

Fertile Reminder

August
1985



LAURIE BUCHANAN, daughter of Jane and Al Ramon of Fertile, was selected as Miss Fertile of 1985. She will represent the town in the Worth County Fair queen contest set for July 25 in Northwood.

Laurie Buchanan named Miss Fertile of 1985

Laurie Buchanan has been selected to represent the town of Fertile in the Worth county fair queen contest.

The pageant will be held during the county fair in Northwood set for July 25. Winner of the pageant will compete in the Iowa State Fair queen contest.

A junior at North Central high school, Laurie is a member of Manly's girls

softball team, concert band and jazz band and Grant Livewire Lassies 4-H club. She participates in speech and drama in high school.

This summer she is working at Happy Chef in Clear Lake.

Laurie is the daughter of Jane and Al Ramon and the granddaughter of Ed Buchanan, all of Fertile.

FERTILE VILLAGE

Upon sections 34 and 35 of Fertile Township is located one of the several prosperous villages of Worth County--that of Fertile. The postoffice at Fertile was established in 1868 and William Rhodes was appointed postmaster. He kept the office at his dwelling and here received mail once each week from Mason City, by way of Rock postoffice in Cerro Gordo County. After a year the Office was discontinued and for another year the settlers were without it. Then it was re-established with Ole Ouverson as postmaster. Andrew Grove was the second postmaster after the re-establishment.

Fertile was platted in 1877 and the plat filed at the county courthouse on August 21st of that year. Thomas Emsley, of Mason City, was the owner of the town site and sold the first lot thereon to Grove and Kirk on October 5, 1877. The town itself really dates from the first settlement of the township, when William Rhodes came in and erected his frame house on the site. Then came William K. Fankell and E.S. Winans.

The story has been told that a land speculator once owned some land near the village site in previous years and persuaded some map-drawers to locate a town on their chart, which he pretended was laid out on section 34, and called Fontanelle. The surrounding settlers gave the paper village the name of "Putsey".

The first store in the village was opened by Ole Ouverson in 1872, occupying a small frame building. In 1874 K. Paulson was admitted as a partner. The latter, though, remained but a year, then sold back his interest to Ouverson and returned to Wisconsin, whence he came. Ouverson conducted the business alone until the fall of 1875, when he sold out to the firm of Grove & Kirk, who increased the scope of the business. Grove, as postmaster, conducted the office in this store. In October, 1882, K. Paulson commenced business here and erected a store building of frame. Halver Ouverson began the blacksmithing trade in Fertile in 1875. Gunder K. Daley, however, erected the first shop here in 1870. The latter's first shop was 12 by 14 feet and 10 feet high. This constituted the first business activities of Fertile Village.

Fertile was incorporated April 17, 1908, and the following officers elected: E.M. Lang, mayor; A.A. Elthon, P.J. Ouverson, J.A. Johnson, J.A. Ellefson, O.H. Rholl, councilmen; C. Eikenberry, clerk; J.F. Rhodes, treasurer; G.A. Rye, assessor.

A postoffice called Nordland was established in Fertile Township in the spring of 1879 at the house of Simon Larson, on section 8. Mails were brought by himself and neighbors from Fertile until October, 1879, when a mail route was started from Bristol to Fertile. Larson continued in charge of the office until January, 1880, when L.W. Bilstad had the office at his house, on section 7. Asle K. Rank next held the office. However, the coming of the rural free delivery routes caused this small office and many others like it to be abolished.

FOREST CITY COW PALACE	582-4646	PETAL SHOPPE	357-5030
Auction every Wednesday		FREE Delivery to Hospitals	357-5026
		1714 7th Ave.N, Clear Lake	
J & W UPHOLSTERY	797-2457		
Upholstery--Auto Body		CREAMERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE	797-9685
Jean & Wayne Roberts		Specializing in Good Food	
FIRST STATE BANK	896-2265		
Serving North Iowa		FERTILE FEED SERVICE	797-2242
Hanlontown, Kensett & Plymouth		Complete Livestock Needs	
Main Office--Manly		Softner Salt, Dog & Cat Food	
CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD	797-2703		
Lannie Hanson, Dist. Mgr.		LARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING	797-2219
Now Serving S. Minnesota			
& N. Iowa. "Have a Party			
With Us."			

We publish 320 copies of the Reminder each month. So far in 1985 we have received donations from about 90 of you. If you enjoy receiving it please send a \$3.00 donation to Fertile Reminder, Box , Fertile, Ia.

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Congratulations to Mike & Ruth Wolfe on being designated a Century Farmer. Mike & Ruth will be honored at the Iowa State Fair on Wednesday, Aug. 21st, 1985 at 2 p.m. on the stage in Walnut Square at the fair grounds. We will have a story & pictures in next months paper.

* * * * *

The descendants of Ed & Lola Humphrey met at the Tourist Park in Garner, Iowa on Sun. July 7. The group meets the first Sunday of July every year. There were fifty five relatives in attendance. Towns represented were: Joice, Clear Lake, Forest City, Osage, Mason City, Miller, Lake Mills, Humbolt, Ventura, Crystal Lake, and Garner.

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Jass, Blue Earth, Minn., Kathy Petersburg, Austin Minn., Lola Humphrey, Phoenix, Ariz., Jackie & Deon Logan, Peoria, Ariz., and Donna Heivilin, Arlington, Virg., were out of state guests.

The next reunion will be July 6, of 1986.

John Humphrey, Garner and Nellie Humphrey Loats, Mason City, are children of Ed & Lola Humphrey.

* * * * *

Does anyone have a 1959 year book they would be willing to part with. Barry Orcutt (son of Bernard Orcutt) would love to locate one. 1959 is the year he would have graduated if he had stayed in Fertile. He moved with his mother to Clear Lake due to the death of his father in 1955. If anyone has one, Barry's address is:

Barry Orcutt
2124 Euclid Ave.
Beloit, Wisconsin 53511

Or call his Mom - Mrs. Merle Otis, rest City, Iowa.

* * * * *

Loren Hoffman
"You Don't Know Me"



1957

Be sure to start planning for our craft Fair, Nov. 23rd, at the Community center. We hope to set up craft tables in the gym this year, so call your name in early. 797-2267 or 797-2496

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Thank you to Randy & Laura Shropshire, for keeping the lawn at the Community Center mowed this summer. If anyone else would like to donate some time, there is a lot of other jobs that need to be done.

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The next Surplus Government Commodities Day is August 15th, from 1:00 to 5:00. New Guidelines, same as July.

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Buffalo meat for sale. Hanging quarters, corn fed. \$1.60 for hinds, \$1.40 for fronts.

Dale Hyde -- 797-2210

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ELECTROLUX PRODUCTS: bags, shampoo. Free delivery to Clear Lake Office on any model of vacuum for repair. In-home free demonstrations of all Electrolux models.

Phone 797-2480, Joan Sunde

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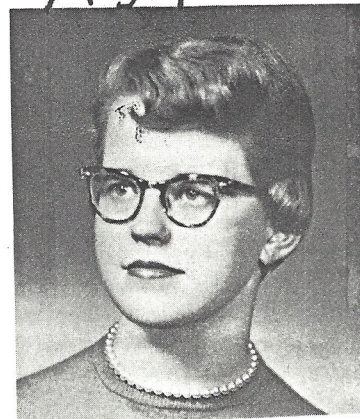
Music for receptions, Parties, etc.

Have portable Keyboard

Call 797-2210 * * * Sheilah Hyde

Ellamae Oswald,
daughter of Mr. and Mrs.
Roland Oswald, was born
on June 12, 1939.
Band 1234; Class Play 34;
Basketball 123; Speech 34;
Class Officer 34; Smoke
Signals 3; Annual Staff 4.

1957



"The Old Home Town"

What's happened to the old Home Town?
The old familiar places are all torn down.
The old friendly faces we used to meet
Are never seen on the Home Town Street.
The bank is closed and faded away
And an Implement building is on display.
The Corner Store has disappeared
And the Locker has been there for several years.
We don't have the Drug Store anymore
The Post Office has been moved up to the door.
The old Elthon Store still looks the same
But several times it has changed it's name.
But the inside surely gives you a shock
To see the new arrangement of the stock.
The Alumni Banquet is always held here
And the Alumni come from far and near.
They look on the new building with a sad sigh
While their thoughts turn back to good Old
Fertile High.

Where is the milk man that walked the street?
You can't tell me that that milk can be beat.
It was wholesome, clean and brought to your door
And if you needed it, you could always have more.
The Lutheran Church is changed, that's true
But the same old spiral stands against the blue.
There was a barn where the dray horses stood
And that was built of native wood.
But someone decided to tear it down
They thought it would improve the looks of the
town.

And to take it's place with it's color and cheer
Is one of the many new homes built here.
The side walks have all been torn up too
And most of them have been put in new.
The foot bridge broke and fell into the creek
But a new one was built so slim and sleek.
And the big bridge too, with it's roof of steel
Is replaced by a wider one for automobiles.
We used to could see almost to the store
By standing in our own front door.

But there's so many new houses and garages too
That it's even hard for fresh air to get through
The Old Red Mill, that stood by the stream
To most of us now is just a dream.
It's been partly torn down and parts added new
And it's face has been lifted with white paint
too.
The Creamery has been juggled, twisted and
turned
And no butter there is churned.
The Hardware Store moved across the street
It's not a man's hardware, it's a ladies treat.
For it's full of china and what-nots and such
And a big sign says, "Please do not touch".
The old friendly faces we loved so to meet
Have either passed on or are off the street.
The shrubs and the trees that once were small
Have grown so high and very tall.
"Time Marches On", the poets say
And we find it flying day after day.
We know that progress surely must be
To make this country better for you and me
But the memories we hold so very dear
Are the things we remember of yesteryear.

Written by Mrs. Violet Hall
Nov. 2nd, 1959



BUS DRIVERS
Loris Scobee, Max Nye
Bert Lee, Bud Jenkins

1962

JUNE BALANCE SHEET

Expenditures

The Fertile City Council met July 2. Motion to appoint a mayor to fill the post left vacant by the resignation of Larry Shropshire. Motion that JoAnn Bailey be appointed mayor. Carried. Bailey sworn in as mayor by the clerk. Motion that Jean VanDenBosch be appointed to fill the term of Bailey. Carried. VanDenBosch sworn in as council member.

Council members present were Hare, Hall, Schultze, Peterson and VanDenBosch. Also present were Tom & Kathy Kirschbaum, David Low, Henry Thompson and Leonard Bailey.

Minutes of previous meeting were read.

Motion to appoint Mark Schultze as mayor pro tem. Carried.

Council discussed junk car ordinance & enforcement.

Bids were opened on the replacement of the roof at the Fire Dept. One bid of \$4245.00 was received from Fertile Lbr. & Hdwe. Motion to accept this bid. Carried, Hall not voting.

Kirschbaum discussed work done on horseshoe courts in park. Pits needed to have covers. Motion to pay half the cost of the covers. Carried.

David Low was present to see if Council wanted to renew his contract. Motion to renew his contract for 1 yr. at \$340 per month. Carried.

Council received a letter from Worth Co. Conservation Comm. No action can be taken.

Bids on the city's insurance will be taken at the August meeting.

Various problems regarding the ball diamond were discussed.

Council received a resignation of Edna Pederson from the Library Board. Motion to accept Pederson's resignation and appoint Sue Lee to the board. Carried.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

Discussion on patching streets. Motion to have Peterson get a tire for the patching machine. Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare	216.88
Evelyn Knudsen	234.28
David Low	281.13
Dick Sheimo	569.07
Peoples Natural Gas	68.23
Treas-State of Iowa	94.24
Waste Systems Corp.	603.00
Ipers	113.66
Winn. RTA	60.13
City of Fertile	51.00
Interstate Power Co.	579.82
Evelyn Knudsen	30.00
Larsen P & Htg.	23.10
Fertile Lbr. & Hdwe.	27.18
Worsley Electric	16.47
Glen Purcell	15.00
Loren Hoffman	31.50
Vesta Kuns	15.00
Jordan's	67.29
U.S. Envelope Agency	242.40
Christian Bookstore	19.66
Better Homes & Gardens	18.91
Bro Dart	23.32
B. Dalton	171.92
Creative Ideas	13.95
Glamour	15.00
Country Home	12.00
Interstate Equipment	1,139.30
Larry Shropshire	325.00
Ideals	15.95
Christian Bookstore	18.83
Postmaster	22.20
Henry Thompson	701.58
Ipers FOAB	32.73
Evelyn Knudsen	226.81
Postmaster	20.00
Christian Bookstore	9.85
B. Dalton	149.46
T. Bouregy & Co.	42.80
Doubleday	12.24
Baker & Taylor	23.87
NCRLS	791.50
Data File	686.00
Bro Dart	11.20
Total	7,843.27

TOTAL RECEIPTS 7,098.18

Janice Hare
City Clerk



Allen
Haugen



Mary
Petersburg



Debbie
Sheimo



Tom
Kerschbaum



Dennis
Lee



Lisa
Overson

Grades 2 + 3 1950



1st Row; G. Johnson, L. Oувerson, B. Orcutt, L. Torkelson, L. Burtness,
D. Clapper, J. Miller, J. Hill,
2nd Row; W. Wescott, C. Pierce, G. Hall, J. Haugen, D. Vaage, B. Tweed,
J. Fankell, E. Kerschbaum, Teacher Mrs. Sanderson
3rd Row; T. Oувerson, D. Hunter, N. Oувerson, D. McEnelly, S. Purcell,
J. Jenkins, J. Hepperly, R. Lee, L. Lindquist,
absent; G. Oувerson, P. Oувerson, E. Hoffman, S. Felland,

Competed in state Miss Teen competition

Tracy Stephenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Alton of Fertile, was among the candidates competing for the title of Miss Teen of Iowa at the annual state pageant in Newton July 19-20.

Winner of the pageant received a \$1,000 scholarship to the school or university of her choice as well as a host of merchandise prizes. She also received an all-expenses paid trip to the national pageant finals in October where she will be joined by the remaining 49 state-title-holders as they compete for the title of Miss Teen of America.

All candidates were judged in six competition areas including service and achievement to school and community, scholastic record, personal development, poise and personality projection in formal wear and personality as determined by judges interview.

The candidates also took a written awareness test designed to measure their general awareness of the world around them.

Official charity of the pageant was the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Tracy was being sponsored in the pageant by the merchants of Fertile and family and friends.



TRACY STEPHENSON



WOODWIND QUARTET

Elizabeth Elthon
Pattie Purcell
Cindy Midtgaard
Joan Scobee

1962

A LITTLE TOWN IS

A little town is where you don't have to guess who your enemies are. Your friends will tell you.

A little town is the only place on earth where people past middle age are called by the first names when they saunter down the street.

A little town is where everybody knows everybody else's car by sight..and also where and when it goes.

A little town is where few people can get away from lying about the year they were born. Too many other people can remember them.

A little town is where people with various ailments can air them properly for sympathetic ears.

A little town is where, when you get the wrong number, you can talk for 15 minutes anyhow, if you want to.

A little town is where the ratio of good people to bad people is something like 100 to 1. That's nice to remember.

A little town is where it is hard for anybody to walk to work for exercise because it takes too long to stop and explain to people in cars who stop, honk, and offer a ride.

A little town is somewhat like a big family...ornery distant cousins, relatives and all.

A little town is where city folks say there is nothing to do, but those who live there don't have enough nights in the week to make all the meetings and social functions.

A little town is where everyone becomes a "neighbor" in time of need.

A little town is where businessmen struggle for survival against city stores and shopping centers.

A little town is where those same businessmen dig deep many times to help with countless fund-raising projects.

A little town is where you don't have to lock your door every time you leave the house.

A little town is where many teenagers say there's nothing to do and then are surprised to learn that their big-city peers are saying the same thing.

A little town when all is said and done, is a nice place to live.

Thanks to Glea Hall for this Article!

LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

FAMILY WORSHIP

*(Note change of time)

(F) 10:30 a.m. (PK) 9:00 a.m.

CIRCLE MEETINGS

(PK)Ruth 8/20-7:30 Esther Gardalen
(PK)Esther 8/21-9:00 Breakfast Out
(F) Rest Home Visitations

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FERTILE LUMBER & HARDWARE 797-2437
Rent the Rug Doctor

BURTNESS PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2680

HOFFMAN CRAFTS 797-2714
701 West Main

OLD MILL ANTIQUES 797-2490

PRONTO MARKET 797-2220
Gas and Groceries

PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON 797-2422
Styling for Men & Women

K & R SERVICE 797-2440

RAY SANDIFER - TOM'S SALES 797-2681

RIVERSIDE CAFE 797-2645
Daily 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday Night Fish or Chicken
& Salad Bar - 5:30 to 9:30

WORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494

FLOWERS BY McCOY--Forest City 582-4517
Flowers for all occasions

JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE 797-2677
Complete Automotive Service

STORK NEWS

The Fertile Garden Club met Tues July 9 at the Community Center at 10:30 a.m. to form a four car caravan to visit five member's gardens located within the city. A noon meal of her choice was enjoyed at the new, redecorated Riverside Cafe in Fertile.

The group then continued on to visit nine more member's gardens in the rural area. Many gardens showed special care and productivity in both vegetables and flowers.

The temperature was in the 90's so the return to the Community Center for cooling refreshments was most welcome.

Mildred McGrath and Harriet Ouverson were the hostesses.

This meeting has been an incentive for better kept gardens but could be improved by much needed rain!

The next meeting will be Aug 13, 2 p.m. at the Community Center.

Harriet Ouverson
Reporter

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The horse shoe court in the William Rhodes Park has been updated. Looking for women, men & children to pitch in competition. Come and watch a lost art. The next horse shoe pitching competition is Sunday, July 28 at 1:30. Watch for dates in Aug & Sept. You May pick up horse shoes at the Creamery Restaurant and Lounge.

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PRONTO MARKET would like to take this opportunity to thank all that came to our Grand Opening and a special thanks to those who sent flowers and balloons. Winners of the prizes were: 1 nights use of VCR and 2 movies - Ann Rasmusson and Deena Biretz; Pronto Cooler - Bill Sellers; 1 case of pop - Jane Ramon; Hats - Ron almelien, Merle Tuttle, Cindy Suby, Matt Modeland and Rick Sandifer.

Gary Juhl - Owner

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July 12, a Boy, 7lbs. 9oz. to Darwin and Marti Lee. He has been named Ryan Robert. Grandparents are: Mrs. Arliene Lee, Fertile, Mrs. Doris Seifert, J...e, Mr. & Mrs. Wallie Swenson, Lake Mills. Great Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Martin Christensen, Lake Mills.

July 19, a Girl, to Rick & Cynthia Kofron. She has been named Mandi Ann. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Ed Purcell, Mason City, and Mr. & Mrs. Bernie Kofron, Forest City.

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An open house to celebrate our First Birthday will be held at Teddy Bear Learning Center, on Fri. Aug. 9 from 4 to 6 p.m. Everyone - Young or Old, is invited to see our center and share cake and punch with us. See you then!
Betty & Penny

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ANTIQUA AUCTION
Saturday, August 10th
1:00 p.m.
Violet Hall & Roger Humphrey