

MAY 2004

FERTILE REMINDER



COMING EVENTS

April 25	Shower for Jennifer Anderson	
May 3	Fire Department Meeting	7 p.m.
May 4	Senior Dinner	Noon
	City Council Meeting	7 p.m.
May 14	Reminder Deadline	
May 15	Boys and Girls 4-H	
May 17	Library Board Meeting	7 p.m.
May 18	Senior Dinner	Noon
May 25	Re-cycle Day	

The Fertile City Council met April 6, 2004 at 7:00 PM in Fertile City Hall. Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council persons Jeff Berg, Tammy Hall, Tad Miller, Melanne Bang, Gail Shropshire. The March minutes were approved. A WCTA spokesperson informed the council of the procedures for a franchise for cable service to the City of Fertile. A public hearing will be held Tuesday April 20, at 7:00 PM in Fertile City Hall. Hall moved, Shropshire 2nd to begin the process of granting a franchise to WCTA for cable service. Passed. A Forest City Ambulance member answered questions regarding ambulance service to Fertile residents. Every resident has the right to inform 911 of the ambulance service they wish to call. Darrel Bang discussed the meeting to be held April 12, 2004 at the Worth County Courthouse regarding the Farm to Market Road. Beginning July 1, 2004, state legislation requires farm to market road through cities of less than 500 population be transferred to the county. Fertile has 3.76 miles of road. Of that, 1.82 miles are farm to market road. Fertile will lose related Road Use Tax Funds for the farm to market road. This will be transferred to the county. Mayor Russell and Warren Bruns will attend this meeting. Mr. Bang requested the Alley east of his property be vacated. The council agreed to investigate the procedure for alley vacation. Reports by officers and committees were given. The Fertile Wm. Rhodes Park sign will be removed from Highway 9. Kay Olson will advertise the old safe on Ebay. Hall moved, Miller 2nd to put a lien on two Fertile properties for Utility bills which have not been paid. Passed. Hall moved, Bang 2nd to approve February expenditures. Passed. Randy Bredeson is donating and installing basketball backboards and rims at the tennis court in the park. April 24 was designated as Park Clean up day. Everyone is invited to assist in clean-up activities. Meet in the Park. Meeting Adjourned.

Worth County has issued a open burning ban until further notice because of dry conditions.

Park Clean-up is April 24, 2004.

Public hearing on Cable Franchise with WCTA to held April 20, 2004 at 7:00 PM in Fertile City Hall.

March Revenue	
Property Tax	1,241.99
Water/Sewer/Garbage	10,263.22
Street Revenue	3,073.56
Fertile Sign Donation	50.00
Local Option Tax	1,095.83
TOTAL	\$15,724.60
March Expenses	
Jeff Berg	77.00
Petty Cash	30.00
Dave Low	301.49
Warren Bruns	1,003.66
Dennis Ganz	101.94
Gloria Kirschbaum	272.46
Sewer Acct	1,667.00
Water Acct	1,474.00
Law Enforcement contract	1,530.00
FICA	364.21
IPERS	190.98
Burtness Plbg	100.50
Municipal Mgt... water leak	400.00
RVS, Water bill forms	42.40
WCTA	56.68
Waste Systems	1,662.00
Alliant	624.39
Northwood Anchor	92.00
US Post Office	83.83
1 st Gabrielson, City Insurance	9,873.00
LeDoux Signs	690.00
Warren Bruns, Expense	323.82
Hare Electric	112.00
Fertile Reminder	186.00
Thompsons Garage	79.60
Aquila	444.28
LGI	9.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 21,792.24

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Roller Coaster

Neil L. Kuns

May 27, 1994

Roller-coasters have changed significantly since the first wooden commercial ride was constructed at Coney Island, New York, one-hundred, ten years ago. Welded steel tracks and restraining bars now make it possible to safely "enjoy" loops, corkscrews, and even backward maneuvers, whether the attraction has us on our feet or in our seats. Engineering has enabled the designers to frighten us out of our wits without endangering our lives.

Fifty years ago "Teed" Elthon and I read an article in the *Popular Mechanics* magazine about a "Back Yard Roller Coaster" and decided to build one. The plans called for a gently sloping wooden track on which, with the help of gravity, a cart could effortlessly roll. It sounded like fun, and we were *always* ready for fun. Our roller cart was a piece of wood about two by three feet which we had nailed together out of scrap lumber, and the track was made of available two by fours. Ball bearing roller skate wheels were to provide the movement. We bought eight of them from the Hegney Hardware Store, just across the garden from the Elthon home. Four wheels went on the bottom to hold the cart on the rails and the other four were mounted on the sides to provide free forward movement. We worked feverishly to finish the roller cart and to build the rails, and at last were ready for a trial run.

Fertile is flat for the most part, so we used the dog house in Teed's back yard to provide the elevation for the run. We placed a sack of cement on the cart at the top of the track and released the latch. All went quite well, but we discovered that the tracks had to be parallel to each other within a half inch or the side wheels would fall off the track. This was our "on the job" engineering training. Since the sack of cement made the run without spilling *its* contents we decided to trust *our contents* on the ride ourselves. Because we weighed more, we rolled faster than a bag of cement, but the ride was less thrilling than we had anticipated.

The ridge of the dog house was about three feet off the ground. We figured that if the cart could start at a higher point we could gain more speed and excitement. Across the alley the Elthons had a small chicken shed with a ridge *three times* higher than the dog house. We moved our roller coaster and went from the dog to the chickens. The greater speed called for a longer run out, so we lengthened the tracks, applying all of our newly acquired engineering skills.

This worked wonderfully, and the ride *was* much quicker than our first effort. *Something*, it seemed, was still lacking. What was it? *A dip!* We thought that would be stimulating, and went to the Fertile Lumber Company to buy some one by two wood which we could bend for the sag in the track. The rails off the chicken coop became slightly steeper and higher as we made space for the dip, directly at the bottom of the ramp. When all was adjusted we sent the cart down the run with our test sack of cement as the only "rider." It hit the dip and jumped up and off the track. Our grasp of the dynamics of weight in motion was as lacking as our recently learned engineering skills were limited. We determined that the problem should solve itself and that the cart would stay on the track if we, being heavier than a sack of cement, rode it ourselves. Since the track was on Teed's turf he got to try it first. We pulled the cart to the top and he climbed on. We were both anxious to see the results of our ingenuity. He released the latch, came hurtling down the ramp, hit the dip, and demonstrated the inadequacy of our design. The single thickness, un-reinforced one by two strips snapped and the cart and Teed ploughed straight on through. Thankfully he wasn't hurt, although our pride didn't fare quite as well. We laughed like kids do when something goes amiss, and gave up on the idea of Fertile's first and finest roller-coaster. Weeks of anticipation came to a crashing stop, but we learned some valuable lessons on co-operation, problem solving, and the truth that anticipation is often more tasty than realization.

All Items have been purchased with a gift from the Fertile Library Friends or individually donated.



FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY

204 West Main/ Box 198

Fertile, IA 50434

(641)-797-2787 Phone/Fax

Monday 1:00 - 8:00 PM

Wednesday 1:00 - 8:00 PM

Friday 9:00 am - Noon & 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Saturday - 9:00 am - Noon

SUMMER HOURS!

STARTING MAY 1!



Discover
New Trails ...
Read!

NEW BOOKS

Firestorm - Iris Johanson

Glorious Appearing - Tim LaHaye

Angel of Mercy - Tracie Peterson

Nighttime is My Time - Mary Higgins Clark

Islands - Anne River Siddons

3rd Degree - James Patterson

The Shining Badge - Gilbert Morris

NEW VIDEOS

Out of Time - Denzel Washington

Under the Tuscan Sun - Diane Lane

Open Range - Kevin Costner

Lion King 1 1/2 - Disney

Secondhand Lions - Michael Caine

AUDIO BOOKS

The Hanged Man's Song - John Sandford

Stone Kiss - Faye Kellerman

Nighttime is My Time - Mary Higgins Clark

Islands - Anne Rivers Siddons

Birds of Prey - JA Jance

Running Scared - Elizabeth Lowell

FERTILE

CITY WIDE Garage Sales!

MAY 1, 2004

8 AM - 2 PM

&

BIG, BOOK/VIDEO/

Garage Sale @

FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Library proceeds go to
library projects.*

LIBRARY NEWS.

Another successful Soup & Sandwich Luncheon was held March 13. We were able to raise over \$1200. Thank you to all who baked bars, worked or donated money. Special thanks goes to Butcher's Steak House for the use of their restaurant, Thrivent Financial for matching funds up to \$500, and Lund Food Holdings for donating the cheese soup. And most important our gratitude to those who attended.

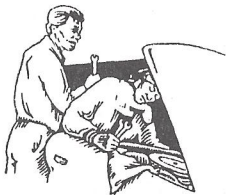


WEDDDING BELLS!

Jennifer Anderson, of Forest City, is the daughter of Kristy Anderson of Forest City and the late Joel Anderson. She is a 2002 graduate of Forest City High School and will graduate in April 2004 from LaJames College with a degree in esthetics. She will be employed May 10, 2004 at Salon Intrigue in Clear Lake.

Joshua Miller of Fertile is the son of Dan and Penny Miller of Fertile. He is a 2004 graduate of Forest City Christian School. He is employed at Miller's Diesel and Automotive, Inc. in Mason City.

The couple plans to be married at 7 p.m. June 12, 2004 at the Fertile Church of Christ.



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Henry Thompson, Prop.

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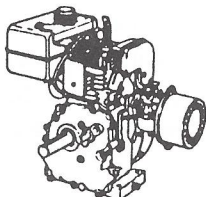
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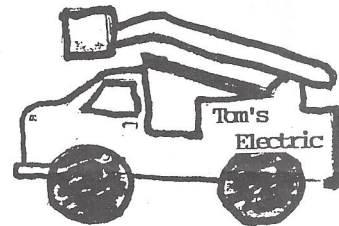
Open House

Viola Roberts of Fertile will be honored at an Open House on May 2, 2004 to celebrate her 90th birthday. Friends may call from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Fertile. There will be a short program at 2:30. The honoree requests no gifts.

Viola Mae Miller was born on May 31, 1914. She was married to Forrest Roberts in 1933. Her children are Wayne Roberts and his wife, Jean, of Clear Lake, Don Roberts and his wife, Peggy, of Chico, CA and Joanne Zrostlik and her husband, Richard, of Shell Rock. She has 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

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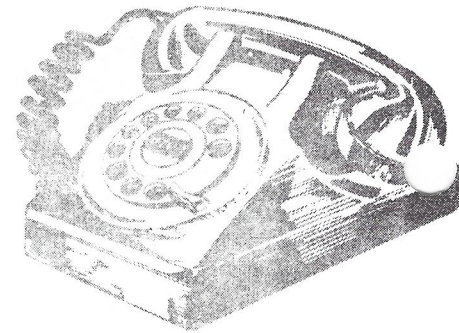
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Dial Tone
Issued every month at its office in
Thompson, Iowa, and entered as
second class matter at the Post Of-
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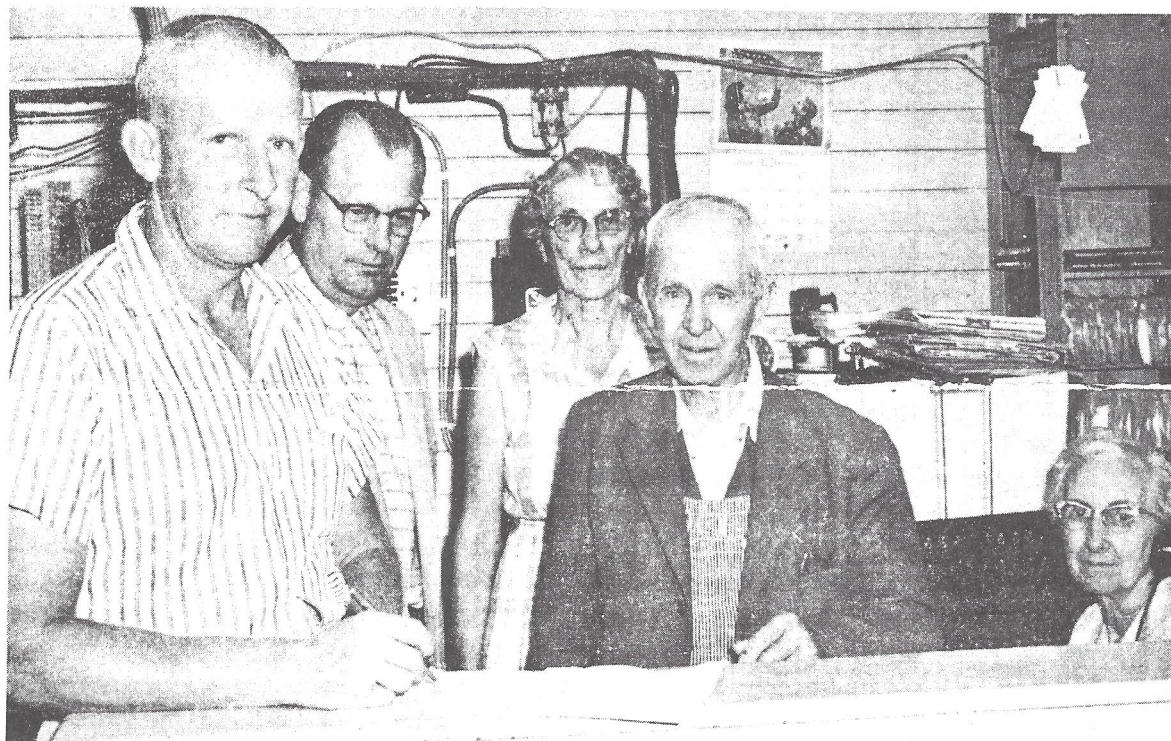
Winnebago Cooperative Telephone Association

Glenn Bergland, Manager

VOL. V Thompson, Iowa NO. XI

"modern dial Telephone Service at Cost"

October 1960



On September 8th the Fertile Telephone Company transferred its physical assets and outstanding bills to the Winnebago Cooperative Telephone Association. Above shown left to right are President Maynard Calgaard, Hanlontown, Manager of the Fertile Telephone Company; Winnebago RTA Manager Glenn Bergland; Fertile operator Myna Smith; Fertile Secretary Nels Fjeld; and seated at the switchboard is Fertile operator Aimee Nye. Mr. Fjeld, age 91, has been a director of the Fertile Telephone Company for 60 years. He served 40 of these years as Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Fjeld has always been interested in the welfare of his community and has served it very well. He has also

been very active in church work. It is indeed a great pleasure to have an opportunity to visit with Mr. Fjeld as his outlook on life is very optimistic. We understand that his main hobbies are playing rook and croquet as well as visiting with his neighbors.

Aimee Nye has been an operator for the Fertile Telephone Company for 31 years and Myna Smith for the last 23 years. We are sure both of these operators have rendered valuable information and service to their subscribers, and in many cases have been able to locate subscribers who have been away from home. This is one of the services which cannot be provided by dial telephones.

Always There
♥
To Care

Worth County Public Health Department

95 9th Street North
Northwood, IA 50459
(641)324-1741

- April 15, 2004 Child Immunization Clinic at Worth County Health, Northwood from 1-5 pm. No appointment is necessary.
- April 20, 2004 Nail Care Clinic at Maple Court in Northwood. Call for appointment at 324-1741. This can be hands or feet.
- April 21-22 Senior Health Clinic at Maple Court in Northwood. Call for appt. at 324-1741
- April 27, 2004 Child Immunization Clinic at Methodist Church in Northwood. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. No appointment necessary.
- April 28-29 Senior Health Clinic at Maple Court in Northwood. Call for appt at 324-1741.
- May 22, 2004 Worth County Health Fair! At the Public Health Office in Northwood 8 am -2 pm. See ad on this page.
- May 25, 2004 Child Immunization Clinic at the Methodist Church in Northwood . 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. No appt necessary.
- May 27, 2004 Child Immunization Clinic at Northwood Office 1 - 5 p.m.. No appt necessary.

If you have any questions, please call Worth County Public Health at 641-324-1731 or 800-765-1388.

Fertile Downtown Café
Every **TUESDAY** 5-8 p.m.
All you can eat **SOUP** or **TACOS**
Every **THURSDAY**
FISH FRY or **BBQ RIB Special**
With Salad Bar 5-8 p.m.
OPEN - Mon - Saturday
5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Where friends go to meet friends!

Worth County Public Health is having a health fair 5/22/04.

8:00 - 2:00

95 9th Street North, Northwood


Activities:



- > Prizes-put your name in the drawing
- > Balloons and games for the kids
- > Free blood pressure checks
- > Free vision tests
- > Free hearing tests
- > Full Lipid Panel \$15.00
- > Tetanus booster \$3.00
- > Pneumonia booster \$18.62
- > Nail care (foot) \$15.00 & (hand) \$5.00
- > Look over the new EMS equipment
- > Check out the Transit buses
- > The Northwood Police Dept will do bike checks and bike registration
- > The Worth County Sheriff Office will do fingerprinting child identifications

Guest Speaker - **Amy Knoll of Life Line** will speak at 10:00 a.m. on "I Will Be Well." This program is about risk factors and warning signs of stroke, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral vascular disease and osteoporosis.

Sponsored by Worth County Wellness Committee



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WITH SYMPATHY

VIOLET VIOLA LEVANG
1917 - 2004

Violet Viola Levang, 87, of 215 S. Third St. in Clear Lake died March 29, 2004 at the Muse Norris Hospice In-patient Unit in Mason City.



Funeral services were held at the Open Bible Church in Clear Lake on April 2, 2004 with Pastor Will Hunsaker officiating.

Violet was born Dec. 26, 1917 in Melrose, MN, the daughter of Arthur and Flossie Cheney.

She graduated from Melrose High School and the University of Minnesota. She worked at the Palmer House in the Twin Cities. She met her husband at a revival meeting the the Twin Cities.

Violet married Eli Levang in June 1946. They lived on a farm west of Fertile. He died in 1982 and she continued to live on the farm until 1986. She then moved to Clear Lake.

Violet worked for Ritter Nursing Home in Clear Lake from 1946 to 1968. She then cooked for the Fertile School until 1976.


She was known as a grandmother to many children she babysat in her home. She always put others before herself and was a very caring person.

One of her goals in life was to read through the Bible every year. She was an active member of the Open Bible Church in Clear Lake.

Violet is survived by her son, Nathan Levang and his fiancée, Kim Anderson of Clear Lake; grandchildren, Marie Levang of Fertile, Laura Swingen of Fertile, Stephanie Daugard and her husband, Neil, of Britt and Kara Swingen of Fertile, and her sister Lilah Ruehmann, of Little Rock, AR.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and one brother, Arthur Cheney.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

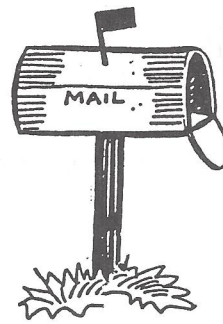


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I am only one, but still I am one.
I cannot do everything, but still I
can do something and because I
cannot do everything, I will not
refuse to do something I can do.

By E.E.Hal e. clergyman



Dear "Reminder Girls",
Here's my check for another year of news from Fertile, Hopefully we may get up there coming summer, as we will be spending the summer in Cedal Falls again beginning May 1st. I think we will have the same address as last summer. Will let you know if it's not.

Keep up the good work!

Donna Fuller
Kissimmee, Florida

Dear Reminder,

We got the April 'Reminder', but don't want to miss any, so here is our \$6. Have to know what is going on in Fertile. I loved teaching there for ten years and knew so many people. But, oh my, how Fertile has changed. Hardly know who lives there anymore.

Emerson & Sylvia Evans.

**BENEFIT AUCTION
IN BOLAN
SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2004
SALE STARTS AT 12:00 NOON**

**10% of all sales at this auction
will be donated to the
Bolan United Methodist Church.**

**Lunch will be served by
Members of the Bolan Church**

**Items to be sold include antique furniture,
Glassware, china, lamps & tools
Please watch for the auction bill for a
Complete listing of all items**



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COOK'S KORNER

VANILLA CREAM BARS

From Olde Family Favorites
by Eastern Star Members

CRUST:

- 5 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 cup cocoa
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup melted butter/oleo
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups crushed graham crackers
- 1 cup flaked coconut (optional)
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Mix sugar with cocoa; stir in remaining ingredients. Press into ungreased 9x13 pan; CHILL.

FILLING:

- 3 tablespoons milk
- 2 tablespoons vanilla instant pudding
- 1/4 cup plus 1 tbsp. melted butter/oleo
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 4 squares semi-sweet chocolate

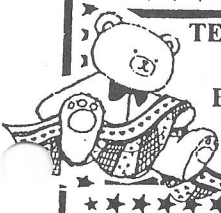
Blend milk, pudding mix, 1/4 cup melted oleo and powdered sugar; spread on crust. CHILL.

Melt chocolate with remaining oleo/butter; spread over sugar mixture. CHILL. Cut into small bars; Keep refrigerated.

>>>>>>>>

SUNSHINE CAKE

"Take a measure full of sunshine
Some crumbs of Comfort, too
And mix them well with loving thought,
And words both kind & true!
Let them quickly rise with actions
To deeds of golden hue,
And you'll have a cake worth eating
When baking time is through,
You will have a life worth living,
And a cure for every ache,
If you and all your family
Will feast on sunshine cake!"

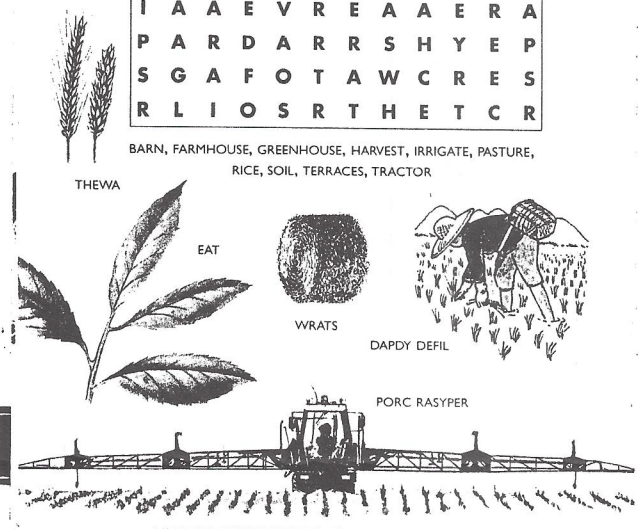


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FUN KORNER

Farming ...

In this wordsearch there are 15 different farming words (or pairs of words). Ten of them are written in the list, the other ones you must find for yourself from the pictures and mixed up letters.



BARN, FARMHOUSE, GREENHOUSE, HARVEST, IRRIGATE, PASTURE, RICE, SOIL, TERRACES, TRACTOR

THEWA

EAT

WRATS

DAPDY DEFIL

PORC RASYPER

>A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire, it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this in. At last she said, I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

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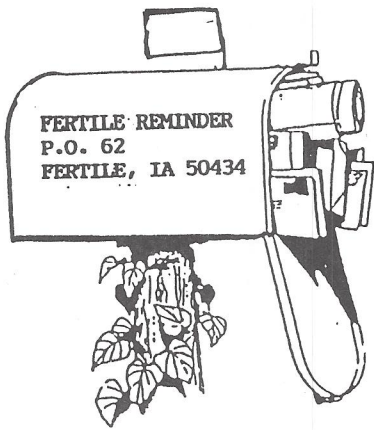
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Phone Number: 641-797-2767

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10:00 - FELLOWSHIP TIME.
10:15 - WORSHIP SERVICE.

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