

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, August 2, 1979...Merkel, Texas

15 cents

The Merkel FFA is hosting a Rummage Sale Friday and Saturday at the Wilson Food Store Building.

The group is raising funds to complete payments and make improvements on a travel van that will be used to transport and house FFAers on stock show trips.

The sale will run from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. each day.

2 WTU lines cross, town blacked out for 2 hours

A distribution line and a ground line's crossing were blamed for a power outage that left some parts of the city without power for three hours Thursday night.

About half of the city was blacked-out for two hours with some homes staying dark until 1 a.m. The outage also affected rural areas.

The crossed lines were at 5th and Rose and caused no fire. The lines did send sparks flying as high as 30 feet. There were no injuries reported.

Three units of the Taylor County Sheriff's Office, two from the Merkel Police Department and a Highway Patrolman were on the scene to keep motorists away from the crossed lines. The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department also dispatched three vehicles to keep an eye on the lines.

The blackout started at approximately 9:45 and a report of the lines being down at 6th and Cherry slowed down response from West Texas Utilities and police.

The downtown area was blacked out for about 45 minutes and most of the outages were on Merkel's East side.

MISD board wins honor

Region 14 of the Texas Association of School Administrators is happy to announce that the School Board of the Merkel Independent School District has been selected as the regional Honor Board for 1978-79. The Merkel Board, composed of: Charles Jacobs, President; Leroy Teaff, Vice-President; James Boyd, Secretary; Dink Whisenhunt; Kenny Hogan; Pat Castille and Larry Dudley received the award for outstanding work in meeting the challenge of replacing facilities lost by fire, for the design of new Board policies, and for efforts in improving the total instructional program of the district.

Dr. Raymond Etheridge, Superintendent of the districts, says of the Board:

The Merkel board of Trustees has faced critical dilemmas and crises since March 5, 1978, when the Merkel High School burned and has faced a multitude of special decisions concerning the youth and citizens of our communities since that date. Progress is being made in the education process for our youth because of the well-organized and efficient Merkel Board of Trustees.

The Merkel Board will be considered along with representatives of the other nineteen regions for recognition as the state's Outstanding Board. Awards to the Outstanding Board will be made on October 7, 1979 in San Antonio at the annual joint convention of the Texas Association of School Administrators and the Texas Association of School Boards.



Sparks fly Thursday as two West Texas Utility lines cross. The crossed lines caused a two hour blackout over most of Merkel's east side, last Thursday. (Staff Photo by Cloy A. Richards)

County taxes up

Taylor County Commissioners voted Tuesday to set county taxes at 77 cents per \$100 evaluation. The current rate is 70 cents.

Commissioners also set a public hearing on the proposed tax increase for August 13 at the Commissioners Courtroom on the second floor of the Taylor County Courthouse.

Tuesday's action was a vote of intent to raise taxes and commissioners must hold a public hearing and then wait ten days until a formal and final vote can be taken on the proposed increase.

Commissioners said the tax raise was to offset the loss of federal revenue sharing funds and lower amounts of state road and bridge funds.

The 77 cent rate is a 19.195 per cent increase over the tax rate set by county Tax Assessor-Collector Richard Petree, who set this year's taxes based on revenue generated last year.

The real percentage increase amounts to 10 percent. County officials had told the Mail in interviews in early July that the tax rate may have to be raised as much as 15 percent but reassessments of much of the eastern part of the county, as well as new construction carried on county tax rolls totaling \$17 million helped to hold the increase to 10 percent.

County residents are invited to attend the public hearing on the proposed tax increase on the 13th.

Lightning hits home

Lightning struck the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bland in Tuesday morning's downpour and damaged a washer and dryer.

Roberta Bland said she was in the bathtub when the bolt hit and that it made a pop like she had never heard before. The bolt hit the house and traveled down a water line leading to the washing machine. The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to the scene to check for fire. There was no fire reported.

Headlines from 15 years ago in The Mail Bag

The following stories made headlines in the July 30th, 1964 edition of the Merkel Mail:

The directors of the Merkel Cemetery Association purchased 7.58 acres of land for an addition to the Cemetery announced director Booth Warren. The land was purchased from John Shannon.

The Merkel Little League finished second in the district playoffs after a 7-6 loss to Colorado City. Team members included Mike Holmer, Scotty Higgins, Tim Riggan, Billy Huff, Tommy Anderson, Randy Smith, Mike McLean, Benson pack, Gery Eicks, Gaylon Frazier, Tommy Carson, Rodney nashburn, Robert Rives, Bill and Jacky Whisenhunt. The team was coached by George English and Jack Whisenhunt.

Tom Russom reported in "Up the Canyon" that the area was experiencing a drought and that little hay was being baled and the cotton crops looked slim at best.

The Merkel Semi-Pro baseball team is headed for the state tourney in Austin after they won the district playoffs. The team is managed by Phillip Pursley.

5 resign, 4 hired at board meeting

Five resignations, including High School Principal Lee Presswood, four teachers hired, including an athletic director and the reassignment of Tye Elementary Principa Cecil Todd highlighted the Merkel ISD Board of Trustees special meeting Tuesday night.

The board met behind closed doors for two and one half hours. When they emerged, they announced the resignations of Presswood, Jerry McLeod, Myra Bennett, Sandra Koch and Lou Ann McGowan. They hired Mrs. Danna Dozier, Kathryn Moss and Mrs. Jan McCoy as elementary teachers and David Reves as head football coach and athletic director.

Presswood offered his resignation on Monday saying that he and his wife had accepted positions with the Snyder Public Schools.

Tye Elementary Principal Cecil Todd was reassigned to a newly created position of Federal and State projects coordinator effective immediately. Todd did not request the transfer and Merkel ISD Superintendent Dr. Raymond Etheridge told the Mail "He was transferred to the job and that is all I would like to say about it." He added that a replacement would be sought for the Tye post and

that applications are being accepted for the High School Principal's slot.

The new athletic director and head football coach has served in that capacity for three years at Jim Ned High School. He has been hired by the Hawley schools for the coming year but did not sign a contract and has resigned there.

Coach Reves told the Mail in a Tuesday interview that he is very familiar with the Merkel area in that he lives ten miles south of Abilene and went to High School in Anson. He said his top priority is to create more interest in the football program here.

He said that Merkel has a fine Junior Class of football players and that he was impressed with last year's eighth grade team.

He was graduated from Harding College in Searcy, Ark. with a physical education major.

The 1979 football season is just around the corner. Physicals will be given on Saturday, shoes can be issued on Aug. 8th, two-a-day practices start on Aug. 13th, first day of practice in pads is Aug. 17th and the first scrimmage is scheduled for Aug. 24th.

The MISD Board will hold a budget hearing that will be open to the public on Aug. 21st at 7 a.m. in portable classroom no. 2.

Dog deaths highlight council meeting

The death of four dogs in the holding pen west of City Hall was described as "One of the most disgusting things I have ever seen in my life" by Merkel Justice of the Peace Henry Guenther at Friday's City Council meeting.

Guenther, who was not on the agenda, made his remarks to the council before adjournment.

Merkel Patrolman Ray Pack discovered the scene at around 8 p.m. Thursday evening. Five dogs were in the cage, one dog was still alive.

The cause of death to the dogs is unknown and as Guenther put it, "They could have been poisoned or died from exposure."

Dogs that are picked up as strays, or turned into the Police department under the new dog ordinance are being held in a cage that contains about 24 square feet of space and is in the open sun. There is a roof over the cage, made of metal.

Guenther added that he realized that Merkel has a problem with stray dogs and that problem needs to be resolved and commented that the cage was not fit to hold a dog for 30 minutes.

When asked by City Manager J.A. Sadler if he would ask the county commissioners for help in holding the animals, Guenther said no, that is the city's problem. The judge went on to say that he was not trying to cause a problem and "I am not saying that we should put an end to the cage. I believe it should be moved to a shaded area and that a person should be assigned to clean it and care for the dogs."

Since the deaths were discovered Thursday night and the council met on Friday morning, councilmen could have made no decision unless an emergency session was called and the local media was given at least three hours notice.

Mayor pro-tem Kent Satterwhite told Guenther that the council would look into the problem and see what corrections need to be made.

Sadler also warned of a larger problem. While working on a police-related call Thursday night, he said he saw three skunks near the football field. "If something is not done (about the number of stray dogs) then we are going to have some kids taking the rabies shots."

In other business, council learned today that the new dispatcher for the city is Jim Shugart and his wife will be handling weekend chores with him. Shugart was hired at \$800 monthly and is provided a trailer house. He will be responsible for the utilities.

Council also heard from Vernon Wade, representing the Merkel Emergency Medical Service Association (See feature on page two). Wade informed the council that the association was about to embark on a fund raising effort to raise money for equipment and wanted the council to know about the drive.

Council will meet Aug. 10 and will consider a service rate hike from Martha Harmon of Lone Star Gas. The meeting will get under way at 7 a.m. at City Hall.

Lone Star Gas seeks rate hike

Lone Star Gas (LSG) will make an appeal to the City Council for increases on service charges, and if approved, will go into effect on Aug. 31st.

District Manager Martha Harmon will tell the council that the changes will increase LSG's earnings by about \$3,228 a year. She sent the Council a formal letter of intent for the rate change and will be placed on the agenda of the Aug. 10 meeting of the council. Proposed service rates include a \$20 reconnect charge; appliance service will be \$18 per hour; air conditioning service will be set at \$20 hourly; the returned check charge will be \$5 and disconnect and reconnect services for yard line repairs will be set at \$40.

The rate change will affect the 933 LSG customers here. The company estimates their annual income here is \$241,313.

Included in the proposed rate changes are extra fees for after normal working hours and Saturday, Sunday and holiday work. Those charges will be one and one half times greater than the normal charge.

In the letter of intent to increase charges, LSG said that reconstructions apply to builders who use gas temporarily during construction, the first occupant of a location, or when gas service has been interrupted because of a system outage or for any reason deemed necessary by the company.

LSG will also charge, on increments of 15 minutes, for work that takes longer than one hour to complete as well as an additional charge if more than one worker is required to accomplish jobs.

The council will meet at 7 a.m. at City Hall on Aug. 10th.

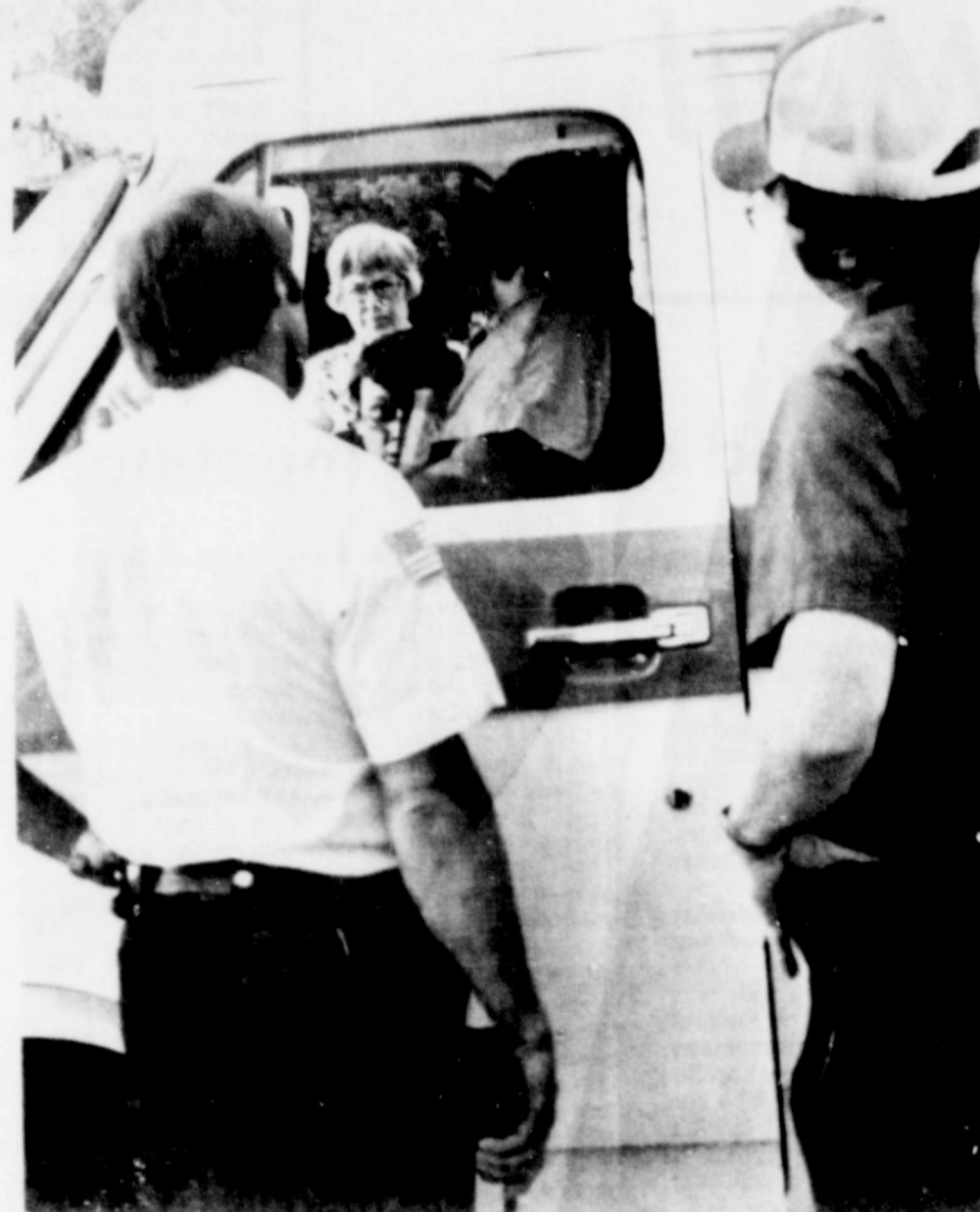


Local cotton crops got a good soaking early Tuesday morning as about two inches of rain fell in less than one hour. (Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards)



More than 70 riders from across West Texas entered in the Merkel Riding Club's WTBR sanctioned races Friday night. This rider leaves a

cloud of dust heading for the next pole. (Staff Photo by Cloy A. Richards)



Saving lives

Merkel EMTs form new association

by Cloy A. Richards
Eight Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) have formed an association to provide the city with 24 hour ambulatory attendants and on-call personnel. The best news, from Merkelite's view, is the service is free except for the people that use the ambulance.

The Merkel Emergency Medical Service Association meets every Thursday night at City Hall for a business and practice session. They discuss changes in medical insurance programs, proper ways to complete hospital paperwork as well as conduct training sessions to more familiarize themselves with the new ambulance and its equipment.

Nine local citizens were graduated from an EMT course that was offered here by TSTI in Sweetwater. Eight people make up the association including Jackie Cannon, Ray Pack, Ray and Paula King, Vernon and Ann Wade, Blanche Hewitt and Robert Harris.

The ambulance makes about ten runs per month and two EMTs are required to be on each run. The eight members also split shifts of being on call for 48 hours. The members are not paid while they are on call and receive a small fee for each ambulance run they make. Of that fee, each member donates one third to an equipment fund so the association can provide their equipment needs.

The association, like the Merkel Ambulance Service is paid for by the people that use their services. The city does not subsidize the operation of the ambulance or the emergency medical service.

Currently, the emergency medical service has a couple of problems and they are both in the area of communications. If you are in need of an ambulance, you simply call the Merkel Police Department. The police dispatcher then gets in touch with the EMTs on call. The Merkel Police Department can be reached around the clock by calling 928-4766. That number is printed on the inside of the Continental Telephone Company phone book.

The problem is that if the police phone is busy, it delays the ambulance. When the dispatcher takes a request for an ambulance, they have to get the location, and directions from the calling party (which takes time) and then call the on call EMTs, and then they respond. In the ambulance business, minutes are precious and in some cases are a life and death matter.

The Merkel Emergency Medical Service needs two way radios that are tied in to the Merkel Police Department's radio frequency. Then when a request for an ambulance is made, the dispatcher can notify the on call EMTs and they can respond, immediately while the dispatcher is on the phone taking directions and medical information, thereby saving those precious minutes.

Two way radios would also free the person on call to leave their home, and remember, these folks are on call for 48 hours at a time, at no pay. With the two way, they would be able to leave their home and still be in constant communication with the dispatcher. The two ways would also allow the EMTs to be in communication with the Merkel Police and the Taylor County Sheriff's Office. There are times that an EMT may need police help, or protection.

The two way radios are expensive. The cost for two is \$1882 and the association is trying to raise the money for them. They already have a good start because of their own equipment fund and have received a donation from Justice of the Peace Henry Guenther. A couple of the EMTs have pledged their monthly ambulance run checks toward the radios.

The ambulance service operates in Merkel, Trent, Stith and the rural areas inside that area. If it would be faster for the Merkel Ambulance and EMTs to respond than either Sweetwater, Anson or Abilene, they will.

If you would like to donate to the fund, contact any of the members or go to City Hall.

As one EMT told me, 'We hope you never have to use our service, but if you do, you would want the best.'

Amen to that.



Newsbriefs

Fire

A gas leak in a kitchen range was blamed as the cause of a house fire at 807 Rose last Wednesday.

Carolyn Sage was at home at the time of the fire with her two small children when she noticed the smell of gas and then found her kitchen range on fire.

Merkel Volunteer Firemen Ray King and Mitch Atkinson, along with Fire Chief Waymon Adcock quickly contained the blaze. Ms. Sage said the range was destroyed and there was damage to kitchen cabinets and walls.

She told the Mail she rents the house from H.H. Webb. The fire broke out at 1:32 p.m.

Honor

A Merkel native will be honored in a color add in FORTUNE magazine for being the only insurance agent in the company to have placed \$1 million in insurance

in a month for the seventh straight year.

Gwyn M. Pannell, an agent with Republic National Life sold his million dollars worth of coverage in June. He has been with the company for 32 years.

Pannell was born and raised here and received a letter of congratulations from company senior vice-president Roy Crook.

Church school

The Church of Christ Tuesday school will get underway Sept. 14. The school is open to children from 3 to 5 years old and runs from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. There is a fee.

The Program includes Bible stories, art, alphabet, counting, hand-eye coordination, manners, story time, outdoor free time and other activities.

There are limited openings and more information is available by calling Mrs. Charles Jacobs at 928-5176.

Son born

Mr. and Mrs. David C. Hendricks announced the birth of David Hendricks III. Born July 22, he weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 23 inches long. Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Santee and Mr. and Mrs. D.C. Hendricks of Merkel.

Paternal great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Hendricks and Mr. and Mrs. J.V. Hester of Merkel.

Visitor

Jimmy Brown has returned to Jackson Heights, New York after spending some time with his mother, Mrs. Edna Brown, and other relatives.

Clarification

Last week it was stated that a donation had been given to the cemetery in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Irvin. Mrs. Irvin called to say she is very much alive. Due to misinformation, this may have occurred more than once. No disrespect was intended.

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MERKEL, TEXAS

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I'll read it daily to keep strong
That I may never stray.

I'll seek it's counsel in all things
Be governed by it's laws
And seek to live by it's precepts
Be faithful to God's cause!

Oh! Blessed Book! Sweet words of life
To body, mind and soul
Within it's covers is the pow'r
That makes me clean and whole.

My comfort in the lonely hours
My lighthouse on life's sea
Take all possessions I may have
BUT LEAVE HIS WORD TO ME!

Florence M. Williams

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12 OZ. CANS

(NOT CHILLED) Case (4-6 Packs) \$7.20
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HOW TO CUT YOUR DRIVING BY 15 MILES A WEEK

President Carter has asked us all to drive 15 miles less every week. And if you're like most drivers, you can save 15 miles—and probably a lot more—just by changing your driving habits and planning ahead. Here are five easy ways to save 15 miles:

- Set aside one day a week as your "car-free" day.
- Join a work pool, school pool or shopping pool.
- Trim your driving by two miles a day.
- Think before you drive. Combine trips and be sure each trip is necessary.
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For a free booklet with more ways to save energy and money, write "Energy," Box 62, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

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Air, power, Rally II wheels, blue color \$4295

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4 dr., air & power, cruise, cream color, vinyl bucket top \$2295

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4 dr., air & power, white color, blue interior \$2295

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Abilene 673-1182



Mrs. Steven Plank

Merkelites granddaughter wed

The Sunset Church of Christ in Lubbock was the site for the July 20th marriage of Steven Plank and Leslie Henniger. The bride's father

performed the 7 p.m. Friday ceremony.

The bride is the granddaughter of Mrs. Modell Eoff of Merkel.

Atheletic physicals set

(Submitted) The following schedule will be used for giving physicals to middle and high school boys who plan to participate in sports this school year.

August 4, Saturday, 9 a.m. - Merkel Boys.

Boys physicals will be done in the locker rooms as last year.

For more information please call Lee Presswood, Principal.

Small towns benefit from industry

(College Station) when a new industry locates in a rural community, there are both benefits and costs, according to a recent Texas A & M University study.

The usual case is that community leaders tend to overestimate industrial benefits while underestimating additional public expenditures needed to serve the industry and its employees. This is the conclusion of three economists who researched the impact of industrialization on rural communities in Texas.

Dr. Lynn Reinschmidt of Mississippi State University, Dr. Lonnie L. Jones, a Texas Agricultural Experiment Station research economist, and Dr. Richard Floyd, a Texas Agricultural Extension Service economist in real estate, conducted the study.

The economists pointed out that industrialization has been tabbed by proponents as a means of improving employment and income as well as a means of reducing a community's tax burden by broadening the local tax base. However, net community benefits may be lower than expected because some of the payroll leaves the community through commuters, residents tend to consume outside the community, local government is unable to convert economic growth into tax revenues, and local government may give too many concessions to new industry. The researchers concluded that industrialization's effect on reducing taxes is minimal.

Nine plants in six rural Texas communities were investigated in 1975 and 1976 to evaluate their net economic impact. Four of the communities were in East Texas and two in South Central Texas. All communities were at one time predominantly dependent upon agriculture or natural resource based economies. Their populations ranged from 1,260 to 10,646, based on 1973 census estimates. Annual employment of the plants ranged from 20 to 152 employees, and annual payrolls ranged from \$144,000 to \$1,050,000.

Benefits and costs attributed to new industry were estimated and reported for private, municipal government and school district sectors. Direct, indirect and induced effects were also estimated, with both benefits and costs to determine net economic impact.

All in all, total community net gains averaged almost \$300,000.

IN the private sector, some net benefits were direct income, such as wages and salaries, and increased household expenditures made in the community due to increased salaries.

Some costs for this sector included donations of land, buildings and equipment, expenses incurred in attracting the industry such as advertising costs and travel expenses, and opportunity costs of loans extended at favorable interest rates and repayment plans.

Benefits accruing to municipal government included property tax and municipal service revenues from the industry and new residents and sales tax revenues from the plant payroll.

Among municipal costs were utilities to the plant and new residents, services consumed by commuters, location incentives or subsidies extended to the industry, and indirect and induced expenditures from increased demand on public services.

Some school district benefits were property taxes levied against the new industry and new homes, state and federal aid for new students associated with the industry, and increased economic activity.

Included in school district costs were expansion of facilities, instructional expenditures for new students, and increased demand on educational services.

The study showed that industries with large capital investments and industries using locally supplied inputs are most likely to benefit the communities.

On an average, the private sector of local economies enjoyed the bulk of net benefits from industrialization while municipal and school district sectors received a smaller share, the economists reported.

City receives check

The city received a check Monday for \$220.68 representing their share of the state tax on mixed drink sales.

The check covered the April, May, June reporting period. Texas cities and counties receive a 15 per cent rebate of the tax collected on mixed drinks sold within their borders under the law that legalized the sale of mixed drinks.

The mixed drink tax is collected by the Alcoholic Beverage Commissions and the city-county share is rebated on a quarterly basis by the State Comptroller's Office.

Harrison reunion Sunday

The Harrison Reunion will be held this Sunday in Trent at John and

Buelah Swinney's home. Friends are welcome to attend.

Obituaries

Vertna Gooch

Vertna Estelle Gooch, 62, died in Fort Worth, Texas on July 15, 1979. She was born March 28, 1917 at Tye, daughter of Emmett Ayers and Neely E. Hudson. She was married in 1934 to Jack Hayes of Merkel. He died in 1935. She married Clint Edmond Gooch in 1937.

She is survived by her husband and two sisters,

Mrs. Lonita Stamps and Mrs. Winnie Mae McMullan of Lubbock. Memorial services are scheduled at Starbuck Funeral Home on Aug. 5th at 2 p.m. The family will be at the funeral home from 1 until 2 p.m. to receive family and friends. She will be buried in Rose Hill Cemetery at 11 a.m.

Henry Eugene Speaks

Henry Eugene Speaks of Merkel died Sunday in Big Spring Veterans Administration Hospital after a lengthy illness. He was 57.

Born Jan. 18, 1922 in

Johnson County, Okla. he was a truck driver and a World War II Army veteran.

Survivors include his wife, Kathryn; a son Joe of Merkel and a daughter.



Mrs. Garth Doan

Toney-Doan married

Rhondia Toney and Garth Doan of Merkel were wed in ceremonies at the First Baptist Church Tuesday evening. The Reverend Kenneth Jones officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Toney and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Doan.

The maid of Honor was Rhonda Howes and Grant Murrell served as best man.

The bride and groom were graduated from Merkel High School and the groom is an oil field worker. He attended Cisco Junior College and the couple will soon move to the College Station-Bryan area where they will make their home.

MERKEL LITTLE LEAGUE, MERKEL BASEBALL ASSOCIATION, MERKEL PARENTS, AND MERKEL FRIENDS, a giant THANK YOU is in order for the super job you did in hosting the three play-off games in which we played. you were ALL most kind, considerate, and generous to each and every one from Anson. You are to be commended on your lovely field. It was a joy to play on such a well-groomed, good playing surface. Thanks again.

Your Little League Friends in Anson

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FAMILY RESALE CENTER, Abilene, Texas, welcomes you to our new location at 1301 Butternut, next door to Neilson's T.V., where you can buy or sell new or resale clothes, appliances, dishes, and furniture. All these items needed & taken on consignment. Phone 676-2741. 17-tfc

22 FT. MOTOR HOME in good shape. Sleeps 6, complete kitchen facilities, bathroom, carpeted paneled, air cond. standard 4 speed with 292 Chevy engine. Call 928-4866 or see at 1415 No. 2nd, Merkel. 22-2tc

FOR SALE: 3020 J.D. tractor with tools, 730 with bar, shredder - chisel plow. Lots of misc. items. All in good condition. Call 928-5903 or come by and see 5 1/2 miles NW of Merkel. Woodrow Rogers. 23-3tp

FOR SALE: '77 Chev. 1/2 ton Pickup. Loaded; 8 track stereo; cruise; tilt wheel; electric windows; and 350 cu.in. Call 928-4169 or 928-5401 after 5 p.m. \$5,500. 24-tfc

Sea King 15 ft. fiberglass boat, trailer, 40 H.P. Johnson motor with less than five hours use since rebuilt, 4 life jackets and oars. Sacrifice \$850 for all. 928-5051. 24-1tc

FOR SALE: Star Hardware in Trent. For information contact Layne Wells. 862-2727, 862-2397. 21-4tc

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

HOUSE FOR SALE: Mona Faye Bartlett home. 507 Yucca, Merkel. Ph. Abilene 677-8268 or 677-0308 after 6 p.m. 10-tfc

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 1 bath, carpet throughout, water well, good location, priced to sell. Cyrus Pee, Agent. 10-tfc

FOR SALE: Three bedroom, two full baths, living room, dining room, den, utility room, built-ins & extras. Central air and heat. 1700 square feet. Water well and city water, large storage building on one acre of land, 2 miles NW of Merkel. Call Jerry McLeod 928-5571. 23-tfc

For sale: Air Conditioner, GE, 1400 BTU, only 1 at this price, \$399. Palmer Motor Company, 928-5113. 24 1TC

House For Sale By Owner: Humphrey Addition, energy efficient, all electric, all built-ins, equity buy. Call 928-5490. 24-1tp

18,000 BTU high efficiency air conditioner, 2 year warranty, \$250. 928-4933 or 928-5858. 24tfc

FOR SALE: COUCH, makes into queen size bed, \$50, recliner \$20. 928-5712. 24-tfc

For Rent

SHANNONSIDE apartments - 1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments, shag carpet, all electric, dish washer, garbage disposal, central cooling and heating. For more information call 928-5038. 8 tfc

RENT OR LEASE: Mobile home space. Nolan Palmer. Ph. 928-5113 or 928-5733. 23-tfc

RENT OR LEASE: Service Station bldg. N. 1st and Kent. Nolan Palmer Ph. 928-5113 or 928-5733. 23-tfc

HOUSE FOR RENT 307 Rannels. Call 677-3189 or 672-8912. 23-4tc

Miscellaneous

\$500. REWARD FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO ARREST & CONVICTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE for malicious mischief and cattle killing on Eldon Hicks farming and grazing operations. Phone 862-2364 or the Sherriff's office at 677-8518. 16-tfc

3/4 Pit Bull Pup, 6 months, female, spayed, rabies-distemper shots, a real pet. Will give to someone with good home to offer. Call after noon 928-5144. 24 1TP

SEAT COVER CENTER SEAT COVERS TRUCK CUSHIONS DOOR PANELS ARM RESTS HEADLINERS 1056 BUTTERNUT 677-1349 ABILENE

The Classifieds

Methodist Bible School in Tye, August 13-19, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. All ages. 24-1tc?

Services

ROOF COATING SERVICE. Rapid Roof, unlayered, flexible, weather resistant, acrylic latex roof coating for all roof services. Conklin distributor and applicator, Chip Meroney. Call 915-823-3044 after 5 p.m. for free estimate or information. 14-10tp

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIR. Drop your footwear repair needs at Handy Food Store. 928-4912. One Week Service. 35-tfc

GRANNY'S PLAYHOUSE. State license, trained staff, openings from 18 month to 12 years. Your child gets a.m. snack, p.m. snack and lunch. Pay for the day. Your child is here only. Call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange. 23-2tc

LADY BUGS: Help Control, bollworms, flea hoppers, budworms, others. Claude Senn, 806-237-6222. 22-7tc

CERAMIC TILE: No job too big or small. Call 928-4871 between 6 p.m. t to 10 p.m. Work Guaranteed. 47-tfc

YARD SALE: Friday only, 1112 S. 9th, 9 till? Two small air conditioners, child's rockers, wagons, maple night stands, clothes and misc. Garden tools. 24-1tp

If you like garage sales you'll like THINGS IN GENERAL - 122 Edwards. 2-6 Tues. - Sat. 28-4932. 16-13tp

PRESTIGE HOMES & PROPERTIES
Bills & Pat Nett 928-5623
Morris Harper 698-9689
Pauline Butman 692-2222

MEMBER: 3 bedroom rock home on large south side corner lot. Separate dining room. Needs work. Priced to sell.

GRANBURY LAKE. 2 adjoining lots, each 80' x 90'. Beautiful building site. Near store, boat ramp, tennis courts and swimming pool.

LISTINGS NEEDED & APPRECIATED

YARD SALE, Sat. only. 404 Rose, new slide projector, new drapes, bicycle, books, clothes, dishes, lots of misc. 241TP

GARAGE SALE: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 205 El Paso. 24-1tc

FRONT PORCH SALE: Ladies, children's and men's clothes, toys, shoes, dishes, and some furniture. Friday and Saturday at Shannonside Apts. 24-1tc

GARAGE SALE: Couch, tools, drills, taps, dies, 2 play pens, baby swing, clothes, and misc. Friday and Saturday, August 3 and 4 at Ted Simpson's, 1/4 mile west of Trent City Limit on Old Hi-Way 80. First house in row of brick houses. 24-1tp

TWO FAMILY GARAGE SALE: Junior girls and young man's clothes, many misc. items. King sized bedspread, quilts. Don Hart FM 126, 1/2 mile north of I.20, Aug. 4, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 24-1tp

Methodist Bible School in Tye, August 13-19, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. All ages. 24-1tc?

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ROOF COATING SERVICE. Rapid Roof, unlayered, flexible, weather resistant, acrylic latex roof coating for all roof services. Conklin distributor and applicator, Chip Meroney. Call 915-823-3044 after 5 p.m. for free estimate or information. 14-10tp

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Baking done again on special orders placed in advance of:
Birthday Cakes, Pies, Cakes, Cookies and Candy - 2 Days
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Cream Wedding Mints - 3 Days
No Last Minute Orders.
Contact Melba Glasscock at Craft-house 676-4262

Card of Thanks
We would like to thank each and everyone for their prayers, thoughts, cards, letters and food during the loss of our beloved son, brother and grandson, and may the Lord bless each of you.
T. H., Vernell and Kristi Russom
Mark and Sara Russom
Mrs. Aria Russom and Maggie
Oscar and Nell McLean
24-1tc
We would like to thank the friends and neighbors for the food, flowers, words of comfort and concern expressed at the loss of our loved one. May the Lord bless each of you.
The Family of Leslie W. Detrick

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS...
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102 EDWARDS 928-5379
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STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME

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

Member of the Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association

The Merkel Mail
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$5.00 Per Year Taylor County \$7.25 Per Year outside Taylor County.

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Toombs Real Estate
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116 EDWARDS PH 928-5921 RES. 928-5696
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19 acres, 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Just outside city limits on Highway 1235 - S.E. of Merkel.
"Country Living" 2 bedroom, 1 bath, water well, on proposed water line, FM Rd 1235, 1/4 mile from city limits.
Brick, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, den 2230 square feet or more than an acre. Has all the extras.
2 bedroom, large old house on good street. Water well.
Two lots on FM 126 North, close to Country Club. Excellent building site.
VACANT LOTS FOR SALE: For trailer and buildings in all sections of town. Reduced for quick sale.
HOUSE FOR SALE: 2 bedroom, near school, carpet, fireplace, fence, central air, water well.
3-1-1 Brick Home. Garage, refrigerated air, built-ins, dishwasher. On Sunset Street. Reasonable.

WE HAVE BUYERS AND NEED LISTINGS FOR HOUSES, FARMS, & RANCHES

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LET US BID ON YOUR COMMERCIAL PRINTING NEEDS.
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Stephen-Hart wed

Anetta Ruth Stephan and Andy Don Hart exchanged marriage vows Saturday in Zion Lutheran Church in Abilene with Elder Fred Boen of Tuscola Primitive Baptist Church officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stephan of Abilene. Mr. and Mrs. Don Hart of Merkel are the bridegroom's parents.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a full length white organza fashioned with a high necked bodice and long tapered button sleeves overlaid with chantilly lace.

Jerrie Stephen, the bride's sister, maid of honor and bridesmaids Lesa Hart, sister of the bridegroom, Mrs. Jack (Glenda) VanCleave of Odessa, Mrs. Steve (Janice) Davis of Lubbock and Mrs. Ernie (Brenda) Wood of Briscoe wore matching floor length blue crystelyne gowns.

Best man was Darrel Bunch of Merkel and groomsmen were Pete Billingsley of Chicago, Robert Morgan of Tye, Steve Davis of Lubbock and Darrell Riggan of Merkel. Candle lighter was Gil Billingsley of Chicago. Andy Stephan, brother of the bride of Midlan, Roy Lee Sanders of Ovalo, Jack VanCleave of Odessa and Jimmy Sparks of Canyon seated guests. Organist was Mrs. Rodney Maxon of Abilene and Mrs. Linden Morris of Floydada was soloist.

The reception was hosted by the bride's parents, was held in the fellowship hall of the church. Serving at the bride's table were Mrs. Diane Stephen of Midland, Mrs. Gayle Maxey of Tye, and DarLee McPhearson of Lockney. Serving at the groom's table were Mrs. Roma Billingsley of Chicago, Mrs. Janie Barber of Canyon. Mrs. Rhonda Goetz of Winters registered guests and Karen Carter of Winters distributed white stain roses filled with rice to the wedding guests.

The rehearsal dinner honoring the couple was hosted by the bridegroom's parents at Briarstone Manor.

The bride graduated from Merkel High School and attended West Texas State University and Texas Tech University. She will return to West Texas State University this fall as a senior.

Also a graduate of Merkel High School, the bridegroom attended Hardin Simmons University and received a degree in accounting at Texas Tech University. He is employed by Brown, Graham and Company in Tullia where the couple will make their home following a wedding trip to Corpus Christi.



Mrs. Andy Hart

Cemetery donations

The Merkel Cemetery donations as of the end of July are: Suzy Bird, C.C. Jones, Ruby Grimes, Ruth Huffman, Mrs. Chester Hutcheson, Mrs. F.G. Sears,

Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Alston, Mrs. Earl Hughes in memory of Buddy Windham, Beth Hall in memory of Celia Meritt, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Ham, Mrs. Leo Fields, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hays, Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Fox, Ronnie and Lynda Reeger, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Palmer, Phil, Kay and Linda Skidmore, Mrs. Bruno Ueckert, Mr. and Mrs. Bernill Teaff, Dr. and Mrs. W.T. Sadler, John Warlick, M.E. Ryals, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baze, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Rister and Virgil L. Perkins.

Irene Crawford Clerk, 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas. By Johnnie Woodard, Deputy. 24 iTC.

'NOTICE' OF INTENTION TO INCORPORATE. Notice is hereby given that Brittain's Furniture Showcase, whose principal place of business is at 2636 Barrow Street, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, intends, on or before September 15, 1979, to become incorporated without a change of firm name. Date: July 30, 1979. Steve Brittain, owner.

Also: Mrs. Andy Shouse, Mrs. H.B. Finch, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Setser, Shirley Walker, Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Everett, Mr. and Mrs. Bertis Lang, Lance Sears, Joe Lusby, Godie Smith, Mr. and Mrs. P.W. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Lakovich, B.J. Hender-

son, Mr. and Mrs. WSJ Brown.

Also Mr. and Mrs. James Higgins, Mr. and Mrs. O.L. Winters, Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Hendricks, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baze, Mr. and Mrs. William Pirkle, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Spellman, Sallie Gant, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Warren, Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Stenn, T.O. Massey, D. J. Swafford, Daniel and Katherine Weeks, Jack Sublett, Mr. and Mrs. Earle Watts and Mrs. Josephine Randsal and Mrs. Elizabeth Connell.

Bockman retires

Iva Nelle Bockman of Merkel was honored with a retirement party at the Abilene Reporter News Friday July 20th. She took early retirement having worked in the accounting department at the paper for over nine years.

She was born at Eula and graduated from Eula High School. She is a graduate of Draughon's 'business College and she has lived here since 1965. She is a member of the First Baptist Church.



Iva Nelle Bockman

Jones County Fair is Aug 16,17,18

The Jones County Fair is scheduled for Aug. 16,17,18 at the City Park in Anson. The exhibits will be open by 8:30 a.m. on the 17th. Exhibits may be brought to the buildings by 8:30 a.m. on the 16th.

The Texas Extension Homemakers Association Council met July 18th at the Activity Center in Anson for their monthly meeting. Plans for the fair were discussed and other business attended to.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Vada Hudson of the 5th Club. Mrs. Daisy Mashburn led a game. The council consisted of four council officers, eight members, one visitor and six clubs were represented.

Mrs. Alma Foster, Mrs. Bertha Hunter, Mrs. Louise Chancey, Mrs. Ruth Carlton, Mrs. Frank Carter, made reports to the council.

Hudson, Mashburn, Dickerson attend national conference

Mrs. Vada Hudson, Mrs. Margaret Dickerson and Mrs. Roy Mashburn, of Merkel recently returned from the 43rd Annual Conference of the National Extension Homemakers Council held at the Conference Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Dickerson and Mrs. Mashburn were three of over 2,000 Extension Homemakers from 41 states and Puerto Rico who attended sessions based on the theme, "Land of Enchantment" Environment for a Secure Home, Mature Parent and Happy Child."

They took part in the educational workshops on Family Life, Marriage Enrichment taught by Dr. James R. Hone, Professor at the University of Arizona and Learning Session Group - Opportunity - Leadership Workshop.

Among speakers were Dr. Joyce Brothers who gave the keynote address. Dr. Brothers is an international known lecturer and columnist Blake T. Newton, Jr. President of the American Council of Life Insurance was the closing speaker and Dr. Opal Mann, Deputy Director, SEA-Extension, USDA gave the wrap-up.

Legal and public notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO Bill Arp

GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of DeWayne Whisenhunt and Dolores Whisenhunt, Petitioners, filed in said Court on the 23 day of July, 1979, against Bill Arp, respondent, and said suit being numbered 2739-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled 'In The Interest of Tammy Annette Arp, a Child', the nature of which suit is a request For Termination and Adoption of Stepchild. Said child was born the 24th day of March, 1969, in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.

The court has the authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the ap-

WHETHER YOU ARE Looking or listing, buying or selling, farm or home, pick up the phone and call Kay Todd 928-5324 Landmark Realtors 873-5169.

NEED A New Water Well Drilled? Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets **ROBERT HIGGINS** 873-5169

D. A. HALLMARK ALL TYPES DIRT & GRAVEL HAULING 928-5741

pointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption. If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law requires.

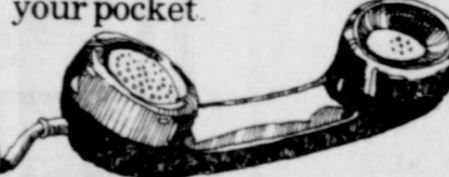
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 30th day of July, 1979.

Dance
SATURDAY ONLY 9-1
TEXAS BUSH BOOGIE BAND
NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK AT 2:00
QUEENA HEARTS

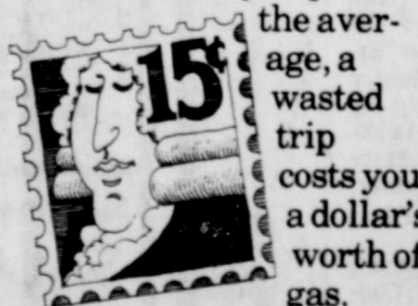
PAT BYRD IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE BETH SIMPSON
(Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ben Hicks)
FORMERLY OF GLEN & LOUIE'S
WEDNESDAYS THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS
ALICE, PARILEE, & PAT ARE ALSO
READY TO SERVE YOUR BEAUTY NEEDS AT
PAT'S BEAUTY SALON 928-5580

GAS SAVERS

Looking for ways to save gas and money? One of the simplest solutions is to drive your car a little less. Here are six ideas you can use to keep your foot off the gas and more money in your pocket.



Call ahead to be sure you aren't wasting gas on an unnecessary trip. On the average, a wasted trip costs you a dollar's worth of gas.



Shop, bank and pay your bills by mail. A 15¢ stamp is a lot cheaper than a gallon of gas.

Ride a bike or take a hike. You'll feel more fit, and you'll have more money to spend



when you get where you're going—since you didn't waste it on gasoline.

Ride to work with a friend or neighbor just one day a week and you can save at least \$100 worth of gas every year.



Send me a free booklet with more easy tips on saving energy and money.
Name _____
Address _____
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Mail to "Energy," Box 62, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

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We can't afford to waste it.

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Take public transportation as often as you can. You'll save gas and help reduce air pollution, too.



This free booklet can show you a lot more easy ways to save gas and money. To get your copy write "Energy," Box 62, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 or mail the coupon below.



Trent News

Thursday, August 2, 1979

Public notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: Roger Gardner, Respondent;
GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Arlie DeWayne and Dolores

Whisenhunt, Petitioners, filed in said Court on the 23rd day of July, 1979, against Rodger Gardner, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 2740-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Randy Jay Arp, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to Terminate Parental Rights and Adoption of Stepchild. Said child was born the 25th day of October, 1979, in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.
The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding

upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.
If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and 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 24th day of July, 1979.
Irene Crawford Clerk,
326th District Court,
Taylor County, Texas
By Johnnie Woodard, Deputy.
24-1tc

The annual report of Hendrick Home For Children, for taxable year ended June 30, 1979, is available at its principal office, located at 2758 Jeanette Street, Abilene, Texas, for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests such inspection within 180 days hereof. The principal manager of the Foundation is Claude Hicks. 241TC

Cowbelle's offer beef recipes

by Mrs. Dale Hollingshead, member of the BigCountry Cow Belles
The beef and potato man presents a menu planning problem to the wife who wants to serve exciting varied meals. The answer demands ingenuity.
Round steak roulades stuffed with potatoes and dry onion soup mix are one tasty and novel beef-potato partnership that solves the problem, according to Reba Staggs, National Live Stock and Meat Board. The flavor-packed rolls brim with the high quality protein, iron and vitamins for everyone.

Beef-Potato Roulades
1 1/2 to 2 pounds beef steak, cut 1/2 inch thick
3 tablespoons flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1 3/4 oz. dry onion soup mix
1 1/2 cups grated raw potato
3 tablespoons lard or drippings
1 cup water

Place approximately 2 tablespoons of potato-onion mixture on each piece of meat.

Roll as a jelly roll and fasten with small wooden picks. Brown meat in lard or drippings. Add

water. Cover tightly and cook slowly 1 1/2 to 2 hours or until meat is tender. Remove meat to heated platter. Thicken cooking liquid with flour for gravy, if desired. Yields 5 to 6 servings.

Legal notices

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS

TO Gary T. Martin, Respondent, Greetings:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said county in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Jose G. Mata and Petra G. Mata, Petitioners, filed in said Court on the 19th day of July, 1979, against Eleanor May Martin and Gary T. Martin, Respondents, and said suit being number 2725C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Fred James Martin, a child," the nature of which suit is a request to terminate the parent-child relationship and adopt the child. Said child was born the 22 day of August, 1978, in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.

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

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this 19th day of July, 1979.

Irene Crawford Clerk of the District Court of Taylor County, Texas
By Rilla Mahoney Deputy
23-4tc

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Danny Wayne Bryan, Respondent;

GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Becky Lynn Bryan, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 1st

day of June, 1979, against Danny Wayne Bryan, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 2518-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Matter of The Marriage of Becky Lynn Bryan and Danny Wayne Bryan", the nature of which suit is a request that the Court grant a divorce to the Petitioner.

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

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

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

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this 9th day of July, 1979.

Irene Crawford Clerk,
326th Judicial District Court,
Taylor County, Texas
By Rilla Mahoney, Deputy.
22-4tc

NOTICE TO ALL TAYLOR TELEPHONE CO-OPERATIVE, I N C. SUBSCRIBERS

This is to notify you that Southwestern Bell has filed a general rate case with the Texas Public Utility Commission on June 28, 1979. This rate case could affect your intrastate toll service and special services that the Co-operative has contracts with Southwestern Bell.

21-4tc

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Danny Wayne Bryan, Respondent;

GREETINGS:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Becky Lynn Bryan, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 1st

day of July, 1979, against Danny Wayne Bryan, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 2518-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Matter of The Marriage of Becky Lynn Bryan and Danny Wayne Bryan", the nature of which suit is a request that the Court grant a divorce to the Petitioner.

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

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

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

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this 11th day of July, 1979.

Irene Crawford Clerk,
326th District Court,
Taylor County, Texas
By Rella Mahony, Deputy.
22-4tc



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ALLSUP'S ASSORTED ICE CREAM 1/2 GAL. HD. CTR. \$1.39	BORDEN'S COTTAGE CHEESE 12 OZ. CTR. 69¢
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Tye Times

THE MERKEL MAIL

Thursday, August 2, 1979

Congressman

Page 7



Charles W. Stenholm

Washington, D.C. —

Much of America's economic development in the early days of the Industrial Revolution can be attributed to the building of the railroads. Railroads are a safe and reliable form of transportation that could run in almost any kind of weather. During the latter half of the nineteenth century, owning a railroad was a sure road to wealth. European monarchs would pour millions out of the public coffers into American railroad stocks. Corporate wars were fought by robber barons over control of this transportation system.

Looking back on the history of the railroads it is hard to imagine that this once-thriving industry has fallen on such hard times. The idea that some railroads would one day become nationalized would have been considered heresy just 20 years ago. Railroadings has been in decline and our whole economy is suffering because of it. This industry has been subjected to an extensive rate and service regulation system administered by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The ICC has been slow to act on numerous important cases, and often companies were not allowed to make a reasonable profit. Over the last several years the industry's rate of return has been around 1%, among the lowest for any economic sector in the Nation.

Not all of the blame, however, can be placed on the government. Railroads have lost much of their business to subsidized trucks, airplanes, pipelines, automobiles, and barges. The railroads did not stop growing because the need for passenger and freight transportation declined. . . that grew. The railroads are in trouble because often the need was not filled by the railroads themselves. Management has not been responsive to competition and has not shown a willingness to enter the 20th Century and compete. Labor is also to blame. Some labor rules that are in effect today date back to World War I. Prominent among these were rules

of the "100-mile day" and other featherbedding techniques such as the use of firemen. The 100-mile day refers to the option open to train crews to elect to be paid a full day's pay for working eight hours or for operating a train for 100 miles. The two methods yielded roughly equivalent results in the World War I era, but today many trains cover much more than 100 miles during an eight hour period. By the late 1950's the transition of locomotives from steam to diesel was nearly completed but firemen have remained on many trains.

As this industry has become cash starved, services have declined and capital improvements have been delayed. A particularly critical area is the rail car shortage. The rail car industry reports a backlog of 50,000 cars. Also, a tremendous backlog has built up in the maintenance and capital improvement of roadways and equipment. The shortage is particularly severe during intervals of unexpected demand or peak demand periods. Our farmers have produced an unexpected large grain crop. Many of our elevators are full and wheat is being put on the ground because transportation facilities are inadequate. Farmers and elevator operators are unable to receive payment and their loans are running out. Because the shortage is nationwide we have few options in the short term. But eventually it is going to be essential that we formulate a national railroad transportation policy.

If we do not adequately support our transportation services then our ability to market our produce will be limited. In this era of energy shortages and environmental concern, it is time we rediscovered that safe, reliable form of transportation that has helped build our industrial capacity — the American railroad. The time is now to begin solving its inhibiting problems.

Tye quiet

by Harold Boyd
Where has the time gone since I last wrote this column? Time is like inflation, pay one price today and tomorrow it is another price. It is like someone said the other day at the store, customer to the salesperson... "Sir, what is the price of this radio?"

"29.95 now and if you lay it down and pick it up again, it will be 31.95" Well, that is about as fast as the past week has gone.

Some of the people of Tye have received a questionnaire in the mail from our U.S. Representative, Charles W. Stenholm. I have taken a few minutes to answer his questions and have returned it to him. Have you also taken the time to do it? It surely would be of great interest to see what reaction or tally on the results that have been sent to him. At least I feel the man from Stamford is doing what we elected him to do and we should stand behind him with our vote.

At the time of this writing, the City Council will have met and we will report any items that we brought up so we can know what is happening in our city.

To Glenn Richards, I feel we have lost a great young man with talent, and do wish him a great success in his furthering his education. But the Mail will keep going with reader support, subscriptions and advertising.

News, news... where are thou? Not much really that has happened in Tye without reprinting the bad news that is around us. Yes, we have had a dope or narcotics case that was

broken up over the past few weeks, a child abuse case, an assault case, but this isn't the type of news that I like to write about. I would like to write about the people who make achievements, bring credit to the community thus giving us a good name. These are the people who never make the news for some outstanding thing that he or she may bestow upon one's parents or one's self. So if you have something of this nature that you would care to share with everyone let me know, the other trash news I feel we can do without.

Some of the right-of ways here have been getting cut so you can see around the corner when you pull up to a stop sign without having to pull into the intersection. Thank you Don for getting this done.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis C. Hodges had a household of company this past week from down around Houston. Their guest was their son and his family. They spent a few days here weathering out the rains and will return home this week.

The quilt that the Senior Citizens are making for the ehab Center is coming along fine. I hope that all who participate in this worthwhile adventure are enjoying it. When they get into their new addition they will be able to do more things such as this. If you are a Senior Citizen and haven't been to the Center, why not come down and enjoy a good meal and fellowship. Once you have been there you will want to return.

So, for this week, ya'll take care and we'll see you next week in the Merkel Mail.

Best buys at Texas markets

Best buys at Texas grocery markets this week include fryer chickens, eggs, port, frozen fish and some fresh produce.

Also, "specials" appear on lamb, canned and frozen items, says Gwendolyn Clyatt, a consumer marketing information specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

POULTRY—Fryer chickens have high quality and low prices. Egg prices dropped recently—but don't expect that to last long.

PORK—Attractive buys appear on hams, picnic shoulder roasts and cured meats. Fresh cuts at reasonable prices are Boston butts, chops, loin roasts and liver.

FROZEN FOODS—Fish has low prices, along with frozen processed potatoes, such as frozen french fries. Other specials include bread dough, pot pies, lemonade and apple pies.

GROCERY MARKET AISLES—Feature items are canned vegetables and fruits, brown and confectioner's sugar, honey, peanut butter and ripe olives.

FRESH FRUITS—Those with the most pleasing prices are bananas, grapes, peaches, nectarines, cantaloupe, watermelons, plums and pineapples.

FRESH VEGETABLES—Best buys include soft-shell and zucchini squash, corn, several types of lettuce, blackeye and purple hull peas, potatoes, green onions and radishes.

Also, new potatoes have reasonable prices.

Prices are higher on these items: cabbage, carrots and dry onions.

LAMB—Money-saving features on lamb mean tender, nutritious menu items.

DAIRY—Specials include homogenized milk by the gallon, sour and whipping creams, yogurt, cheese slices, cottage cheese and extra-sharp Cheddar cheese.

CONSUMER WATCHWORDS: Don't buy any vegetable just because it's cheap—know quality and buy accordingly.

Gasahol studied

A group of Central Texas farmers have worked out an agreement to enter into a feasibility study for the design, construction and operation of a plant to produce alcohol from milo for use in gasahol, it was announced this week.

Kenneth Johnson, a farmer near Hutto and chairman of the Board for Central Texas GPI Cooperative, Inc., made the announcement following signing of a contract with GPI, Inc., a marketing and management consulting firm.

The plant would process 4,200 carloads of grain sorghum into 20 million gallons of alcohol and sizeable amounts of high quality food protein. The cost of the plant will be approximately \$30 million and would take 18 months to construct, following groundbreaking. The feasibility study will take approximately three months, and if favorable, an additional two or three months would be needed for site selection and engineering. Officials are hopeful the plant can be in the Hutto area.

The Central Texas plant is one of 25 planned facilities — all farmer-owned cooperatives — to be built in the grain producing states of Texas and the upper midwest. The Central Texas agreement was the first signed to proceed with the feasibility study.

"If everything goes according to our plan," Johnson said, "we would be producing alcohol for gasahol fuel within two years."

Other members of the executive board of the Central Texas GPI Cooperative are Roland Wieland, Vice President, of Pflugerville, and Wayne Decker, Secretary, of Hutto.

"When the 25 plants are completed, farmer owned cooperatives would be producing 500 million gallons of alcohol annually and would materially reduce our dependence on Arab oil imports and improve our balance of trade deficits," Ron Wood, Texas Coordinator for GPI, Inc., said.

The gasahol concept is not a new one, but has become more economically feasible with recent increases in the cost of oil imports and resulting increases in cost of gasoline.

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IG DAIRY FRESH **LOW FAT MILK** GAL JUG \$1.85

HEINZ **PICKLES** 16 OZ JAR 59¢

OLEO LIMIT 2 **QUARTERS** LB 49¢

DEL MONTE 303 **Sour KRAUT** 2 FOR 65¢ DEL MONTE 303 **TOMATO Sauce** 2 FOR 79¢

FOREMOST **BUTTER MILK** 1/2 GAL CRTN 95¢

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CREAMY 3 LB CAN (LIMIT 1) \$1.89

KRAFT 8 OZ **ITALIAN DINNER SPAGHETTI** BOX 45¢

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 FULL CUT POUND \$2.19 BONELESS TENDERIZED LB \$2.29 **ROAST STEAK** GOOCH BR RUMP LB \$1.98 GOOCH BR SIRLOIN TIP LB \$3.19 **ROAST STEAK** GOOCH BR HEEL OF ROUND LB \$1.98 **STEAK** GOOCH BR CUBE LB \$3.09 **FRANKS** HORMEL WRANGLER SMOKED LB \$1.69 **BACON** ARMOURS POUND \$1.39 **PORK CHOPS** FRESH CENTER CUT LB \$1.98 **HAM PATTIES** HORMEL CANNED 12 OZ CAN \$1.59

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