

Fertile Reminder

March
1985

4th Annual
Variety Show

Lunch

Served

Sat.
March 30
at
7:30 P.M.

Great
Entertainment

Proceeds go to
Community Center

Before noting the manner in which Worth County was organized, it is well to consider briefly some of the events preceding its organization. When President Jefferson, on March 1, 1804, approved the act of Congress providing for the exercise of sovereignty over Louisiana, the territory now comprising the County of Worth came for the first time under the jurisdiction of the United States. The act provided that from and after October 1, 1804, all that part of the Province of Louisiana lying south of the thirty-first parallel of North latitude should be known as the Territory of Orleans, and that portion north of that parallel as the District of Louisiana. In the latter was included the present State of Iowa. The District of Louisiana was placed under the jurisdiction of the Territory of Indiana, of which Gen. William H. Harrison was then governor.

On July 4, 1805, the District of Louisiana was organized as a separate territory and given a government of its own. When the Territory of Orleans was admitted into the Union in 1812 as the State of Louisiana, the name of the northern district was changed to the Territory of Missouri. In 1821 Missouri was admitted into the Union with its present boundaries, and all north of that state was left without any form of civil government whatever. No one seems to have given the matter any thought at that time, probably for the reason that the only white people in that region were a few wandering hunters and trappers, or the agents of the different fur companies, all of whom were more interested in the profits of their occupations than they were in establishing permanent settlements and paying taxes to support a government.

On June 28, 1834, President Jackson approved an act of Congress attaching the present State of Iowa to the Territory of Michigan, which then included all the country between Lake Huron westward to the Missouri River. By this act Iowa came under the jurisdiction of Michigan and the Legislature of that territory divided Iowa into two counties, as stated in the preceding chapter.

Iowa continued as a part of Michigan for less than two years. On April 20, 1836, President Jackson approved the act creating the Territory of Wisconsin, to take effect on July 4, 1836. Gen. Henry Dodge was appointed governor of the new territory, which embraced the present State of Wisconsin and all the territory west of the Mississippi River formerly included in or attached to Michigan. Pursuant to Governor Dodge's proclamation, the first election ever held on Iowa soil was held on October 3, 1836, for members of the Wisconsin Territorial Legislature.

TERRITORY OF IOWA

A census of Wisconsin, taken in 1836, showed that there were then 10,531 white people living in what is now the State of Iowa. During the twelve months following the taking of that census there was a rapid increase in the population, and early in the fall of 1837 the question of dividing the territory and establishing a new one west of the Mississippi became a subject of engrossing interest to the people living west of the great river. The sentiment in favor of a new territory found definite expression in a convention held at Burlington on November 3, 1837, which adopted a memorial to Congress asking for the erection of a new territory west of the Mississippi. In response to this expression of the popular sentiment, Congress passed an act dividing Wisconsin and establishing the Territory of Iowa. The act was approved by President Van Buren on June 12, 1838, and it became effective on the 3rd of July following. The boundaries of Iowa as fixed by the act included "All that part of the Territory of Wisconsin which lies west of the Mississippi River and west of a line drawn due north from the headwater or sources of the Mississippi to the northern boundary of the Territory of the United States".

President Van Buren appointed Robert Lucas, of Ohio, as the first territorial governor of Iowa; William B. Conway, of Pennsylvania, secretary; Charles Mason, of Burlington, chief justice; Thomas S. Wilson, of Dubuque, and Joseph Williams, of Pennsylvania, associate justices; Isaac Van Allen, of New York, district attorney; Francis Gehon, of Dubuque, United States marshal. The white people living west of the Mississippi now had a government of their own, though by far the greater part of the new territory was still in the hands of the Indians.

WED 30 YEARS - Dale Hyde, Clear Lake, Iowa, was married to Sheilah Lynch, Sussex, Encland, on March 17, 1955, at the church of St. Theresa, Burnaby, B.C., Canada. He was a medic in the U.S. Navy stationed at Astoria, Oregon. She was employed at Burnaby General Hospital. After his 4 years were completed, they started farming near Clear Lake. Eight children were born - Delia, Debra, (who died in infancy), Donna, Patrick, Michael, June, Jeff and Jamie. There are four grandchildren.

40th ANNIVERSARY - Harold Ouverson and Ruth B. Smidt were married March 7, 1945, at the United Methodist Church in Forest City by the Rev. C. H. Petterson. They lived in Forest City for one year and then moved to Fertilewhere they have lived for 39 years. Harold has farmed and for the past 28 years has operated Ouverson Oil Co. They are parents of 3 children: Mike, 34, a State Law Enforcement Officer for the State Conservation Commission stationed at Dubuque; Terry, 33, an Office Supervisor for the EPA in Washington, D.C. Terry is married - he and his wife, Dixie, have one daughter, Jennifer age 5; and Kristine, 22, a senior at Minnesota Bible College, Rochester, MN.

PETAL SHOPPE	357-5030
FREE Delivery to Hospitals	357-5026
1714 7th Ave. N, Clear Lake	
FERTILE LUMBER & HARDWARE	797-2437
Rent the Rug Doctor	
BURTNES PLUMBING & HEATING	797-2680
HOFFMAN CRAFTS	797-2714
701 West Main	
PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON	797-2422
Styling for Men & Women	
K & R SERVICE	797-2440
RAY SANDIFER--TOM'S SALES	797-2681
FLOWERS BY McCOY - Forest City	582-4517
Flowers for Every Occasion	
JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE	797-2677
Complete Automotive Service	
FOREST CITY COW PALACE	582-4646
Auction Every Wednesday	

WORSLEY ELECTRIC	797-2494
J & W UPHOLSTERY	797-2457
Upholstery--Auto Body	
Jean & Wayne Roberts	
FIRST STATE BANK	896-2265
Serving North Iowa	
Hanlontown, Kensett & Plymouth	
Main Office -- Manly	
CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD	797-2703
Area Headquarters	
Christmas Decorations from	
12 Countries	
Lannie Hansen, Supervisor	

AMUSEMENTS 1905

Although the pioneers has the hardships and privations it must not be imagined for a moment that their lives were utterly devoid of relaxation or entertainment. A popular social function in a new settlement was the "house warming". A new cabin was hardly considered fit to live in until it has been properly dedicated. In almost every frontier settlement there was at least one man who could play the violin. When the new house was ready for occupancy the fiddler was called into requisition and the cabin would give forth a "sound of revelry by night". On these occasions no fox trot, tango or hesitation waltz was seen, but the Virginia Reel, the stately minuet or the old-fashioned cotillion, in which someone called the "figures", were very much in evidence. The music furnished may not have been classic but the old-time fiddler could make his violin respond to such airs as "The Bowery gals", "Money Musk", "Step Light, Ladies" and "Turkey in the Straw", and what he lacked in artistic training, he made up in the vigor of his execution. If the settler who owned the cabin has acruples against dancing, some other form of amusement was substituted, but the house had to be "warmed" by some sort of frolic before the family took possession.

Then there was the "husking bee" commonly called a "corn husking" in which pleasure and profit were combined. After the invitations to the schucking were sent out, the farmer divided his corn into two piles as nearly equal in size as possible. When the guests arrived, two of them would

March 7th 1945



Mike - Terry Kris
Ruth - Harold

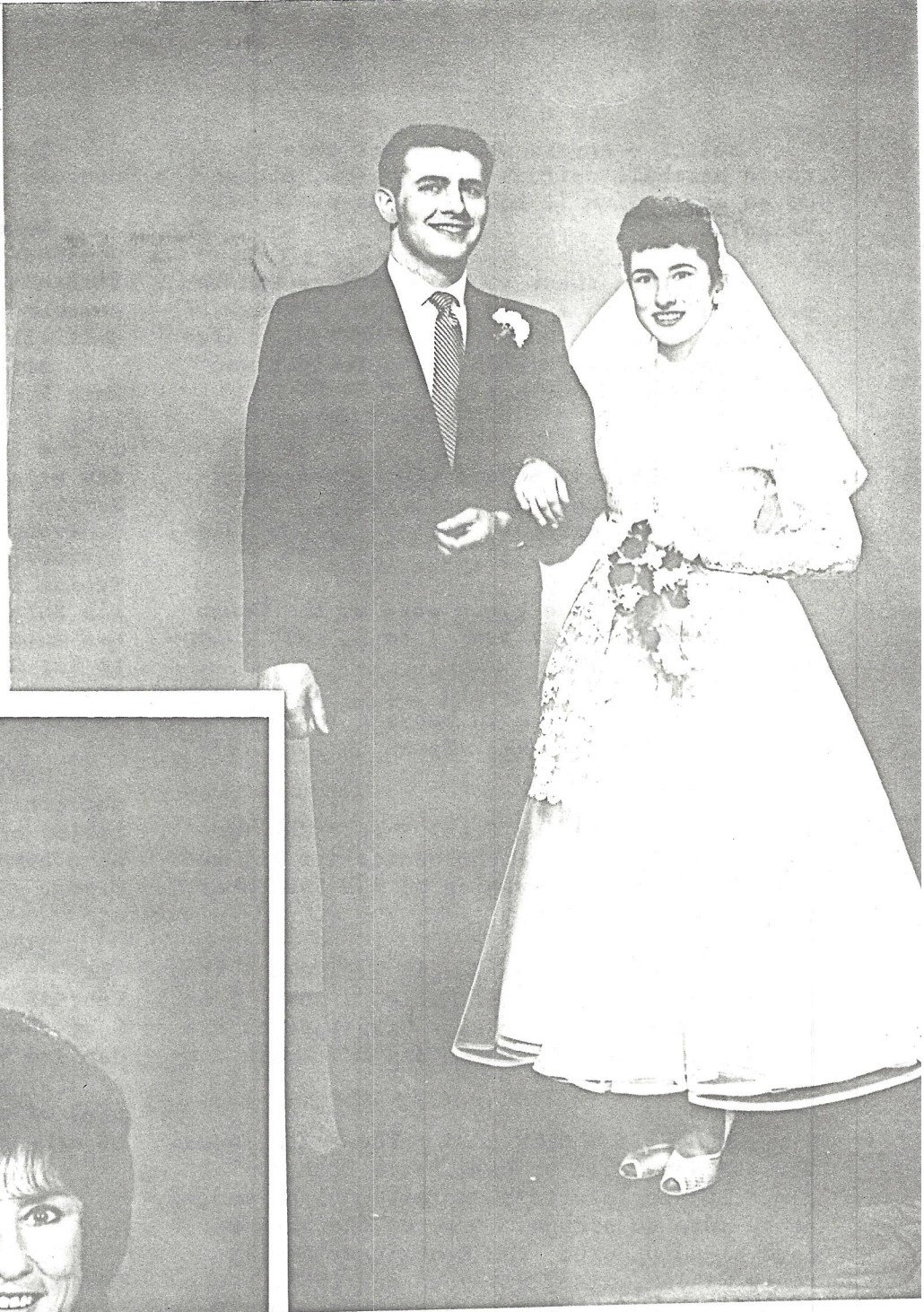


DIXIE Jennie Terry



Jennie
1984

30th
Anniversary
Dale and Sheila
Hyde



March 17th
1955

Kiefer's

NOTICE - Anyone who did not turn in their baseball uniform last season, please do so now. Give it to Val Wills or Twylah Kragel.

A sincere thank you to everyone who remembered me with a card, a visit, flowers, gifts and prayers while I was at NIMC. Also thank you to all friends and relatives who brought food to our home.

Reva Nelson

FOR SALE; 1978 Ford LTD, power steering, power brakes, air conditioning, all new tires, all new exhaust system. 38,000 miles, very good condition, \$3,200, 797-2785.

Cheese will be given away at the Community Center March 14 from 1 to 5, same guidelines.

Wanted - Someone to babysit in my home one or two days a week. Karen Swalve, 797-2762.

Thank you to the Petal Shoppe for furnishing the corsage & boutonniere for Ray and Lorraine Bakke the evening of the Sweetheart Dance.

STORK NEWS - Boy, Justin William, 4 lbs. 15 oz. and Girl, Heather Marie, 4 lbs., 7 oz. to Bruce & Shirrie Gerdes. Grandparents are M/M Willie Gerdes of Woden and M/M Ernie Henning of Fertile.

COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS - The Fifth Annual Variety Show will be held March 30th at 7:30 p.m. It promises to be a fast-moving evening, so be sure to attend. Some of the acts we have lined up are: the Krutsinger Family; Penny Miller, Nancy Ouverson and their young people's group; the Nelson sisters; Jody Smith and her Bullettes (worth the price of admission alone); Men's Quartet from Kensett; Sheilah Hyde and her musical keyboard; Shari Dakin and her guitar; Emily Kragel - gymnastics routine; Julie Upchurch & Grandma Harriet; and more. All proceeds go to support the Center, admission is \$2.00.

I would like anyone having old school pictures to call me so we can use them in the Reminder. It's fun to look at them and see who you know. We need anything before 1955, as we have year books starting then.

Ruth B. Ouverson

The Gym WILL NOT be open March 30th because of the Variety Show.

We hope you are enjoying the Fertile Reminder. As we are all amateurs, we know it isn't always perfect, so if you want someone to blame (or say thanks to), we will list the ones responsible.

Articles are collected and written by Ruth B. Ouverson, also pictures, the putting together of the paper, and running off of the copies, 3,000 sides each issue. The day we mail the paper Kay Olsen, Vesta Kuns Dorothy Aspland, Diane Burtness, Harriett Ouverson and sometimes others help staple, address, fold and stamp the ones we mail. Typing is done by Coralene Hall and Deloris Suby. Jean VanDenBosch is treasurer. New names for the mailing list should go to Kay Olsen as she is in charge of addressing. She also find pictures and assists in many ways.

WANTED - Flush doors to be used for our craft fair. This would save borrowing tables and hauling them back and forth, also anyone having saw horses, contact Kay Olsen, 797-2496.

GIRLS' 4-H - The regular meeting of the Grant Livewire Lassies was held Monday Feb. 18. A presentation was given by Lisa Suby about calories in food. Danielle Jordan and Lisa Suby taught us how to make regular pie crust and we made little cherry pies of our own. Barb Seglem taught us how to make graham cracker crust.

Reporter
Sandi Bruns

CREAMERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE Specializing in Good Food	797-9685
FERTILE FEED SERVICE Complete Livestock Needs Softner Salt, Dog & Cat Food	797-2242
RAY JENNINGS Complete Auction Service	454-2707
LARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING	797-2219
SAKOTA HYBRID SEED CORN Merle Tuttle	797-2654
OLD MILL ANTIQUES	797-2490

"choose up", and divide those present into two companies, the contest being to see which first would finish its pile of corn. Both men and women took part and one of the rules was that the young man who found a red ear was permitted to kiss the young woman next to him in the circle. The young men were not above playing an underhanded game by passing the red ears surreptitiously from one to another.

Women's clubs such as exist at the present time were then unknown, but the women had their quilting parties, when a number of them would take their needles and thimbles and gather at some house to unite in making a quilt. Then there would be a friendly rivalry to see who could run the straightest line or make the neatest stitches.

In these ways, and in many others, did the early settlers of Worth County find their recreation and it is safe to say that their pleasures were doubly appreciated in this lonely frontier country. Their life was prosaic at the best and the few means of entertainment were in great favor.

COUNCIL MINUTES - The Fertile City Council met Feb. 5 with Mayor Shropshire presiding and council members Hare, Bailey, Schultze and Petersen present. Also present were Jerry Olson, JoAnn Hansmeier, Harriet Ouverson, a representative of the Neighborhood Food Bank and Henry Thompson.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Revenue sharing requests were received from the Neighborhood Food Bank in Forest City, Chemical Dependency Center in Forest City, Fertile Senior Citizens, Crisis Center of Mason City, Girl's Softball and Little League. Motion to budget revenue sharing for fiscal year 1985-86 as follows: Food Bank - \$125; Crisis Center - \$25; Girls' Softball - \$100; Little League - \$100; Sr. Citizens - \$100; Chemical Dependency Center - \$50 and park - \$335. Only half of the funds were budgeted because revenue sharing may be phased out in the middle of the year. Amounts may increase if revenue sharing is extended.

Council discussed increase in city's insurance premium. Increase caused by commercial rates increasing and loss of claim free rating, due to pending lawsuit.

Thompson said price to paint water tower would increase unless he could be covered under city's insurance coverage.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried. Petersen reported on street repair kettle. It will be available in the Spring for \$225.

Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

Next regular council meeting will be March 5, 1985.

JANUARY BALANCE SHEET
Expenditures

Evelyn Knudson	180.73
Janice Hare	222.28
Dick Sheimo	300.51
Peoples Natural Gas	256.64
David Low	281.13
Winn. RTA	21.23
Interstate Power Co.	640.22
Treas. - State of Iowa	28.12
Waste Systems Corp.	603.00
Ipers - FOAB	187.93
Shropshire Const. Co.	300.00
Jordan's	60.43
Christian Bookstore	20.02
Better Homes & Gardens	22.22
Christian Bookstore	6.12
B. Dalton	126.22
T. Bouregy & Co.	32.10
Baker & Taylor	17.95
Evelyn Knudson	25.00
Fertile Lbr. & Hdwe	1,018.70
Treas. - State of Iowa	95.35
Ipers	385.09
Krieger's	20.80
Nelson Petroleum Products	128.00
McCoy's	37.50
Matt Parrott & Sons	18.65
City of Fertile	51.00
Worsley Electric	205.23
IRS	70.80
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	5,362.97
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1,282.69

The Fertile Sweetheart Dance was again a success. We made a profit of approximately \$1,200.00, a full report will be given next month.

While leaning down to kiss her 6-year-old son, a mother asked how he liked her new perfume. He quickly replied, "Oh, Mommy, I like you better kitchen flavored."

GIRLS' SOFTBALL TEAM

1960

LIBRARY NEWS - Library hours are Wednesday - 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday - 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday - 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

NEW ADULT BOOKS

In My Father's House - Dorothy Salomon
 Dream of Orchids - Phyllis Whitney
 Pride of Hannah Wade - Janet Dailey
 Something Evil - Caroline Crane
 Family Album - Danielle Steel
 One Day at a Time - Cristy Lane

NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Strawberry Shortcake and Sad Mr. Sun - Joan Lexau
 Valentine Bears - Eve Bunting
 Get Along Gang and the New Neighbor - Sonia Black
 Nicky Goes to the Doctor - Richard Scarry
 Chocolate Rabbit - Maria Claret
 Arthur's Honey Bear - Lillian Hoban



Front Row L. to R: Mr. Gaumnitz, Instructor, Diane Brinton, Joanne Roberts, Joan Scobee, Gail Lee, Janice Gudmonson; Row Two: Janice Zirbel, Kay Aspland, Susan Purcell, Sandra Purcell, and Donna Lee.

A HELPING HAND

If when climbing up life's ladder,
 You can reach a hand below,
 Just to help the other fellow
 Up another rung or so.
 It may be that in the future
 When you're growing weary, too,
 You'll be glad to find there's someone
 Who will lend a hand to you.



EVENING PRAYER

Dear Lord, when I am lonesome
 And perhaps I feel despair,
 Let not my aching heart forget
 That You hear every prayer.

Remind me that no matter
 What I do or fail to do,
 There's hope and joy ahead for me
 As long as I have You.

Let not my eyes be blinded
 By some folly I commit;
 Give me the strength just to be brave—
 Don't ever let me quit.

All I need to do is ask
 And You'll forgive my sin.
 You'll take away my gloom
 And let the sunshine in.

And if I hurt inside, dear Lord,
 Or grieve for a loved one gone,
 Help me to be content again—
 Fill my grieving heart with song.

Inspire me not to put my woes
 Upon a hidden shelf;
 And in the future, never yield
 To being sorry for myself.

Give me the restful sleep I need
 Before another dawn,
 And bless me in the morning, Lord,
 With the courage to go on.

