

DECEMBER 2007

FERTILE REMINDER



Christmas bells are ringing out
Across the land today;
They ring on streets, in belfries high,
And on the horse-drawn sleigh.

Christmas lights are shining bright
In windows, streets, and trees,
Making rainbows in the snow,
And shadows of the leaves.

Christmas carols fill the air;
There's singing in each heart.
Christ alone has caused the music,
Made the Christmas carols start.

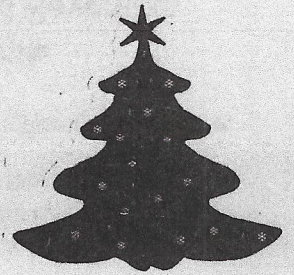
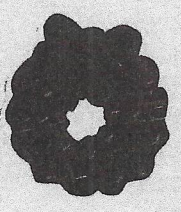
Herald out then, all ye people,
Blow the trumpets, sing with mirth;
For today was born a Savior—
Christ the Lord, of royal birth.

Mrs. Paul E. King

COMING EVENTS



Dec. 1	Library Open House	9 - noon Santa at 10 . Raffle drawing at 11
Dec. 2	Fire Department Meeting	7 p.m.
Dec. 4	Senior Dinner	Noon
Dec. 6	Re-cycle Day	
Dec. 11	Garden Club	
Dec. 17	Library Board Meeting	7 p.m.
Dec. 18	City Council Meeting	7 p.m.
Dec. 20	Re-cycle Day	
Dec. 25	Christmas Day	



City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2007, 7:00 PM, City Hall

1.) Call to Order

The Fertile City Council met at 7:00 PM in regular session, November 20, 2007, at Fertile City Hall.

2.) Roll Call

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

3.) Minutes Approval.

- *Berg motioned and Shropshire 2nd to approve the October minutes.* Motion Carried.

4.) Mayor's Report

- City election results: Mayor Joyce Russell was re-elected. Council Member Jeff Berg retained his seat and Cindy Peters will join the Council in January. The Library levy passed.
- The City of Fertile was awarded \$79,551.98 from the Worth County Development Authority for this grant period. We received 100% of our request. \$64,083 will be used for a fire truck chassis. \$15,468.98 will be used for technology upgrades at the Library.
- The fire truck title finally came and the truck was sold.
- Joyce and Buck removed old cable boxes marked with a red x.
- The volleyball net has been taken down and the concession stand has been winterized.
- The pop can bin next to City Hall was moved across the street next to Sandifer's Recycling so that Warren can move snow into the lot East of City Hall.
- Christmas decorations will be going up soon. Some have already been put up in the park.
- Yaggy-Colby came and calibrated the lagoon pumps. The city passed all inspections.
- Larson's will be installing 4 new meters and readers in town.
- Snowmobile and Snow Removal ordinances have been posted at the Library, Post Office, Downtown Café' and are available at City Hall.

5.) City Clerk's Report

- Eddie presented the final 2006-2007 financials.
- Eddie presented the October financials.
- *Hoffman moved, Shropshire 2nd to approve the expenditures.* Motion Carried.

6.) City Maintenance Report

- Warren was injured in a farming accident and cannot drive the City vehicles for 2-3 months.
- Matt Olson was hired to plow the streets while Warren is out.
- Buck is covering the Water and Sewer responsibilities.

7.) Committee Reports

- Streets & Signs - Several signs were purchased through a state grant. They will be installed soon. Traffic signs are installed according to traffic patterns and state and county regulations.

8.) Next Meeting

- The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00PM in regular session, December 18, 2007, at Fertile City Hall.
- Budget discussions will begin at this meeting.

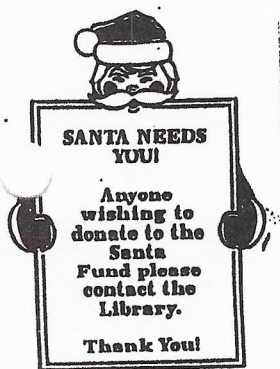
9.) Adjourn - *Shropshire moved, Hoffman 2nd to adjourn.* Meeting adjourned.

City of Fertile

Expenditures and Revenues

As of October 31, 2007

Type	Name	Paid Amount
General Fund Accounts		
General Fund Checking		
Bill Pmt -Check	Alliant Energy	-135.76
Bill Pmt -Check	Crescent Moon	-168.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Farmers Lumber Company	-47.83
Bill Pmt -Check	Hawkins, Inc.	-5.00
Bill Pmt -Check	IRS	-180.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Kramer Ace Hardware	-34.54
Bill Pmt -Check	LGI	-139.80
Bill Pmt -Check	Menards	-130.38
Bill Pmt -Check	North Iowa Media Group	-6.27
Bill Pmt -Check	Pronto	-147.85
Bill Pmt -Check	Sears	-342.37
Bill Pmt -Check	UPS	-21.83
Bill Pmt -Check	Waste Management	-1,802.10
Bill Pmt -Check	WCTA	-120.42
Check	Fertile Fire Department V	-1,550.00
Check	Fertile Public Library V	-3,375.00
Deposit		5,417.84
Deposit		7,633.02
Deposit		3,835.32
Deposit		3,947.46
Deposit		20,058.70
Deposit	Diamond Joe Casino	2,448.79
Deposit		36.35
Liability Check	Treasurer - State of Iowa	-245.00
Liability Check	IRS	-2,125.08
Liability Check	IPERS	-1,201.52
Paycheck	Bruns, Warren	-1,104.52
Paycheck	Ganz, Dennis	-35.38
Paycheck	May III, Edgar F	-643.37
Paycheck	Russell, Grant	-420.56
Paycheck	Russell, Joyce	-532.54
Sales Tax Payment	Iowa Department of Revenue and Fina	-959.00
Total General Fund Checking		27,903.36
Total General Fund Accounts		27,903.36
Roads Revenue Fund Savings		
Deposit		41.73
Total Roads Revenue Fund Savings		41.73
Water Fund Accounts		
Water Revenue Fund Checking		
Deposit		2.15
Total Water Revenue Fund Checking		2.15
Total Water Fund Accounts		2.15
Sewage Fund Accounts		
Sewage Revenue Fund Checking		
Deposit		3.17
Total Sewage Revenue Fund Checking		3.17
Total Sewage Fund Accounts		3.17
TOTAL		27,950.41



Merry Christmas

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Thursday - 3 - 6 P.M.

Friday - 9:00 A.M. - Noon & 2:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Saturday - 9:00 am - Noon

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NEW BOOKS

Unwrapping Christmas – Lori Copeland
Amazing Grace – Danielle Steel
Heir – Barbara Taylor Bradford
Digging to America – Anne Tyler
The Last Noel – Heather Graham
A Week from Sunday – Dorothy Garlock
The Gift - Richard Paul Evans
Book of the Dead – Patricia Cornwell
The River Knows – Amanda Quick
The Séance – Heather Graham
Agnes & the Hitman – Jennifer Crusie
Hearts of Horses – Molly Glass
Home to Holly Springs – Jan Karon
Creation in Death – J.D. Robb
Double Cross – James Patterson
Shrouds of Holly – Karen Kingsbury
Apache Sundown – Jory Sherman
The Christmas Promise – Donna VanLiere
Large Print
The Burnt House – Faye Kellerman

DVDS

Transformers – Shia LaBeouf
Charlotte's Web – Dakota Fanning
Disturbia – Shia LaBeouf
Next – Nicholas Cage

BOOKS ON CD

Double Cross – James Patterson
Motor Mouth – Janet Evanovich
Into the Wild – Jon Krakauer

Library News

Thank you everyone for your support in passing the library levy. The money will be used to keep up with the rising cost of materials and technology upgrades.

Fertile Library Board of Trustees

Our Halloween party was a great success. There were over 100 attendees. Levey the Great impressed the crowd with his magic & humor. Also, a Fortune Teller, ghost stories by Toastmasters, and cupcake decorating was part of the entertainment. Thank you Mayor Russell and City Hall for letting us use the building for our party. Thank you Fertile Library Friends for sponsoring this party.

HERE COMES SANTA!

Fertile Public Library
Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 1, 2007
9 - Noon
Santa at 10:00
(for ages 10 & under)

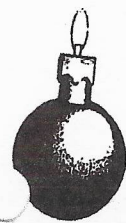
Raffle Drawing at 11:00
(for \$100.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card)

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

Everyone Welcome!

Sponsored by Fertile Library Friends

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



TRUMAN EDGAR KNUDTSON

1929 - 2007

Truman Edgar Knudtson, 77, of Northwood, died Nov. 16, 2007 at the Lutheran Retirement Home in Northwood.



Funeral services were held Nov. 29, 2007 at Bethany Lutheran Church, Kensett. Burial was in the Sunset Rest Cemetery in Northwood.

Truman Edgar Knudtson was born on December 22, 1929 in Lake Mills, the son of Arthur and Rosecelia (Branstad) Knudtson. He was baptized and reaffirmed his baptism through confirmation at Winnebago Lutheran Church, rural Lake Mills. He attended rural country school in Winnebago County and one year at Lake Mills before graduating from Fertile High School. Truman worked for Harley and Bob Ouverson, farming for several years southwest of Fertile.

He was united in marriage to Phyllis Ouverson on June 6, 1949 at the Church of Christ in Fertile, and also re-affirmed his baptism. Truman moved to Northwood and began working for a number of years for Donald Martin Construction. Truman owned and operated the North Iowa Builders Construction in Northwood, Tom's Lumber Co. in Manly and also the Northwood Lumber Co., until his retirement in 1993.

He was united in marriage to Phyllis Erickson on Oct. 10, 1998, at Bethany Lutheran Church in Kensett.

He was a member of the Fertile Church of Christ and former member of the J.C.'s, Lions Club, and Northwood-Kensett Booster Club.

Truman loved and enjoyed his occupation and was very proud of his many construction projects, and he also enjoyed gardening.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Phyllis Knudtson of Northwood; his children, Dan (Lois) Knudtson of Roland, Mark (Connie) Knudtson of Osage; LuAnn (Bill Alexander) of Winthrop, MN and Tammy (Jeff) Overgaard of St. Peter, MN; stepchildren, LuAnne (Robert) Nelson of Wenatchee, WA and JoAnne (Marty) Martin of Northwood; 12 grandchildren, 7 step-grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren and 1 step-great-grandchild; three sisters, Dorothy Christianson of Lake Mills, Mavis (Roger) Bolstad of Lake Mills and Jean (Gordon) Hagen of Lake Mills; as well as numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Phyllis who died on Sept. 5, 1995; his grandson, Karl Knudtson who died on Feb. 15, 2003; his sister, Arlene Hill, and a brother-in law, Kelly Christianson.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.

MERLE ADRIAN SMITH



Merle Adrian Smith, son of Andrew and Mary (Peterson) Smith, went to be with the Lord on November 7, 2007, at age 86 due to a car accident. Funeral service was held at Calvary Baptist Church, Forest City on November 10, 2007 with Pastor Doug Farell officiating. Burial was in Madison Cemetery, Forest City.

He lived most of his life in the Forest City area. When he was drafted into the Army, he was working in an airplane factory in San Diego, CA. He served in WWII, 1942 - 1945, taking part in the German theatre. He received a purple heart for his injuries. When discharged, he started farming.

In 1945, Merle married Evelyn Olson. They recently celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. To this union, seven children were born. Alan (Jennifer) of Scotts Valley, CA; Randy (Linda) of Fullerton, CA; Carollee of Forest City; Judy of Minneapolis, MN; Mark (Cindy) of Forest City; Wendy of Forest City; and Eric (Valerie) of Dallas, TX.

There are ten grandchildren, and seven great-grand children. He was preceded in death by his son Randy, a grandson Jeremy, his parents Andrew and Mary, sister Lucille Myhre, brothers Lloyd Smith, Glen Smith and Harold Smith.

Merle's main interests/passions were studying prophecy, sharing the Gospel, giving Bibles through Bible League, Bible Studies, pulpit supply and enjoying his family.

Our deepest sympathy to the family.



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BEST CHRISTMAS

By George Kisner

The time was 1938 on a small farm near Fertile, IA. I was eight years old, living with my parents and my 4 siblings. My brothers were: Herbert 20; Charles 17; Carol 14 and Frances 11. The year had not been good on the farm for the crops. It had been very dry and the corn made only about 15 bushels per acre. The oats and hay were equally poor and consequently there was very little money.

At Christmast, it was a custom in our family that each child received one toy or an article of clothing from our parents. We children exchanged gifts we ourselves made and there were always slingshots or wooden dolls. On this year, our parents made it plain that there would be no store-bought gifts, period.

Now my brother Herbert had been "working out" for neighbors at the time and had a little cash. To our great delight, he brought home from Mason City one day a small six-volt radio.

We had no electricity at the time so the battery it ran on had to be taken to a garage in town to be recharged. That soon proved too inconvenient and expensive. My father solved this problem by pulling the family car up close to the house and running two wires from the car battery to the radio. Frequently the battery got too low to start the car, but then we simply pushed the car down the driveway hill until it started. If that did not work we would hitch a team of horses to the front of the car until it started.

The radio made us feel we were part of Hollywood! We all gathered around the radio in the evenings and heard Fibber Magee, Baby Snooks, Jack Benny and many others. We would be totally spellbound while the Lone Ranger and Tonto performed their daring deeds.

One of my father's favorites was "The Life Riley". He had a character call "Digger O'Dell" and he would always come out of the ominous darkness saying "It is I, Riley, Digger O'Dell, your friendly undertaker!" Why this was so funny, I can't understand, but we were very unsophisticated and would dutifully roar with laughter along with the simulated studio audience.

This was by far the most memorable Christmas on our farm ever. In 1943, electricity came through our neighborhood and we had an electric radio. It had undying power, but somehow it was never as good as huddling around the sputtering 6-volt radio!

FERTILE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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- 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

Fertile Lutheran Church (ELCA)
602 W. Washington St.; P.O. Box 215
Fertile Iowa 50434
Phone 641-797-2767

Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:35 a.m.

November 4—end of April)

David Halverson, Lay Minister

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Pumpkin Decorating & Hay Rides Oct. 20

Country Shops Holiday Tour Nov. 3

Little Swan Lake FREE Wine Tasting Nov. 17, 2 - 5 PM

Christmas Open House Dec. 8

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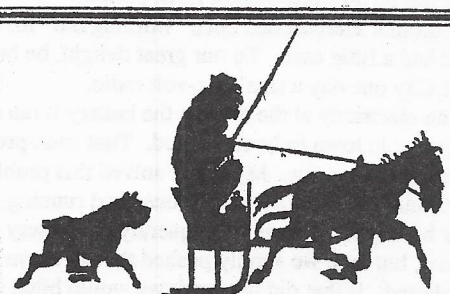
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Creationism

God created the mule, and told him, "You will be mule, working constantly from dawn to dusk, carrying heavy loads on your back. You will eat grass and lack intelligence. You will live 50 years."

The mule answered "To live like this for 50 years is too much. Please, give me no more than 20 years."

And it was so.

Then God created the dog, and told him, "You will hold vigilance over the dwellings of man, to whom you will be his greatest companion. You will eat his table scraps and live for 25 years."

And the dog responded, "Lord, to live 25 years as a dog like that is too much. Please, no more than 10 years."

And it was so.

God then created the monkey, and told him, "You are monkey. You shall swing from tree to tree, acting like an idiot. You will be funny, and you shall live for 20 years."

And the monkey responded, "Lord, to live 20 years as the clown of the world is too much. Please, Lord give me no more than 10 years."

And it was so.

Finally God created man and told him, "You are man, the only rational being that walks on the Earth. You will use your intelligence to have mastery over the creatures of the world. You will dominate the Earth and live for 20 years."

And the man responded, "Lord, to be man for only 20 years is too little. Please Lord, give me the 30 years the mule refused, the 15 years the dog refused and the 10 years the monkey rejected."

And it was so.

And so God made man to live 20 years as a man, then marry and live 30 years like a mule working and carrying heavy loads on his back. He to have children and live 15 years as a dog, guarding his house and eating the leftovers after they empty the pantry. Then, in his old age, to live 10 years as a monkey, acting like an idiot to amuse his grandchildren.

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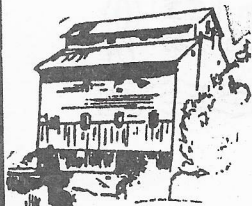
Rhodes Mill Retreat

Rent for a week, a wedding

Or just to get away from

Everything! Very Quiet!

918-630-9935



Dear Worth County Residents:

Thank you for your tremendous response to the Worth County
Community Development Survey! We mailed 1,203 surveys to households
in Worth County on October 26th and asked for the responses by
November 1st. We mailed surveys to 1/2 of the residences in the county -
asking for your input on information relating to business development,
community development, health care, housing development, and tourism.
We could not mail to every single household as that was much too costly,
and that is the reason why you may have received a survey, but your
neighbor did not.

We received a significant amount of surveys back from all of you
which will help guide our economic development organization in the
future. Your input does matter, and I thank you for returning the surveys
and participating in our request for your information!

Teresa Nicholson
Executive Director
Vinn-Worth Betco

Dear Fertile Citizens:

Thank you for electing me council person for the City of Fertile!!! I
will do my best to represent you or your concerns for our town.
I currently have an unlisted number, but please feel free to call me at
home at 641-797-2944 or on my cell phone at 641-590-0131. You can
also reach me during the day at 641-585-3630.
I very much appreciate your votes and look forward to helping Fertile
be the best little town around!!

Sincerely,
City Peters

DOWNSIZER CLUB

We meet at the Fertile Church of Christ from 5:30 to 6:30 on Monday
evenings. At 6:15 we have a short session on foods we need to eat to be
healthy. We started our Club in April and our club has lost 255# to date.
If you are interested in losing weight, come and learn how to eat
healthy and enjoy great fellowship.

DOWNTOWN CAFE

OPEN FROM 5 AM TO 2 PM
TUESDAY TACO NITE 5 TO 8 PM
THURSDAY NITE - FISH, BBQ OR
CHICKIEN - 5 PM TO 8 PM.
SOUP NITE STARTS OCT. 9
PHONE 797-2510
STARTING OCT. 7 WE WILL BE OPEN
ON SUNDAYS 11:00 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

Open House Bridal Shower
For
Carly Wittman
Bride-elect of Nathan Haugen
on
Saturday, December 22nd
9:00a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
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WORTH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

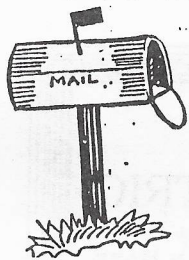
95 9th St. North, Northwood, IA 50459

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

Nov. 27 Child Immunization Clinic at Methodist
No Dec. clinic Church, Northwood from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
No appointment necessary.

Nov. 28 & 29 Fertile Church of Christ Senior Health
Clinic - age 60+ welcome for general
assessment, five lab tests and health
education. Minimal lab fee. Donations
encouraged. Please call the Public Health
Office at 1-800-765-1388 to schedule an
appointment with Diane.

Manna of Worth County Food Pantry - The pantry
shelves are very low due to a high demand in the
community. Any donation of food, supplies, and monetary
gifts are greatly appreciated. Donations may be taken to the
Food Pantry at First Lutheran Church, 309 9th St. N.,
Northwood, IA.



Dear Fertile Reminder Readers,

I received the Nov. copy of the Fertile
Reminder this morning, and I had been
thinking of you people. You have been so
nice sending the paper to me every month,
and this morning I had decided that I would
send a letter to you, and here the November
paper came in the mail.

Before this copy came, I wasn't sure of the price so now I
am enclosing my check with this letter.

You people surely do a great job on the paper and I
surely do enjoy it. Thank you for remembering me.

With Love,
Vera Humphrey

Dear Ladies,

Sending our subscription for another years of the
Reminder. We enjoy receiving the news from Fertile each
month.

Roger & Joyce Kampstra
Webster, WI

Dear Ladies,

Please renew our subscription for two years. We really
enjoy all the news, jokes and recipes. We even send some
of it to our daughter in Las Vegas.

Good Work!! ????

Dear Ladies,

Thanks for the wonderful Fertile Reminder! You do an
excellent job of networking, reporting and keeping me in
touch with Fertile!

Thanks!
Marcie Osmundson

Dear Editor,

I am enclosing a check for another year's subscription of
the Fertile Reminder. I hope I will not miss the October
edition.

My husband and our two daughters are planning a
trip to Iowa in July 2008

Sincerely,
Norma Holtan Wakeley

FERTILE GARDEN CLUB

November 13, 2007

The Fertile Garden Club held their monthly meet-
ing at the City Hall with fifteen members present. We
opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll
Call— "Thanksgiving Memory". Ronda Prescott gave the
Thought of the Day. The Secretary and Treasurer's
reports were given and approved as read.

Discussion on the signs that Penny ordered. She
says she will get them up in the next few days. Ronda did
not have a report on the big sign. Pat O. passed around
papers regarding the flowers that the club needs for the
May plant sale. A motion was made and passed to go by
the list presented. Pat L., Kristin & Ronda presented the
Christmas tree that was trimmed for Opportunity Village's
Christmas Fair.

Election of officers was held.

President -----Penny Miller

Vice. Pres. -----Amanda Waddington

Secretary -----Kristin Mikes

Treasurer -----Pat Lohman

Christmas Cards were signed by all members. The
Christmas Dinner will be made and served by Mary Ann
Wellik. A list of perspective new members was made and
Evelyn will send out letters after Thanksgiving inviting
these women to join the Fertile Garden Club in March of
2008. We sang Happy Birthday to Bev. S. Then we sang
the Table Prayer at the close of the meeting. A delicious
lunch was served by Mary Ann and Betty.

Pat Oswald, Reporter

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COOKS BOOKING

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

CHRISTMAS MEATBALLS

2 eggs
1 envelope onion soup mix
1/2 cup seasoned bread crumbs
1/4 cup chopped dried cranberries
2 tbsp. Minced fresh parsley
1 1/2 pounds lean ground beef

SAUCE:

1 can [16 oz] whole-berry cranberry sauce
3/4 cup ketchup
1/2 cup beef broth
3 tbsp. finely chopped onion
2 tsp. Cider vinegar

Combine eggs, soup mix, bread crumbs, cranberries and parsley. Crumble beef over mixture and mix well. Shape into 1 inch balls; place 12-14 balls on a microwave-safe plate. Cover with waxed paper; microwave on high for 3-4 minutes or until no longer pink. Remove to paper towels to drain. Repeat with remaining meatballs.

In a 2 quart microwave-safe dish, combine sauce ingredients. Cover & microwave on high for 3-4 minutes or until heated through. (3 doz.)

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

>I don't know how I got over the hill, without getting to the top.

>Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft . Today it is called golf.

**>Lord, Please keep your arm around my shoulder
and your hand over my mouth. AMEN.**

Live Well * Laugh Often * Love Much!

FUN KOINER

52 years ago! Comments made in the year 1955

> "I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20.."

>Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$2000 will only buy a used one."

> "If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit. A quarter a pack is ridiculous."

> "Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging a dime just to mail a letter?"

> *"If they raise the minimum wage to \$1.00, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store."*

> "When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 24¢ a gallon. We we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage."

> “Kids today are impossible. Those duck tail hair cuts make it impossible to stay groomed. Next thing you know, boys will be wearing their hair as long as the girls.

➤ *"I never thought I'd see the day all our kitchen appliances would be electric. They are even making electric typewriters now."*

> It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet."

> "It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work."

> *"The drive-in restaurant is convenient in nice weather, but I seriously doubt they will ever catch on...."*

>There is no sense going to a city anymore for a weekend. It costs nearly \$15. a night to stay in a hotel."

> "No one can afford to be sick any more; \$35. A day in the hospital is too rich for my blood.."

> "If they think I'll pay 50¢ for a hair cut, forget it!"

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

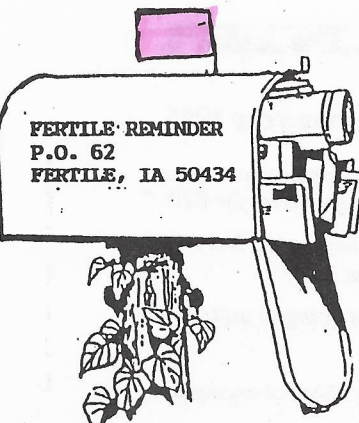


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Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
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