

FERTILE REMINDER

April 2016



This is the 4th and 5th graders in 1949 with Carol Allen Haugen as the teacher. There are two people that we are not sure of. Front row: L to R: Marian Midtgaard (dec.) Connie Bergdale (not sure), Jack Miller, Donavon Pierce, Rose Lee Floy Stockseth (dec.), (don't know) and Dorothy Kennedy Nichols. 2nd row: Mary Brue Baca, Jo Ann Burtness Bailey, Allen Suby, Gary Frahm, Sondra Suby Oswald, Eugene Hall (dec.) Ver Lynn Ouverson Austin, Richard Beckman (dec.) 3rd row: Louisa Pierce, Jerry Ouverson, Betty Tuttle Waddington, Jean Miller Blake, Ella Mae Oswald Butler, Dennis Haugen (dec.) Back row: Carroll Torkelson, (dec), Jack Burke (dec), Jacqueline Humphrey, (dec) Geraldine Fankell Angell (dec.) and Bob Tuttle. If you know the ones in question, please let the paper know!!

APRIL CALENDAR

4 Firemen meet

14 and 28 Recycle

12 Garden Club

13 Reminder Deadline

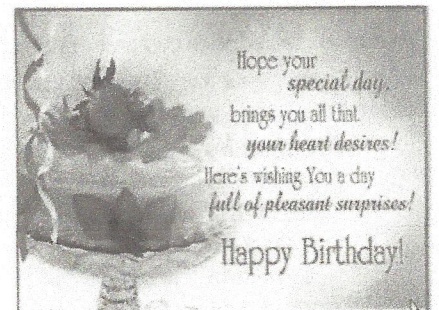
18 Library Board meets

19 Fertile Girls

19 City Council meets

21 Email Reminder

26 Reminder mailed



Fern Midtgaard

City Council Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2016 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Holly Lovik-Hanna, Cindy Peters, Nick Bailey and Ron Rachut; City Clerk, Wendy Lunning & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts. Absent Tad Miller.
- **Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to approve the minutes of the February 16th meeting.** Unanimous
- **Holly motioned, Nic 2nd to approve the minutes of the March 7th meeting.** 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.

Fertile Days Committee:

- Fertile Days Committee has their own checking account. They will report income, expenses, and balance sheet each month to the City Clerk for Council. All bills should be forwarded to Kevin Bidne as Treasurer of the Fertile Days Committee.

City Maintenance Report

- Steve has been working on removing mold on pipes due to moisture in the water plant.
- Steve replaced a broken chain on the snow plow.
- Steve removed tree from the ball field.
- Steve has put down some grass seed on edge of road, where plow has thinned.
- **Ron motioned, Nick 2nd for Steve to purchase a Pole Chain Saw.** Unanimous.
- **Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd for Steve to purchase a chlorine alarm system and second tank and scale for chlorine at water plant from Hawkins Company.** Unanimous
- **Cindy motioned, Ron 2nd to approve maintenance report.** Unanimous

Mayor's Report

- Joyce received new computer from WCTA. Winn-Tech support services now cost.
- Insurance claim due to customer falling on ice at Fertile Library.
- Building permit for Tim Severson has been approved by Tad Miller.

02/03/2016	Utility Deposit	1,047.78
02/03/2016	Casino Funds Deposit	2,413.29
02/04/2016	Property Taxes	359.09
02/10/2016	Utility Deposit	2,038.86
02/11/2016	Utility Deposit	450.61
02/11/2016	Road Use Tax	2,025.81
02/17/2016	Clerkbooks Adjustment	0.00
02/17/2016	Utility Deposit	74.87
02/17/2016	Utility Deposit	2,841.34
02/24/2016	Utility Deposit	2,915.66
02/24/2016	Utility Deposit	892.50
02/29/2016	Interest	5.62
02/29/2016	CORR Duplicate Entry	2,213.11
		17,278.54

sewer test and seal grouting. Council will make a decision on this at the April meeting.

- Fertile Library Fiesta Night at Community Center from 4:00pm to 7:00pm on March 19th. Free will donation.
- Joyce completed the Storm Spotter Training for Emergency Management and National Weather Spotters.

Cindy motioned, and Ron 2nd to approve the mayor's report Unanimous.

City Clerk's Report

- Wendy presented February Financials. The Library and Fire Department financials are not current. A complete set of financials are available at City Hall upon request.

Cindy motioned, Nick 2nd to approve Financial Report. Unanimous

Holly motioned, Ron 2nd to approve February Bills Unanimous

- No Liens.

7/1/2015 2/29/2016 Income	General	WCDA	Roads	EE Benefits	Utilities	Total
	163,383.84	22,965.00	33,671.55	969.63	80,177.21	301,167.23
Expense	189,347.05	22,965.00	70,212.60	5682.58	78,535.91	366,743.14
Total	-25,963.21	0.00	-36,541.05	-4,712.95	1,604.30	-65,575.91
Fund Balance	46,467.14	0.00	19,079.35	-4,712.95	118,112.46	178,946.00

Committee Reports:

Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, April 19th 15th, 2016 at Fertile City Hall.
- **Holly moved and Nick 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** Unanimous

City Council Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2016 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Holly Lovik-Hanna, Cindy Peters, and Nick Bailey. Tad Miller, Ron Rachut, City Clerk, Wendy Lunning & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts absent.
- **Nick 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.

Nick motioned, Holly 2nd to close the regular meeting. Unanimous

Public Hearing was opened and there were no comments.

Cindy motioned, Nick 2nd to close the public hearing. Unanimous

Joyce called the regular meeting to order.

Cindy motioned, Nick 2nd to waive the 2nd and 3rd reading of the Codification of Ordinances. Unanimous

Holly motioned, Cindy 2nd to approve the resolution for the 2017 Budget. Unanimous

Upcoming Meetings

The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, March 15th, 2016 at Fertile City Hall

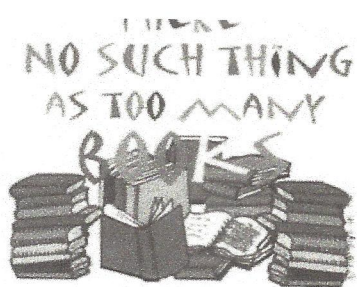
Nick moved, Holly 2nd to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous

Bills Paid

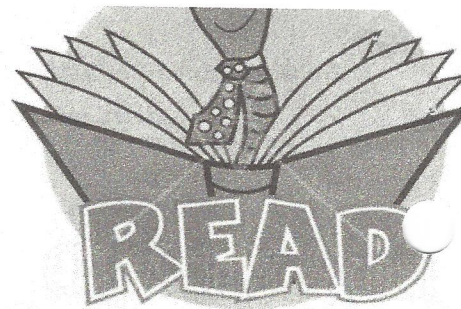
As of February 29, 2016

Accrual
Basis

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
Operating Accounts					
Checking					
Bill Pmt -Check	02/01/2016	7616	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing	-12.50
Bill Pmt -Check	02/01/2016	7617	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-2,104.57
Bill Pmt -Check	02/01/2016	7618	Cindy Peters		-62.61
Bill Pmt -Check	02/01/2016	7619	Iowa One Call	Water locates	-2.70
Bill Pmt -Check	02/01/2016	7620	Jaci Miller	Grant Writing	-100.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/01/2016	7621	K Bidne		-275.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/01/2016	7622	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-63.40
Paycheck	02/03/2016	7629	Lunning, Wendy S		-525.51
Paycheck	02/03/2016	7630	Russell, Grant		-22.46
Paycheck	02/03/2016	7631	Russell, Joyce		-1,333.43
Paycheck	02/03/2016	7632	Bruns, Warren		-301.39
Bill Pmt -Check	02/03/2016	7633	Fertile Pronto	Gas for truck and golf cart	-100.06
Bill Pmt -Check	02/03/2016	7634	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-40.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/03/2016	7635	Waste Management	Container Services	-17.16
Bill Pmt -Check	02/03/2016	7636	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-200.38
Paycheck	02/10/2016	7637	Roberts, Stephen J		-991.95
Bill Pmt -Check	02/10/2016	7638	Forest City Summit	Spaghetti Supper Labor and outlets South wall of Library	-58.20
Bill Pmt -Check	02/10/2016	7639	Hare Electric Iowa Assn. of Municipal Utilities	Dues	-705.30
Bill Pmt -Check	02/10/2016	7640	Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax	-49.16
Bill Pmt -Check	02/10/2016	7641	Menards	Community Center Supplies	-31.66
Bill Pmt -Check	02/10/2016	7642	Northwood Anchor, Inc.	Spaghetti Supper	-25.60
Bill Pmt -Check	02/10/2016	7643	Waste Management	Garbage and Recycling	-2,117.28
Liability Check	02/11/2016	ACH	IPERS		-768.16
Liability Check	02/11/2016	ACH	United States Treasury		-1,092.86
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7645	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing	-13.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7646	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,700.50
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7647	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-592.52
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7648	Clapper Tree Service		-1,125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7649	Franks Repair	Snow Plow Stuck	-100.00
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7650	Menards		-32.93
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7651	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-63.40
Bill Pmt -Check	02/17/2016	7652	IMFOA	Annual dues	-50.00
Paycheck	02/24/2016	7653	Roberts, Stephen J		-991.96
Bill Pmt -Check	02/24/2016	7654	Menards	Supplies	-32.91
Bill Pmt -Check	02/24/2016	7655	Staples	Paper and Post Its	-52.67
Bill Pmt -Check	02/24/2016	7656	Office of Auditor of State	Periodic Audit Fee	-900.00
Check	02/24/2016	DEBIT	NAPA	Grease Gun	-21.39
Check	02/24/2016	DEBIT	Kaman	Grease	-42.73
Check	02/29/2016	CORR	Worth County Engineer		-2,213.11
Total Checking					-19,384.02
Total Operating Accounts					-19,384.02
TOTAL					-19,384.02



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Thursday 3-6 P.M.
Friday 9- Noon & 2-6 P.M.
Saturday - 9 - Noon



New Books

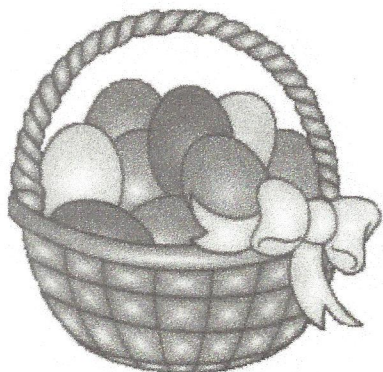
Pray for the Dead—Dusty Richards
A Girls Guide to Moving On—Debbie Macomber
Clawback—J.A. Jance
A Treasure Concealed—Tracie Peterson
Off the Grid—C.J. Box
Room for Hope—Kim Vogel Sawyer
Private Paris—James Patterson
Property of a Noblewoman—Danielle Steel
Fall of Marigolds—Susan Meissner
Marked in Flesh—Anne Bishop
Winter Street—Elin Hilderbrand
Winter Stroll—Elin Hilderbrand

New Books on CD

A Last Goodbye—J.A. Jance
The Liar—Nora Roberts
The Overlook—Michael Connelly
The Nightingale—Kristen Hannah
Blue—Danielle Steel
Private Paris—James Patterson

New DVDs

Pan—Hugh Jackman
Pay the Ghost—Nicolas Cage
Ricki & the Flash—Meryl Streep
Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation—Tom Cruise
Everest—Josh Brolin
The Martian—Matt Damon
The Intern—Robert De Niro
Big Game—Samuel Jackson

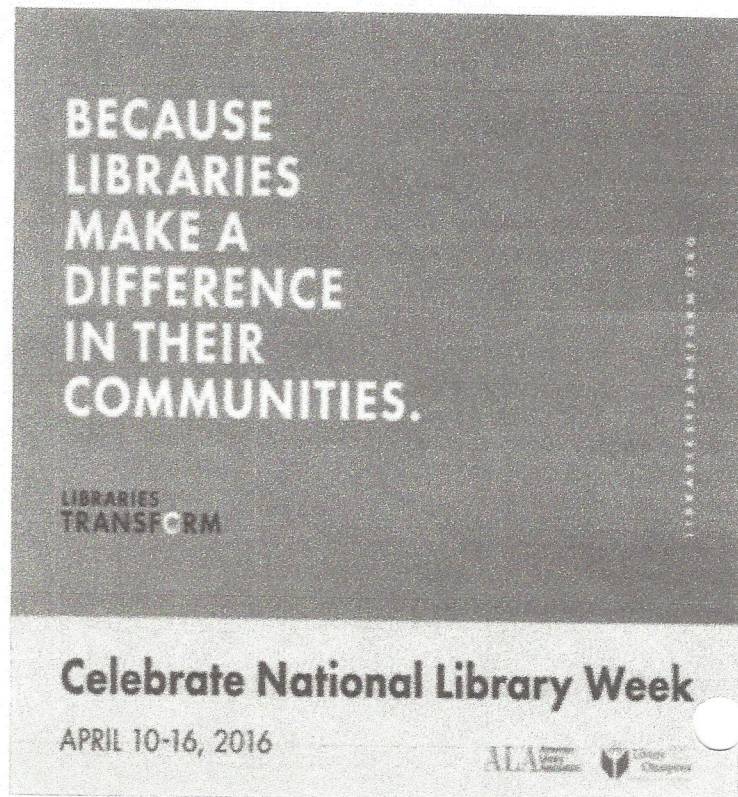


EASTER BUNNY

March 26, 2016
10:00 a.m.

For Ages 10 & Under

*Location depends
on condition of park!*



THE FERTILE POST OFFICE HISTORY (CONT.)



After Mrs. Eikenbary's retirement, Thelan Elthon was appointed acting postmaster for one year. Norman Rye trucked mail out of Fertile. In 1965 the Post Office started a new era in a new location. The post office and personnel moved into their new location, newly remodeled building, owned by Leslie Nelson, as of July 1. The newly redecorated building is paneled in birch and has a tile floor. A new furnace was put in and all new mail boxes. In addition, a room was built into the southwest corner of the building for loading and unloading the mail. A rack was also installed in the southwest corner for loading and unloading mail. A rack was also installed in which to hang mail bags. Post office at Fertile was previously located in the Eikenbary building east and south across the street from the current post office. The post office has been located in that building 36 years.

Anna Eikenbary in the old Post Office building which Ray Sandifer and has been converted into apartments.



Mrs. Enos (Ella) Seglem was substitute clerk in the Fertile Post Office for 20 years.

James (Mike) Purcell was appointed postmaster in 1961 to 1979. Mrs. Loris (Maxine) Scobee was the new assistant.



THE FERTILE POST OFFICE HISTORY (CONT.)



Maxine Scobee began working in 1958 at the Fertile Post Office as assistant Clerk when Anna Eikenberry was Postmaster and Ella Seglem was Clerk. She later became Clerk when Ella retired, and for a few years worked only on Saturdays in Fertile and at

surrounding post offices during the week when they were short-handed. As a child, Maxine had "sorted mail" using the back spokes of a wooden chair to sort, so it was a life-long dream come true when she was appointed Postmaster of her home town, Fertile, Iowa, and served the community for 9 years before retiring on 9/30/88.

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We found no record of the many people from out of town that worked as postmaster so will end with our present day one.



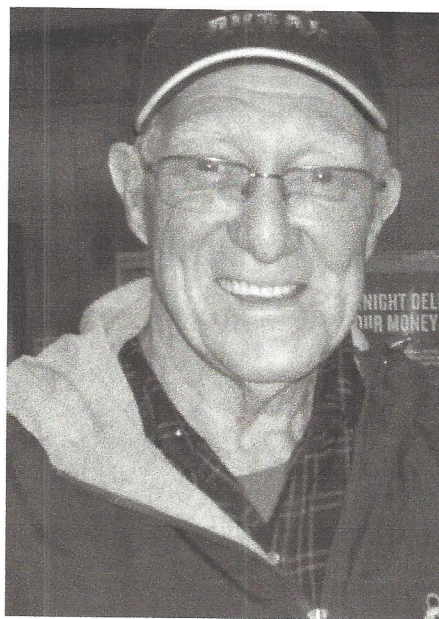
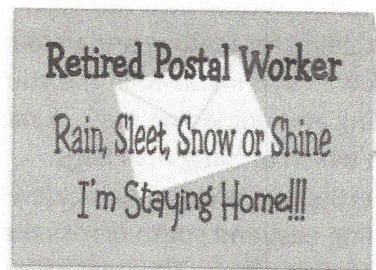
**Cindy Peters** is our present postmaster and has been at the post office for 1 year. She and her husband, Pete, have lived on main street in Fertile for 15 years.

Cindy is also the treasurer for the Fertile Reminder and a city council member.



**Dean Haugen**, a Hanlontown rural carrier, stopped at Fertile in the morning and took on the mail of the Fertile patrons. Dean started carrying the mail on Nov. 29, 1959 at the Hanlontown post office and had a route of 57 miles with approximate 190 customers on the

route. When he retired, his route covered 83 miles and he will be serving 290 customers.



**Merv Anderson** is the present mail carrier and has done the job for 28 years. He drives 120 miles each mail delivery with about 365 stops. Merv also farms.

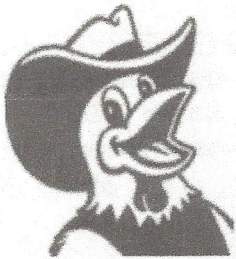


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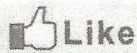
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### Ritz peanut butter cheese cake

Form peanut butter sandwiches with Ritz crackers. Place them in the bottom of each cup of a muffin tin.

In a large bowl beat together 16 oz cream cheese

1/2 cup sugar

add 1/2 cup peanut butter

1/2 cup sour cream

1 tsp vanilla

2 eggs, and beat again. Pour mixture over each peanut butter sandwich until each cup is 3/4 full.

Top with crushed Ritz cracker.

Bake for 22 minutes at 275°F. Let cool completely and then refrigerate 2 hours.

### PICKLE ROLL DIP

16 oz. cream cheese

16 oz. dill pickles (drained and chopped)

9 oz. cube ham

Mix and enjoy

### REMINDER POLICY

Suggested Price is .....\$8.00 a year.

A RED mark on your label means this is your LAST ISSUE. A GREEN mark means you have 1 month left. Due to the high cost of printing and mailing, we DO NOT MAKE UP AND MAIL OUT EXTRA COPIES.

The work on the Reminder is done by Volunteers. Editor, Ad and articles: Betty Waddington; Treasurer & Subscriptions, Cindy Peters; proof reader, Joan Norem; fold and label, Evelyn Elthon, Paula Worsley, Sharon Ganz , Marcheta Pederson.

### FERTILE GARDEN CLUB

The Fertile Garden Club met for their first meeting of the year on March 9 at the community center. A delicious soup supper was served by the new officers.

Roll call "your favorite winter activity" was answered by 11 members.

Dues were collected, program books handed out and secret pal names were drawn. The constitution was read and the program books previewed.

New summer flags were discussed along with fixing or returning some flag poles.

Twylah Kragel gave the thought for the day. Reporter, Betty Waddington

### 160<sup>th</sup> Fertile Day's Celebration!

August 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

### Williams Rhodes Fertile Park

Each month we will put a taste of what is in store for our weekend. Also you can keep up with things on Facebook (Fertile Days).

This year we have some new items on our schedule. Ever played pickle ball? Now's your chance! Deb Berg will be heading up the pickle ball tournament. There will be canoe races headed up by Ken Biertz and Dan Miller. Ron Rachut will head up the horse shoe tournaments! We need a volunteer to head this one. Please contact one of the Fertile Day's committee members. And of course, our Bean bag toss will be headed up by Julie Sherman.

### Fertile Day's committee:

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Cindy Peters | Ron Rachut  |
| Penny Miller | Ken Biertz  |
| Holly Hanna  | Kevin Bidne |
| Cindy Bidne  | Dave Bruns  |
| Deena Biertz |             |

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## Letters to the Editor

This was all I received today. Don't know if the Reminder fell out or what. I really enjoy this paper! **Karen (Oswald) Bailey**

Hi, We really enjoy reading the HISTORY of Fertile. The Post Office growth was so interesting. Thanks, **Sever Pederson**

Please find my check for \$16 \$8 for my subscription and the other \$8 can be used for someone you know who would like a subscription but can't afford it or just to help defray costs of publishing. Thanks so much, **Jenny Copeland (Abrams)**

Please renew my Reminder for another year. I enjoy your paper very much, Thank you, **Nelda Halverson**

Thanks, you ladies do a swell job at putting this paper together. Please renew my subscription for another year. **Pat Tuttle**

A donation for Christmas tree memory lights was given by Krishna Porter in memory of Wilda Phillips (Cindy Peter's mother) Thank you Krishna!

*Thank you*

Thank you so much for all the cards, gifts, plants, flowers and most of all for your prayers for me for the time I was in the hospital, then the nursing home and since I have been in my own home. I am doing fine now and hope to be in church this Sunday.

Love to all, **Viola Roberts**



### THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Buenas Noches, Good Evening!

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, 3 members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Mason City and myself went to "Lutheran Church on the Hill" in Des Moines. My impression was that we would be advocating for money for L.S.I. (Lutheran Services in Iowa). Instead, it was advocating the bills and ideas that are already being discussed in the Iowa Senate and House. We choose two of the five presented we felt strongly about.

The first was Water Quality. It is very apparent that unless we as land owners (This includes all from a large farm to a lot in town) voluntarily make changes with the help of the State of Iowa, we will have the Federal Government mandating. This means an E.P.A. official from Washington D.C. will have the power to tell farmers how they can or can not farm down to telling the city dweller how they can mow their lawn.

The second item was human trafficking. This is a dirty, ugly topic, but it is reality. I am talking to individuals and the City Council about organizing an informational meeting for the community. Some will say it is not needed, or it is too ugly to talk about. So when do we talk about it, now or after one of Fertile's children are snatched away for the Chicago sex trade?

We also have ordinances in place to prohibit the establishment of a Juice Bar (Strip Club) in Fertile.

Until next time, thank a farmer for the food on your plate, thank a veteran for the freedoms we enjoy, and above all, thank God for the blessings he has bestowed.



## Personal miscellaneous thoughts

My goal for 2016 was to lose just 10 pounds. Only 15 to go.

Ate salad for dinner! Mostly croutons & tomatoes. Really just one big, round crouton covered with tomato sauce. And cheese.

FINE, it was a pizza. I ate a pizza.

I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.

I don't mean to brag but.....I finished my 14-day diet in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.

Senility has been a smooth transition for me.

Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero out they closed school? Me neither.

I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented....I forgot where I was going with this.

I love being over 50. I learn something new every day.....and forget 5 others.

A thief broke into my house last night.....He started searching for money so I woke up and searched with him.

PS: Sunday, March 13, 2016 begins Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to set your bathroom scale back 10 pounds on Saturday night.

*Thank you to those of you that decided to get your Reminder digitally. It will help to cut expenses, you will get you Reminder a week early and it will have some color in it. 30 people have chosen this method. If you would like to try it (you can always change back) just send an email to [bettyw@wctatel.net](mailto:bettyw@wctatel.net). I use your email to get your addresses into my contacts, then send you a paper to make sure you got it. Very simple and does not hurt at all!!!*

**I've learned .... That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.**

**I've learned .... That just one person saying to me, 'You've made my day!' makes my day.**

**I've learned .... That being kind is more important than being right.**

**I've learned .... That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.**

**I've learned .... That a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.**

*I very quietly confided to my best friend that I was having an affair.*

*She turned to me and asked, 'Are you having it catered'?*

*And that, my friend, is the sad definition of 'OLD'!*



# AUCTION

---

Having sold my farm and am leaving for Oregon Territory by ox team, will offer for sale all my personal property, to-wit: on . . .

## MARCH 1, 1849

- |                                                                  |                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| All ox teams, except two teams, Buck and Ben, and Tom and Jerry. | 1 32-gallon barrel of John Miller whisky, 7 years old.  |
| 2 milch cows.                                                    | 20 gallons apple brandy.                                |
| 1 gray mare and colt.                                            | 1 40-gallon copper still.                               |
| 2 ox carts.                                                      | 100 empty barrels.                                      |
| 1 iron plow with wood mole board.                                | 4 sides oak tanned leather.                             |
| 800 ft. of poplar weather boards.                                | 1 dozen reel hooks.                                     |
| 1,000 3-ft. clapboards.                                          | 3 scythes and cradles.                                  |
| 1,500 10-ft. fence rails.                                        | 1 dozen wooden pitchforks.                              |
| 1 60-gallon soap kettle.                                         | One-half interest in tan yard.                          |
| 85 sugar troughs, made of white ash timber.                      | 1 32-calibre rifle.                                     |
| 10 gallons maple syrup.                                          | Bullet molds and powder horn, rifle made by Ben Miller. |
| 2 spinning wheels.                                               | 50 gallons of soft soap.                                |
| 30 pounds mutton tallow.                                         | Hams and bacon.                                         |
| 20 pounds beef tallow.                                           | 40 gallons of sorghum molasses.                         |
| 1 large loom, made by Jersey Wilson.                             | 6 head of foxhounds, all soft mouthed except one.       |
| 100 split hoops.                                                 |                                                         |

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At the same time I will sell my six negro slaves—two men, 35 and 50 years old; two boys, 12 and 18 years old; two mulatto wenches, 40 and 30 years old. Will sell all together to same party, as will not separate them.

---

**TERMS OF SALE:** Cash in hand or note to draw 4 per cent interest with Bob McConnell as security.

---

My home is two miles south of Versailles, Kansas, on McConn's ferry pike. Sale will begin at 8 o'clock a.m. Plenty to drink and eat.

---

# J. L. MOSS, owner

---



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A Southern  
state

trooper was  
asked on an exam

"What would you do if you had  
to arrest your own mother?" In  
the blank, he wrote, "Call for  
Backup".....



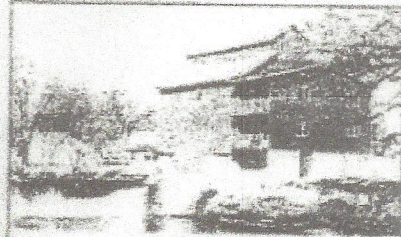
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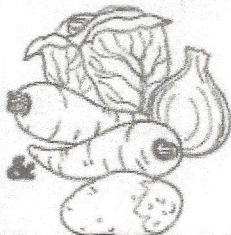
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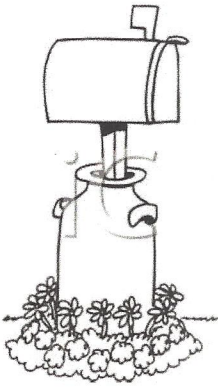
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**Fertile, IA 50434**

**Pastor David Halverson**

**641-797-2767**

**Sunday Worship Service 9:30 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 7:00 pm**

## ***Celebration Community Church***

**805 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. North, Clear Lake, IA 50428**

**641-357-0026 (Pastor Dan Miller)**

**Praise and Worship Service - 9:30 am**

**Wednesday - 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study**

## **Pilot Knob Lutheran Church AALC**

**Rural Forest City**

**Pastor Robert Snitzer**

**Worship 9:00 am**

**Sunday School 10:15**

**Everyone welcome**