“THANK YOU”

When I was in a college class of the late Batsell Barrett Baxter many years ago he told the story of a lady in the Hillsboro church where he preached, who sent “Thank You” notes to people, including him, and how much it meant to him.

Thinking it was a good idea I decided to do likewise to those who had done me a favor or benefited me in some special way. The real effectiveness of this came to light one time when I preached for a church in Arkansas.

We had logging trucks that used the road in front of my house. One day there appeared a large hole in the pavement and with each day it became larger. I said something to one of the elders about what to do to get it fixed and he said, “Talk to Hansel Herring, he might be able to do something.” Hansel was a member of the congregation.

The next time I had opportunity I mentioned the large hole to Hansel, not thinking much about it when he said, “I will see what I can do.” The next day the hole was repaired. I sent Hansel a note thanking him for taking care of the problem, and so quickly.

The next day it was all over town. Hansel, I was told, carried that note with him for the longest time, and showed it to people. He had been City Manager for over 25 years and had never received a “Thank You Note” from anyone. You see, I did not know he was the City Manager.

I have always remembered that and tried to remember to thank people who had been good to me. There are a lot of them both here and elsewhere and I will always be grateful. Paul said, “and be ye thankful.” (Col. 3:15) You just never know what an act of kindness will mean.