

Taylor County's
Only Legal
Newspaper
Weekly

The Merkel Mail

15¢

Published Weekly

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Vol. 88 NO. 25

Classes to Begin August 22nd for Trent Schools

Monday, August 22 will be the first day of classes and registration will be conducted for the Trent Independent School District, grades 1-12. Kindergarten will begin in January. Health records must be complete, or in the process of completion, before a student will be allowed to register. First grade students will also need a birth certificate. Buses will run and lunch will be served on this day. Everyone is invited to the opening assembly at 8:30 a.m. in the gymnasium.

The week of August 15-19 will be in service for the Trent faculty. The faculty and staff is complete for

the 1977-78 school year and will be as follows:

Secondary: Mr. Pat Adams, Vo-Ag; Mrs. Jocille Brady, math; Mrs. Kay Todd, science; Mrs. Tina Nelson, homemaking; Mrs. Margaret Presswood, English; Mr. Bob Campbell, coach and history; Miss Sherry Taylor, English and history; Mrs. Marcilla Jivides, business; Mrs. Cherry Curry, band and music.

Elementary: Mrs. Dayna Henderson, first grade; Mrs. Lynda Sandlin, second grade; Mrs. Deborah Pickett, third grade; Mrs. Glenda Colthorp, fourth grade; Mrs. Patricia Murphree, fifth grade; Mrs.

Betty Kinnard, special ed. Aides: Mrs. Vera Sharp and Mrs. Syra Patterson.

Bus Drivers: Mrs. Betty Bragelton, Mr. Joe Bragelton, Mrs. Roxie Vinson, Mrs. Winnie Dickerson, Mrs. Alice Brenem, and Mr. Don Orr.

Cafeteria: Mrs. Alva Hatfield, Mrs. Roxie Vinson, and Mrs. Alice Brenem.

Custodian: Mr. Billy West. Nurse: Mrs. Helen Jones.

Administration: Mr. Roy Neff, Superintendent; Mr. Don Orr, Business Manager; Mr. Bruce Thomas, Principal; and Mrs. Brenda Kraatz, Secretary.

Budget Hearing

There will be a budget hearing of the 1977-78 Merkel School Budget held August 18th at 8 p.m. in the High School Teacher's Workroom.

Merkel School Board Hires Teachers

At the regular Merkel ISD School Board Meeting, Monday, August 8th, the board approved the hiring of Ron Smith as High School Math Teacher and Freshman Coach. They also hired Gwendolyn May as High School Resource teacher. The other business discussed at the board meeting concerned the 77-78 school budget. The next regular board meeting will be August 22nd at 8 p.m. in the high school teacher's workroom.



Mr. and Mrs. Onis Crawford

Onis Crawford Longtime Businessman

It was 25 years ago that Mr. and Mrs. Onis Crawford started in the clothing business. That was in Hamlin. Their first venture was a partnership in Hamlin. After 4 years in that business they came to Merkel.

It wasn't to open a clothing store. It was as manager of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce. After two years as Merkel's Chamber manager, he and his family moved to Dalhart as manager of the Dalhart Chamber of Commerce.

But there was a couple of things the Crawfords couldn't get out of their minds. One was Merkel and the other was the clothing business. So they moved back to Merkel and on February 1, 1962 they opened a clothing store at 213 Edwards.

They operated in this location for the next 10 years. Crawford felt that Merkel was on the verge of making some growth and he wanted to be ready to meet the needs of Merkel and its residents. After a complete remodeling of the Mellinger building, Crawford moved his business to the much larger quarter at 135 Edwards Street.

"This was a big step for us, but the growth we have experienced has justified our faith in Merkel," Crawford said. "The people of Merkel and the Merkel trade territory have been wonderful to us and we are grateful for their support. The Lord had a purpose for us here and it's great to live in and be a part of this wide awake community," Crawford said.

Crawford saw a need for a 'family type' store in Merkel. And that has been his objective since starting business. His store carries clothing for every member of the family. This includes women's, men's, and children's clothing. His store has the only complete shoe department in Merkel.

The store carries clothing that is suitable for work on the farm as well as men's suits and all the accessories. "We feel that we have a stock of clothing that any member of the family can be fitted," he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford have three children and all are graduates of Merkel High School. They are: Jim Crawford of Odessa, Robert Crawford of Anson, and Mignon of Lubbock.

Board Approves 'No New Taxes' School Budget

The Merkel School Board has approved the 1977-78 budget for Merkel Schools. The budget is up \$117,000, a 9.2 per cent increase. This is a smaller increase than last year's budget. Total budget for the coming year is \$1,751,795.00.

School Superintendent Travis Davis told the board members that the budget is the result of much belt-tightening by the district. He went on to explain that the budget at its present level has cut maintenance funds extremely low. In addition the possible addition of one teacher and two instructional aides have also

been cut from the budget. Davis emphasized that the budget would not cause a lowering of the desired educational level of Merkel children. "We have made all the cuts possible in order to hold the budget down. However, it in no way endangers the quality of education for our children," Davis said.

Davis explained to the board members that there is a possibility of deficit spending before the school year is over. "If our ADA (Average Daily Attendance) and the per cent of taxes collected remain strong throughout the school year, we may be able to avoid deficit spending," Davis said.

Davis said that there is a broad enough tax base to finance the school if the ADA remains the same or shows an increase, and a high per centage of taxes are collected.

While this budget avoids a tax increase, Davis explained that next year there may have to be one. "With continuing increases in cost and growth of the schools, an increase in taxes will be probable," Davis said. Davis explained that due to the building of two classrooms at Tye Elementary and five class rooms at Merkel Elementary, operating reserve money had been lowered. The possibility of an more building in the future will have to come from a bond proposal he said.

C. A. P.

ENERGY CRISIS

Community Action Program of Abilene has a program to provide emergency financial help to eligible households which can prove financial need, as a result of having large energy bills, or having paid fuel bills, gas, butane, and electric since October 76.

Families that meet poverty guidelines, or on limited income, such as welfare, social security, or SSI.

These forms must be in Abilene by August 31, 1977. For more information call Mrs. Leon Harris, 928-5204 or 928-5859.

Co-op Meet Held in Houston

Almost 700 Texas rural electric leaders, including several from Merkel, and ladies gathered in Houston last week (August 3-5) for the Association of Texas Electric Cooperatives' 37th annual meeting. Speakers and delegates alike expressed concern for maintaining the quality and vitality of rural Texas life agreeing that old-fashioned moral integrity and adequate supplies of electricity are key ingredients.

Attending from Merkel were Don Hart, Taylor County Co-Op Manager,

and several directors. The meeting's theme--Energy Management: Key to the Future--reflected the belief that load-management programs coupled with conservation and foresight in planning for future energy needs would help meet the demands for power.

Highlights of the meeting included addresses by Texas' new Commissioner of Agriculture, Reagan Brown, and State Comptroller Bob Bullock, "one of the most colorful and controversial men in Texas politics today."

Others were Lieutenant Governor Bill Hobby, Dr. Gail Dunning, a counseling psychologist from Greenwood, Nebraska, and Owen Hallberg, president of the American Institute of Cooperation, as well as several Texas rural electric leaders.

"Americans just have to be more careful with existing energy supplies while other sources are being developed," TEC General Manager Jim Morriss observed. "It's like what the waitress told the customer who wanted more sugar for his coffee: 'stir up what you've got.' We've got to start doing more with our energy than we have in the past," Morriss said. Technical programs, like load management, to spread energy usage more evenly over given periods of time as well as diligent efforts by rural electricians and their members are just some ways to make better use of our energy, he said.



News and Thoughts

By Martha Sue Justice

I took a quick trip to the hospital last week which turned out to be quite entertaining. First of all they took a blood test and the results indicated that I either had very strange blood or there was something wrong with the machine. They ran another test on my blood and this time everything was normal. Next they ran an electrocardiogram on me and the nurse ran out several tapes looking very confused. She told me that either the machine was not working correctly or I had just expired three times and did not know it. They finally got the machine working and found out that I was alive and well.

The next thing that they did to me was give me a barium X-ray test which required me to drink three quarts of liquid. Keeping with the spirit of the day, the fluid would not go down into the colon fast enough, so the test did not work so well. This was finally straightened out and I turned out to be OK.

After finding out that I had strange blood, had expired three times, and could not get any barium into my colon I still felt well and went home.

Before I left hospital organization struck again. They had run an electrocardiogram which did not look so good, and they could not figure who it belonged to.

Chris Mashburn was home briefly, but he went to Hendrick Memorial Hospital on Monday. The fund for his benefit is still active at the Farmers and Merchants National Bank and any donations will be greatly appreciated. Any stay in the hospital is quite expensive.

The City of Merkel is cleaning up around the School's VA barn and clearing out many trees and bushes. The area is almost unusable in its present condition. We should thank our city officials for helping our young people the way that they do.

The Merkel Homecoming Committee will meet August 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the Merkel Restaurant. All interested persons are urged to attend this necessary meeting to help plan this year's homecoming.

The first day of school for students in Trent will be Monday, August 22. The first day for Merkel students will be Monday, August 29. Don't forget to get ready!

Five Trent students attended a cheerleader camp at East Texas State University August 1-5. Sue Bryan, Pamela Evans, Robbie Freeman, Penny Hatfield, and Tammie Hicks are showing real school spirit by putting forth this extra effort to better lead Trent High School Cheers.

The Merkel Little League will sponsor a softball game Friday, August 12. The ladies will start promptly at 7:00 p.m. and the men will start after the ladies finish. Anyone wishing to play may come to the practice game to be held August 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Little League field.

The Compere Cemetery Association will meet August 20th to clean up the Cemetery. There will be lunch served as usual and a business meeting will follow lunch. All interested persons are urged to attend. Any visitors are welcome.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: "The times are bad. Very well, you are there to make them better."

"For verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Matthew 17:20

Jack Coker, Director of the VA Regional Office in Waco, warned today that a large number of women whose husbands died or suffer total, permanent disability resulting from their military service, will lose their eligibility for

certain valuable Veterans Administration benefits if they don't act within 18 months.

The VA education benefits provide up to 45 months of schooling to eligible wives and widows and to children between the ages of 18 and 26, Coker said.

But the eligibility of a spouse ends on November 30, 1978, or ten years from the date the veteran was found to have a total and permanent service-connected disability--or ten years from the date of his or her death, whichever is later.

Dependents of MIA's and service personnel who were captured, interned or forcibly detained in line of duty, are eligible for education benefits until December 24, 1980, or for 10 years from the date the listing was made, whichever is later, Coker said.

For a spouse intending to take apprenticeship, on the job or correspondence training, eligibility is based on the 10-year period or October 24, 1982, whichever is later.

A child's marriage is not a barrier to the education

benefits, Coker said, but the remarriage of a spouse ends his or her eligibility unless that marriage is later terminated by death or divorce.

Unless the child of a veteran has been accepted by an approval institution for courses leading to a standard college degree, he or she is required to have VA counseling to assist in the selection of an educational goal and program. Such counseling is available to any eligible child on request.

In addition to the types of training listed above, spouses may enroll in secondary and correspondence schools, pursued six months or more, or in schools offering farm cooperative programs. The VA will provide educational-vocational counseling to spouses upon their request. Any program of education outside the United States may be pursued only at an approved institution of higher learning.

Monthly allowance rates paid under this program are \$292 for full-time students, \$219 for three quarter time students, and \$145 for half time students. Tuition costs only--limited to \$292--will be paid to less than half time students. Enrollees in full-time cooperative courses which alternate classroom study with on-the-job experience will receive \$235 a month.

Eligible students may borrow up to \$1,500 per



YOUR CITY TAXES AT WORK ...

Classes To Begin In Merkel August 29th

Classes at Merkel Public Schools will begin August 29th, according to announcement by Superintendent Travis Davis. Teachers will report for duty August 22nd, Davis said.

**Entry Forms Available
For Contest**

Entry forms for the 1978 Miss Teenage Abilene competition are now available throughout the 25 countries of the Dr. Pepper Bottling Company of Abilene distribution area. The forms have been placed in schools, youth centers and all Grigsby's Rag Doll locations, in addition to all locations where Dr Pepper is sold.

Girls wishing to enter this year's competition should return a completed entry blank along with a recent photograph to the MTA offices as soon as possible. Deadline for entry is September 9, with preliminaries scheduled to begin October 1. The Miss Teenage Abilene Program has been set for October 22, 1977 in the Abilene Civic Center. Competition includes girls age 13 to 17.

Judging in the Miss Teenage Abilene competition involves scholastic achievement, poise, appearance and awareness, and is not based on beauty. A written examination, prepared by World Book Encyclopedia, is the first area of judging. This test will be administered simultaneously in Abilene and San Angelo on September 20, 1977.

Any girls having difficulty locating an entry form should contact the Miss Teenage Abilene Office, Box 2383, Abilene, Texas 79604 or call 915-673-9311 for information.

Public Notice

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: George Reed Jamison, Respondent:
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 Walter Estes Briles, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 28th day of July, 1977, against Karen Sue Spence and George Reed Jamison, Respondents, and said suit being numbered 13,517-DR on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of George Paul Jamison, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to terminate all parent-child relationships. Said child was born the 24th day of April, 1969, in Abilene, Texas.

The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's 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's adoption.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of 1st 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 2nd day of August, 1977.

Irene Crawford Clerk
Domestic Relations Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Elise Mitchell, Deputy.
25-1tc

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: Ronnie Gene Price, Respondent:
GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to answer before the Honorable Henry J. Strauss of 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 Carolyn Clark and Coney Clark, Petitioners, filed in said Court on the 29th day of July, 1977, against Ronnie Gene Price, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 13,532-DR on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Rohnda Jean Price, a female, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to termination of the parent-child relationship. Said child was born the 26th day of December, 1971, in Temple, Bell County, Texas.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's 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's adoption.

Public Notice

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 3rd day of August, 1977.

Irene Crawford Clerk
Domestic Relations Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Faye Lyons, Deputy.
25-1tc

**L&W SNACK BAR
AND
RECREATION CENTER**
(IN THE HEART OF
DOWNTOWN MERKEL)
928-5484 1035 N.2nd Street

Dunn's Flea Market
INTERSTATE 20
In Trent
MARKET WILL BE HELD
INSIDE "THIS OLD HOUSE"
August 13, 14
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
New Glassware, Flower pots,
and Material
862-2761

Our boys and girls missionary crusade is having a paper drive. If anyone can help by contributing old papers it would be greatly appreciated. If you need someone to pick up your papers please call 928-5761.

On August 13, 1977, our young people will be selling fried pies from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. We will have apple, apricot, cherry, and pineapple. Anyone who would like to order any please call 928-5761. They will sell for four for \$1.00.

We are planning a misc. sale. We will be taking orders from people who want: pies, fried pies, cakes, or donuts. Also we will be making crafts such as dresses, purses, and tables.

The C. A.'s are using their talents for God. All the money is going for Speed the Light. This organization speed's God's Great Word everywhere through young people.

Remember C. A.'s are every Saturday night from 6 until 9. Come join the fun. This week it's flag football.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
N. 2ND & RUNNELLS
Need a ride? Call 928-5761

The Light Touch
By Pat Castille

More unions would strike for a living wage—but nobody seems to know exactly what that is.

We Have Parts for Presto & Mirro Matic Cookers and Canners

Bumper sticker: "This is an unmarked car. Please keep it that way."

College boy we know learned about inflation without even studying. He found out fast when he bought textbooks.

If we could see ourselves as others see us, we'd probably have our eyes examined.

We'd like to see you at CASTILLE'S
**STOP BY FOR A VISIT
AND JUST LOOK AROUND**
WATCH FOR
BIG SEPTEMBER SALE

compare!

- MR. PIBB 15¢**
32 OZ PLUS DEPOSIT
- ORANGE SLICES 45¢**
1 LB
- 89¢**
NATURAL STYLE CHIPS
WHILE THEY LAST **59¢**
- FINAL CLOSE OUT**
MENS STRAW HATS \$3.49
REG. \$4.98
- PREMIUM CRACKERS 59¢**
1 LB
- BRAKE FLUID 98¢**
- CRUSHED ICE 70¢**
10 LB
- BIC PANTY HOSE 89¢**
- GOOCH FRANKS 69¢**
12 OZ
- GOOCH BOLOGNA 98¢**
1 LB

**FREE SMALL SLUSH
PUPPIE WITH
\$5.00 PURCHASE**
**NINTH ST.
GROCERY**

1207 S. 9th Phone 928-5331

SKATEBOARD PRO SHOP
WESTGATE MALL
SKATEBOARDS & ACCESSORIES

West Texas Skateboard Assn. and The Skateboard Pro Shop Presents

Abilene Amateur Skateboard Open Sat. Aug. 13, 1977 Taylor County Coliseum 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Admission 12 and under \$1
13 and over \$2.

Tickets and Entry Forms at Skateboard Pro Shop-Coliseum Boxoffice

MERKEL
(Annette Clark)
928-5038

You may be eligible for a rental housing subsidy program sponsored by the federal government if:

1. You and your family live on a low income or
2. You are over 62 years of age or
3. You are handicapped or permanently disabled

This program may be able to help you find a safe and sanitary home for 25 per cent or less of your monthly income. The amount of the rent that is more than 25 per cent will be paid by the government. If you need help and think you can qualify for the program, call your local housing authority.

Usted puede recibir ayuda por medio de un programa del gobier no si acaso.

1. Usted y su familia ganan muy poco o
2. Usted tiene mas de 62 anos de edad o
3. Usted esta incapacitado para trabajar

Este programa le prdra ayudar a encontrar una casa segura y decente por 25 por ciento o menos de lo que usted gana por mes. La renta que sea mas de 25 por ciento sera pagada por el gobierno. Si usted necesita ayuda a cree que pueda calificar para este programa, llame a la oficina de viviendas (housing authority).

"SUPPORT MERKEL" - "SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY"

EARN THE MAXIMUM INTEREST ON YOUR SAVINGS DOLLAR

"THE MONEY YOU DEPOSIT AT THE F&M NATIONAL BANK STAYS IN MERKEL - MAKING AVAILABLE LOANS FOR OUR RANCHERS - FARMERS & BUSINESS CONCERNS."

"LETS ALL HELP OUR COMMUNITY GROW."
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

5%	5 1/2%	7 1/2%	SIX YEAR INVESTMENTS CERTIFICATES
30 DAYS	90 DAYS		
6%	6 1/2%	7 1/4%	MINIMUM DEPOSIT \$1,000.00 OR MORE
12 MONTHS	30 MONTHS	4 YEARS	
A SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST PENALTY IS REQUIRED FOR EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF CERTIFICATE			

WE PAY YOU THE HIGHEST RATE OF INTEREST WHICH ANY BANK IS AUTHORIZED TO PAY

"INTEREST COMPOUNDED EACH DAY ON YOUR DAILY SAVINGS ACCOUNTS"

"DEPOSITS FULLY INSURED TO \$40,000 BY FEDERAL DEPOSITS INSURANCE CORPORATION"
(HUSBAND AND WIFE MAY BE INSURED FOR TOTAL OF \$70,000)

THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

"SERVING MERKEL & COMMUNITY FOR 72 YEARS"

Each depositor insured to \$40,000
FDIC
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
MERKEL, TEXAS

"...now that's a bank!"

5 BIG DOLLAR DAY

THUR. THRU TUE.
AUG. 11 THRU 15

SPECIALS

Hot Bar-B-Que
Beans-Potato Salad
CHICKEN SALAD
Pimento Cheese

COCA COLA
PLUS DEPOSIT
16 OZ BOTTLE EACH **15¢**

FREE BIC LIGHTERS
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE
\$1.49 EACH

SHORTENING SWIFT JEWEL **\$1.19**
3 LB CAN

BACON GOOCH BIG COUNTRY LB **98¢**

FRANKS GOOCH 12 OZ **79¢**

SAUSAGE GOOCH GERMAN PKG **98¢**

Chuck Roast LB **89¢**

Hamburger LB **59¢**

Loin Steak LB **\$1.69**

FRENCH'S **MUSTARD** 24 OZ **55¢**

DEL MONTE **CATSUP** 32 OZ **79¢**

STAR KIST **TUNA** FLAT CAN **59¢**

NESTEA **INSTANT TEA** 3 OZ **\$1.89**

KRAFT **Marshmallows** 10 OZ **39¢**

BAKERS **ANGEL FLAKE COCONUT** 7 OZ **79¢**

GRAPE JAM BAMA 18 OZ **59¢**

BETTY CROCKER **FUDGE BROWNIE MIX** 23 OZ **89¢**

INSTANT POTATOES COUNTRY STORE 16 OZ **\$1.00**

INSTANT POTATOES 2 FOR **\$1.00**

BEANS RANCH STYLE 4/\$1.00
303 CAN

Pork & Beans 4/\$1.00
VAN CAMP 300 CAN

VEG. Stew 2/\$1.00
DINTY MOORE 24 OZ CAN

TOASTIES 2/\$1.00
POST 12 OZ

Skim Milk 4/\$1.00
PET TALL CAN

PEACHES 2/\$1.00
DEL MONTE NO 2 1/2 CAN

Sugar 79¢
SUGAR BARREL 5 LB. BAG LIMIT ONE

YAMS 45¢
KIMBELL SQUAT CAN

FLOUR 69¢
GLADIOLA 5 LB BAG

BREADS, BUNS, or CONEYS 35¢
KOUNTRY FRESH

Coffee \$5.95
MAXWELL HOUSE 2 LB CAN LIMIT 1

PINE-SOL 79¢
15 OZ

Step-Saver \$1.59
JOHNSON 32 OZ

IVORY 79¢
LIQUID 22 OZ

CHEER \$1.19
GIANT SIZE

MILK \$1.45
PRESTON LOW FAT GAL

MILK 79¢
PRESTON LOW FAT 1/2 GAL

Biscuits 10/\$1.00
MEADS

TISSUES 2/\$1.00
CHIFFON FACIAL 200 COUNT

NAPKINS 4/\$1.00
SCOTT FAMILY 60 CT

Cake Mix 59¢
DUNCAN HINES

FROZEN FOODS
EASY-DELICIOUS

Potatoes \$1.09
HANDY PAK CRINKLE CUT 5 LB. BAG

COOL WHIP 49¢
BIRDSEYE 9 OZ

Dinners 59¢
EL CHICO QUESO MEXICAN OR ENCHALADA

PRODUCE
AT 'THE CROPS-IN' PRICES

BANANAS LB 17¢

Avocados \$1.00

Cantelope LB 19¢

ONIONS 2/25¢
YELLOW

Potatoes 10 LB BAG 99¢
RUSSET

USDA APPROVED TO REDEEM FOOD STAMPS DELIVERIES DAILY AT 10:00 A.M.



Double Premiums On WEDNESDAY ON Purchase of \$7.50 OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE Save Valuable Cash Register Tapes For Premiums

PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD QUICKLY...EASILY...JUST PHONE

**928
5712**

Before Noon Tuesday

**Pre-Paid
Funeral
Plans**

**Funeral
Service
Insurance**

**Life
Insurance**

**STARBUCK
FUNERAL
HOME**

928-4711

**CRAIN'S
GARAGE**

MAJOR AND MINOR
AUTO REPAIR
FREE PICK UP AND
DELIVERY. ALSO
TRACTOR WORK,
AND MOST FOR-
EIGN CARS. MER-
OLD 80 EAST
ROUND TOP BUILD-
ING, PHONE 928-4915.

**MERKEL
ELECTRIC**

We do commercial
and residential elec-
tric work.
Need a house rewired
or just a little work.
Call us for a free esti-
mate.
You don't have to
wait for work you
want done at a rea-
sonable Price.

JOHN W. MARTIN

507 ROSE
928-5530

GARAGE SALE

PORCH SALE: 12th and
13th of August at 311 Kent
Street. Phone 928-5154.
Come one, Come all!
25-1tp

SALE: 810 Brickhaven,
August 10, 11, and 12.
Jeans, Desk, Bedspreads,
Lawn Chairs, Child's
stereo, Lawn Mower.
25-1tc

GARAGE SALE: Baby
items and misc. 706 Avon-
dale (end of Sunset),
Saturday and Sunday.
25-1tc

GARAGE SALE: Good
school clothes, stereo, air
conditioner, drapes, and
misc. Thursday and Fri-
day- Bagley 103 Orange.
25-1tc

GARAGE SALE: Thurs-
day and Friday, 501 Thor-
nton. Lots of clothes, nik-
naks, and glassware.
25-1tp

GARAGE SALE: at 274
West Street Tuesday thru
Friday from 9 till 5.
25-1tp

GIGANTIC GARAGE
SALE: Saturday from 8
till 5 at Ronnie Freeman's
in Trent.
25-1tc

GARAGE SALE: Friday
August 12, 4 hours only, 8
till 12:00. Low prices, Don
Hart, 1/2 mile north of
Merkel, FM 126.
25-1tp

GARAGE SALE: Satur-
day, FM 126 North Turn
left on 2nd road, 3rd house
on right, Jerry Russell,
boys and Girls Teen age
clothes, Alto Saxophone,
little boys clothes, stroller,
and misc.
25-1tp

GARAGE SALE: at South
2nd and Lois, Thursday
and Friday. Little girl's
clothes sizes 1-6 and misc.
25-1tp

GARAGE SALE: Mostly
childrens clothes. 813 Ash.
From 9:00 to 4:00
25-1tc

GARAGE SALE: Friday
and Saturday, 507 Locust,
children's clothes, odds
and ends.
25-1tc

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Carl Jack-
son wishes to thank every-
one for the flowers, food,
prayers, and thoughtfulness
during our time of
sorrow.
Mrs. Carl Jackson and
family.
25-1tc

Thank you for the baby
shower, the gifts, phone
calls, and cards I've re-
ceived since I've been
home.
Margie Landeros and
family.
25-1tp

Services

CUSTOM COMBINING
and Hay Bailing (can do
round or square bails).
Call 736-6128.
23-5tc

FOR HAY HAULING call
Buster Brown at 928-4885.
19-1tc

Miscellaneous

**MERKEL VFW
POST 5683
MONTHLY
REG. MEETING
8:30 P.M.**

**SECOND THURSDAY
POST & LADIES AUXILIARY
Y'ALL COME NOW!**

MASONIC MEETING
Stated meeting of Mer-
kel Lodge No. 710 on
2nd Saturday and 4th
Thursday of each month
at 8:00 p.m. Visitors welcome
Members urged to attend.
WILEY NOAH, W.M.
ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y

LAND FOR SALE? Call
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lene. 698-3211, Night
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Public Notice

CITATION BY
PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: Donald Cullison,
Respondent:
GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY
COMMANDED to appear
and answer before the
Honorable Domestic Re-
lations Court, Taylor

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ALL PER-
SONS HAVING CLAIMS
AGAINST THE ESTATE
OF JIMPZ YOUNG, DE-
CEASED

Notice is hereby given
that Original Letter of
Administration for the Es-
tate of JIMPZ YOUNG
were issued on June 21,
1977, in Cause No. 13,024,
pending in the County
Court of Taylor County,
Texas, to:
DAVID OSCAR LEECH
The residence of such
administrator is Corpus
Christi, Texas. The Post
Office address is:
c-o Walter P. Morgan, Jr.
2925 South 1st Street
Abilene, Texas, 79605
All persons having
claims against this Estate
which is currently being
administered are required
to present them within the
time and in the manner
prescribed by law.
DATED the 1st day of
August, 1977.
By Walter P. Morton
Attorney for the Estate
25-1tc

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
Dave C. Hearrell, III and
Cynthia Jean Hearrell,
Petitioners, filed in said
Court on the 13th day of
July, 1977, against Donald
Cullison, Respondent, and
said suit being numbered
13,463-DR on the docket of
said Court, and entitled
"In The Interest of Ken-
neth Wayne Cullison, a
Child", the nature of
which suit is a request to
Terminate and adopt Step-
child. Said child was born
the 30th day of November,
1971, in Colorado City,
Texas.

The court has authority
in this suit to enter any
judgement or decree in the
child's interest which will
be binding upon you,
including the termination
of the parent-child re-
lationship and the appoint-
ment of a conservator with
authority to consent to the
child's adoption.

If this citation is not
served within ninety days
after the date of its
issuance, it shall be re-
turned 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 28th day of
July, 1977.
(Seal)
Irene Crawford Clerk,
Domestic Relations Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Sandra Harris, Deputy.
25-1tc

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and West Texas Press Association.

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Mr. and Mrs. David Bowen

Cindle - Bowen Exchange Vows

Johnnie Sue and David Wayne Bowen were married Sunday August 7th in The Botanic Gardens in Fort Worth. The couple were married in the Japanese Rose Garden with the Rev. Billy Heffner of Fort Worth officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Cora and Dale Shugart of 412 Marion in Merkel and Lee Roy Cindle of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The bride-groom is the son of Kenneth Bowen of Harlingen and Peggy Scott of Springtown.

The bride was given in

marriage by her father, Nancy Mayhall of Fort Worth was the bride's maid of honor. Gregg Doan of Merkel was best man.

The bride's mother and step-father hosted the reception at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Butch Lindsey of Fort Worth.

The bride and groom are both graduates from Merkel High School. The bride attended Chappman Court Reporting School in Fort Worth. Both are employed in Tulsa, Oklahoma where they will make their home.

Riding Club News

Results of the Merkel Riding Club are as follows- Boat race (5 and under)- 1. Amy Sparks; 2. Cody Vaughn; 3. Shala Miller; 4. Dawn Henslee.

Barrels (8 and under)- 1. Denese Pursley; 2. Candace Henslee; 3. Bridgett Vaughn.

(9-12)- 1. Eddie Sparks; 2. Dayne Pursley; 3. Lesa Dolsey; 4. Jay Gibson; 5. Jerry Miller.

(13-17)- 1. Vicki Campbell; 2. Rodney Carroll; 3. Penny Hatfield; 4. Buddy Stout; 5. Clyde Carroll.

(18 and over)- 1. Jan Beck; 2. Jannett Pickley; 3. Lonnie Miller; 4. Charles Hatfield; 5. Barbara Whisenhunt.

Flag (8 and under)- 1. Denese Pursley; 2. Candace Henslee; 3. Bridgett Vaughn.

(9-12)- 1. Dayna Purs-

ley; 2. Eddie Sparks; 3. Joy Gibson; 4. Lisa Dokey; 5. Jerry Miller.

(13-17)- 1. Penny Hatfield; 2. Vicki Campbell; 3. Rodney Carroll; 4. Buddy Stout; 5. David Green.

(18 and over)- 1. Charles Hatfield.

Poles (8 and under)- 1. Denese Pursley; 2. Bridgett Vaughn.

(9-12)- 1. Joy Gibson; 2. Dayna Pursley; 3. Eddie Sparks; 4. Lisa Dokey; 5. Jerry Miller.

Poles (13-17)- 1. Rodney Carroll; 2. Vicki Campbell; 3. Penny Hatfield; 4. Clyde Carroll; 5. Buddy Stout.

(18 and over)- 1. Barbara Whisenhunt; 2. Charles Hatfield; 3. Lonnie Miller; 4. Jannett Pickley.

Calf Roping- 1. John Rogers.

Steer Roping- 1. Rex Bland and Oscar Vaughn; 2. Walter Whisenhunt and John Rogers.

There will be a pot luck supper Thursday night, August 11 at 7:30 at the R. E. A. Building. Prize for the month of July will be given out.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

It is with great pride that I take this opportunity to commend Representative Elmer Martin for the time and hard work he devoted to the Committee on Agriculture and Livestock during the 65th Texas Legislature.

I have had the pleasure of serving as chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Livestock for three consecutive sessions and have had Elmer as a member of the committee for three consecutive sessions. It is rewarding to serve with members of such high caliber and I hope that the accomplishments and hard work achieved will be beneficial to all the people of Texas. I am looking forward to working with Elmer for many years to come as we strive for the betterment of agriculture.

Sincerely yours,
Joe A. Hubenak, Chairman
Committee on Agriculture and Livestock

Sandusky Reunion Held

The Sandusky Family Reunion was held August 6 and 7 in Merkel at the Senior Citizens Building. They had a sandwich supper on Saturday night and dinner on Sunday. All had a good time visiting and catching up on the past years activities.

Those attending were: Roy and Bob Tyree, Balingier; Dennis and Pam Orsborn; Shirley Morgan and Russell; Jerry Don, Debbie, and Joe Sandusky; Lue Annie Wynne; Steve and Wilma Butman; Dewey and Irene Sandusky; Glenn, Barbara, Grant, and Marissa Sandusky; Ed and Alwyne Sandusky; Justin D. and Virginia Sandusky; and Gwen Latimer all of Merkel; Lizzie Beaty, Bronte; Jess Sandusky; Thad and Carla Sandusky; Rusty Sandusky, all of Bromide, Oklahoma; Ruth Sandusky; Gerald Sandusky,

both of Bronte; Louis and Pauline Butman; Clyde and Zella Bowman, of Abilene; Thomas Walton, Witchata Falls; Nell Harwell, Odessa; Griff and Barbara Griffin, Irving; Janet Sandusky, Lueders; Elmer L. Sandusky, Clyde; Rosalie and Blakey Weago, Abilene; Judge, Camill, and Ross Sandusky, Hondo; and Mary Snyder, Dum as, Texas.

Visits and Visitors

Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Gregory this past weekend were: John L. Turner of Fairbanks, Alaska, a teacher at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks; Dr. and Mrs. Young and sons Mathew and David, of Hawaii; and Charlotte and Susan Turner from San Antonio.

LOOK WHO'S HERE!

Proud grandparents say, "Look who is here!" David and Cathy Sparks have a new baby boy, born June 30th and weighed 9 pounds and 3 ounces. They named him, David Brian. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Holloway of Merkel and Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Sparks Sr. of Tye.

Buster and Lee Ann Tarpley also have a new addition; A new girl, Brandi Dawn was born July 26th and weighed 9 pounds and 11 1/2 ounces. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Holloway of Merkel and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Tarpley of Merkel.

This "one Nannie Holloway" states she is happy about both new babies but just as glad both daughters didn't decide on twins.

Homecoming Committee to Meet

The Homecoming Committee will meet August 16th at 7:00 at the Merkel Restaurant. Any interested person please attend.

Pack - Allison Wedding Postponed

The wedding of Karen Pack to James Allison has been postponed to August 21st due to the recent surgery of the bride-to-be's father.

ALLSUP'S
CONVENIENCE STORES

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without our back to school specials

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INTERSTATE 20
WEST OF THE WYLIE TRUCK TERMINAL

HAPPY 40th BIRTHDAY BARBARA

SCHOOL DAYS 1943-44
Trent

Reddy's helpful tips for your HOME LAUNDRY

Wash and dry a full load, but never overload... it is essential for each item to move freely for proper cleaning and drying.

Choose the correct cycle for washing modern materials. Perhaps hot water isn't needed, and only a gentle drying temperature.

Too much detergent can clog machine and drains... always measure, don't guess!

Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for your type equipment.

Mixing brands of detergents can cause graying of clothes.

Many manufacturers of permanent press garments recommend machine washing and machine drying for best results. Following instructions on the garment tag can help preserve the life of your clothing and give you wrinkle-free clothes without need for ironing. A big savings!

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The natural gas industry has an excellent safety record. The fact that you can smell natural gas is because we add a harmless chemical to it as an extra safety feature. Otherwise, it would be completely odorless. If you detect faint whiffs of what you think may be gas, investigate. It may be something that is as easily and safely corrected as a pilot light that has gone out, or a burner valve that's partially open.

If your equipment seems to be working properly and the odor intensifies and seems to be everywhere, please follow these precautions:

1. Do not switch anything electrical on or off. Do not use the telephone in your own home. Do not strike a match. Do not do anything that might cause a spark.
2. Have everyone leave the house immediately, leaving doors open to help ventilate.
3. Go to a nearby telephone and call Lone Star Gas Company. Wait until we have found the source of the odor to determine whether it's safe for you to return to the house.

You may never have a natural gas leak, but we want you to be informed in case one does occur. Please make sure your family is aware of these precautionary steps. And we suggest that you keep this message for future reference.

SI PERCIBE OLOR A GAS NATURAL OBEDEZCA ESTAS 3 NORMAS DE SEGURIDAD.

La industria del gas natural tiene un récord de seguridad excelente. El hecho de que Usted pueda percibir el olor a gas natural se debe a que se la ha añadido un producto químico extra, que no es nocivo. De lo contrario, el gas no olería. Si detecta ciertas ráfagas de olor que cree son producidas por escape de gas, investigue. Es posible que se pueda corregir fácilmente y sin peligro, por tratarse de que una llama-piloto se ha apagado, o que una válvula de algún aparato está parcialmente abierta.

Cuando suceda que a pesar de que su equipo aparentemente funciona bien, pero el olor a gas se intensifica y se siente en todas partes, entonces siga estas precauciones:

1. No conecte ni desconecte ningún aparato eléctrico. No use el teléfono de su casa. No prenda fósforos. No haga nada que pueda producir chispas.
2. Haga que todos salgan de la casa inmediatamente, dejando las puertas abiertas para que se ventile.
3. Vaya a un teléfono cercano y llame informando a la Compañía Lone Star Gas Co., y espere hasta que los encargados de la Compañía investiguen las causas y determinen si se puede o no retornar a casa.

Es muy posible que Usted nunca tenga que enfrentarse con escapes de gas, pero queremos informarle por si acaso le sucede alguna vez. Asegúrese que toda su familia conozca estas normas de seguridad. Le aconsejamos también que guarde este aviso como referencia para el futuro. Gracias.

Lone Star Gas Company
Working energetically for your area's future.



Mrs. Robert Clemmer
...formerly Miss Zigal

Zigal & Clemmer Wed

Nancy Diane Zigal of Bryan and Robert Smith Clemmer of Abilene were married at 4 o'clock p.m. in a double ring ceremony August 6, 1977 in the All Faiths Chapel on the Texas A and M University Campus. Rev. Walter Matus of Bryan assisted by Col. Logan E. Weston, Chapel Director officiated.

Parents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Willie J. Zigal of La Grange and the bridegroom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Clemmer of Merkel.

Wedding music was provided by Mrs. Theresa Vin Zant of Bryan and the soloist was Mr. Don Logan of Bryan. He sang Whither Thou Goest as the Wedding Song and also sang The Lord's Prayer.

The altar held two arrangements of yellow gladiolus. A background of palm leaves and potted ferns added to the outdoor atmosphere of the Chapel.

Given in marriage by her Father—the bride wore a formal gown of soft flowing tiffany knit with a fitted bodice of a V-inset of chantilly lace in front and back, edged with venise lace and crystal ruche pleating and closed with self covered buttons in back. The wedding ban collar and waist was accented with scalloped venise lace and the long fitted sleeves ended in a trumpet bell of chantilly lace. The waist was A-line with matching venise lace at the hemline which gently flowed into a chapel length train. A Juliet headpiece of matching chantilly lace and beaded pearls held the threetered elbow length illusion veil. The bride's flowers were a cascade bouquet of bridal white roses with variegated foliage and gypsophila.

Maid of Honor was Miss Judy Hadley of Navasota. Bridesmaids were Misses Carol Von Minden, Victoria; Kathy Fischer, Freeport; and Patsy Bunjes, La Grange. Miss Lynn Snow, Bryan was the flower girl.

Attendants wore formal gowns of lemon yellow knit styled with a "V" neckline and butterfly sleeves, both edged in matching lace. The softly gathered skirt was attached to a front band raised slightly above the waistline with self belt attached to the sides and tied in the back. Each girl wore a gold bangle bracelet, a gift of the bride and carried a bouquet of yellow silk roses and baby's breath.

Best man was Mark Clemmer, College Station, brother of the groom.

Groomsmen were Rod Johnson of Hempstead; Charles Arnold of Grand Point, Illinois; and Stanley Casady of Merkel. Ring bearer was Randy Lewis of Abilene.

Ushers were Phil Forrest, Tommy Becka, and Chuck Real all of College Station.

The groom, fathers of the bride and groom, and all the groom's attendants wore black tuxedos with white shirts and yellow rosebud boutonnières.

The bride's mother wore a formal dress of soft yellow knit. The sleeveless

The bride's table was covered with a white cloth with a lace skirt. It was centered with a four-tiered bride's cake. It was separated by columns and was decorated with a swag of yellow roses extending from the top layer. A pair of doves adorned the top. Bridal bouquets decorated the table. The groom's table had an arrangement of beige and light chocolate colored silk flowers in a silver container for the centerpiece. The cake was a chocolate cake of two rings frosted in brown chocolate and separated with a cluster of flowers iced in beige frosting.

Mrs. Robert Wheeler of Merkel, sister of the groom cut the bride's cake with Mrs. Rod Johnson of Hemstead cutting the groom's cake. They were assisted by Misses Bonnie Koether and Debbie Tricek of La Grange and Mrs. Jimmy Eichhoff of Brenham. Others in the house party were Misses Sandy Winkler and Becky Munsch of La Grange. All house party wore corsages of yellow daisy mums.

Special guests for the wedding were Mrs. Mary McClanahan of Muldoon, grandmother of the bride and Mrs. W. C. Smith of Abilene, grandmother of the groom.

Following a trip to the Texas Gulf Coast, the couple will live at 2516 Madison, Abilene.

The bride is a graduate of La Grange High School and earned her associate of arts degree from Blinn Junior College in Brenham and her bachelor's degree from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville.

The bridegroom was a graduate of Merkel High School and received his BS degree in animal science from Texas A and M University. He is employed by the West Texas Floral Co., Inc. in Abilene.

The bridegroom's parents hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Holiday Inn in Bryan. The tables were covered in gold cloths. The bride's chosen colors of yellow and white were used in the silk flower arrangements and yellow candles in brass candelabra.

Lyles Family Reunion Held

The first annual family reunion of the late J.W. and Victoria Lyles was held Sunday, July 24, in the Massie Activity Center in Floydada, TX. Eighty-four family members attended the event with Mr. and Mrs. C.B. Lyles of Floydada being the oldest couple present. Mrs. David Wilson of Getna, La., received a gift for traveling the greatest distance to the reunion. Mr. and Mrs. L.V. Assiter of Libertyville, Ill., who were unable to attend, sent a floral arrangement especially for the event.

Local family members attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Bud Sparks, Mr. and Mrs. Lavon Fulton, Shovado and Lehrs, David Barker and Bryan, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Lyles and Lori Jo, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Baxtor, Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Himble and Joe, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Potut, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Gene Himble and Pepper, Mr. and Mrs. Max Yeary and Whanda.

Charles Dawn Yeary was the youngest member present. She is the great granddaughter of Salt Branch Communities. Lyles families are former residents of the Stith and Salt Branch Communities.

Last Rites Held For Forest Black

Forest E. Black, 65, of Hawley died at 10 a.m. Wednesday at his home after an lengthy illness. Services were held at 10 a.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church in Merkel with burial in Rose Hill Cemetery in Merkel, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born March 16, 1912, in Collington, Oklahoma, he married Vera McCown June 13, 1930, in Spiro, Oklahoma. He moved to the Noodle Community in southwest Jones County in 1934 and actively engaged in farming until he retired in 1974 and moved to Hawley. He was a member of Hawley Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Jimmie and Doyle, both of Houston; six daughters, Mrs. L. G. (Doris) VanCleave of Hawley, Mrs. T. G. (Loice) Deen of Abilene, Mrs. Charles (Janis) Dairymple of San Antonio, Mrs. Don (Joan) Kirk of Berkeley AFB, Louisiana, Debbie Carter of Lubbock, and Mrs. Jimmie (Linda) Pugh of Stamford; three sisters, Mrs. John Smith of Eastland, Mrs. Clark White of Bakersfield, California, and Mrs. Tom DeWitt of Spiro, Oklahoma; 18 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by three brothers, and a daughter.

1977-1978 Merkel School Calendar

1977-Clip and Save

Date	Professional Dev. Day	Faculty Meeting	Open House	Parent-Teacher	Other
Aug. 22	Professional Dev. Day	Faculty Meeting			
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Feb. 28	Professional				

Cemetery donations



Those donating to the Merkel Cemetery Association were as follows:

- Mrs. Irene Irvin in memory of Carl Jackson
- Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Hester in memory of Mrs. J. B. Browning and Mrs. Lem Dudley
- Mrs. Joe Risinger
- D. J. Phillips in memory of Henry Foster
- W. R. Bond
- Lone Star Gas Co.
- Mr. and Mrs. Joe Holloway
- Norman L. Windham
- Mrs. Ira Moore
- W. H. McConnell
- Abilene Savings Association
- Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Steen
- Freeman reunion in memory of G. M. Freeman and wife, Dora Freeman
- Carl and Lane McKeever
- Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson in memory of Carl Jackson and Forest Black
- Mr. and Mrs. Baylor Amason
- Farmers and Merchants National Bank
- Mr. and Mrs. A. D. McCain in memory of Forest Black
- Johnnie Wheeler Wickham
- Bernard and Erma Clark in memory of J. H. and W. J. Clark
- Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Richie in memory of J. J. Russell and Forest Black
- Ruby Jinkens in memory of Mrs. John Browning and Mrs. Jim Spurgin
- Atwell Henderson
- Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Compton

Even though there are deficiencies in some nursing homes, we should not forget how far we've come in the past few years, the Director of the Texas Department of Health's Nursing and Convalescent Homes Division, Howard C. Allen, asserts.

Nursing homes recently have come under fire particularly in East Texas, for problems involving patient care.

Allen said there are bound to be some nursing homes which fail to provide proper services in all cases, even though the breakdowns may be temporary.

"But," said Allen, "the nursing home care has improved drastically in recent years. Some 25 years ago, before legislation called for regulation of nursing homes in Texas, the situations now being found in isolated cases were much more widespread."

"Back in those days, however," said Allen, "nursing homes were for the most part in private homes or large residential type structures. Compared to the operation of nursing homes today, the homes of 25 years ago had little physician direction and had much less nursing care provisions, less consideration to diet therapy, and less attention to the handling of medications, services against which complaints are being aired

today."

"But since we began licensing and inspecting nursing homes, there has been a dramatic improvement in service and the quality of nursing homes. The general average quality of care increases year by year. Today the nursing home is a sophisticated institution averaging nearly 100 beds in size; in 1953 the average size home was 18 beds."

Allen said there are 1001 nursing and convalescent homes consisting of 98,506 beds licensed and under inspection by the Texas Department of Health.

Inspections and surveys cover such areas as administration, nursing care, dietary care, medical records, pharmacy services, sanitation, and physical environment. Most facilities participate in Medicare or Medicaid or both. The Texas Department of Health performs surveys for certification for facilities under Medicare Medicaid programs, in accordance with state and federal requirements,

while at the same time making inspections for licensing.

To perform inspections and surveys the Department has 115 inspection personnel, not counting supervisors, administrative and clerical personnel. Inspection staff consists of health facility surveyors, nurses, nutritionists, pharmacists, medical record specialists, architects, and engineers. An in-depth survey to establish eligibility for continuing certification may range from two to five days in a facility; such a survey normally occurs annually. Other visits are made to verify correction of deficiencies or to investigate complaints. On the average a nursing home is visited about four times a year. All complaints, both written and verbal, are considered legitimate and are investigated.

Today, an entire new industry has grown up in nursing homes, said Allen. With application of the nationally recognized Life

Safety Code, facilities are safe structures, and for the most part are modern, have central heating and air conditioning systems, and fire alarm and other safety equipment. Quality medical consultation, quality nursing, dietary, and pharmacy services, and records systems are stressed in the physical surroundings, said Allen, has come training for personnel employed in nursing homes. "We can tell the difference in our inspections over the years," he said. "The average nursing home employee is more knowledgeable and more skilled at the job being performed."

"But," said Allen, "a nursing home isn't a hospital, although it operates 24 hours a day, the ratio of employees to residents is very much less than that of a hospital. The fee for providing food, shelter, and skilled nursing care around the clock is only about \$24 per day in most facilities providing that level of care—much less than the average fee for

use of a hospital room. While the optimum conditions might call for more registered nurses and more registered nurses and more physician availability, still the economics must be considered. Someone must pay the bills—in many cases it is the loved ones of nursing home patients. While Medicaid and Medicare pick up much of the cost in many cases, some families are without these resources."

Living in a nursing home is not like living at home. "However," said Allen, "many families do not have persons and physical facilities to keep their aging—often ill and disoriented—family members at home. When they do have to resort to nursing agencies, and the nursing home industry have combined to provide the nursing services which our aging population needs."

Greenland which is 840,000 sq. miles is the world's largest island!

VA Questions And Answers

Q-I have been overpaid approximately \$300 in educational benefits. Can I repay the overpayment by having it withheld from my compensation?

A- Yes. The overpayment should be paid over a period not to exceed one year.

Q-My husband died recently and I was designated as principal beneficiary on his NSLI insurance policy. He specified that I should receive the money in 36 monthly payments. May I elect to have the proceeds paid to me in a lump sum?

A-No. Unless the insured specified that the payment be made in a lump sum, you may not receive the proceeds in that manner.

Q-How soon after military discharge may I file a disability claim?

A- Your claim can be filed at anytime; however, it is to your advantage to file as soon as possible, preferably within one year.

Q- My father was killed in service. My mother does not intend to use his VA guaranteed loan entitlement. May I use it?

A- The law does not provide this benefit for a child of the veteran.

Visits & Visitors

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Watkins and children of Clyde were dinner guests of Mrs. O. J. Reynolds and Bob Sunday.

Mrs. O. J. Reynolds recently spent a week-end with her daughter, Bonnie and Husband Garland Sisk in Odessa.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Monsey and son, David of Lubbock, visited Mrs. O. J. Reynolds and Bob, Monday afternoon.

The children and grandchildren of Mrs. Jimmie O. Williams gathered together last week-end at her home at 501 Thornton to commemorate her 67th birthday.

In attendance were her sons; Grady and Robert, Pat and his family, and Don and his family, as well as her daughter, Mary and her family.

Saturday, after a barbecue dinner and birthday cake, the family joined in for an evening of fun and games before returning to their individual homes on Sunday.

1977 FOOT BALL SCHEDULE

Clip and Save

Presented as a Public Service By the Merkel Mail

DATE	VARSITY	JUNIOR VARSITY	NINTH	EIGHTH	SEVENTH
August 19	ANSON H	ANSON H		BAIRD H 6:00	
August 26	HAMLIN H	HAMLIN H			
September 1		BAIRD H 7:30		JIM NED H 6:00	
September 2	BAIRD T 8:00				
September 8	JIM NED T 8:00	JIM NED H 7:30	ROTAN T 5:00	STAMFORD H 6:00	JIM NED H 5:00
September 9					
September 15	ROSCOE T 8:00	STAMFORD T 6:00	STAMFORD T 5:00	STAMFORD H 6:00	STAMFORD H 5:00
September 16					
September 22	EASTLAND H 8:00	EASTLAND T 7:30	HAMLIN H 5:30	EASTLAND T 6:00	EASTLAND T 5:00
September 23		OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
September 29	C. CITY T 7:30				
September 30		BALLINGER T 7:30	BALLINGER T 6:00	BALLINGER H 7:30	BALLINGER H 6:00
October 6	BALLINGER H 7:30	WINTERS H 7:30	HAMLIN T 7:00	WINTERS H 6:00	WINTERS H 5:00
October 7					
October 13	WINTERS T 7:30	STAMFORD T 7:00	WYLIE T 7:30	STAMFORD T 5:30	STAMFORD T 4:30
October 14					
October 20	STAMFORD H 7:30	WINTERS T 7:30	ROTAN H 5:00	WINTERS T 6:00	WINTERS T 5:00
October 21					
October 27	OPEN	WYLIE H 7:30	WYLIE H 6:00	WYLIE T 7:30	WYLIE T 6:00
October 28					
November 3	WYLIE T 7:30	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
November 4					
November 10					
November 11	COAHOMA H 7:30				

**NUMBER 1 DEALER IN ABILENE!
NO SALE JUST GREAT SAVINGS**

1977 PINTO 2-DOOR \$3299 STOCK NO. 1415	1977 PINTO STATION WAGON \$3599 STOCK NO. 1381	1977 MUSTANG II 2-DOOR \$3899 STOCK NO. 1167	1977 MAVERICK 2-DOOR \$4599 STOCK NO. 1160
1977 GRANADA 4-DOOR \$5299 STOCK NO. 1262	1977 LTD II 2-DOOR \$5899 STOCK NO. 1391	1977 LTD 4-DOOR \$5599 STOCK NO. 1112	1977 COURIER PICK UP-6 FOOT BOX \$3899 STOCK NO. 1348
1977 FORD 1/2 TON LONG WIDE BOX \$4299 STOCK NO. 1245	1977 FORD 3/4 TON 4-SPEED \$4699 STOCK NO. 1238	1977 FORD 3/4 TON 4 WHEEL DRIVE \$5799 STOCK NO. 771	1977 FORD RANCHERO LOADED \$5299 STOCK NO. 1388

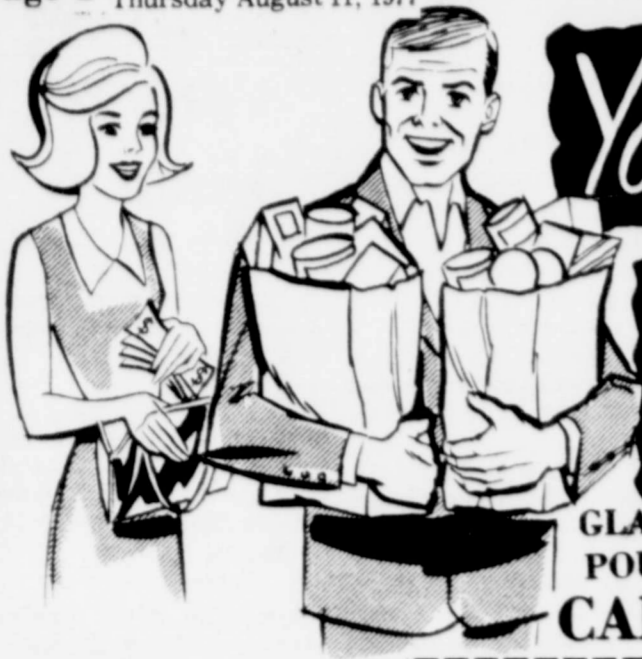
DISCOUNTS OF UP TO \$1300.00 ON DRIVER EDUCATION CARS. WE HAVE SEVERAL TO CHOOSE FROM.

4001 South First
ARROW FORD 692-9500
WE'RE NUMBER ONE!



COMPLIMENTS OF **EMMA'S CLOTHES CLOSET**
131 KENT 928-5100

Attention Farmers
CAL-TEX WILL PAY YOU TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR MILO PLUS A **FREE**
TRIP FOR TWO TO **Las Vegas**
BE SURE TO REGISTER AND GET A TICKET WHEN YOU BRING IN YOUR MILO
1976 WINNER- MR. & MRS. JOE Mc DUFF
Cal-Tex Feed Yard
Trent Texas 862-2951



You Don't **BUY** Less

You Just **SPEND LESS**

5 BIG
DOLLAR DAYS
THURSDAY
THRU
TUESDAY
AUG. 11-16
LIPTONS
MAKE A
BETTER
BURGER
BOX 39¢

MARYLAND CLUB
Coffee
LB CAN 1 LIMIT **\$2.29**
WITH *10¢ IN TRADE OR MORE
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES
LIBBYS 14 OZ

GLADIOLA POUND CAKE MIX 59¢ NABISCO RITZ LB 73¢ **FROZEN FOODS**

BORDEN LOW FAT MILK 1/2 GAL 2 FOR \$1.69
BORDEN BUTTER MILK 1/2 GAL CRTN 83¢
BORDEN COTTAGE Cheese 12 OZ CRTN 53¢
BORDEN ICE Cream 1/2 GAL CRTN \$1.19
ORE IDA 2 LBS TATER TOTS BAG 69¢
MORTONS ASST POT PIES 2 FOR 49¢
TROPHY 10 OZ Strawberries PKG 33¢

VAL VITA 2 1/2 CAN PEACHES 2/ 89¢
HI-C DRINK 2/ \$1.00
LIBBYS 303 IN JUICE Fruit Cocktail 2/ 79¢
LIBBYS 303 WK Golden CORN 3/ 79¢
LIBBYS 300 Blackeye PEAS 3/ 79¢
VAN CAMP 300 Pork & BEANS 3/ 79¢
HUNTS 8 OZ Tomato Sauce 5/ \$1.00
BORDEN INSTANT 16 OZ POTATOES 2/ \$1.00

ALLEN SHOESTRINGS 211 CAN 2/ \$1.00
WOLF HOTDOG 10 OZ SAUCE 2 FOR 49¢
COCA-COLA 16 OZ BOTTLE 79¢
6 PACK 16 OZ COLD 15¢ EACH PLUS DEPOSIT
GOLD MEDAL 5 LB BAG 69¢
GRIFFIN GRAPE JELLY 18 OZ GLASS 53¢
LIBBYS 5 OZ VIENNA Sausage 3 FOR \$1.00

SHASTA 12 OZ SODA POP 6 FOR 89¢
KING DOWNY BOTTLE \$1.79
FLOUR Snowdrift 3 LB CAN \$1.59
Vel VEETA KRAFT CHEESE 2 LB BOX \$1.98
WESSON COOKING OIL 24 OZ BTL 93¢
KLEENEX BATHROOM TISSUE 4 ROLL PACK 83¢
HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE SYRUP 16 OZ CAN 43¢

CHOICE BEEF CHUCK ROAST
EXTRA TASTY
EXTRA TENDER
EXTRA GOOD

CHOICE BEEF SHORT RIBS 2 LBS \$1.00
STEAK CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN LB \$1.49
FRANKS DECKER 12 OZ PKG 75¢
BACON DECKER POUND \$1.39
HAM RANCH STYLE BONELESS DECKER SLICED LB '1" WHOLE LB \$1.89
SAUSAGE GOOCH BR GERMAN STYLE PKG 98¢
BEEF LIVER 2 LBS \$1.00

LIPTON INSTANT TEA 3 OZ \$1.43
CALIFORNIA Nectarines LB 39¢
FRESH Cabbage LB 9¢
CLAIFORNIA Cantaloupes LB 19¢
TARPLEYS Squash LB 19¢
RUSSET SPUDS 10 LB BAG 89¢

VEL LIQUID GT BOT 63¢
DUZ REGULAR GT BOX 49¢
GAIN GIANT GT BOX \$1.09 1 LIMIT

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

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS
CARSON'S SUPER MARKET
MERKEL TEXAS
FRESH VEGETABLES
FREE DELIVERY MON WED FRI
BEST MEATS IN TOWN



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