

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, May 22, 1986 ... Merkel, Texas

Our 98th Year

Merkel-Trent school districts lose millions in taxable evaluations

School and city officials in Taylor County can now start getting serious about planning budgets for the 1986-87 tax year as the County's Appraisal District released estimated taxable values last week.

The news was not good for both Merkel and Trent School Districts and the culprits were easy to spot. MISD lost an estimated \$24 million in taxable value and the chief of the Taylor County Appraisal District, Richard Petree told **The Mail** Monday "99.9 percent of that was because the value of NuCorp Supply was deleted from tax rolls."

Trent ISD lost \$13 million in value in mineral evaluations alone.

MISD's real estate value went up \$4 million from 1985 but so did exemptions for ag land use, the homestead, disabled veterans and values lost to frozen levies.

The net real estate value dropped from \$94,046,723 in 1985 to \$90,616,516 in 1986. The biggest drop came in the personal property category as it dropped \$17 million; mineral production value dropped \$11 million from 1985. MISD's total taxable evaluation dropped a total of \$31 million from 1985.

To spend the same amount of money in 1986 as MISD did in 1985, the estimated tax rate would be \$1.2443 per \$100 evaluation compared to \$1.00 last year.

MISD superintendent Bill Everett told **The Mail** Tuesday "We will be discussing this tonight. The Appraisal District totally dropped NuCorp from the tax rolls and we may have to use a lot of surplus funds to make ends meet. We would have been in real good shape financially this year had NuCorp's value remained. That is the reason we have been trying to save money for surplus because we have been telling people here that bad money times were coming and now it's here."

He added "Right now, it looks like taxes will go up 25 cents but it could be a little higher because we might lose another 2 percent on the total evaluations once the people appeal their evaluations to the adjustment board."

He also is concerned on how people will view this news. He said "I don't think taxpayers will understand why the tax rate will

have to go up. Our whole tax base is established on the total taxable value on property and minerals in the school district. We are not trying to raise taxes, we are just trying to keep the programs in place we have now. I hate to see it but we may not have any choice."

Everett said costs could be cut by hiring less teaching aides, cutting the athletic budget and cutting gifted and talented programs. This year, our seniors had the highest achievement scores we have ever had and a lot of that is because of programs we adopted in the past but all of that may have to go out the window. Education is getting into serious financial times and that time is now here."

He added an opinion he has made known since the outset of education reform legislation. "It's just one more step toward consolidation of small with larger school districts. A large amount of money would be saved in administrative posts and I think that's where a lot of this will lead."

MISD is facing a \$300,000 deficit this year if taxes are not raised to keep pace with lost evaluations.

In Trent, the story is a little different but the end results are the same. Trent ISD lost \$13 million in estimated taxable values and almost all of that is based on lost mineral production values.

The net real estate value did increase \$300,000 but exemptions went up \$500,000. Trent's mineral production value dropped from \$62,440,109 in 1985 to \$49,601,327 in 1986. The new estimated tax rate for Trent schools is .8825 per \$100 evaluation.

Trent's total taxable value dropped from \$82,330,360 in 1985 to \$69,622,872 this year.

It's a little different story for the City of Merkel as taxable values increased from \$39,236,346 in 1985 to \$41,364,208 this year. Most of that increase came in higher evaluations on personal property. In 1985, the city had \$34,614,267 in net real estate value compared to \$36,017,128 in 1986. Personal property evaluations increased from \$4,622,079 in 1985 to \$5,551,782 in 1986. The city's estimated tax rate for 1986 was set at .2783.

The City of Tye's taxable evaluations remained basically unchanged. Tye's total real estate taxable value was placed at \$26,379,962 in 1986, compared to \$24,648,790 in 1985. The estimated tax rate for 1986 was set at .2972 for 1986.

The city of Trent picked up \$48,226 in new values in 1986 and total real estate values increased from \$3,421,798 in 1985 to \$4,302,523 this year. Trent's estimated tax rate for 1986 was set at .1632 for 1986.

Watermelon eating contest added at Fun Day

The Merkel Chamber of Commerce met Thursday at Polly's Restaurant for a called meeting.

Most of the meeting was spent making plans for Fun Day, set July 4th at South Park.

The chamber decided to put on a watermelon eating contest at Fun Day with watermelons being donated by Carsons Super Market.

Some booths have already been reserved for the event and more information is available by calling

VFW will present flag

The Merkel VFW will be presenting an American flag to the Trent Cemetery Association at

the Merkel Chamber of Commerce office at 928-5722.

The Chamber is also planning a volleyball tournament this fall and Gary Hicks will be in charge of that event.

A letter was also read from Johnny Starbuck who thanked the group for a balloon bouquet he received for his past efforts in selling donation tickets for Fun Day.

That doesn't take away the hurt, and it doesn't help when he knows all he had to do was clear 15 feet for second (he can do that on his worst day).

It does help him to know he has two more years and will have two more cracks at a state pole vaulting championship.

Noone can say whether or not he will be hurt again vaulting, in fact, chances are he will suffer some type of injury down the road.

You can bet your farm he won't get hurt again under those circumstances again.

One thing that did impress me about Brit was his attitude after the injury. After he returned from the hospital, Brit led the cheers for Kyle Henderson, who jumped 16'2" and won his third straight AAA pole vault title, breaking his own state record.

There's a lot more to life than winning and a lot of it has to do with how good a sport you are when things aren't going so well.

Brit is a good sport and he proved it on the rain soaked artificial surface at Memorial Stadium in Austin Friday.

Bebo Beaver of Trent leaped 23'1/4 inch to take second in the State A long jump and was 2nd by exactly an inch. Beaver also placed 5th in the 200 to cap his high school career in Trent.

I mean the kid only rushed for



Merkel's Brit Pursley encourages three time state pole vaulter champion Kyle Henderson of Karnes City last Friday after Brit's injury kept him from competing in the State track meet in Austin. Pursley was injured during a practice jump. [Staff photo]

MHS artists' work on display

Once again, the Abilene Fine Arts Museum presents the best of area school art. Schools participating were middle schools from Abilene, Wylie and St. John's Episcopal, which were on display May 9-15.

High schools participating in the

show are Abilene and Merkel. Senior high art will be on display May 17-25. A reception was held Sunday, May 18.

Support for the exhibit has been provided by the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council and Texas Commission on the Arts.

Works were jurored by the museum. Merkel student's pieces who were selected and now on display are: Kevin Riney, Chris Brown, Doyle Clarey, Michael Woodall, Tim Harris, Chuck Chick Tammy Phillips, Kenny Muma and Alfred Flores.

Brit's bad break, Bebo Beaver, baccalaureat

by Cloy A. Richards

You know better than that.

Brit Pursley, Merkel's record setting pole vaulter is probably tired of hearing that phrase as a mistake he made warming up in last Friday's state track meet kept him from competing in the pole vault.

Brit took a practice jump without a cross bar and paid for his mistake with chipped bones after landing feet first out of the protective mats.

Yes, he's been told better. The danger of jumping like that is the vaulter has no depth perception in the air without the cross bar.

Sure, Brit's just a sophomore and he learned a very valuable lesson in the world of vaulting at the state meet.

That doesn't take away the hurt, and it doesn't help when he knows all he had to do was clear 15 feet for second (he can do that on his worst day).

It does help him to know he has two more years and will have two more cracks at a state pole vaulting championship.

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Bebo Beaver of Trent leaped 23'1/4 inch to take second in the State A long jump and was 2nd by exactly an inch. Beaver also placed 5th in the 200 to cap his high school career in Trent.

I mean the kid only rushed for

something like 8 million yards and scored a couple of hundred touchdowns during his football career at Trent (not really but the numbers would be staggering) and he will be missed by Trent's sports teams, as well as the rest of Trent High.

Congratulations are in order for Bebo on having an outstanding athletic career at Trent.

Reservations are now available for Fun Day booths and you can make yours by calling Marilyn Tittle at 928-5722.

The Chamber is encouraging more groups and organizations to set up activity booths so kids will have a lot more to do this year.

"If we didn't have a surplus to help get us through right now, I'd be out looking for a job washing cars or something."

MISD superintendent Bill Everett hasn't been feeling too well since he received word from the Central Appraisal District of Taylor County that MISD's estimated effective tax rate for 1986.

In order for MISD to spend the same amount of money as last year, and not use surplus funds, MISD's tax rate would be \$1.2443, compared to \$1 last year. Even a math idiot like me knows that's almost a 25 percent increase but don't panic yet.

There are a couple of things the school board can do.

They can use surplus money to lighten the tax load or they can eliminate a few jobs, maybe a couple of sports or they could hire less people. They could also eliminate money spent of gifted and talented education. Before you hit the ceiling, those are things they could do.

The board and the superintendent will spend the better part of the summer trying to figure out what they are going to do and if you want to let your feelings be known, it is best you attend meetings over the next couple of months. They will hold public hearings in late July or early August. If you don't attend and one of your favorite MISD programs suffers budget cuts, I don't want to hear about it.

Speaking of the demolition project, it represents about the last big project on the city's Community Development Block Grant that saw a lot of good things happen here.

Without those type of programs for smaller communities, some things would never change. At least Merkel now has a fighting chance to attract new business investments here. It will be a lot easier for someone to come in and make a substantial investment here now that they will have the room to work with.

Baccalaureat services for Merkel High seniors will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. at the auditorium.

A reception will follow the service.



Varality cheerleaders for 1986-87 at Merkel High are [from left] Glyn Ann Rutledge, Kayce Ward, Pam Neff, Stacey Newberry, Tracy Bicknell, Sheri Riney, Mi Chon and Michelle Woodard. [Staff photo]



§ The JV-Freshman cheerleaders for 1986-87 are [from left] Irene

Alvarez, Tricia Garrett, Melinda Baker, Laura Baker and Bridgett Acuna. [Staff photo]



§ These students earned the UIL's scholar award this year at Merkel High. They are [from left] Kevin Mitchell, Ronna Casey, Richard Powell, Amy Irvin, Clay Carey, Tim Brandon and Lucretia Wade. To qualify, students must have placed in the top 10 percent of their class and had participated in any UIL event.



§ Merkel High's first drill team includes [front row from left] Debbie Pack, Linda Munden,

Abby Irvin, Marjohn Parish [back row from left] Mitzi Shelton, Caran Hendrix, Linette Latinette, Tracy Smith, Norma Cuellar,

Melissa Roys, De Ann Stevens, Mandy Pack, Lorena Pack, Dianna Brown, Meville Vera Cruz. [Staff photo]

The Merkel 4-H Club met on May 12 at the New City Park for the weiner roast. There were seventeen members present. New Officers were elected. They are President Debbie Pack, Vice President Linda Munden, Secretary-Reporter Cary Munden. Other members present were Casey Ellison, Lori Thompson, Andy Miller, Josh Gilmore, Shayla Miller, Lillian Leach, Michelle Ingram, Ellyn Rutledge, Glyn Ann Rutledge, Kerry Miller, Tim Brandon, Thomas Doan. Also in attendance were Sherry Miller, Judy Rutledge, Bill and Paulette Munden, Ray and Heidi Pack, Keith Munden and Debbie Pack presented their Beef Cattle-Symposium demonstration.

This year, plans are being made for several fun projects. It was discussed at this meeting and decided upon to sponsor The Famous Chicken Flying Contest at the Fourth of July Fun Day. Rumors are already circulating through Merkel that Don Hart's Taylor Electric Coop flying chicken can beat Glen Teaff's W.T.U. flying chicken and Dody Moore's chicken can beat Stanley Toomb's chicken.

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Russian aphids attacking Texas's crops

The Russian wheat aphid, which in March made its first U.S. appearance in fields across the Texas South Plains, has spread into four other states and can be expected to appear in wheat producing states to the north, reports an entomologist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service here.

Meanwhile, the Texas A&M University System has organized a task force of research scientists and Extension educators to generate technical information which will help growers combat this new problem. The unit includes entomologists, plant pathologists and plant breeders of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Agricultural Extension Service and other agencies of the University.

As wheat matures in the Texas South Plains, a noticeable number of winged adult Russian wheat aphids are being observed leaving the fields, said Dr. William P. Morrison, the Extension entomologist.

Since then the pest has been confirmed in 54 Texas counties; has been found throughout New

Mexico, with confirmation in 18 counties; and in seven counties in Colorado, four in Kansas and two in Oklahoma. In Texas it has been found as far east as Foard County in the Rolling Plains.

"The aphids are found mainly on the newest growth of the wheat plant, generally in the base of the tightly curled last leaf," Morrison said. As they feed, they inject a toxin which interferes with the plant's production of chlorophyll. As the head emerges, the aphids move to younger plants.

"The aphids are dispersed primarily by wind," Morrison said. On existing strong southerly winds, the winged adults can be borne hundreds of miles in a short time. "We expect this aphid to be reported now in additional new areas to the north," Morrison said.

Morrison said that some 100,000 acres of Texas wheat has been treated with insecticides to combat the pest. A few fields of irrigated wheat have received two applications, he said.

"We still don't know what the economic impact of this aphid will

be. We'll have to wait until from losses due to drought stress harvest, and then it will be difficult to separate aphid losses from losses due to drought stress," Morrison said.

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A MESSAGE FROM THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE DPS TROOPERS

Public Notices

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of Execution issued out of the Honorable County Court at Law of Taylor County, of the 9th day of April, 1986, by Judgment of said County Court At Law for the sum of One Thousand Eight Hundred Eight Dollars & 66/100 Dollars and costs of suit under a judgement, in favor of NOR Petroleum, Inc. vs. Don Caraway, placed in my hands for service, I, John W. Middleton as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas, did, on the 9th day of April 1986, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit: All Undivided Working Interest Which Consist Of .04800000 Down Hole Interest, Pump Jack, Heater Treater, Salt Water Tank, 2-210 Barrell Oil Storage Tanks.

Sale will be held at 10:00 a.m. 153 acres of land out of the East side of the A. L. Vail Survey No. 427. Abstract 414, Taylor County, Texas, insofar as it covers the proration unit for the Jacobs 1A Well being located 330 feet from the East line and 1841 feet from the South line of A. L. Vail Survey No. 427.

and levied upon as the property of Don Caraway, and that on the first Tuesday in June, 1986, the same being the 3rd day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. by virtue of said levy and said Writ of Execution I will sell said above

described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said Don Caraway.

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

Witness my hand this 22nd day of April, 1986. John W. Middleton Sheriff, Taylor County Texas

by Eddie Swanson Deputy 90-162-3tc

NOTICE OF SALE OF UNCLAIMED FREIGHT
Be it known that Andy Anderson Van Lines of 601 S. 4th St., Abilene, Taylor County, Texas will sell at public auction on July 1, 1986 at 10:00 a.m. on the premises of Andy Anderson Van Lines, the following described property due to the owner's failure to claim said property and pay the freight and charges due on the property:

The property to be sold is generally described as household goods and may be viewed at the premises of Andy Anderson Van Lines in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.

The last known address of Dolores Raine, the owner of the property, is 12601 N. Penn, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73120.

This notice and sale made pursuant to Articles 900 and 901 of the revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas.

Kenneth G. Leggett Attorney for Andy Anderson Van Lines I, Kenneth G. Leggett, swear that the foregoing notice was posted in three public places in

Taylor County, Texas and said notice was posted on the premises of Andy Anderson Van Lines where the goods are stored. Further notice was published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper of general circulation in Taylor County, Texas.

Kenneth G. Leggett 164-4tc-56
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of a certain Writ Of Execution issued out of the Honorable 124th District Court of Gregg County, of the 30 day of April, 1986, by Writ Of Execution of said 124th District Court of Gregg County, Texas for the sum of Twenty Nine Thousand Three Hundred dollars & 43/100 Dollars and costs of a suit, under a Judgment in favor of Delta Solvents & Chemicals vs. Eddie Barbee, placed in my hands for service, I John W. Middleton as Sheriff of Taylor County Texas, did, on the 8th day of May, 1986, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit: All undivided interest in down hole property as well as oil storage tanks, salt water tank, heater treater, pump jack, casing, pipe and any other equipment related to following lease.

Being 5 acres, more or less, out of the Lunatic Assylum Lands Survey, Section 40, also known as the EL DORADO ESTATES OIL & GAS LEASE, Taylor County, Texas.

This Sale Will Be For Cash Only. Sale Will Be Held At 10:00 A.M. Eddie Barbee's Percent Of Interest Being 320312.5 and levied upon as the property of Eddie Barbee and that on the

first Tuesday in July, 1986, the same being the 1st day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. by virtue of said levy and said Writ Of Execution I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said Eddie Barbee.

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

Witness my hand, this 8th day of May, 1986.

John W. Middleton Sheriff Taylor County, Texas.

By Eddie W. Swanson Deputy Request for Proposal Taylor County. The Commissioners Court of Taylor County will be receiving proposals for a telephone system for the jail until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4th, 1986. Proposals must be received at the County Judge's Office 2nd Floor Taylor County Courthouse, 300 Oak Street, Abilene, Texas 79602. No later than 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4th, 1986.

General specifications for the proposals may be obtained by contacting the County Judges Office, Taylor County Courthouse, 300 Oak Street, Abilene, Texas 79602 or by calling 915-677-1711 extension 235.

The Commissioners Court of Taylor County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals waive minor technicalities and award the proposal which best serves the interest of Taylor County.

Benefit softball tournament set in Stamford

The Stamford Flag Football League is sponsoring the second annual Country Boy slow pitch tournament May 30-31.

Entry fee is \$90.00 and deadline is Wednesday, May 28 at 5:30 p.m. Rules will be ASA rules, blue dot balls only.

Team trophies will be awarded to first, second, third and fourth place finishers and individual trophies for 1, 2, and 3 only.

To enter call Lewis Alambar at 915-773-5258 or Joe Garcia 773-3317, all proceeds will go to the Stamford Flag Football League.

Merkelites' grandson reaps JROTC honors

Charles Russell, senior at Neasho, Mo. High School, has been recognized by a National Organization for being in the top 10 percent of American High School for leadership. His nomination came as a result of the recommendation of the high school councilors. He is the son of Jim and Loretta Russell, Neasho, Missouri and the grandson of S.G. and Anna Mae Russell of Merkel.

At the end of the year, JROTC Awards Banquet, Russell was awarded the Richards Gebaur Community Council Award for overall outstanding cadet. Cadet Russell has commanded the Missouri 41st Squadron at the high school. He was promoted to the rank of full Colonel joining only two other cadets who have reached that rank during the history of the program.

Cadet Col. Russell also received the American Legion Scholarship for further education.

Russell has been a four year member of the Wildcat Marching Band and a member of the schools fine soccer team. He is a member of the Cave Springs Baptist Church.

Russell will leave June 9 for six months in the Marine Reserve after which he plans to continue his education.



§ FHA officers for 1986-87 are from left] Douglas Taylor, Mi-Moore, Rita Adkins [front row den. [Staff photo]

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RE-ELECT LEO MASHBURN
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Precinct 2, Taylor County



TO YOU, THE RESIDENTS AND VOTERS OF PCT.#2, TAYLOR COUNTY.

PLEASE CONSIDER THIS A PERSONAL LETTER TO YOU GIVING YOU REASONS FOR RE-ELECTING ME, LEO MASHBURN, AS YOUR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE. PCT.#2

- * HAS HAD 4 YEARS OF VALUABLE EXPERIENCE SERVING AS YOUR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.
- * KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS THE PEOPLE OF TAYLOR COUNTY BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN A RESIDENT OF TAYLOR COUNTY FOR 50 YEARS.
- * HAVE NO PERSONAL BUSINESS RESULTING IN CONFLICT OF IMPARTIAL JUSTICE TO ALL.
- * ACTIVE IN CHURCH AND CIVIC CAUSES.
- * HAVE COURAGE OF PERSONAL CONVICTIONS.
- * HAVE IN THE PAST AND WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY THE LAWS OF JUSTICE TO SUBJECTS IN THE COURT.
- * STRIVE TO TEMPER ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATUTES IN LIGHT OF THE FACTS IN ALL CASES OF THE COURT
- * HAVE NO BUSINESS, FAMILY, OR HEALTH DEMANDS TO HINDER PROMPT RESPONSE TO CALL OF DUTY ON A FULL TIME BASIS FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL CITIZENS OF PCT.#2
- * WILL BE ALWAYS AS NEAR AS YOUR TELEPHONE TO HELP YOU AT ALL TIMES.
- * I TRUST THAT MY FIRST TERM IN OFFICE WILL DESERVE A SECOND BY YOUR VOTE JUNE 7.
- * I BELIEVE IN AND AM FAITHFUL TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRINCIPLES.

FOR THESE REASONS, I ASK FOR YOUR VOTE IN THE RUN-OFF ELECTION ON JUNE 7. YOUR VOTE FOR ME WILL ASSURE YOU OF THE CONTINUED DEDICATED SERVICE TO YOU, THE PEOPLE OF TAYLOR COUNTY. YOUR VOTE AND SUPPORT IN RE-ELECTING ME AS YOUR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IS DEEPLY APPRECIATED.

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VOTE-JUNE 7

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77 BONNEVILLE	\$2195	4door, loaded, blue	
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80 CAPRICE CLASSIC	\$2595	79 BONNEVILLE	\$3295
79 MERCURY COUGAR	\$1995	4door, 77,000 miles, cruise, nice, one owner	
77 DODGE DIPLOMAT	\$1995	71 PONTIAC CATALINA	\$695
3-82 PONTIAC BONNEVILLES	\$4195	4door, power, air	
81 MERCURY COUGAR XR7	\$4595	84 TRANS AM	\$9295
81 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE	\$1995	Loaded, 24,000 miles, red, nice	
82 CHRYSLER LeBARON COUPE	\$5395	79 PLYMOUTH VOLARIE	\$895
83 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE	\$5495	4cylinder, coupe, automatic, power	
81 MONTE CARLO Reconditioned	\$4195	84 TRANS AM	\$8995
83 PONTIAC PARISIENNE BROUGHAM	\$8795	T-top, loaded, red, a buy	
82 OLDS DELTA 88	\$5595	71 FORD LTD COUPE	\$595
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		85 FORD CUSTOM F150	\$7895
		W/Comper, 17,000 miles, one owner, nice	
		81 TOYOTA PICK-UP	\$4695
		4wheel drive, air, a buy... SR5 Low Mileage	
		2-83 GMC SIERRA 1/2TON	\$4695
		Heavy duty, automatic, power, air	
		82 GMC SIERRA 1/2TON	\$3995
		Heavy duty, automatic, power, air	
		82 CHEVY SCOTTSDALE3/4TON	\$4495
		Automatic, power, air, brown	
		82 F250 3/4TON	\$3695
		Long/wide, automatic, power, air, white	
		80 CHEVY 1/2TON	\$2895
		Long/wide, standard, air, brown	
		77 JEEP CHEROKEE	\$2695
		4wheel drive, 49,000 miles, air	
		83 GMC HIGH SIERRA	\$5995
		1/2 ton, automatic, power, air, brown	
		84 CHEVY 3/4TON CONVERSION VAN	\$12,900
		Loaded with all options, nice	

MERKEL-I 20/LOOP 39-"IN MERKEL" YOU'LL LIKE OUR PRICES
We Sell 'Em-We Lease 'Em

PALMER PONTIAC & GMC
KENT SATTERWHITE BOB PAZOUR RON PALMER
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Make it a Real Holiday.



DAIRYLAND HOMO MILK
GAL JUG **\$1.98**

FOREMOST LOW FAT MILK
GAL JUG **\$1.89**

FOREMOST COTTAGE CHEESE
12 OZ CRTN **89¢**



BOUNTY TOWELS

JUMBO ROLL **79¢**

SALAD DRESSING

MIRACLE WHIP
32 OZ JUG **\$1.49**

WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

PARADE HOT DOG OR HAMBURGER BUNS

2 PKGS **89¢**

CHINET DELUXE PLATES

40 CT PKG **\$2.19**

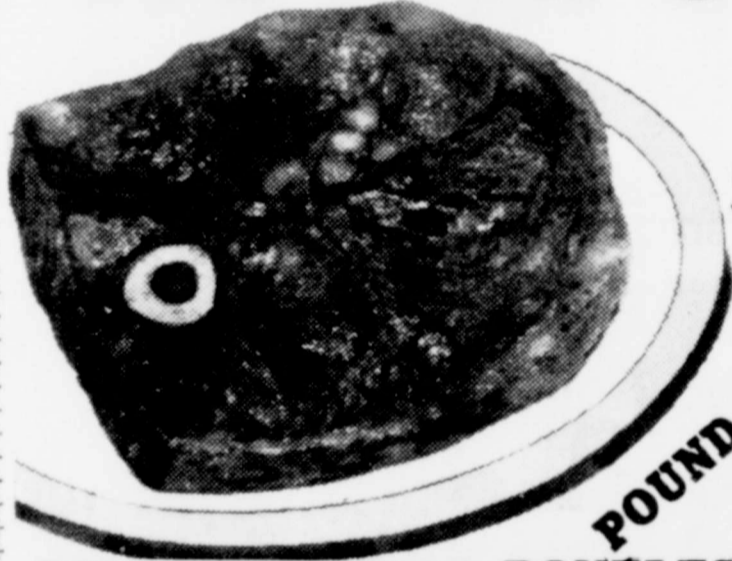
ASSORTED COCA COLA OR 7-UP \$1.29

FOR A 3 LITER BOTTLE

FOREMOST ICE CREAM
1/2 GAL CRTN **\$1.69**

MRS. WAGES HOME CANNING CENTER PICKLE PROCESS TOMATO CATSUP MIX CHILI SAUCE MIX HOME JELLY MIX FRUIT FRESHNER

Round Steak



For a **SQUARE MEAL** LEAN EXTRA TRIM

\$1.59

CHOICE BEEF BONELESS PIKES PEAK ROAST **\$1.79** LB

CHOICE BEEF RUMP ROAST **\$1.79** LB

GOOCH BRAND GERMAN STYLE SAUSAGE **\$1.39** 12 OZ PKG

GOOCH BIG COUNTRY HAM FULLY COOKED BONELESS **\$1.93**

HORMEL LITTLE SIZZLER SAUSAGE **\$1.29** SMOKED POUND

ARMOUR STAR FRANKS **\$1.29** ALL MEAT OR BEEF 12 OZ PKG

ARMOUR STAR BOLOGNA **\$1.29** ALL MEAT OR BEEF 12 OZ

WRIGHTS BACON **\$1.63** SLICED SMOKED LB

GLADIOLA FLOUR **89¢** 5 LB BAG

RICE COMET **79¢** 28 OZ BOX

MEADOLAKE OLEO **59¢** SOFT 16 OZ TUB

ARMOURS TREET LUNCHEON MEAT **\$1.29** 12 OZ CAN

SWIFT VIENNA SAUSAGE **69¢** 2 5 OZ CAN

SKOAL BANDITS STRAIGHT CUT ONLY **5 FREE CANS WITH 10 PACK PURCHASE**

MELSTER SALT WATER TAFFY OR PEANUT BUTTER KISSES CANDY **98¢** 16 OZ PKG

This Week's **FROZEN FOOD Specials**

CITRUS HILL ORANGE JUICE **89¢** 12 OZ CAN

SUN VALE 10 OZ STRAWBERRIES **39¢** EA

BIRDSEYE COOL WHIP **\$1.19** 12 OZ TUB

TOTINOS ASST PIZZA **99¢** 11 OZ BOX

SOFTNER BOUNCE **\$3.29** 40 CT BOX 2 PACK

AI CAR BIC
U Refund f
CO GE
8 LB PKG
3 1/2 LI BAG
CARN SPR
CHICKEN HAM TUNA TURKEY
AQUA HA
8 OZ CAN
KRAF MAH
10 OZ PKG
DETE
GIAN BOJ
SOLO PLA
18 CT 16 OZ

**ANNOUNCING THE
CARNATION PET FOOD
BIG VARIETY SHOW.**

**SAVE
UP TO \$10⁰⁰**

when you meet all requirements
Refund forms available at special displays of:



8 LB PKG **\$3.89**



3 3.5 OZ CANS **89¢**



3 6 OZ CANS **\$1.00**



3 1/2 LB BAG **\$2.39**



3 1/2 LB BAG **\$2.39**



CARNATIONS
BonBons
ASST BOX

\$1.59

SKINNERS
THIN

24 OZ PKG

SPAGHETTI 98¢



COOKING OIL

48 OZ JUG

CRISCO

\$1.79

WITH \$15.00 IN TRADE OR
MORE EXCLUSIVE OF
CIGARETTES

SCHREIBER
SUBSTITUTE

CHEESE
SINGLE SLICED

12 OZ
PKG

89¢

TEA BAGS

LIPTON

100 CT
BOX

\$2.59

ASSORTED CANS

COCA COLA

OR
7-UP

6 PACK

\$1.49

CARNATION

SPREADABLES

CHICKEN
HAM
TUNA
TURKEY

\$1.19
7.5 OZ
CAN

FRITO LAYS

**POTATOES
CHIPS**

7 OZ
PKG

98¢

Fresh-Picked

Sweet
CORN XX

3 EARS

59¢

and OTHER
PRODUCE SPECIALS

WASHINGTON FANCY DELICIOUS

RED APPLES

POUND **59¢**

FRESH GREEN

BROCCOLI

POUND **49¢**

GOLDEN

BANANAS

POUND **39¢**

FRESH

CAULIFLOWER

POUND **59¢**

FRESH RIPE

NECTARINES

POUND **\$1.29**

FRESH

CANTALOUPE

VINE
RIPE
POUND **49¢**

SWEET MELON

HONEY DEWS

POUND **39¢**

RUSSET

POTATOES

10 LB BAG **\$1.09**

AQUA

HAIR SPRAY

8 OZ
CAN **\$1.19**

PARADE

COFFEE

13 OZ
BAG

\$2.69

KRAFTS

MARSHMELLOWS

10 OZ
PKG

49¢

KRAFTS

BAR B Q SAUCE

18 OZ
JUG

\$1.09

DETERGENT

OXYDOL

GIANT
BOX **\$1.79**

HIDDEN VALLEY

DRESSING

8 OZ
JUG

98¢

SOLO

PLASTIC CUPS

18 CT
16 OZ PKG **73¢**

DETERGENT

BOLD

64 OZ
JUG

THREE
LIQUID
\$2.98

DOUBLE
GIFT BOND
STAMPS
EACH WEDS.
WITH \$5.00 IN
TRADE OR MORE

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS

CARSON'S
SUPER MARKET
BEST MEATS IN TOWN

TDA's farmers markets opening soon

"The 1986 network of ever-popular and successful farmers markets will serve producers and consumers in over 40 towns and cities, ranging in size from Edna and Cuero to Houston, Fort Worth and San Antonio." Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower said today. "Many of the new markets this season are sprouting up in the West Texas-Panhandle area and along the Gulf Coast."

Eight of the smaller markets are already holding sales days. Five of the markets, including the one at Austin's Highland Mall, will start doing business this Saturday, May 17. The others will come aboard in late May, through June, and into early July.

Gulf Coast-area markets opening for the first time in 1986 include two locations in Houston, one in Westwood Mall, also opening May 17, and the other at West Oaks Mall, opening May 22. Also opening this season along the Gulf Coast are new markets at Alvin, Conroe, Victoria and Wharton. These new markets will complement returning markets along the Gulf Coast in Beaumont, Edna, Ganado, Hallettsville and Lake Texana.

In the West Texas and Panhandle area, new markets are scheduled to open later this season at Abilene, Amarillo, Midland, Odessa, Plainview and Sweetwater. Returning second- and third year markets in the region are at Brownwood, El Paso, which operates from three different locations, Lubbock and Littlefield.

Eleven TDA-assisted farmers markets will operate this season in East Texas; 10 will do business throughout Central Texas; three will open in North Texas; and another three will make sales in South Texas and the Hill Country.

"The recent rains should really improve both the quantity and the quality of the fresh produce that is available at markets opening in the weeks ahead. Unfortunately, because of a mild, dry winter, this season's peach crop won't be as large as it was last year," said David Currie, TDA's farmers market specialist.

"The interest by both producers and consumers in establishing these direct sales outlets has increased enormously since the Texas Department of Agriculture helped organize the first new markets in 1963 at Sherman, Tyler, Waco and Vernon," Hightower said. "In addition to local farmers market association, TDA has been working with County Agricultural Extension agents, Main Street Project directors, and other community leaders to ensure even greater sales by producers this year."

"Last year, over 1,000 Texas farmers sold fresh produce, honey cut flowers and even fresh-frozen beef in the 33 markets that operated in 1985, and those producers accumulated new, direct sales of over \$3 million."

Xi Nu Chi holds meeting

Pleasantville Center was the location of Xi Nu Chi's monthly meeting, May 13th. In the business meeting, plans were made for the 'end of the year party' at Nancy Johnson's home, May 27th. At that time, secret sisters will be revealed and installation of new officers will be conducted. Gayle Maxey presented the program for the evening. A history of Tupperware and demonstration of houseware was enjoyed by all. Nancy Duncan served special treats consisting of sandwiches, chips and dips and cake to Judy Elliott, Donna Bryan, Minyon Seymore, Nancy Johnson, Nancy Duncan, Mary Hill and Diana Parker.

Boswell-Johnson plans are told

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Boswell, of Merkel are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Lynn to Cody Lee Johnson, son of Judy Johnson of Abilene, and Kenneth Johnson of Friona, Texas.

The couple are planning a November 15 wedding at the First Baptist Church in Merkel at 4:00 p.m.

Kelly is a graduate of Merkel High School.

Cody attended Trent High School and is employed by Jerry Miller of Merkel.



**HAPPY
56th
DAD**

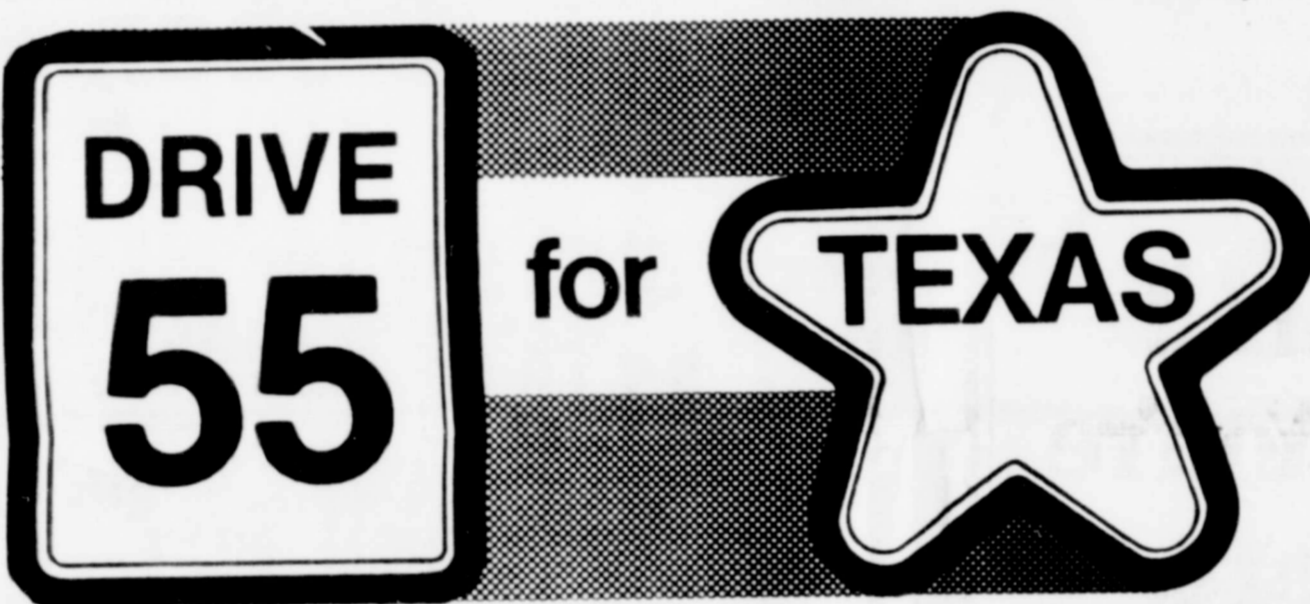
Consumers enjoy vine-ripened produce at excellent prices, get to visit personally with the individuals who are helping put dinner on their tables, and frequently enjoy fiddler's contests and other entertainment as a sideline to shopping at a farmers market.

"TDA's farmers market program is one of the best examples of how state government can work with producers, local officials and private industry to put real money in people's pockets. Farmers markets certainly won't solve the most serious economic problems

confronting agriculture today," Hightower said. "But to participating farmers, they certainly are putting badly-needed cash money back in their pockets, and these markets are giving those producers a network of new sales outlets they never had before."



Johnny Starbuck, who is recovering from recent surgery, was presented a balloon bouquet by the Merkel Chamber of Commerce last week. Johnny has been instrumental in selling donation tickets for Fun Day since the event started. Shown are Johnny and [from left] parents George and Charlotte Starbuck and Chamber president Ann Payne. (Photo by Iris Amerine)



Ybarra is recent graduate

John Ybarra received his Associate in General Studies Degree from Midland College Saturday.

The thirteenth Commencement exercises were held Saturday at

the Al G. Lanford Chaparral Center in Midland.

John, a 1984 graduate from Merkel High School, is the son of Juan and Connie Ybarra from Merkel.

PRICE USED TO BE THE ONLY REASON TO SETTLE FOR LESS.

NOW THERE ISN'T ANY.

Always thought you couldn't afford a John Deere? Meet new Price Fighter tractors... seven models from 55- through 140-hp. If you want John Deere quality, you don't have to settle for less. See us now.

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ABILENE FARM SUPPLY
3526 S TREADAWAY 692-2255

Hart's are new grandparents

Don and Mitzi Hart are pleased to announce the birth of a granddaughter, Sheena Elise Teel born on April 29 at 1:41 p.m. at Sweetwater. She weighed 8 lbs. 6 ozs. Sheena is the daughter of Jennings and Lesa Teel of Sweetwater.

HERE'S THE BEEF!!

Newspaper Ads Influence Most Texans

Did you know that the majority of Texas consumers read and react to news and advertising in their local newspapers?

- 86.3% read a newspaper this past week
- 71.9% usually read its grocery ads
- 69.2% usually read department store, and discount store ads in newspapers
- 57.0% will most likely turn to newspaper ads for shopping information

Newspaper ads are the preferred media of most shoppers in Texas... motivating readers to buy retail goods.

SOURCE: Consumer Data Service (CDS)
Prepared by Texas Newspaper Advertising Bureau (TNAB)
(An affiliate of The Texas Press Association)

TEXAS NEWSPAPERS Read By 3-out-of-4

HANDY FOOD STORE
1400 N 1st 928-4912

PICNIC SAVINGS SALE
ALL FLAVORS 6 PACK HOT ONLY

COCA COLA \$1.98

PAPER PLATES \$1.28

CUPS REG 91¢ 79¢

PORK & BEANS 2 OR 78¢

The Disabled American Veterans asks you to remember our war dead on MEMORIAL DAY

DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial
Angel Fire, N.M.

Watch your heat index

by Jerry Eckhart

"It's not the heat. It's the Humidity." We've heard that for a lot of years, but no one bothered to make it official or to provide a gauge whereby we could figure out just how hot it felt. We knew the humidity affected us but not how much.

Although the military has been using a form of reference called the Temperature-humidity Index for a number of years, it has been complex, unwieldy, and largely inaccurate. Even meteorologists had trouble figuring it out. With the introduction of computer technology to the weather field a few years ago, the true relationship between heat and humidity finally surfaced. Using computer models, the National Weather Service developed a workable reliable scale called the "Heat Index". This latest development is something you and I can understand without needing a Doctor's degree in meteorology.

Basically defined, the Heat Index is a measure of the contribution humidity makes with high temperatures to reduce the body's ability to cool itself. The heat index is a measure of how hot it really feels when relative humidity is considered with the actual air temperature.

For example: If the actual temperature is 100 degrees with 40 percent relative humidity, the effect of these conditions on the body will be the same as 110 degrees. Thus the Heat Index would be 110 degrees.

How does heat affect the body? With a heat index between 80 and 90 degrees, fatigue is possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity. If the heat index rises to between 90 and 105 degrees, sunstroke, heat cramps and heat exhaustion are possible with prolonged exposure and/or

physical activity. In the range of 105 to 130 degrees, sunstroke, heat cramps, or heat exhaustion are likely, with heat stroke possible under prolonged exposure and or physical activity. The older you are, the more the heat will affect you.

To minimize the risk of heat problems while out doors follows these hints:

1. Reduce strenuous activities.
2. Dress in lightweight and light colored clothing.
3. Drink plenty of water.
4. Stay in the shade as much as possible.

Heat kills by taking the body beyond it's limits. It kills more people each year than lightning, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, or earthquakes combined.

WWI vets auxillary meets

Ladies Auxiliary of Veterans of World War I, Ladies met in the home of Jewell Criswell May 20 for a business meeting and to elect new officers with a covered dish luncheon. They attended to old business, sent cards to sick members. We missed Mr. and Mrs. Dent Gibson.

Those enjoying the luncheon

were: Billye Hartley, Ruth Cox, Trula Cox, Mabel McRee, Jewell Criswell, Lorene Beaird.

The ladies elected new officers. They are Jewell Criswell President, Senior Vice President Ruth Cox, Jr. Vice President Lorene Beaird, Conductor Parilee Gibson, Chaplain Maggie Renfro, Treasurer- Secretary Billye Hartley Guard Trula Cox.

MISD lunch menu

The Merkel School menu is as follows:

Thursday May 22: Meatloaf, mix vegt., lettuce wedge, hot rolls, whipped jello.

Friday May 23: Bar-b-q pork, french fries, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, rice krispie bars.

Monday May 26: Spaghetti, lettuce wedge, buttered corn, garlic bread, pineapple chunks.

Tuesday May 27: Tuna salad, mix vegt., lettuce leaf, slice tomato, hot roll, applesauce cake

with icing. Wednesday May 28: Crisпитos with chili and hot dogs with chili, macaroni and tomato, blackeyed peas, peaches and cream.

Thursday May 29: Bar-b-q links and pork, pinto beans, spanish rice, corn bread, apricot halves.

Friday May 30: Fried Chicken with cream gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, rosey pears.

The menu is subject to change.

Cypert's plan weekend reunion

Friends of the late Oscar and Winnie Cypert are invited to visit with the Cypert family on Sunday, May 25 in the afternoon. The

reunion will be held in the homes of Dusty and Jeannessa Green and Kathy Cypert located on the southeast of Merkel off FM 1235.



Merkel High had seven juniors and seniors who qualified for the Presidential Fitness Award this year. They are [from left] Clay

Carey, Richard Powell, Thomas Doan, Chris Horton, Amy Irvin, Alyse Ferguson and Kevin Mitchell. To qualify, the students had to maintain at least a B plus

average and score in the top 20 percent or above on any nationally recognized standard achievement test. Staff photo]

Garden club adjourns until September

The Merkel Garden Club met Thursday, the 15th of May at the home of Peggy Black for a covered dish luncheon and their final meeting for this year. Inez Detrick served as co-hostess.

Following the luncheon, an open discussion was held with sugges-

tions and ideas proposed for next year's programs and yearbook.

Members present were: Peggy Black, Inez Detrick, Olga Peachy, Alice King, Jewel Criswell, Mary Click, Lottie Everett, Sue Johnson, Robbie Wilson, Mary Russom, Estelle Humphrey, Shirley McBride, Linnie Fisher, Leota Sher-

rell, Billie Hartley, Verdie Patterson and Murel Thompson. Also attending, as a guest, was Barbara Mier of Ponca City, Oklahoma.

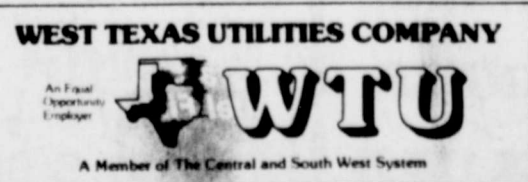
The next meeting will be September the 18th at the home of Jewel Criswell.

Play It Safe Around Electricity When You're Working Outdoors.



Enjoy A Safe Summer While Working In Your Yard By Following The Tips Outlined Below:

- Don't dig near buried electric wires.
- Be sure your outdoor electrical equipment is properly grounded and the wiring is in good condition.
- Keep electric cords clear of your working area.
- Keep ladders or long-handled tools well away from overhead wires.
- Don't use electric tools outside if it is rainy or the ground is damp.
- Protect your outdoor outlets and wiring from moisture.



Remember REDDY Supplies the energy — buy only YOU can use it safely!



MEMORIAL DAY SPECIALS

DECKER DANISH HAM
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8 OZ. PKG.

DECKER
SUPPORT SPECIAL OLYMPICS
BY PURCHASING DECKER
PRODUCTS AT ALLSUP'S

DECKER FRANKS
89¢
12 OZ. PKG.

DECKER GOLD LUNCH MEAT
79¢
8 OZ. PKG.

ALLSUP'S 30 YEAR
COMMEMORATIVE
MUG
FILLED WITH YOUR
FAVORITE FOUNTAIN DRINK
99¢
ONLY REFILLED FOR 49¢

REG. OR DEEF
BOLOGNA,
SALAMI, P & P,
LUNCHEON LOAF

CONVENIENCE STORES
30
YEARS
OF
SERVING
YOU

ALLSUP'S
CONVENIENCE STORES

PRICES EFFECTIVE
MAY 22-23-24,
1986

WHILE
SUPPLIES
LAST!

ALLSUP'S
ICE
\$1.09
8 LB. BAG

FRESH, HOT BBQ SANDWICH	EACH	99¢	ALLSUP'S 12 QUART ICE CHEST	ONLY	\$3.49
FRESH FRENCH FRIES	ORDER	49¢	TOM'S ASSORTED POTATO CHIPS	REG. \$1.39	99¢
MONEY ORDERS	EACH	19¢	BORDEN'S FRUIT DRINK	1 GAL. JUG	89¢
BORDEN'S ICE CREAM SANDWICH	6 PACK	99¢	BORDEN'S NUTTY BUDDIES	6 PACK	99¢

LAY'S® ASSORTED POTATO CHIPS

REGULAR, BARBECUE, SOYIN CREAM & ONION, UNSALTED, JALAPENO & CHEDDAR

REGULAR \$1.39

99¢

GALANTE PICANTE SAUCE

99¢

PINT

6 PACK BOTTLES

\$1.99

