

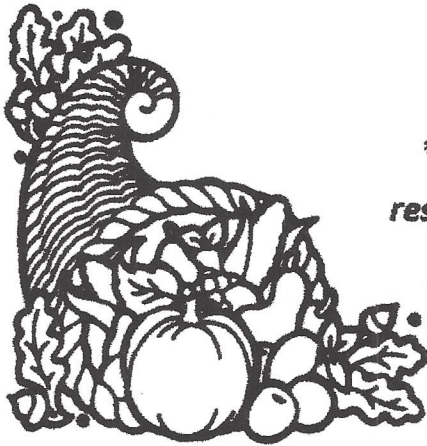
FERTILE REMINDER

November 2017

Fertile Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Nov 18th, 2017, 5-7 pm

at the Fertile Church of Christ



Come and join our family in a traditional

Thanksgiving meal with all of the fixings!

** Take outs for the elderly or shut-in's are available but
reservations are required. Please contact the church office
at 641-797-2784 to leave your name and number.*

*We will call you back and confirm your
reservation request.*

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 4. Benefit Craft Sale (Pilot Knob Church)
- 6. Firemen meet
- 9 & 23. Recycle
- 14. Garden Club
- 18. Fertile Community Thanksgiving Dinner
- 20. Library Board
- 21. Fertile Girls
- 21. City Council

Fertile Garden Club

The Fertile Garden Club met for a pot luck supper at the Community Center on Oct. 11th with 11 members, 3 guests and 1 speaker present. Roll call was "Favorite things about the fall season".

Todd Vonehwegen, Lime Creek Nature Center, gave a presentation on The "Majestic Bald Eagle". It was very informative!

The fall decorations for town have been done with the scarecrows and pumpkins in the flower pots.

Kristina Hand, Deb Kleveland and Lorna Petersburg will be joining our club when our new year begins.

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2017 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call:

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Tad Miller, Cindy Peters, Nick Bailey, Ron Rachut and Holly Lovik-Hanna; City Clerk Wendy Lunning. Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts.
- Ron motioned, Cindy 2nd to approve the minutes of the September meeting with the correction that the additional flag pole would include an Iowa flag vs Veteran flag. Unanimous
- Tad motioned, Nick 2nd to accept agenda. Unanimous. Agendas are posted at City Hall, at the Library, and at the Post Office, 24 hours in advance of each Council Meeting. If you wish to be on the Agenda, please contact City Hall two days before the meeting.

Public Hearing:

- Joyce opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments. Joyce sent letters to residence within 200 ft. Five letters received approved of the variance and five letters not returned. Holly motioned, Tad 2nd to close the public hearing. Unanimous.
- Ron motioned, Nick 2nd to approve the Special Building Permit for Andrew & Brittney Hall to convert garage into a home business. Roll Call Vote: Holly – yes; Ron – yes; Nick – yes; Tad – yes. Unanimous

Trim Branches:

- Cindy mentioned on behalf of Loren & Dustin Hoffman that the tree be trim at 110 W Main Street that is hanging over the sidewalk. Steve will work on this.

City Maintenance Report:

- Steve cemented the Dam sign in place.
- There were two flat tires on the skid loader. Steve purchase 3 1/2 ton floor jack and socket to replace the tires.
- Steve sent two-week sample to LGI for draw down at lagoon.
- Visu-Sewer jetted line from the lagoon to the river. Nettleton Excavating was contacted when their hose got stuck. Nettleton's also repaired the hole in the ditch.
- Steve cancelled order on new pump at lagoon and will reorder. The second pump is in the process of being rebuilt.
- Cindy motioned, Holly 2nd to approve maintenance report.

Unanimous

Mayor's Report:

- Mason City Roofing repaired the roof at the Community Center due to wind damage.
- Joyce is in the process of trying to bring Casey's & Dollar General to Fertile. Dollar General was not interested. Casey's is showing interest.
- Thank you, Joyce & Buck, for the display case that was donated to the Community Center for the Fertile Archives.

- Joyce met with POET on bids received to black top City Hall parking lot. Joyce is planning to get additional bids for the entire parking lot.
- Nettleton Excavating installed new fire hydrant in front of Church of Christ. The main was shut down for approximately two hours. Joyce notified residence, KIMT & Channel 2.
- Thank you Carolyn Nedved for putting together the Fall Craft Fair.
- Thank you, Fertile Fire Department for the Fire Prevention information and meal.
- Thank you, Fertile Public Library for sponsoring the Antiques & Collectibles.
- Trick or Treating is scheduled for October 31st from 4:00pm to 8:00pm.
- Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the mayor's report. Unanimous.

City Clerk's Report

- The 2017 Annual Financial Report was submitted to the council for review. Tad motioned, Cindy 2nd to accept the Annual Financial Report. Unanimous
- Library current through 06/30/2017.
- Garden Club current through 07/31/2017.
- Fire Department current through 08/31/2017.

7/1/2017 9/30/2017	General	WCDA	Roads	EE Benefits	Utilities	Total
Income	57,880.71	53,975.00	81,785.60	572.52	40,020.70	234,234.53
Expense	69,815.08	46,153.68	80,512.17	307.52	30,437.34	227,225.79
Total	-11,934.37	7,821.32	1,273.43	265.00	9,583.36	7,008.74
Fund Balance	57,513.81	21.32	47,916.83	1,133.51	138,222.60	244,808.07

- Cindy motioned, Holly 2nd to approve Financial Report. Unanimous
- Ron motioned, Tad 2nd to approve September Bills. Unanimous

Committee Report:

- Ron Rachut is working with Amanda Reagan & Jane Bloomingdale regarding the cans bins. This is something that Fertile Days Committee does not want to lose as it is a source for fund raising and Mason City Recycling Center has closed.
- Ron will be checking with the Legion in Manly about the flag poles.
- Holly is working on getting estimates to update the electricity at the park. This is a possibility for Spring grant cycle.
- Holly is planning to work with Heartland in regard to a walking path at the park. This is possibly a Fall grant cycle.

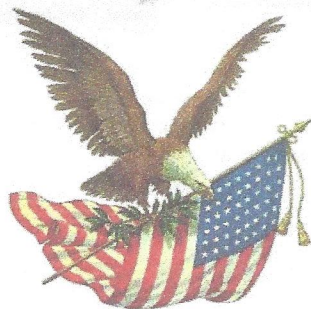
Upcoming Meetings:

- The Fertile City Council will meet for regular session November 21st at 7:00pm, at Fertile City Hall.
- Holly motioned, Nick 2nd to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous

Summary of Resolutions & Ordinances:

- Special Building Permit for Andrew & Brittney Hall.
- 2017 AFR approved.

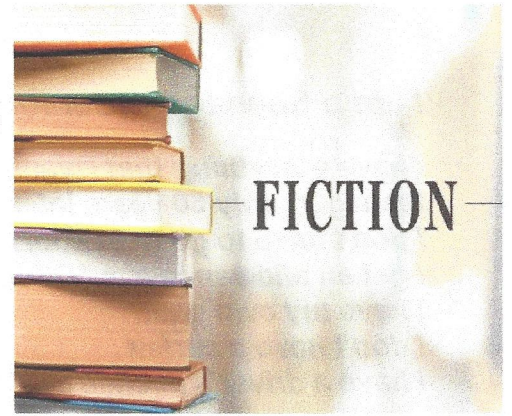
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8263	Products, Inc.	Street Signs	-83.96
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8264	Five Star CO-OP	Tordon spray for ball diamond and park.	-235.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8265	Green Canopy, Inc.		-977.16
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8266	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine Cylinder	-10.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8267	Pronto	Cart, Mower and Truck.	-308.19
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8268	PSI	1500 Utility Bill Cards	-85.57
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8269	Ulland Brothers, Inc.	Main Street Project	-75,557.50
Bill Pmt -Check	09/13/2017	8270	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-79.94
Liability Check	09/13/2017	8164	IPERS	Library IPERS	-254.74
Liability Check	09/13/2017	8165	IPERS	City IPERS	-862.86
Liability Check	09/13/2017	EFT	United States Treasury	City Federal Tax Liabilities	-1,205.24
Check	09/13/2017	DEBIT	US Post Office	Postage	-163.20
Check	09/19/2017	DEBIT	Kum & Go	Gas for Mower	-35.29
Paycheck	09/20/2017	8272	Roberts, Stephen J	City Maintenance	-1,046.08
Check	09/20/2017	DEBIT	Carbonite	Online Backup	-59.99
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8273	AgSource Laboratories	Water Testing	-13.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8274	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-676.41
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8275	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-182.87
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8276	Fertile Pronto	Gas for Mower & Truck	-108.76
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8277	Marco	Copier, Printer, Fax Toilet Paper, Air Freshener, Mop, and Garbage bags	-56.54
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8278	Menards		-54.56
Paycheck	09/20/2017	8279	Arndt, Linda J	Assistant Director	-236.92
Paycheck	09/20/2017	8280	Knudson, Loni	Clerk	-52.22
Paycheck	09/20/2017	8281	Thompson, Angela M	Librarian	-1,084.16
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8282	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-103.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8283	Baker & Taylor	Books & CDs	-347.09
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8284	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-65.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8285	Citibusiness Card		-362.68
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8287	Johnson Public Library	Books & CDs	-20.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8288	MicroMarketing	Books & CDs	-27.99
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8289	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-65.70
Bill Pmt -Check	09/20/2017	8290	Consumer Reports	Periodical	-30.00
Check	09/20/2017	TRANSFER	Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	-74.87
Bill Pmt -Check	09/25/2017	8291	Menards	Pothole Patch	-15.78
Bill Pmt -Check	09/25/2017	8311	Mark Moran	Program	-469.00
Check	09/26/2017	DEBIT	Kum & Go	Gas for Mower	-35.00
Check	09/30/2017	CORR	City of Fertile	EOM Corrections	0.00
Check	09/30/2017	CORR		EOM correction	0.00
Total Checking					-93,047.29
Petty Cash					
Check	09/04/2017	TRANSFER	Fertile Public Library V		-63.56
Check	09/20/2017	TRANSFER	Petty Cash	Petty Cash Reimbursement	74.87
Check	09/25/2017	TRANSFER	Fertile Public Library V		-74.87
Total Petty Cash					-63.56
Total Operating Accounts					-93,110.85
Roads Revenue Accounts					
Savings					
Total Savings					
Total Roads Revenue Accounts					
TOTAL					-93,110.85



Remember -
our fallen heroes.
They are the reason
that we are free.



FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.youseemore.com/NILC/FertilePL
204 West Main Street/Box 198
Fertile, IA 50434
641-797-2787 Phone/Fax
Monday & Wednesday-1-6 P.M.
Thursday 3-6 P.M.
Friday 9- Noon & 2-6 P.M.
Saturday - 9 - Noon



Library Events

Hallmark Movie afternoon

November 13th @ 1:30

November 29th @ 1:30

Treats and coffee will be served while we enjoy a hallmark movie

Adult Coloring Night

November 2nd @ 7pm

This program is for adults to come and color at the library. We will enjoy beverages and the calm of coloring. The library will provide all supplies.

Family Movie Night

November 2nd @ 7pm

This program is for adults to come and color at the library. We will enjoy beverages and the calm of coloring. The library will provide all supplies.

New Releases

Fiction

The chuckwagon trail- William W. Johnstone
Behind the scenes - Jen Turano
The Chemist - Stephanie Meyer
Fairytale- Danielle Steel
News of the world - Paulette Jiles
The other Alcott - Elise Hooper
A stranger in the house - Shari Lapena
Proof of Life - J.A. Jance

Movies

Transformers
King Arthur
Wonder Woman
The pirates of the Caribbean
Boss baby

Christmas Auction Donations

The library is beginning it's search for donations for the Christmas open house drawing by donation. Please bring any donations you might have to the library. Thank you!

I am a Seenager. (Senior teenager)

***I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later.
I don't have to go to school or work.
I get an allowance every month.
I have my own pad.
I don't have a curfew.
I have a driver's license and my own car.***

***I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best.
The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared
And I don't have acne.
Life is Good! Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a Seenager.***

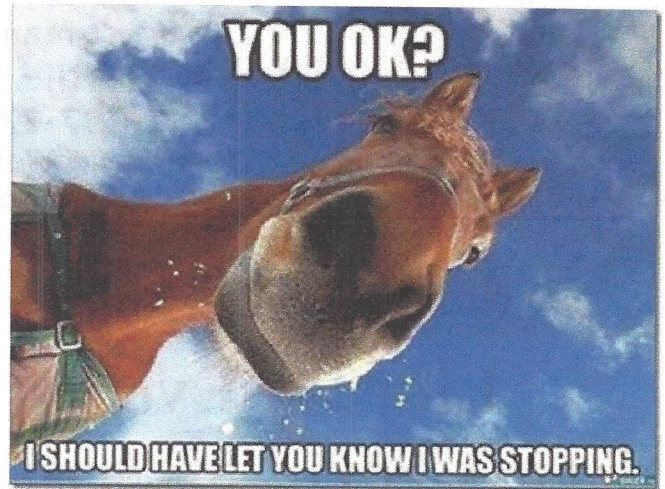
Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains, scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full, so too, do humans take longer to access information when their brains are full.

Researchers say this slowing down process is not the same as cognitive decline. The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE!!



Life Is Short.

Live It To The Fullest.

It Has An Expiration Date!

~~~~~  
**Do you know the secret to longevity?  
Breathing!!**

~~~~~  
Q: How do you sink a Norwegian submarine?

A: Scuba-dive down and knock on the door.

Q: How do you sink a Norwegian submarine again?

A: Dive down and knock on the door again. Wait for them to open the window and say, "You aren't fooling us this time!"

“
***I approximated the
Black Friday experience
at home by hurling
myself into a wall a number
of times and
then ordering online.***

KUMAIL NANJIANI

RD.COM/QUOTES

Henry and Iva (Kirk) Suby family

Written by Allen Suby



Henry and Iva (Kirk) Suby family taken in 1951

Front Row: Allen, Henry (Hank), Linda, Iva (Ike), and Phyllis. Back row: Roger (Rudy), Boyd, Helen (Dolly), Leon (Singer) and Robert (Buck). Those remaining are Allen, Linda and Phyllis.

The year was 1938 Henry and Iva had six children and Iva was pregnant with the seventh child, Allen, and had no place to go. The farm that Henry rented was no longer available, and Henry was not able to obtain another farm to rent. Iva's dad (Grandpa Jim Kirk) owned a wooded area north of Fertile and agreed to build Henry and Iva a house on the land. Apparently Iva's mother (Grandma Emma Kirk) paid for the material to build the house. By May, 1939 the two story house was built which was 16ft. by 24 ft., and Allen Suby was born.

Grandpa and Grandma Kirk had provided a place for Henry and Iva to live without the fear of losing a place to stay. They remained in the home rent free until the early 1960's when Jim Kirk passed away and the property was inherited by Iva. The remodeled home is currently owned by Bob and Brenda Jones. Brenda is the granddaughter of Henry and Iva.

In the early 1940's Henry began working in the newly established Limestone Products Company. The company was owned by Leo Elthan and Norman Jorgenson. Henry was a good employee and had great mechanical ability. Both Leo and Norman decided to make Henry a foreman and partner. They sold Henry 10% of the company with no money down and no interest. Because of the generosity of Leo and Norman, Henry, was given an annual salary of \$52.50 per week. The company allowed all of Henry's sons to work at the quarry and included Robert, Roger, Leon, Boyd and Allen. Henry did not pay for his share in the company until the late

50's when he received an annual dividend that was enough to pay off his share that was established in the early 40's.

Norman Jorgenson liked Henry because he was reliable and he never used bad language. Had it not been for the generosity of Leo Elthon and Norman Jorgenson who provided income for the family and the generosity of Grandpa and Grandpa Kirk, it is questionable if the family would have been able to stay together.

Iva (Kirk) Suby's life was not easy. In the 40's she had to raise eight kids with no well, no refrigerator, and no inside plumbing. The water was hauled from the neighbors who were Doris and Rollie Oswald. In the summer Iva, Roger and Leon also worked in the vegetable fields also known as the "peat slough" weeding onions for extra money.

The family has been fortunate because there have been no early deaths in the Suby family. Helen (Dolly) lived to age 90. Robert lived to age 74. Roger, Leon and Boyd all lived to the middle and late 80's. Henry lived to age 77 and suffered with rheumatoid arthritis. Iva lived to age 83 and was active to the end of her life.

Allen's 6th grade class picture. How many had Estella Sheimo (Andrew's wife) as a teacher?





THOUGHTS OF FARMER RON

Welcome from Mr. Councilman!
Anyway, that is what our distinguished resident who resides in the governor's mansion calls me.

I said I was going to tell you my impression of the new café (Café Mir) this time. I have gone twice, once for breakfast and once on Saturday evening (due to harvest I have useable but not saleable produce that I cook up and eat. Cutting these up and mixing a little hamburger tastes good and I don't waste them.) I have also been by it several times and looked at the license plates. I also look at national trends (think Dr. OZ) and what the millennial generation demands. I also look at the residents of Fertile and know that Fertile alone cannot support a café. It is also true that the days for a Jane's café have come and gone and would not work today. Why would anyone drive a distance to eat a hamburger or fries or egg and toast? The millennials are asking that their McDonald's food be brought to their house just like pizza. Having said all that, back to my impression. I was impressed. I was Impressed with the food. (I like variety and lots of vegetable with taste,) I was impressed by the flow of people. I was impressed with the fact that people are coming from Mason City, Clear Lake, Forest City, Lake Mills, Albert Lea and other locations. I was impressed how they took the parsnips, turnips and beets I grew and turned them into something delicious. Bottom line is that people are coming for "a healthy dinner experience".

I am very happy for what Nathaniel and Josh have done and I applaud the Mayor and Fertile city council for their part in helping fund the start-up through the W.C.D.A.. Their food preparation is southern Italian. Knowing this, at the winter meetings I go to, I will talk to the seed sales personal about vegetable varieties grown in Italy that they might use. (Yes, I will drive 700 miles to Grand Rapids, Michigan for the Great Lakes Expo, but I wouldn't drive 15 miles for one on grain crops. (See my interest.) Bottom line is that Café Mir is great for Fertile. AutoWorks is great for Fertile, our mayor and council are looking for more business coming to town to complement our existing ones. Fertile is alive and well and moving upward. Keep your eyes and ears open. Until next time, thank a farmer for the food on your plate, thank a vet for the freedoms we enjoy, and above all, thank God for your daily blessings.



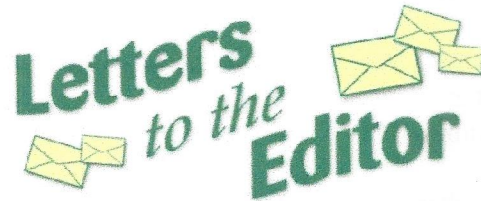
BENEFIT CRAFT SHOW AND BAKE SALE

SAT. NOVEMBER 4

10 - 4 PM

PILOT KNOB LUTHERAN CHURCH

For the Dan (Angie Lee) Christ family. Tommy, Maddie and Sylvia Christ suffer from extreme medical conditions.



Thanks for all the work you do. We will be leaving for AZ on Oct. 25th. Please send the Fertile Reminder to AZ for five months. We will be coming back to Iowa on the 1st of April. Thanks for your good work. **Amy Mahoney**

Thank you Reminder volunteers who do a great job to keep the Reminder coming. We enjoy the interesting articles and families of Fertile. Brings back "Good Ole Days" memories. **Jim and Judy (Suby) Gilbertson**

Thanks gals, for all you do! We love the Reminder. **Maynard & Madelyn Midtgaard.**

I just had to drop you a note as I'm still smiling.....It hit me when I was addressing the envelope to Box 62, that my grandparents (Bud & Cora Jenkins) box was #6. One of my absolute funnest things, whenever I stayed with them, was to get the mail, I tried desperately to remember the secret combination, but Grandma Cora almost always had to help. To this day, I collect those old mail doors, and one of them for sure says Box 6. I so enjoy the Fertile Reminder and want to thank you so much for all you do....**Cathy Gomez**



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



HOLY COW CAKE

This cake is everything you've ever wanted in a dessert because it basically contains all of those tasty, sugary morsels of goodness that you crave!

- 1 package Duncan Hines devils food cake mix
- 1 1/3 cup water
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 3 eggs
- 8 ounces Smucker's prepared butterscotch ice cream topping
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 8 ounces Butterfinger candy bars (any size as long as it equals 8 ounces)
- 1 (8-ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened


Preheat oven to **350 degrees F**. Spray a **9 x 13-inch** Mix cake mix and water on low, add oil, and eggs. Mix on medium for 2 minutes until all dry ingredients are well combined.

Put in pan and bake for 35 to 40 minutes. Remove cake to a cooling rack and immediately poke holes from top to bottom using a wooden spoon handle or chopstick.

Combine the butterscotch topping with the condensed milk in a bowl and pour over the cake slowly so that it seeps into the holes and permeates the cake.

Crush the candy into bits and sprinkle the top of the cake with half of the bits.

With an electric mixer on low, mix whipped topping with cream cheese until smooth. Spread on top of the cake and garnish with the remaining crushed candy bits. Cover top lightly with a sheet of waxed paper and chill for 1 hour or overnight before serving.

HAPPY 
THANKSGIVING!

It's the day before Thanksgiving, and the butcher is just locking up when a man begins pounding on the front door.

"Please let me in," says the man desperately. "I forgot to buy a turkey, and my wife will kill me if I don't come home with one."

"Okay," says the butcher. "Let me see what I have left." He goes into the freezer and discovers that there's only one scrawny turkey left. He brings it out to show the man.

"That's one is too skinny. What else you got?" says the man.

The butcher takes the bird back into the freezer and waits a few minutes and brings the same turkey back out to the man.

"Oh, no," says the man, "That one doesn't look any better. You better give me both of them!"



REMINDER POLICY

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LARSEN PLUMBING & HEATING

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FERTILE, IOWA 50434

LENNOX®

JUST SOME THOUGHTS

Would you believe the email spell checker did not recognize the word Murgatroyd? Lost words from our childhood: Words gone as fast as the buggy whip! Sad really!

The other day a not so elderly (65) (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy and he looked at her quizzically and said "What the heck is a Jalopy?" OMG (new phrase)! He never heard of the word jalopy!! She knew she was old.... but not that old.

Well, I hope you are Hunky Dory after you read this and chuckle.

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included "Don't touch that dial," "Carbon copy," "You sound like a broken record" and "Hung out to dry."

Back in the olden days we had a lot of `moxie.' We'd put on our best `bib and tucker' to straighten up and fly right'. Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were `in like Flynn' and `living the life of Riley'', and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China! Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D. A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers.

Oh, my aching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore. We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, well I'll be `a monkey's uncle' Or, This is a `fine kettle of fish'! We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those phrases gone? Long gone: Pshaw.

The milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like Sixty, or maybe even going Lickety-Split I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels.

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff! ("Carter's Little Liver Pills" are gone too!) We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeable times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging. Leaves us to wonder where Superman will find a phone booth... See ya later, alligator! Okey-Dokey May you always have love to share, health to spare, friends that care.

How many do you remember? I remember them all. "Holy Moley!!!!"

NATIVE OF FERTILE . . .

Energetic 82-year-old seeks bus for her school in earthquake-ravaged Nicaragua

At 82, Mabel Elthon of Fertile has embarked upon fund-raising project which would give a younger, less energetic person ulcers.

Mabel, who has spent a total of 53 years working as a missionary in Central America, seeks to raise thousands of dollars in order to purchase a school bus for the elementary school which honors her name and is located in earthquake-ravaged Nicaragua.

During a recent Summit interview at the home she maintains in Fertile, this dedicated missionary worker explained the circumstances surrounding her most recent project.

Miss Elthon was asked to serve as a consultant for the First Central American Evangelical church of Managua, the capital city of Nicaragua, after it was devastated by the 1973 earthquake. The church is the largest and oldest of ten churches in this city which are affiliated with the Central American Mission, an interdenominational organization to which

Mabel has dedicated her life.

Virtually all of the city's schools and churches were damaged, if not totally destroyed in the quake which claimed an estimated 20,000 lives in this city of 450,000 persons.

Mabel said the First Evangelical church was rebuilt from scratch with the aid of a \$15,000 gift from a congregation in Grand Rapids, Mich., which paid for 75 per cent of the construction costs.

BUT LATER, the Nicaragua church congregation decided to also build a school, since so many within the city were destroyed.

One weekend when Mabel was out-of-town,

the congregation approved the school project and named it "Centro Escolar Mabel I. Elthon" after their consultant. Mabel protested, but her efforts to encourage the people to name the school for a former pastor failed.

The school was constructed two years ago on the church lot and was fashioned from cement block and wood. It contains eight rooms, each designed for 40 students. Enrollment this year is 250 students, Mabel reports, with 11 staff members in charge of operations. She refused the directorship of the school, choosing instead to remain as counselor.

"I'm supposed to be retired," she laughs.

Nearly three-quarters of the student population walks the distance to school. The remaining one-fourth are transported in two "rattletrap" station wagons, according to Mabel.

"To go on another year with such transportation. . . well, we might as well just say "no transportation," she said.

Parents have complained to school officials when their children arrived home late or are picked up late for school, she went on. Many of the capital's streets are still not repaired from the quake and the old station wagons often break down.



SEARCHING FOR SUPPORT for her fund drive to finance a new bus for her Central American school, Mabel I. Elthon of Fertile spends a great deal of time these days talking to friends, relatives and would-be donors. At right is a picture of Mabel and staff members in front of the Nicaragua elementary school which bears her name. Now 82, she had dedicated 53 years of her life to missionary work in Central America.

Money was donated and a bus was purchased. Larry Tuttle and Teed Elthon volunteered to drive it to Nicaragua, which they did. It was an interesting trip for the two of them.

AT AGE 80, I'M A SURVIVOR

In the 1930's I lost a 3 ½ year old boy with cancer, two years later I laid a 9 month old baby to rest from flu. The depression was here. The first funeral cost \$25.00, the second one \$45.00.

We were on the farm and corn was 10 cents a bushel and we sold a 400 lb sow for \$4.00. But we survived!

In the 50's I became divorced and left with 4 children. No use in crying, it was up to me.

Three years later, our whole farm and all our neighbors were struck by a tornado. No one was killed. All our buildings except for the house were gone and very little insurance. Again, I survived.

It wasn't easy and it took years but I went back to work while taking college courses to renew my teaching certificate and every cent I made paid bills. I did not ask for help.

I don't think I ever felt sorry for myself.

God loves me and watches over me and my family every day, I trust Him and I'll survive.

This came from Ethel Tuttle's writings. I think she may have written this in 1985 for a story in Capper's Weekly. She taught 1st grade for 10 years in Fertile. She survived to the ripe old age of 91 and she was a SURVIVOR.



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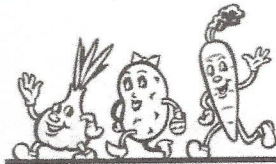
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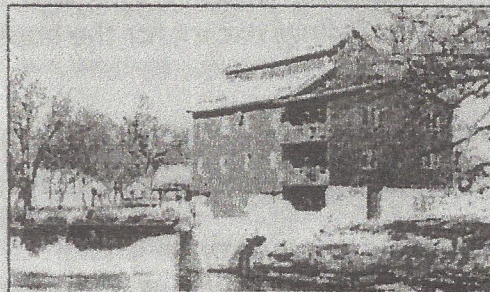
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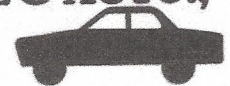
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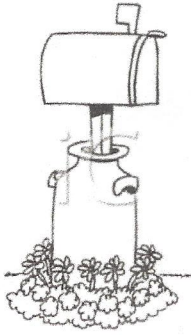
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Pastor Rob Perry

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