

# FERTILE REMINDER

JULY 2015



Do you recognize these Queens? They are "our" Band Queens from Fertile High School and were honored at the Fertile All School Reunion on June 13<sup>th</sup>. From left to right are Joanne (Roberts) Zrostlik 1962, Sandy (Jenkins) Purcell, 1962, Susan (Purcell) Miller, 1961, Ella Mae (Oswald) Butler, 1957, Mary Lou (Elthon) Midtgaard, 1951, Madalyn (Purcell) Midtgaard, 1952, and Fran (Jenkins) Cates, 1948.

## JULY CALENDAR

- 6 Firemen meet
- 9, 23 Recycle
- 14 Fertile Girls Meet
- 14 Garden Club
- 15 Reminder Deadline
- 20 Library Board Meets
- 21 City Council Meets
- 28 Reminder Mailed
- AUG. 8 Fertile Days**

## FERTILE GARDEN CLUB

Fertile Garden Club met on June 9<sup>th</sup> with 9 members present. We had no hostesses for the evening as we went on a garden tour after a brief meeting.

Our tour was at the gardens of Jim Cherry at Winn Beeline & Gardens. He does his gardening in a "high tunnel" and sells at the farmers markets and stores. He has bees and explained the life cycle of a bee which was very interesting. He also had lots of mosquitoes that took advantage of our visit!





## City of Fertile

### City Council Meeting Minutes

June, 16, 2015 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

#### Call to Order & Roll Call

Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Tad Miller, Jeff Berg, Nick Bailey, Julie Jessen and Holly Lovik-Hanna; City Clerk, Wendy Lunning & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts.

*Julie motioned, Jeff 2nd to approve the minutes of the May meeting.* Unanimous

• *Tad 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

- Sewer plant generator didn't kick back properly, computer board may be going bad on this.
- Steve did water locates on all houses in town for laying fiber optics cable.

• Additional Maintenance Report included with Mayor's report  
*Nick motioned, Holly 2nd to approve the maintenance report.* Unanimous

#### Mayor's Report

- Joyce, Warren and Steve met with the DNR in regards to the Consumer Credit Report. Results have been posted at City Hall, Library and the Post Office.
- Joyce, Warren, Steve and Wendy met with DNR for annual audit.
- Thank you to Eddie and Lisa May owners of Fertile Pronto for the bottle water that was provided to the Fire Fighters on fire call for local resident.

- Water main break. A special thank you to Nick Bailey and Jeff Berg for helping to locate the break. A boil order alert was issued. Main has since been repaired and water cleared through testing. Thank you Nettleton Excavating for the great service. Thanks also to Emergency Management Coordinator, Ray Hufllain, for delivery of the pallets of water.
- City Wide clean up was a very good turn out. 2-30 foot roll off dumpsters were filled. Special thanks to Joyce, Steve, Buck, Nick and Jeff for all there help. Thank you to all the residents that participated in keeping our city beautiful.

*Holly motioned, and Tad 2nd to approve the mayor's report.* Unanimous.

#### City Clerk's Report

- Wendy presented May Financials to the council. A complete set of financials are available at City Hall upon request.

7/1 - 5/301	General	WCDA	Roads	EE Benefits	Utilities	Total
Income	174,459.06	204,000.00	36,294.37	1,578.00	104,952.95	521,284.38
Expense	435,204.56	-36,000.00	20,159.90	0	84,999.63	504,364.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>-260,745.50</b>	<b>240,000.00</b>	<b>16,134.47</b>	<b>1,578.00</b>	<b>19,953.32</b>	<b>16,920.29</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>-4,405.02</b>	<b>36,000.00</b>	<b>53,984.70</b>	<b>1,578.00</b>	<b>115,238.80</b>	<b>202,396.48</b>

*Nick motioned, Tad 2nd to approve Financial Report.* Unanimous

*Jeff motioned, Julie 2nd to approve May Bills* Unanimous

*Holly motioned, Tad 2nd to waive uncollectable debt on the following properties: Rome Gould at 101 School Street in the amount of \$207.45 and Cathy Jamison at 403 First Street N in amount of \$337.70 in the town of Fertile.* Holly, Tad, Nick and Julie approved - Jeff opposed. Motion carried.

Wendy is planning on completing training for the Street Financing Report.

#### Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 at Fertile City Hall
- *Holly moved and Julie 2nd to adjourn the meeting.* Unanimous

### FERTILE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor Rob Perry

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Fellowship Time 9:55 - 10:15

Worship- 10:15 AM

(No Wed. night youth groups)

### FERTILE LUTHERAN CHURCH

LCMC

Pastor David Halverson

641-797-2767

WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 AM

### Celebration Community Church

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

PASTOR DAN MILLER

May 24<sup>th</sup> - September 6<sup>th</sup>

Worship and Praise Service - 9:30 a.m.

### 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.

## City of Fertile Deposits

As of May 31, 2015

Accrual Basis  
Amount

**Operating Accounts  
Checking**

Type	Date	Memo	Amount
Deposit	05/01/2015	Utility Deposit	1,551.35
Deposit	05/01/2015	Local Option Sales Tax	2,111.91
Deposit	05/03/2015	Property Taxes	6,167.13
Deposit	05/04/2015	Casino Funds Deposit	2,822.29
Deposit	05/06/2015	Utility Deposit	2,055.27
Deposit	05/06/2015	Utility Deposit	327.52
Deposit	05/06/2015	Initial Utility Deposit	150.00
Deposit	05/13/2015	Court Fines Deposit	50.00
Deposit	05/13/2015	Facility Rental Deposit	325.00
Deposit	05/13/2015	Utility Deposit	3,341.13
Deposit	05/13/2015	Removal of Diving Board Deposit	250.00
Deposit	05/19/2015	Road Use Tax	885.56
Deposit	05/20/2015	Deposit	0.00
Deposit	05/20/2015	Utility Deposit	2,804.21
Deposit	05/20/2015	Incubator Deposit	1,243.44
Deposit	05/20/2015	Utility Deposit	70.72
Deposit	05/26/2015	Utility Deposit	254.17
Deposit	05/26/2015	Facility Rental Deposit	225.00
Deposit	05/26/2015	Utility Deposit	3,110.58
Deposit	05/27/2015	Postage Refund Deposit	48.18
Deposit	05/27/2015	Local Option Sales Tax	2,330.38
Deposit	05/31/2015	Interest	11.85
			30,135.69
Total Checking			
<b>Petty Cash</b>			
Total Petty Cash			30,135.69
Total Operating Accounts			
<b>Roads Revenue Accounts</b>			
<b>Savings</b>			
Deposit	05/31/2015	Interest	5.67
Total Savings			5.67
Total Roads Revenue Accounts			5.67
<b>Water Revenue Accounts</b>			
<b>Savings</b>			
Deposit	05/31/2015	Interest	2.86
Total Savings			2.86
Total Water Revenue Accounts			2.86
<b>Sewer Revenue Accounts</b>			
<b>Savings</b>			
Deposit	05/31/2015	Interest	2.50
Total Savings			2.50
<b>CD</b>			
Total CD			2.50
Total Sewer Revenue Accounts			2.50
<b>TOTAL</b>			30,146.72

**Fertile Day's 2015 ---August 8 - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Just a sample of some events:

- Parade (Grand Marshall - Ruth Rhodes)
- "Do the Putsy" Magic show
- BMC Aggregate Tours Bean Bag Tournament
- Borderline Band (Bring your own lawn chairs)
- Firemen's breakfast Community Church Service

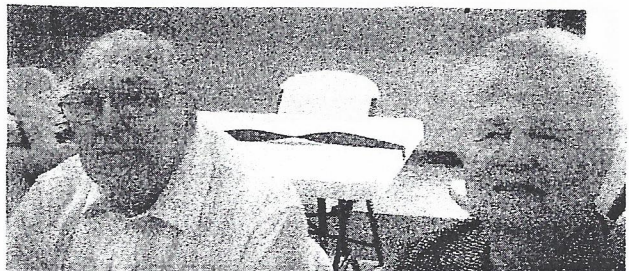


## City of Fertile Bills Paid

As of May 31, 2015

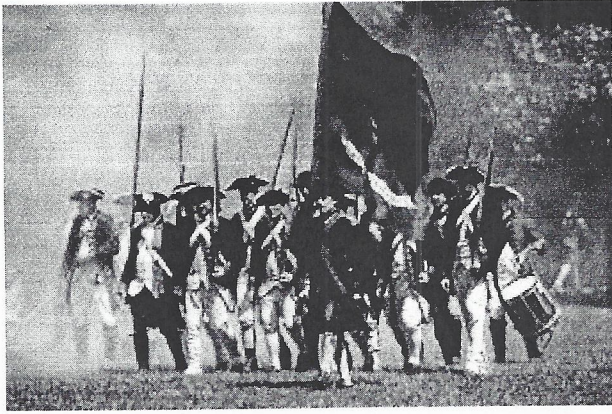
Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Accrual Basis Amount
<b>Operating Accounts</b>					
<b>Checking</b>					
Bill Pmt -Check	05/01/2015	7304	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,337.69
Bill Pmt -Check	05/01/2015	7305	Hawkins, Inc.	Replaced Diaphragm	-181.84
Bill Pmt -Check	05/01/2015	7306	Menards	Bolts and cleaning supplies	-43.32
Paycheck	05/05/2015	7309	Lunning, Wendy S		-255.57
Paycheck	05/05/2015	7311	Russell, Grant		-655.54
Paycheck	05/05/2015	7312	Russell, Joyce		-1,165.55
Paycheck	05/05/2015	7310	Roberts, Stephen J		-964.39
Paycheck	05/05/2015	7308	Bruns, Warren		-301.39
Bill Pmt -Check	05/05/2015	7313	Lonnie Knudson	Community Center Cleaning	-20.00
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2015	7314	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine	-10.00
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2015	7315	Iowa Finance Authority Larsen Plumbing & Heating	Sewer Loan	-11,205.00
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2015	7316	Heating	Repairs and new meter	-267.47
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2015	7317	Waste Management		-13.65
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2015	7318	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-193.65
Liability Check	05/13/2015	EFT	IPERS		-739.29
Bill Pmt -Check	05/13/2015	7319	First Gabrielson Agency	Firemen's Accident/Sickness Policy	-776.00
Bill Pmt -Check	05/13/2015	7320	Hawkins, Inc.	Support Diaphragm	-19.94
Bill Pmt -Check	05/13/2015	7321	Menards	Paint for Water locates, Mulch, and cleaning supplies	-48.84
Bill Pmt -Check	05/13/2015	7322	Pronto	Gas for truck & mower	-120.92
Bill Pmt -Check	05/13/2015	7323	Waste Management		-2,117.28
Liability Check	05/14/2015	EFT	United States Treasury	42-1028074	-1,047.18
Bill Pmt -Check	05/18/2015	7324	Dwight Bruns	Rental Deposit Refund	-100.00
Check	05/19/2015	Debit	USPS	postage	-70.80
Bill Pmt -Check	05/20/2015	7325	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-253.35
Bill Pmt -Check	05/20/2015	7326	Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax	-42.75
Bill Pmt -Check	05/20/2015	7327	Menards	Sprayer, Gloves	-61.96
Bill Pmt -Check	05/20/2015	7328	UPS	Water Testing	-10.77
Bill Pmt -Check	05/20/2015	7329	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-63.02
Paycheck	05/20/2015	7330	Roberts, Stephen J		-964.39
Check	05/29/2015		Iowa Communities Assurance Pool v	Insurance	0.00
Bill Pmt -Check	05/31/2015		ClerkBooks A/P Adjust	QuickBooks generated zero amount transaction for bill payment stub	
Total Checking					-23,051.55
<b>Petty Cash</b>					
Total Petty Cash					
Total Operating Accounts					-23,051.55
<b>Roads Revenue Accounts</b>					
Savings					
Total Savings					
Total Roads Revenue Accounts					
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>-23,051.55</b>

**PILOT KNOB LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**AALC**  
 2391 330<sup>th</sup> St., Forest City, IA  
 Pastor Robert Snitzer  
 Worship 9:00 am



*Ed & Donna Stalker - Teacher 1956*





## THE PRICE OF OUR FREEDOM

Have you ever wondered what happened to those who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured. None of them died while a prisoner and four were taken into custody, not because they were considered “traitors” due to their status as signatories to the document, but were prisoners of war.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned.

Abraham Clark of New Jersey saw two of his sons captured. John Witherspoon, NJ saw his eldest son killed in battle in the Battle of Germantown in October on 1777.

Nine of the signers died during the course of the Revolutionary War, but none died from wounds or hardships inflicted on them.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty four were lawyers and jurists, eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners, men of means, well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts and he died in rags.

Vandals or soldiers or both located the properties of Ellery, Clymer, Hall, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge and Middleton. At the battle of Yorktown, Tomas Nelson Jr. noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. The owner quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and property destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife and she died a few years later.

John Hart was driven from his home where his wife had died a few months earlier. Their thirteen children of whom many had already left home, fled for their lives. His grist mill was laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves returning home after the war his children vanished.

Norris Livingston suffered a similar fate. Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild and rousing ruffians, they were soft spoken men of means and education. They had security but they valued liberty more. Standing tall and straight and unwavering, they pledged; “the support of this declaration, with a fierce reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our fortunes and sacred honor.”

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn’t just fight the British. We were British subjects at the time and we fought our own government.

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn’t.

So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and silently thank these patriots and the men and women who have defended our country. It’s not much to ask for the price they paid.

**Remember: Freedom is never free!!**

**Have a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July**



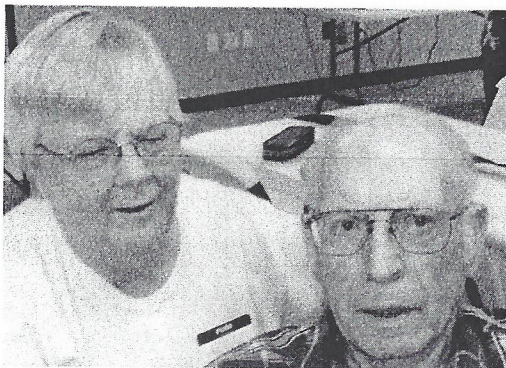
## ALL SCHOOL REUNION

The last strains of ONWARD FERTILE from the "unrehearsed" band were floating away as the Fertile All School Reunion was winding down. It was a good day and a great time seeing old friends.

The day started with coffee beginning about 10:30 and dinner quickly followed at noon serving 94 people by We 3 Catering of Belmond. We had pork chops, chicken, cheesy potatoes, string beans, macaroni salad, fresh fruit salad, buns and jello cake. It was filling and delicious.

Harlan Rodberg MC'd the program which honored Fertile's Royalty with 6 former Band Queens and 1 Homecoming Queen in Attendance. They were Fran Jenkins Cates '48; Mary Lou Elthon Midtgaard '51; Madelyn Purcell Midtgaard '52; Ella Mae Oswald Butler '57; Susan Purcell Miller '61 and Sandy Purcell Jenkins '62. Joanne Roberts Zrostlik was honored as Fertile's only Homecoming Queen. Also honored were Viet Nam veterans. Arden and Fern Midtgaard were honored as the oldest graduates in attendance graduating in '42 and '43 and they live near Fertile. 28 names were read who had passed away in the last 3 years. Dick Varberg and Allen Suby shared some memories and jokes. The band had everyone toe tapping and clapping with their rousing songs. An excellent job was done by all!!

We'd like to thank the Reunion Committee of Harlan and Mary Rodberg and Joan Norem for organizing the event. Also a thank you to Judi Larson and Donna and Denny Olson for helping. AN EXCELLENT JOB WELL DONE!!



Melvin & Linda Kennedy



Fern and Arden Midtgaard our oldest graduates in attendance!

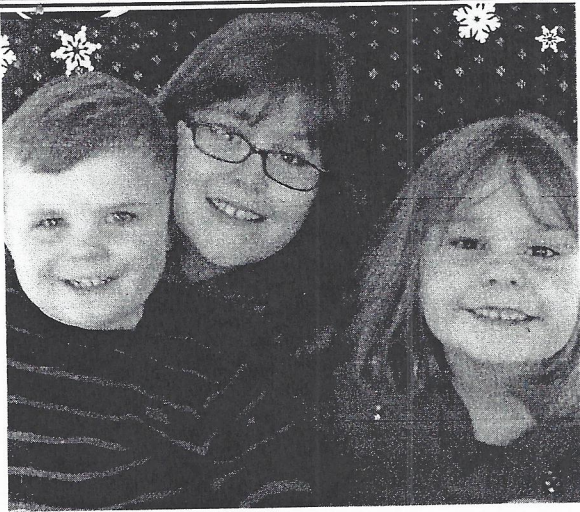
## BAND FESTIVAL QUEENS

- 39 - Joan Sheplee Schultz
- 41. - Fran Brenden Benson
- 42 - Ardis Suby Sheimo
- 43,44,45 no band queens, WAR
- 46 - Romane Humphrey Lovik
- 47 - Dorothy Halverson Goodmanson
- 48 - Fran Jenkins Cates
- 50 - Dariel Howland Neuberger
- 51 - Mary Lou Elthon Midtgaard
- 52 - Madelyn Purcell Midtgaard
- 53 - Berna Field Nelson
- 54 - Elaine Kraakevik
- 55 - Sharon Felland Jenkins
- 56 - Janice Lee Asche
- 57 - Ella Mae Oswald Butler
- 58 - Janet Thompson Burtness
- 59 - Judie Haugen Hall
- 60 - Gloria Lovick Kirschbaum
- 61 - Susan Purcell Miller
- 62 - Sandy Jenkins Purcell
- 62 - Joanne Roberts Zrostrik (HC Queen)



Marlys (Pederson) @ Marlene (Jenkins) Tibbits





## Christ Family Medical Benefit

Madalyn, 9, has Stargardt Disease affecting her vision. Sylvia, 6, has a 25% chance of having the Stargardt Disease. Thomas, 3, has been diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy.

**JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup>, 11 - 4**

Lakota Eagle Center

Silent Auction, Live Auction starting at 12:30

Pork meal provided

Supporting fund from Thrivent Financial.

Angie (Lee) Christ (mother) is the daughter of Dennis & Mary (Sunne)Lee.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ladies: Thank you for the Fertile paper. Ed enjoys it so much. Keep up the great work. Sincerely, **Ed & Donna Stalker**

As long as you put the Reminders out - I'll be sending you \$\$ ! Hello Fertile! - from Ann Hargrave's youngest daughter, Jane Briggeman

Please renew for another year - you all do a wonderful job. Thanks **Janice Asche**

Fertile Reminder Editors: Don and I have lived at Timber Ridge in Issequah, WA for more than two years. I have the return check for one subscription

to the Reminder starting in April. You must have used our Bellevue address, so we have missed the last three issues.

Ardell Osness and her daughter, Laurel Rye visited us Sunday PM. She has two daughters who live in our part of Washington. Thank you for all the Fertile news! **Don and Norma Holtan Wakeley.**

Dear Gals: Please renew our subscription to the Fertile Reminder. You do a great job.  
**Don and Marilyn Severson**

Thanks Ladies, **Ruth Sunne**

## International Festival at Heritage Park

**CELEBRATE FAMILY, FOOD AND FUN!  
June 27-28, 2015**

. It's a celebration of global heritage, food, music, dance, art and games for all ages. It will include a walking parade for all, educational demonstrations, a salute to World Games, delicacies in the World Kitchen, an ecumenical service Sunday morning at Beaver Creek Church & lots of hands-on fun. Entertainment: *African Duniya Drum and Dance, Meskwaki Fancy Dancer Arlan Whitebreast, Nordic Dancers, Ross Sutter, Malek's Fishermen Band, crafts for children: Arrowsmith Family; storytellers Kris Meyer and Nothando Zulu.* **FREE ADMISSION** with item for local food banks!

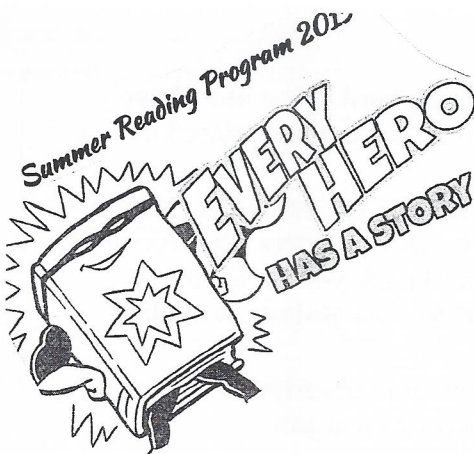
**Contact: Becky Gjendem, Steering Committee**

**1225 Highway 69, S., Forest City, IA 50436**

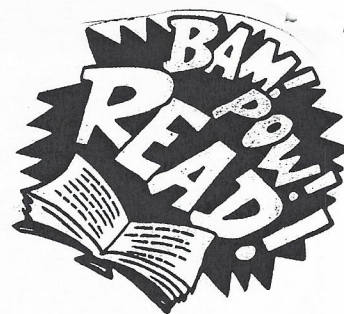
## *Thank You!*

I want to thank everyone for everything you did to make my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party special. It was an awesome day. Also, thanks to my family for planning the celebration. Love you all,  
**Rosella Ullestad**





**FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
[www.youseemore.com/NILC/FertilePL](http://www.youseemore.com/NILC/FertilePL)  
204 West Main Street/Box 198  
Fertile, IA 50434  
641-797-2787 Phone/Fax  
Monday & Wednesday-1-6 P.M.  
Thursday 3-6 P.M.  
Friday 9- Noon & 2-6 P.M.  
Saturday—9- Noon



**New Books**

- Dead Ice —Laurell K. Hamilton
- Country—Danielle Steel
- Shotgun Charlie—Ralph Compton
- Undercover Bride—Margaret Brownley
- Dry Bones—Craig Johnson
- I'll Stand by You—Sharon Sala
- The Marriage Season—Linda Lael Miller
- Memory Man—David Baldacci
- Those Jensen Boys—William W. Johnstone
- Your Next Breath—Iris Johansen
- How to Start a Fire—Lisa Lutz
- Legends and Lies: The Real West—Bill O'Reilly
- A Memoir of Survival in Cleveland—Amanda Berry
- Mercy of the Sky: The Story of a Torndao—Holly Bailey
- Love, Abbey —Abbey Almelien Banh
- The Shadows—J.R. Ward
- Up at Butternut Lake—Mary McNear
- Butternut Summer—Mary McNear
- Keep Quiet —Lisa Scottoline

***SUMMER READING PROGRAM***

**Saturdays July 11, 18 & 25**

**10:30-11:45**

**Join us for crafts, (including tie-dye) stories about heroes, snacks, prizes, and more!!!**

***Hanson Family Jugglers***

**July 29 @ 7:00 pm**

**Supper Served @ 6:30!!!**

**JOIN US!!!!**

**New Books on CD**

- 14th Deadly Sin—James Patterson
- The Forgotten Room—Lincoln Child
- Memory Man—David Baldacci
- Legends & Lies: The Real West—Bill O'Reilly
- Black Ice—Becca Fitzpatrick
- Confessions: The Paris Mysteries—James Patterson
- Leaving Time—Jodi Picoult
- Red Room—Ridley Pearson
- The X-Files: Goblins—Charles Grant

**New DVDs**

- Russell Madness—John Ratzenberger
- Before I Go to Sleep—Nicole Kidman
- Wild—Reese Witherspoon
- Battle of the Five Armies—Martin Freeman
- The Boxtrolls
- Interstellar—Mathew McConaughey
- The Imitation Game—Benedict Cumberbatch
- Left Behind—Nicolas Cage
- Unbroken—Jack O'Connell
- The Book of Life
- Exodus: Gods and Kings—Christian Bale
- Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, Very Bad Day—Steve Carell
- The Homesman—Tommy Lee Jones
- Lonesome Dove: Church—Tom Berenger
- Stonehearst Asylum—Michael Cain Halo
- Nightfall—Mike Colter
- When the Game Stands Tall—Jim Cavizel



***Mark Hanson is a Guinness World Record Holder for Speed Juggling!!!***





***In Appreciation to Those Who Attended Fertile High  
School and served our Country during the  
Vietnam Era - 2/28/61 - 5/7/75,  
We Salute You!!***

*FHS '59 Lyle Knudson - Army  
FHS '59 Paul Ouverson - Army*

*FHS '60 Russell Faulken - Air Force  
FHS '60 Harold Wolfe - Army  
FHS '60 Ed Kirschbaum - Army  
FHS '60 Lane Lindquist - Navy*

*FHS '61 Larry Burke - Army  
FHS '61 Delano Evenson - Navy  
FHS '61 Lanny Jenkins - Air Force  
FHS '61 Roger McCauley - Air  
Force*

*FHS '62 David Lovick - Army  
FHS '62 Larry McCauley - Army*

*'63 Joel Johnson - Army  
'63 Jim Almelien - Army  
'63 Larry Vaage - Army  
'63 Roger Torkelson - Army*

*'64 Bob Gudmonson - Army  
'64 Dennis McVicker Army  
'64 Ron Ouverson - Army*

*'65 Ron Suby - Marines  
'65 Dennis Schuler - Army*

*'66 Darwin Lee - Navy  
'66 Don Nissen - Army  
'66 Ron Novak - Army  
'66 Jim Rye - Marines  
'66 Dennis Ouverson - Army*



# Fertile Park

**Sandra Kimpling, Fertile, IA**

Although Fertile is a small town (also known as Putsy), it has one of the nicest parks I know of. Called the William Rhodes Island Park, this park dates back to 1886. The Fertile Park offers much to the senses.

The Fertile Park has quite a bit for people to see. As a person crosses the flat cement road bridge the first thing that catches his or her eyes is the peaceful stream of water. To the right is an antiquated brick circular structure with a cement top that may have been used as a band shelter at one time. Close by is a miniature log cabin the park people keep their tools in. There is a playground with a grey metal swing set, and animal hopping swings; one's a rabbit and the other is a fox. There are also horse shoe pits covered over with what looks like white little houses, probably to protect the pits from the weather and keep the clay moist. Right before getting to the center of the park, there is an old well that has the words "Red Jacket" written on it. A memorial stands next to the well. It is made of brick, and the date says 1956. There are seven names to the left and eight names to the right. It may be of the people lost to the war that lived in Fertile. Next to the memorial is a walking bridge with guard rails. One can see the Winnebago River with the waves rushing along, and at each end of the bridge there are benches where people can sit and watch the river flow downstream. There are also red and white flowers planted at each end of the bridge. The plants are cared for by the Fertile Garden Club. Across from the bridge, one of the shelter houses has a wood burning fireplace close by and one of the old time grills people can cook their burgers on. Looking to the west, there is a basketball/tennis court that has rough and worn concrete, but it works for people who are into sports. A little further down the river bank stands the original grindstone used to sharpen tools for building the old mill and dam. Further west is where a person can see the dam and old mill right across the river. People love to fish by the dam. There is a grass path by the dam that leads toward the south and east. Over on the west side, the second shelter house sits with a rustic old fashioned merry-go-round, and close by are the newer style outhouses. Then there is a circular gravel lane that can be used to leave the park or go round again.

The sounds of the park are pleasant ones, and there are many of them. Abundant trees full of lush green leaves with crackling branches and rustling whistling leaves invite the park visitor to listen to the soothing sounds of nature as the trees sway. A visitor can listen to the swings creaking as they sway back and forth, horseshoes thumping as they land, the old well squeaking as it is being pumped, and water swishing down the river. People can visit by the crackling fire as their children play tennis with the balls smacking against the tennis rackets and the basketballs bouncing on the concrete, which encourages families to spend more time in the park. Fishermen can be seen casting their lines, hearing a swoosh and a plunk in the water. Fish can be heard jumping up and then splashing back down in the water along with the sound of the birds chirping. The sound of peoples' footsteps can be heard as they stroll around the park.

The sights and sounds of the Fertile Park are very relaxing. If a person needs to get away from all the pressures of everyday life or just have a special day with the people they love, the Fertile Park is the place to be. Enjoy the swooshing of the river flowing, walk the grass path or just sit by the crackling fire. What a great way to have a relaxing day in the park.





If you have a recipe to share, please send to [fertilermd@wctatel.net](mailto:fertilermd@wctatel.net) or Betty, 554 Hwy 9 Hanlontown, IA 50444

### ALTERNATIVE ICING

Mix one instant pudding any flavor packet

1 cup milk

Whisk until it begins to thicken.

Fold in 1 8 oz. container of Cool Whip.

A great frosting ....spread on cakes a tasty filling in crepes or on waffles along with some fruit...way less sugar too!

### BROWNIE REFRIGERATOR CAKE

1 box brownie mix

1 extra large egg

1 (8 oz.) package cream cheese, softened

1 cup powdered sugar

2 (8 oz.) containers whipped topping

1 (3 oz.) package instant chocolate pudding

1 (3 oz.) package instant vanilla pudding

3 1/2 cups milk

1 Hershey candy bar or chocolate syrup

Directions:

Mix brownie mix according to directions.

Add egg.

Bake in 9 x 13 cake pan

Mix cream cheese, powdered sugar and 1 container whipped topping.

Put this mix on top of the cooled brownies. Blend puddings and milk together and put on top of the cream cheese mixture.

Top with another layer of whipped topping.

Put chocolate shavings or chocolate syrup on top.

Refrigerate until ready to serve.

**The problem:** How to get two pounds of chocolate from the store to your home in a hot car.

**The solution:** Eat the chocolate in the parking lot.

### Chocolate Test

1. First of all, pick the number of times a week that you would like to have chocolate. More than once but less than 10 times.

2. Multiply this number by 2.

3. Add 5.

4. Multiply it by 50 -- I'll wait while you get the calculator

5. If you **have** already had your birthday this year add 1765 ....

If you **haven't** had a birthday, add 1764. Now subtract the four digit year that you were born.

You should have a three digit number.

The first digit of this was your original number. (This is the number of times you want to have chocolate each week).

The next two numbers are:

**YOUR AGE!** (Oh YES, it is!!!!)

### Driven to Drink?

Seamus and Girvan were sitting in a bar talking and supping their pints.

"So how's everything at home?"

Seamus asked Girvan. "How are the wife and kids?"

"I love my kids,"

Girvan replied. "And I love my wife

too, but I tell you, sometimes she drives me to drink!"

"Really?" asked Seamus.

"That's right," replied Girvan.

"You're lucky," Seamus commented.

"My own wife makes me walk!"

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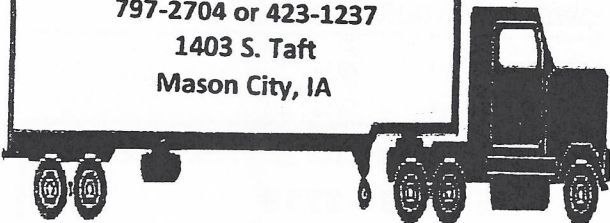
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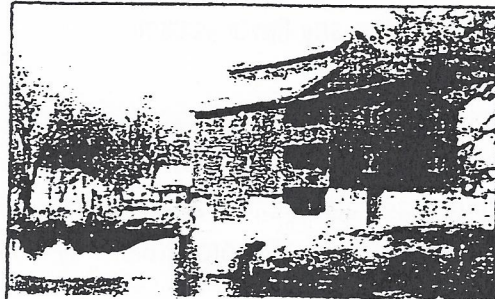
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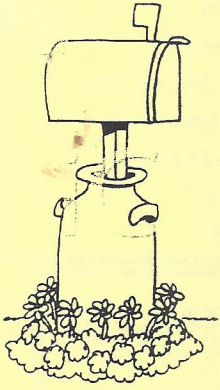
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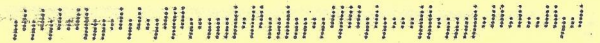
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