

## THE MAIL



By Carl Dingler

Guess you've seen the new city maps. They are right nice looking and are real pretty. However, the location of just where Merkel is located leaves some questions.

So if you can figure it out: "LOCATION: On 100 Meridian — on LS320 16 miles west of Abilene (County Seat of Taylor County) 150 miles west of Fort Worth, 13 miles East of El Paso."

Guess the authors were figuring on the rest of West Texas to blow away between here and El Paso by the time the maps came out. As for LS320 — well that could be a new overhead interstate ramp connecting Merkel to El Paso.

The story of the cow on the cover is another bag of worms. Chamber of Commerce manager Benny Melton had intended to get a picture of his horse while he was roping a steer.

However, due to technical problems of getting the photographer (his wife), the horse and the steer together at the same place at the same time went astray. The horse ran off, leaving the group to decide on another approach — thus the fame and fortune for the cover cow.

The City Board of Equalization met in a planning session at City Hall last Thursday to prepare for the upcoming meeting on city taxes.

There was a good turnout for the fire at 307 Haynes Thursday. The alarm went off about 12:30. It appeared there was a mattress fire at the frame house which did a lot of damage to one of the small rooms.

Federal tax receipts of \$298 billion estimated for this year represent a contribution of \$4,150 from each American household — double the tax take in 1968 and four times that of 1956. And since Washington this year is running up a record \$78 billion deficit, the federal government is going into debt by an additional \$1,073 per household.

Guess you've heard the one about "Old postmen never die — they just lose their zip."

The directors and officers of the Merkel Cemetery Association all work for nothing and donate their time such as the recent day mowing the grass.

The Board of Directors consist of President Joe Cypert, Vice-President David Gamble, Secretary-treasurer Fred Starbuck, Betty Little and Joe McDuff.

Someone once said: "All things are possible to him who believes; they are less difficult to him who hopes; they are easy to him who loves; and they are simple to any who do all three."

Cotton crops are reported looking great. Certainly hope so.

## Thunderstorm drenches area

Merkel residents had a couple of hours of excitement Monday night as a huge thunderstorm blasted through the area bringing flooding and a tornado scare.

More than 3.50 inches of rain was recorded in Merkel with Noodle getting 2-3 inches and Trent getting 3.50 to 4 inches during the short period of time.

Interstate 20 and roads in Trent were closed for a time by the heavy rainfall.

However, Tuesday damage from the storm appeared slight in the downtown areas.

The only tornado confirmed was indicated on radar by the National Weather Service four miles south of Merkel at 10 p.m.

Still, there was a report of a sighting of a tornado in the Merkel Country Club

area and near Stuckey's on Interstate 20 — the direction of the movement of the storm.

The rains moved into the area around 9 p.m. and most of the heavy flooding in Trent and Merkel had ended by 1 a.m.

Electricity was knocked out at Trent and was out for a short time in Merkel.

Flash flood warning indicated flood waters moving down Mulberry Creek toward the Clear Fork of the Brazos River. At 11 p.m. Mulberry Creek was reported out of its banks five miles southeast of Merkel.

Too, there were reports of hail in the Trent area.

At press time Tuesday it was too early to tell what damage, if any had been done to crops.

"This is the first go round. Take it with a grain of salt. We are just getting started here."

With these words of caution, School Superintendent Travis Davis explained the initial draft of the 1976-77 budget for Merkel School District.

The bottom line is that this initial budget as drawn up by Davis and ac-

countant Jim Lawless if \$87,517.73 more than last year's budget.

However, Davis pointed out that this amounts to little more than 6 per cent while inflation has been climbing at an 11 per cent rate.

Too, this initial presentation was for expenses only and there were no figures available for proposed in-

come for the year. Davis said a good idea of the total proposed income for the year can be compiled and presented to the Board in August.

Last year's budget was \$1,046,126.77 and this year's budget as proposed is \$1,133,644.50.

Consolidated application (\$62,579) and special education (\$359,326.59) were

added to the proposal to bring the total package to \$1,550,050.09. However, the consolidated application and special education funds are not paid out of Merkel school funds but are completely paid from state and federal funds. Lawless pointed out as the reason for not including it in the regular budget.

Presenting the financial report for the period end-

ing June 30 with two months to go. Lawless shows \$504,890.73 collected in local taxes, \$796,453.62 in state and federal money for a total of \$1,301,344.35.

Projected income for July and August which is state and federal funds only is expected to be \$87,417.76 to give a total projected revenue total for the year of \$1,388,762.11.

Expenditures through June 30 are \$1,119,681.97 and the average projected expenditures for July and August are \$220,254.06 for a total of \$1,339,936.03 leaving a balance of \$48,826.08.

However, actual and projected encumbrances of \$5,886.17 was deducted from this leaving a projected reserve increase for the year of \$42,939.91.

The projected encumbrances Davis pointed out could vary (probably upwards) and thus change the final reserve figure.

This figure is for the current school year only and does not include the reserve left from last year.

The bank balance as of Sept. 1, 1975 showed \$73,365.94 in general operating fund \$2,053.35 in consolidated application and

\$15,576.96 in interest and sinking funds for a total of \$88,809.11.

Deducting the interest and sinking fund the reserve from last year totaled \$73,232.15.

This year's figure also includes the use of the \$207,528.76 in certificates of deposit.

School budgets are figured on each year only and the reserve from a previous year is not included in a current year's budget.

Back to the budget worksheet analysis as presented to the Board.

Under general operating fund, payroll costs show an increase of \$65,616.17.

Instructor payrolls will rise by \$29,514.29 and school administrative costs will rise by \$21,473.30.

However, included in the administrative expense is the addition of a principal's salary of \$11,660 for Merkel Elementary School and \$7,160 for a secretary which was disallowed under federal funds.

The general administrative payroll is expected to go from \$50,800 to \$59,169.36 or an increase of \$8,369.36. This includes salaries for the Superintendent and his staff.

Maintenance payroll is due to be increased \$5,300.66 and other payroll costs will increase \$958.06.

Of course all of these budget items are subject to the approval of the School Board. Davis attempted to set up a workshop to study a more detailed report on the budget but no date was set by the Board Thursday night.

Under purchases and contracted services there is a \$7053.70 decrease. The proposed budget is \$78,996.

Also, a decrease in supplies and materials is proposed. The proposed \$47,533 expense is expected to be \$2,368.24 less next year.

Other operating expenses are expected to be \$32,077 for \$8,909 increase and for capital outlay \$26,846 is proposed which is \$1,053 decrease.

Total operating fund proposal is \$916,073.17 for \$64,070.23 increase.

The transportation fund is increased to \$71,841.20 for \$2,996.20 more. This includes \$21,200 for two school buses and a \$3,770.20 increase in salaries.

The interest and sinking fund will be \$33,900 under the proposal for \$635 increase.

School lunchroom fund is expected to be \$78,708.13 for an increase of \$16,099.77. This includes \$11,599.77 more in salaries and \$2,500 in equipment.

The athletic fund proposes a budget of \$33,122 for \$3,716.53 increase. Payroll costs are up \$40 to \$800, purchases and contractual services are up from \$500 to \$1,835 for a \$1,335 increase and supplies and materials are down from \$21,054.47 to \$19,854 proposed for a decrease of \$1,200.47 and other operating expenses are up from \$7,091 to \$10,633 for a \$3,542 increase.

Davis and Lawless told Board secretary Jacky Reynolds in answer to his question that all department heads and principals had been consulted in preparing the proposed budget.

Again, Davis and President Charles Jacobs pointed out that this initial budget is just an initial step toward the final budget and that work still needs to be done.

Davis said he is real pleased with the proposals and that by breaking it down to each school unit the increase isn't "believed to be excessive."

He added, "I feel like we have a pretty good budget."

## Initial school budget \$87,517.73 higher



HOUSE FIRE — Merkel's Volunteer firemen were busy during their lunch hour Thursday putting out this house fire at 307 Haynes. Fire damaged at least one room of the small house but was quickly tapped out by the firemen.

## Fisher resolution signed

The Merkel School Board signed a resolution to Mack Fisher at its regular meeting Thursday night.

Fisher resigned as School Superintendent June 30 and has been busy since preparing his camper for a trip.

The resolution recognized Fisher for his service to Merkel public schools from July, 1949 until June, 1976. It was signed by Board President Charles Jacobs, Vice-President Don Hart, Secretary Jacky Reynolds, Dink Whisenhunt, James Boyd and Bobby Toliver.

The resolution:

Be it resolved that Mack Fisher became superintendent of the Merkel schools in July of 1949 and that he continued in that position until June 30, 1976.

Whereas it is well known in Merkel and throughout the state of Texas that Mr. Fisher was an outstanding leader in education and that he served with distinction that brought wide recognition to the Merkel Schools.

Whereas the Board of Merkel Independent School District wishes to show this small token of appreciation to Mr. Mack Fisher for his services rendered, by causing this resolution to become a permanent document being filed with the regular board minutes of the June 21, 1976 meeting.

The Trent Independent School District will conduct one week of teacher in-service training beginning Monday, and concluding Friday, August 13. The faculty and staff for the 1976-77 school year are:

Administration: Roy Neff, Superintendent; Bruce Thomas, Principal; Don Orr Business Manager; Brenda Kraatz Sec-

retary. Secondary: Rocky King, Vocational Agriculture; Bob Campbell, Coach-History; Odell McCoy, Math; Kay Todd, Science; Margaret Presswood, English; Marcella Jividen, Business; Tina Nelson, Home Economics; Sherry Taylor, English-History; Cherry Curry, Band.

Elementary: Lynda Sandlin, First; Martha Foreman, Second; Debra

Merkel High football athletes are busy breaking in their shoes this week in preparation for the start of fall practice Monday.

The shoes are issued early to allow the athletes to get them broken in prior to workouts to cut down on blisters.

The Badgers begin twice a day drills Monday at 6:45 a.m. and again at 9:30 p.m.

Coach Jerry McLeod said the team will work early in the morning and late in the afternoon to avoid the heat.

First week of the two-a-days will be spent in shorts and T-shirts. The first heavy drill in pads is set for Friday, Aug. 13.

Coach McLeod and his staff anticipate 65 to 70 out for the team this year as Merkel moves up to Class AA football ranks.

Coach McLeod said the Badgers will play two scrim-

mage games, going to Cross Plains Aug. 20 and to Hamlin Aug. 27. Both games will start "about 6 p.m.," Coach McLeod said.

They will be controlled-type scrimmages with coaches from both schools taking time to correct mistakes and instruct the athletes.

Edgar Cowart is first line coach and defensive coach for the Badgers while Tony Mauldin will coach the junior varsity and basketball. Greg Henderson is eighth grade

coach and Russell Gee is seventh grade coach.

The junior high team will start workouts when school starts Aug. 23.

They will start season play Sept. 2 with the eighth grade going to Baird for a 6 p.m. contest. Sept. 9 both the seventh and eighth grade teams play at Jim Ned, starting at 5 p.m.

Both teams go to Roscoe Sept. 16 at 5 p.m.; host Eastland at 5 p.m. Sept. 32; host Colorado City at 5 p.m. Oct.

7; host Winters at 6 p.m. Oct. 14; go to Winters at 6 p.m. Oct. 28; and end the year against Wylie Nov. 4 at 6 p.m. in Merkel.

Coach McLeod has several ninth grade games scheduled to give the 30 hopefuls experience separate from junior varsity.

The Junior Varsity plays at Baird Sept. 2 at 7:30 p.m. and at Jim Ned Sept. 9 at 8 p.m.

The Ninth grade goes to Colorado City Sept. 9 for a 7:30 p.m. game.

Sept. 16 the JV goes to Roscoe for an 8 p.m. game and the 9th grade host Wylie at 7 p.m. and Sept. 23 the JV hosts Eastland at 5 p.m.

Oct. 7 the 9th grade hosts Colorado City at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 14 both teams go to Winters for a 6 p.m. start of two games. Oct. 28 Winters is in Merkel for JV and 9th grade games and Nov. 4 the two teams go to Wylie.

The Varsity, meanwhile, opens its season with a home game Sept. 3 against Baird, has a homecoming contest against Jim Ned Sept. 11 and hosts Roscoe Sept. 17 before taking the first road trip -- to Eastland Sept. 24 to end pre-District 6-A competition.

The Badgers open district against pre-season favorite Colorado City at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 1, goes to Ballinger Oct. 8, hosts Winters Oct. 15, goes to Stamford Oct. 22, rests Oct. 29, hosts Wylie Nov. 5 and ends the year against always tough Coahoma Nov. 12 in Coahoma.

## Badgers start work Monday

### Junior Rodeo planned

Merkel will have a Junior Rodeo.

The rodeo is planned for August 19-20-21 at 8 p.m. each night and will include three age groups with four events in each age group.

Two all-around buckles and buckles in each event

will be presented.

Age divisions are 12-and under, 13 through 15 and 19 and over.

Entry fee is \$10.

To enter the rodeo contact Eulan Hatfield at 736-6141; Felix Boyd at 862-9147; or Barbara Whisenhunt at 928-5884.

## Trent school sets training

Pickett, Third; Glenda Coltharp, Fourth; Jeannie Reynolds, Fifth; Marty Findley, Kindergarten; Betty Kinnard, Special Education; Syra Patterson, Aide; Vera Sharp, Aide.

Cafeteria: Vern Bryan, Manager; Roxie Vinson, Cook; Sally Watson, Cafeteria Aide.

BUS Drivers: Joe Brazleton, Maintenance; Betty Brazleton, Driver; Roxie

Vinson, Driver; Vern Bryan, Driver; Winnie Dickerson, Driver; John Chappell, Custodian.

The students (112) will begin school Monday, August 16, at 8:15 a.m.

All parents are urged to attend the general assembly program. Please check with the school to see that your immunization records are complete. Buses will run on this day.

## Final rites held for Perkins, daughter

Funeral services were held Saturday for Velma Juanita Perkins of Abilene and her 12-year-old daughter, Linda Gail Perkins of Colorado City at the Merkel Church of Christ.

Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

The two were killed in a two-car accident near Vicksburg, Mississippi Wednesday. One of Mrs. Perkins' sons also was in the car but received only minor injuries.

Mrs. Perkins was born

Aug. 27, 1912, in Ponotoc County, Okla. She moved to the Merkel area in 1929 and married Borden Perkins Jan. 9, 1932, in Trent. He died in 1979.

The Perkins lived in Noodle from 1951 to 1970. Mrs. Perkins moved to Abilene in 1970. She was a member of Oakland Drive Church of Christ in Abilene.

Linda Perkins attended the Noodle schools and received a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian University in 1966. She received a master's degree from East Texas State University. She had taught special education in Colorado City the past six years.

Mrs. Perkins survivors include three sons, Borden E. of Merkel, Ronald of Dallas and James of the home; two daughters, Mrs. Hall (Yvonne) Wheeler of Baird and Mrs. James (Rojean) Noblett of Biloxi, Miss.; a sister, Selma Paine of Abilene; and nine grandchildren.

Miss Perkins survivors include her brothers and sisters.

## Board to meet

The Merkel Board of Equalization will meet Tuesday at City Hall.

The Board will be in session from 8 until 9 p.m. Tuesday for the purpose of equalizing the value of any and all taxable property for the year.

Also, anyone having business with the board are requested to be present for this meeting.

**Townsend third**  
Willie Townsend finished third best at the state 4-H rifle meet this summer in San Angelo.

Townsend improved his scoring by 50 points from last year and as a member of the Taylor County 4-H team from Merkel 4-H he shot 218 for third at the state level.

J. D. Sanduskey is his coach.

## Floyd services held

Funeral services were held Saturday for Bowie Floyd, 41, of Merkel who died Thursday at his home.

Services were at Starbuck Funeral Home Chapel.

The Rev. Russell McAnally, pastor of Merkel United Methodist Church officiated, assisted by the Rev. N.S. Daniel, retired Methodist minister. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Survivors include three brothers, Price and Hollis, both of Merkel, and Paul C. of Abilene; a sister, Lillian Floyd of Merkel; and several nieces and nephews.

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

## Singers meet Monday

The Victory Gospel Singers, 307 El Paso in Merkel, will hold their regular Monday singing at 7:30 p.m. Monday. In addition to the always good singing there will be special arrangements.

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## CRACKERS

KEEBLER 1 LB. BOX 59¢

## TUNA

CARNATION CHUNK CAN 53¢

## Peanut Butter

KOUNTRY FRESH 18 OZ JAR 79¢

## AJAX

CLEANSER 2 FOR 45¢

## IVORY

LIQUID 22 OZ BOTTLE 79¢

## GAIN

DETERGENT GIANT SIZE \$1.19

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KEITH KRINKLE CUT POTATOES 2 LB BAG 49¢

KEITH 6 OZ. CAN LEMONADE 2 FOR 49¢

## IT'S TIME FOR Produce

D'ANJOU PEARS LB 39¢

VINE RIPE TOMATOES LB 33¢

YELLOW SQUASH LB 19¢

CARROTS 1 LB. BAG 19¢

RUSSET POTATOES 10 LB BAG 89¢

NESTEA 3 OZ. JAR \$1.29

FRENCH'S MUSTARD 24 OZ BTL 49¢

KOOL AID REG SIZE 2 FOR 19¢

VAN CAMP 300 SIZE Pork & Beans 2 FOR 49¢

HERSHEY CHOCOLATE SYRUP 16 OZ CAN 49¢

KRAFT MACARONI DINNER 7 OZ BOX 29¢

DEL MONTE PICKLED BEETS 16 OZ. JAR 39¢

SWIFT 5 OZ. CAN Potted Meat 2 FOR 69¢

## CRISCO

3 LB CAN \$1.29

## MILK

MARIGOLD 2% HOMO GAL \$1.39 REG HOMO GAL \$1.49 PLUS DEP

## FRUIT COCKTAIL

DEL MONTE 303 CAN 43¢

## BISCUITS

KOUNTRY FRESH 2/25¢

## PINEAPPLE

DEL MONTE CRUSHED FLAT CAN 29¢

## OLEO

KRAFT PARKAY LB. 39¢

## GREEN BEANS

DEL MONTE CUT 303 CAN 29¢

## MIXED NUTS

12 OZ. CAN 79¢

## PEAS

DEL MONTE 303 CAN 2/69¢

## ICE CREAM

GANDY 5 QT. PAIL \$2.49

## CORN

DEL MONTE CREAM STYLE 303 CAN 2/59¢

## BUTTER MILK

GANDY'S HALF GAL 69¢

## PEARS

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**Card of Thanks**  
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Chester Collinsworth and Family 24-1tc

**Garage Sale**  
MOVING SALE 412 Ash Merkel Fri. & Sat. 9:16. Clothes, Childrens & Adults, Hobby Horse, Swing set, Trike, toys, patterns & Assorted items. 24-1tc

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**THANK YOU** so much for all the prayers expressed in our time of sorrow upon the loss of our beloved Mother and Sister. The tragic loss of both has caused much grief which without the Lord and good friends would be most difficult to bear. The flowers, cards, food and other remembrances are appreciated more than words can express.

**THE FAMILY OF JUANITA & LINDA PERKINS** Borden E. Perkins & Family Yvonne Wheeler & Family Ronald Perkins & Family Ronald Noblett & Family Jim Perkins 24-1tp

**WE WANT** to sincerely thank each and everyone, for being so thoughtful and kind during the death of our brother, Bowie H. Floyd. And thanks so much for the food and the beautiful flowers. We certainly appreciate all the kindness.

**Wanted**  
LAND FOR SALE? CALL Collect-Bill Largent, Farm and Ranch Mgr. at Frances McClure Inc., Realtors. 3157 South 27th, Abilene. 698-3211, Night 698-2375. 46-1tc

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24-1tp

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: JAMES I EVANOFF. GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT, TAYLOR County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of VIRDEL ELAINE EVANOFF, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 9th day of June, 1976, against JAMES I. EVANOFF, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 11,974-DR on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Matter of The Marriage of VIRDEL ELAINE EVANOFF and JAMES I EVANOFF", the nature of which suit is a request for DIVORCE.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding on you.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child adoption.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 23 day of July, 1976.

Irene Crawford Clerk, Domestic Relations Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Faye Lyons, Deputy.

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Pauline Butman, GRI ... 692-2222  
MERKEL BRANCH OFFICE Billy and Pat Neff ... 928-5623 Equal Housing Opportunity

## Rodeo queen deadline set

Deadline for entries in this year's Miss West Texas Fair Rodeo Queen competition is August 16. Rules have been changed this year eliminating the 10-entry limit and the princess contest. In the past only the first 10 entries received were accepted into competition.

This year an unlimited number of entrants will be accepted. Ten finalists will be chosen on the basis of horsemanship. The winner will be crowned during the last rodeo performance Sept. 18.

The queen will receive a \$250 cash prize. The queen will also represent the West Texas Fair and Rodeo at the Miss Rodeo Texas Contest in September, 1977. One of the finalists will be awarded a \$500 scholarship to the school of her choice.

## NOTICE

**NOTICE OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING CITY OF MERKEL**  
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Equalization of the City of Merkel, Texas, will be in session at the City Hall between the hours of 8:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 10, 1976, for the purpose of equalizing the value of any and all taxable property for the year of 1976, and any all persons interested or having business with said Board, are hereby notified to be present.  
Annette Melton Tax A/C 24-1tc

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71 PLYMOUTH DUSTER 2 door, 6 cylinder auto, and air. 24,000 miles. Blue color. Real nice, only... \$1695  
73 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX Power air, power windows, power seats, cruise control, stereo tape player. Honeycomb wheels, steel radial tires. Burgandy with black vinyl. Like New, 27,000 miles... \$3795  
68 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE 4-Door. This one has all the goodies on it. Factory stereo tape player-Beige color with black vinyl top-Really clean. Only... \$895  
1972 Impala, 4 Dr. hard top. Air and power. Bronze color. Only... \$18.95  
1974 Mercury Montego Braughm MX, 4 Dr. Sedan. Air and power. Brown color, brown vinyl top. Real Nice. Only... \$29.95  
1973 CAPRI, V6-Air, 4 speed, Bronze color. Real nice... \$2895

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MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113 / ABILENE, 673-1182

# Cooperative recommendations approved

Leon Walker Thursday presented the Merkel School Board with proposed changes as recommended by the Advisory Board of the Taylor-Callahan Education Cooperative.

The Advisory board met June 9.

The Merkel School Board, the physical agent for the program, approved the proposals intact after Walker went over each item.

The Advisory Board recommended accepting resignations of Linda Milligan, Truetta Walker and Jacque Howell; that Judy Snapp be granted a leave of absence for this school year; that Peggy Edmiston be hired at Baird, Nan Egger at Jim Ned and Wylie, Christie Barnett at Tye, Donna Koho at Clyde and Judy Dudley at Eula and Baird.

The Advisory Board then voted to recind the May 17, 1976 contract approved by the Merkel Board of Education for Walker because it was for 12 months.

They recommended the new contract of June 9, 1976 be approved.

This contract provides for 11 months, 210 days, on Pay Grade 10C, Step 10 as part of a three year contract. To this amount shall be added a supplement of \$3,712, including expenses,

agreed on by the cooperating schools. Total annual salary will be \$18,826.

Then, to make up the extra month, the Advisory Board voted that Walker be employed as a consultant for the month of July to evaluate the special education program each year for a period of three years, and that he be paid a fee equal to the monthly scale of Pay Grade 10C, Step 10 plus \$100 for expenses. Total amount of the fee shall be \$1,474.

This brings Walker's annual salary and expenses to \$20,290.

Walker pointed out that previous expenses which had been figured separately were now included to allow him to claim it on his retirement plan.

He also said that someone is needed to run the program in July because that is when the hiring and review of personnel is conducted.

The Advisory Board also approved changes to operational policies.

They eliminated Putnam from the list of participants as the school is closed. Participating schools are Baird, Clyde, Eula, Hamby, Wylie, Jim Ned, Buffalo Gap, Butterfield, Merkel and Trent.

Policy for payment was altered due to change in state and federal laws. Originally no school could be assessed more than \$500 per year nor less than \$100 per year under the plan.

Now each participating school is assessed \$750 for each professional instructional personnel unit assigned to that school. Assignment of itinerant instructional personnel will be assessed on a prorated basis.

Walker explained that this was done last year but it was not until this year that the Board has changed the policies.

They deleted the idea of a common school calendar because the participating

schools could not agree on a common calendar.

A role description of the special education teacher and instructional aide has been added to the policies.

And, concerning sick leave it was ruled that each instructional aide employed by the Cooperative is entitled to five days sick leave each school year. It will not be accumulative.

Merkel is just the handling agent for the Cooperative and all money for salaries and expenses are paid by state and federal funds.

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LARGE CANTELOPE — Leon Harris weighs the largest of four huge cantelopes he harvested from his garden recently. Harris' cantelope tipped the scales at 13 and a half pounds. He said there were three others on the same vine with the smallest weighing 8 and a half pounds. "There were four in a cluster and they just kept on growing," he said.

## Teaff new School Board member

Leroy Teaff was named a new member of the Merkel Board of Education at its regular meeting Thursday night at Merkel High School.

Teaff will fill the vacancy created when Jerry Gibson resigned recently.

Teaff was contacted by the Board Thursday night prior to his nomination and acceptance. He said he would serve out the term. He is the second member of the Board to be appointed since the April election. Dink Whisenunt is the other. Both places will be up for re-election in April.

Teaff has served on two Board of Equalization for the Merkel Schools.

He was considered by the Board because he lives in the Tye community and it would give that part of the district representation on the Board.

In other action the Board approved the minutes as mailed to the Board Members, approved payment of bills, approved the recommendations of the Advisory Board of the Taylor-Callahan Education Cooperative, changed the regular meeting dates; granted DuBose Texaco, Borden's and Mrs. Baird's contracts for the school year; agreed to accept a bid to sale a lot near Tye elementary; approved resignation and hiring of personnel; heard Superintendent Travis Davis report on progress of work at the schools and hiring of personnel and a meeting he and three other Board members attended Wednesday; and the Board heard the first hint of what the new budget proposals will cost.

Using a new procedure, Davis mailed each Board Member more detailed information on each item on the agenda, including copies of the minutes.

To save time the Board then didn't read the minutes of the June 21, July 6 and July 12 meeting but voted to accept them as mailed to the Board members.

The Board approved payment of \$114,018.12 for June bills.

The cash flow report shows current months expenditures of \$95,182.81 and the income for June as \$26,567.18.

Bank balance shows \$70,471.45 with \$207,328.76 in certificates of deposit.

DuBose Texaco was the

only gas wholesale dealer to submit a bid. Davis said J.L. Fisher was contacted by telephone Thursday but did not want to submit a bid.

Mrs. Baird's was the lone entry to provide bread for the schools. However, there were three milk companies seeking the school's business.

Foremost had the lowest bid and had been the previous supplier. But, member J. A. Mes Boyd recommended that Borden's be used this year. He pointed out there was little difference in the prices submitted and considered Borden's a quality milk.

The Board then elected to meet twice a month and instead of the first and third Monday's decided to meet the first and third Tuesday's of each month until basketball season starts.

Later in the meeting it was noted that the Board would be due to meet Tuesday (Aug. 3) and they agreed, for August, to hold the regular scheduled meetings Aug. 9 and Aug. 24 (a Monday and a Tuesday).

The Board then went into an executive session to discuss land tracks, sales and purchases.

After the executive session the Board announced it had been approached about selling a lot in Tye across from the school.

The Board moved to let the man submit a bid on the school lot.

The man was not mentioned and at the end of the meeting when asked, President Charles Jacobs and Davis said they did not know who the man seeking the land was. Davis said, "We can find out for you."

Judy Dudley's resignation was then accepted and Steve Edwards and J.V. Hester were hired as bus drivers. Mrs. Teri Nalley was hired as a library aide and Mrs. Shirley Mitchell was hired as a first grade teacher at Tye Elementary.

Under the Superintendent's report, Davis told the Board that maintenance is progressing at a "Real good rate" and that they are making progress. He said the extra workers finished last week.

Title funds are looking good, he reported with money available and that by the second week in August the school system should know how much of these funds they will receive.

He said the check signer still has not arrived and informed the Board that a telephone has been installed at the tax office located in City Hall.

Installation cost was \$45 and the monthly fee is \$17. The tax office has been using the city's telephone in the past.

Davis said personnel-wise the schools are in excellent shape and that they

are waiting now to see "what kindergarten does to us. We are looking for a bunch of them."

The number of kindergarten students will determine whether extra teachers will have to be hired.

He then said the "Evaluation has been a rather pleasant surprise."

He said it was \$55 million last year and it appears it will be close to \$54 million and a "rather pleasant surprise" was the report of \$441,285 of additional funds.

Davis then said he and three board members went to Abilene Wednesday to a meeting concerning school board policy.

The presentation was by the Texas Association of School Boards and were presenting a policy manual they have which has every law and precedent of the schools in the state.

Davis said the policy manual is excellent and the Board members who attended the meeting

agreed that it was easy to find items in the book and that it was easy to understand.

First year cost to get the service is \$575 which includes continual updates. Annual fee is \$250. And additional copies of the manual is \$30 each.

Davis also said the service would help with Merkel's school policy requirements which, if the school has to do it, will cost "about \$2,000".

No action was taken on this matter as it was not on the agenda.

President Jacobs then asked Davis to work up a commendation for the Board of Equalization to show them "appreciation for serving on that board."

There was no mention of the building program which Davis was supposed to provide recommendations. However, Davis said Joe Smith of an Abilene bonding agency will be at Merkel High School Thursday at 1:30 to discuss borrowing and financing procedures.

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Fleetside, 350, 10,000 miles, light green and white

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**Pep Squad plans sale**

The Merkel High School Pep Squad is sponsoring a bag sale.

The Pep Squad will be in front of West Texas Utilities in Merkel Friday selling bags in an attempt to raise funds for their school projects.

### Steinborn, Carter exchange vows



Mrs. Curtis Paul Carter

Cecelia Ellen Steinborn became the bride of Curtis Paul Carter in a lovely blue and white wedding on July 31 at eight o'clock in the evening. The double ring ceremony was performed before an arched background of greenery and Cathedral candles in the Grace Presbyterian Church in Merkel. The Rev. Ralph A. Odom of Fairmont Methodist Church in Abilene performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Spratlan of Merkel and the bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Curtis Carter of Abilene.

Best man was Jerry Carter, brother of the bridegroom of Abilene. Groomsmen were Glen Hoover and Danny Odom of Abilene and Danny Odom of Abilene and Danny Odom of Abilene attired in white tuxedos. Michael Daniel of Merkel and Bruce Reed of Abilene seated the guests.

The bride was attended by her sister, Mrs. Michael King, Mrs. John Young both of Merkel, and Mrs. Glen Hoover of Abilene. They wore pastel blue formal dresses with embroidered sheer over jackets

and carried blue and white bouquet.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a full length gown of Peau de Soie. The gown was accented by an embroidered lace panel in front and a petite train. Her dainty lace jacket was enhanced by appliqued lace motifs centered with tiny pearls at the neckline. The bride's mother designed and made the gown. Her veil of illusion was held by a lace and pearl coronet. She carried a cascade of blue carnations centered with a white orchid. The groom was attired in a pastel blue tuxedo. Mrs. Carter chose a pastel green formal with a sheer flowered jacket for the wedding and Mrs. Spratlan chose a pastel blue formal with a sheer flowered jacket also. The groom's grandmother, Mrs. Jake Carter, was a special guest.

Mrs. Junior Clark, at the organ, furnished the background of traditional wedding music.

A reception followed in Fellowship Hall hosted by the bride's parents. The bride's table was lovely in white with blue bow trims centered with a bride figurine. Those serving wedding cake and punch to the guests were Mrs. A. McNavy, Mrs. Jimmy Russell, Mrs. Bill Teaff, Mrs. Alice Osborn, Mrs. Clyde Allred, Mrs. Irvin Shields, and Mrs. Zane Dalton. Mrs. Danny Odom presided over the guest book.

Following a brief wedding trip, the newlyweds will be at home in Merkel.

Thanks J.A.

Thank You Carl, for the tribute to our "Boss." It was so refreshing to read of some of the good things Mr. Sadler does, instead of complaints about things he doesn't do.

Your editorial depicted a typical day at the City Hall. Just this week Mr. Sadler went from his typewriter to dig up sewer line at the City Hall and then repair on an air conditioner that went on the blink and then met HUD officials with the greatest of dignity.

We at the City Hall are fortunate to have a boss like Mr. Sadler and a Mayor and Council that stands behind him and us.

"The City Crew"

## Heady explains remark

Fred Heady, owner of the L&W snack Bar, contends he wasn't quoted completely in last week's Merkel City Council meeting.

The Merkel Mail quoted Heady as saying "We have enough bums here now," in referring to the city getting more low cost HUD housing.

Heady said, "you should have printed the rest of what I said." Then he said Tuesday afternoon, "What I said was: What we need in this town is more people to come in this town and put in businesses."

"I also said: Granted, we need low cost housing for the elderly and the sick and lame but nine times out of 10 they are not the ones who receive these benefits."

Heady, admitting he had no beef to pick over HUD housing in particular and the subject was a very minor part of his reason for being at the Council meeting, said in the

Tuesday interview, "If we need low cost housing then make it for the people in the city of Merkel who really need it. Don't make it for the outsiders."

He added, "I'm not calling the people who live in low cost housing in Merkel bums. I'm calling people who will come here if we get a lot of low cost housing bums because most of them won't even be working."

"And, if those few who are working have to travel to another city to work they will be spending more in transportation than they would be making if they would live in the city where they are working. So, no matter how you look at it the people of Merkel are going to bare the brunt of the expenses."

Heady admitted he is tired of helping to pay the cost through higher and higher taxes.

He then presented an ex-

ample, in his opinion, "Say you have HUD go in and get low housing. You get a bunch of families and they all have children. The children go to school. Who is supporting the schools?"

"They are living in low cost homes and pay little or no school taxes whatsoever. But, every businessman, farmer and property owner is paying for it."

"We are not only paying for their education but for their homes."

He added, "If I go out here and buy a \$30,000 home, who is paying for it? I do, \$70,000 or more when it is paid for."

"Now these people are living in \$25,000 homes. What's it costing them?"

Moving from the quote to the City Coordinators J. A. Sadler, Heady said the only pot shot I would like to take is at Sadler.

"Is Mr. Sadler a member of the City Council? We have

him sitting on the City Council."

"I think our City Council is the one who is supposed to make the rules and regulations for the city. Not Mr. Sadler."

"As you stated in your column, Mr. Sadler is a very busy man."

"Probably because of his activity at the City Council meeting and some of the other things he's doing is the reason why our streets have gone down quite a bit. Some of our streets are getting to the point where they are almost impassable."

Heady still favors a complete investigation of the firing of Patrolman Cliff Collins and favors a public hearing of all the people involved to straighten the situation out, once and for all.

He expressed firm beliefs in other areas of city government but declined to be specific at this time.

### Letters to the editor

#### 'Bums' speak

Dear Mr. Dingler;

We are some of the "bums" that Mr. Heady referred to that live in Merkel. Us so called "bums" work very hard for what we get on the salary we make. If the "Big Shots" paid the common labor person what they should, they would be living in Government housing also. People who have low income need adequate housing just as bad as the elderly. We don't get Social Security, Old age Pension benefits, no welfare, or medicare and we don't have resthome to go to.

It is a well known fact there aren't any rent houses in Merkel. Some of us were renting and had the house sold out from under us. We had no choice but to get one of these houses.

Mr. Heady, do you know where a low income person can get enough cash to pay for a home other than one of these Government houses? If you can, please let us know. Now understand we live from pay day to pay day and we don't have such a thing as a savings account and it takes every dime we make to live. No matter what kind of home you buy, you still have

to pay taxes. These taxes benefit Merkel.

Not many people can afford to live in one of the low rent apartments because the rent is so high.

To get one of these low cost homes you have to have more than just a suitcase under your arm. We don't appreciate being called "bums" just because we don't have a lot of money. Most of us try to live a clean, honest life and we will be content with what God has given us here on earth and look forward to our mansion over in Glory where the poor will be equal to the rich.

Mr. & Mrs. David King  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert N. Butman  
Mrs. Dorothy Crow  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Goode  
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Montgomery  
Mr. & Mrs. James Wilde  
Jean Walker  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Rodriguez  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hill  
Mr. & Mrs. Beard  
Walter Israel  
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Pack  
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Beene

#### Bums and bums

Dear Editor:  
Definition-bum: (1) good

for nothing person, loafer; (2) a tramp; hobo; (3) a person who is extremely devoted to a sport, sometimes to the point of seeming to do nothing else but participate in it or follow it; (4) a drunken spree; (5) a drunken loafer; -V.T. (1) to get something by sponging on others; (2) beg; (3) to loaf around; (4) to drink heavily; -adj.: (1) of poor quality; worthless (2) sore or lame; (3) fake; mistaken-V.I. to make a humming sound; hum; guzz.-N. (1) buttocks -- from a dictionary

OR  
A person who cannot afford a new \$30000 house; 2 new cars; a business etc. -- from certain attitudes expressed.

I'd like to know which of the above definitions Mr. Heady goes by. After all, not every one is as well off as some people are, and all people have to live somewhere and if they can afford a low cost house and pay for it out of their paychecks and support themselves with the rising cost of living; they shouldn't be called bums. Many high up

prominent people in history as well as today; are grateful and were grateful for any break they could get to relieve themselves of a little trouble and in its own way low cost living help people survive today. Old people who live on at most \$130 a month; from Social Security and maybe old age pension or V.A. (which usually doesn't amount to much, especially if you're married instead of just living together) can't very well afford expensive housing as well as bills that go along with just being alive.

So what does Mr. Heady consider a bum. People alot better off than he could very well call him a bum by applying his own definition of bum by just raising prices, amounts etc. If this letter is disoriented, it's because I am mad because of the attitudes of quite a few people towards people who have trouble living in this world today and serving on a lower level than themselves.

Thank You  
Karolyn Davis

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ANNOUNCES THESE OUTSTANDING SPECIAL VALUES.

COLD WAVE \$12  
\$5 OFF ON FROSTING  
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SHORT SLEEVE  
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30% OFF

GROUP KNIT PANTS  
MENS-LADIES-CHILDREN  
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SHORT SLEEVE  
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BOOT CUT PANTS  
JUST \$10.00

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DELUXE FRIED CHICKEN \$1.75

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CATFISH STEAK DINNER \$1.95

ALL OF THE ABOVE SERVED WITH BEANS, FRIES, GREEN SALAD & GRAVY

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Bar-B-Que By

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\$2.50

Cole Slaw Pt.

79¢

Pinto Beans Pt.

79¢

REAL  
PIT  
BAR  
B  
QUE

DAIRY BAR

PH. 928-5378





**AWARDS RECEPTION** -- Receiving special recognition in scouting Sunday night during ceremonies at First Baptist Church are Merkel Scouts front row, left to right: Randy Leverich, Greg Dickinson, W. A. Kinder. Second row: Willie Townsend, John Townsend, Kyle Wolf, Brad Wade, Scott Cain; Back row: Kelly Wolf and Scout Master Calvin Wolf.

## Wade Eagle Scout

The Boy Scouts of America, Troop 218 of Merkel held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Sunday evening at the Baptist Church of Merkel. Brad Wade received his Eagle award. Brad is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Wade.

Calvin Wolf, Scoutmaster described Brad as a leader, always setting good examples for younger scouts to follow in scouting and religion. It normally takes 3 to 4 years to complete the requirements for Eagle. Brad completed his in little more than 3 years.

Other boys to receive awards were:  
Randy Leverich, Tenderfoot rank, fishing, photography, farm mechanics, agriculture, merit badges and citizenship skill award.

Tim Brady: fishing, photography, farm mechanics and agriculture merit badges.

Greg Dickinson: fishing, photography, farm mechanics and agriculture merit badges.

Kyle Wolf: Home repair, fishing, photography, farm mechanics, agriculture merit badges physical fitness and swimming skill awards.

W. A. Kinder: first class rank, fishing, photography, farm mechanics and agriculture merit badges.

Willie Townsend: first aid, gardening, rifle and shotgun shooting, photography, farm records and agriculture merit badges.

John Townsend: gardening, photography, farm records, agriculture merit badges.

Terry Owens: Art, home repairs, painting and fishing merit badges.

Scott Cain: Salesmanship, electronics, dog care, pets, emergency preparedness, fishing, gardening and painting merit badges.

## New number for tax office

The Merkel School tax office now has its own telephone.

The office, located at Merkel City Hall, has been using the city's telephone.

However, this week the school tax office has had its own telephone installed. The number is 928-4760.



## Health records check required

Merkel School Superintendent Travis Lavis reports that many students have still not brought their immunization records up to date.

He said there are still many students who have not responded to the call to check to see if their health records are updated.

They will need to have updated health records before school starts Aug. 23, he said.

Any student having doubts about his health record should contact the principal of the school he attends.

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ALL TYPES OF STYLES & CUTS  
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**SWEETWATER SAVINGS ASSOCIATION**  
SWEETWATER ROTAN ROSCOE HAMLIN

## Hunter safety course set

Hunter safety classes are scheduled to start Saturday at Taylor Electric Coop building.

The classes will start at 7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$1 per person. The classes are to help qualify those hunters who plan to hunt out of state this year and need certification to qualify for that state's license.

The course is open to all persons at least 12 years old who want instruction in proper gun handling and to secure a safe hunter certification.

Instructors are J.D. Sandusky, 928-5170; Pam Sandusky, 928-5170; John

## Alpha Nu Nu

Alpha Nu Nu members and guests met at the home of Mrs. Louise Sudderth for their July social. Fried chicken and an assortment of salads were served, plus various other dishes. Everyone played games and had a good time!

Present were Mr. & Mrs. Larry Justice, Bob Hammond, Ray Vanderwerker, Charles Yates, Mike Brown, Pam Sandusky, and Mrs. Louise Sudderth.

Townsend, 928-5454; and A.B. Parham, 736-6120.

## Kindergarten schedule

There has been some question concerning kindergarten students and their schedule.

There is questions on whether the students will attend half day sessions for the full school year or whether they will go a full day for a half year.

Merkel School Superintendent Travis Davis said there is no way to tell what the schedule will be until school officially begins.

The problem is there is no way officially to tell how many students will be enrolled until they report to classes. The number of students enrolled and the classroom space requirement will dictate the attendance schedule, Davis said.

He also said that anyone having a kindergarten age student not already enrolled should contact the principal at Tye Elementary or Merkel Elementary as soon as possible.

Classes begin Aug. 23.

## Last Weeks Winners

\$10 GIFT CERTIFICATE

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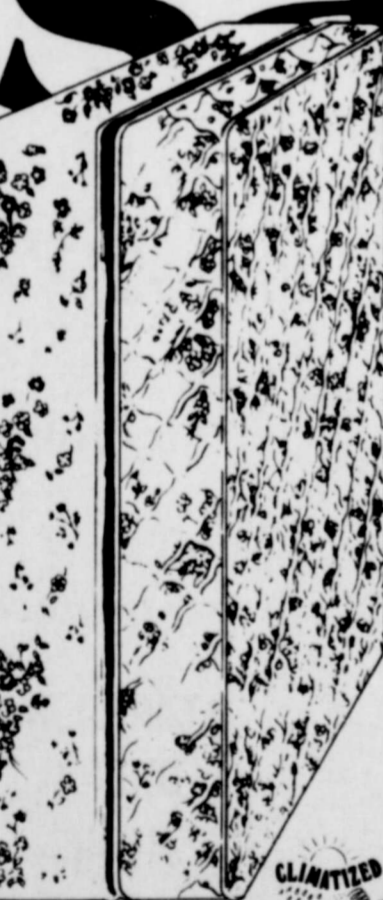
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RCA T. V. \$99.95

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Designed to give your dining area a special warmth. 42" round table, two 12" leaves with high pressure plastic top; 6 chairs. Maple or pine stain.

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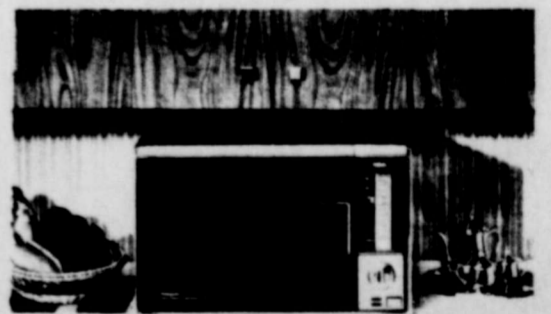


RCA The Alpha GU702W \$549.95



Loveseat to Match convertible sofa \$229

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Loveseat-Size Convertible  
Enjoy the convenience of a guestroom, even in small areas... there's a bed inside this smart. Hercules-covered loveseat \$239



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IN

**REVIVAL SERVICES**

AUGUST 8-11, 1976

SUNDAY SERVICES 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM  
MONDAY THRU WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 PM

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
MERKEL**

**First Baptist plans revival**

Revival services with a youth emphasis are scheduled for Merkel's First Baptist Church, Monday through Wednesday, Pastor Kenneth F. Jones has announced.

Services will be held at the regular hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday, and at 7:30 nightly Monday through Wednesday.

Evangelistic speaker for the services will be Rev. Mike Reed of Elmcrest Baptist Church in Abilene, where he serves as Assistant Pastor and Minister of Music. Evangelistic singer will be Steve Walker, a native of Merkel, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Walker, 1414 Stewart. Steve will be returning to his home church for this series of services, having been reared in First Baptist Church, Merkel. He is a student at Hardin-Simmons University.

David Williams, First Baptist Youth Director, has announced that special activi-

ties are planned for all youth of the community, and has issued an invitation for youth in the area to attend and participate.

"The revival services are for everyone... youth, children, and adults," Williams said. "We sincerely hope that no one will consider this to be an activity for youth only. The worship and evangelistic services will be for all ages. However, special youth activities will follow the revival services each evening, and all young people are invited."

**Guys, dolls golf tourney set**

Merkel Country Club is planning a guys and dolls tournament Sept. 5-6.

Entry fee is \$15 per couple and scoring will be on the point system.

A permanent club trophy will be initiated with the winners names inscribed.

Members may invite guests to compete in the tourney, but the guests, should they win, will not be eligible for the club trophy.

Prizes will consist of gift certificates and trophies. The field will be limited to the first 25 teams to enter.

**Stith revival**

There will be a Revival at the Stith Baptist Church Friday through Sunday.

Rev. E. V. Brooks of Abilene will do the preaching and John Conklin of Lawn will lead the singing. Everyone is invited. Services start at 8 p.m. each night.



**SCOUTS AT CAMP** — These Merkel Cub Scouts have been busy attending Camp Tonkawa. They attended the camp last Tuesday through Friday and participated in rifle practice, archery, swimming, nature, Indian lore, sports, crafts and knot tying. They had a family picnic and awards night Friday. Those attending the camp are front row, left to right, Brooks

Boyd, Lyle Baker, John Starbuck and James Allday. Standing are Charlotte Starbuck, Chris Horton, Wayne Horton, Ray Walters, Brad Nalley and Audra Horton. The two mothers said they had just as much fun as the scouts during the frantic week of activity. Scouts attending but not pictured are Chris Cutler and Parker Wilson. Two Boy Scouts working with them also are Brad Wade and Kelly Wolf.

**Three firemen attend school**

Robert Harris, Donnie Cloyd and Joe Swinney attended the 47th Texas Firemen's training school held July 25-30 at Texas A&M University.

The 5-day school was conducted by the Fire Protection Training Division of the Texas Engineering Extension Service and Texas A&M in cooperation with the Texas Education Agency. It was sponsored by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Association.

Cloyd and Swinney attended Firefighting 1 course which consisted of ladders, hose loads, hose evaluations, breathing apparatus and protective equipment, public relations, forcible entry and small tools, pump operations and combined operations which consisted of nozzles, hose, garage and cottage fires, and hard fire extinguish-

ers, sprinkler systems, commercial and retail complex fire.

Harris attended the Fire prevention 1 course which consisted of Fire prevention laws and ordinances, LPG, fireworks ordinances, nursing and convalescence homes, hospitals and day care centers.

Merkel received 5 percent key rate credit for the three attending the school.

More than 2,400 firemen and instructors attended the school, representing 17 states and three countries, Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

**Amerine new salesman**

Josh Amerine is currently working for the Merkel Mail, securing subscriptions.

Anyone wanting to subscribe to the Merkel Mail may contact Amerine or come by or telephone the Merkel Mail.

**Cub Scouts earn awards**

Merkel Cub Scouts of Pack 220 came in for special honors Friday night at the conclusion of a week of camping activities at Camp Tonkawa.

Chris Cutler won third in archery; Ray Walters was third in spooning cork in swimming and third in back-

wards walk in swimming; John Starbuck won the Spirit of Scouting Award for Navajo Nation; and Wayne Horton was first in penny inch in swimming, getting 15 pennies off the bottom of the pool and he was third in leaf collection in nature events.

**Mulberry Canyon 4-H news**

Mulberry Canyon 4-H Club held their annual swimming party, Monday night, August 2 at the Merkel Restaurant pool.

A sandwich supper and a short meeting were held afterwards.

Record book results were given:

- \* Lessa Swinney -3rd un Achievement
- \* Achievement, Lisa Hughes-1st Gardening, Craig Hutchings- 1st Home Improvement, Tommy Swinney-2nd Sheep
- \* Sheri Williams-1st Horsemanship, Leslie Masonheimer-2nd Horsemanship, DeeDee Masonheimer-3rd in Horsemanship, Shannon Boyd 3rd in Horsemanship, Sheila Swinney-3rd Sheep, Sherri Dunn-1st Dairy Foods, Cindy Hutchings- 2nd Foods and Nutrition.

Lisa Hughes was chosen as Club Sweetheart to represent our club in the West Texas Fair Sweetheart Contest.

Due to the resignation of our leader Mrs. Judy Pape, we voted on new leaders for

1977. They are Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Swinney, Jim and Nelda Masonheimer, our present leaders will remain as assistant leaders.

We have one new member, Robbie Williams.

Those attending our Swimming party were:

- \* Lessa Swinney, Cindy Hutchings, Lisa Hughes, Sherri Williams, Sheila Swinney, Tommy Swinney, DeeDee Masonheimer, Robbie Williams, Leslie Masonheimer, Brooks and Shannon Boyd, Cindy Doan was a guest.
- \* Next meeting will be installation of officers.
- \* Lisa Hughes, Lessa Swinney, Craig Hutchings, Sherri Williams and Sherri Dunn will represent our club at District 7 Record Book Judging.

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NOON  
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**CUSTOM CATTLE FEEDING**



**H-SU gets grant**

Congressman Omar Burleson has announced the approval of a \$23,125 law enforcement education program award to Hardin-Simmons University by the Department of Justice.

**School opens Aug. 23**

All principals for Merkel schools are now on duty daily to answer questions and to prepare for the opening of schools Aug. 23. All teachers and aides will start working fulltime Aug. 18 and will have their first faculty meeting on that day. Students of all grades will start classes Aug. 23 and buses will run as usual that day. Lunch also will be served at Tye and Merkel schools.

**Trent starts grid drills**

Trent High School will begin football workouts Monday, a week before school opens Aug. 16.

The season opens Sept. 3 when Trent plays Talpa-Centennial in Trent.

Sept. 10, Benjamin is at Trent and Sept. 17 is an open date.

Homecoming for Trent is Sept. 25 with Blackwell the

opponent and Oct. 2 Trent travels to Divide for its final pre-district contest.

First district opponent is McCaulley, Oct. 9 at McCaulley. Trent goes to Highland Oct. 16 and returns home Oct. 22 against Ira. Oct. 29 Heremigh is at Trent and the season ends Nov. 5 with Trent at Hobbs.

All games start at 7:30 p.m.

**Two going to national meet**

Alvin Wozencraft and Pinky Cypert will represent the state as part of the 28-member delegation to the national Rural Carriers convention in Birmingham, Alabama August 8-13.

The two along with Katy Damme and Buford Knight attended the state convention, representing Taylor-Callahan County in

Amarillo, July 12-14.

**Fowler new president**

Bill Fowler is the new president of the Tri-City boys baseball league.

Ned Watts has been elected vice-president, June Gregory secretary and treasurer. Melba Glasscock fund raising chairman and J.C. Sims purchasing agent.



**MINI-MINOR ALL-STARS**--Members of the Tri-City Mini-Minor All-Stars of Miss Softball America are front row, left to right: Missy Simpson, alternate, Tanya Vinson, Martha Mabe, Darla Beasley, Denise Pack, Lisa Leuthauser, Tammy

Epperson, Mandy Guenther, Elizabeth Mitchell, and alternate Vicki Fenter. Standing are: Coach Atha Eller, Renee Smith, Jill Douglass, Cindy Sims, Ida Griffith, Cheryl Freeman, Renee Woodard, Melissa Scott and Melinda Simpson, coach.

**Senior girls in Midland tourney**

The senior girls division of Miss Softball of America state tournament starts Thursday, in Midland and goes through Saturday. The Tri-City All Stars play Big Spring at six o'clock Thursday. The winner of this state tournament will qualify for the National tournament in Abilene August 24-29.

The minor division girls represented Tri-City this past weekend in Abilene in the area tournament, they lost to Abilene North on Friday evening 26-5 and after Abilene North losing to Abilene South Friday night, Tri-City played Abilene North again Saturday morning. They also lost that game 31-9. Abilene South won the tournament to qualify for the state tournament.

The Tri-City Board of Directors would like to thank the Merkel merchants for their continued support of our M.S.A. which has enabled

these young ladies to participate in these area and state tournaments.

**VISITS**

Mrs. Pearl Morris of Tye and Clarence Melton visited their children and friends in Fort Worth and Houston over the weekend.

**CHRISTMAS LAYAWAY**

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SHOP EARLY  
BEAT THE RUSH

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**Doctor Rongers' Column**

By EDWARD W. RONGERS  
CHIROPRACTOR



**GOUT**

Did you know that gout is no longer a rich man's disease? It was thought at one time that the wealthy, those who ate rich and plentiful foods, were the one primarily afflicted with gout. Today we know there is no social class immune to gout.

Gout begins in your body when the level of uric acid in your blood rises above a normal level. Women have a higher level of uric acid in their blood than men, but women rarely have gout. Five per cent of all patients with gout are women, therefore it is apparent that gout is predominantly a male affliction.

What is uric acid? It doesn't seem to serve any real purpose in your body and it derives its name from urine, since this is the means by which it could be eliminated from your body. But uric acid is formed from purines. Purine is a chemical compound that is generated from the breakdown of tissue cells, especially from the breakdown of the cell's nucleus where the DNA and RNA material is contained. Protein metabolism, especially the digestion of organ meats, forms purines also. Thus, every time an old cell dies and a new cell comes into being, purine is generated. It is from the purine substance that uric is formed and released to the bloodstream as a waste product. When you consider that there are three million new red blood cells formed every second and the cells that make up the lining of your small intestine are replaced every three days, then you might begin to imagine how rapidly uric acid is added to your bloodstream.

Uric acid, as long as it remains in solution in your bloodstream, generally presents no problems to normal body function. When the concentration of uric acid in the blood begins to rise above a normal level, the uric acid will combine with sodium in your bloodstream and form a salt. This salt will then form crystals, called monosodium urate crystals, which will be deposited in and around the joints, tendons and cartilage. The joints, especially the big toe, knees, elbows, and fingers, become red, hot, painful and swollen.

These uric acid crystals when deposited in the joints can lead to a form of arthritis called gouty arthritis. This type of arthritis can result in a slow destruction and deformity of the involved joints.

New drugs have been developed to the point where diet is considered secondary to the treatment of gout. Patients who had been on a purine-free diet still did not reduce the level of uric acid in the bloodstream to any appreciable degree. Diet is still important, especially a low-fat, low-cholesterol diet, since heart and vascular disease is associated with gout.

With the modern drugs that are available, a person who suffers from gout can expect to live a normal life span without the misery and pain associated with gout provided they stay under the close supervision of their doctor.

**Noodle group meets Monday**

A planning meeting for the Noodle Homecoming Association will be held Monday night, at 8 pm at the Noodle Community Center. All interested persons are urged to attend.

The homecoming is held every two years during the weekend following Thanksgiving. President of the 1976 homecoming is Eulan Hatfield, vice president is Carol Best and Secretary-Treasurer is Mrs. Vernon Stanley.

**Letters to the editor**

Lost member

Dear Editor:  
A resident of your city during World War II, George A. Newman, is being sought by the 48th Fighter Squadron, 14th Fighter Group organization. If any reader has information as to the whereabouts of this member, please contact George L. Schulgen, P.O. Box 269, Port Isabel, Texas 78578. Mr. Newman lived on RFD no. 1 at that time.

Sincerely,  
George L. Schulgen



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Guess who on his 46th.



**KWFA**

features

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Finley Barnett Program director

Jim Andrews Johnnie 'Mack'  
Manuel Hernandez

Rip Willis Marion Cope  
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All the Goldies

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7:40a.m. 2:40p.m.

10:40a.m. and

12:40p.m. 4:40p.m.



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12 OZ CAN  
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MORTON  
**BEEF or TURKEY**  
WITH GRAVY  
12 OZ CAN **59¢**

PETER PAN  
**PEANUT BUTTER**  
18 OZ JAR **98¢**

KEELBERS  
CHOCOLATE DROP  
COOKIES

BAG **89¢**

GOLD N KORN  
CORN OIL  
**OLEO**  
QUARTERS  
LB **49¢**

HEINZ  
BAR-B-Q  
**SAUCE**  
16 OZ BOT **59¢**

**PEACHES**  
Fruit COCKTAIL  
TRI-VALLEY 303 CAN 2 FOR **59¢**  
LIBBYS 2 1/2 CAN EA **53¢**

**PINEAPPLE**  
TOMATOES  
DEL MONTE 46 OZ EA **43¢**

**Golden CORN**  
TOMATO Juice  
GRAPEFRUIT DRINK EA **59¢**

**RANCH Style**  
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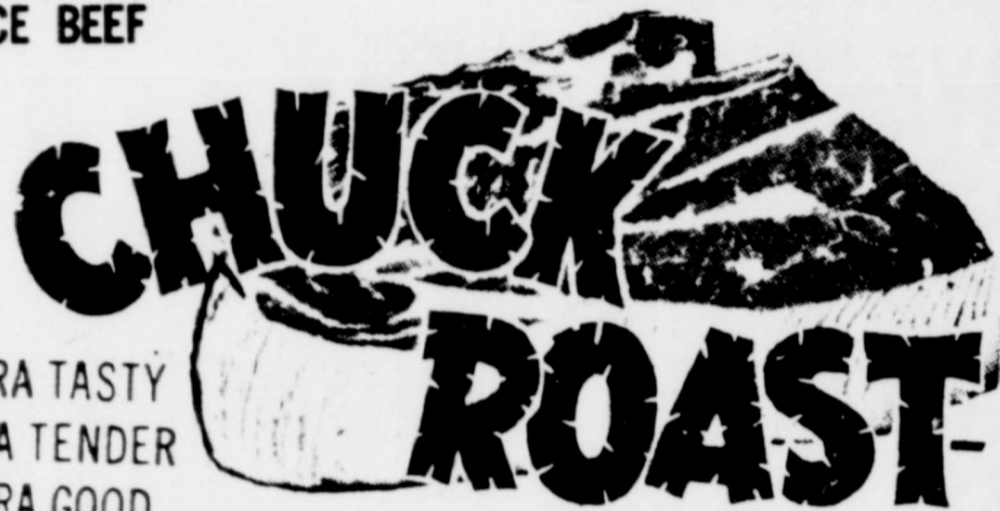
JOAN OF ARC 303 CS 2 FOR **59¢**

LIBBYS 12 OZ 2 FOR **39¢**

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PRINGLES POTATO  
**CHIPS**  
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ALL VEGETABLE  
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EXTRA TASTY  
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CHOICE BEEF  
**SHORT RIBS**  
MEATY LEAN POUND **53¢**

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**BACON STEAK FRANKS LIVER**

GOOCH BR POUND **\$1.49**

CHOICE BEEF LOIN LB. **\$1.45**

GOOCH BR BEEF OR REGULAR 12 OZ **75¢**

FRESH BEEF GOOCH LB. **75¢**

HORMEL BREADED FINGERS **STEAK** **79¢**

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**CAKE**

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

I.G. DAIRY FRESH  
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GAL JUG **\$1.43**  
NO DEPOSIT

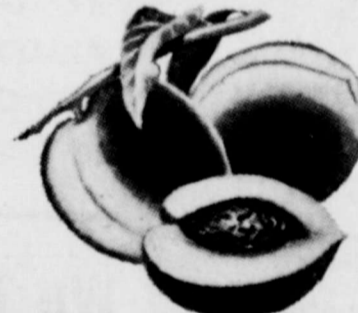
I.G. DAIRY FRESH  
**Homo MILK**  
GAL JUG **\$1.53**  
NO DEPOSIT

WISHBONE 1000 ISLAND or FRENCH  
**DRESSING**  
8 OZ BOTTLE **49¢**

PILLSBURY  
**BISCUITS**  
4 PACK **49¢**

HORMEL VIENNA COOKING OIL  
**SAUSAGE** 2 FOR **63¢**  
**WESSON** 24 OZ JUG **79¢**

FRESH BELL PEPPER D'ANJOU PEARS **79¢**



FRESH TEXAS PEACHES LB. **25¢**

**CHEER**  
KING SIZE **\$1.83**  
1 LIMIT

**FOLGERS LIPTON FLOUR TOWELS**

COFFEE 2 LB CAN  
INSTANT TEA 3 OZ JAR

**\$2.98** 1 LIMIT  
**\$1.29**

EACH **10¢**  
LB. **39¢**  
LB. **33¢**

**DAWN**  
GT SIZE **83¢**

**FLOUR TOWELS**

GLADIOLA 5 LB BAG  
BRAWY JUMBO ROLL

**69¢**  
**49¢**  
FRESH CELLO CARROTS  
WHITE ONIONS  
RUSSET SPUDS

2 FOR **29¢**  
LB. **15¢**  
10 LB BAG **89¢**

**BONUS**  
GT BOTTLE **\$1.19**

CLEANER  
**MR CLEAN**  
GT BOTTLE **83¢**

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS SHOP AND SAVE

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS  
Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more

**CARSON'S SUPER MARKET**  
MERKEL TEXAS  
FRESH VEGETABLES  
FREE DELIVERY MON WED FRI  
BEST MEATS IN TOWN