

DECEMBER 1997

FERTILE REMINDER

THE
REMINDER
STAFF

wishes you a
Merry Christmas
and Blessed
New Year!

We will be
taking the month
of December off for
our "vacation".

Your next Reminder
will be sent out the
end of January and will
be your February issue.

THANKS to all who have
contributed in various ways to
keep our paper going, for all
the articles, donations by the business
for their advertisements.

We welcome any articles or news
that is of interest to our Fertile
friends.

We are mailing over 368 Reminders each
month. Thanks for your loyal support.

Dec. 1	Fire Department Meeting	7 PM
Dec. 2	Senior Citizens Dinner City Council Meeting	12 Noon 7 PM
Dec. 4	Recycle Day	
Dec. 9	Garden Club Olde Creamery Tea Room	1:15 PM
Dec. 16	Senior Citizens Dinner Library Board Meeting	12 Noon 7 PM
Dec. 20	Boys & Girls 4-H	
Dec. 25	Christmas Day	
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve	

City Council News

The Fertile City Council met on November 13, 1997 at 7 PM. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Terry Elthon. Members present were Tuttle, Brcha, Anderson, Thompson and Smith. Also present were Sandy Gjerdahl, Tara Dahn, Tom Kirschbaum, and Nancy Suby.

The minutes were approved as presented.

Old Business: Thompson moved and Smith seconded Nancy Suby as new city clerk.

Water/Sewer and Garbage Rates were discussed. Water, Sewer and Garbage all operated at a deficit in 1996-97. Brcha moved, Anderson seconded to raise the rates January 1, 1998 as follows:

- Garbage rate increase of \$1.00
- Sewer rate increase of \$3.00
- Water rate increase of \$1.50/1000 gals over the min.

Tuttle, Anderson, Brcha voted yes. Smith and Thompson voted no.

Thompson moved and Tuttle seconded to purchase new tailgate sander.

Kirschbaum was requested to obtain estimates for shop ceiling insulation. Kirschbaum and council members will provide labor.

Thompson moved, Smith seconded to purchase sand from the county for \$30 a ton.

Thompson moved, Anderson seconded to keep meetings on 1st Tuesday of month.

Sandy Gjerdahl talked to city council about water bill.

New Business: Brcha moved and Anderson seconded the \$25 Fertile Logo winner is Amanda Thompson. It was a picture of the Fertile Mill with City of Fertile written at top.

\$500 was was received from Winnebago for park improvements.

Brcha moved and Thompson seconded the sale of Vision Cable TV to Newpath.

.....
 WORSLEY ELECTRIC 797-2494

Complete Electrical Service
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 & Katolight Generators



Tuttle moved and Brcha seconded to pay the bills.

Anderson moved, and Thompson seconded to adjourn the meeting.

October 1997 Revenues

General Fund	11,659.08
Water Fund	4,523.32
Sewer Fund	2,767.31
Road Use Fund	2,003.93
Total	20,858.96

October 1997 Expenses

Worsley Electric	392.18
Twedt Insurance	306.00
Ronald Fox, Dog Catcher	15.00
Rogness Bros.	1,195.00
WTCA	34.51
Fertile Lumber	19.53
Iowa One Call	4.80
BMC	229.20
LGI	82.50
Feed Rite controls	10.00
Interstate Power	593.08
Tom Kirschbaum	1,038.13
David Low	301.41
Nancy Tedros	221.03
IPERS	174.82
Liberty Bank and Trust	283.05
State of Iowa	111.18
Iowa Dept of Revenue	144.39
Marv's	55.21
Larson Plbg & Htg	39.75
Fertile Library	2200.00
Fertile Fire Dept	1250.00
Fertile Remindr	180.00
People's Natural Gas	5.46
Total Expenses	8,888.23

* * * * *
 * HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE *
 *
 * OLDE CREAMERY TEA ROOM *
 *
 * Saturday November 29th *
 * and *
 * Sunday November 30th *
 *
 * 1 PM to 5 PM Each Day *
 *
 * * * * *

A Weighty Problem

Neil L. Kuns

December 6, 1994

We've come to the time of the year when advertisers remind us daily of the limited number of shopping days left until Christmas. I'm running true to form and haven't bought a single gift yet, although several are in the process of fabrication. Elaine came home from a shopping foray this morning with a large sack of goodies, so we may be better off with filling the lists than I think.

Getting just the right gift has always been a problem. In the early years we had more ideas than money, and that forced us to be creative and selective. We always hoped the gift we chose would be useful, or at least be appreciated. It didn't always help to ask others what they might like to receive. Sometimes they didn't know, and other times they wouldn't admit to their desires.

One early December, about 1940 I think, Dad asked me if I thought Mom would like to receive a bathroom scale for Christmas. I had heard her wishing out loud for such an article, and told him so. He was happy to hear this and promptly went to the hardware store and bought it. He gift-wrapped the box, kept it out of sight in his office at the garage, and didn't bring it home until Christmas Eve.

It is said that after two people live together for a long time they begin to think alike. When they share common goals and interests I suppose it is inevitable that this should occur. Several days after Dad had picked up the scale, Mom asked me if I thought Dad would like to have a bathroom scale for *his* Christmas gift. In that moment, barely nine years old, I learned all I needed to know about dilemmas. I remember thinking that I had to be careful not to say, "No, he already bought one for *you*," and I couldn't say, "I don't think he would like one," because that wasn't true. In a flash I told her I thought it would be a good idea, and hoped the hardware would take back the second scale. Carl Sheimo, the proprietor, had the same dilemma as did I when Mom showed up in his place of business to purchase another scale just like the one Dad had already bought for her. Carl was cool and didn't let on to the duplication, although he must have known he would see one of the scales returned.

Christmas morning was full of surprises that year. The first was that I had kept the secret without spilling it to anyone. The second was the look on Mom's face when she opened her gift from Dad and saw the scale. She has never been very good at hiding her feelings and her embarrassment showed. Dad must have wondered why she blushed, acted so strangely and laughed so nervously. He didn't have to wonder for very long. When he opened *his* gift scale we all had two good laughs. The first was because of the duplicate gifts, and the second was just a moment later when both of them realized they had asked me about the gifts and that I hadn't tipped-off either of them as to the intention of the other.

The gifts we exchanged in those days were modest. They all fit under the rather scrawny Christmas tree we bought at the grocery store. We almost always appreciated the thought and effort which went into the making or buying and the wrapping of the gifts. I do not remember many of the gifts, but I do vividly recall the scales the year I had the weighty matter on my mind of twice-keeping the same secret.

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FERTILE PUBLIC LIBRARY
 Monday 1-8 pm Wed. 1-8 pm
 Friday 2-5 pm Sat. 9--Noon
 Phone & Fax #: 797-2787

Over 60 ghosts and goblins visited the library on Halloween Eve. They played pumpkin toss & pin the bat on Dracula to win candy prizes. Dan Block from Worth County Conservasion entertained them with scary things in the night. It was both exciting and educational. Thank you, Dan. Thank you to the Library Friends for sponsoring this great party.

LIBRARY CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 6, 1997 9-Noon
 Santa Claus will be here from 10 -11:30 for ages up to 10.
 Coffee, Punch, and Christmas treats will be served.
 The Library Friends Raffle drawing will be held at 11:30.
COME AND JOIN US!!!

LIBRARY RAFFLE / DONATED BY

- 13 " COLOR TV WITH REMOTE
- ELAINE HALL PAINTING - ELAINE HALL
- PRESTO KNIFE SLICER - LONI KNUDSON
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- PAUL MITCHELL PRODUCTS & T-SHIRTS - TAMMY HALL
- ANTIQUe GLASSWARE - LEE BRIGGEMAN
- PRINCESS HOUSE CRYSTAL LATTE' MUGS - RUTH OUVERSON
- LOOM WOVEN CRAFT - PAT OSWALD
- MOTOR CYCLE HELMET - LONI KNUDSON
- REDWING CROCK - LEE BRIGGEMAN

NEW BOOKS

- The Ghost - Danielle Steel
- Up Island - Anne Rivers Siddons
- Dark Paradise - Tami Hoag
- The Lightkeeper - Susan Wiggs
- Chase the Moon - Dinah McCall
- True Crime - Andrew Klavan
- Marrying Mom - Olivia Goldsmith
- Mission to the West - T.V. Olson
- Sole Survivor - Dean Koontz
- Power of a Woman - Barbara Taylor Bradford
- Out to Canaan - Jan Karon
- My Outlaw - Linda Lael Miller
- Texas Bound - Jason Manning
- All Fall Down - Zachary Alan Fox
- Frontier Christmas - Madeline Baker
- Schroeder's Antique Price Guide
- Handmade Christmas - Martha Stewart
- Simplicity's Guide to Home Decorating
- Rough Guide to Norway
- Country Woman Christmas - Reiman Publications

New Audio Books

- Tears of Rage - John Walsh
- The Letter - Richard Paul Evans
- Anbtibodies - The X-Files



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SANTA NEEDS YOU

Anyone wishing to donate to the Santa Fund please contact the library or call Pat Oswald at 797-2600. Thankyou.

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SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS

Senior Citizens met November 4th with 16 members present and one carry-out dinner.

"Happy Anniversary" was sung to Doris & Les Burtness on their 66th wedding anniversary.

We had a buffet-style meal consisting of scalloped potatoes, meat-loaf, mixed fruit, buns & angel food cake for dessert with strawberries and ice cream.

Due to the fact that Jane is still not able to cook our meals, James and Alvera Lovick and Forrest and Viola Roberts furnished and cooked the dinner.

Minutes were read and approved. Betty Chapin will be here Nov. 18th to take blood pressure. Next meeting will be December 2nd.

Submitted by Viola Roberts Secretary-Treasurer

* * * * *
NOTICE!!!
* * * * *
Fertile Senior Citizens now have canned beef for sale. Quarts are \$7.00 and pints \$3.75. Contact Alvera Lovick at 797-2659 or Viola Roberts at 797-2640.
* * * * *

TURKEY SUPPER
Saturday November 1st

The Fertile Community Center had a very successful turkey supper. We apologize to the ones who came after we ran out of turkey. Next year we will have two more turkeys. We served 484# of turkey, 200# of mashed potatoes, 18 gallons of corn, 50# of cranberries, 50 dozen buns, 90 pies, 18 gallons of cold drink and unknown cups of coffee. Thanks to the great crew everything went smoothly. Thanks to all who came to eat and to all the great workers.

We deposited \$2,511.40 and had expenses of \$703.68 with a profit \$1,796.72.

We also received \$1,000 from the Hanson Foundation and \$500 from the Winnebago Foundation.

Ruth B. Ouverson



NORTH IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION

HEAD START PROGRAM

Release: Nov. 1 thru Nov. 30, 1997

Contact: Michelle Lee, 515-423-5406 Ext. 25

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

Would you like to help a child stay warm this winter?

Help Head Start give children a warm start by "adopting" a Head Start child. You and your family would purchase winter outerwear that a child needs and we will get it delivered, or mail a cash donation to: 300 - 15th Street N.E., P. O. Box 1627, Mason City, IA 50402-1627. Please call Michelle Lee at 515-423-5406 for more information on how you can help.

* * * * *

With Sympathy

DEWABE G, ROATH

Dwane G. Roath, 77, of 1215 6th St. S. E., Mason City passed away on September 28, 1997.



Dewane was born Aug. 28, 1920 in Fertile, IA the son of Ira and Theresa (Tweed) Roath.

Dwane married Mureen Rogness.

Dwane worked for International Harvester for 37 years, retiring in 1982.

Those left to cherish his memory are Mureen Roath of Mason City, two daughters, Marlys Aus of Detroit Lakes, MN and Connie Wilcox of Mason City, one son, Verlyn Roath of Mason City, 5 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, two brothers, Gary and Boyd of Mason City and one Sister, Iris DeWall of Mason City.

COMING TO CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Church of Christ at Fertile has engaged Ben Alexander, a native of London, England, who is a former psychic and medium, to come and present his seminars to our church. Mr. Alexander at present lives with his wife Miranda in St. Petersburg, FL where they are major forces in leading the fight against pornography.

Mr. Alexander presented his seminars at the Church of Christ in Fertile in the spring of 1986 and the church recently discussed inviting him back for a presentation of current issues.

- Sat. Dec. 6 7 PM Topic will be New Age & Spiritualism.
- Sun. Dec. 7 9 AM Topic will be Teen Age Rebellion & Satanism.
- Sun Dec. 7 10 AM Worship service with his topic to be The Ministry of the Holy Spirit to the Believer.
- Sun Dec. 7 PM His topic will be The Gateway to the Occult.
- Mon Dec. 8 7 PM His topic will be presented as a slide presentation regarding Psychic Phenomena.

Each service will be followed by a brief question/answer session.

There is no admission charge nor registration fee. The Church of Christ is underwriting the cost of travel & housing for Mr. Alexander. An offering will be received at each service to support the continued ministry of Mr. Alexander.

4-H Meeting

On November 15, the 4-H girls had our meeting. We talked about what to do for our Christmas party, and We went over our election results. Our President is Arlene Lee. Our Vice President is Emily Suby. Our Secretary is Desta Tedros, and our treasurer is Anna Almelien.

HOLIDAY CHURCH SCHEDULES

FERTILE CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 14 4 PM Christmas Caroling in the community and at Clear Lake Oakwood Care Center. Sharon Ganz in charge. Supper for carolers to follow at the church.

6 PM Evening worship service for those not involved in caroling.

December 21 9 AM Sunday School classes for all ages.

10 AM Worship service with sermon by Pastor Ganz and music by the church choir.

Dec. 21 6 PM Christmas story presentation by the children of the Sunday School. Free will offering for two children's home ministries. The annual all-church oyster stew and chili supper will follow the program. Ruth B. Ouverson is chair person of the supper committee.

Dec. 24 5 PM Christmas Eve service with David Huskey bringing the meditation. Music by Sharon Ganz, Star Ganz and Jill Huskey.

* * * * *

FERTILE LUTHERAN CHURCH SCHEDULE

- - Sunday School **Christmas Program - Sunday December 14th** at 4:30 p.m. (Preludial Musical Presentation will begin at 4:10 p.m.)
- - Luther League Christmas Caroling to elderly & shut-ins of Fertile area **Sunday, Dec 21st** at 4:30 p.m.
- - **Christmas Eve Service of Carols & Candles on Wednesday, Dec 24th** at 4:30 p.m.
- - **Christmas Communion Service Sunday Dec. 28th** at 9:30 a.m.

(The church choir will be singing at the 9:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, Dec 14th, and also at the Christmas Eve Service.)



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1997 LIVING & MEMORIAL LIGHTS

The following names were received too late last year to be published:
Everett & Eva Marie Westcott (Grandparents), Oswald Evenson, Blanche Evenson
and Bobby Evenson Submitted by Edward Evenson

Names that were omitted in error last year are as follows: Corrine Miller
and Luella Low, Living lights submitted by Earl & Donna Miller

We wish to thank Nick & Mary (Ouverson) Homerding from El Reno, OK for the
two decorative angels that have been placed by our Memorial Tree.

LIVING LIGHTS FOR 1997

Andy & Pat Oswald By Sara Oswald Innes
Norma VanDenBosch, Brian VandenBosch, Denese VanDenBosch, Lou VanDenBosch,
Jami VanDenBosch, Paul VanDenBosch, Shelly VanDenBosch & Zachery VanDenBosch.
Norma wanted each of her grandchildren to have a light on our tree.
Ken & Mary Lou Midtgaard and Bob & Greta Elthon submitted by Bob & Betty Dods
Doris Oswald, Rick Oswald & Karen Bailey submitted by Ella Mae Butler

1997 MEMORIAL LIGHTS

Janette VanDenBosch submitted by John & Linda Backhaus
Henry & Iva Suby (5) submitted by Leon & Shirley Suby
Stanely M. Oredsen submitted by Dorothea (Oredsen) Hanson, Class of 1936
Dale Jones (3), Erma Brue & Clinton McEnelly submitted by Phyllis Jones
Leo & Gen Oswald submitted by Sara Oswald Innes
Henry & Iva Suby (2) by Robert & Betty Suby
Ethel Tuttle by Dan & Penny Miller & family, Tim & Linda Tuttle & family, Randy
and Robin Harms & family, Robert Tuttle & family, Don & Betty Waddington & family
Merle Tuttle family & Mark Tuttle.

Thank you for the extra contribution made in memory of Ethel to our FB& I Comm.
Leverne Nelson by Al & Jane Ramon, Tami Ramon, and Tom, Nancy & Trisca Sheimo
Henry Novak by Doris Novak, Ron & Deb Novak, Larry & Sharon Rieffer, Gary Novak
and Amy Rieffer. Thank you for the extra contribution made in memory of Henry
to the FB&I Committee.

Silence (Seqlem) Levang (5) by Joseph Levang, Mark, Linda & families
Bill Tibbits & Marvin (Snooks) Tibbits by the Tibbits family
Curtis Humphrey (2), Viola Humphrey (2), Nora Humphrey (2), J. R. Humphrey (2) &
Evelyn Luker submitted by Jackie Logan
Don Suby submitted by Zelda Suby and family
Kenneth Peterson submitted by Richard Peterson & family.
Thank you for the extra contribution that was given to the FB&I Committee by
Zelda & Richard.

Bill Tibbits by Marlys (Tibbits) Pederson & Marlene (Tibbits) Jenkins
Herb Pederson, husband & father, by Marlys Pederson, Holly Pederson & family,
Ranae Willer & family, Gary Pederson & family, Shelly Hunter & family.
Selmer Pederson (grandfather) by Holly Pederson family, Ranae Willer family,
Gary Pederson family & Shelly Hunter family.

Mike Hyde by Sheilah & Jamie Hyde, Al & Jane Ramon & Andy & Pat Oswald (2)
Harley & Edith Ouverson, William & Edith Humphrey, Henry & Mary Ouverson by
Jean VanDenBosch

Linda Brunsvold by Jane & Tami Ramon
Individual lights were given by each family member in memory of Leverne & Reva
Nelson by Marie & Hugh Webb, Briana, Houston & Harrison, Christine & Neil Faqq
& Courtney, Cheryl & Dave Kapka, Audrey, Kelley & Dean, Lonny Nelson, Randy and
Laura Shropshire, Ryan and Amanda and Larry & Donna Nelson
Thelan & Lillian Elthon and Mable Elthon by Bob & Betty (Elthon) Dods

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LENNOX

(Memorial Lights Continued)

- Loretta Strickler by Jim & Vicky Ward
- Mike & Ginny Purcell by Pat, Colleen & Barb & families
- Levern Nelson by George & Nancy Ingham
- Bernard Orcutt by Violet Otis, Bonnie & Barry
- Dick Sheimo by Ardis, Tom, Nance & Trisca
- Roland Oswald by Ella, Mae, Butler
- Keith Sheimo, Dick Sheimo, Bard (Harold) Sheimo, Roger Felland, Kathleen Schlawin by Mavis Sheimo

What wonderful notes we received from many of you regarding the memories you have of Fertile. Thank you for your light contributions. Each year the money is used to do something special in Fertile.

If your name did not appear in this issue, it was probably not received by the cutoff date and will appear in the next issue.

Thank you all again for your support.
Fertile Betterment & Improvement Committee

FERTILE GARDEN CLUB

The Fertile Garden Club held their November meeting on Armistice Day at the home of Ginny Lovik, with Mary Anderson also as hostess. Eighteen members were present with our regular little guest Megan Kirschbaum. This meeting was a surprise to all members, but the officers, for a 'come as you are' party. We called each member either the night before or morning of the meeting. We got quite the responses!! Roll Call was "What were you doing when we called" It got pretty funny!

Secretary's Report was given by Linda and Treasurer's Report was given by Elaine. Members brought articles for the Forest City Food Bank and will finish bringing at our Christmas Party.

Election of Officers was held for 1998 as follows: President - Evelyn Elthon; Vice President - Diane Schultz; Secretary - Donna Ourverson; Treasurer - Cindy Sorenson.

Discussion was held on the distribution of our money. It will be finalized at the December meeting. We will also decide at that meeting on what plants to order for our Annual Plant Sale in May.

Pat gave the 'Thought Of The Day'. We also sang Happy Birthday to Marian Pitkin who will celebrate on November 22nd.

Edna, Marian and Fern told us about Armistice Day 1940. This was very interesting. We adjourned by singing the table prayer. Mary and Ginny served a delicious lunch. Next meeting will be our Christmas Party on Dec 9 at the Olde Creamery Tea House in Fertile, where we exchange gifts with our 'secret pal' and reveal who she was.

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 * one on your gift-giving list. *
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 * to ensure Christmas delivery. *
 * *****



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 * Phone 515-424-4480 *

Regency Mall
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 * Mason City, IA 50401 *
 * Phone 515-424-3323 *

DOWNTOWN CAFE
 New Hours
 * 6:30 AM - 2:30 PM Mon.-Fri. *
 * 6:30 AM - 1:30 PM Sat. *
 * Starting June 2nd *
 * Taco Night Discontinued *
 * Until Further Notice *
 * *****

C Need to make a dessert/salad for a get-
O together? Here is a delicious one.

O CHERRIES IN THE SNOW

- K** 3 cups water - boiling
 - S** dash of salt
 - 1 1/2 cups raw rice
 - K** COOK COVERED FOR 15 MIN. -
 - O** OVER MED. HEAT.
 - R** 3 cups milk
 - N** 1/2 cup sugar
 - E** 1 Tbsp. oleo
 - R** Cook over low heat until thickened.
- SOFTEN:
1 envelope Knox Gelatin in
1/3 cup milk

Stir into rice mixture. Cook 2-3 minutes longer. Stir in 1 tsp. Almond. COOL.

Fold in 1 package Cool Whip or Dream Whip. Chill 2-3 hours. Pour into glass serving dishes.

SPREAD on 1 pound can Cherry Pie Filling. This makes 2 large serving bowls.



*The teeth may be false, but let the tongue be true.
Alcohol in the brain is like sand in a motor.*

EASY LEMON BARS

- 1 package Angle Food Cake Mix
- 1 can Lemon Pie Filling or 1 large package Lemon pudding cooked and cooled.

FOLD pie filling into cake mix and pour into jelly roll pan. 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes.

(Sprinkle powdered sugar on top or frost.)



The night before you plan to clean your oven, place one cup of household ammonia in an old container inside on one of the oven racks. The next morning all you need to do is wipe clean.

Never throw away fresh lemon rinds without rubbing over hands, elbows and heels to whiten and soften the skin.

Remember when kids brought the teachers apples, instead of driving them bananas?

*
*
* PERSONAL TOUCH BEAUTY SALON
* TOM & NANCE SHEIMO 797-2422
*



K I D S

O THE ANT AND THE CRICKET

R A silly young cricket who decided to sing - through
N the warm sunny months of summer and spring
E Began to complain when he found that at home
R His Cupboards were empty and winter had come.

E At last by starvation the cricket made bold
R To hop through the wintertime snow and the cold
Away he set off to a miserly ant
To see if to keep him alive he would grant:
Shelter from rain, a mouthful of grain,
"I wish only to borrow - I'll repay it tomorrow -
If not, I must die of starvation and sorrow!"

*Said the ant to the cricket, "It's true I'm your friend,
But we ants store up crumbs so when winter arrives
We have just enough food to keep ants alive."*

Questions about the poem.

1. Use context clues to choose the correct definition of 'cupboards.'

___ Where books are stored ___ where food is stored ___ where shoes are stored.

2. Use context clues to choose the correct definition of "miserly."


___ selfish/stingy ___ generous/kind ___ mean/ugly

3. Use context clues to choose the correct definition of "grant".


___ to take away ___ to belch ___ to give.



A whale can go for 3 months without eating - And some snakes can exist for as long as two years without food by absorbing their own body fats.

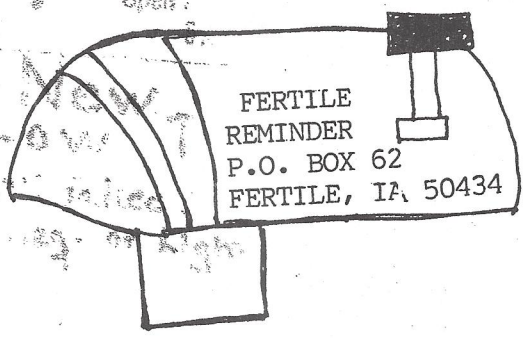


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Open Thanksgiving 8AM to 7pm

Open House



FERTILE LUMBER AND HARDWARE, INC.

December 6, 1997
7 AM to Noon

Free Cider or Coffee and Cookies.
In-store specials will be run from
December 6th to December 13th.

We thank those that have done business
with us this past year and wish All
a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.