Inflation makes you wonder what there is to be thankful for

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As we prepare the guest list and the food for this Thanksgiving feast, a lot of things will run through our minds. To start the ball rolling, we are having our Thanksgiving dinner at our house this year. Grandma and step-grandpa had to sell their house and move into an apartment. They just couldn't meet the bills to upkeep their house.

Grandma and grandpa aren't married either, we overlook this and love them both just the same (their pensions would be cut considerably if they got married so they just live together).

Then there is Uncle Gene and Aunt Ethel, but they can't make it this year because their old junker car broke down and they have seven children and they can't afford to have it fixed. Then there is Uncle Herman (poor man) and Aunt Jane, they won't be with us either. Uncle Herman died last week of a heart attack. He just came from the grocery store and the shock of the high prices killed him instantly.

Then cousin Peggy and her husband, Don, won't be coming due to the fact that Don just got laid off and they can't pay for gas. Cousin Ginny and her husband Phil would have come but they live in Seattle, Wash., and they heard all the gas stations will be closed. Well, our family of five will be here and the rest of the relation and that makes a total of 32.

We now go to the grocery store and buy the items we need. The turkey will have to be a big one, but I guess we can afford it. Candied yams are out, and so are one of the pies, banana bread and all other items that call for a lot of sugar. The children will have to drink water instead of milk; we can't afford it for our children, let alone somebody else's. Oh well, water is good for their teeth. So we cut a few corners on the dinner, saving a few pennies here and there.

Gee, I wonder what our relation will say when I tell them to bring a sweater to wear. I doubt if they will even notice how chilly it is in our house. We set the thermostat down to 68 degrees. I hope it's light enough outside so we don't have to turn on many lights. We sure can't afford another $45.96 electric bill before Christmas.

I guess Grandma will say grace this year. I better write one down and have her read it. There are so many things we have to thank God for, after all my husband is still working. I wonder if we should pray after dinner for the mess this country's economy is in. I think that would be a good idea. Oh Lord, thank You for our health and our children, I'm glad I have only three. Thank You for all the bills we were able to pay this year.

This Thanksgiving will probably be felt all over the country this year. The spirit of which has been considerably lost because of a word we have been hearing every day for a year, INFLATION. I think we, the people of Fremont, should get together and make sure this same thing does not spoil Christmas or any holidays next year.

Why should we go to the grocery store and pay $2.79 for five pounds of sugar or $1.60 for a gallon of milk? We should be sick and tired of going to the grocery store and seeing price tag after price tag pasted on top of another. How can these people who are laid off at Whirlpool, Controls, Chrysler, Quikut and any other place pay these ridiculous prices? How can older people on fixed incomes pay these prices? Those people on welfare can't afford anything. How can anyone with over three children afford to fix a well-balanced meal every day?

I think it is time we the working people, the people on pensions and anyone who is upset over this thing called inflation, all get together and do something about it. We cannot just sit back and do nothing and let prices rise higher and higher every day. We must use our freedom of speech and voice our opinion in this matter.

Fellow Fremonters I beg you to stand behind me and help fight this problem. If anybody has anything to say about inflation please sign your name and help me send ideas to Washington to President Ford and the rest of the people involved with inflation. Please write to me, so that I may send all our suggestions together in a registered letter to President Ford. I love the City of Fremont and I think we should show our love for this city by trying to help make it and our country a better place to live. Let's not let our holidays be ruined for our children and generations to come.

I am a determined person and will fight all the way to make things better for all those who are suffering over inflation.