



Church Roundup

A New Years Eve service is planned by the First Baptist Church of Tye. The Rev. Leonard Payne, pastor, announced that the Billy Graham film "Shadow of the Boomerang" will be shown at 8 p.m. December 31st. The general public is invited to attend the showing.

Other plans of the Church for the coming year include a school to be held in April. The school, called WIN (Witness-Involved-Now), is open to anyone that wishes to attend. January 27th will be Baptist Men's Day at the church.

The Rev. Russell McAnally, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Merkel has announced new officers of the church for the coming year. They are: Connie Seymour, Chairman of the Administrative Board; Kenny Hogan, Vice President; and Mary Collins, Secretary.

Rev. McAnally said there would be no New Years Eve service at the church.

He said that plans are being made for a revival the first week in March. The Rev. Richard Trotter of Lubbock will be guest speaker.

Rev. Trotter was pastor of churches at Trent and Abilene before going to Lubbock. He is now District Superintendent at Lubbock.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merkel, has announced plans to move into their new building in March or April.

Rev. Jones said the church plans no New Years Eve service.

Rev. Stewart of the Calvary Baptist Church said that while the church planned no New

Years Eve services, they are planning some revivals for the coming year. No dates have been set for the revivals.

A revival for the Assembly of God Church of Merkel is planned for January 6 through January 13, the Rev. John Curtis, pastor of the church has announced.

Rev. Sammie Earp will be the guest speaker for the revival. The church plans no New Years Eve services.

Rev. Jerry Kunkel, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Tye, said his church plans no New Years Eve services.

Plans for the coming year include a revival, no date has been set, and plans to put into action an Out Reach Program.

Get Ready For Daylight Savings!

On Saturday, December 15, President Nixon saved approximately 1,050,000 barrels of oil with one stroke of the pen!

That's when he signed the bill putting the nation on a year-around daylight saving time, beginning Saturday, January 6.

If you've started practicing driving 55 mph in your auto, start practicing now on getting up an hour earlier so it won't come as such a shock when the blow actually hits!

Nixon said the extra hour of evening daylight will save "an estimated equivalent of 150,000 barrels of oil a day" this winter.

The measure cleared Congress on Friday, December 14, and the President acted quickly so clocks can be moved ahead one hour beginning at 2 a.m. January 6. Had he waited another day, the law could not have taken effect before January 13.

Under the new law, daylight saving time will be in effect all year for a two-year period and for the first time since World War II. Some estimate its impact could reduce electricity and heating demands up to 2 per cent, mainly in the north.

As a companion to the law, the President also signed an executive order setting up machinery for considering appeals from parts of the country, notably states falling into two time zones, to seek exception from the daylight saving time requirement.

Trouble is, if we don't comply we're out of tune to the entire nation!

Baptist Mission Tops \$1 Million

DALLAS—For the first time in history, Texas Baptist have raised more than \$1 million through the Mary Hill Davis State Missions Offering.

Eula Mae Henderson, executive secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union, announced Friday the offering for State Missions reached \$1,010,058.

The state missions offering—named for a pioneer missionary woman—goes toward furthering the Christian witness in Texas.

Badgers Win 4 Straight; To Enter H-SU Tourney

By RONNIE ALDRIDGE
The Merkel Badgers won their fourth straight basketball game by defeating the Albany Lions 70-38 last Thursday night at Albany. This brings the Badgers' record to 7 wins and 6 losses going into the Christmas holidays.

Other scoring went like this: Robert Morgan 11, Darel Bunch 10, Jeff Cox 6, Darrell Riggan 5, David Copeland 4, Johnny Gray 4, Billy Watts 4, and Larry Toliver 4.

Merkel enters the Hardin-Simmons Tournament by playing the Anson Tigers Thursday morning at 10:00.

We feel like we are rapidly improving with every game and could be a contender to win the tournament championship.

PROCLAMATION:



Be it resolved that the year to come may be the most successful ever for each and everyone. May all your hopes be realized in 1974!

Two Small Buildings Damaged In Friday Fire; Care Urged

'Tis the season for grass fires. Merkel and the area has been racked by grass fires recently. Aided by high winds and dry weather, numerous fires have kept Merkel firemen busy.

A fire in downtown Merkel Friday west of the Malone Implement building damaged two small buildings. While the Malone building was not endangered, some farm equipment on the lot was damaged by the fire. According to Fire Chief Raymond Adcock, the fire was caused by children playing with matches.

Adcock issued the following statement concerning the danger of fire this time of year: "While most of the grass fires have been out in the country, I would like to urge Merkel residents to be careful with trash burning and other open fires. The dry conditions make the grass just like gasoline. The high winds we are having make the fires spread fast. Parents should caution small children about the danger of playing with fire. The conditions are just right for

Round-Up

VISITORS in the home of the John Brownings over the Christmas holidays were Billy Ray Browning and Family of Tuscola, their granddaughter, and husband, The Bedfords, and their four children from Arkansas and grandson, Lonnie Ray from Dallas.

Governor's Roundup Surpasses Goal

Governor Dolph Briscoe announced that the drive to recruit 50,000 new Boy Scouts in Texas has been reached and exceeded. The Governor said "I am very pleased that the goal was not only reached, but that it was reached several weeks before the deadline." The Governor stated "I'm told by the Boy Scout Office in Dallas that almost 60,000 boys have become scouts since mid-September."

The Governor was referring to a drive he launched on September 14 to recruit 50,000 new Boy Scouts in Texas by December 31, 1973.

grass fires which can lead to much more serious fires such as homes. The Fire Department urges all residents to exercise caution with fires."

Plans to Reduce Insecticide Use Said Successful In Tests

COLLEGE STATION-- The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, in its current campaign to help cotton farmers depend less on insecticides, has developed a system which has worked well in Southeast Texas trials.

Researchers believe that if the technique is expanded to the estimated 215,000 cotton acres in this region, it would increase output by more than 13,000 bales, reduce the amount of insecticides applied by about 1.4 million pounds, and boost producer net returns more than \$10 million.

Experiment Station entomologist Dr. Winfield Sterling said the study was conducted in cooperation with the Texas Department of Corrections (TDC).

His co-workers were Dr. Ronald Lacey and research associate James Casey of the Texas A & M University Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Department.

Sterling said the new strategy follows this basic pattern:

(1) Control the boll weevil with a fall diapause program.

Stan Hicks Will Entertain Cornhuskers Dec. 30

Stan Hicks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Hicks of Trent, has been invited by Wilbur Evans, member of the Cotton Bowl Assn., to entertain the Nebraska Cornhuskers football players, coaches, and wives in the main ballroom of the Sheraton in Dallas on Sunday Dec. 30.

Hicks is a 1969 graduate of Trent High School and played

Merkel Firemen have fought rural fires at View, south of Merkel and a fire between Noodle and Merkel in the last few days.

Plans to Reduce Insecticide Use Said Successful In Tests

(2) Control the cotton fleahopper with low insecticide dosage applied during the early fruiting phase.

(3) End fleahopper treatments quickly to enable beneficial insects to increase enough to regulate bollworms and budworms.

(4) Tolerate up to .15 percent bollworm and budworm-damaged squares before insecticide treatment.

(5) Harvest the cotton and destroy crop residue as early as possible.

On the TDC Brazos River farms, Sterling said the system resulted in an insecticide decline from 12.9 pounds per acre to 6.4 pounds. Yield jumped from 229 pounds of lint to 345 pounds to the acre.

There was an estimated 50 per cent reduction in per-acre amounts of insecticides used on TDC's Trinity River farms. Yet, there was a 162-pound yield increase and a \$69 per acre net return increase.

As a check, Sterling said, yields from neighboring private farms were compared, and the increase was 25 per cent on the TDC farms.

1973 Was Year of Surprises With Fuel Crisis Leading List

The year 1973 proved to be a most interesting year for Merkel and the nation. It was a year of surprises. It saw the President of the United States in deep trouble over the Water-gate scandal and the Vice President resign over alleged pay-offs. It saw the nation faced with a fuel crisis that promises to be one of the most serious problems in our history. While no one can say what the effect will be, the economic impact could result in a recession. It could cause the nation to change its life style also. While the Merkel area has plenty of fuel according to Lone Star Gas and West Texas Utilities, these companies could be

ordered to divert some of their fuel to other parts of the nation.

1973 also saw the loss of former President Lyndon B. Johnson. The former president died from a heart attack suffered at his ranch near Austin. The native Texan had many friends in Merkel.

It was also a year of rising prices. Gasoline prices went up along with just about everything else. The city council granted West Texas Utility a rate increase in January. Beef prices went up so much that housewives across the nation held protests. Food prices went to the highest in history. Prices that farmers had to pay

for fuel and other supplies went way up also.

The year saw the United States go from a country with huge surpluses of cotton and grain to one with shortages. The president sold huge amounts of grain and cotton to Russia and Red China causing the price of both commodities to be the highest in history.

1973 saw the Merkel area have a good year for agriculture. One of the best cotton crops in a long time is in the process of being completed. The Farmers and Merchants National Bank set a record for deposits. At the close of business June 30, 1973, the bank reached over \$6 million in deposits.

In May, The First Baptist Church announced completion of a fund raising drive to build a new sanctuary. The church raised over \$50,000. On May 20, ground breaking ceremonies were held. Church officials hope to move into the new building in March or April of 1974.

The year saw an active schedule for the Chamber of Commerce. The chamber initiated a 'First Saturday Trades Day and Flea Market' which proved to be a popular promotion for local merchants and the people as well. The chamber also announced plans to build a city park.

Merkel merchants enjoyed a good business year. Circle A Western House expanded their store, doubling their floor space. The Merkel Mall moved its business to buildings across the street from its former location. At the same time, the paper was converted to the offset method of printing.

ON April 21, it was announced that the Merkel Country Club had been sold to Joe Babits of Abilene. Babits announced a major expansion plan for the Club. The Club house was remodeled and a swimming pool added. Plans were also announced to improve the golf course.

January and February proved to be one of the hardest winters the Merkel area had experienced in many years. Heavy snow and ice stranded motorists along Interstate 20. Merkel residents came to the aid of the stranded motorists providing them food and shelter.

In March, the Chamber of Commerce named David Gamble as Merkel's Outstanding Citizen at its annual banquet. Miss Christine Collins was named 'Lady of the Year' by Lambda Beta and Xi Nu Chi Sorority chapters.

Another big event was the calling of a school consolidation election for Merkel and Tye. The Tye School District was consolidated with the Merkel Independent School District. The Tye Elementary School building is still being used by the Merkel School system. This enabled Tye elementary children to attend school in Tye. Merkel also received some students from the Noodle-Horn School District which was disbanded.

April saw a new slate of city officials elected. Lou David Allen was elected mayor and Darrell Farmer and Vernon Wade were elected council members. Danny Doan and Bobby DuBoise were re-elected to the school board.

Other events of interest during the year were:

JANUARY
USDA announced end of low-cost loans to Electric Co-See '73 WAS, pg. 2

Merkel C of C Invited To Have Day at Stock Show

FORT WORTH -- Merkel Chamber of Commerce has received an invitation to select a "Special Day" at the 1974 Southwest Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Jan 25 through Feb. 3.

Services Held Friday For Nola Spratlen

Mrs. Nola Jane Spratlen, 68, died Thursday about 3 a.m. in the Star Nursing Home in Merkel. Funeral will be Friday at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor, will officiate, assisted by the Rev. N.S. Daniel, retired Methodist minister of Merkel. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery. Starbuck Funeral Home of Merkel is in charge of the arrangements.

Mrs. Spratlen was born Sept. 29, 1905, in Taylor County and married Lewis Spratlen in 1937 in Abilene. She had lived in Taylor County most of her life and was a member of the First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband; one son, Carroll Robert of Abilene; one sister, Mrs. Luther Orsborn of Trent.

Farm Fuel Delivery Ordered

AUSTIN--Oil refineries and wholesale fuel dealers throughout the state were notified December 11 by State and Federal officials that any available supplies of diesel and gasoline are required to be "sold and delivered as needed and ordered by Texas farmers and ranchers."

In a strongly-worded official notice, Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Jim Langdon, Agriculture Commissioner John C. White, and Federal Petroleum Allocation Officer for Texas Murphy Hawkins called on the oil industry "to supply fuel without further hesitation to... priority users."

The notice referred to official orders published in the Federal Register on November 19 and remaining effective until January 16, 1974, providing for mandatory allocations to agriculture along with mass transit systems and oil and gas exploration.

The federal order removes the stipulations for form completion or other conditions for sale and delivery of available diesel fuel during the period stated.

"From all indications from petroleum industry reports, the necessary fuels are on hand. However, local distributors are reluctant to release supplies because they are under the impression that they still must comply with regulations to complete government forms," Commissioner White said.

Initial activity of the 78th edition of the nation's oldest continuing livestock exposition and World's Original Indoor Rodeo will be an all-western parade at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, through downtown Fort Worth. Stock Show grounds open at 4 p.m.

The Stock Show will exhibit more than 13,000 head of fine livestock with new breeds of Brown Swiss in open and junior dairy classes, Brangus in open breeding cattle classes, Maine-Anjou in the steer show, Morgans in horse show performance classes for non-professional riders in the open cutting contest.

Also, visitors may attend the National Centennial Angus Show, and see hundreds of commercial exhibits offering ideas for better living and farming and ranching.

"We are pleased to have communities and various groups attend our show," said W. R. Watt Jr., general manager. "The Stock Show is planned for entertainment and education of visitors, breeders and exhibitors. People and their interest really make our show one of the most outstanding in the nation."

Recognition of groups and individuals each year with a 'Special Day' is our way of saying "thanks" for their support and interest," the general manager added.

Communities and groups choosing a special day will have a block of rodeo tickets made available for sale to local residents, and the delegation will be given a spotlighted introduction during the rodeo performance they attend.

Outstanding rodeo action coupled with a horse show can be enjoyed by the entire family. Special entertainment at the 1974 rodeo will be Tanya Tucker, 15-year-old recording star of Columbia Records. In the last two years, Tanyahas had four records hit the top of the country and western hit charts.

Total prize money for the 1974 Stock Show and Rodeo is over \$275,000.

Rites Held For Katherin Irwin

Mrs. Katherin Irwin, 59, of Trent died at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday at her residence after a short illness. Funeral will be at 3 p.m. Friday at Trent Church of Christ.

Post Office, Bank To Close New Years Day

A reminder to patrons that the Merkel post office and the Farmers and Merchants National Bank will be closed for the New Years holiday.

Postmaster Truett Thompson said that the post office would close on noon Monday, Dec. 31. However, Thompson said there would be regular delivery and lock box service that day. There will be no

rural delivery, city delivery or box service on New Years Day, he said.

Booth Warren, president of the bank, said that the bank would observe regular hours on Monday, December 31st. The bank will be closed New Years Day. The bank will open at the regular hour on Wednesday, January 2.

FARMERS UNION INSURANCES

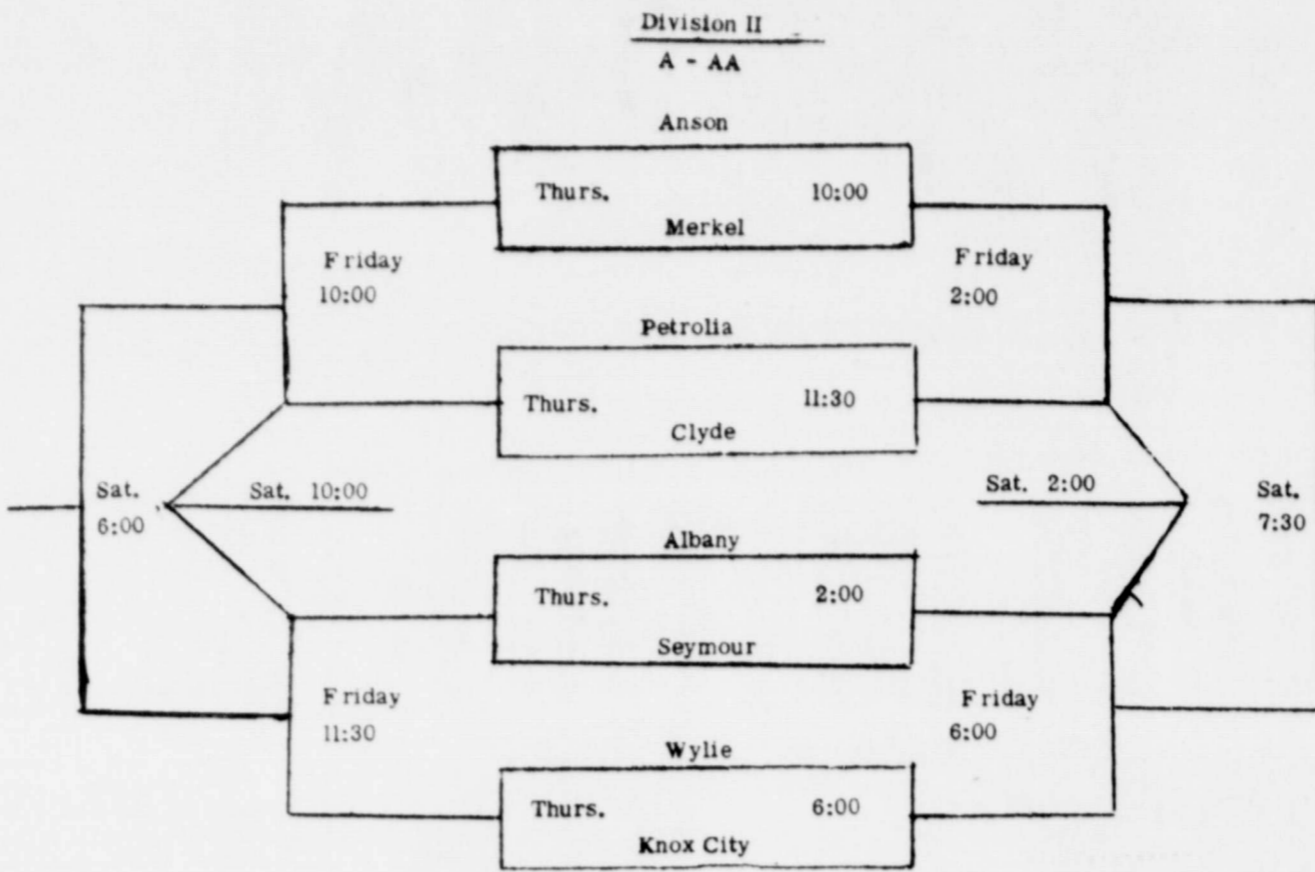


MACK SEYMORE
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928-5379
Merkel, Texas

Holiday Rush Called Big Traffic Hazard

Texas Safety Association reminds drivers that rushing is one of the greatest pitfalls of brief holiday travel. The safety group offers these basic suggestions for a safe trip.

- 1) Plan the holiday trip, and get plenty of rest the night before.
- 2) Get an early start, especially if there is only one day for travel.
- 3) Drive at moderate speeds. High speed is a major factor in traffic crashes.
- 4) Take rest stops to ward off fatigue.



Best wishes

Peace, happiness, joy, good fortune and success!

KEY CITY
VENETIAN BLIND CO. ABILENE, TEXAS

1971
1972
1973
1974

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Before the year ends we'd like to thank you for your past patronage and to assure you of our continued desire to serve you through the coming year.

From All The Folk At Carson's Super Market

Ring in the new... **1974**

May it be a fun-filled, glorious year, abounding in health, success and happiness!

West Texas Telephone Company
A Member of Continental Telephone System
Ned Watts and Jimmy Atkinson

May this be the year of a lasting peace for the world and its people and may all people find it in their hearts to keep this peace.

Boney Insurance
Benny and Boney

'73 Was Interesting Year

Continued from pg. one

OPERATIVE. Ice storm strands motorists along I20. Stock show schedule announced. Johnny Gray takes top honors at annual livestock show. Farmers and Merchants names Jerry T. Warren as new director. Additional low rent housing will be built. (Later in the year, it was announced that this was cancelled). Trent schools organize first student council.

FEBRUARY
Youth activity building was opened for Merkel youth. Badgers win second in District basketball. CAP announces cut off of fund. Future of Youth Activity program is uncertain.

MARCH
Waymon Adcock named Fireman of Year. Frank Breau returns from Lone Star Gas. Bill Harris was named Lone Star Gas representative here. Farmers Union members Eddie Glenn Sandusky and Danny Malone go to Washington for talks with leaders on farm problems. State Farmers Union president Jay Namath addresses local Farmer Union Banquet. Chamber of Commerce has annual banquet. School consolidation election called.

APRIL
City officials elected, consolidation of Tye and Merkel school districts approved. Local ranchers wives promote beef at Abilene super markets. All Sports Banquet held. Taylor Electric Cooperative has annual meet. Little League season opens. First Baptist announce revival.

MAY
Merkel Co-op Gin has annual meeting. Merkel Country Club sale announced. 1st Awards Banquet held for Merkel High Students. Merkel Garden Club has annual spring flower show. Chamber of Commerce honors three Merkel students with resolution for winning at state UIL contest. Chamber of Commerce announces start of Trade Day. First Baptist has groundbreaking for new sanctuary. Trent Awards program honors top students. Graduation announced for Merkel High School Seniors. Leon Walker resigns as Elementary principal.

JUNE
Six from Merkel participate in Germany Baptist crusade. Beauty pageant held. First Trades Day is held. Mack Fisher named president of Merkel Lions Club.

JULY
Bank deposits hit all time high. Larry White named president of Merkel Little League. Food Stamp plans for Taylor County announced. John Cain named elementary school principal. Beginning of classes announced for August 20.

AUGUST
Chamber of Commerce announces membership drive. Johnny Gray named 4-H Gold Star Winner. Teresa Clemmer is Gold Star Girl Winner. School classes begin. New city park announced by Chamber of Commerce. Merkel Boosters Club elects officers.

SEPTEMBER
Badgers open football season. Merkel Mail converts to offset and moves to new quarters. Noodle Baptist Church has 50th anniversary. Taylor Telephone has annual meeting.

OCTOBER
Food Stamps are available at local post office. Merkel Police Chief Boyd Baker resigns to accept Munday post. Mulberry Canyon 4-H Club wins top honors at 4-H banquet. Location of new city park announced by Chamber.

NOVEMBER
Badgers break 22-game losing streak by beating Albany. Nolan Palmer completes 25 years as Pontiac dealer. Annual Christmas parade date is announced as December 6th. Jim Broussard named Merkel Chief of Police. Badgers open basketball season with win over Ballinger.

DECEMBER
Santa Claus comes to town atop a fire truck during annual Christmas parade. Better Business Bureau manager speaks to Lions Club. Badgers take second place in Jim Ned Tournament. Livestock show date announced. Merkel hosted basketball tournament for first time in several years. Lambda Beta Chapter wins float contest in annual Christmas parade.

Dr. Ed Dressen
Is pleased to announce the association of his son
Dr. Russell Dressen
In The Practice Of Optometry

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Happy New Year

Time to wish our patrons a most successful 1974. Thanks for allowing us to serve you during the past year.

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Your Health (R) Service Store

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FRIDAY - 9 am. to 2 pm.
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TYPE OF SAVINGS PLAN	ANNUAL RATE
4-YEAR CERTIFICATE \$5,000 MINIMUM	7 1/2%
30-MONTH CERTIFICATE \$1,000 MINIMUM	6 3/4%
1-YEAR CERTIFICATE \$5,000 MINIMUM	6 1/2%
1-YEAR CERTIFICATE \$1,000 MINIMUM	6 1/4%
90-DAY CERTIFICATE \$1,000 MINIMUM	5 3/4%
VIP 90-DAY PASSBOOK \$1,000 MINIMUM	5 1/2%
PASSBOOK NO MINIMUM	5 1/4%

BE SURE TO ASK ABOUT HIGHER RATES ON CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT OVER \$100,000 AND OVER
A substantial interest penalty is required for early withdrawal of certificate accounts.

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REDDY TIPS
On how to live better

conserve energy and save money too!

- For savings on operating costs... remember the lower you set the thermostat in the winter, the more money you save on energy cost.
- Let the sunshine help warm your home... open the drapes during the day. Close the drapes at night, this will help insulate your windows and keep cold air out.
- Heat your home, not the outdoors, be sure all doors and windows are closed. Close damper when not using your fireplace.
- Before you leave home, or go to bed, turn off all unneeded lights and small appliances.

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OF **SAVINGS**

(STORE NAME) COUPON
save 60c
WITH THIS COUPON WHEN YOU BUY THE 2 LB. CAN OF **MAXWELL HOUSE** COFFEE AT **WILSON FOOD STORE** 3 LB. CAN ONLY \$1.49 WITH COUPON
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4 BIG DAYS THURS. DEC. — 27th. THRU. TUES. DEC. 31th.

SHORTENING	With \$7.50 or More in Trade Exclusive of Cigarettes	SWIFT JEWEL	3 LB. CAN	79¢
PEARS		CAL-RIPE	NO. 2 1/2 CAN	39¢
CORN		Stokely's CREAM CORN	303 can	2 FOR 45¢
CHERRIES		STOKELY'S RED SOUR	303 CAN	39¢
PEANUT BUTTER		PETER PAN	18 oz. JAR	39¢
CAT SUP		DEL-MONTE	14 oz. BOTTLE	29¢
CAKE MIX		DUNCAN HINES	2 FOR	89¢
VIENNAS		RED BIRD	2 FOR	39¢
FLOUR		GOLD MEDAL	5 LB. BAG	89¢

MILK	MARIGOLD 2% HOMO	123	REG. HOMO 133
COCA-COLA	OR 7-UP	12 oz. CAN	6 FOR 69¢
OLEO	BLUE BONNET		LB. 39¢
SALAD Dressing	BEST MAID	QUART.	59¢
Blackeye PEAS	KIMBELL'S DRY	1 LB. BAG	39¢
Blackeye PEAS	LIBBY'S WITH SNAPS	300 SIZE	2 FOR 29¢
Blackeye PEAS	RANCH STYLE With Bacon	300 SIZE	2 FOR 39¢

3-MINUTE POP CORN	10 oz. CAN	19¢	LIPTON'S TEA BAGS	48 ct. PKG.	59¢
EL-FOOD ORANGE DRINK	HALF GAL.	35¢	LIPTON'S INSTANT TEA	3 oz. JAR	1.29
JELLO	Reg. Size	3 FOR 29¢	HUNTING LICENSE NOW AVAILABLE 		
HUNTS 300 SIZE TOMATO SAUCE	2 FOR	49¢			

NABISCO CRACKERS	1 lb Box	39¢
KIMBELL'S SALAD OLIVES	10 oz. JAR	39¢
KOUNTRY FRESH BREAD	BIG 1 1/2 LB LOAF	37¢
COMET CLEANSER	REG. SIZE	2 FOR 29¢
LIQUID IVORY	GIANT SIZE	69¢
CHEER	GIANT SIZE	79¢


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FISH STICKS PKG. **49¢**
Donald Duck 6 Oz. Can

Orange Juice ² **for 49¢**

PRODUCE
Specials

	CHUCK ROAST	LB. 89¢
	GROUND BEEF	LB. 79¢
	PORK STEAK	LB. 98¢
	ROUND STEAK	LB. 1.49
	BACON <small>HORMEL BLACK LABEL</small>	LB. 1.05
	SALT JOWL	LB. 49¢

CABBAGE	LB. 7¢
LETTUCE	Head 19¢
TOMATOES	LB. 39¢
ONIONS	LB. 19¢
POTATOES <small>Russet</small>	10 LB BAG 79¢


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"Where Customers Send Their Friends"

Double Premiums
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Purchase of \$2.50
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Cash Register Tapes
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Miscellaneous 1

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Merkel, Texas
Phone 8-5565

MASONIC MEETING

Stated meeting of Mer-
kel Lodge No. 710 on
2nd Saturday and 4th
Thursday of each month
at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome.
Members urged to attend.

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FOR LEASE--Farm consisting
of approximately 90 acres of
land short distance west of
Merkel on Interstate 20. A.B.
Patterson Estate. See Herbert
Patterson. 43-2tp

Help Wanted 2

WANTED -- Cooks, waitres-
ses, and dishwashers. Mer-
kel Restaurant, 928-4923, 8-
tfc.

For Sale 4

HOUSE FOR SALE to be
moved, 212 Runnels, Merkel.
\$650. Call 445-3547 Pecos,
Texas. 40-4tc

School Bus For Sale
BIDS are being received for
sale of athletic school bus,
GMC model. Contact Mack
Fisher, Superintendent of
Schools. 39-tfc

FOR SALE--2 bedroom house
and lot at 304 Runnels, Con-
tact C. D. Herron, Box 697,
Rotan, Tex. Ph. 735-2875,
41-4tp

FOR SALE--5 room house and
lot on North 2nd St., Merkel,
Texas. Contact Ella Neeb,
897 Hickory, Abilene, Texas
79601, Ph. 673-0307, 43-3tc

Card of Thanks

WE WISH TO THANK
everyone for the cards, visits,
calls and food on behalf of
our sister, Mrs. O. N. Bu-
ford.

James Daniel
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Allday
43-1tp

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FOR RENT--2 bedroom house,
705 Oak, Ph. 862-2551, Lu-
ther Orsborn, Trent, 43-2tp

FOR RENT--Real nice 2 bed-
room house, attached gar-
age, furnace heat, Call L.H.
McAden, 672-3804, Abilene,
42-tfc

FOR RENT -- Unfurnished ap-
artment, Ray Wilson, Ph.
928-5615 or 928-5713, 31-tf

New Drinking Slogan

Instead of "one for the
road," drinkers are urged by
the Texas Safety Association
to take up a new slogan this
winter—"one for one."
It takes about an hour for
the body to eliminate the
effects of one drink. So allow
just one drink an hour or one
hour before driving for each
drink, says TSA.

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Drilled? Also Install.
Meyers Subs &
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refrigerator 2 door
frost free with
ice maker
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Washer \$150. 00
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Wanted

Back Hoe and Loader
Work
Cellars, Septic Tank,
and Ditching
DON DICKERSON
928-5952

PEST CONTROL

Tree and Shrub Work
Free Estimate
Cedar Post-All Sizes
Berlie Wilson
Ph. 928-5211

GET READY FOR
WINTER
DEARBORN HEATERS
NATURAL GAS
OR L.P.
Starbuck
Furniture

Abilene District Produces 20 Littering Highway Charges

Austin--You'd better look
back over your shoulder before
you toss that litter out on the
highway or on beaches and park
land.

If a Highway Patrolman sees
you, you're 100-to-1 shot to get
a ticket.

And if you get one, you're bet-
ter than 9 to 1 to draw a fine of
\$25 to \$200.

More than 800 Texans dis-
covered the odds last year, and
arrest records for the first six
months of 1973 indicate the to-
tal will go above 900 this year.

Those are just for the cate-
gory of throwing glass, wire,
and cans and other litter and
for the related one of leaving
refuse on the highway.

There are more than 8,600
arrests a year for the broader
Department of Public Safety
classification of "miscellan-
eous" violations, of which about
2,000 are for spallage from mo-
tor vehicles.

Col. Wilson E. Speir, di-
rector of the Public Safety De-
partment, said recently that
littering is just as much a
misdemeanor as any others on
the statute books. He told his
men to watch closely for vio-
lations and take appropriate

enforcement action.
"State law prohibits the
dumping or depositing of refuse,
garbage, rubbish or junk on pub-
lic streets, roads or highways,"
Speir said. "It is also unlawful
to dump any sort of waste on
rights-of-way, bridges, park-
ing areas or in inland streams
or coastal waters."

Texans Cautioned on Winter Skid Hazards

Infrequency of snow and
ice storms in most Texas re-
gions can fool drivers into
false security about skid dan-
gers, according to the Texas
Safety Association.

Ice often forms in shady
stretches and on bridge floors
where it can surprise the
driver. And, ice is twice as
slippery at 30 degrees as it is
at zero, cautions TSA.

A breakdown of DPS figures
for the first half of 1973 shows
the sub-district headquartered
at Tyler as the worst offender.
Its 17 counties produced 20
charges of depositing litter on
highways and 43 of leaving re-
fuse on the highway.
Next worst offenders were
in the 15-county area head-
quartered at Houston. It showed
35 litter violations and 26
charges of leaving refuse.
Abilene's 35-county district
produced 20 litter charges and
18 for leaving refuse.

SWEETWATER LIVESTOCK AUCTION, INC.

LET US HANDLE YOUR CATTLE NEEDS
CECIL SELLERS, Owner

SALE EVERY WED. 11:00

WHETHER BUYING OR SELLING

Hamlin 576-2560 Sweetwater 236-6378

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Walter Edward Harris,
Respondent in the hereinafter
styled and numbered cause:
YOU ARE HEREBY COM-
MANDED to appear before the
Domestic Relations Court of
Taylor County, Texas, to be
held at the Courthouse of said
County in the City of Abilene,
Taylor County, Texas, at or
before 10:00 a.m. of the first
Monday after the expiration
of forty-two (42) days from
the date of issuance hereof;
that is to say, at or before
10:00 a.m. of Monday the 14th
day of January, 1974, and an-
swer the Petition of Bertha
Mae Harris, Petitioner, in
Cause Number 8759 styled IN
THE MATTER OF BERTHA MAE
HARRIS AND WALTER ED-
WARD HARRIS, in which the
following person is Petitioner:
Bertha Mae Harris, and the
following person is Respon-
dent: Walter Edward Harris,
which Petition was filed in
said Court on the 27th day
of November, 1973, and the
nature of which suit is as

follows:
A suit for divorce.
If this citation is not served
within ninety (90) days after
date of its issuance, it shall be
returned unserved.
Witness Irene Crawford,
Clerk of the Domestic
Relations Court of Taylor
County, Texas.
Given under my hand and
seal of said Court at office
in the City of Abilene, Tay-
lor County, Texas this the
27th day of November, 1973.
IRENE CRAWFORD
District Clerk of
Taylor County, Texas

BY: Rilla Mahoney,
Deputy

Issued this 27th day of Novem-
ber, 1973.

IRENE CRAWFORD
District Clerk of
Taylor County, Texas

BY: Rilla Mahoney,
Deputy
41-4tc

Question:
Is Lone Star doing everything it can to hold down costs?

Answer:
Yes!

We're operating more
efficiently than ever be-
fore. But our costs are go-
ing up none the less... just like yours.
For instance, the interest rates on
money we have to borrow for con-
structing new gas supply systems have
increased dramatically. These rates
have recently been at all time highs.
Within the last 18 months, we have
invested nearly \$100 million:
 to build a large diameter, 400-mile
pipeline from West Texas to the
Dallas-Ft. Worth area,
 for other facilities along this pipeline,
 to attach major new reserves and
 to pay for well drilling by producers...
all for the purpose of assuring con-
tinuing natural gas supplies to our
customers.

These investments don't even in-
clude the cost of all the gas we must
buy to fill the line. In 1969, natural gas

cost us about 19
cents per thou-
sand cubic feet.
Recently we paid more than 85 cents
for major new supplies. And the price
is still rising.
Costs like these are the price Lone
Star must pay for your continuing nat-
ural gas supplies. It's important that
you understand our need for adequate
rates so we can continue to deliver
clean gas energy to your home for
winters to come.
We're doing everything possible to
hold down controllable costs. But even
with gradual rate increases, natural
gas from Lone Star will still be your
most economical and efficient non-
polluting fuel.

Lone Star Gas
Clean Energy for Today and Tomorrow

ALL PRICES DRASTICALLY REDUCED

- 72 CHEVROLET CAPRICE 4 door, hard top, air condition, power, stereo tape, power windows and power seats. 13,000 actual miles. Still like new. Beige color with beige vinyl top. GOING THIS WEEK. only \$2895
- 71 GMC 1/2 ton pick-up, long wide bed 350 engine, turbo hydro transmiss ion, air and power, two tone green Only \$1995
- 70 GMC 1/2 ton pick-up, long wide bed, 350 engine, automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes, factory air condition, bronze and white color. 56,000 one owner miles. A real nice pick-up. GOING AT ONLY \$1795
- 2-70 PONTIAC CATALINA 4 door sedan, air con- dition and power. Both have two-tone paint. REAL NICE. Starting at \$1495
- 72 PONTIAC GRANDVILLE 4 door, hard top. This one has all the GOODIES. Beige color with vinyl top. Nice one owner car. Only \$3395
- 70 PONTIAC Bonneville 4 door hardtop, air and power, green color with gold vinyl top, electric windows, cruise control, tilt wheel. REAL NICE \$1595
- 72 PONTIAC Catalina 4 door sedan, air and power, bronze color \$2095
- with white top, nice for only \$1995
- 72 PONTIAC GRAND SAFARI 6 passenger wagon, air condition, power, tape player, tilt wheel, cruise control, power seats, power windows, light green color. Real nice. One owner \$3495
- 65 PONTIAC TEMPEST 4 door sedan, air con- dition, power. Real nice for only \$695
- 69 PONTIAC GTO 2 door hard top, V-8, 4 speed, power steering, factory air, chrome wheels, \$895
- 69 PONTIAC Tempest Custom wagon, air and power, we sold it new, \$1295
- gold with white top, nice for only \$1195
- 69 PONTIAC Bonneville 4 door hardtop, air and power, good tires, \$1195
- 73 PONTIAC CATALINA 4 door sedan, air and power, driver education cars 1 ton, \$3495
- 1 blue both still like new. Going at reduced prices
- 3-71 PONTIAC Catalinas, 4 door sedans, air and power, new tires, white with green vinyl \$1795
- roof, real nice -- From \$1795
- We have 3 1973 CATALINAS, 2 door hard top, 4 door hard top and 2 door sedans. Three have vinyl tops. DRIVERS ED AND DEMOS. All with air and power. \$3695
- All real nice. Your Choice. only \$3695

WE HAVE SEVERAL OTHER REAL NICE USED CARS TO CHOOSE FROM
"We Sell 'Em -- We Lease 'Em"

Palmer Pontiac & GMC

MERKEL

G. E. APPLIANCES & TV'S

MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113

ABILENE 673-1183

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To any Sheriff or any Con-
stable within the State of Tex-
as--GREETING:
You are hereby commanded
to cause to be published once
each week for four consecu-
tive weeks, the first publica-
tion to be at least twenty-
eight days before the return
day thereof, in a newspaper
printed in Taylor County, Tex-
as, the accompanying citation
of which the herein below fol-
lowing is a true copy.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Don Vittitoe, DEFEND-
ANT, Greeting:
YOU ARE HEREBY COM-
MANDED to appear before the
Honorable Domestic Relations
Court of Taylor County at the
Courthouse thereof, in Abilene,
Texas, by filing a written an-
swer at or before 10 o'clock
A.M. of the first Monday next
after the expiration of forty-
two days from the date of the
issuance of this citation, same
being the 21st day of January
A.D. 1974, to Plaintiff's Pe-
tition filed in said court, on
the 16th day of October A.D.,
1973, in this cause, numbered
8621 on the docket of said

court and styled Linda Vittitoe,
Plaintiff, vs. Don Vittitoe,
Defendant.

A brief statement of the na-
ture of this suit is as follows,
to-wit: Petitioner and respon-
dent were duly and legally mar-
ried on June 22, 1961 and con-
tinued to live together until on
or about October 11, 1973; at
that time they separated; there
were two children born as a re-
sult of this marriage, to-wit:
Florence Vittitoe, and Jesse
Vittitoe; there is no commu-
nity property to divide, 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 re-
turned unserved.

The officer executing this
writ shall promptly serve the
same according to require-
ments of the 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
6th day of December A.D. 1973.

Attest: IRENE CRAWFORD
Clerk, Domestic Relations
Court, Taylor County, Texas
By Sandra Van Cleave, De-
puty. 42-4tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To any Sheriff or any Con-
stable within the State of Tex-
as--GREETING:
You are hereby commanded
to cause to be published once
each week for four consecu-
tive weeks, the first publica-
tion to be at least twenty-
eight days before the return
day thereof, in a newspaper
printed in Taylor County, Tex-
as, the accompanying citation,
of which the herein below fol-
lowing is a true copy.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Jim Griffin, DEFEN-
DANT, Greeting:
YOU ARE HEREBY COM-
MANDED to appear before the
Honorable 42nd District Court
of Taylor County at the Court-
house thereof, in Abilene, Tex-
as, by filing a written answer
at or before 10 o'clock A.M.
of the first Monday next after
the expiration of forty-two days
from the date of the issuance
of this citation, same being
the 14th day of January A.D.
1973, to Plaintiff's Petition
filed in said court, on the 20th
day of July A.D. 1973, in this
cause, numbered 34, 224-A

on the docket of said court
and styled John Freeze, Plain-
tiff, vs. Jim Griffin and wife,
Gaye Griffin, Defendant.

A brief statement of the na-
ture of this suit is as fol-
lows, to-wit: Suit on account
of \$7,512.47, plus reasonable
attorney fees, and for attach-
ment of property described as
Lot 17, Block P of Light-
ner Subdivision of H. Ward
Survey #90, City of Abilene,
Taylor County, Texas, known
as 802 Ross Street, Abilene,
Texas, as is more fully shown
by Plaintiff's Petition on file
in this suit.

If this citation is not served
within ninety days after the
date of its issuance, it shall
be returned unserved.
The officer executing this
writ shall promptly serve the
same according to require-
ments of law, and the man-
dates hereof, and make due
return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my
hand and the seal of said court
at Abilene, Texas, this the
10th day of December A.D. 1973
(SEAL)

Attest: IRENE CRAWFORD
Clerk, 42nd District Court
Taylor County, Tex
By Marie Adkins, Deputy.
43-4tc

Co-2 Dangers

Carbon monoxide poisoning can be a wintertime killer. The Texas Safety Association warns that homes using space heaters should be well ventilated. Burners in space heaters use up oxygen, and

without ventilation, asphyxiation is a real danger, according to TSA. In addition, TSA calls on drivers to have a careful check made of their car exhaust systems. An exhaust leak can mean death for occupants of the car.



IT'S TIME TO WISH YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Another year is beginning... we hope it's a good one for you!

Sybil's Beauty Nook

Phone 928-4858



Here's hoping the New Year will be a bright and happy one for you and all your dreams come true.

John Reddin Mamiya Photo

John and Gladys



ring out so true to all our friends, old and new!

Cypert Tax Service

Pinky & Mildred



May it be a bright and bountiful year for you!

DuBose Texaco & Butane



...with earnest wishes long and true, we hope that the New Year will prove the year for you!

Starr Nursing Home

Mary Outlaw Joyce Minnich

STATE CAPITAL Highlights AND Sidelights
by Bill Boykin
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN, Tex. — Acting in a quickie special session called by Gov. Dolph Briscoe, the Legislature voted to grant the State Highway Commission power to reduce speed on Texas highways.

The temporary measure is aimed at bringing the state into conformity with anticipated federal legislation. Briscoe said Texas would stand to lose up to \$40 million in highway building funds from the federal government if it does not order a new speed limit approved by Congress as a fuel-saving measure.

A reduction to 55 mph per hour — the limit expected to be set by the commission — would save a million gallons of gasoline a day, Briscoe told the Legislature.

Opposition to the bill centered largely on legislative reluctance to delegate moratorium authority (speed limits have ten set by law) to state agencies and resistance to being ordered around by Congress. Some legislators also wanted to get Briscoe to submit other measures to the pre-Christmas special session.

While they were at work, senators approved a resolution by Sen. Peyton McKnight of Tyler calling on Congress to eliminate price controls on materials used in producing oil and gas.

The resolution further asked the oil depletion allowance be restored to 27.5 per cent, from the present 22 per cent. It also requested lifting of auto emission controls in certain areas.

Lawmakers will be back January 8 to begin their constitutional convention.

ALLOWABLE PRODUCTION WILL OPEN AGAIN — For the 22nd straight month, Texas Railroad Commission set the oil production allowable at 100 per cent.

Exceptions again were made for January production in East Texas and Kelly Snyder fields (86 per cent) and Tom O'Connor Field (70 per cent).

Major crude purchasers requested a record 4,131,810 barrels a day during January. That is 106,111 more than the December figure.

Commission Chairman Jim Langdon, with an unhappy look at the energy shortage, warned of dark days ahead.

COURTS SPEAK — Texas Supreme Court held a judge under a new law can deny a legislator-lawyer delay of a trial when he has been hired within

10 days of the trial date.

A Dallas robbery conviction was reversed because of improper argument by a prosecutor to the jury, in a new Court of Criminal Appeals ruling.

The Court of Criminal Appeals reversed a conviction of a Dallas man for heroin possession and remanded the case for new trial after finding the jury should have been informed evi-



As the old year departs and we await the arrival of the new, here are some thoughts for 1974.

Share some treasure. Give a soft answer. Encourage youth. Be loyal. Keep a promise. Forgo a grudge. Forgive an enemy. Learn compassion. Try to understand. Think first of someone else. Discipline your temper. Express your gratitude. Reason together. Worship together. Smile. Gladden the heart of a child. Welcome a stranger. Take pleasure in the beauty of the world. Speak your love. Speak it again.

HAVE A GREAT YEAR!
THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers And Merchants National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS



WE HOPE IT WILL BE A GOOD YEAR FOR ALL!

The Dairy Bar

J. E., Marie & Family



Time wish you a Happy New Year!

Mel Fina Station

Rddy & Orene



May we chime in with our best wishes for the New Year to you and yours from all of us at...

Fisher Fina and Merkel Auto Parts



It's time again to wish you all a very Happy New Year from all of us. Thank you for your patronage. We hope to serve you again!

H.W. Lemens, Inc.

Merkel, Texas



We're swinging in with our sincere hope that every day will be in step with your every wish this New Year's Day!

Hardy Grocery

Royce & Joy



May the New Year bring to you all your fondest wishes and hopes and luck follow you throughout '74.

Merkel Country Club

SAT. 29TH THE TOPICS
YEARS EVE PARTY BY RESERVATION ONLY -
EVER - RESERVATIONS - CLOSED SAT. 29TH

HERE'S WISHING YOU THE BEST YET



Here's hoping that 1974 is your lucky year in every way! We'd like to thank you for your loyal patronage.

Crawford's

Onis, Tina, Horton, Strawn, Janie and Ruth R.

START OFF '74 with SAVINGS A-PLenty



JOHNSTONS Frozen PIES
MINCE or APPLE
EA. **89¢**

WHOLESON FROZEN
ORANGE JUICE 12oz. **39¢**
GENNESSE-MIXEM OR MATHEM CUTCORN-GREEN PEAS or MIXED VEGS. 3 FOR **53¢**

KRAFTS WHIPPED **OLEO** LB. **49¢**

CARSON SUPER COUPON
save 25¢
WITH THIS COUPON WHEN YOU BUY THE 1 LB. CAN OF **MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE** AT CARSON ONLY **73¢** WITH COUPON
ONE COUPON PER FAMILY - OFFER EXPIRES - DEC 29

CARSONS COUPON
save 40¢
WITH THIS COUPON WHEN YOU BUY A 10 OZ. JAR OF **INSTANT MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE** AT CARSON SUPER **1 49¢** WITH COUPON
ONE COUPON PER FAMILY - OFFER EXPIRES - DEC 29



Gold Crest
Don't Take a Chance - TAKE a CHOICE
TURKEY
ONLY 12-16 LB. HENS **73¢**

DECKERS QUALITY **FRANKS** PKG **67¢**

BACON DECKER POUND **1 05**

STEAK CHOICE BEEF T-BONE LB. **1 15**

BOLOGNA OSCAR MAYER OR PICKLE PIMENTO 8 Oz. **1 59**

STEAK CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN LB. **1 59**

SNACKS NABISCO ASSORTED.....BOX **49¢**

KRAFTS MINITURE **MARSHMELLOWS** 16 oz. BAG **23¢**

LIBBYS FAMILY 300 **RIPE OLIVES**.....CAN **47¢**

LIBBYS 16oz. TINY **Whole BEETS**.....JAR **47¢**

12 oz. CAN **SEVEN-UP** **69¢**

6 PACK CRTN **69¢**

BRER RABBIT **SYRUP** 1/2 GAL. **69¢**

ASSORTED **KOOLAID** REGULAR 6 FOR **29¢**

CASSEROLE **Blackeye PEAS** New Year Treat **35¢** LB. BAG

3 MINUTE **POP CORN** **29¢** 2-LB. BAG

HUNTS 32 Oz. **CATSUP** JUG **53¢**

KEELBER CLUB CRACKERS POUND **49¢**

HUNTS ASSORTED **SKILLET DINER**.....BOX **73¢**

TIRILL 59¢ Gt. Bot.

TIDE Family Box (1 Limit) **2 39**

DOWNY Gt. Size **63¢**

BOLD Gt. Box (1 Limit) **69¢**

LETUCE.....LB. **15¢**

ROME RED APPLES.....LB. **19¢**

FRESH TOMATOES.....LB. **39¢**

FRESH CABBAGE.....LB. **7¢**

RUSSET SPUDS.....10 **79¢**

PRICES GOOD FRIDAY THRU MONDAY
3 BIG DAYS
DEC. 28-29-31st.

LIBBYS CUT **ASPARAGUS** 300 ALLGREEN **65¢**

BORDENS **HOMO 2 MILK** 1/2 Gal. CRTN. **69¢**

BORDEN **MLK** BUTTER 1/2 Gal. CRTN. **69¢**

BORDER-GANDY-FOREMOST **WHIPPING CREAM** 1/2 PT. Crtn. **39¢**

BORDEN-GANDY-FOREMOST **EGG NOG** Quar Crtr **69¢**

CRISCO CREAMY (1 Limit) 3 LB. CAN **1 09**

TUNA VAN CAMPS FLAT CAN **37¢**

CHILI RANCH STYLE 19 oz. CAN **73¢**

KRAFT CARMELS BULK POUND **39¢**

BANANAS POUND **10¢**

FRESH LETUCE.....LB. **15¢**

ROME RED APPLES.....LB. **19¢**

FRESH TOMATOES.....LB. **39¢**

FRESH CABBAGE.....LB. **7¢**

RUSSET SPUDS.....10 **79¢**

IMPERIAL **SUGAR** 5LB. BAG **59¢**
WITH 7.50 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

BORDENS **ICE CREAM** 1/2 GAL. CRTN. **89¢**

GRIFFIN 300 **Blackeye PEAS**.....2 FOR **39¢**

HUNTS 300 **TOMAOTES**.....2 FOR **39¢**

LIBBY'S 303 W. K **Golden CORN**.....2 FOR **43¢**

STAR CUT 303 **Green BEANS**.....2 FOR **33¢**

LIBBYS 303 **Sour KRAUT**.....2 FOR **43¢**

LIBBYS PARTY **Fruit FLOAT**.....CAN **39¢**

POST Assorted **TOAST-EM**.....2 FOR **69¢**

LEAN-Eat Free **PAN SPRAY**.....CAN **69¢**

CRISCO CREAMY (1 Limit) 3 LB. CAN **1 09**

TUNA VAN CAMPS FLAT CAN **37¢**

CHILI RANCH STYLE 19 oz. CAN **73¢**

KRAFT CARMELS BULK POUND **39¢**

BANANAS POUND **10¢**

FRESH LETUCE.....LB. **15¢**

ROME RED APPLES.....LB. **19¢**

FRESH TOMATOES.....LB. **39¢**

FRESH CABBAGE.....LB. **7¢**

RUSSET SPUDS.....10 **79¢**

Authorized STORE FOR FOOD STAMPS CARSONS

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS
Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more

CARSON'S SUPER MARKET
MCKEE, TEXAS
RECEIVE TABLETS