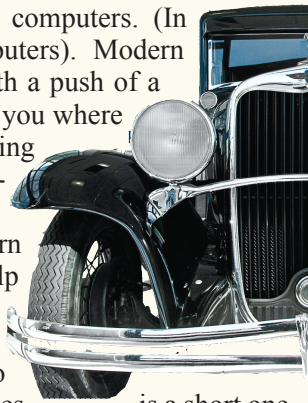


BY CHRIS LA PELUSA
chris@mysundaynews.com

HUNTLEY - Modern cars have computers. (In some cases, very intelligent computers). Modern cars talk to us, start remotely or with a push of a button (keys becoming archaic), tell you where to go (saving modern man from having to "ask for directions"), run on battery power, are voice-activated, can "sense" the road even if the modern driver doesn't, and can call for help by themselves in the event of an accident.



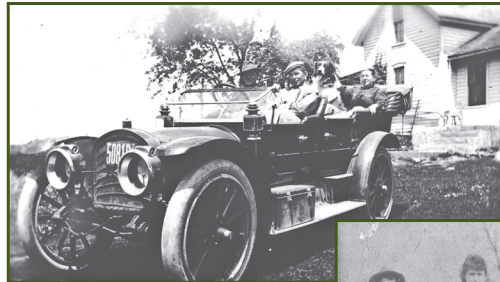
For all this technology, it's hard to believe that the history of automobiles is a short one. It wasn't too long before Hybrids and SUVs that there were Packards and Thriftmasters and Model Ts, cars that weren't assembled in a factory but shipped in pieces to the dealership for assembly there. Not too long ago in the grand scheme of things, at least. And like many towns in the Midwest, Huntley's roots in automotive history go back to almost the very beginning.

From dirt roads to the Rt. 47 widening project, Huntley has been on the move, starting with Paul Kreutzer, who owned the first car in Huntley, a 1906 Thomas B. Jeffery he purchased in Belvidere for \$1,150 cash on June 2 of the same year as the car's make.

What follows in this special feature is a pictorial history of Huntley's automotive past. So from the Buick dealership that used to be where Strode's Furniture now stands and the gas station and auto shop that is now Anchor Spa and Pool on Main Street to modern-day Drendel's Corner and Tom Peck Ford, we hope you enjoy the scenic ride into Huntley's automotive history.

Cruisin' down Memory Lane

From past to present, a special look at Huntley's automotive history



The Beginning

Courtesy of Kreutzer and Drendel Families

Above: Paul Kreutzer owned the first car in Huntley, a 1906 Thomas B. Jeffery, purchased for \$1,150.



Right: George Drendel (far left) cranks up their family automobile. The Drendel's are among the first Huntley residents to own a car.



Left: Legion home circa 1930s. The structure was originally a service station.

All material and information provided by and assembled with the help of Huntley Historians Jake Marino, Tom Conly, and Huntley Historian and Images of America Huntley author Nancy Bacheller. Other resources provided by the Huntley Area Public Library. Permission for use of photos credit in captions.



Route 47
Taxi Transportation
224-858-4480
877-860-4747

Low flat rates to O'Hare, Midway, and the Loop
We accept all credit cards; no checks please

\$3 OFF our \$55 service to/from O'Hare
\$5 OFF our \$83 service to/from Midway

\$7 Flat Rate within Huntley limits for Sun City residents only

FENZEL

MOTOR SALES INC.

RELIABILITY • SAFETY • ECONOMY • SERVICE

"There's a reason we've been in business since 1942."

206 S. State Street • Hampshire
847-683-2424

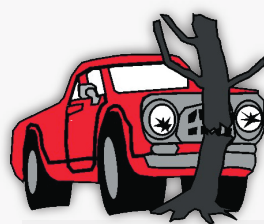
Ranked one of the highest in CUSTOMER SATISFACTION by Chrysler

PREMIER

EVE

We invite everyone who is thinking of a new vehicle in the near future to come to Fenzel and see for yourselves why we and Chrysler are the most solidly built American engineered vehicles. We are meeting your driving needs with the utmost in reliability.

Service Stations & Dealerships



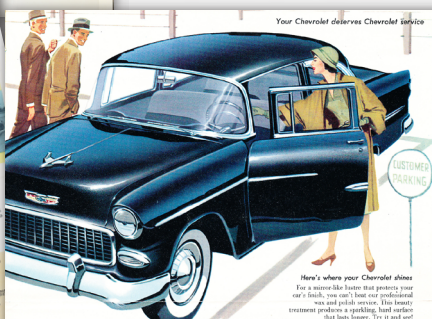
Present Day



By the 1940s, automobiles were the main mode of transportation in Huntley. Rt. 47 was established and most, if not all, roads were paved, which led

the way to present-day notables such as Tom Peck Ford, Drendel's Corner Mobil, Huntley Collision Center, and Coyote Auto, who continue Huntley's long history on the road.

Huntley Auto Memorabilia



FOR A FEW DOLLARS, YOUR CHEVROLET CAN LOOK LIKE A MILLION!

Here's where your Chevrolet shines

For a service that leaves your car's finish, you can't beat our professional wax and polish service. This beauty treatment produces a sparkling, hard surface that lasts longer. It's a real wow!

There'll be plenty of admiring glances in your direction after our Chevrolet service experts restore your car to its original luster. "Showroom glazes" restore with a gleaming wax polish after any needed touch-up and paint touch-up. You, you'll have that "dressed up" feeling again and the value of your Chevrolet will be enhanced, too. A beauty treatment done by our experts is more than worth the moderate cost.



BEN HANSFORD CHEVROLET

Main Street HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS Phone 2251



Then / Now



Courtesy of Jim Weltzien



Featured here is the Weltzien building located on Main Street. It was built in 1922 by John F. Weltzien for his Ford dealership. He also sold Standard Oil products and operated as a gas station. Note the three pumps in front of the building. Today the Weltzien building is owned by Larry Hayes, president of Anchor Spa and Pool, Inc. Not much remains of the old dealership or service station today. However a pair of old V8 emblems (as shown in circle frame above) is still painted on the original brick wall behind Anchor's new showroom. It's in this area that cars were serviced.

ROSEN ROSEN ROSEN
www.rosenrosenrosen.com
 771 S. Randall Road, Algonquin

SPECIAL SUN CITY PRICING

(with this ad)

Doug Just ask for:
Howison

YOUR Sun City Neighbor
 Phone: 847.854.6700
 Cell: 847.602.2644

NIERE

buying a new or replacement
enzel Motors in Hampshire and
er Corporation can offer you safe
vehicles to take care of your mo-
ity, safety, economy & service!

COME SEE THE ALL NEW 2011 LINE UP!



2011 Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, and Ram Trucks backed by a 5-Year/100,000 Mile Drive Warranty and Chrysler's Strong Engineering Heritage.

WE PROVIDE SERVICE & MAINTENANCE FOR MOST MAKES OF VEHICLES.