

FERTILE REMINDER

SEPTEMBER 2018



Recently 7 of the remaining 9 grandchildren of John & Lizzie Ouverson met at the 95th birthday celebration of their aunt Marian (Allen) Ouverson Mulder in Slayton, MN. Pictured above are Joyce Hagen (daughter of Francis), Joan Norem (daughter of Maxine), Jim Ouverson (son of Allen), Judy Harms (daughter of Allen), Brian Hall (son of Mavis), Debbie Belmont (daughter of Allen), and Gary Hall (son of Mavis). Dr. Richard and Craig, sons of Francis, were unable to attend. Eugene Hall, deceased, was also a grandson of the Johnny Ouverson's.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

3 Labor Day

10 Firemen meet

11 Garden Club

12 News deadline

13 & 27 Recycle

17 Library Board meets

18 Fertile Girls Meet

18 City Council

19 Reminder emailed

Editors time off!!!

22 Benefit Supper, Nancy Suby

25 Reminder mailed

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

August 21, 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.
- Cindy motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the minutes of the July meeting.* Unanimous
- Ron motioned, Nick 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:

- A big Thank You to Randy Bredeson & Buck Russell for help with park maintenance cutting up trees and weed trimming prior to Fertile Days.
- Steve installed lights on the footbridge.
- Steve repair grass in the park due to trenching for electrical.
- Steve reported broken water line & gauge in the pump house and water tower to overflow. Repairs have been completed.
- Electrical box at the water plant was replaced due to corrosion.
- Embargo signs have been removed.
- Bike racks have been installed at the library.
- Steve & Buck filled in dirt around parking lot at the Community Center.
- Cindy motioned, Nick 2nd to approve the City Maintenance report.* Unanimous

Mayor's Report:

- Parking lot has been completed at Community Center.
- Pepsi machine has been moved from the Fertile Library to Hare Electric.
- Joyce applied for ICAP grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 for extended gravel parking at the Community Center & we received it.
- Joyce submitted grants to WCDA for fall cycle.
 - William Rhodes Park Walking Path \$85,416.72
 - Skid Loader snow plow system \$6380.00
- Liquor license was received for Café Mir.
- Fertile Days was a great success. "Thank you to Fertile Days Committee."
- Joyce completed the WCTA grant for the Fire Department for internet service.
- Joyce has contacted Dave Heiken from Kensett in regards to convenient store in Fertile on Hwy 9. Not interested at this time.
- There will be a supper benefit for Nancy Suby on September 22 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

- Based on recommendations from the State Auditor and City Attorney, *Cindy motioned, Tad 2nd to approve compensation of mayor at \$1,000.00 and in addition an hourly rate of \$11.25 per hour submitted by time sheets for city business.* Roll Call Vote *Holly – yes; Nick – yes; Ron – yes; Cindy – yes; Tad – yes.* Unanimous
- Public Hearing will be held September 18th for Ordinance Amendment on Compensation of Municipal Officers.
- Ron motioned, Holly 2nd to approve the mayor's report.* Unanimous.

City Clerk's Report

- Auditor draft report was reviewed with the Council. Departments will be notified of any findings.
- Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to approve compensation of employees.* Roll Call Votes: *Holly – yes; Nick – yes; Ron – yes; Cindy – yes; Tad – yes.* Unanimous
- Outstanding Debt Report was submitted to council for review and has been submitted to the State of Iowa.
- Reports for Fire Department are current through 06/30/2018. Fiscal Year End reports do not include the year-end adjustments to convert to Cash Basis. A full set of reports will be submitted to the City Council when completed. Wendy has scheduled a meeting with Clerkbooks to have this completed.

	7/1/2018 to 7/31/2018	General	WCDA	Roads	EE Benefits	LOST	Utilities	Total
Income		24,593.02	0	1,869.74	126.94	2,687.01	10,683.76	39,960.47
Expense		27,826.98	20,421.69	988.31	387.49	0	8,635.11	58,259.58
Total		-3,233.96	-20,421.69	881.43	-260.55	2,687.01	2,048.65	-1829
Fund Balance		39,404.57	-20,400.37	61,201.32	5,286.31	2,687.01	161,004.55	259,675.03

- Cindy motioned, Holly 2nd to approve Financial Report.* Unanimous
- Nick motioned, Ron 2nd to approve July Bills.* Unanimous
- Liens presented to the council were as follows:
308 W Washington \$447.83

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

Committee Report:

- Holly asked about the installation of the flag poles. Ron is working on this.
- Holly mentioned the city roads by the ball diamond are in need of some repair. Steve will be working on this.
- Ron mentioned several old trees in the park that are in need of being replaced. He will be following up with that.
- Ron volunteered to be on the committee for the North Iowa Bike Trail.

Upcoming Meetings:

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session & public hearing on September 18th at 7:00 pm at Fertile City Hall.
- Nick motioned, Holly 2nd to adjourn the meeting.* Unanimous

Summary:

- Resolution for Mayor salary
- Resolution for employee compensation
- Resolution for Liens

City of Fertile Deposits

Date	Memo	Accrual Basis Amount
07/01/2018	Property Taxes	1,250.47
07/01/2018	(L) Property Taxes	31.92
07/01/2018	Clerkbooks Deposit	0.00
07/01/2018	Lien Payment Deposit	657.08
07/02/2018	License Deposit	112.50
07/03/2018	Casino Funds Deposit	2,607.47
07/05/2018	Utility Deposit	1,018.86
07/05/2018	Sewer Pump Deposit	5,462.50
07/05/2018	Utility Deposit	82.39
07/11/2018	Utility Deposit	336.34
07/11/2018	Building Permits Deposit	70.00
07/11/2018	Facility Rental Deposit	75.00
07/11/2018	Utility Deposit	2,453.89
07/12/2018	Road Use Tax	1,869.16
07/18/2018	Utility Deposit	389.62
07/18/2018	Farm to Market Deposit	1,709.96
07/18/2018	Refundable Utility Deposit	150.00
07/18/2018	Utility Deposit	3,630.73
07/18/2018	Library County Deposit	8,750.00
07/18/2018	Library Reimbursement Deposit	25.00
07/24/2018	Return Deposit	74.83
07/25/2018	Utility Deposit	162.53
07/25/2018	Building Permit Deposit	70.00
07/25/2018	Refundable Utility Deposit	150.00
07/25/2018	Utility Deposit	3,271.98
07/25/2018	Correction Deposit	2,242.08
07/27/2018	Local Option Sales Tax	2,687.01
07/31/2018	Interest	18.43
		<u>39,359.75</u>

Roads Revenue Accounts	
Savings	
	0.58
Total Savings	
	0.58
Total Roads Revenue Accounts	
	0.58
Water Revenue Accounts	
Savings	
	2.87
Total Savings	
	2.87
Total Water Revenue Accounts	
	2.87
Sewer Revenue Accounts	
Savings	
	2.51
Total Savings	
	2.51
CD	
Total CD	
	2.51
Total Sewer Revenue Accounts	
	2.51
TOTAL	39,365.71

City of Fertile Bills Paid

As of July 31, 2018

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Accrual Basis Amount
Operating Accounts					
Checking					
Check	07/01/2018	8684	Fertile Fire Department V	Quarterly Allocation	-4,000.00
Check	07/01/2018	TRANSFER	Fertile Public Library V	Quarterly Payment	0.00
Paycheck	07/05/2018	8679	Bruns, Warren	Water & Sewer Supervisor	-301.39
Paycheck	07/05/2018	8680	Lunning, Wendy S	City Clerk	-295.12
Paycheck	07/05/2018	8681	Russell, Grant	City Maintenance	-443.66
Paycheck	07/05/2018	8682	Russell, Joyce	City Administrator - Donated 18 hours	-1,424.36
Paycheck	07/05/2018	8683	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,072.63
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8685	AgSource Laboratories	Sewer Testing	-142.25
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8686	Five Star CO-OP	Gas for Truck	-197.92
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8687	Green Canopy, Inc.	APRIL Fishing Dock, Park, Baseball Diamond	-425.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8688	Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Annual Water Use Fee	-42.50
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8689	Kramer Ace Hardware	Keys for Fertile Days	-5.58
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8690	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	Water Plant	-445.24
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8691	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-40.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8692	NIACOG	Annual Dues	-281.20
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2018	8693	Waste Management	Garbage, Recycling and Container Services	-2,439.12

Check	07/05/2018	DEBIT	USPS	Postage	
Check	07/06/2018	EFT	First Security Bank & Trust	Main Street Loan	-509.90
Check	07/06/2018	DEBIT	Kum & Go	Gas for Mower	-33.26
Check	07/06/2018	DEBIT	Kum & Go	Gas for Mower	-125.00
Liability Check	07/11/2018	8695	United States Treasury	(L) Payroll Liabilities	-1,287.24
Liability Check	07/11/2018	EFTPS	United States Treasury	Payroll Liabilities	-826.98
Liability Check	07/11/2018	EFT	IPERS	(L) Payroll Liabilities	-326.18
Liability Check	07/11/2018	EFT	IPERS	Payroll Liabilities	-873.81
Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2018	8696	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine Cylinder	-10.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2018	8697	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine Cylinder	-10.00
Check	07/18/2018	DEBIT	WCTA	(L) Telephone	-65.25
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8698	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing	-13.50
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8699	Alliant Energy	Electric	-1,786.45
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8700	Aukes Lawn & Pest LC	Mosquito Spray	-475.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8701	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-179.94
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8702	Iowa One Call	Water locates	-12.60
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8703	Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax	-74.77
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8704	USA Blue Book	Water Testing	-175.81
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8705	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-80.91
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8706	Alliant Energy	Electric	-106.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8707	Baker & Taylor	(L) Books & CDs	-288.43
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8708	Beaver Creek Gardens Inc	Flowers	-210.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8709	Manly Public Library	Pizzas & Pool Party	-31.91
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8710	OverDrive Inc	Books & DVD	-288.10
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8711	Staples	(L) Chair & Paper	-254.92
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8712	State Library of Iowa	(L) Books & DVDs	-107.20
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8713	Waldorf University	Shampoo Carpets	-400.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2018	8714	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-82.00
Paycheck	07/18/2018	8715	Arndt, Linda J	(L) Assistant Director	-192.50
Paycheck	07/18/2018	8716	Knudson, Loni	(L) Clerk	-242.37
Paycheck	07/18/2018	8717	Thompson, Angela M	(L) Librarian	-1,233.53
Check	07/20/2018	TRANSFER	Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	-54.41
Check	07/24/2018	DEBIT	Hobby Lobby	Lights for Bridge	-74.83
Check	07/24/2018	DEBIT	Hobby Lobby	Lights for Bridge	-69.93
Paycheck	07/25/2018	8718	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,062.79
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2018	8719	Heartland Asphalt Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Parking Lot @ Community Center	-20,421.69
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2018	8720	Menards	Annual Water Use Fee	-210.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2018	8721	Staples	Library Mulch	-17.20
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2018	8722	Titan Pro SCI Inc.	2019 Calendar & Calculators	-25.99
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2018	8723		Chemical Round Up	-127.20

Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2018	8724	Angie Thompson	Mileage (270 miles @ .545 per mile)	-147.15
Check	07/25/2018	EFT	Citibusiness Card	Books & CDs, Supplies, Programs, DVDs, Computer Maintenance, Travel/Meals, Magazines, Postage/Sh...	-3,873.33
Bill Pmt -Check	07/27/2018	8729	Green Canopy, Inc.	JUNE Fishing Dock, Park, Baseball Diamond	-385.00
Liability Check	07/30/2018	EFT	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance	Payroll Liability	-621.00
Sales Tax Payment	07/30/2018	EFT	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance	Sales Tax	-1,165.00
Liability Check	07/30/2018	EFT	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance	(L) Payroll Liability	-135.00

Total Checking -50,665.72

Petty Cash
Check 07/20/2018 TRANSFER Petty Cash Petty Cash Reimbursement 54.41

Total Petty Cash 54.41

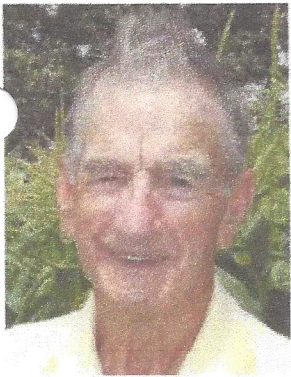
Total Operating Accounts -50,611.31

Roads Revenue Accounts

Savings
Total Savings

Total Roads Revenue Accounts

TOTAL -50,611.31



Arnold Lester Hauge, 94, of Fertile, died Saturday, July 28, 2018, at the Mercy Medical Center North Iowa in Mason City.

Memorials may be directed to the Fertile Lutheran Church.

Arnold Lester Hauge was born April 26, 1924, in rural Thompson, Iowa, the son of Carl

and Bertina (Hougland) Hauge. He attended Leland High School, graduating in 1941.

Arnold met Helen Mae Keyser in 1945 and they were married at West Prairie Church in Leland, IA in January of 1946. To this union five children were born; Dennis Arnold, Paulette Kay, Kent, Paul and Craig.

During their married years they lived and farmed in the Thompson/Leland area from 1946-1954. The following year they moved to Bancroft where Arnold and Helen worked for Welp's Hatchery. Later they moved to Forest City where Arnold worked at Fryer Farms. In 1966 they purchased their acreage near Fertile. Arnold worked for Kayout Forester, various farmers, Winnebago Industries and Mobility RV.

Arnold lived a life that made a difference to and touched many people. He coached softball in Fertile for many years because he didn't think it was right that only the boys had teams. He found pride and had passion for raising horses for approximately 40 years.

He loved his family with his whole heart and very seldom missed an event that his children or grandchildren were in. The best times were spent in his front yard watching the kids play ball on a Sunday afternoon. He was one of their biggest fans.

Arnold is survived by his son, Paul Hauge of Britt; daughter-in-law, Carmen Hauge of Forest City; grandsons, Jeremy (Kellie) of Grimes, Ben (Julie) of St. Ansgar and Bryan (Shelby) of St. Paul, MN; great-grandchildren, Kinzley, Beckett and Kendall and sister, Irene Eide.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Helen; sons, Dennis, Craig, Kent; daughter, Paulette; and grandson, Matthew.

Verna Hallman A life celebration service for Verna Hallman, age 102, formerly of Fertile, IA, will be held on August 4, 2018 at 1:00 pm at the Oakwood Care Center in Clear Lake, IA. The Rev. David Halverson will officiate.



Ramona Anderson, 73, of Fertile, died Monday, July 30, 2018 at Good Shepherd Health Center, Mason City.

Family suggests memorial contributions to the Ramona Anderson Memorial Fund.

Ramona was born June 29, 1945, daughter of Robert and Evelyn (Tweed) Latch.

Ramona graduated from Ventura High School and attended JC College in Mason City. After college, she went to Seattle and worked for North West Airlines. She was united in marriage to Gary Anderson in 1967 at the First Congregational Church in Clear Lake. To this union no children were born, but many dogs and cats were taken care of over the years.

Ramona took pride in taking care of her yard and gardening.

Ramona is survived by her brother, Russell (Denise) Latch of Mason City and sister, Randa Lundgren of Fertile. She is preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Evelyn Latch; husband Gary Anderson.

Kirk A. Suby, 66, of Mason City, passed away Monday, August 13, 2018, surrounded by his family, at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN. He fought a courageous battle with pulmonary fibrosis. Kirk Andrew Suby, the son of Roger and Colleen (Burgess) Suby, was born March 15, 1952, in Mason City. Kirk was united in marriage to Valerie L. Schiff.

Kirk is greatly missed by his wife, Val Suby; daughter, Amber (Todd) Eldridge of Mason City; son, Andrew Suby, Mason City; grandchildren, Austin Eldridge and Alli Eldridge Mason City; brother, Mark (Connie) Suby of Mason City; sisters, Collette Turner of Las Vegas, NV, and Jody Sellon of Mason City; mother-in-law, Cookie Schiff of Mason City; sister-in-law, Shelly Miller of Mason City; many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, lots of extended family, as well as 3 adoring granddogs, Ace, Lola and Gizmo.

Kirk was preceded in death by his infant son, Adam; parents, Roger W. and Colleen J. Suby; grandparents, Hank and Iva Suby and Wayne and Faye Burgess; father-in-law, Emil "Bud" Schiff; special family friend, George Phinney; brother-in-law Gary Sellon; and several aunts and uncles.

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

Adult Craft Afternoon

September 8th @ 1 pm

We will be decorating bags, eating snacks & chatting. Join us for the fun. Ages 18+

Family Movie Night

September 14th @ 7 pm

Hallmark Movie Monday

September 17th @ 1:30 pm

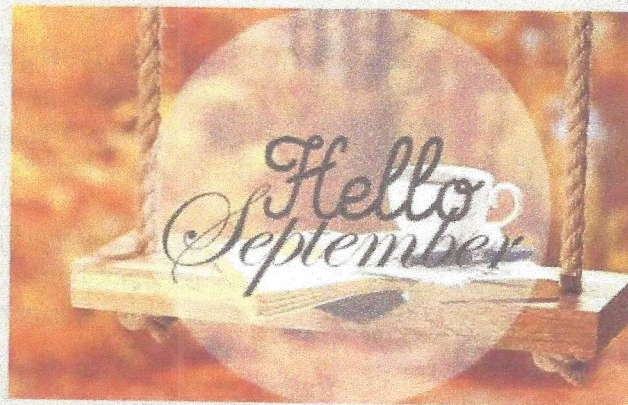
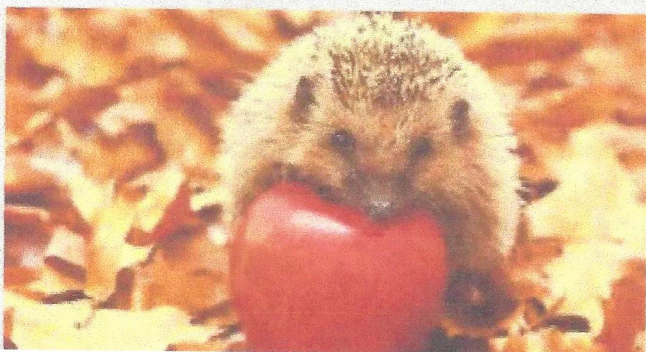
Come join us for "Love on the sidelines" coffee and treats. Kick back and relax and enjoy a fall romance.

Family Game Night

September 28th @ 7 pm

Bring the whole family, or come out for some company and join us as we bring out a selection of board games and enjoy some classic fun!

Treats will be provided!



featuring

New Books

Texas Ranger - James Patterson

Feared - Lisa Scottoline

Children of blood & Bone - Tomi Adeyemi

Cottage by the sea - Debbie Macomber

A gathering of secrets- Linda Castillo

In dreams forgotten - Tracie Peterson

featuring

New DVDs

The ballad of Lefty Brown

Sherlock Gnomes

Game night

Avengers: Infinity war

Rampage

I can only imagine

Did you know? ...

The library has so much more available to you than books & DVDs. We offer online databases, including Chilton Repair Manuals & eBooks. We have media conversion equipment & a binding machine for creating your own bound books.

Letter to the editor

You gals do such a good job keeping us in touch with our hometown news, we were so lucky to grow up in such a small town where we knew everyone. **Lanny and Sandy Jenkins, Bob and Richard Purcell.**

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to the City of Fertile and especially mayor Joyce Russell for making sure William Rhodes Park was in pristine condition for our daughter Abigail's wedding. When my husband, Justin was at the park to do some trimming, Joyce was there with husband working tirelessly on making the property and river bank presentable. Joyce oversaw the city as it made sure the electricity worked smoothly, replaced the port a potty with a fresh receptacle and made sure the mosquito sprayer visited the night before. Thank you, City Workers of Fertile and Joyce for all of your efforts. You went above and beyond.
Justin & Rebecca May

GETTING OLDER

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her. There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'.."

LOST ON FERTILE BLACKTOP in June. A black boot from a 2011 Camaro convertible, about 4' x 2' long. If found please call 647-357-6001....Reward!!



This is a picture of a T-shirt quilt, not the one they will make!!

Fertile Days T-shirt quilt. Dave & Rita Champion of Porcupine Quilting in Onalaska, WI, has generously offered to make a Fertile Days T-shirt quilt for the Fertile Days fundraiser this winter. We are asking anyone who wants to donate a Fertile Days t-shirt from past years, for this project to contact Cindy Peters at 641.797.2944 or 641.590.0131 or peterscindy@gmail.com. Large or X-large would be perfect! We also want to put the T-shirt that had the saying ... "Best little town by a dam site" in the center. The sooner we can get them the better! They're very busy!! **THANK YOU!!**

Pie Auction held for Angie (Lee) and Dan Christ family, Lakota.

A Pie auction was held on August 14th for the Christ family at the Pilot Knob Lutheran Church. There were 49 pies brought in by donors for the auction. 30 were expected from the signup sheet. One person said they could go home and get more if needed! The final amount taken in was over three thousand dollars and the amount is still climbing!! The money will be going toward the construction of a garage. They do not have one now. This will make it easier for wheelchair use from the car to the house, and keep everyone out of the weather while organizing three kids and their "stuff" when leaving or coming home.

The Mitten Knitter

Neil L. Kuns

May 13, 1994

I had forgotten how cold winters are in Iowa until one January several years ago when I flew back from California to deliver an address at Minnesota Bible College. The temperature was 70 degrees and the Palm trees were swaying with the balmy breezes when I arrived at Los Angeles International Airport in the middle of the night for my "Red Eye" flight to the Midwest. Not taking into consideration a wind-chill factor, the temperature was 28 below zero when my brother Alan picked me up at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. My polyester pants held out the chill about as well as a screen door holds out a blizzard. Aching ears, numb thighs and burning lungs soon renewed my appreciation for the incomparable *joys* of winter weather.

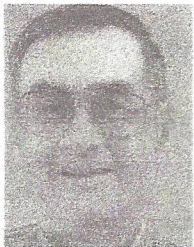
As children we welcomed snow suits, knitted caps, rubber buckle-up overshoes, and woolen mittens which kept the cold weather from freezing our fuzz. Two time transitions assured us that we were becoming "young people" and were no longer "children." One was the first winter season our parents allowed us to go without snow pants, and the other was when we graduated from mittens to gloves. Only *kids* wore mittens.

"Grandma Back" was the mitten knitter of Fertile. This spry and sprightly old lady lived near us on the east side. She wore a long black dress, walked everywhere she went in town, summer or winter, and carried herself with the forward thrust that reminded me of the sunbonneted woman on the "Old Dutch Cleanser" scouring powder can. About the time the leaves were falling in October Mother would take us to Grandma Back's house so she could draw around our hands and get an idea as to how large to knit the mittens. Although I don't remember it there was surely a discussion as to color at that time.

The mitten knitter then busied herself with needles and yarn, and notified mother when the little hand warmers were ready. Detached mittens often became misplaced. Well, *one* of them would get lost. To forestall this, mothers would connect the mittens to each other by a crocheted cord, which was threaded through both sleeves of the overcoat. We managed this by first putting on the mittens, with the cord running up and over our shoulders, and *then* donning the overcoat. This meant that the child must take *off* the mittens before taking off the coat, or the process would have to be repeated. A whimsical sight was to see all the overcoats hung in the school cloak room with mittens a dangle.

Both mittens and coats got wet when we played in the white stuff making snow angels, snow balls, snow forts or snow men. After shaking and brushing off the snow and water, we would hang the whole ensemble near enough to the heating stove to dry, but not so near as to become too hot and thus to shrink. By the next morning everything was dry and ready for fun and games and to keep a youngster warm.

I never knew the economics of the transaction, but Mom reminded me that Grandma Back would be obligated to no person. When anyone gave her cookies, a cake or a loaf of bread, she would nearly beat the giver back home with some gift in return. We surely paid her for the yarn and the knitting, but she was of an earlier, hardier, more independent stock which would be appalled by the "world owes me a living" attitude all too prevalent today. Where did all they of that generation come from, and where did they all go?



THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Thank you Fertile for coming out and supporting the Fertile Days Celebration. The turn-out was great, the weather was great, and we heard many favorable comments. The bigger

changes we had thought about for next year have gone by the wayside. Your participation and comments have told the committee that you want a Family Fertile Days with fun for all ages. We have listened. Looking into the future (Because it is a lot of work for the committee – I spent all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday with Fertile Days) it would be nice if a citizen or citizen's would take one event and be responsible for it. It might be running the horseshoe tournament or one of the children's games, or something new that is family orientated. One even part time is better than no time. We accept anyone's help. Tell us what you liked or didn't like as we start planning for next year. Right now we are looking at minor changes. Again **Thank You** and keep your suggestions coming.

As many of you know, a compromise was voted on and approved concerning East Main and the gravel trucks. The embargo signs came down and trucks going south could use East Main to Eagle Avenue, if they were going north, east or west, they needed to go north to Highway 9. Tractors pulling wagons of grain to Hanlontown or the ethanol plant could use East Main. (At their slow speed it is safer than Highway 9). I am an optimist, but also a realist. I know that somebody or bodies will try to break the rules for whatever reason. Since the Mayor, the Council, and Steve cannot watch that stretch of road all the time, I am asking for help from the citizens of Fertile. If there is a truck or group of trucks that constantly comes down East Main to Eagle Avenue, then goes north, write down the name on the door and/or license plate number. I will have a talk with them as to why. I don't want to hinder commerce, but I don't want our citizens and streets in danger either. Fertile is a family and we need to watch out for each other.

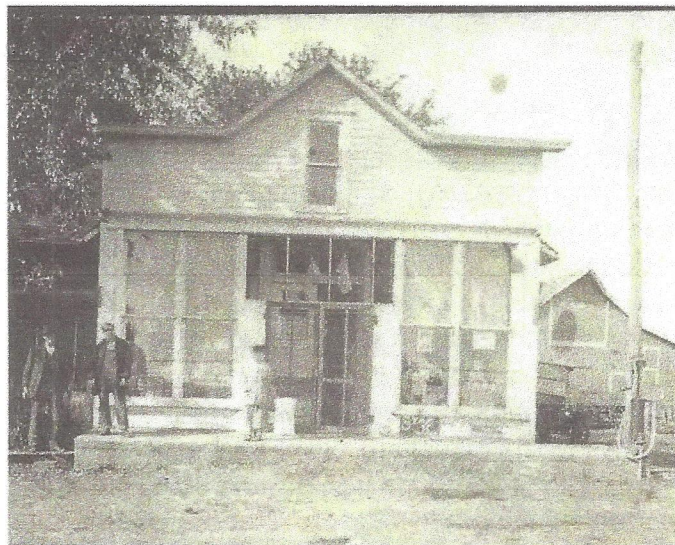
There is really an eye opening article on page 14 of the August issue of the American Fruit Grower; it's entitled "China-U.S. is No Trade Tiff. It's for global Power."

Until next time, thank a farmer for the food on your plate, thank a veteran for the freedoms you enjoy, and above all, thank God for your daily blessings.

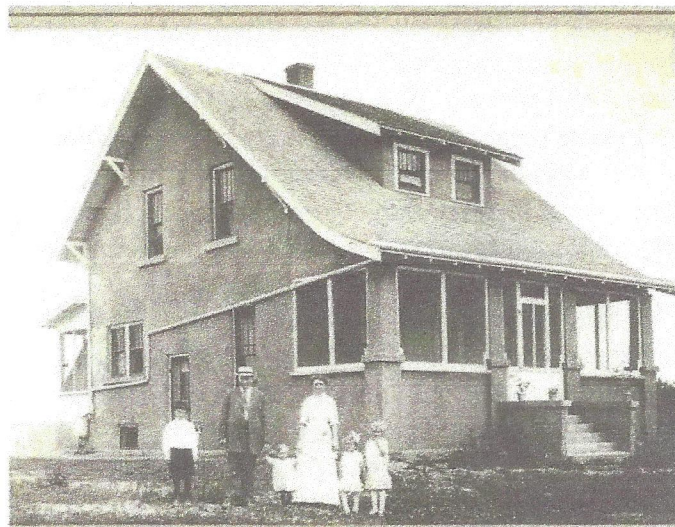
Ron Rachut

MILITARY PICTURES

If you brought a picture for the military board for Fertile Days to the library, you can pick them up at the library at this time. Thank you to all who brought pictures.



Is this Elthon's store or the Café that burned in the 1930 or 1931 Fire?



This is the house that Janet "Oredsen" Jepsen's (CA) family lived in around 1915. Left to right: Melvin, Grandpa Marius, Stanley, Grandma Ida, Frances and Fern Oredsen. Melvin graduated from Fertile in 1925. Does anyone recognize it? It sure looks familiar.

Thanks to Janet for her pictures. They will be at the

Belle of the ball: Fertile woman, 104, honored as oldest alumna at high school reunion



(Reprinted from the Mason City Globe Gazette)

FERTILE | Viola Roberts, 104, was the belle of the ball at the Fertile All-School Reunion. Roberts, who graduated a whopping 85 years ago, was the oldest alum in attendance at the event earlier this summer.

She received her own tiara. "My it's pretty, isn't it?" she said after putting it on for a photo.

Roberts, who is in the same house in Fertile where she has lived for the past 50 years, is almost always at the reunion.

The event, which is open to everyone who ever attended school in Fertile, takes place every three years. She had to miss the one in 2015 because she was sick, but she was there this year in her usual spot right by the door so she could watch everyone enter.

"It was so interesting to sit there and see all the people," she said. "A lot of them come over and talk to me."

Roberts was born 2 miles west of Fertile. When she was 7, her family moved to northern Wisconsin. Winters there were harsh. Snow would cover their entire fence. "I remember how we would get so excited when we could see the top of the fence posts peeking out of the snow," she said. One good thing about all the snow was "we had a good hill to slide on," Roberts said.

The family moved back to Fertile when she was 14, so she spent all her high school years there, graduating in 1933. Roberts was on the girls basketball team, although she joked it was mostly "in name only." Still, she got her own uniform, which each player had to order on their own. When the uniform arrived, "my mother about had a fit," Roberts said. The uniform was knee-length, sleeveless, and had a V-neck. Roberts saw nothing improper about it, but her mother, who came from an era where women wore floor-length skirts, was appalled. To her, "It was like I was half-naked," Roberts said. Roberts and her teammates only competed with each other, unlike the boys basketball team which got to play against other area schools such as Hanlontown.

She also remembers taking home economics during her sophomore year. "I had to tell the teacher how to make gravy," Roberts said. She said she and her siblings "grew up on potatoes and gravy."

Roberts' graduating class only had about 18 students. "I think I'm the only one left," she said. When you go to a school as small as Fertile, you not only know the students in your own class, but all the others at the high school and some of those in the lower grades as well, according to Roberts.

About six months after she graduated, Viola married Forrest Roberts, a 1927 Fertile High School graduate. "We always called him 'Frosty,'" she said.

After they were married the couple moved to a farm about 75 miles north of the Twin Cities. Three years later they moved back to the Fertile area and bought a farm southeast of town. They farmed the land for 30 years. Toward the end of that time, Frosty began driving a semi. "I did all the farm work by myself for two years," Viola said. "I figured that was enough."

The couple moved to a house in town in 1967. Frosty died in 2003.

Although she now needs a walker to get around on foot, Viola still drives her 2000 Buick. "It runs like a top," she said. Viola doesn't just drive around town. "I drive wherever I want to go," she said -- including Mason City. However, she doesn't drive in bigger cities like Ames or Des Moines because she doesn't like it.

Viola has three children, 11 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Her youngest child, Joanne Zrostlick, who now lives in Shell Rock, graduated from Fertile High School in 1962. It was the last class to graduate from Fertile. After that the school closed and the town and the surrounding area became part of the Forest City School District.

For Roberts, age is truly only a number. "I don't even think about it," she said. "If I want to do it, I just do it."



The firemen thank all who attended the Firemen's Breakfast during Fertile days. Without all of you there would be no breakfast. Thanks also to all the businesses that donated toward the breakfast. It was all much appreciated.

\$2000.00 was taken in and will be used to further the fire department equipment.



Garden Club met on August 14th with 12 members in attendance. We toured the Worth County Fair Grounds at Northwood. If you have not been there for a few years you are in for a great surprise. The grounds are beautiful with lots of landscaping, walking paths and a statue from each town in Worth County. It was a very enjoyable trip. We ate supper in Northwood and came home.

DID YOU KNOW?? By Ann Hendrickson

The time is coming! The Worth County Historical Society Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 6:00pm in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manly, Iowa. Tickets are \$10.00 each payable at the door. Please contact the Worth County Historical Society at 641-324-1180 or leave a message. You can also contact: Carolyn Loftaas 845-2456; Lois Olson 324-1722; Ann Hendrickson 324-1017; Linda Nydegger 641-748-2385; Stan Lucas 845-2304; Amanda Girouard 390-1160 or email at WCHSIOWA@gmail.com.

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Fertile Community Center

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Nancy lost her house and contents
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It's Fall Y'all Craft Fair

Sat., Oct. 20, 2018

8am – 1 pm

Community Center

Vendors needed

Contact Carolyn Nedved

641-797-2696

The year was 1955

So much to remember and just smile as our lives have changed so much.
THE YEAR WAS 1955...(if I didn't live through it, I wouldn't believe it myself)

Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging 7 cents just to mail a letter?

If they raise the minimum wage to \$1.00,
Nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store.

When I first started driving, who would have thought Gas would someday cost 25 cents a gallon? Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage.

Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$50,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the President.

I never thought I'd see the day all our kitchen appliances would be electric. They're even making electric typewriters now.

It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet.

It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work.

I'm afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business.




Thank goodness I won't live to see the day when the government takes half our income in taxes. I sometimes wonder if we are electing the best people to government.

The fast food restaurant is convenient for a quick meal, but I seriously doubt they will ever catch on.

There is no sense going on short trips any more for a weekend. It costs nearly \$2.00 a night to stay in a hotel.

No one can afford to be sick anymore.
At \$15.00 a day in the hospital, it's too rich for my blood.

If they think I'll pay 30 cents for a haircut, forget it.

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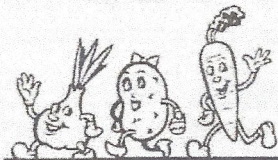
Greg Knopf, owner

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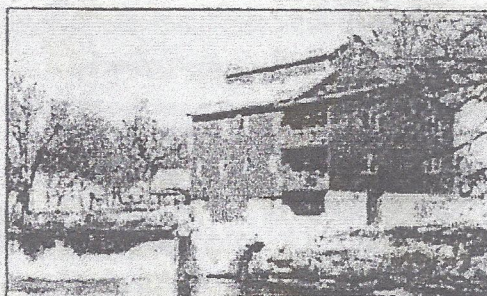
kory@tohins.com
Cell (641) 390-1865

Northwood Office

704 Central Ave., P.O. Box 287
Northwood, IA 50459
(641) 324-2452
Fax (641) 324-1229

Manly Office

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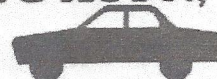
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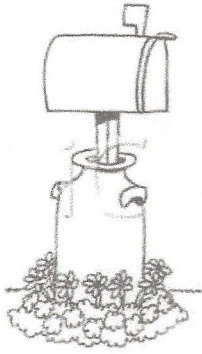
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Fertile Lutheran Church LCMC

602 W. Washington Box 215
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Pastor David Halverson
641-797-2767

Sunday Worship Service 9:30
Sunday School 10:30 am

Fertile Church of Christ

Pastor Rob Perry

Sunday School - 9:00 am
Fellowship Time - 9:55 am
Worship - 10:15 am
Wednesday night Youth
6:30 - 7:30 pm

Men and women's Bible Study

Celebration Community Church

805 10th Ave. North, Clear Lake Iowa 50428
Pastor Dan Miller

Sunday School begins September 9th

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship - 10:15 a.m.

Praise and Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study will begin September 12th

Wednesday Adult Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

641-357-0026/641-797-2704

Pilot Knob Lutheran Church

AALC Rural Forest City
Pastor Robert Snitzer

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15