

## Arts, crafts benefit Saturday

There will be an Arts and Crafts Benefit Show Saturday with proceeds going to the Christmas Seal organization.

The Benefit show at Merkel Country Club is being sponsored by the Merkel Art Association at the invitation of Don Hensley, President of Farmers and Merchants National Bank and state fund raising chairman of the American Lung Association.

The Benefit show begins at 10 a.m. at the Merkel Country Club, a mile north of Merkel on FM 126, and continues until 4:30 p.m.

There is no admission charge for the show. However, donations will be accepted at the door.

Artist from Anson, Hamlin, Winters, Stamford, Haskell and Abilene have been invited to display their work.

Participating artist should have their pictures on display at the Country Club by 9 a.m., Art Association officials report.

The Merkel Art Association has also invited anyone who would like to exhibit their arts and crafts to contact Mrs. Elizabeth Hicks at 928-5533 or Mrs. Jack Hogan at 928-5289.

There is a \$3 fee per space if exhibitors bring their tables and \$5 if the Merkel Art Association furnishes tables.

Money for the spaces also will go to the American Lung Association, Big Country Area Christmas Seals Organization.

Deadline for reservations of space is noon Friday.

Hensley and Art Association officials have extended an invitation to the public to view the exhibiting and in doing so to help the American Lung Association in its fight against lung disease.

**DISPLAYS ART**--One of the pictures to be on display Saturday at the Arts and Crafts Benefit Show at Merkel Country Club is discussed by Mrs. Ruth Hogan, secretary of the Merkel Art Association and Don Hensley, state fund raising chairman of the American Lung Association and president of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank. Behind the pair is the beautifully decorated Christmas tree at the F&M Bank. Proceeds from the Benefit which starts at 10 a.m. and continues until 4:30 p.m., goes to the American Lung Association, Big Country Area Christmas Seals Organization, Artist from over the Big Country are expected to have their various arts and crafts on display.

## Swine Flu clinic Saturday

Merkel will get a second opportunity to hold a clinic for the swine flu vaccinations.

The clinic will be Saturday at the Lions Club Building from 1 until 5 p.m. All workers should report at 12:45 p.m.

Both monovalent and bivalent vaccines will be given at the clinic.

Monovalent vaccine will be given to those who are 18 years old and above.

Bivalent will be given to persons who have a chronic illness or who are over 65 and will be available for those who missed the previous clinic in Merkel.

There are no immunizations scheduled for persons 3 to 17 who are in good health.

## School Board to appeal Governor's tax evaluation

A closer look at Governor Dolph Briscoe's proposed change in the state education finance system is sparking official letters of appeal across the state.

Merkel School Board voted to join the parade at a special meeting of the School Board Monday night.

The Governor met with school administrators in Austin November 1 and presented each school district with his proposal for the coming year.

It appeared the schools would reap a windfall with the state picking up more of the costs (90 per cent) and thus helping relieve some of the tax burden on individuals.

But, on a closer look, school administrators are starting to howl.

It seems that what most schools are basing their taxes on is nowhere near what the Governor's office is basing its figures on. Which means that should the bill receive full endorsement by the Legislature then many school districts will find themselves having to raise property values. Which means more taxes on the individuals.

Merkel School Superintendent Travis Davis told the Board and the 8 visitors Monday night that on the surface the proposed decrease of \$93,800 on local taxpayers appears great. However, he said, upon examining the proposals closer there are just too many things not explained and that it is possible the district could wind up with less money, rather than more.

But, the biggest question is where the Governor's office came up with an \$85 million property evaluation for the Merkel District. Merkel recently completed an extensive reevaluation program by outside professionals. This caused some concern with the increased tax burdens placed on farmers, ranchers and other property owners in the district.

Total evaluation now has been set by the District's taxing office at \$54 million. Thus, it is evident that there is \$31 million difference in the two figures.

Well, the schools in the state received a letter November 22 informing them that they have until December 3 to protest the figures--or live with them. The reason for Monday's special meeting.

The Board elected to file official notification of challenging all the figures presented.

For instance farmland estimates are \$19 million by Merkel's figures and \$33 million by the governor's; Housing estimates go from \$7 million to \$12

million; Farm and ranch improvements from \$2,200,000 to \$3,100,000; Commercial evaluations increase from \$3,400,000 to \$4,300,000; Vehicle taxes from \$1,700,000 to \$3,200,000; and Farm and ranch personal property which is \$150,000 on the Merkel tax roll to \$5,400,000 on the Governor's rolls.

The Board agreed, they feel the value assignments are too high.

The Board had no way of knowing how the figures were arrived at or what formula was used. They hope to receive further information to help them understand the drastic changes.

The Board, meanwhile, voted to officially file a notice of appeal and then appointed committees to start coming up with figures to defend the present tax structure.

The position the Governor's office is taking, Davis said, is that they are right and it is up to the individual school districts to prove them wrong.

The school finance plan took 14 months and \$3 million and it was pointed out that the individual districts do not have this kind of funds to counter with. Too, each district was given 7 days (over the holidays) to appeal.

Too, Merkel's expense for the recent reevaluation apparently means nothing as the Board must now justify its tax values to the Austin Board.

School Board President Charles Jacobs said we need a motion to appeal these evaluations and, directing his attention to the eight farmers and ranchers present said, "and, we need to select some of you fellows to come up with facts and figures to show these evaluations are way out of line."

The motion was made, seconded and passed to appeal the evaluations.

Davis also said he is planning to attend a Superintendents meeting Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in Hamlin to discuss possible action against the Governor's bill.

It was also noted that the school districts could spend time and money appealing the measure only to have the Legislature pass a completely different proposal.

However, Davis said the Governor's office is moving ahead as if the bill has already been approved. He and the Board suggested that everyone should start writing their state representatives and letting them know how they feel about this bill and the prospects of higher taxes.

The next regular meeting of the School Board will be December 13 at 7 p.m.



## Christmas season opens with Saturday parade

With the streets decorated and final plans nearly complete, Merkel officially opens the Christmas season Saturday.

A parade through downtown Merkel gets under way at 2 p.m. with the feature attraction--Santa Claus--making a special trip for the gala festivities.

Santa will remain after the parade to meet with the youngsters and to have his picture made. Santa will be at the Merkel fire station after the parade

to meet with the youngsters and to find out what they want for Christmas.

The Merkel Fire Auxiliary will be on hand to provide pictures of the youngsters with Santa for a fee.

The Christmas parade committee of Benny Melton, Gary Hicks, Bob Hammond and Tommy Carson have urged all organizations to enter the parade.

Cash prizes will go to the first three places among the floats entered and a

bicycle contest is scheduled.

First prize is \$25, second \$15 and third \$10.

There also is a Merry Christmas contest with a representative being named from each of the three Merkel Schools and one from Tye Elementary. All entries in the parade are requested to meet at 1:30 p.m. northeast of Palmer Pontiac, the usual starting place for Merkel parades.

several years. He died in 1957.

The couple moved to Abilene in 1945. She worked as a cashier for Thornton's department store for more than 10 years, retiring in 1966. She was a member of Highland Church of Christ and an active member of the senior citizens program at Rose Park.

Survivors include a son, George Mack of San Antonio; three sisters, Nell Groome of Abilene, Mrs. Curtis (Velma) Wilcox of Clyde and Mrs. G.C. (Mildred) Gilbert of Merkel; three grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

## Final rites held for Mrs. Owens

Services were held Tuesday at Highland Church of Christ Chapel in Abilene for Mrs. S. O. (Ruth Holloway) Owens, 74, a member of a pioneer Merkel family.

She died Sunday at Hendrick Memorial Hospital after becoming ill Saturday.

Lynn Anderson, minister, officiated and burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery. Born June 17, 1902, in Merkel, she was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Holloway, Merkel pioneers. She married S. O. Owens June 17, 1924, in Merkel. Mr. Owens was in the restaurant business in Merkel for

## THE MAIL

By Carl Dingler



## Medical group honors Dr. Sadler

A Merkel physician has been honored by the Texas Medical Association.

Voted into honorary membership by his colleagues was William T. Sadler, M. D. The election took place during TMA's House of Delegates meeting held recently in Austin.

To be eligible for honorary membership, a physician must have been a member for at least 40 years or have contributed notably to the advancement of ethical medicine.

The doctor was among 33 Texas physicians in the 13,250-member TMA elected to honorary status.

This is the start of the Christmas season in Merkel and it appears everyone is getting off to a fast start.

This weekend will be filled with shows, sales and parades. And, it will feature Santa Claus.

The parade through downtown Merkel will get under way at 2 p.m. Meanwhile, the Xi Nu Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi will have its Christmas Bazaar from 9 until 2 at West Texas Utilities Building. Also, the Art Association will have a show and sale at the Merkel Country Club to raise funds for the Christmas Seals campaign.

Swine flu shots will be given from 1-4 p.m. at the Lions Club Building.

And, there will be various parties and events going on.

Thus, Saturday should be a very active day for citizens of the area.

Mayor Lou David Allen is to be commended for his efforts to get the Swine flu shots scheduled for Merkel residents. The shots had been canceled for Merkel after the recent snow prevented immunizations. There were no plans to hold a clinic in Merkel which would have forced everyone to go to Abilene or to make other arrangements, if they wanted the shots.

A telephone call to the Taylor County Health Department by the Mayor, however, resulted in a date being set--and within a couple of hours of the telephone call. The shots will be given Saturday.

It is this public spirited zeal on which the Mayor should be commended. Allen is an active Mayor and is doing an excellent job. Let him know how much you appreciate his efforts.

The First Baptist Church Christmas Cantata is scheduled December 19 when the choir will present "Christis Born."

A recent story in the Abilene Reporter News by Scott Carpenter of the Harte-Hanks Austin Bureau concerns the

open meeting law and is reprinted to help give an insight into the law.

"City officials are very concerned about a section of the state's open meetings law which they feel is unjust and unwarranted.

"The section is the conspiracy part of the law which prohibits public officials from gathering together in groups of less than a quorum in order to circumvent the legal requirement that the public's business be conducted in public forums.

"The concern about that section of the law was expressed time and time again at the Municipal League's convention in Dallas recently. Several mayors felt the legislature couldn't have known what it was doing, since they feel the law means they could go to jail for meeting with another city councilman over a cup of coffee.

"An attempt will be made to have the 1977 legislature 'remedy' the problem by striking out the section of concern."

"Actually, the legislature knew full well what it was doing when it passed the open meetings law. Rep. Ray Hutchinson of Dallas sponsored an amendment to try to take the conspiracy section out of the proposal, but his amendment was rejected.

"The reason for the conspiracy section is obvious. It simply tells city councilmen and members of school boards and members of state agency governing board that they can't do by indirection what they are prohibited from doing by direction.

"The public has an absolute right to know what its government is doing for it and to it.

"Certainly no prosecuting attorney would file charges against people for having a cup of coffee together. He might, however, if the reason for the coffee was to circumvent the open meetings law--if they conspired to conduct the public's business in a way that the public couldn't find out.

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Taken from here and there: "If you're not comfortable

in God's house once a week you'll be miserable spending an eternity in Heaven."

And, this one:

Dwight L. Moody, the famous 19th century evangelist, once declared, "I have never met a man who has given me so much trouble as myself." Trying to be our better selves is a tough job but much self-discipline is always rewarded by a strength that brings an inexpressible, silent joy.

Each day brings scores of opportunities to exercise the character muscles which develop this strength.

One such exercise is to keep your mouth shut--to resist the temptation to take a dirty crack at someone or to repeat a bit of juicy gossip which, even if true, ought not to be spread.

Another is to seize a chance to do a kindness--and to leave it unadvertised.

Still another is to recognize your responsibility for any influence you may be exerting on others, consciously or unconsciously--and to act accordingly.

Small victories like these will not come easy. In winning them you probably will find out what Moody meant when he told about being so much trouble to himself.

And, this final one which fits in with the previous two items and is titled The Joy of Being an Editor:

Getting out this little paper is no picnic.

If we print jokes, people say we are silly.

If we don't, they say we are too serious.

If we clip things from other sources, we are too lazy to write them for ourselves.

If we don't, we are too fond of our own stuff.

If we don't print contributions, we don't appreciate true genius.

If we do print them, the paper is full of junk.

If we make a change in the other person's writing, then we are too critical.

If we don't, we are asleep.

Now, likely as not, someone will say we swiped this from some other publication.

We did.

**RENT OUR  
RINSE VAC  
Get carpets  
professionally  
clean.**



**Ben Franklin  
201 KENT  
MERKEL**

**Badgers Tracks**

The FHA girls held a meeting Tuesday. They are now selling candles and candle holders for the holiday season. Be sure and buy your candles while the supplies last.

Various activity pictures will be taken Friday, December 3rd.

For all you basketball fans, the Badgers are going strong this season, and they sure do need your support.

Friday is the last day to put in your fruit cake orders, so hurry!

**SENIOR CITIZENS  
SCHEDULE EVENTS**

- 1st Monday of
- Month Singing
- 2nd Tuesday Noon
- Covered Dish
- Game Nights
- Every Thursday
- & 4th Monday
- 4th Thur. Game
- Night Reserved for
- Talented Amateurs.

**City contracts for  
Christmas lights**

The Merkel City Council approved a yearly subscription to the Southern Building Code Congress and the hiring of two men to put up the Christmas lights at its regular meeting November 22.

The Board approved the payment of \$40 a year to join the membership of the Southern Building Code Congress and to receive publications pertaining to various building codes.

It was noted this does not mean Merkel now has a building code in force. It also was pointed out that the city may be required in the near future to have a certified building inspector. This will require 160 hours of training to earn a certification.

Herman Aikens and Glen Teaff were authorized to put up the Christmas lights, hopefully by Thanksgiving, at a cost of \$250. Utilities companies in Merkel had been doing the job in the past but all reportedly have too busy a schedule to work the job in this season.

The board also heard a report on the progress of the Merkel Higher Education Authority board and a report was given on the progress of the HUD procedures for Merkel.

City Coordinator J. A. Sadler attended

a workshop in Abilene November 19 and was told that \$140,000 would be available next year for six area cities.

He pointed out that Merkel is the only city in the area to get two grants. Merkel is vying for funds with Stamford, Hawley, Anson, Clyde and Baird.

Status of possible telephone rate hikes and the city's involvement also was discussed by Darrell Farmer. Sadler said he would look into the matter and report back at the December 10 regular meeting.

The Board will meet at 2 p.m. December 10 to open bids on the \$30,400 water line project.

The Council also discussed the possibility of pouring a 50 x 100 foot concrete slab at the city park to be used for roller skating.

Mayor Lou David Allen said the slab would be of high quality and it would not be covered. He said it would allow everyone a place to skate who wanted to and requested any feedback on the idea.

The possible building of tennis courts instead of a skating area also was discussed.

Sadler said he would provide figures on such projects at the next meeting.

**Band Boosters**

The Merkel Band Boosters will meet Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the High School auditorium. Discussion of the Christmas concert will be held. The concert is set for December 13 at 8 p.m. with the Junior High B and A bands and the High School band performing. The band also will compete in the Christmas parade in Merkel Saturday.

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

TO BE ENJOYED FOR YEARS

**ALL WOOD**

- FERN STANDS FROM \$24.95
- MAGAZINE RACKS FROM \$15.95
- TELL CITY ROCKERS FROM \$74.95
- SMALL PICTURES FROM \$8.95
- FRAMED MIRRORS FROM \$27.95



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LA-Z-BOY & BERKLINE RECLINERS FROM \$149.95

HASSOCKS & FOOTSTOOLS FROM \$13.95

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ANNOUNCES

**NEW STORE  
HOURS**

**8 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.  
TIL CHRISTMAS**

**MORE CHRISTMAS MERCHANDISE  
HAS ARRIVED!**

**WATCH FOR OUR CIRCULAR!**

201 KENT

MERKEL

**Ladies Banquet set**

The Merkel Lions Club has scheduled its annual Ladies Night Banquet Tuesday.

Activities will start at 7 p.m. at the Lions Club building in Merkel.

Ladies Night activities will replace the regular noon luncheon Tuesday, President George Starbuck said.

**Tye PTO news**

The PTO met November 18 at 7:30. Approximately 150 people attended. A committee was appointed for studying the playground needs and equipment. The Board of Education said it would match the PTO up to \$500.

The entertainment for the evening was provided by the second and third grade classes. The classes presented a Thanksgiving musical playlet entitled "Everybody Likes Thanksgiving Except the Turkeys." Students participating were Teresa Allen, Jimmie Bogle, Tracy Jordan, Carrie Harbour, Steven Keith, Sandra Kotlik, Teresa Maddox, Tonya Mercer, Joe Miles, Dusty Moore, Michael Olvera, Christina Patterson, Douglas Taylor, Marie Terrel, Angela Tyler, Sonia Wells, Michael Yates, Bill Law, Jamye Alt, and Joann Mendez.

Also Jerry Jordan, Michael Keith, Kelly Smith, Kevin Mitchell, Lisa Harbour, Kathy Vicars, Keith Watson, Verna Millsap, Delma Mendez, Mary Lou Barnes,

Tonya Steward, Larry Esquivel, Kerrie Smith, Kathy Mercer and Benny Roys.

The next PTO meeting will be an all school Christmas program on December 16 at 7:30 p.m.

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ON YOUR SAVINGS DOLLAR**

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FARMERS & BUSINESS CONCERNS."**

**"LET'S ALL HELP OUR COMMUNITY GROW."**

**CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT**

5%	5 1/2%	
30 DAYS	90 DAYS	
6%	6 1/2%	7 1/4%
12 MONTHS	30 MONTHS	4 YEARS

**7 1/2% SIX YEAR INVESTMENTS CERTIFICATES**

MINIMUM DEPOSIT \$1,000.00 OR MORE

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Merkel I. S. D. District name **TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY** 221-904 County-District Number

**OFFICIAL BUDGET FOR TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL  
FISCAL YEAR 1976-77**

Sections 23.46 and 17.56 of the Texas Education Code require that one copy be filed with the County Clerk and with the Texas Education Agency on or before NOVEMBER 1, 1976.

PART 1—BUDGET SUMMARY	Amount (Round to Nearest Dollar)
1 Total fund balances from preceding year, as of September 1, 1976 (Same as Part 2)	\$ 195,574.
2 Total estimated revenue for 1976-77 fiscal year (Same as Total, Part 4)	\$ 1,625,452.
3 Total funds estimated to be available (Line 1 + Line 2)	\$ 1,821,026.
4 Less: Total estimated expenditures for 1976-77 fiscal year (Same as Total, Part 3)	\$ 1,592,414.
5 Estimated balance of funds as of August 31, 1977 (Line 3 minus Line 4)	\$ 228,612.

PART 2—ESTIMATED FUND BALANCES AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1976 (Do Not Include Enterprise Funds)	Amount (Round to Nearest Dollar)
1 General Operating Fund (Fund 10X)	\$ 171,246.
2 Designated Purpose Fund (Funds 20X, 30X, 40X)	\$ 7,053.
3 Interest and Bonded Debt Fund (Fund 50X)	\$ 17,275.
4 Construction Fund (Fund 60X)	
5 Co-op Fund (Fund 90X)	
6 Total Fund Balance (Same as Part 1, Line 1)	\$ 195,574.

TAX DATA FOR BUDGET YEAR 1976-77 (Please See Letter of Transmittal for Instructions)

Assessed Valuation \$ 32,884,384. Total Tax Rate \$ 1.57 /\$100

Tax Rate	Maintenance Taxes	Debt Service Taxes
Taxes Assessed for 1976-77	\$ 1,50 /\$100	\$ .07 /\$100
Less: Estimated Uncollectible Current Taxes	\$ 486,000.	\$ 22,680.
Plus: Other Tax Revenue	\$ 14,020.	\$ 1,888.
Total Tax Revenue (Total Class 5710)	\$ 471,980.	\$ 21,792.
Less: Estimated Current Year's Delinquent Taxes	\$ 20,000.	\$ 700.
Plus: Collections of Prior Year's Delinquent Taxes	\$ 451,980.	\$ 21,092.
Total Estimated Cash Collections of Taxes, 1976-77	\$ 466,980.	\$ 22,592.

The Official Budget for this district for the school year 1976-77 was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees on

8-30-76

A copy of this action can be found in the official minutes of this body.

I Certify that this Official Budget has been prepared and adopted in accordance with the laws applicable thereto.

FOR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS

FOR COMMON AND RURAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS

*Charles Jacobs*  
President, Board of School Trustees

County Superintendent

Each depositor insured to \$40,000  
**FDIC**  
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

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AMERICA'S BANKERS

# WEEKEND FOOD SPECIALS

THAT WORK BUDGET MAGIC

THURS. DEC. 2 THRU SAT. DEC. 4

HOT BAR-B-QUE  
POTATO SALAD - BEANS  
PIMENTO CHEESE

**DR PEPPER**  
32 OZ. BOTTLE  
PLUS DEP. **19¢**

**SUGAR**  
WITH \$10 PURCHASE  
EXCLUDING CIGARETTES  
5 LB. BAG **83¢**

**SNOWDRIFT** 3 LB. CAN **\$1.29**

GOOCH  
**BACON** LB. **\$1.09**

WAGNER  
**ORANGE DRINK**  
QT. JAR **39¢**

THE LWIN'S  
EASY WITH  
KEITH  
**Frozen Foods**  
**CRINKLE CUT POTATOES** 2 LB. BAG **44¢**

GOOCH  
**JUMBO FRANKS** LB. **79¢**

**PEACHES**  
VAL VITA  
NO 2 1/2 CAN **49¢**

DONALD DUCK  
**ORANGE JUICE** 6 OZ. **29¢**

MKT. SLICED  
**BOLOGNA** LB. **98¢**

MR. GOOD  
**Peanut Butter**  
48 OZ. **\$1.59**

MRS. SMITHS.  
10 IN.  
**PIE SHELLS** **79¢**

**CHUCK ROAST** LB. **79¢**

**PINE-SOL**  
15 OZ. **69¢**

IT'S TIME FOR  
**Produce**  
COLORADO RED DELICIOUS  
**APPLES** LB. **29¢**

**LOIN STEAK** LB. **\$1.39**

**CRYSTAL WHITE**  
LIQUID  
48 OZ. **79¢**

TEXAS RUBY RED  
**GRAPEFRUIT** 2/ **29¢**

**HOT LINKS** LB. **79¢**

**CHEER**  
KING SIZE **\$1.89**

**YAMS** LB. **25¢**  
RUSSET  
**POTATOES** 10 LB BAG **69¢**

LIPTON  
**INSTANT TEA** 3 OZ. JAR **\$1.39**

STARKIST  
**TUNA** FLAT CAN **55¢**

GEBHARDTS  
**REFRIED BEANS** 300 CAN **29¢**

BEST MAID  
**Salad Dressing** QT. JAR **69¢**

GEBHARDTS  
**JUMBO TAMALES** NO. 2 1/2 CAN **59¢**

HUNTS  
**TOMATO SAUCE** 8 OZ. CAN 2/ **35¢**

HEINZ  
**BAR-B-QUE SAUCE** 16 OZ. **49¢**

ARMOUR  
**VIENNAS** 5 OZ. CAN 2/ **69¢**

RED LABEL  
**KARO** QT. **89¢**

**PORK & BEANS** VAN CAMP 300 CAN 2/ **49¢**

**MILK** MARIGOLD 2% HOMO GAL **\$1.45** REG. HOMO GAL **\$1.55** PLUS DEP.

**CORN** DEL MONTE CREAM STYLE 303 CAN **29¢**

**OLEO** BLUE BONNETT 1 LB. **45¢**

**TOMATOES** HUNT'S STEWED 300 CAN **49¢**

BETTY CROCKER  
**ANGEL FOOD CAKE MIX** **79¢**

**FRUIT COCKTAIL** HUNTS 300 CAN **39¢**

BRACHS  
**CHOCOLATE CHERRIES** 9 OZ. BOX **79¢**

**SAUERKRAUT** VLASSIC 16 OZ. **49¢**

**FOREMOST** WHIPPING CREAM SOUR CREAM HALF & HALF CRTN. **33¢**

**PICKLED BEETS** DEL MONTE 16 OZ. **39¢**

**OLIVES** TOWIE 7 OZ. JAR **59¢**

**PINEAPPLE** DEL MONTE CRUSHED NO. 2 CAN **49¢**

**PET SKIMMED MILK** TALL CAN **29¢**

**FLOUR** GOLD MEDAL 5 LB. BAG **79¢**

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1973 PONTIAC CATALINE 4 dr. sedan, air cond., power.....\$1995

1974 CHEVROLET NOVA Hatchback Coupe, air, power.....\$2295

1972 CHEVY CAPRICE 4 dr., air cond., power.....\$1995

1970 VOLKSWAGON SQUAREBACK Station-wagon. Air conditioner, radio, 4 speed, luggage rack. Only.....\$895

1966 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS-4Dr., Air and power.....\$495

1973 CHEVROLET CAPRICE CLASSIC 2 dr. hardtop, air, power, 31,000 miles, white with black vinyl top, real nice, one owner car.....\$3195

1973 FLYMOOUTH Station Wagon, Air and power. Only.....\$1795

We have several other nice used cars, SO COME SEE US  
"We Sell 'Em-We Lease 'Em"

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**MERKEL**  
ABILENE 673-1182 MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113

**Miscellaneous**

**MERKEL VFW POST 5683**  
MONTHLY REG. MEETING 8:30 P.M.

SECOND THURSDAY POST & LADIES AUXILIARY Y'ALL COME NOW!

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

**WILEY NOAH, W.M. ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y**

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Morris Harper...698-9689  
Pauline Butman, GRD...692-2222

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Billy and Pat Neff, 928-5623  
Equal Housing Opportunity

FOR SALE by owner, 3 bedroom, den, bath, completely carpeted, good water well, fenced backyard, David Scott, 928-4702, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or 928-5957 after 5 p.m. and weekends.  
41-2tc

**LOW COST HOUSING**  
situated in Merkel. Over 800 square feet, 1 bedroom, living room, 1 bath with extra room. Only \$4,200. Downing and Baggett Real Estate, 698-9056.  
41-4tc

**LAND FOR SALE?**  
CALL Collect-Bill Largent, Farm and Ranch Mgr., at Frances McClure Inc., Realtors, 3157 South 27th Abilene, 698-3211, Night 698-2375.  
46-tfc

**COST PLUS \$100**

**ON ANY SUBCOMPACT STATIONWAGON OR NOVA.**

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15 used pickups to choose from.

Unbelievable prices!

**Max Murrell Chevrolet**

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Fur buyers will like Merkel at the Willie Truck Terminal each Monday from 6:00 p.m. till 6:30 p.m. beginning December 6. We buy green and dry furs of all kinds. Skin case all fur (like opossums), not open up the middle. We also buy deer hides! Well handled furs bring Top Prices!  
Northwestern Fur Co., Colorado City, Texas

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**Harold Walker**  
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Merkel, Texas  
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**SERVICES**

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39-4tc  
**POODLE GROOMING**-928-5445, Cathy Kelly.

41-2tc  
FOR FINE Furniture upholstery fabrics at better prices visit Randy's Fabrics, 1120 Butternut, Abilene. Professional upholstery available.

26-tfc  
**GENERAL REMODELING**  
And Repair-roofing of all kinds, painting and tree work of all types-Call collect 677-0651, Abilene and ask for Leonard. Free Estimates. Fire wood for sale, 211 Oak, Merkel.

39-tfc  
**NEED HELP**-Call Outreach, 928-5859 or come by The Youth Center at 1028 North First between 9 and 11 a.m.  
26-tfc

**FOR SALE**

FOR SALE-1967 Ford T-Bird 390 V-8, Loaded, \$595. Call Bob, 928-4933 or 928-5858, 37-tfc

FOR SALE-New Zealand Reds, Whites, and Blacks. Good show rabbits, Jody Pittman, 3249 Melinda Lane, Abilene or call 672-9654, 40-4tc

1970 PONTIAC FOR SALE. Call 928-5568 after 6 p.m. 41-1tp

**GARAGE SALE**

BACKYARD SALE-Little bit of everything. Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 501 Thornton.  
41-ttc

**HELP WANTED**

HOMEWORKERS Needed in this area to lace leather goods at home. No experience necessary. Earn \$150.00 per week. Send \$1.00 (refundable) and long stamped envelope to Box 10427, Rock Hill, S. C. 29730.  
39-3tp

**NEED LADY FOR LIVEIN**  
Nursing care with elderly couple, 554-7827, Tuscola, after 6 p.m.  
41-2tc

**TOOMBS REAL ESTATE (BROKER)**  
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RES. 928-5696  
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ABILENE 672-6727

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Noodle area on paved road. Will divide for veterans.

HIGHWAY FRONTAGE, on I-20. For commercial use for sale.

2 BEDROOM HOUSE  
Fenced yard, paneled kitchen, completely re-decorated.

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chain, circle and hand saws, scissors, pinking shears, etc.  
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**WE NEED ALL KINDS OF LISTINGS HOUSES, FARMS & RANCHES**

**CARD OF THANKS**

WE WANT TO THANK Our friends, relatives and some people we haven't met, for the kindness you have shown us, following the loss of our home and belongings in a fire.

We were so glad to receive the clothing, dishes, groceries and money from the Merkel area. It means so much to know that people care.

Thank you again, Please know your kindness will be remembered.

Very Sincerely,  
Kenneth and Jean Wood Tammy and Kenneth, Jr.  
41-1tp

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS to all who extended comforting sympathy and help in our recent sorrow. For the beautiful service, floral offerings, and other kindnesses, we are deeply grateful.

The Family of Mrs. Lattie Kinsey  
41-1tp

**Kindergarten notice**

Trent Independent School District will hold registration for its kindergarten students on Wednesday, December 8, 1976, at 10 a.m.

Students must have been 5 years old on or before September 1, 1976 in order to be eligible. Please bring your birth certificate and immunization records with you when you register.

Classes begin on Friday, January 7, 1977.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

ADVERTISEMENT FORBIDS  
Project No. B-75-DS-48-9029  
THE CITY OF Merkel, Texas (Owner)

Separate sealed bids for Water System Improvements for the City of Merkel, Texas will be received by The City of Merkel, Texas at the office of City Hall, 107 Lamar Street, Merkel, Texas until 2:00 o'clock P.M. December 10, 1976, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The Information for Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications, and Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other contract documents may be examined at the following:  
Yeatts & Decker, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 1333 North 2nd Street, Abilene, Texas 79601.

Copies may be obtained at the office of Yeatts & Decker, Inc. located at 1333 North 2nd St., Abilene, Texas upon payment of \$20.00 for each set. Any unsuccessful bidder, upon returning such set promptly and in good condition, will be refunded his payment, and any non-bidder upon so returning such a set will be refunded \$10.00.

The owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

Each bidder must deposit with his bid, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the information for bidders.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the contract.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

November 12, 1976  
Lou David Allen  
39-3tc

**NEED A New Water Well Drilled? Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets**  
**ROBERT HIGGINS**  
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Welding  
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TYE, TEXAS  
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anything you want  
CALL  
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**WATER WELL DRILLING TEST HOLES WATER WELLS & PUMP SERVICE**  
A.C. BLAKENEY  
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**FOR YOUR WELDING NEEDS CALL JOHN LUCKEY**  
928-5149  
MERKEL

**WE PAY 150% OVER FACE VALUE FOR ALL SILVER COINS. (\$2.50 FOR \$1.00 SILVER) (We pay 25% for silver dimes)**  
**PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP**  
2155 S. 1st.  
Abilene, Texas

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**  
MEMBER 1976

**The Merkel Mail**

PUBLISHERS STATEMENT  
Established in 1889

Published weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas  
Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, 79536 as second class mail.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

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Martha Sue Justice, Advertising Sales Manager

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NOTICE of typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion or claims for refunds or extensions will not be recognized.

**SERVICE Our Specialty**

**J. L. FISHER FINA SERVICE**

TWO LOCATIONS  
INTERSTATE 20 & WEST HIGHWAY 80

**MERKEL AUTO PARTS**  
921 N. 2nd

OPEN SATURDAYS TOO  
WE WELCOME YOUR BUSINESS

**ALL TYPES OF INSURANCE BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY**  
Phone 8-5151

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Merkel Independent School District in accordance with the requirements of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 hereby declares its intent to fully comply with the intent and specifications of this statute.

Merkel Independent School District shall not, on the basis of sex, exclude any person from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Merkel Independent School District shall further; engage in a self-evaluation to assure compliance, establish grievance procedures, and appoint a coordinator for Title IX implementation.  
41-1tc

**Merkel Visitors**

Visiting in the home of Mrs. Dan Reidenbach over the Thanksgiving holidays were her grandson, Michael Reidenbach and his wife, two children and his sister from San Antonio.

**Services held for Thompson**

Funeral services were held November 21 for Otho D. Thompson, 78, of Dickens in the Spur United Methodist Church with the Reverend Reid visitors

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Reid and children, Jeff and Terri of Canyon, Miss Mary Kate Campbell of Amarillo, spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Reid. Mrs. Florence Berry also had Thanksgiving with the Reids.

**Collins visits**

Mary Collins (V. P. Farmers and Merchants Bank) spent Thanksgiving holidays with her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Q. A. Collins, and other relatives at Lamesa, Texas.

Archie Echols officiating. Burial was in Spur Cemetery. Thompson died November 18 in a Lubbock nursing home.

The Wingate native moved to Dickens County in 1925 from Jones County.

He married Georgia B. Hargrove in Clovis, New Mexico on July 26, 1931. She died June 6, 1959.

Survivors include a son, Otho Don of San Francisco, California; four brothers, Bowman of Jasper, California, Carl of Sunland, California, Willard of Morrow Bay, California and Oscar of Bakersfield, California; and two sisters, Mrs. Edith Fox of Merkel and Mrs. Opal Lane of Mountain Air, New Mexico.

**Car Maintenance Specialists**

Our expert mechanics will put your car in top driving shape... and help you keep it that way. See us about a complete tune-up!

**Reasonable Rates**  
**DISHMAN SHELL**  
211 KENT 928-5222

### Jaycee chapter being formed

Merkel is going to have a Jaycee organization. An organizational meeting is scheduled Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Merkel Country Club. The Merkel group has the required 20 members to receive a charter and has invited anyone 18 to 35 years old who wants to join the civic group to attend the Thursday meeting. The Abilene Jaycees are helping Merkel to organize the Jaycee chapter in Merkel and will be present for Thursday's meeting.

### College gets Governor's support

Unless another challenge is issued by the University Consortium of Abilene, headed by Dr. Thomas Kim of McMurry College, then Merkel's college will remain. President of the Merkel Higher Education Authority, Benny Melton, said Monday that everything appears optimistic. He said the Governor's office had responded favorably to the letter outlining the Merkel move to keep a higher education facility and that everyone in the Governor's office favored the Merkel move.

Melton said "Mr. Clapp, Governor Dolph Briscoe's top aide, said he had checked out how Merkel stands in the situation with the Attorney General's office and with the Board of Higher Education."

Melton said "Mr. Clapp told us to call and talk with Kenneth Ashworth, head of the Texas Education Board. We did and Mr. Ashworth, who wouldn't even talk to us a couple of weeks ago when requested to do so by Attorney General John Hill, was especially friendly."

Melton said that they all told him that unless there is a further challenge from the Abilene colleges Merkel will get its contract for an extension program approved without challenge in March.

"As of now we are going to continue to operate as we have in the past," Melton said. Cisco has returned the 2-year contract which the Merkel Board approved and signed.

### Invitation to join water district

An invitation from J. D. Sandusky, head of the Blair Water Supply Corporation: Do you want water on your farm? If so, please let the Blair Water Supply Corporation help you as you help yourself and future generations of your community.

How: By contacting one of your Directors and obtaining membership forms. Sign them promptly and along with \$100.00 fee return to us and get your meter location on our maps. These maps are all that our engineer has for designing your system. If your meter is not located on our maps you will not be included in the design of your system.

Who: Anyone living in a zone bounded by E20 on the North--Tye--707--277 on the East FM 89 on the South and the White Flat-Nolan communities in Nolan County on the West.

When: A final sign up meeting has been set for December 13 at 7 p.m. in the Taylor Electric Co-Op Building in Merkel.

Your Directors are: Justin D. Sandusky president, Lloyd Gilmore vice president, Opal Garner secretary-treasurer, A. L. Moore, R. E. Clemmer, Frank Brnovak of Merkel, W. R. Scott of Trent, Wier Joiner of Tye and Pauline Butman of Abilene.

Write Blair Water Supply Corporation, Box 221, Merkel to get application forms.

### TEL Class news

Paralee Gibson and Bessie Clack were hostess to the T. E. L. Sunday School class of First Baptist Church for a breakfast at the Merkel Restaurant. The class voted to give \$25.00 to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. The box for the patients at the Veterans Hospital list to be sent off by the 1st of December. Estelle Humphrey gave the devotional on "Thankfulness."

Those present were Jewel Dunagin, Ruth Baze, Maggie Renfro, Fannie Keith, Ruby Jenkins, Bessie Perry, Jewel Criswell, Ora Griggs, Estelle Humphrey and Annie Walker. Our next social will be a Christmas luncheon the 9th of December.

## L & W SNACK BAR

928-5484 1035 N. 2ND

On Thursday, December 9th, starting at 7:00 P.M., there will be TWO POOL TOURNAMENTS. One Snooker and one 8 Ball. There will be no entry fee. Prizes and trophies will be awarded. THIS WILL BE A NIGHT YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS WHETHER YOU PLAY POOL OR NOT.

DON'T FORGET  
WE'RE STILL FEATURING OUR 50c BAR-B-QUE SANDWICH & OUR 40c HAMBURGERS.  
(THE HAMBURGERS ARE CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN.)

THESE ARE REAL  
INFLATION FIGHTERS!

### MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT

(Policy Form MCXC)

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HN 7/28/76

### SPECIAL GIFTS for these Special Seasons!

**MEN'S SCREEN PRINT LEISURE SHIRTS 1/3 OFF**

NEW SELECTION OF  
**BEAUTIFUL LADIES LOUNGE ROBES**

**LADIES JUMP SUITS - CASUAL AND ELEGANT**

GROUP  
**BUTTE KNIT LONG DRESS SUITS**  
FOR YOUR HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES  
REG. \$117.00 NOW \$89.00

## BRAGG'S

213 EDWARDS 928-5811

## Montgomery to head Farmers Union

Joe Montgomery of Hamby has been elected president of the Taylor County Farmers Union at a recent meeting at Taylor Electric Cooperative.

The Farmers Union also named delegates to the state convention in Amarillo January 1 and approved resolutions to be presented at a committee meeting in Abilene this weekend.

Other officers with Montgomery are Kenneth Hogan, vice-president, Mrs. Stanley Toombs, secretary and Johnny Henslee, treasurer.

Eddie Sandusky read the resolutions which will be presented by Billy Bob Toombs, state director, at the weekend meeting in Abilene.

Delegates named to represent the group at the state meet include Mr. and Mrs. Joe Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. Ford Smith Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Toombs, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hogan, Mr. and Mrs. Connie Seymore and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Bob Toombs and R. E. Clemmer, Eddie Sandusky, Freddie Toombs, Johnny Henslee and Cramer Reynolds.

### Booth earns first at UIL meet

Merkel High won three medals, including a first place by David Booth in a recent UIL Invitational meet in San Angelo. Dennis Utley, director of

Merkel's UIL activities, said the meet was a practice meet in the mathematical areas. Booth captured a gold first place medal for his efforts in the science novice division. Booth also won a bronze for third in mathematics senior division and was fifth in veteran sliderule division. Merkel had eight competing

against 20 other schools and finished eighth teamwise. Kelly Wolf earned a bronze medal for novice sliderule. Brad Wade was fourth in sliderule freshman division, Mike Davis was fourth in sliderule novice division and Keith Wolf placed sixth in the veteran sliderule division.

## HENDERSON GRAIN CO.

NOW HAS

# LIQUID FEED

AVAILABLE IN

## MERKEL & ABILENE

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## NINTH STREET GROCERY

<p><b>GOOCH HOT LINKS 89¢ LB.</b></p> <p><b>TOWELS HI DRI ROLL 49¢</b></p> <p><b>BROWN &amp; SERVE ROLLS COUNTY FAIR 39¢</b></p> <p><b>SEVEN UP 64 OZ. NO DEPOSIT 79¢</b></p> <p><b>HORMEL CHILI &amp; BEANS 15 OZ. 59¢</b></p> <p><b>MENS JERSEY GLOVES 79¢</b></p> <p><b>ROASTED PEANUTS 69¢ LB.</b></p> <p>HOURS MON.-SAT. 7:00 - 9:00 SUN. 8:00 - 9:00</p>	<p><b>GOOCH JUMBO FRANKS 79¢ LB.</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>BACON SLICED SLAB 75¢ LB.</b></p> </div> <p><b>HERSHEY PLAIN OR ALMOND JR. BARS 10 CT. PKG. 69¢</b></p> <p><b>BORDEN INSTANT POTATOES 16 OZ. BOX 79¢</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>POMPA'S TACO SHELLS 59¢</b></p> </div> <p><b>POST RAISIN BRAN 10 OZ. 63¢</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>L &amp; M CIGARETTES \$4.99 CTN.</b></p> <p>WITH FREE 1977 CLOTH CALENDAR</p> </div> <p><b>CRACKER JACKS 2 FOR 29¢</b></p>	<p><b>LOOK WHO'S HERE!</b></p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Danny Malone are the parents of a son, Marcus Lee, born at 11:13 a.m. Thursday, November 18 in Hendrick Memorial Hospital in Abilene. Marcus Lee weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Mike English of 7625 Beckwood Drive, Fort Worth, Texas, are the parents of a son born October 17th at Harris Hospital in Fort Worth. The baby, named Chad Michael, weighed 8 pounds 4 ounces.</p> <p>Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Angus Ott of Plainview and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John English of Fort Worth, former Merkel residents.</p> <p>Paternal great grandmother is Mrs. Lillie English of Merkel.</p> <p><b>TISSUE CHIFFON 2 ROLL PKG. 49¢</b></p> <p><b>PET OR CARNATION MILK 39¢</b></p> <p><b>BREAD COUNTY FAIR 1 1/2 LB. LOAF 39¢</b></p> <p><b>COCA COLA 4 &amp; 1/2 OZ. NO DEPOSIT 79¢</b></p> <p><b>PAMPERS OVERNIGHT 12 CT. \$1.49</b></p> <p><b>RAW PEANUTS 59¢ LB.</b></p> <p>WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMPS</p>
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**Firemen's fete**

The Merkel Fire Department will hold its annual Christmas party December 10. The party for the Volunteer Fire Department and auxiliary will start at 7:30 p.m. at the Fire Station.

**Turkey shoot**

The Merkel Fire Department is sponsoring a turkey shoot December 5 at 2 p.m. The shoot will be a mile west of Merkel at the drive-in on Interstate 20.

**BIG COUNTRY INN LUNCH SPECIAL MON. - FRI. \$1.95 INTERSTATE 20 928-4723**

## CHECK OUR PRICES FIRST!


**OPEN 'TIL 7:30 PM NOW 'TIL CHRISTMAS**

**IF YOU WANT TO SAVE SHOP AT**

## EMMA'S CLOTHES CLOSET

**GIFTS WRAPPED FREE!**

# DO IT NOW!



**December 31 is the last day to deduct \$1500 tax-free from your income!**

If you are NOT enrolled in a retirement plan (other than Social Security), you have until December 31 to start your own Individual Retirement Account (IRA) at Sweetwater Savings . . . AND DEDUCT \$1500 TAX-FREE FROM YOUR INCOME!

With a Sweetwater Savings IRA account, you can deposit up to \$1500 a year tax-free toward your retirement. A husband and wife, both working, can deposit up to \$3000 a year into a tax-free IRA account. At Sweetwater Savings your IRA account will earn up to 7.75% annually. So, why take less? Come in . . . we'll help you tailor a Sweetwater Savings IRA plan to fit your income.

Please contact me. I would like to know how to open an individual Retirement Account at Sweetwater Savings

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ AC \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out and mail to: Attn: Watson Moore  
Sweetwater Savings, P.O. Box 1399, Sweetwater, Texas 79556

<b>CURRENT ANNUAL EARNINGS</b>	<b>7 3/4% 6 YR. CERT.—\$1000 MIN.</b>	<b>6 1/2% 1 YR. CERT.—\$1000 MIN.</b>
	<b>7 1/2% 4 YR. CERT.—\$1000 MIN.</b>	<b>5% 90 DAY ACCT.—\$1000 MIN.</b>
	<b>6 3/4% 30 MO. CERT.—\$1000 MIN.</b>	<b>5 1/4% NO PENALTY PASSBOOK</b>

A substantial interest penalty is required for early withdrawal of certificate accounts



## SWEETWATER SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

SWEETWATER ROTAN ROSCOE HAMLIN

## DUNN'S FLEA MARKET INTERSTATE 20 IN TRENT



MARKET WILL BE HELD INSIDE  
"THIS OLD HOUSE"

DECEMBER 4th & 5th  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
DEALERS WELCOME!  
862-2022

## The Light Touch

By Pat Castille

Conscience gets a lot of the credit that belongs to cold feet.

Bachelor: a man who leans toward women, but not far enough to fall.

Note: Someone who is here today--and here tomorrow.

The only things kids wear out faster than their clothes is their parents.

Sign over a high school clock: "Time will pass--will you?"

Why not pass some time looking for that Special Gift at CASTILLE HARDWARE & GIFTS?

### NEW HOURS

MONDAY, TUESDAY,	9-00
WEDNESDAY, & SATURDAY	TILL 6:00
THURSDAY	9-00
& FRIDAY	TIL 7:30

WE STILL HAVE INERTIA  
PECAN SHELLERS FOR **\$9.95**  
CASTILLE HDW.  
& GIFTS

## CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE

PRE-INVENTORY CLEARANCE

ENTIRE STOCK JUVENILE & CHILDRENS  
PANTS, JACKETS, SHIRTS, VESTS

10% - 60% REDUCTION

STUDENTS DOUBLE KNIT LEE LEISURE SUITS

25% OFF

LADIES 3 PIECE SUEDE BILLFOLD SET  
BILLFOLD, KEY RING, COSMETIC CASE

REGULARLY \$15.00

SPECIAL \$9.98

GROUP LADIES WESTERN

MIX-MATCH SHIRTS

50% OFF

WESTERN STYLE - WINDBREAKERS  
SPECIAL \$5.00

BOOTS

GROUP DURANGO AND ACME

JUST \$25.00

LIMITED SIZES - HURRY!

TONY LAMA - MENS & CHILDRENS

## Merkel girls in tourney

Merkel put up a defensive battle but couldn't contain the Wylie girls in the finals of the Merkel High girls basketball tournament.

Coach Pat Penick praised the defensive effort of her Merkel team for holding Wylie below 60 points. Wylie won the finals, 62-26. Wylie B lost to Jim Ned, 46-34 for third place. Rotan beat Snyder, 46-32 for consolation finals and Merkel B team beat Colorado City, 39-36 for seventh place.

Gwen Tarpley had 21 for Merkel B in the finals. For the Merkel varsity Gayle Teaff scored 12, Kandi Ascencio had 6, Gay Pfeister and Cindy Boone 3 each and Carrie Lax 2.

Teaff at forward and Freda Crenshaw at guard were named to the all-tournament team of the tournament. Merkel then went to Clyde last week and lost, 46-31, with Teaff scoring 21. The JV girls also lost 20-26.

They were to play Anson Tuesday before entering the Jim Ned tournament starting Thursday. District 6-AA action opens for Merkel Tuesday when they travel to Coahoma at 6:30 p.m.

First opponent in the Jim Ned tourney will be against Woodson girls at 5 p.m. Thursday. They will play at 7 p.m. Friday if they win. They will play the winner of the Trent and Jim Ned battle scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thursday. If Merkel loses the opener it will play at 5 p.m. Friday.

Other teams in the tourney include Winters vs. Jim Ned JV at 2:30 p.m. Friday and Coleman vs. Hobbs girls at 2:30 p.m. Thursday. Consolation finals Saturday is 4:30 p.m. girls championship is at 7:30 p.m. Boys consolation is 6 p.m. and boys championship is 9 p.m.

Merkel girls won their third straight game of the season to reach the finals of the Merkel tourney, edging Wylie's B team, 32-20. It was nip and tuck as the scrappy Wylie team put up a stiff battle before falling to superior height and shooting by Merkel.

Merkel led 7-6 after the first quarter and 14-9 at intermission and was ahead 22-16 going into the final quarter when they broke the game open with a 10-4 scoring spree.

Gayle Teaff had 15 points to lead Merkel. Gay Pfeister scored 8, Kandi Ascencio 5 and Carrie Law and Annemarie Rankin 2 each. Regina Light had 10 to lead Wylie B.

In other second round games Snyder beat Merkel B, 39-29. Rotan edged Colorado City, 54-51 and Wylie coasted past Jim Ned, 92-26.

Leading scorers for the day were Cindy Smith with 8 and Gwen Tarpley with 21 for Merkel B. Geanene Martin with 17 for Snyder; Susie Mohaney with 23 for Rotan

and Beverly Fuller with 21 for Colorado City; Lota Zoth and Suzanne Hann with 8 each for Jim Ned and LeAnn Wester with 17 and Ginger Thornton with 52 for Wylie.

### Junior High cagers have slow start

Merkel Junior High's boys and girls opened the basketball season November 22 with losses to Rotan.

The Seventh and Eighth grade boys and girls teams all lost.

The Seventh grade boys and girls will compete in the Buffalo Gap tournament, starting December 16.

### Rankin named All-District

Annemarie Rankin has been named to the District 6-AA All-District volleyball team. Merkel High also had Jeanette Robinson named to the honorable mention team, according to Coach Pat Penick.

### Goodman HD

The regular meeting of the Goodman Home Demonstration Club took place in the home of Mrs. D. R. Butler, November 26 in Trent.

Members attending were: Carl Carey, Dennis Butler, D. R. Butler, Garland Price, David Carter and Shavla.

The meeting started with Mrs. Price leading a game called Thanksgiving.

The program was brought by Mrs. Carter on the dangers of poisons in the home. It consisted of an open discussion among members.

All members were reminded of the Christmas party in Anson December 3. Each person should carry a gift and a covered dish. December 20 was discussed for the club's party at Merkel.

### Farmer reunion

All of the children of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Farmer were the guest of Fredyn Farmer in Dallas during the Thanksgiving holidays for their annual reunion.

While in Dallas the family attended the Dallas-St. Louis football game.

Those present were: Etsel and Fern Farmer, El Paso; Edward and Doris and daughters Brenda and Melinda Farmer, San Antonio; Travis and Phyllis and Dusty Farmer, Abilene; Derrell and Jynell and Kevin and Gina Farmer, Merkel; Merty and Vickie Jeffrey, Houston; Lawrence and Blanche Farmer, Heattt and Suzie, Merkel.

Also attending was Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Farmer of Dallas.

### Dillard visits

Mrs. Clayton Dillard of Noodle returned home after 3 1/2 weeks, the day before Thanksgiving, to attend the Noodle school homecoming. She spent a week with her husband's sister Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Huff in Harrison, Arkansas in the Ozarks. Then went on to St. Louis and spent 2 1/2 weeks with her son Dr. and Mrs. Burl Dillard and children, Dr. Dillard is a surgeon.

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### CONTACT

R. L. Bland Jr.  
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RESTAURANT

INT. 20



928-4720



John Bland, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bland, of Trent will be participating in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association National Finals in Oklahoma City, December 3-11. John goes into the finals 5th in the nation with a total winnings of \$17,585.00 for the year, and will have a chance to become the world's champion bull rider. John will also receive a

percentage of the \$100,000.00 donated by Winston Inc. for the second-half total winnings. Only the top 15 contestants are eligible for the National Finals. They will be contesting for more than \$200,000 in prize money as well as the world's championship. The rodeo will be on National television December 13.

## Badgers in Jim Ned tourney

Merkel High School's boys are 1-1 after the first two road games. They were to play at Anson Tuesday night.

Coach Tony Mauldin's crew opened with a 40-39 victory over Rotan and then lost to Clyde, 67-44. The Junior Varsity beat Rotan, 44-21 and lost to Clyde, 43-40.

The boys will be in their first tournament of the year starting Thursday when they go against Woodson in the first round of the Jim Ned High tournament in Tuscola. David Pfeister took scoring honors for Merkel against Rotan with 13 points. Donny Riggan added 10, Grant Murrell and Garth Dean 6 each, Keith Wolf 3 and Craig Hutchins 2. Randy Cox, Keith Austerman and Mike Sims saw action but did not score.

Against Clyde, Riggan was leading scorer with 11. Wolf had 7, Sims 6, Pfeister, Brad Pursley and Murrell 4 each, Dean 5 and Hutchins and Ricky Howes 2 each. Dean and Howes led rebounding with 5 each and Pfeister had 4, Pursley, Murrell and Riggan 3 each and Wolf 1.

For the Junior Varsity, Billy Harris had 15 and Ricky Howes 10 against Rotan. Terry Cramer and Mike Brady had 6 each, Jay Boyd 3, Keith Shields and Farrell Bagby 2 each. Kelly Wolf and Vernon Presswood played but did not score.

Against Clyde, Hutchins scored 21 to lead the offense, Mike Brady had 7, Shields 5, Kelly Wolf 4 and Harris 3. First home game for the

boys is Monday when they take on the Abilene High B team, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Merkel is to play Woodson at 6:15 p.m. Thursday. If Merkel wins it will play Fri-

day at 8:45 p.m. against the Thursday winner between Trent and Jim Ned (this game is 8:45 p.m. Thursday).

Other half of the tournament bracket has Winters

playing Jim Ned Junior Varsity and Sweetwater JV against Hobbs. Finals are Saturday at 9 p.m.

If Merkel loses its opener it will play Friday at 6:15 p.m.

### Open house planned to honor Badgers

L & W Snack Bar will have a combination open house and Christmas party to honor the Merkel High School football team for its excellent season.

The football team won seven and lost three games this season and finished third in District 6-AA, its first as a Class AA team.

The action starts at 7 p.m. December 9 at the L & W Snack Bar. The open house is to show their appreciation to their customers.

But, it also is to honor the victorious

Badgers football team. However, due to regulations L & W is not permitted to give gifts or products to the students.

Therefore the only change to anyone attending will be for whatever beverage they order.

For instance coffee or tea will cost 20 cents. The buffet is free with the price of the coffee or tea. Cold drinks will range from 15 cents to 35 cents and also will be the entire price for the buffet.

## Trent girls win, boys lose

Trent High girls pushed their basketball record to 5-3 while the boys are 0-4. Trent was to play Highland Tuesday night before entering the Jim Ned tournament Thursday.

For the boys Hobbs beat the varsity 48-46 with Rocky Bryan scoring 26 points. Hobbs also won the JV game in two overtimes, 45-42. Herbert Beaver had 21 for Trent. Trent then lost to Aspermont, 56-32 with Bryan and James Mays each scoring 7.

Then Trent lost to Highland, 64-38 as Mays scored 13. For the girls, Trent beat Hobbs, 64-54 with Robbie Freeman scoring 30, they beat Aspermont, 50-39 with Freeman getting 23 and they lost to Highland in a close battle, 39-28 and Freeman was held to 13.

After the Jim Ned tourney Trent goes to Hawley for a 7 p.m. game Tuesday.

Trent boys play Jim Ned at 8:45 p.m. Thursday in the opening round of the tournament with the winner playing Friday at 8:45 p.m. against the Merkel and Woodson winner. If Trent loses it will play at 6:15 p.m. Friday.

The Trent girls, meanwhile play Jim Ned girls at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Winner meets the Merkel and Woodson winner Friday at 7 p.m. Losers play at 5 p.m. Friday.

Other half of the tournament has Winters and Jim Ned JV girls playing Friday at

2:30 p.m. and Coleman and Hobbs girls meeting Thursday at 2:30 p.m. Winners meet Saturday at 12:30 p.m. and losers play at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Girls consolation finals are Saturday at 4:30 p.m. boys consolation is 6 p.m. Championship girls game is 7:30 p.m. and boys championship starts at 9 p.m.

### WWI vets

The Merkel-Trent Barracks 2248 of the Veterans of World War I and the Ladies Auxiliary met November 20th at the Taylor Electric Building for a Thanksgiving Dinner and regular meeting.

After a time of fellowship they met in separate sessions. The ladies meeting was called to order by President Jewelle Criswell. The Bible was opened by Deway Fleming and the prayer was said by Mary Mosier, Chaplain. After the secretary's report by Ruth Cox and other business, a report was given by Maggie Kenfro of the District meeting held in Stephenville November 13 that she and Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bonneaux attended.

Report was given by Mrs. Joe Hartley of the Armistice day parade in Abilene on November 11 in which she and Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bonneaux participated.

Plans were made to take Christmas gifts to the Veterans Hospital in Big Springs for the Veterans of World War I that are patients.

Plans were made for the Christmas party on December 18th.

Seven new members paid dues. They are: Joyce Clark, Frances Carey, Dente Lindsey, Gwendolyn Hyde, Carolyn Sotelle, Mary Bennett and Cora Reeves.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Albert Criswell, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bonneaux, Mr. and Mrs. Dee Poland, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hartley, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Harwell, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baze, Mr. and Mrs. Dent Gibson, Mrs. Dewey Fleming, Mrs. Mary Mosier, Mrs. Maggie Renfro, Mrs. Ruth Cox, Mrs. Trula Cox, Mrs. Vallie McLaurin, Mrs. Irene Strawn, Mrs. Cora Reeves, Mrs. Frances Carey, Miss Mable McKee and Mr. Cecil Stevens.

### SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

MONDAY  
Chickenfried steak with cream gravy  
Seasoned green beans  
Whipped potatoes  
Hot rolls  
Frosted white cake with fruit

TUESDAY  
Beef and bean burrito  
Pinto beans  
Green salad with choice of dressing  
Spanish rice  
Fruit and jello

WEDNESDAY  
Beef and vegetable stew  
Green salad with choice of dressing  
Crackers  
Plum cobbler

THURSDAY  
Fried fish and tartar sauce  
Seasoned spinach  
Potatoes au gratin

FRIDAY  
Hotdogs with chili  
Pickled relish and sliced onion  
Pork and beans  
Peanutbutter and no bake cookies  
Orange juice

Monday  
Cornbread  
Peaches with whipped topping

Don't forget that the Junior class has the concession stand at the high school basketball games. We will be selling sandwiches, frito pies, baked potatoes, and brownies along with cokes, coffee, and candy.

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### Three students All-District

Two Merkel students and one from Trent were among more than 100 students who participated in the All-District Band Saturday in Sweetwater.

Suzanne Warner for piccolos and Alice Cunningham for B flat Clarinets represented Merkel and Glynn Dunn in Cornets-Trumpets represented Trent.

Students auditioned for the band in the morning and those chosen rehearsed in the afternoon. They performed Saturday night at Sweetwater High School.

Dr. Charles Traylor of the Abilene Christian University Band served as clinician and conductor.



**BAZAAR ITEMS**--Displaying some of the items available for the Xi Nu Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Christmas Bazaar are displayed by Mrs. Louise DuBose and Connie Harris.

The Bazaar is Saturday at the West Texas Utilities Building from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. For sale will be art, craft, baked goods and a White Elephant sale.

### Stith HD news

The Stith Home Demonstration Club met November 23 for a covered-dish luncheon in the home of Mrs. Daisy Mashburn. After lunch we had our meeting and program. Our president, Mrs. Mae Jones called the meeting to order. Mrs. Fern Tindal of Laman, Iowa, a visitor brought our devotion and prayer. Louise Hudson read the minutes. Daisy Mashburn led a game about Thanksgiving. Dolly Reddin brought our program on Arts and Crafts, showing several pieces of work she had done. There were 9 members and 4 visitors present. Our next meeting will be our Christmas program and a luncheon in the home of Mrs. Vada Hudson on December 14. The Jones County

Christmas program and luncheon for the 9 clubs will be December 3 at Anson's Lions Club Building.

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### Blair reunion has large turnout

In 1960 the late Howard Brown made plans for a Blair Area Reunion. Howard Brown passed away in 1965. In August of this year, plans were renewed when a group met and set the date for November 20 at the Senior Citizen Building in Merkel.

One hundred and seventy people attended the event. People registered from 31 Texas cities, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Doan of Vista, California.

The meeting was opened with a song led by Irl Walker, and Riley James led the opening prayer. Mrs. Irl Walker made announcements. Rev. Lynward Harrison welcomed guests and recognized students and teachers from

11 early day schools of Mulberry Canyon.

Mrs. Gillie Kate Harris was cited as oldest teacher present. She taught school at Center Point in 1906. A souvenir printed in 1902 of Center Point was furnished

### Compare HD

Compare Home Demonstration Club met Thursday November 11 in the home of Mrs. Alvin Raines in Anson. Club President Mrs. Ab Hunter called the meeting to order; Mrs. Ernest Spurgin led in prayer; and Mrs. Hugh Taylor directed a series of quia games. Poems were read by Mrs. Clyde Mimms and by Mrs. Dewey Ramsey.

Roll call was answered with "show and tell" handcrafts. The crafts included children's garments, corn shuck dolls, caps made from aluminum cans crocheted together, crocheted afghan, lamp shade and ladies robe. Mrs. Dewey Ramsey read the minutes of the last meeting.

The program consisted of an exchange of ideas on handcrafts in the home.

Refreshments were served to the following: Mesdames Hugh Taylor, Ernest Spurgin, Clyde Mimms, Dewey Ramsey, Ab Hunter, Alvin Raines and Gidget and Dawn Raines.

### Christmas party

Mrs. Faye Jones will have a group from the Abilene State School in her home at 511 Kent Monday.

She says any group or individual wishing to help in this Christmas party is welcome.

She said she will have 12 from the School at her home, starting at 2 p.m.



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MERKEL ABILENE  
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**MENS 2 POCKET DRESS SHIRTS** **\$13.99**

**DRESS OR SPORT SHIRTS** VALUES TO \$16.00 **\$5.99**

**VEST SWEATERS** VALUES TO \$14.00 **\$7.99**

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**ELECTRIC BLANKETS** FULL SIZE DUAL **\$21.99** KING SIZE **\$41.00**

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PAJAMAS **\$10.00** BABY DOLLS **\$9.00**

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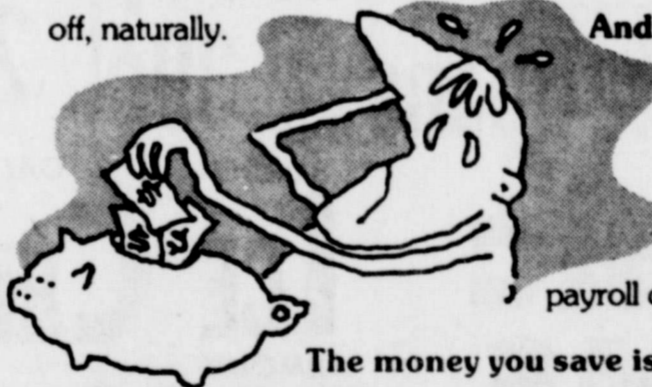
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ADJUSTED TO ANY FINGER  
REG. \$6.95  
NOW ONLY **99¢** EACH  
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JOHNSTON GRAHAM  
**Pie Shell** EA. **49¢**

HONEY BOY PINK  
**SALMON** TALL 16 OZ. CAN **\$1.59**

MORTON HOUSE  
**CHILI** WITH BEANS 24 OZ. CAN **63¢**

DIAMOND - HEAVY 40 CT. PKG.  
**Lunch Plates** **\$1.19**

GRIFFIN WAFFLE  
**SYRUP** QT. JUG **98¢**

**2 Free COKES**  
WITH **4 MR. PIBB** **98¢**  
-6 PACK- PLUS DEPOSIT

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**DONUTS** 6 PACK CRTN. **63¢**  
MORTON ASSORTED  
**T.V. Dinners** EA. **55¢**  
MORTON MINCE OR PUMPKIN  
**PIE** JUMBO EACH **63¢**

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**CORNBREAD MIX** 24 OZ. CAN **49¢**

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**POTATOES** 20 OZ. BOX **69¢**

LIBBYS 303  
**Fruit Cocktail** 2 FOR **73¢**

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**Golden Corn** 2 FOR **49¢**

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**Tomato Sauce** CAN **35¢**

HUNTS 300  
**New Potatoes** 2 FOR **53¢**

HUNTS BIG JOHN 20 OZ.  
**Beans -N- Fixens** **63¢**

NATURE BEST 300  
**Pork & Beans** 2 FOR **39¢**

**PEACH**  
PRESERVES BAMA 18 OZ. JAR **69¢**

**SHORTENING**  
SWIFT JEWEL 42 OZ. CAN **89¢**

MEADOWLAKE  
**SOFT OLEO**  
LB. TUB **45¢**

DECKER  
**PICNIC HAMS**  
WHOLE 6 TO 10 LBS. **55¢**

SLICED POUND **65¢**

DECKER QUALITY **LB. \$1.19**

DECKER QUALITY **PKG. 69¢**

CHOICE BEEF CHUCK **LB. 79¢**

DECKER QUALITY **2 LB. PKG. \$1.79**

ARMOUR STAR ZIP TOP **3 LB. CAN \$5.69**

PACKERS BONELESS **LB. 98¢**

**CRISCO MAYONNAISE** KRAFT QT. **98¢**

**COFFEE TOWELS** MARYLAND CLUB LB CAN **\$1.79**  
DELTA JUMBO ROLL **49¢** (1 LIMIT)

KRAFT  
**CHEESE**  
SINGLE SLICED 12 OZ. **98¢**

BORDEN  
LOW FAT **MILK**  
1/2 GAL CRTN **2 FOR \$1.63**

BORDEN  
**Butter MILK**  
1/2 GAL CRTN. **83¢**

BORDEN  
COTTAGE **Cheese**  
12 OZ. CRTN **53¢**



FRESH BEEF  
**LIVER** LB. **69¢**

**BACON**  
**FRANKS**  
**ROAST SAUSAGE**  
**HAM**  
**BRISKET**

BORDEN 1/2 GAL  
**ICE CREAM** EA. **\$1.09**  
ARMOUR  
**DIAL** BATH SOAP 2 FOR **59¢**

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GOLDEN **YAMS** LB. **23¢**  
FRESH RADISHES & **Green ONIONS** 2 FOR **25¢**  
COLO. RUSSET **SPUDS** 10 LB. BAG **69¢**

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