# **MARCH 2008**

FERTILE REMINDER



# COMING EVENTS

March 3	Fire Department Meeting	7 p.m.
March 4	Senior Citizens Dinner	Noon
March 8	Library Soup 'N Sandwich Luncheon	11 a.m 1 p.m.
March 13	Re-cycle Day	
March 17	Library Board Meeting	7 p.m.
March 18	Senior Citizens Dinner City Council Meeting	Noon 7 p.m.
March 22	Library Easter Party	10 a.m.
March 27	Re-cycle Day	
April 12	Local Farmers Auction	9 a.m.

## **City of Fertile**

#### City Council Meeting Minutes February 19, 2008, 7:00 PM, City Hall

1.) Call to Order

The Fertile City Council met at 7:00 PM in regular session, February 19, 2008, at Fertile City Hall.

2.) Roll Call

Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell, Council Members: Jeff Berg, Tad Miller, Cind: Peters, Pat Renchin, Gail Shropshire, and City Clerk Eddie May. Absent was City Manager Warren Bruns.

- 3.) Minutes Approval.
  - Renchin motioned and Shropshire 2nd to approve the January minutes. Motion Carried.

#### 4.) Tom Kirschbaum

- Tom Kirschbaum asked the Council to lower his estimated usage for his last three water and sewer bills.
- Mr. Kirschbaum refused entry to his home in November 2007 to install a new water meter. Since then, the City has been estimating his usage based on the average City utility bill.
- In January, Mr. Kirschbaum installed a two year old meter he had previously received from City Manager Bruns. When the meter was read at the end of January, it was determined that it was not working, so his bill was estimated again.
- Mr. Kirschbaum was also upset that the City had not dug up the storm sewer tiles to investigate any blockage backing up his spring water coming from his property.
- Last fall, the Council approved this action, but the contractor asked to perform the task was unable to meet Mr. Kirschbaum's requests before winter came.
- Mayor Russell told him that the City would get someone to investigate this issue as soon as possible this spring.
- Mr. Kirschbaum also accused the City of favoritism and inconsistency enforcing the City Ordinances. May asked for a list of issues so that they could be addressed. Mr. Kirschbaum presented a list of the City Businesses from the City's website. He pointed out the businesses which he believed were not paying sales tax on their sewage usage. (State law says that "sewage services, nonresidential commercial only" are taxable.) May said that he would investigate this issue.
- Mr. Kirschbaum stated that he will allow entry to his home for installation of a new water meter and reader.
- Mr. Kirschbaum stated he will be contacting his attorney.

#### 5.) Approval of Fire Department Officers

- Fire Chief Jeff Berg presented the Council with this year's Officers for the Fertile Fire Department: Chief – Jeff Berg, Asst Chief – Josh Miller, Secretary – Mike Dahn, Treasurer – Dan Miller, Training Safety Officers – Dan Lee, Dwight Bruns and John Jordan.
- Shropshire motioned and Peters 2nd to approve the Officers as stated above. Motion Carried.
- 6.) Mayor's Report
  - WCTA removed the phone booth near Thompson's garage. They will use the parts for other booths; therefore, the booth was not available to the City.

- Emergency Management is working on a system to connect all County Emergency communications systems.
- The City submitted a WCDA grant for 2<sup>nd</sup> half of fire truck request. The awards ceremony is tentatively set for April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- In 2007 the City received a total of \$143,267.83 from the WCDA and the Casino for various projects.
- The KIOW tractor ride will come through Fertile at noon Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. They will stop at the Rhodes Island Park.
- The County Supervisors state that the town to market roads are budgeted to be re-surfaced in 2009.
- 7.) City Clerk's Report
  - May presented January financials.
  - Renchin motioned and Miller 2nd to approve the January Expenditures. Motion Carried.
  - Budget discussions were finalized.
  - Jeff Berg presented the Fire Department financials.
  - A public hearing will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup> for public approval of the budget and final Council adoption.
- 8.) City Maintenance Report
  - The front bumper was ripped off the Snow plow during this las snow storm.
  - The County will wing out snow banks along Washington Street, please be certain that all property is moved away from the street.
  - Warren-was in Ames for a series of meetings regarding his licenses for water & sewer administration.
  - The City has renewed their Lagoon license with the DNR.
  - Mayor Russell and Bruns will meet with Water Tower Paint & Repair regarding our water tower maintenance contract February 25<sup>th</sup>.

### 9.) Committee Reports

- Community Center Committee an informational survey is being mailed out this week, please respond by March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Building permits There are no size limitations within the City's building code pertaining to out-buildings. Size is only limited by the available land and property boundaries. Please see Tad Miller for more information.
- Fertile Days info is now on the website more details coming soon!

### 10.) Upcoming Meetings

- A public hearing on the proposed budget will be held at the March 4, 2008 7:00 at City Hall.
- The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00PM in regular session, March 18, 2008, at Fertile City Hall.
- Adjourn Renchin moved, Peters 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

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Old Mill Antiques Specializing in Country Furniture, Glass & Primitives Shop Hoursin the Spring. 641-420-5254 TRATE Rhodes Mill Retreat Rent for a week, a wedding Or just to get away from Everything! Very Quiet! 918-630-9935

Dave Haugen, Owner



# HAUGEN LAWN SERVICES

Mowing \* Seeding \* Spraying \* Fertilizing \* Thatching\* Sodding \* Over-seeding \* **Garden Tilling\*** 

## E-mail davelawn@WCTAtel.net

520 360th. St. Phone (641) 797- 2662 FAX: (641) 797-2660 Hanlontown, IA 50444





## FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY 204 West Main / Box 198

Fertile, IA 50434 (641)-797-2787 Phone/Fax Monday & Wednesday - 1:00 - 6:00 P.M. Thursday - 3 - 6 P.M.

Friday - 9:00 A.M. - Noon & 2:00 - 6:00 P.M. Saturday - 9:00 am - Noon www.fertile.lib.ia.us

#### **NEW BOOKS**

Hide & Seek - Fern Michaels Nameless - Debra Webb Firefly Lane – Kristin Hannah The Starter Wife - Gigi L. Grazer Second Wives Club - Jane Moore Blessings - Kim Vogel Sawyer A Touch of Grace - Lauraine Snelling Triple Play - Elizabeth Gunn Par Four -Five Card Stud -Six-Pound Walleye Seventh Inning Stretch" Crazy Eights - " Honor Thyself – Danielle Steel Strangers in Death – J. D. Robb Large Print The Light of the Moon – Luanne Rice The Secret Between Us - Barbara Delinsky DVDS We are Marshall – Mathew McConaughey Spider Man 3 - Tobey Maguire Ocean's 13 - George Clooney Audio Books Wife - Janet Evanovich 7<sup>th</sup> Heaven – James Patterson Treasure Mountain - Louis L'Amour

## FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S ANNUAL SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCHEON

March 8, 2008 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. @ Fertile City Hall

Chili, Chicken Noodle & Cheesy Potato Bacon Soups Roast Beef/Sandwiches Dessert & Drink



Free Will Donation Proceeds go to Library Projects

Sponsored by Fertile Library Friends

#### Library News

I know its cold outside, but do stop in and see the 4 new computers we purchased with grant money from the WCDA. We were also able to purchase 4 new desks & chairs too. They are wonderful!

Plus, a new mystery series written by Elizabeth Gunn has been donated (by anonymous) to the library. It is set in southeast Minnesota & features police detective Jake Hines.

Sometimes it is difficult to locate information you are looking for on the Internet. Check out the library website at <u>www.fertile.lib.ia.us</u>. We can provide a starting place to search. We have collected and categorized quality websites often used to answer frequently asked questions. Plus, it is a great way to keep on library happenings.

#### HAROLD P. WOLFE 1943 - 2008

Harold P. Wolfe, 65, died January 20, 2008 at his home in Clear Lake. Memorial services were held January 26th at Pilot Knob Luitheran Church, Forest City, with Rev. Robert Snitzer officiating.



Harold was born Jan. 1, 1943 in Fertile, the son of Leslie and Ruth (Myhre) Wolfe. He graduated from Fertile High School in 1960. He served in the United States Army. Harold married Barbara Leaf in 1968 in South Dakota. They lived in Clear Lake. He was later divorced. He drove a truck for Winnebago Industries, the Clear Lake Bakery,

and Coca-Cola. He later worked for Dahlen Transport and FFM.

After his retirement from trucking, he started Superior Exterior's Landscaping with his son-in-law, Matt, until he retired for health reasons. He enjoyed water skiing, bowling, fishing, snowmobiles and classic cars. He was a member of the Teamsters Union.

Harold is survived by four children: Candis Wolfe of Clear Lake, Michelle Jurgensen and her husband, Matt, of Clear Lake; Kimberly Wood and her husband, Dan, of Sheffield; and Aaron Wolfe and his wife, Amanda, of Sioux City; nine grandchildren; two sisters, Deanna Jordan and her husband, Raymond, of Fertile; Linda Neuhring and her husband, Lowell, of Clear Lake; and one brother, Robert "Bob" Wolfe and his wife, Sandy; and many nieces and nephews.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Bernard Wolfe.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

ON OTACHER ATE ME

SCALLE PRINTING

Chris Andersen

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#### **CINDY LOU NELSON** 1955 - 2008

indy Lou Nelson was born November 22, 1955 in Mason City, Iowa: the daughter of Don W. Nelson and Clarice (Evans) Leadley. She attended schools in Fertile, Iowa, moved to Elk Run Heights, Iowa then moved to Readlyn, Iowa and

attended Wapsie School. Cindy also attended Hawkeye Institute of Technology in Waterloo for appliance repair. She enjoyed collecting frog trinkets and her favorite music was Rod Stewart. Cindy loved cooking, tubing, canoeing and having a good time. Cindy passed away suddenly on Wednesday,

February 6, 2008 at Allen Memorial Hospital at the age of 52. She is preceded in death by her mother Clarice. Cindy is survived by her father Don W. Nelson of Fertile, Iowa; her son Jeremy Nelson of Tripoli, Iowa; 3 brothers: Steve (Cindy) Nelson of Waterloo, Iowa, Donnie (Julie) Nelson of Mason City, Iowa and Mark (Kim) Leadley of Reinbeck, Iowa; her step-father Frank Leadley of Evansdale, Iowa; her step-brothers and step-sisters; aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.



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Dear Ladies,

Enclosed please find my check for the next year's subscription to the Reminder.

I look forward to every issue, and hope to hear about the book of the Fertile H. S. graduates that was planned at the last Reunion.

I'm enclosing a bit of doggerel that might give some of your readers a chuckle.

Thank you for all of your efforts.

Anna Mary Sanderson Spengler Class of 1946

#### Hi!

Keep the Reminder coming for another year. It's a great way to keep up to date about former classmates etc. Keep up the good work ladies!

Donna Hansen Fuller Class of 1951

Ladies,

Here's my money for another year. Thank you for the wonderful job you ladies do each month.

Patty Zobel

WORTH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT. 95 9th St. North, Northwood, IA 50459 641-324-1741 or 1-800-765-1388

March 20 Child Immunization Clinic at Worth County Public Health Office from 1-5 p.m. No appointment necessary.

March 25 Child Immunization Clinic at Methodist Church, Northwood fronm 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No appointment necessary.

## 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.

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# NORTH IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION

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## P.O. Box 1627 Mason City, Iowa 50402-1627

Starting in February, the Head Start program administered by North Iowa Community Action Organization will be taking applications for fall preschool classes. Children ages 3-4 whose families meet federal income guidelines or have a disability/special need are eligible for this free program. Meals and health screenings are included. Transportation may be available.

Call the phone number listed for your county to apply.

Cerro Gordo County Hancock County Winnebago County Worth County 641-424-6836 or 641-423-7766 641-357-7571 or 641-585-5863 641-562-2842 or 641-585-5863 641-494-1891 or 641-423-7766

#### (Dedicated to our Septuagenarians and Octogenarians)

Today, dear Lord, I'm 80, and there is much I haven't done. I hope dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81,

- But then 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 fast, there is so much in store, I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.
- And by then if I'm still alive, and you know I like to drive I'd like to stay some more until I'm 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'm 86.
- Lord, it's so 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 89.
- Maybe, just one more thing, and I do thank you kindly, But if it's okay with you, I'd love to live past 90.

Submitterd by Anna Mary Spengler

# WITH SYMPATHY

### LENORA CORETTA OUVERSON 1915 - 2008

LeNora Coretta Ouverson, of 404 First St. N. died February 16, 2008 at the Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit, Mason City.



Funeral services were held Feb. 19, 2008 at Fertile Lutheran Church in Fertile with Lay Pastor David Halverson officiating. Interment was in the Brush Point Cemetery in rural Fertile.

LeNora was born on June 22, 1915 on the family farm in rural Joice, the daughter of Nels E. and Mary (Suby) Fjeld.

She graduated from Fertile High School in 1934 and then attended Iowa Teachers College in Cedar Falls where she obtained her teachers certification. She taught in rural school.

LeNora married Lawrence Ouverson on June 22, 1938 at the Beaver Creek Lutheran Church, rural Joice. They farmed in the rural Fertile area and she continued to live on the farm after her husband's death in 1950. In 1965, she moved to Forest City and later Clear Lake, and in 1973 to her present home.

She enjoyed playing Rook, croquet, and hide the thimble with the grandkids, going on picnics and visiting with friends and neighbors. Her visitors enjoyed her good homemade bread and pastries, especially her pies. At Christmas time they especially enjoyed her good Lefsa, Krumkkaka and many other cookies. She was the person who made the Roomegrot, and did much of the other preparation necessary when the whole Field family gathered at the family farm for Christmas Eve. She was very proud of her Norwegian heritage.

She was a member of Fertile Luthern Church.

LeNora is survived by three sons: Jerry Ouverson and his wife Donna, Fertile; Paul Ouverson and his wife Carol, Boone; and Rodney "Hap" Ouverson and his wife Mary Ann, Springfield, MN; twelve grandchildren: Jeffrev Ouverson and his wife, Dixie, Jon Ouverson and his wife Lori, Julie Ouverson, Jodie Pick and her husband Marc, Jamie Ouverson, Anne Marie Bice and her husband Dan, Matthew Ouverson, Chad Ouverson and his wife Vidya, Michelle Peterson and her husband Tom, Ryan Ward, Jason Ward and his wife, Nicole and Andrew Ouverson; and eleven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, son Ronald, five brothers, Edwin, Lloyd, Carl, John and Raymond, and one sister Laura.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

#### THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who send cards, food and visits since my fall on Nov. 27th. It was all greatly appreciated. Also thanks to Kay, Denny, Cliff and Clet & Carolyn - for taking me to my appointments - also to Al & Jane for all the meals they sent to me. And to Tammy Hall for my hair care. Ruth B. Ouverson

#### Dear Friends and Family,

Thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers, phone calls, cards, visits, and gifts when I had my surgery and recuperation. It meant a great deal to me to know so many cared about me. Special thanks to Jane and her 'gang'. God Bless Amil Johnson all of you.

Thank you to everyone for your kind words, cards, and prayers during our loss. Thanks, too, for watching over Dad the last years so he was able to live at home in Fertile - right where he wanted to be.

Loris Scobee Family

Thank you to all our friends and family for the love and concern, cards and calls when Andy had to go to the hospital and then to The Good Shepherd. God Bless all of you. Andy Oswald Family



#### OUR FIRST FARM TRACTOR By George Kisner

Our father had always used horses for farm power, but in the early 1940's, he decided to switch to tractor power. Because of the war, there were no new ones available and of course, my father never bought anything new anyway. He shopped around and finally decided on a 1928 McCormick-Deering 1020.

It was an awkward machine with heavy steel wheels. It was not an all-purpose tractor since it had a wide front end that could not be used for cultivating corn. Farmers transferred their operation gradually, using the tractor for some jobs and horses for other operations. This tractor had a new red paint job on it, which probably influenced my father.

It was delivered in late evening with very little instruction on its operation. The next morning, all the neighbords gathered around to see my father's new pride and joy. He set the throttle, the choke and advanced the spark as instructed and turned the crank. Nothing happened so he cranked again.

This continued for over an hour with everyone trying his or her hand at it. Our fine new tractor did not start!

We did not have a phone at the time so my father drove on to Forest City to see about it. They told him there were two priming cups on top of the motor and you had to fill them with gas before starting. He tried and and sure enough, it sprang into life, but what a life!

It had no brakes and on our hilly farm, we developed a system of one person sitting on the tractor riding the clutch, while another hooked up the plough. We had rocky fields and every time we hit a rock, the plough tripped and unhooked.

If there was any kind of wet spot, it would promptly get stuck and we would have to hitch our patient horses to it to pull it out. The steering was erratic at best and if we did not turn soon enough, we would tear into the fence. I had never heard my father swear before that time, but I heard words never before uttered.

One of our neighbors was very religious and we heard he would alays pray at great length before starting his tractor work. I don't know whether it helped or not, but as they say, you needed any help you could get with the first tractor!

LARS: I heard you had to shoot your dog, Fido. Was he mad?

OLE: Vell, he vasn't exactly pleased about it.

BRITA: I heard dat Ole propsed to you and dat you accepted. Did he tell you dat he had proposed to ME first?

LENA: Vell, no; but he did mention dat he had done a lot of foolish tings before ve met.

Lena went into a drug store and asked for Talacum Powder.

Asked the druggist, "Mennens?" "No, silly," said Lena..."Vimmens."

## On Fertile Pond

Copied from George Kisner's "Childhood on the Farm"

It's spring, the year is forty-eight. And here in Fertile, things look great. The baseball team is working out. For soon they get to travel about, To Joice and Kensett, Grafton, too, And Hanlontown, we always boo. Our rivals this year will be good, And our big dream is BEAT NORTHWOOD.

On summer nights, we kids would take, Dad's favorite car and lap Clear Lake. And then to get a malt or Coke, We'd pool our pennies, go for broke. The days of fall would drift around, School again, books to be found. Old friends and new made happy days, Studies, games and school plays.

On winter nights, we'd fill the gvm, To cheer our home team to a win. Good memories have made us strong, As all these years have come and gone.. Some classmates are no longer here. They've gone ahead, We'll join them there. But by the pond, serene and still. There stands the stalwart Fertile Mill.

Hans called Ole long distance and asked him to loan him \$5. "I can't hear you, Hans," said Ole. "Dis line must be bad."

The operator broke in to say, "I can hear him perfectly clear."

"Vell," said Ole, "If you can hear him so good, vr don't YOU lend him da five dollars?"

Copied from Red Stangland's Norwegian Home Companion

### COOKS

## BORNER

If you would like to submit recipes for this column, send them to: Reminder, PO Box 62, Fertile, IA 50434.

#### CROCK POT WILD RICE SOUP

- 2 Tbsp. Butter
- 1 Tbsp. Minced Onion
- 1/4 Cup Flour
- 4 Cups Chicken Broth
- 2 Cups Cooked Wild Rice
- 1/2 Tsp. Salt
- 1 Cup Half & Half (I used whole Milk with a tablespoon of butter (oleo) added)
- Minced Parsley or Chives
- Optional: Use 3/4 cup diced Ham or Chicken
- 1/3 Cup grated Carrots
- 1/3 Cup slivered Almonds
- 1/3 Cup fine chopped Celery

Sauté onion in butter. Blend in flour. Gradually add broth, stirring constantly, until slightly thickened. Pour into crock pot. Add all other ingredients. Cook on low overnight. Garnish with parsley or chives. Double recipe fills 5 quart crock pot.

>For more volume in egg whites, let stand in room temperature before beating. Use a glass or metal bowl (not plastic) with a tapered bottom and wide top. (Egg whites expands six times when beaten, so make sure bowl is large enough).

>For quick baked potatoes, First cook 3 minutes in the microwave, then 20 minutes at 375° oven to crisp the skins. (remember to pierce the skins before micro wav-ing!)

Dip fresh strawberries into Sour Cream or Yogurt and roll in strawberry-flavored gelatin granules for a tasty treat

>When celery loses it's crispness, place in a pan of cold water along with a sliced raw potato. Let stand for an hour and the celery will again be crunchy.



## FUN KORNER

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#### THOROUGHFARE

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Exit

Artery Asphalt Autobahn Avenue Boulevard Bridge Broadway Bump Buses Cars Cars Causeway Cloverleaf Curb

Divider Drive Gravel Highway Hill Interstate

Ramp Route Shoulder Sign Street

Parkway

Paved

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Trailer Truck Turnpike

Vans Vehicle

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