OCTOBER 2001 FERTILE REMINDER



COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Oct. 1	Fire Dept. Meeting	7 PM
Oct. 2	Senior Dinner City Council Meeting	Noon 7 PM
Oct. 4	FB&I Meeting	7 PM
Oct. 7	Earl & Donna Miller 50t Wedding Anniversary	
Oct. 9	Fertile Garden Club Community Center	2 PM
Oct. 14	Deadline for Reminde	r Articles
Oct. 15	Library Board Meeting	7 PM
Oct. 16	Senior Dinner	Noon
Oct. 20	Boys & Girls 4-H	
Oct. 23	Re-cycle Day	

The Fertile City Council met September 4, 2001 at 7PM in the Fertile City Hall. Present were Mayor Thompson and council members Smith, Tuttle, Russell, Bruns and Olson, Also Mr.& Mrs Dennis **Ouverson, Beth Bilyeu-Hesse and Tom** Kirschbaum, A Solid Waste Resolution to state Fertile's intention to work with Central Disposal Systems to develop and implement a waste reduction and recycycling goal plan update due January 1, 2002 was voted and passed. Fertile has purchased a newer used road maintenance truck, the old truck will be offered for sale by sealed bids to be opened at the October 2 Council meeting. Bids may be mailed to Box 161, Fertile, Iowa. Because speed is excessive Within the city limits of Fertile, a resolution was adopted to erect stop signs to stop east and west traffic at the intersections of East Main and 3rd, West Main and Lake Street and West Washington and Lake Street. City Elections will be November 6. Offices on the ballot are Mayor and three council positions. The filing deadline is 5:00 PM September 30 at the City Clerk Office. The Street Finance report was reviewed Approved. The monthly expenditures were approved. Two bids were received for removal of asbestos in the old school building. Advanced Tech was selected with a bid of \$3454.00. Dennis Ouverson representing the Clear Lake VFW presented the Mayor and council with a check for \$1,000.00 to be used for the Footbridge. Meeting Adjourned. Gloria Kirschbaum, Clerk

August 2001 Income General Fund...... 57.50 Water/Sewer/ Garbage.....7677.84 Local Option..... 494.75 Rd use Tax.....2581.64 TOTAL..........\$10811.73

August 2001 Expenses Tom Kirschbaum......519.55 Gloria Kirschbaum......265.26 Crescent Moon.....120.00 Waste Mgt.....1666.50 LGI..... 73.35 WCTA...... 45.15 Alliant606.98 Ia One Call..... 9.00 Hare Electric......78.00 Sewer.....1483.00 City Truck.....10150.00 Peoples Nat Gas......60.32 Ia League of Cities.....204.00 Ipers......119.73 Water Acct.....1474.00 Hawkins Water.....5.00 FICA......218.85





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An Ant With an Apple Neil L. Kuns September 10, 1994

I may have inadvertently given the impression in other writings that all of us who "fledged" in Fertile were always self-sufficient and self-entertained. We did amuse ourselves quite well with the woods, the river, hobbies and one another, but there were times when other diversions were desirable. We went roller skating in other towns when our local rink closed down, attended movies in several near-by cities, and occasionally visited amusement parks both near and far. When a bowing alley opened in Hanlontown, only three miles distant, we had to check it out.

Today bowling is big business and the large establishments are referred to as "Lanes" rather than "alleys." This new bowling enterprise was set up in an old store building in Hanlon' and had space for only *two* lanes. The bowling alleys were not a *full sized* installation. Duck pins alleys were shorter and more narrow, the balls and pins were smaller than regulation size, and there were no holes in the balls -- one size fit all. Bowlers picked them up, held them in their fingers, aimed and rolled them at the pins.

Automatic pin setting machines weren't even invented until 1946, and certainly such luxury hadn't hit the hinterland when we were bowling at Hanlontown. This lack of equipment provided an opportunity for employment and gave us a basis for bartering as long as no one else was working the pins at the time. One setter would set up pins on both alleys for an agreed-upon number of "lines" either for pay or for the privilege of bowling. When all ten pins were in place on their spots we would cry out, "ok!" and get *out of the way*. If both lanes were busy so were we, setting up pins on one alley while the bowler was busy knocking them down on the other. We got a good work-out jumping over the barrier and out of the way of the flying pins. Some brawny bowlers felt better and thought they could do better by throwing the ball as *hard* and as fast as possible. Some actually cracked the pins. We very quickly became alert to and wary of any such un-brainy bowlers and were always happy when these "Neanderthals" finished their lines and called it quits. It was hot sweaty work but it gave us something in return and taught me, at least, that setting bowling pins would *not* be my life's calling.

You may be wondering about the title to this story. Here is the explanation. Dad's mechanic friend in Hanlontown, Hank Dobel, had a slow liquid way of speaking but a quick and dry sense of humor. His wife became interested in bowling and pursued it at the alley where we sometimes set pins. Mrs. Dobel had no problem with the bowling balls but she didn't carry much weight on her body. She was skinny before Twiggy made it fashionable. Hank was amused to see her throwing the bowling ball, and told Dad that she reminded him of an ant with an apple. Of course, it took him a long time to say that.

Frequently bowling balls left their dents on the pins. That was to be expected. I'm somewhat surprised that this rather fleeting encounter with the back-room of the bowling business has left such a lasting impression on my memory. My mind must be softer than the maple wood of which the pins were made, but I don't *remember* a bowling ball or pin ever hitting me on the head. Hmm. I wonder.



NEW BOOKS

Touching Evil - Kay Hooper The Golden Angel - Gilbert Morris Quincannon – Bill Bronzini L.A. Dead - Stuart Woods Just Imagine - Susan Elizabeth Phillips The Bold Frontier - John Jakes Gunman's Rhapsody - Robert B. Parker The Stone Garden - Bill Brooks Mercy – Julie Garwood Envy - Sandra Brown A Shared Dream - Jayne Ann Krentz Shock - Robin Cook Smoke Jumper – Nicholas Evans Dr. Death - Jonathan Kellerman 16 Lighthouse Road - Debbie Macomber Time & Again - Nora Roberts Natural Blonde - Liz Smith

AUDIO BOOKS

Envy – Sandra Brown Mercy – Julie Garwood Homeport – Nora Roberts Smoke Jumper – Nicholas Evans



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SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN

Have you ever wanted to scare the bejeebers out of your neighbor? Do you secretly wish you could still fit in that Dracula costume you had as a kid? Has Halloween always meant <u>fun</u> to you?

The Fertile Library Friends are looking for people like you to help out on this years Haunted House!

People Needed:

- Planners/builders
- Decorators
- Spooks/Characters
- Game Operators
- Guides
- Light/Sound Tecs
- Sponsors

Items Needed:

- Old Costumes
- Decorations
- Wigs
- Sheets (white)

Check at the Library for additional items needed.

Call Elin Miner at 797-2122 or The Library at 797-2787 to Volunteer.

A short Meeting will be held at the Library on October 1st at 7:00 pm.

The Halloween Party - Haunted House will be on Tuesday, October 30th. Lets join together and make it **SPOOKTACULAR** for the kids!

With Sympathy

PHYLLIS JONES 1920 - 2001

Celebration of Life Services for Phyllis E. Jones, 80, Davenport, were held August 14, 2001 at Weerts Funeral Home, Davenport, IA. Burial was in National Cemetery, Rock Island Arsenal.



Phyllis died August 11, 2001 at Genesis Medical Center, Davenport, IA. Phyllis Brue was born Oct.12, 1920 in Fertile, IA, a daughter of Oscar and Nettie Brue. She married Dale B.Jones on May 27, 1938, in Mason City, IA. She and her husband owned and

operated the Wholesale Adjustment Co. for 35 years.

Phyllis was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport and a former member of Lindsay Park Yacht Club.

She especially enjoyed being around her family, which brought her much joy. She also enjoyed her fishing and boating trips up North.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Carollee and Ronald W. Baltzer, Bettendorf; sons and daughtersin-law, Gary B. Jones and Teresa, Gravois Mills, MO,

ilip D. Jones and Karen, Leawood, KS and Steven B. Jones and Teresa, Overland Park, KS; six grandchildren; three great-grand-children, a brother, Norman O. Brue, Forest City, IA and many nieces and nephews.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.



BURTNESS PLUMBING & HEATING Phone 797-2680 Larry & Lance Burtness

THE FRIENDSHIP BALL

A ball is a circle, No beginning, no end. It keeps us together Like our Circle of Friends. But the treasure inside for you to see is the treasure of friendship you've granted to me. Today I pass the Friendship Ball to you. Pass it on to someone who is a friend to you.

FRANCES HALL 1911 - 2001

Frances Lucille Hall of Hastings, MN, a former homemaker and farmer, died August 14, 2001 at United Hospital in St. Paul. She was 90 years old.



Mrs. Hall was born Jan. 9, 1911 on a farm south of Joice, IA, the daughter of Ole J. and Anne T. Tweed. She graduated from high school in Fertile, IA, in 1930. She married Merlin Hall on Feb. 19, 1932. She was a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Hastings and had been a member of United Lutheran Church in Red Wing

for many years. Her hobbies included reading, flowers and plants, and knitting.

She is survived by her children Larry (Norma) of Minneapolis, Ronald (Roberta) of Ellsworth, WI, Jo Ann (Robert) Caneff of Hastings, Nancy Hall of Woodbury, and Susan (Vernon) Mogenson of Hastings; seven grandchildren, eight greatgrandchildren, and sisters, Gladys Westland of Hastings, Talora Nelson of Buffalo Center, IA, and Iona Mae Alexander of Lake Villa, IL.

She was preceded in death by her husband, sisters Amanda, Theresa, Agnes, Alvina and Lillian and two in infancy; brother Almer and granddaughter Karen.

Funeral services were held August 16th at our Saviour's Lutheran Church with interment in Oakwood Cemetery in Red Wing.

Our deepest Sympathy to the family.

MY OATH TO YOU

When you are sad..... I will dry your tears. When you are scared..... I will comfort your fears. When you are worried..... I will give you hope. When you are confused..... I will help you cope. And when you are lost.... And can't see the light. I shall be your beacon..... Shining ever so bright. This is my oath I pledge till the end. Why you may ask?..... Because you're my friend!

With Sympathy

VESTA KUNS 1911-2001

Vesta Kuns, 90, of Fertile, died September 5, 2001 at the Good Samaritan Center in Forest City, IA.



Her funeral was held at 10:30 a.m. on September 8, 2001 at the Church of Christ in Fertile, with Rev. Neil Kuns officiating. Burial was in Grant Center Cemetery in rural Clear Lake.

Vesta A. Kuns was born on a farm in Cerro Gordo County near Fertile on Feb. 18, 1911, the daughter of

William and Dora Carr. She received her education in rural school and graduated from Fertile High School.

She married Ernest Kuns on Sept. 27. 1930, and together they settled in Fertile and raised their family.

Vesta drove school bus for a time and served as the city clerk of Fertile for many years. She enjoyed her sales experience with the Fuller Brush Co., helped her husband with the family business, "Kuns Super Service" gas station in Fertile, and worked for Carl Larsen at Larsen Plumbing and Heating in Fertile. She was a member of the Church of Christ in Fertile and loved the Lord.

She was an avid reader and loved the challenge of a good crossword puzzle. She collected coins and stamps, liked to garden in her younger years, did crocheting and other handwork and, most of all, treasured time spent with her family.

She entered the Good Samaritan Center in Forest City in March 2001.

Vesta is survived by her sons and their spouses, Neil and Elaine Kuns of Los Angeles, and Alan and Kandyce Kuns of Lyle, MN; a daughter-in-law, Bonnie Kuns of Forest City; eight grandchildren, nine greatgrandchildren, a niece and a nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ernest; a son, Dale Kuns; a sister, Ruby Nissen; and two brothers, Cecil and Leslie Carr. Our deepest sympathy to the family.



тналк уои

A special thank you for cards, phone calls, prayers and to Pastor Norris for his special visits while recuperating from my double pacemaker surgery on the right side.

I am wearing a Vortex sling on my right arm, night and day for a month so the wife is my right arm. Life is a new adventure.

Norman Rye

* * *

The Vesta Kuns family wishes to say "Thank You" to the many people who helped and befriended Vesta in the later years of her life.

A special thank you to:

Vera Humphrey, who provided transportation and friendship to Vesta.

Janie Ramon, who bought groceries and brought many meals to Vesta.

Terry Elthon, who pushed away snow so Vesta could get out of her house.

Justin & Rebecca May, who faithfully visited Vesta each week in the nursing home.

Thelma Trustem, who made sure the garbage was set out each week.

The Fertile Church of Christ elders who faithfully brought communion and tapes of the service to Vesta.

The Fertile community helped make her difficult last days much more easy. We all thank you sincerely.

Neil & Elaine Kuns Alan & Kandy Kuns Bonnie Kuns

Words cannot express the gratitude for the many acts of kindness shown to me during my illness the prayers and support given, cards sent, calls and visits and food brought. It is all very much appreciated.

Donna Ouverson

The Cat Years

I just realized that while children are dogs -loyal and affectionate -- teenagers are cats. It's so easy to be a dog owner. You feed it, train it, boss it around. It puts its head on your knees and gazes at you as if you were a Rembrandt painting. It bounds indoors with enthusiasm when you call it.

Then around age 13 your adorable little puppy turns into a big old cat. When you tell it to come inside it looks amazed, as if wondering who died and made you emperor. Instead of dogging your footsteps, it disappears. You won't see it again until it gets hungry -- then it pauses on its sprint through the kitchen to turn its nose up at whatever your're serving.

When you reach out to ruffle its head, in that old affectionate gesture, it twists away from you, then gives you a blank stare as if trying to remember where it has seen you before.

You, not realizing that the dog is now a cat, think something must be desperately wrong with it. It seems so antisocial, so distant, sort of depressed. It won't go on family outings.

Since you're the one who raised it, taught it to fetch and stay and sit on command, you assume that you did something wrong. Flooded with guilt and fear, you redouble your efforts to make your pet behave. Only now you're dealing with a cat, so everything that worked before now produces the opposite of the desired result. Call it, and it runs away. Tell it to sit, and it jumps on the counter. The more you go toward it wringing your hands, the more it moves away.

Instead of continuing to act like a dog owner, you have to learn to behave like a cat owner. Put a dish of food near the door, and let it come to you. But remember that a cat needs your help and affection too. Sit still and it will come, seeking the warm, comfortable lap it has not entirely forgotten. Be there to open the door for it.

One day. your grown up child will walk into the kitchen, give you a big kiss and say,

"You've been on your feet all day. Let me get those dishes for you."

Then you'll realize your cat is a dog again.

Author unknown



Dear Reminder Ladies:

Please renew my hometown newspaper. I enjoy the Fertile news very much. I don't know when the picture in the September issue was taken, but Roger, George and Harley look quite young. I'm guessing it was about 1968. Thanks.

Lyle Lindquist. San Francisco

Hi!

Thanks, gals, for all your hard work. We thoroughly enjoy the Reminder and always look forward to every issue.

* * *

Maynard & Madelyn Midtgaard

Dear Ladies,

My dear sister, Frances Hall, passed away on Aug. 14th. She told me many times how she enjoyed the Reminder. Thank you so very much.

Iona Mae (Tweed) Alexander

Dear Reminder Staff,

Please renew my subscription. I enjoy it very much. Thanks to everyone involved.

* * *

Mary Homerding Ouverson

* * *

Dear Ladies,

Thanks, gals, for the great job you do. We love the reminder and what would we do without those red "X's"?

* * *

Cora Jenkins and Fran Cates

Dear Reminder Ladies,

I enjoy the paper so much, even though I don't know many in Fertile anymore, but each issue has in it someone I remember.

Thank you for a good job done.

Marjory Sanderson Baker Mason





(Hansen) Fuller and DeEtta (Thovson) Twedt. Abrams, Mary (Elthon) Midtgaard, LaVonne (Pederson) Kraft, Elsie (Suby) Chisholm, Mary (Tweeten) Meyers, Dolores followed by a picnic lunch at noon. Attending were, front row from left, Bonnie (Bjelland) Kuns, Janice (Burtness) had dinner at Prime and Wine in Mason City. Saturday morning they rode on their float in the Fertile Days Parade, Thovson, LaVern Vaage, Earl Miller, Larry Purcell, Bill Upchurch and Spence Abrams. Not pictured are Donna Mae (Jordan) Sandifer and Iva-Dell (Oakland) Wright. Back row, Don Howland, Norman Nyhus, Arlyn Brosdal, Dennis The Fertile High School class of 1951 celebrated their 50th class reunion August 10th and 11th. Friday evening they

FERTILE GARDEN CLUB NEWS

The Fertile Garden Club met Sept. IIth at the Church of Christ. This was our guest day for the Garden Club so each member brought a guest, plus we had guests from Northwood, Clear Lake, Lake Mills and Ventura clubs. Myra Harris from the Northwood Garden Club gave the lesson on dried floral arrangements. It was very interesting. Roll call was answered by members introducing their guests.

Lois Anderson gave the Thought for the Day. Dolores Sandifer prayed for our country as this was the day of the World Trade Center bombing.

A delicious lunch was served by hostesses Gloria Kirschbaum, Cathy Kirschbaum, Pat Oswald, Evelyn Elthon, Betty Theilen and Dolores Sandifer. Lois Anderson, Reporter





and Sheila Ball, Fertile; Arlyn and Claudia Miller, Round Rock, Texas; Dan and Penny Miller, Fertile; and Dick and LuAnn Paulson of Clear Lake. They have 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. The couple requests no gifts.





F. B. & I News.

Fertile Days was a success. The weather was beautiful, the parade was great, and the other events gave people fun-filled entertainment. The winner of the Family Float contest was the Burtness family. A thankyou to everyone who donated items for the Flea Market. It was a successfull fund raiser. The winner of the softball tournament was the Ventura Merchants. A large crowd enjoyed the tractor pull. The winners of the scavenger hunt were Katie McColloch and Goldie Felland. The winner of volleyball tournament was the Lein Team. Everyone enjoyed breakfast and the church service in the park. Thank you to all who volunteered their time to make Fertile Days an enjoyable celebration for everyone.

INCH OUR WAY TO THE FOOTBRIDGE

The Footbridge will be approximately 100 feet long or 1200 inches and cost approximately \$30,000 with landscaping and handicap accessibility. Please support our project by sponsoring an inch or more of the Footbridge.

SPONSOR AN INCH FOR \$20.00 SPONSOR A FOOT FOR \$200.00 SPONSOR A YARD FOR \$500.00

What do you get for sponsorship:

.Your name displayed near the footbridge after its completion .Safe access into William Rhodes Park for our young and old citizens .Free use of the footbridge (along with everyone else) .The feeling of great community spirit and satisfaction from knowing you made a difference!

Thanks for your consideration of this very worthwhile project!!

Yes! I want to support the Footbridge Project I would like to sponsor:

Inch(es) @ \$20 each inch for a total of \$_____

Foot/Feet @ \$200 each foot for a total of \$

Yard(s) @ \$500 each yard for a total of \$_____

Make your tax deductible donation to: Fertile Footbridge Project Box 104 Fertile, Iowa 50434

Inching our way to the Footbridge

Thank you for the donations: Neal & Jane Luker Karen & John Bailey Leon & Shirley Suby John & Linda Backhaus Pat & Patty Zobel Mr. & Mrs. J.L. Kumm Vera Humphrey Virgil & Ruth Ouverson R. & Beryl C. McClelland **Evanelle** Perkins VFW Post 4868 Clear Lake Leo E. & Elsie Chisholm Dick & Ardis Sheimo Tom & Nancy Sheimo Trisca Sheimo

For Sale:

A reprint of the cookbook **125 Years In the Kitchen 1856-1981, Fertile, Iowa.** If you would like one mailed to You, send \$15 to F.B.&I. Box 104 Fertile, Iowa 50434.



Name and address

COOK'S CORNER Ry Pat

EASY CAKE from Marcheta Pederson 1 can of apple pie filling—blend it in blender 1 box German Chocolate Cake Mix 3 eggs

Mix the above ingredients according to cake box recipe. Pour into 9x13 cake pan.

Sprinkle walnut and 1-6 oz. package chocolate chips on top.

Bake at 350° for around 45 minutes.

A very rich and tasty cake that can be made in a hurry.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS FROM DAYS GONE BY!

> Brass and copper can be cleaned in hot buttermilk or vinegar.

>'Whiting' mixed with kerosene or ammonia to a tick paste or whiting with water alone cleans and polishes the bathroom bowl and toilet.

> Squeaking doors ought to have the hinges oiled by a feather dipped in some linseed oil.

>Mice-Pumpkin seeds are very attractive to mice and traps baited with them will soon destroy this little pest!

>Care of milk (1912 Book) Buy only bottled milk from well known firm. "Loose milk" is very unsafe. Keep bottles in a cool place. Cleanse bottles as soon as emptied. Keep milk covered, no matter where it stands. Never allow anyone to drink from the bottle or pitcher. Keep certain dishes or pails for milk only. Never put any other food in them.

>When selecting wallpaper, do try to not get red, if you wish your family to steer clear of tantrums.

>A teaspoonful of gum arabic added to the starch will give your clothes a shine that is the envy of some housekeepers!

>Cough Syrup - - take a teacup of horseradish roots, washed and sliced. Pour 1 quart boiling water over them. Boil for 20 minutes, strain and add 1 teacup of brown sugar and 2 tablespoons vinegar. Boil to a syrup and cool. Take a teaspoonful every hour.

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>Corns may be extracted from the foot by binding on half a raw cranberry, with the cut side of the fruit upon the foot. >Coffee Substitute - scrape clean 3 or 4 good parsnips, cut them into thin slices, bake until well brown, then grind or crush and use in the same manner as coffee from which it is scarcely distinguishable.

Had Bless MELLA

FISH

HEAT

LIANA



THE "X" APPEARING IN YOUR MAIL BOX MEANS YOUR REMINDER HAS EXPIRED. WE WOULD LIKE A SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5.00 FOR ONE YEAR. OUR ADDRESS IS ON THE MAIL BOX.

ATTENTION: SENIOR CITIZENS

The October 16th Senior Citizens dinner will be held at the Community Center. Connie Suby from Good Shepherd in Mason City will be coming to speak about a free program of *Telephone Reassurance* for senior citizens in our area.

A Sunday School teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

* * * *

After the church service a little boy told the pastor, "When I grow up I'm going to give you some money." "Well, thank you," the pastor replied, "but why?" "Because my daddy says you're one of the poorest preachers we've ever had." NOTICE!!

If you have a change of address, please let us know. The Post Office does not forward this kind of mail.

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, he said, "Now, boys, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it and I would turn red in the face. "Yes, sir." the boys said. "Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position, the blood doesn't run into my feet?" A little fellow shouted, "Cause yer feet ain't empty."

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