

FEBRUARY 2004

FERTILE REMINDER



COMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Feb. 01 | Fire Department Meeting | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 02 | Senior Dinner
City Council Meeting | Noon
7 p.m. |
| Feb. 14 | VALENTINE'S DAY
REMINDER DEADLINE | |
| Feb. 16 | Library Board Meeting | 7 p.m. |
| Feb. 17 | Senior Dinner | Noon |
| Feb. 21 | Boys and Girls 4-H | |
| Feb. 24 | Re-cycle Day | |

* PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON *
* Tom & Nance Sheimo *
* 515-797-2422 *

Personal Touch
Beauty Salon

The Fertile City Council met January 6, 2004 at 7:00 PM in Fertile City Hall. Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council persons Tammy Hall, Jeff Berg, Gail Shropshire, Tad Miller, Melanne Bang. The December minutes were approved. Teresa Nicholson of Winn-Worth Betco updated the council on area development and passed out assessment pages to be completed by the council members. The third hearing on water bill increase was held. Berg moved to add a \$5.00 charge per water curb stop connection per month to the water fee. 2nd by Hall. Passed. This charge will be on the utility bill received February 5, 2004. The Mayor's report was given. Committee assignments for 2004 were made. Streets & signs; Hall and Shropshire; Water & sewer; Miller and Berg; Parks; Berg and Hall; Weeds & garbage; Shropshire and Bang; Building permits and projects; Miller and Bang. The Fire Department officers for 2004 were submitted to the city Council for approval. Hall moved, Shropshire 2nd to accept slate of officers. Passed. Dwight Bruns is the Fire Chief. Miller moved, Bang 2nd, to place liens on two unpaid water bills if not paid in thirty days. Complaints were made of snowmobiles driving on yards. The snowmobile ordinance has been posted. Residents are reminded not to allow dogs to run loose day or NIGHT. Please park your car off city right of way during times of Snow Removal. Reports were given by the City Man and City Clerk. The Council will meet January 20, 2004 at City Hall at 7:00 PM to work on the 04-05 city budget. Berg moved, Hall 2nd to approve the December expenditures. Passed. Standing committee reports were given. Meeting Adjourned.

December Revenue	
Property Tax	2,057.24
Water/Sewer/Garbage	8,340.93
Street Revenue	2,487.75
Local Option Tax	1,095.83
Fertile Sign donation	585.00
From Savings	25,453.32
TOTAL	\$40,020.07
December Expenses	
Dave Low	301.49
Warren Bruns	932.90
Gloria Kirschbaum	321.31
Sewer Acct	1,667.00
Water Acct	1,474.00
FICA	279.70
IPERS	172.65
WCTA	57.07

Waste Systems	1,667.00
Alliant	546.94
Aquila	357.39
LGI, sewer/water	9.00
Basic Materials	222.44
Hare Electric	196.00
Iowa One Call	29.00
Menards	109.87
Mayor, Council yearly pay	1,738.42
Election poll workers	216.06
Post Office	23.00
Thompsons Garage	99.78
Hawkins	5.00
Nothwood Anchor	150.00
Larsen's Plumbing	67.47
Nettleton Excavating	35,980.32
Hach Company	127.45
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$46,751.26

THANK YOU TO HARE ELECTRIC FOR DONATING TIME AND EQUIPMENT TO PUTTING UP AND TAKING DOWN THE CITY STREET LIGHT CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

THANK YOU TO TOM QUINTEN FOR PUTTING ON AND TAKING OFF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ON THE FOOTBRIDGE

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TOM & JOHN KIRSCHBAUM

407 WEST MAIN ST. FERTILE, IA 50434

The Fertile City Council met December 2, 2003 at 7:00 PM in Fertile City Hall. Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council persons Tammy Hall, Jeff [unclear], Richard Bruns, Tad Miller. Absent; Melanne Bang. The November minutes were approved. Reports were given by the Mayor, City Man and City Clerk. Hall moved, Bruns 2nd to approve the November expenditures. Passed. Standing committee reports were given. The second hearing of the proposed \$5.00 fee on water meters per month per each water connection was held. The third and final hearing on the proposed increase will be at the January 6'2004 regular council meeting. Meeting Adjourned.

FERTILE FIRE DEPARTMENT

It has come to our attention that some people are concerned about which ambulance service will respond to their address in an emergency. When our wonderful 911 system was set up, a decision was based upon response time, mileage and training for the responding ambulance service we use. For some individuals, an alternative preference may be requested based upon personal choice; you have the option of doing this. In our Fertile Fire District a 911 emergency call for medical assistance will alert the dispatcher to page out our department along with ambulance service. A predetermined ambulance service is automatically dispatched unless the caller requests another. We have continuing service with Snell's and the Forest City Ambulance services, with no complaints.

In the 911 computer system, your address and/or phone number displays information, allowing the dispatcher to determine which emergency services are needed for your specific crisis. If you are unsure of who will respond, contact the Sheriff's Department using their Non-Emergency phone number and ask this dispatcher to verify for you. In Cerro Gordo County that number is 641-421-3000, for Worth County the number is 641-324-2481.


In the event that your address is currently set up for a non-preferred ambulance service of your choice, you may switch the predetermined service to one you prefer. This may be done for any one address, for or by the current tenant/property owner only. Contact your County EMS Director to make these changes for you, the Sheriff's Department can help you reach them.

As always, please feel free to contact a Fertile Fire Department Volunteer for more information. We are happy to serve you, and again THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

October Revenue	NOVEMBER	
Property Tax		2,082.55
Water/Sewer/Garbage		8,870.81
Street Revenue		2,375.59
Local Option Tax		1,163.63
Aukes, sewer equipment		1,200.00
Moorehead Elec, Street repair		2,000.00
TOTAL	NOVEMBER	\$17,692.58
October Expenses		
Dave Low		301.49
Warren Bruns		826.12
Gloria Kirschbaum		278.66
Power Acct		1,667.00
Water Acct		1,474.00
FICA		296.53
IPERS		172.65
WCTA		56.33
Waste Systems		1,666.50
Alliant		545.26
N Ia Media Grp..election		138.66
Dennis Ganz		168.03
Aquila		93.73
Ermer Ins. Bond		100.00
Worth Auditor. ballots		15.70
LGI, sewer/water		119.00
Crescent Moon		120.00
Hare Electric		1,660.68
Water Tower Painting		140.00
Nettleton Excavating		33,366.08
Lake Side Const		1,200.00
Northwood Anchor		90.00
Haugen Contracting		473.82
Misc		71.44
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$45,041.68

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 *

LENNOX



HARE ELECTRIC

FRED, JIM, TOM & ALLEN HARE

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 PAGER: 1-641-422-3017 FERTILE IA, 50434



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 (641)-797-2787 Phone/Fax
 Monday 1:00 - 8:00 PM
 Wednesday 2:00 - 6:00 PM
 Friday 9:00 am - Noon & 2:00 - 5:00 PM
 Saturday - 9:00 am - Noon



New Hours!

NEW BOOKS

Exit Wounds - J.A. Jance
 Bare Bones - Kathy Reichs
 Big Bad Wolf - James Patterson
 The Five People You meet in Heaven - Mitch Albom
 A Gathering Place - Thomas Kincaide
 Die in Plain Sight - Elizabeth Lowell
 Split Second - David Baldacci
 The Killing Hour - Lisa Gardner
 The Devil Wears Prada - Lauren Weisberger
 Second Glance - Jodi Picoult
 Key of Knowledge - Nora Roberts
 The Conspiracy Club - Jonathan Club
 Line of Duty - Terri Blackstock
 Those Christmas Angels - Debbie Macomber
 Flyboys - James Brady
 Pearl Harbor - Gordon W. Prange

VIDEOS

Matrix Reloaded - Keanu Reeves
 John John in the Sky - Randy Travis
 Agent Cody Banks - Frankie Muniz
 Darkness Falls - Chaney Kley
 The Transporter - (DVD) - Jason Statham
 Dreamcatcher - Morgan Freeman
 Legally Blonde 2 - Reece Whitherspoon
 Finding Nemo - Disney
 Stitch the Movie - Disney
 Piglet's Big Movie - Disney
 Terminator 3 - Arnold Schwarzenegger
 Solaris - George Clooney
 Daddy Daycare - Eddie Murphy
 The Italian Job - Marc Wahlberg
 Swan Lake - Barbie
 Anger Management - Adam Sadler

Thank you for donating to the Santa Fund!

Burtness Plumbing & Heating
 Hare Electric
 Larsen Plumbing & Heating
 Shryock Racing

Thank you for donating to the Library Friends Drawing!

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 Goldie Felland
 Tammy Waddington
 Humble Beginnings/Joanne Kaasa
 Pat Oswald
 Downtown Café
 Shryock Racing
 Shryock Racing Components
 Kevin Knudson
 Titonka Savings Bank
 Cletus & Carolyn Nedved
 Jerry & Donna Ouverson
 Subway
 Thompson's Garage
 Pizza Hut
 Pronto
 Dawn Millard
 Betty Suby
 Tammy Hall



Another Christmas Open House has come & gone. Santa (Al Ramon) handed out candy canes and gifts to the kids. Thank you Santa Al & all who brought the yummy holiday treats. At 11:00 Santa drew the winning tickets for the Library Friend's drawing. Tori Nedved of Forest City won the TV-VCR Combo. Fifty two prizes in all were won. We appreciate all the support we get each year. We are grateful to those who donate money or items, those who sell tickets & to you who buy them. Happy New Year Everyone!

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Let's Go To The Gym.

Neil L. Kuns

January 5, 1995

Fertile Church of Christ

502 N. 1st Street - 641.797.2784

Sunday

9:00 - Sunday School (for all ages)

10:00 - Fellowship Time

10:15 - Worship Service

5:15 - Evening Family Activities

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - Bible Study

Come and be our guest.

I'm fascinated by the way a simple phrase can change in its meaning over a couple generations. On New Year's Day I was talking with our daughter Julie and one of her friends about their progress in a weight loss program. The food regimens were tolerable and beginning to show some promise. When I asked them what they were doing for exercise, Julie's friend said, "I go to the gym three days a week." Some of those *gyms* are posh perspiration palaces, complete with stereophonic music, plush carpeted floors, ergonomically designed exercise machines, plus saunas and steam rooms that would make a Roman Emperor envious. That's what "going to the gym" means these days here in Lotus Land. This is not anywhere *near* the meaning of the phrase fifty years ago in Fertile, Iowa.

Our school gymnasium had been built at the end of the 1930's with funds from the WPA (Works Progress Administration, a New Deal "make work" program) and was the pride of the town. The building was well used for athletics, dramas, PTA meetings, banquets and other community activities, but on Saturdays it was usually unheated and unused. Les Lindquist, the custodian, was at work in the school house on Saturday, preparing the building for classes the following Monday. During winter week-ends the boys in town were permitted to play basketball in the gym as long as Les was on the premises. We would rattle the doors to get his attention and then ask if it would be alright for us to shoot some baskets. Most often it was no problem.

The practice basketballs were kept in canvas bags under the west end of the stage. Depending on how many kids were present we either divided up into teams for a pick-up game or just practiced shooting hoops. Sometimes we would compete by playing "horse." If the first player made his shot the subsequent players had to make the same shot from the same spot to continue. The next shot was from a different spot further from the basket. The game continued until someone missed the basket.

Street shoes would have damaged the floor so we played in our stocking feet those days. Sometimes the floor was almost too cold. In truth, I don't remember anyone ever saying he was going home because he had cold feet. Jerry Jenkins and his brothers were among the town boys who frequented the gym those Saturdays. Perhaps some of the skills which enabled the Fertile High School basketball team of which he was a part to go to the State tournament in the late 50's were honed on the hardwood those cold winter Saturday mornings.

Something of the town's pride in the gym had made its way into the minds of the kids. Rarely was there any damage to the building caused by wildly thrown balls or other mischief. As I have mentioned before, the school was a central magnet which held the community together as long as it operated in town.. This was true not only with the formal activities, but also with the informal fun we had when we decided to go to the gym. The building is now referred to as the "Community Center." As far as I am concerned it always has been one of the centers of the community.

Copyright, Neil L. Kuns, 1995

FERTILE LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

602 W. WASHINGTON ST., PO Box 215

FERTILE, IOWA 50434-0215;

Phone Number: 641-797-2767

9:30 worship
10:35 SS

WIT & WISDOM FROM THE WORLD WIDE WEB

JUST BEING HELPFUL

It is important for men to remember that as women grow older it becomes harder for them to maintain the same quality of housekeeping as they did when they were younger. When men notice this, they should try not to yell. Let me relate how I handle the situation.

When I got laid off my consulting job and took "early retirement" in January, it became necessary for Nancy to get a full time job, both for extra income and for health benefits that we need. She was a trained medical transcriptionist when we met twenty-eight years ago and was fortunate to land a job at a local transcription house. It was shortly after she started working at this job that I noticed that she was beginning to show her age.

I usually get home from fishing or hunting about the same time she gets home from work. Although she knows how hungry I am, she almost always says that she has to rest for half an hour or so before she starts supper. I try not to yell at her when this happens. Instead, I tell her to take her time, I understand that she is not as young as she used to be. I just tell her to wake me when she finally does get supper on the table.

She used to wash and dry the dishes as soon as we finished eating. It is now not unusual for them to sit on the table for several hours after supper. I do what I can by reminding her several times each evening that they aren't cleaning themselves. I know she appreciates this, as it does seem to help her get them done before she goes to bed.

Our washer and dryer are in the basement. When she was younger, Nancy used to be able to go up and down stairs all day and not get tired. Now that she is older she seems to get tired so much more quickly. Sometimes she says she just can't make another trip down those steps. I don't make a big issue of this. As long as she finishes the next evening I am willing to overlook it. Unless I need something ironed to wear to the Monday lodge meeting or to Wednesday or Saturday poker club or to Tuesday or Thursday bowling or something like that, I will tell her to wait until the next evening to do the ironing. This gives her a little more time to do some of those odds and ends things like shampooing the dog, vacuuming or dusting. Also, if I have a really good day fishing, this allows her to gut and scale the fish at a more leisurely pace.

Nancy is starting to complain a little, occasionally. Not often, mind you, but just enough for me to notice. For example, she will say that it is difficult for her to find time to pay the monthly bills during her lunch hour. In spite of her complaining, I continue to try to offer encouragement. I tell her to stretch it out over two or even three days. That way she won't have to rush so much. I also remind her that missing lunch completely now and then wouldn't hurt her any, if you know what I mean.

When doing simple jobs she seems to think she needs more rest periods than she used to have to take. A couple weeks ago she said she had to take a break when she was only half finished mowing the yard. I overlook comments like these because I realize it's just age talking. In fact, I try not to embarrass her when she needs these little extra rest breaks. I tell her to fix herself a nice, big, cold glass of freshly squeezed lemonade and just sit for a while. I even offer to have one with her, as she may as well make one for me too, and take her break by the hammock so she can talk to me until I fall asleep.

I could go on and on, but I think you know where I'm coming from. I know I probably look like a saint in the way I support Nancy on a daily basis. I'm not saying that the ability to show this much consideration is easy. Many men will find it difficult. Some will find it impossible. No one knows better than I how frustrating women can become as they get older.

My purpose in writing this is to simply suggest you make the effort. Achieving the exemplary level of consideration I have attained is out of reach for the average man. However, guys, even if you just yell at your wife a little less often because of this article, I will consider that writing it was worthwhile.

Fred

(Fred's funeral was on Saturday, Nancy was acquitted on Monday)

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JOAN SHIRLEY HANSMEIER
1931 - 2003

Joan Shirley Hansmeier, 72, of Foley, MN, formerly of
Ile, died Wednesday, December 24, 2003 at home.

A funeral service was held at Fertile Church of Christ on
December 31, 2003, with Kurt Gallmeyer officiating.
Interment was at Brush Point Cemetery, Fertile.

Joan was born April 8, 1931, in Foley,
MN, the daughter of William and Mary
Gray.

She graduated from Foley High School.
She worked at the Foley Bakery. Joan was a
W.A.C. in the U. S. Army.

Joan married Marvin G. Hansmeier on
Oct. 8, 1949, in Foley. They were married
49 years.



Joan and Marvin moved to Fertile in the spring of 1954.
She was a bookkeeper for Fertile Quarry, then later a nurses'
aid at Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Forest City.

She helped her husband as a bookkeeper while he ran the
gas station.

She loved singing and listening to music, knitting,
crocheting, traveling, and her pets.

Following her husband's death, she moved back to her
hometown of Foley. After returning home, she was very
active in the Presbyterian Church in Foley.

Joan was a member of the Church of Christ in Fertile.

Joan is survived by five sons: Bruce and his wife Glenna
of Clear lake, Mick and his wife Deb, of Minneapolis, MN,
Doug and his wife Lisa of Maple Grove, MN, Craig and his
wife Dawn, of Fertile and Todd and his partner, Steve, of
Clear Lake. Nine grandchildren three great-grandchildren;
and one brother, Les Gray and his wife Mary of San
Bernardino, CA; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, husband
Marvin on Oct. 21, 1998; two sisters, Margie and Doris; and
one brother, Bud.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

Can you guess who this is?



WORTH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

- January 27 Child Immunization Clinic at Methodist
Church in Northwood. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
No appt necessary.
- February 10 Nail Clinic at Grafton. Call 800-765-1388
for appt.
- Feb. 19 Child Immunization Clinic at Worth
County Public Health, Northwood from
1 p.m. to 5 p.m. No appt. necessary.
- Feb. 24 Child Immunization Clinic at Methodist
Church in Northwood from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
No appt necessary.
- February 25 Nail Clinic at Maple Court in Northwood.
Call 800-765-1388 or 324-1741 for appt.
- March 3 Nail clinic in Manly. Call 800-765-1388
for appt.

If you have any questions, please call Worth County Public
Health at 641-324-1741 or 800-765-1388.

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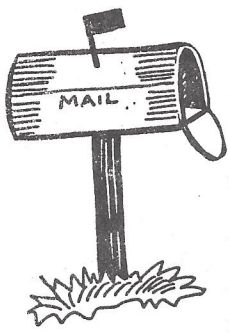
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The Big Fish!
Paul Humphrey caught this big
Northern - 20 lb. 12 oz
At Clear Lake on the shore of
Garner Beach about 1941.
Paul is kneeling. Cork Rye
is holding the Northern.



Hi! Gals of the Fertile Reminder,
I see I have a red notice that I need to renew my subscription, so I am sending a check for another year. While I have been here in New Mexico, I've really enjoyed the paper, so I don't want to miss any.

We have been having nice weather, not a snow flake so far and we never get a lot of snow. Last winter it snowed a few times but just a small amount each time. And we have had a few good rains. Such different weather than Iowa.

I am enclosing my check for another year's renewal of the Reminder. Thanks to each of you,

Love,
Vera Humphrey
* * *

Dear Ladies,

I would like to renew my subscription to this great paper. I enjoy it so very much and it often takes me down "memory lane". I guess one does that a lot when old age sets in! Ha!

Keep up the good work. Thank you.
Ver Lynn (Ouverson) Austin
* * *

Dear Ladies,

We so enjoy the Fertile Reminder. Please renew it. Was so saddened by the gym fire. So many wonderful memories went up in flames. Hope they catch the arsonist!

Sue (Purcell) Miller-Class of '61
Rice Lake - Lake Mills, IA
* * *

Dear "Editors",

Here's my renewal check for another year of the Fertile Reminder. I always look forward to receiving it each month. I especially enjoy Neil's stories of his "escapades" when he was young.

Donna Fuller
Kissimmee, Fl (6 mo. each)
& Cedar Falls, IA
* * *

Dear Reminder Ladies,

Thank you for your faithful dedication. We enjoy reading the Reminder.

Thank you again!

Floyd & Lois Zobel
* * *

Please renew our Fertile Reminder. We enjoy keeping up with our old home town news. You ladies do a great job.

Lanny & Sandy Jenkins

FERTILE ALUMNI BANQUET

The Fertile Alumni banquet will be held June 12, 2004 at Paradise Parties in Clear Lake.

If you have changed address in the last 3 years, please send the change to:

Harlan Rodberg
615 S. Gold Course Road
Forest City, IA 50436

Then you will sure to receive your reservation card.

THANK YOU!

Thank you, friends, for remembering me in your prayers, for all the gifts, visits and food I received following my surgery.

I really appreciate it all. May God bless you all in this new year. Thank you.

Romaine Lovik

FERTILE DOWNTOWN CAFE

Redo Thurs
TUESDAY NIGHTS - TACOS 5-8 p.m.

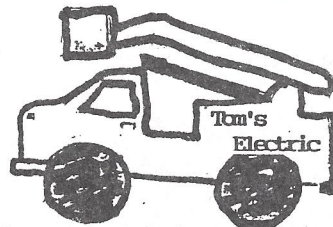
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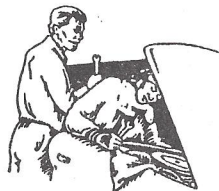


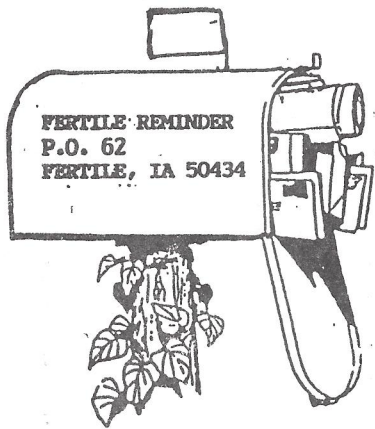
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