

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, July 24, 1986 Merkel, Texas

Our 98th Year



The Merkel High Cheerleaders recent returned from Camp at Tarelton State University. The varsity cheerleaders for 1986-87 are [clockwise] Michelle Woodard, Stacey Newberry, Pam Neff, Sheri Riney, Tracy Bicknell, Son Mi Chon, Glyn Ann Rutledge, Kayce Ward.



Gary Hicks of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce started Tuesday getting the lot ready across from Starbuck Furniture for Western Heritage Day, Saturday, Aug. 2nd. While it may not look like much now, the lot will be quite different as a large tent, booths, western displays and farmers-markets will be on hand downtown. A parade will be held at 5 p.m.

Staff photo

MISD trustees hear liability proposals, plan July 31st workshop

The Merkel school board heard liability insurance proposals and set a budget workshop at 6 p.m. July 31.

The board met last week for its July scheduled meeting.

Board members heard two proposals for the school's liability insurance. Board members tabled a decision until at least one more proposal could be presented.

Board members heard insurance plans for Millerman & Millerman in Abilene and from the Texas Association of School Boards.

Resignations were accepted from Dave Harper, a middle school science and PE coach; Donna Ray at Merkel Elementary; Brenda Vaughn, a special education teacher at Merkel Middle School and Emerson Yeats, a

middle school spanish teacher.

Hired were Donna Brnovak as a middle school aide, Pam Welborn as a 1st grade teacher at Merkel Elementary, Susanna Goza as a kindergarten teacher at Merkel Elementary and Kathaleen Thompson as a middle school spanish teacher.

Trustees also paid \$109,616.05 in June accounts.

Activities, plans keep increasing for Aug. 2 Western Heritage Day

The list of activities for Merkel's first Western Heritage Day is growing. The event, sponsored by the Merkel Chamber of Commerce, is being held downtown Aug. 2nd in conjunction with the Merkel Riding Club's Challenge of the Clubs.

The Chamber will have a large tent available for the public's use on the vacant lot across from Starbucks at North 2nd and Edwards. Booths are available from the Chamber of Commerce for \$5 each. Reservations are being taken at Hi-Val Farm & Home Supply. The Chamber will also be serving fajitas Friday at the Riding Club and Saturday for

lunch downtown.

Farmers markets are being encouraged and some interest has already been shown.

Marilyn Tittle is in charge of the entertainment, Dana Dunagin is in charge of games and Martha Sue Justice is in charge of bicycles-floats for the parade and Barbara Whisenhunt is in charge of the horses. The parade will start at 5 p.m. and will form behind the post office on North 3rd & Lamar. Hardin-Simmons' Six White Horses are expected to appear.

Different types of Western crafts will be on display and a booth where kids can try to rope

will be available. People wanting to display their western artifacts (no firearms) are invited to bring them for display. Area rancher Buster Welch will have a "real" chuck-wagon and a surrey on display.

The Challenge of the Clubs is the Merkel Riding Club's largest event and last year had more than 400 rides taken in two days. Riding will get started Friday evening and will continue Saturday evening. The Chamber of Commerce will be serving fajitas starting at 5:30 Friday and the Riding Club is sponsoring a barbecue starting at 6 p.m. Saturday night.

Research league releases comparison of MISD with Texas' schools

In the two years since the legislature enacted HB 72, local school budgets have grown by \$2.7 billion. This higher spending level has been funded as much by local property taxes as by record-setting increases in state taxes. Over the past two years, an added \$1 billion in state aid was matched by a \$1 billion increase in local school property taxes. Last year, trustees in the 1,063 local school districts levied the largest school property tax increase in history—\$551 million—for a total tax bill of \$4.6 billion.

Locally, MISD's tax levy last year was increased by 4.2 per cent for 1985-86 as compared to a 13.3 per cent increase for the average school district in Texas.

The figures come from the latest issue of **Bench Marks for 1986-87 School District Budgets in Texas**, an annual publication of the Texas Research League, an Austin-based, education corporation engaged in governmental research.

School budgets adopted last year called for spending \$3,346 per student for current operations. MISD's budget provided for \$2,839.60 per students based on the 1,344 students in average daily attendance in 1984-85.

Four dollars in five were spent for salaries. Statewide, payroll expense averages \$2,705 per student, as compared to \$2,326.50 here. Payroll expense is a combination of salary levels and staffing patterns.

The average salary for classroom teachers paid by MISD in 1984-85 was \$19,886. The average among all school districts in Texas was \$23,281 per classroom teacher.

While the legislature and local school trustees focused discussion on classroom teachers' salaries, statewide only two-fifths of the 1985 budget increase was used for that purpose.

Here, the average salary for administrators was \$35,675 and \$21,098 for other professional support employees (librarians, counselors, nurses, supervisors, etc.).

Taxpayers provided one teacher for 14.6 students at MISD compared to a statewide pupil-teacher ratio of 1 to 16.3. Because of small classes, especially at the high

school level, and abbreviated teaching schedules, many classes have more than the average number of students. HB 72 requires no more than 22 students in kindergarten, first, or second grade classes next year, but one-fourth of the districts obtained a waiver from that restriction last year.

The average school district imposed a property tax at the rate of 76.3 cents per \$100 of appraised value, which value averaged 89.2 per cent of market value (selling price). The "true tax rate", was 68.1 cents (76.3 times 89.2 per cent) statewide. Locally, the rate on market value here was .950. The tax on a house in this district that would sell for \$80,000 would have been \$763. If the homeowner were eligible for homestead exemptions, the tax would have been \$716, and if owned by a person 65 years or older, the tax on an \$80,000 house in this district would have been \$620, or less if subject to a tax freeze.

Revenue lost from exemptions totaled \$915 million, which was \$135 million more than the previous year. To balance school budgets, the revenue loss from exemptions was imposed upon other taxpayers in the school districts.

Local property taxes plus state aid was \$3,258 per students here as compared to \$3,299 statewide. The primary purpose of state aid is to equalize state and local tax resources among schools. The 1985-86 tax resources ranged from less than \$2,500 per student in ten districts to more than \$10,000 in 12 districts.

In summarizing the statewide look for 1986-87 school budgets, the Research League said:

In summarizing the outlook for 1986-87 school budgets, the Research League said "Preparing school budgets for 1986-87 promises to be a challenge for all. Severe declines in the oil, gas and agricultural industries not only have impacted school districts dependent upon those taxpayers, but the economic ripples have impacted other sectors. The budgets of many private enterprises in Texas have been trimmed by reducing employment, cutting salaries, forcing early retirement,

and trimming other expenses. Thus far in 1986, inflation is nil forcing businesses to cover price increases such as higher taxes by reducing other expenses rather than by raising prices. Without salary increases, let alone the possibility of salary cuts, individuals are also forced to trim other expenses to pay higher taxes.

State school aid for 1986-87 is estimated to increase by \$140 million or 3 per cent. The increase largely reflects enrollment growth plus \$32 million more for career ladder salaries. The amount for individual school districts will vary because the 1985 estimates of market value will be used to determine the local share of the foundation program for 1986-87. If a districts 1985 market value is higher than the 1984 value, state aid will decrease, and vice versa. Statewide the local share is estimated to grow by \$43.6 million.

Lower oil prices will also impact the spending side of school budgets with substantial reductions in gasoline expense for school buses and lower fuel and utility costs. Nevertheless, school administrators still face problems implementing provisions of HB 72. One-fourth of the districts were unable to comply with the limit of 22 students in any class in grades K-2 last year and obtained a waiver.

After a decade of rapid inflation and revenue growth, administrators and trustees in many districts will have to examine small classes, marginal programs, staffing patterns, capital needs, etc. if across-the-board reductions are to be avoided. Changes in population have left not only small school districts but also campuses in larger districts with too few students to operate an educationally effective program. In most cases it is all but impossible to eliminate marginal programs or to close obsolete campuses until forced by financial pressures. As many private enterprises have learned, trimming marginal expenses to fit a tight budget usually results in a more effective and productive operation in the future.

Half of taxes from out-of-state

State Comptroller said Monday Austin "out of state companies operating in Texas may end up paying more than half of the taxes collected in the near future."

He said 47.8 per cent of the top 2,000 taxpayers in Texas, were from firms with headquarters located out-of-state. He said that was a 1.2 per cent increase since 1984.

Bullock said the tax payments were another indicator that the Texas economy is becoming more directly related to the national economy and nationwide business operations.

The comptroller also said a survey of the state's top 2,000 taxpayers revealed that while there are fewer out-of-state firms on that list, these companies are paying almost as much in total

dollars as Texas businesses.

Texas firms surveyed paid the state \$957.8 million in taxes in 1985 and out-of-state firms paid \$894.8 million.

There were 1,282 Texas firms included in the survey and 718 non-Texas companies.

The figures were drawn from information in audit reports conducted by the Comptroller's office.

Exchange club organizing Saturday

The Exchange Club of Merkel will be holding an organizational breakfast meeting at Polly's Restaurant at the Rest Inn, July 29th from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.

A 12 minute slide-sound film "What is Exchange, You Ask",

will be shown. The three principal areas of involvement of Exchange are: Americanism; Youth and Community Service Programs and Child Abuse Prevention.

An invitation is extended to all to come and hear about this

exciting, service club next Tuesday. Charter members include Robert Leo Harris, Pug Harris, Pug Harris, Grady Knight, Sarah Lucas, Polly Riney, Sybil Riney, Bill Sloan and Connie Harris.

Heritage Day, soccer season starts

by Cloy A. Richards

It looks like this Western Heritage Day in Merkel will turn out to be quite an event, with activities planned for young and old alike.

Demonstrations will include a ferrier (a guy who makes horse shoes from scratch) a surrey and an authentic chuckwagon, courtesy of the Buster Welch ranch, a gunfight re-enactment, Chamber of Commerce fajitas and a sheriff who just might arrest some folks if they don't have on articles that

suggest western attire. A parade will be held at 5 p.m., complete with the Six White Horses from Hardin-Simmons University.

We will try to have some sort of a schedule prepared next week so you won't miss out.

Local boys wanting to play soccer this fall in the Big Country Soccer Association are asked to contact Gwyn Tipton or myself for information concerning registration.

Boys that are older than 8 as of

January 1, 1987 and not 11 by that same date, will practice Saturday at 2 p.m. at the South Park (under the water tower). That will include eligible players from both Royals teams last year as well as those who haven't played in the past. Registration for the league will begin in August and at least two teams will play in the 8-10 division, one in the 8 and under and one in the 10-12 division. Coaches are needed and anyone wanting to help can come by the park Saturday.

Obituaries

Edna Brown

Funeral services were held Tuesday for Edna Florence Brown, 86, of Merkel.

She died Sunday at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene. Services were officiated by John Wagoner and burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery here under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born June 14, 1900 in Waco, she was a homemaker. She married James R. Brown in February of 1928. He died in January of 1951. She was a member of Merkel's First United Methodist Church.

She is survived by a son, Jimmy Earle Brown of New York City, two sisters Gladys Walden of Midland and Melbaela Irving of Merkel, and a brother Earle Waits of Abilene.

Henry Stout

Henry Lee Stout of Rt. 3, Merkel, died Sunday at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Funeral Services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Starbuck Chapel with John Wagoner, burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born July 11, 1915 in Cleburne, he was a veteran of World War II as a fireman first class in the United States Navy. He was a retired mechanic. He had married Marcy Hamilton Feb. 2, 1969.

He is survived by his wife, Mary of Merkel, two sons, Jerry D. Stout of Cleveland and Stanley L. Stout of Mesquite; four daughters Betty J. Lee of Midland, Linda L. Scott of Ft. Worth, Mila A. Cooksey of Lubbock and Barbara L. Lawless of Mesquite; a stepson Wylie A. Hamilton of Houston and a stepdaughter Kathy Brothers of Houston and stepdaughter Mary A. Hurst of Lake Jackson. He is also survived by 17 grandchildren and six great-great grandchildren.

'Chock' Hutcherson

C. J. "Chock" Hutcherson, 71, of Trent, died Saturday at Angelo Community Hospital.

Funeral services were held Monday at the Trent Baptist Church with Sherman Driggers officiating. Burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 30th, 1914 in Trent, he was a pumper of American Trading Production Corporation. He had married Theda Perry Aug. 5, 1939.

He is survived by his wife; a son Deris Hutcherson of Tuscola; two daughters Hilda Grain of San Angelo and Delanna Herring, also of San Angelo; a brother A. A. Hutcherson of Abilene and a sister Lou Whitworth of Richardson. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Jimmy Hobbs,

J. M. Heatley, Hillis Jones, Floyd Page, Harold Walker and John Stout.

Garrie Latimer

Services for Garrie B. Latimer, 83, of Radford Hills Convalescent Center, were held at 10:30 a.m. July 17th at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Abilene with the Rev. Alvis Cooley officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery here.

She died July 15th at the center. She was born in Mulberry Canyon. She was raised near Merkel and later moved to Abilene in 1945. She was a line supervisor for J. S. Lankford &

Son clothing manufacturer until her retirement in 1965. She was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Rose Putnam of Trent; a son, Donald Latimer of Merkel; two brothers, Blanton McLean of El Paso, Vance McLean of Waco; a sister Clebia Toombs of Snyder; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Dewel McLean of Merkel.

Pallbearers included Bob Faulkner, Monty Tittle, Keith Brewer, Justin D. Sandusky, Dink Whisenhunt and David Ledbetter.

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CRISPY TEXAS ONION RINGS

1 C. flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
2 eggs
1/2 C. plus 3 T. beer
2 T. melted butter
3-4 lg. sweet onions
1/2 C. flour
1 qt. cooking oil

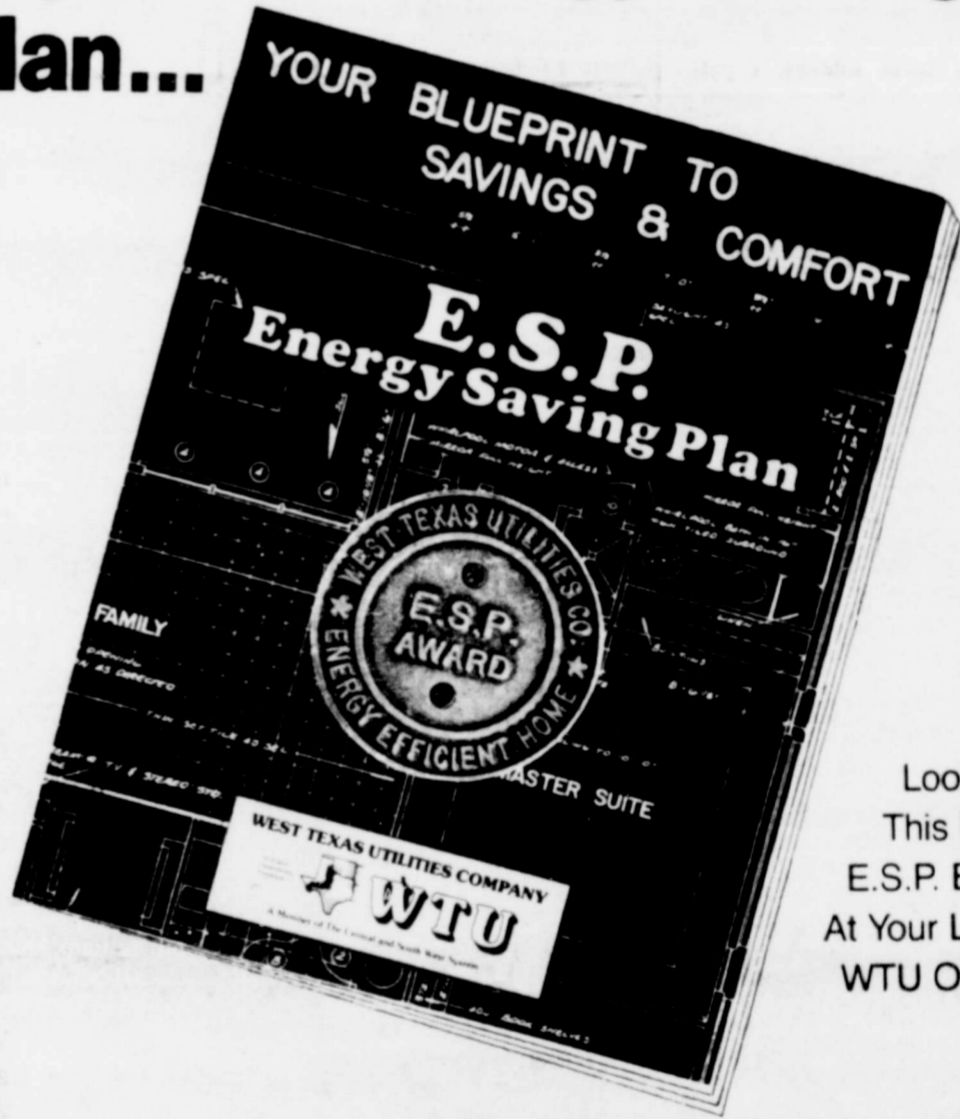
Sift flour, baking powder and salt. Beat eggs slightly, add beer and butter. Stir dry ingredients into liquids and mix until smooth. Cover and refrigerate 1 hour. Peel and slice onions, separating into rings. Coat onions with flour. In large skillet, pour cooking oil to depth of 1 1/2 inches. Heat to 375 degrees F. Dip floured onion rings into batter. Fry on each side 2-3 minutes or until brown. If batter becomes too thick, add a little more beer. Drain well and serve.

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Art Lawler



As I recall, there was a side of beef sitting on a table separating Spud and Flab.

Both had looks of reverence and commitment on their fleshy faces as they watched the steam coming off a fresh platter of medium rare sirloins.

The beef had been carefully prepared at a steak house in the woods. It wasn't one of those places with fancy fixtures or new ornaments designed to look old fashioned. The building was plain. The floors were plain. The waitresses were especially plain.

"I've never really been full in my life," Spud bragged.

"Me neither," said Flab.

"Most people reach a point where they either can't stand it anymore, or they get sick," said Spud, rubbing his well developed bay window in a narcissistic manner.

"They're weak," said Flab, who sounded more like Clint Eastwood than he looked. "Sometimes you just have to reach down for something extra."

"Yeah, I call it guts," said Spud. Both snickered and belched.

I'd forgotten about those two until I stopped in at Mama Underwoods' in Brownwood last week.

At least 100 of our fighting men were already inside. They looked as serious as Spud and Flab had on that memorable evening.

Not a smile was registered on any of the faces. If this was a mission - operation gluttony - they looked up to the task.

A few fell by the wayside after the first helping of cherry cobbler. There are, after all, few combat missions without casualties, be it in Libya or during an invasion of ribs and cobbler.

On the whole, though, our fighting men represented us well. Several even managed to hang in through the second and third helpings of steaming hot buttered rolls.

Sandwiched in between was a heavy bombardment of barbecued beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, and, or, potato salad and beans.

Inspired by these soldiers, I put away each of the above items, except for the beans. I also had a side order of fried chicken breast and became deliriously miserable.

During moments of intense gluttony, nostalgia often results. It serves as a mental instant replay - slow motion and all. The moments

are in vivid colors like broccoli green, cobbler wine and barbecue sauce rust.

This moment focused on a sterling performance during an earlier visit to this same cafeteria. That day a friend and I had inhaled both cobbler - cherry and peach - after the main course. We tried to bow to our audience, but of course, we couldn't.

As I recall we drove one mile to the city park. He took the left bumper of the car, and I took the right. The two of us slept it off for the next 90 minutes.

There are several chicken fried steak - come in and don't take off your hats, this is serious eating - places in the southwest. Real men (Hoss Cartwright types) walk in, straddle chairs, roll up their sleeves and pull out their own personalized knives and forks.

You wouldn't want to disturb Hoss when he has his feedbag around his sizeable neck.

Gluttony is wrong, of course. Sinful in every way, what with people starving all over the world, the shameful cholesterol problem, high blood pressure, and the disgrace of cellulite.

Just thinking about such wickedness is enough to work up an unhealthy appetite, though.

I know a place with a dirt floor called Big John's between Llano and Burnet, and...

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(Note: Anyone wishing to address his, or her, comments to this columnist should write P.O. Box 432, Buffalo Gap, Texas - 79508)

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CONSUMER ALERT

by
Jim Mattox
Attorney General

Don't Let Home Improvements Cost You Your Home

The family home is the biggest investment most consumers ever make. Many Texas consumers are finding that investment jeopardized by bad decisions on home improvement loans.

SECOND LIENS

My consumer protection attorneys have a number of lawsuits involving companies which took second liens against consumers' homes for such improvements as home siding, solar water heaters, roofing and burglar alarms. While it is legal to take a second lien for home improvement loans, some companies have used illegal tactics to induce consumers to continue payments on defective products.

For example, several companies took liens on homes where they had

installed defective solar water heaters. Since all the contracts were signed in the home, the sales are regulated by the Home Solicitation Act. That law says consumers have a three-day cooling off period, during which time the company may not legally install equipment or fixtures. In many instances, the company did installation of the water heaters during the three day cancellation period and told consumers they no longer had the option of cancelling. Because the law was violated, those consumers still have the right to cancel their contracts, even if the contracts have been sold to a finance company or bank.

YOUR RIGHTS

Many consumers do not understand their rights in this area. When

signing a contract for home improvements or any other major purchase, you should look for the following statement:

NOTICE

Any holder of this consumer credit contract is subject to all claims and defenses which the Debtor could assert against the Seller of goods or services obtained pursuant hereto or with the proceeds hereof. Recovery hereunder by the Debtor shall not exceed amounts paid by the Debtor hereunder.

If the seller of the goods or services sells or otherwise transfers your contract to a financial institution,

and the goods or services are not as they were represented, then you have a right to take action against the finance company as well as the seller. If a financial institution threatens to sue you or enforce a lien and you have a defense to payment, such as the failure of the product to perform as promised, you can assert that defense against the financial institution too.

FOR MORE HELP

If you believe that your rights have been violated under the laws described above, you may wish to file a complaint with the Consumer Protection Division, which has offices in Austin, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Lubbock, McAllen and El Paso.

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FDIC 8040 35 (9-85) (STATE) <195>

LEGAL TITLE OF BANK	STATE	CITY	COUNTY	ZIP CODE	STATE BANK NO.	FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT NO.	CLOSE OF BUSINESS DATE
Home State Bank Box 125 Trent, Texas 79561	Texas	Trent	Taylor	79561	1398-32	11 13 20307	June 30, 1986
					Dollar Amounts in Thousands		
ASSETS							
1. Cash and balances due from depository institutions:							
a. Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin					331 1.a		
b. Interest-bearing balances					798 1.b		
2. Securities					850 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					530 3		
4. Loans and lease financing receivables:							
a. Loans and leases, net of unearned income					3117 4.a		
b. LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses					075 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)					3 042 4.d		
5. Assets held in trading accounts					none 5		
6. Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)					256 6		
7. Other real estate owned					none 7		
8. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies					none 8		
9. Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding					none 9		
10. Intangible assets					none 10		
11. Other assets					104 11		
12. Total assets (sum of items 1 through 11)					5 911 12		
LIABILITIES							
13. Deposits:							
a. In domestic offices:							
(1) Noninterest-bearing					610 13.a(1)		
(2) Interest-bearing					4581 13.a(2)		
b. In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs					none 13.b		
(1) Noninterest-bearing					none 13.b(1)		
(2) Interest-bearing					none 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					none 14		
15. Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury					none 15		
16. Other borrowed money					none 16		
17. Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases					067 17		
18. Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding					none 18		
19. Notes and debentures subordinated to deposits					none 19		
20. Other liabilities					087 20		
21. Total liabilities (sum of items 13 through 20)					5 545 21		
22. Limited-life preferred stock					none 22		
EQUITY CAPITAL							
23. Perpetual preferred stock (No. of shares outstanding)					none 23		
24. Common stock (No. of shares):							
a. Authorized					2500 24		
b. Outstanding					250 25		
25. Surplus					150 26		
26. Undivided profits and capital reserves					034 26		
27. Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments					366 28		
28. Total equity capital (sum of items 23 through 27)					5 911 29		
29. Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, and equity capital (sum of items 21, 22, and 28)					MEMO		

MEMORANDA: Amounts outstanding as of Report Date

1 a Standby letters of credit, Total

1 b Amount of Standby letters of credit in memo 1 a conveyed to others through participations

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: Betty Hammer, V.P.-Cashier

DATE SIGNED: July 17, 1986

NAME AND TITLE OF OFFICER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT: Betty Hammer, V.P.-Cashier

AREA CODE/PHONE NO: (915) 862-6137

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: [Signatures]

State of Texas, County of Taylor

(MAKE MARK FOR NOTARY'S SEAL) Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of July 19 86

I hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank and my commission expires February 19 89

Signature Notary Public: [Signature]



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 January 1, 1987 on new (October 1, 1986 on 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

- SEE US TODAY FOR THESE OTHER NEW EQUIPMENT SPECIALS
- | | |
|--|--|
| NEW JOHN DEERE 510 ROUND BALER \$8,500 | NEW JOHN DEERE 1219 MOWER-COND \$8,000 |
| NEW JOHN DEERE 330 ROUND BALER \$8,750 | FORD 330 SQUARE BALER \$1,500 |
| USED EQUIPMENT SPECIAL | NEW HOLLAND 276 SQUARE BALER \$2,500 |
| JOHN DEERE 4440 TRACTOR \$21,500 | HESTON 1080 MOWER-COND \$3,250 |
| JOHN DEERE 4430 TRACTOR \$14,000 | JOHN DEERE 400 MOWER-COND \$1,200 |
| JOHN DEERE 7520 TRACTOR \$15,000 | JOHN DEERE 340-15 OFFSET \$3,750 |
| JOHN DEERE 4010 LT TRACTOR \$4,500 | IHC 14' OFFSET \$3,250 |
| FORD 3 N TRACTOR \$1,750 | SUNFLOWER 20' OFFSET \$2,750 |
| FORD 961 TRACTOR \$2,750 | |
| FORD 552 ROUND BALER \$2,750 | |

Abilene Farm Supply

3526 S Treadaway 692-2255

Classifieds

For Sale

We make hydraulic hoses.
P & L Auto Parts
135 Edwards
928-4738

TFC

P & L Auto Parts is open from 7:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. each Saturday.
TFC

For Sale: Travel trailer, 28', real nice. Call 928-5378 see at 311 Ash.
162-TFC

For Sale: 25,000 BTU air conditioner, call 928-5892
164-TFC

FOR SALE: Golden Acres Seed, TE Hay-grazer, TE Goldmaker (sterile), Chiefton Cattle Grazer, several varieties of Maize, call Ray Pack.
928-4916
167-TFC

For All Your AMWAY Needs Call Cathy Pack or Sherry Vinson at 928-4959 after 4 or on weekends.
165-TFCNC

For Sale: used water pumps in good condition 1/2 horsepower Myers jets \$100. 3/4 horsepower Sears hydro convertible jet \$150. 85 gallon galvanized pressure tank \$30. Palmer Pontiac & GMC 928-5113.
170-TFC

For Sale: 1986 Kawasaki (Maroon) 454 LTD, windshield, plenty of chrome, never dropped or wrecked, always stored in shed, excellent shape, still under warranty, call Joe after 5:00 p.m.
928-5629.
172-2tc

Piano For Sale: Wanted Responsible party to assume small monthly payments on piano. See locally, call Credit Manager 1-800-447-4286.
172-3tc

For sale: 5 room house at 410 Yucca \$5,500. Call 691-5027 Abilene.
173-1tp

For Sale: queen size sofa sleeper. Large floral print, beige and coral on chocolate brown, loose pillow back, good condition, Call 928-4844.
173-1tp

For Sale: 1 owner 1984 GMC S15 Pickup with extended cab, nice. Also has headache rack, toolboxes and misc. farm equipment. Call 928-4053
173-2tc

1978 Bonneville Pontiac for sale: Very good tires in good shape. Call after 3 or come by east side of County Barn
928-4988.
173-1tp

For Sale: 1978 GMC pick-up See at 1011 Oak.
173-1tp

For Rent

For Rent: 2 bedroom all electric apartments. Upstairs \$250 with \$150 deposit. Downstairs with dishwasher \$275 with \$150 deposit. 928-5194.
149-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: 1 bedroom house, full bath, washer-dryer room, 702 S 2nd, address is 704 S 2nd. Comply to P. L. Ayers on 302 Orange.
173-1tc

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

Equal Housing Opportunity SHANNONSHIDE APARTMENTS

1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments, all electric, central heat & cooling. For more information call 928-5038.

For Rent: 2 bedroom, living room, dining room, kitchen, central air and heat, stove, refrigerator, washer & dryer, edge of town on 1 acre \$375 per month \$150 deposit. Call 928-5194.
142-TFC

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

Mobil home for lease or rent: 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, fenced-in yard, storage building 928-5845 or 928-4991.
173-2tc

Real Estate

Rt. 3 Box 31 Quail Co. 93,000, Merkel Beauty, steel A-Frame- perfect for retirement or pleasure- on 6 acres- out building, Helen Winchester 677-1811; 692-7457, Senter Realtors Merkel, 113 Country Club Rd. 45,000, Fantastic Buy in Merkel. Large size 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 story home, skylight, wood deck, total electric. All the extras, \$45,000. Call Diane Schwartz at Senter Realtors, 698-0541.
168-TFC

14 by 80 mobile home For Sale, Rent or Trade for something of equal value. Call Joyce at 928-5673.
171-TFC

For Lease- For Sale: Mobil home site and or home-office site. All utilities and septic are in on this lovely 2 acre lot south of Merkel, lease for 185.00 per month or purchase Dalzell Realtors 691-1300 or Debbie 695-6105.
171-4tc

House for Sale: 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, washer-dryer, air conditioner, 1 bath, refrigerator, front room carpeted, 1 acre of land 1 1/2 mile East of Merkel, mail service and bus route. Call 928-5613, Cyrus Pee, Realtor.
171-TFC

For Sale: 3 bedroom brick house, central air and heat, bath & 3/4, built in dishwasher and range, on 2 lots, 1 car garage, horsepens and storage building, 806 Locust 928-5145.
171-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

Merkel Home on 5 Acres with 15 additional acres Like new 3 bedroom, 2 bath, super work shop 30 x 40. Windmill and water well. Also on city water. Any new loan, Wayne-Jean Walker 677-1811, 673-3305.
169-TFC

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

Land For Sale: located on I-20. Will sell either 1, 3, 5 or 10 acres. Will be good for housing or motel. All utilities can be secured, call Cyrus Pee Realtors 928-5613.
164-TFC

House For Sale: 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, washer, dryer, refrigerator, 1 bath, front room is carpeted on 1 acre of land 7 1/2 m. east of Merkel, has mail and school bus route, call 928-5613.
171-TFC

MISC.

For Watkins Products call Larry or Martha Sue Justice 928-5217.
166-TFCNC

Lost: 2 yearling semital bulls, 1 yellow, white face with an I brand on right hip; other is red-white faced with red rings around the eyes with JWT brand on right hip. Lost south of Merkel last Friday. Please call 928-5508 if found. Thanks
173-1tc

BARGAINS Used central air conditioners, used window air conditioners, used coolers and parts, used coolers and parts. Stop and see at Amerine Mechanical at 502 Kent.
173-TFC

Redo for you: only \$34,000 2-1 circle drive, big yard, country kitchen, Michelle 695-2786 or 698-4440.
173-4tc

PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING ALL BREEDS HAND FLUFF DRY HAND SCISSORING FREE POLISH BOWS & COLOGNE. Please call Faye at 928-4474 after 1 p.m. for an appointment
137-TFC

Bob's Electric Service. Quality Work, reasonable rates, construction or re-wiring, ceiling fans installed. No Job Too Small 928-5795.
159-TFC

HELP WANTED: Needed Immediately Part Time LVN 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Apply in person Starr Nursing Home.
167-TFC

Garage Sales

KID'S KORNER DAY CARE CENTER 2nd & Oak, Open Monday through Friday 6:30 am until 5:30 p.m. Call 928-4381.
66-TFC

Germania Insurance Company. For your insurance needs. Local represented by Donna Carter, 928-5348.
33-TFC

Airline Jobs \$17,800 to \$68,500 a year. Now Hiring. Call Job Line 1-518-459-3535 Ext. A-6692 For info. 24 HRS.
171-3tp

Memories On Video. Get Weddings, birthdays, or any special occasion on tape. Minimum charge \$25.00 including tape, call 928-5717.
168-TFC

Granny's Playhouse Day Care Center Open 6 A.M.-6:30 P.M. Hot lunch and snacks provided, more information call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange.
172-3tp

Remodeling & Painting, 35 years experience 312 Edwards, 928-4548. No jobs too small or too large.
172-TFC

Canoes For Rent: 7.50 per day with paddles and life vest, 928-4986, 610 Orange.
172-4tc

All Types of small repairs, building repairs, cement work, lawns mowed, evaporative cooler and refrigeration units repaired, 928-4986.
172-2tc

For adoption: well behaved male dog, small.
Two free kittens, first come first choice.
Merkel Vet Clinic 928-5235.

Do you have extra garden produce or products you'd like to Sell. Reserve a booth for \$5 at Hi Val for Western Heritage Day, downtown Saturday Aug. 2nd.

COOL YOUR HOUSE NOW with central air-conditioning from Amerine Mechanical, 502 Kent phone 928-4876. PS we will help you finance your unit.

Small engine and bicycle repair. No charge on pick-up and delivery. Rebuilt mowers for sale. Will take trade-in. Buffalo Energy 928-4827
1-9 p.m.

Cellars built, concrete and backhoe works, water lines laid, also remodeling and furniture refinishing, 928-5879.
170-4tc

bob's Electric Service, Quality work, reasonable rates, construction or re-wiring, ceiling fans installed, no job too small 928-5795.
169-TFC

LESTER HUMPHREY TERMITE & PEST CONTROL
1202 PINE 677-2413

MERKEL VETERINARY CLINIC OPERATED BY BRADLEY R. BANNER, DVM KATHRYN L. BANNER, DVM
SAME LOCATION FM 126 N
HOURS: MON-FRI 8:30-5:30
CLOSED FROM 12-1 SATURDAYS FROM 8 UNTIL NOON
928-5235 Appointments
928-4176 Emergencies



Funeral Pre-arrangement
The last and most loving bequest for your family.
Let us help
STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME
201 Edwards 928-4711

The Merkel Mail

First Published
March 3, 1889

Cloy A. Richards—Editor—Co-Publisher
Melanie Richards—Co Publisher
Published at 916 North 2nd Street
Merkel, Texas

Entered As Second Class Mail at the U. S. Post Office in Merkel, Texas 79536

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
\$10 Per Year in Taylor County
\$11.75 Anywhere in Texas
\$12.50 Out of State

Professional Affiliations
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION

NOTICE
Typographical or other errors must be brought to our attention before the second insertion or claims for refund will not be recognized

CLASSIFIED RATES
Classified ads are \$2 for the first 18 words and 10 cents for each additional word if paid in advance. A 75 cent billing fee will be added to all charged ads. Ads that are charged and not paid within 30 days will be charged \$1 for each additional billing

PUBLIC NOTICE RATES
Legal notices are 55 cents per line for the first insertion and 45 cents per line for each additional insertion

Business Phone (915) 928-5712
Recorder on after hours or when out of office
Please Correspond top Box 428, Merkel

Merkel's Oldest Business
Publishing weekly since 1889

"Congress Shall Make No Law Abridging The Freedom of the Press

Publisher Reserve the Right to Cancel Any advertisement at any time

WE WANT YOU TO READ OUR MAIL"

and providing that the TIMELY FILING OF NOTICE OF ANY CLAIM AND REFUSAL OF SAME BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO THE INSTITUTION OF ANY SUIT; PROVIDING FOR VERIFICATION OF THE NOTICE OF CLAIM; AND PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.
Jo Moore
City Secretary
City of Tye, Texas
173-11c-37

KOFOEDS AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL INSTALLATION & REPAIR

STATE LICENSED
FREE ESTIMATES 928-5939

VISA MASTER CHARGE



AUTHORIZED SERVICE DEALER

LARGE SELECTION OF PARTS
WARRANTY REPAIRS WELCOMED
MOWERS
CHAIN SAWS WEED EATERS TILLERS
CRANK SHAFT STRAIGHTENING
SAW CHAIN REPAIRS & SHARPENING
PICK UP AND DELIVERY
PORTABLE SIGNS FOR RENT
OPEN 8-6 MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS

BROWNE ENTERPRISES

ON THE CORNER OF NORTH 1ST & KENT
102 KENT 915-928-4307

ABILENE PAINT & BODY

2726 S 2nd
FOR PROFESSIONAL PAINT & BODY WORK
SEE STEVE PARKER 676-4441
FREE ESTIMATES 24 HOUR SERVICE

Consolidated Plumbing

ALL WORK GUARANTEED FULL TIME ANSWERING SERVICE
928-5627
RADIO DISPATCHED TRUCKS FOR FAST DEPENDABLE SERVICE IF NO ANSWER
CALL 928-5263 OLD AND NEW WORK TRENCH AVAILABLE

VIC'S ROOFING

5 YEAR GUARANTEE
OVER 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE
IN MERKEL AREA ALONE
FOR FREE ESTIMATE CALL
928-4703
VICTOR LERMA
OWNER & OPERATOR

GENERAL REPAIRS

MOWER & TILLER SERVICE
WELDING ETC
N 2nd & Taylor STREET

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS SEYMORE INSURANCES

Auto, Property, General Liability
Crop, Health, Life, Disability,
Tax shelters, Retirement,
Educational Plans
102 Edwards 928-5379

FOR SALE APARTMENTS-11 UNITS PLUS LAUNDRY & MINI STORAGE
100% OCCUPIED
ONLY 3 YEARS OLD
EXCELLENT TAX SHELTER
CALL 915-728-8619

Public notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: TONY LUNA,
 Address Unknown, 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 CHRISTIAN HOMES OF ABILENE, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 15th day of July, 1986, against TONY LUNA, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 457-CX on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of AN UNBORN CHILD, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to that the Court determine what parent-child relationship exist between the child and any other

persons, that an Attorney ad Litem be appointed by the Court to represent the interest of those cited by publication and that all such parent-child relationships be terminated. Petitioner prays for general relief.

Said child is UNBORN. 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.

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

15th day of July, 1986.
 Rilla Mahoney, District Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas by Rita Moore, Deputy (Seal) 173-86-11c

NOTICE OF INTENDED TRANSFER

Notice is hereby given that on June 2, 1986, the entire assets of BIG COUNTRY RESTAURANT AND REFRIGERATION SERVICE, whose address is 1217 South Bowie, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, will be transferred to BCRR, INC. a Texas corporation whose principal place of business is 1217 South Bowie, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, and which will become bound to pay the debts of the said BIG COUNTRY RESTAURANT AND REFRIGERATION SERVICE, and that the said corporation will be solvent upon becoming so bound.

Dated: July 14, 1986
 BY BCRR, INC.
 David Cramer
 173-21c-30

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: UNKNOWN, Ad-
 dress Unknown, 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 first Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the first amended petition to terminate the parent-child relationship of Christian Homes of Abilene, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 9th day of July, 1986, against UN-

KNOWN, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 379-CX on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of ASHLEY RENEE RUSSELL, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to determine what parent-child relationship exist between the child and any other persons, than an Attorney as Litem be appointed by the Court to represent the interest of those persons cited by publication, and that all such parent-child relationships be terminated. Petitioner prays for general relief.

Said child was born the 26th day of June, 1986, in Abilene, Taylor 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.

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 9th day of July, 1986.

Rilla Mahoney, District Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas by Rita Moore, Deputy (Seal) 173-11c-91

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: J. L. Reynolds and
 S. C. Pool, and the

unknown heirs at law, devisees, legal representatives, successors and assigns, of each said named Defendant who is deceased, if any is deceased.

You are hereby commanded to appear before the Honorable 104th District Court of Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the first day of September, 1986, to Plaintiff's original Petition filed in said Court on the 16th day of July, 1986, in this cause which is No. 17,265-B on the docket of said Court, styled WALTER F. BROWN, JR., Plaintiff, vs. J. L. REYNOLDS, ET AL., Defendants. The Plaintiff in said suit is Walter F. Brown, Jr., and the defendants are J. L. REYNOLDS AND S.C. POOL, ET AL.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit:

A suit for the appointment of a Receiver under the provisions of V.T.C.A. Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Section 64.091 to execute an oil, gas and mineral lease on the interests of the Defendants in the following described land situated in Taylor County, Texas, to-wit:

Being the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 30, Lunatic Asylum Lands, A-1085, Taylor County, Texas, comprising some 80 acres, more or less;

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) 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 mandate

thereof, 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 16th day of July, 1986.
 Rilla Mahoney, District

Clerk of Taylor County, Texas By JoAnn Lackey Deputy (Seal) 173-41c-88

★ ANNOUNCING ★
DAY CARE CENTER
OPENING SEPTEMBER 2, 1986
AT THE TYE BAPTIST CHURCH
 ★ OPEN 7:15 AM - 6 PM
AGES 18 MONTHS
THROUGH 5th GRADE
 ★ DELIVERY & PICK-UP
AVAILABLE AT TYE ELEMENTARY
PRE-REGISTER NOW!
207 MORGAN TYE
FOR INFORMATION CALL
692-4805 692-6403 695-8721

★ COMING SOON TO
BUFFALO GAP ★
The Strawberry Patch
 ★ GIFTS ★ ARTS ★ CRAFTS
 ★ FM 89 572-3000

 A FULL SERVICE AGENCY
HAMMOND
INSURANCE
AGENCY
 ★ HOMEOWNERS ★ AUTOMOBILE
 ★ COMMERCIAL FIRE & CASUALTY
 ★ LIFE ★ HEALTH
 YOUR HOME TOWN INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENT
WE ARE HERE
WHEN YOU NEED US
BOX 547 MERKEL 928-4122
PERSONAL ATTENTION

BARBECUE
TIME
IS ANY TIME

GRILLED HAMBURGERS... AN AMERICAN FAVORITE

Burger lovers take note! According to a recent survey from the Barbecue Industry Association, hamburgers are America's favorite food for charcoal grilling! Their popularity is due partly to the fact that they're "naturals" for the grill—their subtle flavors readily pick up a delicious smoky tinge—and partly because the ease and convenience of barbecuing makes everyone an expert at the art of outdoor charcoal cooking!

- Ladle spoonfuls of thick homemade or bottled chili sauce over grilled burgers. The pot of chunky chili can be heated right alongside the hamburgers on the grid.
- Blend a mixture of diced peppers, carrots and celery to create a textural delight, as well as great taste.
- Combine soy sauce, ginger, Worcestershire and garlic for a tangy teriyaki marinade. Grill over medium-hot coals turning once.
- Jazz up charcoal grilled hamburgers by offering scrumptious toppings: guacamole and chopped red peppers,

HONDA SPREE DONATED BY **HOME STATE BANK**
DEPOSITS OF UP TO \$100,000 **TRENT, TEXAS MEMBER FDIC**
INSURED BY THE FDIC **A BANK OF FRIENDLY SERVICES -**
PROVIDING INTEREST BEARING CHECKING ACCOUNTS

RIDING CLUB MEMBERS (FROM LEFT) RUTLEDGE, JAN WOODALL, ANN PA' BANNER AND CHELSEA PAYNE AT WHEEL OF THE SCOOTER THAT WILL BE GIVEN AWAY AT THE CHALLENGE OF THE CLUBS

RALD KATHRYN WHEEL OF THE

THE MERKEL RIDING CLUB
WILL BE HOLDING THE
DRAWING FOR THIS
SCOOTER AT THEIR
CHALLENGE OF THE
CLUBS AT THEIR ARENA
AUGUST 2 a AT 7 PM
TICKETS ARE \$1⁰⁰ EACH
6 FOR \$5⁰⁰ 12 FOR \$10⁰⁰
YOU DONT HAVE TO
BE PRESENT TO WIN
TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM
HOME STATE BANK, MERKEL DRUG
HI-VAL FARM & HOME SUPPLY
GERALD RUTLEDGE OPERATING CO
OR FROM ANY
RIDING CLUB MEMBER

HONDA SPREE SPECIAL
 DONATED BY
HOME STATE BANK
 TRENT, TEXAS
 MEMBER FDIC

1986 Business Review

Compiled by

CONSUMER MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

C. J. LOZA ROOFING CO.

C. J. Loza — Owner

It's ironic, but one of the most important items in the protection of your home or business is often the most neglected. For residential and commercial roofing work, knowledgeable businessmen and homeowners in the Abilene area have come to depend on C. J. LOZA ROOFING CO. to get the job done right!

Located at 326 Forrest in Abilene, phone 677-7714, this reliable concern has been fixing and building roofs of all types for years!

Whether it's a hot tar build-up or a composition roof, this is one firm which can handle it! No matter what you need in the way of roofing . . . this well known contractor can take care of it!

Does the roof on your home or business require repair or renovation? Call this respected firm and have your entire home or business re-roofed for a lot less than you think! Call C. J. LOZA ROOFING CO. and make arrangements to have those much-needed repairs attended to . . . expertly!

MIDWAY SAND & GRAVEL

Edell Ratliff — Owner

When you need sand and gravel to complete a construction project, you need it *right now!* At MIDWAY SAND & GRAVEL on Buffalo Gap Road in Abilene, phone 698-8916, you won't have problems with your order not being filled promptly and delivered on schedule!

These qualified professionals of the sand and gravel business can offer you, the customer, more in terms of quality products and fast service! They can supply you with any amount of graded and sized gravel, crushed rock, masonry sand, fill materials and much more.

For the homeowner, they offer money saving pit service on sand and gravel for smaller loads. See this full service organization for ALL of your sand and gravel needs . . . MIDWAY SAND & GRAVEL!

TEXAS PACKING COMPANY

Wayne & Rita Rieger — Owners

Looking for the best place to buy meat this summer? Remember the name TEXAS PACKING COMPANY located at 1309 W. Broadway in Sweetwater, phone 235-1454. They're well known in this area for their fine meats and excellent custom cutting work.

Regardless of what you have to be cut and wrapped, the experts here at this meat packing company can handle the job in the most professional manner so that you get the most of each particular cut of meat, and cut the right way so that it will be more tender. They will completely wrap it for you and freeze it, all in the shortest time.

TEXAS PACKING COMPANY features delicious smoked turkeys, and boneless peppered hams perfect for summer picnics, weddings, and all other occasions where only the finest will do!

Through their interest to select only the highest grade meat for packing purposes, this company has become well known for their delicious meats at realistic prices. This summer let this firm cut your meats, and when looking for the best to buy, always select the fine meats from the TEXAS PACKING COMPANY. You'll be glad you did!

SEAT COVER CENTER ABILENE BOAT CENTER

Locally Owned & Operated By Ben & Betty Davis

Custom automobile upholstery is done in this area by the SEAT COVER CENTER and they're the recognized professionals in the field. They are located at 1056 Butternut in Abilene, phone 677-1349 and feature all types of auto and truck upholstery including door panels, headliners, arm rests, truck cushions and seat covers. You'll find original factory replacement materials for most cars, and a truck seat exchange is available. They also feature wholesale and retail foam and vinyl materials.

In the same location, the ABILENE BOAT CENTER stands ready to handle most all of your boat repair needs . . . inside and out! They can take care of fiberglass repair, painting, and, of course, expert upholstery work. If you're currently in the market for a boat, they also feature a selection of new and used boats at 942 Butternut.

These quality-minded firms put skill and dedication into every car, truck, or boat they work on. You'll find many fabric samples to choose from, wholesale and retail, so you can be sure to find just the type and color you want.

You know you're getting the best when these experienced craftsmen are on the job. Call the SEAT COVER CENTER or ABILENE BOAT CENTER when you want truly professional work!

VISIONS

Becky Pruet — Owner

Brenda Mims — Buyer/Manager

VISIONS is located at 3301 South 14th Street (River Oaks Shopping Center) in Abilene, phone 698-7200. Here they feature a complete line of ladies' ready-to-wear suitable for ANY women . . . from college girls to business women to homemakers. This fine shop caters to ALL women . . . who desire to look their absolute best at all times.

You can find just the right ensemble for your every mood or occasion at this full line store. They carry famous brands, of course, and offer all of the popular services such as layaways, Visa and Mastercard. Stop in today . . . select a new blouse or a new pair of slacks or maybe that new dress you've been wanting. You'll like the service and LOVE the selection!

If you haven't visited VISIONS yet, the management cordially invites you to do so. They value your patronage and will do everything they can to make you a regular customer. This summer for all you do . . . VISIONS is the clothing store for you!

MANLY PAINT & BODY

Ray Manly — Owner

For most folks, their car is one of the biggest investments they make. Take care of it! MANLY PAINT & BODY at 141 Burger Street in Abilene, phone 673-2140, can refinish and re-paint ANY car or truck, foreign or domestic. Their work is well known as being fast, economical AND beautiful.

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Malone's visitors

Recent out-of-town visitors in the home of Goldia Malone of Merkel included David, Paula & Frank Daubelbower of Blue Spring, Mo.; Rebecca Varnell of El Paso; Marie Tate of Odessa; Raymond and Eltha Pillars of Dallas; Charis Richardson of Duncanville and Tom, Dana & Courtney & Tina Tate of San Angelo.

The Daubelbower's enjoyed a drive through Mulberry Canyon over to Sweetwater Lake and then back down the mountain to the Rhodes Ranch Road through Blair. Paula had made her home with Goldia in the early 1950's and it was her first visit back to the old home place south of town. A good visit with friendship, fellowship and love was enjoyed by the group and Goldia reports she is looking forward to seeing them next year.

Mexican night held

Preceptor Eta Omega Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi had fajitas and all the trimmings June 19th in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church here.

Those attending were Connie & Juan Ybarra, Opal & Bob Garner, Val Patterson, Blanche Hewitt, Suzie & Chrystal Beard, Mary & Jennifer Hewitt, Betty & Kent Satterwhite, Renee Smith, Betty Conley, Jane & J. C. Carson, Kathy & Jimmie Leverich, Mamie Steck, Kacy and Riki Casady.

Hughes is ACU grad

Lisa Jon Hughes, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John B. Hughes of Merkel, was among 767 students to receive degrees during commencement ceremonies May 10 at Abilene Christian University.

Miss Hughes received a master of science degree in management and human relations.

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Lindsey Franklin — Owner

Preserving with less sugar

Foods can be preserved at home with less sugar, but the results may or may not be acceptable to your tastes, says a Texas A & M University Agricultural Extension Service Specialist.

Before trying no-sugar recipes on your produce, nutritionist Marilyn Haggard advises experimenting with small batches to see if you are pleased with the results.

Recipes for canning fruits call for the addition of sugar or a sugar syrup to maintain the texture, shape and color of the fruit and to improve the flavor, she explains. Omitting the sugar will primarily affect the fruit texture and flavor.

When canning without sugar, the specialist says only to use firm ripe or slightly under-ripe fruit so it won't become too soft from canning. By adding ascorbic acid

or a commercial anti-darkening agent, fruit will retain better color.

"If you plan to use artificial sweeteners, add it when the fruit is served," says Haggard. "The heat of processing can cause some artificial sweeteners to become bitter and others to lose the sweetening power."

She points out that fruit can also be frozen safely without added sugar, but will not maintain its quality during freezer storage as well as fruit that has sugar added.

Berries and fruits which do not darken when exposed to air can be frozen in a single layer on trays and then packed into freezing bags or containers. The fruits which freeze well in this manner are blueberries, strawberries, dewberries, blackberries, raspberries, cherries, plums, dates, grapes, melon balls, pineapple

chunch and rhubarb slices.

According to Haggard, light-colored fruits such as apples, peaches and apricots freeze well in unsweetened juice or water which ascorbic acid has been added to prevent darkening. Light colored juices, including apple, pineapple and orange juice are suitable as liquids to cover frozen fruits.

Since sugar gives sweet pickles and relishes their unique texture and flavor, omitting this ingredient can result in a mushy and less flavorful produce, the specialist says.

Haggard says it's also difficult to get good sugarless jams and jellies, since sugar is essential to gel formation, serves as a preserving agent and improves the flavor.

Jams and jellies made without sugar are more like a gelatin product than a true jam or jelly, she notes. The "mouth feel" will be different and the flavor tart.

Even with these drawbacks, the specialist says jams and jellies made with artificial sweeteners, a small amount of sugar or a combination of artificial sweetener and sugar can be acceptable.

In addition, some brands of low methoxyl pectins give instructions for making jellies without additional sugars. But, if this method is used, Haggard recommends using very ripe fruit which has a high concentration of natural sugars.

Sr. Citizens covered dish tonight

The Senior Citizens will meet Thursday at 6:45 p.m. on 122 Edwards Street.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. Come early, bring a covered dish, and

visit in a cool building. The air conditioner has been repaired.

Singing will be held at 7 p.m. Aug. 4th.

Rea preaching at Bradshaw revival

Rev. Carl Rea of Trent is holding a weekend revival July 25, 26 & 27th.

Nightly services will begin at 7 p.m. at Bradshaw Baptist. The

singing Murphy family will be in charge of special music.

Rev. Darel Bunch, formerly a Merkel pastor, extends a cordial invitation to Bradshaw Baptist for the revival.



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4 PACK 16 OZ

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Harris' at fireman's 110th convention

Attending the 110th annual conference and convention of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshall's Association of Texas recently in Austin were Robert, Connie, Melissa & Kris "Bo" Harris.

Saturday's activities started off with registration, a trade show and exhibits. Kris served as state mascot and performed his first duties at the executive board meeting. State officers took a break during the meeting to watch the Goddess of Liberty be placed back on top the state capitol. Pumper races were held in the afternoon followed by a barbecue and dance.

On Sunday, memorial services were held and firemen from Merkel were honored. The pledge of allegiance was given by mascot Kris "Bo" Harris. Receptions were held at the Ramada Inn Townlake by association president Bob Looney and Auxillary president Molly Pogar. The President's dance was held later. The keynote address was delivered by Lena Guerrero, State Representative of District 51.

The past mascot and sweetheart's breakfast started off Monday's activities for Mascot Harris and past sweetheart Melissa Harris.

The 2nd business session Governor Mark White addresses the fireman. TFA board members were introduced to the governor. Workshops were held that afternoon.

The Texas Fireman's Auxillary started their activities with a luncheon and held a "Texas" tribute to past presidents. Speaker for that event was Dr. Wylie Jordan, appointee as head of the Texas Sesquicentennial celebration. Connie Harris was presented a plaque for serving as president for 1983-84. Workshops included accessorize yourself, critical incident stress and developing a positive self-image.

Tuesday, the IFSTA's breakfast was Bo's first activity. More workshops were held. The afternoon session reports were given

and the Poster Committee named Jane Roberts of Merkel 2nd in the primary division.

The Auxillary held their business meeting. Connie Harris serves as assistant secretary.

During the 4th session more

Cotton group says exports will help

A turnaround is beginning for the U.S. cotton industry, and the new farm law's cotton program is credited as being the major force behind the dramatic reversal.

"Markets are being regained, and foreign cotton producing nations are having to share in the reduction of huge surplus stocks and excess production capacity," Charles Bragg, National Cotton Council vice president for producer affairs said last week.

Speaking to the Texas Farm Bureau's Cotton Committee here, Bragg said U.S. cotton sales in the 1986-87 crop year - which begins Aug. 1 - are expected to be the largest in recent history. He pointed out that advance export sales commitments for the new season already exceed this year's total sales.

"We think total offtake in the coming season will be about equally divided between export and domestic customers," added.

The council official said the turnaround is all the more remarkable in light of the near-crisis situation cotton faced before the passage of the 1985 farm act.

"Projected world production and carryover stocks were at the highest levels in history," he stated. "Market prices were far below cost of production, and exports were projected to be the lowest in this century."

Compounding the situation was the influx of cotton textile imports that was decimating the domestic spinning industry and thus U.S. producers' markets.

Bragg said the major change in the new cotton program is the so-called marketing loan under

which cotton will be priced competitively in world markets regardless of how low world prices fall. As the U.S. cotton industry adjusts to these more competitive world prices, cotton producer income will be protected through target prices and deficiency payments.

These will be gradually and systematically reduced over the five-year life of the new farm

law," the Council representative said. Acknowledging that critics are already attacking the new farm program on the grounds of cost, Bragg said taxpayers costs of farm programs should be measured against the alternative of a bankrupt agriculture.

committee reports were given and election results were announced. Bo was honored as outgoing mascot. He was presented gifts from the Billy Lucas family - a disc plaque with his name, the State of Texas and the state fireman's emblem: the Johnny-

Ecmedies family - a Sesquicentennial coin; a Merkel Fire Department bunker coat from Robert, Connie & Melissa Harris; and a fire helmet and an antique wooden musical fire truck from President & Mrs. Bob Looney.

Pepsi 4PACK 16 OZ BOTTLE **\$1.39**
KOZY KITTEN CANNED CAT FOOD 3 FOR **\$1.00**

July Cleaners **\$2.69** (variety)
Real Cheese Made with 100% Real Cheese
RED BARON REG \$2.99
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color ugly injun "Joe" and return to the Chamber of Commerce office no later than Wednesday, July 30, 4 p.m. Pictures will be judged on neatness and originality in age groups of 4 and under, 5-7, and 8+over, and entries will be posted at Western Heritage Day.

NAME
 AGE

KIDS...
 PAINT UGLY INJUN
 JOE AND GET HIM READY
 WITH WAR PAINT FOR
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HAIR SPRAY 8 OZ **98c**

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12 OZ CAN **6 FOR \$1.59**

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PARADE 303
SWEET PEAS 2 FOR **69c**

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TOMATOES 2 FOR **73c**

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WESTERN BEANS 3 FOR **98c**

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1 LB CAN **\$2.59**
1 LIMIT
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KRAFTS CHEESE
SINGLE SLICED SHARP
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TV DINNERS EA **69c**

AUNT JEMIMA
WAFFLES 10 OZ PKG **79c**

MORTON'S ASST
POT PIES 8 OZ 2 FOR **69c**

JELLO ASSORTED 12 PACK
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