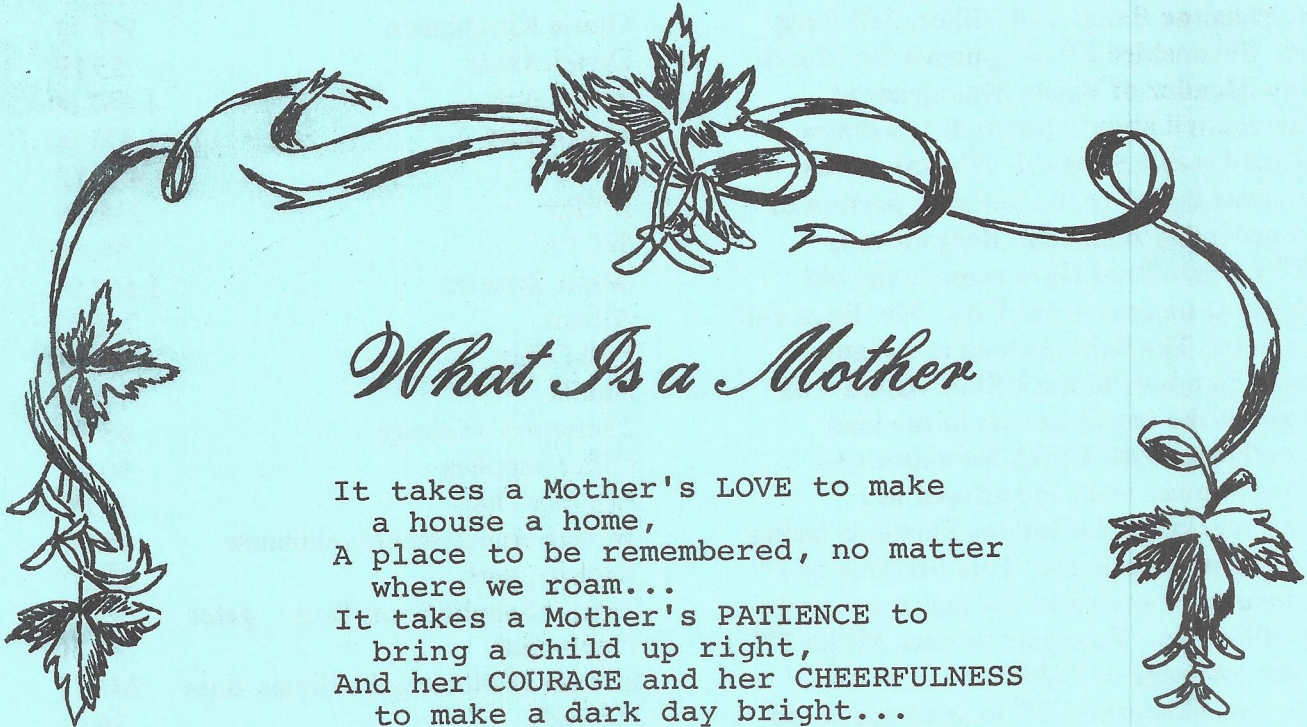


FERTILE REMINDER - MAY 2005



What Is a Mother

It takes a Mother's LOVE to make
a house a home,
A place to be remembered, no matter
where we roam...
It takes a Mother's PATIENCE to
bring a child up right,
And her COURAGE and her CHEERFULNESS
to make a dark day bright...
It takes a Mother's THOUGHTFULNESS
to mend the heart's deep "hurts,"
And her SKILL and her ENDURANCE to
mend little socks and shirts...
It takes a Mother's KINDNESS to
forgive us when we err,
To sympathize in trouble and bow
her head in prayer...
It takes a Mother's WISDOM to
recognize our needs
And to give us reassurance by her
loving words and deeds...
It takes a Mother's ENDLESS FAITH,
her CONFIDENCE and TRUST
To guide us through the pitfalls
of selfishness and lust...
And that is why in all this world
there could not be another
Who could fulfill God's purpose
as completely as a MOTHER!

REMEMBER MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 8TH

COMING EVENTS

May 2	Fire Dept. Meeting	7 p.m.
May 3	Senior Dinner	Noon
	City Council Meeting	7 p.m.
May 5	FB & I Meeting	7 p.m.
May 14	Garden Club Plant Sale	9 - 10:30 a.m.
May 17	Senior Dinner	Noon
May 21	Boys & Girls 4-H	
May 24	Re-cycle Day	

The Fertile City Council met 7:00 PM, April 5, 2005, at Fertile City Hall. Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council members Paul Youngers, Gail Shropshire, Melanne Bang, Tad Miller, Jeff Berg. Berg moved, Shropshire 2nd to approve the March minutes. Jim Mendez of Waste Management informed the council about options for garbage, recycle and yard waste removal. No action was taken. The street lights on the business portion of Main Street are being replaced. Berg moved, Youngers 2nd to have Fred Hare remove the old poles and lights at no cost to the City. Mr. Hare will be given the poles. The lights belong to Alliant. Passed. Kathy Lambert of the USDA visited with the council about the requirements of the loan Fertile currently has with USDA for water and sewer. On her annual visit, she offered her expertise with reports and solutions Fertile is facing with water and sewer finances. Tom Steffany of 1st Gabrielson Insurance reviewed the insurance policy for the City of Fertile. Youngers moved, Miller 2nd to increase the coverage to \$2,000,000. Passed. Youngers moved, Shropshire 2nd to send notices to nine properties in violation of city ordinance. Passed. Tom Kirschbaum requested a permit to burn the pile located at 408 West Washington. Mr. Kirschbaum was referred to the Fertile Fire Department. Inspection of homes and businesses for sump pump violations is still in progress. Monthly reports were given. Youngers moved to approve expenditures, Bang 2nd. Passed. Miller moved to adjourn, 2nd Berg. Meeting adjourned.

Burning of YARD WASTE ONLY is allowed for the months of April and May. A permit must be approved by the Fire Dept. and city council to burn material other than yard waste. Recreational fires are allowed. Building permits are available from City Hall or Tad Miller.

Businesses and Residences are required by ordinance to have numbers easily read from the street. Building numbers assist Emergency and Fire Departments and insure the resident prompt response to a call.

March Revenue

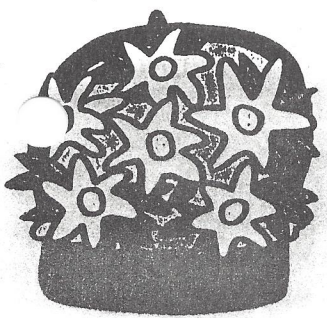
Property Tax	1,470.49
Water/Sewer/Garbage	9,972.15
Street Revenue	1,520.39
Street Const. 28E	1,347.86
Local Option Tax	1,131.30
Misc.	36.00
FEMA	3,664.38
Utility Deposit	150.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$19,292.57

March Expenses	
Dave Low	301.49
Warren Bruns	1,131.37
Gloria Kirschbaum	347.33
Dennis Ganz	53.19
Sewer Acct	1,667.00
Water Acct	1,474.00
FICA	431.12
IPERS	218.10
WCTA	56.48
Waste Systems	1,662.00
Alliant	756.87
Post Office	46.00
Aquila	317.69
Thompson's Garage	65.10
Office supplies	80.23
Ace Ops Dues	35.00
Warren Bruns, school reimburse	46.94
Deckers, park	22.00
Tractor Supply/Bruns Bros gates	143.11
Pronto, gas	31.30
Ia Assn of Municipal Utilities dues	341.11
Menards	36.41
CL Farmers Lumber Co	17.69
LGI	44.75
Larsen Plumbing	1,363.08
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10,689.36

It is a violation of City Ordinances to obstruct any street, sidewalk, highway or other public way without authority. Parking on a sidewalk is prohibited.

CLEAN UP DAY FOR FERTILE WILL BE APRIL 23, 2005, 9:00 AM. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO HELP. PLEASE FURNISH YOUR OWN RAKES, SAWS, CLIPPERS, ETC.

FERTILE DOWNTOWN CAFE
TUESDAY - Taco Nite
5 - 8 p.m.
RIBS - FISH - CHICKEN
Back on Thursday Night
Last Soup night is March 24
OPEN - Mon. - Sat.
5:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Where friends go to meet friends!



Fertile Public Library

Box 198, Fertile, IA 50434

Hrs: Mon. & Wed. 1-8 P.M.

Friday 9 - Noon & 2 - 5 P.M.

Sat. 9 - Noon



NEW BOOKS

- A Dilly of a Death - Susan Wittig Albert
- Navarro - Peter Branvold
- Stone Heart - Luanne Rice
- No Place Like Home - Mary Higgins Clark
- Moonlight on the Millipond - Lori Wick
- Opal - Lauraine Snelling
- The Children's Blizzard - David Laskin
- Gone But Not Forgotten: Wheelerwood, Iowa -
Duane G. Kisner
- Come Thirsty - Max Lucado

NEW DVD's

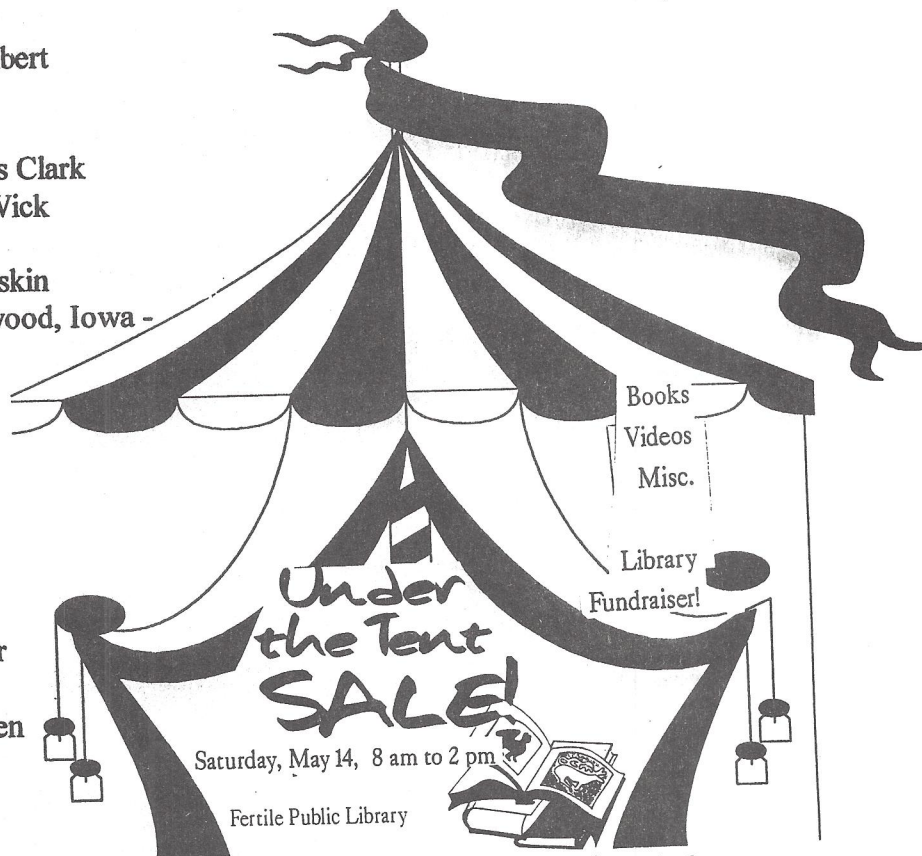
- Shall We Dance - Richard Gere
- Taxi - Queen Latifah
- The Forgotten - Julianne Moore
- Jersey Girl - Ben Affleck
- The Grudge - Sarah Michelle Gellar
- A Shark Tale
- Alien vs. Predator - Lance Henriksen
- SpongeBob Square Pants Movie

Library News

The Library Soup & Sandwich Luncheon was a huge success. We raised over \$1000 & received another \$500 of matching funds. A lot of people worked hard to make this possible. Thank you **Butcher's Steak House** for the use of your restaurant, **Thrivent Financial** for the matching funds, **Betty Suby** for making 30 lbs of roast beef sandwich spread, everyone who baked bars, donated food or money, or helped in any way, and especially all who attended. It was a great turn out.

We celebrated National Library Week with a Twister & Shout Party! We played the game Twister & had a Tongue Twister contest. We awarded twisted prizes (strawberry twist licorice) & practiced the fine art of the Oreo cookie twist. These were washed down with a glass of milk. Thank you Fertile Library Friends for sponsoring this party.

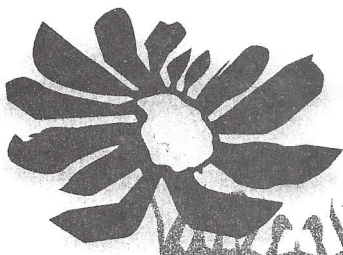
Is anyone interested in a City Wide Garage Sale on May 14? If so, contact the library. There is no cost to you for advertising. I just need to know if enough people are interested. Anyone interested in donating items for the library to sell contact the library. We still love to get videos, DVD's & books. And any miscellaneous items that would be great for a sale. Money raised goes for books & DVD's . Thanks!



**FERTILE
GARDEN CLUB
ANNUAL PLANT &
COFFEE BREAK
SAT. MAY 14, 9:00
- 10:30 A.M.**

**FERTILE CITY
HALL**

**ALL KINDS OF
PLANTS - to
name a few -
lilies - hosta's -
vinca - spikes**



Listenin' In On The Party Line

Neil L. Kuns

May 6, 1995

Telecommunications have come a long way since that spring day in 1876 when Mr. Bell spoke those immortal words into the first working telephone, "Mr. Watson, come here. I need you!" Today computers and the internet send messages around the world in a minute or less. Many homes across the nation have multiple phone lines for business, pleasure and even for teen-age members of the family. Telephone companies must add new area codes because all of the seven digit numbers in old areas are used. A rapid increase in the number of beepers and cellular phones is one reason for this explosion of demand for telephone lines.

Modern technology has not yet found a way to close the door on those who would listen in on cellular telephone calls. Some electronic eavesdroppers even steal the access numbers of legitimate callers and use them for their own personal or business calling. The more things change, the more they remain the same. Allow me to explain that statement.

In the 1930's telephones were a novelty just coming into use in rural northern Iowa. The companies were small independent cooperatives with limited resources. They had to extend the copper lines throughout the towns and countryside, as well as connect them to the long distance networks. To keep down costs while satisfying every family that wanted telephone service the companies devised the "party line." Several different homes or parties in the same area were connected to the same line. When one telephone was called, all other phones on that line rang. Each home had a different "ring;" two longs and a short; two shorts and a long, two short and two longs -- you get the idea. When their telephone rang one first determined if it was her signal. If not, she ignored the ringing. At least that was the plan.

It could get lonely in the house with no one else to talk to. The telephone afforded a way to relieve loneliness by calling a friend and to talking for as long as either or both had the stamina to stand. Early wall-mounted receivers required a caller to stand while using the line, and such conversations might last for over an hour. Another way to ease boredom or to satisfy ones nosiness was by listenin' in on the party line. One could pick up some hot gossip this way. Callers had to be careful as to what they said, especially if they heard the tell-tale click of another telephone receiver being lifted off its cradle. There was no other way to tell if the line was free to make a call, so hearing the click was not that unusual. When the first ones on the line heard only *one* click they knew someone else was still on the line. If a person had a nosy neighbor she might be so blunt as to tell the uninvited listener to get off the line.

Not everyone subscribed to the idea that privacy was a right of the first caller. Some thought they should be free to listen in on the line. Grandma Carr was eavesdropping one day when my Mother came into the room. Mom chided grandma for listening to another person's conversation. Grandma protested that she paid her telephone bill and had the right to listen whenever she liked. This was a novel concept and sounds a little like the "open-to-anyone-with-his-ears-on" conversations of c.b. radio operators of this day. It is not that different from those who intentionally listen in on cellular calls today. As I said earlier, "The more things change the more they remain the same." The nosy nature of people has not changed.

**BARTON #2, Bolan Schoolhouse
Drama & Musical Entertainment
May 13 & 14 at 7:00 PM**

Copyright, 1995, Neil L. Kuns

Tickets - \$5 Adults, Students K-12 \$3, Pre-School Free

Light reception following with all proceeds going toward the restoration of the stage curtain. Tickets available by contacting Linda Nydegger, 641-7487-2385 or at Farmers State Bank in Grafton & Northwood. Only 72 tickets are available for each night.

Dear Fertile Reminder:

We moved to Fertile last August and we love it! It's a great little town. I walk my dog early in the morning and sometimes later in the evenings. My dog and I walk all over town. I also drive through town at all kinds of hours, so I see a lot of things. For everyone's courtesy and safety, could you print this or something to this effect in the next *Fertile Reminder*? This isn't just for spring and summer, but it's a good time to remind people about our safety when we're out and about more.

Automobiles and Pedestrians

We have a lot of activity in our town, whether it's children, pets, pedestrians, bicycles, automobiles, etc. Please use the following considerations to keep everyone safe:

Residents: Please keep your sidewalks free of debris, vehicles, and toys so that everyone can have access to our sidewalks.

Drivers: Remember that the speed limit within the city limits is 25 m.p.h. The city limits extends north, south, and east of the 4-way stop and well past the curves on the west side of town. Please watch your speed while driving in any part of the town.

If you see pedestrians on the road, it's courteous to give them additional room if there is not on-coming traffic.

Pedestrians: Increase your safety and visibility. If you walk on the road, remember to walk against the traffic. If you're out when it's dark, be sure to wear light-colored clothing and carry a light.

Please feel free to edit or add more information as necessary.

I enjoy the *Fertile Reminder* quite a bit. It's the only way I find out what's happening around town. Thanks for your work. If you ever need additional help getting it put together and out the door, please give me a call, I'd be happy to help.

I'm looking forward to meeting more people this summer.

Ruth
Topp

Ruth Topp
802 W. Main St.
797-2951

FERTILE CHURCH OF CHRIST

GLORIFYING GOD BY MAKING DISCIPLES
— MORE AND BETTER DISCIPLES.

9:00 — SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES.

10:00 — FELLOWSHIP TIME.

10:15 — WORSHIP SERVICE.

COME AND BE OUR GUEST.

3493 EAGLE AVENUE — FERTILE, IOWA

REMINDER POLICY

Donation suggested\$6.00

RED mark on label means it is your
LAST ISSUE.

Due to the cost of printing the Re-
minder , we rarely have extra issues
and to send them out costs us quite a
bit. We do not make up and send out
old issues. This work is all done by
volunteers. We are not paid employ-
ees.

Editor—Dolores Sandifer

Treasurer—Evelyn Elthon

Subscriptions & Ads—Pat Oswald

Helpers—Lois Anderson & Ardis

Sheimo.

FERTILE GARDEN CLUB

The Fertile Garden Club held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 12 at 7 p.m. in the Fertile City Hall. Seventeen members were present. Rhonda Schulze and Lois Anderson were hostesses.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was "What's your favorite movie?" The Secretary and Treasurer's Reports were given.

Teresa Smith gave the Lesson for the evening on "Butterfly Gardens". She also had pictures and articles about butterflies.

Canned goods was turned in for the Food Bank in Forest City. Discussion was held on "Yard of the Month" which will be held in May, June & July. No Garden Club members may participate. May only win once. Discussion was held on planting the flower pots in town and a sign-up sheet was sent around for doing the planting. Diane Schulze will get the plants.

The Annual Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, May 14 from 9-10:30 a.m. Followed by exchange of May baskets and a short business meeting. We will be setting up for the sale on Friday evening, May 13, from 5:30-6:00. Members are to be at the City Hall by 8-8:15 on Saturday.

The Fertile Day Parade will be on Sunday, August 14 at 3:00 p.m. We will be planning a float.

Thought of the Day was given by Kristin Mikes. A delicious lunch was served by the hostesses.

Pat Oswald, Reporter

Bring your automotive needs to us

641-423-1237

641-797-2704



**MILLER'S DIESEL AND
AUTOMOTIVE, INC.**

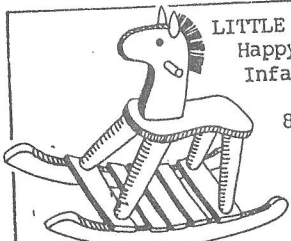
3 Commercial Park Road, Mason City, IA
(8 blocks South of Bonanza)

OUVERSON AND ASSOCIATES
GROUP BENEFITS, LIFE & HEALTH INSURANCE, & LONG TERM CARE
Neil & Betty Ouverson

641-797-2100 Office
641-797-2101 Fax
888-944-2127 Toll Free

746A - 342nd St.
Hanlontown, IA 50444
ouverins@cs.com

LITTLE TYKES CHILD DAYCARE
Happy Home Environment
Infants to School Age
JOELY BRUNS
801 W. Main St.
Fertile, IA
Phone 797-2699



"YARD OF THE MONTH"

The Fertile Garden Club will be sponsoring a "Yard of the Month" contest in **May—June—July**. This is for all people living in the city limits of Fertile. A nice sign will be put in the yard of the winner.

**So, spruce up those front lawns
and be a winner. Make Fertile the
"Prettiest place by a Dam Site."**

FERTILE LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

602 W. Washington St., PO Box 215

FERTILE, IOWA 50434

Phone Number: 641-797-2767

Worship: 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:35 A.M.

Interim Pastor: Clarence Baalson



Worth County Public Health

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

First Lutheran Church is hosting a Life Line Screening on **Wednesday, July 20**. Life Line Screening will offer four different health screenings using Doppler color flow ultrasound:

- 1) A Carotid Artery Screening – which looks for plaque buildup in the carotid arteries, which leads to stroke. (Up to 75% of all strokes are linked to carotid artery blockage);
- 2) An Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) test – which checks for an aneurysm (enlargement) in the abdominal aorta that could lead to a ruptured aortic artery. The majority of people who have an abdominal aneurysm have no symptoms and the mortality rate for a ruptured AAA is about 80-94%;
- 3) An Ankle Brachial Index (ABI) – which screens for Peripheral Arterial Disease or PVD in the lower extremities. Peripheral Arterial Disease is a strong predictor for heart disease.
- 4) And a bone density screening, which tests both men and women for the early detection of osteoporosis.

You must pre-register by calling 1-800-324-1851. These screenings are completely painless, non-invasive, and each require ten minutes or less to complete. The cost is \$35-\$45 each or all four for only \$129. **This screening is being sponsored by Worth County Public Health.**

WORTH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

95 9th St. North, Northwood, IA 50459
 641-324-1741

- | | |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 26 | Child Immunization Clinic at Methodist Church in Northwood from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Children under 6 may receive a free lead test at this time. |
| May 13 | Nail Care Clinic in Manly. This can be nail trim on hands or feet. Please call 1-800-765-1388 for appointment. This will be in A.M. |
| May 17 | Northwood Public Health Office. Public Cholesterol panel and Blood sugar (diabetic) screening 8 - 10 a.m. Any age is welcome. Requires a 12- hour fasting. \$20 lab fee. Please call PH for appointment in advance 324-1741 or 1-800-765-1388. |
| May 19 | Child Immunization Clinic at Worth County Public Health Office in Northwood from 1 - 5 p.m. No appointment necessary. Children under 6 may receive a free lead test at this time. |
| May 24 | Child Immunization Clinic at Methodist Church, Northwood from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.. No appointment necessary. Children under 6 years of age may receive a free lead test at this time. |

FERTILE CELEBRATION TO BE HELD AUGUST 13 AND 14, 2005

Plans are being made for a celebration in Fertile Saturday August 13 and Sunday August 14. The parade is being moved to Saturday Afternoon at **3:00 PM**. The annual Fire Department Breakfast will be Sunday beginning at 7:00 AM. Sunday Church services will be in the park. The tractor pull will be on Sunday. If you are interested in participating in the planning of the celebration, contact a FB&I member. The FB&I meets the first Thursday at Fertile City Hall, 7PM.



Pronto
GROCERIES & GAS

Pronto - Fertile
 Open 7 A.M. - 9 P.M. Mon. - Sat.
 8 A.M. - 8 P.M. Sun.



Pronto
GROCERIES & GAS

ANY TIME IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKED, PLEASE STOP INTO THE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE FOR A FREE CHECK. If you have any questions, please call Worth County Public Health at 641-324-1741 or 800-765-1388.

March 2005

CONTACT: Your Local Postmaster

Lure of Quick Buck Costing some Consumers Big Bucks *Scam artists hitting Iowa residents with counterfeit postal money orders*

DES MOINES – A fraud scheme making the rounds through internet chat rooms and auction sites, in e-mail messages, and over the telephone is costing victims across Iowa and the Quad Cities time, money, and a not-so-pleasant chat with bank and law enforcement officials about passing counterfeit postal money orders.

According to Postal Inspector Linda Jensen, the counterfeit money order scam begins when a victim is contacted by someone through an Internet chat room or on-line auction site claiming to have financial problems or needing help to cash domestic and/or international postal money orders. "The person in need often claims to be living in a foreign country, but the scam artist can cook up the scheme from any location," said Jensen, whose office is located in Des Moines. "The scam artist is simply looking to recruit someone in the United States to cash the money orders and return the funds via wire transfer," she added.

U.S. residents are lured into the scam when they are told they can keep some of the money as a gift or payment for their help. Unsuspecting victims provide their home mailing address to the fraudster and are told they will receive a check or postal money order that they should deposit into their own bank account. The victim then is instructed to immediately send the money via Western Union or conventional bank wire transfer to a bank or person located outside the United States.

Victims learn the postal money order is counterfeit only when they attempt to cash it, or when their bank account takes a hit for the full amount when the bank refuses payment on the bogus deposit. For more information about postal money order security features, visit the U.S. Postal Service Web site at <http://www.usps.com/missingmoneyorders/security>.

Postal Inspectors warn: Most lures promising quick-and-easy money are cast by fraudsters. These scam artists can easily connect to a sea of strangers through the Internet and dangle promising treats, hoping someone will bite. Don't take the bait.

To report a fraud complaint, call the Fraud Complaint Hotline at 1-800-372-8347 or visit the U.S. Postal Inspection Service Web site at <http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors>.

- 30 -



HARE ELECTRIC

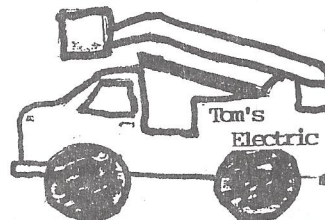
FRED, JIM, TOM & ALLEN HARE

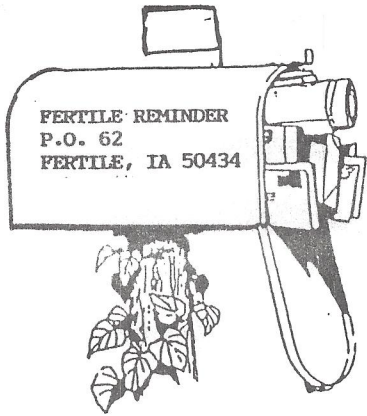
PHONE: 1-641-797-2722

PAGER: 1-641-422-3017

101 N. STATE ST.
FERTILE IA, 50434

TROUBLES OUT OF REACH??
Call Tom's Electric at 797-2223
TOM SHEIMO, OWNER





PRSR STD
US Postage Paid
Fertile, IA 50434
Permit No. 3

#17/50444_X
Andy Oswald
3608 Eagle Ave
Hanlontown IA 50444

THE "X" IN THE MAIL BOX REMINDS YOU THAT IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION. A DONATION OF \$6.00 IS SUGGESTED. WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED "THE REMINDER" THIS PAST YEAR AND WILL WANT TO KEEP IT COMING. YOU MAY SEND YOUR DONATION TO THE ADDRESS IN THE MAIL BOX.

Is the air in your home making you
Sick?

Do you have problems with asthma, allergies, emphysema or any other breathing difficulties? Do you have pet odors, smoke or musty smells? Did last years heavy rain cause any mold or mildew problems?

If so, I have the state of the art technology in air purification. Let's try to bring the outside freshness back inside. Call me for a no risk, in-home free trial. Call Mark at:

Mark's Air & Water Technologies



Joice, IA
641-588-3841



717,000...

...And still going strong!

717,000. That's how many telemarketing calls Telemarketer Call Screening has blocked. Put an end to telemarketing calls at your home. Sign up for Telemarketer Call Screening today!



Stop Annoying
Telemarketing Calls

WCTA

Linking you to the World

1-800-592-6105

www.wctatel.net

704 E Main - Lake Mills

THOMPSON'S GARAGE

Henry Thompson, Prop.

Phone 797-2677

After Hours 797-2664

Auto, Truck & Tractor Service

Gas, Oil & Tires

Interstate Batteries & Welding

