

# FERTILE REMINDER

MARCH 2018



This picture was taken in 1996 of The Tom and Alvina Brosdahl children and their spouses. Couples from the left are Jim & Marilyn Brosdahl, Arlyn & Elaine Brosdahl, Dennis & Donna Brosdahl, Russ & Ardelle Osnes, Gene & Dorothy Brosdahl.



All we have left are memories!!

**-- SAVE THE DATE --**

**Fertile High School All School Reunion  
June 9th, 2018**

More info to follow

## MARCH CALENDAR

**5 Firemen meet**

**8 & 22 Recycle**

**10 Library Taco Fiesta supper**

**19 Library Board Meets**

**20 Fertile Girls Meet**

**20 City Council**

**21 Reminder emailed**

# City of Fertile

## City Council Meeting Minutes February 20, 2018 - 7:00 PM, City Hall Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Tad Miller, Cindy Peters, Ron Rachut and Holly Lovik-Hanna; City Clerk Wendy Lunning and Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts. Absent: Nick Bailey.
- Ron motioned, Cindy 2nd to approve the minutes of the January meeting.** Unanimous
- Cindy motioned, Holly 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.

### City Maintenance Report:

- Hare's repaired control box at lagoon.
- Skid Loader bucket is being repaired. City is in need of new buck as the old one is not efficient. The cost will be approximately \$1250.00. Council will review at next meeting.
- The chain and belt on the snow plow has been budgeted to be repaired for the 2019 fiscal year.
- Steve has been painting picnic tables for in the park and they look very nice.
- There is no water shut off for the incubator at the Community Center.
- Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the City Maintenance report.** Unanimous

### Mayor's Report:

- Thank you, Jaci Miller & Joyce, for writing the grant to POET for LP Heater and fog rod level controller at the lagoon.
- Joyce has updated the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazardous Mitigation Plan.

### Deposits

01/01/2018	Property Taxes	277.04
01/03/2018	Utility Deposit	839.62
01/03/2018	Utility Deposit	145.35
01/03/2018	Casino Funds Deposit	2,216.13
01/05/2018	Utility Deposit	68.71
01/10/2018	Utility Deposit	2,527.91
01/10/2018	Utility Deposit	50.00
01/10/2018	Insurance Settlement Deposit	1,000.00
01/12/2018	Clerkbooks Deposit	0.00
01/12/2018	Utility Deposit	87.09
01/17/2018	Utility Deposit	3,402.84
01/17/2018	Farm to Market Deposit	1,742.80
01/17/2018	Road Use Tax	1,635.05
01/24/2018	Utility Deposit	3,046.27
01/24/2018	Utility Deposit	578.84
01/24/2018	Library Deposit - Fees & Services	15.00
01/24/2018	Library Donation Deposit	25.00
01/24/2018	Library County Contribution Deposit	8,750.00
01/26/2018	Library Bank Account Deposit	5,111.95
01/31/2018	Utility Deposit	166.08
01/31/2018	Utility Deposit	2,503.41
01/31/2018	Interest	19.77
		<hr/>
		34,208.86

- Joyce and Warren completed City Water Permit for 2018 and mailed to DNR.
- Thank you, Joyce, for donating a new vacuum cleaner for the community center.
- Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to approve the mayor's report.** Unanimous.

### City Clerk's Report

- Thank you for the flowers that I received during my recent hospital stay. It was very thoughtful.
- USDA 2017 Annual Financial Reports were presented to the council for review. **Tad motioned, Cindy 2nd to approve the reports.** Unanimous.
- Fertile Days, Fire Department and Garden Club are current through 12/31/2017.
- Tad motioned, Holly 2nd to approve Financial Report.** Unanimous
- Ron motioned, Cindy 2nd to approve December Bills.** Unanimous

7/1/2017 to 01/31/2018	General	WCDA	Roads	EE Benefits	Utilities	Total
Income	242,809.23	53,975.00	99,547.52	4,390.98	82,325.57	483,048.30
Expense	240,936.27	46,153.68	91,538.93	1,099.93	73,630.57	453,359.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,827.96</b>	<b>7,821.32</b>	<b>8,008.59</b>	<b>3,291.05</b>	<b>8,695.00</b>	<b>29,688.92</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>71,665.52</b>	<b>21.32</b>	<b>54,651.99</b>	<b>4,159.56</b>	<b>137,334.24</b>	<b>267,832.63</b>

- There were No Liens.
- Proposed Budget was presented to the council for the 2019 fiscal year (07-01-2018 to 06-30-2019). Public Hearing will be held March 12 at 7:00 in City Hall.

### Committee Report:

- Warren attended classes for his water & sewer license in Des Moines.

### Upcoming Meetings:

- Public Hearing March 12 at 7:00pm in Fertile City Hall
- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session March 20th at 7:00pm, at Fertile City Hall.
- Holly motioned, Cindy 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** Unanimous

Wendy Lunning, City Clerk



**Happy belated birthday to Jim Lovick who turned 99 the 13th of February**

**Ruth Rhodes will be 95 on the 24th**

## City of Fertile Bills Paid

As of January 31, 2018

Check	01/01/2018	8432	Fertile Fire Department V	Quarterly Allocation	-4,000.00
Check	01/01/2018	TRANSFER	Fertile Public Library V	Quarterly Payment	0.00
Check	01/01/2018	CORR	Iowa Communities Assurance Pool v	Correct Class Original Transaction 12-28-2017	0.00
Paycheck	01/03/2018	8428	Bruns, Warren	Water & Sewer Supervisor	-301.39
Paycheck	01/03/2018	8429	Lunning, Wendy S	City Clerk	-297.77
Paycheck	01/03/2018	8430	Russell, Grant	City Maintenance	-168.48
Paycheck	01/03/2018	8431	Russell, Joyce	City Administrator - Donated 22 hours	-1,123.72
Bill Pmt -Check	01/03/2018	8433	Kramer Ace Hardware		-24.98
Bill Pmt -Check	01/03/2018	8434	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-20.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/03/2018	8435	Waste Management		-2,261.17
Bill Pmt -Check	01/03/2018	8436	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-206.28
Liability Check	01/03/2018	EFT	IPERS	Library Payroll Liabilities	-247.61
Liability Check	01/03/2018	EFT	IPERS		-1,179.70
Bill Pmt -Check	01/03/2018	8437	Menards	Sewer lagoon to keep turtles out	-26.96
Liability Check	01/03/2018	8438	United States Treasury	Library Payroll Liabilities	-1,181.92
Liability Check	01/03/2018	EFT	United States Treasury	42-1028074	-1,434.18
Paycheck	01/10/2018	8440	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,046.08
Bill Pmt -Check	01/10/2018	8441	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing	-13.50
Bill Pmt -Check	01/10/2018	8442	Fertile Reminder	Advertisement Costs	-220.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/10/2018	8443	Five Star CO-OP	Gas for Truck	-250.99
Bill Pmt -Check	01/10/2018	8444	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine Cylinder	-10.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/10/2018	8445	Jaci Miller	Grant Writing	-250.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/10/2018	8446	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	Programmable thermostat Incubator	-185.65
Bill Pmt -Check	01/10/2018	8447	Worth County Engineer v	Fuel and Salt & Sand mix	-483.56
Check	01/15/2018	EFT	First Security Bank & Trust	Main Street Loan	-10,504.40
Check	01/16/2018	TRANSFER	Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	-75.00
Check	01/17/2018	8456	Fertile Garden Club	City Contribution	-900.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/17/2018	8457	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-2,075.43
Bill Pmt -Check	01/17/2018	8458	Barco Municipal Products, Inc.	A Frame Barricades	-359.80
Bill Pmt -Check	01/17/2018	8459	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-787.22
Bill Pmt -Check	01/17/2018	8452	Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax	-74.77
Bill Pmt -Check	01/17/2018	8453	NIACOG	Annual Dues	-15.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/17/2018	8454	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-80.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/17/2018	8455	Worth County Sheriff's Office	Annual 28E agreement	-3,792.50
Paycheck	01/17/2018	8462	Arndt, Linda J	Assistant Director	-153.97
Paycheck	01/17/2018	8463	Knudson, Lori	Clerk	-173.18
Paycheck	01/17/2018	8462	Thompson, Angela M	Librarian	-1,084.16
Check	01/17/2018	8460	City of Fertile	VOID: Printed on both sides of check.	0.00
Check	01/22/2018	ACH	Baker Floral	Hospital plant for Wendy	-44.80
Check	01/22/2018	ACH	Iowa Rural Water Association	Training	-325.00
Paycheck	01/24/2018	8464	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,046.09
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8469	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-122.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8470	Baker & Taylor	Books & CDs	-132.77
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8471	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-65.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8472	Joyce Russell -P	People Magazine	-69.98
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8473	Menards	Supplies - Toilet Paper, Paint supplies, Door Knob	-49.54
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8474	Quality Pump & Control	Check Floats	-350.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8475	Staples	Office Supplies - File Box, Printer Ink.	-85.99
Bill Pmt -Check	01/24/2018	8472	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-46.95
Check	01/25/2018	ACH	Citibusiness Card	Books, CDs, DVDs, Supplies & Programs	-284.65
Liability Check	01/30/2018	EFT	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance		-135.00
Liability Check	01/30/2018	EFT	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance		-612.00
Sales Tax Payment	01/30/2018	EFT	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance		-1,134.00
<b>Total Checking</b>					<b>-39,513.14</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>					
Check	01/16/2018	TRANSFER	Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	75.00
Check	01/17/2018	TRANSFER	Fertile Public Library V		-75.00
<b>Total Petty Cash</b>					<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Operating Accounts</b>					<b>-39,513.14</b>

Save



**Romane A. Lovik**, 88, of Clear Lake, formerly of Fertile, died Thursday, February 1, 2018 at the Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit in Mason City. Burial will take place in Grant Center Cemetery, rural Clear Lake. Memorials may be directed to the Fertile

Lutheran Church.

Romane A. Lovik, the daughter of Jasper and Nora (Mestad) Humphrey, was born March 10, 1929. She attended and graduated from Fertile High School in 1946, participating in chorus, band and cheerleading. She was a life-long member of Fertile Lutheran Church where she was involved in circle, ladies aide, teaching Sunday school and quilting. She married Virgil Lovik on January 11, 1948. They were married for 64 years. They farmed in the Ventura and Joice area and moved into Fertile in 1987. For the past two years she has resided at Apple Valley Assisted Living in Clear Lake. Romane is survived by her three children and their families; daughter Mary (Craig) Anderson, Sioux Falls, S.D., and children Ben (Erin) Anderson, Nashville, TN, and their children, Dylan, Luke and Zeke; Brooke (Adam) Ryan, Nashville, TN, and their children, Roman Knox and Lulu; and Britney (Eric) Olson, Sioux Falls, SD, and their children, Ashton and Anniston; son Mark (Virginia) Lovik, Joice, and children Nathan (Kim) Lovik, Rochester, MN, and their sons, Benson and Simon; Laura (Paul) Beatty, Joice, and their children, Hailey, Garrett, Gage and Hailynn; daughter Marie (Michael) Oleson, Forest City, and their children Marissa (Dallas) Koeneke, Cabot, AR, and their sons, Jude and Eli; and Molly (Justin) Uhlenhopp, Forest City; sister Geraldine Washburn and sons all from Clear Lake, Lowell (Carol) and Sterling (Cindy) and their families; and nephew Neal (Jane) Luker, Fulton, IL; and many other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Virgil (2012); parents; sister, Evelyn Luker; brothers, Howard and Curtis; and a stillborn granddaughter, Ann Anderson.

### OUR SYMPATHY TO THESE FAMILIES



**Michael E. McCauley**, 67, of Mason City, passed away Friday, January 12, 2018 at his home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held 10:30 a.m. Saturday, January 27th, 2018 at Epiphany Parish –

St. Joseph Catholic Church, 302 5th St SE, Mason City with Reverend Autsin Wilker officiating. Burial will be in St. Francis Cemetery, Belmond, IA at a later date. Michael Edward McCauley was born on January 16, 1950 in Forest City to Francis and Agnes (Rodberg) McCauley. He grew up in Fertile until his family moved to Mason City in 1964 where he attended and graduated from Mason City High School in 1968. Following his graduation Michael held many jobs, but most recently he had worked for Mercy Medical Center North Iowa as a Mechanic for 26 years until his retirement in 2007. On August 18, 1984 Michael married his love, Sandy Zeiger.

Michael enjoyed camping, playing cards, spending time at the casino, and bowling, and could often be found outside visiting with his neighbors. He was a member of Epiphany Parish-St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Those left to cherish Michael's memory are his wife, Sandy McCauley of Mason City; niece Kimberly Owens of Tulsa, OK, and nephew Christopher (Ana) McCauley of Tampa, FL; nieces and nephews-in-law Joshua (Kathy) Steenblock, Adam (Jackie) Steenblock, Shauna (Robbie) Krush, Jill (Shane) VerSteeg, Heidi (Gabe Popovich) Zeiger-Popovich; great-nieces and nephews, Sam, Owen, Will, and Wesley Versteeg, Avery, Taylor, and Maggie Steenblock, Adalyn, Peter, and Oliver Steenblock, Nicole McCauley, and Vivian and Ruby Popovich; siblings-in-law, Diane (Russ) Steenblock and Larry (Linda) Zeiger; as well as many cousins, extended family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, Roger and Larry McCauley, and his parents Francis and Agnes McCauley.

Dubuque Daily Times, Tuesday, February 08, 1876, Dubuque, Iowa, Page: 2 STATE NEWS

A man named Carleton, a sober, industrious man, living in the northern part of Worth County, was caught out in last week's "blizzard," and froze to death. He apparently got out of his wagon, in order to warm up, and was found dead beside the road - his horse having brought up next to a fence a mile away.



*Amy Van Note, age 70, of Bloomington formerly of Mpls, passed away Feb 4th, preceded by father, mother and infant sister, survived by husband Keith; children, Catherine & Kent (Rachel Cupps) Van Note; sisters Jan (Fred) Hare; Karen Weld; Jill*

*Murray; Eileen Zirbel; granddaughter KC Meredyk; a few aunts & uncles; many nieces, nephews and cousins Amy was born June 17, 1947 to Stanley and Kit Zirbel. She was the middle daughter of five that was raised on the farm south of Fertile, where Stanley was born.*

*Despite a lack of resources, Amy worked her way through college in two steps. First she completed a two year degree at North Iowa Community College. One her way though that she met the love of her life in Keith Van Note. Due to his draft status he decided to drop out and enlist so he could have more say over where they went. She went to the big city of Mankato and finished a four year degree in Biology. She and Keith were joined in marriage March 15, 1969 in a rushed service before he was shipped to Germany. When she finished school she flew off to join him.*

*She was a practical women; someone who knew how to do a lot with not much to start from; and a force to be reckoned with where she put her mind to something. She loved her family dearly, most lately delighting in her granddaughter; first because she loved babies;*

*and later because the two of them were a lot alike. She always believed in working hard to make her community a better place. She was almost always involved in the church—and the community in general—outside her working life; and that was no different after she retired. The world lost a good, brave, hard worker when she left us, and there is no doubt her family and friends will miss her now that she's gone, but we had a lot of good times with her while she was here, which is all we could have asked for.*

*Our sympathy to the Amy VanNote family!*

Frances Thelma Hallett, mother of Carolyn Nedved, Fertile, died peacefully in her sleep on January 6<sup>th</sup>. She was born Feb. 23, 1922 at Vinje, IA & attended Crystal Lake school.

**Our sympathy to Carolyn & her family.**



**Donna Elaine Pitkin Ouverson, 76, of Fertile, went to meet her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at her home in Fertile.**

Donna was born on February 2, 1942, the daughter of Sherwood

and Marian (Olson) Pitkin in Mason City. She married Jerry Ouverson, also of Fertile, on September 10, 1961, at the Fertile Lutheran Church, and to this union, five children were born.

A 1959 graduate of Clear Lake High School, Donna also graduated from Hamilton Business College in Mason City. She worked at Edwards-Brandt and Associates in Mason City before staying at home to raise her family and help on the farm.

Donna battled Multiple Myeloma cancer for almost 17 years, Alzheimer's dementia for 10 years, eventually developing therapy-induced Acute Myeloid Leukemia about 6 months prior to her passing. When first diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, the doctors estimated she had only 3 years to live, but Donna was a fighter, and proved that God still had plans for her.

She was a lifelong member of Fertile Lutheran Church, belonging to the Ladies' Aid group, and Ladies Circle, often leading Bible studies, teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, as well as singing in the church choir. A very kind and compassionate person, she was eager and willing to help her neighbors when in need, and share fellowship, including forming and leading a neighborhood Bible study group for several years, witnessing for Christ. She also belonged to the Fertile Garden Club, as she so enjoyed beautiful gardens and spending time outdoors.

Donna's biggest joy in life was caring for her family, raising her children and later spending time with her grandchildren.

Donna is survived by her husband, Jerry Ouverson of Fertile; five children, Jeffrey (Dixie) Ouverson of Fertile; Jon (Lori) Ouverson of Clear Lake, Julie Ouverson of Woodbury, MN, Jodie (Marc) Pick of Urbandale, and Jamie Ouverson of Johnston; eight grandchildren, Kara, Kaitlyn, Michala, Corrigan, Kjersten, Nolan, Nathan and Colin; two brothers, Sherril (Susan) Pitkin of Corvallis, OR and James Pitkin of Mason City; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and a granddaughter in infancy, Gabrielle Grace Pick.

**Our sympathy to Jerry and his family!**



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](http://WWW.YOUSEEMORE.COM/NILC/FERTILEPL)



## Library Events

### Dr. Seuss Story Time

March 2nd @ 5pm

Join us for some Seussian fun! We'll have a craft, a story and snack to celebrate the birthday of the great Dr. Seuss

### Movie Marathon & Art Cart

March 14th 10am-5pm

The library will be open early today with a children's movie marathon. We will enjoy movies, popcorn, Art, snacks and drinks.

### Family Movie Night

March 16th @ 7pm

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!

### Adult Coloring Night

March 22nd @ 7pm

Come join us for beverages and bars and color your cares away. Relax and conversate! 18+

### Adult Coloring Night

March 22nd @ 7pm

We will be holding a story time for toddlers. children crawling and up to age 3 are welcome to join us for some stories and some play time.

## featuring New Fiction

Fire and Fury - Michael Wolff  
 Fifty Fifty - James Patterson  
 The great alone - Kristen Hannah  
 In places hidden - Tracie Peterson  
 Look for me - Lisa Gardner

## featuring New DVDs

Stephen King's IT  
 Wonder  
 Kidnap  
 Girls trip  
 The dark tower

## Taco Dinner & Silent Auction

The library is holding it's annual Fiesta Night taco dinner on Saturday March 10th from 4-7pm @ the Fertile Community Center. This year there will also be a silent auction, so come on down, eat tacos and bid on fun items.

## THOMAS & ALVINA BROSDAHL FAMILY

Submitted by Ardelle Osnes



Each of us has our own unique life stories to tell. I would like to share a bit of my parent's life journey. Alvina Tonnette Tweed was born Dec., 14 1906 to Ole and Annie (Ramsey) Tweed of rural Joice, Iowa. She was one of 9 sisters and 1 brother.

Growing up on a farm there was always chores to do. She attended country school from 1-8 grades. A country test was required before entering Fertile high school. She graduated in 1924 with a goal to become a teacher.

After graduation she attended the 6 week course at Cedar Falls Teacher College and certified to teach country school, which she did until she was married. (If you were married you could no longer teach.)

She and Carl Thomas Brosdahl, (born May 31, 1904) a farmer & youngest son of Jorgen and Annie (Felland) Brosdahl of rural Joice, also, married. He had attended country school 1-8 grades, also and then attended Waldorf Academy in Forest City. His interest was in Philosophy. Both excelled in penmanship, math and music. They farmed most of their lives.

Together they had 5 children, 4 boys and a girl. They lived on a farm 3 miles west of Fertile and attended school in Fertile except for Jimmy who graduated from Lake Mills. Thomas and Alvina lived on a farm east of Lake Mills until they moved into the town of Fertile. First, just south of the old Christian Church, then when Cora Halverson was selling her place they moved there, which was just east of the old Christian Church.

Dad always had pink peppermints in his pocket. The younger children followed him uptown whenever he went, and that was often, he looked like 'Pied Piper'. How he loved the little children. The farmers and some of men folk in Fertile would gather in front of the restaurant in the morning for coffee. This was one of many trips he made daily uptown.

Their great joy and fun was owning the Forester Camper, the Playhouse, as they called it. It was always ready to go whenever Lewis, Thelan, Lewine or Almer called to go somewhere and have coffee or fish somewhere, etc. If I came to visit and no one answered the house, I would check the Playhouse and yes sir, they were there playing dominoes.

Mom loved to bake, sew, do crafts, art projects and participate in many of the organizations in school, community and the Lutheran Church. They were both longtime members of the Lutheran Church.

When son, Gene and family moved into Fertile, owning the restaurant, Mom made doughnuts for his Open House! At Christmastime she and Dad made hundreds of lefse, not only for family but for the stores in Forest City, per request, for sale. Then there was her Rommegrot which again was a family of the public. Lutefisk and fresh oysters were shared with her family, Lewis and Agnes Suby, Lillian and Thelan Elthon, and Almer and June Tweed. But her most memorable food was her marshmallow cake with ground peanut frosting. It was a request for every family gathering and reunion for years.

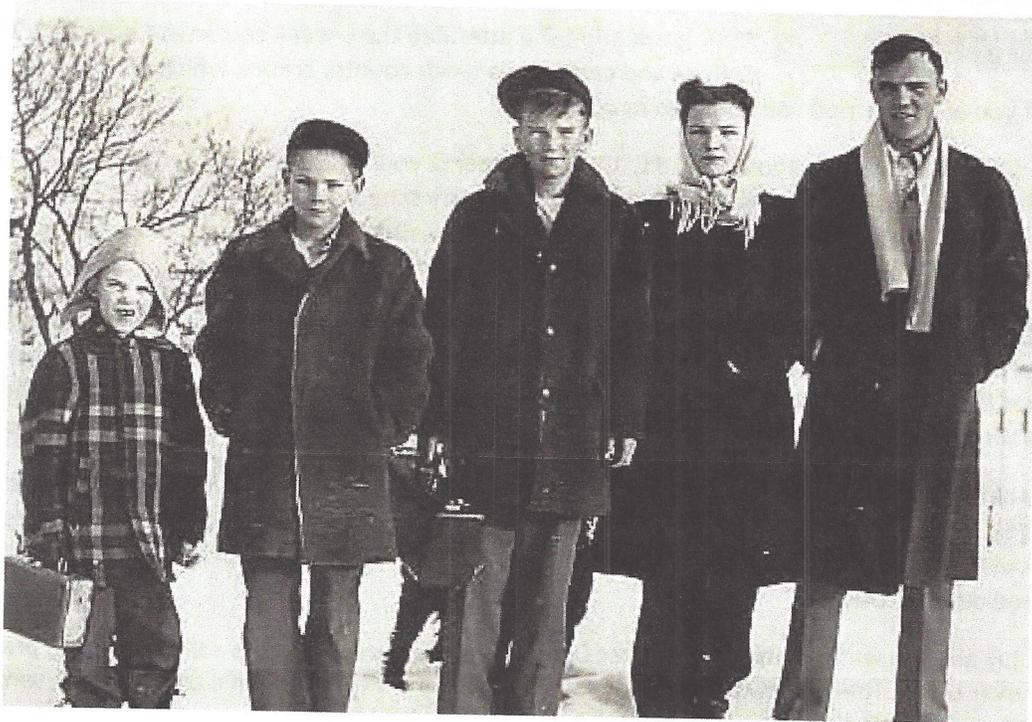
Three of their sons served in the military, stateside and Europe during WWII. Dad's brother was in France during WWI, and several grandsons served in the ensuing conflicts, only one making it a career. Their children attended college and pursued their interests and unique gifts. Gene, Dennis, Arlyn and Jimmy all lived in the Iowa-Joice/Fertile/Thornton, Cresco, Manly/Mason City/Clear Lake/Ankeny/Hanlontown/Parkersburg. Ardelle, an RN and married to a Lutheran Pastor lived in cities and other states but eventually in Forest City.

They celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as did all their children and spouses. Dad died of a massive heart attack at the age of 75 on March 12, 1980 and Mom passed on April 25, 1983 at age 76 of cancer.

We came to Iowa for a month and stayed on my brother's farm. When we returned to California, our youngest daughter, age about 5, asked "Are we poor?" "Why" I asked. "Well, we only have this bit of land and Uncle Tommy has lots and lots!!!" It seemed to her that as far as her little legs could take her, it was still Uncle Tommy's (Arlyn) farm!

These are some of my memories of the Brosdahl's in Fertile with much one more to add. They were avid sports and music fans. The Fertile teams, band, choirs and plays were the best!

They traveled adjoining states, but Dad said "Iowa had it all! Why would you want to live anywhere else?"



Left to right: Jimmy, 1<sup>st</sup> grade; Arlyn, 5<sup>th</sup> grade; Dennis 8<sup>th</sup> grade; Ardelle, Junior, Gene, Senior



Picture taken in 1976 at Russ Osnes 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Front row is Arlyn, Dennis, Ardelle. Back row is Jim & Gene

Ardelle brought me the class picture of her Mother's class of 1924. It was in a frame and I could not scan it that way. It is too old for me to take apart. Perhaps another day it can be put in.

Thank you Ardelle!!



**FERTILE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES:**  
 Seeking bids for mowing Chapel Hill Cemetery for the full 2018 season. Please provide qualifications and bid to 3657 Apple Ave. Joice, IA 50446. For

questions call 641-588-3701 and ask for Mark. All bids must be received by Feb. 28th for consideration.

## Letter to the editor

Please renew my subscription for another year. Keep up your work of keeping all of us informed of what is going on. **Lyle Knudson**

Please renew my Fertile Reminder for another year. Thanks for all you ladies do. **Judi Larson**

### What is Celibacy?

Celibacy can be a choice in life, or a condition imposed by circumstances.

While attending a Marriage Weekend, Frank and his wife Ann listened to the instructor declare, "It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other."

He then addressed the men.

"Can you name and describe your wife's favorite flower?"

Frank leaned over, touched Ann's arm gently, and whispered, "Gold Medal-All-Purpose, Isn't it?"

And thus began Frank's life of celibacy.

## THANK YOU

The Fertile Days committee would like to thank each and every one for the successful spaghetti supper. We want to say thank you to those who donated baked goods, those that helped serve and those that helped with clean up, and of course, those who came to eat. We had people come from some distance to join us. We did quite well financially and every cent will be put towards our Fertile Days celebration on August 11. We also want to thank those who took time to write suggestions. We read each and every one and will be using many of them in the future. We would be amiss if we did not thank each one who donated cans and bottles. The income from these really helps make our celebration better. Again, from the committee, thank you.



## Thank You

The Fertile Firemen wish to thank everyone who contributed with food and labor and attended our soup supper to make it such a success. We made \$2425.00 which will go towards equipment. Our department is all volunteers so all help is always appreciated! Thanks again!



Cabbage is a great buy in the month of March due to St. Patrick's Day so here is a cabbage recipe from the Fertile Garden Club Cookbook. Carol Jara submitted it.

### CABBAGE CASSEROLE

- 3 c. Fresh cabbage, shredded
- 1 lb. hamburger, sautéed & drained
- ¼ c. diced onion
- 1 tsp. salt & ½ tsp. pepper
- ½ tsp. garlic salt
- 1 (10 ½ oz.) can tomato soup
- 1 cup COOKED rice
- 2 T. lemon juice
- 1 T. brown sugar
- 1 c. shredded cheddar cheese

#### Instructions:

Shred cabbage and place in 2-quart casserole  
Mix in meat and onions  
Stir in remaining ingredients, except cheese  
Stir well, cover and bake **350 degrees, 1 hour**  
Top with cheese before serving or removing from oven. **NOTE:** Rice can be increased to 2 cups, if desired

### Irresistible Irish Soda Bread

Best if made the day before, or several hours before serving." 3 cups all-purpose flour  
1 tablespoon baking powder  
1/3 cup white sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 egg, lightly beaten  
2 cups buttermilk  
1/4 cup butter, melted  
Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).  
Grease a 9x5 inch loaf pan. Combine flour, baking powder, sugar, salt and baking soda. Blend egg and buttermilk together, and add all at once to the flour mixture. Mix just until moistened. Stir in butter.  
Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 65 to 70 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the bread comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack. Wrap in foil for several hours, or overnight, for best flavor.

I bumped into an old school friend at the store today. He started showing off, talking about his well-paid job and expensive sports cars. Then he pulled out his phone and showed me a photo of his wife and said, "She's beautiful, isn't she?"

I said, "If you think she's gorgeous, you should see my girlfriend."

He said, "Why? Is she a stunner?"

I said, "No, she's an optometrist."

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A beggar walked up to a well-dressed woman shopping on Rodeo Drive and said, "I haven't eaten anything in four days. She looked at him and said, "Oh boy I wish I had your will power."

"Hello? Is this the fire department?"

"Yes."

"Listen, my house is on fire! You've got to come right away! It is terrible!"

"Okay, how do we get to your house?"

"Well, don't you still have those big red trucks?"

Husband "Where is yesterday's newspaper?"

Wife: "I wrapped the garbage in it."

Husband: "Oh, I wanted to see it."

Wife: "OH, there wasn't much to see...just some orange peels and coffee ground, dear."

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### THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Awhile back I stopped at the Hanlontown Coop for a cup of coffee. (I hadn't been there in awhile.) As I walked in, who do I see but Fertile's distinguished citizen. It was such an honor. I had to leave early because the amount of knowledge I was getting was more than my tiny brain could handle. (Actually, I had to get back to my onion grader.)

It is so much fun grading this year because they are clean, dry and a good size, and practically no throw out. What we are throwing away is under 2% and that is really good. We worked hard with them during the growing season but mainly, it was just a good season.

I wasn't going to say any more about CAFÉ MIR, except a couple comments were made to me so I must respond. The first comment was by a lady that asked, when was the café going to start serving food that people eat? The second was about a young couple with a small child that come from Buffalo Center to eat quiet often. My answer to the question was "the consumer dollar will tell them. As long as people come, they don't need to change". Then I read an article in ONION WORLD magazine about 2018 food trends. They then summed it up with this "local, vegetable-forward and ethnic-inspired menu items will reign supreme in the coming year". Sound like the CAFÉ MIR. Local foods, more vegetables and southern Italian cooking. Everywhere I read, the trend is toward more plant-based diets.

People need to understand that what people eat in the future is not decided by us, but instead our grade school and college teachers. People need to understand in this nation 95+% of the young adults have no concept of a farm and how it operates. Think Iowa City, Iowa; Madison, Wisconsin; Boston, Massachusetts; Berkley, California. The teachers and professors must know what they are talking about. Right! The children believe. Think Carbon footprint. We farmers are contributing to the climate change every time we take a tractor to the field. Right! The children believe.

You probably think I am a little radical and our diet wouldn't change. I remember my dad talking about his father's generation that said, "When auto's and the first paved roads came, that grass would grow in the cracks of the highway because autos would never replace a horse". I have no intentions of making anyone mad or upset. I just want people to be more open minded, observe what is happening and think about it. Change will happen. It always has and always will and our diet will be a part of it.

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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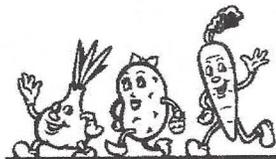
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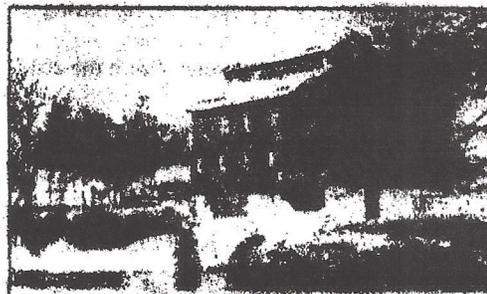
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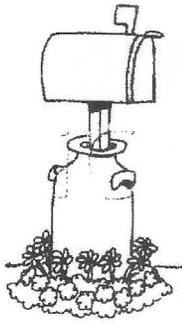
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