

Fertile Reminder

March
1986



BURTNESS CAR WASH

CAR WASH OPENS IN FERTILE

Inside Bay - Winter Hours
8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Coming - Spring
Outside Bay to be open 24 Hours

Location - North door of
Burtness Plumbing & Heating Building

On Jan. 18th, the Fertile Valley Farmers 4-H Club met at the Fertile Comm. Center.

Thelan Elthon was our guest speaker on building and maintaining bird and duck houses.

As a club woodworking project, the junior members will be making wren houses and the intermediate members will be constructing duck houses.

Mr. Elthon has so graciously offered to help our 4-H club in small groups to construct their houses. A special Thank You, Mr. Elthon from the Fertile Valley Farmers and their parents.

Matt Dakin, Keith Dakin and Nate Banta were hosts.

Our next meeting will be Feb.22nd, 1:00 p.m. at the Comm. Center. Don King, the 4-H County extension leader, will be our guest speaker.

Kirby Sunde, Reporter

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We would like to Thank Everyone who had a part in our Bridal Shower, and for all the nice gifts we received.

Don & Cely Olson

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FERTILE LIBRARY NEWS

Library Hours:

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. -12:00 NOON

NEW BOOKS:

Flaming Tree- Phyllis Whitney

Angels of September- Andrew Greeley

Artic Dreams- Barry Lopez

Lie Down With Lions-Ken Follett

Torn Lace Curtain- Frank Saunders

Hollywood Wives- Jackie Collins

More Lap Quilting- Georgia Bonestead

The 7-Day Afghan Book- Jean Leinhauser

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We would like to thank our Friends and Relatives for the cards, flowers, gifts and food we have received since Ryan's birth. Thank you for remembering us at this special time.

Randy & Laura Shropshire

The Fertile City Council met Feb.4 with Mayor Hoffman presiding. Council members present were Petersen, Sandifer & Hare. Also present were Red & Kay Olson, Leonard Bailey, Les Burtness, Evelyn Knudsen, Rosemary Tannahill, Dick Sheimo & Charlie Nye.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read & approved.

Report on repair of sewage lagoon pumps.

Report on paint problem at water tower.

Report on progress of annexation. Nearly all of the property owners near Hwy.9 have signed a petition for voluntary annexation.

Council received resignation of Debbie Morse from the Library Board effective Mar.10. Librarian will seek a replacement.

Council discussed the new speed limit signs to be installed in the spring.

Revenue sharing requests were received from: Crisis Center, Neighborhood Food Bank, Senior Citizens, Chemical Dependency Center, Fertile Library Board, Fertile Little League and Girls Softball.

Fire department and library budgets were discussed. Council worked on budget for fiscal year 1986-87. Special meeting to be held Feb.11 to finish the preliminary budget preparation.

Proposal to have a class at the Library on the use of the computer.

Motion to increase the gas allowance for Dick Sheimo to \$20 per month. Carried.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

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The Fertile City Council met in special session Feb.11 with Mayor Hoffman presiding. Council members present were Hare, Sandifer, Petersen & Kirschbaum. Also present were Charlie Nye & Dick Worsley.

Council continued to work on the budget.

Council discussed the paint on the water tower. Copy of the report from the engineer will be available by the March meeting.

Discussion on set back thermostats for some of the city buildings. Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

-While my parents lived on the farm in the big white house on the hill, the first No. 9 road was built. The first No. 9 was what is now our Main Street. From the Church of Christ building down the hill and to Jordon's filling station, then west up Main Street to the corner by Virgil Ouverson's house, north to the corner and west up the hill, and it took a portion of my parents' front yard. I remember standing in the yard watching them work. They used horse drawn scrapers and horse drawn dump wagons. Up and down, up and around and do it all over again.

Bob Kuhns who goes to the Church of Christ here in Fertile, drove one of the dump trucks. I know, for I saw him work there. Now this was done when I was a young girl.

Years later Edwin Ouverson and I were married on April 17, 1927. We worked my dad's farm. My folks lived in the south part of the house and Edwin and I had the kitchen, dining room, back porch and part of the upstairs. The year they decided to straighten No. 9 they cut my dad's farm in half north of the building where No. 9 is now. They used all horses, scrapers and dump wagons again. Their camp was on the north side of the road and I had to drive our cows to the pasture on the north side of their camp. Our pasture included Goose Lake and at that time, Goose Lake was all water and peat bogs. There were also rattlesnakes out there. Now Goose Lake is under cultivation.

I remember one time my dad sent me for the cows and one ornery one was way out in the bogs and water. I had to get a horse and ride it out after that cow. The ground shook at every step. Finally I got on the other side of the cow and started back across to get home. I had to let the horse pick its way to get out, but we made it to solid ground and we got home. Boy was I scared!!

I also drove a team of horses on the old wooden school buses. I believe Phil Sheimo has one of those old buses. They were very heavy in spring and sleighs were used in winter sometimes. I remember leaving the bus at Chris Benson's at the end of the route and unhitch the horses and hook up to a buggy at night and come home in the morning. I drove horses and buggy to the Benson place and unhitched from the buggy and hitched up to the school bus and started picking up the children at Benson's field. I went from Sheimo's to No. 9 going west to the Sam Pederson home and back to where Maynard Midtgaard lives now and into the school house. I backed the bus to the sidewalk, let the kids out the door at the back end of bus and drove home. I unhitched the horses and put them in the barn, ran to the house, washed up, got ready for school and ran to beat the tardy bell. The next year the route went past the Clarence Ouverson farm. The same procedure morning and night. Sanderson, Cari, Zobel, Evans, Fankell were some of the children. I graduated from High School in 1926. Never a dull moment and no time for mischief.

Some of my high school teachers were George Casner, Mrs. Leo Oswald, (Genevieve Randall), Julian Wing, Red Hill, Mrs. Lewis Tallackson, Ralph Adamson, Earl Baker and Winifred Van Ness.

In the 6th grade Clarinda Halvorson (Brenden, now of Fertile) was my teacher. In the 7th grade my teacher was Agatha Chehock and in the 8th grade my teacher was Genevieve Galbreath.

In those days (the 1920's), the 8th grade pupils all had to take the County Examinations before entering High School. I graduated in May of 1926 from the Fertile Consolidated School in

I, Helen Humphrey Ouverson, was born January 23, 1908 on my parents' farm four miles southwest of Fertile, Iowa, in Cerro Gordo County. The "Home" was on the north bank of Lime Creek River, (now named Winnebago River after the Winnebago Indians that camped by the river near Fertile). My parents were William Henry Humphrey and Edith White Humphrey.

We kids walked two miles to County School. My father owned a large herd of purebred Holstein cows which were milked by hand. The pails of milk were separated. The separator was run by power by the black pony, Bonnie, walking up a treadmill. The cream was hauled to the Fertile Creamery three times a week.

Years later my dad owned a farm west of Fertile, but within the city limits. This farm is now owned by Mrs. Ole Felland. My parents lived there many years and my dad had many Holstein cows which were milked by hand. Each one of us had certain cows to milk twice a day. Later my dad bought one of the first milking machines and this machine was operated by a gasoline engine for years.

I remember when Lewis Foster and son Kent Foster moved to Fertile and operated the Old mill at the dam. They installed a generator in the lower portion of the Mill and used the force of the river water to generate electricity. About 1920 my dad got electricity from there to our barn to run our milking machine. No more hand milking unless the electricity got low. It did once in a while because the houses in Fertile put in electricity so Fertile had electric lights. This sometimes caused the power to become low. It was at those times that we had to milk by hand, but we did have electricity for milking for several years.

It was my job to break the little baby heifer calves to drink milk out of a pail. I had one leg on each side of the calf's neck with a pail of warm water in one hand. I put my finger in the calf's mouth and pushed its mouth and nose into the milk. Sometimes I got my finger bit and if the calf was stubborn, I often got a milk bath. Wow! I was glad when that job was done!!

Clothes were washed by using a large galvanized wash tub and a metal wash board, warm or hot water, and a bar of Fels Naptha Soap or Pond G Soap. You moved your hand up and down the washboard with the clothes. When they were clean you emptied the soapy water out and rinsed the clothes in clean water with bluing in the water for white clothes. The soapy water was used to scrub floors, porches, walks and outhouses. the rest of the water was always poured over Mother's roses and flowers. The soapy water was good to kill the bugs on the flowers. Mother always had beautiful flowers.

I washed on the board all of our clothes for two years or more. Water was carried from the well and put into the boiler to get hot. Lewis Lye was used to cleanse the hard water. A lime scum would come to the top of the boiler and was dipped off and thrown away. Fels Naptha Soap was used in the then soft hot water. The clean clothes were hung on the line to dry summer and winter. In winter you carried in frozen clothes stiff enough to stand up, and you put them on lines in an unused room to thaw and dry. I've done this many years later. An old second hand washing machine run by a gasoline motor was a back saver.

Special lectures at Church of Christ April 4, 5 & 6. Fertile, Iowa

Ben Alexander, born in London, England orphaned early and placed for adoption was raised in the slum area of London. Quitting school at age 14, he bounced from military, to taverns, to being a taxi driver and bakery route man. He became involved with and developed into one of the leading spiritualist activists in London.

Mr. Alexander will tell you about the activity of a spiritualist, what goes on in a seance, what happens in the secret chambers of a medium, etc.

After coming to America to develop a spiritualist ministry, Mr. Alexander was introduced to and embraced the Christian faith.

He will deal with these topics:

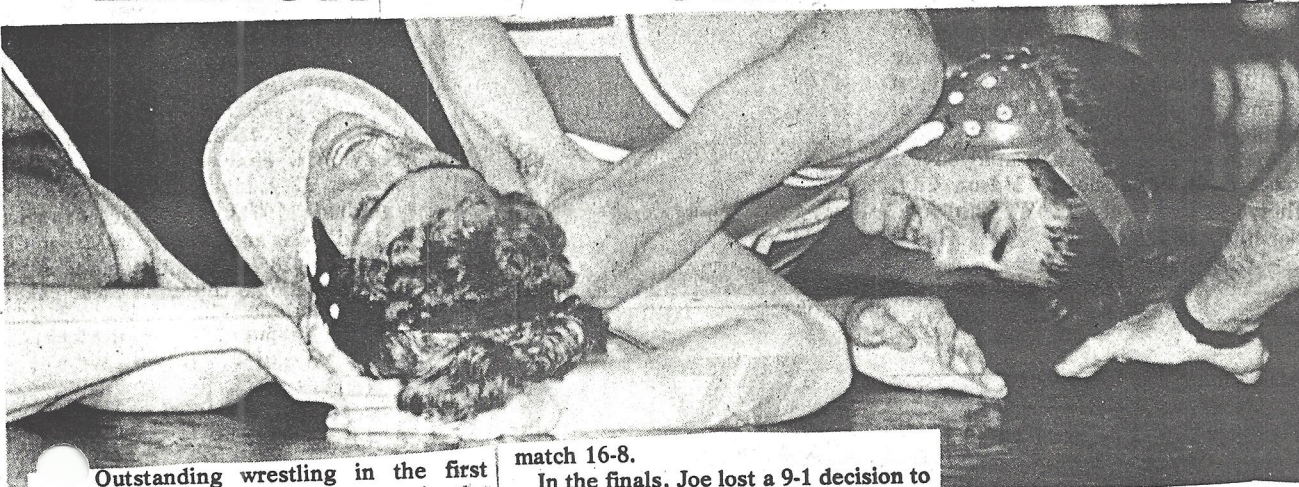
Friday, April 4 7:30 pm What is spiritualism?
Saturday, April 5 7:30 pm Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
Sunday, April 6 9:30 am The Gateway to the Occult, how young people become involved.
10:30 am The Ministry of the Holy Spirit to the Believer.
7:30 pm The Occult Explosion, a slide presentation, historical background.

March 27 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday communion service at the church

Easter, March 30 6:30 am Sunrise service with breakfast following.
9:30 am Sunday School classes

10:30 am Special Easter concert by the choir from Minnesota Bible College. They will present at the worship service a cantata written and directed by Dr. Dennis Martin entitled PETROS, based on the life of Jesus Christ as viewed by the apostle, Peter.

Elthon To state wrestling meet



Outstanding wrestling in the first round led Elthon to runner-up in the 155-pound division. After Jason Juhl of Grinnell slammed Joe to the mat in the opening seconds of their first round match, the senior manhandled Juhl to take a commanding 9-0 lead. With three near falls, Elthon held on to win the

match 16-8.

In the finals, Joe lost a 9-1 decision to Eagle Grove's Shad Thomason, who had defeated him in the sectional final. Elthon upped his season record to 20-9.

Joe is the son of
ALAN + Evelyn Elthon

Will there be a variety show this spring?

It all depends on whether we have people who will volunteer to help. It takes people to line up the acts, clean the gym, put up chairs and all the other odd jobs that go with having a show.

It would be held the first Saturday in April. Its all up to you. Let us hear from some of you.

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Hope is like the sun, as we journey toward it, it casts the shadow of our burden behind us.

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Remember all ads & news items are to be turned in to Mrs. Boyd Suby by the 20th of each month to be included in the next months Reminder.

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Low request the pleasure of your company at the wedding reception for their daughter, Jeanette & Stephen Oliver on Sunday the 9th of March 1986, from 2 to 5 in the afternoon at the Fertile Church of Christ.

Nothing lies beyond the reach of Prayer except that which lies outside the will of God.

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Just a reminder - if you haven't yet made your contribution to the Fertile Sweetheart Dance it's not to late to do it. We will have a complete report in next months paper.

Ray & Lorraine Bakke
Chairmen

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Thurs. Mar. 6th, 1 - 5, Government Commodities will be given out at the Fertile Community Center. Cheese, Butter and Honey. Same Guidelines.

Fertile Garden Club will meet March 11th at the Community Center. The Officers will be hostesses, with pot luck at noon. 3 new members have been accepted into membership. They are Robin Harms, Molly Almelien & Gloria Kirschbaum.

FREE DELIVERY of Grocery orders of \$15.00 or more within 2 mile radius of our store. Mon., Thurs. & Sat. only Please. Call Pronto Market, Hwy 9 Fertile 797-2220.

At a business meeting of Senior Citizens, Bud Jenkins was chosen "Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year". Each Senior Citizen Organization in the county has the privilege to choose a Representative to be entered in the county competition.

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NOTICE ! ! !

Anyone wishing to use the computer at the Library may do so. This computer is for the use of the town of Fertile. Anyone using it has to furnish their own software, and only during Library Hours.

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STORK NEWS

BOY, Ryan Andrew Nelson Shropshire, to Mr. & Mrs. Randy Shropshire, Fertile Feb.10th, weight 7lbs. 7oz. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nelson Hanlontown, & Mr. & Mrs. Glen Shropshire, Clear Lake. Great Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Leverne Nelson, Fertile, & Mr. & Mrs. Carl Vaage, Forest City. Great Great Grandmother is Mrs. Petrea Zerbil, Mason City.

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* Do you want your garden tilled *
* this spring? *
* Call 797-2714 *
* Harold Hoffman *
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Next regular council meeting will be the budget hearing, on March 4, 1986.

NOTE : :

The city is billed \$4.40 per household for garbage service monthly. Of that amount \$1.25 is paid by the city from tax money & the remaining \$3.15 is paid by the user.

X X X

The man who leaves home to set the world on fire, often comes back for more matches.

X X X

If you talk about your troubles
And tell them o'er and o'er
The world will think you like them
And give you more & more.

JANUARY BALANCE SHEET

Expenditures

Evelyn Knudsen (Wages)	220.97
Janice Hare (Wages)	240.71
Dick Sheimo (Wages)	582.70
David Low (Wages)	303.11
Larsen P & H	36.00
inn. Co-op Telephone	17.22
Burtness P & H	20.00
Manly Ins. Agency	37.50
Vesta Kuns (Wages)	17.00
Worsley Electric	16.97
K & R Gas	32.50
Co-Op Services, Inc.	34.10
Fertile Lbr. & Hdwe.	5.05
Controller's Data Processing	.93
Peoples' Natural Gas	435.96
Flower & Garden	10.00
NCRLS	28.10
Doubleday	20.97
Max Boyd	6.76
B. Dalton	159.63
Family Bookshelf	16.14
Woman's Day	15.13
City of Fertile	51.00
Ipers	131.14
Ipers FOAB	195.67
Treas-State of Iowa (Iowa W.H.)	50.27
IRS (Fed W.H.)	185.00
Jordan's	16.83
G & H Motor Parts	25.00
Waste Systems Corp.	603.00
Treas-State of Iowa (sales tax)	107.48
Fertile Reminder	90.00
Harold Hoffman	20.00
Interstate Power Co.	630.11

TOTAL \$4,362.95
TOTAL RECEIPTS \$3,047.51

CHURCH NEWS

Fertile Lutheran

Worship - 9:00 a.m.
S.S. - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday-Lenten Services-7:30 p.m.

Circles

Mary-3/6-9:30 a.m. Fern Midtgaard
Rebekah-3/6-2:00 p.m. Joan Sunde (C)
Ruth-3/24-7:30 p.m. Ruth Oakland
Sarah-3/24-7:30 p.m. June Strohman
ALCW - 3/13 - 2:00 p.m.

Pilot Knob

Worship - 10:30 a.m.
S.S. - 9:00 a.m.
Thursdays-Lenten Services-7:30 p.m.
Father-Son Banquet 3/1 - 6:30 p.m.

Circles

Ruth-3/18-7:30 p.m. Diane Lovick
Esther-3/19-1:30 p.m. Reva Anderson
DO-DAY - 3/11 - 9:00 a.m.

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Vesta Carr Kuns

Happy 75th Birthday

Support these Merchants. Their ads make it possible for us to publish the Fertile Reminder. We also need to hear from each of you to pay the postage for mailings.

LARSEN'S PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2219

JORDAN'S MIDLAND SERVICE 797-2677
Complete Automotive Service

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
Flowers for all occasions 582-4517

FOREST CITY COW PALACE 582-4646
Auction every Wednesday

J & W UPHOLSTERY 797-2457
Upholstery--Auto Body
Jean & Wayne Roberts

FIRST STATE BANK 896-226
Serving North Iowa
Hanlontown, Kensett & Plymouth
Main Office--Manly

CREAMERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE 797-9685
Specializing in Good Food

PETAL SHOPPE 357-5030
FREE Delivery to Hospitals 357-5026
1714 7th Ave.N, Clear Lake

FERTILE FEED SERVICE 797-2242
Complete Livestock Needs
Softner Salt, Dog & Cat Food

An old timer is one who remembers when a pie was set out to cool - not thaw.

The only fair way to talk about someone is to speak as though you knew he was listening in.