

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, March 6, 1986 ...Merkel, Texas

Our 98th Year

Commissioner candidate wants confidence of rural county citizens

Taylor County Precinct 2 Commissioner candidate Julian Bridges made his formal campaign announcement to **The Mail** this week and says he is determined to meet as many people as possible here and says, if he is elected, hopes to win the confidence of the people of rural Taylor County.

Bridges, an Abilene resident, teaches rural and urban sociology at Hardin Simmons University and is a former mayor pro-tem and city councilman from Abilene.

Bridges will face incumbent precinct 2 commissioner Don Dudley of Merkel in the Democratic primary election.

He lists three main reasons for seeking election "First, I have always enjoyed serving people; second I believe that in these difficult economic times for our farmers, ranchers and working people— and with more Gramm-

Rudman budget cuts on the way — we need more able administrators in county government to assure that we gain maximum efficiency from our hard earned tax dollars and I think through my 13 years of teaching rural and urban studies, I have learned some ideas, which are not only working in some other counties in Texas but throughout the United States, which can also be useful in Taylor County."

Bridges does not feel his classroom hours will hinder him in devoting time to the County Commissioner's job. I am in the classroom a maximum of 12 hours per week and the rest of my time is flexible. I have HSU's support, from the President on down."

Bridges told **The Mail** he does not favor a Unit Road System and does not believe in consolidated maintenance barns for road equip-

ment. He also feels the commissioner should have regular office hours at the courthouse, would like to see road signs in rural areas and he also plans to be very involved in the budgetary decision making process.

Bridges admits it won't be easy gaining trust from the people outside of Abilene. "The people will have to take me for my word, I do care about Taylor County and I hope people will look at the issues and consider some of the other aspects of county government."

One of the issues of the campaign has centered around road crew supervision. Bridges said, if elected, he would elevate one of the Precinct 2 road crew members to foreman and to then hire a replacement for him at a slightly lower salary level calling

for no increase in that department's budget. He said he would then be in frequent contact with the road foreman and would make frequent visits to the road crew to inspect work being performed.

Bridges closed by saying he had heard quite a few rumors while campaigning in Abilene, Merkel, Trent, Tye and Hamby. One, he responded to with a bit of humor. Concerning the location of the county barn he said "Well, you can't see my cheek, but there is a tounge in it right now. If you were a candidate, suppose you didn't get many votes from a town where the barn is located. Would you feel obliged to leave it there? Seriously, I don't have any plans to change the location of the county barn."

Primary elections will be held May 3rd.



Julian Bridges

Badgers open track season with Stamford win

The Merkel Badger track team started off on the right foot Saturday as they won their first meet of the season, in Stamford. The varsity boys scored 140 1/2 points. Their closest competitor was Stamford at 102.

Leading scorer for the Badgers was Ramon Moreno with 27 points, followed closely by Shayne Newberry with 26.

Scoring for the Badgers were Tim Brandon 5th in the shot put, Newberry 4th in the discus, John McNeal 6th in the discus, Moreno won the long jump and Newberry was 2nd, Moreno won the high jump and Kenneth Jowers was 3rd.

Also, John Bright won the pole vault and Clay Carey was 5th. The sprint relay and mile relay teams were 3rd, Moreno was 3rd in the 100 and Doug Taylor 5th.

Also, Brit Pursley was 2nd in the 110 high hurdles while New-

berry was 3rd and Richard Powell 4th.

Also, James Wright was 4th in the 440, Justin Amerine 4th in the 200, Dean Franklin was 2nd, Newberry 3rd and Powell 5th in the 330; Carey was 3rd in the 800 while Ricky Flores was 6th and Gary Trevino was 3rd in the mile and 2nd in the 2 mile.

The leading scorer for the JV team was Eddie Proctor with 21.

Also competing for the JV team were Freddie Gonzales, Lee Cain, John Dudley, Kevin Wright and Chris Wright.

The Badgers will travel to Stephenville Saturday.

Badger track coach Luke Taylor told **The Mail** Monday he expects his team to perform well at that meet.

Taylor said there are 25 out for the team this year and that they have been working extremely hard getting ready for the season.

Munden's heifer is show champ

Ninety-three head were paraded before Judge Bubba Hudgins, Hungerford, Tx., for his keen evaluation. Cary Munden, Merkel Tx., was the day's grand winner as his heifer Miss VR CJ 748S was picked for champion awards. This September 1984 heifer was sired by VCC Crackerjack 101N2 and is out of Miss BB Cloud 748N.

Coming in for reserve honors was MS Claydesta 312S exhibited by Jason Bruns, Floresville, Tx. Sired by Brinks Titan 806M3, this May 19, 1984 is out of the MS GP Champ 359/ 7 cow. Bruns was also the double winner for the day when he was chosen for champion showman, a repeat of his last year's winning.

Further class winners in the

junior female show were: late junior heifer calf, Hundley's King-lady L, Amy Latimer, Brenham, Tx.; and BB Patty 196T-607, Scott Boleman Bryan, Tx.; early junior heifer calf, MS SJO Tiny 101/ T, Jim Sjolander, Satin, Tx.; late senior heifer calf, WSR Lady CJ 24S, Terri Beauchamp, Brenham, Tx.; late summer yearling heifer, SJO Champ 533, Lou Ann Sjolander, Satin, Tx.; late junior yearling heifer, WSR Miss Extra Success 55S5, Scott Boleman; and early junior yearling heifer, HBB MS 942-192-M3 71S, Crystal Hengst Giddings, Tx.

The next major junior Brangus event will be the International Brangus Futurity in Kerrville, Tx. on June 12-13, 1986. Make plans to attend.



Cary Munden (right) with show champ

Elderly eye care needs met by group

The Texas Eye Care Project Helpline, the medical program to help provide eye care to the elderly, has received 1246 calls in its first two weeks of operation.

Of the callers, 830 elderly Texas residents, 24 of whom have no insurance, have been referred to

volunteer ophthalmologists for eye care. Other callers have received free information about eye care.

John E. Eisenlohr, MD, president of the Texas Ophthalmological Association, has encouraged US citizens and legal residents

age 65 and older to call the toll-free Helpline-1-800-222-EYES- if they think they have medical eye problems but do not have an eye physician. Disadvantaged elderly are eligible for medical eye care at no out-of-pocket cost.

The Texas Helpline is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Other states will be opening at two-week intervals until July 21, when the Helpline will be operating throughout the country.

We are 98, beauty, barbecue, Little League ...

by Cloy A. Richards

The Merkel Badgers' track season got started on the right foot as they won a meet in Stamford Saturday.

It looks like the Merkel City Council and Merkel school board races will be pretty boaring.

The filing deadline for city has already passed and there are no contested races here. The filing deadline for the school board race was Wednesday, and as of Tuesday, the two incumbents, Greg Henderson and Leroy Teaff, were unopposed.

I guess the three way race for Justice of the Peace here and the contested race from Precinct 2 Commissioner will be the only races we have to get excited about, locally.

This week starts another year in

The Merkel Mails history as we begin our 98th year in publication here.

The Mail is Merkel's oldest business still in operation.

There are a lot of weekly newspapers in this part of the state that are within five years of being the same age because of the influx of people after the Texas and Pacific railroad tracks were constructed.

I have often wondered, to my self and out loud to a few, what must have gone through the minds of former editors as they sat behind some sort of machine, and pounded out the stories of their day.

Through those 98 years, editors here have seen good times and bad, happy and sad, but, the Good Lord willing and the creeks don't rise too high, we will do our best to keep that tradition going.

The Merkel Country Club has released its tournament schedule for this year.

They will host a 2 man scramble on April 26 & 27; a junior person scramble on June 14 and a Guys and Dolls scramble on July 5 & 6. You can get more information by calling 928-5514.

The sign up deadline for the annual Lambda Beta beauty pageant is Friday.

Persons wanting to enter their children can still pick up entry forms from the school office.

Those forms need to be turned in by Friday and they will be accepted at the school office or they can be taken to 706 Yucca.

Best go ahead and make plans for next Thursday if you want some good food, good entertainment and more as the Merkel

Chamber of Commerce annual banquet is March 13 at 7 p.m. at Heritage Hall.

Joe "Sloppy Joe" McDuff and Sammy Doan will be doing the cooking, local entertainment will be provided as well as presentations of the Citizen of the Year and the Woman of the Year.

Tickets are available at Boney Insurance Agency, Hicks Auto or The Mail. Tickets are \$5 each and proceeds from the banquet will be used to fund on-going Chamber activities.

The Merkel Little League is just about set to get underway as they will hold a meeting Sunday at 2 p.m. for persons interested in coaching or helping the league.

The meeting will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. at Taylor Electric Co-Operative.

For more information, contact Terry Wade.

Chamber Banquet is

March 13 at Heritage Hall

The Merkel Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual banquet Thursday, March 13 at Heritage Hall.

Highlighting the evening will be the presentation of the Citizen of the Year by the Chamber and the Woman of the Year, presented by local women's service clubs.

Tickets to the event are \$5 each and may be obtained at Boney Insurance Agency, Hicks Auto Supply, Hi-Val Farm & Home Supply, Independent American Savings, and The Mail.

The menu will include barbecued brisket, prepared by Joe McDuff and Sam Doan. Left over

briskets will be auctioned off following the meal.

New chamber officers will be installed at the banquet. They are: Ann Payne- President; Cloy Richards- vice president; Marilyn Tittle- secretary and Dana Dunagin-treasurer. Board members include Gary Hicks, Iris Amerine and Kay Bloodworth.

Local musicians will be providing entertainment and the Chamber will present an overview on the year's activities.

More information is available by calling **The Mail** at 928-5712, or the Chamber office at 928-5722.

Services held for Leo Harris

Joseph Leo Harris, 73 died Wednesday, Feb. 26th at his home after a long illness.

Born Dec. 28, 1912 in Big Spring, he had moved to Merkel at age seven. He farmed around Merkel for six years and worked at Taylor Electric Co-Operative for 27 years before retiring in 1975. He owned and operated Pug & Leo's Restaurant with his wife, Peg, until their retirement.

He and his wife are honorary

members of the Merkel Fire Department. He was a member of the Merkel Church of Christ.

He married Alice "Pug" Russell Jan. 6, 1940 here.

He is survived by his wife; a son & daughter-in-law Robert & Connie Harris of Merkel; a daughter and son-in-law Sarah and Billy Lucas of Merkel; four grandchildren, Russell and Teresa Lucas, Melissa and Kris Harris,

all of Merkel; two brothers, J. M. of Amarillo and Bill of San Marcos; two sisters, Syble Riney and Anna May Russell, both of Merkel. He was preceded in death by a brother, Thomas.

Pallbearers were Jerry Russell, Jacky Russell, Jimmy Russell, Charles Russell, Walter Whisenhunt, Junior Clark, Harold Hohertz, Calvin McPherson and Ed Patton.

Shouse attends grandson's Eagle induction ceremony

Mrs. Anna Belle Shouse and Mr. & Mrs. Joe Patterson of Merkel, recently attended ceremonies in which their grandson earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

Scott Andrew Shouse, son of Dr. Robert & Mamie Shouse of Dallas. He began his scouting career in 1978. He has participated in several scouting trips and his Eagle Service project included clean-up and painting of the back entrance to the White Rock United Methodist Church in Dallas.

Mrs. Shouse reported the ceremony was quite impressive. Also attending was Miss Mary Collins of Merkel.

Adrian & Wilks Insurance Agency

In Business Since 1921. The Adrian & Wilks Agency is located in the Home State Bank Building in Trent. We welcome Audrey Denman as a secretary-underwriter. Call or come by for a quote on your insurance needs: Commercial business, personal auto and dwelling coverages are some of the coverages available. Our office hours are 9-4 Monday-Friday. Call 862-6137 and ask for Audrey.

Don Wilks, manager

McHugh's services held here

Ruth McHugh, a retired newspaper editor, died here Feb. 26th following a long illness.

Funeral services were held Feb. 28th at the First Baptist Church here with the Rev. Wayne Keller officiating. Burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery here under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

She was born in McCook, Nebraska May 28, 1906. She had married Dale Mellebruch, and following his death she had married Mathew McHugh.

She had edited the Arizona Range News in Willcox, AZ and The Northridge in Northridge, CA.

She is survived by a daughter, Jill Boyd of Merkel; three sisters, Flora Baker of Anthony, Kansas, Ada McGee of Florida and Lucille Crow of Toledo, Washington.

Pallbearers were James Boyd, Boyd, Jimmy Masonheimer, Harold Sloan and Bill Everett.

Deere Season is on!

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on a new John Deere "R" Series Rider



Now, when you buy a John Deere "R" Series rider, you get big savings and a big, on-the-spot instant factory rebate. And if you use a John Deere Credit Card, you'll pay as little as \$45 per month. Check out our terrific sale prices. Then use your John Deere Credit Card for added convenience. Hurry, offers end May 31.

	R70 8-HP Recoil Start	R72 8-HP Electric Start	R92 11-HP Electric Start
List Price	\$1199	\$1339	\$1549
Sale Price	1099	1239	1449
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You Pay Only	\$1074	\$1214	\$1424
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Mulberry Canyon 4-H group

The Mulberry Canyon 4-H Club met Tuesday night, February 18, at the community tabernacle next to Pioneer Methodist Church. A CPR program was given and demonstrated by Donna Russun. There were 15 in attendance. Refreshments were served by Pam Welburn, Angie and Amy Welburn and Ginger Massey and Christy Russun.

Each 4-Her got to practice CPR on Annie. A good time was enjoyed by all. Mulberry Canyon 4-H club meets every second Tuesday of the month. Upcoming, March 4th, will be a dog obedience class conducted in Abilene.

Cunningham's Quick Stop

(MILK, GAS, ICE, GROCERY, DELI) 928-5378

ASSORTED GANDY ICE CREAM \$1.69 1/2 GAL

LOW FAT CULTURED GANDY BUTTERMILK 88¢ 1/2 GAL CRTN

HOMEMADE SOFT SHELLED BURRITOS

BEAN & CHEESE 89¢

BEEF & CHEESE \$1.49

COBINATION (BEEF, BEAN, CHEESE) \$1.49

SUPREME BEEF, BEAN, CHEESE, LETTUCE, TOMATOES, OLIVES SOUR CREAM \$1.89

TOSTADAS

BEAN & CHEESE 89¢

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BEEF, BEAN, CHEESE, LETTUCE, TOMATOES, OLIVES, SOUR CREAM

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Large Hamburger & Fries \$1.69

6 PACK 7-UP \$1.59

REGULAR OR DIET

2 Liter COCA COLA \$1.59

DRIVE THRU WINDOW TO ORDER & PICK UP

WHATEVER YOU NEED

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Taylor

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of a certain Order Of Sale issued out of the Honorable 104th District Court of Taylor County, of the 6th day of January 1986, by Judgment of said 104th, District Court for the sum of \$340,237.76 Dollars and costs of suit, under a Judgment in favor of MBank of Abilene in a certain cause in said Court No. 16,703-B and styled MBank Abilene vs. Gary Hodges Builders, Inc., placed in my hands for service, I John W. Middleton as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas, did, on the 8th day of January 1986, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit:

Lots 11 and 12, Block A, Section 2, Springbrook Addition to the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, as set out in that one certain Deed of Trust on file in volume 585, Page 588, Deed of Trust Records, Taylor County Texas. This Sale Will Be For Cash Only. A Cashiers' Check From A Taylor Bank May Be Accepted. Sale will be held at 10:15 a.m. and levied upon as the property of Gary Hodges Builders, Inc. and that on the first Tuesday in April 1986, the same being the 1 day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. by virtue of said levy and said Order of Sale I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said Gary Hodges Builders, Inc.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County, Texas. Witness my hand, this the 13th day of January 1986.

John W. Middleton Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas by Eddie Sawnsen, Deputy.

151-86-3tc

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Taylor

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of a certain Order of Sale issued out of the Honorable 104th District Court of Taylor County, of the 29th day of January, 1986 by Judgment of said 104th District Court for the sum of Sixty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Two & 7/100 Dollars and costs of suit, under a Judgment, in favor of Crescent Supply Company in a certain cause in said Court, No 16,889-B and styled Crescent Supply Company vs. Barbee Energy Corp., Eddie D. Barbee & Charles D. Barbee, placed in my hands for service, I, John W. Middleton as Sheriff of

Taylor County, Texas, did on the 30th day of January, 1986, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit: Sale will be held at 10:30 a.m. For Cash Only.

The plaintiff's liens are hereby foreclosed on the following described real properties, as well as upon the buildings and appurtenances, and upon the materials, machinery and supplies owned by said owner and used in the digging, drilling, torpedoing, operating, completing, maintaining, or repairing of any such oil or gas wells, and upon said oil or gas wells for which the materials were furnished, and upon all of the other oil wells, gas wells, buildings and appurtenances including pipelines, leasehold interests, and land used in exploring for oil, gas and other minerals, upon such leaseholds or land or pipelines and right of way therefor, for which said material, machinery or supplies were furnished or hauled or labor performed.

Being 5 acres, more or less, out of the Lunatic Assylum Lands Survey, Section 40, also known as the El Dorado Estates Oil & Gas Lease, Taylor County, Texas; and

BEING 178 acres, more or less, out of the NW 1/4 of Section 152, BBB & C Ry. Co Lands, Abstract No. 764, also known as the Scott Oil & Gas Lease, Stonewall County, Texas, as evidenced by instrument recorded in Volume 299, Page 591, Deed Records, Stonewall County, Texas and levied upon as the property of Barbee Energy Corp. Eddie D. Barbee & Charles D. Barbee, and that on the first Tuesday in April 1986, the same being the 1st day of said month at the Court House door of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. by virtue of said levy and said Order of Sale, I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said Barbee Energy Corp Eddie D. Barbee & Charles D. Barbee.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County.

Witness my hand, this the 6th day of February, 1986.

John W. Middleton Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas by Eddie Swanson, Deputy.

151-3tc-133

THE STATE OF TEXAS To: CLARA M. ROGERS Address Unknown Defendant, Greetings:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10 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 17th day of March, 1986, at or before ten o'clock A.M. before the Honorable 104th District Court of Taylor County, Texas, at the Court House of said County in Abilene, Texas.

Said Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture (Motor Vehicle) was filed in said court, on the 5th day of November A.D. 1985, in this cause numbered 16,887-B on the docket of said court, and styled, THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff, vs. A Brown 1977 Camero, XGC-799, VIN: 1Q87U7L522126 Defendant.

The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: THE STATE OF TEXAS are Plaintiffs and LARRY WAYNE BERRY AND CLARA M. ROGERS are Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: The Abilene Police Department, in and for the State of Texas, files Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture of a brown 1977 Camero XGC-799, VIN No. 1Q87U7L522126, for relief aggregating the following:

This proceeding is brought by the Texas Controlled Substance Act, and the seizing officer would show the Court that the vehicle was being used for the purpose of transporting for delivery certain seized property, to-wit: Amphetamine. The Seizing Officer for the State of Texas request the Court to enter its Order upholding said Seizure and forfeiting to the Abilene Police Department said vehicle as provided by law, and Ordering same to be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of Section 5.08 of Article 4476-15 V.A.C.S., proceeds, if any, be disposed of as provided by law, and for such other relief as the State of Texas 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 30th day of January A.D. 1986.

Attest: Rilla Mahoney, Clerk, 104th District Court, Taylor County, Texas By Joann Lackey, Deputy.

151-4tc-113

For Sale: The City of Tye, Texas has the following for sale:

A 1973 Oldsmobile High Top ambulance. Has stretcher, vacuum suction unit, storage space and all emergency lighting. Vehicle has 49,370 miles and is in very good condition. Minimum bid \$1,000.

A 1982 Ford 3/4 ton rescue truck with utility bed. Vehicle has 68,290 miles and is in good condition. No emergen-

cy lights. Minimum bid \$500.

Sealed bids will be accepted in the office of the city secretary 205 North Street, P. O. Box 145, Tye, Texas 79563 until 3 p.m. March 14, 1986. Bids will be publically opened and read aloud at the regularly scheduled city council meeting March 18, 1986 at 7 p.m. at 205 North at the Tye Municipal Building, Tye, Texas. The city reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept the bid considered most advantageous to the City of Tye.

Jo Moore City Secretary 152-4tc

THE STATE OF TEXAS To: IRENE PORTLOCK 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 14th 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 23rd day of Jan. A.D. 1985, in this cause, numbered 526-D on the docket of said court, and styled security state bank Plaintiff, vs. IRENE PORTLOCK Defendant. The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: SECURITY STATE BANK are Plaintiffs and IRENE PORTLOCK are Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Plaintiff requests that judgment against the defendant for the sum of \$3,493.00, exemplary damages in the sum of \$1,000.00 costs of suits and such other and further relief, both general and special to which the plaintiff may be justly entitled, 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 26th day of Feb. A.D. 1986.

Attest: Rilla Mahoney, District Clerk, 350th District Court, Taylor County, Texas By Patricia Henderson, Deputy.

154-3tc-81

NO AD IS TOO SMALL

State calendar lists Sesquicentennial events

Texas's penchant for parties is evident in the latest Calendar of Texas Events, just issued by the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation.

Spurred by the impetus of the state's 150th birthday celebration, the months of March, April and cities, towns, and communities throughout the Lone Star State have scheduled fairs, fiestas, gatherings and happenings keyed to the Sesquicentennial commemoration.

The Spring Calendar, spanning the months of March, April and May, includes in its variety of events such traditional features as kite flying and volksmarches. But since Texas Independence Day, March 2, falls within the calendar period, there are dozens of special activities at which Texans and their visitors can join in to mark

the 150th birthday of Texas. A major celebration is scheduled at the San Jacinto Battleground in Houston, where independence was won in 1836. Known as the Governor's Memorial Ceremony, it will include a pops concert by the Houston Symphony, a National Guard Flyover, and fireworks. Also, appropriately, there'll be a Texas-size birthday cake, big enough, it's said, for everyone to have a piece.

Meanwhile, across the state, there'll be a reenactment of the fall of The Alamo, at Alamo Village in Brackettville. Actors with authentic costumes and weapons will play the parts of the defenders and the attackers. There'll be cannons, and a re-creation of the bivouac and the final charge.

The Spring Calendar contains the largest number of listings for any similar period since the publication was first issued over a quarter of a century ago. And for the first time, its increased size dictated a new format. The Spring Calendar is a paged pamphlet, rather than the previous large-sheet folder. Events officially designated as Sesquicentennial happenings appear in boldface.

Free copies of the state of nearly 700 Spring happenings are available at any Texas Tourist Bureau or by writing Calendar of Texas Events, P.O. Box 5064, Austin, 78763.

Services held for Luna Johnson

Luna White Johnston, 84, of Jones Santo, near Mineral Wells, formerly of Merkel, died Tuesday at a local hospital after a brief illness. Services were held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church in Santo. Burial was at 3:00 p.m. Thursday in Rose Hill Cemetery at Merkel with the Rev. Kenneth

Baum-Carlock-Bumgardner Funeral Home. An Erath County native, she was the widow of Raymond Johnston. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Santo. Survivors include a son, J.R. of

Santo; two stepdaughters, Billye Bothe of Mineral Wells, and Evelyn King of Santo; three nieces, Clara B. Walla, Maurine White of Merkel, Bonnie Lou Harvey of San Mateo, Calif. and one nephew, Jimmy White of Sacramento, Calif.; and two step grandchildren.

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Area Director

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Public Utility Commission of Texas



Consumer Update

Most of us use utility service every day and experience remarkably few problems with it. However, sometimes in working with utilities, customers must contend with complicated, confusing rules and regulations. Understanding these rules can save time, money and aggravation. Many problems reported to the Public Utility Commission can easily be avoided if consumers become better informed.

In order to help consumers better understand their rights and obligations, the PUC requires electric and telephone utilities to provide residential customers a pamphlet or information packet in English and Spanish (as necessary) called "Your Rights as a Customer." This information must be mailed to all residential customers at least once every two years, and be given to new residential customers when they initiate service.

Telephone utilities may choose to include this information in the directories they are required to supply their customers as long as they tell where the information is located through a statement on a bill, or a billing insert, every six months.

The utilities must make available to customers the following information:

- The customer's right to ask about rates and services, and the customer's right to inspect or obtain a copy of any applicable tariffs and service rules.
- The customer's right to have a meter test without charge under PUC rules if those rules apply.
- The time allowed for payment of outstanding bills.
- Appropriate grounds for termination of service.
- The steps a utility must follow before service can be terminated.
- How the customer can resolve billing disputes with the utility and how billing disputes affect termination of service.
- Alternative plans offered by the utility to help customers pay bills, such as deferred payment plans, level billing programs, and average payment plans, as well as a statement that the customer has the right to request these alternative payment plans.
- The steps the customer must take to regain service after it has been disconnected involuntarily.

- The customer's right to have a supervisory review by the utility when he or she disputes an action of the utility, and the right to register a complaint with the PUC or municipal regulatory authority.
- The hours, addresses and telephone numbers of utility offices where bills may be paid, and information may be obtained. (In some cases, we require the utility to provide customers a toll-free number or the equivalent (WATS or collect calls) for repair service and billing inquiries.)
- The customer's right to be instructed by the utility on how to read his or her meter, if applicable.
- Information on deposit requirements.
- Notice of any special services such as readers or notices in braille, if available, and the typewriter for the deaf at the PUC.

In addition to supplying written information to customers, utilities must keep up-to-date maps, plans or records. This information must be kept in each of the utilities' business offices and be available for customer review. Utilities must post a notice in each office where service applications are received stating that copies of their rate schedules and service rules are available for public inspection.

Also, if requested, each utility must tell prospective residential customers the lowest-priced service alternatives available at the customers' locations. The utility must give full consideration to equipment options and installation charges in providing this information. The utility also must notify customers affected by changes in rates or classification schedules.

Finally, utilities must encourage customers with physical disabilities and those who care for such customers to identify themselves to the utility so that special action can be taken to inform these persons of their rights.

If you have not received the information to which you are entitled, contact the business office of your utility. Keep any information you receive from the utility in a safe place for future reference. If you are unclear about any of the service rules, ask the utility for an explanation. If you are not satisfied with the utility's explanation, contact us at the address listed below, or call (512) 458-0223 or 458-0227. TTY number for the deaf is (512) 458-0221.

Remember, taking the time to read the rules and ask questions now can save you time, money and aggravation later.

Consumer Update is prepared and distributed by the Consumer Affairs Office of the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Our address is 7800 Shoal Creek Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78757.

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Consumer Update is prepared and distributed by the Consumer Affairs Office of the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Our address is 7800 Shoal Creek Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78757.

MOM'S DAY OUT EVERY THURSDAY

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

KID'S KORNER (DAY CARE CENTER) ONLY \$ 5.00

201 OAK 928-4381



THE PROFIT MAKERS

Most Customers Are Annoyed By Circular Mailings

Average consumer has little faith in uninvited advertising mailings.

- 61% are annoyed by unsolicited mail
- 74% toss circulars in the trash
- 43% say mail ads too pushy
- 82% say newspaper ads allow comparisons of goods and prices
- 65% say newspaper ads get them in-the-mood to go shopping, and buying
- 73% say circulars advertise silly gadgets
- 76% say mail ads make products look better than they really are

(SOURCE: Newspaper Advertising Bureau)
Prepared by Texas Newspaper Advertising Bureau (TNAB)
An affiliate of Texas Press Association

THE BOTTOM LINE:

"Newspaper Ads Are Most Respected!"

Golden Acre Seed Dealer
MAIZE SEED
TEY 101 R
TEY 101-G
TEY 60
TE HAYGRAZER II
TE GOLDMAKER
ALSO HAVE REGISTERED BRAHMAN BULLS FOR SALE
CONTACT RAY, PACK 928-4916

Look for our Fabulous In-Store Specials! Many Items Greatly Reduced Just for You!

FRESH HOT Breakfast Burritos 2 FOR 99¢

ALLSUP'S Hot Chocolate 30¢ CUP

USE OUR HANDY Money Orders ONLY 19¢

BORDEN'S Cottage Cheese 12 OZ. CTN. 79¢

KRISPY OR ORIGINAL Borden's Frosticks 6 CT. PACK \$ 1.29

If it's Borden, it's got to be good

NACHO CHEESE TORTILLA CHIPS OR Fritos Corn Chips FRITO LAY® \$1.39 SIZE 89¢

VCR Membership \$1.00 Monday-Wednesday TWO FOR ONE MOVIES 2 Movies for \$3 VCR Renta \$5 per day

Dr. Pepper \$1.69 6 PACK 12 OZ

Classifieds

FOR SALE

Want a Fireplace ahead of its time? Try in IN FURN-O at AMERINE MECHANICAL 502 Kent, Merkel. 141-TFC

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

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

Portable Buildings by General Shelter of Texas. 6x8 to 16x60, prices start at \$325. Free brochure. 915-928-4827, 1-9 p.m. Buffalo Energy. 147-5tp

For Sale: 1978 Lincoln Continental, in good condition, take over payments of \$152 per month, Call B Moreno's Paint & Body Shop, 928-4546. 151-TFC

WOOD STOVES OF MERKEL
-Fireplace inserts.
-Free standing units.
-Mobil Home Units.
Wood burning stoves can heat your house for pennies with the NORDIC, made in America famous brand stove. See burning models on display at AMERINE MECHANICAL 502 Kent St. (FM 126) Merkel, Tx. Ph 928-4876. 141-TFC

BIG BIG Horse Sale. April 12, Breckenridge. Cutting, racing, pleasure, ranch horses, consignment info. call 817-969-4637. 152-5tc

Jayco pop-up trailer for sale. 928-4963. 154-1tc

For Sale: Dune Kart from Sears. Good condition needs bearing and a pad for the seat. Repainted, good tires and motor. Call 862-6196 after 5. 154-1tnc

NO AD IS TOO SMALL

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

MEMBERSHIPS
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
Classifieds are \$2 for the first 18 words and 10 cents for each additional word, 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.

LEGAL NOTICE RATES
Legal notices are 55 cents per line for the first insertion and 45 cents per line for each additional insertion.
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Recorder on after hours or when out
Please Correspond to Box 428, Merkel

Merkel's Oldest Business
Publishing Weekly Since 1889

Congress Shall Make No Law
Abridging The Freedom of The Press

Publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time
"We Want You To Read Our Mail"

MISC.

Would like to care for children in my house. Fenced yard. Lunch and snacks included. 928-4431, Doris. 154-1tp

Strayed from Noodle area, a black cow, branded WS on left hip and a large black heifer. Call 736-6327. 153-2tc

Telephone Installation Repair. Residential, Business, key systems, etc. Call Loyd Grissom, 823-3833 anytime. 153-4tc

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

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

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

Professional Painting, Interior or Exterior, Free Estimates, 15 Years Experience, 928-5866. 154-1tp

For rent Shannonside Apartments. 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments, all electric, central heat & cooling. For more information, call 928-5038. 89-TFC

For Rent or Sale: 2 bedroom unfurnished houses, at 702 and 704 south Second St. Apply at 302 Orange St. P.L. Ayers, Merkel, Texas. We remodel homes. Painting and Repair. Free Estimate. 153-2tp

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

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

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

For Rent: 3 bedroom, mobil home in Merkel, partially furnished, car port, storage building, chain link fence and close to school. \$150 deposit, \$275 a month, 928-4964, after 6:00 p.m. 928-4042. 150-TFC

For rent: large two bedroom with large living room and kitchen. 304 Orange, apply at 302 Orange. \$250 per month. 154-2tp

For Rent: Extra nice, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, with carport and fenced yard. Call after 5 695-4976. 151-1tp

Mobil home for lease 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, fenced in yard, storage building. Deposit required. Call 928-5845 or 928-4991. 154-2tc

Mobil Home Lots For Rent: 1st month free, west end of south 7th street. \$50 a month, Call 928-4973. 138-TFC

Mobil home spaces for rent in Merkel, \$35 per month Pat McAlister 846-4715 or 846-4696. 146-TFC

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 a month \$150 deposit. 928-5194. 134TFC

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

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

REAL ESTATE
Must sell in Merkel, 3 bedroom, fireplace, large covered patio, double carport, fence, fruit trees, negotiable. 346-3191 or 928-5970. 154-1tc

For Sale: 1983 Double-wide, total electric, central air, cathedral ceiling, storm windows, porches, underpinning \$15,000. Land, fences & home can also be purchased. Call 928-5635 or 928-4533. 152-TFC

Country Living City Style, 3 br., 2 ba., 2 LA's and DBL Car Garage belong to this lovely country BRICK home on 9.97 acres. All The Amenities, Dalzell Realtors 691-1300 or Marion 698-3431. Townhouse with over 2100 sq. ft., 3 br., 3 ba., 2 LA's on the Golf Course. Priced below \$50,000. Dalzell Realtors 691-1300 or Debbie 695-6105. 153-4tc

For Sale: 1983 14X76 New Moon Mobile Home 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, vaulted ceilings, fire place, no equity, to be moved, call 928-4394 after 5:00 p.m. 153-2tp

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

House For Sale: by owner, will consider owner finance with small down payment. Nice Locust Street location, fruit trees, pecan trees, celler, water well, 3 bedroom, den, 1 3/4 bath, 928-5717. 147-TFC

Exceptional bargain, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, double wide with central air and heat, 3 city corner lots, privacy fence, well, storage sheds and garden. Assumable 928-5425. 138-TFC

GARAGE SALES
Garage Sale: March 6, 7, 8, baby items, household goods, misc. items, 7 miles NE of Merkel, on FM 1235, watch for red streamers, open 9-5, no checks please. 154-1tc

Rummage Sale: In Trent, John Dunn's red building, next to Shamrock through March 15, 9? youth fund, clothes, jewelry, baked goods, etc. 154-1tp

Garage Sale: Saturday 8-4. Turn left 1/2 mile North on FM 126 6th house on the right. Bunk beds, furniture, clothes and etc. 928-4596. 154-1tc

Garage Sale: 1/2 mile south of Trent on FM 1085 Saturday Only 8-4. Furniture, adult and kids clothes, TV, dishwasher lamps, lots of misc. 154-1tp

Home Furnishing Sale: Hide-A-Bed and misc. items, 800 N. 7th Apt. 9 Saturday Only. 154-1tp

CARDS OF THANKS

We cannot say "thank you" enough for the wonderful and thoughtful expressions of love each has shown us in our loss. Throughout our stay in the hospital, times at home, and in the end, you, our friends and loved ones were there to help us through these times. A special thanks to Dr. Tran and the Merkel Emergency Medical Service. The prayers, calls, food, flowers, visits, cards & time were each an inspiration to us. The service is overwhelming. Bob Brandon, John Wagoner, Larry Gill, a special thanks for your kindness. To the singers, you were excellent. We cannot each individually. We cannot thank each individually but please know, in our hearts, each one has a special place. Thank you again with our love. The Leo Harris Family

We'd like to take this means to thank everyone for their support in making our Grand Opening a success. We look forward to helping you with your gift needs. The Staff of Something Special

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: FERNANDO TONCHE ARREDONDO, Respondent; GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Court-house 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

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 NORTH
HOURS: MON-FRI 8:30-5:30
CLOSED FROM 12 - 1 FOR LUNCH
SATURDAYS 8 UNTIL NOON
928-5235 FOR APPOINTMENTS
928-4176 FOR EMERGENCIES

HOMES OF ABILENE, INC. Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 19th day of February, 1986, against Fernando Tonche Arredondo, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 353-CX on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of CARMELITA DeCLUE ARREDONDO a Child", the nature of which suit is a request that the Court determine what parent-child relationships be exist between the child and any other persons and that all such parent-child relationships be terminated. Said child was born the 16th day of August, 1983, in Jones County, Texas. The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of 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 26th day of February A.D. 1986.

Attest:
Rilla Mahoney,
District Clerk,
350th Dist. Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Patricia Henderson
Deputy.
154-3tc-78

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: RICKEY WALKER 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 14th day of April 1986, at or before ten o'clock A.M. before the Honorable 42nd 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 1st day of February A.D. 1984, in

Attest:
Rilla Mahoney,
District Clerk,
326th District Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Rita Moore, Deputy.
154-1tc
154-1tc-84

Attest:
Rilla Mahoney,
District Clerk,
326th District Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Rita Moore, Deputy.
154-1tc
154-1tc-84

this cause numbered 38-638-A on the docket of said court, and styled SECURITY STATE BANK Plaintiff, vs. RICKEY WALKER Defendant. The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: SECURITY STATE BANK are Plaintiffs and RICKEY WALKER are defendants. A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: Plaintiff requests judgment in the sum of \$3,354.77, plus attorney's fees in the amount of \$750.00, making a total of \$4,104.77, for costs of suit and for other relief, 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 26th day of February A.D. 1986.

Attest:
Rilla Mahoney,
District Clerk,
350th Dist. Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Patricia Henderson
Deputy.
154-3tc-78

Attest:
Rilla Mahoney,
District Clerk,
326th District Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Rita Moore, Deputy.
154-1tc
154-1tc-84

Attest:
Rilla Mahoney,
District Clerk,
326th District Court,
Taylor County, Texas.
By Rita Moore, Deputy.
154-1tc
154-1tc-84

- \$ 1983 Buick Riviera loaded, 34,000 miles \$9,500
- \$ 1980 Chevrolet Impala Wagon, 71,000 miles \$2,995
- \$ 1977 Cadillac El Dorado \$1,995
- \$ 1981 Oldsmobile Cutlass 4 door, V 6, air & power \$1,995
- \$ 1982 Dodge Ram D 50, 4 speed, air \$3,495
- 1985 Chevy/ 2 ton Silverado, 4 wheel drive, diesel \$12,500
- \$ 1979 Chevrolet Caprice Classic, 4 door, loaded, 55,000 miles \$2,995
- \$ 1978 Oldsmobile Cutlass, 2 door, 69,000 miles Nice \$2,995
- \$ 1977 Chevrolet Malibu Classic, 4 door \$1,295
- \$ 1976 Pontiac Bonneville, 2 door \$1,295

DUANE SHUGART MOTORS
928-5139

Ninth Street Satellite Sales
1207 S 9th
928-5331 Merkel 928-4027
Weekly & Monthly Satellite TV Guides are Available

FOR SALE
APARTMENTS 11 UNITS PLUS LAUNDRY AND MINI STORAGE. 100% OCCUPIED, ONLY 2 YEARS OLD, EXCELLENT TAX SHELTER. CALL 915 728-8619 or 737-2485

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
ALL TYPES PLUMBING SUPPLY
CONSOLIDATED PLUMBING
Radio Dispatched Trucks For Fast Dependable Service
102 KENT
928-5527 or 928-5283
OLD & NEW WORK
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Kofoed's Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
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Funeral Pre-arrangement
The last and most loving bequest for your family. Let us help 201 Edwards 928-4711
Starbuck Funeral Home

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



Protect your credit cards

Most people wouldn't think of leaving their money out where anyone could pick it up. Yet casual use of credit cards can have the same effect.

"Practically any cashless transaction can leave consumers open to fraud," says family economics expert Nancy Granovsky. "Since fraudulent schemes change as fast as we become aware of them, the general rule for consumers is to guard their credit card numbers as they would cash."

According to Granovsky, a home economics specialist with the Texas A&M University-Agricultural Extension Service, one of the most recent scams is to request a credit card account number over the phone so that a free gift can be sent.

Of course, no prize or free gift comes, and the caller has your credit or charge card number to use for ordering merchandise by phone or even applying for a lost card using your number.

"It's not a good idea to give your credit card number over the phone," she says. "If you do, make sure it's to a reliable company that you have had dealings with before, rather than an unknown firm."

When you buy something with your credit card, ask for the carbons that separate the receipt copies. Otherwise your account number, its expiration date and your signature will be available to anyone who has access to the carbons, cautions the specialist.

Even when ordering by mail, don't write your credit card number on an open postcard form, says Granovsky. Put the order card in an envelope instead and pay the extra postage to assure that your number will be safely protected.

To detect any misuse of your credit cards, it's important to keep your charge receipts, reminds the specialist.

When your monthly credit card statements come, use your re-

ceipts to reconcile your statement. If something appears on the statement that you didn't buy, notify the credit card company immediately.

Granovsky notes that some people aren't too concerned about fraudulent use of their credit cards, now that consumer legislation limits their liability to \$50 dollars for each card.

"But what they may not realize is that straightening out their

account after a fraudulent purchase or even a simple error can be frustrating, time consuming and may involve extra costs for long-distance phone calls and interest paid on the purchase in question, she says.

The home economist also points out that all consumers also wind up paying higher prices and credit card fees as this fraud adds to the cost of doing business for both merchants and credit card companies.

Wheat on duty with security police

Air Force Tech, Sgt. William C. Wheat, son of Phillip R. and Norma J. Wheat of 608 Park Ave., Anderson, Ind., has arrived for duty with the 7217th Security Police Squadron.

Wheat, a law enforcement supervisor, is a 1983 graduate of Wayland Baptist University, Sheppard, Texas.

His wife, Donna, is the daughter of Lonnie J. and Oma E. Hurley of 712 Locust St. Merkel, Texas.

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For all your plumbing needs! anytime day or night and weekends

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P.O. Box 637 Merkel, Tx. 79536

We now have some room

and are buying Milo

Check our Prices

Cal-Tex Feed Yard

862-6111

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK IS MARCH 16-22
MERKEL DRUG
HAS A KIT CONTAINING WHAT YOU WOULD NEED
TO PREVENT ACCIDENTAL POISONING AT A SPECIAL PRICE.



PHARMACY PLUS

National Poison Prevention Week March 16th - 22nd, 1986
Follow these poison safety rules to keep your children safe:

- Always put medicines away
- Reclose caps tightly
- Discard all unneeded or outdated medicines

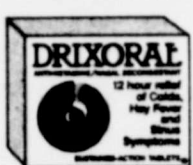
Check with your Pharmacy Plus Pharmacist for Poison Prevention aids.



Bausch & Lomb
SALINE SOLUTION

Preserved or Sensitive
Eyes
8 oz.

\$2.29



DRIXORAL

10's

\$2.49



BAYER

Aspirin

100's \$2.39



RIOPAN PLUS

12 oz.

\$2.69

60 Chewable Tablets

\$2.29



SUMMER'S
EVE

Twin Pack

\$1.24



ATRA or
TRAC II

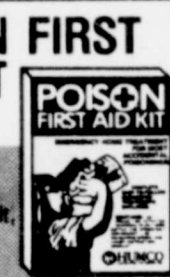
5 Shaving Cartridges

\$1.89

Your Choice

POISON FIRST
AID KIT

Contains: 1 oz. Ipecac,
1 oz. Activated Charcoal,
2 oz. Epsom Salt,
Spoon,
and Booklet.

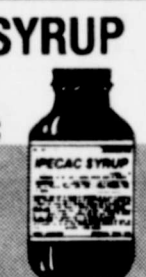


\$4.99

IPECAC SYRUP

1 oz.

79¢



CÉPACOL

12 oz. Mouthwash

\$1.69



AFRIN

Nasal Spray
15 ml.

\$2.39



Becton-Dickinson
ALCOHOL SWABS

100's \$1.50
- .75 Mail-In-Rebate

.75 Your Final Cost

Becton-Dickinson
INSULIN SYRINGES

1/2 cc 100's \$15.00
- 4.00 Mail-In-Rebate

\$11.00 Your Final Cost

DULCOLAX

Laxative Suppositories
8's \$3.59

10's \$4.99

CLEARASIL

85 oz. Adult Care
6 oz. \$1.99

10's \$1.99



FIBERALL

14 Natural Fiber Wafers

\$3.19

Price Good through March 10



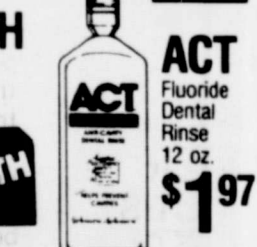
NOVAHISTINE
DMX

4 oz. \$2.34



FASTEETH

1.75 oz. \$1.69



ACT

Fluoride Dental Rinse
12 oz. \$1.97



HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

8 oz. 64¢



SELSUN BLUE

4 oz. \$2.12



NUPRIN

24's \$2.50
- 1.00 Mail-In-Rebate

\$1.50 Your Final Cost



BAN SOLID

2 oz. \$1.99

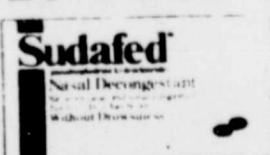
THESE ARE SUGGESTED PHARMACY PLUS PRICES OPTIONAL WITH PARTICIPATING STORES.
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES AT SALE PRICES.

THESE PRICES GOOD THROUGH MARCH 10



BUFFERIN

300 Tablets \$3.39



SUDAFED

Nasal Decongestant \$1.89



CREMACOAT

Formulas 1, 2, 3, or 4
3 oz. \$2.59
- \$2.59 Mail-In-Rebate
\$0.00 Your Final Cost

PRICES GOOD THROUGH MARCH

121 Edwards

928-5012

Merkel Drug

"WHERE FRIENDS MEET"

Interest-Free Until September 1

Extended waiver lets you save even more
on new John Deere Hay and Forage Tools

- Now's the time to save big on new and used hay and forage equipment.
- Interest-free financing* until September 1, 1986 on new and used hay and forage equipment.
- Discount in lieu of waiver on new hay and forage equipment (does not include mowers and rakes).
- Big customer discounts on new equipment shown below.

EQUIPMENT	CUSTOMER DISCOUNT
Round Balers	\$ 400
Square Balers	400
PTO Forage Harvester	
Model 3940	850
Model 3960	850
Model 3950	500
Model 3970	500
Model 4720	500
Mower Conditioners (except 1424)	450
Model 1424	1000
Self-Propelled Windrowers	
Model 2320 (grain only)	2500
Model 2420 (grain only)	2500
Model 2320 (auger platform)	2500
Model 2420 (auger platform)	2500
Model 2280 (auger platform)	3000
Model 3430	650
Model 3830	650



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

Abilene Farm Supply

3526 S Treadaway

692-2255

D & T AUTOMOTIVE & TIRE SERVICE

ALL TYPES OF AUTO REPAIR ENGINE REBUILDING
BRAKES ALTERNATORS TUNE-UPS
AIR CONDITIONING & CARBURATORS

INTERSTATE BATTERIES & SUMMIT TIRES

924 NORTH FIRST

MERKEL

928-4954

VAN SEYMORE

HOME 928-5724

TOM WILLIAMSON

HOME 928-4042

(ALL WORK GUARANTEED)

FHA group attends conference

February 21, 1986, Merkel FHA members attended the Region II Future Homemakers of America Leadership Training Meeting in San Angelo.

Those who attended included: Becky Best, Sandra Britton, Clay Carey, Lyn Johnson, Ricky Jowers, Linda Munden, Dusty Moore, Sheri Riney, Jeannie Russel, Natalie Schuknecht, Douglas Taylor, Michelle Woodard.

Advisors accompanying the group were Mrs. Pam Rosenbaum, Mrs. Candy Martin, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Laird.

The meeting, conducted by Region II officers, consisted of a Leadership training workshop, proficiency events, inspirational speakers, a motivational play fair

and election of new Regional officers.

Becky Best, a senior at MHS, won first place in the Illustrated Talk Competition of the Proficiency Events. Becky's topic was on "Missing Youth." An Illustrated Talk is a 10 minute speech using visual aides. Becky was judged on her knowledge of the subject, presentation, use of visual aides, and the relationship to Home Economics and FHA.

She will now compete at the State Competition to be held in Dallas April 25 and 26 representing Merkel High and Region II. A first place win at this competition would entitle her to compete at the National Meeting in Orlando, Florida representing Texas.



Becky Best

Scholarships for farm kids

ICI Americas Inc. and The Cotton Foundation have established a scholarship program for the children of cotton growers. Called ICI Americas Cotton Foundation Scholarship Program, the project involves the distribution of at least \$50,000 in scholarship money to high school seniors and currently enrolled college students who are children of cotton growers.

In announcing the program, ICI group product manager Charles R. Nash explained that additional funds for the scholarship program will be based on the 1986 sales of CYMBUSH insecticide. "We've created a program that will benefit both the present and the future of the cotton industry," stated Nash. "By using CYMBUSH, growers can have the highest yields and more profit now while aiding the most important growth component in the cotton industry, it's young people."

The program will be administered by The Cotton Foundation. In accepting the initial scholarship contribution from ICI, Dr. Arlie Bowling, director of The Cotton Foundation, explained why the foundation became involved in the program. "We have always been involved in activities that are important to the educational support of the cotton industry," said Bowling, "and this project is

certainly important to those who are continuing their educations in a way that will benefit the industry."

Scholarship candidates will be evaluated on their academic records, faculty recommendations, extracurricular activities, and an essay describing how the candidate's major field of study could be used to benefit the cotton industry. Scholarship winners will be announced in January 1987, with each recipient receiving \$2,000.

"We're looking forward to reading the essays presented by these

Xi Nu Chi holds meeting

Xi Nu Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, held its regular monthly meeting at Pleasantville Center, February 25th.

Presiding over the meeting was club president Mary Hill. Minyon Seymore, secretary, read the minutes and treasurer Dianna Parker gave a monetary report.

Judy Elliott introduced Donna Bauer as the guest for the meeting. An enlightening program was given by Donna Bryan of "Women in Texas History", a tribute to the sesquicentennial of Texas. Her program brought out many significant areas that wo-

men have paved the way to the heritage of Texas as we know it today.

Women have contributed to the culture of entertainment, medical profession, science field, religion, social reforms, higher education, law and state offices to name a few.

Salad and fruit were served to Anita Allen, Brabara Gardner, Mary Hill, Minyon Seymore, Judy Elliott, Nancy Duncan, Nancy Johnson, Donna Lang, Dianne Parker, Donna Bryan, Vicki Rodrigues and Donna Bauer.

CYMBUSH is a Restricted Use Pesticide.

MISD school lunch menu

The Merkel School menu is as follows:

March 5: Roast with brown gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, pineapple pudding.

March 6 Turkey pot pies, mixed vegetables, lettuce wedges and choice of dressing, biscuits and applesauce jello.

March 7: Hamburgers, fries and all the trimmings, orange wedges.

Monday March 10: Burritos with cheese stick, spanish rice, lettuce wedge, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday March 11: Fish nuggets, macaroni and tomato, buttered corn, cornmeal twist, choc. pudding.

Wednesday March 12: Beef tacos, pinto beans, shredded lettuce and cheese, applesauce cake.

Thursday March 13: Sliced turkey with gravy, buttered rice, english peas, hot rolls, jello with fruit.

Friday March 14: Hamburgers, tater tots, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, no bake cookies.

Monday March 17: Chicken fried steak with gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, pineapple tidbits.

Tuesday March 18: Sea Pizza, macaroni and cheese, comb. salad, corn bread, plum cobbler.

Wednesday March 19: Bar-b-q pork, pinto beans, fried okra, applecheese crisp.

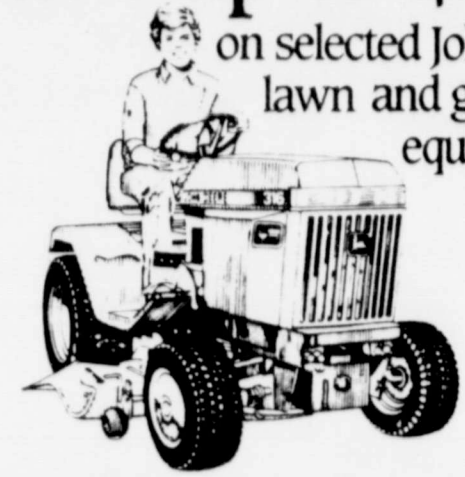
Thursday March 20: Spaghetti, buttered corn, lettuce and tomato salad, garlic bread, apricot halves

Friday March 21: Hot dogs with chili, french fries, cabbage slaw, rice krispie bars.

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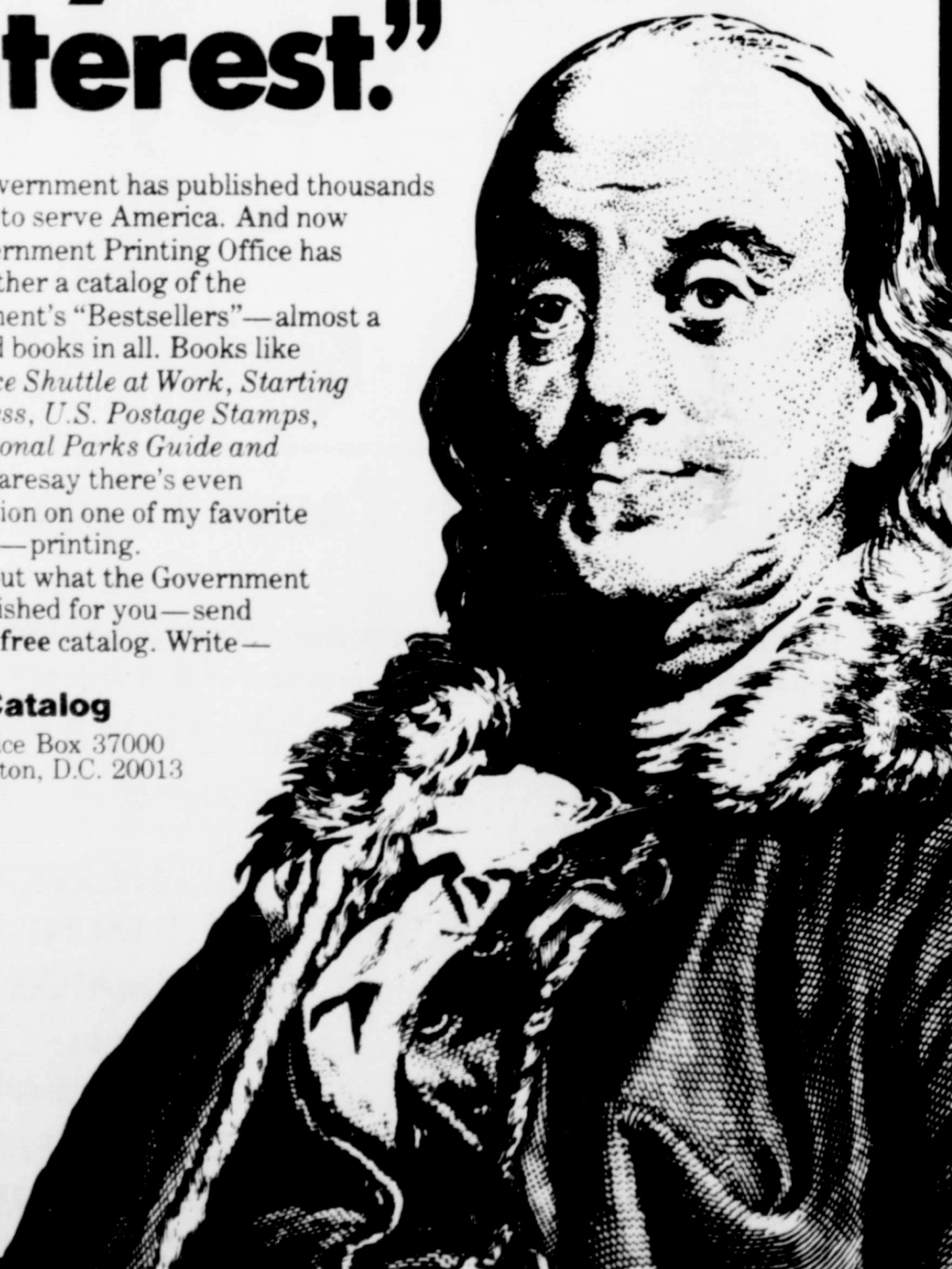
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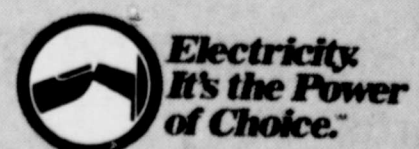
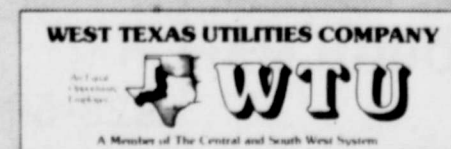
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Texas' school districts see 3.9% property value increase

The property tax base of Texas school districts grew by 3.9 percent from 1984 to 1985, according to estimates released by the State Property Tax Board (SPTB). Preliminary results of the agency's 1985 Property Value Study show that school districts contained a total of \$718.9 billion in taxable property value as of January 1, 1985.

This 3.9 percent growth rate in the school tax base is less than half the 8.7 percent increase that occurred between SPTB's 1983 and 1984 studies.

State law requires SPTB to estimate the taxable value of property annually in each of the state's 1,063 school districts. "A school district's taxable property value is one of the important factors that determine the amount of state education aid the district will receive," explained Ron Patterson, SPTB's executive director. The Texas Education Agency will use the values from the 1985 Property Value Study in calculating education aid allotments for the 1986-87 school year.

"The slower growth in taxable values between 1984 and 1985 reflects a slowdown in portions of the Texas economy brought on by falling oil prices," said Patterson. He noted that the price for a barrel of oil fell by about \$2 during this period, on top of an \$8 decline during 1981-84. "This price drop produced a ripple effect in real estate values, which make up most of the school tax base."

The study's preliminary results indicate that the taxable value of minerals in Texas, including oil and gas, actually declined by \$1.5 billion between 1984 and 1985.

Another factor in the difference is that state law excludes personal automobiles and the personal property of banks from the study beginning with 1985.

The 1985 Property Value Study combines the school district value study with another study required by law. The other portion of SPTB's study evaluates the equality and uniformity of local tax appraisals performed by county appraisal districts.

"The Texas Constitution requires tax appraisals to reflect the full value of property and to be equal and uniform," said Patterson. "Our study of local tax appraisals indicates the extent to which appraisal districts met these legal standards on their 1985 appraisal rolls."

SPTB's study develops a statistical measure called the "median level of appraisal" which shows how close, overall, property is appraised to its full value," Patterson explained. "A median appraisal level is a middle value.

An appraisal district should try to achieve a median as close to 100 percent as possible, without going over."

If a taxpayer can prove to an appraisal review board that his property's appraised value is greater than the median level of appraisal for all property in the appraisal district, the review board can reduce the property's appraised value to the median level.

"However," Patterson cautioned, "the 1985 Property Value Study is a year behind the appraised values being considered by appraisal review boards in 1986. As a result, the appraisal levels in the study don't always indicate the appraisal levels for the current year, especially if the

appraisal district has reappraised property in 1986."

Patterson added that other statistical measures in the study show how uniform the appraisals are. "As a whole, the level of the appraisals vary widely, some taxpayers will pay taxes on high values while others pay taxes on low values."

The findings of the 1985 Property Value Study are only preliminary. School districts and appraisal districts may seek adjustments through an appeals process.

SPTB will certify the final school district taxable values to the commissioner of education by May 30, for use in calculating state aid for the 1986-87 school year.

Art group meets

The Merkel Art Association met at 7:00 p.m. March 3rd at Taylor Telephone Cooperative.

Betty Toombs presided over the meeting in the absence of the president.

The guest artist was Barb Paxton from Abilene. She teaches Oil Portraits for beginners and advanced students. She gave a very interesting program. Barb did an oil portrait of Emmitt Kelly the Sad Faced Clown teaching

different strokes as she applied the color.

Members present were: Ted Allen, Marie Beaird, Ruth Buster, Ruth Cox, Imogene Coleman, Gay Featherston, Elizabeth Hicks, Ruth Hogan, Ethel Pee, Benny Rogers, Mary Stanley, Evelyn Stribling, Betty Toombs, Robbie Wilson, also attending were guests Barb Paxton and Margie West from Abilene.

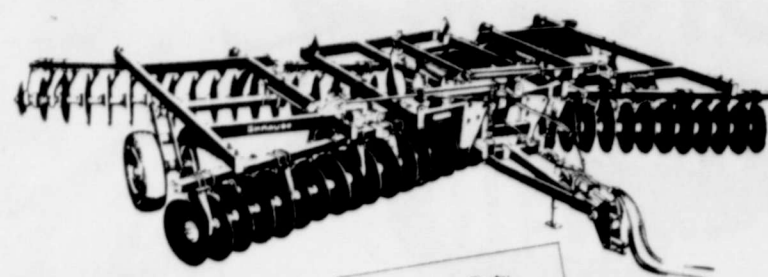
Fortnightly group meets

The Merkel GFWC Fortnightly Study Club met Feb. 25th in Mrs. Burl McCoy's home with Mrs. Curtis Rister as co-hostess. The club president, Mrs. Orvel Hill presided over a short business session.

Mrs. Comer Haynes introduced the progra, "An Afternoon With The Classics." Mrs. McCoy played her original piano selection **Remembering** and her son sang his original country & western song. Mrs. Rister and her daughter, Gina, sang a duet and Gina played a flute solo. Mmes Carl Hughes, Buster Horton, Ed Sandusly sang some song favorites and Mrs. Lucy Haynes gave some scenes from Thornton Wilder's play *Our Town*.

Attending were Mmes. C. M. Brown, Randy Carson, S. C. Dixon, Mack Fisher, J. W. Hammond, Comer Haynes, Orvel Hill, Buster Horton, Carl Hughes, James Jay, Allen King, C. B. Knight, Joe Lassiter, Henry Mar-

tin, Burl McCoy, Billy Bob Neff, Truett Patterson, Curtis Rister, Perry Rogers, Ed Sandusky, C. M. Seymore, Howard Sliger, Alf Walla, Ray Wilson, Dent Gibson and Misses Mary Collins, Mildred Hamm



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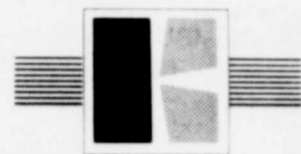
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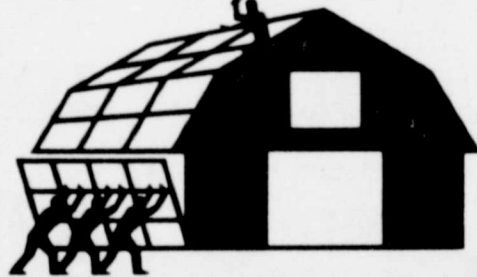
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TOMATO JUICE 46 OZ 79¢

CONTADINA 300
TOMATOES 2 FOR 83¢ WHOLE

VAN CAMPS 300
PORK & BEANS 2 FOR 69¢ KRAFTS 7.4 OZ

MAC-CHEESE DINNER 2 FOR 89¢

SOFT OLEO
CHIFFON 2 LBS 89¢

KRAFTS
SINGLE SLICED
CHEESE 12 OZ \$1.69 PKG

KRAFT
CHEEZ
WHIZ 16 OZ \$1.98 JAR

FROZEN FOODS
PARADE
ORANGE JUICE 12 OZ CAN 89¢

MORTON 9 OZ PKG
HONEY BUNS EA 93¢

PATIO 12 OZ ASSORTED
MEXICAN DINNER \$1.29 EA

CHUN KING 6 OZ ASST
EGG ROLLS \$1.09 EA

MUSHROOM ASST 2.2 OZ
AIR REG \$1.89 FRESHNER \$1.19 EA

COOKING OIL
WESSON 24 OZ BOTTLE \$1.09

DUNCAN HINES
BROWNIE MIX 23 OZ BOX \$1.59

FOREMOST
ICE CREAM 1/2 GAL CRTN \$1.69

WISE BRAVOS
TORTILLA CHIPS \$1.29 12 OZ BAG

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BLACKEYE PEAS 1 LB BAG 49¢

GLADIOLA
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FOLGERS \$2.79 13 OZ CAN 1 LIMIT

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MIRACLE WHIP 32 OZ JAR \$1.59

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PORK CHOPS Tender...Tasty...Terrific

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BOLOGNA BEEF OR REG \$1.19 12 OZ PKG

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FRESH LEAN
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MERKEL LOCKER
SAUSAGE \$2.75 PURE PORK 2 LB BAG

ARMOUR STAR
BACON \$1.79 NO 1 LB

ARMOUR STAR
HAM \$6.73 READY TO EAT COOKED 3 LB CAN

ARMOUR STAR
FRANKS \$1.19 BEEF OR REG 12 OZ PKG

ARMOUR STAR BEEF
PATTIES \$1.59 CHICKEN FRIED BREADED LB

PARADE 11 OZ
COFFEE CREAMER 69¢

PARADE
H B DILL PICKLES 32 OZ 89¢

PARADE
GRAPE JELLY 18 OZ 69¢

FRANKLIN
CRUNCH & MUNCH 5 OZ 79¢

NABISCO
CRACKERS LB BOX 89¢

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TUNA 6 OZ CAN 69¢

DINTY MOORE
BEEF STEW 24 OZ CAN \$1.49

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TOWELS 59¢ JUMBO ROLL

PARADE
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FOREMOST
LOW FAT MILK \$1.85 GAL JUG

FOREMOST
BUTTER MILK \$1.09 1/2 GAL CRTN

FOREMOST
COTTAGE CHEESE \$1.19 16 OZ TUB

Oranges Juicy as Grapefruit
GRAPEFRUIT \$1.39 Sweet as ORANGES

CALIFORNIA
NAVEL ORANGES LB 39¢

CALIFORNIA
GRAPEFRUIT LB 39¢

FRESH
BROCCOLI LB 49¢

CALIFORNIA
STRAWBERRIES PT 99¢

RED DELICIOUS
APPLES LB 59¢

GOLDEN
BANANAS LB 33¢

YELLOW
ONIONS LB 19¢

RUSSET
SPUDS \$1.19 10 LB BAG

DETERGENT
CHEER \$1.79 GT BOX

LIQUID
IVORY 98¢ 22 OZ BOTTLE

CLEANER
COMET 59¢ GT CAN

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