



Dwain English



Brad Pursley

## English, Pursley Voted All District

Dwain English was voted unanimous All District (2A-6) both offensively and defensive. Brad Pursley was voted all district defensive back.

English, a 215 lb. senior was a unanimous choice, both defensively and offensively, of the coaches

representing district AA-6. This is a tribute that is seldom paid both ways.

Pursley, a 150 lb. defensive back, who was also quarterback for the Badgers was noted for his reckless abandon in the defensive secondary. As

usual, to the victor goes the spoils with the Colorado City Wolves' Frank Sanchez being voted all district QB, and head coach Mike Farda voted as coach of the year.

Pursley was honorable mention quarterback and

Rick Howes, a junior, was second team offensive back. Mike Davis was honorable mention offensive back and Howes was second team line backer. Garth Doan was voted honorable mention line backer.

## Christmas Cantata Dec. 11th

The Sanctuary Choir of First Baptist Church, Merkel, will present its annual Christmas Cantata on Sunday evening, December 11, at 7 o'clock, pastor Kenneth F. Jones has announced. The title of the musical production is "Ring the Bells", and it will be directed by Mr. Roy Davis, church minister of music. Accompanists will be Mrs. Roy Davis, organist, and Mrs. Comer Haynes, pianist.

"People in our community have already been asking me the date for this year's presentation," he said. "Of course, we do cordially invite everyone to come next Sunday evening! They will be most welcome!"

Featured soloists in the

"Ring the Bells" presentation will be Mrs. LaRue Williams, Mrs. Syble Riney, and Mrs. Kathryn Rister. Narrations will be given by Mrs. Sharon Cosper, Rodney Cosper, Ollie Fox, Tommy Jones, and Arnold Dye.

Rev. Jones stated that

Nursery facilities will be open for those with children up through three years of age and added: "We hope many people will accept our invitation to begin their Christmas worship experiences by attending this special music presentation."

"The annual cantata has become a very important part of our church's observance of the birth of our Saviour," Pastor Jones said. "Our people look forward to it each year. The choir began work on the program back in September, and they have really enjoyed preparing for this presentation."

Rev. Jones also stated his appreciation for the community interest in this year's musical program.



First Baptist Church Choir



## News and Thoughts

By Martha Sue Justice

## Kay Bland to Compete In Oklahoma City

Kay Proctor Bland of Rt. 2, Box 128, Trent, Texas, is seeking the world barrel racing title at

the National Finals Rodeo here December 2-11. Theoretically, she could win as much as \$12,900 for

less than three minutes in the saddle.

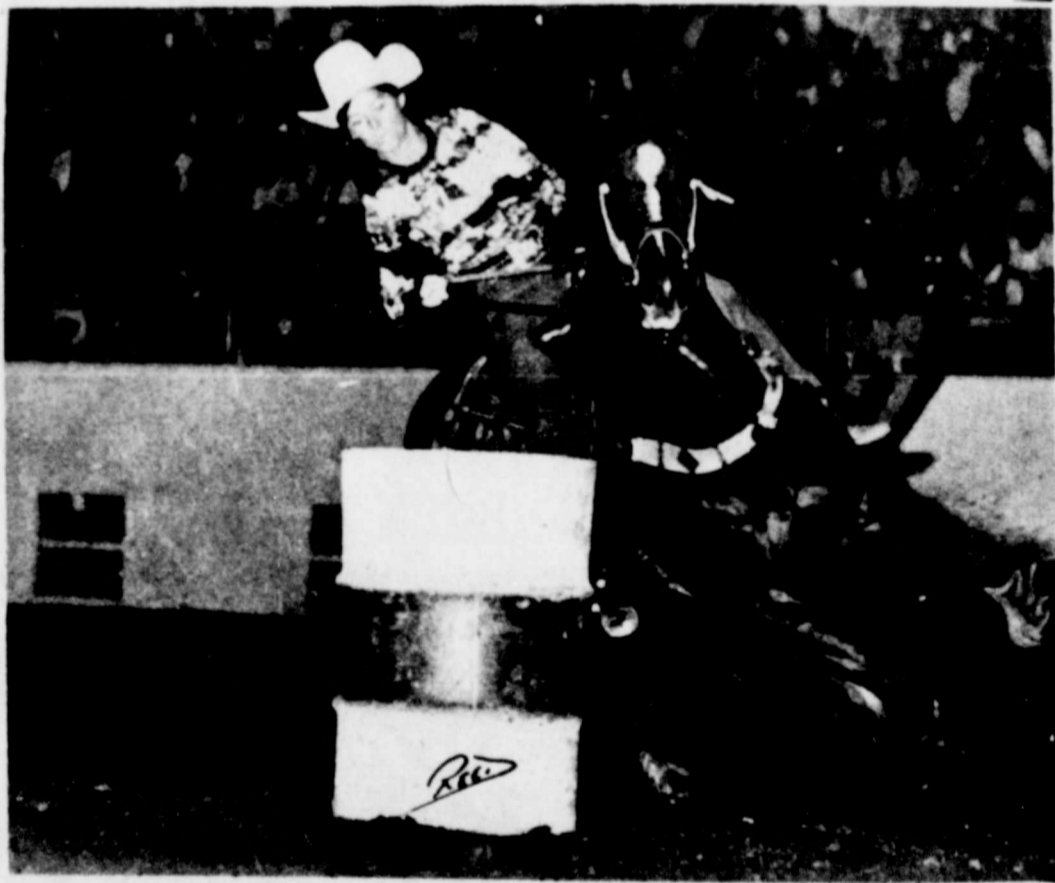
A member of the Girls' Rodeo Assn. since 1973,

she is among the nation's top 15 barrel racers to qualify for the NFR. She is riding a sorrel quarter horse gelding, Leo Stone, which also carried her to the finals in 1975.

The Texas competitor currently is in tenth place in the national standings, having won \$8762 during 1977 competition.

First place for each go-round at the finals pays \$790 for a ride of less than seconds, according to Lydia Moore, executive secretary for the GRA. Should Ms. Bland win all ten runs, she would realize \$900. There is an additional prize of \$5000 to the top scorer from the Winston Rodeo Awards, which has added a total of \$10,000 for the barrel racing event. This added money is divided through the top four places.

Ms. Bland has been a top intercollegiate rodeo competitor for the last four years.



Kay Proctor Bland is Seeking World Title

Stith will be holding a Community Wide meeting at the Community Center, Saturday, December 10th, 7 p.m. Everyone is urged to come!

Santa has informed the Merkel Mail that he is ready and waiting for letters from children with their wishes for Christmas--So come on kids--start writing those letters!

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners in the Christmas Parade. Bicycle Winners: No. 1 Billy Riley; No. 2 Todd Yaddow and No. 3 Danny Santee. Float winners: No. 1 Brownie Troops; No. 2 Lambda Beta and No. 3 Senior Citizens.

If the head and body are to be well,--you must begin by curing the soul. -Plato

Jesse Jackson is an outstanding black man which appeared on 60 minutes Sunday night. I think we should all be watching the progress of this man. Jackson has been speaking to many schools and colleges throughout the country and has some beautiful ideas for all children whether they are black or white. One of the things he said to a group of students was, --"You may not be responsible for getting knocked down--BUT IT IS YOU--that must be responsible for getting up!" I think this is a good philosophy for all children. Most of the time, Jesse Jackson speaks to a majority audience and is obtaining popularity rapidly.

A man's wealth is measured by how many friends he has!

Tracer Bright, 7, recently found a coral snake in his backyard in Austin. The snake was deheaded by his father, Z. Urban Bright. Mr. Bright is originally from Trent. Tracer is the great great grandson of Mrs. C. W. Seago of Merkel.

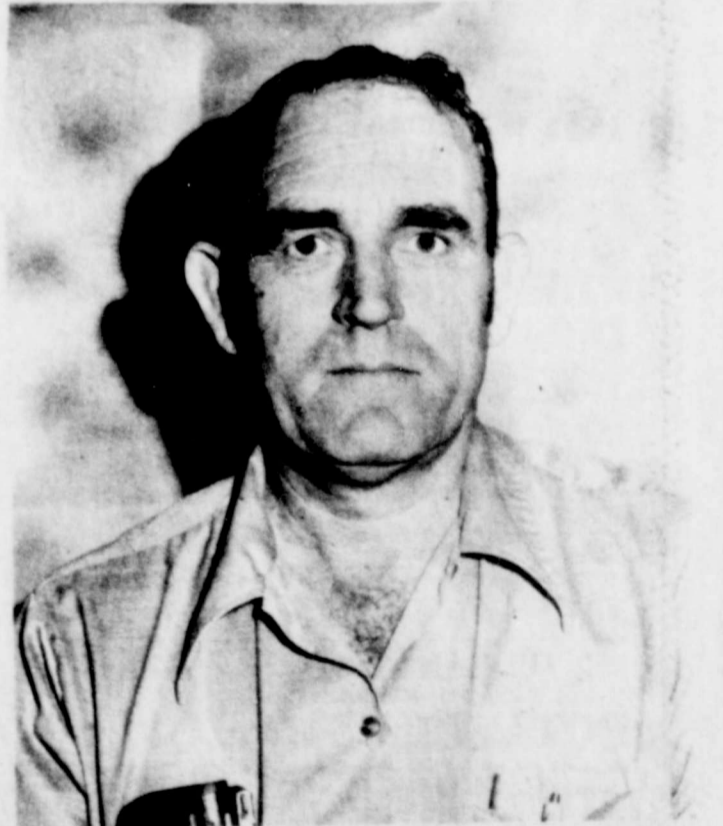
IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY?--Here are some more regulatory excesses, reported by the Department of Commerce: The Consumer Product Safety Commission classifies auto batteries as "household items," and requires manufacturers to attach a label to each battery warning the public not to drink its contents. This regulation cost consumers \$5 million in 1975. --Today, truckers may drive from Baltimore to Albany, and from Albany to Boston. But they are not permitted to go directly from Baltimore to Boston unless the distance savings is less than 20 per cent. That doesn't help our energy shortage. --Dow Chemical Co. wanted to build a \$500 million petrochemical plant in California. To do so, the company had to obtain 68 permits, approvals and leaves from more than a dozen local, regional, state and federal agencies. After two years of delays and \$4 million spent on complying with environmental regulations and government red tape, Dow had received only four permits. The company opted to discontinue the project. Consequently, 1000 permanent jobs will not be created in an area of the state where unemployment is already high.

"Help yourself and heaven will help you." -Jean de la Fontaine

I would like to say THANK YOU to Radio Station KBGG in Merkel. I believe that we now have one of the finest radio stations in the state! Great personnel, great music, and a willingness by everyone employed at KBGG to work in and with everyone in town to make Merkel a more fun loving and highly recommendable place to live.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY - Even in the midst of despair, we can still hope.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. -1 Peter 1:3



New Merkel Lone Star Gas Representative

CLIFF NECESSARY

Cliff, has been with Lone Star Gas 24 years and intends moving to Merkel along with his family sometime in January. Wife, Katy, has worked for Southwestern Bell for 26 years.

### Bobby Hardy New

#### Sav-X Manager

Bobby Hardy, who joined Sav-X Drug Stores here five years ago as a buyer for franchised cosmetics, has been designated as the manager for the newest Sav-X outlet at the northeast corner of South 7th and Leggett.

Nancy, have two children, Bill, 12, and Susan, 11.

#### FARMERS UNION MEETING

A native West Texan, Hardy came to Abilene from Merkel. He gained management experience here with other firms prior to joining the Sav-X organization. He and his wife,

The Farmers Union will have their meeting December 13 at 7:30. All members are urged to attend. There will be an election of Delegates for the State Convention in January in Austin.

### Trent Kindergarten Registration

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.

### Domino Tournament Dec. 10th

The Merkel High School VICA Club is sponsoring a Domino Tournament this Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. at the Lions Club lasting throughout the day. Anyone wishing to

enter may go by Seymour Insurance to register. Entry deadline is Friday, December 9th. Prizes will be awarded. There will be a concession stand open with plenty of good food.

### Services Held For John English in Ft. Worth

John H. English, 47, of Fort Worth, formerly of Merkel, died about 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in a Fort Worth hospital after a brief illness. Services were at 11 a.m. Friday at Harveson-Cole Funeral Home in Fort Worth.

Born December 5, 1929, in Tahoka, he married Barbara Jean Shoemaker September 18, 1949. They moved to Fort Worth where he worked for Thomas S. Byrnes Construction Co. He was a superintendent at the time of his death.

Mr. English was a 1948 graduate of Merkel High School, where he was a member of the varsity football and basketball teams. He was a member

of Connell Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Michael Lee of Fort Worth and John Richard, a student at Stephen F. Austin University; his mother, Lillie English of Merkel; a brother, George of Merkel; a sister Mrs. L.J. Gray Jr. of Abilene; and a grandson.

We lost a loved one but God gained an angel. John English had a lot of friends in Merkel. I know that he would have said, "Don't be sad in the loss of his life, but be happy that he has reached his final goal, to be with God in Heaven."



**Xi Nu Chi Christmas Bazaar**

Pictured - Connie Ybarra and Charlotte Starbuck preparing for the Xi Nu Chi annual Christmas Bazaar. The Bazaar will be in the West Texas Utilities Bldg., Saturday, December 10th. The sale of items will begin at 9:30 a.m. Baked goods and handmade gift items will be sold. The public is invited.

### Leroy Eason Dies

Edward Leroy Eason, 58, of Fort Worth and formerly of Merkel, died at 8:45 a.m. Wednesday November 30 in the All Saints Hospital. Services were held at 10 a.m. Friday at the Flamingo Road Church of Christ with graveside rites held in Rose Hill Cemetery directed by Owens Brumley Funeral Home with Charles Hill, minister, officiating.

Born April 7, 1919 in Jones County, Mr. Eason was employed with Tast-ye Bread Company. He was a former resident of Abilene and Merkel. He was a veteran of World War II. A resident of Fort Worth for the past 26

years, Mr. Eason was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Betty; a son, Edward Ray of Richardson; a daughter, Lou Beth Seay of Duncanville; three sisters, Nora Douglas and Gertrude Bowen, both of Merkel, and Gypsy Cooper of Brownwood; and three grandchildren.



The word "fate" comes from the Latin "fatum" meaning "that which is spoken."

### Booster Club To Meet

The Merkel Band Booster club will meet next Monday, December 14 at 7:00 at the High School Auditorium. Everyone is invited.

### The Badger Bounce

Last week the Varsity boys basketball team played Rotan in Merkel. The Badgers defeated Rotan by a score of 67-32 with Brad McCoy and Donnie Riggan in double figures. They scored 15 and 12 points respectively.

The highlight of last week's activities was the Anson Tournament. The Badgers defeated the Hawley Bearcats in the first round of the tourney. McCoy led the Badgers with 30 points to the final score of 79-48. Pursley had 19. The second game was against Hamlin. At half-time the score was tied at 32-32, but the Badgers overcame the Pipers to win 80-68 and advance to the finals against Goree. Four teammates were in double figures against Hamlin: Pursley had 26, McCoy earned 21, and Riggan followed close behind with 19. Rick Howes scored 10 points. In the final game against Goree, the Badgers came through to win 72-54 and take home the champion trophy. McCoy had another good night with 24 points and was a member of the all tournament team. Riggan hit double figures again with 14 points.

The 1977-78 Badgers are as follows: 10-Mike Sims, 12-Brad Pursley, 14-Mike Brady, 20-Brad McCoy, 22-Donnie Riggan, 24-Craig Hutchings, 30-Randy Cox, 32-Ricky Howes, 34-Billy Harris, 40-Ken Wells, 42-Keith Shields, and 44-Chris Cox. Their coach is Tony Mauldin and Ronnie Whisenhunt is their manager.

The Badgers now stand at 6-0 for the season with victories over Clyde, 73-63 and Jim Ned 78-50.

### JV Girls Basketball

The J. Varsity girls traveled to Divide to participate in the Divide Tournament. Friday they played the Blackwell Varsity. Susan Peachy had the most rebounds, Pam Crenshaw was the high scoring forward with 18 points. Kay Amerine was close behind with 12 points. The final score was Merkel-44, Blackwell-32. Saturday the girls played Jim Ned Jr. Varsity. Kay Amerine was high pointer with 18 points. Amy McCoy was next highest with 10 points. The final score was Merkel-33, Jim Ned-61. These girls are really doing a great job. Keep up the good work!



Miss Merry Christmas'

Pictured from left to right are: Lisa Shugart, Jackie Owen, April Duncan, and Shanna Key.

### Visits & Visitors

#### Collins Visit

Mary Collins visited in Lamesa over the Thanksgiving holidays with her brother, Quinton Collins, his wife and other relatives.

#### Odessa Visitors

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Sisk of Odessa, visited Mrs. Sisk's mother and brother, Mrs. O. J. Reynolds and Bob last weekend.



Gentlemen, NOTHING is Too Good For Our Great American Farmer....So That's Exactly What We'll Do For Him.....NOTHING!

### When My Kids Get Hungry - They Want Chow - NOW!

When my kids get hungry-They want Chow-Now! About farming I only know one thing for sure. I can't raise enough on my little ten by twenty garden spot to feed my family for a year, or a month for that matter. I therefore must go to the farmer and get my groceries and fiber from him. What makes me nervous is the thought that I may one day go to the farmer to draw my yearly rations and clothing and find him gone. I can't go back home and tell my two kids they are going to have to quit eating because our farmer friend has gone broke and had to quit. I can't tell my kids they'll have to quit eating be-

cause the few farmers left can't produce enough to feed two hundred and fifty million hungry mouths. I can't tell them to go hungry because the few groceries that are produced are going to the highest bidder and I can't match the rich folks. When my kids come home from school they expect to be fed and that's all there is to it.

This all may appear to be a little far fetched in a country so well fed now. But, there are countries right now who can't feed themselves. I saw enough in Europe in the mid-fifties to sell me on the idea that it's better to have groceries than to be with-

out them.

The big city liberals back east wring their hands and cry We must feed the world. What's this we business? Is he telling me to plant two more rows of okra next year? My little ten by twenty garden sure can't feed the world. Maybe he's planning a massive farm program by diverting his own pent-house balcony flower box to wheat. Nope, that won't get it either. So Mr. Liberal must be talking about our farmer friend when he demands the worlds hungry masses be fed. You know, the one who went broke and had to join the hungry masses.

(Next week we'll ask around and find out why some of our farmer friends are so disenchant-ed with the Washington Bureaucrats and Fatcats who promise so much and do so little.)



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### CHRISTMAS INSPIRATIONS

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DR PEPPER 98¢  
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POTATOES 10 LB BAG 79¢

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### 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:

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- Automatically qualify as acceptable IRS retirement plans.
- Allow you many different payment options that you may select according to your needs.



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A tight house is more economical to heat and cool. Insulation is the number one way to save, and the recommended minimum for most homes in this area is R-26\* in the attic, R-19\* in the walls. Weatherstrip windows and doors, caulk cracks and crevices. Consider the installation of storm windows. Use drapes and blinds to control temperatures. Find a conservative thermostat setting that's right for your family, then avoid unnecessary thermostat changes.

Maintain maximum efficiency of your units by having a competent serviceman inspect them spring and fall. Dirty filters cause equipment to work harder and use more energy, so inspect them every 30 days. Clean permanent filters according to manufacturer's directions, replace disposable filters as needed.

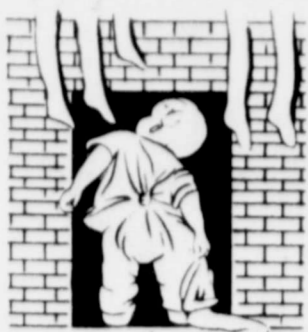


Remarkably efficient gas reaches your meter with 93% of its original energy still available — because gas is a natural energy that's used in its original form. Using it directly for the jobs it does best actually helps conserve energy.

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

\*"R" stands for the resistance to flow of heat, or winter heat loss and summer heat gain. The higher the resistance value (R), the better the insulating quality. Source: Energy Advisory Service for Texas, Texas A & M University

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



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THRIFTY MAID **32 OZ 69c**  
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SALAD SHADY LANE **10 OZ 39c**  
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DROMEDARY **8 OZ 59c**  
DATES

MARSHMALLOW **7 OZ 39c**  
CREME

POWDERED **2/59c**  
SUGAR IMPERIAL 1 LB BOX

NABISCO **1 LB 79c**  
RITZ CRACKERS BOX

KEEBLER **14 OZ**  
ELFWICH COOKIES

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ANGEL FLAKE COCONUT

**PUMPKIN** LIBBYS 303 CAN **29c**

**PORK & BEANS** VAN CAMPS 300 CAN **2/49c**

**PEARS** DEL MONTE HALVES 303 CAN **45c**

**PEAS** DEL MONTE 303 CAN **2/69c**

**PLUMS** PURPLE THIFTY MAID NO 2 1/2 CAN **39c**

DEL MONTE CRUSHED NO.2 CAN **49c**  
**PINEAPPLE**

**CORN BREAD MIX** PIONEER 24 OZ **39c**

**SYRUP** KARO RED LABEL PT **59c**

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

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**WHIPPING CREAM** FOREMOST OR GANDYS **33c**

**CHEESE** AMERICAN PROCESSED 1/2 LB BOX **\$1.49**

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**JELLO** 6 OZ **35c**

BUTTER CHIPS VLASSIC 22 OZ **PICKLES 59c**

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**PEANUTS FOR SALE:** Contact Lee Presswood after 5:00 p.m. 928-5815. 38-tfc

**FOR SALE:** '65 Mustang with 70 mustang 302 V8, standard. Looks and runs good. Must sale immediately. See at 322 Locust Merkel, Texas. 41-tfc

**FOR SALE:** Skateboard like new \$10, boys 10 speed 26" bike, good condition \$40, boys 20" bike \$17, girls 26" touring bike like new \$40, Wards room humidifier used 2 months \$30. Call 928-5051. 42-1tc

**FOR SALE:** one cover 2 horse trailer, Tandem axle, floor mat, cover top with saddle compartment on side. Call after 5 p.m. 928-5741. 42-1tp

### GARAGE SALE

**GARAGE SALE:** 815 Oak Furniture, folding divider doors, jewelry, clothing, lots of misc. 42-1tp

**GARAGE SALE:** four family yard sale, across the street from Baptist Church in Trent Friday and Saturday. 42-1tp

**GARAGE SALE:** South 2nd and Lois, Wednesday evening and Thursday. 42-1tp

### Services

**MERKEL DAY CARE CENTER** (licensed) operator by a licensed vocational nurse call 928-4904, Thelma Wade. 3p-tfc

**FINE FURNITURE FABRICS** at better prices. Professional upholstering available. Randy's Fabrics, 1120 Butternut, 673-2238. 6-tfc

### MISCELLANEOUS

Mrs. N.S. Daniel has a wheel chair which her late husband borrowed from some one. She would like to return it. If any one knows who it belongs to please call. Methodist Church 928-5333. 42-1tp

**WANT TO BUY furs** at Exit 261 off Interstate 20 at O'Skelly Truck Stop Trent, Texas. 7 days a week. 41-3tp

### FOR RENT

**SHANNONSIDE APARTMENTS-1, 2, and 3 bedroom** apartments, shag carpet, all electric, dishwasher, garbage disposal, central cooling and heating. For more information call 928-5038. 8-tfc

**FOR RENT:** 3 bedroom partly furnished house \$125 per month. Call 928-5635 at night or weekends. 42-1tp

### LOST & FOUND

**FOUND wedding band.** Call 928-5903. Eva Rogers after 6 p.m. 42-1tnc

## Public Notice

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO: David Cleek, Respondent;  
GREETINGS:  
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District 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 Gloria Cleek, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 21 day of September, 1977, against David Cleek, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 83-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Matter of The Marriage of Gloria Cleek and David Cleek", the nature of which suit is a request of Petitioner for Divorce from Respondent.

parent - child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child adoption.

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

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

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this 29th day of November, 1977.

Irene Crawford Clerk,  
326th District Court,  
Taylor County, Texas.  
By Sandra Harris, Deputy.  
42-1tc

### HELP WANTED

**WOULD LIKE a lady** to do house cleaning 1 or 2 days a week. Call 928-5277. 42-1tc

**WORK AT HOME** in spare time. Possible earnings of \$250 a week stuffing envelopes. Send 25 cents plus stamped, self-addressed envelope for more information.

### CARD OF THANKS

Our heartfelt thanks to all who extended comforting sympathy and help in our recent sorrow. For the beautiful service, floral offerings, and other kindnesses, we are deeply grateful.  
Smithy Ogletree and Family

### WE BUY PAPERBACKS.

Come by or call The Merkel Mail, 928-5712. 3-tfc

### NEED HOUSEKEEPER

1 or 2 days weekly. Call 928-5377 after 5. 41-tfc

"Every beginning is cheerful." J. W. Goethe

"Truth conquers all things." Latin proverb

### REAL ESTATE

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

### AMERICAN SALES

P.O. Box 760  
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41-4tp

**CAN HAUL DIRT ROCK & GRAVEL LEVEL & REPAIR DRIVEWAYS**

**Call Evenings**  
Harold Walker

PHONE 928-5872  
202 CHERRY

### ATTENTION HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS

Fur buyer will be in Merkel at the Wylie Truck Stop each Monday from 6:00 p.m. till 6:30 p.m. beginning December 5. We buy green and dry furs of all kinds; Skin case all fur (like oppossums), not open up the middle. We also buy deer hides! Well handled furs bring TOP PRICES! Northwestern Fur Co. Colorado City, Texas. 40-3tp

### WANTED: Clean, woven rags.

Bring by The Merkel Mail at 917 North 2nd. No knit or terry cloth please. 26-tfc-nc

**REG. MEETING 8:30 P.M. SECOND THURSDAY**

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

**WELDING**  
BARN, CARPORTS,  
PATIO COVERS  
AND GENERAL WELDING

**LUCKEY'S WELDING**

928-5149  
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STORM WINDOWS AND DOORS CAN REDUCE YOUR HEATING BILLS UP TO 25%!  
STORM WINDOW CONTRACTORS FREE ESTIMATES  
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7 DAYS A WEEK.

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KEN KRAATZ - OWNER  
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(\$2.50 FOR \$1.00 SILVER) We pay 25c for silver dimes!  
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**C.B. ANTENNAS PRICES ARE VERY DEFINITELY COMPETITIVE**

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366 Chestnut  
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**The Merkel Mail**

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT  
Established in 1889

Published weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas.  
Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, 79536 as second class mail.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$5.50 Per Year Taylor and adjoining counties. \$6.25 Per Year outside of Taylor and adjoining counties.

Member of the Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association.

Steve Lanham ..... Publisher  
Martha Sue Justice ..... Editor  
Lillian Pack ..... Advertising Sales Manager

For Classified Rates:  
\$1.50 minimum for the first four lines (18 words.) Excess of 4 lines will be charged at the rate of 8 cents per word.  
TERMS: 25 cents discount if bill is paid prior to first insertion.  
Card of Thanks: \$3.00 minimum for the first 50 words. 6 cents per word for each additional word.  
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NOTICE of typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion or claims for refund or extensions will not be recognized.

**We Finance No Interest**

**Need A Car? No Credit Check**

KENNETH MAYFIELD invites all his friends from Merkel and surrounding areas to visit him when looking for a good used car. Credit is no problem. The coffee is always hot, so when in Abilene stop in and see Ken at

**Bachmann Used Cars**  
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Very attractive 3 bedroom brick home in SW Merkel. Only 3 years old! Well insulated, range, lots of cabinets and storage. Carpet and vinyl. Chain link fence. Call for appointment.

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**FREDDY TOOMBS (Broker)**  
116 EDWARDS  
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3 bedrooms-2 bath, double garage, fence, in Trent.

**VACANT LOTS FOR SALE**-for trailer and buildings in all sections of town. Reduced for quick sale.

2 BEDROOM HOUSE-water well, new carpet, one bath, and big garage.

For sale 2 bedroom, 1976 mobile home, water well fence and garage.

For sale 2 bedroom house near school.

**WE NEED ALL KINDS OF LISTINGS**  
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**FOR THOSE GOOD SHELL PRODUCTS STOP BY DISHMAN'S SHELL**  
211 KENT

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We do commercial and residential electric work. Need a house rewired or just a little work. Call us for a free estimate. You don't have to wait for work you want done at a reasonable price.

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has expert repairmen. They can resole the old clodhoppers or perform delicate orthopedic alterations. You name it and we can do it. Go by the CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE on North 2nd Street in MERKEL and take advantage of their new BOOT & SHOE REPAIR SERVICE.

**THREE DAY SERVICE**

**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**

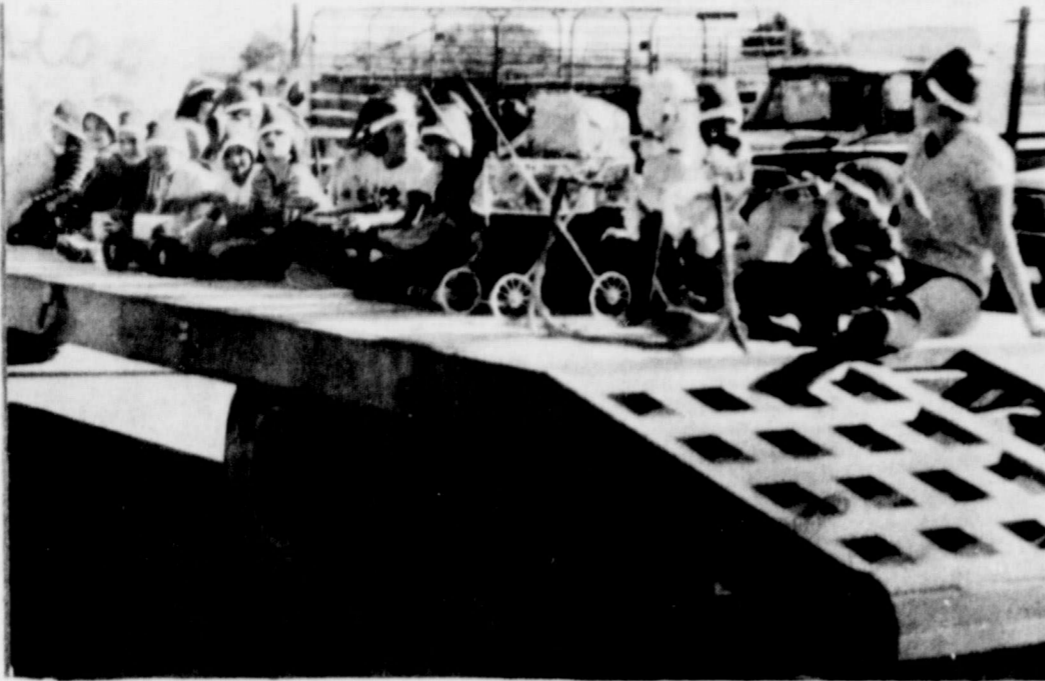
**THE MERKEL MAIL**

### Tye School News

Mrs. Evans's first grade class has some new teaching aids which were purchased with money provided by the P.T.O. The children are especially excited about their new art easel, paint, paper, and brushes. They are decorating their room with pictures of the signs of Christmas. These creative art experiences have much to offer in stimulating the strengthening learning in the classroom.

They also have a beautiful new electric clock, thermometer, two letter boards with a box of plastic letters and numerals, all of which were donated by Cissy Sever's parents. Shannon Pence's parents donated a beautiful 9 by 12 red carpet, which makes our room more attractive and comfortable. The children are enjoying all of these gifts which are a great help in motivating the children to learn.

Sights and sounds in Mrs. Winter's fourth grade room at Tye Elementary let you know that Christmas can't be far away. The students are busy decorating balls for their Christmas tree with sequins, beads, and ribbons. When the school party is over, the students will take their decorated balls home to adorn their own tree.



Award Winning 1st Place Christmas Float,  
Sponsored by By The Brownies

### school menu

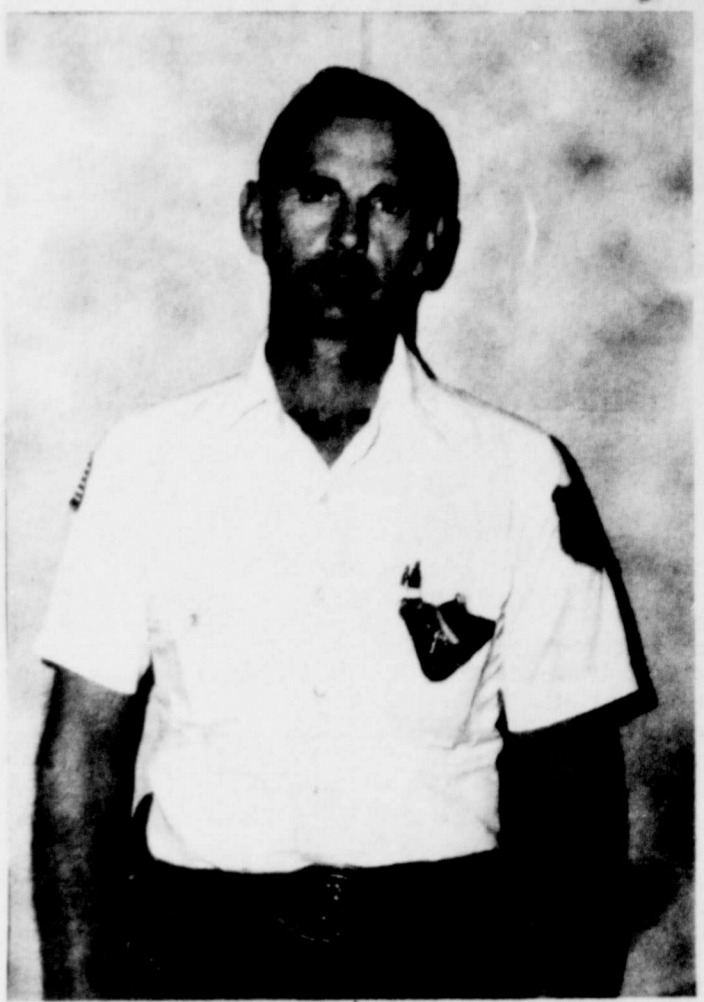
Monday Dec. 12  
Beef and Tater bake, green salad, choice of dressing, hot rolls, and sliced peaches with whip topping.

Tuesday Dec. 13  
Fried fish, tarter sauce, buttered w-k corn, cabbage relish, hot rolls, and apple cheese crisp.

Wednesday Dec. 14  
Beef tacos, taco sauce, lettuce, cheese, pinto beans, and peanut butter squares.

Thursday Dec. 15  
Turkey and dressing, gibbet gravy, seasoned green beans, cranberry sauce, hot rolls, and fruit salad with whip cream.

Beef and cheese pizza, buttered mixed vegetables, lettuce wedge, choice of dressing, and chilled apricots.



LEROY AUSTERMAN  
New Merkel Chief of Police

### Tamale Sale a Great

The tamale sale held Saturday, December 3 was a great success, but due to a tremendous response of call in orders, tamales were not available for sale to the public.

Members apologize for any inconvenience if you were unable to find the tamales downtown.

Our special thanks to the people of Merkel and surrounding towns for your support.

**AUTHORIZED DEALER FOR**  
**RCA TELEVISIONS**  
&  
**LITTON MICROWAVE OVENS**  
**COME BY AND SEE OUR BRAND NEW SELECTIONS**  
NEW SELECTION OF NEW ENGLAND CLOCKS - ALL WOOD FINISH  
**CASTILLE HARDWARE & GIFTS & T V SHOP**

### Varsity Girls Basketball News

This week was full of excitement for the Merkel High Varsity Basketball girls. The excitement began when the girls beat Rotan 59-54. Norma Frazier was the high scoring forward with 19 points. Cindy Boone was close behind with 18 points. Becky Watts had the most rebounds on the guard end and Gina Farmer had the most saves. As a team the girls totaled 22 saves and 42 rebounds which made the final score 59, Merkel, Rotan, 54. This was a good game but this was only the beginning. Next the girls traveled to Anson for the Anson Tournament.

Thursday the girls played the Anson Jr. Varsity. Norma Frazier was the high scoring forward with 21 points on the guards' end Gina Farmer had the most rebounds and Freda Crenshaw had 8 saves. As a team there were 47 rebounds and 38 saves which made the score 73 for Merkel, 26 for Anson J.V.

Friday the girls played Hamlin. Norma Frazier was high pointer for the forwards with 20 points. Pam Morgan, guard, had the most rebounds, and Freda Crenshaw and Gina Farmer were tied for the most saves. There was a team total of 47 rebounds and 18 saves. The final score was Merkel, 59, Hamlin, 52. The excitement was really up as the girls went into the championship game Saturday night against Knox City. Norma Frazier scored 20 points and Cindy Boone scored 19 points. Gina Farmer had the most rebounds and saves. The team total was 39 rebounds and 18 saves. The excitement grew as the last few seconds ticked away. The score was 53-53, there was a last minute foul by the Merkel team, and the final score was Knox City- 55, Merkel- 53.

The girls came out as winners in the longrun for they came home with three trophies instead of one. The girls were awarded the 2nd place trophy. Also receiving trophies were Pam Morgan for All-Tournament G u a r d and Gina Farmer for Most Valuable Guard. The girls really are doing a great

job this year. Keep up the good work girls and lets go to district!

1977 - 6AA  
All District  
1st Defense

Linemen  
Avery Simmons-Colorado City-Sr-5'10"-210 lbs.- no. 72  
Matt Shepherd-Colorado City-Sr-6'3"-185 lbs.- no. 74  
Terry Roberts-Coahoma-Sr-6'0"-215 lbs.- no. 61  
Dwain English-Merkel-Sr-5'9"-215 lbs.- no. 75  
Johnny Rodriguez-Ballinger-Sr-6'4"-270 lbs.- no. 74

Line Backers  
Gary Holme-Colorado City-Jr-6'1"-205 lbs.- no. 33  
David Oanelas-Colorado City-Sr-5'8"-145 lbs.- no. 60  
Kevin Spreen-Ballinger-Sr-5'8"-160 lbs.- no. 62  
Aaron Bell-Stamford-Sr-5'10"-165 lbs.- no. 35

Secondary  
Bill Jordon-Colorado City-Sr-6'1"-170 lbs.- no. 80  
Brad Pursley-Merkel-Sr-6'1"-160 lbs.- no. 11  
Tim Greenfield-Coahoma-Sr-5'8"-150 lbs.- no. 10  
Jey Light-Wylie-Sr-5'11"-155 lbs.- no. 85

Coach of Year  
Mike Farda-Colorado City

1977 6 AA  
All District Team

1st Team  
Quarterback  
Frank Sanchez-Colorado City-Sr-5'9"-160 lbs.- no. 30

Running Backs  
Ellison Portis-Ballinger-Jr-160 lbs-6'0"-no. 12  
Tracy Frazier-Coahoma-Jr-215 lbs-6'0"-no. 42  
Randy Mosser-Colorado City-Sr-190 lbs-6'0"-no. 9  
Blake Hammond-Colorado City-Sr-135 lbs-5'6"-no.23

Lineman- Interior  
Terry Roberts-Coahoma-Sr-6'0"-215-no. 61  
Dobie Williams-Colorado City-Sr-6'0"-190 lbs-no. 62  
Dwain English-Merkel-Sr- 5'9"-215 lbs-no. 75  
Craig Jorgenson-Ballinger-Sr-5'11"-190 lbs-no. 60  
Tom DeBerry-Wylie-Sr-6'4"-200 lbs-no. 72

Center  
Scott Neff-Colorado City-Sr-6'0"-205 lbs-no. 50

Recievers  
Rickey Sanchez-Colorado City-Jr-6'0"-160 lbs-no. 10  
Tom Casey-Wylie-Sr-5'9"-140 lbs-no. 88

Tight End  
Jay Feaster-Colorado City-Jr-6'3"-185 lbs-no. 83

OPEN 24 HOURS  
**ALLSUP'S**  
CONVENIENCE STORES  
OPEN 24 HOURS  
PRICES GOOD DECEMBER 8-11, 1977  
WE PROVIDE ONLY THE BEST

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS SPECIALS  
DETERGENT BOLD GT. SIZE \$1.19  
SHURFINE EARLY HARVEST PEAS 17 OZ 4/89¢  
BUY A 49¢ COKE AND KEEP THE GLASS!

BORDEN'S CHOCOLATE DRINK GAL. CTN. \$1 19  
BORDEN'S DIPS OR SOUR CREAM 2 8 OZ. CTNS. 79¢  
BORDEN'S BUTTERMILK QT. CTN. 49¢  
BORDEN'S COTTAGE CHEESE 12 OZ. CTN. 69¢  
BORDEN'S ASSTD FLAVORS SHERBERT 1/2 GAL. CTN. \$1 19  
LADY BORDEN'S ICE CREAM 2 PINT CTNS. 99¢

COCA COLA 6 PACK 32 OZ PLUS DEPOSIT \$1.29  
GEBHARDT'S CHILI WITH BEANS 24 OZ 49¢  
INTERSTATE 20 WEST OF THE WYLIE TRUCK TERMINAL

CHRISTMAS TREES!  
NICE SELECTION: BLUE SPRUCE, SCOTCH PINE, AND FIR

**RANCHERS!**

Swift CATTLE FEEDS    Swift MINERALS    Swift SUPPLEMENT BLOCKS

WE OFFER A VARIETY OF CUBES, PROTEIN BLOCKS, AND MINERALS. YOU MAY SELECT THE ONE TO FIT YOUR SPECIAL NEEDS.

PRICE! QUALITY! INTEGRITY!

ED'S FEED & SEED  
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20% OFF EVERYTHING NOT ALREADY ON SALE  
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CAL TEX BUYERS OF CATTLE MILO AND HAY  
ROUTE 2 BOX 128 TRENT, TEXAS 915-862-2951  
CUSTOM CATTLE FEEDING

We've got what you want.

1.4 Carat \$119  
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1.2 Carat \$125  
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Diamond Earstuds By The Carat Weight  
Straight from the pages of Vogue, Harpers and Mademoiselle to her. Precious diamond stud earrings to wear with everything... everywhere. We have her diamond studs in a choice of sizes, all set in 14K gold. Other sizes available priced to \$400.  
Convenient Terms, Layaway And Major Credit Cards.

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WESTGATE MALL  
692-0507  
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# Merkel School News

By Milly Bright-Media Coordinator



Pictured from left to right: Mrs. Weldon Beasley, Betty Jane Tittle, Mrs. John Boyd and Katherine Duff.



Pictured from left to right: Harry Holt, Brenda Jackson, and R. Lee Brown.

This week's basketball schedule is as follows:  
 High School:  
 Dec. 9th Eula Here Girls A&B 4:00 Boys A&B  
 Dec. 12th Wylie Here Boys 9th 5:00, Aspermont Here  
 Girls A&B 6:30  
 Dec. 13th C.City Here Boys A,B, and 9th 5:00

Middle School:  
 Dec. 8th C. City Here Girls 7&8 5:00, Boys 7&8  
 Dec. 12th Hamlin There Girls 7&8 4:00, Boys 7&8

School will dismiss at 1:30 Dec. 16th for the Christmas Holidays. Classes will resume January 2, 1978.

We were proud to have four young ladies representing our school in the Christmas Parade. Miss Merry Christmas for Tye Elementary was Shanna Key. Miss Merry Christmas for Merkel Elementary was April Duncan. Miss Merry Christmas for Merkel Middle School was Jackie Owen. Miss Merry Christmas for Merkel High School was Lisa Shugart. Didn't they look pretty.

Merkel Middle School  
 Social Security Cards that were bought through the student council have arrived. They are really nice. The Multiple Sclerosis Read-A-Thon contest has ended. Winners will be announced next week.

Merkel Elementary School News  
 The Merkel Elementary School has placed two Christmas Trees in the buildings for the Children to enjoy during the Christmas season. Each room is contributing ornaments to be used on the trees. Wilson's Food Store and Carson's Super Market donated the trees for the school's use.

The "ornament dough" craze has swept the 4th grade at Merkel Elementary. Each class is making Christmas ornaments out of a recipe which Mrs. Cowart found in a magazine. After baking the ornaments, the children paint the ornaments with tempera paint and use them on their trees.

All the children have been busy decorating their doors to their classrooms. Everybody is anxious for the Christmas season to be here in full swing and the students of Merkel Elementary are busy adding their special touches to their school.

The display cases in the foyer have also been decorated by the children. All of the townspeople are invited to drop by Merkel Elementary and view this display and see the doors and the Christmas trees.

Christmas parties for Merkel Elementary School will begin after lunch on December 16th. School will be dismissed at 1:10 and buses will run at 1:30 p.m.



Merkel Mayor Lou David Allen and Mrs. R. L. Bland.

## Scenes From Cowbelle Luncheon

### Honoring

### The News Media

## Merkel FFA News

By Cindy Boone

The F.F.A. members are really excited now, the school has given the F.F.A. an old bus! Everyone is pitching in to help fix the bus up. It will come in very handy at the out of town stock shows. We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the Merkel School Board for donating this bus.

Joe Speaks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Speaks is a junior at Merkel. Joe is a V.A. II student and has shown pigs for his project. This year Joe plans to show at the local, Abilene, Fort Worth, and Houston shows.

Robert Fowler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fowler, is a V.A. II student, also. Robert has raised calves for several years and has had two pigs. He is raising

four calves for his project this year.

Jeff Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie H. Jones, is a junior and a V.A. II student. Jeff raised 2 calves last year and he is also in the pig business! Jeff has two sows, a boar, a litter of pigs, plus one on the way! Jeff has also been active in football at Merkel for 3 years. Keep up the good work! See ya next week!

## Tye Honor Roll

The Tye Elementary School honor roll is as follows:

First grade (A)- Melissa Roys, Joe Jordon, Davy DeLeon, Shellie Glisson, Son Mi Chon, Kimberly Germany, Rebecca O'Con. (B)- Jaime Mendez, Irene Alvarez, Robert Kleiner, William Allen, Israel Olvera, Tracy Tyler, John T. Coates, Shannon Pence, Cissy Sever, Deanna Thornton, Kindra Law.

Second grade (A)- Michelle Goodgion, Kim Watson, Tasha Todd, Joe Alvarez, Stacie Johnson,

Clara Herrera, Danny Patterson, Allan Isom, Mindy Stewart. (B)- Randy Legate, Kenny Dossier, Mike Fuller, Destani Pulsher.

Third grade (A)-Angela Tyler, Sandra Kotlik, Cathy Corbin, Dusty Moore, Joe Miles. (B)- Steven Keith, Paulette Monk.

Fourth grade (A)- Mike Keith, Kevin Mitchell, Keith Watson.

Fifth grade (A)- Greg Spur, Robert Brooks. (B)- Bill Adams.



Rosey and Pat Castille proudly announce the arrival of a new grandson, Jason Barron Wellborn born December 6, 1977. He weighed 6 lbs. 15 ozs. and was 19 1/2 inches long. Parents are W. B. and Patty Wellborn of Abilene, Texas.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE  
 The City Council of the City of Merkel, Texas will consider an application from Mrs. John Shannon to vacate a portion of the I.N. Taylor Addition to the City of Merkel at the regular meeting of said City Council, to be held at 7:00 a.m., December 9, 1977.

Any and all interested parties are urged to attend.  
 Lou David Allen  
 Mayor  
 42-1tc

### Farmer Reunion

The children of the late A.L. Farmer were in San Antonio over the Thanksgiving holidays visiting in the home of Jim Farmer.

Those present were: Travis Farmer and family of Abe, Fred and Threasa of Dallas, Derrell Farmer and family of Merkel, Marty and Vickie Jeffrey of Houston, Lawrence Hewitt and family of Merkel. Unable to attend were Eddie and family of El Paso, due to the death of a brother-in-law.

**CAKES GALORE**  
 WEDDING, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARIES, SPECIALTY  
 928-5508

### 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 Cypert

# DO IT NOW! SEPARATELY!



**December 31 is the last day to deduct \$1500 each (total \$3000) tax-free from your income!**

That's right! If a husband and wife, both working, are not enrolled in a retirement plan (other than Social Security) both can start their own Individual Retirement Account (IRA) at Sweetwater Savings . . . AND DEDUCT UP TO \$1500 EACH FROM THEIR INCOME! A total of up to \$3000 in deductions!

Up to 15% or \$1500, whichever is less, can be set aside each year in a tax-free Sweetwater Savings IRA account for each spouse's retirement. Sweetwater Savings IRA accounts earn up to 7.75% annually. So, why take less? Start your Sweetwater Savings IRA account now . . . before December 31!

Please contact me. I would like to know how to open an Individual Retirement Account at Sweetwater Savings.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ AC \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out and mail to: Attn: Bobbie Ellis  
 Sweetwater Savings, P.O. Box 1399, Sweetwater, Texas 79556

### 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.

A substantial interest penalty is required for early withdrawal of certificate accounts.



SWEETWATER ROTAN ROSCOE HAMLIN COLORADO CITY

**GIFTS OF FINE QUALITY THAT WILL THRILL THE HEART OF THE ENTIRE FAMILY**

### TEXSHEEN LINGERIE

- GOWNS \$7.00
- PAJAMAS \$11.00
- ROBES \$9.00
- BABY DOLLS \$4.99 up

- BLOUSES
- DRESSES \$23.99
- PANTS \$9.00
- SWEATERS \$12.99
- SUITS \$23.99
- AND FOR HIM
- SHIRTS \$8.99
- PANTS \$16.99
- SUITS \$79.00
- SHOES \$24.99
- GLOVES \$9.99

IT'S TWICE AS NICE TO SHOP AT  
**CRAWFORD'S**  
 MASTER CHARGE LAY-A-WAY  
 135 EDWARDS PHONE 928-5612

## CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

- 23 CHANNEL CB \$44.95 (1 ONLY)
- "T" CHARLIE TEABERRY 40 CHANNEL \$59.95 (1 ONLY)
- 8 TRACK CAR STEREO \$25.00 (1 ONLY)

## STANFORD'S ELECTRONICS

123 KENT 928-5762

**BEST BUY IN TOWN! IT'S**



## BROASTED CHICKEN

A heaping bucketfull feeds 4 hungry people for only \$3.99



**CARSON'S SUPERMARKET**  
 PHONE 928-5231

# On a Christmas Merry Go Round? SHOP THESE GIFTS



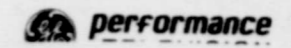
**\$489<sup>00</sup>**

**VIR "Broadcast Controlled" Color.** The General Electric pioneered system that offers you color actually controlled by the broadcaster's VIR signal. Computer-like circuitry uses this special signal broadcast with many programs to adjust color and tint automatically, 60 times a second. No need to fiddle with color or tint knobs. And a new Light Sensor adjusts the picture as room lighting conditions change. Cabinet: Walnut finish on high impact plastic.



**\$99<sup>00</sup>**

**Sharpness II** 100% Solid State Chassis. With cool-running solid state elements, your set will use less energy and is designed to last longer than a comparable "tube-type" set. Cabinet: Desert sand finish.



**25" DIAGONAL  
COLOR  
CONSOLE  
\$599<sup>00</sup>  
MODEL YM9410WD**

- Color Monitor System
- 100% Solid State Chassis
- Modular Chassis Design
- Black Matrix In-Line Picture Tube
- Custom Picture Control
- Illuminated Channel Numbers
- Sharpness Control
- "Tilt-Out" Control Bin
- Set-And-Forget Volume Control
- Line Voltage Regulator
- Cable-Ready Antenna Connector



10" diagonal AA5326WD PORTA COLOR II TV - walnut finish on high impact plastic.

- 100% Solid State Chassis
- GE's In-Line Picture Tube
- 70 Position "Click-In" UHF Tuning
- Automatic Frequency Control
- Automatic Color Control
- VHF "Pre-Set" Fine Tuning
- DC Restoration
- VHF Dipole UHF Loop Antennas
- Molded-in Carrying Handle

**\$269.00**

## IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT SPECIALS

Now... when every family needs it most!

### GENERAL ELECTRIC FOOD FREEZER SPECIAL!



**10.1 cu. ft. capacity  
only  
\$299.95**

- HELPS CUT FOOD BILLS:**
- Buy meats in bulk—frozen foods on sale—fresh produce in season.
  - Freeze home-grown vegetables.
  - Reduce shopping trips, save.
  - Guard against rising food prices.

- Model TAI2
- Only 28" wide
  - 3 refrigerated shelves for fast freezing plus top cold plate
  - Bulk storage rack
  - Upright takes less floor space than chest—foods easy to see, reach
  - Generous door storage



## GE SUPER CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

TERMS AVAILABLE



**SAVE \$71.95**

**MICROWAVE OVEN COOKS BY TIME OR TEMPERATURE**

- Automatic Chef Temperature Sensor... set temperature, insert probe, oven shuts off when food's done • 3 power levels, big 1.3 cu. ft. capacity

Regular Price \$499.95

**SANTA'S PRICE \$428<sup>00</sup>**



**SAVE \$51.95**

**3-CYCLE BUILT-IN DISHWASHER**

- 3-level wash action • Normal Power Saver Cycle • Built-in soft food disposer • Sound insulation

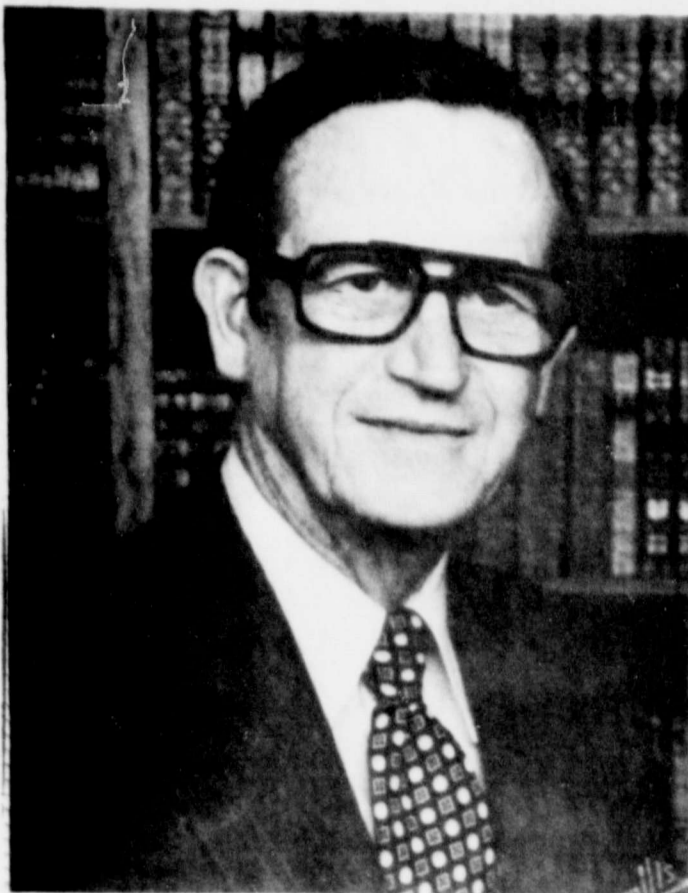
Regular Price \$349.95

**SANTA'S PRICE \$248.00**

MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113

# PALMER PONTIAC AND GMC

ABILENE 673-1182



Walter Grubbs

## Walter Grubbs Announces Candidacy

Walter Grubbs, District Manager for Congressman Omar Burleson for the past thirteen years, made the following announcement this week:

I am announcing as a candidate for the office of State Representative for this 61st Legislative District of Texas and would appreciate your support and advice in my efforts to be elected in the Democratic primary on May 6, 1978.

For many years I have felt it would be an honor and a privilege to serve in the Texas legislature. I was reared at Colorado City, in Mitchell County, and lived there for over 35 years. I served on the city council for six years and

was mayor of Colorado City. I worked for about a year as assistant manager for the television station, KPAR-TV, (Now KTXS-TV), at Sweetwater when it first went on the air. I have worked for Congressman Omar Burleson the past thirteen years as district manager and for Congressman George Mahon in Washington for about eight years prior to that and I feel perfectly at home in every part of this area. I know a lot of people and a lot of people know me because of these associations.

The ever increasing cost of living and the continuing decline in the price producers get for the food, fiber and fuel produced in this West Texas area are two of the most pressing problems facing us today. This crisis calls for strong leadership and representation in our legislative bodies.

I do not have all the answers and there may not be any quick or easy solutions, but I would like the opportunity of serving and I do have the desire to work for the best interests of this area, which has always been my home.

I have had the opportunity of learning about the legislative processes over the past twenty years, while working for Congressman Omar Burleson and George Mahon. Through these jobs, with two of our senior West Texas Congressmen, I have had the privilege of learning what the important interests and problems of this area are and have had a part in trying to do something about them. From these experiences I feel I am qualified to be of service to the

people of this legislative district and would like the honor of representing you in the Texas legislature.

The backbone of the economy in this West Texas district is agriculture and the oil industry.

When we look at what the farmer gets for the grain he produces compared to what it costs him to produce it and what it costs to buy a loaf of bread, we wonder where the difference is going. With the thousands of bales of cotton being produced on the farms in this area it is hard to understand why he cannot receive more for it than it costs to produce it. When he needs new machinery he either has to go without it or go in debt to buy it.

We have great natural resources in our crude oil and natural gas. The producers of those urgently needed sources of energy should be allowed a fair return on their high-risk capital investment. If they don't get a fair return they are going out of business.

Thousands of tons of livestock feed are produced in this West Texas area, including feed grains and cottonseed and its many by-products. The farmers and livestock men are entitled to a fair return on their investments. Business and professional people throughout the district face the same financial squeeze between rising costs and income, caused principally by inflation.

My political philosophy is one of practical, common sense principles. We hear so much about liberals and conservatives. It is difficult to define those terms. A man can be very

conservative about spending his own dollars and yet be very liberal with taxpayers dollars. Certainly I am for progress in every aspect of our society, but there is a great need to be practical about it. My family has to live on what it can earn and I feel that city, county, state, and national governments should follow the same practice. I call it common sense and in the best interests of the future of our country.

I think government programs which prove successful should be continued, but those that are complete failures and extremely expensive should be eliminated as quickly as possible. The "Sunset" concept of periodically evaluating all agencies and programs is a good one.

Our welfare program needs careful evaluation, along with others. Handouts to able-bodied people who are not willing to work and try to help themselves, is just like pouring it down the drain. The cost of this type program continues to rise and the value of it to the present generation can be questioned insofar as the success of the program is concerned. It is not fair to saddle the future generations with the burden these types of programs are imposing on them and their children. And I know that most other Texans feel as I do, and yet not much is being done to correct the situation.

I will sincerely appreciate you goodwill and support throughout this campaign, and your vote on May 6, 1978, in the Democratic primary.

## Area Farmers Appointed to Draft Policy for Farmers Union

Texas Farmers Union District III Director, Billy Bob Toombs of Merkel has announced the nomination of two area farmers to serve on the annual policy drafting committee which meets in Abilene, December 8 and 9.

Doug Bagley of Merkel and Virgil Blakney of Turkey were nominated and in turn appointed by TFU President Jay Naman to serve on the committee which will be chaired by Steve Carraker from Hamlin. The committee will officially function to take resolutions submitted from the counties across the state and place them in line with the current state policy of Texas Farmers Union. The overall Policy will then be amended, updated or otherwise changed by statewide delegates to the annual convention of Texas Farmers Union which meets in Austin, January 20-21.

"We are proud to have these two most capable men to serve on this important committee," said Texas Farmers Union President Jay Naman. "The drafting of our policy by farmers at the county

level is what determines our goals and direction for the coming year. It will be the task of this committee to prepare the policy for debate and adoption at our January convention."

District Directors from each of the nine districts in Texas Farmers Union have appointed two representatives to the committee which will function in behalf of the state organization's 9,000 members. Resolutions from the individual counties have been submitted to the committee prior to December, with further recommendations still to come from delegates to the state convention in Austin in January. The overall policy of Texas Farmers Union addresses matters of all commodities produced in the state as well as matters of agriculture ranging from energy to water conservation, rural services and marketing.

Texas Farmers Union is expecting one of the largest turnouts in history at its annual convention as farmers and ranchers "gear for a tough fight to survive the current agricultural depression."



Billy Ray Riley

The first place bicycle rider in the Christmas parade went to Billy Ray Riley, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Riley of Merkel. Billy Ray is a third grader in Merkel Elementary School. Billy Ray is a member of the Cub Scouts and Merkel F.F.A.

### Xi Nu Chi Holds Christmas Party

Xi Nu Chi members held their annual Christmas party Saturday, December 3, at the Country Club, where they were served a delicious supper.

After supper, members and husbands met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Leverich for the exchange of gifts and dessert.

A night of fun and entertainment was enjoyed by the following members and husbands: Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Leverich, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Duhose, Mr. and Mrs. John Brady, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Juan Ybarra, Mr. and Mrs. George Starbuck, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Garner, Mr. and Mrs. Billie Bob Neff, Mr. and Mrs. Peck Eager, Mamie Steck and Val Patterson.

**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**

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
TO  
**LEON KELSO**  
WHO CELEBRATED HIS  
40th DEC. 6th

**MODERN BEAUTY SHOP**  
ANNOUNCES THEY NOW HAVE  
**REVLON FORMULA II THE NEW FACE HYGIENE**

WE SPECIALIZE IN  
**SEPTIC SYSTEMS ROADS & DRIVES**  
**L.R. MCGEE BACKHOE SERVICES**  
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WE DO ALL KINDS OF  
**CONCRETE WORK.**  
WE ALSO GIVE  
**FREE ESTIMATES.**  
**CALL TIME**  
DANNY BRYAN - MERKEL - 928-5293  
R.J. BRYAN - HAWLEY - 537-2289

**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 THE DAY The man who objects to the narrow way sometimes lands in a narrow cell.  
**FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
NEED A RIDE?  
CALL 928-5761  
N. 2ND & RUNNELS

**LA-Z-BOY**  
COME SEE 100 MODELS  
Save \$50.00 NOW!  
LIFETIME MECHANISM GUARANTEE  
CONVENIENT TERMS FREE DELIVERY  
**D&W**  
South 1st at Elm 39 years old

**YEAR END CLEARANCE**  
Our entire stock—approximately 48 Singlewides, Doublewides and Travel Trailers Reduced for Clearance  
EXAMPLES  
1-12 Wide, 1 Bedroom ..... \$2995.00  
1-14 Wide (704 Sq. Ft.) 2 Bdr ..... \$7995.00  
2-14 Wide, 2 Bdr New Moon ..... \$2995.00  
1-952 Sq. Ft., 2 Bdr ..... \$2995.00  
1-1064 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.**  
Tye Texas 916-980-2100.

**BRING YOUR CAMERA & HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN WITH SANTA**  
**THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY FROM 5:30 TO 7:30 P.M.**  
**WE WILL BE OPEN TIL 7:30 P.M. FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE NOW TIL CHRISTMAS**  
Discover **BEN FRANKLIN**  
We bring variety to life!  
201 KENT MERKEL, TEXAS



# \$1200 GOLD STAR GIVE-AWAY

SPONSORED BY THE MERKEL MAIL AND KBBG 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

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BEN FRANKLIN

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CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE

MAX MURRELL CHEVROLET

CASTILLE HARDWARE & GIFTS

PALMER'S PONTIAC & GMC

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

# SAVE BIG on ALL You BUY



## Simple as ABCD

AND WIN UP-TO \$100.00

LOG CABIN COMPLETE

**PANCAKE MIX** 2 LB BOX **79c**



KEELBER **CRACKERS** LB **55c**

ALKA SELTZER PLUS COLD MEDICINE 20 CT BOX **\$1.09**

PRIZE VALUE	NUMBER OF PRIZES	ODDS FOR ONE VISIT	ODDS FOR 5 VISITS	ODDS FOR 10 VISITS
\$100.00	8	3955	791	395
\$ 10.00	20	1582	316	158
\$ 5.00	30	1054	210	105
\$ 50.00 in Trade Stamps	107	295	59	29

PRICES GOOD THURSDAY FRI & SAT. DECEMBER 8-9-10th

CHILI **WOLF** 19 OZ CAN **79c**

NABISCO **RITZS** CRACKERS LB BOX **73c**

BAKERS-DARK CHOCOLATE **CHIPS** 12 OZ BAG **69c**

**COKE COLA** 64 OZ BOTTLE 'THROW AWAY BOTTLE' **69c**

**COOL WHIP** BIRDSEYE 9 OZ TUB **55c**

GRIFFIN WHITE **SYRUP** QT. JUG **79c**

GRIFFIN-SANDWICH SPREAD OR COMSTOCK NO 2 CAN **Salad Dressing** qt. **69c**

CLASSIC SWEET **Butter** 22 OZ JAR **63c**

BIRDSEYE **CORN ON COB** 4 EARS **79c**  
MORTONS ASST. 8 OZ **POTPIES** 2 FOR **49c**  
WHOLE SUN **ORANGE JUICE** 12 OZ CAN **63c**

KRAFTS FRENCH **DRESSING** 8 OZ BOT **49c**

ASSORTED 46 OZ **Sliced APPLES** CAN **55c**

COOKING OIL **WESSON** 48 OZ JUG **\$1.63**

MAXWELL HOUSE **COFFEE** 2 LB CAN **\$4.29**  
WITH \*10\*\* IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

KRAFTS-ASST. CHEEZ **WHIZ** 8 OZ JAR **79c**

DELMONTE 303 CUT **Green BEANS** 2 FOR **59c**

**CRISCO** 3 LB CAN **\$1.49** 1 LIMIT

CREAMY 3 LB CAN **\$1.49** 1 LIMIT

NESTLE CHOCOLATE **QUICK** 16 OZ CAN **89c**

DEL MONTE 303 **Golden CORN** 2 FOR **53c**

**FLOUR** 5 LB BAG **55c**

GLADIOLA 5 LB BAG **55c**

DEL MONTE 303 **Sweet PEAS** 2 FOR **59c**

**LIPTON** TEA BAGS 24 CT **\$1.39**

TISSUE 4 ROLL CRTN 2 LIMIT **69c**

HUNTS 8 OZ **SPINACH** 2 FOR **59c**

**DELSEY** 2 1/2 GAL CRTNS **\$1.73**

BORDENS **ICE CREAM** 1/2 GAL CRTN **\$1.29**

GRIFFIN 303 TURNIPS & **Turnip GREENS** 2 FOR **43c**

BORDENS **HOMO MILK** 2 1/2 GAL CRTNS **\$1.73**

BORDENS **ICE CREAM** 1/2 GAL CRTN **\$1.29**

BORDEN-GANDY-FORMEST **CREAM** WHIPPING OR SOUR 1/2 PINT 3 FOR **\$1.00**

BORDEN LOW FAT **MILK** 2 1/2 GAL CRTNS **\$1.73**

BORDENS **ICE CREAM** 1/2 GAL CRTN **\$1.29**

TENDER, TASTY, MEATY **FRYERS** FOR THRIFTY BUYERS



BAKERS ANGEL FLAKE **COCOANUT** 7 OZ **69c**

SUNKIST **ORANGES** NAVEL LB **29c**

HORMEL LITTLE SIZZLER **SAUSAGE** PKG **89c**

GRADE 'A' WHOLE POUND **47c**  
CUT-UP POUND **55c**

SPRAY OIL **COOKING EASE** CAN **\$1.09**

FABRIC SOFTNER **FINAL TOUCH** GT BOT **79c**

FRESH **LETTUCE** LB **29c**

HORMEL WRANGLER **SAUSAGE** **\$1.19**

HORMEL POUND **\$1.33**

FABRIC SOFTNER **BOUNCE** 10 CT BOX **35c**

KING **OXODOL** BOX **\$1.89** 1 LIMIT

FRESH **CUCUMBERS** EA **10c**

CHOICE BEEF ARM-RUMP OR ENGLISH LB **98c**

CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN LB **\$1.39**

LIQUID **PALMOLIVE** GIANT BOTTLE **79c**

DETERGENT **ARM & HAMMER** 115 OZ BOX **\$1.49**

FRESH **BELL PEPPER** EA **10c**

DECKER BEEF 12 OZ PKG **69c**

CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN LB **\$1.39**

BROASTED **CHICKEN** 8 PIECES FEEDS 4

FRESH **CELERY** LB **19c**

RUSSET **SPUDS** 10 LB BAG **79c**

FRESH **GROUND BEEF** LB **59c**

CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN LB **\$1.39**

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS

**CARSON'S SUPER MARKET**



MERKEL TEXAS FRESH VEGETABLES

FREE DELIVERY MON WED FRI BEST MEATS IN TOWN

Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more