

Between you and me



and me

By SARAH ECKOLS

Today I'd like to talk about life's little irritations. Of course, there isn't room on these pages to list them all, so I'll just run through a few that have really been bugging me lately.

Last week I had the misfortune to break one of my contacts. Now this brought to mind one of the foremost pet peeves on my list. I have heard at least 50 times in the last few days, "Oh, I didn't know you wore contacts." This is simply because I don't make a habit of walking up to people and saying, "Hello, I'm Sarah; I wear contact lenses." Now at least 2,000 or so readers know my secret.

This week end I went to New Mexico for a couple of days to take care of some business. Now if you have ever been through the country between Alamogordo and Albuquerque, you know that it is a desert. Why then, must there be signs stating "Watch for Water?" Perhaps in view of the lack of water in this area, the highway department of New Mexico wishes for any water spotted by passing motorists to be reported so that it might be preserved immediately. Then there are the signs one perpetually sees in mid summer saying, "Watch for ice perpetually sees in mid summer saying, "Watch for Ice on Bridge," or in the middle of a drought, "Slippery When Wet."

Taking a top spot among my pet peeves is the hygiene advertisements on TV. Must one be assaulted constantly on the tube in the big middle of a movie with deodorant, soap, toothpaste, detergent, shampoo and now days very personal product advertisements. I find it particularly crude and gross. There is no privacy over the air anymore. Subjects that weren't even spoken about some years ago are advertised openly these days.

I suppose the one that really stands out above all is the funeral home advertising on television. Sometimes they make it sound as though one ought to rush out and take advantage of this week's special!

When was the last time you spent, or even saw for that matter, a two dollar bill? For most of us, I'm sure it has been quite a while. The last one I remember having in my possession was several years ago and my mother told me it was bad luck. Sure enough, it was. My mother bought it from me, I spent the two one dollar bills she paid me for it and she still has the old two dollar bill.

Get ready. The shiny new Bicentennial coins that have just come out this year will soon be joined by the old two dollar bill with a new look. The two dollar bill will return to the American scene on April 13, 1976, after an absence of 13 years.

The return of the two dollar bill is estimated to save the Bureau of Engraving and Printing \$27 million in printing costs over the next five years.

On the face of the new bill will be the old Gilbert Stuart portrait of Thomas Jefferson which was on the original issue. However, on the reverse side instead of Jefferson's home at Monticello, will be a reproduction of John Trumbull's painting of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

In a recent viewing of the NBC nightly news, this reporter saw a man-on-the-street type of interview being conducted asking John Public's opinion of the two dollar bill. Most said they thought them to be counterfeit and would not trade the newsman two dollars for the bill. Some laughed at the idea.

It will be very new and different to those of us who can not remember the two dollar bill being in common circulation. I, for one, think it is a good idea and am looking forward to seeing them in April. As most of us know one dollar buys very little anymore anyway.

To my fellow late shoppers, we only have one week from today to shop for Christmas gifts. I don't in the least since consider myself stingy, but I am sure there are few, if any others, who dread the task of shopping more than I. The indecision of what to buy and how much to spend and sizes simply drives me up the proverbial wall. I usually end up rushing out on Christmas Eve when there is no great selection to confuse me and buy what seems best on the final impulse of necessity.

The following poem was published in the December, 1975 issue of Texas Co-Op Power, the monthly paper published by home-owned electric cooperatives. We enjoyed it very much and thought those of our readers who do not receive the co-op paper might enjoy it too. The poem is entitled "Remembered Christmas."

I once thought that Christmas meant sleigh bells and snows,
And gifts gaily tied in bright ribbons and bows,
Till one day an old man with a much wiser head
Who spoke not religion but lived it instead,
Knowing that on Christmas the gifts would be few,
Succeeded in changing my whole point of view;
For pulling a chair alongside me one day
He talked as he whittled an old board away.

"Christmas," he told me, "is a way of livin',
Not ours for the takin', but ours for the givin'.
The best gifts are not tied with ribbons and bows,
Things like faith and love and cheery 'hello,'
And whether a Christmas is bounteous or lean
It's the birthday of Christ. Do you get what I mean?"
The bell that he rang was as clear as could be,
And Christmas took on a new meaning for me.

Our snowman that year, the best of them all,
Wore his stovepipe hat more stately and tall,
The popcorn popped to the very last grain,
And somehow we managed one big candy cane.
The carols that year rang out so much sweeter,
Two little tin soldiers played follow the leader!
Though sparse were the gifts, the tree held much splendor,
For that year it glowed with thoughts of the sender.

Remembered Christmas! Could I ever forget
Those words of wisdom that abide with me yet?
Christmas that year was the best we ever had,
For that wise old man (guess you know) was my dad!
Today, because of him, the snow falls whiter,
And I know the Star of the East shines brighter,
And whether a Christmas is bounteous or lean,
It's the birthday of Christ, do you get what I mean?
Laura Baker Haunes



UNDER CONSTRUCTION-A construction worker hammers away at the construction site of the new apartment complex which is expected to be

Apartment Complex To Be Ready In March

Twenty apartment units currently being constructed in Merkel under a 40-year federal Farm and Home Administration loan are expected to be ready for occupancy by the first of March, announced Arthur E. Stone, one of the project's architects.

Construction contract is for \$220,000.

The apartments are located directly south of I-20 across the interstate from the Big Country Inn.

Designed for moderate income families, the apartments will be rented according to a scale that takes into account each family's individual income.

A family with a yearly income in the range of \$6,000-\$7,000 will qualify for the minimum rental rate, which will be around \$120 per month for a one-bedroom, \$140 for a two-bedroom, and \$160 for a three-bedroom.

Persons under 62 years of age who have an income above \$12,000 per year will not be eligible to live in the apartments, according to Mrs. Annette Clark, who is to manage the project here.

Called the Shannonside Apartments, the new dwellings are to be owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Shannon of Merkel and by Reynolds and Stone, Architects, of Dallas.

The 20 apartments include eight one-bedroom, eight

Adult Choir To Present Cantata At Tye Church

The Adult Choir of the First Baptist Church of Tye will present John W. Peterson's cantata, "Joy to the World" Sunday evening December 21, at 7 o'clock, Harrell Greer is director of the choir program at the church.

Accompanists for the evening will be Nancy Moore and Mrs. David McFall. Mrs. Steve Hillhouse, Charles Treadway, and Leonard Payne will be presenting solos during the presentation.

John W. Peterson is a foremost composer and arranger of religious music. This cantata is only one of many he has written. It combines well-known Christmas carols, new hymn-tunes for some, and new carols appearing only in "Joy to the World." A narrator interlocks the beautiful story of Christ's birth being depicted in the music with the biblical account. Many of the musical lyrics are taken directly from scripture.

Our services are always open to anyone who would come seeking Him.

Merkel Approved For \$30,400 HUD Grant In Phase I

Congressman Omar Burleson announced earlier this week the approval of a federal Community Development Block HUD grant to the city of Merkel in the amount of \$30,400.

This grant is phase I of a 4 phase total application that has been submitted to HUD for approval.

Phase one is a water system improvements program designed to eliminate dead end water mains in the distribution system in Merkel and give a complete circulation of water around and through out the community. This will not only improve the quality of the water and assist in the compliance with

the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, it will also benefit the whole community from a stand point of fire protection.

"These are improvements which would have to be made in the near future anyway," stated city coordinator, J. been funded through HUD the

money would have necessarily come from the citizens of Merkel through increased water and sewer rates and higher taxes. Compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act will become mandatory.

The water system improvement project involves 4000 feet of 6 inch water mains, 4-3 way firehydrants, one highway crossing, one railroad crossing, all necessary valves, casing and materials in place and street repair and pavement cuts by the city.

The project is designed to give the needed circulation of water thereby relieving a chlorine residual deficiency through the elimination of dead-end mains, plus assurance of a constant availability of water by token of an additional tie between supply and storage. Also, fire protection will be increased not only in the area of construction, but for the whole community as well. This project is to be constructed in and will serve areas of low-income families, minority groups, 235 housing and school facilities both educational and recreational. The project is in accordance with needs and requirements called for by the Texas Department of Health and WCT COG Rural Comprehensive Plan Local Div. W/S 1970/1990.

In a news conference Monday evening, Mayor Lou David Allen expressed the approval, appreciation and gratitude of the Merkel City Council to J. A. Sadler for his efforts in making this application to HUD, pushing it through the first steps and in the end making this type of funding possible for Merkel.

Hard work and perseverance on the part of the city coordinator have made progress a part of the city government of Merkel, according to the mayor. The mayor expressed his view that Merkel is very lucky to have such a man as Sadler managing the city office.

Merkel Stock Show Slated For January 10

The annual Merkel Livestock Show will be held January 10 at the Merkel FFA show barn. The show will begin at 1 p.m., but for the advantage of those who would like to see the animals before show time, they will be in the stalls by 10 a.m. The Merkel Livestock shows for all FFA and 4-H students in the Merkel school system. Serving as judge for this year's show will be Billy

According to the number expected, there should be from 90 to 160 animals in this year's show. This number includes about 23 lambs, 7 steers, 4 heifers, 4 capons and over 50 hogs. Entries for the show must be turned in to Chester Collinsworth, vocational agriculture teacher or Benny Melton at the Merkel Chamber of Commerce office no later than noon, January 7.

Superintendents and assistants this year will be George English, L. J. Gray and Dwain English in the swine division; Arthur Browne, Tom Swinney and Glen Browne in the lamb division and Eddie Glenn Sandusky and son Grant Sandusky in the cattle division.

Serving on the finance committee this year will be David Gamble, Arthur Browne, George English, T. J. Neill, Loyd Gilmore, Leon Harris and Jack Boone. Money will be raised December 29. The people of Merkel and this area have always been willing to donate to this cause to help the kids offset some of the feed bills and cost of raising these animals. The Showmanship trophy will be presented by Taylor Electric Co-op of Merkel.



LADIES NIGHT SPEAKER-Dr. Rupert Richardson, President Emeritus of Hardin-Simmons University, was guest speaker for the annual Ladies Night Banquet at the Merkel Lions Club Tuesday evening. Dr. Richardson used a Bi-Centennial theme for his address.

Outlook Good For Sales Increase For Local Merchants

"More people spending more money at more local stores" is making for a more profitable Christmas shopping season for merchants this year than last, according to Merkel Chamber of Commerce president Benny Melton.

The outlook is good for an increase in sales over 1974, he commented.

"If it weren't for our losing Castille Hardware in a

fire, we'd really have a record season considering all the new and expanding firms here," he noted.

Farmers and Merchants bank president Don Hensley agreed with the observation.

"All the stores are busy-- busier than last year--and it looks like a lot more people are staying in Merkel to do their Christmas shopping," Hensley said.

Trent Stock Show Set For January 8

Trent FFA wishes to announce its annual Livestock Show which will be Thursday, January 8, 1975 at 2:30 P.M. A barbecue supper will conclude the activities at 7:00 P.M. in the Trent High School Cafeteria. Everyone is invited to attend.

Donations for the Show can be sent to Rocky King, V.O. Ag. Teacher Box 82, Trent, Texas 79561. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated.

Yule Concert December 18

The Merkel junior high and high school bands and choirs will present a Christmas concert at 8 p.m. Thursday, December 18, in the school auditorium.

Directed by Daryll Kaire, the groups will perform such Christmas music as "Silver Bells," "Winter Wonderland," and a medley of traditional carols.

All groups have been at work since before Thanksgiving on numbers for the program, which will last an hour and a half, Kaire said.

Both choirs will be assisted by Mrs. Katherine Stuckey, pianist and assistant director.

A total of 57 musicians in

the high school band, 70 in the junior high, 24 in the high school choir and 60 in the junior high will perform.

Three Merkel Students Make All-District

Three Merkel High School students have been named to All-District Band.

They competed for the honor with other students from 1A and 2A schools in the area on Saturday, December 6 in Sweetwater.

Senior Debbie Beard on bass clarinet, junior Doug Roysden on clarinet and sophomore Todd Cox on string bass are the three who qualified for the honor. Band director Daryll Kaire sponsored the trip to the contest.

Schools To Dismiss Friday For Holidays

Travis Davis, principal of Merkel High School has announced that the Merkel and Tye Public Schools will dismiss on Friday, December 19 for the Christmas Holidays. Buses will run regular routes at this time. Classes will resume at the regular time on January 5, 1976.

The Trent Public Schools will dismiss for the Christmas Holidays, Friday, December 19 at 2:30 p.m. it was announced by Roy Neff, superintendent. Trent classes will resume on Monday, January 5, 1976 at the regular time.

Candlelight Service

The Reverend Dwight E. Wilcher, minister of Pioneer Memorial United Methodist Church has announced there will be a candlelight service in the church at 7, December 24. The service will consist of music, solos, Christmas hymns, scriptures, prayers and drama. The community is invited to share in this service.

There will also be a special program at seven o'clock on the evening of December 21, at which time the White Christmas offering will be received for the Methodist Home for Children at Waco.

Dream Of Many Years Comes True For Local Merchant

Part Two of a Series:
MERKEL MERCHANTS

"This is something that Dad has wanted to do for about a hundred and fifty years," Bob Hammond said of the new Ben Franklin store that recently opened in Merkel.

The move from the store that he has had since 1941 at 129 Edward Street in Merkel to the four-times-larger operation on Kent and North Second has been the subject of contemplation for a long time, John Hammond agreed.

His son Bob, 24 years old, admitted that he had at one time scoffed at the idea that Merkel could support such a large operation.

Finally the elder Hammond had a survey made. And the survey indicated that there was indeed a need for a larger variety store here.

"Dad showed me the results of the survey, and I laughed again," Bob said, grinning. "I had always thought of Merkel as a parasite of Abilene. Of course this," he indicated the store filled with customers shopping early on a weekday morning, "proves that I was wrong."

Hammond commented that as holder of the Ben Franklin franchise he is able to buy and therefore to sell merchandise at a lower price than many other retailers, since there are 2500 Ben Franklin stores over the globe increasing the chain's buying power.

He remarked that many people have told him, "Now that you're here, I won't have to go to Abilene nearly so much anymore."

"They're the best people in the world around here," he went on. "When people thank you like these do for selling you something, you're fortunate."

The store, which opened on November 20, encompasses 10,000 square feet. The structure is 100 x 100 feet square with a glass and brick front. Construction on it began in July.

Asked about his other interests in life, Hammond laughed and said, "My main hobby is the Ben Franklin



JOHNNY HAMMOND
... in new 'dream' store



store." "And it's a good thing," he continued, "because if you're going to spend all of your time at something, it ought to be something that you like."

Hammond, who was born in New Mexico and then worked for a while in East Texas, came here to take over the store in '41 from a brother-in-law who was leaving the business.

In his 34 years as a merchant he has become acquainted with many hundreds of townspeople. Many of them have long since moved he remembers well.

"I love high school homecoming time," he remarked. "Then I often see people who I haven't seen in 20 or more years."

The future of Merkel business looks bright when one considers that it is to be placed in the hands of the likes of energetic young Bob Hammond.

With experience working in retail stores in Lubbock and Abilene, Bob declares that he finds a small town like

Merkel is unquestionably his preference in the way of a place to live and work.

He cites the brusque manner of doing business, both on the part of the customers and the storekeepers, as an undesirable aspect of a larger population center. "I would like to see Merkel be a small town with a population of 10,000 rather than a city with a population of 2,000," is the way he puts it.

Bob, who went to McMurry and Angelo State, recalls his first business venture.

"Dad wanted to get each of his four sons set up in business. So when I was a senior in high school he fixed me up with a service station to operate.

"Right away I got stuck for \$200--telling friends they could pay later and things like that. It was then I learned

that 'friends' and 'business' are two entirely different words," the amiable, lanky blond young man said.

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SENIOR CITIZENS SCHEDULE EVENTS
1st Monday of Month Singing
2nd Tuesday Noon Covered Dish Luncheon
Game Nights Every Thursday & 4th Monday
4th Thur. Game Night Reserved for Talented Amateurs.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Scott Honored On Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Scott will be honored on their 40th wedding anniversary with an open house in their home on Route 3, Merkel Sunday, December 21, from 2 until 5 p.m.

Hosting the celebration will be their daughter, Mrs. J. D. Alexander of Camp Hill, Pennsylvania; daughters-in-law, Mrs. Payton Scott of Rising Star, Mrs. David Scott and Mrs. Barry Scott of Merkel; granddaughters, Theresa Scott and Holly Scott; sisters of Mrs. Scott, Mrs. A. E. Palk of Denver, Colorado, Mrs. Frank Brnovak of Merkel, Mrs. E. N. Powell of Roswell, New Mexico; also nieces, Judy Ernovak, Beth Palk and Mrs. Forrest Harlow of Commerce.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott were married in Abilene, December 19, 1935 by the Rev. Author Kendall, pastor of Nubia Methodist Church. They have lived in Mulberry Canyon since their marriage, farming in the Butman community and the Blair community. They are still engaged in stock farming.

Mr. Scott was born in Eastland County in 1917, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Scott. The family moved to Whitharrell in the early 30's and to Merkel in 1933.

Mrs. Scott is the former Mabel Butman, daughter of Mrs. Sam Butman Jr. and the late Sam Butman Jr. She was born in Mulberry Canyon as were both of her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott are members of Pioneer Memorial Methodist Church.

Teacher Training Planned By UT

A new program launched by The University of Texas is designed to be a boon for community colleges.

The UT program will give special teacher training to Ph. D. students (who already are well grounded in an academic discipline) so they may become good teachers in two-year community colleges. The training consists of special teaching seminars plus on-the-job experience as interns in community colleges.

UT Austin, which has the nation's oldest and largest community college leadership program, has trained more junior college presidents and deans than any other university.

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CHERRIES 10 OZ BOTTLE 39¢

MANDARIN
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BEST MAID SWEET
PICKLES 22OZ JAR 69¢

KRAFT 13OZ JAR

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KARO QT JAR 89¢

KRAFT
MINATURE Marshmallows 6½OZ PKG 25¢

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FRUIT COCKTAIL DEL MONTE 303 CAN 39¢

YAMS SUGARY SAM 22OZ CAN 45¢

OYSTERS GULF BELLE 8OZ CAN 59¢

STUFFED OLIVES KIMBELL 7OZ BOTTLE 79¢

PRESERVES GRIFFIN STRAWBERRY 18OZ 69¢

TUNA VAN CAMP FLAT CAN 49¢

FLOUR GOLD MEDAL 5LB BAG 79¢

PEPSI COLA OR
DR. PEPPER 64 OZ BOTTLE 69¢

CHOPPED DATES DROMEDARY 8OZ PKG 39¢

ANGEL FLAKE COCONUT BAKERS 7 OZ PKG 49¢

VANILLA WAFERS NABISCO 12OZ BOX 49¢

POTATO CHIPS PRINGLES 9OZ PKG 79¢

JELLO REG PKG 25¢

TIDE KING SIZE \$1.79

OLEO PARKAY LB PKG 49¢

MIXED NUTS TOM SCOTT 13OZ CAN 69¢

MILK MARIGOLD 2% HOMO GAL \$1³⁹

EGG NOG FOREMOST OR GANDY'S QT 79¢

WHIPPING CREAM GANDY'S OR FOREMOST CRT 39¢

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EAST TEXAS
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Miss Rister Is Bride Of Paul Tucker In Moc Wedding

Becky Rister became the bride of Paul Tucker in a mock double ring ceremony before an archway flanked on each side with seven white tapers in the Merkel High School Auditorium Tuesday, December 16 at 9:30 a.m. Steve Peachey officiated for the mock wedding before members and guests of the home and family living class of Merkel High School under the direction of Mrs. Grimes.

The bride is the daughter of Larry Smith and Carla Fariello and the bridegroom is the son of Chuck Knight and Susie Toombs, all of Merkel High School.

Serving the bridegroom as

best man was John Cain Groomsman were Bart Whisenhunt, Bobby Saldana, Robert Cullum, Wesley Jones, Robert Mathewson and Mike Hicks.

Maid of honor was Kathryn Murrell and brides maids were Patty Toney, Clesta Cochran, Rhonda Howes, Rhonda Toney, Audy Byrd and Suzette Santee. They wore formal length gowns of pastel yellow and each carried a long-stemmed yellow rosebud.

Ushers were Ronnie Cox, Robert Mathewson, Robert Cullum, Bob Saldana, Mike Hicks and Bart Whisenhunt.

The bride, given in marriage by her father wore a

white formal length traditional wedding gown. Her veil of illusion which formed the chapel train was held by a Juliet cap and she carried a white floral arrangement.

Serving at the reception following the ceremony were Karolyn Davis, Melody Regeon, Cindy Tahon and Teresa Griffith. White wedding cake and punch were served.

The students have had a unit on wedding etiquette. Each one sent wedding invitations which he had prepared. Approximately 60 guests attended.

The honeymoon was cut short by the second period bell!

Part Two of a Series SENIOR CITIZENS

Eighty-nine-year-old Eliza Hobbs' best memories are of chopping cotton in the fields.

"I didn't have a care in the world while I was going down those rows," the resident of Starr Nursing Home grinned.

As a child in a family that included six daughters but no sons, Eliza found that many less-than-feminine outdoor tasks were left to the girls--and she didn't mind a bit.

"Then when I got married when I was 19 I couldn't go out and chop cotton any more--I had to stay at home and take care of the little ones," she said.

Mrs. Hobbs, born in Edwards County, has lived in and around Merkel for 81 years, the daughter and the wife of West Texas farmers.

At this time of year, Mrs. Hobbs likes to remember the Christmases of her girlhood.

"We'd all go out and cut down a cedar tree in the mountains," she said.

"Then we'd exchange little gifts--nothing expensive like folks do now," she remembered, saying that among

her favorite presents were little dolls made of cotton for which some thoughtful aunt had sewn a frilly dress--never at a cost of more than 25 cents, she believes.

With six girls around the house, two younger and three older than Eliza, there were always plenty of young men coming to call, staying for dinner or escorting one of the young ladies to church.

"Church was about the only place we'd go when we went out with boys," she smiled.

"We didn't go all the time to all kinds of places like the young folks do now."

She recalled fondly the sumptuous meals that her mother prepared for the hardworking farming family--meals that sometimes featured several kinds of pies and cakes at once.

Mrs. Hobbs' husband died six years ago, when he was 91. She had met him when she was a young girl and he was farming near the 5th community.

She had seven children of her own, four of whom are still living.

She is opposed to women's lib.

"They should let men run things," she firmly believes.

A supporter of President Ford, she nodded. "He tells some good things."

Mrs. Hobbs' days at the nursing home now are brightened by her two favorite television programs.

One is Hee Haw. The name of the other she couldn't recall.

"That blond man that comes on every evening and picks the guitar--what's his

name?" she inquired of one of her fellow nursing home dwellers.

Then she remembered. "Oh, yes - Porter Wagoner!"

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A FLEA MARKET DEC. 13th
DEALERS ARE WELCOME!

The Light Touch

BY PAT CASTILLE

People rarely think alike, except when they buy wedding presents.

The only way to make a buck these days is to earn five.

The weaker sex is the stronger sex because of the weakness of the stronger sex for the weaker sex.

The older we get, the noisier children are.

Pension: month-to-month resuscitation.

You'll breathe easier when that last gift is bought and wrapped. See our brand new merchandise at CASTILLE HARDWARE & GIFTS. Free gift wrap- phone - 928-5310 temporary location (old Ben Franklin Store).

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214 Edwards Ph. 928-5310

Holiday Treat Recipes Shared

With Christmas right around the corner, many folks around Merkel have plans for treats to whip up to have on hand to serve during holiday festivities.

Mrs. W. T. Sadler, the doctor's wife, has contributed her recipe for Cheese Roll, which she notes is great for entertaining this time of year.

- CHEESE ROLL**
1 1/2 lb. sharp cheese
3 small packages of cream cheese
1 1/2 tsp. red pepper
2 garlic buttons (juice squeezed out)
1 tsp. lemon juice
1 1/2 teasp. salt
1/2 to 1 cup pecans (chopped fine)
Mix well. Then roll in waxed paper. Make a roll in waxed squares.
- SOUR CREAM FUDGE**
4 cups sugar
2 3/4 cup sour cream
1 1/2 stick oleo
1 tbs. vanilla
Cook to soft ball stage. Let stand 15 minutes. Then beat until loses gloss. Add nuts. Pour into pan; cut into squares.

Gleaners Sunday School Christmas Dinner

The Gleaners Sunday School Class of the First United Methodist Church of Merkel held their Christmas party December 16, at the Big Country Inn with a dinner and party.

Mrs. T. K. Anderson read "One Solitary Life" by Loren Green, and Mrs. Russell McAnally offered the blessing for the meal.

Gifts were exchanged by Mrs. Russell McAnally, Mrs. W. F. Smart and the following members, Mesdames T. K. Anderson, W. S. J. Brown, Mary Click, C. A. Cox, Johnny Cox, Denzel Cox, Wilmer Criswell, Winnie Cyfert, Floyd Davis, O. R. Douglas, Anna Dunn, Wade Ensminger, Oswald Everett, E. P. Farmer, D. S. Gregory, Dee Grimes, C. E. Harwell, Ada Mae Johnson, Tom Largent, Dewel McLeon, Etta McWilliams, Dee Moore, Kenneth Pee, Joe Seymour, John Shannon, W. A. Stock-

bridge, Kenneth Swiger, W. Toombs, Georgia Zimmerman, Leon Toombs, J. T. Howerton, Jim Richards and Miss Mable McRee and Miss Louise Hudson.

--MRS. JYNELL FARMER

- PEANUT BUTTER LOGS**
1 box powdered sugar
1 cup peanut butter
1 cup graham cracker crumbs
1 cup chopped pecans
1 cup oleo, melted
Mix all ingredients together. Roll into small balls. Chill until firm. Then melt a 12-ounce package of chocolate chips and 1 tablespoon of paraffin. Dip balls into chocolate chip-paraffin mixture, which makes them firm and keeps them from getting sticky.

--MRS. BILL HAYES

Slightly wilted parsley leaves can be freshened by trimming off the ends of the stems and placing them in cold water.

Cub Scout News

There will be a Cub Scout pack meeting at the scout hut at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, December 18.

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From 2 Til 5p.m.

ANNOUNCING

The Opening Of The New Addition To

HAPPY HAVEN NURSING CENTER

1751 No. 15th Street
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Public Invited

As Announced By
MRS. JULIE LAWSON, OWNER
And
MRS. LINDA BROWN, ADMINISTRATOR

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7:40a.m. 12:40p.m. and
10:40a.m. 2:40p.m. 4:40p.m.



Christmas Greetings from Mr. & Mrs. John Curtis come straight from the heart. Every employee at KWFA appreciates your cheerful consideration during the busy holiday season and wish for you every happiness this Christmas. Not just a wish for Christmas, but for every day in the New Year from KWFA and the entire staff. These glad Tidings have been extended to you from:

Mr. & Mrs. John Curtis, Mr. & Mrs. Finley Barnett,
J.W. Brewer, Jimmy Land, Mac Sipe,
James Chaney, Manuel Hernandez, & Bill Miller, engineer



1975 marks 60th

MR., MRS. CLYDE JONES



... 1915 wedding picture



60th anniversary

MR., MRS. M.E. WEST



... 1915 wedding picture

Wedding And 60th Anniversary Shared By Stith Couples

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Jones and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. West grew up together in the Stith Community. Mr. West and Mrs. Jones even grew up in the same home, since they

were brother and sister. Mr. and Mrs. West and Mr. and Mrs. Jones were married in a double wedding December 19, 1915 at the home of Mrs. West's parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Miller, with

Rev. E. E. Dawson, pastor of Stith Baptist Church, officiating. The Jones and the Wests have been neighbors for sixty years and will celebrate their 60th, wedding anniversaries Sunday, December 21 with a reception in the Stith Community Center from 2 to 4 p.m. Children of the two couples will be hosts.

retired farmer and they are members of Merkel Church of Christ. Mr. Jones has been an elder over 50 years.

Norman Winter, 1820 Beechwood, Abilene, and Mrs. Jessie Dillon, sister of Mr. West and Mrs. Jones.

and Mrs. Glen Bicknell of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Ball of Lubbock and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hostick of Abilene.

The couples are in touch almost every day, and they see each other two or three times a week.

Mrs. Clora Stevens' Rites Held Monday

Mrs. Clora Driver Stevens, 83, of Merkel died at 11:55 p. m. Friday at Hendrick Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness. Services were at 2 p.m. Monday at First Baptist Church in Merkel.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor, officiated. Burial was in Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene, directed by Starbuck

Merkel Visitors

E. N. Dowell of Hobbs, New Mexico has been visiting in the home of his sister and her husband, Rev. and Mrs. W. G. Richardson.

Card Of Thanks

IN REGARD TO OUR beloved sister, Mrs. Dewey F. Garmany, we sincerely thank each and every one of this community for being so nice and thoughtful during our troubles.

The Brothers and Sisters of Mrs. Dewey F. Garmany

Funeral Home. Born February 5, 1892, in Williamson County, she married Albert Driver in 1911 in Roby. He died in 1960. She moved to Merkel in 1966 and married Cecil Stevens in 1973 in Merkel. She was a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband; a son, J. D. Driver of Lovington, N. M.; four daughters, Mrs. Jewel King of Fort Worth, Mrs. Dave Dorman of Casper, Wyoming, Mrs. John Harrell of Irving and Mrs. Bernard McGee of Rawlins, Wyoming; two stepdaughters, Mrs. Billy Joe Toombs of Abilene and Mrs. C. E. Tipton of Merkel; a stepson, C. C. Stevens of Lubbock; a brother, Otis Davis of Merkel; three sisters, Mrs. Mary Baker of Chickasa, Oklahoma, Mrs. Ethel Cox of Merkel and Mrs. Houston Tiner of Merkel; 16 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

A son, Harold Driver, and a daughter, Audrey Driver, preceded her in death.

CARD OF THANKS

I WISH TO THANK My friends and neighbors who helped so much at the time of our loss of our loved one Mrs. Clora Driver Stevens. The flowers and food were greatly appreciated. A special thanks for the blood donors.

The Driver Children Mrs. C. A. Cox Otis Davis Letha Tiner 43-1tp

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74 GMC 1/2 ton, V8, 4 speed air, power, beige	\$3495
73 PONTIAC CATALINA 4 door hard-top. Air and power, 33,000 miles. Silver with black vinyl top. Real nice. ONLY	\$3395
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73 OLDS 88 4-door Sedan air and power, AM-FM Stereo. Bronze color, beige vinyl top. Nice, only	\$2795

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For savings on energy, set the thermostat on the temperature setting that provides adequate comfort. Don't continually switch it up and down. Remember, the lower you set the thermostat in the winter the more money you save on energy.

A wood burning fireplace should be equipped with an efficient damper. Be sure to keep the damper closed when not in use. A chimney with the damper open carries warm air out the house, wasting heat.

To decrease heat loss and reduce energy cost in rooms that are not in use at night or in extremely cold weather, draw the draperies and lower the shades over the windows, glass panels and doors. If the sun is shining on glass areas, open the draperies. The sun shining through the glass will supply additional heat at no cost.

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I.G. DAIRY FRESH 1/2 GAL CRTN 73¢ BUTTER MILK
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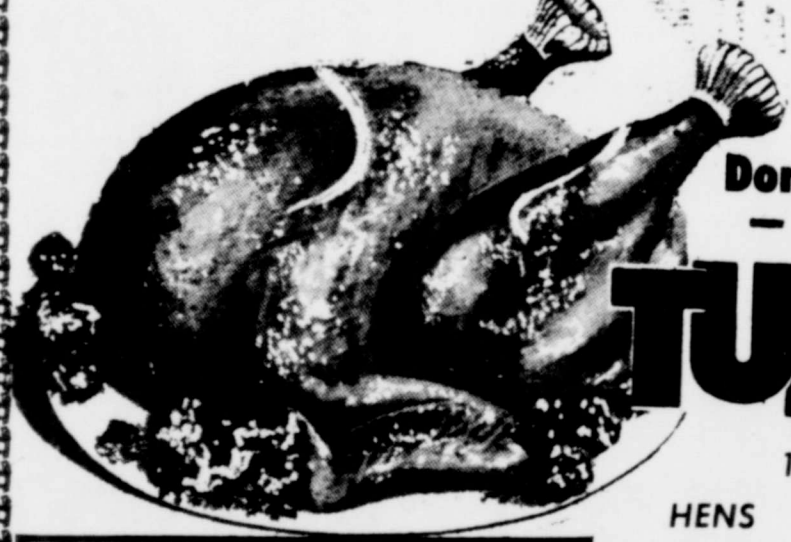
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