

Christmas Concert December 5th

On Monday, December 5, 1977, the bands of Merkel's schools will be presenting their annual Christmas Concert. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The Beginning Band will be the first band to play. They will be followed by the "B" Band, the "A" Band and the

High School Band.

Each band will represent some familiar Christmas carols. Other numbers to be heard will be: First Men on Mars, Christmas Joy, Christmas Festival, It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas, and many more. Price of admission to the

concert will be 75 cents adults and 50 cents students. Everyone is cordially invited to attend this annual Christmas Concert by the school's bands. There will be 170 students involved in the evenings music festivities. The program will be directed by Tony M. McGowan, Band Director.

Taylor County Farm Bureau Selects Committee Chairmen

The Taylor County Farm Bureau Board of Directors met in regular meeting Monday night, November 21st. They selected their committee chairman to carry out their program of work for the coming year.

The chairmen are Raymond McNiece of Lawn, membership; Derrell Dean of Hamby, National Affairs; Darrell Cross of Tuscola, Young Farmers; Herbert McKee of Merkel, Economic Services; Jack Hancock of Abilene, Policy Development; Marvin Rutland of Lawn, Service Committees; Lee Jennings of Lawn, Safety; B. J. Gist of Hamby, Information.

Voting delegates to the Texas Farm Bureau Convention being held in Houston on November 27-December 1st were elected at the County Convention in October. They are: Mr. and Mrs. Billy Vinson, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond McNiece, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Jennings, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert McKee, Mr. and Mrs. Derrell Dean, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Holloway. Alternate delegates

are Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Rutland, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Gist, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Beam.

The American Farm Bureau Convention will also be held in Houston on January 8-12, 1978.

Abilene Pecan Show Dec. 1st and 2nd

The Abilene Area Pecan Show is scheduled for December 1 and 2 at Westgate Mall. The show which is sponsored by the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, is open to the public in Taylor and surrounding counties.

The show has a nut and food division. Entries will be taken from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 1 at the mall. Entries will be accepted from Taylor, Coke, Callahan, Coleman, Runnells, Nolan, Fisher, Jones, and Shakelford Counties.

An exhibitor in the nut division must have grown the pecans this year. An entry consists of 42 pe-

cans. Growers are limited to one entry per family for each variety, but there are no limits on the number of natives or seedlings that they can enter. There are two novelty classes. The lightest pecan entry and the heaviest pecan entry.

The food division has a youth and adult section. The youth section includes classes in cookies, cakes, quick breads, and candy. The adult division in the above classes plus yeast breads and pies. All foods must contain pecans. The pecans may be purchased for use in the foods.

Silver serving trays, plaques, and ribbons will be awarded as prizes.

Trent Kindergarten Registration Dec. 13th

Trent I. S. D. will conduct registration for kindergarten students on Tuesday, December 13, 1977, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The following items will be necessary before a student may register:

- (1) birth certificate
 - (2) completed immunization record or proof of in the process of completion.
- Kindergarten will begin on Monday, January 9, 1978. Students will attend the full day.

"Learning Centers" Workshop Dec. 1st

Dr. Betty Morgan, associate professor in education at Hardin-Simmons University, has announced that "Learning Centers" will be the topic for a workshop held at Hardin-Simmons on Thursday, December 1. The display will be in H-SU's Moody Center, Room 207, from 9-12 noon and 1-3:30 p.m.

Dr. Morgan reports that it will be open to education students from the three colleges and interested teachers.

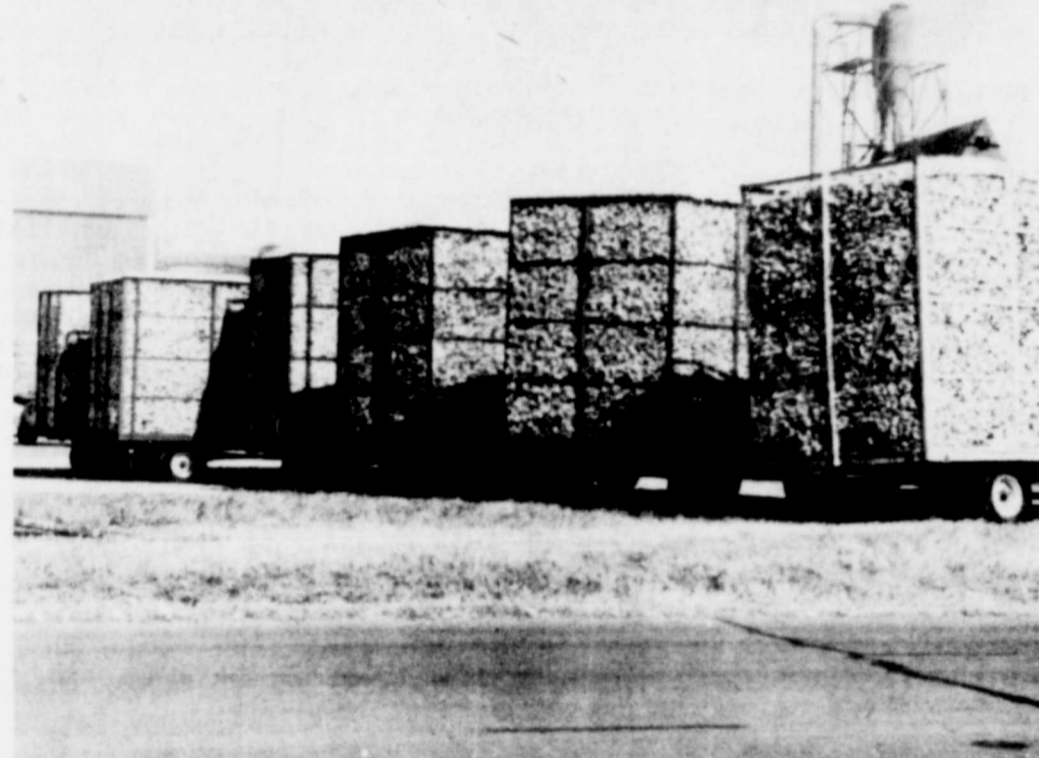
The workshop is being coordinated by LaJean Reed, Sue Gayle and Lynn Pritchard. Learning cen-

SANTA CLAUSE & CHRISTMAS PARADE SATURDAY, DEC. 3rd 2 P.M.

HOT TAMALES FOR SALE

Members of Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church are planning a tamale sale Saturday, December 3. Connie Ybarra, serving as chairman of the tamale sale said call in orders would be appreciated. They will sell for \$2.00 a dozen.

Anyone wishing to place an order may call any of the following members: Helen Moreno 928-5123, Dolores Chavira 928-5275, Iris Amerine 928-4876, Lupe Moreno 928-5380, Caren Acuna 928-5339, or Connie Ybarra 928-5891.



Merkel Has Largest Cotton Crop In Many Years

Pictured is just a fraction of the cotton to be ginned in Merkel. So far this year 3240 bales have been ginned. The total for last year was 2686. This year's total is predicted to be somewhere between 4000 and 4500 bales. Currently there are 500 bales in the yard on trailers.

The Sleeping Beauty To Be Presented

The Abilene Civic Ballet will present Tchaikovsky's three-act ballet *The Sleeping Beauty* at 8 p.m. December 3 and at 2 p.m. December 4 at the Abilene Civic Center.

Based upon the ancient legend, the ballet follows closely the original version of the famous children's fairy tale. The three parts show Princess Aurora's christening, her sixteenth birthday party at which she pricks her finger causing the entire court to fall asleep for one hundred years, and her awakening by the kiss of a prince, closely followed by her wedding.

This ballet should have a special appeal for all ages, since the story is extremely familiar to everyone. The final act, however, should be especially interesting to the younger members of the audience. That act includes a series of lively entertainments which are shown for the princess and her new husband. These short dances, "The Bluebirds", "Puss in Boots", "Cinderella and Prince Charming", and "Red Riding Hood and the Hunter", will be a true delight and lively entertainment for the young in years, as well as the young in heart.

Ellen Rutherford, director and choreographer of the A C B will dance Princess Aurora, with Anson Thomas of Lubbock dancing the part of Prince Florimund. Guest artists include Richard Ayres of Lubbock and Marc Dudley of Austin. A native of Merkel, Dudley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don

Dudley. The twenty members of the company will join these dancers in a variety of roles required by the multi-faceted ballet.

Tickets, priced at \$4 for adults and \$3 for students, can be purchased in Mer-

kel from Mrs. Don Dudley, by calling 928-5642 after 4:00 p.m. For groups of ten or more persons, the tickets are one-half price. Tickets are also available at Abilene Ballet Center, 1205 Butternut, and at the Civic Center.

News and Thoughts

By Martha Sue Justice

From all information gathered by the Merkel Mail, concerning the "Hairy Creature" reported by the Abilene Reporter, -it's existence could not be confirmed. Both the cat and the dog that were killed had an approximate 4" by 4" square torn out of their necks. Sources did say it was highly unusual for animals to be killed in this particular way. The disappearance and killings of the chickens along with the dog and cat are indeed still a mystery, with no answer at this point. The main reason for alarm was fear of a rabid animal. Our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Lally and Mrs. Danielsky for being so cooperative in this matter. I would also like to thank star reporters—Lillian Pack and Salinda Justice for their expedition to see if they could find the fabled "Hairy Creature."

Washington, D. C.—Congressman Omar Burleson has announced the approval of a \$66,000 Community Development Block grant to the City of Merkel by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The funds will be used for street paving.

All of the lessons of God's world and universe cannot be taught, but must be learned by each of us as we travel through life.

I hope everyone had a restful and entertaining Thanksgiving and week-end. Along with the many excellent football games and the news of the Inter-Galactic Council breaking in on many English TV stations—it certainly wasn't a dull one. And by the way—when the voice came on the TV station from the supposedly Inter-Galactic Council, they said, "You don't have much longer to learn to live together in a more peaceful way." True or False—I think that is an excellent suggestion!

COLLEGE STATION—The foreign and domestic food policy of the United States is generally held in disfavor by Texas farmers and ranchers, a recent survey shows. The survey, conducted by Dr. Ronald Knutson, economist in marketing and policy with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, shows that the majority of Texas producers favor a reduction in the food stamp program and a tightening foreign food aid program. "Regarding the food stamp program, producers voiced strong feelings that people should work for a living and that only those families in extreme poverty or receiving a minimum level of nutrition should receive aid," noted Knutson. "They felt strongly that the food stamp program has gotten out of hand in terms of size and scope. Although beef and milk producers are the producers," Knutson pointed out that the domestic food aid program has

Christmas "Trade-At-Home" Giveaway

Sponsored By
Merkel Chamber of Commerce

MERCHANTS WILL DONATE GIFT CERTIFICATES IN THE AMOUNTS THEY WISH.

AFTER THE CHRISTMAS PARADE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50.00.

GIFT CERTIFICATES WILL BE REDEEMABLE ONLY AT THE MERCHANT WHOSE NAME IS ON THE CERTIFICATE.

WINNERS NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

GIFT CERTIFICATES MUST BE REDEEMED BY DECEMBER 31, 1977.

EACH MERCHANT WILL PROVIDE A REGISTRATION TICKET BOX IN HIS STORE. ALL TICKETS WILL BE PLACED IN A LARGE HOPPER FOR THE DRAWINGS.

GIFT CERTIFICATE BLANKS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GIFT CERTIFICATES WILL BE BOOKED TOGETHER IN THE AMOUNT \$50.00.

ALL GIFT CERTIFICATES WILL BE GIVEN AWAY HOURLY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1977, UNTIL ALL ARE GIVEN AWAY.

FIRST DRAWING WILL BE DECEMBER 3, 1977.

been expanded to attract the support of urban congressmen for the new farm bill just passed. This program is administered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and last year took 60 percent of the department's budget. In addition to food stamps, the program includes school lunches and child nutrition. "As far as foreign food aid is concerned, most Texas agricultural producers felt that this should be limited primarily to emergency situation," said Knutson. "They favor efforts by the recipient country to control population as well as to increase food production as a condition for foreign food aid. In actuality, however, such food aid programs tend to increase dependence on aid, foster further population growth, depress prices in the recipient countries, and thus reduce incentives to produce." "On the 'right to food' issue, Texas agricultural producers again showed their displeasure of any give-away program without a willingness on the part of the recipient to care for himself and work for a living. They feel that a 'right to food' exists only for those who have the financial resources to buy on the open market and who are willing to work," noted the economist. "Domestic and foreign food aid programs will continue to be major political issues in the years ahead," emphasized Knutson. "They are issues that are receiving strong reaction from consumers, government officials, Third World nations and the church, and they will continue to have marked effects on agricultural producers."

Cybert's Tax Service will be filing tax returns in '78. Mrs. Ted (Wanda) McAninch will be working with Mildred. Mildred will be attending a seminar at McMurry College to keep up with new changes.

"Wisely and slow; they stumble that run fast." Shakespeare.

Yesterday was what I think you would call a fun, but an extremely weird day for me. First of all—our advertising manager discovered that she had or thought she had fleas. She scratched so much all day,—she had us all scratching. Secondly,—a friend of mine, (that is really not very bright anyway), ran smack dab into a wall on her way back from the bank. To end a perfectly entertaining day,—I watched "The Incredible Hulk" on TV last night and almost laughed himself to death over the same program. Some people just don't appreciate good entertainment! Last but not least,—we all watched an old movie, "The Comedy of Terrors", which I must have to admit was extremely funny. I think I must also mention that we all had enchiladas for supper. My daughter made the suggestion that I make them out of flour tortillas rather than corn meal. The results?—They were really quite good if you could just get them off of the roof of your mouth.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY—Don't wait for opportunity to come; grasp the opportunity before you.

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day. John 9:4



Lambda Beta-Prepare for Christmas
Pictured are President Mary Hill and Project Chairman Ginny Yaddow. The Lambda Beta Sorority is getting into the Christmas spirit by making lap pads and bibs for the Starr Nursing Home residents. Many of the club members put their efforts into these gifts. Most of the work was done at the home of Sarah Lucas.

Lambda Beta Prepares For Christmas

Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi had their regular meeting Tuesday, November 15th in the home of Mary Hill. The program "Formal Education", was given by Gloria Henslee. Committee reports were given. It was announced that the Christmas dance will be Decem-

ber 10th at the Civic Center. It was also announced that Lambda Beta's family Christmas party will be held December 20th. Monday, November 28th was set as serving day to make bibs, lap blankets, and other items for the patients of Starr Nursing Home.

Refreshments were served to the following members: Milly Bright, Annette Clark, Judy Elliott, Gloria Henslee, Mary Hill, Chera Hohertz, Sarah Lucas, Minyon Seymour, Glenda Teaff, Barbara Welch, Ginny Yaddow, Karen Riley, Ann White, and Kay Teaff.

Fortnightly Study Club News

The Fortnightly Study Club met Tuesday, November 22, 1977 at 4:00 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Don Dudley, Hostess.

As members arrived delightful Thanksgiving refreshments, pumpkin cake and punch were served and a visitation period enjoyed.

Mrs. Carl Hughes, president presided for a short business meeting, thanking members for the success of our bake sale of pies and cakes Saturday, November 19th. Proceeds will go to finance a worthwhile project before the year ends.

A most interesting program was then held or given by our own members concerning our Texas Heritage. Panel: "The Little Red School House" by Mrs. Mack Fisher, "The Family Doctor" by Mrs. Johnny Cox, (Lola Arm-

strong), and "The Circuit Rider" by Mrs. Carl Hughes.

After the good program, we all realized the theme of our meeting was most applicable to our pioneers of early days:

"We are not her to play, to dream, to drift
We have hard work to do and loads to lift
Shun not the struggle - face it;
'tis God's gift."

Those present were: Mrs. S. C. Dixon, Mrs. Carl Hughes, Mrs. Johnny Cox, Mrs. Bryan Dunagin, Mrs. Mack Fisher, Mary Collins, Mrs. C. B. Knight, Mrs. Andy Shouse, Mrs. Aaron Sudderth, Mildred Hamm, Mrs. Don Dudley, Mrs. Allen Forbis, Mrs. Comer Haynes.

Mrs. Allen Forbis dismissed the meeting with a prayer of Thanksgiving.

Merkel PTO News

Merkel PTO held their November meeting, Tuesday, November 22nd in the cafeteria. There was a tie between Mrs. Braune's third grade class and Mrs. Utley's kindergarten class. Mrs. Braune agreed to let Mrs. Utley's class display the trophy since her class has had the trophy honor on numerous occasions. Milly Bright, PTO Membership Chairman, announced the winners of the membership contest. The Merkel PTO has 312 members. This number exceeds all past years. In the Merkel Elementary School, Mrs. Holloway's first grade class won the contest with 78 percent PTO members. Mrs. Braune's third grade class came in second with 77 percent. Mrs. Greer's Kindergarten class came in third with 54 percent. In Merkel Middle School, Mr. Elliott's class won with 110 percent. Mrs. Hart's class came in second with 102 percent. Mrs. Bright's class came in third with 80 percent. The winning class

from each building was awarded \$15 to spend for their classroom and a coke party. We are real proud of these children who worked so hard to reach such high percents. Chera Hohertz, chairman of the Ways & Means Steering Committee presented the recommendations of the committee. The members present voted to accept the recommendations which are as follows: Merkel Elementary building: 1. Hard back library books for grades 1,2,4, and 5, and display cases. 2. A laminating machine. 3. Additional playground equipment. Merkel Middle School: 1. Room Repair. 2. A school sign (Marquee Type) with the school's name and a place for announcements to be displayed in front of the school. 3. A movie projector. The balance presented was 4,560. Three hundred dollars will be held as a balance to start next year and the remainder will be divided between the two buildings.

T. E. L. Class Meets

The T.E.L. Sunday school class of the First Baptist Church met in the home of Mrs. L. J. Renfro with co-hostess Mrs. Hous-

tin Martin and Mrs. Trula Cox.

Mrs. Clyde Bartlett brought the devotional. His subject was Love The Good Samaritan. Then she read one of her own poems, On My Road to Jericho.

Refreshments were

Stith H-D News

The Stith Ladies Home Demonstration Club met on November 22. They met in the home of Mrs. Roy Mashburn with a Thanksgiving luncheon. Each bringing a covered dish. We had our meeting after lunch. Dolly brought our devotion. We answered roll call with things we had to be thankful for.

Daisy Mashburn directed a game all about turkeys. Daisy brought the council report. Dolly Reddin brought the program on Jerry Clowers life and she gave several readings out of one of his books.

There were 8 members and 2 visitors. Those attending were: Margaret Dickerson, Brenda Hardin, Daisy Mashburn, Dolly Reddin, Lenora Reddin, Vada Hudson, Hazel Lay, Mae Jones, Keta ray McLean, and Roy Mashburn enjoyed lunch with us ladies.

Our next meeting will be a Christmas luncheon December 14 in the home of Lenora Wilburn.

Jones County Christmas luncheon will be December 8 in Anson.

Merkel I.S.D. School Board News

The Merkel ISD School Board met in regular session, November 21st. Representatives from the Merkel PTO Ways & Means Steering Committee, Mrs. Mitzi Hart, Mr. Ken Elliott, and Mr. John Cain, presented the projects for the Merkel Middle School for approval. The board approved the recommendation of putting metal siding on the outside of the windows on the north side and installing fluorescent lighting in the classrooms. The board voted to add \$600 to help with this project.

Robert Brown, School Insurance Consultant, met with the board and was hired to evaluate the district's insurance program and to advise the district as to future insurance programs.

Due to a law passed in the last Legislative Session, the district will have to participate in Workman's Unemployment Compensation. The cost over a two year period will eventually be \$90 per employee. The board proposed to work on a

program through the Texas Association of School Boards.

The board voted to transfer an older bus for substitution runs to the Vo. Ag. Department.

The board voted to continue with the present district policy for competitive athletics to begin in the 7th grade only.

The board agreed to accept Merkel Elementary Annex and to begin the Years Warranty Program and to pay \$6,891 to Rondel Construction Co.

The board instructed the Superintendent to look into the possibility of a second vocational agriculture teacher and building space for the school year 1978-79.

The board voted to enforce a district policy that states that when any meetings or activities involving student personnel on school property or school sponsored activities there must be a sponsor present.

Elmer Martin Announcement

I will not be a candidate for a 4th term of office as State Representative from the 61st Legislative District.

My decision has been made after many hours of long and searching thought.

Serving the people of Mitchell, Nolan, Jones, Fisher, and Taylor Counties as your state representative has been an honor which I will cherish in respect always that the service has its price and I feel that my farming, ranching business and my family now deserves my full attention.

I am announcing my decision at this time so that capable persons who want to run for the office

might have ample time to make their plans.

It has been my soul aim the last 3 sessions of the Texas legislature and during the Constitutional Convention that I serve the people of the 61st District honestly, earnestly, wisely, and fairly. I believe I have.

I will serve you to the best of my ability until the end of my current term and after January 1, 1979 the date I leave office I will continue to maintain a keen interest in the affairs of state government and in the welfare of this fine West Texas area.

All of you will forever have the esteem, love, and best wishes of my wife, Billie, and me.

RUTH Y. ACKERS, DPM
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"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."

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SIX YEAR INVESTMENTS CERTIFICATES

5%	5 1/2%	7 1/2%
30 DAYS	90 DAYS	
6%	6 1/2%	7 1/4%
12 MONTHS	30 MONTHS	4 YEARS

MINIMUM DEPOSIT \$1,000.00 OR MORE

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YOU can afford to eat hearty
with these Food Values!

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

COCA COLA
LIMIT 6 CANS
12 OZ EA **19c**

MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE
WITH '10 IN TRADE OR MORE
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES
LB CAN **\$2.79**

SHORTENING SWIFT JEWEL **\$1.19**
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BACON HORMEL LB **\$1.39**
PORK ROAST LB **98c**
PORK STEAK LB **98c**
Little Sizzlers HORMEL PKG. **89c**
FRANKS HORMEL 12 OZ PKG **83c**
BOLOGNA MKT. SLICED LB **98c**

COME BY AND REGISTER FOR A
FREE 10 LB TURKEY
TO BE GIVEN AWAY
EACH SATURDAY
FROM NOW
TILL CHRISTMAS



Need Not Be Present To Win
No Purchase Necessary

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PUSS'N'BOOTS
CHICKEN FLAVOR 2/16 OZ **45c**

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EASY-DELICIOUS

JIMINEZ SHUCK
12 CT PKG
TAMALES 89c
KEITH 1 1/4 LB PKG
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GREEN PEAS **59c**
KEITH 2 LB
CRINKLE CUT BAG PKG
POTATOES **49c**

PRODUCE
AT THE CROPS-IN' PRICES

WOLF NO. 2 CAN **89c**
CHILI
KRAFT 9 OZ PKG **59c**
WRAPPLES
HEINZ 16 OZ **59c**
CHILI FIXIN'S
DEL MONTE 32 OZ **79c**
CATSUP
EAGLE BRAND 14 OZ **69c**
MILK
CONTADINA 8 OZ CAN
TOMATO SAUCE 2/ **29c**
HORMEL
TENDER CHUNK 7 OZ **79c**
HAM
SWIFT
Potted MEAT 3 OZ 2/ **35c**
LIPTON
TEA BAGS 100 CT **\$1.98**

KLEEN GAURD
FURNITURE
POLISH 16 OZ **89c**

HI-DRI
TOWELS
BIG ROLL **39c**

LIQUID
48 OZ
CRYSTAL
WHITE **89c**

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SIZE
BONUS
DETERGENT **\$2.19**

RED DELICIOUS
APPLES LB **29c**

RUBY RED
Grapefruit 2/ **33c**

Tangerines LB **39c**

CABBAGE LB **12c**

CARROTS PKG **19c**

RUSSET 10 LB BAG
POTATOES **79c**

SPINACH DEL MONTE 303 CAN **29c**

MILK PRESTONS LOW FAT GAL **\$1.49** REG HOMO GAL **\$1.59**

KRAUT DEL MONTE CAN 303 CAN **29c**

MILK PRESTONS LOW FAT 1/2 GAL **85c** REG HOMO 1/2 GAL **89c**

FRUITCOCKTAIL DEL MONTE 303 CAN **39c**

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PEACHES VALVITA 2 1/2 CAN **49c**

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FLOUR GLADIOLA 5 LB **59c**

Honor Roll

The honor rolls are as follows:
First Grade (A)- Melinda Baker, Michelle Barnett, Camilla Bright, David Clark, Jennifer Davis, Michele Dudley, Richa Hill, Anissa Jones, Kenneth Jowers, Martin Landeros, Gene Lowery, Pam Neff, Lorena Pack. (A&B) Christi Appleton, Brian Coper, Ella Eleby, Shawn Ingram, Robin Jones, Teresa Lucas, John McClure, Jill Pack, Steven Ross, Gly Ann Rutledge, Stephen Schultz, Jackie Swinney, Wade Toombs, Bena White.
Second grade (A)- Kyle Coker, April Duncan, Angie Moreno, Ramon Moreno, Kevin Riney, Ted Seymore, Todd Smith, Amy Stuckey, Krista Toombs. (A&B)- Jason Bennett, Angela Cannon, Shayna Cunningham, Shelle Doan, Pam Douglass, Kristy Elliott, Staci Ferguson, Lynn Hayes, Melissa Harris, Candice Henslee, Melinda Lane,

Lee Leverich, Pamala Lollar, LaDonna Mallard, Brian Massey, Cory Metts, Chantelle McKeehan, Crissy Nalley, Ladonna Roysden, Leslie Roysden, Cassie Townsend, Chad Way.
Third grade (A)- Tracy Bicknell, Abby Irvin, Kristin Kennedy, Debbie Pack Brit Pursley, Danny Santee, Angela Thomas. (A&B)- Shawn Beene, Tina Jaramillo, Lance Jones, Emma Pepin, Tammy Pratt, Sherry Rhone, Fondale Watson, Travis Watson Michelle Woodard.
Fourth Grade (A)- Alyse Ferguson, Amy Irvin, Debbie McLeod, Kelly Riney, Regina Stuckey. (A&B)- Cammie Bright, Matt Cain, Clay Carey, Kevin Coker, Pam Ely, Gayle Landeros, Greg McClure, Lucretia Wade, Ronnie Waldon.
Fifth Grade (A)- Tamara Watson. (A&B)- Jerry Davis, D. D. Edmonds, Tami Elliott, Darren Pack Melody Pape, Mum Pransarn, Jenny Wilde, Cindy

Williams, Parker Wilson, Sean Woodard.
Sixth Grade (A)- Angie Allen, Bonnie Anderson, Joan Fariello, Judy Jenkins, Guy McGee, Cindy Sims. (A&B)- Cliff Collins, Darrell Davis, Steve Davis Jill Douglas, Jay Gibson, Trayla Gregory, Brenda Hohertz, Brenda Kinder, Russell Lucas, Michael McCoy, Billy McKeehan, Kathy Mitchell, Denise Pack, Kimberly Pack Charlotte Toney, John Ybarra.
Seventh Grade (A)- Alar Green. (A&B)- Amye Amerine, Tommy Brooks, Debra Cary, Brian Gary, Eddy Harris, Roy Johnson, Chris Mashburn, Pam Massey, Kim McCasland, Karla Terral, Tammy Townsend, Mark Turner, Kyle Wolf.
Eighth Grade (A)- Loyce Baker, Nancy Click, Mary Fariello, Edward Herrera, Maria Moreno, Stacy Seymore, Yvonne Swinney, David Wilkerson. (A&B)- Rene Aiken, Michelle Brown, Tammie Cunningham, Roberta Duran, Brad Elliott, Janice Jacobs, Sharryl Luckey, Sinton Parsarn, Jeff Phillips, Sheila Swinney, Tiffany Toppin, Debbie Williams, Ann Wooten.
High School (A)- Becky Deason, Freda Crenshaw, Randy Cox, Marlon White, Jodie Jenkins, Brad Wade, John Townsend, Laticia Powell, Walter Elmore, Marsha Green, Cindy Smith, Pam Crenshaw, Janessa Cypert, Carla Simmons, Kandi Ascencio, Gay Pfister, Suzy Rister, Salinda Justice

Gorilla Growl

Not too much has been happening in Trent. Last week there was 6 week tests and quarter exemption. Jr High played in The Divide Trojans Basketball Tournament last weekend. Windgate beat both the boys and girls Thursday night. They played Friday morning, the girls won and the boys lost, therefore they were knocked out of the tournament. The Trent girls then took on the Blackwell Hornets. They beat the Hornets and won third in the tournament. We wish to congratulate you and wish you alot more luck in the future. Go Get'em Jr. High.

Trent High School girls traveled to Abilene and played the Abilene High Eagles. The Eagles defeated the Gorillas 36-32. Then Saturday we traveled to Jayton. The Jayton Jaybirds defeated the Trent Gorillas 57-41.

November 29 the Trent Gorillas, High School Boys and High School girls travel to Hobbs. Game time is 7:00.

Happy birthday to a very special person this week in Trent. He always seems to frighten some one and always has a smile. Tuesday November 22- John Stevens. The only birthday this week to the one and only person.

School will let out at 2:30 November 23 and there will be no school Thursday the 24th and Friday the 25th. Classes will resume November 28. Happy Holiday.

Merkel School News

By Milly Bright-Media Coordinator

This week's basketball schedule:
High School:
 Dec. 1,2,3 Anson Tourney There Girls A, Boys A Divide Tourney There Boys B Fri. 2:30 Girls B Fri. 1:00.
 Dec. 6 Clyde Here Girls A 5:00 Boys A & B
 Dec. 5 Lincoln Jr. High There Boys 9th 4:30.
Middle School:
 Dec. 1,2,3 Merkel Tourney Here Girls 8 Thursday 3:00 Boys 8 Thursday 2:00
 Dec. 5 Hamlin There Girls 7 & 8 3:30
 Hamlin Here Boys 7 & 8 3:30

Merkel School Bands will have a Christmas Concert beginning with the Beginner Band at 7:30. The "B" Band, the "A" Band and the High School Band will follow in succession.

High School News:
 Basketball season is in full swing. The High School teams will be involved in two tournaments this weekend at Anson and Divide.

Deadline for ordering fruitcakes from the Student Council will be Friday, December 2nd. They will arrive by Christmas.

Middle School News:
 The first home basketball game will begin Thursday, December 1st. This is the Merkel Tourney and will continue through Saturday. The admission will be \$1 per adult, and 50 cents per student. The Boys will play their first game at 2:00 on Thursday, and the girls will play their first game at 3:00 on Thursday. There has been a change on the December 5th games. The girls will play at Hamlin at 3:30, and the boys will play here at 3:30.

Achievement test results for the Middle School students are on file. Any parent who wishes to view these results, should contact their child's homeroom teacher and make an appointment to go over their child's results.

Merkel Elementary School News:
 Merkel Elementary is preparing for the Christmas season by decorating the foyer at the main entrance and the door to each classroom. Several of the teachers plan on having Christmas trees in the halls of Merkel Elementary courtesy of Wilson's Food Store and Carson's Super Market.

Mrs. Cowart's fourth grade classroom is making ornaments as an art project with flour, water, and salt.

Tye School News



SHANNA SHAYE KEY

An Interview With A Winner!!!

Tye's Miss Merry Christmas representative to the Merkel Christmas Parade is Miss Shanna Shaye Key. Shanna is in the Kindergarten class at Tye Elementary and a diligent student. She takes dancing in Abilene and likes to ride her go cart and new bicycle at her Daddy's farm. She is the daughter of Billy Mac and Samilie Key of Abilene. Mrs. Key is a third grade teacher at Tye. Shanna has a little brother named Bradley Sean who can't wait to see his sister in the parade. Shanna's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Key of Abilene and Mrs. Willie Mae Woolard of Nocona.

You will be surprised to see the new construction in the Tye Gym. Everything is being made ready for the big crowd coming to our P.T.O. meetings. We will now have a lot of room for everyone. Mrs. Dean's fifth grade class has been selected to produce a filmstrip entitled "The Safest Show On Earth". This project is sponsored by the Texas Office of Traffic Safety. The fourth and fifth grades of Tye Elementary School are housed in a new building this year. The rooms are very colorful, with brightly colored walls and a pretty carpet. The pupils have enjoyed the rooms and find them very conducive to study. The building itself has the look of a "Little Red Schoolhouse." If you haven't visited yet, come by and see the new facilities.

Tye Teacher Chosen Sponsor to Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Richard and Cathy Albus were selected to chair the Cisco Junior College Band and Wrangler Bells to New York City for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade.

Merkel PTO News

Mr. Elliot's home room class of the Merkel Middle School won the P. T. O. membership drive with 110 percent of their eligible relatives.

They received a check for fifteen dollars and a free coke party. The fifteen dollars can be used for any useful thing in Mr. Elliott's school room.

YEAR END CLEARANCE

Our entire stock-approximately 45 Singlewides-Doublewides and Travel Trailers Reduced for Clearance

EXAMPLES

- 1-12 Wide, 1 Bedroom.....\$8995.00
- 1-14 Wide (784 Sq. Ft.) 2 Bdr.....\$7995.00
- 2-14 Wide, 2 Bdr New Moon.....\$8995.00
- 1-952 Sq. Ft., 2 Bdr.....\$8995.00
- 1-1084 Sq. Ft., 3 Bdr.....\$16,995.00

These singlewides are furnished. Prices include delivery, setups, service and Free Anchoring.

Many, Many, More to choose from.
 1-1977-1344 Sq. Ft., 4 Bedroom Doublewide, Carpet, drapes, appliances. No loose furniture.....\$14,995.00

Delivered, Setup, Anchored, Serviced.
 1-28' Fully Self contained Travel Trailer by Henslee New 1977 Model. Below Cost.....\$4995.00

Come see the all new "Wide World" for 1978 by Holiday Rambler. They are Here, 21' to 27'. Offering Free Air with each till end of year. Now is the time to buy. Prices usually much more in Spring.

REMEMBER OUR ENTIRE STOCK IS REDUCED. A Few 1977 Models left, but most are factory fresh 1978 Models less than 60 days old. WE intend to clear out lot before the end of year. COME EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION.

EL TYE O TRAILER SALES CORP.
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MEXICAN FOOD BUFFET
MONDAY NIGHT
 6:00 TO 10:00
\$200 PER PERSON

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EBENEZER SCROOGE WOULD HAVE DANCED WITH GLEE AT CRAWFORD'S FINE QUALITY CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT LOW LOW PRICES

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 NYLON TRICOT
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 Give your baby a pretty set... with smocked front, bell sleeves. In white.

BLOUSES SKIRTS DRESSES PANTS SWEATERS

MASTERCHARGE
 135 EDWARDS

GIFTS for the Entire List!

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School Menu

The school menu is as follows:

Monday December 5
 Beef and cheese pizza, buttered blackeyed peas with snaps, lettuce wedge, choice of dressing, and chocolate cake with creamy white frosting.

Tuesday December 6
 Chicken fried steak, creamy gravy, whipped potatoes, carrot sticks, hot rolls, and fruit cobbler.

Wednesday December 7
 Bar-B-Que beef, potatoes au gratin, green beans, hot rolls, and applesauce cake.

Thursday December 8
 Tin can casserole, combination salad, choice of dressing, hot rolls, and pear halves.

Friday December 9
 Hamburgers, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onion, french fries with catsup, buns, and walk to school cookies and orange juice.

FOR THOSE GOOD SHELL PRODUCTS STOP BY **DISHMAN'S SHELL**
 211 KENT
 928-5222
 MECHANIC ON DUTY

Deaths & Funerals

Norah Foster Longtime Teacher Dies

Norah Foster, 74, of Merkel and a teacher for 48 years, died at 3:15 p.m. Sunday in the Happy Haven Lodge after a short illness. Services were at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Church of Christ. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born October 23, 1903, in Bell County, Miss Foster moved as a child to Merkel where she was a lifetime resident. She graduated from Merkel High School and had degrees from North Texas State University and McMurry College. She retired from teaching in 1971. She was a member of the National Retired Teachers Association and the Merkel Garden Club.

Survivors include two brothers, James R. Foster Jr. of San Diego, Calif., and Otis Foster of Merkel; a sister Mrs. Herbert Patterson of Merkel; and several nieces and nephews.

Clyde Bartlett Dies

Clyde Bartlett Jr., 51, of Grand Prairie and formerly of Merkel, died Saturday at M.D. Anderson Medical Center in Houston. Services were at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church in Grand Prairie with Dr. H.K. Wright of Grand Prairie officiating. Burial was in Grand Prairie directed by Sutherland Funeral Home.

Born the son of Clyde and Vesta Bartlett, he moved to Merkel in 1939 and graduated from Merkel High School. He attended Louisiana State University. He worked for the Post Office in Dallas at the time of his death.

He was preceded in death by his mother in 1946 and his father in 1971. Survivors include his wife, Helen; a son, David Leon of Shreveport, La.; a daughter, Mrs. Kenny (Nancy) McCord of Grand Prairie; two brothers, Jim of San Jose and Ralph of Denver; a sister, Mrs. Dwain (Mona) Jones of Abilene; and a stepmother Mona Faye Bartlett of Merkel.

Mrs. Walker Dies in Abilene

Mrs. O.W. (Willie) Walker, 95, of Happy Haven Nursing Home in Abilene died at 12:45 p.m. Monday at Hendrick Medical Center. Services were held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at McCoy Chapel of Memories with Lawrence Trott and Joe Temple, officiating. Burial was in Sweetwater Cemetery.

Born December 7, 1882, in Indian Territory in Oklahoma, she had lived in Abilene for the past five years, moving there from Sweetwater.

She was a member of Lamar Street Baptist Church and had lived in Sweetwater 44 years. She married O. W. Walker in 1901 in Taylor County. He died July 1948.

Survivors include three sons, O.B. and Carl, both of Abilene and Harold of Merkel; a daughter, Mrs. La Deene Roberts of Longview; a sister, Mrs. J.A. Bland of Sweetwater; six grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Mrs. Inez Deaton in 1975.

Pallbearers will be Alton Copeland, Q.E. Critz, Jack Meeker, Edward Vinson, Jack Richburg and J.V. Martin.

Sinclair Phillips Dies

Sinclair Phillips, 82, of Merkel died at 12:45 p.m. Saturday at Hendrick Medical Center following a lengthy illness. Services were at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Starbuck Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor of the First Baptist Church, assisted by Joe Bushnell, pastor of the Assembly of God Church officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Born November 28, 1894, in Jones County, Mr. Phillips married Rachel Howell September 15, 1912, in Jones County. They moved to Del Rio in 1923, where he operated a restaurant for 40 years. He returned to Merkel in 1975. He was a member of the Baptist church.

Survivors included his wife, a son, W. H. of Alamogordo, N.M.; two daughters, Wilma Kate Elmer of Merkel and Ivy Lou Harper of St. Louis, Mo.; a brother, Morris of Abilene; and a sister, Thelma Hughes of Atlanta, Ga.; five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Last Rites held for Gertrude Ogletree

Gertrude Ogletree, 91, of Trent died at 9:44 a.m. Monday in an Abilene nursing home of natural causes. Services were at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the Trent Baptist Church with Rev. H.B. Terry Jr., Baptist minister from Abilene, officiating. Burial will be in Garden of Memories Cemetery in Trent, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born March 22, 1886, in Fannin County, she moved to Trent in 1907. She married Henry Ogletree in

1920 in Trent. She was a Baptist.

Survivors include a son, Smithy of Monahans; a brother, Ellis Smith of Hale Center; three sisters, Mrs. Clark Hamner and Sylvia Quattlebaum, both of Trent and Mrs. Sam Rosson of Idalou; four grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

Mabel Collins Easterwood Dies in Taft

Mabel Collins Easterwood, 87, of Taft and formerly of Merkel, died at 9:30 p.m. Friday in Taft after a lengthy illness. Services were at 2 p.m. Sunday in Taft. Graveside services were at 4 p.m. Monday in Rose Hill Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

She moved to Merkel with her parents in 1900. She married Homer L. Easterwood in 1917 in Merkel. Mr. Easterwood had owned the *Merkel Mail* and had owned interest in the bank in Trent. They moved to Taft in 1923.

Her husband died in 1963.

Mrs. Easterwood was a member of the First

Christian Church in Corpus Christi. Survivors include a son, Homer C. of Sinton; a daughter, Claire Grandstaff of Dallas; five grandchildren; and a great grandchild.

Senior Citizens News

The Senior Citizens have been busy this month enjoying many events. The monthly singing was enjoyed by members and many visitors although it was raining. The singing was very good. A large crowd attended the luncheon and were surprised to find the building beautifully decorated for Thanksgiving.

A good program and a delicious meal was enjoyed by all present. Two quilts have been completed and will be given to the highest donor. A local citizen donated some furniture which surely was appreciated. The building has been used for reunions, also the election during November. Plans have been made for more improvements in the building. New members are needed.

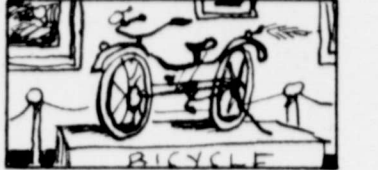
Mrs. Dennis Butler was president for the month.

Garden Club News

The Merkel Garden Club is well into its fall projects, on September 15 the club met for a morning coffee at the Big Country Inn. Mrs. R. M. Ferguson our president, who was resigning, turned the meeting over to our new president, Mrs. W. L. Brown. The new year books were discussed. In new business, Calenders for the year were ordered, and it was voted to keep lists of names who donated money to the Merkel Garden Club Cemetery Fund, also to publish such donors, as their had been mistakes made in the difference between the Merkel Garden Club Fence Fund and the regular Cemetery Donations.

and story on the origin of our favorite fall flower. Mrs. Tom Allday read tips on raising and caring for mums, then a discussion on Spring bulbs was led by Mrs. Peachey. Each meeting cards are signed and sent to members who are ill or hospitalized. Sixteen members were present and Mrs. Eunice Massey was guest of Mrs. Earl Hughes. Each member is to remember our year, mostly horticulture by wearing a flower or leaf. The meeting this month, November 17th, was held at the State Park at

Buffalo Gap. A sack lunch was enjoyed in the Park and the drives along the trails was lovely, so many beautiful colors and the hills coming and going was a nice drive. We also picked up checklist of birds in our communities conservation notes. It was a pleasant outing although only 12 members were able to attend.



The first bicycle, invented in 1839, weighed 59 pounds.

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COMPARE Sweetwater Savings' IRA earnings with other IRA plans!

Don't be confused. Compare the earnings in the chart below which shows the amount accrued in TAX-FREE IRA accounts after five, ten, twenty and thirty years. Both IRA plans are based on the maximum annual deposit of \$1500 and 25% tax formula. The difference is simple... Sweetwater Savings pays more! Sweetwater Savings pays 7 3/4% on deposits of \$1000 or more for 6 years. So why take less?

After	Reserves in 6% IRA Plan	Reserves in Sweetwater Savings IRA Plan	Sweetwater Savings IRA Plan pays this much more
5 years	\$8,460.00	\$9,519.81	\$1,059.81
10 years	\$19,770.00	\$23,544.69	\$3,774.69
20 years	\$55,180.00	\$74,646.37	\$19,466.37
30 years	\$118,590.00	\$185,558.02	\$66,968.02

EARNINGS COMPOUNDED DAILY

ANNUAL RATE	ANNUAL YIELD*	ANNUAL RATE	ANNUAL YIELD*
7.75% 6 Year Cert.—\$1,000 min.	8.06%	6.50% 1 Year Cert.—\$1,000 min.	6.72%
7.50% 4 Year Cert.—\$1,000 min.	7.79%	5.75% 90 Day Cert.—\$1,000 min.	5.92%
6.75% 30 Mo. Cert.—\$1,000 min.	6.98%	5.25% Passbook—\$5 min.	5.39%

*based on daily compounding of earnings for 12 months

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Brrrrr
DISHMAN SHELL

Xi Nu Chi

Xi Nu Chi, Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Tuesday, November 15 at the home of Mamie Steck. A delicious spaghetti supper was served to all members present by the hostess Mamie Steck.

Kathy Leverich, presiding as president opened the meeting. Committee reports were given by each committee chairman. Plans for the Christmas party, Christmas bazaar and a trip to go see Mrs. Bullock were discussed.

The program for the evening was on Isadora Duncan, given by Pat Castille, captain. Isadora Duncan was strongly influ-

enced by classical Greek culture. She usually danced barefoot in a flowing tunic. She was born in San Francisco and she gained great success in Europe, where she first performed in 1899. She also established schools of dance for children in France, Germany, and Russia.

After the meeting, refreshments were served to the following members: Charlotte Starbuck, Louise Dubose, Bobbye Mansfield, Val Patterson, Liz Eager, Opal Garner, Betty Allday, Kathy Leverich, Mamie Steck, Connie Ybarra, Pat Neff, Connie Harris, and Pat Castille.

Federal Safe Drinking Water Act to be Discussed at Workshop Dec. 7th

The Texas Association of Rural Water Corporations will present a one day workshop in Abilene, Texas, December 7, 1977. The program will be

held at the River Oaks Cafeteria, River Oaks Shopping Center, South 14th and Willis Street, Abilene, Texas with registration beginning at 8:15

a.m. The workshop is designed to inform interested officials (board members, officers, managers, operators, and others) about the new Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and what officials need to be concerned about for water quality to meet requirements of the Act.

The Safe Drinking Water Act became effective June 24, 1977. Representatives from the Texas State Health Department, Texas Public Utilities Commission, Farmers Home Administration (U.S.D.A.), EPA, and Texas A&M University Extension Service will participate on the program as to how these agencies all contribute to the Safe Drinking Water effort in the State of Texas.

All interested parties are invited to attend. Attendance is free. Further information can be obtained from TARWC, P.O. Box 9651, Austin, Texas 78766 (512-452-9188).

Running rats

AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.) — The patter of little feet coming from the Rat Room of the Exercise Physiology Lab at The University of Texas is helping researchers learn more about how exercise can protect the heart.

By inducing heart attacks (through drug injection) in sedentary rats and in rats which had run many miles on narrow treadmills, UT Austin researchers found that the running rats tended to live through a heart attack while the unexercised ones did not survive.

The studies also have shown that pregnant rats that swam produced babies with stronger hearts.



Whether you're dusting at home or working in an office, a low lighting level can make the job take longer.



Chickadees and nuthatches are two kinds of birds that are very fond of peanut butter.



Beetles get their English name from the Anglo-Saxon word *bitan*, meaning to bite, because they're such great chombers.



The Hawaiian alphabet has only 12 letters.

Tasty Budget Special



It's the beginning of a brand new year! The holidays are over and all of us have to get back within our budgets. Eggs 'N' Au Gratin Potatoes is an inexpensive and ingenious combination of flavorful ingredients your family (and stray guests) will love. Use the leftover ham from your New Year's party, and add a package of au gratin potatoes and a little cheese along with hard-cooked eggs for pizzazz and protein.

EGGS 'N' AU GRATIN POTATOES

Makes 6 servings

- 1 package (5 1/2 oz.) au gratin potatoes
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 1/2 cups boiling water
- 1/2 cup milk
- 6 hard-cooked eggs* (1 sliced, 5 chopped)
- 1 package (10 oz.) frozen peas
- 1 cup chopped ham or luncheon meat
- 1/2 teaspoon marjoram
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup (2 oz.) shredded American cheese
- Parsley

Place potato slices, cheese sauce mix, butter, boiling water and milk in a bowl; mix to blend. Stir in 5 chopped eggs, peas, ham, marjoram and salt. Pour into ungreased 2-quart casserole. Bake in preheated 400° F. oven 30 to 35 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Garnish with reserved egg slices and parsley.

*HARD-COOKED EGGS

Put eggs in saucepan and add enough tap water to come at least 1 inch above eggs. Cover; bring rapidly just to boiling. Turn off heat; if necessary, remove pan from burner to prevent further boiling. Let stand, covered, in the hot water 15 minutes for Large eggs — adjust time up or down by approximately 3 minutes for each size larger or smaller. Cool immediately and thoroughly in cold water — shells are easier to remove and it is less likely you will have a dark surface on yolks. To remove shell: Crackle it by tapping gently all over. Roll egg between hands to loosen shell; then peel, starting at large end. Hold egg under running cold water or dip in bowl of water to help ease off shell.



The fifth grade Social Studies classes have been studying the American colonies during the Thanksgiving season. They have constructed a model of a typical colonial village to supplement their studies. Pictured: Cindy Toney and Michael Reddin.

DESSERTS WITH A GOLDEN GLOW



It's an Apricot-Orange Refresher that starts with a package of new apricot flavor Jell-O brand gelatin to provide the taste of fresh apricot for year-round enjoyment. Add orange sherbet and water for this delicious layered dessert. Spoon it into tall see-through glasses to make it look as good as it tastes.

Apricot-Pineapple Cubes is another taste-teaser. Flavorful apricot gelatin cubes and pineapple chunks are nestled into beds of whipped topping.

APRICOT-ORANGE REFRESHER

- 1 package (3 oz.) apricot flavor gelatin
- 1/2 cup boiling water
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1 cup orange sherbet

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Measure 1/2 cup gelatin; add 1/2 cup cold water and chill until slightly thickened. Add orange sherbet to remaining gelatin. Spoon into individual parfait glasses. Chill until set. Top with clear gelatin. Makes 3 cups or 6 servings.

Apricot-Pineapple Cubes. Drain 1 can (8 oz.) pineapple chunks in juice, reserving juice. Add water to juice to make 3/4 cup. Dissolve 1 package (3 oz.) apricot flavor gelatin in 1 cup boiling water. Add measured liquid. Pour into 9x5-inch loaf pan; chill until firm, about 4 hours. Cut into cubes. Measure 1 cup thawed frozen whipped topping; spread in 6 individual glasses to form nests. Arrange cubes and pineapple in the nests. Makes 3 cups or 6 servings.

'Death and Dying' a popular course

AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.) — A popular course on "Death and Dying" at The University of Texas is helping students have a more positive outlook on life.

Taught by Dr. Larry Bugen, a psychologist concerned with mental health education, the course motivates students to plan their lives better by confronting their fears about dying. Discussions range from the stages of dying to the grieving process. The class sometimes visits a cemetery.

Dr. Bugen believes more hospital rather than at-home deaths, urbanization and longer life expectancy have shielded most persons from day-to-day experiences with death.

CYPERT'S TAX SERVICE WILL

be filing tax returns in '78. Mrs. Ted (Wanda) McAninch will be working with me. Will be attending seminar at McMurry College to keep up with new changes.

Mildred Cyper



CASTILLE HARDWARE & GIFTS
WISH TO ANNOUNCE THAT THEY ARE THE LOCAL DEALER FOR
RCA TELEVISION AND LITTON MICROWAVE OVENS
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PREPARE FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS SPECIALS

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CHRISTMAS TREES: BLUE SPRUCE SCOTCH PINE AND FIR
LOW PRICES & BIG SELECTION

FROM \$4.00 AND UP

BORDEN'S YOGURT 3 0 OZ. CTN. **89¢**
BORDEN'S ORANGE JUICE 2 QT. JARS **99¢**

TIDE 89¢
BORDEN'S CHOCOLATE MILK QT. CTN. **55¢**

BORDEN'S PREMIUM ICE CREAM 1/2 GAL. RD. CTN. **\$1.19**
SHURFINE 16oz CAN FRUIT COCKTAIL 3 FOR **89¢**

SPECIAL DISPLAY CANDY BARS ASSORTED 20° 10 FOR **\$1.00**
BORDEN'S COTTAGE CHEESE LITE LINE 16 OZ. CTN. **79¢**

BORDEN'S HI-PRO MILK 1/2 GAL. CTN. **79¢**
INTERSTATE 20 WEST OF THE WYLIE TRUCK TERMINAL

GEBHARDT'S TAMALES OR CHILI WITH BEANS **49¢**
HOO HOO SANTA GLASSES FOR COCA-COLA
BUY A 40° COKE AND KEEP THE GLASS

KIDS KRUSADE

Date: December 4-9
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: First Assembly of God
Age: 0-100 anyone who wants to join us.
Who: Mrs. Helen Davis
Mrs. Helen Davis has taught kids krusades for many years. She taught child evangelism at Southwestern Assemblies of God College in Waxahachie, Texas. She is a very capable person for this kids krusade.
Thought for today!
Car sickness is the feeling you get when the monthly installments are due.

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Need a ride?
Call 928-5761
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CHRISTMAS INSPIRATIONS

POTATOES 10 LB **79¢**
SUN VALLEY OLEO **39¢**
FOREMOST EGG NOG QT **69¢**
FOREMOST SOUR CREAM WHIPPING CREAM DIPS EACH **39¢**
BREAD 1 1/2 LB LOAF OR 3 FOR **\$1.00**
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Xi Nu Chi News

Members of Xi Nu Chi met Sunday, November 20 at 2:00 in the home of Mamie Steck for a trip to visit Alameda Bullock in Abilene.

A basket of fruit, candy, and homemade cake and cookies was prepared by members to show their appreciation for Thanksgiving.

Alameda was in great spirit and all had an enjoyable evening.

Members who made the trip were as follows: Charlotte Starbuck, Opal Garner, Connie Ybarra, Kathy Leverich, Pat Castille, and Mamie Steck.

Lord's Acre Sale & Supper Big Success

The Lord's Acre Supper and sale at Pioneer was a great success November 19th. John B. Hughes and Leroy Riney were the main leaders this year, although many others made great contributions too. Many, maybe, all the merchants of Merkel gave items for the sale of which were greatly appreciated. Members of the community made and brought items for the sale. The friendship quilt is the big item for the sale. Mrs. Lottie Everett bought it for \$500.

The pastor of Pioneer Methodist Church said a few words of welcome and ask Brother Allen Forbis pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Merkel to give the invocation before supper.

Lisa Hughes read names of merchants and friends who contributed. Another good friend who has made a great contribution is Don Dudley who has been the auctioneer for the occasion. Don had been sick the week before the sale and he ask Leroy Riney to help him out which he did in a real fine way.

Sorry we don't have room or memory to put everybody's names in this article that helped out with the success of the sale, but thanks to everyone.

Warm Up With Easy To Make Chicken Chowder



Cool crisp days herald the return of hot soup to your menu. And nothing is more rib sticking on an autumn day than a steaming bowl of thick chowder. For real homemade goodness with just a can opener and a little imagination, try Creamy Chicken Corn Chowder. Convenient canned chicken spread provides hearty meat flavor instantly to combined cans of condensed onion soup and golden kernel corn. The chunks of real chicken add texture and richness to the cream based soup. Pack it in a wide mouth thermos for a back to school lunch or serve it for supper with crusty rolls and baked apples for dessert.

Creamy Chicken Corn Chowder

1 can (10-1/2 ounces) condensed cream of onion soup	1 can (4-3/4 ounces) chunky chicken spread
2/3 cup milk	1 can (8-3/4 ounces) whole kernel golden corn in liquid

In a large saucepan, gradually add milk and water to soup, stirring constantly. Add chicken spread and corn; heat to boiling. Reduce heat and cover. Simmer 5 to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve hot. Makes 4-6 servings.

Nominate Your Rural Hero For 1977

Nominate your rural hero for 1977. Now!

The Rural Heroism Award, sponsored by the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council, is presented annually to some deserving person who has performed an act of exceptional bravery during a time of crisis, according to Ben Bullard, Council president and assistant safety director of the Texas

Farm Bureau. All entries must be submitted by February 24, 1978, to the Rural Heroism Award Committee, Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council, P.O. Box 489, Waco, Texas, 76703, according to Bullard.

The heroic act or deed must have occurred within Texas during 1977 and should be related to farming or ranching.

Nominations should include a written account of the incident and the names of all persons involved. Newspaper clippings and pictures should accompany the nominations if available. The award will be presented March 20, 1978, at the annual meeting of the Texas Safety Association at the Sheraton-Dallas Hotel in Dallas.

Bullock Reports For Duty

Navy Hospital Corpsman Second Class Melvin R. Bullock, son of Carlene Bullock of Tye, Texas, has reported for duty with Patrol Squadron 22, Naval Air Station, Barbers Point, Hawaii.

He joined the Navy in August 1966.

High-heeled shoes

AUSTIN, Texas (Sp.) — A physical rehabilitation specialist at The University of Texas feels sorry for women who wear high-heeled shoes.

Prof. Karl K. Klein says high heels keep the calf muscle in a constantly shortened state, adding that as "the heels go up, the back goes forward and low back stress begins to appear." The professor believes stresses caused by posture imbalances can be responsible for heart conditions, arthritis and rheumatism.

In a recent lecture he reported that chronic low back stress is the leading (but not most serious) medical problem in the U.S. resulting in most time lost from work and most insurance paid.



A deer in India actually barks like a dog when excited.

JUST ARRIVED IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

CHRISTMAS CENTERPIECES
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

WATCHES EARRINGS RINGS
NECKLACES

AND MANY OTHER ITEMS

WILSON'S JEWELRY

FASTER WAYS WITH MICROWAVES

Liven up your holiday meals with a change from traditional ham or turkey — try Cornish Hens instead. Elegant, delicious and so easy to make, especially when you cook the quick, microwave way. This recipe from the Whirlpool microwave cookbook features an unusual taste team — granola, fruit, rice and Cornish Hens.

CORNISH HENS WITH GRANOLA RICE STUFFING

total cooking time: 26 minutes
30 seconds

- 2 1 1/4-lb. Cornish Hens, thawed
- 2 T. butter or margarine
- 1/4 t. paprika
- 1 medium orange
- 1/2 c. cooked rice
- 1/2 c. granola
- 1/2 c. chopped pared apple
- 1/4 t. salt
- 1/4 t. ground cinnamon
- 3 T. chopped celery
- 2 T. chopped onion
- 1 T. butter or margarine



granola, apple, chopped orange, salt and cinnamon. In small bowl, cook celery, onion, and 1 T. butter, uncovered, at HIGH for 2-3 minutes till tender. Add rice mixture; toss to mix. Add reserved orange juice, if desired, to moisten.

*Do not use a conventional thermometer — special microwave thermometers are available.

HARVEST SALAD MOLDS
total cooking time: 10 minutes

- 6 oz. dried fruit
- 1 1/2 c. water
- 3 T. sugar
- 1 3-oz. package lemon-flavored gelatin
- 3/4 c. water
- 1/4 c. dry sherry or cooking sherry

Pit prunes; cut up all fruit. In 1 1/2-quart casserole, combine dried fruits and 1 1/2 cups water. Cook, covered, at MEDIUM for 10 minutes, till tender. Stir in sugar and gelatin to dissolve. Stir in remaining 3/4 cup water and the sherry or cooking sherry. Chill till partially set. Pour into four 1-cup individual ring molds. Chill till firm. 4 servings.

MICRO TIP: When unexpected visitors drop in at dinner time, use tangy lemon butter to liven up plain fare at a moment's notice. Brush it on fish or stir into hot vegetables; use as a dip for shellfish and artichokes. In a small bowl, place 1 lb. (2 c.) butter or margarine. Cook at LOW for 3-4 minutes till slightly softened. Beat till fluffy with electric mixer. Add 1/4 c. fresh or freeze dried chives, 1 1/2 t. grated lemon peel, 2 T. lemon juice, and 1/2 t. black pepper. Mix thoroughly. Store in refrigerator in tightly covered container.

COME IN AND MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

10%-20%-25%-50%
AND EVEN MORE OFF

EMMA'S CLOTHES CLOSET
131 KENT 928-5100

AUTOMATIC CHEF SENSOR ENDS POTWATCHING

MODELS FROM \$340⁰⁰ TO \$479⁰⁰

Terms To Suit Your Budget
Palmer Pontiac & GMC
Merkel 928-5113

SEAT COVER CENTER

SEAT COVERS
TRUCK CUSHIONS
DOOR PANELS
ARM RESTS
HEADLINERS
1056 BUTTERNUT

677-1349
ABILENE

WE PAY 150% OVER FACE VALUE FOR ALL SILVER COINS.

(\$2.50 FOR \$1.00 SILVER) (We pay 25c for silver dimes)

PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP
2155 S. 1st.
Abilene, Texas

WELDING BARNs, CARPORTS, PATIO COVERS AND GENERAL WELDING

LUCKEY'S WELDING
926-5149 MERKEL

BOOKS

BOOKS

BOOKS

COME IN & SEE ALL OF THE USED BOOKS WE NOW HAVE ON SALE.

HARLEQUIN ROMANCES! 25c EACH OR 5 FOR \$1.00

ALL OTHERS 30c EACH OR 4 FOR \$1.00

THE MERKEL MAIL

Lone Star Gas suggests HOW TO WRING ALL THE HOT WATER FROM YOUR ENERGY DOLLAR.

Set the water heater thermostat at NORMAL, which is hot enough for most household requirements. If more hot water is needed temporarily, move the setting to HOT, then reset to NORMAL.

Remember that a brief shower normally uses less hot water than a tub bath. Avoid letting hot water run needlessly when shaving, washing hands, rinsing dishes. Save hot water and the energy it takes to heat it by fixing dripping faucets. Save hot water and energy by waiting until you have full loads for the washer and dishwasher. Drain a gallon or more of water from the faucet at the base of the water heater about once a month. This prevents a buildup of mineral deposits. And this buildup causes the water heater to work harder and use more gas.

Remarkably efficient gas reaches your meter with 93% of its original energy still available — because gas is a natural energy that's used in its original form. Using it directly for the jobs it does best actually helps conserve energy.

For more suggestions, request our free booklet, "Energy Conservation in the Home."

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

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH EXTENDS A SPECIAL INVITATION TO EVERYONE TO ATTENDED SERVICES WITH THEM

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Services 7:00 p.m.

IF YOU NEED A RIDE CALL 928-4846

(Our Church Bus Will Be Glad To Pick You Up)

FOR A FREE KJV NEW TESTAMENT CALL 928-4846

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
5th & RUNNELLS ST.

Abilene Savings Offers Two Retirement Accounts That You Can Build With Tax-Deductible Income.

If you are self-employed, or if you work for someone else and you are not now covered by a pension plan, you can now have your own government approved, tax-sheltered retirement plan.

- 1. The Individual Retirement Account**

All of your retirement savings are deductible up to \$1,500 per year or 15% of your income, whichever is less. The ideal retirement account if you work for someone else. Also, you can now set up a non-working spouse account which will allow you to contribute an additional \$250 for a maximum of \$1,750.

- 2. The Keogh (Key-O) Account**

The self-employed or unincorporated business owner can now set aside up to \$7,500 per year or 15% of income, whichever is less.

Both Individual Retirement Accounts and Keogh Retirement Accounts:

- Earn tax-free interest compounded daily.
- Automatically qualify as acceptable IRS retirement plans.
- Allow you many different payment options that you may select according to your needs.

Abilene Savings
We'll Help You Find A Way

P.O. Box 444/301 Edwards Avenue/Merkel, Texas 79536/(915) 928-4702
Member Southwestern Group Financial, Inc. Member FSLIC

\$1200 GOLD STAR GIVE-AWAY

SPONSORED BY THE MERKEL MAIL AND KBGG RADIO

1ST PLACE WINNER \$600

2ND PLACE WINNER \$400

3RD PLACE WINNER \$200

THE \$200 WILL BE GIVEN AWAY IN GIFT CERTIFICATES ONLY.

THE MERKEL MERCHANTS ARE SHOWING THEIR APPRECIATION OF YOUR PATRONAGE AND BUSINESS DURING THE PAST YEAR BY GIVING AWAY \$1200 TO BE DIVIDED AMONG THREE LUCKY PEOPLE

THE FIRST PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$600 WORTH OF GIFT CERTIFICATES

SECOND PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$400 WORTH OF GIFT CERTIFICATES

THE THIRD PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$200 WORTH OF GIFT CERTIFICATES.

YOU CAN ENTER AS MANY TIMES AS YOU LIKE. ONLY COMPLETED ENTRY FORMS ARE ELIGIBLE.

SPONSOR'S EMPLOYEES AND IMMEDIATE FAMILIES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ENTER.

THE RULES ARE EASY. JUST VISIT ALL 12 MERCHANTS AND GET A GOLD STAR STAMPED BY THEIR NAME. ONLY ONE STAR PER VISIT AND YOU MUST VISIT EACH MERCHANT TWO TIMES.

THE ENTRY MUST BE COMPLETED BY MIDNIGHT, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH AND THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH AT 10:00AM.

BE A WINNER. . .

SHOP MERKEL FOR CHRISTMAS. . .

WHERE YOU'LL SAVE MONEY. . .

AND HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN!!! ENTER NOW

ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING SPONSOR'S

S & T TIRE COMPANY

MERKEL DRUG

CRAWFORD'S

STARBUCK FURNITURE

BEN FRANKLIN

EMMA'S CLOTHES CLOSET

CARSON'S SUPERMARKET

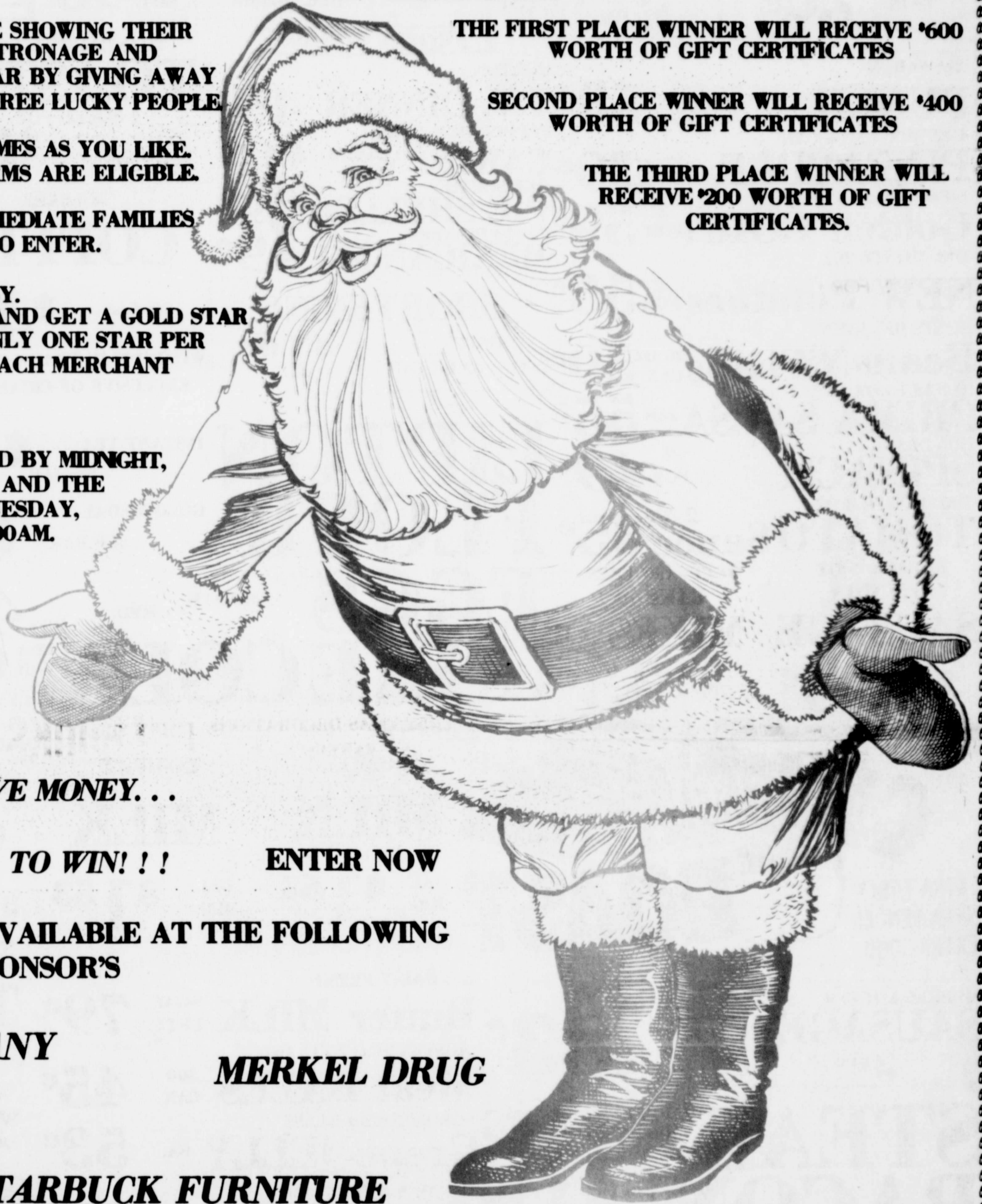
CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE

MAX MURRELL CHEVROLET

CASTILLE HARDWARE & GIFTS

PALMER'S PONTIAC & GMC

WESTERN AUTO



ATTENTION

Sponsors Employees May Enter Contest But Entry Blank Must Be Initialed By Any Worker At Each Participating Merchant.

AMAZING!

**ONE LOW PRICE
AFTER ANOTHER!**

Simple as
Play ABCD

AND
WIN
UP-TO
\$100.00

POTATOE CHIPS
PRINGLES
TWIN
PACK **69¢**



NYQUIL
VICKS
6 OZ BOT **\$1.69**

PRICES GOOD
THURSDAY
FRI. & SAT.
DEC. 1-2-3rd

SHAMPOO
VO-5
16 OZ
BOT. **98¢**

PRIZE VALUE	NUMBER OF PRIZES	ODDS FOR ONE VISIT	ODDS FOR 5 VISITS	ODDS FOR 10 VISITS
\$100.00	8	4237-1	847-1	423-1
\$ 10.00	21	1614-1	322-1	161-1
\$ 5.00	32	1059-1	211-1	106-1
\$.50.00 in Trade Stamps	111	305-1	61-1	30-1

AND
ANOTHER
\$100.00
WINNER
LAST
WEEK
MRS.
GRACE
THOMAS

FROZEN FOODS

HAWAIIAN
PUNCH 46 OZ CAN **53¢**

MORTON
T.V. DINNER EA. **49¢**

TOASTMASTER AATRA
TOASTER
2 SLICED POP-UP
ONLY **\$8.88**

MIRACLE WHIP
OLEO
6 PACK
CRTN LB **53¢**

DEL MONTE 1 1/4 CAN
PINEAPPLE 2 FOR **79¢**

PEPPERIDGE FARM
CAKES 2 LAYER
EACH **\$1.29**

FOLGERS
COFFEE
2lb CAN **\$4.69**

MAYONAISE
KRAFTS
QT. **\$1.09**

LIBBYS 303 CAN C.S.
Golden CORN 2 FOR **59¢**

OLE SOUTH
PIE SHELLS EA. **29¢**

WITH *10¢ IN TRADE OR MORE
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

DEL MONTE 303
NEW Potatoes 2 FOR **55¢**

ASST. EA. **49¢**
MEXICAN

INSTANT TEA **\$1.49**
3oz JAR
GOLD MEDAL
5LB BAG **63¢**

CHEF'S
PIZZA
MIX
ASST. **95¢**

HUNTS BIG JOHN
Beans N' Fixins 20 OZ
CAN **59¢**

LIPTON
FLOUR
EGGS

McBETH MED. DOZ. **49¢**
12oz CAN
6 PACK **98¢**

DEL MONTE
CATSUP
32 OZ
JUG **79¢**

HUNTS 16 OZ
PRIMA SALSA JAR **55¢**

SWIFT
42 OZ CAN **\$1.09**

IG. DAIRY FRESH
LOWFAT
MILK
GAL. **\$1.53**

ZEE
TOWELS
JUMBO
ROLL **55¢**

HUNTS 300
SPINACH 2 FOR **49¢**

IG. DAIRY FRESH
HOMO
MILK
GAL. **\$1.63**

IG. DAIRY FRESH
BUTTER
MILK 1/2 GAL. CRTN. **79¢**

CALIFORNIA
TANGERINES
LB. **39¢**

DEL MONTE 8 OZ
TOMATO Sauce 2 FOR **35¢**

GRIFIN 18oz GLASS
Grape JELLY EA. **53¢**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

FRESH
CABBAGE LB. **12¢**

HORMEL 5 OZ
VIENNA
SAUSAGE MIXES

LIPTONS-ASSORTED
Cup OF Soup EACH **49¢**

FRESH
RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT LB. **19¢**

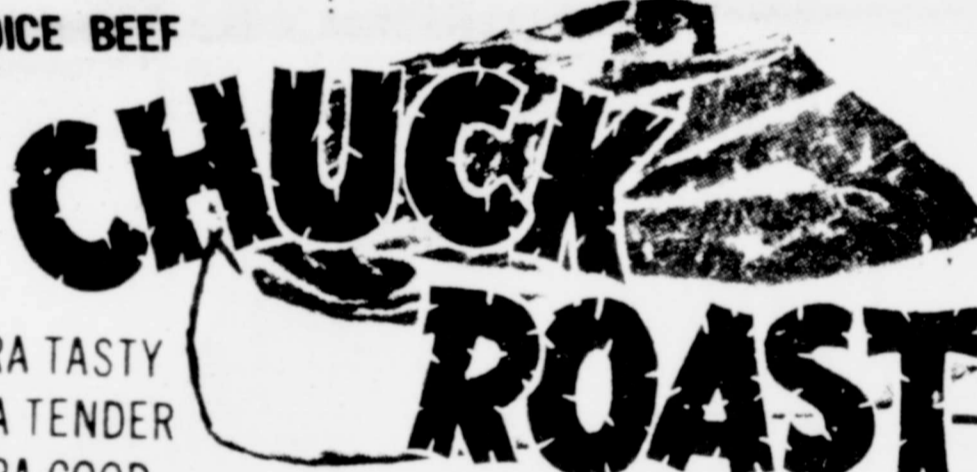
FRESH
CARROTS CELLO LB. **19¢**

2 FOR **63¢**
CHOICE BEEF

SUNSHINE 11oz
Vanilla Wafers **49¢**

DELMONTE
POLISH OR REG.
FRESH DILL
PICKLES
26 OZ
JAR **65¢**

FRESH
CRANBERRIES LB. **39¢**



EXTRA TASTY
EXTRA TENDER
EXTRA GOOD

CHUCK ROAST

MERKEL LOCKER
SAUSAGE \$2.19
2 LBS

LEAN
LB. **83¢**

AUSTEX SPAGETTI AND
Meat BALLS 300
CAN **45¢**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

CHOICE BEEF
T-BONE LB. **\$1.89**

LIPTONS-ASSORTED
Cup OF Soup EACH **49¢**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

FRESH
CABBAGE LB. **12¢**

GOOCH BR. **\$1.19**
POUND

SUNSHINE 11oz
Vanilla Wafers **49¢**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

FRESH
CABBAGE LB. **12¢**

GOOCH GERMAN
STYLE PKG. **95¢**

GIANT
TIDE
BOX **\$1.09**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

FRESH
CABBAGE LB. **12¢**

GOOCH BR. 12oz BEEF
OR REG. **75¢**

GIANT
TIDE
BOX **\$1.09**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

FRESH
CABBAGE LB. **12¢**

GOOCH BR. 5 PACK LB. **\$1.09**

GIANT
TIDE
BOX **\$1.09**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

FRESH
CABBAGE LB. **12¢**

FRESH
PIMENTO CHEESE **\$1.69**

GIANT
TIDE
BOX **\$1.09**

DELICIOUS
RED APPLES LB. **29¢**

FRESH
CABBAGE LB. **12¢**

ZEST
BATH SIZE
2 FOR **63¢**

DOWNY DAWN
FABRIC SOFTNER
96oz BOT. **\$2.19**
KING SIZE **93¢**

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS
WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS
CARSON'S
SUPER MARKET

Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more