

SEPTEMBER 2001

FERTILE REMINDER



COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sept. 3	Fire Dept. Meeting	7 PM
Sept. 4	Senior Dinner	Noon
	City Council Meeting	7 PM
Sept. 6	F B & I Meeting	7 PM
Sept. 11	Garden Club Guest Day	2 PM
Sept. 14	DEADLINE FOR REMINDER ARTICLES	
Sept. 15	Boys & Girls 4-H	
Sept. 17	Library Board Meeting	7 PM
Sept. 18	Senior Dinner	Noon
Sept. 25	Recycle Day	

The Fertile City Council met August 7, 2001 at 7PM in the City Hall. All council members were present. Joan Norem reviewed the city insurance policy and took questions from the council. The street signs have been ordered and will be installed by Tom and volunteers. It was agreed to buy a new weed trimmer for the city. Because of a speeding problem on East Main, a stop sign is being considered for 3rd and East Main. The July expenditures were approved. Meeting adjourned.

July Expenditures

City Employee Wages.....	1425.11
Alliant.....	664.63
FICA.....	299.35
Thompsons Garage.....	29.76
LGI.....	32.65
Sewer Account.....	1483.00
Post Office.....	46.00
Water Testing.....	18.85
North Central Service.....	812.52
Iowa Withholding.....	104.00
DNR annual fee.....	46.55
Ia Rural Water.....	175.00
Fertile Library.....	2500.00
Hawkins.....	5.00
Sales Tax.....	163.61
IPERS.....	129.98
WCTA.....	44.90
Water Account.....	1474.00
Waste Mgt.....	1666.50
Peoples Nat Gas.....	31.48
Paper Supplies RVS.....	43.48
Fertile Lumber.....	629.89
Steffes Const.....	9921.52
Crescent Moon.....	120.00
NIACOG dues.....	152.80
TOTAL.....	\$22,020.58

July Revenues

Water/Sewer/Garbage...	9430.70
Local Option Tax.....	494.75
Street Revenue.....	2145.65
Property Tax.....	913.66
Total Revenue.....	\$12,984.76

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Out of Focus

Neil L. Kuns

September 12, 1994

Surely its only coincidental that three of my collection of memorable men from my childhood have names beginning with the letter "O." I've written of the reclusive Orcutt brothers, of the odd man in, Irving Owens and now of a Norwegian bachelor farmer named Oppedahl. The only things they had in common was that they all came into Fertile to "trade," meaning to purchase the necessities of life, and they were all a little eccentric.

Oppedahl lived on a good acreage south-west of Fertile and was a good farmer. He was clean shaven and had a clean reputation among the townspeople. About the time I bought my used Balda slide camera he purchased a new Kodak 35 millimeter outfit. We were both learning how to focus and to frame our shots, and about the relative merits of various types of color and black and white films. By trial and error we learned about when not to shoot a picture looking at the sun, and how to make a fast or slow shutter speed work *for* rather than against you.

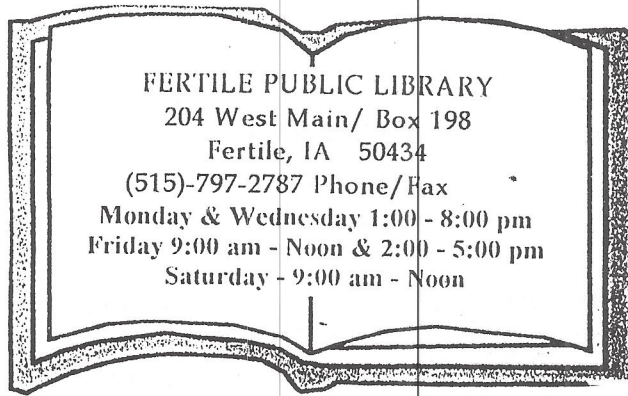
Oppedahl liked to shoot basketball action shots and so did I. My focus was on nature, clouds, people and animals. A collection of prints and slides I've taken of the historic Rhodes Mill in town would fill several shoe boxes if I got them all together. The lighting and clouds were strikingly different one evening this summer and I took yet *another* color photo trying to capture that magic moment on color film. I doubt that it was the last time I'll flick a shutter at the old mill. People grow and change and age, and a picture taken last year doesn't tell the story as to how people look this year. Everything is in a constant state of transformation. For this reason the last conversation I ever had with Oppedahl concerning his photography was so strange and so memorable.

It may have been on a weekend when I was home from college that I saw him and asked, "Are you still shooting pictures with your camera?"

His answer still astounds me. "No," he said, "I ran out of subjects."

No one claims that to have seen *one* sunset is to have seen them all. If no two snowflakes are the same as we're told then neither are two wind-sculptured snow banks. Living out on a farm and close to nature Oppedahl had corn and soy bean harvests to record, baby animals to capture on film, elusive wild animals to shoot with a lens and let go. The colors of Autumn leaves are never twice the same. Reflections on the river are kaleidoscopic and always changing. A barn and silo at dawn look very different from the same buildings in the warm glow of a setting sun. The dramatic approach of a thunder storm is ever new. How could anyone say he had run out of subject matter?

If it is true that "old soldiers never die, they just fade away," then it *may* also be true that "old photographers never die, they just lose their focus." My guess is that this is what happened to Oppedahl.



"WHAT EVER THE COST OF OUR LIBRARIES, THE PRICE IS CHEAP COMPARED TO THAT OF AN IGNORANT NATION." WALTER CHRONKITE

NEW BOOKS

- Sanctuary - Beverly Lewis
Brazen Virtue - Nora Roberts
Beneath a Southern Sky - Deborah Raney
Edge of the wilderness - Stephanie Grace Whitson
Pathways - Lisa Tawn Bergren
Long Way Home - Lauraine Snelling
Sinister Silence - Jane Peart
Middle of Nowhere - Ridley Pearson
My Lady Beloved - Linda Lael Miller
May There Be A Road - Louis L'Amour
Rescue- A True Story of Courage & Survival in WW II - Steven Trent Smith
Purple Cane Road - Burke Lee
Summer Fires - Heather Graham
Four of a Kind - Gilbert Morris
Picture Rock - Stephen Bly
Hemlock Bay - Catherine Coulter
Seduction in Mind - Susan Johnson
Suzanne's Diary for Nicholas - James Patterson
Border Hostage - Virginia Henley
Bamboo & Lace - Lori Wick
Moving Target - Elizabeth Lowell
Hot Blooded - Lisa Jackson
Let Freedom Ring -Al Lacy
Summer Moon - Jill Marie Landis
Wild Justice - Phillip Margolin
Ideal Marriage - Debbie Macomber
Long Tall - Texans - Diana Palmer
Amazon Quest - Gilbert Morris
Times & Seasons : Book 3 - Beverly LaHaye & Terry Blackstock
Duchess - Beatrice Small

AUDIO BOOKS

- Hemlock Bay - Catherine Coulter
With This Ring - Amanda Quick
When Tomorrow Comes - Janette Oke
The Daybreakers - Louis L'Amour
Tears of the Moon - Nora Roberts
Jewels of the Son - " "
Heart of the Sea " "

VIDEOS

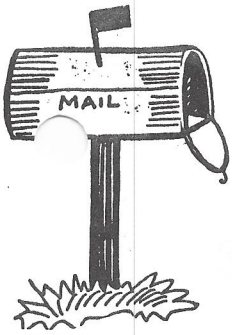
- Bounce - Ben Affleck
Traffic - Michael Douglas
Bring it On - Kirsten Dunst
The Little Vampire - Jonathan Lipnicki
Rules of Engagement - Tommy Lee Jones
Vertical Limit - Bill Paxton
All the Pretty Horse - Matt Damon
Gone With the Wind - Clark Gable
Pay it Forward - Kevin Spacey
What Women Want - Mel Gibson
Dear America - A Journey to the New World

WANTED: READERS OF ALL AGES

LIBRARY NEWS

Another summer is ending & so is our reading program. We ended Reading Road Trip, USA with a trip to the Fertile Fire Department. The kids listened to a talk on fire safety, tried on fire suits, sat in the fire truck & each got a turn holding the fire hose while it sprayed water. We would all like to give a big thank you to Fire Chief Dan Frank, Jeff Berg, Mike Dahn & especially Don Elbert for making this possible.

I would also like to thank all those who baked cookies, donated money, & worked in the food stand Fertile Days. Thank you for making this a successful fundraiser for our expansion project. Also, thank you to Bobbi Elbert for all the work she did on our float, a "57" Chevy Bel Air . We loved it! Thank you to Ivy Millard for throwing candy & Bob Enderson for pulling the float.



Dear Reminder Ladies:
 I look forward to the Reminder every month. Thanks for the news. You do a great job.
 Christy Suby Wass
 * * *

Please renew our subscription. You put out a very enjoyable paper. Thanks!
 Dwaine & Janice Asche
 * * *

Dear Reminder Staff,
 I enjoy reading the Fertile Reminder and getting the news of "Putsy"!
 Many thanks to the very capable staff for the many hours spent in putting the paper out for us.

Helen (Suby) Sparby
 Iowa City, IA
 * * *

Dear Ladies,
 Please renew our subscriptions. Thank you for your hard work. We get news we wouldn't get otherwise.

Margaret Halverson
 * * *

Dear Fertile Reminder Girls,
 You all are to be commended for the wonderful efforts expended in putting this paper together for the enjoyment of all who receive it. Thanks to everyone involved.

Sincerely,
 Norman Brue
 117 Woodland Drive
 Forest City, IA
 * * *

Many of you may know that the Fertile graduating class of 1951 celebrated their 50th reunion on August 10th and 11th. How marvelous it was to see seventeen of the eighteen grads, some of which had not attended a reunion at all during the full fifty years. I want to take time to thank those again that took the time and effort to make it such a marvelous event. Special thanks to Dolorès Sandifer, Bonnie Kuns, and Janice Abrams for preparing the noon meal on the 11th and those who cared enough to attend. Many, many thanks!

Mary Tweeten Myers

THANK YOU

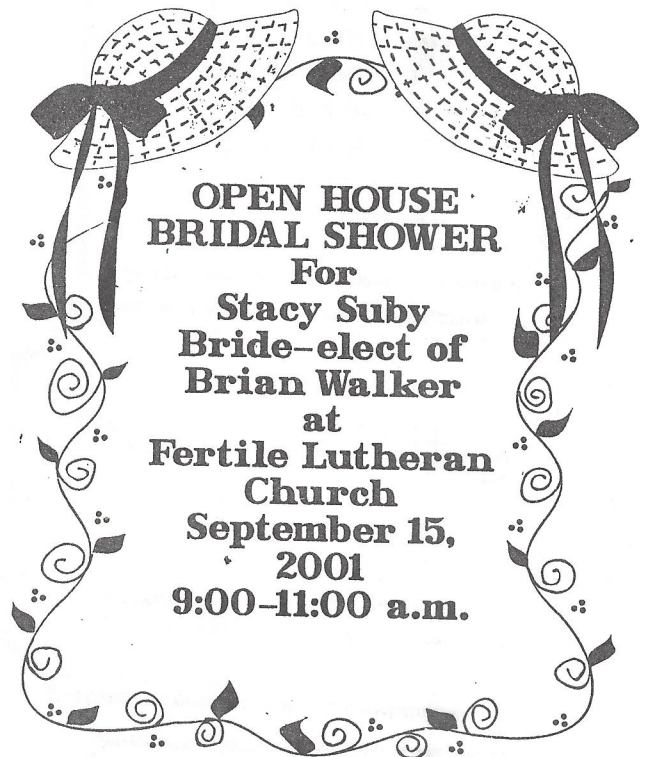
Thank you to the residents of Fertile and Worth County for again joining the Relay for Life team so we could raise money for a cure for cancer. All of our efforts were successful. As of this writing \$43,700 has been raised with money still coming in.

Hoping for a cure,
 THE RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

* * *

Thank you to the Fertile & Hanlontown Fire Departments for their quick response when we had our fire.

Harold & Ruth Ouverson



God put me on earth to accomplish
 a certain amount of things --
 Right now I am so far behind
 I won't ever die!

FERTILE LIBRARY FRIENDS

By Pat., Chairman of Library Friends

The Fertile Library Board of Directors and Fertile Library Friends would like to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to all who baked cookies, paid for a bag or two of cookies, donated money, and to all who helped out in the Food Stand during the parade, and at the Ball Field Food Stand during Fertile Days. To the people who came and bought food we also say a big thank you. We made quite a bit of money and we are very pleased. Money from the food and donations will be used to support the Library and to also put some away for the **NEW ADDITION** on the Library.

Thank you again for your support of the Library and to Nancy who is doing a great job as Library. She is great with kids and adults.

Our next fund raiser will be the Halloween party in October.

>>>>>>>>

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PROPER ETIQUETTE FOR THE AMERICAN FLAG

- ★ Treat all flags with respect.
- ★ Always hold the flag carefully. Never let it touch the ground, the floor or water.
- ★ To display the flag on a wall, it should be displayed with the union (the blue filled portion of the flag) uppermost and to the observer's left.
- ★ To display the flag on a staff, the flag should hold the position of prominence in advance of the audience and to the speaker's right.
- ★ When the flag is displayed as a lapel pin, it should be worn on the left lapel - over the heart.
- ★ It is proper to fly the flag at night, but only if it is in a spotlight.
- ★ The American flag takes precedence over all other flags when flown in the United States.
- ★ To properly fold the flag, two people face each other, each holding one end of the flag. Stretch it horizontally at waist height and fold in half lengthwise. Fold the flag in half lengthwise again. The union (blue field) should be on the outside with edges held together. One person holds the flag by the union while the other starts at the opposite end by making a triangular fold. Continue to fold in triangles until the flag resembles a cocked hat with only the blue field showing.
- ★ At a parade or public event, stand when the flag is presented or passes by, remove hats, salute or cover your heart with the right hand or assume an attitude of respect.

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BUSY NIGHT was turned in by the above "kitchen police" squad at the Fertile Lions club annual Fish Fry last Friday. Manning the serving line in above Summit photo are, left to right, Roger Humphrey, Willard Thovson, Glenn Purcell, A. A. Luther, state conservation officer Wilfred Macheak, Lions president George Hall, Harley Ouverson and Les Burtness. Before the Lions club members hung up their aprons at the conclusion of the evening, more than 300 persons had passed through the serving line.

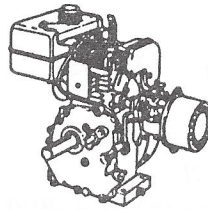
Can anyone tell us the year this was taken?

One Sunday in a Midwest City, a young child was "acting up" during the morning worship hour. The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew, but were losing the battle. Finally the father picked the little fellow up and walked sternly up the aisle on his way out. Just before reaching the safety of the foyer, the little one called loudly to the congregation, "Pray for me! Pray for me!"

And one particular four-year old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

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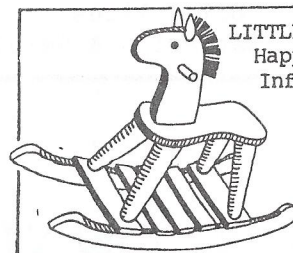
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The children had all been photographed and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. "Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say: "There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer, or That's Michael. He's a doctor." A small voice at the back of the room rang out, "And there's the teacher. She's dead."

For weeks, a 6-year old lad kept telling his first-grade teacher about the baby brother or sister that was expected at his house. One day the mother allowed the boy to feel the movements of the unborn child. The 6-year old was obviously impressed, but he made no comment. Furthermore, he stopped telling his teacher about the impending event. The teacher finally sat the boy on her lap and said, "Tommy, whatever became of that baby brother or sister you were expecting at home?" Tommy burst into tears and confessed, "I think Mommy ate it!"

Things We Can Learn From Dogs!

1. When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
2. If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
3. When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently.



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FERTILE GARDEN CLUB

The Fertile Garden Club met August 14th at the home of Lois Anderson. The lesson by Rhonda Schulze was on Container Gardening.

We enjoyed a beautiful, cool day. Lunch was served by Lois Anderson and Diane Schulze. Twelve members were present.

Lois Anderson, Reporter

* * * * *



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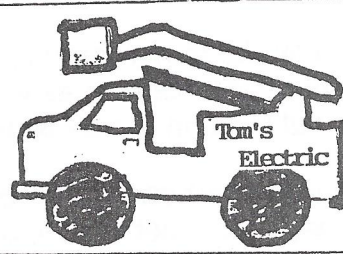


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COOK'S CORNER

By Pat

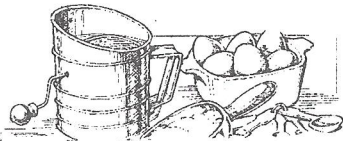
I was leafing through the Fertile Cookbook '125 years in the Kitchen' '1856-1981' sold again this year to give money for the foot bridge. I was looking for a good recipe for this time of the year. Here is one with zucchini that Lila Midtgaard put in.

Zucchini -Pineapple Bread

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3 Eggs | 3 tsp. Cinnamon |
| 1 cup Oil | 1 tsp. Baking Powder |
| 2 cups grated, peeled Zucchini Squash | 1 tsp. Salt |
| 2 cups Sugar | 1 tsp. Soda |
| 3 cups Flour | 1 cup nuts |
| 3 tsp. Vanilla | 1 cup crushed pineapple drained. |

Beat eggs until fluffy. Add sugar, vanilla, oil & zucchini. Add dry ingredients and mix well. Put in 2 loaf pans. Bake in 325° oven for 1 hour.

>>>>>>>>>




>When you are up to your neck in trouble, try using the part that isn't submerged!

>To polish jewelry, drop two Alka-Seltzer tablets into a glass of water & immerse the jewelry for 2 minutes

>Clean a thermos bottle that is stained and dirty by filling the jug with water and drop 4 Alka-Seltzer tablets in. Let set 1 hour or longer if necessary.

>Unclog a drain by dropping 3 Alka-Seltzer tablets followed by a cup of white vinegar, wait a few minutes and then run hot water.

>When you get a splinter, reach for the scotch tape before resorting to tweezers or a needle. Simply put the tape over the splinter, then pull it off. It usually removes most splinters painlessly & easily.


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KIDS CORNER

Test Your Knowledge About Iowa!

1. How many villages make up the Amana Colonies?
2. How many greyhound racetracks are there in Iowa?
3. What famous Iowan was born in Winterset?
4. Johnny Carson was born in this Iowa town?
5. Ronald Reagan was an announcer for which Des Moines radio station?
6. What Iowa community is considered a National Insurance Center?
7. On what scholastic test do Iowa seniors rank highest in the nation?
8. What two major rivers form part of Iowa's borders?
9. Who were the first explorers of Iowa's wester border?
10. What does the word "Iowa" mean?

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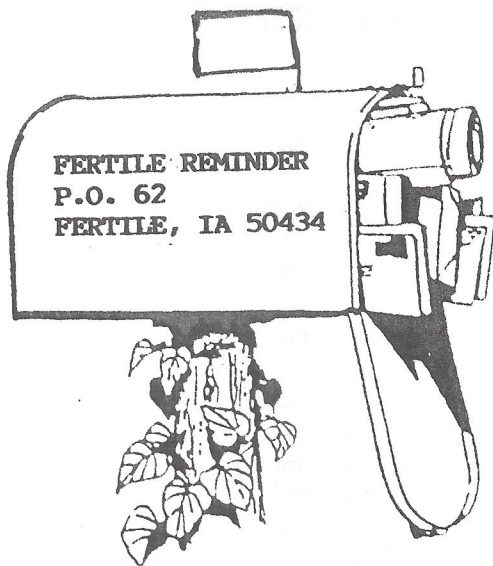
1. Seven
2. 2
3. John Wayne
4. Corning
5. W.H.O.
6. Des Moines
7. ACT
8. Mississippi and Missouri
9. Lewis and Clark
10. Beautiful Land

ANSWERS

>I love being married. It's so great to find that one special person you want to annoy for the rest of your life.

>I saw a woman wearing a sweatshirt with 'Guess' on it. I said, "Thyroid problems?"

>Mahatma Ghandi, a deeply spiritual man, walked barefoot everywhere, to the point that his feet became quite thick & hard. His frequent hunger strikes left him seriously frail & thin, & his peculiar diet gave him bad breath. He came to be known as a super-callused fragile mystic plagued with halitosis!



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My forgetter's getting better
But my rememberer is broke
to you that may seem funny
but, to me, that is no joke

For when I'm "here" I'm wondering
If I really should be "there"
And, when I try to think it through,
I haven't got a prayer!

Oft times I walk into a room,
Say "what am I here for?"
I wrack my brain, but all in vain
A zero, is my score.

At times I put something away
Where it is safe, but, Gee!
The person it is safest from
is, generally, me!

When shopping I may see someone,
Say "Hi" and have a chat,
Then, when the person walks away
I ask myself, "who's that?"

Amazing! You hang something in
your closet for awhile and it shrinks
two sizes!

The older you get, the tougher it is to
lose weight because by then, your
body and your fat are really good
friends.

The best way to forget all your
troubles is to wear tight shoes.

Just when I was getting used to
yesterday, along came today.