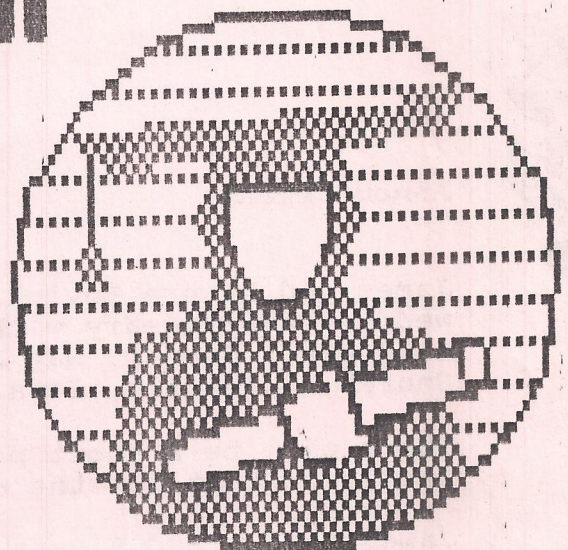
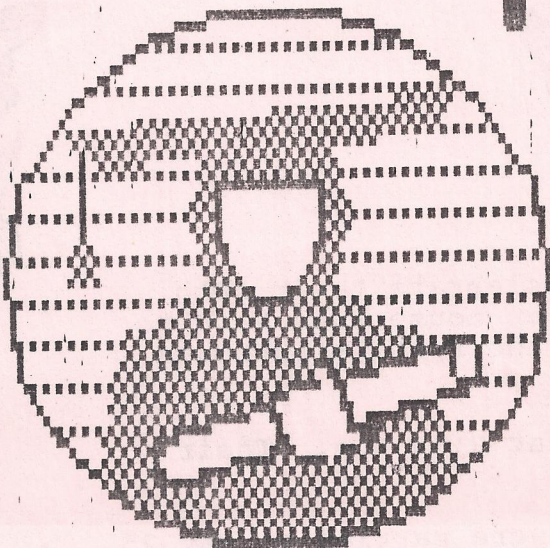


**FERTILE
REMINDER
MAY
1991**



In Memory Of Years Gone By

As I sat here by my west window where I sit so much, I looked out across the new fallen snow, and I remembered snow storms we had some 80 years ago. The snow got so deep and it was frozen so hard you could drive on top of it. So if we wanted to go to town we would hitch a team of horses to the sled or a driving horse to the cutter and go across fields and pastures over barb wire fences. The horses never fell through the snow, as it was frozen too hard. There was one law they all observed, no one ever drove in any ones front yard. Most people had a large flower bed with shrubs in the bed too, and they could be damaged by driving over them.

We had a large garden with everything in it. It was a gentle slope facing the east and at the foot of this slope, my folks planted several hills of cucumbers. We didn't have worms and insects as we have them now, so we didn't know what an insect or worm spray was. The thing my Dad used for a cucumber bug or cabbage worm was the dust in the garden.

I will attempt to tell you how we saved our cucumbers for our winter sweet pickles. At first the vines would bear just a few cucumbers, but in a short time we would pick them in a milk pail. They had to be picked every so often and if we missed any, which we did, we used them for slicers to use on the table. Well, this pail of cucumbers had to be washed and rinsed in cold water.

Mother had a large vinegar barrel in the cellar and in this she had a salt brine (salt and water), strong enough to hold up an egg. We would take the pail of cucumbers and empty them into this barrel of brine, and cover them with a clean tea towel. Dad had made a cover to put over the tea towel and put a large rock on it to keep them all under the brine.

This process was done everytime the cucumbers had to be picked. We left them in the salt brine until Mother thought they were salty enough, probably two or three weeks, then we would bring up a pan full and she would cut them lengthwise in half and maybe in fourths if they were big enough, and put cold water on them for several days. This was called freshening them out. Then in the pantry she had a large stone jar. She had prepared vinegar, sugar and spices and the cucumbers were put into this. They were left to stand about a week and then they were sweet enough to eat and were considered sweet pickles. It was a long hard process. Not much like going to a store and buying a jar of them. But you must remember some 75 years ago they were not on the market on a grocery shelf. As you read this recipe, I hope you realise how much they added to our menu.

V.M.H.



Announcement:

James and Alvera Lovick will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, May 26, at the Fertile Lutheran Church in Fertile, Iowa.

There will be a short program at 2:15 p.m. Their family is host for the event.

James Lovick and Alvera Hanna were married on May 25, 1941, at North Prairie Lutheran Church, rural Leland.

The couple requests no gifts.



CHECK IT OUT

Over 80 people, including some 41 children in pajamas, met at the library in the early evening on April 17. KIMT's Monty Allen entertained the crowd by reading the bedtime story The Wee Mouse Who was Afraid of the Dark.

Reading is important to Monty, who told the group: "I read almost everyday. Books are a lot of fun. They can take you lots of places." For fun, Monty enjoys science fiction best and likes to read at night before going to sleep.

After reading the story, Monty answered questions from the audience. He explained what his job is at KIMT and how reading is important to know what is going on. He gets ideas for what he does by reading too.

Monty drew three names for the winners of the door prizes. Abbie Petersen, Marcus Severson, and LeAnn Fairchild each received a book autographed by the celebrity reader as an extra special souvenir of the day.

For a "bedtime" snack, everyone was treated to milk and cookies.

Cheryl Benson organized the special storytime to coincide with both the National Library Week and the national Read-Aloud events. Reading aloud has been proven to be the most important and successful way to interest a child in reading. Judging by the number of children checking out books following Monty's story, it is safe to say that the children in Fertile are definitely interested.

Monty Allen summed it up nicely when he told the group: "Reading can't hurt you. Reading can only help you."

by Celeste Christensen

Saturday, May 11 is storytime from 10:00 to 10:30. All children are welcome.

The next Library Board meeting is Tuesday, April 30, 1991 at 7:00.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Fertile Garden Club met Tues. April 9th at the Fertile Community Center. Twenty-one members answered roll call by naming their favorite garden tool. Plans were discussed for our "Plant and Bake Sale" to be held Saturday May 4th at 9am at the community center.

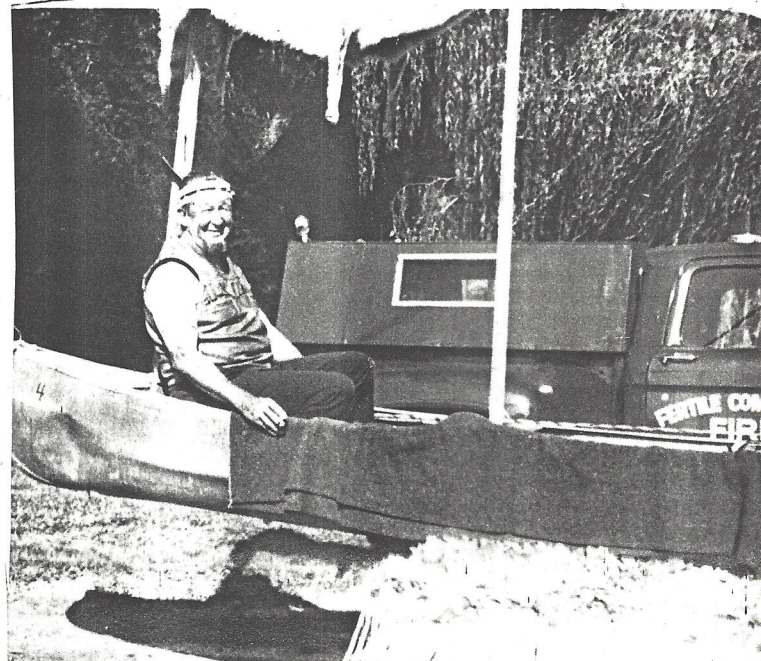
After the business meeting, 3 lessons were given. Molly Almeliem gave a lesson on planning and arranging a perennial garden for Mary Anderson. Gloria Kirschbaum gave a good lesson on "Different Ways To Plant Asparagus". Ethel Tuttle gave a lesson on "onions". Ruth Rovang had the thought for the day. Synova Hoffman and Ruth Rovang served a delicious lunch.

Ethel Tuttle
Reporter

TOWN RUMMAGE SALE

A city wide Rummage Sale will be held May 18th from 8am to 2pm. If you are interested in having a sale, call Ruth Ouverson at 797-2424 at the community center between 7am and 1pm.

Who is this Indian?



Thanks to everyone that attended and supported the Soup supper. It was a huge success.

Fertile Little League

WELL, If YOU CAN'T TRUST Rand and McNally and the 1968 atlas, who can you trust?

Now we know that there is another Fertile in these United States - maybe even two.

That three-line filler we dug up laboring over the new atlas sure stirred up a lot of comment. Goes to show you that people don't miss a thing in the Fertile Journal.

MRS. OSCAR VEKER called us bright and early Thursday after that issue came out. We didn't anticipate that the three-liner would cause so much notice.

By the end of that first day we had three phone calls and about five people stopping in to tell us about Fertile, Iowa.

The next day the letters started coming in.

"Sorry about that, Iowa is in the United States. Fertile, Iowa (written in red yet). On the bottom of page two I read a comment on a Did You Know? During the war I had letters that were missent to Fertile, Iowa and they returned it to Fertile, Minnesota. Also Mrs. Thomas Kronschabel has a friend there," one reader wrote.

So, we looked it up in the ZIP code and sure enough, there it is, Worth County, third class post office, ZIP code 50434. It has 110 boxes in its post office.

HOWEVER, we will not concede that there is a Fertile, North Dakota, because it has no ZIP code, and if the Post Office Department doesn't know it's there, neither do we.

The Crookston paper, on Thursday Nov. 21, 1935, on page five of the Valley History Section published, had a big write-up about how Fertile's Early History (was) Stippled with Romantic Incident."

Myrtle Rasmussen brought that paper into us last week, along with her atlas, to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt the origins of Fertile, Minn. and the whereabouts of Fertile, Iowa.

"Village Grew From 3 Sites" - Story of Settlement Is Saga Of Courage and Faith, the 1935 issue editorialized in its three-deck headlines.

"Genesis of settlement in the Fertile area dates from May 17, 1879" the paper reported, "when Knute

Nelson, Lars A. Bolstad and Einer Nelson, landseekers from Dodge County, Minn. reached Garfield township."

PICTURES BEING WORTH a thousand words one person circled Fertile, Iowa in red in his atlas, tore the page out and mailed it to us.

"Evidently you folks have not been far out of our fine state of Minnesota," he wrote. "Take a drive south of Albert Lea in the state of Iowa you will find the fine little town of Fertile, Iowa. Our village was named after it by some early settlers from Fertile, Iowa. Look at your road map of Iowa or the part of one I am enclosing for your information."

"DID YOU KNOW" - in big bold letters across a slip of paper - there is a Fertile, Iowa? Population 386' one envelopes contents informed me.

Sue Johnson, 410 E. Main Ave. wrote, "Did you know" that there is one other town in the United States named Fertile? It is located 11 miles east of Forest City on highway No.9. Incidentally, Fertile, Minnesota is named after Fertile, Iowa."

Mel Sherva, our eagle-eyed former editor, took time out from his new job in Wahpeton to write and tell u about Fertile, Iowa.

"Newcomers took up adjoining lands including the townsite."

J. S. Ladue opened a small store in Ladue grove, two miles northwest of Fertile on what was, in 1939, the Elmer Lundberg farm.

"The first postoffice was established there in January, 1881, and Ladue selected the name Fertile in memory of Fertile, Iowa, his home town.

Thus the beginnings of Fertile, Minn.

The paper also told that the townsite plat was filed May 6, 1887 by James H. Homes and his wife Caroline. It was incorporated shortly after it was platted. The first village council met June 11, 1888.

The first newspaper, the Journal was founded in 1882 by Fred Puhler.

WE FEEL IT'S ONLY fair to tell you we promptly wrote a letter to the mayor of Fertile, Iowa, if they have one, and hope to hear from someone in Fertile, Iowa shortly.

We understand they even have a flower club there. We will keep you posted.

MARCH BALANCE SHEET

Expenditures

David Low	301.41
Janice Hare	257.08
Waste Systems Corp.	1214.50
IPERS	114.06
City of Fertile	51.00
Peoples Nat. Gas	221.39
Winnebago Co-op Tele.	51.84
Dick Sheimo	285.95
Cheryl Benson	261.51
Treas. State of Ia.	99.94
Cely Olson	14.55
Cheryl Benson	54.81
Sarah Richard	90.27
Interstate Power Co.	497.36
Christian Book & Gift	13.45
Bantam Books	14.90
Sports Afield	6.99
Sports Illustrated	12.04
Tom Wertzel	15.00
Ingram	108.90
U. S. Postal Service	321.00
Worth County Auditor	1488.00
Feed-Rite Controls	10.00
Demco	6.77
Shepherd's Voice	27.72
Food And Fuel	40.00
I A M U	186.00
Matt Parrott & Sons	74.00
Manly Ins Agency	155.00
Clearey's Safety Equip.	57.68
Worsley Electric	1623.48
Postmaster	29.02

Total 7,705.70
Total Receipts 6,244.45

COUNCIL NEWS

The Fertile City Council met in regular session on Apr. 2nd, 1991 with Mayor Hoffman presiding and council members Sandifer, Smith, and Strohman present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Reported that one fire hydrant has been painted by a home owner, one was painted last year, and a volunteer will paint one on their property. Still hoping other home owners will volunteer to paint one whether it's near their property or someplace in town.

Jo Ann Bailey reported on a dangerous culvert by her property. City will see that it is repaired.

Joyce Russell was present to check on building permits, water hook-up fee, culvert for their driveway, and burning regulations.

Joan Norem reported on the city's insurance premium for 1991-92. Motion to accept proposal from Twedt Insurance of Lake Mills. Carried.

Motion to approve building permit for P. M. I. Carried.

Motion to accept price from Bob Haugen for chain link fence at the horseshoe court in the park. Carried.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

Reported that alleys have been graded and gravel will be added.

Cable TV has been installed at the community center.

Meeting adjourned.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

The next regular council meeting will be held Tues., May 7th, 1991 at the library at 7 pm.

* * * * *

FOOD!!! FOOD!!! FOOD!!! FOOD!!!

The community center is open for breakfast & lunches from 7am to 1pm.

Come and eat a good meal!!!

* * * * *

The "Wheels For Life" bike-a-thon will be held Saturday morning May 4th from 9-12. Prizes for top money raisers are a \$50 savings bond and gift certificates. There will be pop and candy for all riders. All money raised goes to St. Judes Hospital. Anyone interested in riding please call Nancy Suby at 797-2794.

* * * * *

GARAGE SALE

Saturday May 4th

8am to 4 pm

Household items, appliances, TV, and rummage.

Sheilah Hyde

1 mile south and 1/2 mile west of Fertile.

* * * * *

FERTILE SWEETHEART DANCE

The Annual Fertile Sweetheart will be held Friday May 3rd at the Surf Ballroom. Malek's Fisherman will be providing the music.

For booth reservations call 357-6151.

* * * * *

Thank the following merchants for making it possible for us to publish the FERTILE REMINDER. Their ads help us to purchase the paper, ink, labels, and other supplies. We still need to hear from you to pay postage and other expenses.

LARSEN PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2219

FERTILE LUMBER & HARDWARE 797-2437

BURTNESS PLUMBING & HEATING 797-2680

OLD MILL ANTIQUES 797-2490

PRONTO MARKET 797-9698

MARV'S SERVICE 797-2677
Batteries & tune-ups

RAY SANDIFER - TOM'S SALES 797-2681

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

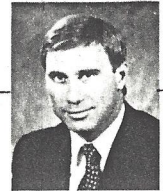
WORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494
Katolight Generators
Sales & Service

LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST 896-2265

BUTCHER'S STEAK HOUSE 797-2647
Delicious Food
Call For Reservations

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Joan E. Norem

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