

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, April 24, 1986 ... Merkel, Texas

Our 98th Year

Merkel 4th Elementary students 'go Texan' for event Friday



To celebrate the Texas Sesquicentennial, the 4th grade class at Merkel Elementary dressed "Texan." They experienced cowboy culture firsthand by roping, branding and having a cookout with the help of Leon Harris, Bart Whisenhunt, Gant Sandusky and Leon Kelso.

They also made quilts to commemorate our great state. Their thanks go to the women who sewed their quilts: Mrs. Bobbie Mansfield for Mrs. Kelso's class; Mrs. Luanne Wilson and Mrs. Eula Moore from Miss Sims' class; and Mrs. Bettie Parsley for Mrs. Sadler's class.

They would like to invite the public to see their quilts, which are on display on the elementary school building.

Linda Layher applies a brand to a block of wood with the help of Bart Whisenhunt at Merkel Elementary school Friday. The students also learned a little about roping as they spent the day learning about Texas culture. Staff photo

Housing Authority director retires

Annette and Junior Clark of Merkel were treated to a meal Friday evening in honor of Annette's 16 years of dedicated service as Executive Director for the Housing Authority of the City of Merkel.

The housing authority includes Pleasantville - a Farm and Home project for the elderly; Brickhaven - a Housing and Urban Development low rent project; and Section 8 project which is a rental assistance HUD project.

Mary Hill will succeed Annette as the Executive Director for the Housing Authority.

Annette was presented a plaque from the City of Merkel by Mayor Kent Satterwhite and City Manager J. A. Sadler. Also, Peck Eager, President of the Housing Authority board presented Annette with a camera and film.

Attending were Mr. & Mrs. Peck Eager, Mr. & Mrs. Alf Walla, Mr. & Mrs. Juan Ybarra, Mr. Frank



The director of the city's Public Housing Authority recently retired and was honored last week. Shown [from left] are Peck Eager, Annette Clark, the retiring Housing Authority director, Merkel mayor Kent Satterwhite and Merkel city manager J. A. Sadler. Complimentary photo

Local paramedics aid Sweetwater, city budget, Little League parade ..

by Cloy A. Richards

The city of Sweetwater suffered its worst tornado ever early Saturday morning as our neighbors to the West saw funnel clouds wreak damage and destruction in their paths.

Merkel Emergency Medical crews responded to their needs by sending two ambulances, a rescue truck and all available paramedics to the scene.

Their greatest need now is money that will help them rebuild and the best way to do that is by making donations to the Abilene Chapter of the American Red Cross.

They will see the funds get into the hands of the people who need it most.

The Merkel City Council held a public hearing on the city's 1986-87 budget Monday night, and guess what, the public, as usual, stayed away in droves.

City manager J. A. Sadler, for the first time in nine years, said he does not see any way city employees will receive raises this year, and says it may take an increase in sewer and sanitation charges to make ends meet this year.

He also told council he did not want to see any increases in the

water rates, since we are in the middle of re-negotiating the wholesale water purchase contract with the City of Abilene.

If the new contract calls for higher wholesale rates, the city will have no choice but to "pass along" those increases and he didn't want to see people get the old "double whammy" on the water bill.

All of that is conjecture at this point because all of this came from a preliminary budget talk by the council. No decisions have been made.

Council will again hold a public hearing Monday night at 7 p.m. at the Merkel Emergency Medical Service Building (we have to name that building), and you can hear for yourself what the 1986-87 budget is all about.

But, judging from the citizen's performance over the past eight years of attending these meetings, you'll have to read about it in next week's paper.

Or worse, hear it from someone else.

The Merkel High baseball team is still tied with Graham for first place in that district race as the Badgers, barring disaster, will finish ahead of Clyde and have a 50-50 shot at the district title with another win over Graham.

The local Little League season will get started Saturday with a 1 p.m. parade downtown. Boys and their coaches will gather in front of Independent American Savings at 1 p.m. for the parade and games will be held all day Saturday at the park.

By the way, thanks are in order for volunteers and city employees for getting the plumbing in the restrooms at the park back in order.

And those hits just keep on coming from Taylor County's only newspaper with an excellent local cartoonist.

Dale's effort this week said so eloquently drew what I so clumsily wrote, as my display for France's decision to not allow our planes over the air space in the raid on terrorist centers in Libya last week.

As usual, his cartoon hit the head of the nail without bruising the thumb.

Congratulations are in order to Merkel's regional qualifiers in track. Making that elite list are Brit Pursley, in three events, Shayne Newberry, Dean Franklin and Ramon Moreno. Michelle Dudley qualified from the girls team in the 800.

Best of luck at the regional meet May 2 and 3 and then on to Austin.

City council looks at 1986-87 budget, considering increases

The Merkel City Council held its first round of public budget hearings Monday night at the Merkel Emergency Medical Service Building as no citizens decided to attend the meeting.

Council discussed various problem areas in the city budget and will hold another public hearing Monday night (April 28th) at 7 p.m.

City manager J. A. Sadler told council he did not see any way city employees would get a raise and said he had spoken with most of the city's employees about the

tight budget.

Councilman Derrell Farmer asked Sadler if there wasn't any way for a small increase and Sadler responded by saying not without "going in the hole."

Sadler did recommend to council that two people at City Hall would be responsible for approving purchases by all city departments. He said too many people were making purchases for the city and wanted some sort of a system of prior approval before purchases are made.

Mayor pro-tem Ted Smith asked Sadler if he was going to make the 1986-87 city budget work on paper without any increases in charges for city services. Sadler responded by saying it would be tough.

The city's water-sewer-sanitation department exceeded its budget by almost \$21,000 in fiscal year 1985-86 and the city is considering an increase in the sewer-sanitation charges. A 50 cent a month increase for each service would net the city an additional \$13,000 in revenues each year.

Badgers 2nd in district track

The Merkel Badger track team placed second in the delayed district track meet held Monday in Breckenridge.

The Badgers did have five athletes qualify for the regional meet as Brit Pursley won the district pole vault, high jump and 110 high hurdles District Titles to lead the way.

Also qualifying for regionals were Shayne Newberry in the discus, Dean Franklin in the 330 and Ramon Moreno in the long jump. Michelle Dudley, from the girls track team also qualified for regionals as she placed 2nd in the 800. The regional meet will be held May 2 & 3rd in Odessa and Badger track coach Luke Taylor likes his chances at that meet. He said "Brit has the best pole vault in the region and is tied for the best high jump in the region and Newberry has the 2nd best discus throw in the region."

The district meet was scheduled Saturday and shortly after it started a hail storm in Breckenridge forced cancellation of the meet.

The Badgers were 3 points down to Breckenridge with four races left but Breck runners placed 1, 2 & 3 in the mile and the Buckaroos won the mile relay which shut the door on the Badgers chances of winning the district meet. Breck finished with 164 points to Merkel's 120 points.

Coach Taylor said "We don't have a thing to be ashamed of. Our kids had their best performances of the year and I am proud of them. We are competing with two schools almost twice our size and our Freshmen, sophomores, and a few juniors are competing with their seniors.

Results include Pursley winning the pole vault at 15'7", the high jump with a leap of 6'4" and the 110 high hurdles with a time of 14.7. Pursley was also 4th in the 200 with a time of 23.1

Newberry was 2nd in the discus, 5th in the long jump, 3rd in the 110 high hurdles, 3rd in the 330.

Dean Franklin was 2nd in the 330. Ramon Moreno was 4th in the high jump and 2nd in the long jump.

Tim Brandon was 6th in the shot put while the sprint relay team of Franklin, Pursley, Moreno and Justin Amerine was 4th with a 44.2 time.

Danny Santee ran an 11:38 to place 6th in the 100. Tony Trevino was 3rd in the 2 mile with a time of 10:55 and 4th in the mile with a time of 4:59.

The mile relay team of Franklin, James Wright, Kenneth Jowers and Newberry was 3rd with a time of 3:28. James Wright was 3rd in the 800 and Jowers was 5th. Michelle Dudley was 2nd in the 800 for the girls team.

New school records this year were set by Newberry in the discus, Pursley in the pole vault and high jump, the sprint relay, and the mile relay. What pleases coach Taylor is those records are sure to fall next year.



Merkel High sophomore Brit Pursley clears the bar at an earlier meet this season. Pursley qualified for the regional track meet in three events including the pole vault, high jump and the 110 high hurdles. Iris Amerine photo

Tye Chamber banquet Friday

The Tye Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual membership banquet Friday at the Tye Elementary School Cafeteria.

The award for the Outstanding Citizen of the Year will be presented and there will be no

charge for the pot luck dinner. The guest speaker will be Jeffie Lee Stenger.

The event will get started at 7 p.m. and everyone is welcomed to attend.

Art group show is Sunday

The Merkel Art Association will hold their annual arts and crafts show at Heritage Hall Sunday from 1 until 4 p.m.

The show will be an opportunity for local residents to come and see some of the many talents Merkel residents have. There will be no admission and items on display will not be for sale.

ASCS forum in Abilene

Area residents will have an opportunity to hear the national administrators of the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service at a Public Forum Saturday in Abilene, Congressman Charles Stenholm has announced.

The special forum will address the concerns and questions surrounding the Conservation Reserve Program. The new conservation program, mandated by the 1985 Farm Bill, provides for the eventual establishment of a 45 million acre conservation preserve. If time permits, other programs, such as Whole Herd

Buy-Out, will also be discussed. Attending the meeting with Congressman Stenholm will be Wilson Scaling, national administrator of the SCS, and Milton Hertz, acting director of the ASCS. Both men head their respective agencies in Washington D.C.

The Abilene meeting will be held from 9 a.m. until Noon at the Walling Lecture Hall in the Science Building on the campus of Abilene Christian University. The forum will be open to all interested residents.

"This will be an excellent opportunity for area producers to ask pertinent questions and to discuss related issues," Congressman Stenholm said.



DALE HAMMOND



MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The citizens of this city are extremely proud of this Nations more than 200 year Heritage of Freedom and are loyal to the ideals, traditions and institutions which have made our nation so great, and

WHEREAS, Their obvious dedication to our way of life is indicative of a strong, continued desire to preserve the priceless American heritage, and

WHEREAS, They will be proud to stand up and publicly declare their determination toward actively and positively safeguarding our freedoms against any foreign or domestic enemies, now

THEREFORE, I, KENT SATTERWHITE, Mayor of the City of MERKEL, TEXAS, hereby call upon all my fellow citizens to take full advantage of the special occasion known as LOYALTY DAY, celebrated annually throughout the nation on the first day of May, as an incentive for every true American to reaffirm his and her love of Flag and Country, and I urge that all individuals, schools, churches, organizations, business establishments and homes within my official jurisdiction display proudly the Flag of the United States of America and participate in public patriotic Loyalty Day activities which are to be co-sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and others, on LOYALTY DAY, May 1, 19

(Signed) Kent Satterwhite
Mayor Kent Satterwhite

(Attest) J. A. Sadler
City Clerk - J. A. Sadler

**ELECT
McMillon
Judge**

Spring Thing cancelled

The Mulberry Canyon Spring Thing, originally planned for Saturday at 6 p.m., has been cancelled and will be re-scheduled at a later date.

The event was cancelled due to many conflicts on Saturday.

Watch The Mail for the date and time of Spring Thing.

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CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CONDITION (Including Domestic and Foreign Subsidiaries)
(Dollar Amounts in Thousands)

LEGAL TITLE OF BANK Home State Bank Box 125 Trent, Texas 79561	STATE BANK NO. 1398-32
CITY Trent	FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT NO. 11 13 20307
COUNTY Taylor	CLOSE OF BUSINESS DATE March 31, 1986
STATE Texas	ZIP CODE 79561

ASSETS	Dollar Amounts in Thousands			
	Bill	Mill	Thou	
1. Cash and balances due from depository institutions:				
a. Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin			348	1 a
b. Interest-bearing balances			500	1 b
2. Securities			900	2
3. Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell in domestic offices of the bank and of its Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and in IBFs			290	3
4. Loans and lease financing receivables:				
a. Loans and leases, net of unearned income	3674			4 a
b. LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses	104			4 b
c. LESS: Allocated transfer risk reserve				4 c
d. Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve (item 4 a minus 4 b and 4 c)			3 570	4 d
5. Assets held in trading accounts			0	5
6. Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)			268	6
7. Other real estate owned			0	7
8. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies			0	8
9. Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding			0	9
10. Intangible assets			0	10
11. Other assets			145	11
12. Total assets (sum of items 1 through 11)			6 021	12
LIABILITIES				
13. Deposits:				
a. In domestic offices:			5 463	13 a
(1) Noninterest-bearing			857	13 a (1)
(2) Interest-bearing			4 606	13 a (2)
b. In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs:			0	13 b
(1) Noninterest-bearing			0	13 b (1)
(2) Interest-bearing			0	13 b (2)
14. Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreement to repurchase in domestic offices of the bank and of its Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and in IBFs			0	14
15. Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury			0	15
16. Other borrowed money			0	16
17. Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases			079	17
18. Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding			0	18
19. Notes and debentures subordinated to deposits			0	19
20. Other liabilities			077	20
21. Total liabilities (sum of items 13 through 20)			5 619	21
22. Limited-life preferred stock			0	22
EQUITY CAPITAL				
23. Perpetual preferred stock (No. of shares outstanding)			0	23
24. Common stock (No. of shares):				
a. Authorized	2500			24
b. Outstanding	2500		250	25
25. Surplus			150	26
26. Undivided profits and capital reserves			002	26
27. Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments				27
28. Total equity capital (sum of items 23 through 27)			402	28
29. Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, and equity capital (sum of items 21, 22, and 28)			6 021	29
MEMORANDA: Amounts outstanding as of Report Date				MEMO
1 a Standby letters of credit, Total			0	1 a
1 b Amount of Standby letters of credit in memo 1 a conveyed to others through participations			0	1 b

NOTE: This report must be signed by an authorized officer(s) and attested by not less than three directors other than the officer(s) signing the report.

I/We, the undersigned officer(s), do hereby declare that this Report of Condition has been prepared in conformance with official instructions and is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT _____ DATE SIGNED _____

NAME AND TITLE OF OFFICER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT _____ AREA CODE/PHONE NO. (915) 862-6137

Betty Hammer, V.P. - Cashier

We, the undersigned directors, attest the correctness of this Report of Condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief has been prepared in conformance with official instructions and is true and correct.

SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR _____ SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR _____ SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR _____

State of Texas County of Taylor ss

(MAKE MARK FOR NOTARY'S SEAL) Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22 day of April 19 86

and I hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank

My commission expires 12-16-19 89

Signature Notary Public _____

Local soccer team wins division

The Merkel Badgers under 8 soccer teams placed first in their division in the spring soccer season in Big Country Soccer Association season play.

Playing on the team were

Anthony Williamson, William Donadison, Justin Goldsmith, Randy DeLeon, Jeremy Daniels, Leslie Jacobs, Billie Hefner, Eric Stegmoller, Jeffrey Jacobs, Quincy Hines, Jeremy Burt, Shawna Maxwell, Tristan Willburn, Traci

Maxwell, and Natalee Cravens. Their coaches would also like to thank the players for their hard work during the season and their parents for all their support and cooperation for a great winning season.

Writer supports commissioner

Dear Editor:
Every day I walk. My choice of routes vary and I in time cover much of the business and residential areas of the City. Observation of people and events is a resulting reward. One one daily walk, I passed by the County Barn where the equipment of County Commissioner Precinct 2, Don Dudley, is kept and maintained. It was during a summer month and quite warm. The time was well past 5 p.m., but I did notice a light shining from one of the maintenance shops. Closer observation revealed that a lone individual at work on one of the large maintainer tires. I turned from the roadway and approached the shop. There I found our Precinct 2 Commissioner, Don Dudley, at work on repairing the maintainer tire. Sweat and dirt mingled with the summer air and a sleeveless shirt revealed the physique of a laboring man intent to the job at hand. When Don saw me, he paused and we chatted briefly. I moved on in time to complete my walk. Don returned to the job and resolution of the problem with the

huge tire. Some days later, I was walking in the vicinity of the railroad right of way in Merkel. The time was just at sundown and approaching twilight. A piece of road equipment was clearing away a growth of noxious grass and weeds. As the vehicle and I met, there in the operators' seat was our Commissioner Don Dudley. Dust was flying and the vegetation growth was being dispatched in an orderly manner, and Don was absorbed in his work. I observed this operation briefly and noted before I moved on that it was necessary for Don to turn on the lights on the equipment in order to finish the job. On other occasions I have noted other maintenance equipment driven along roads of the Merkel area and noted the driver to be Commissioner Don Dudley on his way to another maintenance job. "Precinct 2 meanders West to East from the Nolan-Jones county line to the Callahan-Shackelford county line in the north east corner of Taylor County." I relate these observations so

that the voters of Commissioner Precinct 2 may get a picture of a working county commissioner apart from the picture generally seen on the tv camera of the County Courtroom with the Commissioners dressed in their administrative habits tending to other county business. Administrative duties alone consume some 20 hours per week distributed over a Monday to Friday schedule many times varied duties spill over to Saturday also. Our County Commissioner, Don Dudley, is a laboring man as well as an administrative man and one who is immediately responsive to the requests and needs of the people. One need not go through a foreman, District unit engineer or other buffer element to make contact with Don Dudley. Just make contact at the county area nearest your location. Don Dudley deserves a second term in the office. He has so efficiently filled in his first term. Sincerely yours, Joe E. Lassiter

Garden club tours floral spots

The Merkel Garden Club met at 11:00 a.m. April 18th at the home of Olga Peachey for a business meeting conducted by Becky Rogers, club president.

The committee on City Beautification presented a report on the replanting of the flower beds at the cemetery entrance and each member was assigned to be responsible for watering and weeding the beds for a week during the summer months ahead. Following the business meeting, the group enjoyed a dutch treat luncheon at the Royal Inn in Abilene before touring the lush and colorful flower gardens at the home of Margaret Tessier. Mrs. Tessier, who is a vibrant 87 years of age and does all of her own gardening, was made an honorary lifetime member of the club.

The campus of McMurry College was the next stop on the group's afternoon outing, where they viewed the massive iris beds and rose gardens in full bloom. A timely visit of Bach's Nursery proved profitable as members took advantage of the two-for-one sale being offered on bedding plants.

The final stop was at the home of Wynette Barkley, where cool refreshments of iced tea and fruit were welcomed and enjoyed, while admiring the beautiful roses and other flowers in her garden.

Members participating were Alice King, Leota Sherrill, Billie Hartley, Robbie Wilson, Inez Detrick, Olga Peachey, Murel Thompson, Jewell Criswell, Becky Rogers, Wynette Barkley and

honorary member Margaret Tessier. The next meeting will be a covered dish luncheon on May 15th at the home of Peggy Black.

Steve Lollar- Candidate- Precinct 4, Jones County Commissioner

Steve Lollar has been self-employed in farming & welding since his graduation from Abilene Christian University with a degree in Agri-Business.

He is eager to lead Jones County in responsible, progressive government.

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Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Friends of Julian Bridges, Everett Woods, Treas.



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Cotton pest research saving millions in Texas

Integrated pest management programs of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service have reached into many areas of crop and livestock production, but a major emphasis has been in cotton and the successes have been numerous, points out Dr. Mike McWhorter, Extension pest management program leader.

The Extension Service has been a partner with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Texas Agriculture Experiment Station, Texas Pest Management Association and cotton organizations in implementing IPM technology.

The Extension Service has helped prevent the westward spread of the destructive boll weevil into the High Plains, a major cotton-growing region. This has been accomplished with a fall spraying program before the weevil reaches the diapause state in which it overwinters. A continuous program since 1964, the effort has resulted in a savings of some \$1.9 billion due to reduced insecticide treatments by farmers and increased yields.

Bollworm management strategies in the High Plains also have paid handsome dividends over the years. The bollworm problem has cost producers as much as \$30 million annually in control costs and yield losses, but emphasis on field scouting and improved use of insecticides as advocated by the Extension Service have turned the tide. The strategy has provided an annual savings in cotton yield of some 32 pounds per acre over the region valued at about \$7.5 million.

In the Rolling Plains where the boll weevil has plagued cotton growers for years, the Extension Service devised a management strategy in 1972 centered around a delayed uniform planting date. All cotton farmers in the region are encouraged to plant around May 20th (about a month later than normal) so that all female weevils emerging from overwintering sites by mid-June do not find cotton squares for laying their eggs. Since only a small percentage of the female weevils survive until cotton squares become available, damaging populations seldom develop until late in the growing season. This has kept insecticide use to a minimum and has generally allowed beneficial insects to keep bollworms and tobacco budworms under control.

This delayed uniform planting strategy has resulted in a 25 pound per acre yield increase and a reduction in insecticide, seed and labor costs, leading to an increased annual return of \$21.36 per acre, an economic impact of Rolling Plains region of some \$192 million.

In Far West Texas where pink bollworms have been a nemesis to the cotton producer, Extension entomologists and Extension agents have initiated pest management programs focusing on more efficient control techniques while improving environmental quality.

Educational efforts in that region have emphasized the need for farmers to destroy cotton crop residue early to reduce over-

wintering populations of bollworms. During the growing season, field scouting, pheromone traps and a computer prediction model are all used to determine the need for insecticide applications. Extension staff have encouraged the adoption of a new application technique which has reduced per acre insecticide use 10-fold. In El Paso county alone, this effort saved cotton growers some \$750,000 last year. Total savings in crop loss and pesticide application costs over a seven-county area are estimated at \$17 million for 1985.

Boll weevils nearly devastated the cotton crop in the Rio Grande Valley in 1980. Since that time

Services held for Vernice McDonald

Services for Vernice Bell McDonald, 75, of Crosbyton were held at 2 p.m. April 15th in the Crosbyton First Baptist Church with Dr. Lester Griffin, pastor, officiating.

Burial followed at the McAdoo Cemetery under the direction of the Adams Funeral Home in Crosbyton.

Mrs. McDonald died at 7:50 a.m. April 13th following a sudden illness.

She was born Aug. 5, 1910 here and married Milton McDonald October 15, 1938 in Abilene. He preceded her in death Oct. 13, 1976.

She was a member of the Crosbyton First Baptist Church where she sang in the choir and was the Secretary of the adult IV Sunday School Department.

She was a member of the

Extension efforts have focused on encouraging farmers to destroy cotton stalks early to reduce food and habitats for overwintering weevils. This led to a net reduction of eight pesticide applications over a five year period for a net gain of \$48 per acre in insecticide pesticide applications over a five year period for a net gain of \$48 per acre in insecticide savings last year. At the same time cotton yields have increased 370 pounds per acre. Overall, farmers have realized an increase in gross income of \$270 per acre for a total regional impact of some \$31 million.

Pest management efforts have helped cotton make a comeback in the Coastal Bend area. Extension

daughters of the American Revolution, Jeff Davis chapter in Abilene and formerly employed by the Tax Assessor-Collector's office in Dickens.

In Crosbyton, she was past president of the Harmony Club and also a member of the garden club. She was a former PTA member where she directed plays. She was a Pink Lady at Crosbyton Clinic Hospital and formerly worked for the Crosby County Library, also a member of the Open Heart Club. She moved to McAdoo after WWII in 1946 and moved to Crosbyton in 1969.

She is survived by two sons Thomas McDonald of Austin and David McDonald of San Antonio; a sister, Hazel Bell Lay of Merkel; a brother, Cecil M. Bell of Ft. Hancock and several nieces and nephews.

IPM programs have emphasized use of short-season varieties and cost effective pest control that have boosted cotton yields by 200 pounds per acre and decreased insect control costs by about \$15 per acre. In one year, savings in insect control costs alone on 170,000 acres amounted to \$255 million.

These educational programs in cotton pest management have

meant a lot to the Texas cotton industry," points out Dr. Zerie L. Carpenter, Extension Service Director. "However, such programs will be affected by decreased resources should additional budget cuts at the state level and proposed reductions at the federal level take place. While the Extension Service will continue to focus in efforts of high quality educational programs aimed at

meeting the needs of clientele, budget restraints will definitely limit the scope of these programs," Carpenter adds.

This report of a successful educational effort clearly demonstrates that public funding for Extension is an investment which returns economic benefits in excess of funds committed to the Extension system, Carpenter notes.



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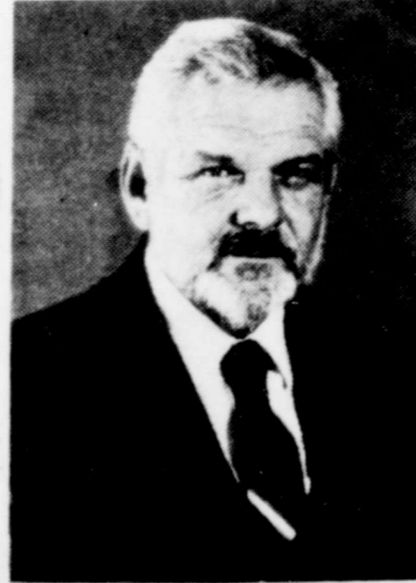


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Oil executives lament crashing market to RRC

Texaco U.S.A. President Roland Routhier summed up the feelings of most of the oil industry executives gathered for the Railroad Commission's annual "state of the industry" hearing here yesterday when he said, "Clearly the state of the industry is not good. If current trends continue for many more months, the U.S. domestic industry will be irreparably injured."

Impacts of tumbling crude oil prices, low natural gas prices, and rising crude and product imports are clearly being felt across the whole spectrum of the industry from exploration and production through transportation to refining.

Speakers predicted an unstable oil market for the next several years, leading to sharply reduced exploration for new crude supplies. R.J. Doyle, Vice President of Supply, Exxon Co., U.S.A. said, "At the current levels, OPEC spare production capacity is over 10 million barrels a day. This continuing surplus of worldwide production continues to place severe pressure on crude oil markets. In this environment, the future level and direction of the market is at best volatile and uncertain."

Colin Lee, Executive Vice Pres-

Moreno is graduate candidate

A Merkel student is among the 232 candidates for degrees this spring at Wayland Baptist University.

ident, Supply and International Refining and Marketing, Conoco, Inc. predicted the surplus and low prices would drive the U.S. petroleum industry to reduce its planned exploratory efforts by 50 percent this year.

"Likewise, Chevron has revised its 1986 capital and exploratory budget in light of reduced prices," said R.F. Walsh, Vice President of Supply and Distribution for the company. "We now estimate spending \$3.5 billion. This represents a 30 percent reduction from the preliminary target, established last fall, of about \$5 billion."

Dramatic falls in the number of active rigs and seismic crews bear out the downturn in exploration. Richard Hudson, an independent operator and chairman of Texas Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, noted the active rig count is only about half what it was a year ago. "Seismic activity, another reliable measure of our industry's condition, fell some 31 percent in 1985," he said.

Jack Montgomery, Manager of Crude Oil Supply for Amoco Corp., agreed saying, "Drilling levels have fallen to a 10-year low average. From the peak to the present, drilling has fallen off by 60 percent. That has taken a horrible toll on many independent

Elena H. Moreno is scheduled to receive the bachelor of science in occupational education degree with a major in business administration.

businesses in the U.S. domestic oil and gas business."

Representing one of the hardest hit segments of the industry, Thomas Hogan, chairman of the executive committee of the International Association of Drilling Contractors, said the average land contractor in Texas now has a equipment utilization rate of about 35 percent. The utilization rate for mobile rigs in the Gulf of Mexico is slightly better, about 50 percent.

"If you're working your equipment only 35 to 50 percent of the time, you are in trouble," he said. "Drilling contractors find themselves between the rock and the hard place. When they finally find a job, it pays too little."

Many oilmen pointed out the downward trend in drilling and exploration would lead to another unhealthy trend for the nation, rising foreign imports. According to Texaco's Routhier, "If oil prices average in the \$14-15 a barrel range through 1990, net oil imports will rise alarmingly to almost half of demand, from about 27 percent in 1985. This results from substantial production declines and increases in petroleum demand at lower prices."

Routhier reminded the audience that the U.S. depended on net oil imports for just 35 percent of its needs before the 1973 Arab oil embargo, "which led to severe shortages and a quadrupling in crude oil prices at the time."

Speakers at the Commission raised another specter haunting the nation's energy security, the loss, perhaps permanent, of thousands of marginally productive (stripper) wells.

According to a statement filed by Glen Michel, Executive Vice President of the National Stripper Well Association, the average lifting cost for marginal wells nationwide is \$15 a barrel. "It doesn't take much imagination to see that stripper well production is or already has reached its economic limits," he said.

Michel's association predicted that at \$15 a barrel, the stripper well segment of the industry will either plug or temporarily abandon 25 percent of the nation's 452,000 stripper wells. "The worst of this scenario is that we will be plugging reserves that most likely will never be recovered," Michel said.

Paul Hoenmans, President of the Marketing and Refining Division of Mobil Oil Corp. indicated that production is already being

lost from shut in wells. "It is estimated that between 40,000 and 70,000 barrels a day of production have been shut in the United States and Canada," he said.

Higher-cost oil from secondary and enhanced recovery projects is also in danger. Routhier said Texaco U.S.A. has been producing roughly 100,000 barrels a day from a streamflood enhanced recovery project in California's Kern River field. "In early March, Texaco closed down about 1,500 wells in this field because of collapsing prices," he said. "These wells produced over 10,000 barrels per day of oil."

Natural gas industry executives told the Commission their industry has its own equally severe problems. David W. Biegler, President of Lone Star Gas Co. said, "Within the gas industry, the free market system is working and producing intense competition. Gas-to-gas competition has caused not only the wellhead price of gas to be reduced, but also the transmission pipeline and local distribution company margins to be shrunk."

Several executives, including Biegler, described loss of traditional contract markets to low fuel oil prices, energy conservation and to a rapidly-growing spot market for gas. These markets losses also mean dollar losses.

"Substitution of firm sales with spot market sales or transportation of gas directly from producer to end-user has resulted in declining utility sales volumes," Biegler reported. "We are replacing sales margins with transportation revenue, but the transportation revenue in most instances does not make up for what is lost in sales margins."

Gavin Smith, Vice President of El Paso Natural Gas Co., illustrated the impact of the dramatic shift to spot sales in his company. "Consider that we were transporting about 200 million cubic feet of third-party gas in early 1985," he said. "By the end of the year we were hauling over a billion cubic feet a day."

While the industry executives agreed on the many problems facing the oil and gas industry, they split on the best way to cure industry ills. Some favored an oil and refined products import fee and repeal of the windfall profits

tax while retaining preferential tax treatment through percentage depletion allowances and intangible drilling costs.

Others feared any government intervention might herald re-regulation of the industry and deeper troubles. Most agreed that a stable and predictable energy picture coupled with a national energy policy would be most helpful.

Robert H. Writz, Jr., Vice President of Sun Exploration and Production Co., summed up the mood of the some 180 industry executives at the hearing when he said, "Times are tough, very tough, and lots of people are hurting. But we are survivors. We've weathered bad times before by facing up to them, fixing what's wrong, skinning down, and holding on for the long haul."

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Tye cemetery group sets Saturday workday

Saturday, April 26th has been cemetery at 8 a.m. and bring a designated for a work day at the sack lunch. Tye Cemetery. For more information, contact Elmo Moore at 692-0030 (work) or 692-5385 (home).

Speaks on SVTI honor list

Mike Speaks, son of Kathryn during the winter quarter at the SVTI Granite Falls Campus. He program has received recognition for his academic performance that put him at the top 10 percent of his class.

Kindergarten pre-registration set

Pre-registration for children who will enter Kindergarten for the 1986-87 school year at Merkel Elementary will be Thursday, May 1 from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the Elementary school office. To attend Kindergarten a child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 1986. The enrollees must bring a birth certificate and proof of required immunizations.

Casey-Ratcliff plans told

Jackolyn Carol Casey of Merkel and Edward Glenn Ratcliff of Buffalo Gap are planning a June 7th wedding in Abilene.

Jackolyn is the daughter of David Casey of Merkel and Jackie Casey of Winters. Edward is the son of Calvin Ratcliff of Graham and Mrs. Gary Sloan, also of Graham.

The bride-elect is a 1982 graduate of Merkel High and attended Lubbock Christian College and Cisco Junior College. She is the assistant manager of Morreya in Abilene.

The prospective groom is a 1984 graduate of Newcastle High and attended Tarelton State University and is now attending Cisco Junior College. He is employed by Super Duper in Abilene.

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James

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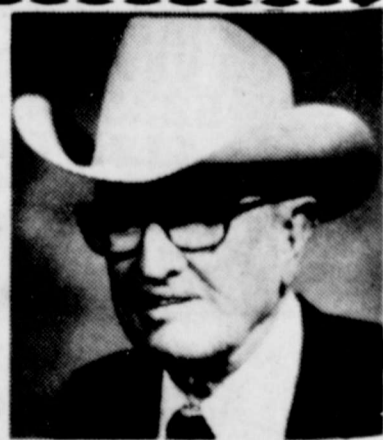
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\$ May I encourage each of you to go to the polls May 3rd and vote. Vote for the candidate of your choice. Vote for Qualification, Experience and Integrity.
Thanks for your consideration
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TFC

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Call 928-5585.
161-11p

For Sale: 2 Frigidaire air conditioners, both run on 220 wiring; 15,000 BTU & 12,000 BTU. Large enough to cool a large 6 or 7 room house. Call Mrs. Clara Spradley 928-4036 1401 Heath Home of Dan & Anita Allen.
161-11nc

For Sale: CB base station, linear and mobil CB 23 channels. \$150 cash. Call 928-4431.
161-11p

For Sale: Large up-right deep freezer. \$100. Call 928-4820 or see at 612 Locust.
161-11p

Misc.

Want to do mowing and yard work. Russell Lucas 928-5630 or 928-5738.
161-11c

Applications are now being accepted for grill cook, waitresses and dishwashers at the Wylie Shamrock Truck Stop Restaurant. Full and part time positions are available for mature, hard working individuals. Apply in person.
161-11c

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137 TFC

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157-4tc

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66 TFC

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33-TFC

LVN needed for the 2 to 10 p.m. shift. Also need an extra housekeeper. Apply in person at Starr Nursing Home.
158-TFC

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Property management company is seeking a couple to manage Cherry Street Apartments and mini-storage warehouses in Merkel. Apartment and utilities furnished. Send resume to Omega Properties 2135 Hickory, Suite D in Colorado City 79612.
160-TFC

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160-3tp

Dee's carpet cleaning. Best service in town. Call 928-4896.
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PUBLIC NOTICE 2 Only. Steel, relocatable garages. 14 X 24 X 10. Free delivery and set up. Slightly used. Morgan 692-8100 Abilene, Texas.
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Bob's Electric Service. Quality work, reasonable rates, construction or re-wiring, ceiling fans installed. No Job Too Small 928-5795.
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Back yard storage buildings from \$25 per month, no down. Morgan 692-8100 Abilene, Texas.
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Real Estate

For Sale: 14 X 80 Schulz Mobil home. Will trade for equal value. Call 928-5673, ask for Joyce.
161-TFC

House For Sale By Owner: nice Locust street location, large living room, den with fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 bath, central heat and air, fruit trees, pecan trees, cement cellar, and water well. All of this for under \$40,000, call 928-5717.
159-TFC

For Sale: 2 lots at 5th and Yucca, very choice lots, call Cyrus Pee, Realtor, 928-5613.
159-TFC

4 bedroom, living room, dining room, utility room, water well, call Cyrus Pee 928-5613.
153-TFC

For Sale: 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath home at 1532 Sunset. Remodeled price reduced. Call Ted Smith 928-4728 or home 928-5081.
156-TFC

House For Sale By Owner. Nice Locust street location, large living room, den with fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, kitchen, dining room separate, central heat & air, fruit trees, pecan trees, cement cellar and water well. All of this for under \$40,000. Call 928-5717.
155-TFC

For Sale By Owner 1 1/4 acres with 2 trailers, front trailer 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath, kitchen, dining room separate, central heat & air, furnished nice, screened in front porch. Back trailer 3 bedroom, 1 bath, good furniture \$27,500. Call 928-5175.
155-TFC

Land for sale by owner. 160 acres after 6 call 928-4916.
157-TFC

For Rent

For rent: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished, water paid, close to school, call 928-5378.
160-tfc

For Rent: 2 bedroom all electric apartments. Upstairs \$250 with \$150 deposit. Downstairs with dishwasher \$275 with \$150 deposit. 928-5194.
149-TFC

Mobil home for lease with option to buy; two bedroom, 1 bath, completely furnished, one bedroom has a king sized bed before 5 p.m. call 692-0702 after 5 call 928-4034.
107-TFC

For Rent: 3 bedroom house with stove & refrigerator, washer & dryer, ceiling fans, fenced yard \$300 per month \$150 deposit. 928-5194.
134-TFC

For Rent: 2 bedroom rock house, stove, refrigerator, \$250 per month \$150 deposit, 2 blocks from school. 928-5194.
134-TFC

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1, 2 or 3 bedroom mobil home for rent in Merkel. Call 928-4973.
27-TFC

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142TFC

Mobil home spaces for rent in Merkel. \$36 per month Pat McAllister 846-4715 or 846-4696.
146-TFC

Mobil Home Lots for Rent: 1st month free, west end of S 7th. \$50 per month Call 928-4973.
138 TFC

Garage Sales

Inside sale: Dishes, odds & ends, tools, chest freezer, crib, stroller, car seat, furniture, clothes & lots more. Come see at Rt 3 Box M106, Merkel. Call 928-4489 for directions. Thursday, Friday & Saturday 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.
161-11p

Yard Sale: Saturday only, 9 until 2. Table, chairs, chest of drawers, shelves, baby items, blankets, clothes, saddle, toys, lamps, etc. FM 126 North 3 1/2 miles to county line road. No early sales.
161-11p

3 Family garage sale: Clothes, freezer, cook stove, weights, motorcycle. Starts at 9 a.m. Saturday at 1519 Sunset.
161-11p

Garage Sale: Saturday only 302 Haynes. Tires, wheels, satellite system, storm doors, paneling, iron rite and other misc items.
161-11c

Cards of Thanks

Words cannot express the appreciation I feel for my many friends and relatives that helped make my stay in the hospital easier. Thanks so much for the cards, flowers, food, visits, calls and prayers during my surgery and since I have been home. Your kindness will always be remembered.
Thanks again
Cathy Pack

To our many good friends:

To the people at Pleasantville, Brickhaven & Shannonside;

To those at Starr Nursing Home;

To the Board of Directors and everyone Taylor Electric Co-Op;

To the Housing Authority Board and Mary Hill;

To the Merkel City Council, J. A. Sadler and Kent Satterwhite;

To our families;

Our thanks for making this time so special for us. The receptions, the luncheons, the dinner, the gifts, the cards, the flowers calls and many good wishes will be such a happy part of our retirement memories.

We are looking forward to the future and spending more time with our grandchildren and our families, as well as having more time to spend with friends and neighbors.

God bless you all! Junior & Annette Clark

We would like to thank our relatives and friends for everything that they did for us.

For the cards, flowers, telephone calls, all the visits and the prayers that were said for us while Essie was in the hospital and since returning home.

God bless all of you.

Dunning & Essie McConnell
161-11p

Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: MIGUEL ANGEL HERNANDEZ* Address Unknown, Respondent: GREETINGS: -YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, this the 31 day of March, 1986.

county, 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 Manuela Hernandez, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 24th day of March, 1986, against Miguel Angel Hernandez, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 13,010-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Matter of The Marriage of MANUELA HERNANDEZ and MIGUEL ANGEL HERNANDEZ" the nature of which suit is a request to the Court to grant a divorce between the petitioner and respondent and decree such other relief as requested in the petition.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding upon you.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the children's interest which will be binding upon you.

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

County, Texas, this the 31 day of March, 1986.

Rilla Mahoney Clark 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas by Jo Ann Lackey Deputy (Seal)

158-78-4tr

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Merkel, Texas, will receive sealed bids until 4:30 p.m. April 28, 1986 on the rehabilitation of several homes funded by the city's Community Development Program.

House locations and bid information will be available at City Hall, 107 Lamar Street. Any and all contractors are invited to submit bids.

Kent Satterwhite Mayor
161-11c-17

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Quick Start PLUS Program.



Because so many people missed out on our special offer we decided to extend it through May 4, 1986. Don't miss this great opportunity to help yourself save while you lose weight fast and easy.

Help yourself save money by joining Weight Watchers at this unbelievably low price! Now there's no excuse. Losing weight may never again cost so little or taste so good!

Here's how Quick Start Plus works: each week you'll be given a number of calories to "spend" any way you choose, little by little or all at once. As you advance through the program, you'll get more calories to spend.

Go to your favorite Chinese, Italian or Mexican restaurant and order right from the menu. Go to a cocktail party and help yourself to some hot hors d'oeuvres, or go all out with a dish of delicious ice cream, or even a chocolate candy bar, now and then.

Now you have choices, so help yourself to the foods you love most, and take advantage of this special offer Repeated by Popular Demand!

FINAL
WEEK!

MERKEL
Church of Christ Family
Center
818 Ash Street
Mon. 5:30 pm

JOIN WEIGHT WATCHERS...NOW!
1-800-692-4329

Legislative leaders join TDA to salvage Voc-Ag and FFA programs

(AUSTIN)—Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower announced here that steps are under way to "un-reform" some well-meaning reformers of Texas public schools who seem to think that learning to raise a proper pig is not as worthy as learning to program a computer.

"Under the guise of education reform, administrators of the Texas Education Agency have recently made budget cuts that simply gut the one high school program that has produced generations of highly-qualified Texas farmers and ranchers—the Vocational Agriculture program and its student component, Future Farmers of America," Hightower said.

Hightower was joined at a State Capitol news conference by House Appropriations Committee Chairman Jim Rudd of Brownfield; House Agriculture & Livestock Committee Chairman Robert Saunders of La Grange; House Public Education Committee Chairman Bill Haley of Center; State Senator John Sharp of Victoria; State Representative Steve Carrier of Roby; State Representative Bob Melton of Gatesville; and State FFA President Aaron Alejandro of Dallas.

"Since it was established in 1928, the combination of Voc Ag and FFA has helped to educate more than 1 1/2 million Texas students in the increasingly complex business of agricultural production, processing and marketing. This year, some 59,000 Texas students are studying under Voc Ag programs being offered in more than two-thirds of the state's 1,170 school districts," Hightower said. "Who needs them? All of us, assuming we will continue wanting a wide variety of top-quality food at reasonable prices."

"This morning's bacon didn't originate at the supermarket—it was once a well-tended pig, produced by a farmer who most likely was an FFA member and Voc Ag student. If we are to keep raising pigs economically and to the high standard of quality that consumers expect, we must have people who know what they are doing to raise them. A great deal more knowledge and

skill are required to do this than just putting slop in a feed trough. While most farmers have a natural aptitude for growing things, their aptitude must be trained and expanded, and farmers also need to be educated about the business side of modern agriculture," Hightower said.

"We in Texas historically have seen the wisdom of investing a pittance of public education funds in a high school curriculum and training program that teaches some of our kids to do skillfully what the rest of us don't want to do: raise pigs. Voc Ag and FFA literally are primary entrepreneurial training grounds in Texas for bringing home the bacon, as well as the beef, the vegetables, the grain products, the cotton and wool clothing, and all the other food and fiber items we count on daily.

"Prior to TEA's cuts, a total of 16 full-time staff positions were allocated to administering this agricultural curriculum across the state. Fifteen of those staff people were field supervisors and their assistants, serving as the direct link to all the local school programs. This key staff made up the statewide network essential to the successful administration of the program. The total budget for the Voc Ag effort in Texas was \$834,000—only two-tenths of one percent of TEA's \$4.6 billion annual budget.

"Voc Ag's budget has now been slashed by two-thirds, and the field staff has been zered-out entirely. Only one person—the state Vocational Agricultural director—remains to handle the entire program. Not only does this cut out the guts of the program, but it destroys the heart as well, because the thousands of Texas families who participate and the larger agricultural industry that relies on Voc Ag and FFA feel that their education needs are being abandoned by the state's educational brass.

"For their part, TEA administrators claim to be acting under the mandate of House Bill 72, which overall is a very positive and long-overdue step toward educational excellence in Texas. But there is no such mandate in this reform bill. It is clear that neither the Legislature, the Governor—nor the people of Texas—intended that H.B. 72 would ever be used as a hatchet to destroy a program that is integral to our state's second largest industry. Even an increasingly urban, urbane and high-tech society needs the best farmers we can develop, and our system of secondary education must continue to meet its historic commitment to this goal.

"Fortunately, it is not too late to reverse this misguided budgetary action by TEA administrators. The State Board of Education, appointed by the

Governor, is the official policy-making body that oversees TEA, and they have the authority to overrule the devastating cuts that have been made in Voc Ag. As Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, I have formally requested that they do just that.

"Working with state legislators, local public officials, educators, FFA

alumni and other interested parties, we have devised a responsible, bare-bones, compromise proposal that would salvage the Voc Ag and FFA programs without restricting the desire of TEA administrators to tighten up on the management of these programs.



§ Grant Sandusky shows Dana school Monday. Fourth grade Hammond some of the finer points students were treated to a taste of roping at Merkel Elementary 'Texas'

Iris Amerine photo

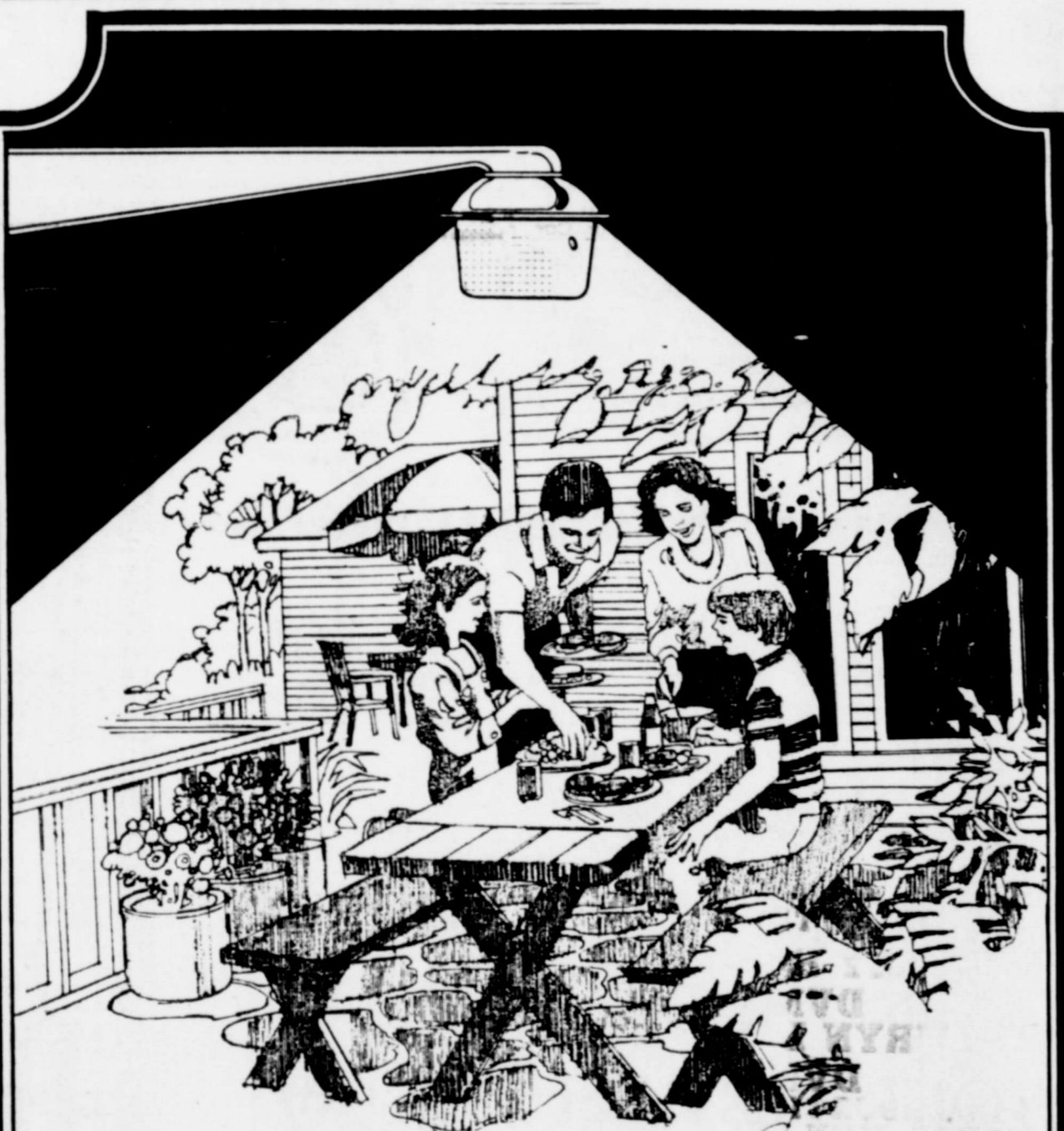
Buddin completes course

Wanda Buddin has successfully completed Aallsup's Assistant Manager Training course held at the company's home office in Clovis.

The three day course held at the company's home office in Clovis, N.M.

The course included instruction in customer relations, company policies, operational procedures, and management skills.

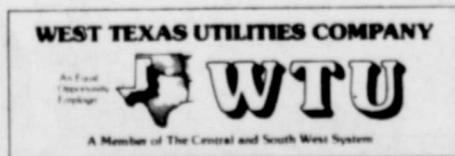
The entire training program represents an effort by Aallsup's to provide better service to our customers and prepare assistant managers for a rewarding career in the convenience store industry. Wanda has returned to her store at Rt. 1, Interstate 20, here.



Stretch Your Days With A Guard-Lite From WTU.

Enjoy the evening hours in the comfort and security of your own yard with a Guard-Lite from West Texas Utilities. Guard-Lites automatically turn on at dusk and off at dawn, so you can depend on reliable lighting year-round.

WTU will provide normal installation, maintenance, bulb replacement and electricity for your Guard-Lite — all you pay is a low monthly rental fee. Call your local WTU office for more information on how you can lease a Guard-Lite for your home today.



Serving you with dependable electrical energy
from the Red River to the Rio Grande.



HARD WORK
AND COMPASSION
the unbeatable Strength
of
JUDGE ALETA HACKER
KEEP HACKER
FOR OUR FAMILY
COURT

When it's Time to Work
Aleta Hacker is on Time!

Elect a Highly Qualified Woman

- Phi Delta Kappa
Outstanding Baylor Graduate
- First Woman President of
Baylor Student Bar Association
- Current position: Judge, 326th District Court: district court of general civil and criminal jurisdiction, handling primarily family law matters, presiding over jury and non-jury trials, in divorces, motions to modify divorce decrees, contempt, name changes, suits affecting parent-child relationships, reviews of cases where child welfare is involved, terminations of parent-child relationships and adoptions.

Aleta Hacker believes in:

UNDERSTANDING COMPASSION STRENGTH

— UNDERSTANDING:

when a disturbed family needs an understanding judge—she'll be there.

— COMPASSION:

when an abused child needs a compassionate judge—she'll be there.

— STRENGTH:

when a parent-child relationship requires strength of decision—she'll be there.

Professional Activities
Member Texas Bar Assoc.
Florida Bar Assoc.
American Bar Assoc.
Taylor County Bar Assoc.
(Sec.-Treas. 1984-85)
Abilene Young Lawyers Assoc.
(First Vice President, 1978-79)
(President, 1979-80)

Pol. ad. pd. by Friends to Keep Aleta Hacker, 326 Court Judge, Gary L. Hacker, Treas.

ELECT **ALETA HACKER** TO A FULL TERM
326 DISTRICT JUDGE



§ Mrs. Braune's 3rd grade class made covered wagons to learn more about pioneer days in Texas.



§ Mrs. Wilson's 3rd grade class helped make as part of their Sesquicentennial celebration in front of a quilt the students.



§ Mrs. Stegemoller's 3rd grade class enjoyed learning more history concerning the Lone Star State Friday at Merkel Elementary.



Judy Parish's 5th grade students dressed the part as they took time away from regular studies to learn more about our state's history.



§ These fourth graders show off the brands they made at the school Friday. All photos by Iris Amerine. Lambda Beta meets

Lambda Beta met on April 15th in the home of Debbie Sandusky. Virginia Pirraglia presented a program on "Friendship." Those attending included Debbie Sandusky, Pat Schuknecht, Janet Rogers, Beverly Helmer, Janet McKeehan, Debbie Roberson, Brabara Graham, Kay Bishop and Virginia Pirraglia. Refreshments were served by our hostess.

Hacker will visit here Monday

Aleta Hacker, family court contact voters in Taylor County as judge of the 326th District, and I would like to", said Judge candidate for election in the May Hacker. "Fortunately, I have a 3rd Primary, will visit voters here good group of supporters who Monday have been helping me with my "Due to a heavy court schedule, campaign and I am very grateful I have been unable to personally ful."

RE-ELECT JUSTICE ROBERT M. CAMPBELL SUPREME COURT

TEXAS WESLEYAN B.S. DEGREE

TEXAS CHRISTIAN GRADUATE SCHOOL

BAYLOR UNIV. LAW SCHOOL-JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE



REARED ON FARM-RANCH CORYELL CO.

FORMER SCHOOL TEACHER

2 TIME VETERAN U.S. ARMY

TEXAS NATIONAL GUARD-10 YEARS

AUTHOR OF 126 SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

PROVEN ABILITY & INTEGRITY

Paid for by the Robert M. Campbell Campaign, P.O. Box 8418, Waco, Texas 76714

VOTE FOR STUART BISHOP Justice of the Peace



PRECINCT 2 MAY 3rd DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

★ A graduate of Southwest Texas State University ★ Member of Merkel's Volunteer Fire % Emergency Medical Services Pol. Adv. pd. by Stuart Bishop, 608 Orange, Merkel

Middle school students receive test results

This week, each student at daughter. The 8th grade received Merkel Middle School will receive their profile sheets Wednesday, a Pupil Profile of his their the 7th grade on Thursday and the Metropolitan Achievement Test. 6th grade on Friday. This test is designed to measure the achievement in the major skill and content areas of the school curriculum.

Each parent is urged to review these results with their son or

If you have any questions regarding these results, please contact Don Lambeth at Merkel Middle School 928-5521.

Fishing Headquarters

YOUR FIRST STOP TO BRING IN THE BIG ONES ON YOUR NEXT FISHING TRIP

- ★ WE ALSO CARRY A FULL LINE OF GUNS & AMMUNITION
- ★ HUNTING & FISHING VIDEO TAPES

SHOOTIN SHOP

3660 N 6th Abilene 672-9450

"The sooner you buy the bigger you save" SALE

John Deere utility tractor savings countdown

We have some outstanding buys on John Deere 1250 through 2750 Utility Tractors. On top of that, we're offering creative ways to save you big dollars. Come in and check them out.

- Interest-free financing* until October 1, 1986 on new and used models.
- Discount in lieu of finance waiver on new units only.
- Factory discounts passed along to you.

*Availability of John Deere financing subject to approval of credit. These offers may be withdrawn at any time.

See us right away-the sooner the better

ABILENE FARM SUPPLY

3526 S Treadaway
692-2255

Art students create Texas posters

If you have been wondering where posters with the Texas Sesquicentennial theme that can be seen in some downtown store fronts came from, they are the work of art students from Merkel Middle School's 7th and

8th grade.

According to their teacher, Teresa Lambeth, the students worked hard to create posters that

were both relevant and attractive. She added she and her students would like to thank the citizens of Merkel for their support all year.

MISD lunch menu

The Merkel school menu is as follows:

April 24: Burritos with cheese sticks, broccoli with cheese, buttered corn, jello with fruit.

April 25: Hamburgers with lettuce, tomato, pickle and onions, almond walk-to-school cookies.

April 28th: Meatloaf, mixed vegetables, potatoes and cheese, lettuce wedges and choice of dressing, sliced peaches.

April 29: Chicken fried steak with gravy, buttered potatoes, green beans, chocolate pudding.

April 30: Tacos with sauce, pinto beans, lettuce and cheese, applesauce cake with icing.

May 1: Fried chicken with cream gravy, whipped potatoes, buttered english peas, jello with fruit.

May 2: Bar B Q Pork, french fries, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions, blueberry squares.

Set clocks back one hour Saturday night

Don't forget to set you clock back one hour when you go to bed Saturday night or you will be an hour late all day Sunday as we Spring Forward into Daylight Savings Time.

Sisters are graduates

Brenda Browning was graduated from TSTI with an associates degree in computer maintenance technology.

She was on the president's honor roll or presidents' honor roll all quarters. She is employed at Hendrick Medical Center. She was a 1977 graduate of Trent High School.

Her sister, Sandra Austermann, a 1981 graduate of Trent High School was graduated from Cisco Junior College's school of nursing 5th in her class. She is employed as an L.V.N. at South Park Medical Center in Lubbock. They were both graduated in late February.

The sisters are the daughters of John & Ida Griffith of Sweetwater, and former Trent residents.

Lucas' piano recital

Piano students of Tressie Lucas will present their annual recital Friday, April 25th at 7:30 p.m. at the Merkel United Methodist Church at S 3rd & Locust Streets. The public is cordially invited to enjoy and celebrate the accomplishments of these students.

Those scheduled to appear on the program are: Taras Beasley, Holly Browning, Jessie Browning, Tina Bullard, Angela Carson, Susan Hammond, Jeffrey Jacobs, Kenlea Jones, Stacy Jones, Valerie Littrell, Christi Moore, Scott Richardson, Andrea Richardson, Ellen Rutledge, Lisa Seymore, Shana Seymore, Amy Sparks, Jill Wilson, Leslie Jacobs and Didi Young.

THE PROFIT MAKERS

Advance Knowledge Of Local Markets Vital To Retailing

Successful merchants use advance information to increase sales through newspaper advertising. Such market study results as follows provide leads for conducting business:

—79.4% of Texas consumers own their own homes—(Good prospects for advertising of furniture, house repair items, lawn care and a variety of services, etc.)

—44.8% of household residents are 18 years or younger—(Good prospects to advertise youth items, clothing, outdoor and sports goods, etc.)

—40.9% households earn \$10,000 to \$30,000 annually—(Allows merchants to determine products and prices in newspaper ads.)

—72.9% shop out-of-town at least several times a year, spending tens of millions of locally earned dollars in non-local markets—(Such information reveals to local merchants a principal reason to compete more actively for local business.)

(Advance knowledge is the name of the game in doing business today, and in the future. Another prerequisite for business success is appropriate use of the local newspaper.)

(SOURCE: Consumer Data Service in Texas survey)

Prepared by Texas Newspaper Advertising Bureau (TNAB)

An affiliate of Texas Press Association

THE BOTTOM LINE:

"Info, advertising are keys to success"

L & W Snack Bar Sunday Buffet

11:30 am til 2 pm

★ SALAD BAR (A NICE VARIETY)

★ 3 MEATS ★ 2 POTATOES

★ 2 VEGETABLES ★ DESSERT

THURSDAY NIGHT APRIL 24th

Chicken Fried Steak Special

★ MASHED POTATOES

★ 2 ROLLS & A SMALL SALAD

STARTS AT 5 p.m.

1035 N 2nd \$2.69 928-5484

ADD 25¢ FOR ORDERS TO GO

WE MAY NOT BE THE BEST BUT YOU'D HAVE TO GO A LONG WAY TO FIND ANY BETTER BUT IN OUR HUMBLE OPINION THERE IS NONE BETTER IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT—JUST ASK ME

FREE LOAF OF BREAD WITH \$10⁰⁰ PURCHASE OF GAS

6 PACK COKE \$1.89

5¢ COFFEE

BURRITOS OR CORN DOGS

2 FOR 99¢

MIX OR MATCH

GAS N GRUB

TRENT

I-20

862-6291

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

—TO: Alfredo Vasquez, 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 JAMES D. McQUATTERS and CAROLINA C. McQUATTERS, Petitioners, filed in said Court on the 9th day of April, 1986, against Alfredo Vasquez, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 387-CX on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Felipe Chavez Vasquez, A

Child," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship. Said child was born the 14th day of April, 1981, in Del Rio, Val Verde County, Texas.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including, but not necessarily limited to, the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 9th day of April, 1986.

Rilla Mahoney, Clerk of the District Court of Taylor County, Texas by JoAnn Lackey, Deputy (Seal)

160-66-11c

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: INKNOWN FATHER, Address Unknown, Respondent:

—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 CHRISTIAN HOMES OF ABILENE, INC., Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 8th day of April, 1986, against Unknown Father, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 383-CX on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of BABY BOY McCAIN, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to determine what parent-child relationship exist between the child and the Unknown Father, and that all such parent-child relationships be terminated.

Said child was born the 22nd day of March, 1986, in Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas.

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

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 9th day of April, 1986.

Rilla Mahoney, Clerk of the District Court of Taylor County, Texas by JoAnn Lackey, Deputy (Seal)

160-66-11c

ding 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 8th day of April, 1986.

Rilla Mahoney, Clerk 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas

by JoAnn Lackey, Deputy (Seal)

161-11c

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: FELECITO GARCIA, Address Unknown, Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before ten o'clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being Monday, the 28th day of April, 1986, at or before ten o'clock A.M. before the Honorable 350th District Court of Taylor County, Texas, at the Court House of said County in Abilene, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court, on the 3rd day of January, A.D. 1986, in this cause, numbered 1079-D on the docket of said court, and styled, THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff, vs A WHITE 1971 EL CAMINO 616-6CT VIN # 136801K176 908 Defendant (Felicit Garcia) are Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: Plaintiff alleges that the above described vehicle was being used to facilitate the transportation of certain property described in Article 4476-15 V.A.C.S., to wit: Cocaine, by carrying said Cocaine. Plaintiff alleges that the use of a vehicle for the purpose of transportation or possession of any certain property described in Paragraph (a) (1) of Section 5.03 of the "Texas Controlled Substance Act" was denounced and made illegal by the provisions contained in Article 4475-15, V.A.C.S.

WHEREFORE, the seizing officer in and for the State of Texas, request the Court to enter its Order finding said vehicle was used for the purpose of possession, and uphold said seizure and forfeiture, and forfeiting to the Abilene Police Department the said 1971 El Camino as provided by law, and Ordering the same to be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of Section 5.08 of the "Texas Controlled Substance Act", and the proceeds, if any be disposed of as provided by said law, and for such other relief, at law or in equity, as Plaintiff shall be entitled to receive, 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 process shall promptly execute the same according to law, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this the 14th day of March, A.D. 1986.

Attest: Rilla Mahoney Clerk, 350th District Court, Taylor County, Texas by JoAnn Lackey, Deputy (Seal)

157-41c

No ad is too small

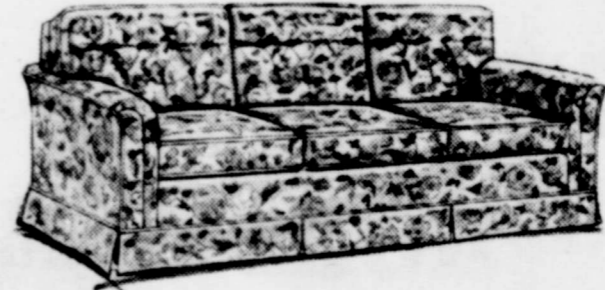
SPRING CLEARANCE

UP TO \$100 OFF ON LANE RECLINERS



SAVE UP TO \$200

ON SELECTED SOFAS AND SOFA SLEEPERS



ALL DISCONTINUED TELL CITY DINING ROOM FURNITURE 30% OFF



SEALY CLOSE-OUT MATTRESS'S PRICED FROM \$69⁹⁵ EA PC TWIN SIZE

SHELBY DINETTES 25% OFF

(SALE PRICE LIMITED TO STOCK ON H.AND)

STARBUCK FURNITURE

201 EDWARDS

MERKEL

928-4711



the Closer You get the BETTER they LOOK

STOREWIDE LOW PRICES



PRICES GOOD THUR-FRI-SAT APRIL 24-25 & 26 STORE HOURS 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. MON THRU SAT CLOSED SUNDAY

SHAMPOO CONDITIONER 15 OZ SUAVES \$1.39 EA

COFFEE FOLGERS
1 LB CAN \$2.98 1 LIMIT
WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

ASSORTED 3 LITER COCA COLA EA \$1.49
RICH & READY **ORANGE DRINK** GAL JUG \$1.19
DEL MONTE 303 CUT NO SALT **GREEN BEANS** 2 FOR 93¢
DEL MONTE 303 W.K. NO SALT **GOLDEN CORN** 2 FOR 93¢
DEL MONTE 303 **SWEET PEAS** 2 FOR 93¢
DEL MONTE 303 WHOLE **NEW POTATOES** 2 FOR 93¢
CARNATION **WHOLE TOMATOES** 2 FOR 89¢
WOLF 300 **WESTERN BEANS** 3 FOR 89¢
SKINNERS **SPAGHETTI** THIN 12 OZ BAG 55¢

STAR KIST **TUNA** 6 OZ CAN 69¢

PARADE **SOFT OLEO** 2 1 LB TUB 89¢

CARNATION **MILK** 2 TALL CANS 89¢

ASSORTED BIG SELECTION **SUN GLASSES** \$6.00 TO \$12.00 ALL PRICED 1/2 PRICE

FROZEN FOODS
ORE IDA 4 PACK **CORN ON COB** \$1.29 MORTON'S OR BANQUET
POT PIES 8 OZ 2 FOR 79¢ JENOS 6 OZ

PIZZA ROLLS \$1.09 WEIGHT WATCHERS A'LE KING 9 OZ \$1.59 **CHICKEN** BOX

KRAFT REG OR LITE MIRACLE WHIP PINT JAR 89¢

BISCUIT MIX BISQUICK 40 OZ BOX \$1.79

CORN OIL MAZOLA 32 OZ JUG \$1.79

CASSEROLE PINTO BEANS 2 LB BAG 63¢

CREAMY CRISCO 3 LB CAN \$1.98 1 LIMIT WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

DEL MONTE PEACHES SLICED OR HALVES 2 1/2 CAN 93¢

NEW-ECONOMY TIDE 25 LB BOX \$13.29 AND \$5 MAIL IN REBATE

KELLOGGS **KRISPIE BAR'S** ASST BOX \$1.73

KRAFTS **LIGHT & LIVELY CHEESE** 12 OZ SINGLE \$1.69

Better Buy ROUND STEAK \$1.59 LB LEAN



GLADIOLA FLOUR 5 LB BAG 83¢

BEST MAID WHOLE DILL PICKLES 48 OZ JUG \$1.39

CABBAGE FRESH GREEN LB 15¢

PIKES PEAK ROAST BONELESS LEAN LB \$1.69
SIRLOIN TIP STEAK LEAN LB \$1.99
RUMP ROAST BONE-IN LEAN LB \$1.69
ARMOUR STAR CHICKEN FRIED BREADED BEEF PATTIES LB \$1.59
RUMP ROAST BONELESS LEAN LB \$1.79

CRACKERS 18 OZ \$1.59
PEANUT BUTTER 18 OZ \$1.09
BAR B Q SAUCE 18 OZ \$1.09
CHEESE BALLS 5 OZ 89¢
RICE STUFFING BOX 89¢
BUTTER PECAN CAKE MIX BOX 79¢

WASHINGTON EXTRA FANCY DELICIOUS RED APPLES 3 LB BAG \$1.19
FRESH CELLO LB CARROTS 2 FOR 49¢
GOLDEN BANANAS LB 39¢
FRESH CELLO RADISHES 2 FOR 49¢
TEXAS GOLDEN YAMS LB 39¢
YELLOW ONIONS LB 15¢
RUSSET SPUDS 10 LB BAG \$1.19

WRIGHTS BACON NO 1 LB \$1.59
GOOCH BRAND FRANKS ALL MEAT 12 OZ PKG 99¢
GOOCH BRAND SMOKED GERMAN STYLE SAUSAGE 12 OZ PKG \$1.39

DAIRYLAND HOMO MILK GAL JUG \$1.98

FOREMOST SOLO 2 MILK GAL JUG \$2.19

FOREMOST BUTTER MILK 1/2 GAL CRTN \$1.09

PRICES PIMENTO CHEESE 14 OZ TUB \$1.79

PALMOLIVE LIQUID 22 OZ JUG 98¢

CLEANER SPRAY & WASH WITH PUMP 22 OZ SIZE \$1.69

CHARMIN TISSUE 4 ROLL CRTN 99¢

DOUBLE GIFT BOND STAMPS EACH WEDNESDAY ON \$5 OR MORE IN TRADE

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS
CARSON'S SUPER MARKET