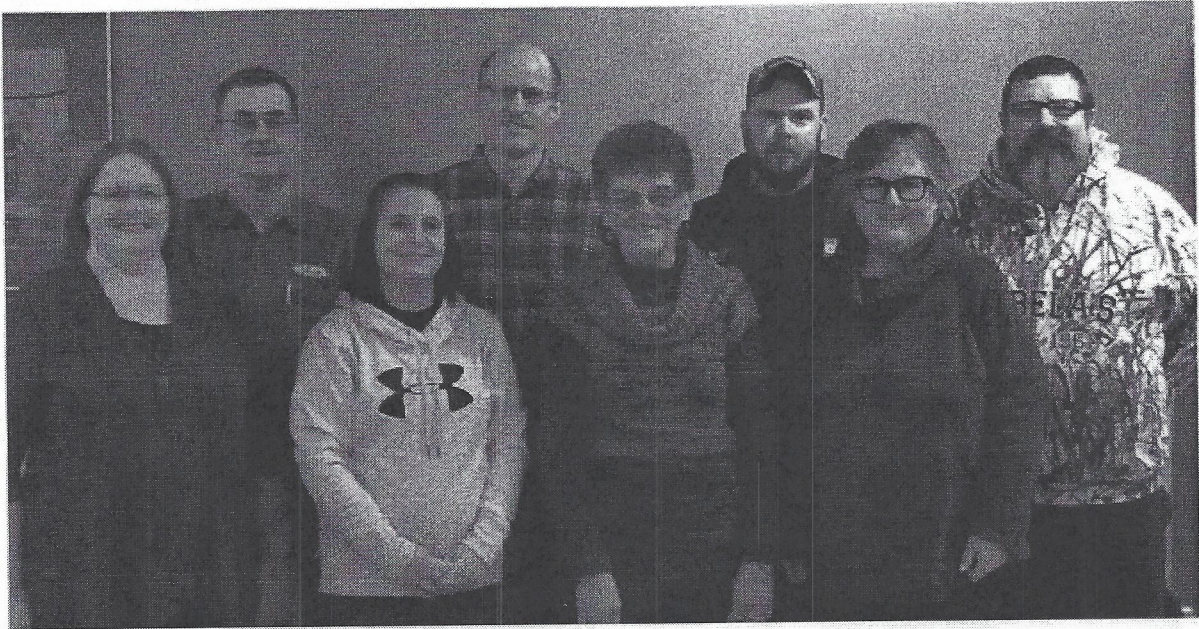


# FERTILE REMINDER

FEBRUARY 2016



2016 City Council members: Front row, left to right, City Clerk Wendy Lunning, Holly Lovik-Hanna, Mayor Joyce Russell, Cindy Peters. Back row: Ron Rachut, Tad Miller, Nick Bailey and City Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts



**Happy Birthday to our over "90" men!**

**Arden Midtgaard - January 21**

**James Lovick - February 13 Good Samaritan Home**

## FEBRUARY CALANDER

**Feb. 1 Firemen meet**

**Feb. 4, 18 Recycle**

**Feb. 15 Library Board meets**

**Feb. 16 Fertile Girls Meet**

**Feb. 16 City Council Meets**

**Feb. 23 Reminder mailed**



# City of Fertile

## City Council Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2015 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

### Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Holly Lovik-Hanna, Jeff Berg, Tad Miller and Julie Jessen; City Clerk, Wendy Lunning & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts. Nick Bailey absent.
- Julie motioned, Holly 2nd to approve the minutes of the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.* Unanimous
- Tad motioned, Jeff 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.

### Oath of Office:

- Elected officials were sworn into office. Joyce Russell, Mayor, Ron Rachut and City Peters, City Council.

### Public Hearing:

- Public Hearing held to amend the Municipal Code of Ordinances of the City of Fertile for Refuse Collection. *Julie motioned, Tad 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the amendment.* Unanimous *Jeff motioned, Julie 2<sup>nd</sup> to waive the second and third hearing.* Unanimous

### VisuSewer:

- Bob Moen presented the benefits of sealing sewer pipes with chemical grout. The council will be working on a plan to prevent leaking into pipes.

### City Maintenance Report

- Steve has been working on getting estimates for replacing Main Street sidewalks.
- Steve has got sand and salt mix for winter plowing.
- A BIG thank you to Fred Hare for donating your time installing Christmas Lights on Memorial Tree at the Community Center. Hare Electric installed the decorations on Main Street.

*Julie motioned, Holly 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the maintenance report.* Unanimous

## Mayor's Report

- Thank you to the Church of Christ for the great Community Turkey Supper. They served over 500 people at no charge.
- Joyce wrote a letter of recommendation for Fertile Days Committee for INS Grant for the Veterans Blue Star Plaque to be put on the top of Veteran Memorial in City Park.
- Joyce met with First Gabrielson to review the cities insurance policy.

*Holly motioned, and Tad 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the mayor's report.* Unanimous.

## City Clerk's Report

- Wendy presented November Financials. A complete set of financials are available at City Hall upon request.

| 7/1 - 11/30/15      | General          | WCDA        | Roads            | EE Benefits      | Utilities         | Total             |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Income              | 105,986.04       | 22,965.00   | 20,178.94        | 870.90           | 51,102.23         | 201,103.11        |
| Expense             | 95,819.61        | 22,965.00   | 5,210.23         | 3,319.81         | 51,274.43         | 178,589.08        |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>10,166.43</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>14,968.71</b> | <b>-2,448.91</b> | <b>-172.20</b>    | <b>22,514.03</b>  |
| <b>Fund Balance</b> | <b>82,596.78</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>70,589.11</b> | <b>-2448.91</b>  | <b>116,298.96</b> | <b>267,035.94</b> |

*Tad motioned, Julie 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve Financial Report* Unanimous

*Holly motioned, Tad 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve November Bills* Unanimous

- Tad motioned, Holly 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept resolution for lien on 605 West Washington in the amount of \$227.13.* Unanimous
- Tad motioned, Holly 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept resolution for lien on 201 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street in the amount of \$27.15.* Unanimous
- Tad motioned, Holly 2<sup>nd</sup> to write off outstanding utility bills for Cindy Kilby in the amount of \$18.65.*
- Julie motioned, Tad 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept resolution for Reimbursement Rate for Payment of mileage when city employee uses personal vehicle for city business. Rate to be determined by the Internal Revenue Service.* Unanimous.

## Committee Reports:

### Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Fertile City Hall
- Jeff moved and Julie 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn the meeting.* Unanimous

## City of Fertile Deposits

As of November 30, 2015

| Checking   |                         |           |
|------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 11/03/2015 | Property Taxes          | 5,014.72  |
| 11/03/2015 | Deposit                 | 0.00      |
| 11/03/2015 | Lien Deposit            | 136.65    |
| 11/03/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 130.48    |
| 11/03/2015 | Casino Funds Deposit    | 2,517.28  |
| 11/04/2015 | Farm to Market Deposit  | 2,137.81  |
| 11/04/2015 | Incubator Deposit       | 449.71    |
| 11/04/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 428.59    |
| 11/04/2015 | Initial Utility Deposit | 300.00    |
| 11/04/2015 | Building Permit Deposit | 35.00     |
| 11/06/2015 | Local Option Sales Tax  | 1,829.69  |
| 11/11/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 2,999.29  |
| 11/12/2015 | Road Use Tax            | 2,095.17  |
| 11/25/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 231.53    |
| 11/25/2015 | Local Option Sales Tax  | 2,791.46  |
| 11/25/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 3,036.01  |
| 11/30/2015 | Interest                | 15.36     |
| Total      |                         |           |
| Checking   |                         | 24,148.75 |

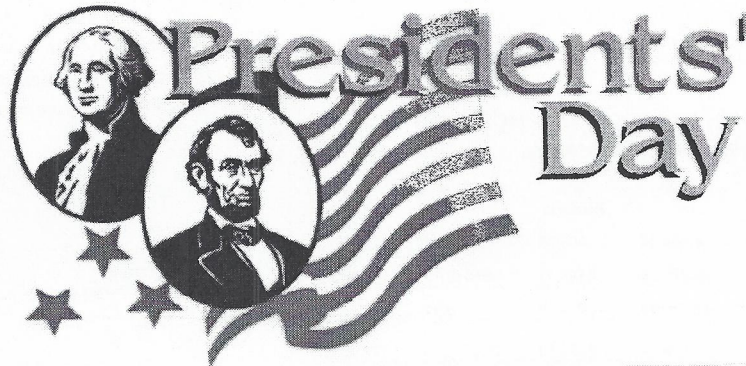
|                               |            |          |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------|------------------|
| Total Operating               | accounts   |          | 24,148.75        |
| <b>Roads Revenue Accounts</b> |            |          |                  |
| <b>Savings</b>                |            |          |                  |
| Deposit                       | 11/30/2015 | Interest | 5.49             |
| Total Savings                 |            |          | 5.49             |
| Total Roads Revenue Accounts  |            |          |                  |
| <b>Water Revenue Accounts</b> |            |          |                  |
| <b>savings</b>                |            |          |                  |
| Deposit                       | 11/30/2015 | Interest | 2.77             |
| Total Savings                 |            |          | 2.77             |
| Total Water Revenue Accounts  |            |          |                  |
| 2.77                          |            |          |                  |
| <b>Sewer Revenue Accounts</b> |            |          |                  |
| <b>Savings</b>                |            |          |                  |
| Deposit                       | 11/30/2015 | Interest | 2.42             |
| Total Savings                 |            |          | 2.42             |
| Total Sewer Revenue Accounts  |            |          |                  |
|                               |            |          | 2.42             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  |            |          | <b>24,159.43</b> |



## City of Fertile Bills Paid

As of November 30, 2015

| Type                      | Date       | Num   | Name                          | Memo                               | Accrual Basis Amount     |
|---------------------------|------------|-------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Operating Accounts</b> |            |       |                               |                                    |                          |
| <b>Checking</b>           |            |       |                               |                                    |                          |
| Check                     | 11/02/2015 | DEBIT | Salsbury Industries           |                                    | -513.71                  |
| Paycheck                  | 11/03/2015 | 7514  | Lunning, Wendy S              |                                    | -289.49                  |
| Paycheck                  | 11/03/2015 | 7515  | Russell, Grant                |                                    | -61.78                   |
| Paycheck                  | 11/03/2015 | 7516  | Russell, Joyce                |                                    | -1,388.92                |
| Paycheck                  | 11/03/2015 | 7513  | Bruns, Warren                 |                                    | -301.39                  |
| Paycheck                  | 11/03/2015 | 7517  | Roberts, Stephen J            |                                    | -992.96                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/03/2015 | 7518  | Lonnie Knudson                | Community Center Cleaning          | -10.00                   |
| Liability Check           | 11/03/2015 | EFTPS | IPERS                         |                                    | -760.49                  |
| Liability Check           | 11/03/2015 | EFTPS | United States Treasury        |                                    | -1,085.98                |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/03/2015 | 7538  | AgSource Laboratories         | Sewer Testing                      | -45.00                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/03/2015 | 7539  | Alliant Energy                | Electric Bill                      | -1,267.25                |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/03/2015 | 7540  | Marco                         | Copier, Printer, Fax               | -42.75                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/03/2015 | 7541  | Menards                       |                                    | -58.86                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/03/2015 | 7542  | UPS                           | Postage                            | -17.98                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/03/2015 | 7543  | Verizon Wireless              | Cell Phone                         | -63.00                   |
| Check                     | 11/04/2015 | 7528  | Nelson, Robert                | Refundable Utility Deposit.        | -150.00                  |
| Check                     | 11/04/2015 | 7529  | Reich, Sandra 2               | Refundable Utility Deposit         | -150.00                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7519  | AgSource Laboratories         | Sewer Testing                      | -45.00                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7520  | Decker Sports                 | T-Shirts for Fertile Days          | -666.00                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7521  | Fertile Pronto                | Gas for truck, mower and Golf Cart | -182.68                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7522  | Hawkins, Inc.                 | Chlorine Cylinder                  | -10.00                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7523  | Kramer Ace Hardware           | Lighter Fluid Burning Leaves       | -11.98                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7524  | Larsen Plumbing & Heating     |                                    | -406.69                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7525  | Menards                       | Holiday Decor                      | -48.47                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7526  | Waste Management              | Container Service                  | -17.16                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/04/2015 | 7527  | WCTA                          | Telephone/Internet                 | -192.04                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/11/2015 | 7530  | Black Hills Energy            | Natural Gas                        | -215.31                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/11/2015 | 7531  | Iowa Finance Authority        | Sewer Loan                         | -1,755.00                |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/11/2015 | 7532  | Iowa One Call                 | Water locates                      | -20.70                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/11/2015 | 7533  | Mills Fleet Farm              | Christmas Decorations              | -101.15                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/11/2015 | 7534  | North Central Sales & Service | Skid Loader - Repair Break         | -82.50                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/11/2015 | 7535  | Waste Management              |                                    | -2,117.28                |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/11/2015 | 7536  | Worth County Auditor          | Election                           | -803.70                  |
| Check                     | 11/12/2015 | DEBIT | Standard Bearings             |                                    | -26.80                   |
| Paycheck                  | 11/18/2015 | 7537  | Roberts, Stephen J            |                                    | -992.96                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/25/2015 | 7544  | AgSource Laboratories         | Water Testing                      | -12.50                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/25/2015 | 7545  | Iowa Rural Water Association  | IRWA Membership Dues               | -225.00                  |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/25/2015 | 7546  | Marco                         | Copier, Printer, Fax               | -42.75                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/25/2015 | 7547  | Menards                       |                                    | -13.64                   |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 11/30/2015 | 7561  | Fertile Public Library V      | Open Access                        | -808.54                  |
| Total Checking            |            |       |                               |                                    | <u>-15,997.41</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              |            |       |                               |                                    | <b><u>-15,997.41</u></b> |





# City of Fertile

## City Council Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2016 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

### Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Holly Lovik-Hanna, Cindy Peters, Tad Miller, Nick Bailey and Ron Rachut; City Clerk, Wendy Lunning & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts.
- Tad motioned, Holly 2nd to approve the minutes of the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.** Unanimous
- Cindy motioned, Ron 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.

### Resolution for Alliant:

**Ron motioned, Cindy 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the resolution to add street light on alley and Lake Street, East side of street.** Unanimous

### City Maintenance Report

- Steve has detailed and serviced the pick up.
  - Steve has removed Christmas decorations on Main Street.
- Holly motioned, Tad 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the maintenance report.** Unanimous

### Mayor's Report

- Joyce completed annual report to WCDA for funds received and expenditures for 2015 calendar year. The City of Fertile received \$59,703.35 from WCDA in 2015. Majority of funds were used to improve streets. Thank you WCDA!
- Fertile Days supper was successful. Thank you to everyone that came and supported the fundraiser. A special "Thanks" to Fertile Pronto for their coffee donations.
- Joyce has accepted position to be on the NIACOG government board. This is a one year term.
- Joyce is working with the Worth County Assessors and E911 board to update house numbering in Fertile. City Code of Ordinances indicates:

6-8-1 All buildings now or hereafter erected within the City limits shall be assigned numbers and the owners notified of the assigned number. The owners shall cause the numbers to be placed and maintained on their property.

6-8-4 The numbers shall be conspicuously displayed on the portion of the building or premise which faces the street. All numbers shall be of durable substance and clearly legible.

Ordinances will be posted at City Hall, Library and Post Office.

**Ron motioned, and Tad 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the mayor's report.** Unanimous.

### City Clerk's Report

- Wendy presented December Financials. A complete set of financials are available at City Hall upon request.

| 7/1 - 12/31/15      | General           | WCDA        | Roads             | EE Benefits      | Utilities         | Total             |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Income              | 133,593.49        | 22,965.00   | 28,004.44         | 906.25           | 60,928.67         | 246,397.85        |
| Expense             | 156,847.49        | 22,965.00   | 66,025.38         | 4,401.15         | 60,922.50         | 311,161.52        |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>-23,254.00</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>-38,020.94</b> | <b>-3,494.90</b> | <b>6.17</b>       | <b>-64,763.67</b> |
| <b>Fund Balance</b> | <b>49,176.35</b>  | <b>0.00</b> | <b>17,599.46</b>  | <b>-3494.90</b>  | <b>116,477.33</b> | <b>179,758.24</b> |

**Cindy motioned, Ron 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve Financial Report.** Unanimous  
**Nick motioned, Tad 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve December Bills.** Unanimous

- Nick motioned, Cindy 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept resolution for lien on 203 E Main Street in the amount of \$288.33.** Unanimous
- IPERS audit was conducted and City of Fertile passed with no errors. Full report should be received in a couple weeks.

### Committee Reports:

### Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Fertile City Hall
- Holly moved and Nick 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn the meeting.** Unanimous

## Deposits

As of December 31, 2015

| Date       | Memo                    | Accrual Basis Amount |
|------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 12/02/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 3,317.40             |
| 12/02/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 211.82               |
| 12/02/2015 | Farm to Market Deposit  | 1,635.24             |
| 12/02/2015 | Facility Rental Deposit | 200.00               |
| 12/02/2015 | Incubator Deposit       | 888.79               |
| 12/02/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 1,318.02             |
| 12/03/2015 | Property Taxes          | 1,525.46             |
| 12/03/2015 | Casino Funds Deposit    | 2,515.75             |
| 12/09/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 2,965.43             |
| 12/09/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 155.44               |
| 12/15/2015 | Deposit                 | 0.00                 |
| 12/15/2015 | Road Use Tax            | 2,114.83             |
| 12/15/2015 | Farm to Market Deposit  | 2,213.11             |
| 12/16/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 3,571.51             |
| 12/23/2015 | Farm to Market Deposit  | 1,860.10             |
| 12/23/2015 | Assessment Deposit      | 687.65               |
| 12/23/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 2,961.71             |
| 12/23/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 496.92               |
| 12/29/2015 | Local Option Sales Tax  | 2,791.46             |
| 12/30/2015 | Utility Deposit         | 2,599.65             |
| 12/31/2015 | Interest                | 10.91                |
|            |                         | <b>34,041.20</b>     |

### Roads Revenue Accounts

#### Savings

|               |            |          |      |
|---------------|------------|----------|------|
| Deposit       | 12/31/2015 | Interest | 2.22 |
| Total Savings |            |          | 2.22 |

Total Roads Revenue Accounts 2.22

### Water Revenue Accounts

#### Savings

|               |            |          |      |
|---------------|------------|----------|------|
| Deposit       | 12/31/2015 | Interest | 2.86 |
| Total Savings |            |          | 2.86 |

Total Water Revenue Accounts 2.86

### Sewer Revenue Accounts

#### Savings

|               |            |          |      |
|---------------|------------|----------|------|
| Deposit       | 12/31/2015 | Interest | 2.50 |
| Total Savings |            |          | 2.50 |

#### CD

#### Total CD

Total Sewer Revenue Accounts 2.50

**TOTAL**

**34,048.78**



## City of Fertile Bills Paid

As of December 31, 2015

Accrual  
Basis

| Type                      | Date       | Num    | Name  | Memo  | Amount             |
|---------------------------|------------|--------|---|---|--------------------|
| <b>Operating Accounts</b> |            |        |   |   |                    |
| <b>Checking</b>           |            |        |   |   |                    |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7548   | Advanced Door Systems   | Maintenance Garage  | -120.00            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7549   | AgSource Laboratories   | Sewer Testing   | -45.00             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7550   | Brcka Construction, Inc.  | Water Plant New Doors                                       | -2,922.05          |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7551   | Goodwin Tucker  | Oven  | -48.20             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7552   | Kramer Ace Hardware   | Flag Pole Rope & Decorations                                | -24.96             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7553   | Penny Miller-v  | Memorial Lights   | -224.06            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7554   | WCTA  | Telephone/Internet  | -185.72            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7555   | Wendy Lunning - v   | Mileage to Budget Training                                  | -29.47             |
| Paycheck                  | 12/02/2015 | 7556   | Roberts, Stephen J  |   | -992.97            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/02/2015 | 7557   | Lunning, Wendy S  |   | -477.29            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/02/2015 | 7558   | Russell, Grant  |   | -22.46             |
| Paycheck                  | 12/02/2015 | 7559   | Russell, Joyce  |   | -1,157.04          |
| Paycheck                  | 12/02/2015 | 7560   | Bruns, Warren   |   | -302.39            |
| Liability Check           | 12/02/2015 | 100603 | IPERS   |   | -778.86            |
| Liability Check           | 12/02/2015 | 100604 | United States Treasury<br>Advantage Business<br>Solutions, Inc. | 42-1028074  | -1,118.90          |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7562   | Lonnie Knudson  | Website Hosting   | -131.40            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/02/2015 | 7563   | USPS  | Community Center Cleaning                                   | -10.00             |
| Check                     | 12/07/2015 | DEBIT  | USPS  | postage   | -7.45              |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/09/2015 | 7564   | Fertile Pronto  | Gas for truck and mower.                                    | -144.62            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/09/2015 | 7565   | Hawkins, Inc.   | Chlorine Cylinder   | -10.00             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/09/2015 | 7566   | Heartland Asphalt   |   | -87,341.78         |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/09/2015 | 7567   | Larsen Plumbing & Heating                                       |   | -254.97            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/09/2015 | 7568   | Superior Lumber, Inc  |   | -27.88             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/09/2015 | 7569   | Waste Management  |   | -2,134.44          |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/09/2015 | 7570   | Heartland Asphalt   |   | -7,236.00          |
| Paycheck                  | 12/15/2015 | 7573   | Jessen, Julie   |   | -443.28            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/15/2015 | 7571   | Bailey, Nick  |   | -480.22            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/15/2015 | 7572   | Berg, Jeffrey   |   | -517.16            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/15/2015 | 7574   | Lovik-Hanna, Holly  |   | -481.52            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/15/2015 | 7575   | Russell, Joyce  |   | -868.50            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/16/2015 | 7576   | Roberts, Stephen J  |   | -992.96            |
| Check                     | 12/17/2015 | DEBIT  | Staples   | EOY Office Supplies   | -23.95             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/18/2015 | 7584   | Frank's Repair  | Service 2013 Siverado - New Tires                           | -766.68            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/18/2015 | 7585   | John Greve Attny Trust Acct                                     |   | -1,000.00          |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/18/2015 | 7586   | Forest City Ambulance   |   | -500.00            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/23/2015 | 7587   | Hare Electric   | City Hall Outdoor Electrical                                | -269.86            |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/23/2015 | 7588   | UPS   | Postage   | -10.75             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/23/2015 | 7589   | Wendy Lunning - v   | Supplies  | -4.84              |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/23/2015 | 7590   | AgSource Laboratories   | Water Testing   | -17.00             |
| Bill Pmt -Check           | 12/23/2015 | 7591   | North Iowa Media Group  | Public Notice Annual Financial Report and<br>Public Hearing | -270.87            |
| Paycheck                  | 12/30/2015 | 7592   | Roberts, Stephen J  |   | -992.95            |
| <b>Total Checking</b>     |            |        |   |   | <b>-113,388.45</b> |







**JOICE** | Gladys Norene Almelién, age 104, 2 months, 17 days, of Joice, Iowa, entered her heavenly home Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015, at the Good Samaritan Society in Forest

Gladys Norene Fjeld Almelién was born on the farm by Fertile, IA, on Sept. 26, 1911,

to Martin O. and Ida (Finsaas) Fjeld. She attended country school and later graduated from Fertile High School Class of 1930. She then attended Iowa State Teachers College (UNI). She taught at different country schools in Worth, Winnebago and Cerro Gordo counties. She later was employed at Deluxe (Fleetgaard) in Lake Mills as an inspector.

On June 5, 1941, she was united in marriage to Reuben E. Almelién. Together, they farmed near Joice, IA, for many years. They had two children, Sandra Rae and Gary Lee.

Gladys is survived by her daughter Sandra (Bill) Price; daughter-in-law Paulette Almelién; grandchildren Tim Fox, Terry (Stephanie) Fox, Joy Fox, Jamie (Rhett) Fox-Clayton, Brad (Jodie) Almelién, Amy (Jamie) Hagen; great-grandchildren Sidney, Sam and Sadie Fox, Albert Ady, Jack and Ruby Clayton, Ryan and Allison Almelién, Kevin and Sophia Hagen; along with many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband Reuben in 1989, son Gary in 1995, her parents, sisters Bernice Tweed, Evelyn Kingland, Mildred Slattum, Antoinette Brodigan, Palma Johnson, and brother Marlin Fjeld.

**James W. Fairchild**, 58, of **Fertile**, died Sunday, Dec. 6, 2015, at the Muse-Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit, Mason City.

Memorial services will be 1 p.m. Thursday at Fertile Lutheran Church, Fertile, with Pastor Dave Halverson officiating. Burial will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the James W. Fairchild Memorial Fund, in care of the family.

**OUR SYMPATHIES TO ALL OF THESE FAMILIES**



**FOREST CITY** - Rose Julia Suby, 87, of Forest City died Saturday, Jan. 16, 2016, at her home surrounded by her family.

Rose was born Oct. 9, 1928, in Forest City to Jacob and Rugna (Heindal) Severson. She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. Rose received her

education in the Forest City Public School and later furthered her education at NIACC in the areas of health aide homemaker and EMT.

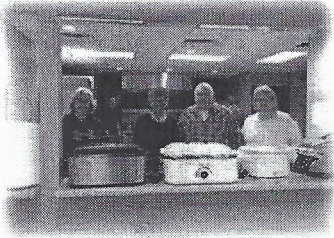
On March 31, 1950, she married the love of her life, Adell Suby from Fertile, at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Born into this union were their three children, Terry, Jerry and Jan.

Rose and Adell resided in Forest City, where Adell was employed at the city light plant for 36 years. Rose worked part time in retail stores while raising the three children and also volunteered for Scouts, Sunday School and other church activities. After the family was raised, she worked two years at Stitchcraft. Adell and Rose built their family home when they were 24 years of age and enjoyed building and remodeling several investment homes in Forest City.

Volunteering for the ambulance service was a highlight in her life. Rose joined the service when it first started. To get started, Stan Peterson transported patients in the back of a funeral home hearse. As fundraising and donations came in, the committee was able to replace the hearse with a station wagon and later a used ambulance. Rose found the service interesting and rewarding. In the summer she enjoyed jumping on her new moped to be first call for the hospital. Through this service, Rose found her real calling, caring for the elderly. She helped care for many people in the Forest City area and loved every moment of it.

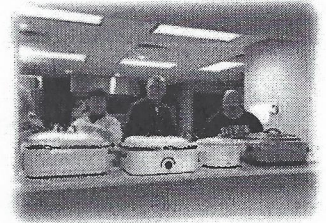
Rose is survived by her children, Terry Suby of Edina, Minnesota, Jan (Randy) Groves of Forest City and Jerry Suby of Walford; her grandchildren, Cheryl Lynn Chartier of North Liberty, Jason Suby of Edina, Minnesota, Jesse Groves (Tiffany) of Forest City, Dallas (Ashley) Groves of Clear Lake, Joshua (Syreeta) Groves of Forest City and Gary (Shannon) Suby of Cedar Rapids; and her great grandchildren, Blake, Logan, Rylea, Jayce, Skyla, Shaelyn, Avenlee, Cayden and Gianna.





### FERTILE DAY'S SPAGHETTI SUPPER & SILENT AUCTION

The temperatures may have been horrible but it didn't stop many of you from coming out and enjoying our meal! Especially those of you who traveled a distance! Thank you for your support and contributions! We served 112 meals and had around 10 deliveries. The donations for the meal were



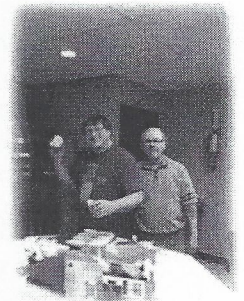
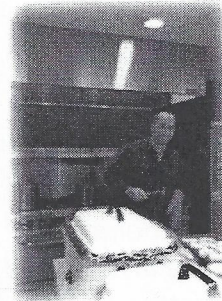
\$934.00 and our auction brought in \$591.00. We would like to thank our volunteer workers: Robin Harms, Buck and Joyce Russell, Steve and Sandy Roberts, Jeff O'Toole, Pat Renchin, Eddy and Lisa May, Betty Waddington, John and Eileen Schissel, Bill and Sandy Price, Nancy Suby, Patty Oswald, Isaac Tuttle, Linda Tuttle, Ken and June Strohman, and Don and Sharon McLaughlin. Without these people we couldn't have pulled it off! Thank you to our MANY people who donated food and auction goodies! Without you folks we wouldn't have made much money for our 160<sup>th</sup> celebration. Fertile is the best little home town!

We have several surprises for Fertile Day's this year. One is fireworks on Saturday night! Please mark your calendars for August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.



On behalf of the Fertile Day's committee  
THANKS!

Cindy Peters, Penny Miller,  
Holly Hanna, Ron Rachut,  
David Bruns,  
Kevin and Cindy Bidne  
Ken and Deena Biertz



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## Letters to the Editor

Thank you so much for all the work you do to get our local information to us. We have moved to our winter home in Mesa. Thanks so much **Tom & Linda (Suby) Price.**

Thanks for all you do. **Phyllis Pederson**

You folks do a great job on the Reminder. We look forward to it each month. It brings back lots of memories. **Dennis & Sharon Jenkins**

I really enjoy receiving the Reminder. Sorry, I didn't subscribe years ago. **Marilyn Ralston**

Thanks for another great year of reading. I really enjoy getting the Reminder and appreciate all your hard work. **Judi Larson**

Enjoy getting the reminder - keep up the good work! **Craig Suby**

Thank you gals for what you do. I missed it since August. Forgot. Thank you, God Bless. **Betty Theilen**

### CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS DONATIONS

A Christmas tree has been decorated on the corner of the Community Center on Hwy 9. More lights were needed so word was put out that anyone that wanted to donate 25.00 for each string (3 sets to a string). Donations may be in memory of someone and people can still donate. Send checks to the Fertile Reminder and we will add names whenever we get another donation. **Thank you to all who have donated so far!!**

**Ethel Tuttle's** family in memory of Ethel

**Jaci Miller** in memory of her dad, Jon Santee

**Penny & Dan Miller** in memory of Verle & Corrine Miller and Clarence and Luella Low

**Betty Waddington** in memory of Don Waddington & Merle Tuttle

**Ruth Ouverson** in memory of Harold (Moke) Ouverson

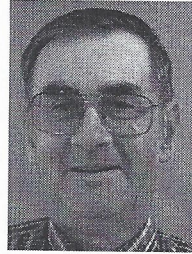
**Robin Harms** in memory of Larry & Ethel Tuttle

**Cindy Peters** in memory of Wilda Phillips

**Grant & Joyce Russell** in memory of Tanner Brunsvold

**Grant & Joyce Russell** in memory of Orville & Eva Strhoman and brother, Russ Strohman

**THE TREE CAN USE MORE LIGHTS ONCE THE ELECTRICAL PROBLEM IS FIXED, SO CONTINUE TO SEND.** It is beautiful to see it as you travel down the highway!!



### THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Halo, Hello. Let me introduce myself as one of your two new Fertile Council members.

I live at 140 West Washington Avenue. The mailing address is Box 121. The telephone numbers are

641-797-2811 for the land line and 641-420-6555 for the cell phone. Any item that you would like me to present at a council meeting needs to be printed (either computer or typewriter) with a signature and contact information. A telephone message or text message won't work.

I am a semi-retired farmer. By that, I mean I have rented out the land for grain crops, but continue with the vegetable production. My business is Fertile Valley Gardens.

The church I belong to is Our Saviour's Lutheran in Mason City. I am a Sunday School teacher of fourth thru sixth grade children. I also take my turn as reader, Communion helper, and have served on the church council.

Politically, I am conservative. As far as city government is concerned, this does not mean that I will always vote no. It means that I will vote to help the greatest number of our citizens with our limited dollars.

For my military service, I joined the Mason City unit of the Army National Guard January 14, 1964 while still in high school. This way I could serve my country, my state, and still be an onion farmer. I was trained in heavy weapons, namely the 81MM mortar. I intended to re-up at the end of my six years but that all changed on September 22, 1969 when my father was killed in an auto accident.

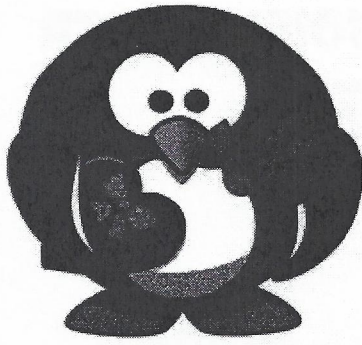
Being the oldest, I needed to run the farm.

What prompted me to run? I had been encouraged by several people, but I needed that last spark. That came on August 29, 2015 at Operation LZ. As my girlfriend and I boarded a Huey helicopter, sitting across from us was a soldier who had fought in Vietnam. On his vest along with his other ensigns were the words, AGENT ORANGE - I AM DYING. 58,272 Americans gave their all in Vietnam. Countless thousands of others have since or will be giving theirs all due to physical or mental issues from Nam. After 46 years. It was time for me to pick up and serve. I shed a lot of tears the week following Operation LZ.

Until next time, thank a farmer for the food on your plate, thank a veteran for the freedoms we enjoy, and above all, thank God for the blessings he has bestowed.

Next time I will tell you about my first council meeting and what a WW2 bride told me.





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 Thursday 3-6 P.M.  
 Friday 9- Noon & 2-6 P.M.  
 Saturday - 9 - Noon



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**New Books**

Fire & Ice—Mary Connealy  
 Twilight/Life & Death—Stephanie Meyers  
 Tricky Twenty-Two—Janet Evanovich  
 Secret Sister—Jayne Ann Krentz  
 Outlaw Town—Ralph Compton  
 Cross Justice—James Patterson  
 The Guilty—David Baldacci  
 All Dressed in White—Mary Higgins Clark  
 Where Trust Lies—Janette Oke  
 Ultimate 9x13 Cook Book—Taste of Home  
 Magnus Chase & the Gods of Asgaard—  
 Rick Riordan  
 The Game of Lives—James Dasher

**Library News**

**Happy New Year Everyone!!**

Our Christmas open house was a great success and a lot of fun. Forty-nine kids came to see Santa and his helper elf Rachel! They all got to sit on his lap, get their picture taken & tell him what they wanted him to bring them for Christmas (if they had been good of course) , get candy & a gift. Thank you Hare Electric & Larsen Plumbing & Heating for donating to the Santa Fund and making this possible.

Lisa May was the big winner of the \$100 Walmart gift card. We would like to thank these business's and individuals for donating prizes. JoAnn Arndt, Humble Beginnings, Brenda Jones, Barb Lovick, Manufacturers Bank & Trust, Dawn Millard, Mason City YMCA, Clete & Carolyn Nedved, Pritchard Auto, Pronto, Ruth Rhodes, Sew Many Blessings (Tammy Waddington), Linda Tuttle, Walmart, Winnebago Industries.

**New Books on CD**

Precious Gifts—Danielle Steel  
 The Bone Hunters—Robert Mrazek  
 Cross Justice—James Patterson  
 Undercover—Danielle Steel  
 All Dressed in White—Mary Higgins Clark  
 The Crossing—Micchael Connelly  
 The Old Blue Line—JA Jance  
 Crimshore Shore—Preston & Child  
 Tricky Twenty-Two—Janet Evanovich  
 House Trained—Jackie Bouchard  
 Country—Danielle Steel

**New DVDs**

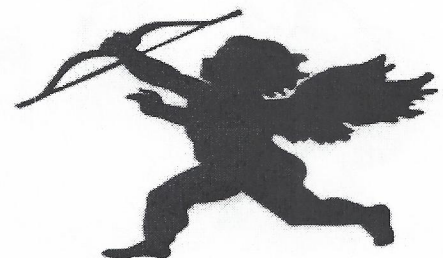
Focus—Will Smith  
 Trainwreck—Amy Schumer  
 Birdman—Michael Keaton  
 Tinkerbell-Great Fairy Rescue  
 Furious 7—Vin Diesel  
 Tomorrowland—George Clooney  
 San Andreas—Dwayne Johnson  
 Inside Out—Disney Pixar  
 Pixels—Adam Sandler

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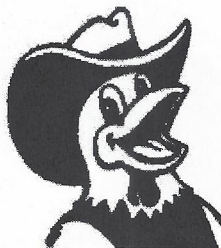
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### Oatmeal Muffins

2 eggs  
1 Cup packed brown sugar  
¼ Cup unsweetened applesauce  
1 ½ Cup whole milk  
2 tsp. vanilla extract  
½ tsp. salt  
1 tbs. ground cinnamon  
3 Cup old fashioned rolled oats  
2 tsp. baking powder  
suggested toppings: blueberries, pumpkin seeds, flax seeds, chocolate chips, toasted nuts, dried fruit, etc.  
**Instructions:** Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a muffin tin with paper/foil muffin liners. In a large bowl, whisk eggs and brown sugar until sugar is dissolved. Add applesauce, milk, vanilla, salt and cinnamon. Whisk well until combined. Stir in oats and baking soda. Let sit for 20-30 minutes to allow oats to absorb most of the liquid. Fill muffin cups with ¼ Cup oat mixture each. Add favorite toppings, pushing down into the oat mixture with your finger. Bake 30 minutes or until firm and browned on top. Let cool for 5 minutes before eating. Can be stored in an airtight container for up to a week or frozen for later use.

### HOMEMADE TACO SEASONING

1 Tbsp. Chili Powder  
1/4 tsp. Garlic Powder  
1/4 tsp. Onion Powder  
1/4 tsp. Crushed Red Pepper Flakes  
1/4 tsp. Dried Oregano  
1/2 tsp. Paprika  
1 1/2 tsp. Ground Cumin  
1 tsp. Sea Salt  
1 tsp. Black Pepper (optional)  
Mix and add to ¾ cup water & ground beef

### CHOCOLATE BANANA SMOOTHIE

6 oz chocolate vanilla low fat yogurt (Dannens)  
¼ cup skim milk  
1 ripe frozen banana  
3 large ice cubes  
Mix in blender, 2 servings

Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains, scientists believe. Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full, so, too, do humans take longer to access information when their brains are full. Researchers say this slowing down process is not the same as cognitive decline. The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more. Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.  
SO THERE .

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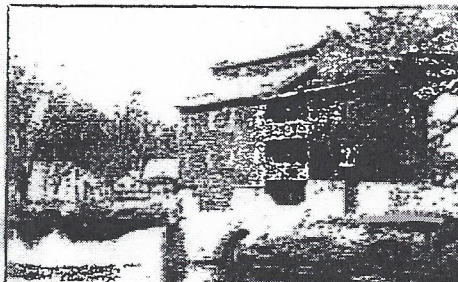
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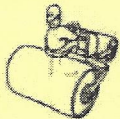
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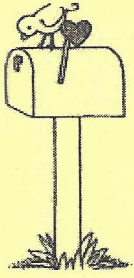


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