

FERTILE REMINDER

August 2019



The Fertile Garden Club on a tour of Jean King's flower gardens, Charles City. The women plan, buy, plant and water to keep the flowers beautiful on Main Street, the Community Center and the park. The city helps with funds to purchase the flowers and the flags. Seated from l. to r. : Betty Waddington, Penny Miller, Carolyn Nedved, Suzanne Lee, Cindy Peters, Eileen Schissel, Carol Jara, Sharon McLaughlin, Sandy Price, Twylah Kragel and Bev Bruns. Missing are: Ginny Lovik, Deb Berg, Deb Kleveland & Diane Miller.

AUGUST CALENDAR

- 1, 15 & 29 Recycle
- 5 Firemen meet
- 10 – 11 FERTILE DAYS
- 14 Reminder Deadline
- 19 Library Board meets
- 20 Fertile Girls
- 20 City Council

THE FERTILE REMINDER WILL BE SENT A
WEEK LATER IN AUGUST



Dean Haugen 91
August 15th

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes July 16, 2019 - 7:00 PM, City Hall Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Mayor Joyce Russell called the council meeting to order. Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Tad Miller, Cindy Peters, Ron Rachut and Holly Lovik-Hanna; Nick Bailey arrived at 7:19. City Clerk Wendy Lunning and Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts.
- **Ron motioned, Cindy 2nd to approve the minutes of the June meeting with the correction that the concession stand was in need of a refrigerator/freezer.** Unanimous
- **Tad motioned, Holly 2nd to accept agenda.** Unanimous. Agendas are posted at City Hall, at the Library, and at the Post Office, 24 hours in advance of each Council Meeting. If you wish to be on the Agenda, please contact City Hall two days before the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance: **Ron motioned, Cindy 2nd to include the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each city council meeting.** Unanimous

City Maintenance Report:

- Steve & Buck cut & cleaned up fallen trees in the park.
- Clapper removed 10 dead trees in park and ground stumps.
- Steve cut down tall grass at water plant and mowed.
- Steve installed signs at the river bank for "Portage on and off" & "Warning Dam Ahead" for boaters per DNR.
- Lagoon has been sprayed.
- Joyce & Steve met with County Engineer in regards to paving W Main Street & Hill Street. County Engineers will complete the public letting in February / March to have the project completed in 2020. Based on 28E agreement, the City of Fertile will be responsible for the shoulder of the road.
- **Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the City Maintenance report.** Unanimous

Mayor's Report:

- Joyce signed contract with Mosquito Control of Iowa. It includes 6 - 8 treatments & monitoring of mosquito population at cost of \$1,500.00 per year.
- Wendy completed the Liquor License for Café Mir.
- Joyce met with author & historian doing book on small town Iowa Schools that have closed. Thank you to ladies that attended this and also Viola Roberts.
- Dumpsters and Porta Potties have been ordered for Fertile Days.
- Joyce sent in ICAP grant for Fire Department Safety Equipment.
- Joyce talked with Dennis Johnson about possible walking path within city limits.
- **Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the mayor's report.** Unanimous.

City Clerk's Report:

- **Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to approve resolution calling for a public referendum to authorize the imposition of a local sales and service tax in the City of Fertile, Iowa at the rate of 1% to be allocated for any lawful purpose.** Unanimous. This will be on the election ballot in November. This will change how local option sales tax can be used. No change to sales tax that residence pay. If questions, please contact Wendy Lunning, Fertile City Clerk.
- Financials for Fire Department & Garden Club Days current through 05/31/2019
- Fiscal Year End reports do not include the year-end adjustment to convert to Cash Basis. A full set of reports will be submitted to the City Council when completed.
- **Holly motioned, Nick 2nd to approve Financial Report.** Unanimous
- **Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to approve June Bills.** Unanimous
- Liens presented to the Council were as follows:
409 W Main Street \$248.53
502 First Street South \$ 78.98 (Paid prior to submitting to County)
- **Tad motioned; Ron seconded to process liens with Worth County Treasurer.** Unanimous
- There will be a petition to direct 100% of said local option sales and

7/1/2018 to 6/30/2019	General	Roads	Emergency	EE Benefits	LOST	WCDA	Utilities	Total
Income	297,619.12	49,845.71	1,939.16	7,911.18	35,908.95	64,792.98	160,994.73	619,011.83
Expense	350,285.10	34,255.43	0	6,420.05	0	61,792.98	100,494.70	553,248.26
Total	-52,665.98	15,590.28	1,939.16	1,491.13	35,908.95	3,000.00	60,500.03	65,763.57
Fund Balance	2,162.99	75,908.77	1,939.16	2,704.55	35,908.95	3,021.32	215,567.49	337,213.23

service tax to be allocated for any lawful purpose of the City of Fertile. This will be a public measure at the next election.

- Wendy has been completing long term filing and converting paper to USB drives.

Committee Reports:

- No owner or person having custody of an animal shall permit such animal at large. This includes, but not limited to: dogs, cats & chickens.
- Nuisance property owners have been notified and have until August 22 to abate the nuisance.

Upcoming Meetings:

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session on August 20th at 7:00 pm at Fertile City Hall.
- **Nick motioned, Holly 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** Unanimous

Summary:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Local Option Sales Tax Resolution

Wendy Lunning, City Clerk

City of Fertile Deposits

As of June 30, 2019

			Accrual Basis	
Type	Date	Memo	Amount	
Operating Accounts				
Checking				
Deposit	06/01/2019	Clerkbooks Deposit	0.00	
Deposit	06/01/2019	Utility Deposit	72.18	
Deposit	06/03/2019	Casino Funds Deposit	2,782.61	
Deposit	06/05/2019	Utility Deposit	819.85	
Deposit	06/05/2019	Building Permits Deposit	70.00	
Deposit	06/12/2019	Utility Deposit	2,612.57	
Deposit	06/12/2019	Utility Deposit	479.60	
Deposit	06/12/2019	Little League Registration	310.00	
Deposit	06/13/2019	Road Use Tax	2,051.35	
Deposit	06/18/2019	Road Use Tax	2,051.35	
Deposit	06/19/2019	Utility Deposit	2,782.94	
Deposit	06/19/2019	Farm to Market Deposit	2,097.76	
Deposit	06/19/2019	Library Deposit	52.00	
Deposit	06/25/2019	Utility Deposit	334.10	
Deposit	06/25/2019	Utility Deposit	6,249.59	
Deposit	06/26/2019	Dividend Deposit	115.22	
Deposit	06/26/2019	Refundable Utility Deposit	300.00	
Deposit	06/28/2019	Local Option Sales Tax	3,119.26	
Deposit	06/30/2019	Interest	23.06	
Deposit	06/30/2019	Utility Deposit	2,106.90	
Total Checking			28,430.34	
Petty Cash				
Total Petty Cash			28,430.34	
Total Operating Accounts			28,430.34	
Roads Revenue Accounts				
Savings				
CD				
Deposit	06/18/2019	Interest	111.86	
Total CD			111.86	
Total Sewer Revenue Accounts			114.29	
TOTAL			28,547.98	

Bills Paid

As of June 30, 2019						Accrual Basis
Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	
Operating Accounts						
Checking						
Paycheck	06/01/2019	9116	Bruns, Warren	Water & Sewer Supervisor	-300.21	
Paycheck	06/01/2019	9117	Lunning, Wendy S	City Clerk	-503.91	
Paycheck	06/01/2019	9118	Russell, Joyce	Mayor (Donated 17 Hours)	-1,275.40	
Check	06/01/2019	DEBIT	Kum & Go	Gas for Mower	-250.00	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	CHECKS	AgSource Laboratories	Water & Sewer Testing	266.25	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9120	Central Lock & Key Inc.	Duplicate Keys	-12.60	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9121	Five Star CO-OP	Gas for Truck	-201.31	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9122	Hare Electric	Replace Contactor & Relay	-120.00	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9123	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine Cylinder	-15.00	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9124	IMWCA	Worker's Compensation Coverage	-3,786.00	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9126	Kramer Ace Hardware		-79.87	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9127	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	T-ball concession stand	-86.00	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9128	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-20.00	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9129	Northwood Anchor, Inc.	Annual Renewal	-38.00	
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9130	US Post Office	Annual PO Box Renewal	-64.00	

Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9131	Waste Management	Container Services	-18.78
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9132	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-202.58
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9133	Wendy Lunning - v		-20.60
Bill Pmt -Check	06/05/2019	9134	Matthews Tech Services	Tech Support	-15.00
Liability Check	06/05/2019	EFTPS	United States Treasury		-1,843.10
Check	06/05/2019	DEBIT	Interstate All Battery Center	Batteries	-157.05
Check	06/06/2019	DEBIT	US Post Office	Postage Stamps	-165.00
Paycheck	06/12/2019	9115	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,095.72
Liability Check	06/12/2019	EFT	IPERS		-2,154.42
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9135	Alliant Energy	Electric	-1,276.90
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9136	Bratrud Golf	Golf Cart Service & Repair	-288.40
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9137	Iowa League of Citites	Annual Membership Dues	-402.00
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9138	Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax	-153.87
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9139	T Severson	Softballs	-61.48
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9140	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-73.01
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9141	Waste Management	Garbage & Recycling Services	-2,321.00
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9142	First Gabrielson Agency	Firemen's Accident/Sickness Policy	-811.00
Bill Pmt -Check	06/12/2019	9143	Decker Sports	T-Shirts	-374.00
Paycheck	06/19/2019	9144	Arndt, Linda J	(L) Assistant Director	-170.56
Paycheck	06/19/2019	9146	Thompson, Angela M	(L) Librarian	-1,153.72
Paycheck	06/19/2019	9145	Knudson, Loni	(L) Clerk	-143.61
Check	06/19/2019	ACH	WCTA	(L)Telephone	-45.95
Bill Pmt -Check	06/19/2019	9149	Baker & Taylor	(L) Books & CDs	-126.23
Bill Pmt -Check	06/19/2019	9150	Black Hills Energy		-295.14
Bill Pmt -Check	06/19/2019	9151	Citibusiness Card	Books & CDs, Supplies, Programs, DVDs, Postage & Magazines	-278.24
Bill Pmt -Check	06/19/2019	9152	Haugen Lawn Service	Clean Lawn, Spraying for Weeds	-1,825.00
Bill Pmt -Check	06/19/2019	9153	MicroMarketing	(L) Books	-28.49
Bill Pmt -Check	06/19/2019	9154	Worth County Engineer v Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Fuel for Skid Loader, Plow Truck, Sand/Salt Mix	-1,564.49
Bill Pmt -Check	06/21/2019	CHECKS		Water & Sewer Certification	-120.00
Paycheck	06/26/2019	9157	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,095.71
Bill Pmt -Check	06/27/2019	9159	Menards		-46.22
Bill Pmt -Check	06/27/2019	9160	Staples	Envelopes, Markers & Duct Tape	-183.61
Bill Pmt -Check	06/27/2019	9161	Treats by Heather	Baseball Cupcakes	-45.00
Bill Pmt -Check	06/30/2019	9168	Fertile Days	City Contribution	-2,700.00
Bill Pmt -Check	06/30/2019	9177	Barco Municipal Products, Inc.	River Signs	-169.66
Bill Pmt -Check	06/30/2019		ClerkBooks A/P Adjust	QuickBooks generated zero amount transaction for bill payment stub	
Total Checking					-27,911.59

Petty Cash

Check	06/19/2019	1	USPS	postage	-2.00
-------	------------	---	------	---------	-------

Total Petty Cash

-2.00

Total Operating Accounts

-27,913.59

Roads Revenue Accounts

Savings

Total Savings

Total Roads Revenue Accounts

73TOTAL

-27,913.59

Garden Club

Garden Club met on July 9th with 11 members present. We drove to Charles City to tour the Jean King gardens. She had over 1000 varieties of hosta's and 600 varieties of lilies all worked into

well maintained gardens around her beautiful lawn. Supper was eaten at a Pub in Charles City before returning home. Jean was a gracious hostess and answered our many questions.



FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY
204 West Main Street/Box 198
Fertile, IA 50434
641-797-2787 Phone/Fax
Monday & Wednesday: 1-6 P.M.
Thursday: 3-6 P.M.
Friday: 9- Noon & 2-6 P.M.
Saturday: 9 - Noon
WWW.YOUSEEMORE.COM/NILC/FERTILEPL

Library Events

Family Laser Tag

August 24th @ 7 pm

Come join us for fun in the park!
Space is limited so call for reservations!

Cookbook Club

August 16th @ 6:30 pm

Join us as we discuss a cookbook and sample
some of it's offerings. This is a dinner and
conversation group. 18+

Adult Craft Afternoon

August 19th @ 1 pm

Join us for a craft, eating snacks & chatting.
Ages 18+

Book & Bake Sale

The library is looking for people to donate baked goods for our book and
bake sale this year. Please contact the library if you can help us! The sale
will be 9-12 on August 10, during the Fertile Days celebration.

featuring New Books

Before and again - Barbara Delinsky
The break down - B. A. Paris
Kingdom of the blind - Louise Penny
Unsolved - James Patterson
Lost and found - Danielle Steel
Shamed - Linda Castillo

featuring New DVDs

Isn't it romantic
Dumbo
Captain Marvel
The Public
Us
Escape room

Dr. Gary Hall obituary continued from last month.

He was a graduate of Milligan College in Tennessee (B.A. in Religion), Lincoln Christian Seminary (M.Div. in Old Testament), Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (Th.M. in New Testament) and Union Theological Seminary (now Presbyterian Theological Seminary) in Richmond, Virginia where he earned his PhD in Old Testament.

Dr. Hall was a scholar and a professor of Old Testament. He taught Old Testament and Bible Doctrine at Kentucky Christian University in Grayson, KY from 1972 until 1986. The last five years at KCU he also served as Academic Dean where he started their Teacher Education program and successfully initiated and achieved accreditation for the college. In 1986 he was called to Lincoln Christian Seminary in Lincoln, IL as Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew until his retirement in 2012. Upon retirement he was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus at LCU. Dr. Hall taught an estimated 4,000 students over his 40-year career in higher education. His students serve as ministers, scholars, professors, teachers, church workers, and missionaries all over the country and the world.

He was a lifelong servant of the Lord serving at various times as a youth minister, preaching minister, deacon, youth sponsor, small group leader, Bible study teacher (over 40 years), and elder (almost 30 years). He was a member of Lincoln Christian Church and most recently served there as an elder and Adult Sunday School teacher. He received the Restoration Award for Christian Higher Education from LCU in 2012 and the Stone-Campbell Journal Lifetime Achievement Award in April of 2019.

He wrote many scholarly articles and chapters for publication as well as teaching material. He wrote a commentary on the book of Deuteronomy published by College Press in 2000. He is the author of a forthcoming commentary on Jeremiah and Lamentations.

He was an avid traveler. He was proud to have visited all 50 states. He visited 31 countries around the world including leading two study tours to Israel in 1995 and in 2004. He was also a voracious reader. Upon retirement, he donated his extensive personal library of theological books and Bible commentaries to Lagos Christian College in Lagos, Nigeria. It remains the only library available in that city. He was also an avid gardener for decades,

planting organic vegetable gardens in every place that he lived.

Dr. Hall loved God, his family, and the church. He was a man of wisdom, humility, and integrity who will be greatly missed by his family, church, and community. He has left behind a legacy that will far outlive him.

Memorials may be made to the Dr. Gary Hall Endowment for Old Testament Studies at Lincoln Christian University, Lincoln, IL.

Did you know??? By: Ann Hendrickson

THE WINNER IS! Morgan (Nodtvedt) Conger of Rochester, MN who guessed the Exact number of 533 corn candies the pig "ate" (held). We will be giving her a \$25.00 check from the Worth County Historical Society. Thank you Morgan for stopping at our booth.

As mentioned previously, we are looking for old dollhouses to display during our Sunday openings. If you have a dollhouse to share, please call the WCHS at 324-1180. We love to share history!

We are continuing family history displays. Lois Hogen is sharing the Kittleson family heritage on June 30th and July 7th. Please join her and learn about her family. The Iver Hendrikson family will be featured during the month of August.

The corner of our fair booth held a mysterious unknown farm tool. Ideas were given as to what it was and its use. Research was done and found it was a garden rake- maybe quite common, but still a unique antique. Please stop by Sunday's 2:00-4:00 PM to tour the museum. There are many items of interest to all.

**Answering the phone
"Sheriff's Department,
Fraud Division" sure has
slowed down the
telemarketer calls.**

Prestholt ,Nyhus, Stevens, Holtan, and other Norwegian connections.

Though I have names and some information as far back to pre1600 hundreds, thanks to Nina Holtan, we will skip forward to the area where she and I are connected. We will skip forward to Halvor Bjornsen Torga and his son, Olav Halvorson (Prestholt) father of several immigrants in approximately 1869. From there information is accumulation of family stories and though I cannot confirm all information but seems to fit together in most cases. First I will state that Nina's family did not immigrate but her GG-Grandfather Olav was a younger brother of the immigrant families and her efforts greatly confirm speculations and information from the Norwegian records.

Nina is presently employed at the University of Oslo in Norway as a Personal Consultant and we were pleasantly surprised about 4 years ago to host her and her mother Gera Holtan for a few days to visit Iowa. The Holtan's homes are between Gvarv and Akerhaugen in Norway and are within distant view of the Prestholt and Nyhus farms where our immigrants originated. It appears that Prestholts, Nyhus and Torgan Flatoon (which appears to be the mother of the Steven's family) have traveled together in a converted cattle ship. Torgan had a twin sister Margot, born in 1828 and then married Johannes Torsson Tveiten in 1850. In which he also immigrated, although I have no further information on Margot. Some events of the sailing trip include a birth in the Prestholt family of a son Halvor and later on an outbreak of Typhoid Fever which required a short stop on an island to fumigate the ship. Sometime during the outbreak (not sure if it's related or not) Torgan's husband Steinar Olson passed away and was buried at sea. At another point during their journey a severe leak required all available to bail while carpenters made necessary repairs. Though the journey seems to be not well documented some of the Nyhus stories indicate the arrival at Halifax and then travel on land by unknown means or route as far as Kaason, Minnesota, where some more information indicates they spent the first winter there.

The following spring a new rail line led them to the Forest City Iowa area where Halvor Nyhus's carpenter skills were put to use and built a cabin. We're not sure how big but Nyhus's stories say it was shared by Prestholt's and Steven's families during winter. Due to the size of all three families the population of the cabin would have been well into the teens, I would assume considerable body heat would be generated during the cold. Some Prestholt memories say they dug a hole in a hill near the Junction of Hwy 9 and Ventura blacktop and used a double box upside down for a roof. I have a hard time believing this to be a satisfactory solution for winter living but would consider the possibility of a improvements to qualify as temporary address to satisfy rules to land grant rules of some kind.

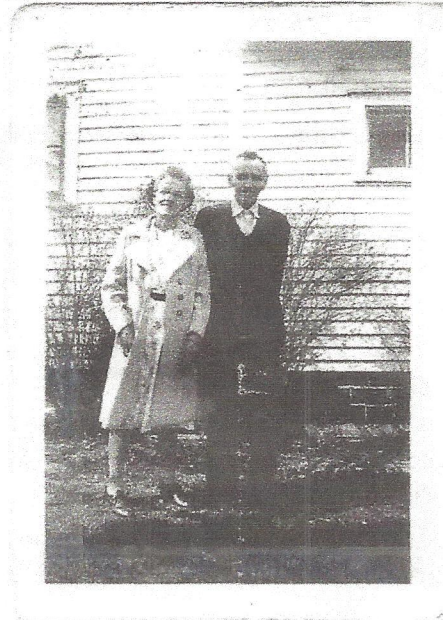
Not a lot has been recorded about Nel's wife Anna Olivie Erickson, except she was the youngest of 13, 14 siblings from Varmland Sweden. She accompanied her brother Gustav when only a teenager to join another brother Andrew and a sister Amelia in western North Dakota. The remaining family is living in Sweden as far as I know. Upon receiving a copy of death certificate of Gustav, I have learned the names of their parents to be Erick Anderson and Johanna Oleson. Information provided by Anna.

Don Prestholt Nov. 2018

Nels and Anna Prestholt lived 3 miles South of Fertile, Iowa where they had 4 children before they moved in to town. (Fertile, Iowa) Their children's names listed oldest to youngest are Verna Prestholt (Orcutt) of Clear Lake, Iowa; Alfred Prestholt of Hanlontown, Iowa; Ethel Viola Prestholt (passed away as infant); Ethel Ruth Prestholt (Clapper) of Clear Lake, Iowa,

Nels and Anna Prestholt are Don Prestholt's and Blanche (Clapper) Schulze's grandparents.

Pictured below is Nels and Anna Prestholt on the south side of their Fertile home.



Wisdom from Grandpa...

- Whether a man winds up with a nest egg, or a goose egg, depends a lot on the kind of chick he marries.
- Trouble in marriage often starts when a man gets so busy earnin' his salt, that he forgets his sugar.
- Too many couples marry for better, or for worse, but not for good.
- When a man marries a woman, they become one; but the trouble starts when they try to decide which one.
- If a man has enough horse sense to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she will never turn into an old nag.
- On anniversaries, the wise husband always forgets the past – but never the present.
- A foolish husband says to his wife, "Honey, you stick to the washin', ironin', cookin', and scrubbin'. No wife of mine is gonna work."
- The bonds of matrimony are a good investment, only when the interest is kept up.
- Many girls like to marry a military man – he can cook, sew, and make beds, and is in good health, and he's already used to taking orders.
- Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age, and start bragging about it.
- The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.
- Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.



THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Welcome home my friend. Welcome home. Thank you to all our Vietnam Veterans.

It will be City election time this November. This year three city servants are up for election. Those are Cindy Peters, and myself for City council and Joyce Russell for Mayor. As far as I know, all four are running for reelection. That does not mean that others can't also run. In fact, I would encourage others to run and I will sign nomination papers of anyone that want to give it a shot and let the voters of Fertile decide. Two notes about the Mayor's position, Joyce has set the bar quite high on what she does and it will take someone with a lot of time. Second, I had thought of running when Joyce says "no more". I have given up on that idea. I enjoy doing what I do. I like to have the time to help family members, work in the church and service organizations, and still have time to vegetable farm. Someone needs to be ready to step forward when the time comes. Unless something really goes wrong with my second knee surgery, it wouldn't be me.

On the trail between Fertile and Hanlontown, we started with three possible routes. Now we are down to one. We will look into the possibility of doing this one. There are three of us working on it. The sidewalk path around town isn't too likely. The existing sidewalk can be replaced. New sidewalk can be put where it is flat. No sidewalk can be put in if it takes filling in an area as the ditches are needed to allow the excess water to drain away. The trail at the park probably won't fly because of flooding. We have one option left and that is around the outside of the ball diamond. City owned, trees, good soil and no water issues would make this a good choice. We will put this into future plans and in town is what others communities are looking at.

At the Winn-Worth Betco meeting, I learned most towns have the same problems. The first of two new items is that a solar farm is going to be built in Worth County and will be operational by sometime 2022. You can be sure others will follow. Windmills continue to be built. Green energy is here to stay. The other new item is that bringing up of people from Puerto Rico to help with our man power shortage has started and will continue. Will they live in Fertile? If they work in Forest City or Clear

Lake, that is very possible and we will welcome them just like we would welcome anyone else that wanted to move into our community.

I will be bringing up at our next City Council meeting a motion to start reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of our City Council meetings. Both Worth and Winnebago Board of Supervisors and many City Councils in our area already do. I will ask for a roll call vote. We can't let patriotism die.

Until next time, thank a veteran for the freedoms you enjoy, thank a farmer for the food on your plate, and above all, thank God for your daily blessings.

A Tree Grows in Fertile, Iowa

In 1964 the year before he died, Ernie Kuns planted a chestnut in the backyard of his home at 306 West Main Street. He lived long enough to see the tree sprout but not to see it grow.

The original building that held his business is long gone, replaced by the Midland gas station, but his tree grows in Fertile.

His last garage building on the river is in a state of disrepair and abandoned but his tree still stands in Fertile.

His wife and two younger sons have passed but his tree continues to live and grow in Fertile.

Sometime after Mom passed we sold it his home on Main Street. A couple years later the house burned, became derelict and was demolished to make way for a new greensward but his tree continues to drop its leaves every Autumn and to sprout new blossoms and buds each Spring.

When we visited my cherished tiny home town in March of 2016 I made it a point to look for the tree and to pick a leaf to press and preserve. It is the only living thing in Fertile that reminds anyone that Ernie once worked and lived there. I write this so that when I am gone his presence in the town he served and loved might not be totally forgotten.

©Neil L. Kuns, June, 2017



"Lazy Man's" Pie- Peach Cobbler

- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 1 C. milk
- 1 C. sugar
- 1 C. flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- Dash of salt

1 qt. fruit, sweetened (peaches, cherries, blackberries, etc)

Melt butter in baking pan. Mix flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and milk. Pour batter in pan on top of butter; cover with fruit. Do not stir; batter will rise to top as it bakes and absorbs the flavor of the fruit. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Serve warm with whipped cream or ice cream. So easy!

ROOT BEER SLOW-COOKER CHICKEN

2 ½ LB. boneless skinless chicken breast

Salt and pepper

1 ½ cups barbecue sauce

1 cup root beer

Spray slow cooker with cooking spray

Season chicken breasts, place in cooker

Pour in barbecue sauce and root beer; spread around

Cover and cook on High heat setting for 2 hours

Remove chicken, using 2 forks shred chicken.

Place chicken back in slow cooker on Warm heat setting; simmer for 30 minutes.

Serve on burger buns.

Birthday tradition

I used to make a special cheesecake for my son's birthday. It required five eight-ounce packages of cream cheese, seven eggs, whipping cream, sugar, salt, lemon, etc. It also had a lemon shortbread crust and a cherry liqueur-laced topping. While it generously served 12, it was expensive to make.

Not only did my son love it, he bragged about his mom's baking prowess to his friends and requested it for his 21st birthday. When dinner finished, he and his pals sat salivating while I served the wondrous concoction.

They each put a forkful in their mouths, and in turned looked bewildered, then disgusted and not too gracefully, took the cake out of their mouths.

My husband did the grocery shopping and had put the salt in the sugar canister. I, being on a perpetual diet, didn't taste it before putting it in the oven. It's the subject of every birthday since, with great laughter at mom's expense.

It's his 61st birthday next week and I'm going to make it again — without the salt.

—Gwen Williams, 82, Pickering

MY COOKING IS SO
awesome
EVEN THE
smoke alarm
CHEERS ME ON

NORWEGIAN NAMING PATTERNS

Patronymic Names

By far, the most common form of surnames in Norway is the patronymic. This simply means that the surname of a child was derived from the given name of the father. The son of a man named HANS would have the surname HANSEN, and a daughter would be known as HANSDATTER. Children of LARS were LARSEN and LARSDATTER, etc.

The practice of patronymics prevailed in rural Norway and also among the common classes in towns and cities. Family names in Norway are, in fact, a product of only the last few generations, except among the traditional upper classes (the clergy, military and civil servants).

The "farm name" was a very important form of identification.

Until 1835, 80% of the population of Norway were directly connected with farms, or gards. The farm name system is unique to Norway. Every farm has a name, and has had the same name (though with slightly different spelling) since its inception, sometimes for six centuries! The names of farms in Norway are controlled by the government.

For an extensive list of farm names see Norsk-Stedfortegnelse, published by Postdirektorater (1972). For older spellings see the nineteen volume Norsk-Gardnavne by Olav Rygh.

Although not technically a legal part of a person's name, the farm name was used to help identify persons. For example, if a man named Anders Nielsen lived on a farm called Berget, he would be known as Anders Nielsen Berget or just Anders Berget. This was to distinguish him from the Anders Nielsen who lived on Moss who would be called Anders Moss. The difference in farm names was the only way to separate two men of the same name. However; if Anders Nielsen Berget moved to Volden farm, he became Anders Volden!

Everyone who lived on a farm carried that farm name attached to the given and patronymic names as his address "while living there". If a person was mentioned in a record, the farm was his address "at the time of the record". It could have been quite temporary.

If a man moved, his "farm name" changed. It was kind of an address, or zip code.

For example, our Halvor Jonsson was Hove at birth; in the 1801 census he was Meenstad and when he and Gunhild were married, he was Halvor Joensen Nordskog; shortly after marriage he was Halvor Joensen Kilen as he and Gunhild were living on that gard; and when he emigrated he was Halvor Jonsson Grovum.

Females were always their father's "datter", even after marriage. In the Norwegian parish records, if the mother's name is even mentioned, it is always as Olsdatter, Halvorsdatter or Larsdatter.

In the case of illegitimate children (and there were many), there was no set rule. Often if the father's name is recorded, the child's surname follows regular patronymic procedure. On the other hand, if the father is unknown, the child may not have a recorded surname until leaving home or getting married.

2019 FERTILE DAYS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10TH

- 7:30AM - REGISTRATION FOR THE "DO THE PUTSY" 5K WALK/RUN
(\$20.00 REGISTRATION FEE)
- 8:00AM - 6TH ANNUAL "DO THE PUTSY" 5K WALK/RUN BEGINS
- 10:00AM - PARADE(PARADE LINE-UP BEGINS @9:00AM BY THE BALL DIAMONDS)
- 11:00AM - KIDDIE TRACTOR PULL
- 11:00PM - 3:00PM - INFLATABLES, ARCHERY TAG, AND PETTING ZOO
- 11:00AM - 3:00PM - CRAFT FAIR
- 12:00PM - 3:00PM - FACE PAINTING
- 12:30PM & 2:30PM - THE MAGIC OF MIKE PRESBY
- 1:00PM - 3:00PM - POWER WHEEL OBSTACLE COURSE (REGISTRATION AT THE BASKETBALL COURT
AND KID GAMES)
- 1:30PM - HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT (\$5.00 REGISTRATION FEE)
- 3:00PM - 4:30PM - BINGO
- 4:00PM - 6:00PM - BALLOON ANIMALS
- 5:00PM - 6:30PM - COMMUNITY MEAL
PROVIDED BY WALDORF CONFERENCES AND DINING SERVICES W/MUSIC BY CHAR'S BAND
- 7:30PM - 9:00PM - HAYRIDES
- 6:30PM - 10:30PM - MOCKINGBIRDS W/SPECIAL GUEST BRIAN NETTLETON
(BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIR)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH

- 7:00AM - 10:00AM - FIREMEN'S BREAKFAST
- 10:00AM - COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICE IN THE PARK

WALKING TACOS, FAIR FOOD, ROOTBEER FLOATS AND MORE!!



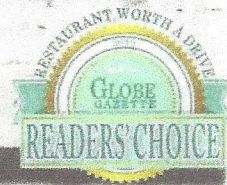
follow us on Facebook for weekly menu updates!

Cafe Milk

local food • wood-fired pizza
european wines • midwestern beers

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
5 - 9 PM

*reservations
gladly accepted
641-797-2999
or via Facebook message



MAIN STREET MOST FERTILE TOWN



WE'RE PROUD TO CALL IOWA HOME.

At POET Biorefining – Hanlontown, we're helping transform the world with renewable energy and advanced bio-products. Innovation is the product of hard work and that creativity comes from common sense. The same values make Fertile a great place to live and work.

POET
HUMAN - NATURE

poet.com/hanlontown

ASPHALT PAVING

North Iowa Sand & Gravel, Inc.

- Residential
- Commercial
- Driveway
- Asphalt Paving
- Street
- Asphalt Repair
- Parking Lot
- Crack Filling
- Bike Paths
- Cold Tar Sealing



**Free Estimates
Locally Owned**

Bob Tuttle, Owner

46 years' experience

641-424-5591 • 800-310-5591
18237 Killdeer Ave, Mason City, IA

OUVERSON INSURANCE

& Group Benefit Services, Inc.

Neil L. Ouverson, Broker

Betty A. Ouverson, Broker

641-797-2100 Office 746A - 342nd St.

641-797-2101 Fax Hanlontown, IA

888-944-2127 Toll Free 641-430-2170 Cell

Ouverins@wctatel.net

35 YEARS OF SERVICE

LARSEN PLUMBING & HEATING

641-797-2219

FERTILE, IOWA 50434

LENNOX®

YOUNG CONSTRUCTION

ROOFING - SIDING - GUTTERS

WINDOWS - INSULATION

FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATES

641-430-0655

Showroom:

1539 N. Federal - Mason City

LOCALLY OWNED BY

DAN YOUNG AND TAMI RAMON

**Winnebago Cooperative
Telecom Association**

Voice · Video

Broadband · Wireless



www.wctatel.net
704 E Main · Lake Mills
800.592.6105



**BURTNESS - LUNDGREN
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.**

Call for all your Plumbing, Heating
& Air Conditioning Needs!

John Burtness & Todd Lundgren
Clear Lake, 641-357-8882
Fertile 641-797-2680

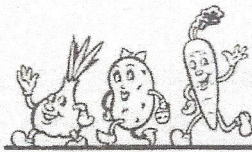
Greg Knopf, owner

HAUGEN LAWN SERVICE

Mowing Seeding Spraying Fertilizing
Thatching sodding garden tilling
Over-seeding

Spring and Fall Clean-up and Snow Removal
24529 Finch Ave., Clear Lake, IA
E-Mail: Knopfdylan@gmail.com
Phone: (641) 590-1977 641-590-5132

FERTILE VALLEY GARDENS



Ron Rachut

641-797-2811 Fertile, IA



Salon Intrigue

210 US Highway 18 West STE C,
Clear Lake, IA

Full service Salon
641-357-3301

HEATHER SCHULZE
Owner/Cosmetologist

OLSON INSURANCE



Kory T. Olson

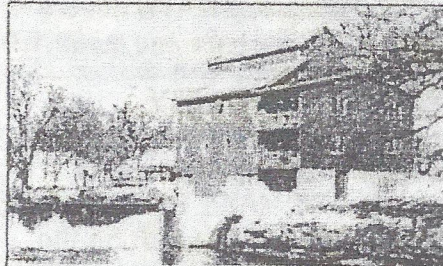
kory@tohins.com
Cell (641) 390-1865

Northwood Office

704 Central Ave., P.O. Box 287
Northwood, IA 50459
(641) 324-2452
Fax (641) 324-1229

Manly Office

103 N. Todd St., P.O. Box 248
Manly, Iowa 50456
(641) 454-2292
Fax (641) 454-2293



*An out-of-the-way, quiet retreat
on the Winnebago River*

For the busy types . . .
quiet, relaxing solitude!

For the quiet types . . .
peace & luxury!

Call year-round for
reservations

Rhodes Mill Retreat

Main Street, Fertile, IA 50434

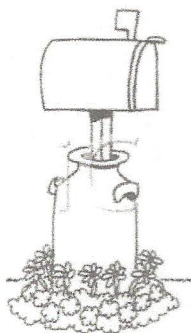
918-630-9935

www.rhodesmill.com

**THIS SPACE IS FOR
YOUR AD**

**CALL AND PLACE IT
TODAY**

CALL 641-896-2445



Fertile Reminder
Box 62
Fertile, IA 50434

PRSR STD
US Postage paid
Fertile, IA 50434
Permit # 3

This Mail Box is to remind you that it is time to renew your subscription. Red means this is your last issue, green means you have one month left.

REMINDER POLICY
Suggested Price is\$8.00 a year.
Due to the high cost of printing and mailing, we **DO NOT MAKE UP AND MAIL OUT EXTRA COPIES.** The work on the Reminder is done by Volunteers. Editor, Ad and articles: Betty Waddington; Treasurer & Subscriptions, Cindy Peters; proof reader, Joan Norem; fold and label, Evelyn Elthon, Paula Worsley, Sharon Ganz , Marcheta Pederson.

Fertile Lutheran Church LCMC
602 W. Washington Box 215
Fertile, IA 50434
Pastor David Halverson
641-797-2767
Sunday Worship Service 9:30
Sunday School 10:30 am

Fertile Church of Christ
Pastor Rob Perry
Sunday School - 9:00 am
Fellowship Time - 9:55 am
Worship - 10:15 am
Wednesday night Youth
6:30 - 7:30 pm
Men and women's Bible Study

Celebration Community Church
805 10th Ave. North, Clear Lake, IA
641-357-0026 (Pastor Dan Miller)
Praise & Worship 10:00 am

Pilot Knob Lutheran Church
AALC Rural Forest City
Pastor Robert Snitzer
Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15