lightless Nights: The lightless night order as promulgated by the United States Fuel Administrator for Thursday and Sunday nights shall apply for every night in the week excepting Saturday.

Deliveries for Household Use: Deliveries for household use are limited to not over one load. Applicants must make truthful statement of the amount on hand and whether or not orders have been given to other dealers. No delivery shall be made when more than two weeks' supply in on hand.

None of the above regulations excepting No. 5 will be in effect on Saturdays, The enforcement of these orders shall be

under the direction of City and City Fuel Administrators of the State of Iowa. This order or any part of same may be changed or modified by the local committee to meet local conditions, but this office should be notified.

(Signed,) Chas. Webster,
Fuel Administrator for Iowa.

Recommendations:

In addition to the order dealing with measures of conservation it is earnestly requested by the Fuel Administration that as many as possible of the following recommendations be observed:

Barber Shops should be regulated as local conditions warrant by the Fuel Committees.

Churches: hold union services and omit all possible mid-week meetings. Use small assembly rooms if possible.

Lodges and Clubs: During the present exigency meetings of lodges and clubs should be dispensed with in so far as is possible.

Householders: Study economy in the use of fuel. Save a shovelful a day for Uncle Sam. Sift your ashes. See that your furnace is in good repair.

Burn as few lights as possible.

Don't heat rooms that are not occupied.

Don't overheat; 65 to 68 degrees is warm enough.

Don't order more coal than you need.

Don't order coal if you have a supply on hand.

Burn wood whenever possible.

Street car companies discontinue unnecessary service.

Remember, the United States is lacking 50,000,000 tons of coal. Iowa must do her share in conservation. (*Tipton Conservative* January 30, 1918)

"If the women in the factories stopped work for twenty minutes, the Allies would lose the war."

—French Field Marshal and Commander-in-Chief Joseph Joffre

A Warning to Hoarders

A number of householders have been reported as hoarding wheat flour and products. A townsman must not have over one sack in his possession, and a country man only two sacks. Violation of this rule subjects one to the Federal penalty of \$5,000 fine, two years imprisonment or both. Those who still retain more than the permitted amount ought to return the excess to the dealer from whom purchased, or, if such is impossible, tell the County Food Administrator.

Arthur Lund,

County Food Administrator (*Tipton Conservative*, March 27, 1918)

Soldiers Sick at Camp Cody

Joe and John Slach left last Thursday evening for Deming, N.M., called there by the serious illness of their brother, Anton. On Friday, D.L. Phipps received word that his son, Walter, was very ill, and left that day for Deming, and on Sunday, L.W. Wren received word that his son Chas. was seriously



We Need Your Help!

We are seeking a Blacksmith to volunteer at our Annual Day on the Prairie. The event will be from 10AM—3PM. We have a forge and nice anvil, and some tools in our blacksmith shop. You can set up any time before 10AM and close up at 3PM. This is always a crowd pleaser. If you or anyone you know may be interested in assisting please contact Tanya at 563.886.2899.

ill at the camp and he left that day for Deming. All three boys are suffering from pneumonia and at last reports were holding their own or a little improved. — West Branch Times (*Tipton Conservative* January 2, 1918)

Cedar County Dentists Will Do Their Share

Dr. H.E. Latchan, of Jefferson, as state supervisor of the National Dental Relief Corps has appointed Dr. W.A. Grove, of Tipton, Supervisor for this count, and the dentists in the several towns have been asked to examine free the teeth of the selected seventy men who are to go to camp on the 23rd, and put them in serviceable condition. While this will be considerable of a task and take up considerable time, the dentists are real patriots and will do their best to comply with government request, realizing the importance of having the soldiers' teeth in good condition in the beginning of their service, as there will be but one dentist to every thousand men after that. Dr. Grove has sent out notices to the seventy selected men to call on their nearest dentist, who will give their teeth as much attention as the brief intervening time will permit. (*Tipton Conservative*, February 13, 1918)

The Horrors of Hun Warfare

Mr. Heigel of this place received a letter Monday from his sister, Mrs. Mary Belcourt of Paris, France, in which she tells of a recent bombing raid made in the vicinity of her home by German flying machines. While her own house escaped demolition, scores of others were wrecked and large number of inhabitants killed and wounded. In the case of a neighboring woman, whose husband is serving in the army, two small children were killed and the mother had an arm and leg torn off, which was expected to result in her death, although she was still alive when the letter was written. Many other horrible things occurred during the raid, in which innocent women and children were the victims, and equaling in ferocity and cold blooded fiendishness the worst massacres ever perpetrated. The recital of these awful occurrences naturally made Mr. Heigel's blood boil, and he did not fail to denounce the perpetrators in the most vigorous language at his command. (*Tipton Conservative* March 13, 1918)

Centerdale

By Ruby Lewis Ellyson in the 1981 Annual Review

In 1847 Centerdale located in the southwest part of Springdale Township, Cedar County, was an active village. There was a general store, post office, blacksmith shop, a school and church. It was a two story schoolhouse and was used for many social activities. Lumber and coal were sold and the grain elevator was used by many farmers in the surrounding area. Being on the Rock Island railroad farmers shipped cattle, hogs, and grain from Centerdale. Congregationalists in the community built a church and among other names on the church roll were Erb, Hartley and Pownall.

the two general stores in the town. The post office was in one of the stores. Centerdale was created as a shipping center for grain and livestock. The elevator did a good business. Farmers from a wide area brought their hogs and cattle here to be shipped to market.



Centerdale depot, elevator and store.

voting precinct.

In the early days Cenerdale had a two room schoolhouse. After consolidation with West Branch the school children were transported by horse drawn busses for several years before motor busses were available. Bad weather and unsurfaced roads created problems at times but they were overcome. Some of the old time residents of the Centerdale area were Walter Pownall, Wm. Web, Chester Irely, Harry Harley, John and Frank Kelch, John Gamble, C.C. Hampton, who was long time township assessor, J.C. Olen, John P. Jensen, Jim Safford, Alfred Pilkington, Art Kinsey, J.C. Kinsey and J.M. Hemmingway.

Reminiscences of Centerdale

In the 1981 Annual Review

We are told that Chet Irely, son of the pioneers Samuel and Joanna Smith Irely, gave the land for the Centerdale school. It was a two story building with two stairway to the second floor, which was used for entertainments of all sorts. Oyster suppers were held here. As there was a stage, plays and programs could be presented in this room. There was no plumbing in the building, but the school had its own pump in the yard. Grades 1 through 10 were taught here at one time. At first only one room was used, but as the village grew an increase in pupils made it necessary to use two rooms. There had been a country school at the site where Centerdale developed when the railroad came through. This schoolhouse was used as the depot until the railroad company could build one. At one time Mr. Bullis was the depot agent. The old country schoolhouse was used for one of

Early Springdale residents tell of driving their hogs on the county road from there to Centerdale for shipment, a distance of three miles. The families would rise early in the morning to beat the heat and everybody helped drive the hogs. One family took corn ahead of the drove and scattered it over the bridges to coax the swine across. Another family laid hay on the bridges to camouflage the plank flooring of which the pigs were suspicious.

Centerdale

By L.P. Foster Sr. in the 1981 Annual Review
Centerdale, located in Sprindale township six or seven miles northwest of West Liberty, had a population of 12 at the beginning of this century. Centerdale was a station on the railroad with four passenger trains each day except Sunday and many freight trains. There was a general store and post office, coal sheds and stockyards where livestock was loaded for shipment to the Chicago market. The village was also a



The United Congregational Church at Centerdale.


Extra Extra Extra





Do you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter? Please send your contributions to:

Tanya@
cedarcounthistoricalociety.com

Please put "CCHS Newsletter" in the subject line.

All suggestions and feedback are welcome. Because of available space all contributions may not be immediately utilized.



Easily transform everyday shopping.

Use **Giving Assistant** to save money and support Cedar County Historical Society

Start Saving & Giving Free

Make automatic donations to Cedar County Historical Society while you shop—just use Giving Assistant.

Now Taking Electronic Payments

Check out our two new ways to donate to Cedar County Historical Society on our website cedarcounthistoricalociety.com Scroll down on the home page and you will find a PayPal donation button. You can use this to donate to CCHS or pay your membership dues. Underneath it is a link to a shopping website where you can select your favorite place to shop and the rewards you earn will be donated to CCHS.

We can also take Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express at the museum and CCHS events. (Card must be presented and able to scan.)

**NEWSLETTER
JAN FEB MAR
2018**

**HISTORICAL MUSEUM
and Prairie Village
1094 Hwy 38 N.**

**Mailing address
P O Box 254
TIPTON, IA 52772**

**AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM,
west of Tipton at the Cedar
County Fair Grounds**

**Open
Tuesday
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Thursday
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday
10:00 AM to 2:00PM**

Telephone:
563-886-2899
E-mail: cchsmus@netins.net

Tanya Demmel
Museum Coordinator
Newsletter Editor
Tanya@
cedarcounthistoricalociety.com

To join the Cedar County Historical Society annual dues are \$22.00, plus \$3.00 if you want the Annual Review mailed to your address. Dues may be paid at the Historical Museum, 1094 Highway 38 N., Tipton, mailed to: Attn: CCHS Membership P.O. Box 254, Tipton, IA 52772, or on our website: cedarcounthistoricalociety.com



We Need You!



That's right—You! Our annual Day on the Prairie is only successful with the help of our volunteers—like you. If you can help with crafts, demos, or “behind the scene” for the day or even part of the day **WE NEED YOU**. No experience or knowledge of history is necessary to help make Day on the Prairie a great success because we'll show you what to do. Contact Tanya at 563.886.2899 or cchsmus@netins.net if you can help.

CCHS 2018 Sustaining Members

Five Star Members

Barnhart's Custom Service—West Branch
Cedar County Cooperative—Tipton
Cedar Ridge Dental—Tipton
Cove Equipment—Moscow
The Fabric Stasher—Tipton
J & L Pipeline Services—Tipton
Laughlin Design—West Branch
Tipton Conservative—Tipton
Tipton Family Foods—Tipton
Triple B Construction—Wilton

Three Star Members

Citizens Bank—Tipton
Clarence Telephone and Cedar Communications—
Clarence
Hames Communities LLC—West Branch
Keller's Home Furnishings—Tipton
Liberty Trust & Savings Bank - Durant, Bennett, New
Liberty, Tipton
Kruse Konstruktion Inc.—Tipton
Lynch's Plumbing Inc.—West Branch
Niermeyer-Maurer Insurance—Clarence
Open Prairie Chapter of the Daughters of the
American Revolution—Tipton

Two Star Members

City of Tipton—Tipton
Dr. Frederick Drexler—Clarence
D. S. Webb & Co., P.C.—Clarence, Tipton
Moeller Tipton Tire & Auto—Tipton
Schroeder & Associates, LLC—Mechanicsville

One Star Members

Bridge Community Bank—Mechanicsville
Community State Bank—Stanwood, Clarence, Tipton,
West Branch
Eastern Iowa Drainage Services—Lowden
Hills Bank & Trust Company
Liberty Insurance Agency Inc.—Durant
Unity Point Health—Clarence, Mechanicsville, Tipton

Cedar County Historical Society owes special thanks to our sustaining members for their help in allowing us to continue to save and protect the history of Cedar County. Please remember to thank these businesses and professionals for their contributions. To become a sustaining member please contact Membership Secretary, at PO Box 254, Tipton, IA 52772.