

The Senior Citizens
Schedule for December:
Dec. 3 - Singing
Dec. 12 - Luncheon
Day
Dec. 21 - Game Night

Dec. 28 - Fellowship

Thursday, December 21, 1978...Merkel, Texas

15 cents



The cities Christmas decorations and ol' St. Nick are brought together by staff photographer glenn Richards' double exposure.

Passing thoughts

by Cloy A. Richards

Christmas wishes.

With Christmas only four days away, people tend to get a little philisophical about the yule and New Years season.

The Mail has decided to pass along it's list of Christmas wishes.

We hope that Merkel, Trent and Tye will continue to grow and prosper. Only through growth can those towns better serve the people that make their lives there. We hope that the farm community, which is

We hope that the farm community, which is vital to the economic health here will receive fair and reasonable profits for their products. If they do not, small agricultural based communities, like us, will be in a state of economic unrest.

We hope for some positive steps to be taken by the Carter Administration and by businesses and labor officials nationwide to curb the spiraling rate of inflation. If continued unchecked, recession is the next step.

We hope for some positive steps forward in the financial plight of our Senior Citizens. People living on a fixed income have no way to keep up with the cost of living, and rising prices of food, clothing and shelter.

We also hope for that elusive yule-time wish of people world-wide of a total peace world-wide. International problems will never be solved until there is world-wide peace. Many problems that are facing the nations of the world could be

solved through international cooperation.

And finally, we hope that the Mail can fulfill the task of providing news for and about Merkel. We feel that is the greatest gift we can give. An informed public as to how your tax money is being spent and how your children are being educated is a knowledgable public. And there are

few greater gifts than that of knowledge.

The staff of the Mail thanks the people for their support and business throughout the year. And next year we will try to do our job better.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Coy, Melanie and glenn Richards, Cathy and Lilian Pack, and Suzy Rister. We hope you will continue to read our Mail.

City rebates up

Strong retail sales figures in November led to the city of Merkel receiving a \$5,488.61 check for their share of the five per cent sales

The payment for the same period last year was \$4,111.44 and payments to date total \$31720.95 in comparison to \$28,884.18 for the same period last year.

The percent increase year to date equals a nine per cent increase over last years rebates. The Trent sales tax

The Trent sales tax relates have fallen more than 27 percent over the receipts from last years' sales. Trent received \$403.45 last month compared to \$419.99 for the same period last year.

Payments to date total \$1,579.17 compared to \$2,177.93 showing a decrease of 27.22 per cent.

Tye sales figures slipped a little last month but year to date totals still show a 37 percent increase.

Tye received a check for \$3,698.93 compared to \$3,844.75 for the same period last year. The city has received \$33,622.05 thus far this year compared to \$24,489.97 for the same period last year.

Sign of the Times opens

The Clark Sign of the Times Furniture store on Edwards in Merkel is the towns newest business with grand opening ceremonies happening last Monday at 2:00.

J.A. Sadler, City Manager, M.Ced the ceremonies as local residents and merchants stopped by to wish the new store well in it's business here in town.

The new business is owned and operated by Iola Clark and Ann White. The store will be open 9-5 Monday through Saturday and closed on Sunday.

Trash pickup one day late next two weeks

The other position at the city landfill was filled last week with the hiring of Robert Lee Jr. The city received federal funds for the hiring of the operators and now the landfill must be operated at both state and federal health standards.

The dump can only be used between the hours of 8 and 5 Monday through Friday and from 8.1. a.m. until noon on Saturdays.

Both Lee and Williams are working at the dump now but the dump will not start closing it's gates until after Christmas.

Oty Manager J.A. Sadler said that Merkel Sanitation personnel will alter pick-up schedules next week and will run one day late. The change will be in effect the week of Christmas and New Year's Day.



The Grand Opening of Clark Sign of the Times was held last Monday. Here Iola Clark and Anna

White listen to remarks by J.A. Sadler. (Staff photo by glenn Richards)

What should Santa bring Merkel

Christmas time is here and all through the town people are making out lists of special friends that will be honored with presents this year. After thinking about it we figured that not many of you included our little town of Merkel in with the rest of your friends to be buying presents for. We asked eight of the city's businessmen and town leaders exactly what they would like to see ride in on Santa's sleigh for Merkel this year. Some were realistic and asked for physical changes for the city and some just wanted to see the new year bring in new attitudes for people to relate to. All of the suggestions would benefit Merkel, some more than others, and still others that seem

downright imperitive.

See if you agree with these suggestions then try to think of some good New Year's resolutions that could help to improve Merkel in the coming year.

Orestion: What would you like to see on a

Question: What would you like to see on a Christmas list to Santa from the city of Merkel? Vernon Wade: A million dollars; or more people interested in improving Merkel. People taking part in more public happenings.

Don Hensley: Demolition of some old buildings and paved alleys.

Blanche Hewitt: The ceiling fixed at City Hall. Lee Presswood: A new high school, Immediately. Raymond Etheridge: A positive attitude in the

schools and community for working together.

Don Hart: New streets and curbing, a community that is happy and congenial, that gets

along together and works together on various projects.

Lou David Allen: To fix all the chug holes and keep them fixed.

Leroy Austermann: One more full time policeman.

by: Patricia Spradling Merkel, "Christmas Memories" As I look out my window, Across lovely country fields, I see Winter's frost, Upon my window sills. The aroma of fresh coffee, A feeling of reminise, My mind wanders to the joy of Christmas. I drag out the boxes with decorations from the past, Memories flooding my mind, keeping me in their grasp. I can see Grandma over her wood stove, Baking pies and cakes, spicing with clove. She made all her gifts, each one with love, Then gave them to people she thought alot of. Christmas Eve, Baby Jesus birth was told, Never, no never did the story grow old. We hung up our stockings, Then sipped hot Cocoa, Grandma sang carols with us, By the warmpth of the stove. With bed-time very close at hand, We took our Christmas Eve sleighride, Across snow glistened land. Wrapped in blankets to keep us warm, Full of anticipation of Christmas mornin. Grandma content, with the joy in our eyes, We're up before dawn, opening each surprise. A plump juicy Turkey, Prepared Grandma's special way, With all the trimmings, to add to the festivities of the day. So many years have passed. Since those childhood days, Memories to be treasured, Ah, those wonderful yesterdays. As I snap back to reality, And the world of today, I start making plans, To make my Children's Christmas, A memory filled holiday!





Consumer Alert

by John L. Hill Attorney General

AUSTIN-The Christmas in such cases.

gift-buying season inevitably It's important to remember is followed by the post-that if a store has advertised Christmas gift-returning goods for a special sale, there season, and most consumers may be a "no return" policy on expect to be able to return or that particular merchandise. exchange gifts with little or no Other items such as swim trouble beyond, perhaps the suits, undergarments, and

But our Consumer Protec- always be sold on an "all sales tion Division attorneys say the final" basis for the customer's fact is that stores are not protection. legally required to refund Just as most stores try to

may be unable to cooperate adjustment. other establishments. For that recommends the following: reason, our lawyers strongly -Take all tags, price labels, check on store policy before with you. buying gifts that may need to -Return goods in their be returned or exchanged. original containers.

There are certain instances -Return the goods to the if a store advertised car coats one. with sheepskin linings, but -Explain the reasons for the you discover the lining is return. actually acrylic pile, you have -If you have a problem with

other intimate apparel may

money, exchange merchan-cooperate in making adjustdise, or accept returned goods ments when possible, most for store credit unless the item consumers are careful to ask is defective or is not as for an adjustment only if it is needed. But a few individuals

Most merchants, though are may attempt to return very agreeable about merchandise that is worn or adjustments since this is a used, that they damaged form of customer service themselves, or that they which encourages repeat purchased months earlier. In such cases, merchants may Sometimes certain stores rightfully refuse to make an

fully with the post-Christmas If you find you must return gift returner, because they merchandise for an adjustoperate under more restric- ment, our. Attorney General's tive adjustment policies than Consumer Protection Division

recommend that shoppers and all sales or charge receipts

in which a store is legally department where they were required to make adjust-purchased, or to the ments, however. For example, adjustment desk if there is

the right to return the coat for an adjustment you think is deserved, try o settle it with

Or perhaps you ordered a the manager of the store. If size 12 dress but the store sent that doesn't work, consult the a size 14. Or you specified a Attorney General's Consumer green table lamp, but got a Protection Division in Austin, blue floor lamp. The store Houston, Dallas. El Paso, correct its error or make Lubbock, McAllen, or S



Guess who's wishing you a wonderful Christmas season? May the festive spirit be yours throughout the holidays and after!

TOYOTA OF ABILENE



Dairy Oueen



Merry Christmas!

Study Club holds monthly meeting

The beautifully holiday decorated homof Mrs. Can Havnes was the place of the Fortnightly Study Club's Christmas Time meeting, Dec. 12. Our honored guests for the afternoon were Mrs. J.C. McGee, Mesquite District President, Texas Federation of Women's Clus, of Knox City and Mrs. W.A. King, District Treasurer, of Weinert,

Mrs. Carl Hughes introduced Mrs. McGee, who gave her talk on Roots and Fruits of Federation using the Mesquite tree, which is the symbol of our District, as illustration of Unity in Diversity,

Mrs. Andy Shouse, chairman for the Christmas program, played a beautiful piano arrangement d Silent Night. Mary Collins gave a Christmas poem followed by Mrs. Bobbye Elliott singing Christmas Candles. Then Mrs. Don Dudley gave two lovely Christmas stories stressing the theme Christmas is Love which can be demonstrated by each one taking an active part in making others happy and forgetting ones personal feelings regardless of the situation. One receives by giving of oneself.

All joined in singing Christmas Carols and to close the program, a medley of carols were sung by Mrs. Horton, Mrs. Sandusky, Mrs. Cypert, Mrs. Carl Hughes, and Mrs. Shouse, with Mrs. Haynes pianist.

Those attending along with Mrs. McGee and Mrs. King were: Mrs. Floy Hicks, Mrs. Modell Edf, Mrs. Elliot, Mrs. Allen Forbis, Mrs. Johnny Hammond, Mrs. W.R. Cypert, Mary Collins, Mrs. Don Dudley, Mrs. Charles Eager, Mildred Hamm, Mrs. Comer Haynes, Mrs. Buster Horton, Mrs. Carl Hughes, Mrs. C.B. Knight, Mrs. Earl Highes, Mrs. Ed Sandusky, Mrs. Andy Shouse, and Mrs. Ray Wilson.



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42-2tnc HALFPRICE SALE: on purses. 403 Runnels or call 928-5940. 43-2tc

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43-4tc Merry Christmas to Aunt Carrie From Lillian 44-1tc

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farm SE edge of Mer-

44-1tc

We would like to thank each of you for the kind deeds, the food, flowers, of sympathy during the loss of our loved one. We appreciate and love all of you very much. The Gaines Allen Fisher Family.

I want to express my appreciation for your visits, phone calls, cards and especially your prayers during my illness here at home. May God Hess each of you is my Prayer. Mae Seago

Services

Boot and Shoe Repair. Drop your footwear repair needs at Hardy Food Store. 928-4912. One Week service.

WOULD LIKE to clean your house, 928-5060. 43-2tc

35-tfc

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40-23tp GREENBUG SPRAY-

ING. They are around check your fields. Call Diamond Flying Service Phone 915-735-2094 Rotan, Call Gary Diamond. 42-tfc

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46-TFC

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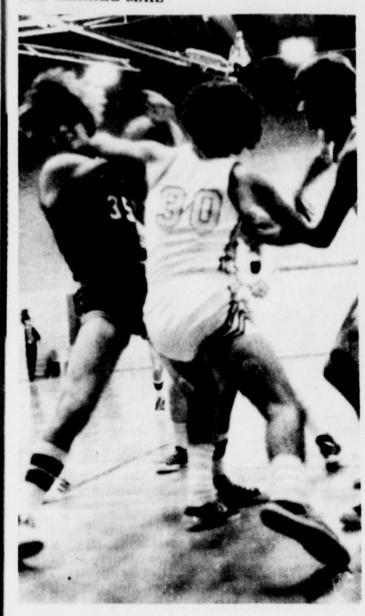
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Things got a little rough in the Winters-Merkel J.V. game last week. Whoever said it was a moncontact sport? (Staff photo by glenn Richards)

Methodist class meets

Davis, Pei Touchstone,

Kenneth Pee, Viola Ens-

minger, W.S.J. Brown,

Grimes, Lola Stockbrid-

ge, Lottie B. Everett.

O.E. Harwell, John

Shannon, Mary Click,

C.A. Cox, Johnny Cox,

and misses Louise Hud-

son, Mabel McRee and

Wishing you all

the happiness

that can come

with Christmas.

DOTY FARM

EQUIPMENT

PEACE ON EARTH

Bessie Reidenbach.

Merry

The Gleaners Sunday

School Class of the First

United Methodist

Church met in the home

of its president, Mrs.

T.K. Anderson on Wed-

Rev. Forbis offered

grace. Mrs. Anderson

read the Christmas

Story from St. Luke and Mary's Song. Afterward Mrs. Denzel Cox and

Mrs. O.R. Douglas led the class in Christmas

Carrols. A Christmas offering was made to the Methodist Home in Wa-

Santa distributed gifts to the following: Rev. Forbis, Mdmes, Forbis,

Anderson, Cox, Douglas.

Dewel McLean, Floyd

nesday, December 13.

Badgers win one

In a double overtime game the Merkel Badger roundballers took a 58-55 victory from the Winters here on the 12th. The game was a Badgers first district game and a good beginning

for a long district race ahead.

The second of the Badgers 6-2A district games found them on the short end of a lopsided game, 71-32. Ballinger handed the boys the loss with the help from inside shooting from the two post positions. Aikens, a 6'3'' post, was high scorer for Ballinger with 21 pts.

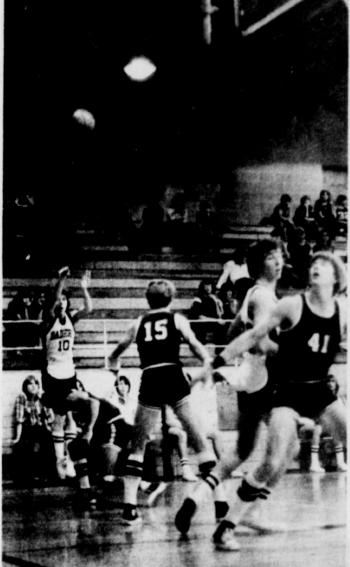
"Those big boys were too much for us, we couldn't defend their lay-ups. I expect Ballinger will win our district. They are a strong, big ball club," explained Coach Bartee.

The high scorer for the boys was Mike Sims with 8 pts. The boys were again plagued with

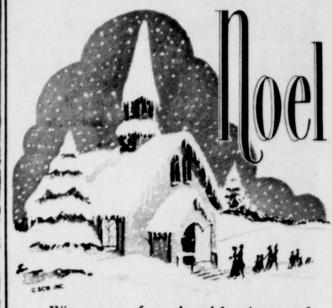
poor shooting percentages.
The upcoming Abilene Christian High School Basketball Tournament will be less one team as the Badgers cancelled their appearance there after ACHS cancelled their spot in the Merkel Basketball Tourney.

The Badgers next game will be Dec. 29 against Clydehere starting at 5:00. Only the boys varsity will play for the boys.





Mike Sims shoots a jumper against Winters to help the Badgers win their first district game. (Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards)



We pray for the blessings of the Infant Jesus upon you and your loved ones at Christmas.

Hohhertz Dairy

Harold & Chera Albert & Alma Brenda & Tim

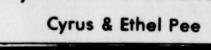


PALMER PONTIAC & GMC MERKEL



Here's hoping that all our friends, whose confidence we treasure, will share the many blessings of Christmas.

Cyrus Pee Insurance





and for all time. Thanks.

Clark Sign of The Times Ben & Iola, Gene & Ann



Emma's Clothes Closet Emma, Della, & Christine









Hicks Auto Supply

Ben, Gary, Wanda, Betty, W. A., Ernest, Marvin

Heavenly

angels pray for a joyous

those you hold most dear.

trust and devotion, we join

Christmas for you and

Ever thankful for your

them in their good wishes.

MACK, IDA, STACY, & TED

SEYMORE INSURANCE

Echoing

All the Ladies at Bragg's

MERRY CHRISTMAS and thanks to our many devoted patrons.

Merry Christmas

Here's hoping you have a Santa-sized holiday ... perfect holiday... perfect in every way! Cheers!

A & A Shell

Jimmy, Mitchell, Bubba, Johnny

Xi Nu Chi holds monthly meeting

Xi Nu Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met in the home of Kathy Leverich for their regular morthly meeting. A short business meeting was held and standing committees made their reports. Pat Neff reported on the Christmas Party. Kathy Leverich was chairman of the program on "Career". Kathy stated there cannot be very much in the modern world which receives more attention than how to use a career. There is career advise for everyone, high school graduates, college graduates, women, men, teen agers, homemakers, and anyone else you

care to name. Most of the career advice you see is drected at succeeding in a career and making the most money possible by participating in it. Certainly, one of the basic and most important reasons for having a career at all is earning

Refreshments were served to the following members: Betty Allday, Jocille Brady, Louise Dubose, Liz Eager, Connie Harris, Rose Etheridge, Pat Neff, Charlotte Starbuck, Mamie Steck, Ginny Yaddow, Connie Ybarra, and the hostess, Kathy Leverich.



May the Joy and peace of christmas be with you today and always MERKEL DRUG



the opportunity of wishing all our good friends a very merry Christmas!

BEN FRANKLIN

Methodist meet

The United Methodist Women met in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Forbis for the Christmas program. The living room was beautifully decorated for the holiday season Outstanding was the collection of miniture lighted churches.

Mrs. Forbis, president was in charge of the program. Mrs. Robert Malone played the piano while Mrs. Denzil Cox

and Mrs. Andy Shouse led Mrs. Jack Hogan gave a program on "Are You Ready for Christmas?"

Itwas announced that a Moslem from India, now a converted Methodist, will be the speaker for the covered dish luncheon January 29. This is open to the public.

A delicious tea plate was served to Rev. Forbis, Mdmes, Forbis, Malone, Cox, Shouse, Hogan, Cora Reeves, Vada Hudson, Lynwood Harrison, J.S. Pinckley, John Shannon, Oswald Everett, Tom Allday.

T.K. Anderson, W.A. Stækbridge, Wilmer, Criswell, Ray Wilson,

Raymod Ferguson, Johnny Cox, and Mabel McRee.

WW1 veterans hold meeting

Members of the Merkel Trent Barracks 2248, Veterans of W.W.I and their auxiliary and guests met at the Taylor Electric Building for their Christmas lunch and party.

After a bountiful meal of turkey and all the trimmings, all assembled in the main meeting room around the beautiful Christmas tree where gifts were exchanged.

Guests present were:

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Haile and Mrs. Gordon Howell of Abilene. Members were: Mr. and Mrs. Dent Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bonneaux, Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Lyday, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hartley, Mr. and Mrs. E.O. Harwell, Mr. and Mrs. Dee Poland, Mr. G.N. Reynolds, Mrs. Ruth Baze, Mrs. Irene Strawn Mrs. Maggie Renfro,

Mrs. Dewie Fleming, Mrs. Ruth Cox, Mrs. Mary Mosier, Mrs. Jewell Criswell, Mrs. Trula Cox, Mrs. Ora Griggs, and Miss Mabel McRee.



In 1827, the first railroad in the U.S. was built in Quincy Mass.

TOWN.

Christmas has changed greatly since the time of Dickens but there's one thing that's still the same—the heartfelt greeting of friends to one another as they celebrate the festive season . . . "Have a very merry Christmas!"

MERKEL TV CABLE rbis, use,

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W.A. mer, son,

John-

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E.O. Mrs. G.N.

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Mrs.

Tru-

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19



Five generations of the A.H. McElmurray family of Merkel met together recently in a family reunion at the McElmurray home here.

From left to right are A.H. McElmurray, Mrs.

Mildred Snow of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Carlton Stribling of Odessa, Tully Stribling of Odessa and in her father's lap, Brandy Stribling of Odessa.

Christmas stories from Merkel 7th graders

The Mole and the Cricket

There was a mole who was always nice to his friends. He would invite them to dinner and ask them to play games and stuff.

There was a cricket who didn't care about anyone. He would laugh if someone got ran over by a car. Every Christmas the mole would get lots of presents and the cricket wouldn't get a single one. So the cricket cried and cried. The mole told him to stop crying and make friends with everyone. So the cricket quit crying and made friends with everyone. The cricket got lots of presents every year from then on.

Steven Davis

Santa Claus and His Busy Schedule

Santa and his reindeers had a very busy schedule. They had to go to Abilene and to New Mexico. Santa did not have much time. He had to hurry. So first he went to Abilene. He gave little kids lots of presents. He even stopped in Westgate and let the little babies see him. Finally he had to leave and he was on his way to New Mexico. All the little kids were unhappy. It was one day befor Christmas. The little kids said, "I will not get any presents." Santa arrived that night and gave all the little kids their presents. The next morning the kids were happy. All the little kids saw Santa Claus that Christmas Day.

This is the age
Of the half read page,
And the quick hash
And the mad dash.

The bright night

The plane hop
And the brief stop.
The lamp tan
In a short span.
The brain strain
And the heart pain.
And the cat naps

And the fun's done!

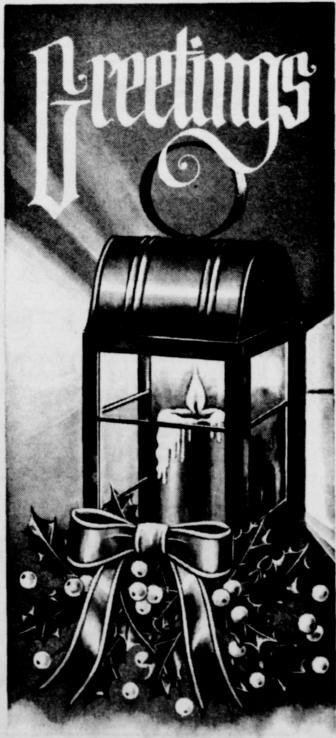
Till the spring snaps

With the nerves tight.

--Copied

FIRST
ASSEMBLY
OF GOD
NEED A RIDE?
CALL 928-5761





Christmas warmth and Christmas cheer, We extend to you this time of year.

Max Murrell Chevrolet

DO IT NOW!



Deduct \$1500 tax-free from your income for retirement!

If you are NOT enrolled in a retirement plan (other than Social Security) you should start your own Individual Retirement Account (IRA) at Sweetwater Savings...AND DEDUCT \$1500 TAX-FREE FROM YOUR INCOME! With a Sweetwater Savings IRA account, you can deposit up to \$1500 a year tax-free toward your retirement. A husband and wife, both working, can deposit up to \$3000 a year into a tax-free IRA account. At Sweetwater Savings your IRA account will earn up to 8% annually, producing an annual yield of up to 8.33%. So, why take less? Come in . . . we'll help you tailor a Sweetwater Savings IRA plan to fit your income.



EARNINGS COMPOUNDED DAILY
AMNUAL RATE
8.00% 8 Year Cert - \$1,000 min.
7.75% 6 Year Cert - \$1,000 min.
7.50% 4 Year Cert - \$1,000 min.
6.75% 20 Mo. Cert - \$1,000 min.
6.50% 1 Year Cert - \$1,000 min.
6.72% 5.75% 90 Day Cert - \$1,000 min.
5.75% 90 Day Cert - \$1,000 min.
6.72% 5.92% 5.92% 5.92%

*based on daily compounding of earnings for 12 months

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

% MORE THAN 6 MONTH TREASURY BILL -\$10,000 MIN.



STAGE 7
SUITS
& DRESSES
1/2 PRICE
plus *5

STAGE 7
KNIT TOPS
1/4 OFF

LARGE SELECTION OF LONG SLEEVE BLOUSES

LONG SLEEVE KNIT TOPS REG. \$18.00 - NOW \$9.00 REG. \$13.50 - NOW \$6.75 REG. \$10.00 - NOW \$5.00 REG. \$4.00 - NOW \$2.00

ALL DRESSES 20% OFF SWEATERS 1 GROUP ½ OFF 1 GROUP ⅓ OFF

YOUR CHOICE
'5.00
Values up to '13.00

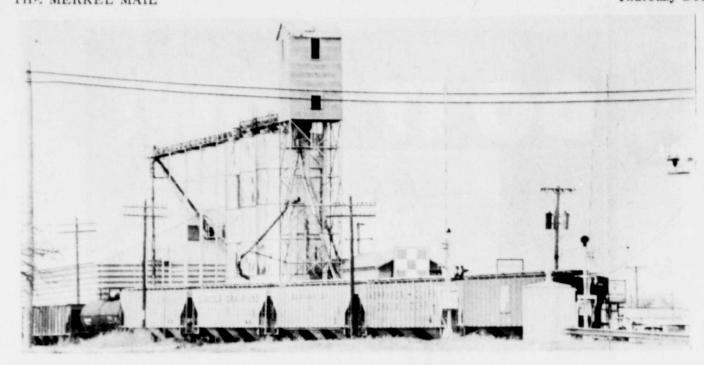
New Shipment of PANTS *6.95

QUEEN CASUAL
SEPARATES, JACKETS & PANTS
20% OFF SKIRTS 1/2 OFF WITH
PURCHASE OF JACKET & PANTS

EMMA'S CLOTHES 131 KENT CLOSET



VELOUR ROBES Values to 20.95



The abundance of grain brought R.R. cars piling

glenn Richards)

Blackeyed peas for New Years Day

Prepare blackeyed "beans" for a traditional New Year's feast

That's correct, this ever-popular New Year's dish is not really a pea-it's a bean, a foods and nurition specialist, Marilyn Haggard, says.

But, tradition dictates that blackeyed peas are known as peas-and will probably continue to be called peas. Whether pea or bean, no New Year's day

cdebration would seem right without them, the specialist points out. Miss Haggard is with the Texas Agricultural

Extension Service, The Texas A&M University

PREPARATON

When preparing blackeyed peas, soak the peas before cooking to reduce cooking time.

First, boil them in water for two minutes. remove from the heat and soak for one hour.

Season with one teaspoon salt for each cup of dry peas, the specialist continues.

Salt pork and bacon are old standbys for seasoning, but chopped ham or smoked turkey left from the Christmas celebration are great Add peper, Garlic and oregano in small

amounts--one fourth teaspoon per pound of dry peas-to enhance flavor

In the slow cooker, soak the peas overnight, then cook the soaked beans in water on "high" for two to two and one-half hours

Reduce control setting to "low", add seasonings and meat and cook for eight to 10 hours.

For a change of pace, try barbecue blackeyes.

For less watery peas, use less water, she recommends.

Cemetery Association says thanks

To The Editor Dear Sir

We are most fortunate, in this community, to have people that have pride in the manner in which their Cemetery is maintained. Our friends include local and out of town residents. I he support they render include both time and

We would like to call attention to two firms that contribute an unusual amount of time toward this program, to-wit: The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, and the Merkel Mail.

The Farmers and Merchants National Bank, as our receiving depository, donates countless hours receiving and recording the donations.

The Merkel Mail donates time and space to publish, at intervals, the list of donars. We recognize that this "space" often would otherwise bring in revenue to Merkel M.

So, to all of the abovementioned, we thank you and wish for you

and yours, a most enjoyable holiday season. Merkel Cemetery Assoc. Very sincerely.

Merkel, Texas.

Frigidaire

Electri-Saver Dishwasher, The Perfect Gift For Mom & The Family!



WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY

Qualified Factory Trained Servicemen Offer You The Finest In Appliance Service

BANKAMERICARD welcome here

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW FOR TWO BIG

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES AT THE

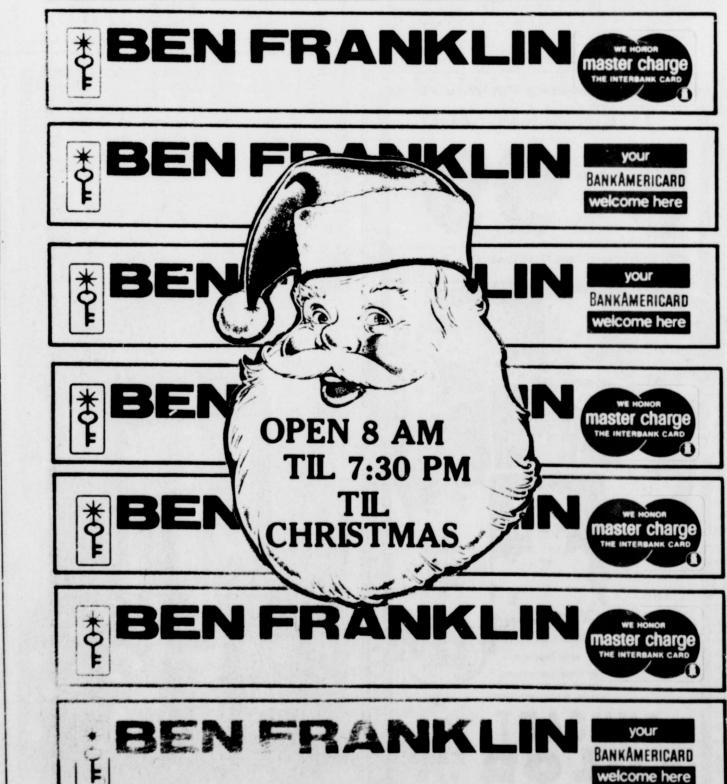
FLITELINE

SATURDAY, DEC. 30th & SUNDAY, DEC. 31st FREE PARTY FAVOR & SPECIAL BEVERAGES **FEATURING**

ADMISSION FOR PARTIES - 5 a head COME EARLY FOR A GOOD TIME FOR RESERVATIONS PHONE 677-8472 HALFBREED - 6 NIGHTS A WEEK



Taylor Electric Co-Operative

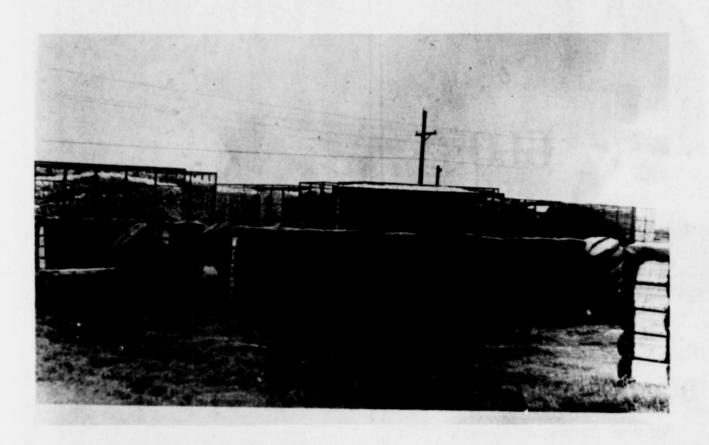


201 KENT MERKEL, TEXAS

BEN FRANKLIN



The sun set over Merkel brightens during the winter mont hs. (Staff photo by glenn Richards)



The cotton keeps rolling in out at the gin. The

process will be completed in two or three weeks. (Staff photo by glenn Richards)



A cheery hello to all our many friends, with warmest wishes for a very happy Christmas season!

MERKEL VFW POST 5683



Let the light of peace warm the hearts of the nations and insure an everlasting peace for all peoples of the world to live together in harmony.

MERKEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Wilson Jewelry



Here's an old-fashioned wish that's still right in style...may your holidays be the merriest!

BIG COUNTRY INN

Best grocery buvs

Best buys at Texas grocery markets this week include several fresh-produce items and fryer chickens.

Also, "specials" offer budget buys, says Gwendolyne Clyatt, a consumer parketing information specialist with the Texas-Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M

This week's price-quality trends are the

FOULTRY--Whole and cut-up fryers offer

FRESH VEGETABLES-Best buys include dry yellow onions, potatoes, carrots, squash, sweet potatoes and rutabagas.

FRESH FRUITS--More grapefruit and oranges appear at most markets, but prices are moderately higher. Other economical choices are

FISH--Serve protein-rich fish for economical

milk, sour cream, half-and-half, yogurt and whipping cream.

GROCERY MARKET AILES--"Specials" are cooking oil, cake mixes, flour, canned tuna fish and various canned fruits and vegetables.

information for best buys.

PORK-Prices are irregular. Watch for specials

DIRT WORK

FREE ESTIMATES

PADS HAULING

DRIVES LEVELING

University System.

bargains along with chicken livers.

Also, cabbage and bulk turnips have attractive

nice tags.

apples, bananas, tangerines and tangelos.

ard quick meals. DAIRY -- Features include cheeses, low-fat

BE EF--Prices are relatively high. Specials irclude some tender cuts, along with beef chuck steaks and roasts, rib and round steaks, ground beef and liver. Also look for boneless-roast specials. Study newspaper ads and in-store

on Boston butt roasts, chops and quarter-loin cut into chops. Smoked features may include semi-boneless hams, picnics, bacon and frank-

CONSUMER WATCHWORDS: Plan menus, prepare a complete shopping list, and save

LARGE OR SMALL JOBS HAROLD WATTS 928-5534

CLEARING ROADS SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Joy to The World



our hearts are filled with hope-hope that peace & joy will fill the earth.

DUBOSE TEXACO



Hope your holidays are

purr-fect! At this joyous time,

we'd also like to say "Thank you" for your

patronage this past year.

May the spirit of the Christ Child

strengthen and brighten your life and

bring countless blessings to you.

ABILENE

FARM SUPPLY

HIGGINBOTHAM-BARTLETT COMPANY



ay the blessings of Christmas abide with you

> The message of Christmas is one of hope and joy. Let us rejoice in the newborn King,

May your Yule be bright! Carson's Supermarket WTU searching

for energy

South West System.

making it essentially clean.

construction of the research unit.

during extremely cold weather.

Palma Power Station, operated by Central Power and Light Company of Corpus Christi near San Benito in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Participants are the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Foster Wheeler Energy Corp., and the Central and South West Corporation. The EPA funded engineering, fuel and operating supplies and is providing monitoring of environ-mental effects. Foster Wheeler designed the

facility. CSW and its four companies provided for

The companies are interested in finding fuels to

power plants, which still provide most of the CSW System's generation. West Texas Utilities Co. depends entirely on natural gas at its eight major

converted to fuel oil when natural gas is curtailed

According to S.B. (Si) Phillips, chairman and chief executive officer of the CSW, the corporation and its operating companies "are fully committed to programs of research and development, especially those that show the

highest possibility of resulting in practical and

Dallas, formerly was president of WTU in

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Chugging in with

The Cunninghams

a caboose full

of holiday magic

and our thanks.

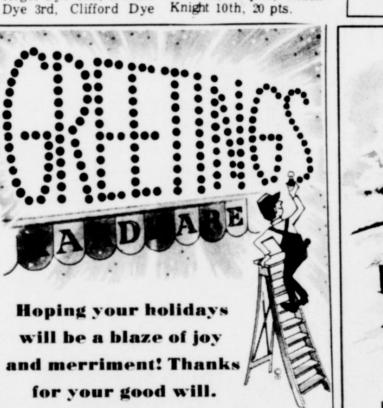


It's not a Tornado! These two halves started as one building, the roof came off while workmen were trying to move the house. (Staff photo by glenn Richards)

Moto Cross club wins five trophies

The Merkel Moto-Cross Club raced this past week-end in Clyde at the Spring Valley Moto-Cross track. The club fared well in the week-end competition. They took five bikes over to the races and returned with five trophies. The races broke down in this way: 1st

4th. 2nd Moto: Roger Dye 2nd, Donald Dye 4th, Clifford Dye 6th. Overall 100 Jr.: Roger Dye 1st 4 pts., Donald Dye 4th, 7 pts.; Clifford Dye 6th, 10 pts. 125 Jr. Class, 1st Moto: Steve Castille 7th, Chuck Knight 11th. 2nd Moto: Steve Castille 7th, Chuck Knight 9th. Over-Moto, 100 Jr. Class: all 125 Jr.: Steve Cas-Roger Dye 2nd, Donald tille 7th, 14 pts., Chuck



Castille Hardware & Gifts

From Rosey & Pat Castille & all the gang down at the store



Dairy Bar

Here's an old-fashioned greeting from all of us to all our friends!

KINNEY SHOES



Be a "dear" and have a very merry Christmas. Thanks.

Gregg Fisher Plumbing Gregg & Melba Wish you a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



The reception was held in the classroom complete with punch (non-spiked) and wedding cake. (Staff photo by glenn Richards)



And peace on earth, good will toward men! May the Christmas message inspire us with love for all.

BONEY INSURANCE

Fanelle, Benny, & Mychele



To you and your family, our sincere wishes for a home blessed by all the joys of the holiday season. Happy Yule!

TAYLOR TELEPHONE CO.



LEMENS BUTANE AND PROPANE

CLYDE AND MERKEL



ARROW FORD





Truck Terminal

Tye Times

THE MERKEL MAIL

News from Tye Elementary

1st Grade Mrs. Evans

Christmas is probably the most celebrated of all of our holidays, and the children are so excited. We have been making Christmas de-

corations for our room and practicing for the Christmas program. Eachchild had a part in decorating our tree. We made a gift for Mother. heard many good Christmas stories and

Merry Christmas

To all of you;

From all of us

at WTU

talked about the real meaning of this wonderful holiday. The children have learned many new Christmas songs and have had a lot of fun singing.

The students have

been playing a game called "Add 'N' Sub-tract", which gives them practice in adding and subtracting. I covered the table with butcher paper (size makes no difference). I then drew a series of squares and circles alternately with a magic marker. I placed a numeral in both a circle and a square beginning with one and ending with ten. (The pattern of placing numerals may be varied.) Any number

of children may play, but three or four players at a time is more effective. One child stands at the end of the table and slides a wooden object across the numerals. If the object lands in a circle, he adds that numeral; if it lands in a square, he

subtracts that numeral. If it lands in the space between the circles and squares, nuteral zone, he turns the slide over to the next player. Each child gets three slides before the next player takes his turn, unless the object lands in the

or minus sign as he Public notice

neutral zone. Each child

must record on paper

his numerals with a plus

FUBLIC NOTICE (Ordinance no. 78-7), An Ordinance establishing an official land use plan for the City of Tye, Texas, to serve the public health, safety and general welfare and to provide economic and social advantages resulting froman orderly

Registration for the

winter quarter will be-

gin Jan 3, 1979, at TSTI

Sweetwater. Most pro-

grams will accept new

es begin at 8 a.m. Jan. 4.

The final day to register

Winter quarter class-

students.

turns at sliding the object (the number may vary), the scores are added (and subtracted), then compared. The player who ends up with the highest positive number (plus) wins. This game helps to teach children to deal with both positive and negative concepts. Reading Mrs. Mitchell The Reading students

proceeds, or he may

have a classmate do it

for him. After all play-

ers have had several

at Tye are anxiously preparing for Christmas. Delma Mendez and Kathy Vicars did a good job putting up our

The snowmen by the tree indicate that snow has fallen as they smile at Santa's sleigh with Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer leading the way through the snowstorm.

Everyone will be making a Christmas decoration and hoping theirs will be the best to decorate the tree.

The days on the calendar are being numbered as we look forward to Santavisiting our home.

planned use of land resources, was passed and approved at a regular held city council meeting, December 12,

This ordinance is on file at the Tye City Hall, 229 North St., Tye, 44-1tc

is Jan. 10. The quarter

Some of TSTI's voca-

tional-technical pro-

grams will accept all

students, regardless of

training or experience

background. Others will

accept new students

only on an advanced

Two TSTI Sweetwater

programs, auto body

Quality assured.

placement basis.

ends March 21.

TSTI slates registration

CITATION BY PUBLI CATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: Larry Kroft, 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 Robert T. Burton Attorney for, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 23rd day of January, 1978, against Larry Kroft, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 533-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Angela Denise Wagner, a Child" the nature of which suit Said child was born the 9 day of September, 1969, in Abilene, Texas.

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

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its isssuance, 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 di-

Issue and given uder my hand and seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 27th day of October, 1978.

Irene Crawford Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Faye Lyons, Deputy. 43-4tc

of each quarter.

NOW OPEN IN TYE

Serving Merkel and Tye Area

HAROLD'S CUSTOM SCREEN

122 South St. 692-5184

TYE, TEXAS 79563

Hours Mon.-Fri. 9-5 Sat. 8-1

"Where people are treated as people and not a

ARTS BARBER SHOP

TUES - FRI 8:00 - 6:00

SAT 8:00 - 5:00

Closed SUN & MON

NEXT TO SKINNY'S 201 N. STREET

& WINDOW REPAIR

Custom built screens and storm windows

ter students. The next

vocational nursing class

will begin in August,

Tye news from 70 years ago

The Methodist have just closed a very successful meeting here. Bro. Calloway was assisted by Bro. G.W. Young of McCaulley. Bro. Young gave the church some good solid food and delivered some very strong and soul-stirring sermons to the unsaved.

Miss Minnie Hinds left on the early morning train for Stanton to visit her sister for the Christmas holidays.

The W.O.W., I.O.O.F. and the Woodmen Circle are to have a Union Christmas picnic here on Tuesday. Everybody is invited to come and bring well filled baskets. We predict a good time, as Tye does not believe in doing things by halves. Come. And if its cold, we will go in doors.

RH. Denton and wife have a fine boy arrival at



May your fondest wish come true this Christmas! Greetings from

Cal-Tex



STILL GIVING S & H GREEN STAMPS CARRY

SOUTHLAND BATTERIES



GOODYEAR TIRES FIX FLATS - NEW USED TIRES FOR SALE- ANTI FREEZE \$395 GAL

Raymon Milligan Texaco FM707 & 1-20

Tye, Texas

FANTASTIC YEAR END CLEARANCE SAVE \$300-\$500-\$1000 & MORE

> We aim to clear our lot before Dec 31st.

Select from a large selection of SINGLEWIDES, DOUBLEWIDES, and TRAVEL TRAILERS. Also 8 Wides

Best buys are the 1978 models. Come early for best selection.

EL TYE O TRAILER & SALES CORP.

TYE, TX.

698-2180

"No one should be without a Tax-deferred retirement plan. Ours is at **United Savings**.

lifestyle . . . you should have a retirement plan. And it should be "tax-deferred." That means you don't pay income tax on the money you set aside until you use it. By then, you'll probably be in a lower tax bracket than you are now. You benefit by 1) saving pre-tax dollars, and 2) earning considerable tax deferred dividends on your savings. It all adds up to a better future for you!

INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT, (IRA), for those whose employers do not offer a pension plan (up to \$1,500 or 15% of salary per year). Insured to \$100,000.

KEOGH PLAN, offers advantages similar to those of IRA, to the self-employed person (up to \$7,500 or 15% of income per year). Insured to \$100,000.

DEFERRED COMPENSATION, for employees of the State of Texas or local government, or of an independent school district (up to \$7.500 or 25% of salary per year).

Division Office: 402 CEDAR STREET . 673-517 Edgewood 3002 N. 12TH • 673-5171

3365 S. 14TH • 673-5171

278 S. PIONEER DR . 673-5171 116 COMMERCIAL • 625-5648

2ND AT MAIN . 762-2252 1101 E. COURT PLAZA . 823-2401

Cisco: 301 EDWARDS AVE . 928-4702 701 AVENUE D . 442-1605

Buffalo Gap Road 4150 BUFFALO GAP ROAD • 673-5171

TYE TRANSMISSION ALL WORK QUARANTEED 271 AIR BASE RD. 698-7205

The Varsity girls 78-79 Basketball team. L to R: 1st Row: Cin dy Smith, Gina Farmer, Kay Amerine,

2nd Row: Cindy Boone, Nancy Click, Amy McCoy,

3rd Row: Jackie Casey, Norma Frazier, Becky

Watts, Gwen Tarpley. (Staff photo by Cloy A.

A Christmas story

It was about Christmas time. All the elves are

working hard trying to get enough toys before

Christmas time. While the elves were working,

Santa went around and was watching them build

At last it was Christmas Eve. All of the toys

were wrapped and had pretty bows on top. So all

the elves packed the sleigh for the 12:00 chime.

Santa had about 10 minutes to get the reindeers

ready to pull the sleigh. Starting from the back he

got Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vickson, Commit,

Cupit and Donner and Blitson. By the time he got

all the reindeers ready to go, the chimes started.

Ding, Ding, Ding, Santa went to deliver

and paint toys for Christmas day

Christmas presents to all the world.

Michards)

Christmas Story

Girls maintain perfect record

by glenn Richards

The Merkel girls are making themselves a name in the girls basketball around the big country, having won their first thirteen games without a loss.

In the Dec. 12 game against Early, the girls blitzed their opponets 83-46. Gina Farmer had 24 pts., Cindy Boone, who Miss Penick feels has improved a great deal since the beginning of the year, had 15 pts. Both Gwen Tarpley and Amy McCoy had 12 pts

The team averaged 56 percent from the floor. To go along with that, three of the top four scorers shot above 65 percent to boost the offensive attack of the girls. "I felt like we played a bad defensive game, but we has the points to make up for it," said Coach Penick.

The girls then played Abilene High School and beat them 53-39

'There's not a whole lot to say about this game, we had 42 turnovers. The Abilene coach felt that they lost from poor shooting, I feel that we won simply because we're a better team." explained Coach Penick. The high scorer for the girls was (you guessed it) Gina Farmer with 20 pts. Gwen Tarpley added another 10 and Norma Frazier pulled down 13 rebounds.

The girls will be participating in the Abilene Christian High School Basketball Tourney this week-end and will play their final pre-district gamehere against Clyde starting at 5:00 Dec. 29. After that game, they all start counting. And the girls seem to be ready for the real ones.

We all got in from our chores about the same time. We ate dinner then decorated the tree. The tree took a while, so it was supper time by

the time we got through. We ate our Christmas Eve supper. It was a wonderful Christmas Eve and it was

filled with joy and love of God from all. Denise Pack

Christmas on the Ranch

It was a cold winter in December, the day of Christmas Eve. Everyone woke up early, had a good breakfast and went on to do our chores.

It was cold but we did our chores anyway. It was pretty easy to do my chores because the animals all crowded together to keep warm.

MERKEL **ELECTRIC**

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& GRAVEL LEVEL & REPAIR DRIVEWAYS CALL EVENINGS

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CHRISTMAS
CLEARANCE SALE
ALL GIFT ITEMS 10% OFF

SPECIAL PRICE ON
TV'S STEREOS &
MICROWAVE OVENS
"FREE" GIFTWRAP

CASTILLE'S HARDWARE & GIFTS いたとからでは、これにいいとうでは、これのできては、

Sad Christmas

The Family that had a Sad Christmas

Once upon a time there lived this family. They were poor. They knew it was time for Christmas. They were so poor they didn't hardly have money to buy food. So the mother and father of the family said to their children, "We will not have a Christmas this year." So someone was standing outside the door and they heard what they had said. He ran to Mr. and Mrs. Claus' house and told them. Santa Claus went over to his workshop and told his elves to make some toys for the family. So when they got busy they built doll houses, dolls, trucks, cars, and so on. The day before Christmas, Santa Claus delivered the presents when they were asleep. When the family got up the next morning, everyone was so happy, but they didn't know where they had came from. They never found out. From that day on Santa Claus made gifts for that family. Anna Rhone

As we celebrate the Saviour's birth, we pray that His blessing may abide with you at Christmas and in the days to come.

eady

last v lookin

Chris

this p

ing d

joyin

Mrs.

Hobb ards

also dadd Chri

ridi

SPECIAL **CHRISTMAS SERVICE** SUNDAY, DEC. 24th **AT 10 AM**

Only one Service to be held Sunday. Be sure and attend.

CALVARY BAPTIST

N. 5th & Runnells NEED A RIDE? CALL 928-5120



MAY WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH YOU CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS AND A JOYOUS NEW YEAR. WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR MANY

EXPRESSIONS OF KINDNESS AND YOUR PATRONAGE IN 1978. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU IN THE FUTURE.

CRAWFORDS CHRISTMAS SALE CONTINUES WITH MANY SAVINGS ON CHOICE GIFT ITEMS

CRAMIORDS	CHRISTANA SALE CONTINUES WHITE AND CHI CHOICE ON THEMS					
WE WRAP REGULAR MENS JARMAN 10%			TEXSHEEN		STYLED FOR SPRING -79	
GIFTS PRICE ITEMS 1500 OR MORE	SHOES OFF		LINGERIE		BLOUSES	12"
OR MORE		VALUE TO \$1300	GOWNS	\$10°°		
MENS DRESS	DOWN INSULATED	POLYESTER FILLED	ROBES	\$1200	PANT	*13**
PANTS 1799	COAT \$4999	LONG			SKIRT	13"
VALUE TO 12300		COAI	PAJAMAS	\$1200	SEPARATES	
19	VALUE TO \$7000	VALUE \$5000 \$4499	TEXSHEEN	\$160	MIX AND MAT	CH
M MENS 1/2 SHIRTS PRICE		INSULATED	BRIEFS	1100	EXQUISITE FORM	
SHIKIS PRICE	BOOTS \$4499	COVERALIS	X-LARGE	\$190		
	BOOTS \$4499	COVERALLS	NEW FALL STYLE		BRA ½ PR	ICE
MENS		\$2099		100/	JUST RECEIVED	
PORES \$1 299	BOYS SIZE \$1899		PANTS	10%	BLOUSES 1	0%

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33°° VALUE

135 EDWARDS PHONE 928-5612 30 DAY CHARGE LAY-A-WAY

MASTERCHARGE

OFF

OFF

Agricultural

Taylor County farmers and ranchers received \$35,296,000 in marketings and government

payments during 1977, the Texas Department of

The total included \$7,730,000 in cash receipts

from all crops and \$26,427,000 from livestock and

livestock products. Government payments made

Across the state, agriculture added \$7.1 billion

to the economy last year, Texas Crop and

Livestock Reporting Service surveys showed, with receipts from all crops almost balancing

those from livestock and livestock products.

Livestock receipts totaled \$3.5 billion, followed by

\$33 billion for crop receipts. Government

payments made up \$206 million of the total, induding over \$120 million through drought and

With improved livestock prices this year,

particularly cattle, we are optimistic that 1978 cash receipts will be higher," commented

figures in

Agriculture has announced.

up\$1,139,000 of the total.

flood assistance programs.

Trent News

rent news

And watch cartoons in

the afternoon, And then

Christmas Holidays

Christmas is my best

holiday, Because my

cousins come to play,

They come on a special

day, We have lots of fun,

We play all together, We

don't mind the snow,

And we don't mind the

we go to bed.

weather.

Jana King

Christmas Day

Dan Renfroe

First graders at Trent ave been busy working a special Christmas fts for mothers and thers. We will be rapping our gifts this eek and getting them eady to put under our hristmas trees at

Cin

Thursday, we listened o the story of Rudolph he Red Nosed Reineer. We enjoyed makng Santa pictures, usng cotton balls for anta's beard. Some of is have already received answers to the letters we wrote to Santa Claus ast week. Everyone is ooking forward to the Christmas party on Wednesday.

The second grade has had a very good time this past week, making Christmas presents, fixing decorations, and enjoying our party. We want to thank Mrs. Nance, Mrs. Carriker, Mrs. Moore, and Mrs. Hobbs and Mrs. Richardson, for bringing refreshments for our party. We are looking for-ward to our holiday and we have enjoyed reading our letters from Santa Claus which was sponsored by the fourth

The third grade made some bells and Santas using tissue paper. They cut out a square and wrapped it around the pencil eraser, then glu-ed it on the Santa. We also made gifts for our daddys and mothers for Christmas. Ask David about his chickens.

The fourth grade would like for you to meet Simon De La Cruz and Tina Cain.

Simon is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Manuel De La Cruz. He enjoys working with numbers. His free time is spent riding his pony, Cocoa.
The De La Cruz family
moved to Trent from Hodges. Simon wants to be a doctor when he grows up. His family includes 3 brothers and

Tina is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cain. Tina enjoys riding around in her dad's new pickup. She would like to be a mechanic someday and is interested in cars. The Cain family includes three dogs, Ben, Brandy and Baby. Tina finds caring for her 2 little nieces lots of fun.

The 5th grade is ready for Christmas! We've completed our parent's gifts, decorated our tree, worked our Christmas "Metric Mouse" learning center and written Santa.

We'd like to share four more of our Christmas poems.

Santa Santa is as quiet as a mouse, As he roams all through the house. Billy Brazelton

Christmas Vacation Christmas is such fun, We play and run,

Trent news from 70 years ago

good gins to cut the cotton.

President Roosevelt has taken up the budget : for Mrs. Morrow, postmistress at Abilene, and has told the postmaster general that he will not remove Gen. Sam Houston's daughter from office to replace her by some man politician. Mrs. Morrow is a regular visitor to the Trent community and we wish her well.

Rumors are to the effect that several important



STAR HARDWARE Trent

PRICES EFFECTIVE

DECEMBER 21-24.

1978

It is understood that Trent will have three cotton gins this next season. It will take three

Miss Allie Mae Barwise, who has been the guest of Miss Jewell Coggin for two weeks returned to her home in Fort Worth Monday. Miss Barwise is an elegant young lady and she

made many friends while here who regret to see

business enterprises are to be established here



before the summer business is in full sway. At the present rate, Trent promises to be a live hustling town of one thousand in a year or so and the country surrounding insures good support.

Arthur Sears has just returned from Chicago wherehe marketed several hundred head of fine



you lots of good things this Yule!

HOME STATE BANK Trent

Star Hardware Striving to Serve

our Community Better

TRENT

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Where Your Business is Always Appreciated

M. Red Shafer (mgr.)

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ROUTE 2 BOX 128

TRENT, TEXAS

915-862-2951 CUSTOM CATTLE FEEDING





Christmas Day is a lot Agriculture Commissioner Reagan V. Brown. of fun, But sometimes "These figures only tell half of the story, we forget and say. however. In any discussion including agricultural "Christmas is the day statistics, the true picture is only presented when we get presents", inyou can balance the cash receipts against the stead of saying: actual production costs. "Christmas is the day Christ was born." Kim Wall's ALLSUP'S HAS A LAST MINUTE SUPPLY OF GIFT ITEMS! CONVENIENCE STORES M CHRISIMAS D

MERRY CHRISTMAS SHURFINE CANNED ASSTD. FLAVORS OLEO BUTTERMILK **SOUR CREAM** POPS ALLUSP'S **ICE CREAM** SOUP PRESERVES

PRESERVES

SHURFINE CRANBERRY SAUCE

POP



DISCOUNT CHRISTMAS TREES! FARM GROWN IN MICHIGAN

LARGE SELECTION **NORTHERN NEW MEXICO BLUE SPRUCE - FIRS - BALSAM**

SCOTCH PINE

HO! HO! HO!

SANTA GLASSES FOR COCA-COLA

89



Bedford, Benish wed

Miss Rhonda Gayle Bedford became the bride of Kevin Alan Benish in an afternoon ceremony Saturday, Nov. 25 at the First Baptist Church in Prairie Grove, Ark. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bedford of Prairie Grove and Mr. and Mrs. John Benish of Farmington,

The father of the bride performed the ceremony assisted by the bride's uncle. Lonnie ington was best man. Harris of Dallas, Txia David Clevinger of Vicki Hutchison and Keith Benish, Brother of Tom Stearns presented a program of music and Ronny and Connie Bedford lighted the candles.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown of silk organza and rose pattern lace designed with a high neckline and sheer lace sleeves fitted at her wrists. The full skirt of lace fell into a chapel train. Her tiered veil of illusion was attached to a cap of matching lace and she carried a white Bible which belonged to her maternal grandmother topped by a bouquet of burgundy and pink roses accented with baby's breath

Karla Bedford was her sister's maid of honor and Becky Layman and Elaine Cann of Prairie Grove, were bridesmaids. They wore dresses of burgundy organzawith high V-necklines and ruffled capes of sheer organza Ruffles at the hemlines extended up the sides of the skirts and they carried bauquets of burgundy and pink flowers. Cari Bedierd of Springdale, the bride's cousin, was flower girl and wore a long dress of pink qiana with a sheer cape Laura Beth Edwards of Pairie Grove presided a the guest

Tulley Hair of Farmthe bridegroom groomsmen and Danny Long, Rock Spencer and Gray Steele were ushers. Brian Benish, the bridegroom's nephew. was ringbearer.

A reception was held at the church following the ceremony. Serving refreshments were Beth Davis of Fayetteville, Ark, Laura Beth Edwards and Connie Bedford of Prairie Grove.

Among the out of town guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Holmes of Dallas, Tx. and Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Harris of Midland, Tx., the bride's grandparents.

The couple is making their home at Farmington following a wedding trip to New Orleans, La. Rhonda is the daugh-

ter of the former Gayle Harris of Merkel. Maternal great grandfather is John Browning of



Christmas

Love.

Dear Santa,

furniture.

Chuck.

Love.

Laura Baker

I love you for the

lovely toys each year.

This year I wold like

Sindy Doll and her

Mr. and Mrs. James

Beene, of Lovington,

N.M., proudly announce

the birth of their daugh-

ter, Kimberly Ann, born

Dec. 12 She weighed 7

pounds and 5 ounces,

and was 20 inches long.

She has one brother,

James is the brother

Mr. and Mrs. Sam

Jones Jr. of Dyess AFB

announce the birth of a

son, Samuel R. Jones III on December 13 at 11:24

The maternal grand-

parents and the God

parents are Mr. and Ms.

Don Schieber of New

The paternal grand-

parents are Mr. and

Mrs. Frank Waddell of

Mulberry Canyon 4-H

had their Christmas

Party for December

meeting with 10 mem-

bers and their parents

present. The new mem-

ber, Dusty Whisenhunt

and mother, were pre-

sent. Special guest at-

tending were: Lottie

Everett, Mary Russom,

Goldia Malone, and Joe

The next meeting will

be Jan 8th with Sheila

Swinney and Cindy Hut-

ching responsible. All

visiters are welcome.

engagement

Swinney

Raines

Alexandria, Virginia

4-H party

Berlin, Wisconsin.

of Cathy Pack of Mer-

Jones baby

Melinda Baker

Beene baby

Dear Santa, I want a baby This and That and I want a carriage and a Barbie Fashion Face. And bring my baby sister a Winnie the Pooh Bear.

Bridget Acuna

Dear Santa,

Please bring us each a Fire Truck we can ride on, a Fuzzy Pumper Play Dough Barber Shop and lots and lots of play dough! We have been very good all year.

Partick Harrison, age 3 Jason Harrison age 2

Dear Santa Claus, I have been a good

little girl this year. I would like for you to bring me a doll bed, dishes, high chair, and a table and chairs set and a doll.

I have a brother named Tim. He's been good also, he wants a super bowl football game.

Thank you Santa Claus I love You, Dearna Kellogg, age 5

Dear Santa,

I hope the weather up there is just right, and I wish I could speak to you in person. But it is so far to travel. It's a long way from Texas to

the North Pole This year I don't expect as much because prises are going up and the poputation of the world is growing and that means each year you spend more money. So I shouldn't expect much, other people in the world need things that I want more than I need them

Well that is about all I wanted to say, so this letter will end soon. I love you alot!

Merry Christmas Your friend, Sandra Kotrlik

Dear Santa,

I wood like to have a lunch box and a Starwars dolls Please. And I wood like a football and a radio controle r2ds robot to.

Yours Tra John Pa Dear Santa

For Christmas I want a Donnie and Marie dolls, some shoes for by big doll, a sew perfect sewing machine, a Dancerella doll, a Whoopsie Doll and an Alphie computer. My new baby brother, Randy needs a rocking horse and a

busy box. I love you, Robynn Dudley P.S. My daddy has not been good.

Dear Santa,

I want a Madams Alexander doll. I hope you have a Merry

Fisher dies at 74, lived here 28 years

A74 year old Merkel man was found dead Tuesday night on a farm 15 miles southwest of Mekel after suffering an apparent heart attack while hunting.

Gaines Allen Fisher, 74, of Merkel was pronounced dead of natural causes at 9:20 p.m. by Justice of the Peace Henry Guenther.

Services were at 3 p.m Thursday in Calvary Baptist Church with the Rev. Joe Davis, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral

Born Aug. 12, 1904, in Gatesville, he moved to

SHUGART COUPON

TUES., Jan. 2nd

MERKEL DRUG

Buffalo Gap in 1935 and to Merkel in 1950, where he owned and operated Happy-Snappy Laundry for many years. He retred in 1973. He married Ava Marie Glassgow Dec. 23, 1922, in Cobrado City. He was a member and deacon of Cawary Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Foye Gene of Enid, Okla., and Billy of Merkel; two daughters, Mrs. Ralph (Louise) Prentice of Ablene and Mrs. Mack (Patricia) Bigbee of Merkel; two sisters, Mr. Julius Martin of Jasper, Ark., and Mrs. Travis Wilson of George West; 12 grandchildren;

121 Edwards

WALLET SIZE

COLOR PORTRAITS

99¢

Extra charge

GROUPS

Grandsons served as and 14 great grandpalbearers. chidren.

BLACK & DECKER NO. 7004 5 ONLY 1/4 "ELECTRIC DRILL REG. 12" \$10" 13 LINE DRILL **BLACK & DECKER**

\$790 REG. 19" DRILL BIT SET 3 ONLY GOOCH

SLICED SLAB LB 89' BACON **COUNTRY STYLE** 98 1 LB SAUSAGE

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FRANKS

CREAM

WHIPPING & SOUR 149

CRTN

HOT HOUSE JACK & JILL **TOMATOES DONUTS** FRUIT CAKES **BATTERIES**

\$529 **CIGARETTES** CRTN

EXTRA SPECIALS

PIG & GOAT SKIN 10% OFF **GLOVES**

TIMEX WATCHES 10% OFF SHAKLEE GIFT ITEMS 20% OFF

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50% OFF X-MAS TREES

20% OFF X-MAS LIGHTS 20% OFF SUN SHADES

> **NINTH** STREET GROCERY

friends and customers from

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Raines announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Debra Jane to Lester Laron Constable, son of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Con-

stable. The wedding is planned for January 6 in the Calvary Baptist Church in Merkel, Tex-

The bride elect attended school in Abilene, and the prospective bride-groom is a 1973 graduate of Merkel High School and employed at Furrs in Abi-



A musical greeting to all our good

Dwayne, Ansel, Shaq, & Ricky

THE HALFBREED Perry, Pee Wee,

Ed's Feed & Seed

Ed Sandusky & Family



Merkel Fina Ricky Elliott & Family



MERKEL AUTO PARTS

Don, D. B., Fisher, & Polly

SEASON'S GREETINGS



Here's hoping your holiday is filled with goodness and laced with love.

Syble's Beauty Nook

Ruby Shipman

..........

"Do You Love Santa Claus?"

Why is it that everyone seems to love that dear old person? Perhaps it is because he is a joyous individual. He is interested in making other happy. He loves his work. He is childlike. He has faith. He is eternally youthful. He is a

We would all have greater happiness and success if we imitated these traits a little more. Do you have a Santa Claus personality?

HEAR "THE PRIME OF LIFE" WEEKDAYS AT 7:50 a.m. CN KBGG RADIO

MERKEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Larry Gill, Minister John McKeel, Youth Minister

SUNDAY Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.m.



A SECURE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE

Gregory gets award

Sue Gregory of Abilene, who is serving as Budget Specialist for the Purchased Social Services unit, has been named as one of the September Employees of the Month. In her job she is responsible for all fiscal monitoring and reporting of the pur-chase of service contracts which include day care services (plus VR expenditures), services to the aged, blind and disabled, family plan-ning services, MH-MR agreements and protective services. She also fulfills numerous other continuing duties pertinent to contract services. Beyond the basic functions of her job, however, she has displayed ingenuity in de-vising methods of simplifying the fiscal monitoring process, and has further exercised her imagination in detecting flaws in purchase of

service thus eliminating future problems. Because of her initiative and competence, she has been able to assume many of the technical tasks of the Program Director, thus bringing more efficiency to the office.

Outside the office, Sue sees herself as a homemaker who enjoys reading, sewing, and decorating her home "out in the boonies", as she says. Finances permitting, her foremost interest is traveling. Coming from an Air Force family as she does, traveling is in her blood and since she has lived in many parts of the United States, she'd now like to start on Italy, Spain and some of those romantic places.

Sue is the daughter of Rosey and Pat Castille of Merkel and is a graduate of Merkel High School.

ATION E STATE OF TEXAS TO: Thomas F. Dupin nd wife, Anna F. Dupif living, and if such fendants be deceasor either of them, eir respective heirs, evisees, executors and ministrators. Defen-

ants, Greeting YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 5th day of February A.D. 1979, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 19th day of December A.D. 1978, in this cause, numbered 36,062-A on the docket of said court and styled Leslie C. Strange, Individually and As Trustee, Plaintiff, vs. Thomas F. Dupin, and wife, Anna F. Dupin, if living, and if such Defendants be Deceased, or either of them, their respective heirs, devisees, executors, and administrators Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is

as follows, to-wit: Trespass to try title on the following described property: Lot 10, Block 21, Section 8, ELM-WOOD WEST ADDI-TION to the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

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 flaw, and the mandates hereof, and make due

return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this the A.D. 1978. Attest: Irene Crawford

Clerk 42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas. By Carolyn Feten Deputy

19th day of December

Dear Editor:

They say Dog is mans best friend. I would like to echo this with a loud Amen. I had this little

He never argued with me.

Letter to the editor;

He never griped about anything I did. He never complained about where I went or

But just try to go without him. He loved to ride in our pickup truck. Just roll down the window and let him hang his head out and enjoy the breeze. I do believe those were his happiest

When I was happy, he was happy. When I was sad, he was sad. When I was sad, he would come and sit by my side and look at me with those sad eyes. He would seem to say, "Don't worry Les, tomorrow will be a better day.

When I was happy, he would run and play. An old tennis ball was his favorite toy. He would throw it and bounce it against the ground, it would bounce high. He would catch it and go

Smart? Yes he was smart. Poodles seem to be smarter than most other breeds of dogs. "Tex", that is his name. He is a silver gray poodle, 12 years old. He doesn't hear too well, but sharp of eye. I love this little friend very much.

We were visiting in Merkel last December 26th. He went outside about 10:30 p.m. and disappeared. I have talked with a lot of you folks ard I do thank you very much. May I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And to my little friend, "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Dillon

visiting

Airman 1st Class Patrick Dillon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Dillon, 1205 S. 10th, arrived home for the holidays December 17th from Lowry Air Force base, Denver, Colorado, Airman Dillon will be visiting his family until the 5th of January. This is his first visit home since

GREGG FISHER PLUMBING

ALL TYPES OF PLUMBING WORK AND REASONABLE

QUALITY WORK **PRICES** CALL

928-5379 OR

Thursday December 21, 1978

We love you, Tex.

So, my friends. I you care about mans' best friend, if you know or have any idea where Tex may be, please write or call.

Thank You. Les Polston 800 Avenue C. Childress, Tex. 79201 817-937-3019.

School Board meets

The Merkel School Board met in a regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday night and topics discussed included

school finance issues. The board heard an architects report conceming construction of the new facilities and præedure for bond sales to finance construction

BARNETT'S

BARBER SHOP

Due To Previous

The board also discussed bids for th demolition of the burned out high school and appointed a text book commit-

Dr. Raymond Etheridge, superintendent of the Merkel Independent School District gave a report to board members and adjournment follow ed.

Commitments During Jan. I won't be able to be at the Barber

Shop on 6th, until noon on 13th, and 27th. But I will be there on Thurs. and Fri. evening from 5:30 until 7:00 on the week-end of 6th and 13th. Thanks,

Ronny

BARNETT'S BARBER SHOP

Effective Jan. 1st Hair Cut \$3.00 Sha mpoo

\$3.00 \$3.00 Shave \$5.00 Massage \$2.00 Neck Shave \$2.00 Tonic \$.50 Shoe Shine

HLVAL **FARM & HOME SUPPLY**

FEED SEED

PLUMBING HARDWARE VET SUPPLIES SPECIAL GOOD THRU 30th 90' OFF 50 LB BAG DOG FOOD

"If we don't have it, we can get it."

910 N 1st

928-5632

Livestock show

The Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show Rodeo ticket office will open Saturday, Dec. 9, in Will Rogers Coliseum Lobby. dates for the 83rd Stock Show are Jan. 24 through Feb. 4 with 22 performances of the

World's Original Indoor

Rodeo.

ARE YOUR SCISSORS & **SAWS DULL?** SEE **BOB'S SHARPENING**

701 SO. 2nd ST. MERKEL

SERVICE

Page 15

CHRISTMAS DINNER

FOR ALL MEMBERS & FAMILY

8:00 THURSDAY, DEC. 21

BRING 2 DISHES

MERKEL VFW

DANCE

FEATURING

LOS CENTELLOS

SAT. DEC. 23

8:30 - 1:00

MERKEL VFW

Pocket Size FoldUp Screwdriver 5 Tools In 1

No. 1 Phillips

1/4" Screwdriver

3/16" Screwdriver 4 1/8" Screwdriver

3/16" Hole Saw

Reg \$258

\$199 Now

Great For Him Or Her

FIRESIDE LOG CARRIER THE EASY WAY TO CARRY LOGS

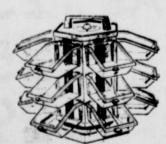
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COME SEE OUR NEW LOOK AND REGISTER FOR OVER \$100 IN FREE GIFTS. GIFTS INCLUDE A SKILL SAW, AMEROCK TOWEL BAR, SOAP DISH, PLANT HANGER, DAP CAULK AND MANY MORE. DON'T MISS IT! PICK UP THOSE LAST MINUTE GIFTS!

SAVE - SAVE - SAVE



HITSH

Hirsh Rotary Organizers will store hundreds of small parts hardware sewing supplies hobby and craft items, and more Ail models rotate making stored items easy to locate easy to get at. The removable bins allow you to take the parts to the project...slip bins back in place when

Reg. \$6.39



MINI-EASY DRIVER

Christmas Stocking Special



Put a little light in that stocking this year with RAY O VAC



FITS ALL ALUMINUM WINDOWS MADE OF HIGH STRENGTH CARBON STEEL



PROTECT YOUR HOME

FROM BURLARS & STILL

REGULATE YOUR WINDOWS

WINDOW CAN'T BE OPENED FROM OUTSIDE.

PACKAGE OF 5 -

5 PACKAGES OR MORE

FIRESIDE LOG LITER CUBES



WON'T FLARE OR EXPLODE **BURNS FOR 10 MIN** GREAT FOR CHARCOAL GRILL QUICK EASY

