

# The Merkel Mail

Thursday, March 27, 1980...Merkel, Texas

15 cents



Some freight cars stacked eight high when 38 cars of Santa Fe's 508 freighter out of Brownwood derailed south of Merkel Sunday morning. There were no

injuries and damage could go as high as \$750,000 according to Santa Fe Officials. (Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards)

## Santa Fe freighter derailed Sunday

Santa Fe's 508 freighter headed for California went no further than four miles south of Merkel as 38 cars derailed at 9:55 a.m. Sunday morning. There were no injuries.

According to Santa Fe conductor Jess Alexander of Sweetwater "From my position in the caboose, I saw a huge cloud of dust and I immediately contacted the persons in front, the train went into full automatic stop and we lost about 40 cars."

A tank car loaded with Naptha, a petroleum based industrial cleanser, broke open and was allowed to spill its load through Sunday night. Naptha is the base chemical for lighter fluids. Santa Fe officials told the Mail that an area of less than 250 square feet was contaminated by the spill.

The derailment ripped up one quarter mile of freshly refinished track. Alexander told the Mail that the track was now "one of the best portions of the Main Line on Santa Fe's Northern Route," and did not think the track had anything to do with the accident.

Santa Fe crews worked through the night and had service restored on the Main Line by 10:30 Monday morning. Company officials estimated 21 trains had been delayed throughout the system because of the accident.

## Local church joining boycott threat

The Merkel Church of Christ has joined in with a petition campaign to clean up television according to minister Larry Gill.

The Joelton Church of Christ in Joelton, Tennessee, began the drive to attempt to collect 500,000 signatures on petitions threatening to boycott sponsors of offensive television programming.

Rev. Gill told the Mail Monday that his church had so far collected 230 signatures and that he solicited the support of non-church members who wanted to participate in the petition campaign. (You may

contact Rev. Gill at 928-5801 or 928-5024.)

"It is really not a boycott right now. The petitions say that we are giving sponsors three months to withdraw their support from objectionable programming, or we will boycott their products," added Rev. Gill.

According to a newsletter published by the Joelton Church of Christ, the five most offensive programs are "Soap, Three's Company, The Newlywed Game, Dallas, and Saturday Night Live."

The church is also protesting a new television show about homosexuals, called "Adam and Yves".

## Derailement could have been worse

By Cloy A. Richards

You may have read the headline in the Abilene paper, and most of the television stations used the opening tag of "and dangerous gas leaked from a container."

For a derailment that did about three-quarters of a million dollars in damage, the Sunday derailment was not such a big deal, environmentally speaking.

The chemical that spilled was Naptha. Naptha is a petroleum based, industrial cleanser. It is a highly flammable liquid and is the base product of charcoal starter fluids and lighter fluid. But as far as chemicals go, relatively safe.

I had a chat at the scene with the train's conductor about their procedures in a derailment.

He said the first thing he did was to check the cargo manifest to see what potentially dangerous cargo was aboard. After discovering that Naptha was the most dangerous cargo on the 90 car train, he cross checked his state and federal regulations to see if Naptha spills required notification of certain state and federal agencies. It is not on the list according to the conductor.

Santa Fe officials told me that the company has plans to clean spills that have been approved by EPA, and that should mean something. EPA isn't noted for the number of plans they approve. They said the Naptha, which did spill out on a small portion of a cattle-graze pasture, would be cleaned

up by the company as well as making small repairs to a fence.

There were no injuries. About a quarter of a mile of track was destroyed as well. But it was uneventful.

And Santa Fe did their job. The track was cleared so that a one day stackup of freight trains could get back on the line, and arrangements were made to take care of the mess.

A footnote to the story. An excited farm couple that did not leave their names, called the Mail when the husband heard the derailment. My wife called the Sheriff's Department, who called Santa Fe officials. They said they had no idea of who to call in such an emergency.

You may get tired of reading about Brad Pursley but here is another item. Merkel is now the hometown of a world-class pole vaulter as Pursley cleared 18' 1/2" in competition Saturday at Gray Stadium in Abilene.

ACU teammate Billy Olsen also sailed over 18 feet and ACU becomes the first school in the nation to boast two 18-foot vaulters on the same team.

The Merkel Youth Center is now open after school five days a week and if your child has the after school blahs, ask if they would like to give the Youth Center a visit. That is what it is there for.



Naptha spills from a punctured tank car Sunday morning as 38 cars of a Santa Fe freighter derailed four miles south of Merkel. Santa Fe officials, with the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department standing by,

burned the Naptha that had flown down a creek and was trapped in a small tank. The cloud of dark blue smoke could be seen for miles. (Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards)



Santa Fe crews worked through the night Sunday clearing wreckage from the derailment of their 508 freighter. Early Monday, work resumed and one

worker found a place to catch some rest. (Photo by John Townsend.)

## MISD personnel seeking 10% raise

MISD employees offered a five point plan to the Board of Trustees Tuesday night that included requests of a ten per cent supplement and an insurance program for employees, financed by the district.

The board also accepted two resignations following a lengthy executive session. Resignation were accepted from Karen Vinson, band director and from Coach Doug Guynes. All other MISD teachers were rehired at the Tuesday meeting.

High School teacher Kathy Chisom spoke on behalf of Merkel school employs and said the five steps would reduce the inflation bite on school personnel and that better provisions for employs will stop the mass exodus of employee. The five point proposal includes the termination of the contingency on teacher contracts, continuing contracts for personnel with more than three years in the district, a ten per cent raise for all school personnel, an insurance program, and that teachers be allowed to accumulate 50 days of sick leave.

Chisom went on to say the adoption of the five points would be a positive step toward attracting and keeping good teachers. She closed by saying that administrators had recently received a substantial raise and that other employees deserved that consideration

as well.

School Board President Charles Jacobs told the group of 40 teachers attending the meeting that he recognized their problems and would take their recommendations under advisement.

The board had earlier asked Dr. Raymond Etheridge, superintendent to pen a letter to the governor asking for pay increases for teachers from the state level.

In other business, MISD athletic director Byron Shelley presented the board his plan for athletics next year. Shelley's report indicated a substantial increase in participation in Merkel sports and recommended a coaching staff of eight to the board. There are currently five coaches employed next year. Board president Jacobs said "If we want to have winning teams in our system, we will have to do something."

In the superintendent's report, Dr. Etheridge said the tax office had just been audited by the state and said he would really like to scream loud about a \$30,000 discrepancy in what the district is reimbursed for offering property tax exemptions, but did not know who to scream to. He also reported that school would be released at 2 p.m. on March 28th for a professional growth seminar for teachers. Etheridge also gave a construction update and said the west wall of the new high school has been bricked and 80 per cent of the roof is in place. Etheridge also said that he quit saying when he thought any of the buildings would be finished because "I have been wrong so many times. He added that the construction deadline for all work is six working days after June 6th.

The board set another meeting for April 7th, where they will canvass election returns of the uncontested school board race. That meeting may also feature board responses to teacher pay raise and other proposals made Tuesday.

# Neff is artist of month

The public is invited to the reception and art show of Mrs. Pat Neff of Rt. 3, Merkel. The reception will be held Friday, April 4, from 2:30 until 5:00 p.m. in the United Savings Building at 302 Edwards in Merkel. Her art work will be on display for the month of April.



Mrs. Neff is a charter member of the Merkel Art Association. She is past president, has served as yearbook chairman, and has been on various committees. She was previously selected as Artist of the Month and her paintings were on display at the Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

Born in California, Mrs. Neff moved to Texas as an infant and was reared in scenic Mulberry Canyon. Her love of the outdoors is portrayed in many of her works.

Mrs. Neff's art interests include a wide span of art media. She enjoys water, oil and acrylic painting, drawings of pen and ink, charcoal, and conte pencil. She also enjoys graphic design, raku pottery, and doing sculpture of limestone, metal, and terra cotta.

Mrs. Neff is the illustrator for the math textbook "Metric Magic" written by Clara Gifford of Abilene.

Art has always been of primary interest to Mrs. Neff, but seriously involved in 1975, upon attending her first painting class. Well-known artist James Campbell was her painting instructor. She enrolled

in Hardin-Simmons University the following semester and received her B.S. degree in 1977. She has two major fields which are all-level art and Elementary Education. While attending H.S.U. she had showings of her works at the Abilene Fine Arts Museum Tri College Show in 1976 and 1977. A showing of her limestone sculpture was also shown at the A.F.A.M. in 1977 while she was attending ACU. Art Williams was her sculpture teacher.

Mrs. Neff is a fourth grade teacher with the Merkel Independent School District. Her art interests have followed her into the teaching field as the murals on the school cafeteria walls were done by her. When first asked to paint the murals, her first thought was to involve the children and let them do it, but time prevented this from becoming a reality. She feels art should be an important part of children's lives because studies have shown that children with an appreciation of art become better, well-rounded adults. Art is a very broadening experience and it helps a child to feel and think. It helps him reach to real-life situations. Kids are usually too busy to experience art in their lives. But as adults they begin to realize the importance of art. Art is all around us—we cannot get away from it. Her dream is to see art education in MISD.

Mrs. Neff has a wide interest other than art and is actively engaged as a real estate associate with Prestige Homes and Properties, President of Xi Nu Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, past matron of the Order of Eastern Star, member of Past Matrons and Past Patrons Club, second vice-president of Merkel Parent-Teachers Organization, and has served on the Merkel Equalization Board for the MISD for several years. She is also a delegate for Taylor County Texas State Teachers Association, member of Merkel Classroom Teachers Association, National Education Association, and Texas State Teachers Association.

Mrs. Neff is a member of First Baptist Church. Her husband, Billy Bob, is a math teacher with Abilene Independent School District and is owner of Neff Construction Company. They have three children Tammy, Randy, and Pam.

# Local man has close ties to bike-a-thon

Dear Editor: I have been asked—under a little pressure—to be chairman and general promoter of the Bike-a-thon event with the aim of raising funds to help with the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital project.

There is one main reason why I consented to undertake this project. First, this is a research hospital that specializes in children's diseases. It also treats patients there without charge. Second, this means something special to me. About three years ago our son, Devin, was struck down with chronic hepatitis, and told that he would not live beyond two more years. He was then entered into Stanford University Research Hospital in California. A new drug was used as an experiment. The drug came from a foreign country and cost more than one thousand dollars for each shot. This was paid for by the research center with government funds. There were seven men given this new drug. Two of the patients ended up in mental institutions—our son almost died, but after three years of recovery he is

almost able to go to work again. For several months we thought we would lose him.

The experimental drug he was given is now proclaimed in the last issue of Readers Digest and other papers as a wonder drug to help cancer patients and others with a viral disease. That new drug is called, Interferon.

Some of us know very well that this new drug would not be available without the research center and the men who volunteered to take the experimental treatment.

For these reasons and others I will be helping with the Bike-a-thon to raise funds for the Children's Research hospital that works to help children and their diseases. The Bike-a-thon will be held on April 19 and valuable prizes will be given those who participate in this fund raising campaign.

Thank you,  
Russell McAnally

## Xi Nu Chi holds meeting at Patterson's

Xi Nu Chi, chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, met in the home of Val Patterson.

President, Pat Neff, opened the meeting. After all committee

reports, the program was presented by Kathy Leverich on North Africa. Louise Dubose and Mamie Steck gave a program on Bantee, Africa.

After the program, an auction was held by various members bringing several items to be auctioned.

Refreshments were served to the following

members: Ginny Yaddow, Pat Neff, Connie Harris, Glenda Teaff, Mamie Steck, Anita Allen, Kathy Leverich, Liz Eager, Rose Etheridge, Connie Ybarra, Blanche Hewitt.

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## SECOND BIG WEEK!

# Save into Spring SALE

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CONVENIENCE STORES

<p><b>BORDEN'S COTTAGE CHEESE</b> 12 OZ. CTN. <b>79¢</b></p> <p><b>BORDEN'S ASSORTED ICE CREAM</b> 1/2 GAL. RD. CTN. <b>\$1.59</b></p>	<p><b>SHURFRESH BUTTERMILK SWEETMILK BISCUITS</b> 7 8 OZ. CANS <b>\$1.00</b></p>
<p><b>COOKED FOOD SPECIAL BURRITOS</b> 3/\$1.00</p>	<p><b>SHURFRESH HALFPROOF COLBY LONGHORN CHEESE</b> 10 OZ. PKG. <b>\$1.09</b></p>
<p><b>SUGAR</b> 5 lb. bag <b>\$1.59</b></p>	<p><b>SHURFINE CUT GREEN BEANS</b> 3 16 OZ. CANS <b>\$1.00</b></p>
<p><b>SHURFINE TOMATO SAUCE</b> 6 8 OZ. CANS <b>\$1.00</b></p>	<p><b>SHURFINE CREAM STYLE/WHOLE KERNEL GOLDEN CORN</b> 5 17 OZ. CANS <b>\$1.00</b></p>
<p><b>SHURFINE SALTINE CRACKERS</b> 2 16 OZ. BOXES <b>\$1.00</b></p>	<p><b>SHURFINE ELECTRIC PENK REGULAR COFFEE</b> 1 LB. CAN <b>\$2.39</b></p>
<p><b>SHURFINE FRUIT COCKTAIL</b> 2 16 OZ. CANS <b>89¢</b></p>	<p><b>TIDE</b> QT. <b>\$1.09</b> REG \$1.99</p>
<p><b>BORDEN'S BUTTER MILK</b> 1/2 GAL. CTN. <b>99¢</b></p>	<p><b>SHURFINE GROUND BLACK PEPPER</b> 4 OZ. CAN <b>79¢</b></p>
<p><b>KRAFT MACARONI and CHEESE</b> 3/\$1.00 REG 57¢</p>	<p><b>SHURFRESH QUARTERS MARGARINE</b> 2 1 LB. PKGS. <b>79¢</b></p>
<p></p>	<p><b>SHURFINE SPINACH</b> 3 15 OZ. CANS <b>\$1.00</b></p>

# Grubbs releases formal statement

In a formal announcement for re-election as representative of the 61st Texas Legislative District, Walter B. Grubbs said, "I am very grateful to the fine people of this West Texas district for their support and encouragement throughout my first term in the Texas Legislature." Grubbs continued, "The influence, friendship and cooperation of our people are largely responsible for my not drawing an opponent in seeking this post again."

In a statement to the news media Grubbs commented, "The secret of Texas' economic growth, in my opinion, lies in our politics—our willingness to limit government and free the private sector—and this growth relates directly to our state policies on spending and taxation. In our free enterprise system it is no sin for people in business, whether agricultural, retail or wholesale, to make a profit. To the contrary, it not only represents success, but is the backbone of our economic society. We must look to private economic growth and initiative, rather than government actions, to help those few less fortunate escape from poverty."

Grubbs continued, "The decade of the 80s promises a fast-changing pace, not only at the state level, but perhaps even more so nationally and internationally if events in these early months of 1980 are any criterion." He added, "With inflation an ever-increasing problem for all of us, and with problems all over the world insofar as our national government is concerned, this decade could see many far-reaching changes in the life styles of all Americans." He further observed, "Our energy and fuel problems continue to appear more critical and there seem to be no quick and easy solutions to these dilemmas, which are more rooted in Washington than in Austin."

Grubbs statement continued, "I am thoroughly enjoying my service in the Texas House and find it most interesting and challenging. Regardless of whether one's political views always agree with mine, I can respect and appreciate the opposite point of view and continue to try to work in the best interest of everyone whom I am elected to represent." He added, "I strongly believe in all segments of government being operated in a fiscally sound manner, spending only the available revenue and using wise judgment in making decisions that affect the economics, the health and welfare of all our people." Grubbs continued.

In his first term as a legislator, Grubbs is serving on the State Affairs and the Health Services Standing Committees. He is chairman of the subcommittee under State Affairs handling law enforcement. He is also chairman of two interim study committees, one under state affairs investigating the assistance provided by all state agencies following natural disasters such as tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, etc. The other subcommittee is investigating the operations of health systems agencies, the twelve in Texas, administering a federal law through H.E.W. In addition to these chairmanships, Grubbs is serving on subcommittees studying personnel policies dealing with all state employees, investigating the Childcare Act which has involved Dr. Lester Roloff in many court actions, investigating the development of out-patient rural health facilities, and another subcommittee investigating professional licensing acts. He is also assigned to two other subcommittees dealing with appropriate matters under both the State Affairs and Health Services full committees. All of these standing and interim committee assignments are made by the speaker of the Texas House.

Grubbs said, "During my first session I was successful in getting two major bills passed through the House, one of which cleared the Senate and was signed into law by Governor Clements. The other bill was delayed by the 'Killer Bees' and failed to make it on the last day of the session in the Senate." Grubbs added, "I also carried in the House five bills



for Senators Farabee, Traeger, Jones and Ogg, which gave me a lot of experience in handling legislation."

In mentioning his committee work and legislative program, Grubbs suggested that the news media cannot cover every detail of each legislator's activities, and that he has included this information in his announcement in order that the people of this district may know how his time is being spent in representing them in the Texas House.

Grubbs also referred to the "Difficulties our farmers and ranchers find in dealing with the many federal agricultural programs, and what few emanate out of Austin." He continued, "The Legislature in the last session dealt with such farm and ranch problems as brucellosis eradication, gasohol production, the proposal to join into a national grain compact commission, agricultural research and, of course, providing tax relief in the rural areas." Grubbs added, "We did pass in the last session the Family Farm Security Act, which the voters approved on the ballot in November. That bill makes loans available to young farm families who want to be able to stay on the farm or ranch and make a living." He said further, "This loan program, when fully operational, will not cost Texas taxpayers to operate and will be self-sustaining if the program succeeds as expected." Grubbs said, "It was my feeling that if we do not make it possible for our younger farm families to succeed we are going to eventually run out of people to produce the food and fiber this country has to have to survive."

In looking toward the next session of the legislature, Grubbs suggested, "I am hopeful we will not have to waste a lot of time discussing unnecessary programs such as initiative and referendum, which is a concept not needed in Texas because of our sound fiscal condition and our policies on spending and taxation. This might have been good for California, but Texas does not need it at this stage and it is my feeling that the citizens of Texas are not interested in writing the laws of this state," he concluded.

Grubbs said he is looking forward to the next session and is always pleased to have the views and suggestions from the people of this district, which are very helpful to him in seeking to adequately represent this fine area of West Texas.

Track news

According to Badger track coach Doug Guynes, the Badgers had their best performance of the year in 11 of 14 track events Saturday in Coleman, but that the competition was too stiff for any entrants to make it to the finals. The Badgers will also be facing stiff competition in San Angelo Saturday as they travel to compete in their relays. In April, the Badgers will host a quadrangular meet with Hamlin, Jim Ned and Anson to tune up for the district 6AA meet scheduled for April 19th in Colorado City.

Engagement

Mrs. Ike D. Turner of San Antonio, Texas announces the engagement of her daughter, Debra Dale to Cecil Manren Gregg, Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. C.M. Gregg, Sr., of San Marcos, Texas. The bride-elect is a pharmacist for the Nix Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, having graduated from Alamo Heights High School and the University of Texas College of Pharmacy in Austin. Her fiancé graduated from the University of Texas College of Pharmacy in Austin and is employed by Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. The couple plan a May 17 wedding in the Alamo Heights United Methodist Church Chapel. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. O.E. Harwell and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gregory of Merkel.

**Fish chili**  
This entree is a chili pot you won't want to pass up on almost any cool-weather evening. Ms. Reddell is with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

Rich in the onion and garlic that Spaniards used so well, the dish also features chili and oregano of the Aztecs and the beans and seafoods we harvest. Together they all combine for a flavorful feast, indeed!  
**TEXAS FISH CHILI**  
2 lbs fresh fish filets  
2 cups sliced onion  
1 cup diced green pepper  
1 clove minced garlic  
2 tbsp margarine  
1 1/2-2 tsp chili powder  
2 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp oregano  
1/4 tsp pepper  
1 can (1 pound) red kidney beans, undrained (optional)  
1 can (1 lb) tomatoes, chopped and undrained  
1 can (6 ounces) tomato paste

Cut fish into 1 1/2 inch chunks.  
Cook onion, green pepper and garlic in margarine until onion is tender, not brown. Stir in chili powder, salt, oregano and pepper. Heat thoroughly. Add beans, tomatoes, tomato paste and mix well. Heat until bubbling around edges. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes. Add fish chunks, cover and simmer for 10 minutes until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.  
Serve with cornbread or corn sticks.

Merkel vet concerned with rabies in area

According to Merkel Veterinarian Dr. Warren Dozier, the rabies rate has doubled, statewide in January and 18 rabies cases were confirmed in the public health region that Taylor County is a part of. Dr. Dozier also said there were five cases confirmed of rabies from this county last year, four skunks and a cat. He added "What is shocking to me is that there were 18 cases in Runnels County and eight in Callahan County last year." In cooperation with the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department, Dr. Dozier will be vaccinating pets in the annual rabies vaccination drive. Dr. Dozier told the Mail the drive would probably be held in April. City ordinances require dogs to have rabies shots and proof of that shot to issue a tag for the dog. Dogs that do not have tags and are found running loose can be picked up, and destroyed after a certain period of time.

Recent donations

Donations to the Merkel Cemetery Association as of March 24, 1980 are as follows:  
Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Hutchinson in memory Paralee McCormick, Mr. and Mrs. Clovis McElmurray in memory Mrs. P.A. Diltz and Mrs. Sallie Gray, Mr. and Mrs. James D. Sosebee in memory A.C. and Inez Sosebee, Vera Perry, Mr. and Mrs. H.F. Jeffrey, Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Walter, C.D. Gilbreath, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Stallo, Mrs. Bruno Ueckert in memory Lula Mae Woods, Modell Eoff in memory Lula Mae Woods, Harlan and Bessie Merritt, Mr. and Mrs. Cal McAninch in memory Ina Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Orsborn, Mr. and Mrs. David Michal, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Riney in memory C.B. Rust, Mrs. C.A. Cox in memory C.B. Rust, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Dudley in memory C.B. Rust, R.R. Parker, Mary and Opal Derstine, Herman Doan, Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Wimberly in memory Rea and Boyd Scott, Mr. and Mrs. c.e. farmer, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Starbuck in memory C.B. Rust, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Mashburn, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Guitar, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson in memory Pete Burfiend, Fern Windham in memory Mrs. Ernest Wilson.

WOODWORLD PROJECT PLANS

An Easy-to-Build Plant Ladder Makes Gardening Easy



Step ladders and flower pots are two of the handiest tools devised. But you can go one step better with a plant ladder. The plant ladder is a gardener's dream — it solves many of the problems with potted plants. The pots are held by their upper rim so they cannot tip over. They are held off the ground to provide additional ventilation for the plant's root system. And the ladder makes moving the plants from one place to the other a snap. You don't have to be a master craftsman to make it. Anyone with basic woodworking skills and tools can do the job.

Simply cut all pieces to size, then cut 45-degree angles at the top and bottom of the front legs and the top of the back legs. Cut out the flower pot holes and sand all rough edges of the two steps. Now, the ladder is ready to assemble. Glue and nail each set of legs together and attach the upper and lower braces. Fasten the two pot-holding shelves to the braces in similar fashion. Be sure to use waterproof glue. Finish with a weather resistant finish. Or, if you build from redwood or cedar, let the wood weather naturally.

Sounds easy, doesn't it? It is! This project takes only a few hours from start to finish, and our detailed instructions show you every step. For complete plans and patterns for the Plant Ladder, request plan #1723 and send \$1.50 plus \$3.50 handling and postage to:

WoodWorld Project Plans  
c/o (your newspaper)  
750 Center Drive  
Vandalia, Ohio 45377

Join us in promoting your product . . . Cotton

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Family Style Show & Educational Program

7:30 p.m. Sat., March 29

Abilene Woman's Club

No Admission Door Prizes Refreshments



A windmill and a storage tank are shillouted against a West Texas sunset in the Mullberry Canyon area Thursday. (Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards)

City council meets Thursday

The Merkel City Council will meet to night (Thursday) at 7 p.m. for their bi-weekly session. Council is trying the night time meetings to allow more time to take care of city business. Included on the agenda are police car purchase, bond payments and a review of water department.

Best buys at Texas markets

**COLLEGE STATION**--Best food buys at Texas grocery markets within the next two weeks will include pork, eggs, fresh carrots, squash and apples--along with selected salad greens. Dr. Carol Akkerman, a consumer information specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, the Texas A&M University System, also reports that fresh strawberries and pineapples will be more plentiful in upcoming weeks. Toward the end of March, cantaloupes and honeydews will be lower priced and tastier, she says. On the other hand, citrus fruit is nearing the end of its season, so prices will increase and quality will decrease. Mid-March price-quality trends are: **PORK**--Supplies are generous, and prices are reasonable. As a wise shopper, take advantage of the specials and freeze them for later. Here's a freezer-storage guide: Fresh ground pork, sausage and casseroles will retain their quality in the freezer for up to three months. Fresh larger cuts, such as pork loin and roast will retain quality as long as six months. Smoked pork, such as ham, arm picnics and loins should not be frozen longer than 60 days, or flavor may deteriorate. **BEEF**--Prices and supplies will remain constant--emphasis on chuck cuts, hamburger, sirloin steak and short ribs. For best buys, compare prices, quality and cuts in

local markets. **POULTRY**--Fryers continue in good supply. Either whole fryers or selected parts will give you more for the money--depending on family needs. As Easter approaches, watch the newspaper for best buys on turkeys--buy ahead and freeze. **EGGS**--Prices are beginning to rise. Large eggs tend to be the best buy. **VEGETABLES**--Warm weather and favorable growing conditions have produced large supplies of fresh winter vegetables. Best buys are cabbage, carrots, potatoes, rutabagas, spinach, squash and sweet potatoes. In some markets, good buys may appear on broccoli, cucumbers and tomatoes. Always keep in mind the many ways vegetables can be eaten: fresh, cooked, in casseroles, in soups, as salads and as snacks. All vegetables are low in calories and high in nutrients. **FRUITS**--Oranges and apples are plentiful, and prices are good. Shop around for the best buys on bananas and pears. Strawberries, pineapples and melons will be plentiful and a good buy shortly. **CONSUMERS!** Shop early in the day for the freshest, least-handled food. When possible, compare prices among markets and select products you will use. No buy is a good buy if the food is wasted.

**Spring Savings Fever FOOD SALE**

EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE **HAM FOR EASTER**

Gooch <b>HAMS</b> Lb <b>98¢</b>	<b>IG MILK</b>
Water Added	LOWFAT.....\$2 <sup>05</sup> 1 gal
Gooch <b>Round HAMS</b> lb <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>	VIT D.....\$2 <sup>09</sup> 1 gal
Fully Cooked	Solid <b>MARGARINE</b> lb <b>59¢</b>
Gooch <b>FRANKS</b> 12 Oz <b>89¢</b>	<b>PRODUCE</b>
Gooch 12 Oz Pkg <b>German SAUSAGE</b> <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>RADISHES</b> Pkg <b>19¢</b>
Hormel lb <b>PRESSED HAM</b> lb <b>\$1<sup>59</sup></b>	Washington Red Delicious <b>APPLES</b> lb <b>49¢</b>
Gooch Sliced Slab <b>BACON</b> Lb <b>69¢</b>	<b>POTATOES</b> 10 lb bag <b>98¢</b>
Nabisco <b>OREOS</b> 19 Oz <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b>	Idaho Baking <b>POTATOES</b> lb <b>19¢</b>
Nabisco <b>SALTINE CRACKERS</b> <b>69¢</b>	<b>CARROTS</b> 1 lb Bag <b>20¢</b>
Nabisco <b>TOASTETTES</b> 2 for <b>\$1<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>TOMATOES</b> lb <b>39¢</b>
	<b>ONIONS</b> White lb <b>25¢</b>
	<b>LEMONS</b> <b>10¢</b>
	Diet and Reg. 12 oz cans <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>
	<b>PEPSI &amp; MOUNTAIN DEW</b> 6 Pack
	All Brands <b>CIGARETTES</b> <b>\$5<sup>49</sup></b> CTN

**9th St. Grocery & Mobil Gas**

**For Sale**

**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

**E.L. PALMER ESTATE:** Older home with fireplace, water well, etc. and 3 1/2 adjoining lots. 406 Orange St., \$12,500. Call Earl Palmer, 928-5255. 48-tfc

**HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER:** One year old home north of Merkel over 1900 square feet with ten acres. VA appraisal in hand. 928-4810 after 4. Daytime 692-8588. 5-tfc

**HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER:** 1 year old home north of Merkel over 1900 square feet with ten acres. Equity buy. 928-4810 after 4:00. Daytime 692-8588. 2-tfc

**HAY** in barn (\$2.00 or trade for cattle). Need 4-row John Deere cultivator. Call 928-5343. 4-2tp

**LIKE NEW 1977 24 ft.** Tioga Motor Home self-contained and all extras, sleeps six, 440 Dodge engine. Call Rex Bland at 862-3891. 4-tfc

**FOR SALE:** M Farmall tractor, on propane, 6 ft. shredder and a one-way moline plow. Call 928-4810 after 4. Daytime 692-8588. 5-tfc

**HOUSE FOR SALE:** Four rooms, bath, carpeted. 711 El Paso. Call 928-5297. 5-tfc

**GARAGE SALE:** Friday and Saturday. Starts at 9:00, 512 Rose. Maternity clothes and misc. 5-1tp

**FOR SALE:** 1979 G.M.C. Pickup, to pick up payments at \$202.94 a month. Balance is \$5200. Take \$500 equity, 15,032 miles. Call 928-4988, or come to double wide trailer east side of county barn. 5-1tp

**FOR SALE:** Sofa sleeper, three chairs, swag lamp, toaster broiler, misc. 709 Yucca, 8-12 Saturday. 5-1tp

**FOR SALE:** Sofa, chair and recliner-all black vinyl, square coffee table, 5-shelf bookcase, hanging lamp. All for \$150. Call 928-5845 or 928-5422. 5-1tp

**FOR SALE OR RENT:** Three bedroom, fireplace, carpeted, 7 rooms Call 928-5787. 5-tfc

**Services**

**BOOT AND SHOE REPAIR.** Drop your footwear repair needs at Handy Food Store. 928-4912. One Week Service. 35-tfc

**RECOVER AND DISCOVER** how beautiful your present furniture can be. Randy's Upholstery and Fabrics at 1190 Butternut in Abilene. 38-tfc

We buy Oil and Gas Leases, contact Mr. Anderson, EDCO Oil and Gas, 1133 N. 2nd, Suite 202, Abilene, Tex., 79601, AC (915) 672-6444. 3-tfc

Want to learn about beauty skin care? For luxurious facial, contact B Ann Spurgeon, 862-2701, MARY KAY COSMETICS 2-tfc

**GRANNY'S PLAYHOUSE,** Licensed Child Care. Open 6:30-6:00 Monday-Friday. Call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange St. 28-tfc

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

**PAINTING DONE.** Interior and exterior, call Mike McCartney, 698-1528 after 5 p.m. 51-tfc

**Garage Sales**

**GARAGE SALE:** Sixth house south of railroad on west side of Farm Road 1065 in Trent. Lots of clothes and misc. Trent Jr. Class 5-1tp

**FIVE FAMILY GARAGE SALE** Friday and Saturday, the first house west of the coop gin on Hwy. 80. 928-5074. 5-1tp

**Miscellaneous**

**FOR RENT:** Two bedroom house, large rooms, carpet, near Merkel in country. Call after 5:30 P.M., week day. Saturday, Sunday, Anytime-928-4898. 51tc

**FOR RENT:** 3 bedroom doublewide Mobile Home, place to keep horses, 4 1/2 miles northeast of Merkel. Call 928-5549 after 6:00 p.m. 4-3tp

Have a highly profitable and beautiful Jean Shop of your own. Featuring the latest in Jeans, Denims and Sportswear. \$16,500.00 includes beginning inventory, fixtures and training. You may have your store open in as little as 15 days. Call any time for Mr. Loughlin (612) 835-1304. 5-1tp

**THINGS IN GENERAL** will open Tuesday, April 1st, 1980. Hours will be 2-5 Tuesday thru Saturday. 5-1tp

**HELP WANTED:** Needed immediately. Nurses aides. Apply in person, Starr Nursing Home. Experience preferred. 5-1tc

**NEW SHIPMENT** Luv-It Jeans and Blouses. Little Girls 4-6; Infants Pants, Shirts, and Overalls- Size 6-18 months. Circle A Western House, I-20, VISA, Master Charge. 5-1tc

**FOR RENT:** Small two bedroom trailer house, furnished, at 512 Rose St. Contact Margie Baker. 5-1tc

**WOULD LIKE TO RENT** nice one or two bedroom house. Call 923-5734 ask for Paula Lindsey. 5-1tp

**Card of Thanks**

We are sincerely grateful for all the wonderful gifts and expressions of love on our 50th wedding Anniversary. Frank and Birdie Pippin 5-1tp

**NOTICE OF CITY OFFICERS' ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION DE FUNCIONARIOS DE LA CIUDAD) CITY OF TRENT**

Notice is hereby given that a City Officers' Election will be held on the 5th day of April, 1980, in the above named city for the purpose of electing the following officers for said city: two Commissioners. Said election will be held at the following polling places

in said city:  
In Election Precinct No. 25, at Trent City Hall Building.  
The polls at each of the above designated polling places shall on said election day be open from 7:00 o'clock a.m. to 7:00 o'clock p.m.  
The absentee voting for the above designated election shall be held at Trent City Hall Building, in said city, and said place of absentee voting shall remain open for at least 8 hours on each day of absentee voting which is not a Saturday, Sunday or an official State holiday, beginning on the 20th day and continuing through the 4th day preceding the date of said election. Said place of voting shall remain open between the hours of 8:00 o'clock a.m. and 5:00 o'clock p.m.  
Dates this the 15 day of March, 1980.  
(Se da aviso por la presente que se llevara a cabo una Eleccion de Funcionarios de la Ciudad el dia 5th de April de 1980, en la ciudad arriba mencionada para el proposito de elegir a los siguientes funcionarios para dicha ciudad: Alcalde, Concejales, two Comisionados. Dicha eleccion se llevara a cabo en los siguientes lugares de votacion en dicha ciudad:  
El Precinto Electoral Num. 25 en el Edificio Trent City Hall.  
Los sitios de votacion arriba designados para dicha eleccion se mantendran abiertos en el mencionado dia de elecciones de las 7:00 a.m. a las 7:00 p.m.  
La votacion ausente para la eleccion arriba designada se llevara a cabo en el Edificio Trent City Hall, en dicha ciudad, y dicho lugar de votacion ausente se mantendra abierto por lo menos ocho horas en cada dia de votacion ausente no siendo sabado, domingo o dia festivo oficial del Estado, principiando 20 dias y continuando hasta el cuarto dia anteriores a la fecha de dicha eleccion. Dicho lugar de votacion se mantendra abierto de las 8:00 a.m. a las 5:00 p.m.  
Fecha esta dia 15 de March de 1980.)  
Zula Darby, Mayor 4-1tc  
The city of Merkel will receive sealed bids until 5:00 p.m. March 27, 1980, at the City Hall,

**Custom Spraying**

Herbicides Defoliant  
Insecticides, m Desiccants

Chip Meroney  
Soil and plant analysis available 673-0770

**Quality Painting**

Call us for any painting needs.  
Richard Schultz  
928-5228 Box 485  
Acoustic - Paper Hanging - Dry Wall

**You pay less when you call**

A B C  
PEST CONTROL  
TERMITES WOOD ANTS  
Household ants, spiders, scorpions, silverfish, roaches, fleas & ticks  
Call collect (915) 677-3921.

107 Lamar Street, Merkel, Texas. Said bids to be for one preowned 1977-1979, 4-door sedan, aut., power steering, air, (white). To be available for inspection prior to bidding.  
The city reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and award the bid to best serve the city.  
Lou David Allen, Mayor of Merkel, Texas 5-1tc

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
TO: George W. Eastburg and Betty Jean Eastburg or the unknown heirs of George W. Eastburg and Betty Jean Eastburg, if they be deceased, Defendants, 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 10th day of March A.D. 1980, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 10th day of March A.D. 1980, in this cause, numbered 36,568-A on the docket of said court and styled Ray J. West, Plaintiff, vs. George W. Eastburg and Betty Jean Eastburg et al, Defendants.  
A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Suit to establish lost, destroyed or carried away

deed of Lot 25, Block "P", Section 5, Alameda Addition to the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, and in the alternative to establish title by limitations. 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 law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.  
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this the 10th day of March A.D. 1980.  
Attest: Irene Crawford Clerk, 42nd District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Johnnie Woodard, Deputy. 4-4tc

**DEED OF LOT 25, BLOCK "P", SECTION 5, ALAMEDA ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS, AND IN THE ALTERNATIVE TO ESTABLISH TITLE BY LIMITATIONS. 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 LAW, AND THE MANDATES HEREOF, AND MAKE DUE RETURN AS THE LAW DIRECTS.**

**ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT AT ABILENE, TEXAS, THIS THE 10TH DAY OF MARCH A.D. 1980.**

**ATTEST: IRENE CRAWFORD CLERK, 42ND DISTRICT COURT, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS. BY JOHNNIE WOODARD, DEPUTY. 4-4tc**

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**NEED** A New Water Well Drilled?  
Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets  
ROBERT HIGGINS  
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**LOCATIONS**  
PADS  
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ROADS, DRIVES, SEPTICS  
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**CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING?**  
Buy the name you know and trust  
General Electric  
AMERINE HEATING AND COOLING  
Commercial and Residential Sales And Service  
1108 N. 2nd St.  
Merkel, Texas 79536  
Phone 928-4876

**MERKEL ELECTRIC**  
Commercial & Residential Wiring  
512 Cherry Street  
Merkel, Texas 79536  
FRANK CAMPBELL  
Phone 928-5291

**Circular Blades** **Hand Saws**  
Professional Saw & Tool Sharpening  
122 South St.  
Box 332  
Tye, Texas 79563  
Phillis & Harold Boyd  
(915) 692-5184

**WE PAY** 150 Percent Over  
Face Value For All Silver Coins. (\$2.50 For \$1.00 Silver) (We Pay 25 cents for Silver Dimes)  
PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP  
2155 S. 1st Abilene, Tx.

**D. A. HALLMARK**  
ALL TYPES DIRT & GRAVEL HAULING  
928-5741

**GREGG FISHER PLUMBING**  
ALL TYPES OF PLUMBING OLD & NEW DITCHING WATER LINES SEWER LINES  
928-5627 or 928-5379

**BUFFALO RABBIT FARM**  
Rabbits-Equipment-Feed USDA frozen rabbit meat-Breeding stock-Pet rabbits Rabbit fur products-Raw & tan furs-Fertilizer-Call morning or evening. 915-928-5157

**FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS...**  
SEYMORE INSURANCES  
102 EDWARDS 928-5379  
Auto, Property, General Liability  
Crop, Health, Life, Disability, Tax-sheltered retirement, Educational plans  
FARMERS UNION SERVICE POINT

**PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLANS**  
CEMETERY HEADSTONES  
BURIAL INSURANCE  
LIFE INSURANCE  
STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME

**KEN'S RADIO & TV**  
KEN KRAATZ - OWNER  
REPAIR ALL MAKES & MODELS OF TVs & RADIOS  
F.C.C. LICENSED  
REASONABLE RATES  
PICK-UP & DELIVER  
CALL 862-3501, TRENT

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FREDDY TOOMBS (Broker)  
116 EDWARDS PH. 928-5921 RES. 928-5988  
PEGGY DENNISON RES. 672-4727 GENEVA WATTS 928-5534

3 bedroom, 1 bath, refrigerated units on Sunset.  
4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 apartments at rent, 2 story house on southside.  
2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath on 2 acres, water well, storage shed, North of Merkel.  
Two lots on FM 126 North, close to Country Club. Excellent building site.

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

**WE HAVE BUYERS AND NEED LISTINGS FOR HOUSES, FARMS, & RANCHES**

**STANFORD'S Radios & TVs**  
123 KENT 928-5762

**WINDOW & SCREEN REPAIR**  
New-Repair-Rescreen  
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Tye, Texas 79563  
Box 332

**ALLISON COMPANY PLUMBING**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
RT. 3 BOX 82  
Serving Merkel Area Since 1955  
JOHN ALLISON 928-5787

**PIANO TUNING SERVICE**  
Call Pee Wee Pack  
928-4866

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4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 apartments at rent, 2 story house on southside.  
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3 bedroom, 1 bath, refrigerated units on Sunset.  
4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 apartments at rent, 2 story house on southside.  
2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath on 2 acres, water well, storage shed, North of Merkel.  
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**CAN HAUL DIRT, ROCK & GRAVEL LEVEL & REPAIR DRIVEWAYS**  
CALL EVENINGS  
HAROLD WALKER  
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Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the Mail will be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

Member of the Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association

**The Merkel Mail**  
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Clay A. Richards  
Melanie Richards  
Suzy Rister

Co-Publisher/Editor  
Co-Publisher/Adv. Mgr.  
Production

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$50 Per Year Taylor County \$7.25 Per Year outside of Taylor County.

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TERMS: Cash in advance unless account is established.  
NOTICE: Typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion or claims for refund or extensions will not be recognized.

## Morgan-Spicer wed in Tye

Pam Morgan of Tye and Sid Spicer of Abilene were wed Saturday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Keenon Law Sr. at 7 p.m.

The bride's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Billy Morgan of Tye and the groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. R.T. Spicer of Abilene.

The matron of honor was Liz Hargrove of Potosi, maid of honor was Rhonda Howes of Abilene, and bridesmaids Patty Spicer of Abilene and Kristi Nease of Tye.

The best man was Bennie Butcher of Abilene and groomsmen Miguel Ortiz of Mexico, and David and Richard Spicer of Abilene.

The bride is a graduate of Merkel High and is employed by Furr's Supermarkets.

The groom is a graduate of Cooper High in Abilene and is also employed at Furr's.

## Art group meets

The Merkel Art Association met Monday, March 3 at the First United Methodist Church. An oil painting demonstration of a landscape was presented by Doris Collum of Abilene.

Doris presented the technic of lights and darks to get the effect wanted when painting skies, mountains, trees, water and ground. She stressed breaking value. She also demonstrated painting blue bonnets, our state flower, and showed paintings she had done at home.

A short business

meeting was conducted by Ruth Hogan, president in which plans were presented for the annual art show in May.

Mary Stanley will be Artist of the Month for March which is sponsored by United Savings of Merkel.

Pictures of the group were made by Elizabeth Hicks for the year book.

Attending were Ruth Cox, Ted Allen, Marie Beard, Mary Stanley, Elizabeth Hicks, Ruth Tipton, Ann Doan, Ruth Hogan, and Frankie Smith.

Pat Neff will be Artist of the Month for April.



## Canyon get-together held

By Jamie Massey

Talk about a good time, we really enjoyed the get-together at the Tabernacle on Sunday, March 23 at 6 p.m. Plenty of food, fellowship, fun and music.

Everyone brought something and added it to the large wash pot set up in the Tabernacle. When all had been added, it was a Hot Pot full of good eating. Plenty of dessert, too.

Ray Pack brought some good old gospel music and played the guitar. Various ones from the group accompanied Ray singing songs such as Amazing Grace, Will the Circle Be Unbroken, How Great Thou Art, Church in the Wild Wood and

many others.

Approximately fifty in attendance. Those attending included: Mr. and Mrs. John Dwyer of Wichita Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Dwyer and Amanda of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ray and David, Mary Russon, Lottie Everett, Ruby and Darrell Shipman, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Weston, Alice King, Mr. and Mrs. Doyal Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brnovak, Mr. and Mrs. David Scott and boys, Mr. and Mrs. Don Nugent, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Will Butman, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Davis and children. Mr. and Mrs.

Lerpy Riney, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Pack and children, Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Massey and children, Joe Swinney and two grandchildren, Mrs. Sam Butman Jr.

I believe this includes everyone. However, if I have missed anyone, I apologize.

We are relatively new to the Mulberry Canyon area. I would like to write this column for the benefit of the people of the Canyon and other areas, so if you have any news to contribute, please contact me at 846-4533 or Route 3 Box 123, Merkel.

Until next time,  
Jamie Massey

## Save cash with coupons

Save up to 80 percent at the supermarket?

Sounds impossible? Well, smart shoppers are doing it every day through refunding. By combining cents-off coupons on their purchases at the supermarket and then sending in boxtops and labels to the companies, they can save up to 80 percent on their grocery bill and can even get the full refund purchase price back from some offers!

Here is a sample offer. Listerine wants you to send in two universal product codes (That is the small section where all the little lines are grouped for electronic registers) for a free bottle of the product, if you send in a penny, they will send you two bottles free. So you buy two bottles and when you do you use cents-off coupons to make your purchases. The items cost \$2.64, you cut that price by \$1.50 with two 75 cent coupons, so the total cost is \$1.14. It will cost you 15 cents to mail in the offer and another 1 cent to take advantage of the extra free bottle, so the total cost is \$1.30. You mail in the offer and receive two free bottles, if you had to buy them they would cost you the original \$2.64. So you have the use of four bottles of the product for only \$1.30 which is a 75 percent savings to you!

Many products have offers like this out, in fact, every major and many minor manufacturers of food items have refund offers out at one time or another. They want you to purchase their product in the hopes that you will switch from the brand you are now using to theirs. So jump on the bandwagon and try your hand at slashing your food costs.

For a sample refund bulletin that lists several hundred refund offers, send \$1 to Shopper's Bonus, P.O. Box 109-SS, Marksville, LA 71351. For a free listing of over forty refund bulletins, send a long self-addressed-stamped envelope to the same address.

Here are some offers for you to try. Ragu Foods, Inc., P.O. Box 8179, Clinton, IA 52736. Coupons good for \$2.00 on an Italian Meal at Home, send your name, address, city, state and zip code with four labels from any size jar of Ragu Spaghetti Sauce plus a label and/or receipt from any item listed in each of the following categories: Ragu Spaghetti Sauce-Meat-Produce-Grocery. You will receive four coupons each good for 50 cents off on your next purchases. Offer expires March 31, 1980.

The R.T. French Co., P.O. Box 22703, Rochester, NY 14692. 50 cents cash refund, send one boxtop from any package of 16 oz. or 28 oz. French's Big Tate Mashed Potatoes.

Whoppers Ice Cream Offer, P.O. Box NB875, El Paso, TX 79977. \$1 cash refund, send the word "Whoppers" from front panel of two 8 oz. bags or five 20 cent bags plus brand name panel from one pint or more of ice cream. Offer expires December 31, 1980.

# VOTE

FOR

## LEON VAN GURP

Place 4, Tye City Council

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On Air Base Rd in Tye, Tx.

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Office closed Sundays

## Ida Huss

Ida Pearl Van Huss, 70, of Merkel, who came to Texas in a covered wagon, died at 8:15 p.m. Monday at Anson General Hospital after a brief illness. Services were at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Starbuck Funeral Home Chapel.

Larry Gill, minister of Merkel Church of Christ officiated. Burial was at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Crestview Cemetery in Wichita Falls.

Born Aug. 31, 1909, in Oklahoma, she moved to Texas in 1923 in a covered wagon. She lived in Wichita Falls most of her life, moving to Merkel in 1976. She was a member of the Church of Christ. She married H.B. Van Huss in 1932 in Amarillo. He died May 27, 1964.

Survivors include five brothers, Ralph Tarpley of Merkel, Ray of Columbia, S.C., Joe of San Antonio, Garvis of Seminole and Billy of Austin; five sisters, Nellie Merritt of Creston, British Columbia, Mae Chandler of Shreveport, La., Gertrude Wade of Merkel, Oneida Sevey of San Angelo and Leta Dixon of Abilene; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Monroe, David and Keith.

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76 CHEVROLET IMPALA WAGON 6 passenger, auto., air, cruise, beautiful blue. A Buy, ONLY	\$2495	77 PONTIAC CATALINA 4 dr, air, power, blue	\$3795
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79 GRAND PRIX Automatic, power, air, tilt, cruise, am fm stereo, skymist blue with blue vinyl top, drivers ed car. Nice	\$6095	76 CATALINA FOUR DOOR SEDAN Auto, Power, Air, Beautiful White Color	\$1995

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## Garden checklist

COLLEGE STATION—Gardeners all over Texas are looking at their backyards as a potential site to help fight inflation during 1980.

"Vegetable gardening is sweeping Texas as well as the rest of the country," says Dr. Sam Cotner, horticulturist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System. "Not since 1974 has there been such an interest in converting backyard areas into productive vegetable gardens."

"Although the grocery bill is probably not the ideal place to cut costs because many things have increased at a higher rate than food, it's the one place where many Texas families feel they can actually do something about the high cost of living," notes Cotner.

If you plan on having a vegetable garden this year, the horticulturist offers these guidelines for an "inflation fighting garden."

Determine which vegetables you want to grow in your garden. Plant only those crops which your family likes most and which you feel will be relatively high priced at the grocery store. If your garden is small, do not plant crops requiring a lot of space.

Locate your garden where it receives plenty of sunlight, is well-drained, and is free from competition with existing trees and shrubs.

Make a garden plan. Note where crops will be planted and how much space each needs. Plant taller-growing crops on the north side of the garden. Group remaining vegetables according to their maturity rate.

Have your garden's soil tested to determine what type of fertilizer and how much to apply. Your local county Extension agent can help you take a soil test.

Plant only recommended varieties. Check with successful gardeners, local nurseries and garden centers, and your county Extension office on varieties best suited for your particular area.

Do a good job in preparing your garden soil before planting. Work the soil to a depth of 8 to 10 inches—the deeper the better. Add liberal amounts of organic matter such as compost, grass clippings, hay or similar material.

Use healthy, vigorous, disease-free transplants where possible. Check at local nurseries and garden centers or grow your own.

Follow recommended cultural practices. Keep your garden weed-free and try to keep an even supply of moisture. Add fertilizer if needed during the growing season, and use a mulch to control weeds and conserve moisture.

Inspect your garden closely for insects and diseases. Your "shadow" in the garden will prevent many potential problems before they start. If you do have problems such as diseases and insects, use recommended chemicals according to label directions.

Harvest your garden vegetables at their peak of quality. Do not let crops such as squash, green beans and okra overmature on the plant or yields will drop.

Finally, keep a record of your garden activities during 1980. A record of varieties planted, amount and type of fertilizer used, and planting and harvesting dates will go a long way toward insuring a successful "inflation fighting garden," believes Cotner.



Merkel resident Barbara Newsom was the first one of the first to respond to a grass fire, across from the Scout Hut at Merkel Elementary last Wednesday. Merkel Volunteer Fireman Jim Shugart hooks up a larger hose to douse the small grass fire. (Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards)

## Tye needs youth center says scribe

By Harold Boyd  
Again to remind you that this Saturday night a "Pot Luck Supper" sponsored by your Volunteer Fire Dept. will be held. Starting about 6 p.m., bring a dish to pass then about 7 p.m. we hope to have all the speakers that are running for office in the city, county and school elections. So do make it a date, be there and let's have an evening of fellowship.

I would like to thank those who donated to the fund of Bobby and Brenda Thornton on their behalf. Their financial crisis has been straightened out by the Air Force and V.A. May the Lord keep a watch over them and bless you that have given in monetary and prayers. again thank you all for your splendid and gracefulness.

News! The kiddos will have been back in school after a spring break, aren't you mothers relieved we have a place of learning where as you can get your sanity back. Again in about seven weeks, it will be summer vacation and what are we going to do? Beings we all have slowed down on the use of our autos due to the high cost of fuel, what have we got for the youth to do this summer? Wouldn't a summer youth program be great where as the kiddos could learn crafts, play supervised games, etc? Talk to your council members and see why we can't host a planned supervised program for the youth.

The sewer line or collection system...where is it or what's being done? Final paper work to be processed, contractors are awaiting and Truman Harrison and crew need to complete the alleys. Along with that his crews are trying to get base on the roads, drain pipes replaced, plus the leaky water lines and the normal duties of collecting trash, reading water meters and catching up on other things. Be patient and in time things will be visible

that it is being done.  
Contractors are in process of getting the site ready to begin the long, needed City Hall started. There are a few who are against this and several for this but if everyone would accept it in the end I feel you'll be proud of this feat and building.

There are some people who aren't pleased with having law and order here in Tye, don't like the policeman, etc. Would you like his job and responsibilities for the pay he gets, for the hours that are put in? Would you? I certainly wouldn't, nor do I believe you would either. Since we've been in Tye, law enforcement was needed to curb the vicious crimes, control the speeders, etc. He has done this and it would be nice to respect Joe for the job he is attempting to do. Tell your council members how feel or tell Joe yourself and stand behind him. If you are in doubt of an incident, listen to both sides, then evaluate the facts between the parties that may be involved. Always two sides to every story and only God knows who is right. Back and support our local police chief.

In the very near future the Tye Volunteer Fire Dept. will host another vaccination program for the animals here in Tye and the surrounding area. It will be at the fire house and the cost will be announced later thus saving you gasoline and time running to the vets. As you were informed in our column last week, it is a state law now that repeals city and county ordinances on the control of domesticated and wild animals and will be enforced. So if you are subpoenaed for a violation of this law, be prepared to accept the penalty of it.

For another week readers take care and pray for rain! Our rural farmers are in need of it as well as our water supply, tanks, etc. Take care and see you all next week here in the Mail.

## Lambda Beta discusses pageant

Lambda Beta chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met March 18 at Pleasantville community room. A program on "Living Loveliness" was presented by Judy Elliott and Kay Teaff.

Plans were discussed on the Beauty Pageant to be held April 19 and plans were made to sponsor a Blood Pressure Clinic in May.

Hostess Belle Hammond served refreshments to Gayla Beaird,

Annette Clark, Judy Elliott, Mychele Hammond, Gloria Henslee, Mary Hill, Nancy Hogan, Chera Hohertz, Minyon Seymore, Kay Teaff, Barbara Welch, Beverly Reed and Jodie Morris.

Lambda Beta members will hold a bake sale April 5 in front of the Ben Franklin Store. Special orders for baked goods can be placed with an Lambda Beta member.

## Textbooks checked

The State Board of Education will call for new textbooks in three elementary and eight high school subjects for use in Texas public schools beginning September 1, 1981.

The 1980 textbook proclamation approved Saturday (March 8) by the Board will carry a price tag of \$92.7 million.

## New Arrival

Gary and Billie Gregory would like to announce the birth of a son, Joshua Andrew Gregory. Joshua weighed 9 pounds and 10 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cain and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bud Faulkner of Trent, Texas.

Aunts and Uncles are Don and Paula Horton. Their children are Jody, Angela, and Chad; Aunt Tina Cain. Also, Debbie Gregory-Aunt. Her daughter, Angie.

Joshua's great grandmother is Lorene Isacs.

## Newsbriefs

### Meeting

Germania Farm Mutual LC246 will have their annual meeting April 5th at 7:30 at the REA building. All members are invited.

### Birth

Frank and Vickie Rodriguez of Merkel have announced the birth of a son, Nicholas Andre. Nicholas was born March 20th at Hendrick Medical Center and weighed 6 pounds and 13 ounces. He has a brother, Zachariah.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Rodriguez Sr. of Abilene and maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Juan Biera of Merkel.

### Winners

Middle School students Chance Ferguson and Martina Moreno won ribbons in the Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District Poster contests. Chance won the district competition for second graders. His teacher is Mrs. Jane Wade. Martina placed third in sixth grade district competition. Miss Gohlke is her teacher.

### Singing

The Merkel Senior Citizens Center holds singings at the Merkel Senior Citizens Center. The events are open to anyone who likes to sing and are held the last Sunday of each month. The March singing will be held March 30th.

### Birth

Shawn and Rita Moore of Merkel have announced the birth of a son, Monty Wade Moore on March 5th at Hendrick Medical Center. The boy weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces at birth.

Paternal grandparents are Jack and Sara Moore of Merkel and maternal grandparents are Harold and Geneva Watts of Merkel.

### Public notice

Notice is hereby given that the annual report of the FitzGerald Foundation for the fiscal year ended November 30, 1979, by any citizen upon request at its principal office at 1141 Butternut St., Abilene, Texas, during the regular hours of business from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for 180 days from this date, April 11, 1980.

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# Trent News

Thursday, March 27, 1980

## Seniors return, exercise class...more

### Seniors return

Nine Trent seniors returned from their trip last week and according to senior sponsor Bob Campbell, it came off as planned.

Coach Campbell said "All of the kids had plenty of practice explaining where Trent was and how seniors were able to raise enough money in a town that small for a trip that large."

In Hollywood, Trent seniors viewed the filming of "The Blues Brothers Ride Again" and saw Telly Savalas.

He said they spent a couple of days at Disneyland, and got to see two big parades there and went to Knotts Berry Farm, another amusement area.

From there the seniors traveled to Las Vegas where they stayed at Circus Circus on the strip. Coach Campbell said the kids enjoyed the lights, had pictures made in front of one million dollars in cash and also got a first hand look at a jet from a friendly pilot in El Paso during a lavover.

### Newspaper sought by Jr's

Newspapers are being collected by the Trent Junior Class. Everyone is asked to save their newspapers in large grocery bags for easy collection by the juniors. Due to a limited amount of available storage space, the juniors are requesting that everyone keep their sacks of

papers until a date is announced for a pick-up. On that day all papers will be picked up and taken to Abilene for recycling. Anyone who cannot store their papers may contact a junior for immediate pick-up. Aluminum cans will also be picked up that day.

### Gorilla track news

The Trent Boys' track team ran in the Canyon Reef Relays held at Snyder Saturday. They finished ninth out of a 20-team division.

The division II consisted of classes B, A and the J.V.s from the AAA and AAAA schools. Placing for Trent was the 400 relay, fifth place with a time of 45:6. Relay members were Richard Beaver, Gilbert Beaver, Greg Beasley and Herbert Beaver. 100 meters, Herbert Beaver, 1st, 11.0; 200 meters, Herbert Beaver, 5th, 23.5; 400 meters, Richard Beaver, 6th, 54.4.

Friday, Trent travels to Robert Lee for a Girls and Boys meet.

### Exercise class set

Aerobic exercise classes will be held in the Trent Gym beginning every Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 5:30 till 6:30, beginning April 2nd.

Classes will be led by physical education teacher Pug Paris from McMurry College. Cost will be \$20.00 per lady payable on or before the first class. Tennis shoes

must be worn, and there can be no unattended children inside the building.

These are conditioning cardio-vascular exercises set to music that are fun and stimulating for any age group. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

### Easter egg hunt set

Trent FHA will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt on April 4, from 12:30 to 1:30 on the football field for all preschoolers of the Trent community.

### Garage sale

The Trent Junior Class is having a garage sale Saturday, March 29 at the home of Pupie Sipes. The sale will begin at 9:00 a.m. There will be lots of clothes and miscellaneous.

### Cleanup

Trent Junior Class members are hoping to clean up, literally as a fund-raising project.

They are sponsoring a trash haul on April 5th. Persons may sign up to have their trash hauled at Carriker's, Carl Edwards, or Home State Bank. Trash haulings will be held every six to eight weeks and you can

sign up on a permanent basis or for the April 5th trash haul, by calling Rebecca Sipe at 862-2041.

## Grubbs says be counted

Representative Walter B. Grubbs of the 61st Legislative District today urged all of the people of the 61st Legislative District to be counted in the 1980 Decennial Census, which begins on April 1.

Grubbs said: "Census forms will be mailed out in most parts of the state on March 28 and you will receive them by April 1. I want to urge each of you to fill out your form completely and return it as soon as you can. It is critical that everyone in Texas be counted this time."

Population totals from the 1980 Census will be important both for state and congressional redistricting in 1981 and for allocation of federal funds to local units of government for the next ten years.

Two kinds of forms will be sent out. Most people will receive a short form containing several questions on age, race, and housing. Every sixth household will receive a long form with additional questions on housing and income.

The juniors are also collecting aluminum cans and David Reed is in charge of that project.

You may call him at 862-3402 and he will arrange to have your aluminum cans.



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GARDEN SEEDER - (6 Plates)	\$45
16.9 x 34 REAR TIRE	\$55
13.6 x 36 REAR TIRES	\$45
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3 x 8 " HYDRAULIC - CYLINDER	\$59
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REAR TRACTOR RIMS	\$65
TRACTOR MANIFOLD	\$65
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Best Maid	
SALAD DRESSING	Qt 89 <sup>c</sup>
Gladiola	
FLOUR 5 lb	89 <sup>c</sup>
10 Oz Can	6 Pack
PEPSI COLA	\$1 <sup>29</sup>
Ajax 22 Oz	
LIQUID DETERGENT	89 <sup>c</sup>
Hi-Dry 4 Roll Pack	
TOILET TISSUE	69 <sup>c</sup>
Whole I.G. 1 Gal	
HOMO MILK	\$2 <sup>06</sup>
VIP 24 Ct. Pkg	
FROZEN ROLLS	59 <sup>c</sup>
Frozen Whippie	
DESSERT 9 Oz Tub	49 <sup>c</sup>
TOMATOES Fresh lb	39 <sup>c</sup>
CABBAGE Fresh Green lb	9 <sup>c</sup>
U.S. No. 1 Russet	
POTATOES 10 lb Bag	94 <sup>c</sup>
Cello 1 lb	
CARROTS Bag Ea	19 <sup>c</sup>
U.S. Good lb	
CHUCK ROAST	\$1 <sup>59</sup>
Gooch	
BEEF STEAKS lb	\$1 <sup>89</sup>
Fresh	
PORK ROAST lb	89 <sup>c</sup>
Gooch Blue Ribbon	
BACON Sliced lb	\$1 <sup>09</sup>
All-Meat Gooch	
FRANKS 12 Oz	89 <sup>c</sup>
Country Style 1 lb	
Pork SAUSAGE	99 <sup>c</sup>
OLEO Parkay 2 lb Tub	\$1 <sup>29</sup>

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Congressman

**Charles W. Stenholm**

### Congressional Comment

FOOD COSTS frequently receive more than their share of the blame for rising inflation rates and it's time we put those increases into true perspective.

A recent report in Time magazine showed that of the major items included on the Consumer Price Index, food and beverage costs were the second lowest category of the major increases. From January, 1979, to January, 1980, food costs rose 9 percent, a heavy blow to the household budget until compared to the whopping 60 percent increase reported by gasoline.

Only clothing costs rose less than food last year, at 6 percent. Other increases reported included: Total energy, up 42 percent; mortgages, taxes and insurance, up 30 percent; public transportation, up 19 percent; and medical care, up 10 percent. Total increase for the Index last year was 14 percent.

Targeting on the last six months of the year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reported that food costs rose 8.2 percent, while all other items on the list skyrocketed by 16.1 percent.

One of the reasons that food has been incorrectly focused upon in discussions of "who's to blame" is the fact that food costs led the pack when inflation began its dramatic rise several years ago. In 1977, for instance, food costs rose 6.3 percent, about equal with all other items. By 1978, food costs were up 10 percent — and consumers began to holler — while all of the rest rose 7.2 percent. Food

seemed to be the villain in the budget-stretching battle.

We must not lose sight of the fact that, while consumer prices of food have gone up during the past year, that doesn't mean that farm prices have kept pace. Prices for many commodities have dropped during the year, while production costs keep on going up. Many of those price drops have been passed on to consumers, particularly those items requiring less processing, and therefore less costs for energy, transportation and labor.

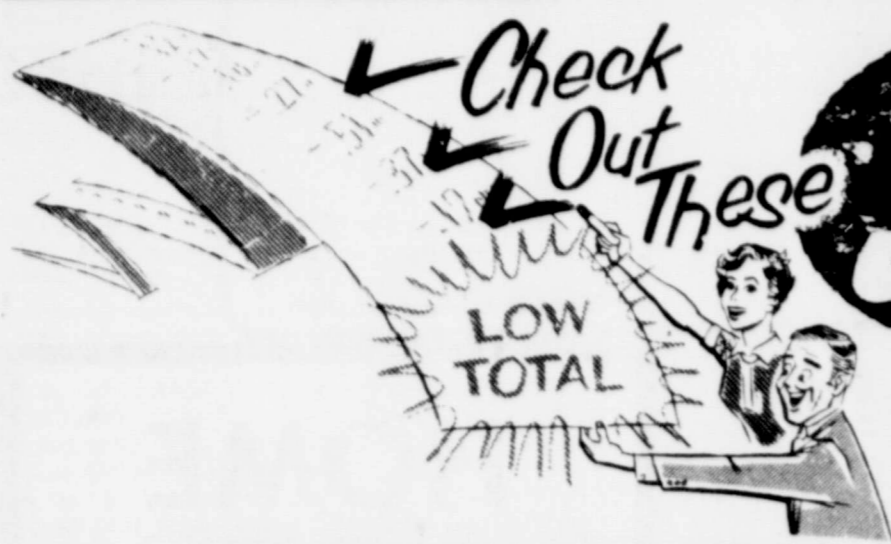
Eggs are down, pork products are down, beef is down, turkeys and broilers are down. Food prices in general are up, but the farmer is the victim — not the villain.

\*\*\*\*

THE WEEK I wrote to Secretary of Agriculture Bergland, joined by 12 of my colleagues, asking for an extension of the review and comment period of the Resource Conservation Act until April 28.

Despite the best efforts of the Soil Conservation Service, I felt that there was a great deal of misinformation and misunderstanding concerning USDA's preliminary study of future plans and programs for soil and water resources.

Of most concern to landowners in our area is the proposal to require compliance with any and all USDA recommended conservation practices for a given farm or for all federal program payments for which the individual might be entitled.



# SAVINGS

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12 OZ CAN COCACOLA 6 PACK \$1.39

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ROAST CHUCK GOOCH BR LB \$1.79  
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BETTY CROCKER STIR & FROST ASST BOX 93¢

FRANCO AMERICAN SPAGHETTI AND BEEF 2 7 OZ CANS 59¢

ROAST ARM GOOCH BR LB \$1.89  
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FLOUR GOLD MEDAL 5 LB BAG 89¢  
KOOLAID SWEETENED 2 QT PKG 2 FOR 73¢

SAUSAGE 12 OZ PKG \$1.39  
HOT LINKS GOOCH BR POUND \$1.39

RAINBOW SWEET PICKLES 2 8 OZ JAR 79¢

WOLF HOT DOG SAUCE 2 8 OZ CANS 63¢

LINSEY RIPE OLIVES 15 OZ CAN 49¢

CHARMAN TISSUE 4 ROLL 93¢

JOHNSONS SHOUT 19 OZ CAN \$1.59

HUNTS 300 FRUIT COCKTAIL 2 FOR 99¢  
HUNTS 300 SPINACH 2 FOR 73¢

IG DAIRY FRESH HOMO MILK GAL JUG \$2.09

TOMATOES VINE RIPE LB 39¢

DETERGENT OXYDOL KING BOX \$2.59

DEL MONTE TOMATO JUICE 46 OZ 63¢  
DEL MONTE 303 WHOLE BEETS 2 FOR 69¢

IG DAIRY FRESH LOW FAT MILK GAL JUG \$2.03

FRESH CELLO POUND CARROTS 2 FOR 39¢  
WASH RED DEL APPLES LB 49¢

LIQUID IVORY GIANT BOTTLE 93¢

DEL MONTE 303 SOUR KRAUT 2 FOR 73¢  
KOUNTY KIST WK 12 OZ GOLDEN CORN 2 FOR 59¢

FOREMOST BUTTER MILK 1/2 GAL CRTN 98¢

FRESH CELLO CABBAGE LB 10¢  
RADISHES 2 FOR 39¢

DISH WASHING CASCADE KING BOX \$1.69

VAN CAMPS 300 SWEET PEAS 2 FOR 59¢  
PORK & BEANS 2 FOR 65¢

GLADE AIR FRESHNER SOLID 6 OZ 43¢

WHITE SWEET ONION LB 29¢  
RUSSET SPUDS 10 LB BAG 98¢

FRISKIE COUNTRY FLAVOR CAT FOOD 4 LBS \$1.59

RAGU SPAGHETTI SAUCE 15 OZ 79¢

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