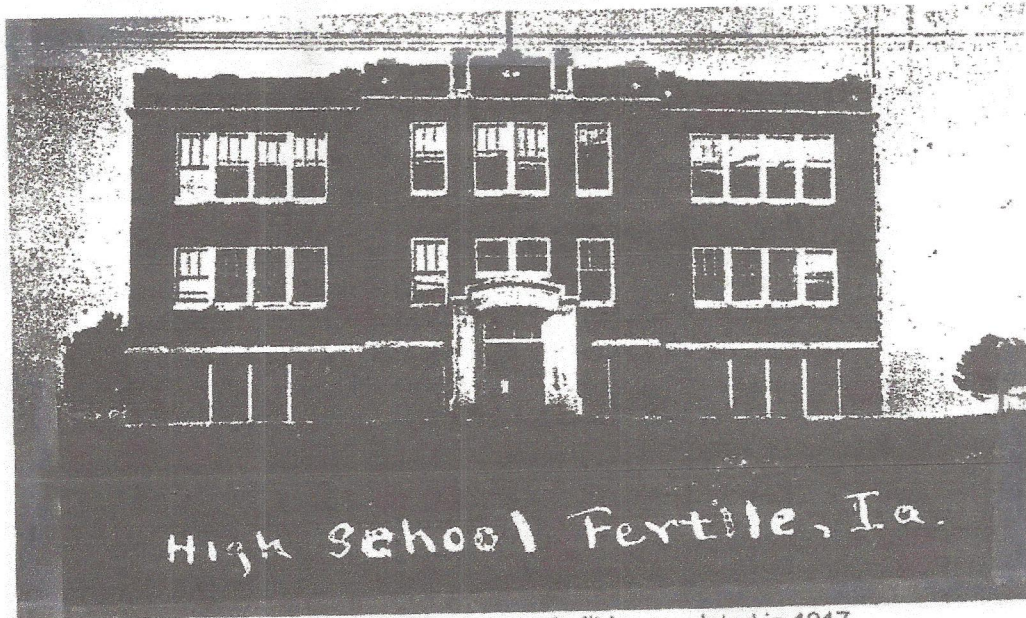


FERTILE REMINDER

APRIL 2018



The brick structure built in completed in 1917

DO YOU HAVE ANY MEMORIES THAT HAPPENED IN THIS BUILDING? Come and share them with others that have memories here. The ALL SCHOOL REUNION (which means anyone that went to Fertile School is welcome to attend) June 9th. More information will be coming, watch for it!!

APRIL CALENDAR

2 Firemen meet

5 & 19 Recycle

11 Deadline for news

16 Library Board meets

17 Fertile Girls Meet

17 City Council

18 Reminder emailed

24 Reminder mailed



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE 90 +

Carol Haugen.....end of March

Fern Midtgaard April 6th

Harold Nyhus April 9th

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2018 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Tad Miller, Cindy Peters, Nick Bailey, Ron Rachut and Holly Lovik-Hanna; City Clerk Wendy Lunning and Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts. Nick Bailey dismissed for short period of time due to fire call.
- Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the minutes of the February meeting.** Unanimous **Holly motioned, Tad 2nd to approve minutes of the March Public Hearing meeting with correction of spelling of Holly's last name s/b Lovik-Hanna.** Unanimous
- Ron motioned, Cindy 2nd to accept 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.

Library:

- Angie Thompson would like to suggest Ashley Smith to replace Linda Tuttle on the Library Board. **Holly motioned, Nick 2nd to approve Ashley Smith on the Library Board.** Unanimous.

Economic Development:

- Nathaniel Fredrick mentioned that there were several customers interest in new business in Fertile. There are limited options available including but not limited to incubator space at the community center. Contact City Hall with available options (641) 797-2121.

Autoworks:

- Toni Gonneman inquired about the City support for WCDA Economic Development Grant. The City of Fertile offered \$1000.00 to support Autoworks.

City Maintenance Report:

- Steve has been painting picnic tables for the park.
- Steve is servicing the mower and getting it ready for spring.
- Steve got the snow blade edge repaired on the Skid Loaders.
- Snow truck will be in need of repair of the belt & chain this year.
- VisuSewer is planning to grout sewer lines East Main Street from 2nd Street to the Lagoon.
- Bid received from VisuSewer to camera sewer lines on West Main Street from 2nd to 6th Street. **Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the bid.** Unanimous
- Tad motioned, Nick 2nd to approve the City Maintenance report.** Unanimous

Mayor's Report:

- Fire Extinguishers have been inspected at Maintenance Garage, Library, Fire Department, Lagoon, Pump House, City Hall & Community Center.
- State Legislature Jane Bloomingdale met with citizens on March 5th at Fertile City Hall.

- Grants are available at Alliant for Fire Department Home Town safety and Community Grant. Joyce is submitting community grant for shelter house at the ball diamonds.
- Storm Spotter training is scheduled for April 23rd at 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Worth County Emergency Management Building in Northwood.
- Received release mortgage papers from NIACOG for James Chase house at 506 West Main Street. Joyce and Wendy signed and notarized this.
- If you are interested in joining Fertile T-Ball (ages 4 through kindergarten), Please contact Tim Severson at (641) 797-2333. The fee is \$25.00 which includes a t-shirt.
- City Wide Clean Up is scheduled for May 5th 8:00am to 12:30pm. More information to follow.
- Joyce took the meeting into a closed session at 8:32 pm based on Iowa Code 21.5.1c and resumed regular open meeting at 8:56 pm.
- Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to pay Quality Pump \$12,298.08 for new sewer pump.** Unanimous
- Cindy motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the mayor's report.** Unanimous.

City Clerk's Report

- Fire Department and Garden Club are current through 12/31/2017.

7/1/2017 to 02/28/2018	General	WCDA	Roads	EE Benefits	Utilities	Total
Income	256,852.14	53,975.00	103,755.05	4,420.27	93,447.05	512,449.51
Expense	259,194.07	46,153.68	93,707.60	1,180.74	84,291.44	484,527.53
Total	-2,341.93	7,821.32	10,047.45	3,239.53	9,155.61	27,921.98
Fund Balance	67,450.63	21.32	56,690.85	4,108.04	137,794.85	266,065.69

- Cindy motioned, Nick 2nd to approve Financial Report.** Unanimous
- Holly motioned, Tad 2nd to approve February Bills.** Unanimous
- Liens presented to the council were as follows:

308 W Main Street	\$284.31
605 W Washington	\$277.11
409 W Main Street	\$303.23
503 W Washington	\$380.97

Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to process liens with the County Treasurer. Unanimous

Committee Report:

- Cindy asked about the purple flags that were used during the 150th anniversary. They're in the maintenance shed and are worn.

Upcoming Meetings:

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session April 17th at 7:00pm, at Fertile City Hall.
- Nick motioned, Holly 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** Unanimous

Summary:

- Library Board Member.
- Bid for VisuSewer Camering approved.
- Closed Session New Pump at Lagoon.

Wendy Lunning, City Clerk

City of Fertile

City Council Public Hearing Minutes March 12, 2018 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor ProTemp Tad Miller; Council Members: Cindy Peters and Ron Rachut; City Clerk Wendy Lunning
Absent: Mayor Joyce Russell, Holly Hanna-Lovick and Nick Bailey.

Public Hearing:

- Public Hearing was opened at 7:02. No public comments received.
Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to close the Public Hearing at 7:03.
Unanimous.

- Regular meeting was opened. *Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to approve the 2019 budget resolution.* Unanimous *Roll Call vote: Tad – approved; Cindy – approved and Ron – approved*

Upcoming Meeting:

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session March 20th at 7:00pm, at Fertile City Hall.
- Ron motioned, Cindy 2nd to adjourn the meeting.*
Unanimous

Summary of Resolutions & Ordinances:

- Approval of 2019 Budget.

As of February 28, 2018

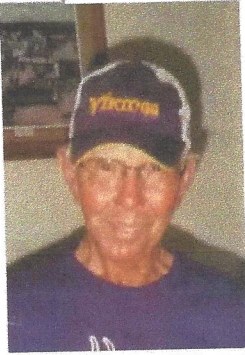
Type	Date	Memo	Accrual Basis Amount
Operating Accounts			
Checking			
Deposit	02/01/2018	Property Taxes	295.93
Deposit	02/01/2018	Lien Interest Deposit	44.00
Deposit	02/05/2018	Casino Funds Deposit	3,038.15
Deposit	02/07/2018	Utility Deposit	1,015.33
Deposit	02/14/2018	Utility Deposit	3,488.15
Deposit	02/14/2018	Donation Deposit	196.00
Deposit	02/14/2018	Utility Deposit	248.02
Deposit	02/20/2018	Road Use Tax	2,755.39
Deposit	02/21/2018	Clerkbooks Deposit	0.00
Deposit	02/21/2018	Farm to Market Deposit	1,451.61
Deposit	02/21/2018	Building Permit Deposit	35.00
Deposit	02/21/2018	Lien Payment Deposit	731.91
Deposit	02/21/2018	Utility Deposit	3,066.24
Deposit	02/21/2018	Utility Deposit	272.90
Deposit	02/25/2018	Local Option Sales Tax	2,715.69
Deposit	02/26/2018	Local Option Sales Tax	2,299.61
Deposit	02/28/2018	Deposit	538.12
Deposit	02/28/2018	Utility Deposit	4,311.03
Deposit	02/28/2018	Library Deposit	30.00
Deposit	02/28/2018	Interest	18.70
Total Checking			26,551.78
Petty Cash			
Total Petty Cash			
Total Operating Accounts			26,551.78
Roads Revenue Accounts			
Savings			
Deposit	02/28/2018	Interest	0.53
Total Savings			0.53
Total Roads Revenue Accounts			0.53
Water Revenue Accounts			
Savings			
Deposit	02/28/2018	Interest	2.59
Total Savings			2.59
Total Water Revenue Accounts			2.59
Sewer Revenue Accounts			
Savings			
Deposit	02/28/2018	Interest	2.26
Total Savings			2.26
CD			
Total CD			
Total Sewer Revenue Accounts			2.26
TOTAL			26,557.16

Bills Paid

As of February 28, 2018

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Accrual Basis Amount
Operating Accounts					
Checking					
Paycheck	02/06/2018	8476	Bruns, Warren	Water & Sewer Supervisor	-301.39
Paycheck	02/06/2018	8477	Lunning, Wendy S	City Clerk	-497.85
Paycheck	02/06/2018	8478	Russell, Grant	City Maintenance	-106.70
Paycheck	02/06/2018	8479	Russell, Joyce	City Administrator - Donated 23 hours	-1,294.84
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8480	Advanced Door Systems	Maintenance Garage	-214.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8481	ClerkBooks	Checks	-169.95
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8482	Five Star CO-OP	Gas for Truck	-139.08
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8483	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine Cylinder	-10.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8484	Kramer Ace Hardware	Lock & Keys for Utility Room	-17.94
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8485	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	New Flush Valve	-175.08
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8486	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-20.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8487	Waste Management		-2,338.17
Bill Pmt -Check	02/07/2018	8488	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-208.25
Paycheck	02/07/2018	8489	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,046.09
Liability Check	02/07/2018	ACH	IPERS	(L) Library IPERS Liability	-273.19
Liability Check	02/07/2018	ACH	IPERS	City IPERS Liability	-617.68
Check	02/07/2018	EFT	First Security Bank & Trust	Main Street Loan	-2,216.13
Check	02/14/2018	DEBIT	HyVee	Sandwiches for Fundraiser	-196.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/14/2018	8490	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,901.27
Bill Pmt -Check	02/14/2018	8491	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-786.12
Bill Pmt -Check	02/14/2018	8492	Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax	-74.77
Bill Pmt -Check	02/14/2018	8493	Office of Auditor of State	Periodic Audit Fee	-900.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/14/2018	8494	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-80.00
Check	02/15/2018	DEBIT	Holiday Inn	Training	-217.28
Check	02/16/2018	DEBIT	Casey's General Store	Gas	-39.01
Paycheck	02/21/2018	8495	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,046.08
Check	02/21/2018	8496	Harms, Adam	Refundable Utility Deposit	-150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/21/2018	8497	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing	-13.50
Bill Pmt -Check	02/21/2018	8498	Hare Electric	Labor to install 2 LED lights on Community Building	-1,741.04
Bill Pmt -Check	02/21/2018	8499	Iowa Assn. of Municipal Utilities	Annual Dues	-540.32
Bill Pmt -Check	02/21/2018	8500	Menards		-141.86
Paycheck	02/21/2018	8502	Knudson, Loni	(L) Clerk	-225.02
Paycheck	02/21/2018	8501	Arndt, Linda J	(L) Assistant Director	-195.46
Paycheck	02/21/2018	8503	Thompson, Angela M	(L) Librarian	-1,084.16
Check	02/21/2018	EFT	WCTA	(L) Telephone	-41.18
Bill Pmt -Check	02/21/2018	8504	Alliant Energy	(L) Electric	-122.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/21/2018	8505	Black Hills Energy	(L) Natural Gas	-74.00
Check	02/22/2018	DEBIT	US Post Office	Postage	-112.20
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8508	Hare Electric	Labor to Change Contactor East Pump @ Lagoon	-664.83
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8509	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-50.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8510	Staples		-94.44
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8511	USA Blue Book	Water Testing	-105.94
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8512	Baker & Taylor	(L) Books & CDs	-318.61
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8513	Demco	(L) Labels, Posters, Bookmarks	-143.13
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8514	MicroMarketing	(L)	-56.48
Bill Pmt -Check	02/22/2018	8515	Movie Licensing USA	(L) Movie License	-166.00
Check	02/23/2018	TRANSFER	Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	-75.00
Liability Check	02/27/2018	EFTPS	United States Treasury	42-1028074	-1,080.16
Petty Cash					
Check	02/23/2018	TRANSFER	Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	-22,082.20
Total Petty Cash					75.00
Total Operating Accounts					75.00
Roads Revenue Accounts					-22,007.20
Savings					
Total Savings					
Total Roads Revenue Accounts					
TOTAL					<u>-22,007.20</u>

Save



Charles Waage

June 29, 1933-Feb. 20, 2018

CLEAR LAKE -- Charles "Chuck" Henry Waage, 84, of Fertile, died Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa

in Mason City.

Chuck was born June 29, 1933, the son of Henry and Esther (Zieman) Waage in Mason City. A graduate of Charles City High School, class of 1952, Chuck enlisted in the United States Army in 1953 during the Korean Conflict.

Chuck was a meat cutter for over 50 years working in Marshalltown, Ottumwa, Colfax, Rapid City, SD and Mason City Easter's Super Value. He operated Mr. Ed and Chuck's Café in Rockwell in 1966 and 1967. He also owned and operated Fertile Meats and Grocery from 1975-1985 and later Butcher's Steakhouse until his retirement in 2005 at which time his granddaughter, Laurie, took over to carry on the family tradition.

Chuck was an avid sports fan and enjoyed watching the Iowa Hawkeyes, Minnesota Twins and Minnesota Vikings. He was always telling jokes, making people laugh and had a charismatic smile on his face.

Chuck is survived by a son, Michael (Lisa) Waage of Mason City; five grandchildren, Laurie (Dan) Buchanan, Emily (Matt) Schaumberg, Tony (Val) Waage and Cassy (Nathan) Gambell all of Forest City, and Jessica Myers of Mason City; and twelve great-grandchildren, David, Alexis, Tyler and Madison Schaumberg, Justin and Olivia Waage, Nicholas, Chase, Jacob and Matthew Gambell, and Danielle and Dillon Bolz. He is also survived by his extended family, Jane (Al) Ramon and family; Ed Buchanan, Jr. (Jan) and family, and Joyce (Mike) Hanson and family; Frankie Gottfried; and his special dog, Dusty.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Michele; and Ed Buchanan.

Our sympathy to the families!

Marceline M. Osmundson, 81, of Story City, died on Jan. 21, 2018, at Bethany Manor in Story City. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

BACK HOME!

If I had the power to turn back the clock,
Go back to the house at the end of the block—
The house that was home when I was a kid,
I know that I'd love it more than I did.

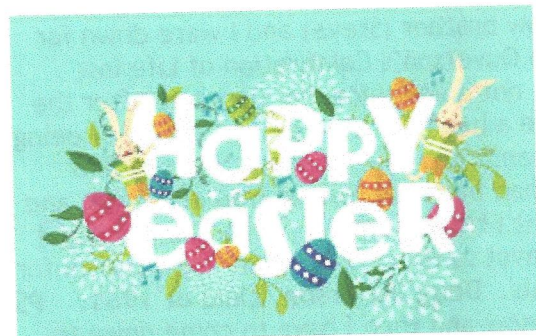
If I could go back there at my mother's knee,
And hear once again the things she told me,
I'd listen as I never listened before,
For she knew so well just what life had in store.

And all the advice my dad used to give,
His voice I'll remember as long as I live;
But it didn't seem really important then;
What I'd just give to live it all over again.

And what I'd give for the chance that I once had,
To do so much more for my mother and dad;
To give them more joy and a little less pain;
A little more sunshine –a little less rain.

But the years roll on and we cannot go back,
Whether we were born in a mansion or in a shack;
But we can start right now—in an hour that's here,
To do something more for the ones we hold dear.

And since time in its flight is traveling so fast;
Let's not spend it regretting that what is past;
But let's make tomorrow a happier day
By doing our "good to others" –TODAY.
Author Unknown



GARDEN CLUB

Garden Club held their first meeting of the year with the board members serving a soup supper. Fourteen members were present. Twylah Kragel led the meeting with roll call being "What did you like most about the winter season?" (Naturally the first thought that comes to mind is "the end of it".)

Dues were paid. Our Constitution was read and we previewed the coming year's program, which looks to be very interesting once again. Names were drawn for Secret Pals.

A short discussion was held about the coming year's flowers. A new project this year will be planting flowers around the new monument and flag pole that was erected last year at the Community Center. Thanks to Penny Miller's and Cindy Peter's TLC we have several geraniums that were saved through the winter are looking good for spring planting. Planting more perennials was suggested.

Twylah Kragel gave the "Thought for the Day" Hostesses were Twylah, Kragel, Tina Larson, Sharon McLaughlin and Carol Jara.
Reporter: Betty Waddington



Thanks Betty, for the coverage of Amy's funeral. I would like the Reminder for a year.
Karen Weld

Thanks, Betty, for the copy of the Fertile Reminder. Please open a new subscription for me. My brother (Steve) and I were down for Donna Ouverson's Celebration of Life last week, not a very nice day (ice) and after the service a lunch was served and enjoyed seeing old friends and talking about the past and what had been happening around Fertile, and thought I have to keep up with the news and not travel so far or only when I come down for funerals. **Doug Ouverson, class of 1961.** PS Every now and then I have to come down to see if Alan Suby ever learned to play basketball!

Hi Ladies, I'm moving back to Iowa! I have sent my \$8.00 a little early for the newsletter. My new address is **Jane Briggeman, P.O. Box 54, Fertile, IA.** It's temporary until I find a house somewhere. I need it move-in ready so may end up in some other small town! Jane

A colorful graphic for a birthday celebration. The words "Happy Birthday" are written in a playful, multi-colored font. Above the text are several colorful balloons (blue, red, yellow, green) and stars. Below the text is a layer of multi-colored confetti.

OPEN HOUSE

80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

JOANN BAILEY

APRIL 15

1 -3 PM

VFW, CLEAR LAKE

IN LIEU OF GIFTS BRING A MEMORY TO SHARE





FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY
 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 & 2-6 P.M.
 Saturday - 9 - Noon
WWW.YOUSEEMORE.COM/NILC/FERTILEPL



Library Events

Family Movie Time

April 6 @ 7 pm

This month we will be enjoying the new movie Ferdinand. As always popcorn will be provided and non-red covered drinks are allowed. Get in your cozy clothes and join us!

Hallmark Movie Monday

April 23 @ 2 pm

Come join us for a hallmark movie, coffee and treats. Kick back and relax and enjoy a spring romance.

Adult Craft Afternoon

April 21 @ 1 pm

Come join us for a spring craft to brighten your home. All supplies will be provided and treats will be here! This program is for 18+

Downstairs @ Downton Tea Party

The library is hosting a tea party! We will be welcoming Cathy Wilson, who will present on the real lives of those living and working in England during the time of Downton Abbey. We will also have a High Tea. Tea, finger sandwiches and Petits Fours. The event will take place May 19th @ 1pm. There is no cost to this event, but we are asking what you call to register so we can have an accurate count for food.

featuring
New Fiction

- As you wish - Jude Deveraux
- Leaving Yuma - Michael Zimmer
- The darkest mind - Alexandra Bracken
- We were the lucky ones - Georgia Hunter
- Red Sparrow - Jason Matthews

featuring
New DVDs

- Coco
- Thor: Ragnarok
- Justice League
- All of my heart: Inn love
- Roman J. Israel, Esq

GRANDMA'S HANDS

Written by Neil Kuns

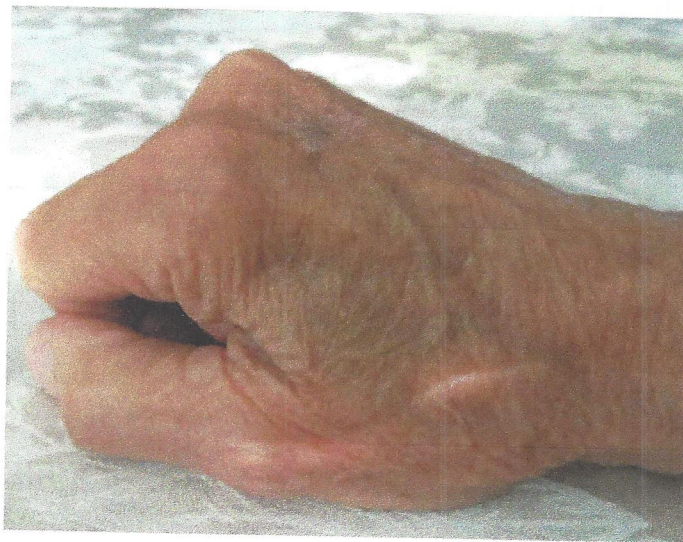
I have only second-hand memories of my Grandpa Carr. I was younger than three when he passed, but I followed him around as a toddler. He grunted when bending over and I did the same, I was told. The other day I grunted as I bent over to pick up something from the ground and that story trickled back into my stream of thought.

I saw my Grandpa and Grandma Kuns a couple times a month during my childhood when we visited their farm for Sunday Dinner. That ceased when I went away to college. We were 4500 miles away in Manheim Germany when Grandma Kuns passed, and 2700 miles away in Los Angeles when Grandpa went to join her. I have more first-hand memories of both of them than I do of Grandpa Carr.

My memories of Grandma Carr are much more varied and vivid because about half of the years during my childhood our family lived together with her in her home. After she could no longer live alone she spent her last years living with my parents in their house.

Recently I looked at my wrinkled hands and somehow that sparked the neurons that connect me to her. I remember her hands showing me how to tie my shoe laces and later how to plant radishes in the garden and put a worm on a hook after we walked down to the river to fish. I remember them pulling the comb on the loom weaving rugs in her living room. I can picture her feeding her canary and being happy when her canary would sing along with the birds on the Hartz Mountain Birdseed radio program. In her later years I recall how she covered her mouth with her wrinkled hands when she smiled or laughed because her missing teeth embarrassed her. I have many more memories of her but I do not remember her funeral. The service was on a Saturday and I had to host a Revival beginning at my Terre Haute, Indiana church the next day. My Iowa home was five-hundred, fifty-five hard highway miles distant and sadly we just could not make the trip.

So here is a picture of that wrinkled hand – not hers, but mine the one that gave rise to this recollection.



Camp Rock



Lewis Leonard Ebaugh came to Iowa in 1870 with his family when the wolves ran in packs and the banks of the Winnebago River were dotted with Indian tepees. In May of 1873 he witnessed the exodus of the Indians from the area. During his first two years in Grant Township in Cerro Gordo County, he lived within 80 rods (1/4 mile) of a tented village containing 750 Winnebago Indians.

The village was located at the point where the Northern boundary of Cerro Gordo crosses the Winnebago River about one mile southwest of Fertile. He said that the tents were rough affairs but warm and comfortable in winter. They were built of poplar poles covered with coarse slough grass matting, canvas cloth and ox hides. There were 80 tents or more strung along the river for half a mile.

During the winter of 1872 - 73 the Indians spent their time hunting and trapping and made a clean sweep of all game. By spring there was not a deer, wolf or other fur-bearing animal left in this part of the state.

On May 16, 1873 an Indian called on Lewis' father and presented him with a dozen fish and muskrat spears. He announced that the camp was leaving for Dakota Territory in four days.

On the fourth morning following this visit, the young Lewis Ebaugh climbed to the top of Camp Rock, a huge granite boulder on the south bank of the river. In the early days it was known as a land mark or mile post on the river trail.

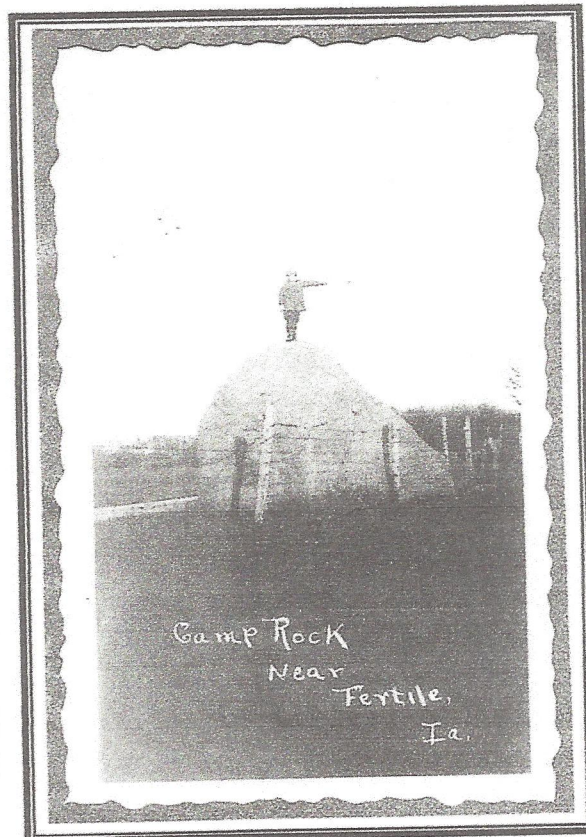
From this vantage point he had a good view of the procession as it emerged from the woods on the opposite side of the stream and swing westward in single file on the old wagon trail and moved slowly upstream. At that time the trail followed the river from Mason City to the Minnesota line. It was a sight he never forgot.

Their belongings were transported on poles that were strapped at one end to the horse's shoulders, the other end dragging behind on the ground and held together with cross ties on which the load was

carried. Children rode four to a pony in canvas bags slung over the ponies' backs. The older men rode on horseback and the women perched on the tents carried on the poles. Most of the younger members of the tribe walked, carrying cumbersome packs.

By the time the last rider passed by, the vanguard had reached a point two miles up the stream and by noon the last Indian disappeared around a bend in the river. As far as Mr. Ebaugh could recall, this was the last band of Indians in the county. They never returned to the sight of their old village. Eight years later, in 1881 a band of fifty Indians arrived from Wisconsin and camped one winter just across the Worth County line nearer to Fertile.

This information was taken from a story sent to us by Mrs. Ruth (Virgil) Ouverson, Lewis Ebaugh's granddaughter. Mr. Ebaugh shared his story with G. O. Sanderson of Fertile who wrote it. It was published in the Mason City Glob-Gazette on July 20, 1956. Camp Rock is located on the bank of the river behind the Hyde farm. The picture of Camp Rock seems to be one of the post cards made back in the early 1900's.





ELVIS PRESLEY CAKE

White cake mix

8 oz. can crushed pineapple

1 c. sugar

8 oz. Cream Cheese

½ c. butter, softened

3 c. powdered sugar

1 tsp. vanilla

2-3 c. crushed pecans

Bake white cake, cool and poke holes in it. Boil crushed pineapple with juice and 1 cup sugar then pour over cake. In large bowl mix cream cheese, butter and powdered sugar. Add vanilla and crushed pecans, mix good and put on cake.

Cream of Broccoli Soup Recipe

¼ c. chopped onions

1 T. butter

1 T. flour

2 c. milk

4 oz. cream cheese, cubed

½ lb. (8 oz. Velveeta cut in ½ in. cubes

1 pkg. 10 oz. frozen chopped broccoli, cooked, drained

¼ tsp. Nutmeg 1/8 tsp. pepper

Cook & stir onions in butter in at medium high heat 3 to 5 minutes, or until onions are crisp tender.

Whisk in flour until blended. Stir in milk; cook for 2 min. stirring occasionally. Add cream cheese; cook 2 or 3 min. until melted. Add remaining ingredients; mix well. Cook for 5 min. or until heated through, stirring occasionally.

How to Keep Asparagus Fresh Longer

Take the asparagus out of the plastic bag. If left in the bag, the stems of the asparagus will continue to harden, making it inedible after a few days. Instead, take the asparagus out of the bag and cut the bottoms of the stems off. Then place them upright in a glass with two inches of water. The water will help keep the asparagus fresh and it will last up to a week longer.

The doorbell rang –and the lady of the house discovered a workman, complete with a tool chest on the front porch. “Madam, I’m the piano tuner.” “Say-I didn’t send for a piano tuner.”. the man replied – “I know, but the neighbors did.”

You know you are getting older when ---“You stoop to tie your shoelaces and ask yourself, What else can I do while I am down here?”

REMINDER POLICY

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THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Good Morning, Fertile. A special good morning to our military veterans. Thank you for your service to our country. You probably noticed that your monthly bill for living in Fertile has gone up a little. This is due to increases in sewer and water. You also probably remember Steve sending each household a letter about not putting sump pump water into our sewer system. Some of you are probably wondering why. Because of the soil structure and the underlying limestone, we have, in plain English, wet soil. When it rains a lot, it gets even wetter. In places, we also have fine cracks in the sewer pipe which allows ground water to seep in. So why is this a problem? Two reasons. First, the extra ground water plus any from a sump pump will start to overload our lagoon system. Adding a fourth lagoon would be expensive. Second, the water being pumped out of the well is metered as is the water going into the lagoon. The D.N.R. has access to these numbers from every community in Iowa. They get upset when the gallons of water being dumped are more than the gallons of water being pumped. If they get too upset, they will FINE the community. So what is Fertile doing? We have started a program where a company comes in with a camera followed by a grouter. The camera follows the sewer line. When it finds a crack, the grouting machine seals it. The D. N. R. has said, as long as we have a plan to stop the water and follow it, NO FINE. We have money to do two blocks a year. As far as water is concerned, the D. N. R. would like us to drill a second well. No money for that now. Also pumps and equipment wear out and need either to be fixed or replaced. I hope this explains why the rates have gone up and will continue, but by just a little each year. We need to repair and we need to put money aside for big projects.

On the farm front, a word of warning to farmers using a herbicide that could drift, like dicamba. The state of Iowa has a register for all specialty crops this year. We, along with countless others, will be on it. If any grower suffers any herbicide drift damage, the state of Iowa will examine the crop. Once it is deemed herbicide damage, the grower, with the backing of the state of Iowa, will go after the party responsible and it could get costly. I have seen dicamba damage on potatoes and it really hurts. We don't want any problems and neither do you. Be careful spraying, and by all means, have good insurance if the worst happens.

Five of us met with State Representative Bloomingdale at City Hall on March 5. We talked about several topics which I will elaborate more next month. Until next time, thank a farmer for the food on your plate. Thank a vet for the freedoms we all enjoy. And above all, thank God for the blessings he has given you.



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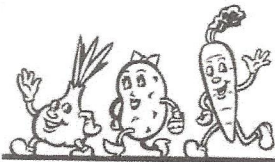
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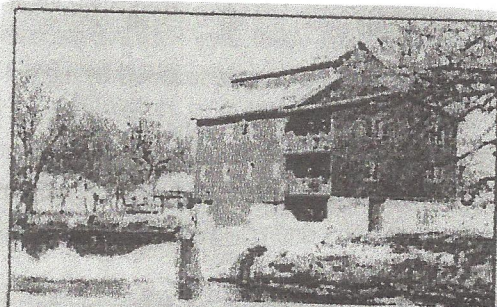
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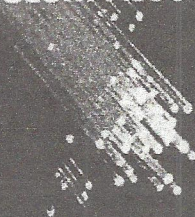
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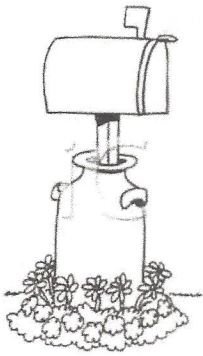
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