

DECEMBER 2010

FERTILE REMINDER



MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM OUR STAFF:

Ardis

Dolores

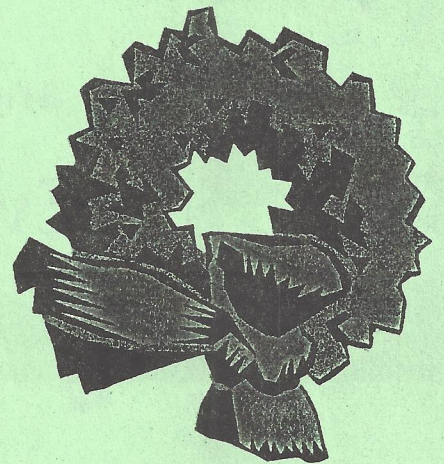
Evelyn

Pat

Paula

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 2	Re-cycle Day	
Dec. 6	Fire Department Meeting	7 p.m.
Dec. 7	Senior Dinner	Noon
Dec. 15	Fertile Girls Potluck	Noon
Dec. 16	Re-cycle Day	
Dec. 20	Library Board Meeting	
Dec. 21	Senior Dinner City Council Meeting	Noon 7 p.m.
Dec. 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS	
Dec. 30	Re-cycle Day	





HERE COMES SANTA!

Fertile Public Library

Christmas Open House

Saturday December 11, 2010

9 - Noon

Santa at 10:00

(for ages 10 & under)

Raffle Drawing at 11:00

(for \$100.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card)

Please stop by for Coffee,
Christmas Punch,
and lots of Holiday Goodies!

Everyone Welcome!

IN REMEMBRANCE

RICHARD "DICK" C. STEINFELDT

1933 - 2010

Richard "Dick" C. Steinfeldt, 77 of Forest City, died October 27, 2010 at Muse Norris Hospice Inpatient Unit in Mason City.



As per his wishes, Richrd's body has been cremated and no formal services are planned. A private family memorial service was conducted.

Richard was born on June 17, 1933 in Iowa Falls, IA, the son of Max and Caroline Steinfeldt. He graduated from Fertile High School. He was then drafted into the United States Army and served in Louisiana. After his discharge in 1982, Dick opened his own shop in Forest City, "Dick's Auto Body." He retired in 2008.

Dick was married to DeLores Harris at Winnebago Lutheran Church on Nov. 25, 1960. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hunting and fishing.

Dick is survived by his wife DeLores Steinfeldt; daughter and son-in-law Patricia and Terry Weed of Dundas, MN; son and daughter-in-law Steven and Ethel Bardwell of Meridian, Idaho; son Richard Steinfeldt of Burnsville, MN; 4 children and 6 greatgrandchildren; and sisters Iris Pitkin of Charles City and Eloise Hines of New Hapton.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents Max and Caroline Steinfeldt; son Stevie Craig; and brother Charles Steinfeldt.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

Dear Fertile Reminder Staff:

Thanks for the wonderful paper. I look forward to reading them and save all of them!! Keep up the good work!

In appreciation,
Marcie (Oakland) Osmundson

Dear Ladies,

We sure appreciate the work you do each month to bring us the paper. We enjoy the articles about Fertile, the jokes and Ole and Lena. Keep them coming.

Anonymous

HARE ELECTRIC

Fred, Jim, Tom & Allen Hare

Phone 1-641-797-2722

Pager: 1-641-422-3017

102 N. State St. Fertile, IA 50434

WORTH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

95 9th St. North, Northwood, IA 50459

641-324-1741 or 1-800-765-1388

- Nov. 24, 2010 Blood pressure check at 11:00 a.m. at Senior Center at Northwood. Free to public.
- Dec. 2, 2010 Child Immunization Clinic at Worth County Public Health Office - the Thurs. of the month in Northwood from 1:00 - 4:00. Children under 6 years of age may receive a FREE lead test at this time. Free home inspections are available for lead hazards to insure your child's home is not poisoning your family. Please call ahead for an appointment. 800.765-1388 or 324-1841.
- Dec. 15, 2010 Northwood Pines/Maple Court nail clinic - 9:00 a.m. Please call 324-1741 to schedule your appointment with Shana.
- Dec. 29, 2010 Manly Nail Clinic at the Whistle Stop - 9:00 a.m. Please call to schedule appointment with Shana.

NORTH IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION

Would you like to help a child stay warm this winter? North Iowa Community Action, Head Start is once again offering the ADOPT A CHILD program to help provide winter outerwear to children who need it. How can you help? You and your family would purchase winter outerwear that a child needs and we will deliver it, or you may mail a cash donation to ADOPT a Child, P O Box 1627, Mason City, IA 50402 and we will shop for needed items. We are in particular need of warm mittens and hats.

Please call Michelle Skadburg at 641-494-1891 for more information.

A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

THE "FERTILE GIRLS" invite women who attended school in Fertile with one of the classes of 1960 - 1964 to a Christmas luncheon at the home of Elsie Felland, 346 S. 8th St. in Forest City. The party will begin at noon on Wednesday, December 15th with a potluck dinner and a \$5.00 gift exchange.

The Seattle city government was making an effort to bring minority groups, such as Norwegians, into their work force. So, they interviewed a token Norwegian and gave him some word tests. He had a difficult time spelling, so the examiner decided to give him a real simple word.

"Spell DOG" said the examiner.

"D-d-d-d-" the Norwegian stammered in puzzlement. "Come on, you can do it," encouraged the examiner. In frustration the Norwegian pounded his head and muttered, "Oh gee!"

"That's right," exclaimed the employment examiner. "You're hired!"

What is the most frequently heard remark in a Norwegian operating room?

----"Oops!"

(from a 1921 Mason City Globe)

INDIAN AND SQUAW SITTING IN A GRAVE DUG AT FERTILE.

FERTILE, Ia., June 7, —An Indian burial ground was discovered here this week on J.A. Ouverson farm when road workers unearthed two human skeletons in a gravel pit from which they were hauling sand. The gruesome remains were found in the perpendicular bank at a depth of five feet and were those a giant warrior and his well proportioned squaw.

They had been placed together in the sepulcher in a sitting posture, their faces toward the rays of the setting sun, which directs the departed spirit of the red man toward the last hunting ground.

A large flint dart between the ribs of the warrior and a broken thigh bone in the Indian woman.

(From an old newspaper)
CAUGHT PICKEREL WHERE SENATOR SON NOW FARMS Elthon Peat Land Once Goose Lake Bed, yield 17,000 bu. Potatoes This Year.

Fertile —Where Mrs. A. A. Elthon, of Fertile, once caught pickerel when as a small girl, her son, Leo Elthon, state senator, now raises potatoes. Goose Lake was a large body of water near Fertile in the early day, but now consists only of dry peat land, the result of a drainage project.

It is from this peat land that Leo Elthon has just completed harvesting 17,000 bushels of potatoes, Cobblers Ohios and Russets. The average gardener thinks he has problem to harvest an acre of potatoes, but to them, Mr. Elthon suggest that they try 80 acres Even with all the highly specialized power machinery which is used on such a large tract, potato growing offers a problem in itself. After the long tedious hours of planting, comes the weeding season. It is necessary to go through the fields three times by hand. White labor is used for this and affords the unemployed in the Fertile vicinity considerable labor.

Harvesting must be done within a short period, from the time the potatoes are ripe to the first frost. This year by working long days, the 17,000 bushels were harvested in 30 days. Besides the actual digging, here is the sorting, sacking and the storing to be done.

Raising potatoes for market is not all profit either, not when you stop to consider that it took \$1,000 worth of sacks in which to store the crop.

Last year the 80 acres yielded 20,000, bushels, 3,000 more than this year. However, the 1933 yield on this particular plot of ground is above average for the year. The state potato crop is about 40 per cent short of last year's crop.

Varner and son, neighbors to the Elthons', are also in the potato growing business on a large scale. They too produced about 17,000 bushels this year. The Varners shipped their crop to Chicago through a commission house while the Elthons are holding theirs in storage for the local market.

The potatoes don't constitute the only crop the Elthons produce on their peat land. When strong winds destroyed 12 acres of onions they got busy and put in carrots to replace them. The result is that Mr. Elthon is now marketing carrots with the Lake Mills Canning Company.

Cucumbers, likewise, thrive on peat land; so several years ago a pickle cannery was started on the Elthon Farm. This year 100 barrels of dills were put up, and 600 cases of sweet pickles. They are sold to nearby retailers and to other packers who wholesale them under their own labels.

Fertile Garden Club
November 9, 2010

Fertile garden club met at the Church of Christ with Penny Miller, Betty Waddington and Pat Lohman as hostesses. Vice President, Tiffany Groves, led our Guest Day with the pledge of Allegiance and roll call. We were to introduce our guests and say what we are most thankful for. This year, we invited our new members to join us as well as invite a guest. Discussion took place on when to dismantle main street and put up the Christmas décor. November 28th at 3:30 was agreed by all. We will meet at city hall. Amanda read our thought for the day, "If you were born between 1930 – 1970, you are a hero!" Jenn Miller and Tiffany Groves had our project for the night, a hanging kissing ball or centerpiece. They are made with evergreen branches, ribbon, and much more. Lots of fun was had by all and our creations look beautiful!

Reporter
Penny Miller

FERTILE AREA CHURCH NEWS

Fertile Lutheran Church
602 W.. Washington
797-2767
David Halverson, Lay Minister

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Summer Hours

Fertile Church of Christ
3493 Eagle Avenue
Fertile, IA

9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Fellowship Time
10:15 Worship Service

Celebration Community Church
805 10th Ave. No.
Clear Lake, IA 50428

9:00 Sunday School
9:45 Fellowship
10:00 Praise & Worship
6:00 p.m. Sunday - Youth Group

WILL DO SNOW REMOVAL

CALL PAUL THEILEN

797-2763

Manna of Worth County

Manna of Worth County was established in the early 1980s and has provided food and supplies to innumerable families since that time. The number of those seeking assistance increased 29% from 2008-2009 and has increased an additional 52% this year over last. With an increase of more than 80% in the number of families requesting assistance during the past two years, there is, of course, a dire need for additional food and financial help.

In 2009 Christmas food baskets were given out to more than 200 Worth County families. First Lutheran Church, Northwood, is the Manna distribution center. The number of Christmas food baskets will be increased again this year. Each Christmas food basket will contain at least a 4# ham, 5# bag of potatoes, cereal, peanut butter, canned fruit and vegetables, walnuts, pasta roni, spaghetti and sauce and numerous other items to make several meals. In addition to the Christmas baskets, Manna also provides a Thanksgiving turkey and food certificates to Worth County families in need. (Please see the reverse side of this flier for a partial list of non-food items needed by Manna)

Anyone can donate to Manna by leaving food, supplies, and/or monetary contributions at the Northwood Theatre, First Lutheran Church in Northwood, or at the Manna collection center in your area. Those seeking assistance from Manna are asked to call 641-324-8588; all requests are confidential.

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Worth County Toys for Tots

The Worth County Community of Promise is excited to kick off the 3rd annual "Worth County Toy Drive". All Toys collected in the county will be distributed in Worth County.

This toy drive will run through December 11th. New unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the following collection sites:

- All public libraries in the county
- Northwoods State Bank, Nwd
- Dollar General in Northwood
- The Northwood Theatre
- Bolan and Northwood Methodist, Emmanuel, Elk Creek, Bethany, Fertile and Deer Creek Valley Lutheran churches.

Any family seeking assistance will need to submit a participation form to the Worth County Public Health Office. Participation forms are available at all collection sites and at the WC Public Health Office (641-324-1741) Applicants **MUST** live in Worth County.

If you do live in Worth County AND turn in a participation form, you will qualify to participate. Names of all recipients will be kept confidential. The program does have financial guidelines; however, no statement of income, resources, or assets will be required.

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Clear Lake, 641-357-8882 or Fertile 641-797-2680

A STORY!!!

(found in some old paper)

It seems that centuries ago many NORWEGIANS came to IRELAND to escape the bitterness of the Norwegian winter. Ireland was having a famine at the time and food was quite scarce. The Norwegians were eating almost all the fish caught in the area, leaving the Irish with nothing but the potatoes.

St. Patrick, taking matters into his own hands like most Irishmen do, decided the Norwegians had to go. Secretly he organized the IRATRION (Irish Republican Army to Rid Ireland of Norwegians). Irish members of IRATRION sabotaged all power plants in hopes the fish in Norwegian refrigerators would spoil, forcing the Norwegians to a colder climate where their fish would keep. The fish spoiled all right, but the Norwegians, as everyone knows today, thrive on spoiled fish.

Faced with failure, the Irishmen sneaked into Norwegian fish storage caves in the dead of night and sprinkled the rotten fish with lye, hoping to poison the Norwegian intruders. But as everyone knows, this is how LUTEFISK was introduced to the Norwegians and they thrived on this lye-soaked smelly fish.

Matters became even worse for the Irishmen when the Norwegians started taking over the Irish potato crop and making LEFSE. Poor St. Pat was at his wits end and finally on March 17th. He blew his top and told all the Norwegians to go to h—l And it worked. All the Norwegians left Ireland and went to Winnebago and Worth Counties.

Doc: Could you pay for an operation if I thought one was necessary?

Patient: Would you think one was necessary if I couldn't pay for it?

When the farmer was admitted into the doctor's office, he mumbled, "Shore hope I'm sick."

The doctor said, "That certainly is a poor attitude!"

"Y'see, doc," replied the farmer, "I'd hate to feel like this if I'm well!"

Doctor: I can do nothing for your sickness. It is hereditary.

Patient: Then send the bill to my father.

My doctor doesn't believe in acupuncture. He's rather stick you with his bill.

SVEN: I have the best hearing aid on the market.

Cost me \$3,000.

NELS: What kind is it?

SVEN: Five O'Clock.

NORWEGIAN WEATHER REPORT: Dark tonight; possibly sunny tomorrow.

When Ole was courting Lena, they spent the day at the beach, watching the ocean roll in. In a poetic mood, Ole waxed eloquent: "Roll on, thou wild and restless ocean! Roll on!" After a brief pause, Lena looked adoringly at Ole and said, "Oh Ole! It's DOING it!"

A Finn tried to learn to be a carpenter, but he had the misfortune of burning down the house he was building when he tried to weld two 2x4s together.

KNUTE: My second cousing yust von a million dollars in da New York lottery. H says he's never going to vork anudder day in his life!

NELS: Oh, he's quitting his job?

KNUTE: No, he's staying on at da post office.

Pronto - Fertile

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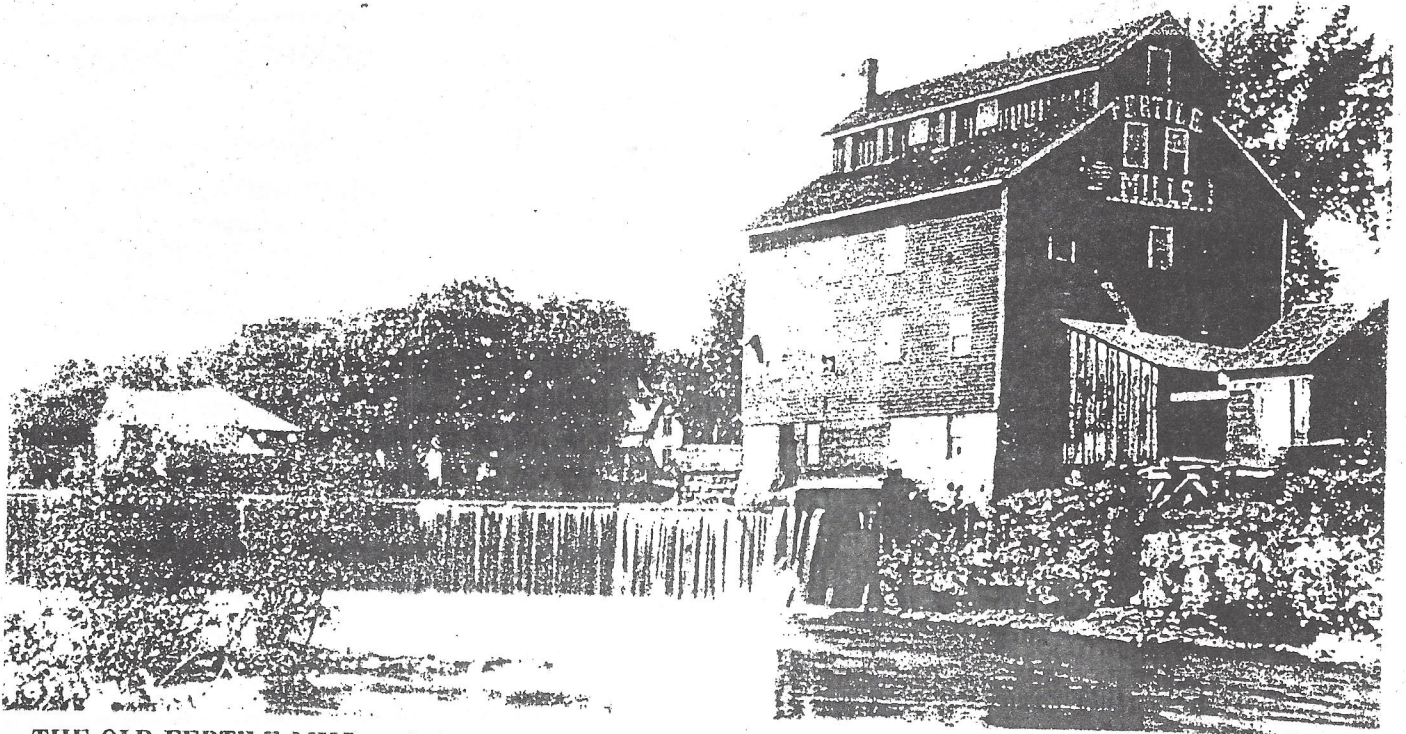
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641-797-2763 at Fertile



THE OLD FERTILE MILL and dam are shown in this early photograph. The dam was originally constructed of wood, built in 1868. In 1932 or 1933, it was washed out and replaced with a cement dam.

Portions of the cement dam area were washed out during the heavy rains of August, 1979, but have since been repaired.

Fertile was settled in the early days because of its location along a stream and the abundance of timber for building homes and for fuel.

The town was incorporated in April of 1908. Many businesses began in the new town including the mill, brick and tile works, cooperative lumber yard, cooperative creamery, peat plant, furniture store, blacksmith shops, hotel, barber and shoe shops, as well as a school and several churches.

Dr. J. R. Jones was the first doctor in town as he arrived in 1878. He opened the first drug store in 1879.

The first breaking of the virgin soil was done in 1856 for a garden where the first vegetables were raised.

The first Norwegian school was taught during the summer of 1873. The first store was opened by Ole Ouverson in 1872 in a small frame building. He kept a small stock of goods and handled the mail at the same place. He was the postmaster at that time.

In 1872 K. Paulson from Wisconsin became Ouverson's partner in the store and increased the capital and the business. He left, however, after one year. In 1875, Ouverson sold to Messrs. Grove and Kirk, who greatly increased the stock putting in a large amount of general merchandise. The post office continued in the store with A. Grove as postmaster.

Later, a confectionery store was opened, selling candies, cigars, ice cream, jewelry, musical instruments and other specialty items. Then, in 1894, Elthon's grocery Store was established with \$36 worth of merchandise and became a thrifty business.

Ole Rholl joined with Elthon in a partnership and two adjacent buildings were joined. One sold dry goods and the other groceries. In time, Rholl sold to Gullickson and later that partnership dissolved.

In 1907 the business moved to its long-time main street site. The unoccupied livery barn was moved to a lot up the street and remodeled for a complete general store. One specialty of the store was the Hamilton Brown shoe stock. Some 1200 pairs were sold the first year. The store remained active in the Elthon name until 1975, employing some of the Elthon family at all times.

In 1922, Thelan Elthon, the youngest, began his career in the store. He gave it the name the Fertile Pioneer Store. In July, 1941, A. A. Elthon sold the store to Thelan and Lillian Elthon who carried on for 34 years until 1975 when they sold it to Waage and Buchanan who operate under the name Fertile Meats Groceries, which is now operating in a new store on Highway 9.

The first election in the town of Fertile was at the house of William Rhodes in October 1961. Six votes were cast. Fertile's first barber was W. E. Scott, who had a shaving mug for each customer with his name on it.



Ole was a bit preachy to Little Ole, trying to inspire him to ambition. He told Little Ole, "When Lincoln vas your age, he vas splitting rails and vorking in a store."
 Answered Little Ole, "Yah, and when Lincoln vas YOUR age, He vas PRESIDENT of da United States."

Sven lives in such a small town that the 7-11 is called 3 1/2 - 5 1/2".

Two Norwegians were walking down the street in St. Paul when they encountered a neighborhood priest with his arm in a cast. "Vat happened to your arm Fadder?" asked one of the Norwegians.

"I slipped in the bathtub and broke it."

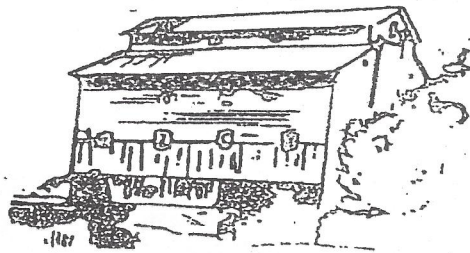
Later, one Norwegian asked the other, "Vhat is a bath tub?"

"How should I know, " retorted the other.

"I'm not Catlick."

A California court recently had an interesting case involving a Norwegian. The District Attorney, Bee Donaghue had the case pretty well wrapped up. So, the Norwegian's attorney, Bob Ward said to the Norwegian, "Here's my suggeston, Ole. I'm going to plead for clemency." "Nuttin' doing, " exclaimed the Norwegian, "Let Clemency hire his own lawyer."

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COOKS CORNER

Any time you have a recipe you would like to share,
Send it along to REMINDER, PO BOX 62,
FERTILE, IA. 50434

ALMOND BARS

2 pkgs Crescent Rolls
Spread 1 roll in bottom of lightly greased 9x13 pan

Mix 1 1/4 sugar and 1-8 oz. and 1-3 oz pkg softened cream cheese. Blend well to remove lumps.

Add 1 egg yolk, 1 t. vanilla, 1 t. almond

Spread this mixture over bottom crust. Stretch second crescent roll over top. It will not reach sides of pan, expands during baking.

Beat egg white until frothy, spread on top crust. Sprinkle with cinnamon & sugar mixture. Can add slivered almonds on top.

Bake at 350 for 20-25 min.
Cool and refrigerate. Cut into bars. Freezes well.
(This recipe came to me from my friend Ina at Ven-a.)

THIS & THAT

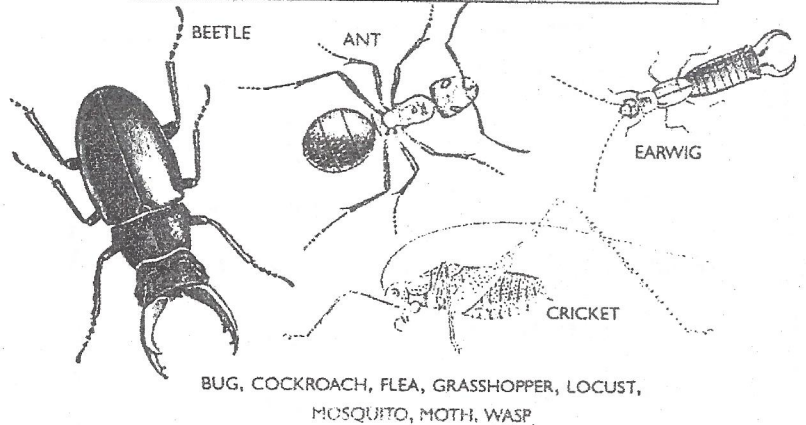
One farmer to another— Did you notice that farmer driving a horse up the highway as we came into town? Every now and then, the horse would stop unexpectedly, and then start up again with a little difficulty. I met the farmer in front of the Post Office and asked him if his horse was sick or he just balky? "No", said the farmer, "dat horse isn't sick nor galky, De only trouble vid him is - he is so durned afraid I'll say "whoa" and he von't hear me, so he stops every little while to listen.

The greatest test of courage on earth is to bear defeat without losing heart.

FUN PAGE!

... and other insects

In this puzzle, you must find the names of 12 more insects. The names are all shown on this page. There are also three more words in the puzzle. They are the names of the three main body parts of all insects. Can you find them? (Here they are with their letters mixed up: EDAH, THARXO and BADONEM.)



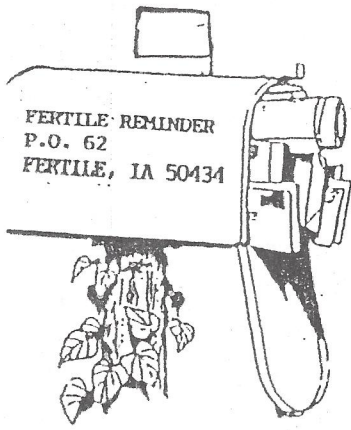
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