

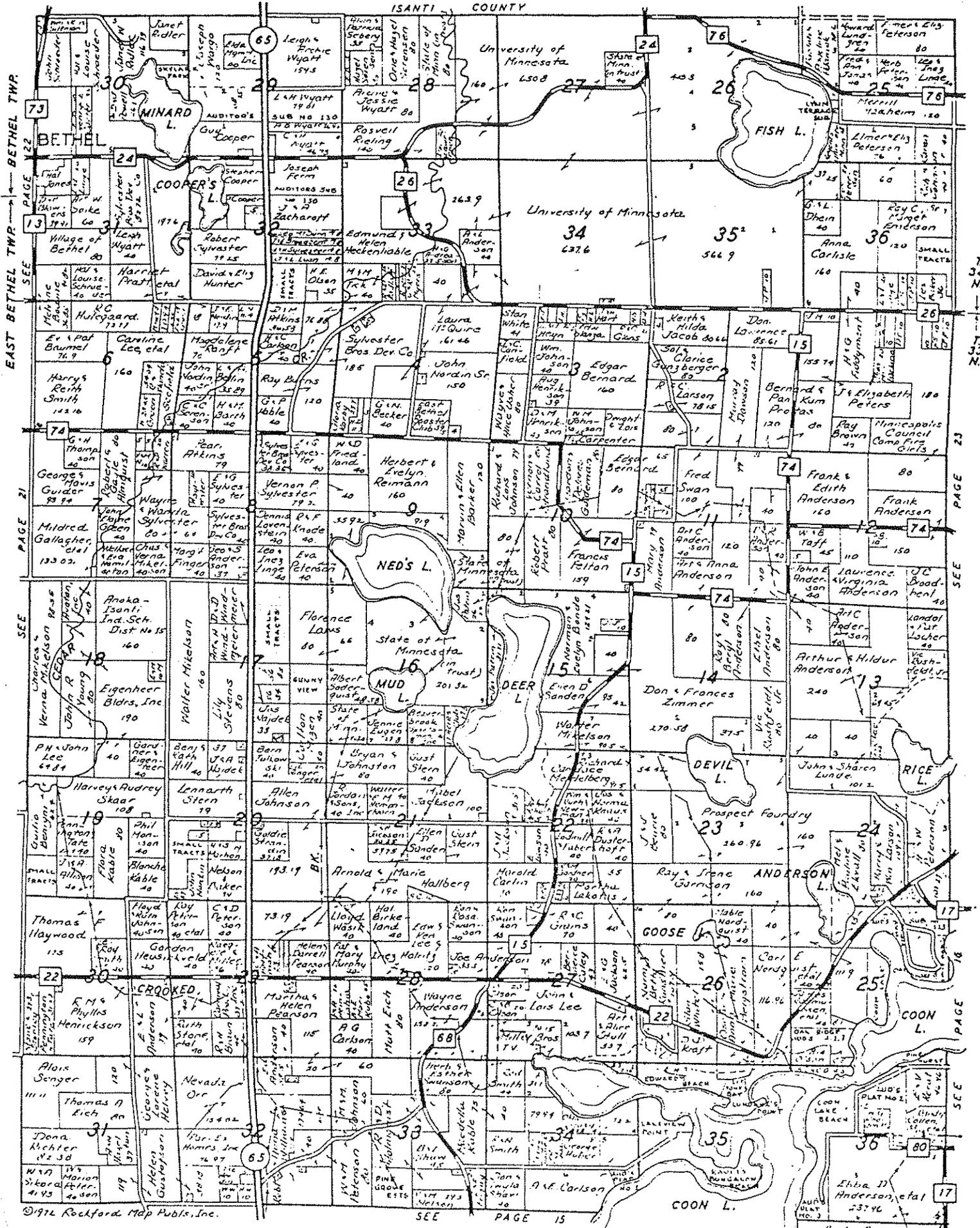
*History of Bethel Township
and
East Bethel Village
That Became the
City of East Bethel*

From 1848 to 1974

By Louise Lyon

EAST BETHEL PART OF BETHEL T.33-34N.-R.23W.

ISANTI COUNTY



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Preface

This history is written to preserve and honor our first pioneers who withstood and surmounted so many hardships to settle this part of Minnesota. It is also intended to show how our present village is expanding and changing.

No doubt I have omitted many who have had unusual experiences or have helped to make our village what it is today. To them I can only say I am very regretful.

I certainly want to thank the many who have answered my numerous questions and helped in finding dates.

L.L.

Acknowledgements

Farmers Atlas and Directory—Bethel Township—The Farmer

History of Anoka County—Bethel Township—Albert Goodrich
History of Upper Mississippi Valley—Winchell, Neill, Williams, Bryant

The Story of Minnesota—Grace and Rhoda J. Emery
Minneapolis Tribune

Anoka County Records

Anoka County Abstract Co.

East Bethel Booster Newspaper

Anoka County Union

Family Records

Church Histories

Many Friends

Rockford Map Publishers, Inc.

HISTORY OF BETHEL TOWNSHIP

THAT BECAME

EAST BETHEL VILLAGE

From 1848 to 1974

By Louise Lyon

The territory which was later plotted as Bethel Township of Anoka County, Minn., belonged to the Chippewa Indians until 1837 when the United States bought all land east of the Mississippi in what became Minnesota. Settlers then poured into this fertile land of forest and prairie.

In 1854 Rice Price, Owen Evans, and Rolland Minard, who were Quakers, settled in Section 28 and 29N. James Cooper who thought the Quakers would be fine neighbors also came in 1854. Mr. Minard and Mr. Cooper helped each other build log houses, each on a small lake. These lakes are now known as Minard and Cooper Lakes. After getting homestead title, Mr. Cooper returned to Pennsylvania to sell his sawmill and bring his family to the new home. They, as many others did, started west in covered wagons drawn by horses.

On June 24, 1856 after 3½ months of travel they crossed Cedar Creek in Section 33N, the only place where there was a bridge, and soon arrived at their homestead only to find the house gone and the Minard family and house also gone. The Coopers then built a house of hand sawed lumber using wooden pegs for nails. The lumber came from Cedar Creek Swamp whose south end extends into the northern part of Bethel Township. This swamp of virgin white cedar is the most southern one in Minnesota. Most early settlers built log buildings from lumber cut in clearing their land.

The same year of 1856 Edward Pratt, Elisha Day, Louis Mitchell, John and James Dyer, all with their families, and three single men—John Dougherty, John McCann, and Charles Ross came to this vicinity.

This was mostly prairie land ready for a plow. The earliest settlers in this vicinity near Cedar Creek planted pines in their door yards and these lofty pines give notice of these first homes. Early settlers were originally from the Eastern states or from Sweden, England, Ireland, Norway, and New Brunswick. Some came by covered wagon drawn by horses or oxen or walked from the nearest river port or railroad station. Horses and oxen alike were shod in winter with iron shoes with calks to lessen slipping on icy roads.

Another very early settler was Peter Johnson who walked from Anoka to the north side of Coon Lake. He liked it and sent word to relatives and friends in Sweden to come. They did—Munsons, Linds, Holmquists, Swansons and Andersons, all settling in Bethel township. Peter first bought land from Horace Selleck just over the line in Section 30N of Columbus township in 1859. Later he bought adjoining land in Bethel township from the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad. His son later lived on this farm during his lifetime.

Settlers continued to come to this fertile land. To get a title to land in this part of Minnesota, one went to either the Stillwater or Taylors Falls Land Offices. Most Bethel settlers went to Taylors Falls.

By 1880 the northern part of the township had the following families: George Barcelou, James Cooper, Sam Cooper, Jacob Coulter, Seymour Cutler, Elisha Day, Nathan Day, John Dawson, Stephen Dyer, George Meers, Henry Meers, John Mickelson, Peter Michelson, Louis Mitchell, Henry Newbert, Edward Pratt, John D. Pratt, C. E. Olmsted, Hartley Peel, Rice Price, John Ruffcorn and son Burley, Hezekiah Saffle, John Smith, N. H. Starbird, Hugh Spence, John Tomlinson, Francis Wyatt, and George Wyatt.

In the central part of the township were families of Hiram Baker, John Baker, Rosa Baker, Joseph T. Broadbent, Joseph Cogger, Leland Cooper, John K. Dawson, William O. Day, G. W. Evans, Isiah Gardner, Hiram Grim, William and John Grundy, David Hardy, Frank Howe, C. H. Oswald, Abner A. Purmort, John E. Purmort, Rodger Ridge, Jonas Smith, John A. Starkey, Jeff Starkey, and Wesley Higgins.

In the southern part of the township were the families of Gust E. Anderson, Lars J. Anderson, Nels Anderson, M. K. Collen, Frank Daninger, Henry E. Day, Gust Gustafson, Per August Gustafson, August Holmquist, Louis Jackson, A. T. Johnson, Emil Johnson, Edwin Larson, Charles Lind, Gust Lind, Henry Miller, Charles Munson, Walter Smith, August Swanson, J. A. Swanson, and Ellis Usher. Most of these early homesteaders stayed, others sold or just left their claims.

August Swanson would walk to Minneapolis to work for the railroad during the week and walk home each weekend. Some worked at the Fridley Brick Yards during weekdays.

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The highland areas of the township had some prairie land and some wooded areas of oak, elm, maple, birch, and poplar, the soil being sandy with clay subsoil in places. The lowlands are peat, some with tamarack swamps and some are open meadows. Most meadows furnished tons of wild hay for livestock. The hay was cut with horses wearing bog shoes to keep them from miring in the soft wet ground. Later much of this lowland was ditched and drained. Now many acres of sod are raised and harvested on these lowlands for new lawns and road banks of our fast growing village.

Some open meadows grew many tons of wire grass. It was cut with reapers, bundled and tied by hand, and stacked on high land. Later it was baled by horse power and shipped by railroad to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to be made into carpets and matting. Tom and Sidney Broadbent with helpers Elmer Olson and Mr. Ruddy did a lot of the harvesting.

Stephen Dyer built his home two miles south of Coopers and a crossroad developed there known as Dyers Corner.

Peter Mickelson homesteaded on Fish Lake and lived in a root cellar until he could build a house. He and his brother John skied to Taylors Falls to get title to their land. Root cellars were so named because potatoes, rutabagas, and carrots could be kept in them all winter without freezing. A neighbor of Mr. Michelson turned his wagon over to furnish shelter until he could build.

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Family tradition says James Cooper picked the name Bethel from the Bible and named the township when it was organized in 1858, the same year that Minnesota became a state. Bethel township included nearly all of Linwood township and was reduced to its present size when Linwood was organized in 1871.

Bethel township is 6 x 8 miles instead of the usual 6 x 6 miles. This resulted when settlers in the northern part who usually did business in Anoka requested the Legislature and were subsequently granted two rows of sections from the south end of Isanti County. Bethel got 12 sections, Linwood was moved north, and Columbus got 12 sections. The remaining 24 sections make up St. Francis township. Thus Bethel township has Sections 25 to 36 north and the same numbers south. There are 47.75 square miles in Bethel township, the other ¼ square mile being in Bethel Village which is in the east end of St. Francis township.

Town meetings were first held in homes. Records of the first town meetings have been destroyed.

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The abundance of wild cherries, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, blueberries and cranberries, deer, fish, ducks, squirrels, and rabbits added fruit and meat to settlers' diets.

Crops raised were vegetables, melons, potatoes, turnips, rutabagas, wheat, oats, corn, beans and sugar cane. Wheat was taken to St. Francis or North Branch and exchanged for flour. Large potatoes were hauled to Minneapolis to sell, and small potatoes were either fed to livestock or sold to the Starch Factory at St. Francis. The sugar cane was made into sorghum for sweetening. Joseph T. Broadbent and John Baker had sorghum mills.

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John Dawson had a Blacksmith shop at Coopers Corner. He also shod horses and oxen.

Men who could leave their families over winter went north to the logging camps to add to their profits. Women hired out in the fall to pick cranberries near Lake George.

In early days fields were fenced and cattle roamed free until the Herd Law was passed which required the livestock to be fenced. Besides cattle, horses, hogs, and sheep were raised.

Transportation in early times was with oxen or horses, walking, or by river. Those depending on river trips were sure to make them before the Rum River froze over. Now a bus goes north and south through the village each day.

One day in 1887 a woman knocked at the door of Reverend and Mrs. John Mitchell who lived at Dyers Corner. The woman asked if she could warm some milk for her baby. When told she could, she asked Mrs. Mitchell to hold the baby and she would get the milk. She went out, got into her buggy and drove away. She had a bundle with the baby and in it was a note saying the baby's name was Moses, born June 5. Mrs. Mitchell was unable to care for the baby but neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Rodger Ridge, at the insistence of their 16 year old daughter Lottie, adopted Moses. He grew to manhood here and then went to Canada, married a Canadian girl and still lives there. Lottie Ridge was Jessie Wicklander Wyatt's mother.

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The first church services in this area were in the Quaker settlement. Non-Quakers attended this church until a Baptist church was built a mile northeast of Dyers Corner in the early 1860's. This early church was moved to Bethel Village about 1900. Reverend John Mitchell was the pastor of the church. Reverend Mitchell, and later Reverend A. W. Stockton, also conducted Sunday School and church services for many years in the Brown School, District 37 in Section 11, and still later in the old township hall on Road 15 for some time.

There were Methodists in the vicinity who had been meeting in homes and in the Baptist church since 1858. In 1888, Mr. C. A. Clowes donated land at Dyers Corner and a Methodist church was built there. A Ladies Aid of this church was organized in 1895. In 1969, when the Highway Department wanted the church site for the divided highway, the new modern facility church was built a short distance west on Highway 74 on four acres of land. Harry Barth donated two acres and two more were bought from him. During these 100 years the congregation has greatly enlarged and has had many pastors. The present pastor is Reverent Myles Giese.

In 1904 a church was moved from Lake Netta across Coon Lake. They sawed the building in two, put a sled under each corner and by using horse power and block and tackle to slow the slide down onto the lake ice, the halves were moved to the intersection of Highways 22 and 15. There the two parts were rejoined. Reverend John Nylander and Reverend Fred Russell were the pastors of this Free Mission church which existed till 1936. The Pentacosts took over the church then for the next four years after which church services ceased. Joe Anderson then bought the building and it was used as a Community and 4-H Hall from 1942 to 1948. Mr. Anderson then moved the building to his farm yard nearby.

Our Saviours Lutheran Church, formerly of Ham Lake, needed a larger modern facility church and built one on land donated by Ole Pearson's son Eddie and wife Martha. It is on Highway 22 just east of Highway 65. The present pastor is Reverend Hilton Hammer. The church celebrated its centennial last year. This church started in 1872 and the Ladies Aid was organized later. Anna Anderson with the help of Mrs. Martin Johnson and Mrs. Frank Anderson, translated the early Swedish Ladies Aid meeting minutes into English. Some were used in the Church's delightful History Book that was published.

A new Apostolic Church whose dedication services were held just before Thanksgiving, ¹⁹⁷³ is located on the former Frank Lee place on Highway 74 west of Highway 65.

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Lakes in the township are: Cooper, Coon, Deer, Devils, Fish, Grass, Minard, Mud, Neds, and part of Rice. Many of them furnished fish and all had ducks.

In winter much ice was cut and put in sheds and packed with sawdust for use in iceboxes in warm weather and to make ice cream.

P. John Anderson who lived on Coon Lake caught Northern pike and sold them to neighbors. How good they were!

Produce was hauled to Anoka or Minneapolis. Many picked blueberries to sell in town. Joseph T. Broadbent started for Minneapolis with a load of blueberries to sell. It was a hot day and he was driving oxen. When they got to a lake the oxen wanted a drink and nothing would stop them. Into the lake they went, wagon and all. Luckily the blueberries survived and were saleable.

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The first Minnesota territorial legislature of September 1848 founded a system of free schools. Every township containing not less than five families was to be considered a school district. Minnesota territory granted two sections of each township—numbers 16 and 36 for school purposes. Owing to this, Minnesota has a large school fund of which only the interest is expended to counties according to school enrollment.

Schools in Anoka County were numbered in order of their origin. No. 1 in Anoka, No. 2 in Joyce Chapel (now Coon Rapids), and No. 3 in Bethel township. No. 3 was first located one mile south of Coopers and built of logs in 1858. Later it was moved to the crossroads at Coopers. Joseph Ridge of Anoka was the first teacher. Grades 1 through 8 were taught. A frame schoolhouse was built later.

Other schools organized in Bethel township were:

District 22 in Southwest corner of Section 10 in 1870.

District 25 in Northwest corner of Section 9 in 1871.

District 37 in Section 11 in 1873.

District 40 in Section 8 in 1880.

District 43 in Section 36 South.

District 53 had two schools—one west of Coon Lake in Section 33 South and one north of the lake in Section 25.

In 1953 a school reorganization law was passed and most of these schools were included in District 212, now District 15. Pupils attend elementary schools in Bethel, Cedar, and St. Francis, and the Junior and Senior High Schools in St. Francis. Pupils of the most eastern part of the township go to Forest Lake District schools.

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Bethel Post Office was established in 1863. James Cooper was appointed postmaster and retained that office for 15 years. Hugh Spence who had started a store in 1876 near Mr. Cooper's home became postmaster in 1878. In 1879 he sold to Henry Newbert who then became postmaster until 1882 when James H. Cooper, son of James Cooper, was appointed. He continued to serve until 1893, also keeping a general store during this time. The next postmasters were Frank Hoolihan and Seymour Cutler.

Mail was first brought to this Post Office from Anoka by a Mr. Miller who lived near St. Francis. He made the trip once a week. Later a stage from Anoka to Cambridge by way of St. Francis brought mail every other day, going to Cambridge one day and back to Anoka the next day. As the settlers increased the stage made the round trip each day.

When the Great Northern Railroad completed a line from Minneapolis to Duluth and Superior, the government ordered the Post Office moved to a townsite on the railroad two miles west. Mr. Cutler moved the building containing the Post Office. Since it was Bethel Post Office the new townsite became Bethel and is in the east end of St. Francis township.

In 1904 rural routes were established and George Meers was appointed mail carrier. His route brought mail to the settlers in the northern part of the township.

With the removal of the Post Office the crossroad at Coopers became known as Coopers Corner.

Another Post Office in the township was "Mort", established in 1897 in the home of John Purmort who was appointed postmaster. Mail was brought by Mr. James Riley of Linwood from

Anoka. Mr. Riley left mail at Jespersion Post Office, Mort Post Office, and Linwood Post Office on his way to the railroad at Wyoming, Minnesota. The next day he made the return trip. Mort Post Office served the settlers around Coon Lake, and in and around Section 14. This Post Office was established on the railroad at Cedar and rural routes organized. Hudson Guy was the first mail carrier. He ate dinner and changed horses each day at Purmorts.

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Early settlers were very helpful to each other, trading work in building, potato digging and picking, haying, sawing wood and threshing. Farming in those days was a far cry from today's potato diggers and sackers, mowers and balers, chain saws, fertilizer tanks, and combines.

Settlers at first either hand shucked, treaded or flailed their grain and beans letting the wind blow out the chaff. Fanning mills were later used to take out chaff and any weed seeds.

Later years three threshing rigs from neighboring townships traveled through with their rigs—John Grant, Moses Winch, and Lillion & Mickelson. First rigs were horse driven, then steam driven, and later tractors furnished power to operate the grain separators. Now combines do the work.

The following poem was given to me by Essie Anderson and is very reminiscent of bygone days:

THE THRESHING MACHINE

When summer has ended and all down the lane
The wheat fields are waving with ripe golden grain
When orchards are heavy with fruit on the bough
And barns are o'erflowing with hay in the mow
Then I love to remember the wonderful scene
That was made by the old-fashioned threshing machine.

Wood fed to the boiler turned water to steam
And pulling the throttle, the whistle would scream.
With a chug and a hiss and belching black smoke
The belt whirred and flapped as the engine was stoked.
Through a galvanized pipe the straw blew to a stack
And the clean golden grain streamed into a sack.

The farmers all gathered with banter and laughs
Their faces suntanned and dusted with chaff.
A long train of teams came in from the fields
Drawing the wagons with summer's rich yield.
From sheaves of full grain that the binder had reaped
The bins were soon filled with bright golden heaps.

We children stood round, all watching with awe
The mightiest engine that ever we saw.
The shiny tin bucket with water we filled,
And drank from the dipper with many a spill
The small boys longed for the day when they, too,
Would be able to work with the big threshing crew.

The big kitchen buzzed with gay women folk
As they hustled and bustled with laughter and jokes.
The range was all covered with kettles and pans.
No one ever tasted a dinner so grand!
They washed in a basin set out on the porch
Then to the long table the hungry crew marched.

Our modern-day combines, efficient and new
Domore in a day than a twelve man crew.
But I love to recall the neighborly scene
That was made by the old-fashioned threshing machine.

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Robert W. Sylvester and Delano Carpenter buy old machinery. Each year they plant grain so they can cut it with a binder, then shock it till ready to thresh. On threshing day people come for many miles to see the way grain used to be threshed, some to help and remember earlier days. The shocks and the separator powered by an old tractor are a great sight for them, and many take pictures of the action. They have seen the grain shocks in the field and wondered what they were. Thus they find out. Delano Carpenter also collects old cars and always joins any parade with one.

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August Strandberg and Emil Johnson built a grocery store with gasoline pumps in 1911 on the north shore of Coon Lake. After the death of August Strandberg the store was sold to Otto Olson who moved it to the intersection of Highways 22 and 17 in Section 24. After six years Otto sold the store to Oscar Colbert. The next year Oscar enlarged it and had a bar in one part and a grocery store with meats in the other part. He also had gasoline pumps. Gerry Lundberg was the next owner. He sold it, and now it is Alva's Bar and Grocery.

John Bodine, who had a butcher shop in Bethel, had a covered wagon that his brother Vernal drove through this township selling fresh meats to the residents.

During the years of 1920 to 1940 Ben Larson and V.P. Sylvester bought stock throughout the area, and on Mondays they shipped it from the stockyard in Bethel. Anyone who couldn't take their stock to Bethel on Monday took them to Larsons. On Monday Ben's daughters helped drive the stock to Bethel. Ebba Larson Soderquist says she walked or ran ten miles to keep the cattle going the right way. Later V.P. Sylvester trucked cattle directly to South St. Paul.

The Anoka County Telephone Company of Constance was organized and lines were built through the township in 1912. This company was later sold to the Mille Lacs Telephone Company. They traded lines in Anoka County to Northwestern Bell Company for its lines around Isle. After some years the Northwestern Bell Company, by raising rates to the Soderville patrons, gave them toll-free calls to Minneapolis and later St. Paul, Forest Lake, and Savage.

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During the 1900 teens Mrs. J. W. Martin in Section 11 kept a Traveling Library. These libraries were loaned from the St. Paul Library for three months at a time, after which they were exchanged for a new set of books. The books were on a variety of subjects—travel, adventure, history, and fiction.

Hedvig Jackson Nelson, was born and grew up in Bethel township on Highway 22. When working in Bethel she won in a "Popular Girl" contest. Her prize was a silver bowl. While showing it off to friends she fell through a trap door into their basement. The bowl suffered a broken handle.

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Early roads were not much more than wheel ruts in the sandy soil with corduroy roads over swamps. About 1913 or 1914 cars first began to be used here. Those early cars were noisy and frightened many a team of horses and its driver.

Roads were gradually graded and low places filled, but until then it was often the plight of a car to get stuck in mud. A car with a girl driver got stuck in a low spot on the Klondike road. A Swedish gentleman living close by, with the aid of a tamarack pole, moved the car to better footing, then told her; "go slow and give the the 'uice". She didn't know how she was going to give it juice and go slow, she she gave it gas and got to higher ground. The gentleman wouldn't take any money but was profusely thanked.

Klondike road got its name when the John Johnson, Enock Russell, and Henry Falks, whose farms were in Section 10 and 15 with no wild meadows, bought meadows south of Klondike road. A farmer who lived north of the road and on higher ground had very good crops that year and told the young boys who were haying with their fathers about their fine crops so often the boys got bored. Ernest Johnson carved the name Klondike in a board and filled the letters with black acle grease. The boys then nailed it high in a tree. When the farmer and his wife noticed the sign after some ribbing by neighbors they were very provoked. They didn't like it one bit, but the name remains.

Early roads followed Indian or animal trails. W. R. Gillis who was a surveyor and John Purmort had meetings with Senator J. T. Elwell to lay out a more direct and better road to Minneapolis so that the farmers could more easily market their produce. The problem of crossing the swamps had been solved by laying trees and logs crossways and covering the logs with dirt. Such roads were called corduroys. Residents could work out their road tax by working on roads. A man and team were valued at 35 cents an hour. A direct road to Minneapolis was made in 1900-1901 with work in townships to the south it joined Central Avenue and was so called for many years. It is now State Highway 65, graded in 1923-24, blacktopped in 1931, widened in 1951, paved in 1952, widened again and made into a divided highway in 1969-70.

The road from Cedar to Wyoming crossed Highway 65 (where Elmer Evgren's service station and tavern were located for many years) is County State Aid Highway 22. The road east and west crossing Highway 65 at Coopers Corner is now County State Aid Highway 24 and was blacktopped in 1936. Now all the main roads in the village are blacktopped.

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Life as a pioneer would stump most young wives. There were no bakery or clothing stores. Bread was made from home brewed yeast. Cakes and cookies were made from family recipes. Butter was churned in dasher or barrel churns. Clothing for the family was often made from flour sacking or of cloth bought from a peddler who might happen by with cloth and household articles in his wagon. Stockings and socks were knit by mother for the family. Coffee beans were ground as needed with a small coffee mill held between the knees.

Matches were unheard of or hard to get, and if the fire went out someone would take a pail to a neighbor's to get hot coals to start a fire.

Indian neighbors were numerous and friendly. They liked to sharpen their knives on Henry Miller's grindstone. They didn't seem afraid of guns, but if anyone picked up a club the Indians would quickly leave.

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There are five cemeteries in the village. A very old one is on a hill near the northwest part of Fish Lake in Section 26N. John Mickelson says it contains the graves of two of his grandparents, a brother, three sisters, and two other relatives. All markers have rotted away, but Alvar Peterson has replaced the corner posts of the fence that was around the graves.

Old Bethel Cemetery is in Section 29 North
Oak Leaf Cemetery is in Section 4
East Bethel Cemetery is in Section 22
Friedsberg Cemetery is in Section 26 North

Friedsberg Cemetery has perpetual care. The village maintains the others.

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Owen Evans of the Quaker Settlement entered a company of sharpshooters at the beginning of the Civil War and became a Captain. Others from the township who served were Rodger Ridge, Elisha Day, Edward Pratt, and John Ruffcorn. The following had served in the Civil War before settling in Bethel township—G. W. Evans, David Hardy, C. E. Olmsted, Charles B. Oswald, Abner Purmort and Henry Miller.

Land grants were given to the soldiers of the Civil War, which helped many to start a farm. Acreage to others could be bought for \$1.25 per acre.

In World War I many of the township answered the call of the country. Martin Larson was killed in battle. Women knitted socks and sweaters for servicemen.

During World War II Vernon Broadbent and Wendell Jones lost their lives. The women rolled bandages and sewed pajamas for use in hospitals. Men and women gave blood to the Red Cross.

Many young men and ladies served their country during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The people at home gave many pints of blood, and still do for the blood banks.

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In early times the closest doctors were in Anoka and Minneapolis so home remedies or nothing but good strong constitution made you well.

There were midwives to deliver babies. Mrs. Rodger Ridge ushered many babies into this world, and in one 24 hour period delivered three babies, each at a different home. Mrs. John Purmort was called occasionally, and later Mrs. Ben Larson and Sarah Magnuson performed this service.

Now there are six registered nurses in the village—Rachel Peterson, Beryl Anderson, Shiela Mitchell, Jo Rohady, Barbara French and JoAnn Konn.

One time a doctor from Anoka was asked to go to Coon Lake to doctor a sick baby. The doctor hitched up his horse to the buggy and made the trip. When the doctor told the father the bill would be \$5.00, the father exclaimed, "\$5.00!! Better let the baby die!"

Henry Schwab's leg was broken when he was caught between logs and a fence post. He was put on a bed of hay in a sled box with warm soapstones and blankets, and taken to an Anoka doctor, a 20 mile journey of cold and pain.

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During the Indian uprising in 1862 the settlers went to Anoka or Minneapolis, returning after the danger was over. The Quakers did not return to this locality.

Severe storms have caused much destruction and danger. On the evening of June 12, 1914 a tornado hopscotched across the county. It demolished the farm buildings just over the township line in Grow, then scattered a grocery store and contents for miles northeastward. The store belonged to Jesse Brown in Section 2. The storm continued on into Linwood doing severe damage and injuries.

In 1939 a tornado coming from the southwest did much damage to the Isiah (Ike) Gardner buildings and Earl Main home. They had heard the roar of its coming and took refuge in Ike's root house. With their guests there were 16 in the shelter. When they emerged the Earl Main and Ike Gardner homes were gone, along with all of Ike's farm buildings except the corn crib. Ike's pigs and chickens were killed. The tornado also damaged the West Bethel Methodist Church and destroyed the Donahue Barn.

A small tornado in 1960 rolled a mobile home over several times breaking it in two. The home belonged to Minnie Slotto in Section 32N. Tornadoes tear down trees, telephone and power lines, and move or carry away buildings and sheds.

Hail has caused severe crop damage, and blizzards have endangered lives and blocked roads. Fires have taken a heavy toll of buildings, trees, and crops.

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In 1870 a Mr. Holmberg, who lived near Fish Lake, was accidentally shot and killed by a hunter who mistook him for a deer. Another fatal tragedy about 1904 was the loss of two men. They had left Lars Russell's place early one morning in a canvas boat to hunt ducks on Deer Lake. When they did not return Mr. Russell asked neighbors if they had seen or heard them. Some had heard them call but didn't understand what they said. One man thought their calls were cows bellowing. The bodies were found in Mud Lake, which adjoins Deer Lake. Their arms were clasped over the ends of the canvas boat which had been cut by ice and would not hold them. Both had died of exposure in the cold water.

Another duck hunting fatality was that of Sidney Broadbent, who in some unknown way tumbled out of his boat. He called for help. Swanson Brothers, who lived near the lake, heard him call for help. Neighbors and friends took Sidney to the Elmer Olson home where all possible help failed to revive him.

John A. (Bud) Lyon while duck hunting rescued a hunter from Devils Lake who had fallen out of a boat. Another time he rescued one from Neds Lake. Bud got him back in his boat and told him to row. The man said he "couldn't! He was too cold!" Bud said, "you row or you will be dead". Complaining bitterly he did row with Lyon following till they got to Nate Day's landing. Mr. Day took charge of the man then, seeing he got to the house and warmed up.

About 1934 a Mr. Ponczek in Section 3 advertised for a housekeeper. A Minneapolis lady answered and took the job. When the lady's sister did not hear from her she asked authorities for help in locating her sister. She said she knew her sister got off the train at Cedar and had a pet canary. There was an item in the paper asking if anyone knew her whereabouts. Mr. Henry Beck saw the article and told authorities Mr. Ponczek had sold him a canary and borrowed a shovel to bury his dog. With this tip a search was made. A narrow grave was found beside Ponczek's house where the dog was buried, but beneath the dog was the woman's body. The man was already in jail on another charge. He was convicted of the murder.

One winter night in 1943 when the temperature was -34 degrees Effie Strandberg Lundberg, who was tending her brother August's store after his death, was walking back to the store after locking up a storage building. She suffered a stroke and fell. The Johnsons noticed a light still on in the store at midnight. Emil went to investigate and found Effie. Her legs were badly frozen and she lived only nine days.

In 1913 Frank Anderson, son of Peter Anderson, was working as a maintenance man for a telegraph line on the Northern Pacific Railway. He was on a handcar during a severe snowstorm. A train coming from behind Frank hit and killed him.

Seventeen year old William Jackson in 1913 was duck hunting with John Slick, an older man from Minneapolis, on Coon Lake. John accidentally shot William in the arm and blew a hole in the boat. He was taken immediately to Northwestern Hospital, but later died from lockjaw.

In September 1950 John Baker living on the south end of Fish Lake told his wife there was a car in the yard. He went out to see who it was. When he did not return and his wife could not find him, she walked over two miles to get their son Less. Continual search by many failed to find him till the leaves were off in November. Then son Everett and Tom Broadbent found the body one and a half miles from home.

In 1967 Edward Kotula was with a moose hunting party on Sturgeon Lake in Canada. He and Duane Wicklund from Isanti with a boat load of moose meat, left camp to take the meat to the car, a four hour journey across the lake. When they did not return, search was made in the severe snowstorm. Only the boat and a few articles were found after a week's dragging and search. Which again proved the Mounties remark "The lake never gives up its dead."

Jack Anderson was a man who did not let the loss of a hand stop him. With his good hand, an iron hook adjustment for the other arm and a hole drilled in his axe handle for the hook, he could cut and split wood as well as the best axe man. He was one of the crew which logged off the former Newbert place in the 1920s. Almon Anderson's sawmill made the logs into lumber. Bill Johnson's house was one of the buildings made from some of the lumber.

A hardy person is Eva Peterson who spent two days and nights lying in her yard with a broken hip a few years ago. They were hot July days and she was severely bitten by flies, mosquitoes and ants and dehydrated, thirsty and hungry. The mailman noting she had not picked up her mail for two days drove in to her place. He gave her water and got help. She spent many weeks in hospitals but is now able to walk with the aid of crutches.

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A big roller skating and dance hall was on Lake View Point in the 1930's. It was torn down and the lumber used for a residence elsewhere.

Before cars became numerous the settlers had neighborhood parties and dances. There always seemed to be some to play the organ, strum a guitar, or play a violin to furnish music. Waltzes, two steps, square dances, and Virginia reels were the dances of those days.

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Between 1908 and 1918 the young men of the township organized the Coon Lake Baseball Team. They played teams from Linwood, Cedar, Isanti, and Bethel. The team had as players during those years:

Ed, Richard, and Bill Johnson
Tom, Sanford, and Julius Broadbent
Arthur C. Anderson Frank McCausland
Arthur P. Anderson Gust Stern
Ernest Johnson Walfred Jackson
George Valenta Joe Rasmusson
Ed Anderson Also two from Linwood—Stewart and Lamanzo Winch

The township has had gangsters here at times, too. There is a cabin south of Coon Lake where the people claim Dillinger hid out one winter.

A gang killed a Mr. James and dumped him out of a car near the old Town Hall. A heavy snow fell, and although the gang tried later to find and remove the body, they failed. The FBI, who were trying to catch the gang and get the body, were stationed around the vicinity. The body was found after a thaw.

The Ma Barker gang lived in a house near Cedar Creek on Highway 65 for some time. They posed as painters in paint spattered coveralls, coming and going at regular work hours. They moved on just before the FBI found their hide-out, but the FBI did catch up with them in Iowa.

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John Haaheim, a farmer, encouraged other farmers and boys and girls to exhibit their products at County and State Fairs. A goodly amount of prizes were won for corn, grains, potatoes, etc. Ladies won prizes for canning, baking, crocketing, knitting and patchwork.

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Many clubs have been active in the township. The Mothers and Parents Clubs worked for the betterment of their children and schools.

The B. and L. Farmers Club with members from Bethel and Linwood townships acquired the latest in agricultural ideas and crops. Their meetings lasted all day with a bountiful pot luck dinner at noon. After the business meeting the "Reuben Tattler" edited by two different members each month was read. It contained neighborly news, jokes, and quips. This club was started in 1912 and continued for many years.

The O.E.T. (Our Evenings Together) Club was organized in 1914 as a social and helpful club. Members were from Bethel and Linwood townships. Brides-to-be were given showers. In 1916 they produced the play "Back To The Farm" and presented it in Linwood, Stacy, Bethel, Cedar, and Isanti. The proceeds were used to buy comfort kits for friends going to World War I from Bethel and Linwood townships and for charitable organizations. The Club met every month till 1922. At that time it was decided to have an annual picnic which is still held, with an average attendance of approximately 50. In 1914 or 15, while having a party at Purmorts, a hard wind and rain struck. Trees were blown down in the dooryard and along roads, causing two members to stay all night. Russells, Andersons, Johnsons, George Valenta, and Cliff, Ila, and Beth Martin all started for home. Russells and Andersons got home with no trouble, as did George Valenta (Virgil Anderson's present home) and the Johnsons (now Walter Hemmelgarn's). The Martins had to go up "Lovers Lane". This quarter mile of dirt road was flanked on both sides by tall oak trees that leaned over the road, their upper branches caressing each other. The road here was completely blocked with downed trees. The girls took off their shoes and stockings and crawled under and climbed over trees. The road was covered with frogs, and Beth and Ila said everytime they put a foot down they stepped on and squashed a frog. Part way through they met their Father who had come to meet them with a lantern. The light helped them travel the rest of the way home. That storm finished Lovers Lane. It is just part of Road 15 now.

The East Bethel Booster Club raised money by several ways to purchase 45 acres of the old Rodger Ridge place (later Ben Larson's, then Delbert Heckenliable's) for a park. They planted many spruce and pines, made softball grounds, swings, tables, horseshoe court, and a picnic area.

The Helping Hand Club of Dyers Corner organized in 1925 has provided many Christmas boxes of fruit, candy, cookies, and fruit cake for the lonely and elderly. They remember the sick with cards and make lap pads for use in Nursing Homes, as well as donating money to charitable causes.

Many 4-H Clubs have won prizes for their projects exhibited at county and state fairs.

The Whistling Workers 4-H Club with Mrs. Todd Taff as leader has 28 members who are working on 6 to 12 projects.

The East Bethel Beavers 4-H Club has about 20 members with Mrs. Catherson and Allis Deans as leaders. Horses, arts and crafts, and pigs are some of their six projects.

Country Comfort 4-H Club with Arilee Carlson as leader was organized in 1973 with 17 members who are working on two projects.

Cloverleaf 4-H Club has 25 members with Mrs. Rolland Justad as leader. The members are from both East Bethel and Oak Grove townships. The members are working on many projects.

The East Bethel Athletic Association promotes Little League teams and games.

A Boy Scout Troop under the leadership of Dave Hunter was active for a period of time. This troop did the first work on John Anderson Park.

In 1932 the Coon Lake Property Owners Association Incorporated bought land in Section 36 South and built a club house on Coon Lake Beach between Forest and Grove roads using the original C.J. Swanson house as a nucleus of their club house. The Association is very active, having card parties, garden shows, and rummage sales. They arrange meals for hungry hunters during the hunting season. This original house had been used by A.C. Collen and his son while they built their own homes.

The Elm Community Club was started in 1947 as a Parents Club to help make their District 53 schoolhouse more modern and comfortable. They now use the former District 22 building for their clubhouse. Their aim is to help those in the community in times of tragedy such as fires, sickness, or tornadoes. For years they had a Sadie Hawkins dance in the Bethel Hall. The proceeds went to help people with no return expected.

The Beaverbrook Club organized in 1964 has bought acreage from Gus Stern and Mrs. Mable Nelson, and now has 115 acres reaching from the Klondike road to Deer Lake. They have a 40 x 60 foot clubhouse entirely finished and with a big fireplace. Their work is towards conservation and education. Two thousand young people have had instruction and graduated from the Club's Firearms Safety classes. One thousand more have had instruction in snowmobile regulations. A two year experiment to increase wildlife in the area is started. They have planted nearly 8,000 trees—maple, pine and spruce, and browsing feed for deer. They have put quail, wild turkeys, and chucker partridge in the area. A rifle range is being built. Trapshoots are held on Thursdays in summer, and on some weekends. A Benefit Shoot realized \$100.00 for Ducks Unlimited. The proceeds from Drag Snowmobile races on grass on September 30 and October 21 went to help a fire victim. Terry Rodekuhr is the present president of the club.

The Crooked Brook Mothers Club was organized in 1950 with 25 members, but now number 12 who are still very active. Organization was to buy equipment for the Keup School. They bought playground equipment and had a yardlight put in. Mr. Ralph Gardner, an electrician, did the electrical work. The members meet in their homes and are now making scrapbooks for State Hospitals. They give donations to the Heart Fund, Cancer Research, the Red Cross, etc.

The Coon Lake Petal Pushers Garden Club was organized in 1964. The present president is Mrs. Harry Matheson. They have a flower show every year and a project to furnish 50 floral pieces yearly to churches, hospitals, nursing homes and shut-ins. In 1971 they joined the 7th District Horticultural Society.

In the early 1940's a Sportsman Club was organized by men around Coon Lake. They have been instrumental in getting the lake restocked each year with fingerlings to keep the lake a good fishing place. Mr. Semon Jenson is the president.

The Golden Agers Club was organized in 1973 with Ann Dowling as chairperson. Their object is the help the aged by providing needed transportation and to promote their abilities in rewarding projects. The club plans a program and speaker once a month. Phebe Dennis is present chairperson.

Many of our residents, both men and women, belong to bowling leagues.

Anyone wishing to join a Nudist Club will find one in the west central part of the village.

The organization of the East Bethel Environmental League was formed on November 29, 1973.

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This area, which was first territory, then state, township, and now village, has changed from all farmers and dairymen to a mostly suburban and industrial area.

The following are still full-time farmers: Arthur C. Anderson, Earl (Bud) Anderson, Mrs. Hilma Jackson, Harold Schroeder, Gust Stern, Leigh and Archie Wyatt, Jr., and the sod farmers Arnold Hallberg, Hoffman Brothers, and Allan Johnson. Joe Anderson was a farmer until his sudden death November 29, 1973.

There are several others who do some farming but have regular jobs elsewhere. Many men have added to their incomes from earliest times by trapping mink, raccoon, muskrats, beaver, coyotes, and foxes. The boys trap gophers now for the bounty paid by the county and village.

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In 1925 three grandsons of James H. Cooper—W. Guy, Stephen, and Gordon Cooper—built a tile garage and service station at Cooper Corner. At this crossroads in 1927 Clarence Gilson built a grocery store and living quarters. He also converted a railroad coach into a cafe. Later owners of the store were Biernatt and Kunshier, Mr. Walarius, Mr. and Mrs. Merle Day, Roy Swanson, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Gilyard, and Bud Hilbert. The cafe was later owned by Arnie Johnson, Del Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. John Bodine, Mr. Carthouser, Hank and Deloris Gillies, Fred DeMars, and Irvin (Babe) Coulter.

The store, cafe, garage, and homes of Guy and Stephen Cooper were demolished by the Highway Department after buying them to make room for the divided highway in 1968.

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Sanford Broadbent cuts and sells firewood since retiring from County Highway Maintenance work in 1964.

The following men work for the Highway Department in some capacity: Stephen R. Sjerven, State Patrolman; Guy Cooper, Freeway Maintenance; Edward Broadbent, Roy Anderson, and Robert Anderson, County Highway Maintenance.

Less Baker has been a house mover for many years. Robert Peterson, Robert W. Sylvester, Merle Ingalls, and Wilfred Schief are truckers, the last three named are cross country truckers.

Frank Anderson is a Trouble Shooter for North Central Gas Company.

J. A. Lyon after selling his D-X Bulk Plant and home in Bethel built a home on Highway 65 south of Coopers Corner in 1951-52. His hobby of gunsmithing soon became a business which he continued till August 1970.

P. G. Peterson bought and sold horses and cattle in the south end of the township on Highway 65 for many years. He moved to near Coopers Corner in 1953 where he had a vegetable stand for three years.

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On May 8, 1957 a petition to incorporate the township into East Bethel Village, an area of 47.75 square miles, was presented to the County Commissioners and was subsequently approved. There was some opposition so on June 4 an election was held "for" or "against" incorporation. The vote was "232 for", "161 against".

One July 2 election was held to elect officers. Results were: 1957

Mayor—Joe Anderson

Village Clerk—Mrs. Isabel Rasmusson

Treasurer—Mrs. Pauline Ekvall

→ Assessor—Mrs. Evelyn Bonde

Trustees—Ralph Gardner, Edward Heckenliable, Walter Caley

Justices of Peace—George Shaffer, Rod Philbrook

Roadman—Herbert Peterson

Constables—Howard Whaley, Bill Shaw

These officers were elected for staggered terms so all offices would not terminate at the same time.

Four residents who opposed this incorporation took the matter to court, where it was declared void on September 11, 1957. It was then taken to Supreme Court, Judge E. R. Selness, serving as referee for the Minnesota Supreme Court, handed down his decision July 30, 1958 on the status of incorporation of East Bethel Village. He stated that election and incorporation proceedings were legal but said there were 30,560 acres in the village, 14 of which were platted subdivisions of the shores of Coon Lake. The largest nucleus of population of 280 persons were there. There were 18 full time farmers, no nucleus of businesses. The referee concluded that the village is not suburban in character and not likely to become so in the near future, therefore the incorporation is invalid.

On June 3, 1959 the Supreme Court decreed that issues raised are moot and that the Writ of Quo Warranto be dropped.

Shortly after the 1959 Legislature convened the council of East Bethel Village requested Senators Ralph Johnson and John Nordin to introduce a bill validating the incorporation of the village. Legal counsel for the village besides Edward Coleman, Village Attorney, was Robert Dygert of the firm Dygert, Riordan, and Johnson of Minneapolis. Mr. Dygert explained that the previous summer's decision by Judge Selnes was based on a law governing a few cases in 1800's, and that it should not be used in the drastically changed conditions of today. John Nordin introduced the bill in the house and the vote was a unanimous "yes". Senator Ralph Johnson introduced the bill in the Senate and only one "no" was cast. Next it was up to Governor Freeman to sign the bill, which he did. So East Bethel became a legal municipality when the village council met and voted unanimously for incorporation on April 27, 1959 with a population of 1,286. Estimated population in 1973 is 3,789.

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The first newspaper, a biweekly the "East Bethel Booster", was first published on September 26, 1957. Mrs. Lola Reinecke was the first editor. Then Amelia Thielen took over the editing until on June 1, 1961 printing of the paper was done by the Tri County Publications, the former Columbia Heights Record, now Sun Publications. East Bethel news and legal notices are published in the Anoka Union. Mrs. Phebe E. Dennis is the reporter.

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Mayor Joe Anderson knew the village needed fire protection and with the aid of other safety and public minded villagers, a Fire Department was organized on May 7, 1958. Galen Barron was the first fire chief. The firemen set work building a Fire Station. All the work was done by volunteers. The men worked in many ways to get money for the project—dances, 4th of July Carnivals with races, games, food and dancing, and fireworks in the evening. All money raised was used to buy equipment for the Fire Department. It now has three fire trucks and a rescue unit with a well trained crew of volunteer firemen who answer distress calls day or night. Part of the Fire Station is now used for Town Meetings and Elections.

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Traveling south down Highway 65 through the village from the north line you will find the following businesses:

Castle Towers Mobile Home Park started in 1970 is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rome and managed by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tyson. They have landscaped, sodded and paved, planted trees and shrubbery. 177 lots 50 x 100 feet are completed with space for over 500 more. There is a complete sewage disposal plant, a laundromat, outdoor swimming pool, and playgrounds. Mail is delivered to lock boxes in the office.

Mrs. Janet Ridler, an author, owns the former Fred Wood place except for the part owned by Castle Towers. She calls her place Skylark Park. The property extends from Minard Lake to Highway 65. She is selling home sites on the lake. These homes will have private roads and each will have access to the lake. She plans a shopping center on the highway soon, also a gardener south and a restaurant north of the pond.

John Mast owns a lovely restaurant and a D-X Service Station at Coopers Corner. He has been in business since 1972. The restaurant has seating room for 40.

Robert W. Sylvester build a garage in 1954. In 1963 Delano Carpenter bought it and enlarged it. He repairs cars, trucks, machinery, and trailers. Delano Carpenter and Ludwig Gamm are partners in sawing timbers into lumber at the same location.

Larry Lyon's Firewood Sales.

Curt Soderstrom is planning a Sport Shop on his property here.

Near Dyers Corner Delano Marquart and Lloyd Belin bought 40 acres of the one time C. A. Clows place in 1965. During the next two years Mr. Marquart made it into a "Frontier Town". A large imitation black bear guarded the entrance to the Store, Church, Railroads Depot and Sheriff's office and jail cell. There was a menagere of white rabbits, red fox, peacocks, pheasants and farm animals. A horse drawn stage coach gave visitors rides during which they were held up by bandits with plenty of gun play. A hiking trail through the woods was a thrill with a fake snake hanging from a branch, a skull on a sign "Trespassers will be shot on sight," and plenty more rare sights. This fun place was bought in 1970 by Neil Tusler. He kept it going for two years before resuming his business of Real Estate. He is the present chairman of the village planning and zoning board.

At Dyers Corner (Highway 65 and 74) the Harry Barths had a vegetable stand for some years and a Swirly Top Drive-In till 1973.

A large lumber yard at the crossroads is owned by Eddie and Vernon Sylvester who started business in 1952.

Wayne Sylvester Company in business since 1954 has most anything you wish to buy.

Leo Linge a dragline operator bought land on 65 in Section 8 in 1955. He continued doing dragline work for two years. Then he started selling machinery and bought land, subdivided it and resold. He retired in 1970 and son Bob took over the place. Bob has a very successful business selling recreational vehicles. His half brother Mike Griffith is now a partner selling B. and M. Rentals. Mike also does Income Tax service at the same location.

East Bethel Marine, built in 1973, sells boats, motors, and boat trailers.
Hunters Inn, the former Oak Hill Bar, was bought by Phil Heck in 1965. In 1970 he remodeled it into a nightclub.

Allan Johnson—Sod farm.

Arnold Hallberg—Sod farm.

Hoffman Brothers—Sod farm.

Meadowmoor Lounge and Supper Club was built in 1964 by Edward Chies and Bernard Julkowski. On March 1, 1973 it was bought by Vernon Neilson and William Germann.

About 1965 Solar Gas, Inc. of Missouri built a station here.

Frank Fredrickson manages a Little Giant Paper Baler factory started in 1973.

In 1971 William Severson moved into the village from Ham Lake. He does excavation work.

Mr. and Mrs. Savoi opened a Bait Shop here in 1973.

Merle Smith built Smitty's Inn and Grill and started business in March 1973.

A Pizza Parlor was opened in 1972 by Clyde Chase, who is also a surveyor. A bar was added in 1973.

Village Green Mobile Home Park was opened in 1970 by Extencicare of Louisville, Kentucky. It contains 177 lots.

Vick and Son Excavating, Inc., owned by John Vickaryous has been doing road building and excavating work since 1970.

Frontier Village—antiques and odds and ends.

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On Highway 22 from west to east through the village are the following:

Viking Electric owned by Darrel Pearson started business in 1972. He does some sod farming too.

Our Saviours Lutheran Church.

Denny's Automotive and Machine Shop in business since 1972 is owned by Denis Heinisch.

Dacon Engineering and Service Company, owned by Paul Conolly with the Head Office in St. Louis Park, has done job machine work here since 1969.

The Cedar Unit Step Company built in 1970 makes Precap Unit Steps for homes, etc. Owners are Domagalla Brothers.

Clo-Tol Fabricating, Inc. was built in 1972 by Woodrow Berg. This company makes tolerance computer sheet metal.

In 1965 Jerome Lachinski started a cabinet shop. He now builds houses too.

The East Bethel All Volunteer Fire Department Station.

Bob Putz's Auto Shop.

Since 1966 Wayne Anderson has been the distributor for the Union Oil Company in the area.

East Bethel Highway Maintenance Building. Mr. Douglas Meyenberg, Sr., has charge.

Since 1953 Norman Kunshier has been building houses.

Alva's Bar is owned by A.E. Haluptzok.

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In other parts of the village are the following:

John Lunde, a cement contractor, lives on Rice Creek Drive.

Since 1971 Maynard Boelter on Breezy Point Drive has been building houses.

A store started in the 1920's by Mrs. Anna Ingvaldsen on Coon Lake Beach had as later owners—Otto Olson, Mr. Tobody, Mr. Arndt, Mr. Easdy, Fred Gau, Mr. Schmedeke and since January 1, 1973 is owned by Al Otremba. It is called Ramblers Inn.

Harry Rose has a store and Service Station on Coon Lake Beach in business since 1970.

Wayne Melin bought the Atlas Map Company in 1971 carrying on the business in his home. He was elected Mayor for the term starting in 1974.

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On Highway 24 Mrs. Harold Schroeder has a gift shop.

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On Highway 74 is Metroe Culture Marble Company, built in 1972 and owned by Gary Johnson, Sr., where counter and vanity tops are made. They have distributors in Isanti, Minneapolis, and St. Paul. Their products go to 21 states in the middle west.

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Virgil Anderson on Road 15 has been doing road construction and dirt moving since 1952.

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Hidden Haven, a nightclub on Polk Street N.E., also has recreation facilities. The owner is Harley Eigenheer. Mrs. Florence Belter is manager of the club.

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There are four parks in the village. Mrs. Evelyn Bonde was the first Park Committee Chairman and the spark that got the park work started. Wayne Melin is now Park Committee Chairman.

Booster Park in Section 4 on Highway 74 contains 45 acres. The East Bethel Booster Club bought the land. They planted many trees, made two ball parks, a picnic area with tables, and a barbecue grill. The park has a horseshoe court, basketball standard, and sanitary facilities. The village bought it in 1971. The East Bethel Booster Club gave \$8,000 towards the village's purchase price.

Coon Lake Beach Playground contains two acres on the south side of the lake narrows. This is a landfill that the village has made into a Little League Ball Park. It also has sanitary facilities, playground equipment, and a well.

John Anderson Memorial Park contains 80 acres, 60 of which encompass Coopers Lake. This acreage was on the delinquent tax list and was obtained from the county through the efforts of Joe Anderson, who thought the village should have it for a park. The county gave the property to the village with the provision park work would be started within five years. After three years Dave Hunter and his troop of Boy Scouts did the first work by planting trees. A lot of other volunteer work followed. Now there is a graded road to the south and southwest sides of the lake where there are picnic tables, sanitary facilities, a swimming beach, a teeter-totter, a Jungle Jim, and a slide. The last two named were given in memory of Jim McQuire by his wife.

Amelia Thielen Park had an area of four acres on the north side of Coon Lake named for a teacher and village clerk for some years. The state bought a part of the park for public access to the lake. There are tables, a well, a four-place swing, an 18 foot slide, teeter-totter, merry-go-round, sanitary facilities, and a nice beach where swimming lessons are given.

Douglas Meyenberg, Jr., is maintenance man of the village Park and Cemetery Committee.

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Delano Carpenter and Glen Ingalls have dump trucks for construction use.

Mary Anderson trains horses and riders.

Laurie Anderson hauls Farm Bureau Petroleum products.

The following ladies have Beauty Shops in their homes: Janet Jacobson, Nona Eisenrich, and Judy Konen. Marie Ekman owns the Powder Puff Shop on Lake View Point.

Joane Wyatt sells Amway Products.

Barbara Ingalls sells Shaklee Products.

Patricia (Pat) Green sells Avon Products.

Walter Wyatt, former Ford salesman made his home in the township at times.

Burton Shaw is a retired officer of the Federal Cartridge Company.

Harry Ortel is a dentist.

Eugene Rerat is an attorney.

Fred French is a Hospital Administrator.

Wilfred Perra is retired, but now working with the National Guard Veterans Administration.

Sergeant Monroe Hendrickson is a retired Army man.

Captain Reinecke (deceased) lived here after retirement.

Schuyler Mitchell, who lives on Edwards Beach Road, started work with the Anoka County Sheriff in 1965. In 1967 he was made a detective in charge of the Crime Laboratory.

John Nordin, a State Representative from this area for 24 years, is now in the Real Estate business.

Rodney and Norma Smith, truck farmers since 1953, are associated with the Minneapolis Municipal Growers Association and sell under the Deepath Farm name.

Joseph Knaus is an instructor at the Anoka Technical School.

Roland Bell is a taxidermist in Sunny View Addition in Section 17.

Dean Lillion is a quality control engineer.

Robert J. Sylvester, a Certified Public Accountant and Martin Johnson, a commercial artist and fruit farmer were elected for terms as Village Councilmen beginning January 1, 1974.

David Hunter is continuing his job of several years as Civil Defense Director.

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To Alvar Peterson, Resident Manager at the University of Minnesota Laboratory in the northeast part of our village I give my sincere thanks for the following report on the scientific work being done there.

Cedar Creek Natural History Area is devoted to the preservation of a unique collection of habitats and is dedicated to educational and scientific pursuits. A unique outdoor classroom, it boasts of such plants as the Showy Lady Slipper (Minnesota state flower) as well as a number of other orchids, and the carnivorous pitcher plants. It offers a rare combination of forest swamp, and grassland wildlife communities. Actually an island of the Northern Forest, such trees as the White Cedar, White Pine, Norway Pine, and Black Spruce, may be found here. Because of the varied habitats, one will find bird and animal life in abundance. The area supports a deer herd of approximately 150 to 200 during the winter months. Deer captured in this area and equipped with transmitters have been known to travel distances over 60 miles away after their release. An oc-

casional coyote, bobcat, and porcupine has been encountered within the boundaries of Cedar Creek.

Since 1942, Cedar Creek Natural History Area has been a joint undertaking of the University of Minnesota and the Academy of Sciences—an organization of professional scientists and science teachers in Minnesota colleges and high schools. From private donations enabling the purchase of the first 640 acres to a \$250,000 grant from the Fleischmann Yeast Foundation of Nevada, Cedar Creek has grown in area to 5400 acres located in Anoka and Isanti counties.

The administration is handled by the University of Minnesota under the Museum of Natural History. Dr. David Parmalee, Director of Field Biology, is the present director of Cedar Creek. He is aided by a board of six advisors—three from the University of Minnesota, one from Carlton College, one from St. Cloud State College, and one from Anoka High School. Dr. Dan Frenzel is the present board chairman.

Because of the sensitive plant life, permits are required to carry out research. To accomplish this, a prospective researcher must fill out an application stipulating what type of research he or she intends to conduct and what foundation he hopes to be subsidized by to carry out the project. This is very important information, for as a whole, Cedar Creek is administered from a percentage of each grant.

Cedar Creek Natural History Area is known worldwide by scientists who have read Dr. Ray Lindeman's classical study of mineral recycling on a small, senescent lake called Cedar Bog Lake. It is not uncommon to have German, Japanese, and Russian scientists requesting to see Cedar Bog Lake.

The largest project currently is radio telemetry, which was started in 1964 under the direction of Dr. Dwain Warner. It is presently under the leadership of Dr. John Tester. A small transmitter is attached to an animal or bird. Monitoring their movements on receiving equipment will enable man to better understand their feeding and living habits. Transmitters have been attached to deer, racoons, cottontail rabbits, snowshoe hares, badger, mink, muskrats, red and gray fox, squirrels, porcupine, skunks, owls, hawks, toads, and fish.

Approximately 350 acres have been set aside for prescribed intentional burning, where by this area is to be returned to a savannah type habitat. Prairie grasses are now starting to populate the area (Short and Tall Blue Stem). These types of grasses grew here at the time the buffalo roamed this area. During spring quarter, Forestry and Wildlife students studying fire control help Cedar Creek accomplish this great task.

Because of this unique outdoor laboratory, 12 colleges within the metropolitan area are using the Area for educational field trips. The Cedar Creek Natural History Area is much indebted to Dr. Arthur Wilcox, Dr. William Marshall and Dr. Donald Lawrence, to name a few, for their foresightedness in having the Cedar Creek area set aside so that students of the future may have an outdoor lab reserved for them.

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The value of building permits for 1973 issued by Eugene Voss Building Inspector was \$3,904,000.

As of January 1, 1974 East Bethel became a City, due to an act of the 1973 Minn. Legislative session.

Louise Lyon