

FERTILE REMINDER

DECEMBER 2012



Front: LaVonne Abrams Pederson, Sever Pederson.

Back: Marlene Tibbits Jenkins, Jerry Jenkins, Marcie Oakland Osmundsen, Jim Seglem, Marlin Miller and Melvin Kennedy. The reunion was held in September at Downtown Café, Fertile.

COMING EVENTS

- 3 FIREMEN MEET
- 4 SENIOR CITIZEN DINNER
- 11 FERTILE GIRLS
- 11 GARDEN CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY
- 13 RECYCLE
- 15 CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
- 16 CHRIST OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
- 17 LIBRARY BOARD MEETS
- 18 SENIOR CITIZENS DINNER

- 18 COUNCIL
- 23 FERTILE LUTHERAN CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
- 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS
- 27 RECYCLE

JANUARY

- 12 SPAGHETTI SUPPER AND CONCERT

THE STAFF WISHES EACH OF YOU A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!
THE NEXT EDITION OF THE FERTILE REMINDER
WILL BE SENT AT THE END OF JANUARY.

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2012 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Jeff Berg, Julie Jessen, Penny Miller, Tad Miller, Pat Renchin; City Clerk Eddie May & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts.
- Last month's minutes included a motion in regards to the Library Project as follows: *Pat Motioned, Tad 2nd to accept CRW Architecture & Design Group (affiliated with Yaggy-Colby) to re-work the original concept into alternative concepts feasible for anticipated financing to be presented to the public for their response. Roll-Call-Vote Unanimous.* Correction: Penny abstained. *Tad motioned, Pat 2nd to approve the Oct. minutes as amended.* Unanimous.
- *Pat motioned, Tad 2nd to add Tree Stump Removal From Park as a discussion option and approve agenda.* Unanimous.
- Agendas are posted at City Hall, at the Library, and at the Post Office, 24 hours in advance of each Council Meeting. If you wish to be on the Agenda, please contact City Hall two days before the meeting.

Worth County Fair Board's Beautification Committee

- Dennis May explained a project the Committee is initiating to design and display statues representing each City in Worth County at the Fairgrounds with a replica of the statue provided to each City. He asked the Council for an idea for a statue representing Fertile. Some of the ideas presented for each City so far include: a turkey for Grafton, a railroad conductor for Manly, a sunset on railroad tracks for Hanlontown, the Thinker for Joice, a heart for Kensett, and several ideas have been presented for Northwood. *Julie motioned, Penny 2nd to tentatively consider a statue reflecting the mill and dam for Fertile, but to ask for other ideas from the Fertile residents on the back of next month's utility bills.* Unanimous.

Deputy Clerk Position

- The City received 14 resumes for the position. Mayor Russell and Eddie interviewed 10 of the applicants. They presented 2 applicants to the Council based on: understanding of local government, experience, education, computer skills, knowledge of accounting principles; availability, and information from a background check.
- Questions rose as to why the City needs a Deputy Clerk. Eddie responded by providing 4 reasons. First, auditors look for levels of checks and balances. Many small towns throughout Iowa are breaking up the City Clerk position to avoid embezzlement acquisitions. Second, since Eddie took the position 8 years ago, job requirements have increased drastically for 2 reasons: 9/11 and the Casino. 9/11 brought about many more reporting and information tracking requirements never there before. The casino grants through the WCDA has almost doubled the City budget and has required additional grant writing & administrating duties as well as project management duties. Third, Eddie's primary job has grown and his responsibilities there, including frequent travel and additional administrative duties have put a strain on what he can accomplish each week. The Fourth reason is that Mayor Russell would like to delegate management of the Community Center to the Deputy Clerk so that she can begin to cut back on some hours as well.
- Questions rose regarding the need to keep Eddie or to just let the Deputy Clerk be the City Clerk. Eddie stated that may happen, but that he sees the need for checks and balances to be in place even if he is not involved. Eddie assured the Council that there will be little overlap as the Deputy Clerk will perform certain duties and he will

perform different duties. The Mayor will receive utility payments, the Deputy Clerk will enter in utility bill payments and make the deposit tickets, the Mayor will check the deposit and the maintenance man will take the deposit to the bank. The City Clerk will balance the checkbook and make the financial statements. This is an example of the checks and balances in practice. This will ultimately lower the City Clerk's time and cost the City less money overall.

- *At 7:20, Jeff motioned, Julie 2nd to close the public meeting to interview the two applicants.* Unanimous. *At 7:45, Penny motioned, Julie 2nd to re-open the public meeting.* Unanimous
- The Council then thanked the two applicants, said they could leave if they wanted to, and they would be contacted tomorrow if they did not stay. Both applicants left.
- At the end of the Council meeting, the Council voted to fill the position as follows: *Jeff motioned, Pat 2nd to hire Nicole Hare as the Deputy Clerk.* Roll-Call-Vote: 4 ayes, Penny nay, Motion Carried.

Library Project

- Jose Rivas from CRW Architecture & Design Group presented two construction and design options for the Library building. Option 1 came to a total of \$809,780 with architectural & engineering services. Option 2 came to a total of \$458,430.
- The Library Board was in attendance to give their unanimous support to option 2. They feel the cost price of option 2, while considering the pros and cons of both options, is the responsible choice.
- The Council asked that the Library consider ways to compromise on option 1 to explore cost savings for that option. The Library Board agreed to work with Jose for a feasible compromise for option 1 for next month's meeting. They will also come up with a table of pros and cons for both options.
- *Pat motioned, Tad 2nd to allow the Library to present two adjusted options to the Council in December so the Council can present both options to the public for their opinion.* Unanimous.

City Maintenance Report

- Steve attended his first set of classes for Utility Certification.
- Steve finished the sewer gate to prevent large items from damaging the sewer grinders. Last month we spent over \$5,000 repairing damage to the griders.
- Steve, Frank's Repair, and Clapper Tree Service removed the large tree from the river above the dam. The Fire Dept. has blown off the branches and debris from the edge of the dam.
- The sewer lagoon draw-down went well, no repairs are needed
- The snow plow truck has been in for service at Miller's Diesel, Bauer Tires and Johansen Welding for repairs including: 4 new tires, box repairs and radiator replacement.
- The Iowa Rural Water Association will be assisting us with the new sewer permits. This is a free service since we are a member.
- Steve bought a new tool for shutting off water valves that will make it easier to shut off problem valves and valves during the winter.
- Steve replaced a 1,000 gallon propane tank with a 3-400 gallon tank at the sewer plant to save cost and make it easier to maintain.
- *Pat motioned, Julie 2nd to approve report.* Unanimous.

Mayor's Report

- 296 ballots were cast in Fertile for the Presidential election!
- The Council, Mayor Russell, Eddie, Steve and Dennis Faber from Larsen Plumbing & Heating attended a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation meeting with NIACOG. NIACOG is working with each City to prepare the plan, required by FEMA, for Worth County.
- Last Saturday the Holiday Cookie Sale & craft show sponsored by the Fertile Lutheran Church was held at City Hall.

- Questions were raised concerning the shooting of bows, crossbows, BB guns, airsoft guns, etc. in town. The current ordinance states: "No person, firm, or corporation shall discharge or fire any cannon, gun, bomb, pistol, air gun, or other firearms or set off or burn firecrackers, torpedoes, sky rockets, roman candles, or other fireworks of like construction or any fireworks containing any explosive or inflammable compound, or other device containing any explosive." Inclusion of bows and crossbows may be considered on the next update of the City Ordinances.

• **Pat motioned, Penny 2nd to approve report.** Unanimous.

City Clerk's Report

- Eddie presented the Oct. Financials. A complete set of financials are available at City Hall upon request. The following is only a summary of the year-to-date income, expenses and fund balances.

7/1 - 10/31	General	Roads	Water/Sewer	Total
Income	65,735.25	12,339.24	54,499.34	\$64,500.08
Expense	57,082.27	4,818.95	53,892.31	115,793.53
Total	8,652.98	7,520.29	10,607.77	26,781.04
Fund Balance	45,018.20	50,696.25	102,510.78	198,225.23

- **Pat motioned, Tad 2nd to approve October Bills.** Unanimous

• **No liens were presented**

Removal of Tree Stumps in Park

- Requests have been made to remove the tree stumps in the Rhodes Island Park. Mayor Russell informed the Council on the danger of erosion if the stumps were removed. It was suggested that more trees be planted to help erosion and allow the stumps to be removed. Mayor Russell reminded the Council of the recent trees that have been planted and how many of them were washed away during the floods. Discussion on the park was tabled for further review at a later time.

Committee Reports

- No reports were presented

Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet in regular session at 7:00PM, Tuesday, December 18th, 2012, at Fertile City Hall.

Next Meeting's Topics - beyond Department Reports

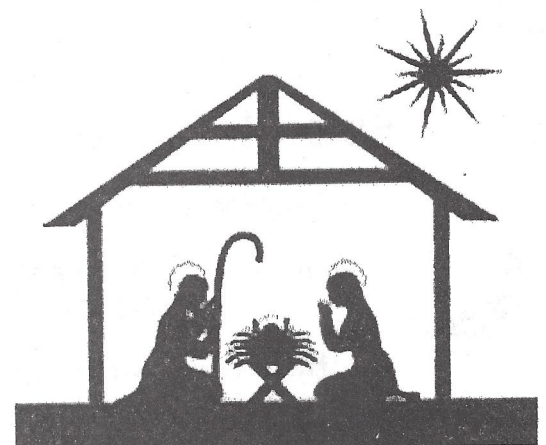
- Library Project
- Budget
- **Penny moved and Pat 2nd to approve next meeting's topics.** Unanimous. More items may be added before agenda is posted.
- **Penny moved and Pat 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** Unanimous.

For Rent: Fully furnished 3 bedroom, 1 ½ bath home in sunny Sebring, Florida. Just an hour and a half away from airports, theme parks, and Florida's east and west coasts. Surrounded by plenty of golf and fishing. \$650.00 a month plus utilities with a \$650.00 refundable security deposit. Pictures available upon request. Please email Jennifer at jenniferf_10@hotmail.com or call Dennis Ouverson at (863)835-0850

City of Fertile Bills Paid

As of October 31, 2012

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
Checking					
Check	10/01/2012	6216	Fertile Fire Department V	Quarterly Allocation	-3,500.00
Check	10/01/2012	6217	Fertile Public Library V	Quarterly Payment	-4,750.00
Deposit	10/01/2012			Local Option Sales Tax	2,208.48
Deposit	10/02/2012			Casino Funds	2,688.77
Deposit	10/03/2012			Utility Bill & Rental Deposit	4,447.39
Paycheck	10/03/2012	6212	Roberts, Stephen J	Payroll	-876.77
Paycheck	10/03/2012	6213	Russell, Joyce	Payroll	-755.16
Paycheck	10/03/2012	6215	May III, Edgar F.	Payroll	-503.47
Paycheck	10/03/2012	6214	Bruno, Warren	Payroll	-308.99
Bill Pmt -Check	10/03/2012	6218	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-60.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/03/2012	6219	CarQuest	Sewer Equipment	-41.87
Bill Pmt -Check	10/03/2012	6220	Iowa Department of Natural Re	Annual Water Use Fee for 2013	-86.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/03/2012	6221	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	Install Water Meter	-72.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/03/2012	6222	Northwood Anchor, Inc.	Annual Report Publication	-209.95
Bill Pmt -Check	10/03/2012	6223	Plunkett's	Pest Control	-444.00
Deposit	10/03/2012			Property Taxes	27,583.27
Deposit	10/09/2012			Utility Bill Deposit	387.20
Liability Check	10/12/2012	e1ps	United States Treasury	Payroll Taxes	-1,246.45
Liability Check	10/15/2012		IQOE IPERS	Payroll Benefits	-807.71
Deposit	10/15/2012			Road Use Tax	1,514.09
Deposit	10/15/2012			Utility Bill Liens	2,170.13
Paycheck	10/17/2012	6224	Roberts, Stephen J	Payroll	-876.77
Check	10/18/2012	6203	First Security Bank & Trust	Community Center Loan Payment	-2,500.00
Check	10/20/2012	6225	US Post Office	Stamps	-263.00
Deposit	10/21/2012			Utility Bills, Rents, Little League, Permit, I	12,393.35
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6226	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing	-12.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6227	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-143.55
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6228	Hare Electric	Sewer Pump Repairs	-5,785.52
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6229	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine	-5.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6230	Menards	Snow Fence & Sewer Supplies	-131.80
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6231	Mills Fleet Farm	Chain Saw & Light	-70.17
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6232	Municipal Management Corp.	Water Leak Detection	-800.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6233	North Iowa Media Group	Library Bid Notice	-38.18
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6234	Northwood Anchor, Inc.	Library Public Notice	-209.95
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6235	Pronto	Gas for Truck/mower	-368.96
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6236	PSI	2500 Utility Bill Cards	-84.75
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6237	UPS	Water testing	-22.31
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6238	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-43.44
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6239	Waste Management	Landfill/Garbage	-1,918.58
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6240	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-145.85
Bill Pmt -Check	10/21/2012	6241	Worth County Engineer v	Diesel Fuel - Skid Loader	-93.28
Deposit	10/22/2012			Utility Bills	73.60
Liability Check	10/30/2012	e-file	Iowa Department of Revenue	Payroll Taxes	-444.00
Deposit	10/30/2012		Treasurer - State of Iowa	Enrich Iowa - Needs to be paid to Library	1,008.52
Check	10/31/2012	e-file	Iowa Workforce Development	Payroll Taxes	-35.00
Deposit	10/31/2012			Utility Bills, RUTF, Permits	5,641.92
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6242	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing/Wastewater	-66.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6243	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,383.86
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6244	Cemstone Concrete Materials	Lift catch basin for manhole	-236.88
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6245	Frank's Repair	Remove dead tree from river	-150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6246	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine	-5.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6247	IMWCA	Worker's Compensation Coverage	-11.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6248	Johansen Welding Construction	Alum. Hinged Manhole cover	-1,200.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6249	K&H Cooperative Oil Co.	New LP Tanks	-211.85
Bill Pmt -Check	10/31/2012	6250	Menards	Manhole Catch Basin Supplies	-49.33
Check	10/31/2012	6251	Russell, Joyce	Postage	-2.10
Sales Tax Paym	10/31/2012	eFile	Iowa Department of Revenue	Sales Tax Payment	-1,087.00
Deposit	10/31/2012			Interest	4.69
Total Checking					28,083.30
Roads Revenue Accounts					
Deposit	10/31/2012			Interest	12.81
Total Roads Revenue Accounts					12.81
Water Revenue Accounts					
Deposit	10/31/2012			Interest	4.27
Total Water Revenue Accounts					4.27
Sewer Revenue Accounts					
Deposit	10/31/2012			Interest	3.73
Total Sewer Revenue Accounts					3.73
TOTAL					28,104.11



Ronald R. Rippentrop

MASON CITY - Ronald R. Rippentrop, 70, of Mason City, died Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, at his home surrounded by his family.

Ron was born on Jan. 25, 1942, in Buffalo Center, the son of Donald and Josephine (Wessels) Rippentrop. He attended Fertile Schools, where he enjoyed playing basketball. He also enjoyed helping his family with the farming operation. He married Linda Richardson from Clear Lake, to this union three children were born, Shelley, Gregory and Heidi, they later divorced.

Ron and Linda Detmering were married in July 1973 and the following May, they were raising all three of his children and made their home at Gracious Estates for 17 years and then made their home on Crestmore Way. Ron worked for the Union Pacific Railroad, Hale Phipps and then Hawkeye Dodge before his retirement. He kept busy even in retirement by mowing lawns and snow removable for his friends and neighbors.

Ron was an avid hunter and outdoorsman and looked forward to fall each year; hunting ducks, geese, turkey and deer. His greatest love was his wife, Linda, three children, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Those that are thankful in sharing in his life, wife, Linda of Mason City, two daughters, Shelley Huebner and her significant other, Dan Solum of Mason City, sons, Christopher and Jamie Huebner and Nick and Zach Solum; Heidi Rippentrop and her significant other Ron Riser of Harsell, and her son Matt Burt; son, Greg of Austin, Texas and his son, Caleb; daughter-in-law, Amy Rippentrop; the family was blessed in 2012 with three great-grandchildren, Aurora Huebner, Maylee Solum and Landon Burt; sisters, Jean LaCoste (Ron) of Rockford, JoAnn Mozack (Larry) of Mason City; brother, Robert and wife Bev of Rockwell and sister-in-law, Kathy Rippentrop of Lakeville, Minn.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Rodney and one granddaughter, Erica Huebner. He will be greatly missed by his family, his dog, Daisy and his wonderful friends on Crestmore Way in Mason City.

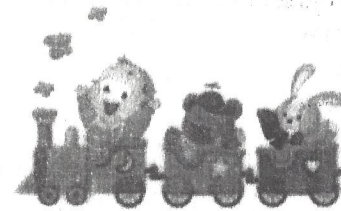


Neva Ida Marchetta Lien was born December 21, 1926 to Martin and Elsie (Levad) Hovland in Worth County, IA. She grew up in Worth County and attended school in Fertile, IA. On October 26, 1946 Neva was united in marriage to Sanford Lien at Trinity Lutheran Church in Albert Lea. Neva enjoyed being a homemaker for many

years. She was a longtime faithful member of Zion Lutheran Church. Neva was also an active member of the Hannah Circle. She enjoyed traveling with Sanford, baking, visiting family and friends and having lunches with church ladies.

Survivors include her daughters Diane (Lanny) Butler of Charlottesville, VA, Debra (Arlyn) Thompson of Sisseton, SD; grandchildren Elisabeth Butler of Roanoke, VA, Andrew Butler of Washington DC; and several nieces and nephews.

Neva was preceded in death by her parents; husband Sanford; sisters Gyda Peterson and Beulah Felland; brothers Marvin, Juner, Homer and Arlo Hovland.



Just a friendly reminder that we have set aside a time for:

Worth County Christmas for Kids Pick Up

December 14, 2012. Bad weather date December 15th
The pickup location is the Northwood Baptist Church located
At 902 2nd Avenue North in Northwood.

(Just turn at the NSB corner and go North to an old white church with a brown ramp- we will be in the basement)

The time we will be present is 4:00 P.M. - 8 P.M.
Bad weather date 12/15 time 2 - 6

IF YOU CAN NOT MAKE THIS DAY AND OR TIME; CALL ME AT 390-0989 AND WE CAN BAG UP FOR YOU AND HAVE IT AT THE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE ON ANOTHER DAY. IF YOU DON'T CALL AND DON'T SHOW; WE WILL NOT SAVE AGE APPROPRIATE TOYS FOR YOUR CHILD AND IF THERE IS ANYTHING LEFT - YOU MAY HAVE IT.

Salon Intrigue

Full service Salon

18 N. 3rd St., Clear Lake, IA
641-357-3301



HEATHER SCHULZE
Owner/Cosmetologist



FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.youseemore.com/NILC/FertilePL
 204 West Main Street/Box 198
 Fertile, IA 50434
 641-797-2787 Phone/Fax
 Monday & Wednesday - 1-6 P.M.
 Thursday - 3-6 P.M.
 Friday 9-Noon & 3-6 P.M.
 Saturday - 9-Noon



NEW BOOKS

- The Time Keeper—Mitch Albom
- The Virgin Cure—Ami McKay
- Casual Vacancy—J.K. Rowling
- The Light Between Oceans—M.L. Stedman
- Sleep No More—Iris—Johansen
- The Racketeer—John Grisham
- The Bridge—Karen Kingsbury
- Angels at the Table—Debbie Macomber
- A Hundred Ways to Kill—William Johnstone
- Angelfall—Susan EE
- A Change of Fortune—Jen Turano
- A Rocky Mountain Christmas—William Johnstone
- I'll Be Home for Christmas—Fern Michaels
- The Sins of the Mother—Danielle Steel
- The Perfect Hope—Nora Roberts
- ...ry Christmas Alex Cross—James Patterson

DVD's

- Hatfields & McCoys—Kevin Costner
- The Amazing Spiderman—Andrew Garfield

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
Fertile Library

Saturday December 8, 2012
9:00 -Noon

Santa @ 10:00
Ages to 10

Drawing @ 11:00
for \$100 Walmart Gift Card

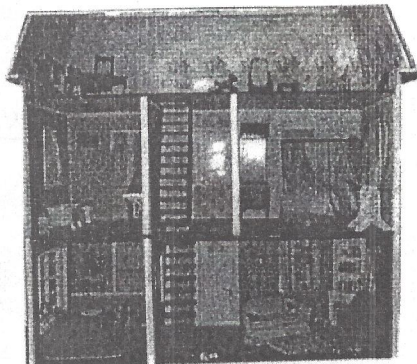
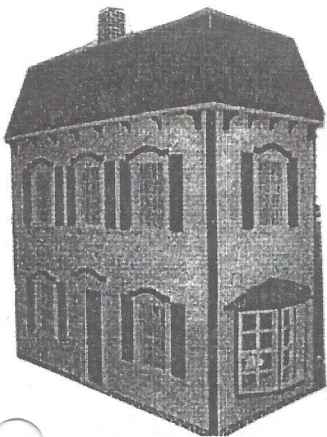
Stop by for a holiday treat!

If anyone has anything they would like to donate for the Library drawing contact the library. You may purchase tickets for the drawing @ Pronto or the Library! Tickets for the \$100 Walmart gift card are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Tickets for the Victorian Doll House are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Thank you for your continued support! Happy Holidays!

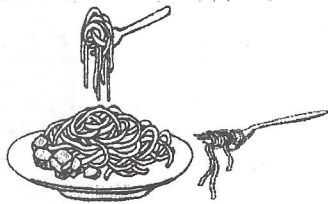
LIBRARY NEWS

We will also have a special drawing for a beautiful handcrafted Victorian Dollhouse donated by Bobbi Elbert. The doll house measures approximately 1 ft x 2 ft x 2 ft high. Its furnishings include a handmade four poster bed complete with a hand knitted spread and lace trimmed sheets and pillowcase, a handmade sofa and wing chair, Chippendale highboy chest on chest and dining table complete with brass candlesticks and pewter plates and silverware. Other details include a handmade needlepoint rug, a counted cross stitch wall hanging and placemats, as well as a trunk from Mexico. It also has a second stone fireplace and another sewing machine as well as a Christmas wreath so you can decorate the house for the Holidays.

Suggested retail value \$500.



TAKE A CHANCE!



Spaghetti Supper and Concert Fertile Days Fundraiser

January 12, 2013

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

“Follow Me”



Haily Kingland

Haily is a junior at Lake Mills High School and likes singing Christian, country, and pop music and also plays a variety of instruments such as the piano, electric guitar and acoustic guitar. Haily is the daughter of Jeff and Tara Kingland from Lake Mills.

Come out and enjoy a night of food, fellowship and entertainment!

Free will donations for both the supper and the concert.

**Fertile Lutheran Church
602 W. Washington Box 215
Fertile, IA 50434**

**Pastor David Halverson
641-797-2767**

**Sunday Worship Service 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:40 am
Wed. 6:30 pm Confirmation Class**

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DEC. 23, 9:30 AM

Celebration Community Church

805 10th Ave. North, Clear Lake, IA
641-357-0026

Sunday School – 9:00 – 9:45
Fellowship – 9:45 – 10:00
Praise and Worship Service – 10:00 – 11:00
Youth Group – 1st and 3rd Sunday 5:00 – 6:00
Dec. 15, 5 PM Christmas Program
Dec. 24, 4:30 pm Christmas Eve. Service

CHURCH OF CHRIST

9:00 Sunday School 9:55 Fellowship
10:15 AM Worship



Sun.- Dec. 9th - 10:15 AM Worship: "The Light of Jesus" presentation

Marty Daggett's dance class from Forest City will be featured.

Sun.- Dec. 16th - 6:00 PM Christmas Program:
Oyster/Chili supper following the program

**Mon.- Dec. 24th - 5:00-5:30 PM Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**

NORTH IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION

Head Start Program

Public Service Announcement!

Would you like to help a child stay warm this winter??? North Iowa Community Action, Head Start is once again this year offering the Adopt a Child program to help provide winter outerwear to children who need it. How can you help? You and your family could purchase winter outerwear that a child needs and we will deliver it, or mail a cash donation to Adopt a Child, PO Box 1627, Mason City, IA 50401 and we will shop for needed items. Please call **Paulette Webb at 641-494-1891** for more information.



Farm kids in

IOWA

You can never underestimate the innovativeness of American Farm Boys:

At a high school in Iowa, a group of male students played a prank. They let three goats loose inside the school. But before turning them loose, they painted numbers on the sides of the goats: 1, 2 and 4. The school administrators spent most of the day looking for No. 3.

Now that's funny, I don't care who you are.....
And you thought there was nothing to do in IOWA!

FERTILE GARDEN CLUB

The Fertile Garden Club met on Nov. 13 at the Community Center for our Guest Night. Hostesses were Carol Jara, Julie Jessen, Penny Miller and Cindy Peters. Our guest speaker was Elin Miner and she spoke on how to decorate Christmas trees and make bows from 3 yds of ribbon.

Thought for the day was given by Betty Waddington on 20 free gifts we can give at Christmas.

Our next meeting will be Dec. 11 at the Old Mill for our Christmas party. Susanna Lee, Reporter

OPEN HOUSE BRIDAL SHOWER

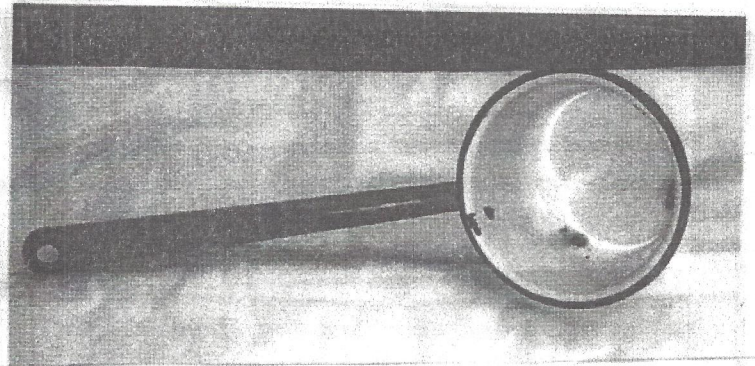
Kylie Mae (Hare) Nosivskyi
Bride of Anatolii Vasilovick
Nosivskyi

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1-3 PM

Fertile Downtown Café

Kylie is registered at Target

MEMORY LANE



THE OSWALD DIPPER from the Roland, Doris, Karen, Ellamae and Rick era.

The water dipper was in the water pail that sat on the kitchen sink when we lived on the Oswald farm. We did not have running water or a small water pump in the kitchen, hence the need for the pail and dipper. We would take the pail and fill it with cool water in the pump house and carry the pail to the kitchen and tried to not spill much of the water. Everyone drank right out of the dipper and if you took more water in the dipper than you could drink, you merely returned the dipper with the water back into the pail. A full pail of water was heavy so you did not waste any. We did not have running water until we moved with Grandma Celia Suby into her home in Fertile. Even then we only had cold running water.

Ellamae (Oswald) Butler

REMEMBER THE LESS FORTUNATE
AT CHRISTMAS TIME

FERTILE VALLEY GARDENS

Ron & Becky Rachut

P.O. Box 121
641-797-2811
Fertile, IA



MILLER'S DIESEL & AUTOMOTIVE

797-2704 -----423-1237

1403 S. TAFT

MASON CITY, IA

**BURTNESS~LUNDGREN
PLUMBING & HEATING, Inc.**

*Call for all your Plumbing, Heating
& Air Conditioning Needs!*



John Burtness & Todd Lundgren

Clear Lake, 641-357-8882 or Fertile 641-797-2680

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&**

Siding specialists

For your FREE

Estimate

And

Consultation

641-430-0655

Locally owned by

Dan Young & Tami Ramon

Pronto Market

HWY 9, FERTILE IA

641-797-2200

GAS
GROCERY
COFFEE
SANDWICHES
SNACKS
ICE
POP
BEER
CIGARETTES

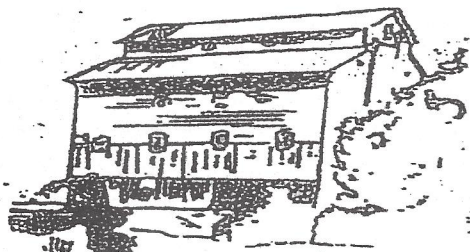
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FERTILE HISTORY CONTINUED.....from 1976

Doors to Cozy Nook Café, operated for many years by Carl Fredrickson were closed when Mr. Fredrickson's health declined.

The Winter's Store and later know as the Corner Store was remodelled into the Fertile Locker by Clinton McNelly in 1946. In 1947 Del-n Davis became owner and operator. Later Mort and Evelyn Haugen operated the locker for 3 years. In the early 1960's Virgil Ouverson was in charge of the processing plant.

In December 1963 Stanley and Erma Brue purchased the Fertile Locker from Harry Spillman, of Clear Lake and operated it under the name of Brue's Processing Plant. Mavis Hall and Vera Humphrey were full time employees, Bob Cash, Glenn Purcell and Ed Hope assisted with beef and pork slaughtering during the winter months.

In August 1968 they closed out the business and sold the building to Chester Amundson. Four years later in October 1972 he opened Chets Radio and Television Sales and Services, later adding Citizens Band Radios.

Ray Sandifer "Tom's Sales" began operation in Fertile in April of 1964. This is primarily snack vending and covers the area of Forest City to Charles City, Iowa and Albert Lea, Minnesota to Hampton, Iowa and all towns between.

S & W Auction was started in September 1969 by Don Waddington and Keith Steuer. In November Don became the sole owner. The first auctions were held on main street or in the Fire Station. Then an old gas station was used and later for 2 years the auctions ere held in the old bank building. In 1970 abd 1971 a second hand store, a new furniture and a western store was added. In 1972 all parts were moved to the Waddington farm northeast of Fertile where they still remain.

North Iowa Tractor began with Robert W. Ouverson and his interest in the large four wheel drive tractors used to farm the heavy soil of the Red River Valley. Mr. Ouverson thought that some day they would be the tractors used to farm the large farm operations in this area. After studying the different kinds of tractors being built during the winter of 1969, he went to Fargo, N.D., in June of 1970 to see the manufacturers of the Steiger tractor and to talk with farmers that owned them. Before returning to Iowa he had purchased a tractor and arranged for a dealership. In August he became the first farmer in Iowa to own a Steiger. The last six years have proven to Mr. Ouverson and to others that indeed four wheel drive tractors are as well adapted to the corn belt as they are to the Red River Valley. In the past few years North Iowa Tractor has added other lines of equipment used with four wheel drive tractors and increased their service with four full time employees.

The historic Rhodes Mill built in 1868 by the town's founder William Rhodes was purchased by Clarke Halverson in May 1971. (The mill had remained in the hands of the Rhodes family until 1920.)

Restoration of the mill began in 1972. Living quarters in keeping with the mill style were added at the east end and Mr. & Mrs. Halverson now make their home there.

Martin Hjelmeland began the concrete tile manufacturing plant after he returned from World War II. Location was about where the Fire Department building is now. Problems with obtaining materials caused him to sell the business to Lewis Suby in 1953.

After the tile building burned, Lewis took Peter Suby as a partner and built a new plant with 3200 square feet on Highway 9 north of town.

Later Peter sold his half to Lewis and then in 1964 Lewis sold one half interest to his son Don.

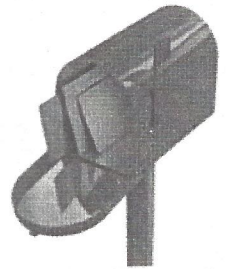
In 1965 the company was sold to Ravenhort Concrete Products of Larks Grove, MN. Don however kept the tucks and continued to haul for Ravenhort until 1974 when the plant was again sold - this time to Larry Tuttle and Alan Elthon. Larry had started to work there in 1961, in 1963 became foreman, then manager for Ravenhort in 1965.

The plant expansion again started in 1974 and now has a square footage of 9,000 sq. ft. Also added was a quarter of a million dollars worth of equipment.

The successful business of the Elthon Pioneer General Store was established in 1894 by A.A. Elthon with \$36.00 worth of Merchandise, k came to an end when Thelan Elsthon, a son and his wife Lillian, retired after 34 years. The remaining good were sold at auction on June 28, 1975.

To the residents of Fertile it meant for the first time in 81 years that the town did not have a grocery. This was very temporary as the building and fixtures were soon sold to Charles Waage and Ed Buchanan. In a matter of a few weeks the door was open to a super market type grocery with a very complete meat department, called Fertile Meat and Grocery.

Letters to the Editor



Hi Ladies, We sure do appreciate all of your hard work. Keep it up!
Dick Varberg

We enjoy the Reminder very much!
Thanks for all your hard work.
Maynard and Madlyn Midtgaard

Thanks a million to the "Queens" who continue tp spread the great Fertile news. Wow!!
Marcie Oakland Osmundson



OVER 50

Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.

Dear God,

My prayer for 2013 is: a fat bank account & a thin body.

Please don't mix these up like you did last year.

AMEN!

Downtown Café

Monday - Friday - 5:30 am - 2 pm
(Daily Lunch Specials)

Breakfast available all Day

Saturday - 5:30 am - 10:30 am

Tuesday Nights 4:30pm - 8:30 pm
(Taco's)

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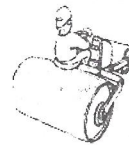


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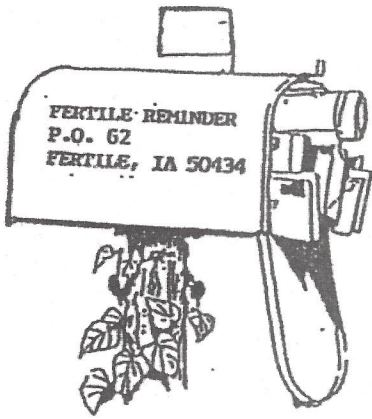


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