

Animal Fair Inc
 The Biggest & Best Stuffed
 Toy Factory in America.

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

EDEN VALLEY

JULY 17, 1970

President
 George Grooms
 - Davey Knutson V.P.
 - Donald Holstad V.P.

Eden Valley Band
"Hill Billies"

① Sears Award for Excellence
Mr. J. F. Waddle

Animal Fair
2nd Plant
New Plant
employ 150
People

We have seen in recent years that rural areas and small towns have been losing population.

The only times this pattern has been reversed is when local leadership has worked hard, on its own, to breathe vitality into an economy injured by a population exodus.

This is what you have done here in Eden Valley. 150 jobs coming in with "Animal Fair".

IV. But there is a larger question: why don't small towns get real help to help themselves --- from the federal government?

V. The U. S. always did have a population policy. Go West Young Man. Railroads, land grant colleges, homestead act, RFD.

VI. But now they say "we must make plans for a new 75 to 100 million people --- living in large metro-
politan areas."

Huy Schenker - Pres. Premier Industries - Eden Valley
Homestead

VII. Wrong, I say. We must encourage growth in rural areas. Jobs, transportation, schools, doctors (from the state university), hospitals.

② Judge Ronald Hachey | Terry Montgomery
Mayor John Haas
Congressman John Zwach
State Senator Stanley Holmquist
Cong. McHugh

③ Turkey
Growers
assoc
Lunch

Eden Valley
Chamber
Commerce

Pat O'Connor
Homestead
Engineer
McCarthy
Watkins

Paysonville

VIII. And federal government must do research to help small towns. For example, we know something very interesting about why people move to certain towns. Interviewing studies show a very simple fact: that people migrate because they know someone in the town. Is this a fact that is of value to small towns? I think it is. it is a fact upon which a civic program can be built --- encouraging friends from big cities or metropolitan areas to investigate the advantages of small town life.

IX. Working together --- local initiative plus federal help --- will build better towns in America.

#

Des Groves
3 Horsemen
3 Queens

000096

Eden Valley

Animal Fair Inc

Population

Approximately 900
Losing young population

Businesses

Lost a few businesses in past years.
A few empty buildings.

Self Help

Animal Fair - new hope for the area. (The town raised \$82,000 locally to bring the company into the locale; didn't qualify for SBA loan.)

Most of the town's population own their own small business.
Animal Fair produces stuffed animals.

Crops

Corn, soy beans, feed grains.

Judge Hachey
Washey

Mayor Hoag
Guy Schenker
Mr Waddle

Growth and Development

School district: consolidated with Watkins.
Established own sewer system before the era of federal aid.

Des Groves

Notes

Guy Schenker

- Pat O'Connor's home town. - Eden Valley
- Eugene McCarthy's home town is nearby. - Watkins
- Guy Schenker's home town - mother is partner with uncle and owns and operates Schnekers' Hardware.

Adjacent towns: Paynesville - Watkins

Pres. Business incentives.

- Dick Jensen - Dentist -
Son of Elmer Jensen
Howe City

- Terry Montgomery



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