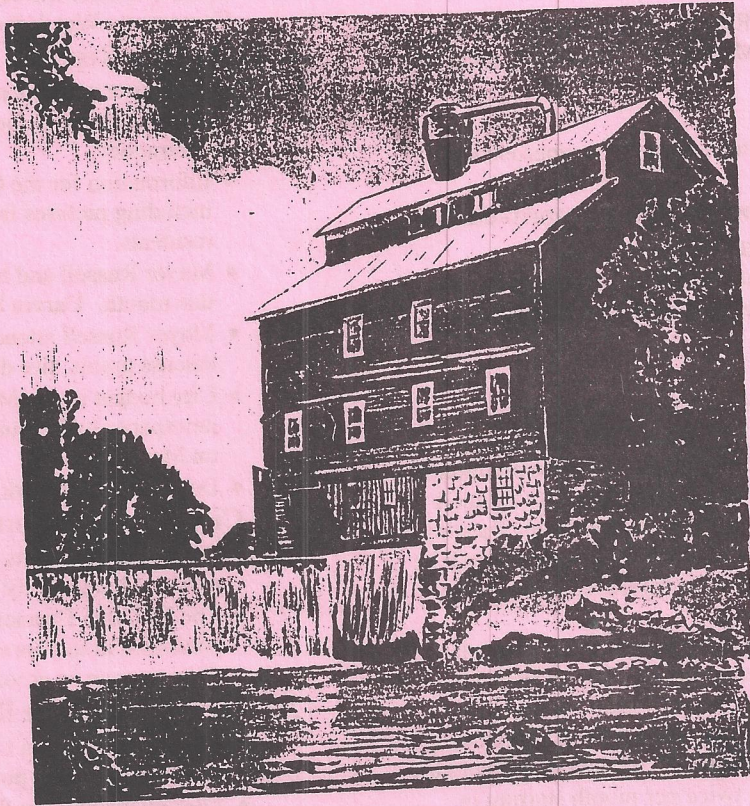


FEBRUARY 2006

FERTILE REMINDER



COMING EVENTS

Feb. 2	FB&I Meeting	7 p.m.
Feb. 6	Fire Dept. Meeting	7 p.m.
Feb. 7	Senior Dinner City Council Meeting	Noon 7 p.m.
Feb. 9	Recycle Day	
Feb. 14	Garden Club	
Feb. 18	Boys & Girls 4-H	
Feb. 20	Library Board Meeting	7 p.m.
Feb. 21	Senior Dinner	Noon
Feb. 23	Recycle Day	

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

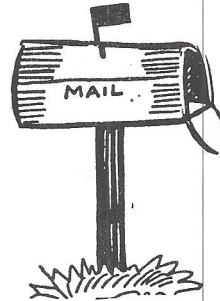
December 6, 2005, 7:00 PM

City Hall

- 1.) Call to Order
The Fertile City Council met at 7:00 PM in regular session, December 6, 2005, at Fertile City Hall.
- 2.) Roll Call
Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council members Jeff Berg, Melanne Bang, Tad Miller, Gail Shropshire, and City Clerk Eddie May.
- 3.) Minutes Approval
Tad Miller moved and Melanne Bang 2nd to approve the November minutes.
- 4.) Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer Improvement Project and CDBG Grant Application
Hearing was published in the Forest City Newspaper. No further discussion was made. Roll call vote made to continue the process.
- 5.) Waste Management
Margo Underwood was here to discuss the recycling program. She notified the City Council that they can increase pick-up to twice per month for .22 extra per month per household. Underwood also notified the City Council that recycling collection day will be changed from Tuesday to Thursday starting in January. Waste Management will be sending out an educational mailing regarding what can be recycled and when pick-ups are.
Discussion was made about empty houses. City Council agreed that anyone who does not utilize their garbage or recycling for a period time must notify the City Clerk directly in order for charges to be waived for that period. Tad Miller Moved, Melanne Bang 2nd, Jeff Berg declined to approve, change recycling to twice per month starting in January. Motion carried.
- 6.) Denny Bonwell
Denny Bonwell requested a licence for selling cigarettes and beer. City Council discussed the State regulations regarding this request. City Council postponed decision because Denny Bonwell was not in attendance.
- 7.) Community Protection Ordinance
A copy of the ordinance to restrict residency of sexual offenders prepared by the City Attorney was presented. A copy of the ordinance is available at City Hall.
Jeff Berg Moved, Tad Miller 2nd to adopt the ordinance. A role call vote was required: YES: Jeff Berg, Gail Shropshire, Tad Miller, and Melanne Bang. NO: no one declined. Ordinance was adopted.
Jeff Berg Moved, Melanne Bang 2nd, to forgo the 2nd and 3rd hearings. Roll Call Vote: YES: Jeff Berg, Melanne Bang, Tad Miller, and Gail Shropshire. NO: no one declined. Motion carried.
- 8.) Hazmat Ordinance
City Council will approach the City Attorney for the drafting of a new ordinance.
- 9.) Burn Pile Restrictions
Illegal burn materials have been continually placed into the burn pile such as bricks, garbage, leaves, etc. DNR will fine the City if we burn illegal materials. The gate is now locked for the winter. The gate will be unlocked the last week of December and the first week of January for the disposal of Christmas trees. Discussion will be re-initiated in the spring for the next season's issues.
- 10.) Vandalism
City Council is asking parents to enforce the City Curfew ordinance which states that minors, 17 and under, cannot be off their property without an adult from 10:01 pm to 5:00 a.m. Melanne Bang will contact the County Sheriff's office to receive more information on the possibilities for a Community Watch Program.
- 11.) Mayor's Report
 - Computer equipment will be installed in January for Worth County to locate cell phone callers during an emergency.
 - Information for the CDBG has been sent to Marsha Cory, including pictures from the flooding submitted by residents.
 - Mayor Russell and husband Buck hung Christmas lights this month. Darwin Stecker is fixing the burnt out lights.
 - Mayor Russell attended a meeting in Northwood to discuss grants, fire dept, etc.
 - City budget is due March 15th. We will publish in the newspaper by February 20th. We will approve the budget on March 7th.
 - Dave Low will work for one more year with Warren.
- 12.) City Clerk's Report
 - Financial statements for July through November were presented to the City Council.
 - The FY 2005 Financial Report for the State has been published in the Forest City Summit. It will be sent to the State as soon as proof of publishing is received.
- 13.) City Maintenance Report
 - Lagoon froze – can't replace damaged drainage valve. Will replace when possible.
 - Muskrat problem in the lagoon. Bruns asked for \$800 to repair their damage and for the Council to consider budgeting an amount for regular maintainance.
 - USDA is coming to inspect the water/sewer system next week.
 - Repairs were made on the city plow. Bruns requested that we begin to budget for replacement of the truck within the next 2 – 3 years.
- 14.) Approve Expenditures
Tad Miller moved, Gail Shropshire 2nd to approve the expenditures. Motion carried.
- 15.) Committee Reports
No committee reports were presented.
- 16.) Other Business
General discussion was made on maintaining City property values.
- 17.) Agenda Items for Next Meeting
Budget Worksheets
- 18.) Upcoming Meetings
The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00 PM in regular session, January 4, 2006, at Fertile City Hall.
- 19.) Adjourn
Jeff Berg moved, Tad Miller 2nd to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

**City of Fertile
Expenditures and Revenues
As of November 30, 2005**

Type	Name	Paid Amount
002 - General Fund		
Bill Pmt -Check	BMC	-113.73
Bill Pmt -Check	Five Star CO-OP	-56.71
Bill Pmt -Check	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	-71.72
Bill Pmt -Check	LGI	-45.05
Bill Pmt -Check	Pronto	-68.20
Bill Pmt -Check	Thompson's Garage	-3.59
Bill Pmt -Check	USA Blue Book	-89.23
Bill Pmt -Check	WCTA	-246.68
Bill Pmt -Check	Winntech Central	-137.99
Bill Pmt -Check	Aquila	-388.60
Bill Pmt -Check	Brian Nettleton Excavating, I...	-925.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Crescent Moon, LLC	-120.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Farmers Lumber Company	-168.37
Bill Pmt -Check	North Central Sales & Service	-149.99
Bill Pmt -Check	North Iowa Media Group	-10.10
Bill Pmt -Check	Waste Management	-1,833.22
Check	Staples	-257.13
Check	Alliant Energy	-839.89
Check	Winntech Central	-2,175.95
Check	Petty Cash	-43.00
Check	IRS	-369.14
Check	US Post Office	-83.00
Check	Ruth Ouverson	-91.50
Check	Kay Olson	-73.50
Check	Ruth Rhodes	-73.50
Deposit	W/S/G	3,499.43
Deposit	W/S/G	2,028.24
Deposit	Worth County	2,093.81
Deposit	W/S/G	3,349.47
Deposit	First State Bank	29.56
Paycheck	Ganz, Dennis	-53.18
Paycheck	Bruns, Warren	-956.24
Paycheck	Russell, Grant	-334.85
Paycheck	May III, Edgar F	-436.25
Paycheck	Low, David	-300.41
Total 002 - General Fund		484.79
003 - Sewage Revenue Fund		
Deposit	First State Bank	3.43
Total 003 - Sewage Revenue Fund		3.43
004 - Water Revenue Fund		
Deposit	First State Bank	2.32
Total 004 - Water Revenue Fund		2.32
1160 - Money Market Savings		
Deposit	Rachuet, Ronald	150.00
Deposit	First State Bank	24.05
Total 1160 - Money Market Savings		174.05
TOTAL		664.59



Dear Reminder,

Please renew my paper for another year. I always miss it when the paper expires. I must look in the wrong place.

Thank you.

Nelda Halverson

Dear Reminder Ladies,

Please renew my subscription for the Fertile Reminder for another year. I really enjoy getting it. Thanks!

Judi Larson

Dear Reminder Staff,

Thanks for the great work you are doing for Fertile and its' friends. Please renew my subscription.

Diane Corner

Dear Reminder Staff,

Please renew my subscription for another year. Keep up the good work.

Lyle Knudson

THANK YOU!

A special "Thank you" to everyone who made our 60th anniversary a day we will remember and cherish always.

The cards, messages and remarks were very special. It was a great "Thanksgiving Weekend." Makes us realize how much we have to be thankful for.

Arden and Fern Midtgaard

We don't know how we can THANK everyone for all the many ways you have helped us cope with Virgil's illness and being homebound since before Thanksgiving. It's all appreciated so much.

Living in a small town is an asset. Thanks just isn't enough.

Our love,

Virgil & Ruth

Thank you for all the support everyone has given us for the 1st 10 years at Downtown Cafe. Here's hoping our next 10 will be as much fun as the 1st 10 years have been. Thanks for the gifts, money and card for Christmas. LOVE YOU ALL!

Janie & Al Ramon

FERTILE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department has loaned out two large roasters some time ago. If you have them, please contact Fire Chief Dwight Bruns at 641-797-2218 or return them to the Fire Department as soon as possible. Thanks!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Fertile Alumni Banquet will be held on Saturday night, August 5th at Paradise Parties in Clear Lake. Invitations will be sent out at a later date. Anyone who wants to help can call Harlan Rodberg at 641-585-3449. Thank you very much.

Harlan Rodberg

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City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

January, 3 2006, 7:00 PM

City Hall

1.) Call to Order

The Fertile City Council met at 7:00 PM in regular session, January 3, 2006, at Fertile City Hall.

2.) Roll Call

Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council Members: Jeff Berg, Tad Miller, Gail Shropshire and Pat Renchin and City Clerk Eddie May. Absent was Melanne Bang.

3.) Minutes Approval

Mayor Joyce Russell found an error in December's Minutes as follows: the date of the next Council Meeting was noted as January 4, 2006 instead of January 3, 2006. Jeff Berg moved and Gail Shropshire 2nd to approve the December minutes.

4.) Swear in New Council Members

Council Members Gail Shropshire and Tad Miller as well as Mayor Joyce Russell were re-sworn in. Pat Renchin was sworn in as a new Council Member to fill Paul Younger's vacancy.

5.) Fill Council Position Vacancies and Openings

- Mayor Pro-Tem - Tad Miller
- Council Positions
- Streets and Signs Committee – Pat & Gail
- Water & Sewer – Tad & Jeff
- Parks Committee – Pat & Jeff
- Weeds & Garbage – Gail & Melanne
- Building & Permits – Tad Miller
- Winn-Worth Betco Representative – Unassigned

6.) Proposed Amendment to the Snow Removal Ordinance

Mayor Joyce Russell and City Maintenance Man Presented an amendment to the Snow Removal Ordinance relating to accidental damage and right to removal of illegally parked property. The Ordinance is on file at City Hall and is posted at the City Library for citizen's review.

Jeff Berg Moved, Pat Renchin 2nd to approve Amendment to the Snow Removal Ordinance. Role Call Vote was unanimous. Carried. 2nd and 3rd Hearings were waived Jeff Berg, Gail Shropshire, roll call was unanimous. Carried.

7.) Mayor's Report

- Joyce and Warren met with Rural Water Association, an USDA approved service, for the City's required SEMS report. SEMS is required by the USDA as a part of our Emergency Management requirements.
- Dave Low reported to the DNR as requested.
- City Attorney John Greve has initially stated that a hazmat ordinance would be difficult to legally pass because of discrimination against businesses in general. As long as a business is located within a commercial zone, and meets State and Federal regulations, they must be allowed to operate. Greve will meet with the Council

and concerned citizens at a future Council Meeting in order to discuss public safety issues.

8.) City Clerk's Report

- The purpose of the \$5.00 "Meter Fee" was brought up for discussion. The Council stated that the fee was initially set-up to cover ongoing maintenance on the water system. This was initially designated for Meter replacements, but was also intended for water tower painting and cleaning and other water system maintenance. Therefore the Council decided to re-name the fee to more accurately describe its purpose "Service Maintenance Fee."
- Discussion was also made in regards to the policy for late charges assessed to Utility Bills. Late charges have been assessed on only the water portion of the bill. The late charges were also being calculated on the immediate prior month of past due amounts only. The council agreed that the intent of the late charges are to cover the entire past due amounts including all services and all past due amounts. Late charges will not be assessed on past due late charges or taxes.

9.) City Maintenance Report

- In the absence of Warren Bruns, Jeff Berg or Tom Kirchbaum will operate the snow plow.
- A new time sheet will be prepared in order to break down the City Maintenance hours for water, sewer, parks, etc.

10.) Approve Expenditures

Gail Shropshire moved, Tad Miller 2nd to approve the expenditures. Carried.

11.) Committee Reports

No committee reports were presented.

12.) Budget Discussion

Initial discussion was begun in regards to the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year Budget.

13.) New Business

- Approval of new Fire Dept Officers: Chief Jeff Berg, Assistant Chief John Jordan, Secretary Mike Dahn, Treasurer Dan Miller, Medical /Safety/Training Officers: Bruce Waddington, Josh Miller and Dan Lee. All Officers were appointed for a 1 year term. Tad Miller Moved, Gail Shropshire 2nd to approve the new Fire Department Officers. Carried.

14.) Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Budget Approval

15.) Upcoming Meetings

The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00 PM for a budget planning session, January 24, 2006, at Fertile City Hall. All requests for municipal funding must be presented by that time.

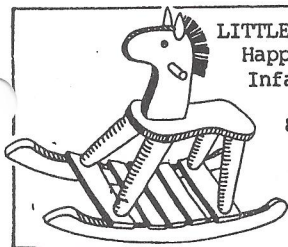
The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00 PM in regular session, February 7, 2006, at Fertile City Hall.

16.) Adjourn

Pat Renchin moved, Gail Shropshire 2nd to adjourn. Carried. Meeting adjourned.

**City of Fertile
Expenditures and Revenues
As of December 31, 2005**

Type	Name	Paid Amount
0001110 · General Fund Checking		
Bill Pmt -Check	Ace Hardware	-46.99
Bill Pmt -Check	Alliant Energy	-811.47
Bill Pmt -Check	Downtown Cafe'	-24.34
Bill Pmt -Check	Five Star CO-OP	-10.70
Bill Pmt -Check	Iowa Rural Water Association	-175.00
Bill Pmt -Check	LGI	-118.80
Bill Pmt -Check	Pronto	-105.31
Bill Pmt -Check	RVS Software	-818.23
Bill Pmt -Check	Simmering-Cory, Inc.	-300.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Standard Bearings	-128.08
Bill Pmt -Check	Staples	-60.92
Bill Pmt -Check	Treasurer - Worth County	-29.22
Bill Pmt -Check	USA Blue Book	-90.13
Bill Pmt -Check	Waste Management	-1,833.22
Bill Pmt -Check	WCTA	-49.38
Bill Pmt -Check	Yaggy Colby Associates	-4,927.86
Bill Pmt -Check	Aquila	-710.35
Bill Pmt -Check	Brcka Construction, Inc.	-250.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Farmers Lumber Company	-9.49
Bill Pmt -Check	North Iowa Media Group	-88.47
Bill Pmt -Check	Allied Insurance	-100.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Fertile Little League	-500.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Thompson's Garage	-26.90
Check	Fertile Fire Department	-1,375.00
Check	Fertile Library	-2,250.00
Check	US Post Office	-46.00
Check	Russell, Joyce	-51.66
Check	May III, Edgar F	-40.24
Check	Russell, Joyce	-150.00
Deposit	W/S/G	1,532.85
Deposit		3,771.22
Deposit		2,814.62
Deposit	Treasurer - State of Iowa	6,822.48
Deposit	Worth County	3,844.34
Deposit		4,081.67
Paycheck	Bruns, Warren	-1,259.98
Paycheck	Ganz, Dennis	-53.19
Paycheck	Low, David	-300.41
Paycheck	May III, Edgar F	-631.48
Paycheck	Bang, Melanie	-129.29
Paycheck	Berg, Jeffrey	-221.64
Paycheck	Miller, Tad	-184.70
Paycheck	Russell, Joyce	-461.75
Paycheck	Shropshire, Gail	-221.64
Paycheck	Youngers, Paul	-129.29
Total 0001110 · General Fund Checking		4,146.05
0001111 · Sewage Revenue Fund Checking		
Total 0001111 · Sewage Revenue Fund Checking		
0001112 · Water Revenue Fund Checking		
Total 0001112 · Water Revenue Fund Checking		
0001160 · Money Market Savings		
Total 0001160 · Money Market Savings		
		4,146.05



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Fertile, IA
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ANSWERS

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Pumpkin | 13 Butterscotch |
| 2. Coconut Custard | 14 Lemon Meringue |
| 3. Apple | 15 Raisin |
| 4. Peach | 16 Rhubarb |
| 5. Strawberry | 17 Apricot |
| 6. Huckleberry | 18 Blueberry |
| 7. raspberry | 19 Grape |
| 8. Plum | 20 Blackberry |
| 9. Banana Cream | 21 Meat |
| 10. Current | 22 Cranberry |
| 11. Mince | 23 Chocolate Custard |
| 12. Prune | 24 Sweet Potato |

WEIGHT WATCHERS

Anyone interested in joining Weight Watchers
in Fertile, contact Jane Ramon at 797-2510.
We need 20 members and we can have meetings
at the cafe.

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allergies, emphysema or any other breathing
difficulties? Do you have pet odors, smoke
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cause any mold or mildew problems?

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outside freshness back inside. Call me for a
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Fertile, IA 50434

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Monday 1:00 - 8:00 PM / Wednesday 2 - 6 P.M.

Friday - 9:00 A.M. - Noon & 2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Saturday - 9:00 am - Noon

NEW BOOKS

Even Now – Karen Kingsbury
 The Rising – LaHaye/Jenkins
 Ellsworth Trail – Jory Sherman
 Red Lily – Nora Roberts
 Don't Kiss Them Good-bye – Allison Dubois
 Lyon's Gate – Catherine Coulter
 On the Run – Iris Johansen
 Every Breath You Take – Judith McNaught
 Just Rewards – Barbara Taylor Bradford
 All Night Long – Jayne Ann Krentz
 Cross Bones – Kathy Riechels
 S is for Silence – Sue Grafton
 Whiskey Sour - J. A. Konrath
 Storekeeper's Daughter – Wanda Brunstette
Large Print –
 Alaska: Destiny's Road – Tracie Peterson
 The Christmas Angel – Thomas Kinkade
 Unspoken – Angela hunt
 Hannah's Hope – Karen Kingsbury

NEW DVD's

The Polar Express – Tom Hanks
 The Longest Yard – Adam Sandler
 The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants – Amber Tamblyn
 Fever Pitch – Drew Barrymore
 War of the Worlds – Tom Cruise
 Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy – Sam Rockwell
 Skeleton Key – Kate Hudson
 Sahara – Mathew McConaughey
 March of the Penguins
 Bewitched – Nicole Kidman
 The Wrecking Crew/The Ambushers – Dean Martin
 Murderers' Row/The Silencers – Dean Martin

NEW AUDIOS

Tales from the Old West – Louis L'Amour
 Mary Mary – James Patterson
 Black Orchid – Nora Roberts
 S is for Silence – Sue Grafton

LIBRARY NEWS

Tara Dahn was the BIG winner of the \$100.00 Wal-Mart gift card. Thank you to these businesses & individuals for donating prizes: *Wal-Mart, Downtown Café, Fareway, Pronto, Humble Beginnings, Genie's Gifts, Betty Suby, Bobbie Young, MBT, Carolyn Nedved, Salon Intrigue, KFC, Butcher's Steakhouse, Bennigan's, Subway, Godfather's, McDonalds, Titonka Savings Bank, Tammy Waddington, Lake Chiropractic & Massage, Beehive Quilt Shoppe.* A list of the winners is on the reading table.

Santa thanks *LARSEN PLUMBING AND HEATING, HARE ELECTRIC, & THOMPSON GARAGE* for donating to the Santa fund!

The First Lady of Iowa

Christie Vilsak

will be @ the Fertile Library Monday, January 30.

Watch for signs to announce the time!

**MARJORY MASON
1903 -2005**

Marjorie Mason of Boise, Idaho passed away on November 26, 2005. Memorial services were held December 11, 2005 at Boise First Congregational United Church of Christ in Boise, Idaho.

Maarjorie was born on Dec. 14, 1903, just three days before the Wright brothers' famous flight at Kitty Hawk. She was raised in Fertile, IA on a farm run by her parents, Sander & Carrie Sanderson, five brothers and one sister. Her Norwegian immigrant grandfather was a teacher and taught the last Winnebago Indian chief to live in that area to speak English. She saw the last Native American camp at Indian Rock and saw the first automobile drive into Fertile. Despite the difficult work and hardship of life on the farm, she managed to attend college and taught school at the tender age of 18.

Eventually Marjory met and married Earl Baker in 1924, who was also a teacher and principal. The couple moved to Colorado where she continued to teach in small schools, moving to a new one every few years. While they lived outside of Sterling, CO, she gave birth to her son, Richard, in 1925. On the drive home from the hospital with her newborn son, their car was overrun by a huge dust storm. The stories she told of the difficult life in the dustbowl were astounding.

World War II brought her back to teaching in Snyder and Monte Vista where the winter temperatures could dip to 50 low zero. Her son, Richard, enlisted in the Navy in 1942, serving for three years in the Pacific. It was shortly thereafter that she divorced and decided to continue her studies, earning her degree and life teaching certificate in 1948.

She moved to Twin Falls where she taught eighth-grade history and geography for six years. In 1954 she was offered a position in Mason City, IA where she taught junior high geography for 16 years. She remained in Mason City for nearly 10 years after retiring, deciding to move to Boise, Idaho, in 1979 to be near her two brothers and their families living there.

In Boise, she was active in her church and there met Floyd Mason who she married in 1979 (when she was 79 and he was 83). They were happily married for three years before he passed away.

On her 90th birthday she celebrated by flying in a hot air balloon; on her 95th she rode in a helicopter and on her 100th she rode in a sidecar of a brand new Harley Davidson motorcycle (which was broadcast on television).

Despite her being the eldest child and having some very serious health problems as a girl, she outlived all her siblings. Her incredible memory and ability to discuss current events and politics were difficult to match, even in her final days.


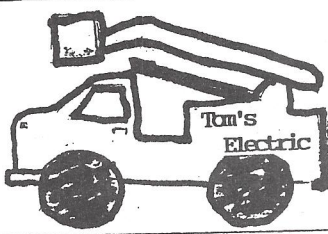
Our deepest sympathy to the family.



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FERTILE IA, 50434

FERTILE DOWNTOWN CAFE
WINTER HOURS
5:00 AM TO 1:30 PM
TUESDAY - Taco Night 4:30 - 7:30
THURSDAY - Soup or
Fish, Ribs, or Chicken
4:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Where friends go to meet friends!

PHOENIX

The 4th day went without special incident and we reached Phoenix about 7 pm that evening. I allowed myself to be put on a leash and taken out on the grass with Muffy, although I felt greatly dissed. Harriet's son Jeff lives in an apartment and I was quite interested in a huge aquarium he has with large fish. The fish and I stared at each other but there was no way to get at them. I would not mind staying, for there were several excellent hiding spots, but we spent all our nights in a motor home.

One night we were parked on a street called Hazelwood Avenue and I got free! Harriet took me out about 9 p.m. with Muffy, and when I tried to pull her in a different direction, my collar slipped right over my head. Imagine the ruckus that caused! There was a 15-foot strip of grass and trees and then an iron fence that protected an abandoned apartment complex.

The first thing I did was slip under that fence and make plans. The trees were low, with branches that were easily climbable. The apartments had lights, but with my yellow-grey color I was almost invisible. I ducked back under the fence and let George get about 10 feet from me. Then, with him calling "Here, Angel, Come Here, Kitty", I dashed madly up a tree and looked down at him. Then, I slipped under the fence again and explored the apartments. There were stairs, which I could climb to the second floor. I even went across the street to some houses, even though I knew better than to cross streets! This was truly a high point in my adventurous life! About 2 hours later I was sitting in a tree about 20 feet from the camper, when I looked down and saw a slim yellow cat staring up at me. When I spoke to him, I found that he only spoke Spanish! He just sat there twitching his tail. I wondered how to get back safely to my camper, especially when he was joined by one of his friends! They did not climb the tree after me, thank goodness, but just stayed below looking up at me.

About that time George came out with a big light and shined on me and then on my two enemies. They slowly retreated around the corner and I decided to come back to the right side of the fence. Muffy came out and George fed her some of my treats, so I came over to get some. George grabbed me rudely by the tail and took me inside. Back in Iowa, I sometimes hang out with the cats down on the corner and just let them try and top that story!

After 3 days in Phoenix, it was on to California for us. Harriet has a great--grandson who is 11 months old, and she is anxious to have a look at him.

I keep trying to learn to drive like George, but the best I can do is sit on his lap and put my paws on the steering wheel. I can push some of the buttons on the console beside the driver, but all that does is extend the leveling jacks. That makes them start scraping and makes George very nervous.

A few nights later, we stayed at a place called Blithe, California. They did not have a Wal-Mart, so we stayed at a place called Albertsons. It was very pleasant with real grass.

and not much traffic. George went out early for coffee, as is his custom, but I just sat in the window and watched Albertson's early morning customers. I heard him telling Harriet the conversations he has had at coffee shops and sometimes the merit comment.

In Blithe, he met a man who called himself a Greyhound tourist. He traveled the entire United States by bus, stopping at various cities. The reason he was in Blithe was that his funds only lasted for half of the month and a friendly motel keeper in Blithe let him have a room for nothing. His other favorite city was Duluth, MN and his ambition was to be there in the winter for the ice fishing on the lake. He was clean, though a bit shabby, and kindly allowed George to buy him hot tea.

George says no one asks for money from him, but they always seem glad when he offers it. The natives say they only use it for drugs, but George is not too bright when it comes to money. I have never once heard of a panhandler approaching Harriet, but George tells of going to Tijuana, Mexico and having a whole flock of children follow him until his money was completely gone.

FERTILE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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10:00 - FELLOWSHIP TIME.

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Arlene Lee

Students International

January, 2006

I Have Arrived on the Other Side

Hello friends in Fertile, Iowa!!

This is Arlene Lee and I am writing to you from the Dominican Republic. The ladies from the Reminder asked me to write a bit to tell you about what I am doing here.

The Dominican Republic shares the island of Hispanola with Haiti in the Caribbean Sea. It is about one third the size of Iowa, but has about 3 times the population. It is mountainous and has beautiful beaches and is the first place Columbus discovered when he came to the 'new world'

I am here to work as a missionary with an organization called Students International. The ministry focuses on community development and including visiting students in that process. By the term 'community development' I mean that we help communities to improve in healthcare, agricultural production, education, etc. as well as grow in their relationship with Jesus. We believe that the former things are part of the process of helping people to overcome sin in all areas of life. My focus will be agricultural ministry in a town called Los Higos. In addition to our long-term work in the community, teams of North American students (9th grade through college age) come for short-term trips to work along side us. I will translate for students and coordinate their time when they are visiting the ag ministry site.

I arrived on November 16. Since then I have used my time to get to know the other missionaries on my team, visit the ministry site, and participate in some long-term planning for the agricultural ministry. In January, I will go to another town for 3 months to study Spanish. When I return in April, I will begin full time ministry!

I would like to give you some glimpses into my daily life here in the Dominican



Republic, as well. I think the quickest and most fun way to do so would be to describe to you my experiences by using the 5 senses (an idea I got from some friends who did this while in Bolivia):

What I am hearing: loud music and fireworks (for Christmas), roosters crowing, motorcycles roaring, rustling palm branches, Spanish

What I am smelling: fresh lemons in my yard, breakfast cooking over fires, jasmine

What I am feeling: kids' fuzzy heads, soil under my fingernails, my hair blowing riding the motorcycle, itchy mosquito bites

What I am tasting: fresh oranges, sweet lemons and coconut; moro (rice and beans); strong, sweet coffee; aujama, tajota, and yucca (different vegetables); mango yogurt

What I am seeing: small trucks overflowing with people, green mountains, old men playing checkers, beautiful faces of varying colors, kids in uniforms walking to school, geckos, a horse that wanders our neighborhood

The Fertile Church of Christ is my sending church, and I receive support from several individuals, including some of you who are reading this. Thanks for your support and for your prayers!

Sincerely,
Arlene Lee

BETTY JEAN OUVERSON
1929 - 2005

Betty Jean Ouverson, 76, of Fertile, died December 20, 2005 at her home. Funeral service was at Fertile Church of Christ on December 23, 2005 with Pastor Curt Gallmeyer officiating. Burial was at Grant Center Cemetery in rural Clear Lake.



Betty Brackey Ouverson was born in Aurora, Mo., the daughter of Selmer and Irene Brackey on Sept. 21, 1929. The family moved to Bristol in Worth County, Iowa when she was 6 months old. She attended Bristol No. 3 school for 8 years then graduated from Lake Mills High School in 1948. She attended Waldorf College one year.

In 1949, she married Robert Ouverson at Lake Mills Lutheran Church. They farmed for 56 years at Fertile.

She loved to sew, garden and provide for her husband, children and grandchildren.

Those left to remember her are her husband, Robert W. Ouverson; children Bruce (Mara) Ouverson of Mason City, Lisa (Rod) Nielsen of La Porte, Ind., Brian (Roberta) Ouverson of Fertile, and Cynthia (Charles) Taft of Mechanicsburg, PA; 10 grandchildren; siblings Earl Brackey of Manly, James Brackey of Omaha, Neb., Mary Lechman of Lancaster, Calif., and Robert Brackey of St. Paul, Minn.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

LOUIS KRAAKEVIK

Louis Kraakevik, 99, passed away peacefully on November 23, 2005 at Presbyterian Homes in Roseville, MN.

Louis grew up in Norway and Chicago, moved with his young family in 1949 to Iowa where he was a salesman at Olson Furniture of Forest City, then owner of Fertile Hardware and later, of Clear Lake Appliance Store until he retired to Minnesota.

Louis was known for his loyalty and devotion to God and family, pride in his Norwegian heritage, his incredible work ethic and his zest for life.

His devoted wife, Mildred, daughter, Elaine Erickson, and son, Bob, preceded him in death.

His son Keith, 11 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren survive him.

His life was celebrated in a memorial service on December 3, 2005, at Arlington Hills Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

ERNEST HENNING
1916 - 2005

Funeral service for Ernest Henning, 89, of Fertile, was held at Pilot Knob Lutheran Church November 26, 2005 with Rev. Robert Snitzer officiating. Burial was at Pilot Knob Lutheran Cemetery.



Ernest, the son of Julius and Lena Henning, was born in Lakota on October 11, 1916. He died Nov. 21, 2005 at Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit in Mason City.

Ernest was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and attended school at Lakota Public Schools. He served in the U. S. Army from 1941 - 1945, fighting in the European Theater. During this time he also became a Golden Gloves champion.

On December 21, 1949 he was united in marriage to Shirley Wentworth. From his blessed union six children were born. Ernest and Shirley farmed around Kiester, MN and in rural Fertile for many years. Ernest was also employed at Winnebago Industries from 1958 until 1978. Through Winnebago, Ernest started a lawn mowing business which became very successful, and his children dubbed him the "Mow King."

Ernest loved spending time with his family. He enjoyed working outside and spending time with nature and the animals, and he especially enjoyed driving his John Deere Gator. He was a member of Pilot Knob Lutheran Church, the VFW and the Forest City American Legion Post 121.

Left to cherish his memory are: his wife Shirley of Fertile; Gary (Linda) Henning of Stevensville, MT; Ernie (Tina) Henning Jr. of Forest City; Marion (Gary) Prevot of Lakewood, WA; Robert Henning of Forest City; Herman (Marlene) Henning of Leland; Doug (Ruth) Henning of Fertile; Sherry (Greg) Flugum, of Forest City. Also surviving are sisters Pearl Waites of Washington, MI and Lene Wallace of Wadena, MN; twin brother Ervin Henning of Lake Mills; 13 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, five sisters and two brothers.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.



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COOK'S KORNER

I am in need of recipes. How about you cooks out there helping me out? Send your recipes to: Fertile Reminder, Box 62, Fertile, IA 50434. Thank you to those who have sent recipes.

1935 SURPRISE APPLE CAKE From "Forgotten Recipes" book

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
2 Tbsp. Melted butter
1/2 tsp. Ground cinnamon
3 eggs
1 can sweetened condensed milk
2 Tbsp. Lemon juice
Grated rind of one lemon
2 cups applesauce
Mix graham cracker crumbs, butter & cinnamon; spread about 1/4 of crumb mixture on bottom of a buttered 10" cake pan. Separate eggs, & beat the yolks well. Add condensed milk, lemon juice, rind, & applesauce to beaten egg yolk. Beat egg whites until stiff, fold into milk mixture. Pour into cake pan and cover with remaining cracker crumbs. Bake 350° for 50 minutes.
\$18 a week could feed 10 in 1935, capes were the fashion, and since there were no ball points, people wrote with fountain pens. Perhaps they used their \$2.50 Waterman to copy this recipe from a favorite magazine.

FERTILE GARDEN CLUB Annual Christmas Party

The Annual Christmas Party of the Fertile Garden Club met at the Rose Cottage Tea House in Clear Lake. Fifteen members answered Roll Call. We started the evening with Carols. After a delicious dinner we heard the Christmas Story read by Amanda Waddington. We then opened our gifts from our "Secret Pal" and they revealed who they were. More carols were sang and then we said good night headed home. Next Meeting will be March 14, 2006. Pat Oswald, Reporter

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15. NAIRSI _____
16. HARUBRB _____
17. TRIOPAC _____
18. RELEUBYBR _____
19. PERAG _____
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22. CYRANERBR _____
23. THOLOCEAC TUCDRAS _____
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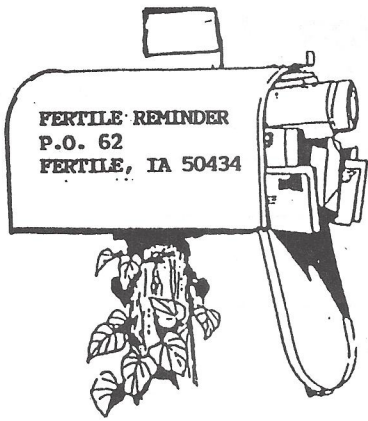
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