

FERTILE REMINDER

DECEMBER 2015 - JANUARY 2016



1st Row; N. Trimble, D. Lee, J. Thovson, E. Davis, M. Nye, M. Sheimo
L. Van Den Bosch, R. Peterson, S. Parcell
2nd Row; M. Tuttle, R. Petersburg, D. Rodberg, G. Lovick, J. Suby, C. Coltvet,
D. Halverson, B. Federson
3rd Row; L. Jenkins, L. Burtness, D. Ouverson, D. Duell, H. Wolfe, R. McCauley,
J. Haugen, L. Burke, Mrs. Randall, Teacher
Absent; J. Thompson, D. Ouverson, J. Dodd, J. Johnson, R. Faulken, A. Abrams,
S. Hoffman, E. Low

1st and 2nd grade classes of 1950

MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

December Calendar

Nov. 28 Midtgaard 70th Anniversary
7 Firemen meet
8 Garden Club Christmas Party
10, 24 Recycle
15 Fertile Girls Meet
15 City Council
21 Library Board Meets
22 Reminder mailed

January Calendar

4 Firemen meet
7, 21 Recycle
13 Reminder Deadline
16 Fertile Days Spaghetti Supper
18 Library Board Meets
19 Fertile Girls Meet
19 City Council
26 Reminder Mailed

**City Council Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2015 - 7:00 PM, City Hall
Call to Order & Roll Call**

Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Holly Lovik Hanna, Jeff Berg, Nick Bailey, Tad Miller and Julie Jessen; Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts. Guest: BMC – C. A. Dean Jr.(Deano); Worth County Supervisor – Dave Haugen.

Jeff motioned, Julie 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.

Streets:

- Deano with BMC gave presentation to council on why the newly paved East Main Street should not have a weight limit put on it.
- Dave Haugen with Worth County Supervisors gave presentation of why county does not want a weight limit put on East Main Street.
- East Main Street is currently designated as a city street. Worth County Supervisors are researching what needs to be done to change this to a Farm to Market road.
- Jeff motioned, Tad 2nd to not put an embargo on E Main Street. Roll call vote unanimous. Holly moved and Nick 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** U City of Fertile

**City Council Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2015 - 7:00 PM, City Hall
Call to Order & Roll Call**

Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Holly Lovik-Hanna, Jeff Berg, Nick Bailey and Julie Jessen; City Clerk, Wendy Lunning & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts. Tad Miller absent.

Nick motioned, Holly 2nd to approve the minutes of the October 20th meeting with the addition that Holly Lovik-Hanna was present. Unanimous

Jeff motioned, Nick 2nd to approve the minutes of the November 2nd special meeting. Unanimous

- **Holly 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.

City Maintenance Report

- Thank you Buck Russell for helping Steve to install the fence and bench at the Library.
- Road maintenance has been completed on E Main.
- Steve repaired some mail boxes on E Main due to road maintenance.
- Steve put some grass seed by the ball diamonds where piles of dirt were. Heartland leveled this off during the maintenance that was done on E Main.

- Steve replaced dual couplings at the water plant.
- Steve has also been working on leaves at the park. Fence damage in wind storm will be repaired in the spring.

Julie motioned, Nick 2nd to approve the maintenance report. Unanimous

Mayor's Report

- Joyce completed rewards paperwork from Fertile Pronto for the City.
- Kyle Poush is no longer on the Fire Department and has been removed from insurance.
- Utility Payment boxes have been installed on Main Street in front of maintenance shed and at the Community Center. Utility Payments are due by the 25th of the month.
- City Election results: Joyce Russell, Mayor. Ron Rachut, Council and Cindy Peters, Council. 'Thank You' to Jeff Berg and Julie Jessen for your years of service. Elected officials will be sworn in at the regular Council meeting in December and will take office beginning 01/01/2016.
- Worth County has a new GIS maps and Information for Cities.
- Alliant has installed a new pole at 209 E Washington with a Street Light.

Holly motioned, and Nick 2nd to approve the mayor's report. Unanimous.

City Clerk's Report

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

	General	WCDA	Roads	EE Benefits	Utilities	Total
6/30/14 Income	356,757.11	204,000.00	39,782.74	1654.22	115,461.28	717,655.35
Expense	539,989.98	0.00	22,012.57	1,654.22	94,958.85	658,615.62
Total	-183,232.87	204,000.00	17,770.17	0.00	20,502.43	59,039.73
Fund Balance	72,430.35	0.00	55,620.40	0.00	116,471.16	244,521.91
7/1 - 10/31/15 Income	69,961.71	22,965.00	15,940.47	755.74	41,302.05	150,924.97
Expense	61,441.17	22,965.00	4,453.75	2,663.35	43,277.27	134,800.54
Total	8,520.54	0.00	11,486.72	-1,907.61	-1,975.22	16,124.43
Fund Balance	80,950.89	0.00	67,1074.12	-1,907.61	114,495.94	260,646.34

Nick motioned, Jeff 2nd to approve Financial Report. Unanimous

Holly motioned, Holly 2nd to approve October Bills Unanimous
No Liens.

Holly motioned, Nick 2nd to accept the Annual Financial Report.

- Wendy presents Ordinance Amendment to the City Council for review. Public hearing will be held on next regular Council Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Upcoming Meetings

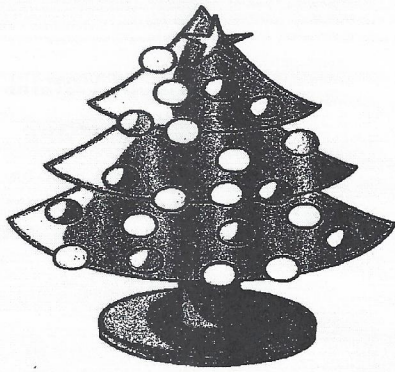
- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, December 15th, 2015 at Fertile City Hall
- **Nick moved and Holly 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** Unanimous

**City of Fertile
Deposits**

**City of Fertile
Bills Paid**

As of October 31, 2015

City of Fertile Deposits			City of Fertile Bills Paid		
Date	Memo	Accrual Basis Amount	Name	Memo	Amount
10/01/2015	Property Taxes	27,671.12	Fertile Fire Department V	Quarterly Allocation	-4,000.00
10/01/2015	Deposit	0.00	Fertile Public Library V	Quarterly Payment	-5,193.50
10/01/2015	Assessment Deposit	1,168.95	Lunning, Wendy S		-345.33
10/05/2015	Casino Funds Deposit	3,349.77	Russell, Joyce		-1,269.11
10/07/2015	Miscellaneous Deposit	136.65	Bruns, Warren		-301.39
10/07/2015	Utility Deposit	837.87	Clear Lake Sanitary District	water sample lab testing	-40.00
10/07/2015	Utility Deposit	82.23	Fertile Pronto	Gas for truck, mower and Golf Cart	-272.89
10/14/2015	Utility Deposit	2,604.25	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine Cylinder	-10.00
10/14/2015	Utility Deposit	43.39	Kramer Ace Hardware	Sign on Door - Water Plant	-15.99
10/20/2015	Road Use Tax	1,841.89	Larsen Plumbing & Heating		-184.36
10/21/2015	Utility Deposit	98.74	Menards	Cleaning Supplies & Christmas Lights	-27.42
10/21/2015	Rental Deposit	100.00	Plunkett's	Pest Control	-444.29
10/21/2015	Utility Deposit	2,698.61	Waste Management		-2,130.93
10/28/2015	Utility Deposit	3,890.83	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-199.20
10/28/2015	Utility Deposit	488.76	UPS	Sewer Testing	-11.42
10/30/2015	Local Option Sales Tax	2,709.79	Roberts, Stephen J		-989.95
10/31/2015	Interest	15.03	Russell, Grant		-44.94
		<u>47,737.88</u>	Treasurer - Worth County	Lien Payment - Cody Keeney	-136.65
		47,737.88	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-161.68
			Bratrud Golf	Golf Cart Windshield and Mirror	-192.86
			Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax	-42.75
			Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-63.05
			Wendy Lunning - v	Budget Workshop	-20.00
10/31/2015	Interest	5.67	Fertile Public Library V	Enrich Iowa	-1,167.98
		<u>5.67</u>	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance		-564.00
		5.67	IPERS		-785.51
			United States Treasury		-1,127.60
			Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance		-1,050.00
10/31/2015	Interest	2.86	Roberts, Stephen J		-992.96
		<u>2.86</u>	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,289.20
		2.86	Brian Nettleton Excavating, Inc.	Replace Waterline & Repair Broken Water Main	-4,927.00
			Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Annual Water Use Fee	-99.00
10/31/2015	Interest	2.50	USA Blue Book	Winter Wear	-230.38
		<u>2.50</u>	Visu-Sewer	Camera Main Sewer Lines	-2,025.00
		2.50	AgSource Laboratories	Water & Sewer Testing	-57.50
			Brian Nettleton Excavating, Inc.	6" Main Break on E Side of County Shed	-1,194.00
		<u>2.50</u>	Menards	Library Bench and Grass Seed	-46.81
		<u>47,748.91</u>	UPS	Water Testing	-10.69
			Standard Bearings		-74.61
			USPS	postage	-144.20
					<u>-31,884.15</u>
	Petty Cash				
	Total Petty Cash				
	Total Operating Accounts	<u>-31,884.15</u>			
	Roads Revenue Accounts				
	Savings				
	Total Savings				
	Total Roads Revenue Accounts				
TOTAL		<u><u>-31,884.15</u></u>			



FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.youseemore.com/NILC/FertilePL
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



New Books

Rogue Lawyer—John Grisham
Host —Robin Cook
Playing with Fire—Tess Gerritsen
Corrupted—Lisa Scottoline
Christmas in Mustang Creek—Linda Lael Miller
Dashing Through the snow—Debbie Macomber
Jolines Redemption—Vickie McDonough
Vengeance Rider— Ralph Compton
Texas Hills—Ralph Compton
Slow Cooking Companion—The Crockin' Girls
Texas Hill Country Christmas—William Johnstone
Pioneer Woman Cooks: Dinnertime, Freezer, Food,
16 Minute Meals—Ree Drummond

New Books on CD

The Survivor—Kyle Mills/Vince Flynn
Rogue Lawyer—John Grisham
Career of Evil—Robert Galbraith
The Murder of an Angel— James Patterson

New DVDs

Madea Christmas—Tyler Perry
Love's Christmas Journey— Natalie Hall
Hot Pursuit—Reese Witherspoon
Avengers: Age of Ultron—Chris Hemsworth
Spy—Melissa McCarthy
Cinderella—Lily James
Absolution—Steven Seagal

Christmas Open House

Saturday December 12, 2015

9-Noon

Santa @ 10:00
(for ages 10 & under)

Holiday Drawing at 11:00
(for \$100.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card)

**Please stop by for Coffee,
Christmas Punch
And lots of Holiday Goodies!**

Everyone Welcome!



Library News

We had a fun time at the library Halloween Party! We had over 30 little ghosts and goblins. We played Halloween Bingo, bean bag toss, & decorated pumpkins to take home. The best costume award went to Braedon Appel. Thank you Mayor Russell and City Clerk Wendy Lunning for being our costume judges.

How do like our new bench in front of the library? It was donated by the Fertile Senior Citizens. Thank you Steve Roberts & Buck Russell for installing the bench & fence. It looks great!!

Christmas is coming again and so is our holiday open house. We will be giving away a \$100 gift card to Wal-Mart. Plus we will have lots of other prizes. If anyone has any prizes they would like to donate for the drawing please contact the library. ***Have a great Holiday Season!***

To Fertile Reminder Readers:

First off, I, your editor, moved to a farm near Fertile in 1947 and since have lived all but six years around or near Fertile and at my present residence (next door to Brush Point Cemetery) the past 43 years. I graduated from Fertile in 1956 and taught 5th grade in 1958, so Fertile has always been a part of my life even though I was a transplant!

When I compiled my book "Fertile School" I used the past Fertile Reminders as one of my sources of information. When I took over as editor of the Reminder over 3 years ago, I went back to that source and copied much of what has already been written, so much of it is 25 years and older.

In the next Reminder's I am going to reprint the information I have found and hope you enjoy it.

I am sure the majority of us have a soft spot in our hearts for this small town that has taught many of us our life's values. Thank you for your encouragement and support in keeping the Reminder going out each month. We appreciate you as subscribers!

Editor, Betty Tuttle Waddington

PS Everything in the following article is as it was written!

THE STORY OF FERTILE

This was first printed in 1950, copied from the Northwood Anchor.

Taken from the Fertile Reminder December 1990

William Rhodes hikes from Charles City to build a home on site of present town. Civil War interrupted establishment of the Mill, the first Fertile industry.

Editor's Note: On August 6, 1856, the village of Fertile was founded by William Rhoades of New Rochelle, Illinois. In the following article S. L. Sander of Hanlontown tells the story of the coming of the pioneer, and of other noteworthy events in the history of the thriving Worth County community.

The story of Fertile is the story of a hundred inland towns that dot the map of Iowa and the great northwest.

An ambitious young man in an eastern state eager to profit by the advice of Horace Greeley, exchanges a summer's wages for a railroad ticket that will carry him to the western end of the line. In this case William Rhoades of New Rochelle, Illinois, and Charles City, IA, then the western terminus of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad.

A cruel march with pack and gun to Mason city, then a frontier hamlet consisting of a log tavern, general store and two saloons. And here the chance acquaintance of an old hunter and trapper who tells of a wonderful mill site some twenty miles upstream.

Another cruel march with pack, gun and load of provisions and then, one evening, a bivouac on the limestone ledge that has now served over ninety years as the foundation of Fertile Roller Mills.

A log cabin soon springs up in a nearby thicket and a nearby clearing is devoted to the production of the necessities of life and then the cabin door is closed and the young pioneer marches away to the defense of the union to the tune of "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory."

Right triumphs over wrong, and the roar of artillery and the rattle of musketry dies away. Smoke again curls lazily from the cabin in the thicket and from morning 'till night, the forest resounds with the echo of the pioneer-soldier's ax.

A log dam is thrown across the river and a crudely fashioned water wheel is belted to a saw rig brought by ox team stages from the river wharves at McGregor. Bright, new clapboard shanties now spring up on the surrounding prairies like mushrooms, overnight, and then one evening, a wagon piled high with boxes and barrels and drawn by yoke of weary brindled oxen, creeps slowly around the bend and Fertile has a general store, followed quickly by a blacksmith show and the inevitable saloon.

And in the next 10 years Fertile becomes a thriving little hamlet of fifty souls.

Lumber is now to be had at the new railroad towns of Clear Lake and Mason City, the sawmill is dismantled and for forty miles around the new grist mill at Fertile is a more general topic of discussion than communism or the Marshall Plan.

A familiar sight upon our street is a long horned yoke of oxen grazing by the roadside while their bearded driver smokes peacefully in the shade of a nearby tree or industriously lures the gamely pickerel and bass from the cool depths of the whirlpool of the dam, while the creaking splashing mill wheel grinds merrily away at the grist of wheat and corn that will feed his flock for the next 12 months.

The second epoch in the history of Fertile begins with the organization of the Fertile Co-Operative Dairy Association and the erection of a two story creamery building, the upper story to serve as a town hall.

The new hall is dedicated with a gigantic political rally and a congressman eager for re-election, promises a daily mail and keeps his word. And a hotel, barber shop, butchers shop and weekly paper follow hard on the heels of the daily mail.

The need for telephone communication is now becoming felt and the local merchants subscribe liberally to the stocks of a telephone company and are promptly froze out by a parent corporation.

The need of an incorporated municipal government is also becoming felt, the necessary steps are taken and the contest for mayor is on. Life-long friends become mortal enemies and the location of a long established sidewalk is disputed to the fractional part of an inch.

With the coming of spring and the rumbling of a railroad boom is heard in the direction of Mason City and the town council holds nightly sessions to consider the matter of alleys and crossings.

The price of town lots fluctuate with the violence of an Iowa thermometer and then a soul-less town site company changes its mind and Fertile falls back to the monotonous task of supplying the needs of a prosperous farming comm. (This right at the turn of the century, 1899-1900.)

Cement walks now take the place of cinder paths, the hitching posts are removed from in front of the stores and the holes left there by the iron shod hoof of some anxious dobbin whose master has tarried to long in the blacksmith shop or the mill are neatly filled with cinders and gravel.

The store windows take on the aspect of the city department store and columns in the weekly paper are devoted to "The City Beautiful".

Fertile at the present time, has a population of 450 souls. Four churches, three stores, two filling stations, two restaurants, hatchery, feed mill, tile factory, food locker. creamery. Lumber yard, stone quarry, telephone office, the conventional barber shop and post office and "Welcome, Come Again" signs greet tourists at the corporation limits.

The founder of Fertile, full of years of honor, has bequeathed to the village a beautiful park situated on the banks of the river he loved so well, and passed on to his reward.

And the mill, unable to compete with Pillsbury's best, has belted her turbines to softly purring dynamos and this the stream that in turn sawed the boards for the pioneers shacks and ground the corn and wheat with which to feed his hungry flock, is now producing light and heat for many modern homes.

And last but not least, on the site of the little red schoolhouse now stands a modern, fireproof, consolidated school building.

And the long haired boy in brown denim and plow shoes, proclaiming in a wavering voice the relative merits of the pen and sword, has now given way to the dashing your bobby soxer in painted fingernails and boyish bob, glibly discussing last night's radio program broadcast by XYZ. And though modern invention has brought comfort and ease to the people of Fertile, the struggles of her pioneers, William Rhoades, Andrew Groves, Halvor Ouverson and G. K. Daley will never be forgotten.



MR. WILLIAM RHOADES



**Spaghetti Supper
And Silent Auction
Fertile Days Fundraiser**

Di's Fertile's 160th Celebration

January 16, 2016

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Fertile Community Center

Movie: "Fertile Day's"

**COME AND ENJOY A NIGHT OF FOOD,
FELLOWSHIP AND ENTERTAINMENT!**

Free will donations

Silent Auction:



This is our 5th year, for our silent auction!

If you would like to donate to our auction

Here are a few *suggestions*:

Specialty Baskets: Movie basket, Romantic
night basket, Child's hospital basket,
Game night basket, Baby basket,
Tea for two basket, Kitchen basket,
Gardener basket, Super bowl basket.

Please put the value of your basket on a piece of paper.

We would appreciate new items, crafts, quilts, or antiques.

*If you are out and about ask a business/restaurant
if they would donate a gift certificate or item.*

The more help the easier it is for us!

Thank you, to those who have donated in the past!

Please contact Penny Miller at 641-797-2704

if you have any questions or would be willing to donate!

The silent auction will run from 5 – 6:00 p.m.

Barilla Corp. has donated all of the spaghetti noodles and sauce! Thank You, Barilla!!

**We still need the following: 15# of hamburger, 12# of Italian sausage, 22 large boxes of garlic bread,
12 pans of bars. Contact one of the committee members if you would like to donate!**



THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Gracious, Thank you for your support of Cindy and myself to the Fertile City Council.

Before the election, I promised to do three things, if elected.

FIRST. Put a little informative letter in each issue of the Fertile Reminder. It could be on agriculture or some other topic, but most of the time it will be on decisions made at City Council meeting or happenings in Fertile from a vegetable farmer's point of view. This is the keep the citizens informed.

SECOND. Some communities like Fertile are thriving in Iowa while others are one breath away from dying. What is the difference? What makes the thriving ones tick? I will see some of those communities, walk its streets, talk to its people, and see why they are successful. Is it something that would work here? Is it an idea that could be brought to the Fertile City Council. Time will tell.

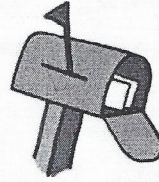
THIRD. The youth of our community will soon be the age to be our leaders. I would like to see more involvement of our youth in civic affairs, like attending council meetings. There are other communities ahead of us on this issue and I need to pick their brains.

As you can see, we love this community and want the best for all of its citizens. It has so much going for it.

Next time I will introduce myself and tell you what prompted me to run.

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.

Ron Rachut



Letters to the Editor:

I look forward to another year of the Reminder. Christy (Suby) Wass

Do so enjoy the photos and history articles about Fertile and the folks who lived there. Good memories! Mary Myers

Enclosed is a check for renewing our subscription to the Fertile Reminder. Thank you to everyone who works to make it such a joy to get and read! Darrell and Marilyn Bang

Thank You to everyone for Voting for us in the Fertile City Council Election. We very much appreciate it and can't wait to get to work helping our Mayor make Fertile an even better place to live! Sincerely, Ron Rachut 641-797-2811 & Cindy Peters 641-797-2944

The holidays are fast approaching and before we know it will be gone for another year. We get very busy with our families and the hustle and bustle of it all.

Be sure to remember those that have no families close by or can't get out to any festivities. Give them a call to let them know someone cares. Stop by and visit them and if you have Christmas goodies, take some along. Send a card to let them know you care. Offer to take them to the church program or other festivity. You will never know how much it means to them.

The Food Bank is a good place of giving as more and more people are using it. When you buy groceries, throw in something extra to go to the food bank, you will never miss it!!

Whatever you do, please remember the reason for Christmas!!

GARDEN CLUB

Garden Club met on November 10th with 12 members answering roll call "What are you thankful for?"

We voted for a new set of flags for the next summer season as the old ones needed replacing. We have 4 sets of 10 flags for 4 seasons. Elected officers for the coming year are as follows:

President - Twylah Kragel

V. President - Deb Berg

Secretary- Ginny Lovik

Treasurer - Carol Jara

Our Christmas Party, will be a catered dinner at the Fertile Mill on December 8th. Cindy Peters will find someone to cater it. Two husbands from the club will serve it.

Christmas cards were signed for shut-ins and older people in our town.

Deb Berg and Cindy Peters served a delicious lunch.

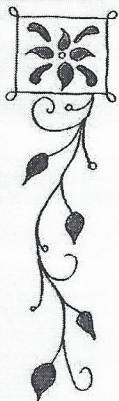
There will be no meetings in January and February.

Betty Waddington, Reporter

Silence is golden but duct tape is silver.

You're getting older when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.

Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?



NORWEGIAN BLESSING

May da ruts always fit da wheels
in your pickup.
May yur ear muffs always keep out
da nort wind.
May da sun shine varm on yur lefse.
May da rain fall soft on yur lutefisk.
And until ve meet again,
May da Good Lord protect ya from
any and all unnecessary Uff Das.

FERTILE TOWN

Author unknown

Turn from the Highway and travel down
To that inland village, that "Fertile" town.
Drive down the hill to the village street,
Where the winding stream and the timber meet,
For this village street was an Indian trail
As the pioneers tell the old, old tale;
And the winding stream still bears the name
Of the "Winnebago's," who hunted their game
And fished this stream where the lilies grown
In the Indian days of long ago

Drive down the street to the "Old Red Mill",
The water wheel's turning, the mill wheel's still.
And the oaks are there, along the stream
Where the settlers fed many an oxen team;
And the cabin is there, the pioneer's home
In the days when the Indians liked to roam
Along this stream from the big bend down,
For this valley was then their "hunting ground"
And the Indian scares and of wolves galore,
There are hair-raising tales round the village
store.

The railroad came, but missed this place,
And the village was out of the world's last race
If neighboring places had spread and grown
This pretty village has held its own,
For down through the years these kindly folks
Have weathered the storm like the grand old
oaks.
There are plenty of towns near a railroad track,
But this village has something that they all lack;
Sometimes in the summer, why, just drive
through
You'll love this old village, the same as I do.

Copied from a 1980's Reminder.

The probability of meeting someone
you know increases a hundredfold
when you're with someone you're
not supposed to be seen with.



Creamy Chicken Wild Rice Soup {Slow Cooker}

- 1 cup uncooked wild rice blend
- 1 # boneless, skinless chicken breast
- 1 cup onions, chopped
- ¾ cup celery, chopped
- ¾ cup carrots, chopped
- 4-5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 bay leaves
- 6 cups low sodium chicken broth
- 2 cups water
- 2 tablespoons salt-free poultry seasoning
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons olive oil (or substitute more butter)
- ½ cup all purpose flour
- 2 cups milk (see note)
- salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

Rinse the rice under running water. Place the uncooked rice, chicken breast, onions, celery, carrots, garlic, bay leaves, chicken broth, water, and poultry seasoning in a slow cooker. Cover and cook on the high setting for 3-4 hours or on the low setting for 7-8. In the last ½ hour of cooking, remove the chicken from the slow cooker. Allow to cool slightly before shredding using two forks. When the rice is done cooking, add the shredded chicken back into the slow cooker. Melt the butter and oil in a saucepan. Add the flour and let the mixture cook for 1 minute. Whisk the mixture slowly while adding in the milk until all lumps have dissolved. Allow the mixture to thicken and become creamy. Add this creamy mixture to the slow cooker. Stir to combine. Add additional water or milk to your preference if the consistency is too thick. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Crockpot Candy (Easy recipe....)

- 2lbs lightly salted dry roasted peanuts....
 - Milk Chocolate Morsels 1bag (12 oz)....
 - Bakers German Sweet Chocolate 1 block (full 4 oz pkg)....
 - Almond Bark 1 block (full 24 oz pkg)....
- Put the above in crock pot on low just like that, leave for 3 hrs. Mix all together and spoon in cupcake holders and let cool, that's it!!!

Mounds Bars with just 3 ingredients

- Melted milk chocolate or dark chocolate
 - 3 cups coconut flakes
 - 1 cup condensed milk
- Mix the shredded coconut with condensed milk, mold into oblong shape, add them to freezer for 20 minutes and then dip them in melted chocolate.
Stick Almonds in them and have Almond Joys
Be creative!!!!

Q: What do Black Friday shoppers and the Thanksgiving turkey have in common?

A: They know what it's like to be jammed into a small place and stuffed!

New Year Resolutions

Good resolutions are simply checks that men draw on a bank where they have no account.
Oscar Wilde

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LENNOX

THE OLD PATHS

I liked the old paths, when
Moms were at home.
Dads were at work.
Brothers went into the army.
And sisters got married BEFORE having
children!

Crime did not pay;
Hard work did;
And people knew the difference.

Moms could cook;
Dads would work;
Children would behave.

Husbands were loving;
Wives were supportive;
And children were polite.

Women wore the jewelry;
And Men wore the pants.

Women looked like ladies;
Men looked like gentlemen;
And children looked decent.

People loved the truth,
And hated a lie.

Hymns sounded Godly;
Sermons sounded helpful;
Rejoicing sounded normal;
And crying sounded sincere.

Cursing was wicked;
Drugs were for illness.

The flag was honored;
America was beautiful;
And God was welcome!

We read the Bible in public;
Prayed in school;
And preached from house to house.

To be called an American was worth dying for;
To be called an American was worth living for;
To be called a traitor was a shame!

I still like the old paths the best!



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The Yellow Line Painter

A road crew supervisor in Minnesota hired Ole to paint the yellow line down the middle of route 32 heading up toward Bemidji. The supervisor was skeptical about hiring him since Ole didn't have any painting background, but he appeared enthusiastic and he told the supervisor that he really needed the job. At least his wife Lena told him so.

He explained to Ole that his work for the day would be to complete 2 miles of centerline on the road. He was set up with brushes and paint and his boss got him started.

After the first day, the supervisor was pleased to find that he'd painted 4 miles of road in his 8 hour shift, instead of the two expected of him. He told Ole that he did an excellent job and said how pleased he was with his progress.

On the second day, Ole completed painting just the 2 miles of road that was asked of him. His supervisor was surprised, because on the first day, he had completed twice as much work. But he didn't say anything, since 2 miles of road was the amount that the job required anyway. He decided to just accept it, and to look forward to the next day when he was sure that Ole would pick up the pace again.

On day 3, the supervisor was disappointed to learn that in his 8 hour shift, Ole completed painting only 1 mile of road.

Ole was called to the supervisor's office and asked what was the problem. "On your first day, you completed 4 miles of road, on your second day, 2 miles of road, and now on day 3, you were only able to complete 1 mile of road. What's the problem, Ole?"

"Vell," Ole replied, "I'll tell you vut is da problem, but I tought a smart man like you vould figger it out fer yourself. Every day I get farder and farder away from da paint can."

Fertile Lutheran Church
602 W. Washington Box 215
Fertile, IA 50434
Pastor David Halverson
641-797-2767

Dec. 2nd S.S. and confirmation class-ring the bell for Salvation Army- meet at church at 4:00pm

Dec. 17th: Mary Circle 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 20th: S.S. program during 9:30 a.m. service, with coffee fellowship following

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve service 4:30 pm

Dec. 27th and Jan 3rd: No Sunday School

Dec. 28th: Ruth Circle 7:00 pm

Jan 8-10th: Quake conference for confirmands

Sunday Worship Service 9:30 am



Peace
On
Earth

PILOT KNOB LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rural Forest City

Pastor Robert Snitzer

Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

Fertile Church of Christ

Pastor Rob Perry

Sunday School - 9:00 am

Fellowship Time - 9:55 am

Worship - 10:15 am

Wed. Youth and Teen Groups - 7:00 pm

**Christmas Program & Holiday
Chill/Oyster fellowship**

Sunday - December 20th @ 6:00 PM

Christmas Eve Service

Thursday - December 24th @ 5:00 PM

Celebration Community Church

805 10th Ave. North, Clear Lake Iowa 50428

PASTOR DAN MILLER

Coming up:

December 6th - 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Caroling

December 12th - 5:30 Too-oo-oo-oo Busy!

Children's Christmas program

December 24th - 4:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship - 9:45 a.m.

Praise and Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

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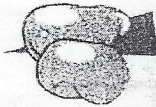
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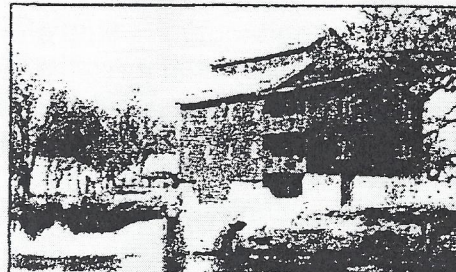
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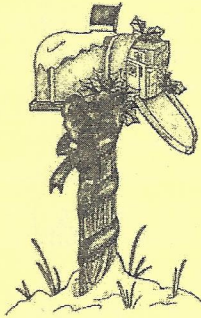
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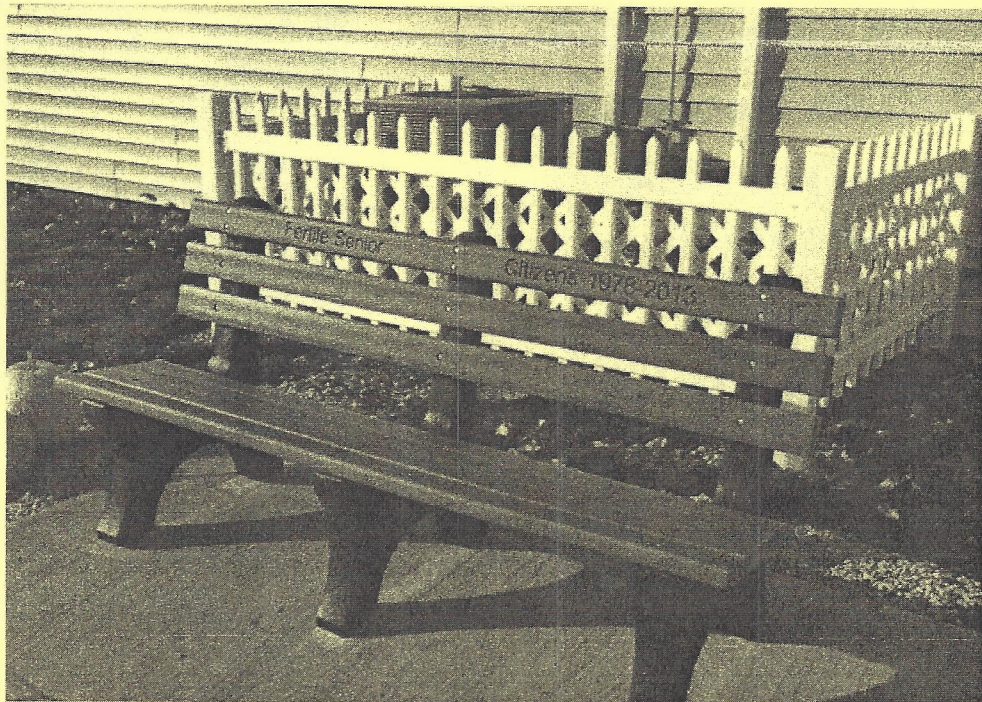


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This new bench has been placed in front of the Fertile Library by the Senior Citizen group that is no longer. The Inscription says FERTILE SENIOR CITIZENS 1978 – 2013. Thank you to the Senior Citizens.