

# Brunsville: Glimpses of life over a century ago



Above: The north side of the main street. The second building from the left is the grocery store Gene Dickman's parents owned and the family lived above. Except for Farmers Bank of Brunsville located at the east corner, all buildings on the block were destroyed by the fire on July 28, 1931 when Gene was three years old. He remembers wanting to go back to get his blanket. After the fire, the first thing the family would do at motels was check the fire exits.



View of residential street about 1914 Above: View looking west from in front of where St. Peter Lutheran Church now stands.



Chicago N. W. right of way in 1910 - Building the railroad

### Welcome cyclists rolling into town

On Saturday, Feb. 16, cyclists participating in Bike Central's Annual Do Not Freeze Ride will brave the cold and roll into Brunsville. They will stop at the Corner Café to enjoy lunch before heading back to Le Mars. Watch for them to arrive mid-morning.





Birdseye view residential area - 1915 Above: View looking east.



Celebration about 1913 showing part of parade and a stand

See more historical photos on the back page and at **brunsvilleiowa.com**.

### Prairie Rose Golf Casino Night is set for February 23

At 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 23, Prairie Rose Golf Casino Night kicks off at the Brunsville Legion. Please note you must purchase tickets in advance from golf board members. A \$100 ticket covers two people and includes a meal, moneyprize drawings chance and drinks until midnight.

### In Memory of...

Eulalia Navarrete, who passed away Saturday, January 5. She is the mother to Alicia of Alicia's Mexican Specialties serving at the Corner Café Monday nights.

### In Our Prayers

Shelly Hunt (Kim Sherlock's mother) **Michelle Jones** Martha & Tom Morley John Lambert (Lonesome Jack) The family of Eulalia Navarrete Wendell Oltmanns **Janice Renken** Joan Renken Sarah Renken **Orval Siebens Mary Singer Rich Taylor** 

## Bírthdays

Shirlee Wells Feb. 1 Eric Lubben Feb. 2 Michaela Burkard Feb. 2 Zachary Burkard Feb. 2 Addison Babcock Feb. 2 Vernon Harrinaton Feb. 3 Brenten Bruscher Feb. 3 Karen Oetken Feb. 5 Chris Waterbury Feb. 7 Steve McHale Feb. 8 B.J. Rieken Feb. 8 Bowen Rieken Feb. 8 Joslyn & Jayde Sieburg Feb. 9 Gwenith Montgomery Feb. 9 Charles Stremick Feb. 10 Brystol & Rahlyd Gabel Feb. 10 Rob Von Hagel Feb. 12 Tim Rollinger Feb. 14 Wendell Oltmanns Feb. 15 Peggy Dickman Feb. 17 Dave Burkard Feb. 17 Keaton Koerselman Feb. 18 Dick Harms Feb. 19 Colan Borchers Feb. 19 Jerret Westhoff Feb. 23 Elliot Kroll Feb. 27 Lincoln Renken Feb. 28 Angela Von Hagel Feb. 28 Mary Jane Tapper Feb. 28 Laura Willer Feb. 28 Lisa Livermore Feb. 28

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH: Nancy Schlichte

### Honoring those who served



Plymouth County veterans were honored at the Pioneer Village Winter Wonderland celebration December 15. Veterans Henry Renken leads present included (Front Row I-r:) Ray Whitmore, Le Mars, U.S. the audience in the Army; Leroy Rozell, Akron, U.S. Army; Bill Renken, Brunsville, U.S. Pledge Army; Henry Renken, grandson of Marlyn Renken; (Back Row I- Allegiance r:) Miles McDougall, Le Mars, U.S. Army, Brunsville Legion Post the Commander; Ronald Ludwigs, Brunsville, Sons of American Tribute. Legion (SAL); Mike Vander Molen, Struble, SAL; Cliff Koerselman, sang two songs to Le Mars, U.S. Army; Paul Peacocok, Elk Point, S.D., U.S. Navy; the veterans. and Marlyn Renken, Brunsville, U.S. Army.



of during Veterans He also

At the Pioneer Village Wonderland celebration Dec. 15 at the Plymouth County Fairgrounds, Marlyn and Mary Renken, of rural Brunsville with their grandson, Henry, performed a tribute to area veterans. From Henry leading the Pledge of Allegiance to singing patriotic songs, the program honored area veterans. Marlyn, as emcee, shared the "Deck of Cards" story about veterans serving their countries and how difficult it can be at Christmas time. Photos and information courtesy of The Akron Hometowner.

### **Congratulations**

On the morning of January 25, Joyce Willer celebrated her 80th birthday with friends at the Corner Café. Right: Joyce Willer gets ready to blow out her candles. Photo courtesy of Gerry Sue Krienert



#### Recipe of the month: Easy Mousse Dessert

8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened

- 1 c. whipped topping
- 1 pkg. Rada White Chocolate Raspberry Sweet Dip Quick Mix
- 1 c. fresh raspberries
- 1 white chocolate bar (optional)

Whip cream cheese until smooth, Add Quick Mix, Blend, Add whipped topping. Gently fold in, taking care not to over-mix.

Place mixture in serving glass. Add fresh raspberries to top of mix. If desired, shave pieces off a bar of white chocolate onto top.

### Visit the Merrill Public Library

Check out our books, DVDs, audio books, magazines, cake pans, jigsaw puzzles and more!

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Mon.& Wed. 2-6 p.m., Tues. & Thurs.4-7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m.-noon 608 Main St., 712-938-2503 merrilllibrary@mtcnet.net, merrilliowa.info/

### Life at the Legion



The Farmers Cooperative of Craig Iowa presented a check for \$5000.00 to the Heeren, McHale, Wilkens Post 724 of Brunsville. The money will be used for their next building improvement project.

General Manager Doug Schurr stated that it is important to give back to the communities of co-op members. Jason Marienau, a board member of the coop, stated it is also important to give back to veterans. The Legion hall is not only used for receptions and dances, but is also used to host Brunsvillearea community events, county and general elections as well as the Co-op's Annual meeting.

Legion members are tremendously grateful for this very generous donation.

Pictured are Legion members: Gene Beitelspacher, Randall Toel, Steve Dickman, Miles McDougall, Dean Beitelspacher, Co-op General Manager Doug Schurr, Coop Board members Dana Meinen, and Jason Marienau.

#### **Upcoming events**

Feb. 4 Legion meeting 7:30 p.m./Sons of the Legion meeting 7 p.m.
Feb. 9 Euchre 7 p.m.
Feb. 10 Pancake breakfast 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Feb. 23 Prairie Rose Golf Casino Night
March 4 Legion Meeting/Sons of the Legion meeting
March 9 Euchre

March 10 Pancake breakfast 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. March 18 Southern Sioux Rural Water



Free pickup & delivery to & from Brunsville, Le Mars & Merrill.

### **CORNER CAFÉ COVERAGE**

Free peanuts and popcorn offered every day. Now open Sundays!

#### **Evening Specials**

Sun. SUNDAY SHENANIGANS: \$2.50 Blaine-Boy taverns. Free snacks every Sunday!
Mon. ALICIA'S MEXICAN SPECIALTIES 5-8:30 p.m.
Tues. Corner burger & fries \$7.50
Wed. 8 pc. broasted chicken & fries \$11.99
Thurs. Chef's choice
Fri. 8-10 oz. prime rib, salad, & potato, OR 16 oz. king cut prime rib & potato, mrkt price
Sat. Ribeye steak (12-14 oz.), potato & Texas toast, OR Oak Street steak w/Corner's special seasonings 12-14 oz.
Ribeye), potato & Texas toast OR Sirloin steak dinner (10-12 oz.), potato & Texas toast—mrkt price

#### Memories of the Corner

Paul Utesch remembers when the Corner Café was owned by Tommy and Jean Vernon. Located in the main room was a pool table—before the east room was built on—and it was there his dad taught him how to play pool. A pinball machine sat where the ladies room door is and a jukebox where the men's room door is. Needed to use the restroom? You had to head outdoors—to use the outhouse.

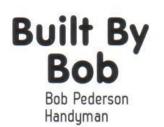
When Irma and Ed Strathman owned the Corner, they began selling groceries from along the west wall A softserve ice cream machine was brought in. "We kids thought that was really cool," says Utesch.

When Dick and Rosie Schwebach owned the Corner in the late 70s, Rosie ran it and Dick drove truck. After they posted the restaurant for sale, Utesch and a friend came close to buying it.

#### For the love of Brunsville

To learn more about Brunsville history and read previous editions of The Blitz, go to **brunsvilleiowa.com**. To learn more about St. Peter Lutheran Church and view old church booklets, go to **stpeterbrunsville.com**.

Be sure to like **The Brunsville Blitz**, **Brunsville Centennial** and **Beyond** and **St. Peter Lutheran Church Brunsville**, **Iowa** on Facebook.





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Above: A 1911 Farmers Bank calendar.

### Quote 'Ems

You know how it is with cats: They don't really have owners, they have staff.—P.C. Cast, Chosen submitted by Ruth Zembsch

No matter how you feel, get up, dress up, show and never give up.—Regina Brett

You can waste your life drawing lines. Or you can live your life crossing them.—Shonda Rhimes

#### Lonesome Jack says...

The problem with winter sports is that they usually take place in the winter!

There are three kinds of memories: good, bad and convenient.

Some people do wonderful things with leftovers they throw them out.

Well, that's all.

### 1909 IOWA PRAIRIE BANK 2019

The Old Reliable 110 Years of Service to Your Grandparents, Parents & You

Stop In and See How We Can Help with Your Financial Questions Full Line of Banking Plus Service First Insurance Farm — Home — Auto—talk to Mike *CLOSE* — *CONVENIENT* 



Above: Shorty Wilken leans out of the driver's window of Herman Wilken's car. Says Gene Dickman, "That may be me in the back." The car was a green 1926 Chevy with yellow wheels. Gene recalls jumping out of the car and walking beside it while it putted along Highway 3 past Dalton.

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# Deadline to submit information to be published is the 25th the month before.

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