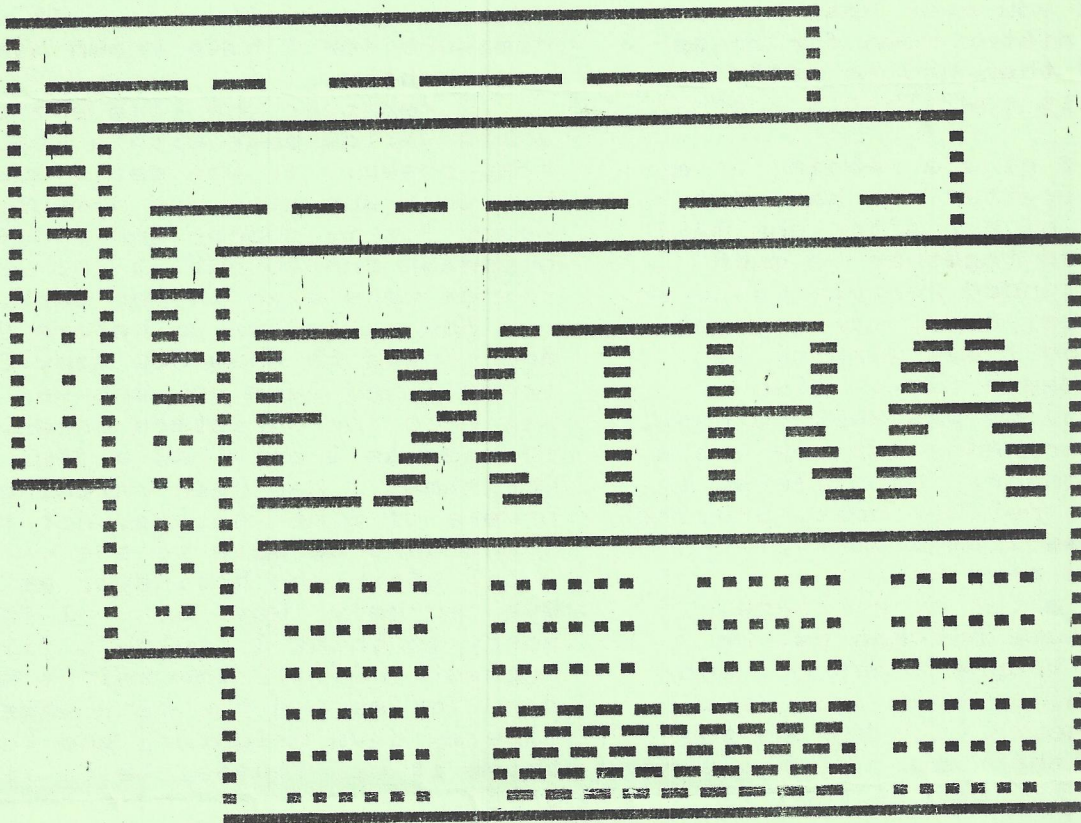


FERTILE REMINDER



1991
MARCH

AN EPITAPH TO LORETTA -

I just had to write something about Loretta, my "Twin". We were born May 1st in the same year. She went her first 8 years to country school, so I didn't meet her until Confirmation. I went to the Forest City Public Schools all my 12 years. In our Freshman year, Loretta and I had classes together. After high school, both she and I started teaching in rural schools. She went east of Forest City and I went 14 miles west. She didn't teach as long as I, as she married Norman and then Mary Ann arrived. After my Norman (we both married Normans) came home from 4 yrs. overseas in WW II, we married. Did you ever hear how we chased the minister down for an appointment and then had to wait for him to milk his cow?(That's another story).

Who should give a reading at my shower but "Loretta"? I had sort of lost track of her after she married. We worked together so much while they attended Fertile Lutheran. Loretta was busy also, working at Stitchcraft and I was working at Nielson's at Mason City. Also, I had 3 children, so was kept so busy, and she had Mary Ann, but she was a wonderful neighbor. We differed in that she was a petite, neat, precise person, whereas I am a sort of "catch as come may" Ha.

We lived, after my marriage, with only a house between us. We had many good laughs together, and I'm so grateful to have been able to set for 5 hours with her on the Sunday before she died. We had some good laughs over reminiscing of school days.

We had a wonderful neighbor, Tom Felland, who lived between us, but that's another story.

M.P.R.

I would like to write a few words concerning the kind, loveable and nice friend anyone could ever have, LORETTA NYE, who died Jan. 7th. 1991.

When she wrote her last column for the Fertile Reminder, she ended by saying, "Till next time". Little did she think there wouldn't be a next time. None of us know that, and it's a good thing, for very few of us could take it.

We are glad her days of suffering were few and that she is at

peace and resting quietly.

To Norman and the family, we extend our deepest sympathy in their hour of sorrow.

Loretta was well educated and liked to read, so she was a good conversationalist. She not only was kind to me, she had many that she remembered. Just before Christmas, she would come with her sack of goodies. She always had one chair she sat in, which we named Loretta's Chair. If there was something in it she would take it out, pull the chair close to mine and I knew she was going to visit with me for a couple of hours. Sometimes Norman would bring her and come and get her, and sometimes he would come in and visit also. It was a pleasure for I have known him since he was a child.

I remember one time she brought a big yellow pear with a beautiful rosy cheek. It was delicious. In her sack she also had hamburger all ready for my supper and a delicious homemade bun to put it in. Other things were also in her sack.

She called me up before Christmas and wanted to know how many Christmas trees I had made up, she was going to use them for Christmas cards. I felt so bad, as I only had a few. Before Christmas I had been catching up on orders of other things, not thinking I wouldn't be able to see very well until after the holidays, as I had eye surgery Nov. 6. I felt sorry to think I couldn't fill her request. Of all the things she had done for me and the many ways she had made my days brighter, and then to think it was impossible to fill her order.

And we talked about how hard it was to do the laundry in a tub with a scrub board in water heated on the stove. And how everything had to be ironed, for there was no materials that didn't need ironing. How hard it was to get fruit jars for vegetables and fruit that could be canned, and many other things of bygone days. It brought back all those memories of days of long ago. Many a lovely visit we had together.

And in closing I can't say, "Till next time", for I won't be writing like this again, so I will just say

In Christian Love,
Violet Hall

A Tribute

A tribute to the lady that so many of you readers came to know as L.V.N. So many of you commented about the enjoyment you received from reading her articles; we thank you and she would have been so pleased to know. She had a wonderful way with words; it was as though she were talking to you. Her many kindnesses will be missed by so many; her many cards and notes for whatever occasion, her visits for a reason or just for fun, and those tasty morsels of her cooking or baking; to mention a few She was truly generous. The photo was taken the summer after her first cancer surgery; she looked well and felt good. The last year was not however so good; it seemed that she couldn't recover from one thing before she was stricken with another. She never complained and always fought to maintain her dignity. She was proud of her heritage and often referred to herself as a tough DANE! All of us who knew and loved her have learned many wonderful things about living and giving. Thanks to all of you for remembering us with thoughts, words, cards and memorials. She is so greatly missed by all who knew her.

THE FAMILY OF L.V.N



COMMODITIES

Government Commodities will be distributed on Thurs. Mar. 7th at the Fertile Community Center from 1 until 4 p. m. Peanut butter, honey, butter and flour will be distributed.

THANK YOU

Thank you so very much for the lovely cards and gifts that I received for my 80th birthday.

Vesta Kuns.

The reminder received a gift of money from Alpha Ouverson Markell in memory of Loretta Nye.

FOND MEMORIES

- Bess Purcell Rodberg Walker
- Pearlie Myhre
- Lloyd Thorsheim
- Sylvia Hall

FOOD FOOD FOOD

Remember the Community Center Cafe is open from 6 a.m. until 1 p.m. serving breakfast and noon lunch.

We need your business. If you enjoy having a place to come and have coffee or lunch in Fertile, be sure to drop in. Only your business will keep us open.

THANKS

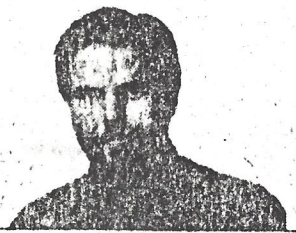
The Community Center Board of Directors would like to thank the family of Leonard(Buddy) Low for their generous donation in memory of Buddy. A new grill & deep-fat fryer will be installed. Buddy spent many hours helping us at the center. He did whatever job needed to be done, whether it was scrubbing floors or washing dishes. We miss him very much, not only for the work he did but as a dear friend.

R.B.O.

STORK NEWS

Tom & Brenda Hare are the parents of a baby girl born Jan. 23rd. She weighed 7lbs. 6 oz. and has been named Nicole Louise. Grandparents are Fred and Jan Hare and Mr. & Mrs. Gary Despenas of Mason City. Great grandparents are Stanley & Kit Zirbel and Ellie Hare of Oklahoma City, Ok.

Poverty is no disgrace - it's just inconvenient.



Mike Brue

I imagined interviewing a "living symbol" this week. An American flag. And we had a nice chat.

Where are you from, Old Glory? "I've spent most of my life in Grand Forks. I'm privately owned. Usually, I'm just flying on federal holidays -- Flag Day, Independence Day, Memorial Day. They're like family reunions, really."

You have family? "You bet. Dad -- rest his furl -- flew for years at the county courthouse. Finally, he got too disheveled and was retired. Mom's in private hands; she doesn't get out much any more. Two sisters fly over national parks, an older brother draped a Vietnam veteran's coffin in southern Minnesota and a younger brother hangs above a schoolyard in Bismarck. Grandma -- what a 48-star beauty she was -- waved on V-J Day in '45. Mom's father went with troops into Italy during World War II. Want more examples?"

That's OK. I'm impressed. "Of course, many of my kin have gone commercial. One cousin works a Perkins, the 24-hour omelette place. Parking lot decoration, mainly. Big, good-looking colors, though."

Any others? "Some uncles are working the auto dealer circuit. And I've got some relatives that have appeared in TV ads, too -- for beer, autos, clearance sales. Not too flattering, some of it."

Hawking goods isn't what the founding fathers had in mind. "Sadly, it almost seems the American way now. And people don't seem to care."

How 'bout politics? "Mercy, yes! My relatives have waved at rallies, news conferences and chicken dinners. Put a politician in front of a camera, and he'll bring the colors with him. Never mind that his tie may clash."

Some people say George Bush wore the flag during the '88 campaign. "It's not for me to judge. But I understand he's one of millions of Americans trying to protect us from flag-burning protesters these days."

"There's even a guy making flame-retardant flags. It's great knowing people feel that strongly about us. After all, we're the emblem of the land you love, the home of the free and the brave . . ."

Great tune. You're opposed to the Supreme Court ruling, then?

"I didn't say that." But what you just said about the effort by Bush and Congress . . . ?

"If it's truly heartfelt, sure, I'm impressed. That doesn't mean I disagree with the high court."

You mean, flag-burning should be permitted in America, no matter how vile, disrespectful, offensive and just plain ugly the act is to its citizens?

"Let me explain. I'm the identifying symbol of the good ol' U.S.A. I represent democracy, human rights and freedom. I'm inspirational, and I stir many emotions. People have fought for what I represent, and many have died in the process."

Many people say they've fought -- and died -- for the physical flag, too.

"I'm humbled. It goes to show the Star-Spangled Banner is one of humankind's most successful emblems. But my survival never depends on my physical being, or judicial law, or the constitutional amendments of the most well-meaning citizens."

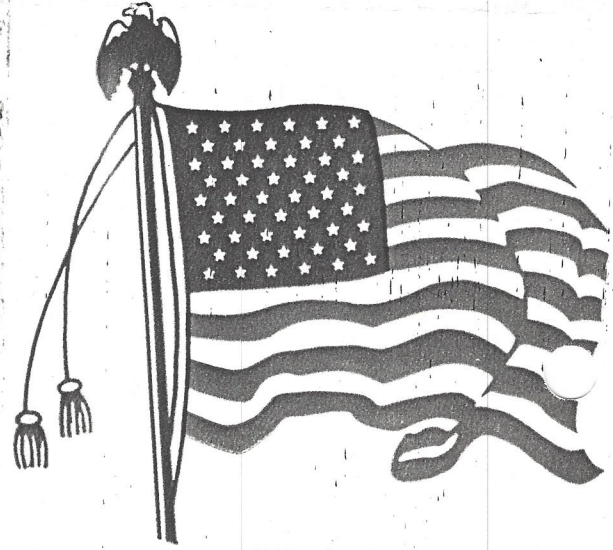
In other words . . . "You can burn me, rip me, stomp on me and treat me with utter -- or in many cases, subtle -- disrespect. It's happened before; it'll happen again. But I've survived. And there'll always be another American flag to replace me and fly even higher than I did -- provided there's a fierce, undying belief in the principles I stand for."

One Supreme Court justice said we "do not consecrate the flag by punishing its desecration," or we'll dilute the freedom that the emblem represents. Some people say it takes more courage, more conviction to allow flag-burning than to ban it.

"Perhaps. I will say this: Should the day come when Americans witness a flag-burning -- legal or not -- and they aren't moved or outraged by such action, well, my days as a venerable symbol will be numbered. Then, all the laws in the land won't ensure my survival."

Based on the current popular outcry, I don't think you should be worried.

"They say you can't keep a good flag down. But then, you've got to have faith."



JAN BALANCE SHEET

Expenditures

David Low	301.41
Janice Hare	264.73
Waste Systems Corp.	1231.90
IPERS	115.41
City of Fertile	51.00
Peoples Nat. Gas	398.22
Winnebago Co-op Tele.	82.52
Dick Sheimo	357.89
Cheryl Benson	233.59
Treas. State of Ia.	83.20
Cely Olson	20.78
Postmaster	50.00
Sarah Richard	42.67
Interstate Power Co.	812.84
Manly Ins. Agency	50.00
Clarey's Safety Equip. Co.	295.00
Larsn P & H	98.00
Pronto	4.23
Redbook	11.97
Treas. State of Ia.	8.91
First State Bank	584.64
Baker & Taylor	77.98
Ingram	2.03
Feed-Rite Controls	10.00
Raintree Publ.	208.65
MCBS	11.12
Schulze Mobile Welding	43.93
Justin Hoeft	5.00
Dan Benson	147.19
Cheryl Benson	30.00
Postmaster	12.00

Total	5,697.41
Total Receipts	5,997.14

COUNCIL NEWS

The Fertile City Council met in regular session on Tues., Feb. 5th, 1991. Mayor Hoffman presided and all council members were present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mayor reported sander has been put on snow plow.

Discussion on recycling program offered by Waste Systems Corp.

Mayor reported on effectiveness of calling a deputy when problems are seen in town.

Eileen Rotta spoke on the work of the Robertelle Center at Forest City.

David Low reported on new manhole ety laws. City will notify him if holes need to be entered. He has the necessary equipment at Lake Mills.

Council set a special meeting on Tues., Feb. 26th to work on the budget.

Plan to have an 'Adopt a Fire Hydrant' program was discussed. Volunteers would be asked to paint one fire hydrant.

Ken Strohman & Jerry Nye put flags on all the hydrants so they are visible in the snow.

Motion to pay monthly bills. Carried.

Janice Hare
City Clerk

Next regular council meeting will be held Tues., Mar. 5th 1991.

THANK YOU

The Fertile Community Center Board would like to thank JoAnn Bailey for donating a freezer. Also thank you to Ernie Hennings, Keith Sheimos, Grant Russells and Norman Nye for the rhubarb they donated.



FOR SALE

15 foot Pipestone runabout boat with 50 hose Mercury engine. \$900.00
Call 797-2696

DANCE

Plans are being made for the Annual Fertile Sweetheart Dance April 6, 1991 at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, with Maleks Fishermen playing.

STORK NEWS

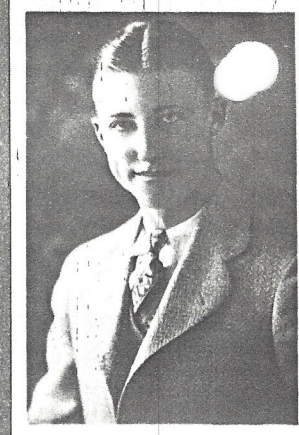
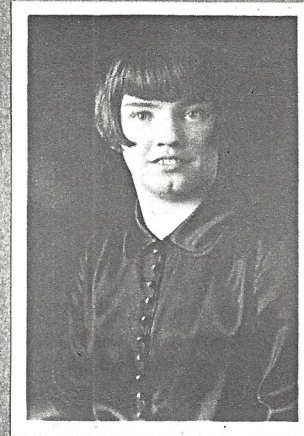
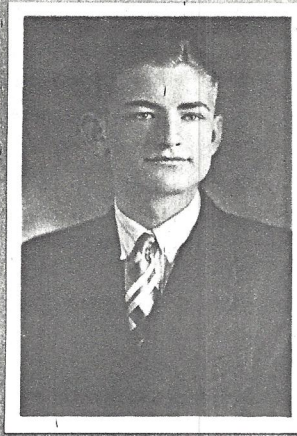
Matt and Justine Moore are the parents of a baby girl born Feb. 24. She weighed 7 lbs. 2 oz. Grandparents are Loren and Shari Hoffman. Great-Grandmother is Synnova Hoffman.

80

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



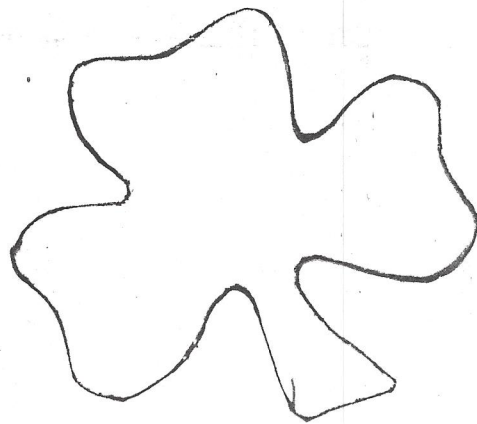
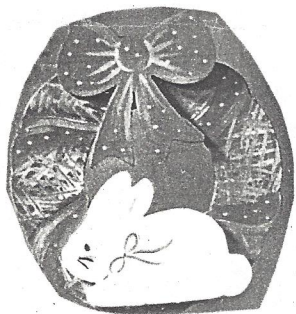
MARCH 15



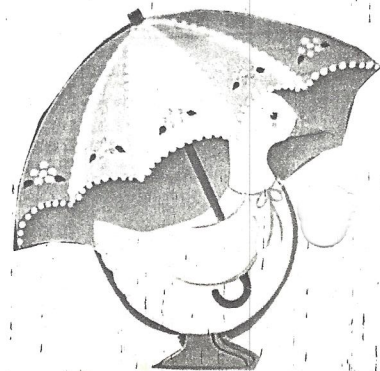
CLASS OF 1927

Top left to right
Forrest Roberts, Lyra Deuel Oswald, Henry Paulson, Lillian Tweed Elthon, Melvin Stokke.

Bottem left to right
John Humphrey, Henretta Tweed, Sup. Rex Hill, Alpha Ouverson Ritter Markell, Thelan Elthon.



Happy Easter





CHECK IT OUT

Spring officially begins in March. Many of you are already thinking ahead to your summertime projects. The library can help you with gardening and remodeling information. In fact, there is a substantial variety of informational books available at the Fertile Library.

The once-a-month children's storytime begins in March too. Storytimes are set for three Saturdays: March 10, April 13, and May 11. Children of all ages are welcome. Storytime is from 10:00-10:30 a.m. Come and join in on the fun!

The BOOK SALE has been very successful as it nears its conclusion. March 30 will be the last day of the sale. You still have time to buy good books at bargain prices. All the money from this sale has been used to replace old, worn books and to start the children's video collection. The videos have been very popular with the children.

Come into the library and check out some of these newly acquired books for adults:

HEARTBEAT (Danielle Steele)
THE LIFE OF CHRISTINA ONASSIS (Wright)

IN THE ABSENCE OF ANGELS (Glaser)
IRIS (Barton)

Younger readers will want to check out: GARFIELD #20, NINJA TURTLES, and IS YOUR MAMA A LLAMA (Guarino).

Cheryl and Sarah are pleased to see so many of you on Wednesday evenings. A majority of people responding to the October library survey indicated that evenings are the most convenient time for them to visit the library. This library strives to accommodate the public. Your opinions do count.

The library hours are:

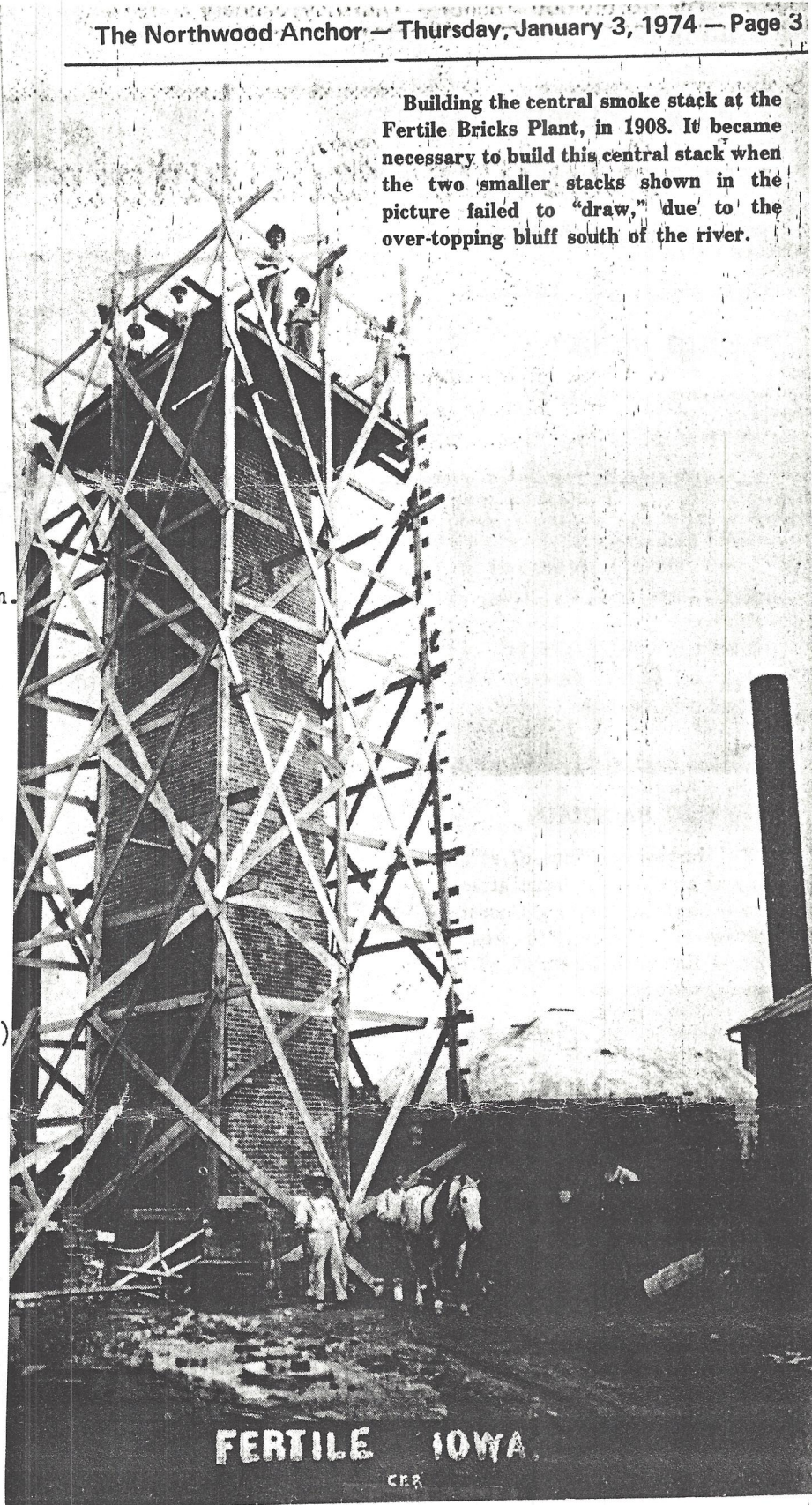
WEDNESDAY 1:00-8:00

FRIDAY 1:00-5:00

SATURDAY 9:00-noon
1:00-4:00

Please stop in this spring and "check it out." by Celeste Christensen

The next library board meeting is Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m.



Building the central smoke stack at the Fertile Bricks Plant, in 1908. It became necessary to build this central stack when the two smaller stacks shown in the picture failed to "draw," due to the over-topping bluff south of the river.

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

FOREST CITY COW PALACE 582-4646
Rex Taylor 896-3717
Norman Taylor 896-3426

LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST 896-2265

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

MILLER'S DIESEL & 423-1237
AUTOMOTIVE 797-2704
We pick up and deliver

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AUTO HOME BUSINESS HEALTH LIFE®



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RES. 515-357-6760

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Fertile, Ia.
50434



Andy Oswald
RR 1
Hanlontown Ia
50444