

# MARCH 2004

# FERTILE REMINDER



## COMING EVENTS

March 1	Fire Department Meeting	7 p.m.
March 2	Senior Dinner City Council Meeting	Noon 7 p.m.
March 13	Library Soup & Sandwich Lunch Reminder Deadline	11 am - 1 pm
March 15	Library Board Meeting	7 p.m.
March 16	Senior Dinner	Noon
March 20	Boys and Girls 4-H	
March 23	Re-cycle Day	

The Fertile City Council met February 3, 2004 at 7:00 PM in Fertile City Hall. Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council persons Jeff Berg, Gail Shropshire, Tad Miller, Melanne Bang. Absent Tammy Hall. The January minutes were approved. The Fertile Garden Club updated the council on plans to beautify the north entrance to Wm. Rhodes Island Park at Main Street. The Mayor's report was given. Complaints were made of snowmobiles driving on yards. The snowmobile ordinance has been posted. Residents are reminded not to allow dogs to run loose day or NIGHT. Please park your car off city right of way during times of Snow Removal. Reports were given by the City Man who reminded residents to keep the fire hydrants clear of snow. The Clerk and committee reports were given. Bang moved, Miller 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve January expenditures. Passed. The budget for 2004-05 was approved for publication. A levy to cover the cost of the Liability, property insurance premium is included in the proposed budget for 2004-05. A public hearing on the 2004-2005 budget will be held 7:00 pm, Tuesday, March 2, 2004, at the regular council meeting. Meeting Adjourned.

**January Revenue**

Property Tax	541.76
Water/Sewer/Garbage	10,765.90
Street Revenue	2,233.78
Local Option Tax	1,095.83
Michels, water disposal	500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,137.27</b>

**January Expenses**

Dave Low	301.49
Warren Bruns	1,022.18
Dennis Ganz	97.51
Gloria Kirschbaum	278.66
Sewer Acct	1,667.00
Water Acct	1,474.00
FICA	610.37
IPERS	173.50
WCTA	53.77
Fertile Fire Department	1,250.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Sales Tax	504.97
Fertile Library	1,925.00
Waste Systems	1,666.00
Alliant	663.32
Aquila	516.73
State of Iowa, withholding	103.00
Lake Auto, mirror/truck	28.71
LGI	118.50
Iowa One Call	8.10
Post Office	46.00

Thompsons Garage	31.80
Hawkins	184.50
Ermer Ins. Bond	155.00
Menards	99.95
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 12,980.06</b>

**FERTILE F.B.& I. NEWS**

The current members of the FB&I will not be sponsoring the Fertile Day Celebration scheduled for August 14 & 15. Please call City Hall, or notify the Mayor or a Council member if you wish to volunteer to chair this event.

The FB&I will be working with the Fertile Garden Club to place the Bridge recognition and landscaping near the north edge of the footbridge. Every effort will be made to complete this project prior to the Fertile Alumni Banquet held in June. Just a reminder that Fertile will celebrate 150 years in 2006. It is not too early for someone or a group to start planning a recognition of the event.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the activities of the FB&I these past years. Your generous donations of funds and time enabled the group to complete many projects.

Thank you to Tom Quenten for putting the Christmas Lights on the Footbridge.



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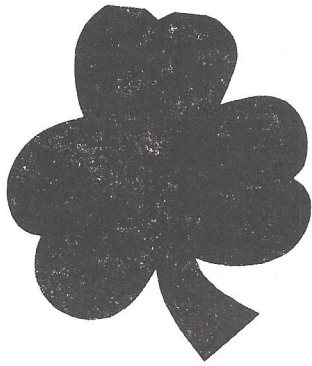
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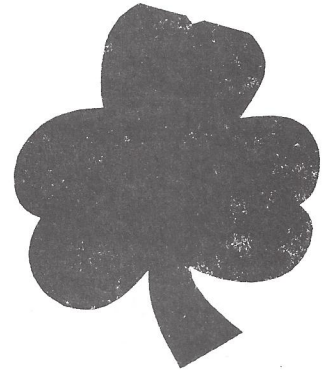
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 204 West Main/ Box 198  
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 (641)-797-2787 Phone/Fax  
 Monday 1:00 - 8:00 PM  
 Wednesday 2:00 - 6:00 PM  
 Friday 9:00 am - Noon & 2:00 - 5:00 PM  
 Saturday - 9:00 am - Noon  
**New Hours!**



**Library News**

We are planning a book & video sale in the spring! If you have books or videos you would like to donate, call, or bring them to the library. What can't be used in the library collection will be sold & the money used to buy new (or new to us) books & videos. Thanks to all who have already donated items.

**Bars needed for the Soup & Sandwich Luncheon. Contact Nancy if you would like to donate a pan.**

*It's that time again!*



for the Fertile Library Friends'

**Soup & Sandwich Lunch**

Saturday, March 13  
 11:00a.m.--1:00p.m.

serving at Butcher's Restaurant  
 free will donation



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Winning ticket to be drawn at Soup & Sandwich Luncheon.

Anyone wishing to buy or sell tickets contact Nancy at the Library.

**Fertile Church of Christ**

502 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street - 641.797.2784

Sunday

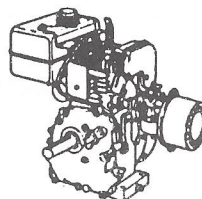
- 9:00 - Sunday School (for all ages)
- 10:00 - Fellowship Time
- 10:15 - Worship Service
- 5:15 - Evening Family Activities

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. - Bible Study

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## *Death of a Hired Man*

*Neil L. Kuns*

*March 27, 1995*

Every small businessman or proprietor faces a dilemma as his business grows. "Should I hire more workers or take in only the business I can handle myself?" Dad usually had at least one hired man, and sometimes enjoyed enough business to keep two mechanics as busy as he was himself. All this was in addition to what little work he was able to get out of me and, later, my brother Dale.

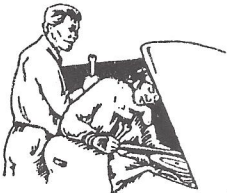
I remember the hired men and their peculiarities quite well. Ed Shinn had a good sense of humor, but sometimes tended to be pessimistic. This trait took its toll on his "tummy." He always had indigestion, and was forever popping Bromo Seltzer into a glass of water and gulping it down. His cobalt-blue Bromo bottle was ever within easy reach, and he took the preparation as regularly as his smokes or his Cokes. In spite of all this he seemed to be a good worker. Dad kept him on until he moved back home to Mason City.

Norman Nye also worked at the garage for awhile. Because I was fascinated with airplanes, I was enthralled when he stored his biplane in the back room of the garage for several months. That whole matter is another story for another time, however.

Another of Dad's hired men was Don Aspland, formerly a mechanic in the Air Force. Don was from Burchinal, Iowa, and had married Dorothy Nissen, my mother's niece. He was like family as well as an employee but this dual role never seemed to be a problem. Although Don was quiet and reserved, he too had a quick sense of humor. Dorothy was much shorter than Don, and could hardly see over the steering wheel when she drove. Once when she came driving down the street in his car he quipped, "Here comes my car without any driver." Don was a good mechanic and a steady worker as long as he stayed well.

In the fall of 1946 Don began to suffer from pain and weakness. He was soon diagnosed as having Hodgkin's Disease, a cancer of the lymph system. His lymph nodes would swell and become extremely painful. In those days treatment amounted to little more than narcotics to mask the pain. Over his last months of life the suffering became more and more un-bearable. One of his cousins came regularly to give him his morphine shots, but even then Don had to be tied to his bed to keep him under control. Don died before his thirtieth birthday, leaving Dorothy and their young daughter, Kay. During his illness both my mother and father called in their tiny home and offered whatever help they could. This was probably the first time I realized how difficult life sometimes is, how helpless friends and family can be to do anything to ease the suffering, and how death, as dreadful as it seems to be, can be a release and a blessing.

© Neil L. Kuns 1995



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# WITH SYMPATHY

## IRIS THERESA (ROATH) DEWALL 1928 - 2004

Iris Theresa (Roath) DeWall, 75, of 302 2nd St. N. E., Mason City, passed away on Jan. 16, 2004 at the Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit.



Funeral services were held Jan. 20, 2004 at Zion Lutheran Church in Clear Lake with Rev. Dean Hess officiating. Interment was at Memorial Park Cemetery, Mason City.

Iris was born Sept. 21, 1928 in Joice to Ira and Theresa (Tweed) Roath. Iris attended schools in Fertile and Joice, and after graduation from High School she furthered her education as a graduate of Hamilton College in Mason City.

Iris married Harris DeWall on October 22, 1949 at Bethel Lutheran Church near Joice. They were married for 49 years. They had no children but dearly loved her nieces and nephews. She and Harris farmed near Clear Lake for 33 years. She was a member of the Busy Bee Club for many years. She was a longtime member of Zion Lutheran Church in Clear Lake.

They moved to Mason City in 1993. While living in Mason City she attended the First Covenant Church.

After the death of her husband, she moved to the Willows in Mason City in 1999. She and Harris spent 17 winters in Apache Junction, AZ.

She is survived by two brothers, Boyd Roath and his wife Grace, and Gary Roath and his wife, Alice, all of Mason City; and many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Harris DeWall; her parents; brother, Dewane Roath, and his wife. Our deepest sympathy to the family.

## SHERI JENKINS HASCUP 1947 - 2004

Cheri Jenkins Hascup, 56, died January 26, 2004 in Concord, California, of a massive stroke.

She was born on Aug. 25, 1947, and was raised in Fertile. Cheri graduated from Forest City High School.

After graduation, she moved to California and has resided there since.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Ed; sons, Paul and David Martinson; four grandchildren, all of Concord, Calif.; mother, Cora Jenkins, of Mason City; sisters, Fran Cates of Mason City; Connie Dirks, of Clear Lake, Bonnie Secory, of Clear Lake; a brother, Lanny Jenkins, of Forest City; and many nieces and nephews.

Her father, Lawrence Jenkins, and sister, Norma Jean Tarr, preceded her in death.

The family joined for an informal memorial gathering on January 31st at City Hall in Clear Lake, IA.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

## MICHAEL DONAVAN HAUGEN 1944 - 2004

Michael Donovan Haugen, age 59, of Fertile, passed away on January 15, 2004 at Mercy Medical Center - North Iowa in Mason City.



Private family services were held at Mittlestadt Funeral Home with burial taking place at Grant Cemetery near Fertile.

Michael Donovan Haugen was born to Willie and Geneva Haugen on Dec. 26, 1944, in Mason City. Michael grew up on his family's farm south of Fertile. He attended Fertile Schools. As a young man he helped his father on the farm and later went on to be a heavy equipment operator. After his father passed away, he took over the family farm.

He was united in marriage to Debbie K. Zobel on December 31, 1972. Of this union, they were blessed with two children, Darcy Marie Van Horn and William Maynard Haugen.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Debbie, and son, William, both of Fertile; his daughter, Darcy and her husband, Buck; four grandchildren; brother-in-law and cousin, Joe Johnson of Fertile; sisters-in-law, Jane Johnson and Patty Zobel, both of Fertile, and Bernice Haugen of Forest City; five nephews and two nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Steve Haugen; and one son, Joel Haugen.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

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### THANK YOU

*I would like to thank everyone who remembered me on my 80th. Birthday, with cards, gifts and "Best Wishes". A special thank you to Jane and 'her crew' for the nice party and good treats.*

*It is so wonderful to live in a town and community where people care about each other.*

*Fertile has always been our 'home town' and always will be. I would like to share with you a poem I received in one of my cards. I'm sure it's a prayer for everyone that has just turned 80! Arden Midtgaard.*

### I LOVE TO LIVE

Today, dear Lord, I'm 80, and there's much I haven't done.  
I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81.  
But then, if I haven't finished all I want to do  
Would You please let me stay awhile,  
until I'm 82?  
So many places I want to go, so very much to see,  
Do you think that You could manage to make it 83?  
The world is changing very fast, there is so much in store,  
I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.  
And if by then I'm still alive,  
I'd like to stay till 85!  
More planes will be up in the air,  
so I'd really like to stick  
And see what happens to the world when I turn 86.  
I know, dear Lord, it's much to ask,  
(and it must be nice in Heaven),  
But I'd really like to stay, until I'm 87.  
I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes will be late,  
but it would be so pleasant to be around at 88.  
I will have seen so many things,  
and had a wonderful time,  
So, I'm sure that I'll be willing to leave at the age of 89...Maybe.  
Just one more thing I'd like to say,  
dear Lord, I thank you kindly,  
But if it's okay with You, I'd love to live past 90.

Author Unknown

## "The Pause That Refreshes"

Did you know?

Coca-Cola was formulated by pharmacist Dr. John S. Pemberton in 1886.

\*\*\*

The first outdoor sign for Coca Cola still exists. It was painted in 1894 in Cartersville, GA

\*\*\*

In 1894 the Biedenharn Candy Co. in Vicksburg, MS, first bottled Coca-Cola.

\*\*\*

Coke's famous "hobbleskirt" or contour bottle was modeled after a cocoa bean.

\*\*\*

In the 1950's, automobile service stations sold more Coke than motor oil.

\*\*\*

Coca-Cola was first sold for 5 cents a glass as a soda fountain drink at Jacobs' Pharmacy in Atlanta.



Remember These Famous Slogans?

"Drink Coca-Cola"

"It's The Refreshing Thing To Do"


"It's the Real Thing"

"Where There's Coke There's Hospitality"

"Have a Coke and a Smile"

"Coca-Cola Makes Good Things Taste Better"

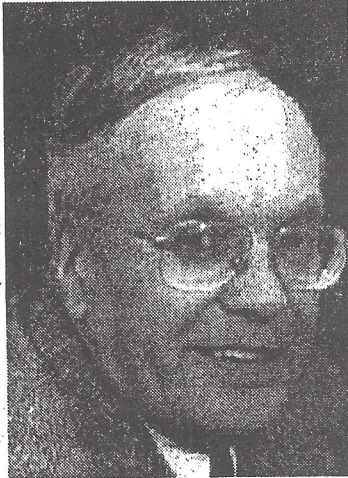
"Always Coca-Cola"



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*With Sympathy*

**ARCHIE O. LOVIK**  
1929 - 2004



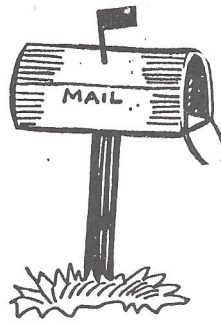
Archie O. Lovik, 74, died Thursday, January 29, 2004 in Mercy Medical Center following a short illness. Services were held Feb. 1, 2004 at Zion Lutheran Church in Hiawatha with Rev. Daniel Krueger officiating. Burial was in Shiloh Cemetery.

Archie was born July 20, 1929 in rural Forest City. He was united in marriage to Mavis Olson on July 19, 1953 in the Winnebago Lutheran Church, rural Lake Mills.

Archie had been a farmer, worked as a lab tech at Collins Radio, and was a maintenance supervisor for Sacred Heart Convent. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Hiawatha where he was active, serving on many committees and boards. He was an avid fast pitch softball fan and had participated as a catcher. He especially enjoyed his grandchildren and loved attending their musical and sporting events.

Survivors include his wife of fifty years, two sons, Mark and wife Brenda of Chatham, Illinois, and Gary and wife Sue of Cedar Rapids; four grandchildren, a sister-in-law, Helen Lovik of Albert Lea, MN and two brothers-in-law, James Olson and wife Connie of Richfield, MN and Andrew Olson and wife Pat of Sydney, Ohio. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother Wallace.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.



Dear Ladies,

I saw red when we got our last Fertile Reminder. That means I had better get a check in the mail. What a great job you do. Earl and I are touring around and settled in Arizona for two months. Great country and it's better when we get news from home. Keep up the great job!

Love,

Earl & Donna Miller

Clear Lake, IA

Winter - Texas & Arizona

Dear Reminder Friends,

Enclosed you will find our check to renew our Fertile Reminder.

We enjoy keeping up with news from Fertile. Good job!

Vonnie & Sever Pederson

Dear Editors,

Enclosed please find my check to renew my subscription for another year. Your work is greatly appreciated. Keep up the good work.

Lyle Knudson

Dear Ladies,

Please renew my subscription. I really enjoy reading it every month. You do a wonderful job. Thank you so much.

Dell (Oakland) Wright

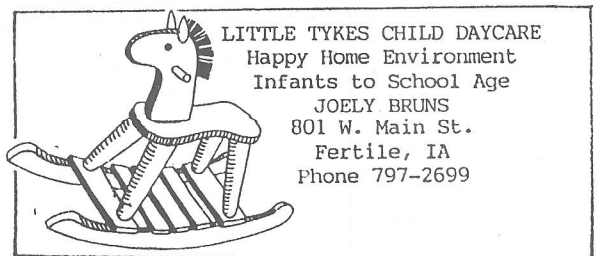
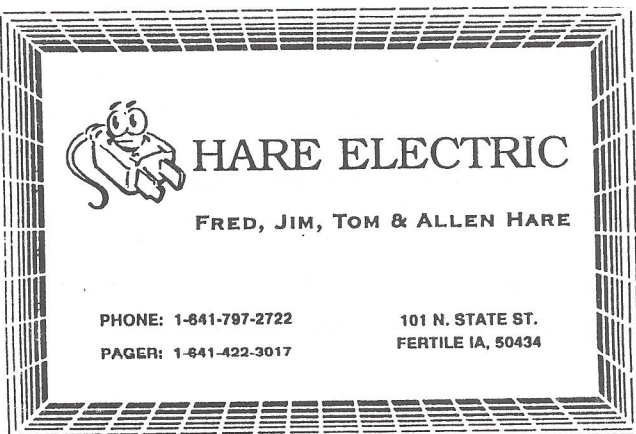
Dear Fertile People,

Please renew my subscription to the Fertile Reminder.

I enjoy keeping up with the Fertile news and the Fertile connection.

Sincerely,

Norma (Bergan) Helin









Fertile Consolidated School - 3rd & 4th Grade  
School Year 1942-43

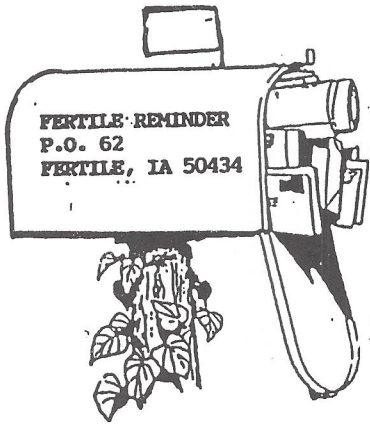
Can you guess who these intelligent students are?

### DEATH

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, a minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased. The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: "Glory be unto the Faaaather, and unto the Sonnn... and into the hole he goooooes."

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Andy Oswald  
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### FERTILE ALUMNI BANQUET

The Fertile Alumni banquet will be held June 12, 2004 at Paradise Parties in Clear Lake.

If you have changed address in the last 3 years, please send the change to:

Harlan Rodberg  
615 S. Gold Course Road  
Forest City, IA 50436

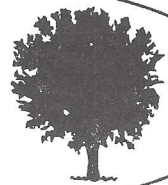
Then you will sure to receive your reservation card.

#### FERTILE DOWNTOWN CAFE

**TUESDAY NIGHTS - TACOS 5-8 p.m.**  
**THURSDAY NIGHTS**  
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