

The Merkel Mail

28 cents

Thursday, March 12, 1987 . . . Merkel, Texas

Our 99th Year

Chamber honors Seymore

Seymore named Citizen of the Year at Chamber banquet

The Merkel Chamber of Commerce named Connie Mack Seymore the 1987 Citizen of the Year.

That presentation was made at the Chamber's annual banquet, held Tuesday night at Heritage Hall.

Ray Stone, host and producer of the Dallas Cowboy Football Report was the guest speaker for the evening.

Stone related humorous stories that dealt with the Dallas Cowboys saying "When the Cowboys are hot I do twice as many banquets and get a lot more money."

Stone thanked the Chamber for the friendliness shown to him and said, during his presentation, he felt local Chambers of Commerce were vital to a community. He said, in the past, he looked at them with the idea that they are a lot like the library, every town has one.

He urged Merkelites to pitch in and work together to accomplish tasks and told the Chamber it was very important to have the support of the community.

The barbecued brisket and pinto beans were again prepared by local volunteers Joe McDuff and Sammy Doan. Pug & Leo's Restaurant prepared the meal's trimmings and desserts.

Outgoing Chamber of Commerce president Ann Payne was honored for her efforts. Fannelle Boney was also recognized for her contributions to the Chamber.



Connie Mack Seymore was named Merkel's Citizen of the Year at the annual Chamber of

Commerce banquet held Tuesday night. With Connie Mack is his wife, Ida Seymore.

Staff phot

Seymore, a lifelong resident of Merkel, was selected as the Citizen of the Year. Seymore was honored for his support of the community and for his support of youth activities here.

Chamber manager Marilyn Tittle presented an overview of the year's activities and Virginia David was the winner of a football autographed by some of the Dallas Cowboys.

Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church holds ground-breaking

The members of Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church held ground-breaking ceremonies for their new Church site Sunday.

The brief ceremony included an explanation of the purpose of the occasion, and prayers of Thanksgiving to God and petitions for the successful completion of the project offered by Rv. P. F. Zimmermann, C. M., priest in charge and the assembled people.

Then the traditional turning of a shovel of dirt by Father Zimmermann, Very Rev. Francis Hynes, C. M., pastor and regional superior, Deacon Paul Klein, as well as members of the Parish Council and the Building Committee.

The complex will include two adjoining structures. The Church of traditional design, built of brick and structural steel, covers an

area of 69 X 120 feet. It will contain a large sanctuary, seating for 325 people, and a large Narthex Vestibule building leading into the nave of the Church. The Educational Building, 50 X 180 feet will have 16 rooms for offices, classes and parish meetings. Church and school furnishings are being provided by donations of the members of the congregation and friends of the parish.



Partitioners participate in ground breaking ceremonies for Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church's facility on Merkel's south side.

Photo by Sally Tittle

MISD superintendent resigns; board adopts new discipline policy

The MISD board of trustees approved a new discipline option and MISD superintendent Bill Everett resigned, effective Sept. 1st at a special meeting of the school board Tuesday night.

A crowd of about 200 people were gathered in the Merkel High Library for the special meeting.

Everett silenced the crowd as he opened the meeting with his decision to retire.

The meeting was aired live on KTXS tv's 6 p.m. broadcast. Everett announced his decision with this letter to the Board of Education. It read "I wish to announce my retirement from public education effective September 1, 1987. I am grateful to have served under one of the outstanding boards of education in this state. You are professional, level headed, and dedication, giving a great deal of time and energy to a largely thankless job. I appreciate your confidence as evidenced by my contract extension to 1990. You have here a group of administrators, faculty, and staff who are dedicated to carrying out the policies you set forth. I am proud of the loyalty they have given you and me.

When I began my career, schools were charged by parents with upholding the highest standards of responsible behavior and dedicating themselves to foster learning at the highest levels possible. These continue to be my goals. However, the community determines what the school is to be. Many people here have been vocal in their opposition to the use of drug dogs, expulsion of incorrigible students under state law and the structured discipline which has made our schools a place where learning has a priority over playing a system of enforcing attendance which has been a necessary part of the implementation of HB 72, but it has been regarded as repressive. Students do resent discipline for use of profanity and dishonesty when these are a part of their parent's lifestyles. When drugs and alcohol are a part of a student's homelife, it is hard to enforce the school's standards

against them.

It is difficult to have lived in this community for seven years and to discover that there are those who believe I would have a man on my staff who would even consider using force with the intention to injure. It is tragic to hear on the media that a lead pipe or oversized board might be used in our school. I read incredulously that parents feared their students would be killed or maimed by men whose only commitment is to provide an environment where every child can become all he was born to be.

Many have sought publicly to discredit our schools. Few have stepped forward to defend what you and I have worked so hard to build up. I cannot lower my standards, and live with myself or be true to your trust in me.

I leave the superintendency hoping that those who remained silent will voice their support of high standards at the polls on April 4th. My wish is for men with your integrity to join on this board, and for continued success in all you do."

The superintendent then presented a policy he proposed for students at Merkel High School.

The district will send a letter home that asks parents to decide whether their students receive "swats" or not. The letter states that if parents have chosen that their child not receive swats, the child could be suspended from school for up to three days or the child will be given the Saturday detention hall from 8 a.m. until noon.

The policy also included a definition of the Saturday detention hall. Students are to bring academic work to do and there will be no talking or misbehavior. All school rules will apply and a student is in Saturday detention hall under a condition of strict probation.

The board unanimously approved the new policy.

Everett told **The Mail** Tuesday night "I just about said it all in my letter, I am not leaving under pressure. House Bill 72 took a lot

away from me and this thing (the corporal punishment controversy) comes along and I told my wife, I just can't take any more if it."

When asked what advice he had for MISD, the superintendent said "I would say the people better decide the strengths and weaknesses the candidates have in the upcoming election. We need to get the school back on an even keel, I have seen more vandalism in the last two weeks than I have seen all year, all of this is attributed to the kids attitude."

"The people here had better wake up and decide what kind of school they want", he added.

He concluded "I just felt like since I was close to retirement I'd take the heat off of some of these guys and let them get back to teaching school and put all the controversy behind us. I just don't want to see the things we have accomplished here for the past seven years to be undone."

The 'ol pro threw us a curve

by Cloy A. Richards

"I have faced this guy before one a hundred trips to the plate, and I know every move he has..."

Most folks thought he was just a good ol' boy, but he knew what he was doin' when he stepped on the mound.

As he grabbed the rosin bag, no one but him, and maybe a couple of people that knew him best, had any idea how he was going to face this next hitter.

His basic pitch was a fastball, down the middle and he worked his opponent to a 2-2 count.

Knowing hitters the way he did, he figured his opponent, on that 2 ball, two strike count, he had to be on guard for anything.

Except the curve.

(Please See Page 2)

Council candidate withdraws from race

The Merkel City Council met Monday night and learned a candidate in the upcoming city election had withdrawn from the race.

Bobby Windham of Merkel informed city manager J. A. Sadler he would be violating a company policy of his employer, WTU, that prohibits them from serving in elected positions. His

withdrawal will leave two men running for two seats. They are J. T. Naron and Juan Ybarra.

In other action, council learned funds from the Texas Department of Community Services may be slow. Their agency had 33 positions terminated recently.

Council also heard the monthly police report from Merkel police chief Bob Jones. Merkel police worked a total of 57 cases in

February including four traffic accidents, a case each of theft, criminal mischief, and burglary of a motor vehicle.

Also, police arrested two for driving while intoxicated and a case each of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, telephone harassment and burglary of a habitation.

Police also answered three dog calls, issued 38 citations and made seven arrests.

Sales tax rebates down 9.5 per cent

Merkel's share of the state sales tax is down 9.54 per cent according to a news release from the State Comptroller's Office.

So far this year, Merkel has received \$15,204.86 compared to \$16,809.19 through the same period

last year. Merkel's latest check is for \$3,975.62.

Tye's rebates are running 14 per cent behind last year. So far this year, Tye has received \$14,775.39, compared to \$17,181.59 through the same period last year. Tye's latest

check was for \$4,301.96.

Trent did not receive a rebate check this month.

Statewide, payments are off 6 per cent. March checks represent taxes collected on sales made in January

Corporal punishment meeting draws

Close to 130 people attended a meeting Sunday at Heritage Hall to protest Merkel High School's use of corporal punishment (padding).

Buck Russell of Merkel is organizing the Concerned Parents Against Corporal Punishment and he organized the meeting. Russell told the crowd attending "Parents

have no rights at all, according to the Merkel High School student handbook" and he also thanked the people attending the 4 p.m. Sunday meeting. He called the crowd a "super turn-out."

Russell also told the crowd attending, "This is not just a local issue, this could be happening all over the state."

The group is sponsoring a local petition that calls for the elimination of corporal punishment at Merkel High and the dismissal of Merkel High principal Larry Curry and assistant principal Gaylon Brnovak. So far, the group has collected more than 200 signatures on that petition.

Suprise, banquet, info. . . more

From page One

He, as we said, was pretty much the old fastball, it got him where he is, and he was going to stay with it until he hung up his spikes... the hitter assured himself.

The hitter then went through the rituals of getting ready, readied his hands on the ol' Louisville Slugger, and got ready for the fastball.

The veteran looked the hitter right in the eye, and firmly gripped the ball.

As he took his windup, the crowd, many of them standing, the rest on the edge of their seats, watched, stunned, as the old veteran let the ol' horsehide fly.

Yessir, he did what no one in the crowd expected him to do. The crafty ol' veteran threw the curveball, answered a few questions from the press about his decision to throw the curve, and headed to the dugout.

He was tired, he'd had enough, besides, he'd been thinking lately that this was a game for kids to play and I am not a kid anymore.

Heck, the ol' veteran told a reporter as he was leaving for the clubhouse door, my leaving is going to make room for someone else to get a shot.

That's what happens to old sportswriters. You send them to cover a school board story, the superintendent resigns, and he writes about Casey at the bat.

Seriously, the above story was my impression of superintendent Bill Everett's decision to retire from public schools effective Sept. 1st.

His decision prompts a lot of questions and uncertainties about the future of MISD.

He told me Tuesday night he hoped the improvements MISD has made over the past seven years, and any person who stays informed about the goings on at MISD knows things are a heck of a lot better than when he was hired seven years ago, will stay in place.

MISD will lose a good man in September.

The Merkel Chamber of Commerce Banquet came off well here Tuesday night.

The school board meeting drew a larger crowd, which is a sad commentary, but I think most of the folks in attendance enjoyed themselves.

Ray Stone, the guest speaker and producer and announcer for the Dallas Cowboy Football Report, gave a funny presentation and related some funny stories about the Cowboys.

You can't go wrong with that kind of material in these parts.

Three local citizens were recognized for their contributions to the community. Ann Payne is the outgoing Chamber president and she received a plaque for her work. Ann's big thing in the Chamber was Christmas lights here. And through her efforts, about \$3,000 is in an account to have lights here during the holiday season.

Fannelle Boney was honored for her efforts in support of the Chamber. She's never turned down an "invitation" to help.

The Chamber's Citizen of the Year was Connie Mack Seymore. Connie Mack is one of those guys every town needs a few more of. He supports Merkel. He loves this community and he continues to work for the good of the youth in the community.

Many thanks to Joe McDuff and Sammy Doan for again cooking the brisket. I told people in the Chamber when they decided to

Preceptor Eta Omega

The Preceptor Eta Omega Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi traveled to Sweetwater on Feb. 25th.

The Merkel Chapter was guest of Preceptor Eta Phi, Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, and met at the Texas Electric Building in Sweetwater.

Beth Larner, guest speaker, presented the program on "Their Lives as Missionaries in Ecuador."

Members attending were Kathy Leverich, Blanche Hewitt, Mamie Steck, Y Sadler, Jane Carson and Betty Satterwhite.

ARE YOU PUTTING ME ON?

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hold this dinner on a Tuesday evening (our deadline day) that I'd be able to offer no more than make a few arrangements, show up and eat. Joe kinda' gave me a hard time about that, but those two deserve a lot of kind words.

Spring sports are in full swing as the tennis, golf, track and baseball teams here are in action. We will start having weekly updates on those sports next week.

If anyone out there has any old photographs or newspaper clippings that include Dr. Jimmy Walker, a former Merkel resident, please contact Annie Walker at 928-5074.

He was a 1948 graduate of Merkel High and recently passed away in El Paso.

His former co-workers and family are gathering information on him.

If you had photos of your child made at Xi Nu Eta's Valentine Dance, they are back and you may pick them up at Mid-Tex

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PERSONAL ATTENTION



§ You think your Monday got off to a bad start? This wreck happened at the intersection of FM 126 and the North access road for I-20 Monday morning. No injuries were reported.

Staff photo

Doan in Miss TEEN pageant this weekend

Miss Shelle D'Shanna Doan, age 16, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. S. F. Doan of Merkel, has been selected to compete in the 1987 Miss Teen Pageant to be held March Saturday at the Kiva Inn in Abilene.

In this pageant, Shelle and other young ladies age 13 to 18 will be honored and recognized for their achievements in scholastics, community involvement and personality.

Shelle's hobbies include dancing and talking on the telephone and her sponsors are H. W. Lemens, Inc., Taylor Telephone Inc and the Farrington Brothers Fina.



Shelle Doan

Services held for Ruth Jones Clark

Ruth Jones Clark, 73 of 1110 Barrow Street, died Saturday at a local hospital.

Services were held at 11 a.m. at the Elliott Chapel. Rev. Kenneth Jones officiated. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Born in the Castle Peak com-

munity of Mulberry Canyon, the daughter of John and Marie Jones and the granddaughter of the late J. D. and Mrs. Jones. They were a pioneer family of the Canyon. She married Ellis Clark in 1932. He died in 1975.

She was employed by the

McClellan Variety store for 20 years. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by her daughter Patsy Lilly, two granddaughters Pam Lilly and Tonya Lilly; two brothers Vernon Jones of Buffalo Gap and R. D. Jones of Abilene; two aunts Virgie Harrison and Maggie Renfro of Merkel.

Bernard Clark's services held here

Bernard Franklin Clark, 75, of Abilene, a former Merkel resident, died at Hendrick Medical Center March 3rd.

Funeral services were held March 5th at the First Baptist Church here with Tommy Culwell, Wayne Keller-pastor and Hohn Wagoner officiating. Burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery here under the direction of the Star-

buck Funeral Home. Born November 1, 1912 here, he had served in the Army Air Corps in World War II. He had married the former Erma Ruth Daniel. He had lived in Taylor County all his life and had lived in Abilene since 1951. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife of Merkel; a son Bobby Joe Clark of Arlington; a daughter, Carolyn

Jean Latt of San Jose, Ca., two brothers, Woodrow Clark of Girard, Ka., J. H. Clark of Merkel; two sisters Bernice Jones and Patsy McDuff, both of Merkel; three grandchildren Chancey & Melanie Latt of Kriste Clark.

Pallbearers were Sammy Doan, Billy Lucas, Jimmy Hester, Bill Faith, Tony Wood, Shorty Lemens, Jerry Russell.

Carriker reports on funding, water

by Steven A. Carriker

The legislature has passed a bill which I co-sponsored to repeal the subject matter test for Texas teachers. This will save the \$14.3 million price tag the tests were estimated to cost. The TECAT test administered last spring, although it received a great deal of criticism. Bolstered public confidence in public school teachers due to a 97 percent passing rate. Most people agreed that the good showing of the first test made the subject matter test superfluous.

A fight between the State Water Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is heating up over who should license a hydro-electric facility on Possum Kingdom Lake. The state contends that control of water has been reaffirmed as a state right numerous times. But when relicensing time rolled around for the Possum Kingdom facility, FERC decided to get into the act by mandating additional water release suggested by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, supposedly to enhance downstream recreation. The outcome of the dispute could affect upstream users of Brazos water as far as Abilene, Anson and Stamford since adjudicated water rights might require additional releases to replace lost P. K. water.

Response to the 78th District questionnaire on budget cuts have been revealing. Only one of the 12 categories of state spending, the Texas Arts Commission, was picked for cutting by more than 50 percent of the respondents. To illustrate how difficult it is to balance the budget cuts alone, this

agency's entire budget of 5 to 6 million dollars is only one tenth of one percent of the deficit of \$5.8 billion. The area with the greatest support seems to be services for the elderly, where less than 10 percent of the respondents said to cut.

Your views on new revenues for the state have also been informative. Your questionnaires showed that only six percent favor a personal income tax. By contrast, almost one-third of you said that a corporate profits tax was a less

objectionable way for the state to meet its obligations. As most budget plans are now on the table, the legislative committees are closely scrutinizing agency budget requests and comparing these requests to the various budget plans of the Governor, Senate and House, and the legislative budget board. The Legislature is now weighing the needs for state services against the budget realities, removing waste where it exists, and considering whether new revenues are needed.



§ The Merkel Badger boys won their first track meet of the season at the Anson Relays. photo by Iris Amerine

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Joyce Aron Nimetz Area Director

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5th graders prose on statewide TEAMS tests

Editor's Note: The following poems were written by Merkel 5th grade students after taking the statewide TEAMS tests. The first poem was written by 5th grade teacher Mrs. Roberts

A New Year
A new year has started, it's 1987.

A lot of kids in fifth grade are turning eleven.
Some of us are becoming mature and tall.

But we have got to stop yelling in the hall.
Reading is fun and so is math.
I hope my sister can follow my path.

I hope my brother is as smart as me, 'Cause when he gets good grades, he'll holler yipee!

This year has been fun like it has always been.
I hope it will stay like this again and again.

Thoughts on the TEAMS tests by Merkel 5th Grade Students
Teams comes and goes every other year.

I tell people "Please don't fear."

You know you can pass, you'll thrive.

It's only been a week, you'll survive.

There's no fear of failing the test.

If you have done your very best.

Teams test is over;
I can stop my fears.

I won't have to take it again
For two more years.

Test
Exciting
Applicable
Minddraining
Stomach ace

Teams test is not for me.
I would rather have stitches in my knee.

I would rather run a mile or two.

Or have a nail stuck in my shoe.
Let someone else take the test.

I'll go fishing or take a rest.

Teams is hard but fun.
It's like a puzzle you can't get done.

Teams is a horrible, terrifying test.
Everybody knows they have to do their best.

It's not like I can't take it.
I've studied. I won't have to fake it.

Teams test, Teams test, It's the best.
It's not just for me and you.
All of Texas takes it too.

Teams test is fun.
You have to do your best.

You don't just go and mark answers.
You have to park yourself and try.

If you don't pass, don't come to me and cry.

Teams test is a fuss.
All the teachers get in a rush
And tell the kids to sit down and hush!

We've got to start studying or we'll be late

For a very important date.
Lana Rogers & Wendy Cummings
Teams this, Teams that, all I heard was Teams, Teams, Teams.
Teams papers were here and Teams papers were there.
Teams, Teams, Teams papers everywhere

Teams test is the best.
I'll snuggle in my nest

For a good night's rest.
As I dream about the Teams, I think, you can't beat me, but I'll beat you.

You're the test but I'm the best.
Juanita Gilchrist

Teams is rough but not too tough.
Everyone hates it because it explains their fate.

And if you don't pass it you won't graduate.

Master the skills without a muffle

So this is the end of your Teams Test Shuffle.

Heather Henderson

Teams are fun. The best thing I liked was math. I love math. The only problem I had was division, but I got it. I told myself I could do it and I did. I was proud of myself.

Rita Garge

Teams is tough and rough. I wish there was no such thing as Teams. Teams may be tough but sometimes it is fun. When we have Teams we hardly have time to relax. All we ever do is work. Thanks to teachers the test wasn't very hard. Thanks 5th grade teachers.

Velam DeLeon

Dozier's 1st graders explain the roles, duties of the American presidency

Dana Dozier's first grade class at Merkel Elementary were asked to write a sentence or to explaining what a president is.

The following are their thoughts

Bryce Freeman: a man that is real rich and he has a mansion and lots of maids.

Clint Sparks: Lives in the White House. They clean their rooms. Some presidents die.

Robby Welborn: He's is kinda like a king and he sits in a thorn chair and he is real big.

Julie Sanders: He is someone who protects our country and helps fight in the war and makes sure the Russian's don't attack.

Monty Clay: He is a man that contols his country and he has a whole bunch of men all over the place.

Aneka Wood: He is a man that helps our state and tells them what to do.

Justin Mann: He maybe have some armies.

Johnny Hester: He is kinda like a pilgrim.

Mark Moreno: He tells people what to do and gets lots of money.

Natalee Cravens: Someone who makes the country free and tells people what to do. He gives talks to tell people what he thinks.

Chris 'Crouse: Someone that is rich. He writes letters to other people.

Heath Jones: He has a big house. He's very important. Everyone cares about him. He does important work.

Brandi Gray: He has lots of money. He sits at a desk and counts his money. He talks to different countries on the phone.

Timothy Johnson: He tells

people when to stop a war. He goes to court because he is a judge, and he fills out papers. He tells people how to do things.

Christina McCarty: a man that tells us what to do. He is nice and helps people.

Neisha Rogers: He has a war.

He lives in a big house.

Santiago Paden: Mr. Reagan. Abraham Lincoln. They live in the White House and write letters and draw pictures ... counts his money and reads books.

Esther Morales: He helps people, he gets lots of money.

Xi Nu Chi meets

Xi Nu Chi met Feb. 24th at Tokyo Palace in Abilene for Ladies Night Out to honor the club's Valentine Sweetheart, Donna Bryan.

Donna was presented a tiara and a gift. Members attending included Anita Allen, Donna Bryan, Judy Elliott, Connie Harris, Mary Hill, Nancy Johnson, Minty Seymore, Peggy Valentine and Sandra Wurst.

Second Grade All A: Ken Crowe, Bandi Kilpatrick, Christi Massey, Shannon Harris, Tiffany Snowden.

Second Grade A-B: Erica Graham, Nichole Jacobs, Anthony Williamson, Randy Jennings, Jennifer Jones, Robby Sanchez.

3rd Grade All A: Jeremy Daniel, Brandy Jordan, Eddy White, Billy Joe Votaw, Amy Leopard, Julianna Helm, William Donaldson, Melissa Clark.

Third Grade A-B: Amanda Davis, Lisa Hall, Camron Jacobs, Shannon Washington, Tim Thorpe, Kenneth Schuessler, Quincy Hines, Randy DeLeon, Doug Turner.

Fourth Grade All A: Jennifer Anderson, Kellie Edwards, Crystal Gayle, Marijke Holmes, Larry Sommers, Karyn Utley, Melissa

Podrovitz, Daryl Clark, Mandy Workman.

Fourth Grade A-B: Jill Jennings, Brad Locke, Tomas Newman, Colby Sheffield, Brandon Stephenson, Brandi Wilson, Don Cavender, Heather Davis, Billy Furman, Kenny Green, Kamica Sorrels, Eric Stark.

Fifth Grade All-A: Jennifer Johnson, Brian Miller, Josh Perry, Sandi Wood, Amy Podrovitz.

Fifth Grade A-B: Jennifer Johnson, Brian Miller, Josh Perry, Sandi

Fifth Grade A-B: Kelly Atkinson, Jason Bowman, Melissa Daniel, Jennifer Davis, Kriste Duncan, Stacy Powell, George Wellmaker.

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Donna was presented a tiara and a gift. Members attending included Anita Allen, Donna Bryan, Judy Elliott, Connie Harris, Mary Hill, Nancy Johnson, Minty Seymore, Peggy Valentine and Sandra Wurst.

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Xi Nu Chi meets

PROTECT YOUR HOME

SAVE ON PREMIUM QUALITY INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR JONES-BLAIR PAINTS...

POLYFLEX Latex House Paint
• Sunfast colors cover brick, wood and masonry surfaces
• Resists flaking, peeling, blistering
• Cleans up with water • Durable, long-lasting • Mildew resistant
Dries in 30 minutes

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Sugg. Retail \$20.00 Gal.

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• Beautiful medium gloss finish
• Sunfast colors for wood and masonry
• Resists flaking, peeling, blistering
• Durable, long-lasting, mildew resistant
• Dries in 30 minutes, water clean up

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SATIN-X Latex Wall Paint
• Easy to apply, spatter resistant
• Dries in 30 minutes • Washable finish
• One coat coverage • Spot, fade resistant

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Sugg. Retail \$10.00 Gallon

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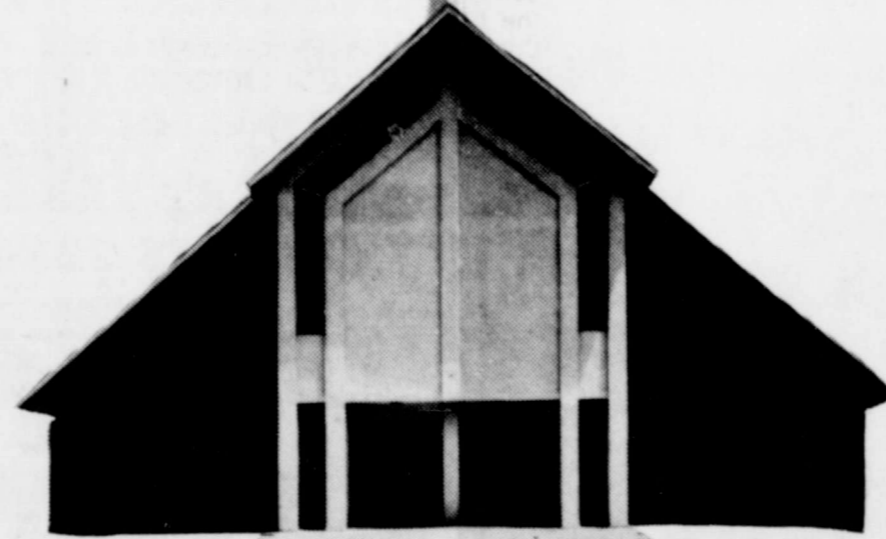
March 15 - 20

You Are Invited To

REVIVAL TIME

PREACHER
Rev. Van Gauthe'
Pastor
Central Baptist Church
Italy, Texas

SINGER
Bro. Brad Bradford
Minister of Music
Ferris Avenue Baptist Church
Waxahachie, Texas



SUNDAY
Sunday School
9:30
Worship
10:45
Church Training
6:00
Worship
7:00

WEEKDAYS
Lunch & Worship
(Mon. - Fri.)
7:00
Evening Worship

First Baptist Church

301 Locust St.
Merkel, Texas
Wayne Keller, Pastor

Classifieds

See, Ads work

FOR SALE

For Watkins Products call Larry or Martha Sue Justice at 928-5217. TFC

For sale: 1981 Buick Riviera, leather interior, electric windows seats and locks, am-fm tape, 50,000 miles, cruise, tilt, new tires. Call Tom Carson 928-5069. 190-TFC

For Sale: 2 refrigerators \$80 & \$100. One kerosene heater \$30. All in good condition. Call 928-5939. 11-2tc

Piano for sale: Wanted: responsible party to assume small monthly payments on piano. See locally call credit manager 1-800-447-4266. 10-3tp

For Sale: 1982 Chevrolet pickup S 10, economy package, excellent shape, no dents, low mileage 846-3221 if we are not at home, leave a message on the machine 11-1tp

Used carpet and vent a hood for sale. Call 928-5250 (home) or 928-4842 at work. 11-2tc

For Sale: 1977 Ford pickup- F-100, 6 cylinder, standard, am-fm radio cassette 1979 Oldsmobile Delta Royale, velvet interior, automatic, power steering, brakes, cruise control, ac, am-fm-tape 928-4091 after 5 p.m. 11-2tc

For sale: two twin beds and frame. Call 928-5652. 11-1tc

For Sale: 16x80 Horizon Mobile Home, 2 bath, 3 BDRM, Shingle roof and fireplace, central heat & AC, Energy Efficient. Contact B. Freeman or leave a message 862-6322 or 862-6194. 11-1tc

For Sale: 30" Frigidaire electric range, oven and two burners work perfect, two need fixing, \$75 RCA XL100 21" color tv \$75 112 Ash Merkel 928-3722. 11-11td

MISC

KIDS KORNER DAY CARE CENTER: 2nd & Oak, open Monday through Friday 8:30 am until 5:30 pm. Call 928-4381. TFC

P & L Auto Parts is open from 7:30 am until 6:30 pm Monday-Friday and from 7 am until 3 pm each Saturday 135 Edwards. TFC

We make hydraulic hoses P & L Auto Parts 135 Edwards 928-4738. 186-TFC

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

Missing a pet? Call Merkel Vet Clinic at 928-5235. Stray dogs turned into the city pound are held 3 days if not claimed or adopted they are put to sleep.

Found, available for adoption if not claimed: male spitz wearing red collar; 2 female hound crosses; mixed breed male dog brown with white & black; male mixed breed dog, black with brown & white; young female white dog shepherd cross; brown female mixed breed dog Merkel Vet Clinic 928-5235.

VISA! MASTERCARD Get your card today. Also new credit card, no one refused. Call 1-518-459-3546 extension 06692 24 hours. 11-3tp

Do you need someone to clean your house the way you want it done? Merkel-Trent area, local references, my fee includes all laundry & all you need done. Call Rita at 928-5046. Hurry, my schedule is filling up. 11-2tc

Granny's Playhouse Day Care Center. Open 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Hot lunch and snacks provided. More information call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange. 184-4tp

Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon closed meetings are Tuesday & Thursday at 7 p.m. at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church. Do you need your house cleaned? I'll do it for reasonable rates, laundry is extra. Call Lisa at 928-5702. 10-2tc

REAL ESTATE

If you have commercial property, a home, unimproved commercial property, or farm land for sale, why not employ the Realtors who will work with you to move that property. We take care of the advertising and are leaders in the field. Call Chris at Daizell Realtors 677-1975 or 691-4440 after hours. TFC

house For Sale at a bargain, 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, one bath, has central heat, all furniture and appliances stay with the house. Call Cyrus Pee, Agent. 928-5613. 179-TFC

For sale: brick home, large living room, fireplace, 2 bedrooms, 1 3/4 bath, kitchen, dining room, cabinet top range, dishwasher, rural water & well on 9.6 acres. 30 X 50 metal building 10 X 20 storage building. Could easily be three bedroom. Call Cyrus Pee, Realtor 928-5613. 06TFC

House for sale: Large living area, water well, storage building, central air & heat, available for immediate occupancy, call to see Cyrus Pee Realtor, 928-5613. 185-TFC

Why rent when you can buy a 2 or 3 bedroom mobile home you can be proud of. New or almost new. I can help you. R Mendez 915-895-3270. 06-8tc

House for sale: living room, dining room, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, kitchen, central heat & evaporative cooling, good location, storage in the back, water well, 2 pecan trees, on five lots new carpet, Cyrus Pee, Realtor 928-5613. TFC

FOR RENT

Austin stone house for sale at 308 Rose in Merkel. Call 928-5921 or 928-4144. 10-1tc

Equal Housing Opportunity SHANNONSHIRE APARTMENTS 1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments, all electric, central heat & cooling. For more information call 928-5038. 89-TFC

1,2 & 3 bedroom mobile homes. Mobile home rents start at \$185 and \$200 is the highest rent. Mobile home lots for rent near school \$50 per month West end of S 7th. Call 928-4973. 05-TFC

For rent: Unfurnished 2 bedroom home, large living room, 2 large bedrooms, large kitchen 1 bath, carpet and drapes \$250 per month at 304 Orange Street. Also 2 1 bedroom homes with carpet and drapes. Apply at 304 Orange or call 928-3281. 09-TFC

Apartment for rent: water & cable paid, deposit required 928-5234 home or 928-5632. 05-TFC

GARAGE SALES

Garage Sale at 509 Kent Thursday, Friday & Saturday 8 until 9.

Garage Sale: 1209 S 2nd, Thursday & Friday only. Baby clothes and baby items, junior clothes, bikes, lots of misc. 11-1tc

Indoor garage sale: Thursday, Friday & Saturday. Electric blender, coffee pots and dishes, pans, bedspreads and curtains, and all kinds of ceramic flower pots, good clothes, size 12 & 14 and misc. Mrs. Teal on Truby Road FM 707

Garage Sale Friday & Saturday at 619 N 2nd from 8 until 5. 11-1tc

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Barnard Clark wishes to express their appreciation to their friends and neighbors for the prayers, the cards, the flowers, the memorials, the food as well as the love and concern shown to us and Bernard during his illness.

Thank you to the ladies of the First Baptist Church for the lovely lunch, to Sybil and Sandy for the music and Brother John Waggoner, Brother Wayne Keller and Brother Tommy Culwell for their words of comfort. May God Bless you! Mrs. Bernard Clark, Bobby & Caroline Brothers & Sisters of Bernard Clark.

I wish to thank each and everyone who helped out at a fire at 910 Rose at my home on Feb. 23. Also to those who have helped since. Linnie Hatley Glynn Johnson.

I would like to thank many friends for the visits, cards, flowers and calls while I was in the hospital and since I have been at home. God Bless You All! Billie James

The family of Veda West would like to express our appreciation to all our friends, for their prayers, food, visits, flowers and donations to the Merkel Cemetery Association, American Cancer Society and the West Texas Rehabilitation Center. Also, a special thanks to those who donated blood. It is in trying times such as this when we truly appreciate our dear friends. George West, J. C. & Virginia West, Leon & Francis West, Don & Margie West, Jerry & JoAnn West, Jimmy & Sandy West, Audra & Jerry Horton.

We want to express our thanks to Ray King and the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department for preventing what would have been a greater loss to us. Their professional performance and caretaking methods are greatly appreciated. Thanks also to Dewey & Jackie Carmack and Mr. & Mrs. McKee for their thoughtfulness and concern. God Bless you all. T. J. & Margie Bird

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PUBLIC NOTICES

The City of Tye, Texas has the following for sale: (1) 1966 Chevrolet dump truck that has been converted from a refuse truck (engine needs repair).

Sealed bids will be accepted in the office of the City Secretary 205 North Street, P. O. Box 145, Tye, Texas 79563 until 3 p.m. March 17, 1987. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the regular scheduled council meeting March 17, 1987 at 7 P.M. at 205 North St., Tye Municipal Building, Tye, Texas.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept the bid considered most advantageous to the City of Tye.

Jo Moore City Secretary 10-2tc-29

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE ELECTION

The Merkel Independent School District Board of Trustees hereby gives notice of an election to be held on April 4, 1987, for the purpose of electing three candidates to serve in Place 5, Place 6, and Place 7. Absentee voting by personal appearance will begin Monday.

1915 928-4376
1915 928-4395 (high)
SERVICE TRUCK
BANDAG RETREADS

March 16, 1987, and continue through Tuesday, March 31, 1987, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and continue through Tuesday, March 31, 1987 on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. Absentee voting in person will be conducted at Merkel ISD, 3rd and Ash Street, Merkel, Texas 79536.

Applications for ballots by mail should be mailed to Merkel ISD, P. O. Box 430, Merkel, Texas 79536.

The polling places designated below will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the day of the election. Pct. No. 24, 25, 27, 28, 34; Merkel High School Gymnasium and Pct. No. Jones County Pct. of 8, 9, & 10 - 20, 21, 22, 1 & 10; Location Tye Elementary School.

AVISIO DE ELECCION DE REGENTES

Por la presente la junta de regentes del distrito escolar independiente da aviso que se llevara a cabo una eleccion el dia Abril 4, de 1987 con el proposito de elegir tres (3) candidatos para servir en el lugar 5, 6 y 7.

VOTACION POR AUSENCIA en persona comenzara el 16th de Marzo de 1987 y continuara hasta el 31st de Marzo, de 1987 desde las 8:30 a.m. hasta las 4 p.m. en todos los dias que no sean sabado, domingo, o dia oficial de vacaciones estatales.

Votando por ausencia personal var ser condocido, acerca de Merkel ISD Calle 3 a Sur y Ash, Merkel, Texas 79536.

Solicitudes para una boleta de ausencia por correo deben dar vuelta por correo el Merkel ISD Apartado Postal Munero 430, Merkel, Texas 79536.

NEW & USED TRUCK TIRE
COMMERCIAL TIRES
PASSENGER TIRES
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TIRE COMPANY, INC.

RT 1 Box 10
Merkel, Texas 79536
1/4 Mile East of Taylor
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FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS SEYMORE INSURANCES
Auto, Property, General Liability, Crop, Health, Life, Disability, Tax shelters, Retirement, Educational Plans
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MERKEL VET CLINIC LARGE & SMALL ANIMALS RANCH & HOUSE CALLS BY APPOINTMENT FM 126 NORTH OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30 - 5:30 (CLOSED 12-1) SATURDAY 8 UNTIL NOON CALL 928-5235 928-4176 EMERGENCIES

Los sitios de votacion indicados abajo se abran desde las 7:00 a.m. to 7 p.m. el dia de la eleccion.

Num de precincto 24, 25, 27, 28, 34; Colocacion, Num de Precincto Jones Co. Pt of 8, 9, 10, 20; 21, 22, 1 & 10 Colocacion Tye Elementary Cafeteria.

6 Room House
on 3 lots
Plenty of shade trees
Completely renovated
\$25,000 By Owner
call 862-6354

Ken Hogan
is now Available for
All your Real Estate needs
Commercial
Residential Farm & Ranch

Property Management
Century 21
Abilene Big Country
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Your CANDIDATE For
Merkel ISD
School Board
Place - 7
Your Vote will be Appreciated
Political ad paid for by Edgar Graham

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Yard Leveling
Merkel 928-4429
Abilene 672-4935

LESTER HUMPHREY
TERMITE & PEST CONTROL
1202 PINE 677-2413

The Merkel Mail
First Published
March 3, 1889

Cloy A. Richards--Editor--Co-Publisher
Melanie Richards--Co Publisher
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Typographical or other errors must be brought to our attention before the second insertion or claims for refund will not be recognized

CLASSIFIED RATES
Classified ads are \$2 for the first 18 words and 10 cents for each additional word if paid in advance. A 75 cent billing fee will be added to all charged ads. Ads that are charged and not paid within 30 days will be charged \$1 for each additional billing

PUBLIC NOTICE RATES
Legal notices are 55 cents per line for the first insertion and 45 cents per line for each additional insertion

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Please Correspond top Box 428, Merkel

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Publisher Reserve the Right to Cancel Any advertisement at any time

WE WANT YOU TO READ OUR MAIL

GUESS WHO IS 36 THIS WEEK

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LOVE, MOTHER
H & B WELDING & SMALL ENGINE REPAIR
We do all types of welding, also repair lawn mowers, rotor tillers, etc.
Opening Hours 8 - 6 Monday thru Saturday
On the Corner of Rose & South 1st [101 Rose Street]
Under new management
B.D. Higgins & C.A. Bilbey


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The last and most loving bequest for your family.
Let us help
STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME
201 Edwards 928-4711

**MERKEL HIGH SCHOOL
P. O. BOX 430
MERKEL, TEXAS 79536
928-5511**

Merkel High School is one of the finest 3-AAA schools in the state of Texas.

The teaching staff is dedicated, professional, and caring.

An effective school learning environment is in place.

Students have the opportunity for a truly quality education within Merkel High School.

**Below are only a few of the positive things that have happened within
Merkel High School in the last four years.**

I. Academic Accomplishments of Merkel High School

1. Developed an "Academic Awards Program"
 - a. "A" Team letter jackets
 - b. Medals for semester A-B students
 - c. Six weeks and semester "Honor Roll" certificates
 - d. Creation of the Academic Awards Banquet
2. Instituted the "Honors Program"
3. Only 3-AAA school in this region to participate in the National Academic Decathlon
4. Created and hosted the Super Brain Bowl
5. Significant Improvements in student test scores:
 - a. In 1986, 9th grade students performed higher on the TEAMS test than any class on record.
 - b. In 1986, 10th grade students scored PHS (Post High School) on the Metropolitan Achievement Test in reading levels.
 - c. In 1986, 11th grade students increased in twenty-four learning areas on the TEAMS test.
 - d. In 1986, the 12th grade students scored higher on the Metropolitan Achievement Test in reading than any class on record.
6. In 1986-87 more students were inducted in the Nation Honor Society than ever before.
7. Forty percent of the students of Merkel High School earned academic honors during the first semester of 1986-87.
8. There was only two percent failure rate for students in the first semester.
9. A five point plan to continue academic improvement has been approved for 1987-88 school year.

II. Discipline Accomplishments of Merkel High School

1. Authority and respect has been restored to the classroom teacher.
2. A strong and effective discipline management system has been developed.
3. Developed a four point Discipline Plan that has proved to be very effective:
 - a. Communicate high expectations
 - b. Give strong support to the classroom teacher
 - c. Correct misbehavior
 - d. Give positive feedback for correct behavior
4. To date in 1986-87,
 - only three students expelled
 - 261 (80%) of the students have had no misbehavior
5. Instituted an effective attendance program. (96% ADA)
6. Created a positive school climate. (8.02% drop-out rate, this should be compared with a 32% rate for the state of Texas)
7. Developed and presently implementing the ALPHA CENTER to positively meet students educational, social, and personal needs.

8. Developed a communication network for parents:
 - Disciplinary Referral System
 - Student Handbook
 - Attendance Notice System
 - Progress Reports

9. Instituted a special job training program for students who are "at-risk". To be effective March, 1987.

10. In 1987, will have fuller implementation of the POPS program.

11. In 1987, developed and recommended changes to improve the Discipline System of Merkel High School.

III. Improvements in Physical Plant:

1. In 1986, a new eight classroom annex was built.
2. In 1986, a student gathering area was created.
3. In 1986, a new student parking lot was constructed.
4. In 1985, tennis courts were added.
5. In 1985, an athletic weight room was built in conjunction with an athletic office/storage building.

IV. Special Student Accomplishments:

1. The number of student accomplishments within the last four years are too numerous to list. Some examples are:
 - a. Merkel High School Band won "Sweepstakes". This year more MHS band students earned all district honors than any band within this region.
 - b. Student Council had been selected as "outstanding" by the State of Texas.
 - c. FHA chapters were selected as "outstanding" at the state FHA convention.
 - d. FFA has the largest student participation rate of any school in West Texas. They receive more honors and awards than any chapter in the state of Texas.
 - e. In 1986-87 two varsity cheerleaders were selected for nation recognition.
 - f. Varsity football has had the best season in ten years during 1986-87.
 - g. Varsity Volleyball won district in 1986-87.
 - h. Varsity girls basketball had the best season in six year in 1986-87.
 - i. In 1986, baseball won district.
 - j. In 1984 and 1985 the boys track team won district.
2. The following are examples of student activities which were begun in the last four years:
 - a. Golden Girls Drill Team
 - b. Junior/Senior Prom
 - c. Student lead Bible study
 - d. Spanish Club
 - e. Science Club
 - f. HECE Banquet

These are only a few of the accomplishments of the students of Merkel High School. The students of Merkel High School are the finest young people in this country.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:
Merkel High School is one of the finest 3-AAA schools in the State of Texas.

The teaching staff is dedicated, professional, and caring. An effective school learning environment is in place.

Students have the opportunity for a truly quality education within Merkel High School.

The job of being a High School principal is rewarding, yet very difficult.

If he reports late to school, he has insomnia; if he leaves late, he is a slow worker.

If he attends sports events, he is overemphasizing athletics; if he misses an event, he has no school spirit.

If he corrects a teacher, he's always picking on someone; if he doesn't correct teachers, he's a weak administrator.

If he has a friendly personality, he's showing off; if he is quiet, he is anti-social.

If he calls a meeting, he has no regard for teacher's time; if he doesn't call meetings, he doesn't believe in democratic administration.

If he makes a quick decision and follows up, he is an autocrat; if he is slow in making a decision, he is indecisive.

If he visits the classroom, he is being nosy; if he doesn't visit, he doesn't care what is going on.

If he buys a new car, he must be overpaid; if he doesn't have a new car, he must be a miser.

If he speaks up for some new program, he's on a bandwagon; if he's cautious about change, he's living in the past.

If he suspends a student, he doesn't understand children; if he doesn't, he's a weak disciplinarian.

If he uses the public address system, he likes to hear himself talk; if he doesn't, he fails to keep his staff informed.

If he attends community affairs, he's a politician; if he doesn't, he has poor public relations.

When he attends conferences for principals, he's goofing off; when he doesn't, he's unprofessional.

If he checks with the superintendent, he hasn't a mind of his own; if he seldom checks, he's assuming too much authority.

If he regularly has a hot lunch, he's not watching his weight; if he seldom has a hot lunch, the school lunches aren't good enough for him.

If he phones there's no school on a snowy morning, why did he wait so long; if he doesn't call, he must be driving a snow plow to school.

If he's young, he's got a lot to learn; if he's old, he just doesn't have it any more.

Larry Curry
Principal, Merkel High School

To All Merkel Residents:

I am aware there are a lot of mixed feelings vibrating through the area because of the "Corporal Punishment" issue at Merkel High School and I am probably more exhausted by the controversy than you good people are, and will be glad when it is all settled.

I feel the necessity to write this letter to you because of the massive media focus on our town and I say our town because we have mixed emotions about moving away. There are a lot of good folks here and I am sure some (if not most) of you will be glad when we have fully moved out of the area because we have made Merkel appear to be a bad place to live in the eyes of a lot of people, for this I sincerely am sorry.

Before you sit in judgement on us, I would like to point out a few good things we have contributed to this town: My husband, Mike, has been active in the Volunteer Fire Department for the past seven years and has fought fires right along beside some of you during all hours of the day or night, parked cars at local football games during all types of weather, never refused to help anyone in need, coached teenage league baseball, cleaned the softball field many times, supported the school sports activities, is active in the Catholic Church, and has helped me work in and clean the Badger Band Booster concession stand, and has probably done a few other positive things for this community that I am unaware of.

Our daughter does not deserve, or to my knowledge, has ever been labeled a troublemaker. I consider her to be in the "Pretty good kid" category, and she has all intentions of never leaving Merkel until she entered high school, and even then she would have liked to have been able to graduate with her friends who she has been with since the beginning of her fourth grade class.

She is happy attending the

school she is now in but really does miss her friends and teachers here at Merkel.

I think I was proudest of her when she came home one evening last year, all short of breath, dirty, smelling of burned rubbish, and all excited. She told me that she and some of her friends had just helped an elderly couple get themselves and as many of their lifelong possessions out of their smoke filled home because the house next door was engulfed in flames. (They did this until the house was too hot to allow them to go back in.) I was frightened to think of the danger she and her young friends were in because fires are so unpredictable, but I was so proud of them for caring enough to help people in need.

She is not perfect by all means and is a little spoiled, but she did not deserve the pain and humiliation inflicted on her by the school administrators and even Mr. Curry has stated that she had never been a known troublemaker. She has never been graded below satisfactory and usually received an excellent in conduct in all her classes on her report cards during her enrollment at the Merkel schools.

Whether she actually "skipped" a class or not (and she still says she did not but was never given a fair chance or benefit of an investigation to prove that she may have been telling the truth). It is not the true issue. No child or adult should be abused physically or emotionally.

We did what we believed was morally and socially right by seeking justice be done, and our intent was not or still is not to seek revenge for what happened to our daughter. I care what happens to all children and young adults and my profession requires I teach children to protect themselves from being abused, and adults on recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect both physical, sexual and emotional. I am even qualified to accomplish this task and have seen some cases that were so horrible I could have thrown up, and some that were so terrible I felt I could not wait until I could take a bath. By having this experience, I can surely judge the difference between reasonable discipline and physical abuse, but was told by a committee of grown men that I was an over-reacting parent and they did not feel any form of abuse had occurred. By this decision announced by them, I challenge their qualification, each and everyone, to judge whether abuse did, or did not occur.

What happens to the children and young adults who remain in the Merkel schools is up to you, the people, and I challenge you to protect their physical, moral, and emotional well-being, and the teachers, school administrators, and school board of trustees, I challenge you to do the same as well as fulfill their educational needs.

An attorney told me that he had discussed our situation with several of his peers and I would like to share a statement one of the "old timers" made to him: Problems in Merkel is like having a rock in your shoe, you know it's there and it bothers you, but you just haven't taken the time to stop and get it out." I have taken the time, but folks, with all the emotional trauma this has caused me and my family... If I had it all to do over again, I would probably respond as most of you people have, or as the people you read about in other cities, who can look out their doors or windows and watch someone be criminally assaulted or what's worse, being killed, and could have helped but chose to close the door or pull down the shade, because they did not want to get involved, and can just walk away, ignore the problem, hope it never happens to you and if it does, you will possibly remember that you should have done what was right, but did nothing, and I am sure some of you well-meaning people wish we had pulled down the shade, closed the door, walked away, ignored the problem, and forgot what happened to our daughter, but we care and to have done anything less than what we have done, would have gone against all we truly believe is right.

Jan Koflanovich
Dear Editor,

I was at the meeting, Sunday afternoon for Parents Against Corporal Punishment. I would like to say right now that I am not totally against Corporal Punishment. We do need some form of Punishment but, not in the way it is being used now. I talked to some legal advisors in Austin, and they said that

Corporal Punishment was used in most schools, but only, after every thing else had been done. This included number one, A warning, detention, counseling, parent conferences and suspension.

I have called and talked to all School Board Members, except two that were not at home, about how I feel and gave them some suggestions. They all said they would consider my suggestions and wished that more parents would call and let them know how they feel. I suggested that they call a parent if their child had to be punished, and have the parent come in and witness it, along with a teacher and a student (chosen by the parents at the first of the year from the Student Council) to witness the punishment. Also that a female student had to be punished by a female Teacher. A male student by a male Teacher or Principal.

I would also like to know why we could not have it defined to us what kind of action would be taken in which offences? Such as Discipline for a First Offense.

Discipline for a Second time offence, discipline for a Third time offender and discipline for a repeated offender past the third or fourth time in the office.

I agree, that we do need to make some changes. But we must do it as a whole, and in a calm manner.

So please call the School Board members, and let them know how you feel. Write to them, and be at the School Board Meeting on the 17th at 7 p.m. If you do not know who the Board members are here is a list of their names. I am also sending each one of them a copy of this letter.

Leroy Teaff
Lee Yaddow
Greg Henderson
Earl Laird
Jack Ferguson
Bill Sloan

Thank you
LaDena Best

Dear Editor:

As a parent of a student in Merkel, I would like to tell you our side. We have asked for the removal of corporal punishment because it is being used for the most minor infractions of the rules. The punishment has to fit the crime and this is not the case in our school. It's out of control when you leave bruises six hours after the act it's called abuse. If you interfere in this punishment for what ever reason, you are told to check the child out of school or let the punishment stand. This principal has total control over your child and you don't have a say about it. When you take control out of a parents hand and they are not allowed a say when it comes to the punishment of the child, then you have drawn a clear battle line. If corporal punishment is not removed then we ask that the school board set some clear guidelines for this man to adhere to. We are asking this man be brought in control and answer for his actions. We don't feel we are asking the impossible, are we not all held accountable for our actions?

We would ask that parents' be considered if corporal punishment is not removed to help set the guidelines.
Barbara Peek

TISD menu

The following is the TISD menu:
March 16, breakfast- juice, cereal, milk Lunch - chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, jello topping, rolls and tea or milk.

March 17 breakfast- juice, donuts, milk Lunch- salmon patties, macaroni & cheese, cole slaw, lemon pudding, rolls and tea or milk.

March 18- juice, cinnamon rolls, milk Lunch- burritos, corn, salad, cinnamon rolls, tea or milk.

March 19 breakfast- juice, biscuits & sausage, milk Lunch- spaghetti & meat sauce, english peas, salad, peanut butter cups, tea or milk.

March 20 breakfast- juice, toast & jelly, milk Lunch: hamburgers, french fries, pears, cookies, tea or milk.

UGSA sets meeting

The United Girls Softball Association board members and any interested parents, will have a meeting March 23 at Taylor Electric's meeting room at 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to fill several vacancies on the board and to finalize registration plans for the 1987 meeting.

Any nominations, volunteers, or help will be appreciated and everyone is invited to attend.

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**SPECIALS ARE GOOD
ALL DAY EACH DAY**

THURSDAY BROASTED CHICKEN & POTATOES ALL YOU CAN EAT	\$3⁹⁵
FRIDAY CATFISH, FRIES & SLAW HUSH PUPPIES ALL YOU CAN EAT	\$3⁹⁵
SATURDAY HOMEMADE STEW & CORNBREAD	\$2²⁵
SUNDAY CHICKEN & DRESSING	\$4²⁵
MONDAY BEEF TIPS OR CHOPPED SIRLOIN	\$3²⁵
TUESDAY CHARBROILED T-BONES WITH A BAKED POTATO OR FRIES	\$4⁹⁵
WEDNESDAY BAR B Q BRISKET WITH POTATO SALAD OR PINTO BEANS	\$3⁹⁵

928-4923

**NOTICE OF
GENERAL ELECTION**
-To the Registered Voters of Trent, Texas.

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on April 4, 1987, for voting in a city election, to elect two councilmen and one mayor. Absentee voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Trent City Hall, Trent, Texas between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. beginning March 16, 1987 and ending on March 31, 1987.

Additional absentee voting will be held at the same location as follows: March 16, 1987 through March 31, 1987 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to Sylvia Quattlebaum, Box 67, Trent, Texas 79561.

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on March 21, 1987.

Issued this 9th day of March, 1987.

Owen O'Kelly
**AVISO DE
ELECCION**

A los votantes registrados del Trent, Texas:

Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitadas abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7 p.m. el 4 de April de 1987 para votar en la Eleccion para elect two councilmen and one mayor.

La votacion en ausencia en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en Trent, City Hall, Trent, Texas entre las 9 de la manana y las 3 de la tarde empezando el March 16, 1987 y terminando el March 31, 1987.

La votacion en ausencia ademas se llevara a cabo en el mismo sitio del manera March 16, 1987 - March 31, 1987.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a Sylvia Quattlebaum Box 67, Trent, Texas 79561.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el March 27, 1987.

Emitada este dia 9th de March, 1987.

Owen O'Kelly

**UNITED STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

Rural Electrification Administration
APPENDIX A

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc. has filed with the Federal Government a Compliance Assurance in which it assures the Rural Electrification Administration that it will comply fully with all requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Agriculture issued thereunder, to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the conduct of its program and the operation of its facilities. Under this Assurance, this organization is committed not to discriminate against any person on the ground of race, color or national origin in its policies and practices relating to applications for service or any other policies and practices relating to treatment of beneficiaries and participants including rates, attendance at and participation in any meetings of beneficiaries and participants or the exercise of any rights of such beneficiaries and participants in the conduct of the operations of this organization.

Any person who believes himself, or any specific class of individuals, to be subjected by this organization to discrimination prohibited by Title VI of the Act and the Rules and Regulations issued thereunder may, by himself or a representative, file with the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250, or the Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D. C. 20250, or this organization, or all, a written complaint. Such complaint must be filed not later than 180 days after the alleged discrimination, or by which later date the Secretary of Agriculture or the Rural Electrification Administration extends the time of filing. Identity of all complaints will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out

the purpose of the Rules and Regulations.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commissioners Court of Taylor County will be receiving sealed proposals until 10 a.m. on Friday, March 27th, 1987, for the proposals listed below.

RFP-87-114

A contract to provide microfilming service for the District Clerk's office of Taylor County.

RFP-87-118

Proposals to provide a micro computer based election tabulation system for Taylor County.

Sealed proposals must be received at the County Judge's Office, 2nd floor, Taylor County Courthouse, 300 Oak Street, Abilene, Texas 79602 until 10 a.m. on Friday, March 27, 1987, at which time said proposals will be publicly opened and read. Proposals should be unit prices. Purchases will be on a cash basis.

Exact specifications for bidding may be obtained by contacting the Taylor County Judge's Office, 300 Oak Street, Abilene, Texas 79602 or by calling (915) 677-1711, extension 235. Taylor County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

**JESSE A. HOLLOWAY
COUNTY JUDGE
TAYLOR COUNTY**

**NOTICE OF
TRUSTEE ELECTION**

-To the registered voters of Trent, Texas.

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on April 4, 1987, for voting in a trustee election, to elect two (2) full-term trustees.

Absentee voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Trent City Hall between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. beginning in March 16, 1987 and ending March 31, 1987.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: Sylvia Quattlebaum, Box 14, Trent, Texas 79561.

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on March 27, 1987.

Issued this 6th day of March, 1987.

Charles W. Yarbrough

**AVISO DE
ELECCION TRUSTEES**

A los votantes del Trent, Texas:

Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitadas abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7 p.m. el 4 de April de 1987 para votar en la Eleccion para trustee.

La votacion en ausencia en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en Trent City Hall entre las 9:00 de la manana y las 3:00 de la tarde empezando el Marzo 16, 1987 y terminando el Marzo 31, 1987.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a Sylvia Quattlebaum, Box 14, Trent, Texas 79561.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el Marzo 27, 1987.

Emitada este dia 6th de Marzo, 1987.

Charles W. Yarbrough

**NOTICE OF
GENERAL ELECTION**

-To the Registered Voters of the City of Merkel, Texas:

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on April 4, 1987, for voting in a general election to elect a mayor and two councilmembers.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACES: Merkel High School Gym.

Absentee voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at 107 Lamar Street, Merkel, Texas.

Issued this 9th day of March, 1987.

Kent Satterwhite
Mayor

**AVISO DE ELECCION
GENERAL**

-A los votantes registrados del Ciudad de Merkel, Texas:

Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitadas abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 4 de Abril, de 1987, para votar en la Eleccion General para elegir Alcalde y dos concejales.

DIRECCION DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES Merkel High School Gym.

La votacion en ausencia en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en 107 Lamar Street, Merkel, Texas

Emitada este dia 9th de Marzo, 1987.

Kent Satterwhite
Alcalde

Recent cemetery donors named

The following are recent donors to the Merkel Cemetery Association.

Jack & Lois Sublett, Mrs. Robert A. Collins in memory of C. M. Largent Jr. & Larry K. Largent, Mr. & Mrs. Eldon Reeves in memory of Jimmy Reeves Walker, Benny Rogers in memory of Shirley Williams, Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Toombs in memory of Virgie Mae Campbell, Mrs. Paul Orsborn in memory of Jimmy Reeves Walker.

Also, Mr. & Mrs. B. P. Middleton, Ernest Newson, Gladys Breaux, Mr. & Mrs. Ross McIlroy in memory of Seth & Pearl Morgan, L. T. Rhynes in memory of R. C. Rhynes, Arthur C. Hughes, Mrs. John C. West, T. G. Hull, Mr. & Mrs. S. P. Stevens in memory of Annie & C. P. Stevens, Mr. & Mrs. T. H. Clark in memory of Gladys Sublett.

Also, Eva Mae Williams, Mr. & Mrs. L. M. Reynolds in memory of Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Reynolds, W. C. Bill Harris in memory of Fannie Bell Richardson, James Cosper, Clarice M. Higgins in memory of Charles S. Higgins & Dent Higgins, Mrs. Henry L. Stout in memory of Henry Lee Stout.

Also, Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Farmer, Alice Glenn Ricks, Mr. & Mrs. Bryce Knight & family in memory of Charlie Knight & Call McLean, Jeffrey Reunion in memory of Jeffrey Family, Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Gilmore, John & Beverly Helmer, Bob & Carolyn Putnam in memory of Beverly Williams, Mrs. Comola K. Barrier in memory of Mrs. John S. Hughes.

The following donations were made in memory of Liz Eager: Mrs. George T. Moore, Polly Fisher, Joe & June Gregory, Clovis Laney, Lloyd & Faye Robertson, Mark L. & Billie Malone, Ted & Hazel Pargament, Fannelle Boney, Milton & Ann Payne, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Boone.

The following donations were made in memory of Lela Perry: Mr. & Mrs. Paul Riney & Paula, Nelma Alexander, Leona Hogan, Mrs. Earl Palmer, Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd & Mildred Mitchell, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hogan, Brenda Turnbow, Mr. & Mrs. D. J. Richie, Mrs. Irvn Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. G. L. Cummings.

Also, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hays & Mrs. Carol Hays & girls in memory of Hollis Mitchell, Evelyn B. Scroggins, Mr. & Mrs. Victor Parsons, Mrs. Fern Windham in memory of Hollis Mitchell, Polly Fisher in memory of Lela Perry & Hollis Mitchell, Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Campbell in memory of Lela Perry and Hollis Mitchell, Betty Conley in memory of Hollis

Mitchell and Lela Perry. The following donations were made in memory of Hollis Mitchell: Margaret McAninch, Mr. & Mrs. Mark L. Malone, Fannelle G. Boney, Robert & Mable Higgins, Ted & Hazel Pargament. Steven & Debbie Carmack, The Jim Mitchell Family in memory of Hollis Mitchell.

Compere club meets

Members of the Compere Extension Homemakers were presented a program on Osteoporosis by Mrs. Ginger Hoog at the home of Delores Adair Feb. 26th.

Osteoporosis is one of the more serious ailments for older women. Bones are the storehouse of calcium - if you do not have enough calcium in your diet, the body raids the bones. There is no cure but it can be prevented by diet and exercises.

Walking, bicycling, jogging and dancing are some of the best exercises.

Some foods high in calcium are: Sardines with bones, low fat plain Yogurt, milk, canned salmon with bones, cheese, tofu, kidney beans, broccoli and others.

Ginger Hoog read "Be a Friend" by Edgar Guest as a tribute to member Louise Chaney. We lost Mrs. Chaney to death Feb. 9th. She will be greatly missed. Memorials were made to the Womens Building Fund.

Judy Devaney had a game. Six members and two children answered roll call with a food source

of calcium. Council report was given by Mrs. Hoog. The luncheon was called off because of bad weather.

TEHA and Council membership contributions were given to Mrs. Bertha Hunter for payment to council at next meeting.

Ailene Terry was elected Compere candidate for delegate to the spring meeting April 14th in Jayton.

Coins for friendship and Nickles for national are to be collected at each meeting. The Coins for Friendship are donated to Girls Town and Special Olympics statewide by TEHA.

The next meeting will be held March 12th at Mrs. Ailene Terry's. County Extension Agent Martha Spraberry will give the program.

Refreshments were served to Mrs. Annie Taylor, Judy Devaney, Ailene Terry, Bertha Hunter, Amie Price, Evorie Dillard, Jason & Stephen Devaney by Delores Adair. Don & Scott Adair joined us or refreshments.



The Otto Brazells

Brazell's celebrate 25th anniversary

Otto and Helena Brazell of Tye will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary Saturday.

A reception, hosted by their children and friends, will be held from 2 until 4 p.m. at the Tye Community Center.

The couple was married March 9th, 1962. He was born June 4, 1916 in Roll, Okla. Mrs. Brazell was born Aug. 23, 1929 in Success, Arkansas. They met Feb. 1, 1962 and have lived in Abilene, Merkel and for the last 23 years, in Tye. He is self employed and she is employed by the Abilene State School. They are members of the Baker Heights Church of Christ and he is a member of the Tye Volunteer Fire Department. The couple has 27 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Hosting the reception are Janis Clendennen of Munday, Tom Hatchett of Abilene, Jeanette Lindsey of California, Nancy Winter of Houston, Doug Hatchett of Trent, Julia Rundell of Wyoming, Terry Massey of Tye and Johnny Brazell of Tye.

Fortnightly group meets here

The Fortnightly Study Club met Feb. 24th in the home of Mrs. Comer Haynes. During the business session, Alice King, president, told about the Mesquite District Spring Convention to be held in Snyder March 21-22. Plans for attending will be finalized at the next meeting.

The program for the afternoon was Woman's Look at Courage. Anna Belle Shouse played classical piano music as members were gathering. She began the program with a brief resume of Ludwig Van Beethoven's musical career and played one of his minuets.

A Prayer for a New Day by Becky Rogers and A Small Town written by Laverne P. Larson given by Alwyne Sandusky expressed the desire for peace and tranquility. Mrs. Shouse and Mrs. Sandusky sang two old favorite songs Sundown and Santa Lucia with Lucy Haynes at the piano.

Mrs. Haynes presented Great Moments of Courage by reciting from these selections: Sixteen by Maureen Daly, Miss Brill by Katherine Mansfield, The Horse by Marian McNeely and Little

House on the Prairie by Laura Ingales Wilder and also from the Bible. She concluded these very delightful presentations with the poem Touching Shoulders author unknown.

Members present were Grace Lee Brown, Pam Carson, Mary Collins, Bess Dixon, Mildred

Hamm, Lucy Haynes, Edna Hill, Madelon Horton, Alice King, Aileen Knight, Ruth Lassiter, Evelyn Martin, Jeanette Pursley, Leota Patterson, Becky Rogers, Alwyne Sandusky, Ida Seymore, Anna Belle Shouse, Evelyn Slinger, Clara B. Walla, Maurine White and Lucille Wilson.

Lambda Beta planning pageant

Lambda Beta met on March 3rd to finalize plans for the 1987 Miss Merkel and Little Mr. Merkel pageant. The pageant is to be held April 11th.

Entry forms for the pageant will be available soon. Lambda Beta members will be contacting sponsors beginning March 16th. Anyone interested in being a sponsor or contestant can contact any member of Lambda Beta for further information.

Following discussion of beauty pageant plans, members elected new officers. They are Beverly Helmer, president; Robin Robinson-vice president; Jerrye Carey-recording secretary; Sharon

Young-Treasurer, Janet McKeenan-corresponding secretary and Kay Bishop-historian.

The man and woman of the year were also elected. They are Janet McKeenan and D. A. Bishop.

Beverly Helmer then presented a very interesting program - "Exercise for Health & Pleasure."

Hostesses Virginia Pirraglia and Kay Bishop then served refreshments to members attending including Cindy Beaver, Janet Rogers, Jerrye Carey, Sharon Young, Virginia Pirraglia, Robin Robinson, Debbie Roberson, Kay Bishop, Janet McKeenan, Beverly Helmer and Debbie Sandusky.

EXCELLENCE

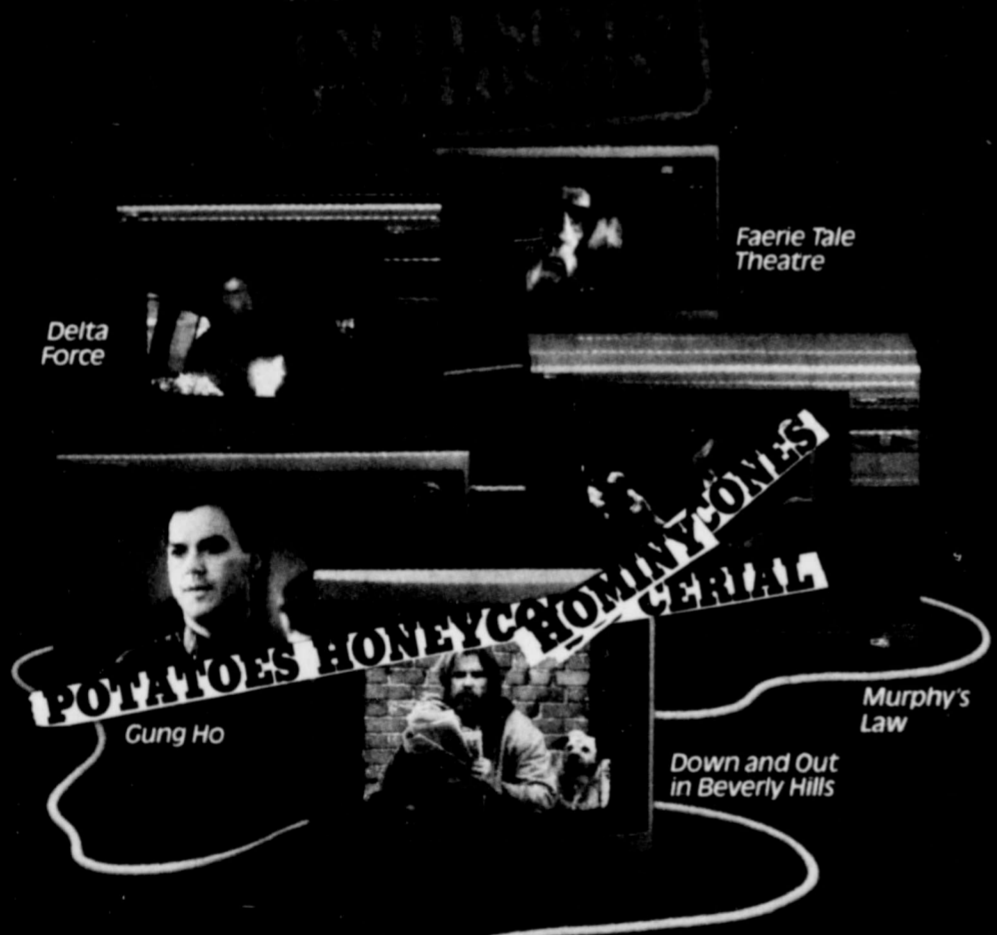
You don't have to look far to find those who will leave their mark on our future. They can be found in the local high school agriculture classroom.

Today, young men and women study agriculture and prepare for over 200 challenging and rewarding careers. Along the way, FFA offers a vast array of programs and opportunities to help them develop that rarest of commodities: excellence. They are the leaders for the new fields of agriculture!



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What a great time to get in on Showtime excitement! We're exploding with exclusive movies you won't see on HBO. Like *Down and Out in Beverly Hills* and *Gung Ho*. Plus exclusive, original programs like *Brothers*, *Faerie Tale Theatre*, and *Broadway on Showtime*. Every month, you can be assured of seeing 10 to 20

different exclusive titles! \$15 Cash — Another Showtime Exclusive. We're so sure you won't want to miss another minute of Showtime's Exclusives Explosion, we'll pay you \$15* for subscribing to Showtime! Call today. With all those exclusives and \$15 cash, Showtime is looking better than ever.

SHOWTIME

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2 LITER

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NABISCO COMET PKG OF 12 SUGAR CONES FOR YOUR FAVORITE ICE CREAM \$1.15

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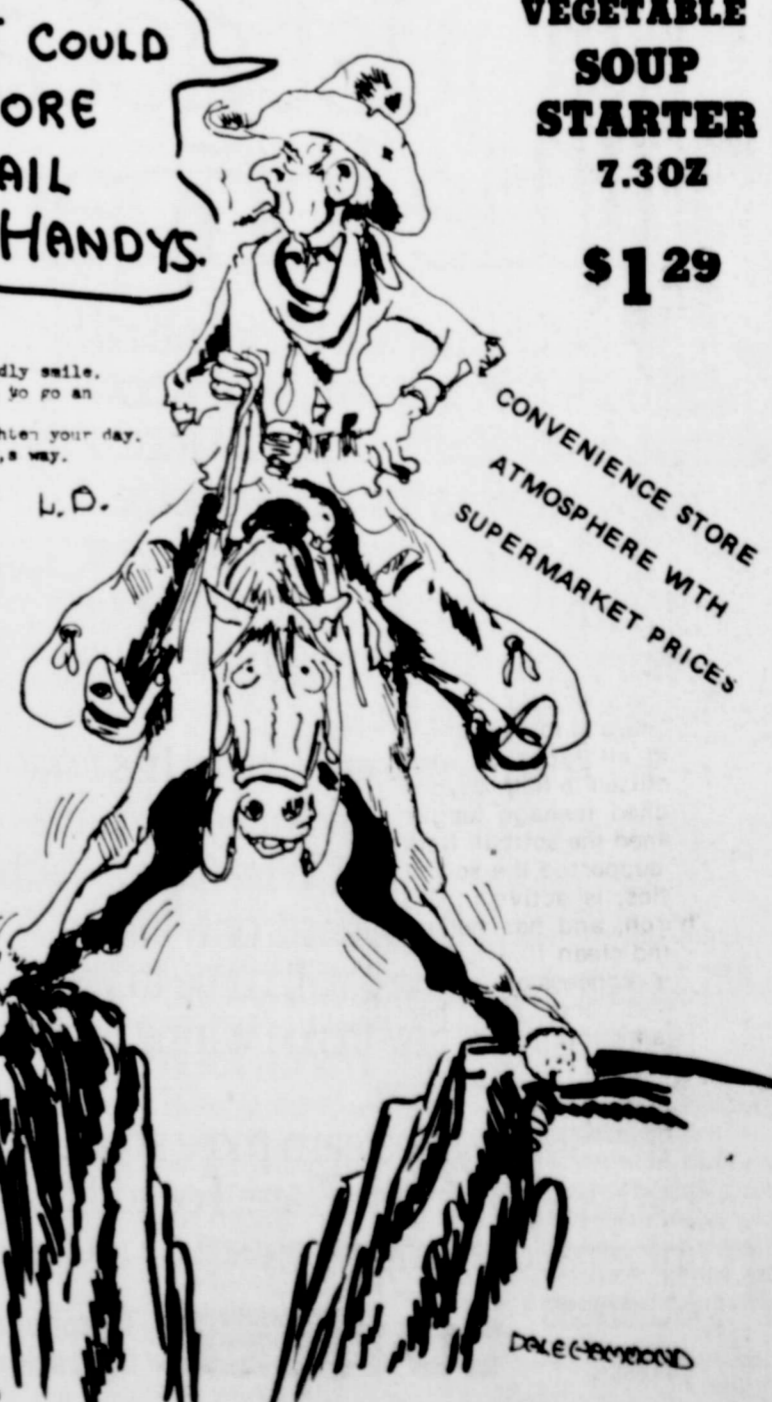
\$2.19

WAL, I COULD HAVE SWORE THIS TRAIL LED TO HANDYS.

Handy, a place where there is always a friendly smile. Handys, where friendly service makes you want to go an extra mile. At Handy, there is always a kind word to brighten your day. It makes you enjoy shopping the friendly Handy way. SHOP HANDYS AND SAVE.

HANDY FOOD STORE

NOT ALL ROADS LEAD TO HANDYS, BUT GOOD FOLKS GET THERE ANYHOW.



MHS junior wins area VFW writing contest

§ Editors Note: The following essay was written by Merkel High junior Cassie Townsend. Cassie received a scholarship contribution from Merkel VFW and won the Abilene area competition.

The challenge of American citizenship is three fold: to plan, to prepare and to perform.



Amy Priddy

Because our forefathers dared to accept these challenges, we live in the strongest, most prosperous and highly developed nation in human history. Although we are just entertaining our third century, the United States is the greatest free nation in our history. Our forefathers dared to plan, to dream, to have visions beyond anything previously imagined. As

a result, two mechanics from Dayton learned to fly. And a farm boy from Indiana discovered a planet. While some were dreaming, others were preparing. A black man of slave background started a school in a small backwoods town which continues to this day to teach and prepare black citizens for their roles in American society.

Along with planning and preparation there was also performance. In just 200 years we have created from an unexplored wilderness a new nation. This initiative, on the promise of a new life in a new world, created our unequalled nation. This great experiment in democracy where one can dream, prepare, and perform, and bring his dream to reality is the greatest monument to individual freedom.

There are those who would like to destroy us. They would have us believe that America's time of great success has passed, and that we have fallen into a decline. But I say no. Not when one man, in less than 25 years, can transform a small town general store in Arkansas into a merchandising giant, and in the process become our richest citizen. Certainly not when a man who could not speak English until he was six can rise from an Italian neighborhood to

become president of Chrysler corporation. These are giants of our time. Men who, because they lived in our democratic society, could take advantage of the opportunity to dream dreams, to prepare themselves to fulfill these dreams and to make the dreams become a reality.

United States citizens have produced some of the most sophisticated technological achievements of all time. First with crude windmills and water wheels, to atomic power and rocket ships, we have mechanized our America. No area of human endeavor has been untouched by the hand of American ingenuity.

Even agriculture, the oldest and most basic of man's professions, has made unheard-of progress. The American farmer has increased his productivity to the point that he feeds more people in less land in less time than any farmer past or present. I believe

in the American dream and I believe in America's future. I believe in Americans and in the American spirit.

We have this challenge passed to our generation - to dream, to plan, to prepare and perform. Because our forefathers accepted these challenges, we have the opportunity to accept them today.

We are also faced with a fourth challenge, more important than the other three, because without it, the other three don't exist. And this fourth challenge is simply to see to it that our form of government, with its opportunities and challenges, is passed on to our children.

As an American, a proud American, I have no fear that we will dare to fulfill this challenge of citizenship by maintaining our faith in America. We will continue to mold creative, imaginative, hard-working and freedom loving citizens.

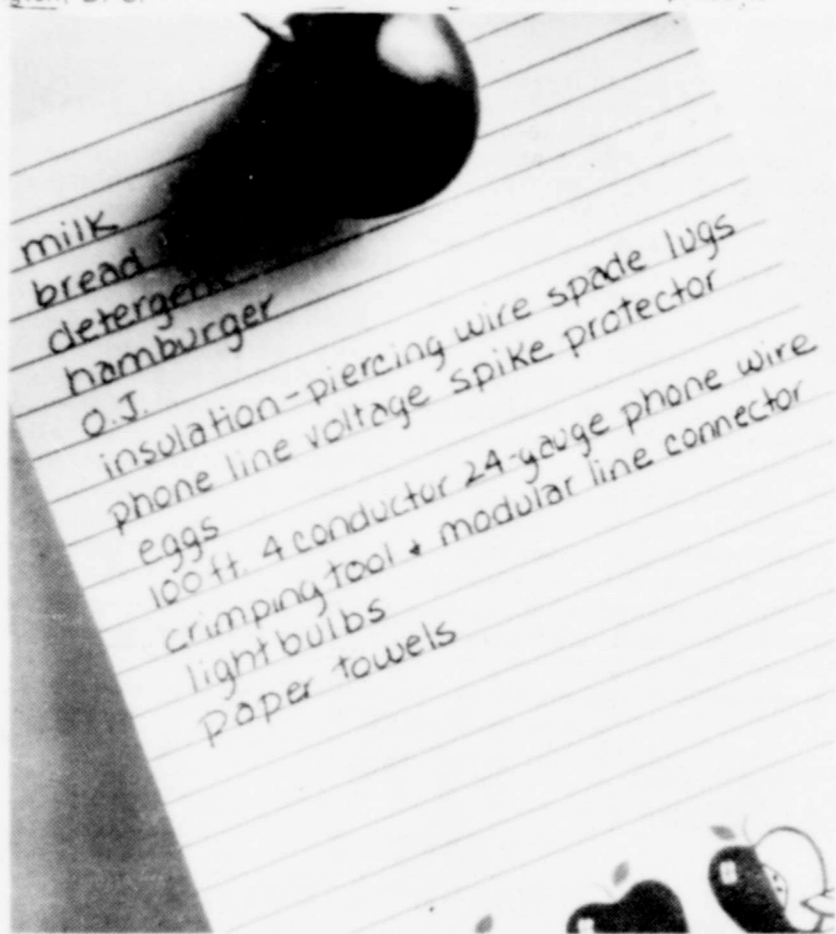
Former Merkel girl honored

Cadette Girl Scout Amy Priddy, 12 is a member of Pauls Valley Cadette troop # 252. Amy was the top Girl Scout cookie seller in the Sooner Council last year, having sold 852 boxes and has sold 2,500 boxes of cookies in the six years she has been in girl scouting. Amy has earned all three Junior Signs as well as 40 badges. She has attended resident camp for five years on cookie camperships.

The Sooner Council left March 10th and will return Sunday. The highlight of the 75th Anniversary project will be the launching of the Promise Circle at the White House.

Being selected to represent her state in the event is quite an honor. The six day trip is financed totally by the Sooner Girl Scout Council, with the exception of the airplane ticket. The Pauls Valley neighborhood was proud to

A former Merkel girl has been selected as one of eight from Oklahoma to be invited to the Girl Scout's 75th anniversary in Washington, D. C.



Your typical shopping list just got a little longer.

According to a recent ruling by the U.S. Government, you're now responsible for the maintenance of the telephone wire inside your home.

In other words, if you have a problem with any of the telephone wiring that runs through the house, it's up to you to fix it.

For this reason, Contel has now introduced a convenient new maintenance service called Wire Care.SM With Wire Care, which costs only a few cents a day, Contel will come to your home and fix any inside wiring problem at no extra charge.

So why not learn more about the benefits of Wire Care. For additional information, simply contact your Contel business office.

CONTEL Telephone Operations

CHECKING THE WAY I WANT IT!

That's what the REVOLUTION is all about!

I work sharp, shop smart and bank at Independent American.

When looking for a bank, I realized that I kept a little money in my checking account all the time. So why shouldn't it be earning interest for me while it's just sitting there. So I made a list of what I wanted from a checking account.

- I want to earn a reasonable rate of interest on my deposit.
- If I keep higher balances I think I should earn a better rate.
- I want to have the choice of getting my cancelled checks back with my statement or have them kept for me.
- I think that if I keep a reasonable balance I shouldn't have to pay a service charge.
- I'd like to have ready access to my Money whenever or wherever I need it. Like with an ATM. Maybe a card that could be used just about anywhere, and doesn't cost more just because the right machine isn't handy. How about totally FREE?

That's why I chose Freedom Checking. It's just what I wanted.

Join the Revolution . . . I did!

I use specific services, for specific purposes.

For instance, my savings is in a Money Market Account, my investments in CD's . . . and my checking in a Value Checking account at Independent American Savings.

When looking for the right checking account my needs were fairly simple:

- Since I use my checking account for paying bills and ready cash, I don't need a lot of frills on the account.
- I do need convenient access to my funds, so an ATM card is a must — Just like she said.
- I want to know exactly what it's going to cost each month and I don't want to have to count the checks I write.
- I want to get all my cancelled checks back with my statement each month.

I don't ask much so I shouldn't have to pay much. \$2.00 a month and no charge for MoneyMaker ATM services is why I chose Value Checking at Independent American Savings. I joined the Revolution . . . You should too!



MEMBER
FSLIC

Independent American Savings Association





State group explains taxpayers rights, responsibilities

Those who died on active duty also receive tax exemptions from all taxing units.

Farmers and ranchers can also lower their tax bills," Patterson said. "If their land qualifies for productivity valuation, the land will be taxed on its ability to produce, instead of market value."

Productivity valuation comes in two forms, often referred to by the section of the Texas Constitution that provides them: open-space or "1-d-1" valuation and agricultural or "1-d" valuation.

Property owners who last received homestead exemptions, disabled veterans' exemptions and open-space land valuation do not need to reapply in 1987, unless the chief appraiser requests a new application to confirm the owner's current qualification.

Patterson pointed out, however, that property owners who have not previously received tax relief on their present homesteads or land must apply in 1987. Farmers and ranchers who receive agricultural-use valuation must apply for it annually.

People whose property is in more than one county appraisal district have an additional responsibility. They may have to file for exemptions and productivity valuation in each appraisal district in which the property is located. If they do not, taxing units may tax the property on its full market value.

Applications for exemptions and special valuation must be submitted to the appraisal office by April 30th.

Complete information on tax exemptions and rendition requirements is in a pamphlet SPTB produces, "Taxpayers Rights, Remedies, Responsibilities." The pamphlet also explains how taxpayers can challenge the values placed on their property by protesting to the appraisal review board. The free pamphlet is available from appraisal district offices or from SPTB in Austin.

"Local governments will generate nearly \$9 billion this year," Patterson said. "It will help fund necessary services such as public schools, hospitals, fire and police protection, water, utilities and local colleges."

"I urge all property owners to learn about the property tax process, to file renditions and to take advantage of all forms of tax relief available to them," Patterson said.

Tarvin's celebrate 60 years



The E. C. Tarvin's

Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Tarvin of Barnhart were honored by their family with a reception Sunday, Feb. 15th in observance of their 60th wedding anniversary.

The reception was held in the community center in Barnhart.

Alma Stout & E. C. Tarvin were married Feb. 11, 1927 here at the Methodist parsonage by Rev. W. R. McCarrel. They moved from Merkel to Barnhart in 1932. He first worked on an area ranch and then operated Mobil service stations in Barnhart for 30 years. He retired several years ago.

Mrs. Tarvin is an accomplished writer, songwriter and poet. A book of her poems, "Along the Wagon Trails" was published in 1985. Their family includes Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Tarvin of Barnhart, Mr. & Mrs. Clint Tarvin of Perryton, seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Junior High track teams will compete in Abilene Saturday

The following are the junior high track teams from Saturday's Key City Relays in Abilene:

7th Grade Girls
1600 meter relay 3rd (Tanya Beasley, Julie Harding, Eilyn Rutledge, Hope Ward); 400 meter relay, 6th (Kriste A. Smith, Teresa Ross, Son Hui Chon, Ward); 800 meter, 4th Amy Gilmore; 400 meter 2nd, Tanya Beasley; 800 meter relay, 4th (Rutledge, City Vaughn, Becky Donaldson, Ward); 200 meter, 5th, Ross; discus, 5th, Dayna Doan; high jump, 5th, Kriste A. Smith; 800 relay, triple jump, 3rd, Ward.

8th Grade Boys
400 meter relay, 1st (Matthew Davis, John Boswell, Charles Benefield, Sean Leamon) 800 4th, Jimmy Valdez, 100 2nd, Boswell; 400, 2nd, Leamon; 1600 relay, 3rd, Davis, Jimmy Valdez, Benefield, Leamon; long jump, 2nd, Leamon; high jump, 4th, Leamon; shot put, 5th, Boswell.

7th Grade Boys
shot put, 3rd, Todd Walters; discus, 3rd, Walters; long jump, 5th, David Dotson; high jump, 1st Josh Mashburn, 4th Dotson, 5th Pace; 100 3rd, Lorenzo Whitney; 200, 1st, Dotson; 400, 2nd, Fidel Aulos; 300, 3rd, Chip Browning; 400 relay, 3rd (Scott Walker, Dotson, Avalos, Whitney); 1600 relay, 5th (Mashburn, Dotson, Avalos, Whitney).

8th Grade Girls
● relay, 5th (Jana Daniel, Melanie Tankersley, Brandy Fenton, Cara Kelso); 100 hurdles, 2nd, Angie Leverich; 100, 6th, Kelso; 800 relay, 4th, (Daniel, Tankersley, Betsy Hellums, Jayma Goldsmith) 400, 1st, Traci Thomas; 200, 1st, Goldsmith; 1600, 3rd, Beasley; 3200, 3rd, Beasley; 1600 relay, 4th, Christie Boggs, Tankersley, Darlene Hutson, Thomas; shot put, 4th, Ava Bohannon.

The junior high teams will be competing at McMurry College in Abilene Saturday.

Preceptor Eta Omega meets

The Preceptor Eta Omega Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held its monthly meeting March 3 in the home of Connie Ybarra.

Members made plans for an Irish Fling Dinner to be held March 17th at Taylor Electric.

Bianche Hewitt and Ruth Tipton will receive their Order of Rose rituals on March 14th at the Petroleum Club in Abilene.

An interesting program was presented by Connie on decorating bandanas with nailheads and jewels.

Refreshments were served to: Jane Casron, Mammie Steck, Y Sadler, Kathy Leverich, Betty Satterwhite, Opal Garner, Connie Ybarra and Ruth Tipton.

Xi Nu Eta will hold end of school dance

The Xi Nu Eta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held a Cowboy dance Saturday at the Methodist Church Gym.

Although the attendance was slow because of other activities, we were pleased with the outcome. We also wish to express our appreciation for the support we have received on our dances.

This will be the last dance we will sponsor until the end of the school year. At that time, we will be hosting an End of School dance. Watch **The Merkel Mail** for details.

Trent's band director is published

Margret Cooper, Band Director at Trent received publication from "The School Musician", A professional magazine for directors and teachers, and students, in their last issue. The article "Eliminating Pressure in Trumpet Performance" demonstrates and directs the teacher and student in methods, and exercises to improve performance without undue pressure on the lips and mouth. Ms. Cooper has been band director at Trent since 1978. She is a member of WBDNA, TMEA, TBA, ATPE, and the Abilene Community Band. She has her BME from West Texas State University, with Graduate work at Texas A&M, and Texas Tech University.

Simpson 2nd in pole vault

Trent's Chris Simpson took Second and a Silver medal in the pole vault behind Merkel's Britt Pursley last Saturday in the Tiger relays at Anson. Simpson and Pursley both cleared eleven feet before Simpson missed 3 consecutive tries at 11'6" Pursley having fewer misses won at 11' and opted not to vault any higher because of back pains.

Trent's Laura Callas and Chris Evens both made the finals but failed to place in the top three. The Trent team is not participating this weekend but will compete at Jayton on March the 21st.

Trent will present one act play

The play is set in the 1930's and is the story of an idiot boy and his friend-an ex preacher.

The members of the cast are: Jon Evans, Glenna Clark, Sam Jones, Lewis Knapp, Kate Wood, B. J. Poindexter, Chris Simpson, Sandy Gilchrist, Chris Jones & Billy Clark.

The crew includes Willie Brazzelton, Billy Fee and Dock Carrier.

Trent's tennis team fares well

The Trent High tennis team has already competed in two matches facing Merkel and Rotan. Coach Robbie Shugart told **The Mail** she was pleased with her team's performance so far this season.

Trent faced Merkel March 3rd. Luci Masonheimer defeated Diem Tran 3-2 and Veronica DeLa Cruz defeated Norma Cuellar 3-2.

In girls doubles, B. J. Poindexter and Tammy Collier defeated Diem Tran and Mandy Pack 1-3 while Micki Gaskill and Poindexter defeated Cuellar and Angie Boggs 3-0.

In boys singles Simon Deia Cruz lost to Dusty McLeod 2-3 and Sam Jones defeated Shawn Miller 3-1.

Lee Hunt & Chris Simpson defeated Kevin Riney and Mike Farthing 2-3, Sam Jones and Simon DeLa Cruz defeated Dusty McLeod and Kerry Dean 3-0 while Hunt & Simpson lost to McLeod & Dean 1-3.

In Rotan, Trent won nine matches and lost five.

Trent's honor students

The following is the Trent ISDA-Honor Rolls for the 4th 6th week grading period.

Kindergarten: Aaron Dulaney, Ashlea Parker, Brina Whisenhunt, Chris Wofford, Cody Smith, Kaci Bland, Keith Tackett, Kevin Sanford, Laramie Gorbett, Mindy Ray, John Eaves.

First Grade: Melesa Alexander, Tye Christensen, Matt Davis, Christina Galvan, Wendy Harwell, Tracy Jennings, Lindsay Jones, Amanda Keith, Gary Moses, Blair Neill, Jim Prescott.

Second Grade: Amy Barnes, Becky Galvin, Derek Galvan.

Third Grade: Teri Brazleton, Allison Davis, Rebecca Evans, Jesse Niell, Jaime Ray.

Fourth Grade: James Clark, Crystal Christensen, Sarah Griffith.

Eighth Grade: Julie Clay, Travis Walker.

Tenth Grade: Billy Clark, Sandy Collier, Lewis Knapp, Jason Massey, B. J. Poindexter.

Eleventh Grade: Luci Masonheimer, Brian Massey.

Twelfth Gade: Chris Evans.

The following is the Trent ISD A-B Honor Roll:

Kindergarten: Dawn Schriber, David Rios, Mandy Brenem, Misty Simpson, Melesa Moses, Robyn Clark, Kathy Callas.

First Grade: Jared Cabral, Jenny Rea, T. J. Roberts.

Second Grade: Ryan Bigbee, D. J. Bland, Scott Dulaney, Laura Griffith, Angela Horton, Jamie Dean, Dawson Burns, Billy Chase, Crsytal Evans.

Third Grade: Tammie Dean, Joshua Fee, Adrian Galvan, Jason McDaniel, LaDonna Stephens, Stacy Stickney, Cecilia Velasquez, Tommy Walker.

Fourth Gade: Joe Ben Roberts, James Clark, Brad Clark, Paul Evans, Justin Williams, David Boles.

Fifth Grade: Mark Payne, Sara Rios, Jamie Elexander, Sherrie Clark.

Sixth Grade: Mary Ann Borrego, Jennifer Cabral, Jesus Carrasco, Timothy Childress, Corey David, Tory Dean, Britt Sipe, Tricia Usery.

Seventh Grade: Tammy Spragins.

Eighth Grade: B. J. Brown, Amy Callas, Lonnie Clark, Jamie Masonheimer.

Ninth Grade: Shelli Boles, Veronica DeLaCruz, Jon Evans, Tina Holistine, Mike Payne, Mike Wallis.

Tenth Grade: Steven Baker, Dock Carrier, Robert Childress, Micki Gaskill, Joe Tarin, Kim Walker.

Eleventh Grade: Glenna Clark, Sandy Gilchrist, Leslie Brazleton, Scott O'Kelly.

Twelfth Grade: Sam Jones, Chris Simpson, Kate Wood.

MISD school lunch menu

The following is the MISD lunch menu:

March 12th: beef & cheese tacos with pinto beans, lettuce and tomato and apricot halves.

March 13: Sloppy joes with fries, relish, chopped onions and walk to school cookies.

March 16: Salisbury steak with brown gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, sliced peaches.

March 17: turkey pot pie, mixed vegetables, lettuce wedges with dressing, applesauce cakes.

March 18: salmon patties with catsup, macaroni & tomato, fried okra, shipped jello.

March 19: beef & cheese tacos with taco sauce, pinto beans, lettuce and tomato, pineapple chunks.

March 20: hot dogs with chili, fries, catsup, combination salad and dressing, fig bars.



SAVE 2 WAYS!

STOREWIDE LOW PRICES

SUPER SPECIALS

PRICES GOOD WED-THUR-FRI-SAT MARCH 11, 12, 13 & 14 STORE HOURS 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. MON-THRU SAT CLOSED SUNDAY

CREST TOOTH PASTE
MINT OR REG \$1.09
4.6 OZ TUBE

MOUTHWASH SCOPE 18 OZ BOTTLE \$2.49

PARADE COFFEE FILTERS
100 CT PKG 39¢

LIQUID "ITS NEW" CHEER
64 OZ JUG \$3.09

AUTO DISHWASHER CASCADE
50 OZ BOX \$2.19

LIQUID DAWN
32 OZ BOTTLE \$1.49

SPILLMATE TOWELS
JUMBO ROLL 59¢

RUSTY DOG FOOD
4 15 OZ CANS 49¢

PARKAY OLEO
QUARTERS 2 LBS 89¢

COMET RICE
28 OZ BOX 79¢

ASSORTED JELL-O
3 OZ BOX 2 FOR 79¢

SKINNERS THIN SPAGHETTI
12 OZ PKG 2 FOR \$1.09

COFFEE FOLGERS
1 LB CAN \$2.59
2ND LB \$2.98 LIMIT 1
WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

BORDEN ICE CREAM
½ GAL CRTN \$1.69

COOKING OIL CRISCO
48 OZ JUG \$1.89

CARNATION COFFEEMATE
16 OZ JAR \$1.69

PARADE SHORTENING
ALL VEG 3 LB CAN \$1.09

FROZEN FOODS SEVEN FARMS
CRINKLE CUT 2 L.R. BAG POTATOES 49¢
RICH 2-1 L.R. LOAF WHITE BREAD DOUGH BAG 93¢
PARADE 16 OZ BAG CUT BROCCOLI 93¢
MRS SMITH 26 OZ REG OR DUTCH APPLE PUMPKIN PIE \$1.59 EACH

KRAFTS 7.4 OZ MACARONI-CHEESE DINNER 2 FOR 83¢

BETTY CROCKER CHOCOLATE CHIP CAKE MIX 18 OZ BOX 59¢
GLADIOLA CORNBREAD MIXES WHITE OR YELLOW 6 OZ PKG 2 FOR 53¢

PARADE FLOUR
5 LB BAG 59¢

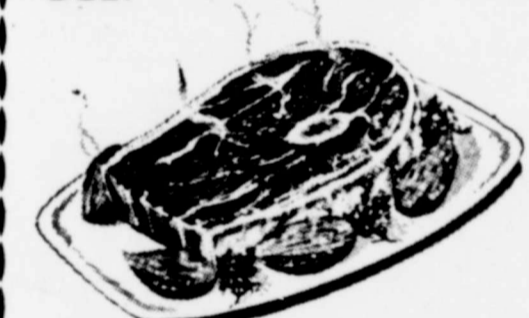
PRICES PIMENTO CHEESE
24 OZ TUB \$2.89

KRAFTS CHEEZ WHIZ
16 OZ JAR \$2.09

BETTY CROCKER TUNA HELPER
6.4 OZ BOX \$1.29

DINTY MOORE BEEF STEW
15 OZ CAN 98¢

CHOICE BEEF CHUCK STEAK



EXTRA TENDER LEAN BONE-IN POUND 99¢

CHOICE BEEF ARM ROAST LEAN LB \$1.59
FRESH GRADE "A" USDA CUT UP FRYERS LB 75¢
WHOLE CUT UP FRYERS LB 65¢

HORMEL LITTLE SAUSAGES 12 OZ PKG \$1.29
CEGAR CREEK BONELESS COOKED HAM HALVES LB \$1.89

OSCAR MAYER FRANKS OR WIENERS 16 OZ PKG \$1.79
OSCAR MAYER BOLOGNA ALL MEAT OR BEEF 12 OZ PKG \$1.49

GOOCH B. R. GERMAN STYLE SAUSAGE 12 OZ PKG \$1.29
GOOCH B. R. BACON SUGAR CURED LB \$1.75

DEL MONTE 15 OZ CRUSHED JUICE OR SYRUP CAN PINEAPPLE 63¢

PARADE APPLE JUICE 64 OZ JUG \$1.39

WK GOLDEN CORN 2 FOR 79¢
DEL MONTE 303

SWEET PEAS 2 FOR 79¢
DEL MONTE 303

CUT GREEN BEANS 2 FOR 79¢
GEBHARDTS 300

REFRIED BEANS 2 FOR 79¢

PREGO SPAGHETTI SAUCE 32 OZ JAR \$1.98

RANCH STYLE BEANS 23 OZ CAN 63¢

BORDEN SOUR CREAM 16 OZ CRTN \$1.09

POINSETTA HOMO MILK GAL JUG \$1.99
BORDEN LOW FAT MILK GAL JUG \$1.93

HONEY BOY CHUM 16 OZ CAN \$1.63

SALMON \$1.63

ORANGES
CALIFORNIA NAVEL SWEET LB 39¢

FRESH GREEN BROCCOLI LB 49¢

HASS LARGE AVOCADOS 2 FOR 69¢

FRESH CELLO LB CARROTS 2 FOR 59¢

TEXAS RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT 5 LB BAG \$1.59

FRESH GREEN CABBAGE LB 15¢

GOLDEN BANANAS LB 39¢
RUSSET SPUDS 10 LB BAG \$1.29

NABISCO CRACKERS
1 LB BOX 89¢

BAMA GRAPE JELLY
16 OZ JAR 93¢

AIRWICK CARPET FRESH
14 OZ CAN \$1.59

HEFTY TRASH CAN LINERS
20 CT 30 GAL BOX \$2.19

DOUBLE GIFT BOND STAMPS
EACH WED'S WITH \$5.00 IN TRADE OR MORE

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CARSON'S SUPER MARKET
Fresh Vegetables Best Meats in Town
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