

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, April 17, 1980...Merkel, Texas

15 cents

Board nixes teacher pay raise, hospitalization plan, grants sick leave increase

MISD Board members granted two of five pay and benefit proposals from Merkel teachers in Tuesday's monthly meeting.

MISD employees had requested continuing contracts for teachers with over three years experience, a ten per cent pay increase for all MISD employees, paid hospitalization, 50 days of accumulated days for sick leave. What they got was the removal of a contingency clause placed on contracts last year pertaining to threats of deconsolidation of Tye-Merkel schools, accumulation of 32 days for sick leave, no pay increase, no hospitalization and no continuing contracts.

Board President Charles Jacobs announced the board's decision and said financial strains are on the board as well as the teachers and there is not enough money in the system to afford a pay raise or insurance for employees and if we granted the raises we would have to operate with a deficit. He added the board could not see their way clear to granting the raise, although that teachers deserve and need a raise. Board member Larry Dudley reminded teachers that the budget hearings would be in August and that the board would have a better look at the financial situation at that time. Board member James Boyd also recommended to teachers that they study whether a salary increase or an insurance

program would be more financially beneficial to the teachers. The board president also asked that a study be made comparing Merkel ISD pay to teachers to their like communities.

A spokesperson for Merkel teachers, Kathy Chisolm then questioned the validity of teacher contracts for next year. She indicated that the sick leave day space was left blank and that the contract says it is void if all spaces are not filled in. She also indicated that contracts did not have the signature of the secretary of the board. Chairman Jacobs said the board would have answers to those two points at their next session. Teachers have until April 23rd to sign and return the contracts.

The board appointed Mark Malone, Art Hererra and Wanda McAninch to the Board of Equalization that will begin meeting June 4th.

In the financial report, the board paid monthly bills totaling \$158,000 and learned that the district had purchased a 30 day, \$150,000 certificate of deposit from the Farmers and Merchants National Bank at approximately 15 per cent interest. In the superintendent's report, Dr. Raymond Etheridge reported that the Merkel Junior Olympics has been scheduled for May 5th and is a track meet for fourth, fifth and sixth grade students.

The board will hold their next scheduled session May 20th.

Taylor Electric's annual meeting set today at county coliseum

Taylor Electric Cooperative will hold their 39th Annual Membership Meeting at the Taylor County Coliseum on Thursday, April 17, 1980. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. The morning will be devoted to drawing for attendance prizes and entertainment by A. Z. Decker and the Country Four.

Following lunch the business session will begin at 1 p.m. Reports will be given by Alton Whiteaker, President, Jack Morrow, Secretary, and Don Hart, Manager. An election of three directors will be held

following the report of the Nominating Committee. Those to be considered are Jimmy Jacobs and Buster Horton from Zone 1 (Taylor County); Jimmy (J.R.) West and incumbent, Tommie Johnson from Zone 2 (Callahan, Eastland, Jones, Shackelford Counties); and from Zone 3 (Coke, Fisher, Nolan Counties), will be incumbent R.C. Watts, Jr., and Russell Sneed.

All members are urged to attend this very important meeting of their Cooperative.

Rabies clinic set for April 26

The annual rabies clinic has been set up for April 26th from 1 until 3 p.m. at the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department Station.

Shots will be administered by local veterinarian Dr. Warren Dozier and cats and dogs can receive their rabies shot for \$4.50. Distemper shots will also be available by request for an additional charge.

No exotic animals may be vaccinated at the clinic. City dog tags will also be available at the clinic

and according to Merkel Police Chief Ray Pack, stray dogs will be picked up that don't have the city tag, or are found unleashed and not in a fenced yard.

According to the dog control ordinance, dogs will be taken and observed for three days and then they will be put to sleep if they are not claimed by their owner.

The strays are being kept by Dr. Dozier after they are picked up by the Merkel Police Department.

East Missouri-Pacific crossing closed

Merkel's east railroad crossing at Cherry Street, should be avoided until it is repaired.

The city council asked that the street be blocked, but the city's red cone-shaped markers did not fare too well against Friday evening's stiff winds and a few were stolen.

The crossing has some loose board and spikes and has caused considerable damage to two cars in the last ten days.

Missouri Pacific Railroad's agent Foster, told that Mail Friday that a crew had been notified and that repairs might take ten days, which means the crossing should be safe by April 22.

IRS, Census, more about dogs

By Cloy A. Richards

I am sure that most of you have had your visit by mail to either the Census Bureau or the Internal Revenue Service.

If you haven't made your annual settle-up with Uncle Sam by now, you'd best have already filed for an extension.

It works a different way at the Census Bureau. If you did not get a form yet, and for your sake, the short one, there will be another mailing forms from master lists on April 21st. If you don't receive one by next Thursday, they missed you.

My interest in this count is more than important. If you did not receive a form, and don't feel like waiting until next Thursday for the second mail-out, call toll free 1-800-592-4477. That is the free number to the Abilene Regional Office.

I have had a few calls from folks saying they did not get their form, or got one addressed to someone else, (my case), or just flat did not get any form at all.

I got a form, the long one, but it was addressed to someone else. After a call to the regional office, I was assured another form would be on the way. From what I have heard about the trouble the long form is to fill out, I hope they sent me the short one.

The Census figures should come as no great shock, but I feel that the population of the rural areas to the south and west of Abilene will shock a few folks.

The city is getting its dog act together, literally.

A dog ordinance has been on the books for a while, but city officials have been waiting until proper facilities and fair warning could be arranged before starting a campaign to register, vaccinate, and leash all dogs in the city. (Cats don't escape the need of shots.)

Dr. Warren Dozier, the new vet just north of town on 126, now has the city dog cages and pound. The ordinance says that all dogs will be vaccinated for rabies, registered with the city, wear a city dog tag (which is free) and be either leashed, fenced, or at the verbal command of its owner at all times.

If your dog is found wandering around, and it has a tag, the city will tell you that your dog is in the pound, what fees you must pay, and when you have to pick the animal up.

If it is found wandering around, without a tag, it is impossible for the city to tell you that they have your dog. If it is missing, it would be a good idea to check with Dr. Dozier to see if he has the dog in the pound. He can be reached at 928-5235 between one and five p.m.

The city ordinance states that stray dogs will be put to sleep after 72 hours, if they are not claimed by their owner.

A rabies clinic has been scheduled for April 26th from 1 until 3 p.m. at the Fire Station here. A fee of \$4.50 gets your dog protected, and everyone else for that matter, from rabies. City dog tags, which are free, will also be available at the clinic, so you can also register your dog at the same time.



Badger sprinter Randy Martin raced his way to a win in the 110 high hurdles here last week. The Badgers won the triangular meet against Hamlin and Jim Ned. The Badgers will be in Colorado City Friday and Saturday competing in the district meet. (Staff photo)

Badgers win meet, in Colorado City Friday and Saturday for district

The Merkel Boys Varsity track team had a successful warmup for their 1980 District Track meet this weekend as they beat Hamlin and Jim Ned in a meet here Friday.

The district meet is set for Colorado City and 7th, 8th grade and junior varsity meets, as well as the varsity field events will be Friday.

The races are set for Saturday and a start time was unavailable at press time. A district meeting was held Wednesday night to make the final decisions for the meet.

Head Track coach Doug Guynes told the Mail Monday that, on paper, the Badgers could score about 88 points, and that 100 would win the district championship.

Guynes said "We may not win a lot of events, but we will place in most of them. He said Wylie would be the main competition because of their speed and relay times this season, but Guynes expected the Badgers depth to keep them close.

The three seniors will be competing including Mark Copeland, Danny Davis and Tony Wax.

In last week's meet, Mark Copeland placed fifth in the shot put, Tony Wax grabbed second in the discus and Copeland placed 6th, Sal Acosta placed second in the long jump and Bart Pursley placed third, Ty Nelson placed third in the high jump, followed by Farmer and Terry Owen for fourth and fifth.

In the pole vault, Pursley placed second, Danny Riggan third, and the Badgers placed third in the 440 relay. Merkel placed 1, 2, 4 in the high hurdles with Randy Martin winning, Dusty Barnhill second and Danny Davis fourth.

In the 880, Robert Fowler placed third and Sal Acosta placed fourth, Ty Nelson grabbed sixth, Danny Tutt placed fourth in the 100 and Danny Davis won the 440, with Allen Albright placing second and Dusty Barnhill placing third. In the 330 intermediate hurdles, Pursley won, Randy Martin placed second and Ty Nelson placed third.

Tutt placed fifth in the 220 and Fowler and Acosta placed two, three in the mile. The Badgers won the mile relay in 3:36.97 and won the meet with 185 points, to Hamlin's 147 and Jim Ned's 111.

Scoring for the JV were O.C. McKeethan, Roy Johnson, Mike Pape, Sammy Tumlinson, Bubba Traylor, Jimmy Leonard, Willie Marsh, Jay Campbell, Raymond Acosta, Kenneth Corbin, Mark Turner, Donald Hegwood.

Marsh won the high jump, Campbell the pole vault, Acosta the 880, Hegwood the 100, for the Badgers junior varsity. Final results were Hamlin 192, Merkel 143 and Jim Ned with 98.

In the girls district meet held this past weekend in Coahoma, Debra Carey placed third in the 1600 meter run. Sarintorn Prasarn placed fourth in the 220, the mile relay placed fourth and Norma Frazier placed fourth in the shot put.

Rebate drops

Merkel's check for the one percent rebate on local sales dropped more than \$2,000 from last March according to figures released by the State Comptroller's Office.

Merkel will receive \$1,110.69 for the rebate compared to \$3,204.31 last March.

That drop puts Merkel's rebate for 1980 at 11 percent of what the city had received through the same period last year.

Merkel received \$12,807.31 through the same reporting period last year compared to a running total of \$11,787.18 this year.

Tye is running two percent ahead of last year's pace with March's check of \$2,710.45. The check last year for March totaled \$2,063.65 and Tye has received \$11,877.56 through 1980.

Trent did not receive a check this month and is rebated their one percent of sales tax collected on a quarterly basis.

Figures released by the State Comptroller's Office show that Texas cities will receive \$24.1 million in rebates, which is off by \$10 million over last March's rebate.

Registration

Pre-registration for children who will enter Kindergarten for the 1980-81 school year at Merkel Elementary will be April 23, 1980 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in the elementary school office.

To attend Kindergarten a child must be five years old on or before September 1, 1980. The enrollees must bring a birth certificate and proof of required immunizations.

Pack gets radar training

Merkel Police Chief Ray Pack attended radar certification school last week at DPS Regional Headquarters in Abilene.

Pack was one of 40 local and DPS law enforcement officers who attended the school.

Pack told the Mail he felt more secure in handling and reading the radar following completion of the courses.

Pack said he would put the Merkel Patrolmen through a 60 hour training course on the use of radar, not that he has been certified to instruct.

City thinking about same tax rate

The city started work on their 1981 budget, recommended the tax rate and exemptions stay the same, and heard the threat of a lawsuit in their Thursday evening meeting.

City Manager J.A. Sadler recommended to council that the city's \$1.50 rate set on 60 per cent of evaluation to stay the same. The city also decided to keep the \$10,000 deduction for residential homeowners.

Sadler told the council the rate and percentage would be a whole different ballgame next year as the new county-wide appraisal district will evaluate all property for taxable evaluations. It will still be up to each local governing body to set the tax rate, and percentage of assessment to be taxed.

The council later went into executive session to discuss pay raises for city employees.

Council discussed a letter written by Mayor Lou David Allen in response to a letter to the editor that appeared in the Abilene Reporter News ten days ago. The letter, written by a California man, referred to a set up between the city, Merkel JP Henry Guenther and the DPS on I-20 speeding certificates.

Council decided that the letter did not dignify a response because "most citizens here realize that the city receives no funds from DPS issued citations that the JP office here is a county office, not a city office.

The city also received a letter from an Abilene attorney representing Joyce and Jack Keenan of Keenan Land Development.

The letter cited a filed document at the county courthouse that guarantees heirs of property at Keenan Land Development, water at city rates.

Council decided to have the city attorney respond to the letter.

The city also decided to barricade the east crossing (Cherry Street) of the Missouri Pacific Railroad after local citizens had car damage due to loose spikes and ties.

Council was also told that a suit to fix field lights at the Tri-City Baseball field has not been granted a court date and that the city attorney was ready to go to court to seek damages from local youths, charged with the vandalism.

Council's next session is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. April 24th at City Hall.



The annual Junior-Senior Banquet was held Saturday night and the event marks the start of the last six weeks for the Merkel High class of 1980. (Photo by John Townsend)

New mayor, council sworn in

by Harold Boyd
 Last Tuesday, the Tye City Council met and city secretary Jo Moore swore in two new council members and a new mayor.
 Newly elected mayor James Snowden made an opening statement and said that all meetings will be carried out in a business-like fashion and only the person with the floor should speak.
 Billy Jacobs, with the engineering firm of Yeatts and Decker met with council and gave them a brief of the sewer system. Council accepted a bid on Feb. 4 by H and S Construction of Everman, Tex. for \$568,935.55.
 The city will be responsible for 25 per cent of that debt and the balance will be paid for by a federal grant.
 Work should get started on the system in two weeks as contracts were approved and signed.
 The resignation of Tye Police Chief Joe Ruicido was not accepted by the council on a 4-1 vote.

The March police report said that Tye Police handled 60 indictments and four serious crimes were reported.
 A letter regarding the selection of jurors for city trials was given. Speed limits on Indian Creek road and a stop sign were approved by council. The stop sign will be put up at Runnels and Drummond Street.
 Conditions of market street were discussed and council took under advisement a proposal to get some help in repairing that street. Violet Law was appointed mayor pro-tem. The second reading of an animal control ordinance was made and accepted. The meeting was attended by 31 residents and meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Tye Community Center.
 The children have made note that there are less than six weeks of school remaining. I will bet that there will be less vacationing this year because of increases in gasoline costs. We need to be more active in the community and you can start just by getting to know your neighbors.

Brucellosis costing cattlemen

Brucellosis costs money. A rancher may lose hundreds of dollars yearly because of reduced milk yields, poor calf growth, the need to replace infected animals, losses from aborted or weak and scrawny calves, the time and effort required to gather and test infected and suspect herds, as well as reduced breeding efficiency.
 Ten states account for more than 90 percent of the nation's remaining brucellosis infection. Those ten states are Louisiana, Texas, Okla-

homa, and Arkansas, along with Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky.
 Continuing to live with brucellosis is costly. In 1976, for example, the disease cost U.S. cattle producers \$30.5 million in terms of reduced calf crops and lower milk yields. It cost them an additional \$26.7 million in on the farm control and cleanup expenses. In that same year the combined state and federal spending on brucellosis came to \$76 million.
 Not only are the big

ranchers and feedlots concerned about brucellosis, but every person who owns even a couple of cows must work to wipe out this costly disease.
 One of the best ways to help control brucellosis is the calfhood vaccination of all heifer calves. Beef heifers can be vaccinated between 3 months and 10 months of age and dairy heifers between the ages of 3 months and 6 months of age. In an effort to encourage more producers to utilize this vaccination program, a cooperative program be-

tween the Texas Animal Health Commission and the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service makes the vaccination of a producer's heifers free to the producer through his or her local accredited veterinarian. Each heifer is given 5 ml of Strain 19 brucellosis vaccine just under the skin and then is permanently identified with a tattoo and ear tag in the right ear.
 To find out more about brucellosis and how to prevent it, contact your veterinarian or state or federal animal health officials.

Stith, Goodmen, Compere meet

The Stith Extension Homemakers Club met in a combined meeting with the Goodman and Compere and Goodman Clubs at the home of Mrs. Jennings Winters.
 Mrs. Garland Price of the host club, The Goodman Club, presided.
 The meeting was opened with a prayer by Mrs. Odessa Butler and a game of fortune telling was conducted by Mrs. Daisy Mashburn of the Stith Club.
 Waymon Adcock, chief of the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department gave a program entitled "Safety

and Unexpected Dangers." He included safety pointers of not having octopus electrical outlets, good copper, flexible stove connections, tin or metal cans for storing gasoline, have a fire extinguisher in the home, do not bridge fuses with pennies and to use care when lighting water heaters.
 Refreshments were served to twenty-two members and two guests.
 The next meeting will also be a combined meeting on April 25th at Mrs. Minnie Carey's home in Merkel. The program will be on saving energy in the home.



Comptroller of the Currency
Administrator of National Banks

REPORT OF CONDITION

Consolidating domestic subsidiaries of the

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK of MERKEL
 Name of Bank City
 In the state of TEXAS at the close of business on MARCH 31, 1980
 published in response to call made by Comptroller of the Currency, under title 12, United States Code, Section 161.
 Charter number 7481 National Bank Region Number 11

Statement of Resources and Liabilities		Thousands of dollars
ASSETS		
Cash and due from depository institutions		3,651
U.S. Treasury securities		2,957
Obligations of other U.S. Government agencies and corporations		500
Obligations of States and political subdivisions in the United States		456
All other securities		20
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell		200
Loans, Total (excluding unearned income)	7,587	
Less: Allowance for possible loan losses	39	
Loans, Net		7,548
Lease financing receivables		-0-
Bank premises, furniture and fixtures, and other assets representing bank premises		92
Real estate owned other than bank premises		13
All other assets		429
TOTAL ASSETS		15,866
LIABILITIES		
Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations		5,170
Time and savings deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations		7,855
Deposits of United States Government		-0-
Deposits of States and political subdivisions in the United States		1,146
All other deposits		-0-
Certified and officers' checks		81
Total Deposits		14,252
Total demand deposits	5,715	
Total time and savings deposits	8,537	
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase		-0-
Interest-bearing demand notes (note balances) issued to the U.S. Treasury and other liabilities for borrowed money		11
Mortgage indebtedness and liability for capitalized leases		-0-
All other liabilities		287
TOTAL LIABILITIES (excluding subordinated notes and debentures)		14,550
Subordinated notes and debentures		-0-

MEMORANDA EQUITY CAPITAL		
Preferred stock	No. shares outstanding	-0- (par value) -0-
Common stock	No. shares authorized	1,32,000
	No. shares outstanding	1,32,000 (par value) 330
Surplus		330
Undivided profits and reserve for contingencies and other capital reserves		656
TOTAL EQUITY CAPITAL		1,316
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY CAPITAL		15,866
Amounts outstanding as of report date		
Standby letters of credit, total		-0-
Time certificates of deposit in denominations of \$100,000 or more		411
Other time deposits in amounts of \$100,000 or more		356
Average for 30 calendar days (or calendar month) ending with report date		
Total deposits		14,804

We, the undersigned directors attest the correctness of this statement of resources and liabilities. We declare that it has been examined by us, and to the best of our knowledge and belief is true and correct.

Don W. Tinsley
Betty Jane Tittle
 Directors

Betty Jane Tittle
 Name
 Vice-Pres.-Cashier
 Title

of the above-named bank do hereby declare that this Report of Condition is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Betty Jane Tittle
 Betty Jane Tittle
 April 8, 1980

Outstanding

Outstanding math and science students from throughout the Big Country were honored April 11th, in the Ryan Fine Arts Center at McMurray College in Abilene.
 Dr. Bill Dulin, president of the science and math departments at McMurray presided over the ceremonies.

Among those honored was Lesa Hart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Hart Lesa, a freshman at McMurray, received the outstanding geology student award. She is a 1979 graduate of Merkel High School.

In addition to being a full time student, she is employed part time at First State Bank in Abilene as an assistant in the Safety Deposit Department.

Registration

Pre-registration for children who will enter Kindergarten for the 1980-81 school year at Merkel Elementary will be April 23, 1980 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

MOTHER'S DAY GIFTS YOUR CHOICE OF GREAT SELECTIONS FOR MOTHER

PURSES \$4.99 UP
 EASY STREET SHOES \$21.99

DRESSES \$27.00 UP

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in the elementary school office.

To attend Kindergarten a child must be five years old on or before September 1, 1980. The enrollees must bring a birth certificate and proof of required immunizations.

Bake sale

There will be a Bake Sale sponsored by the Merkel High School Pep Squad, Saturday, in front of West Texas Utilities, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Litter

By The Merkel Garden Club
 Litter comes from seven sources and can be divided into two groups.

In the public group, litter comes from pedestrians, motorists, as well as household refuse putouts. In the business-related litter source points are commercial refuse putouts, loading and unloading operations, uncovered or inadequately covered trucks and construction projects.

in order to stem the flow of litter at and from its seven sources, it is necessary to change the public attitudes, habits and practices which are responsible for the constant flow.

Bringing about this change involves organized efforts utilizing up-to-date ordinances, effective enforcement, modern technology and continuous education.

Musical

The Stith Country and Western monthly musical will be held April 19th, at the Stith Community Center at 7 p.m. It is good family entertainment. All singers, musicians, and bands are invited to perform.

The snack bar opens at 6:30 and all kinds of goodies will be sold. Come have supper, admission is free.

Garden Club

By Mrs. Allen D. King
 The regular monthly meeting of the Merkel Garden Club will be held April 24th at the home of

Mrs. Charlie Sherrill at 3 p.m. Mrs. John Shannon will be the co-hostess. Mrs. L.B. Gibson of Albany will present a program entitled, Spring Fantasy.

Bike-A-Thon set for this Saturday

The St. Jude Children's Hospital Bike-A-Thon will be held this Saturday starting at 9 a.m. The group of riders will assemble at the City Park.

The children will follow a prescribed route and adults will be on hand to offer refreshing drinks.

Prizes will be offered for first through fifth places in the boys and girls divisions. The children should be mindful that they will enjoy their prizes, but earned them while collecting money for research in childhood diseases. Additional prizes will be given to children that collect \$25, a T-shirt and for \$75, a back pack.

GIFTS FOR GRADUATES

LUGGAGE SAMSONITE AND CUSTOM CRAFT

PANTS BY WRANGLER \$9.99

SHIRTS BY DEECE RAPPERS \$9.99

MasterCharge VISA

Les Girls



TOPS AND SHORTS

SIZE 4 - 6X

SIZE 7 TO 14

IT'S TWICE AS NICE TO SHOP CRAWFORD'S

Program wheat price at \$3.94 Tournament this weekend, funds to pay for concession stand

The county ASCS office announced Monday the Commodity Credit Corporation direct wheat purchase program will begin to help offset effects of the Soviet Grain Embargo.

The CCC has started making offers to producers to sell wheat on the basis of a posted price. Offers will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

Producers must have grown the wheat, and own the wheat at the time the offer is submitted. The wheat also must be stored in a Uniform Grain Storage agreement warehouse. If it is not stored in an approved facility, it must be handled the same way as wheat stored on the farm. Farm stored wheat must also be delivered when ordered by the CCC to a receiving point for storage in or shipment to a USGA warehouse.

The county ASCS office will receive a new wheat

price each Monday and the current price is \$3.94 per bushel. Farmers may already make offers at that price if they wish.

Farmers also have a couple of deadlines in proving their crops for program payments. April 18 is the deadline to prove wheat or feed grain yield. Production records for the last three years are needed to prove production. Beginning this year, the county ASCS office may adjust a yield in the base period that was adversely affected by a natural disaster up to 80 per cent of the established yield.

Producers also have until May 1st to report their acreages seeded in wheat, barley and oats. The final date to certify cotton and grain sorghum is July 15. A deficiency payment of 13 cents per bushel will be made for grain sorghum to producers who complied with the 1979 grain sorghum program.

The concession stand on the Pony League filed is now built and ready for the upcoming season. It is a fine facility and something the people of Merkel, Trent and Tye can be proud of. We have been caught by rising construction costs and we have a balance of \$5,500 on the concession stand that cost about \$7,000.

We are asking for donations to help decrease the balance and donations are tax deductible. We will even write you a receipt.

The league has scheduled tournaments to help pay for equipment and the concession stand. Anyone wishing to make donations to the league are asked to contact Bill Sloan, Walt and Nita Harris, John and Janet Vinson, Art Hererra in Tye and Elton Freeman and James Wallis in Trent.

The league would also like to publically thank Walter Whisenhunt of Henderson Grain Company for fertilizing the Pony League field.

All boys who are planning to play Pony League ball this year are asked to be at the Pony League filed this Saturday for a clean-up day at the field. If everyone will show up, it won't take very long, so show up with some enthusiasm.

Another reminder to Pony Leaguers: Be sure to get your registration forms filled out and returned as well as your \$12.50 registration fee. The deadline is April 21st.

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COME IN NOW FOR YOUR SEED NEEDS

A&M extension service offeres pepper growing tips

COLLEGE STATION--Whether sweet or pungent, long or blocky, hot or mild, the pepper is often the most finicky plant in the vegetable garden. Picking the proper variety and growing it right will help solve many problems.

Pepper problems for home gardeners seem to revolve around the problem of yield per plant, points out Dr. Sam Cotner, horticulturist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University. While squash and okra often times overwhelm the garden basket, the pepper plant often stands proud, lush and barren, or at best produces only a small yield.

All peppers are somewhat particular about temperatures for fruit set, notes Cotner. And peppers fertilized with heavy applications of nitrogen or those not given adequate phosphorus may develop into great looking plants but will not produce anything to eat.

Cotner offers these tips to Texas gardeners who will be planting peppers this year.

Broadcast a complete fertilizer such as 10-20-10

before planting your vegetable garden. Work it into the soil to a depth of four to six inches. Do not sidedress peppers until after a good fruit set.

Get all fruit-producing plants off to a good start at planting time by adding a starter solution which is "general" high in phosphate. Make your own starter solution or buy it at any garden center and nursery outlet.

Set peppers in the garden only after night temperatures have risen above 55 degrees F. Planting too early often stunts pepper plants.

Harvest fruit regularly. After mature fruit is harvested, new fruit set will begin.

Rotate tomatoes, peppers and eggplants, making sure these three vegetables do not follow each other in the same location for at least two to three years. Each is subject to the same diseases, some of which are soil-borne.

The cooler the season, the more important is variety selection. Peppers will not set fruit in cool weather. Consult your local county Extension office for local planting guides and recommended varieties of peppers.

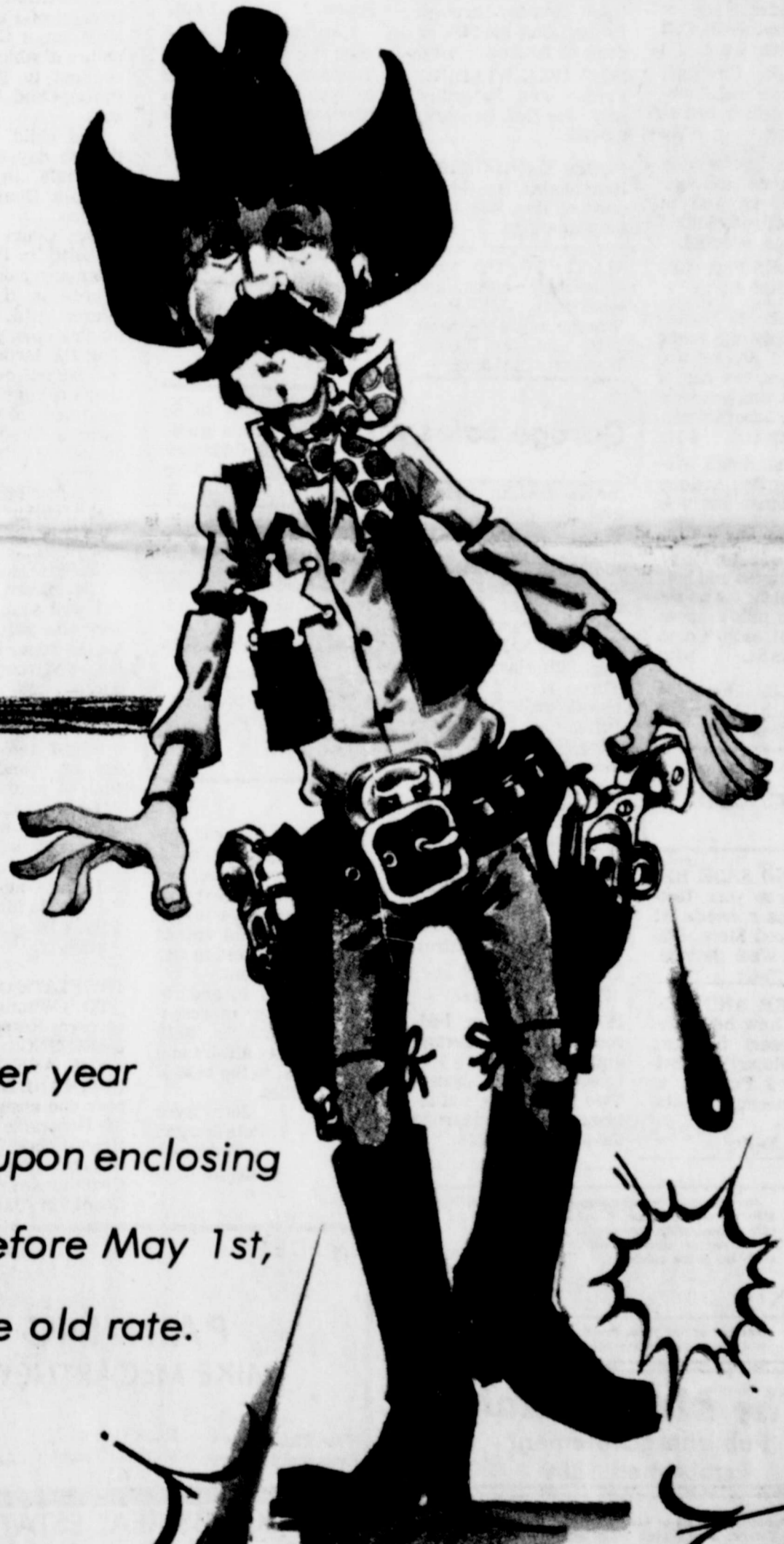
**Pre
Inflation
Sale**

Merkel Mail subscriptions will rise to \$7.50 local and \$8.25 out of county per year effective May 1st. By filling out the coupon enclosing a check, and mailing it to our office before May 1st, you can extend your subscription at the old rate.

Name _____
Address _____

Check one: In-county...\$6.50
Out-of-county...\$7.25

(Mail coupon to P. O. Box 428, Merkel, Tex. 79536)



**The Merkel
Mail**

For Sale

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

E.L. PALMER ESTATE: Older home with fireplace, water well, etc. and 3 1/2 adjoining lots. 406 Orange St., \$12,500. Call Earl Palmer, 928-5255. 48-tfc

LIKE NEW 1977 24 ft. Toga Motor Home self-contained and all extras, sleeps six, 440 Dodge engine. Call Rex Bland at 862-3891. 4-tfc

FOR SALE OR RENT: Three bedroom, fireplace, carpeted, 7 rooms Call 928-5787. 5-tfc

RABBITS-Spring is here and it is time for a back Yard cook out but the cost of meat is too high. Why not try rabbit. USDA frozen fryer-\$1.50 lb, roaster-\$6.00 lb. Call morning or evenings 915-928-5157 Buffalo Rabbitt Farm

FOR SALE: 1979 Trans-Am. Black and Red. Will consider trade or take up payments. Call 862-2396 after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE: Camper, fits long-wide bed. Completely furnished. See at 601 Edwards. 8-1tp

FOR SALE: Serta king size mattress and box springs Clean and in good condition, \$125. Tom Carson, 928-5069.

FOR SALE: Pigs. Call 846-4533 after 4 p.m.

FOR SALE: 13 Domickers. Variety of 8 young chickens. 2 Hen set and 6 little ones, one bag of feed, 50 ft. chicken wire and posts. John Warner, 510 Oak, 928-4116. 8-1tc

FOR SALE: Small window cooler, \$20; Antique China cabinet (or Pie and Cake cabinet) \$50; After March 3rd Maple bedstead and interior spring mattress and box springs, \$125; white sheets and pillow cases reg. size \$1 each. Come by 512 Rose St. 8-1tp

FOR SALE: House, 4 rooms, bath, 3 lots, in Trent. Call 862-3481.

Services

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

RECOVER AND DISCOVER how beautiful your present furniture can be. Randy's Upholstery and Fabrics at 1190 Butternut in Abilene. 38-tfc

WILL Plow Gardens. Call 928-5777. 8-2tp

Wanted: Afternoon patient, Esther Wheelr, 928-5273.

We buy Oil and Gas Leases, contact Mr. Anderson, EDCO Oil and Gas, 1133 N. 2nd, Suite 202, Abilene, Tex., 79601, AC (915) 672-6444.

Want to learn about beauty skin care? For luxurious facial, contact B'Ann Spurgeon, 862-2701, MARY KAY COSMETICS

GRANNY'S PLAYHOUSE, Licensed Child Care. Open 6:30-6:00 Monday-Friday. Call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange St. 28-tfc

PAINTING DONE. Interior and exterior, call Mike McCartney, 698-1528 after 5 p.m.

LICENSED Child Care. Open Monday through Friday. Call 928-5439 or come by 304 Lois. 6-9tp

PORTABLE WELDING Friday and Saturday only. Joe Dell Gregory, 928-5855.

POODLE GROOMING-Reasonable, 1 1/2 Miles south on Hwy 1235. Look for poodle sign. 7-2tp

WANT TO DO your Upholstery, nights and weekends. Call Ben Wheeler at 928-5089 after 5:30 p.m. or Esther Wheeler at 928-5273.

Garage Sales

YARD SALE: Friday and Saturday from 8 until 7. Small girl's clothes, jeans, bassinets and misc. FM 1085 exit in Trent, turn right at power plant to first mobil home on left. 1tpc

GARAGE SALE: Saturday, 19th, start 8 o'clock Three family. Two blocks west Trent Post Office. 8-1tp

Two Family Porch Sale, 208 Orange, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Some glass ware and a little bit of everything. 1tp

Front porch sale: Friday, 601 Yucca, little girls clothes sizes 1-3, boys clothes size 12, two baby beds and mattresses, and misc. 1tp

For Rent

FOR RENT: One bedroom furnished garage apartment. One bedroom furnished house. Two bedrooms unfurnished house. Telephone 928-5236 or 928-5350. 7-3tc

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

Help Wanted

EARN up to \$100 per week part-time. New telephone program from your own home. Send name, address, phone number to Box 769, Abilene, Texas 79604. 7-tfc

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: Nurses Aides, 6 a.m. until 2 p.m.; 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.; and a bedmaker from 8 a.m. until noon. Apply in person at Starr Nursing Home. 8-2tc

Help Wanted: have need for help all day Tuesday. Must be able to type, child care no problem, we keep a two-year-old here daily. Call 928-5712 or come by the Merkel Mail. tfnc

HELP WANTED: The Merkel Dairy Queen is taking applications for employment. 8-tfc

Miscellaneous

FREE: Puppies to be given away. One male, one female. Call 928-5407 or come by 611 Ash. 7-2tc

FOUND Wednesday-Dog. Call 928-4816 or 918-5580. 8-1tnc

LOST DOG: 2 year old male, antique gray, yellow eyes. Contact the Dwayne Goode's. 8-1tp

Card of Thanks

We were honored, indeed, by the results of the recent city elections and we wish to express our appreciation to the candidates and voters for their interest in our city government.

We fully intend to serve as your representatives and to help manage city affairs and resources, to the best of our abilities.

Jerry Byrd
Pete Morgan
Ted Smith
8-1tp

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: Beverly Helen McMillin, Respondent; GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Robert Brian McMillin, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 10th day of April, 1980, against Beverly Helen McMillin, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 2606-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Farrah Ann McMillin, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to Terminate Parent-Child Relationship.

Said child was born the 6th day of December, 1976, in Ruidosa, Lincoln County, New Mexico.

The Court has the authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

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

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 10th day of April, 1980. Irene Crawford Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Rella Mahony, Deputy. 1tc

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: Whom it may concern, Respondent; GREETINGS:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th, District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Tex-

as, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Taylor County Child Welfare Unit, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 9th day of January, 1980, against To Whom It May Concern and Elaine Childress, Respondents, and said suit being numbered 3390-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Crissy Elaine Childress, A Child", the nature of which suit is a request to Terminate Parent-Child Relationship. Said child was born the 8th day of January, 1980, in Abilene, Texas.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

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

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 7th day of April, 1980. Irene Crawford, District Clerk, 326th District C Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Johnnie Wakefield, Deputy. 8-1tc.

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The Merkel Mail Publishers Statement Established 1889 Published weekly at 914 N. Second St., Merkel, Tx. Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas 79536 as second class mail. Cloy A. Richards Melanie Richards Suzy Rister Co-Publisher Editor Co-Publisher Adv. Mgr. Production SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$4.50 Per Year Taylor County \$7.25 Per Year outside of Taylor County. For Classified Rates: \$1.50 minimum for the first four lines (18 words). Excess of a line will be charged at the rate of 8 cents per word. TERMS: 25 cents discount if bill is paid prior to first insertion. Card of Thanks: \$3.00 minimum for the first 50 words & cents per word for each additional word. TERMS: Cash in advance unless account is established. NOTICE: Typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion or claims for refund or extensions will not be recognized.

Jr. High UIL results

The District 6 2A UIL Literary meet was held last week at Wylie Schools. Wylie won the competition with 40 points and Merkel was second with 35.

Todd Hensley won second and Sean Woodard third in poetry interpretation and Joan Far-

iello won the Oral Reading while Kenny Sims was second.

Other students competing were Melinda Rinney, Kathy Mitchell, Cindy Sims, Trung Tran, JoAnna Talent, Shelly Sherrill, Gregg Spur, Becky Teague, Brenda Hohertz, and Cindy Williams

Engagement told

Cindy Newton and Allen G. Gullledge plan to be married May 24 in Pilot Grove Church in Old City Park in Dallas.

Miss Newton, formerly of Abilene, is the daughter of Patty Newton of Dallas and Weldon Newton of Shreveport, La. Mr. and Mrs. Gill Gullledge of Dallas are the parents of the prospective bridegroom.

Miss Newton is a graduate of Brownwood High School and Angelo State University. She is doing graduate work at Texas Womens University and is employed by Fort Worth State School.

Her fiance is a graduate of Mesquite High School and attended Southern Methodist University. He is sports director for KDFW.

The fiance's maternal grandparents are Rev. and Mrs. Lynward Harrison of Merkel and Mrs. Theo Newton of Merkel.

The groom's paternal grandparent is Mrs. Allen B. Nichols of Dallas.

The Mail had incorrectly reported that her grandparents were the Rev. and Mrs. Allen Forbis of Merkel and regrets that error. Mrs. Theo Newton, also a grandparent to the bride, was also omitted.

Stenholm against act

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congressman Charles W. Stenholm today called the Resource Conservation Act of 1977 "a most dangerous attack on the rights of the people to own and use property, a fundamental freedom in this country."

In comments to Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland, Stenholm said he was "generally displeased with each of the proposals that were put out for comment. If this is an indication of where we are heading in our efforts to conserve natural resources, I tend to agree with the assessment made by one of my constituents that we should simply cut out all USDA conservation funding."

Stenholm, a member of the House Agriculture Committee, had recently requested that Bergland extend the comment period on the proposals. "I've been informed that the proposals will be revised, in line with the comments already received," he said, "and then published for comment by the public again."

"During this upcoming comment period, I urge every landowner to study the proposals and let their views be known," Stenholm said.

In further comments to the Secretary of Agriculture, Stenholm said, "rightly or wrongly, these proposals are seen as shifting away from the practical, flexible, voluntary program that has characterized the Department's conservation efforts since its inception, toward a more mandatory and inflexible approach."

Cotton Council says dont limit farm size

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The president of the National Cotton Council warned today that reducing and limiting farm size would cause food and fiber production to decline and push its cost higher.

In testimony before the House Water and Power Resources Subcommittee, Herman Propst, Anson, Tex., producer, expressed concern over bills that propose to limit the size of farms receiving water from federal reclamation projects.

He said the issue raises "vital questions" for agricultural policymakers concerning American farmers' continued ability to produce adequate food and fiber efficiently and economically.

"Unquestionably, one of the most effective ways to curb inflation is to hold down or reduce costs by increasing production efficiency," Propst stated. "This helps keep consumer prices in check and, by making U.S. products more competitive in export markets, it also improves our balance of trade."

He cited a Council study comparing the relative efficiency of small and commercial farms growing cotton and an alternate crop in three representative areas of the Cotton Belt. In contrast to the largest farms, the smaller operations' production costs for cotton and soybeans in the Mississippi Delta were 12 percent and 22 percent higher, respectively. On the Texas High Plains, the smallest farm's costs of growing cotton and grain sorghum were 23 percent and 26 percent higher than the largest farm. In Arizona, which is considered fairly typical of the irrigated cotton lands in the West, the smallest farm's cotton and wheat production costs were 17 percent higher than those of the largest farm.

"These figures demonstrate that commercial farmers simply have more flexibility and more options in combining resources which minimize cost," Propst told the committee. "This, in turn, means lower costs of food and fiber to consumers around the world."

He also cited Farm Census data indicating that, on an unweighted average basis, cotton yields on the largest farm in all 14 major cotton-producing states were 19 percent higher than on smaller farms.

"We cannot see how the vague 'benefits' cited by the land-reformers and advocates of a restricted 'small farm' agriculture could possibly outweigh the very sizeable yield and cost advantages we have cited for larger commercial farms," Propst said. "This issue is not just a question of reclamation benefits for farmers; it is also one of supply and cost of food and fiber to consumers."

Propst said each individual farmer should be free to use his managerial talents and financial resources to the extent he—not the government—determines to be feasible. "To deprive him of this freedom would seriously hamper the total productive capability of U.S. agriculture and establish a dangerous precedent."

The Compere Homemakers Extension Club met April 11 in Mrs. Vivian Winter's home in Merkel, with Goodman Club hostess and Compere and Stith clubs furnishing refreshments for a special meeting on "Safety Precautions."

Mrs. Amie Price, Goodman president, presided for the meeting. Mrs. Odessa Butler, from Goodman, gave the prayer. Mrs. Mashburn from Stith directed a "question and answer" game.

Mrs. Price introduced the speaker Mr. Waymon Adcock, Merkel Fire Chief. He spoke on "Safety precautions". He said most safety precautions explain itself. Always check iron cords and never leave one plugged in when not in use. He said the octopus plug ins are good when not over loaded, but do not have more than three plug ins to the outlet for safety. For stoves, do not use rubber house for connections, as it crystallizes over a period of time, and breaks up copper tubing.

Use gas only in motors. Gas cans are dangerous stored in the house. Store outside of house in a safe can, but never in a glass or plastic container. Do not use for cleaning. Naptha can be used safely but use caution.

When pans of grease on a stove are on fire, cover with a tight lid to smother fire. Never use baking soda. It will explode when stove burners are on fire use a 5

William McConnell

William Homer McConnell, 74, of Merkel, died at 9:15 a.m. Thursday at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Dallas following a lengthy illness. Services were at 2 p.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church in Merkel.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor of Caps Baptist Church, officiated. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 10, 1905, at Princeton, Ky., he moved to Texas at three months of age. He had lived in this area ever since. He served with the Army Air Force during World War II. He was a member of the Baptist church.

Survivors include a brother, G.D. McConnell of Everman; an aunt, Mrs. George S. Dunning Sr., of Abilene; and several nieces and nephews.

Dancing set

The Chris Abilet Folklorico's from Lubbock, Texas, will present a program on the history of Mexican folk-dancing Saturday night, April 19th. The show will feature young people ages 11 to 17 who will perform folk dances of Mexico, in costumes.

Carmen Moreno, an ex-Merkelite, is the group manager. They have performed in Austin, Ft. Worth, Dallas and the Lubbock area. Before coming to Merkel on Saturday, the Folkloricos will perform at Texas Tech this week.

Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church is sponsoring the program which will be held at 7:30 in the Merkel High School Auditorium.

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy two hours of colorful, musical entertainment. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Prices are \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 12.

Compere club holds monthly meeting

pound powder extinguisher. Trash cans and ash trays are unsafe. Never use a plastic trash can. Avoid using plastic in the home. In case of fire, close doors and windows to contain the fire until help reaches you. Tubes blown mean trouble. Use caution in lighting water

heaters. Know your job before undertaking to light the heater. A good fifty-foot garden hose, connected to a strong hydrant, may be the best way to extinguish the fire, before you could have time to call the fire department.

A gift of appreciation was presented to the

speaker from the three clubs.

The Jones County Extension Agent, Mrs. Wilburn was present. Refreshments were served to the speaker and

twenty-three ladies.

Those attending from Compere Club were Mrs. Clyde Chancey, Hugh Taylor, Hazel Spurgin, Ab Hunter, Dewey Ramsey, Clyde

Mims, Clayton Dillard, Don Adair.

All meetings are open to everyone regardless of race, creed, color, sex, national origin or economic circumstance.

Goodmen club meets, next topic, saving energy

The Goodman Extension Homemakers Club met in the home of Mrs. Vivian Winters, hosting the Stith and Compere Homemakers Clubs with 21 members and 3 visitors. Prayer by Mrs. Dennis Butler. Game by Mrs. Roy Mashburn from Stith.

Program, on Fire Safety Precautions was given by Mr. Waymond Adcock.

Points-check regular your ironing cord and extension cords, plug ins and be sure and don't overload.

Stove connections. Don't store or use gasoline in the house. Be sure and keep a fire extinguisher in the house.

Refreshments were furnished by the Stith and Compere Homemakers Clubs and was served to Mrs. Nocy

Wilborn the agent from Anson, Mrs. Irene Pomroy, Vada Hudson, Margret Dickerson, Genoa Shaw, Daisy Mashburn, Donna Carter, Louise Hudson, Frances Carter, Belvie Butler, Odessa Butler, Sue Mines, Mary Evarie Dillard, Jone Adams, Hazel Spurgin, Bertha Hunter, Annie Taylor, Louise Chancey, Fannie Ramsey, Vivian Winters Annie Price, Delores Adair, Minnie Cary.

A quilt will be put up in the home of Mrs. David Carter, the 21th of April.

The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. Minnie Carey the 25th of April. Program, Save Home Energy by Ronnie Freeman.

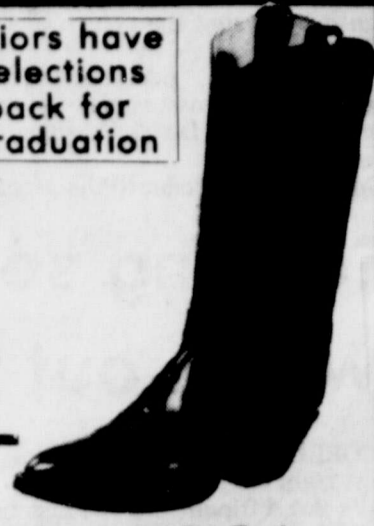
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Fortnightly Study Club meets, discusses history

Mrs. Earl Hughes and Mrs. Ed Sandusky were hostess for the April 8 meeting of the Fortnightly Study Club at the Big Country Inn.

Mrs. J.W. Hammond presided for the business meeting. Groups were assigned to work Brick Haven, Shannonside and Pleasantville for the Cancer Crusade with Mrs. Carl Hughes, Maurine White and Mrs. Andy Shouse group captains. A letter was signed endorsing the return of voluntary prayer to public schools.

Mrs. Shouse, president-elect, gave a very favorable progress report on plans for the 1981 Spring Mesquite District Convention meeting here in Merkel.

Mrs. Dixon introduced the program "International

Affair" with a quote from Franklin Roosevelt. "We have learned we cannot live alone, in peace; that our own well being is dependent on the well-being of other nations far away."

Mrs. Dixon gave a very informative discussion of The New China. She said one-fifth of the world population lives in China on one-tenth of the land to give an idea of the masses of people there. The New China era began in 1958 with a treaty with Russia which was dissolved after about ten years duration. The Cultural Revolution under Mao with its attempt to equalize all peoples has meshed into a more recent Industrial Revolution to try to make China into a modern and productive nation.

In trying to control population growth, incentives

and special privileges are given young people who do not marry too young and limit a family to one child and no more than two children. But the old adage of "happiness is many sons" is hard to change.

Oil resources and exploration is one of the problems before the new China. The government is easing restrictions on private enterprise and allowing new people with more democratic ideas in government. The universities are being re-estab-

lished in order to train specialists in engineering and scientific fields. Also the ban on certain types of theatre and music is being lifted to an extent.

Those attending were Mrs. S.D. Gamble, Mrs. Johnny Cox, Miss Avis Deavers, Mrs. S.C. Dixon, Mrs. J.W. Hammond, Miss Mildred Hamm, Mrs. Comer Haynes, Mrs. Carl Hughes, Mrs. Earl Hughes, Mrs. Allen King, Mrs. Ed Sandusky, Mrs. Andy Shouse, Mrs. Aaron Sudderth, Miss Maurine White and Mrs. Alf Walla.

Canning season almost here, watch out for botulism

COLLEGE STATION—Canning season is here—so do it right!

It's not difficult, but it must be done properly to avoid food poisoning, such as botulism, in the words of a foods and nutrition specialist.

Here's most of what you need to know as outlined by Mary K. Sweeten with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, the Texas A&M University System:

Before you start canning, carefully read reliable water bath or pressure-canner instructions for preparing, packaging and processing each food.

You can get this information from your local County Extension Office.

Proper canning procedures ensure that food is kept

safe to eat—since it will be processed with high heat and then kept safe with an airtight seal.

High heat destroys harmful bacteria and other microorganisms that cause food spoilage. Also, it inactivates enzymes that cause undesirable changes in flavor, color and texture.

But the heat must be extremely high for non-acid foods—only a pressure canner can provide this necessary temperature.

Although many people love to be creative and make up their own recipes, canning isn't the place for this—each time you add a different food, you may alter the needed processing time.

This is especially tempting with tomato or squash relish—so be sure to use a recipe that has been tested and proven safe.

Coupon refunding explained

The deadline is approaching and there you are, hunting for a label to take advantage of a refund offer. In order to get the maximum benefits from refunding you need to get yourself organized.

The first step is to find a corner where you can keep all of your refunding materials together. Refunders have been known to take over a section in front of the television set, set up boxes under the bed and use when heeded or commandeered the garage or basement. Then get all the paraphernalia needed to refund together: envelopes, stamps, pens, scissors (to cut out qualifiers) and most of all the qualifiers.

Putting qualifiers in an order where you can find them when needed will increase your time and efficiency. For instance, file all can labels together, separate by company (such as Campbell's, Libby's, etc.). Put all cereal boxtops and boxbottoms together (along with a proof-of-purchase panel from side of boxes). Small proof-of-purchase seals (such as those found on Nabisco boxes) are easy to find in a stamp album or individual envelopes. Large boxes should be peeled to reduce space, place the box in a plastic bag, sprinkle a small amount of water, tie up, wait for the box to absorb the moisture and then peel the excess paper from the box, dry, then file for future use.

There are many different systems in use to save and locate qualifiers for the fabulous refunds available but the best one is the one that works for you!

For a sample refund bulletin that lists several hundred refund offers, send \$1.00 to Shopper's Bonus, P.O. Box 109, Marksville, LA 71351. For a free listing of over forty refund bulletins, send a long self-addressed stamped envelope to the same address. Here are some offers to try:

The R.J. French Co., P.O. Box 22719, Rochester, NY 14692. 50c cash refund, send the top half of a French's Taco Seasoning Mix package and proof-of-purchase from ground beef purchase (register receipt or price sticker). Limit one refund per family. Offer expires 12-31-80.

Baker's Offer, P.O. Box 2027, Kankakee, IL 60901. Four 25c coupons on Baker's Coconut or Chocolate bars. Send two front panels from any size packages of Baker's Coconut or Baker's German Sweet Chocolate, Unsweetened Chocolate, or Semi-Sweet Chocolate. Limit one per family. Offer expires 12-31-80.

Free Astro Commander Offer, Box 2695, Reidsville NC 27322. Free Astro Star Commander Kit, send three proof of purchase seals from Kellogg's Cocoa Krispies for each one ordered. Offer expires 11-31-80. Great gift item for children!

The Duraflame Co., NB373, El Paso, TX 79977. \$1. in coupons, send six red flames from Duraflame firelogs. For 50c in coupons send three. Offer expires 4-30-80. This is form required and you can obtain the form by writing to Duraflame Coupon Offer, Dept. OOS, P.O. Box 24305, Oakland, CA 94623.




Congressman
Charles W. Stenholm
Congressional Comment

A TASK FORCE to explore the government's efforts to protect farmers from the effects of the Soviet grain embargo has been formed recently and I have been asked to be a member.

The Government Operations Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations and Human Resources, which oversees the Department of Agriculture, requested the investigation, which will be headed by Congressman Glenn English of Oklahoma.

Our primary concern will be to look into actions by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, following assurances that farmers would be protected from the kind of market slump which we are experiencing following the embargo.

But when we look at Federal expenditures in the energy-related area, we find Texas receives only 1.1 percent of the national total, placing us in 22nd position.



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If it's not ringing where you're working, chances are you'll never make it.

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USDA'S actions.

It is important that the commitment that the Administration made to American farmers be met and I hope that our efforts will contribute to a swift solution to the drop in market prices.

YOU MIGHT be interested to know that Texas ranks high on the list of states receiving the most Federal funds — third, in fact. But, when compared on a per capita basis, our ranking in the share of tax monies drops drastically, to the 29th position.

According to the Federal Information Exchange System, Texas received \$26.2 million in Federal funds during fiscal year 1979, 5.6 percent of the national total. Only heavily populated California and New York received more.

But on a per capita basis, the District of Columbia received the lion's share — 22 percent of the total, or almost \$23,000 per individual.

Texas ranks 41st in the nation in the amount of Federal funds spent for education per student, primarily because our strong state tax base — supported by oil and gas production — carries the burden for education.



READY TO SERVE KRAFT DIPS \$0.59
8 OZ. CTN.



LIGHT N' LIVELY SINGLES \$0.49
3 OZ. PKG.



KRAFT SQUEEZ-A-SNAK \$0.79
6 OZ. PKG.

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT PRICES EFFECTIVE APRIL 17-19, 1980 SPECIALS GOOD WHILE SUPPLY LASTS - LIMITED SUPPLY

Trent News

Thursday, April 17, 1980

Johnson wins second in science air

The Abilene Science Fair is over and Trent has a winner. Cody Johnson was awarded second place in the Jr.

High Physical Science division for "Optical Illusions." It will be on display in the Science Room on Friday.

All our Trent students that went are winners and they should be recognized and congratulated. They are Adam

DeLa Cruz, Teddy Woods, Steven Shreiner, Sandra Griffith, Cheryl Freeman, Matt Jackson, James Freeman,

GrBeasley, Christy Kird, Elizabeth Ray, Ida Griffith and Fan Hambrick. Sial thanks go out to s. Kraatz, Mrs. Sli Mrs. Woods and McKinnard for their behind support.



A&M economist says

it's dangerous to use food in diplomacy

COLLEGE STATION--Use of food as a tool of international diplomacy poses a serious threat to the Texas economy, declares an economist in marketing and policy with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System.

"The result of continued use of food as a diplomatic tool will result in the loss of our competitive edge in the international market for food grains, feed grains and cotton," Dr. Ron Knutson says.

Two billion dollars worth of Texas agricultural products moved into export markets in 1978. In addition, more than \$5 billion worth of agricultural products moved through Texas ports from out of state, Knutson adds.

"By analyzing the countries that have bought grain from the U.S., it appears that food diplomacy strategies could affect 80 percent of the wheat exports, 76 percent of the rice exports, 58 percent of the feed grain exports, 23 percent of the soybean exports and 60 percent of the cotton exports," the economist says.

Such adverse effects to Texas, Knutson explains, would result from the U.S. being a less favored grain supply source for importing countries. American agriculture would truly become a market of "last resort" for importing countries. In years of favorable worldwide production, Texas farmers would be left "holding the bag" in terms of surplus stocks, low prices and high storage costs.

Texas grain merchandizing and transportation firms would be adversely affected by lower volume of grain handled, he adds.

Effective use of food as a tool of international diplomacy will require centralization of export decisions in the government, Knutson believes.

"It has become increasingly apparent that the Russian grain embargo is not effective," Knutson declares.

The embargo was supposed to prevent Russia from obtaining 17 million metric tons of grain from total anticipated Russian imports of 35 million metric tons. Shifts in world trade patterns, combined with second and third party sales of U.S. grain to the Russians, now makes it appear that Russia will get all-or nearly all-the grain it originally anticipated buying. Even the U.S. Department of Agriculture now admits that Russia will be able to obtain 30.5 million metric tons of the desired 35 million tons, the economist says.

"Centralization of exports in the hands of the U.S. government would destroy the free enterprise system in grain marketing," Knutson declares. Major grain marketing firms would simply become handlers and shippers, he points out, and sales and prices would be determined politically on the basis of government-to-government negotiations.

Herbert Beaver, 440 relay in regionals

The Trent Gorillas will be represented in four events when the Regional Track Tournament rolls around after Herbert Beaver jumped

and sprinted his way to three second place finishes and the 440 relay team grabbed second in last week's district tournament held at Rob-

ert Lee Friday. Herbert qualified in the long jump with a leap of 20'3", and ran a 11.13 100 meter and a 23.55 220 yard dash to

grab three seconds. The Gorillas 440 relay team will also compete in regionals as they placed second with a 45.8.



Trent students do well in UIL

The following Trent High School students competed in the District 17B UIL competition.

Todd Richardson won the headline writing di-

vision and Leslie Masonheimer won the spelling contest.

Darla Ross placed third in feature writing, Debbie Jackson placed

fourth in poetry interpretation, Todd Richardson placed fourth in slide rule, Kim Richardson placed fifth in feature writing, Rebecca Sipe placed sixth in news writing and Mike De La Cruz placed sixth in spelling.

Masonheimer and Richardson qualified for regional competition.

Mexico bound exports up

AUSTIN--Agriculture Commissioner Reagan V. Brown and seven representatives of Texas farm producer groups met with top federal officials in Mexico City March 20-21 to discuss methods of speeding up return of grain cars and increased purchases of Texas farm goods.

"We conferred with the director general of the main agency in charge of purchasing grain for the Mexican government and the

Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Industry," Brown said.

Both assured us that there would be continued purchases of products from the U. S. with at least 90% of their imported grain coming from America."

The Commissioner said that possibly more sales would be made if shipping hindrances in Mexico can be eliminated. "We've had a problem with railcars

stacking up in Mexico, waiting to be unloaded, creating shortages here. We discussed the steps that have been taken so far to improve the situation there with the director general of the national railroad to Mexico.

"I believe that movement of grain will go smoother in the future," he said.

Accompanying the Commissioner were Lindell Coan of Gorman, Texas Peanut

Producers Board; Bill Nelson of Amarillo, Texas Wheat Producers Board; Elbert Harp of Lubbock, Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Board; Berwin Tilson of Plainview, Texas Soybean Producers Board; Othal Neeley of Waco, Texas Certified Seed Producers, Inc.; Carl King of Dimmitt, Texas Corn Growers Association, and Fred Bruggel of Dimmitt, Texas Grain and Feed Association.

MUSTANG CORRAL ROPING CONTEST

WIN A \$50.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE
NO ENTRY FEE NEEDED
CONTEST STARTS THURS.-APRIL 17th
FINALS SATURDAY 2:00 PM-APRIL 19th
DETAILS AVAILABLE AT ARROW FORD.

COME BY AND JOIN THE BEST
ROPERs IN THE BIG COUNTRY

WHILE YOU'RE THERE-GET YOUR
FREE WESTERN HAT WITH THE PURCHASE
OF ANY NEW LIGHT TRUCK OR VAN.

THE SELECTION LOOKS GREAT!

IT'S WESTERN DAY
AT

ARROW  4001 S.1st
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SPECIAL PRICES Friday & Saturday April 18 & 19

- Gadiola FLOUR 5 Lb Bag 89¢
- H-Dri TOWELS Large Roll 47¢
- Ma Tucker's 42 Oz Can SHORTENING \$1.29
- DR PEPPER 2 Liter Bot. 95¢
- Maryland Club COFFEE 1 Lb \$2.79
- Ideal Liquid 32 Oz Bot. DETERGENT 69¢
- VIP 2 Lb Jar GRAPE JELLY 79¢
- Homogenized IG 1 Gal Jug WHOLE MILK \$2.06
- Banquet Frozen CREAM PIES Ea 67¢
- Whole Sun Frozen 12 Oz Can ORANGE JUICE 67¢
- Fresh TOMATOES Lb 39¢
- Yellow ONIONS Lb 13¢
- No. 1 Russet 10 Lb Bag POTATOES 87¢
- Sunkist ORANGES Lb 29¢
- U.S. Choice Lb CHUCK ROAST \$1.59
- 1 Lb Pkg BEEF STEAKS \$1.89
- Fresh PORK BUTTS Lb 89¢
- 12 Oz Pkg STEAK FINGERS \$1.59
- Armour Star BACON 12 Oz Pkg 89¢
- Gooch 12 Oz Pkg GERMAN SAUSAGE \$1.29
- Sun Valley OLEO 1 Lb 43¢

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**NGB ART 783-4
PLANTING YOUR FIRST
VEGETABLE GARDEN?
FOLLOW THIS PLAN**

Research by the National Garden Bureau indicates that many beginning gardeners have only a hazy idea of the mature size of vegetable plants. Also, beginners often fail to leave sufficient space between rows.

All it takes is one successful garden to make each succeeding vegetable garden a breeze. Yet, first gardens are, more often than not, overly large, crowded and poorly arranged, with tall plants in the front and frequently harvested vegetables stuck way in the back.

Your next vegetable garden can be as pretty as a picture, sensibly arranged and of a practical size. Use this National Garden Bureau plan as a model and be sure to:

Plant no more than you can care for with ease in four to six hours each week.

Select varieties that are adapted to your area.

Plant at the season recommended on seed packets.

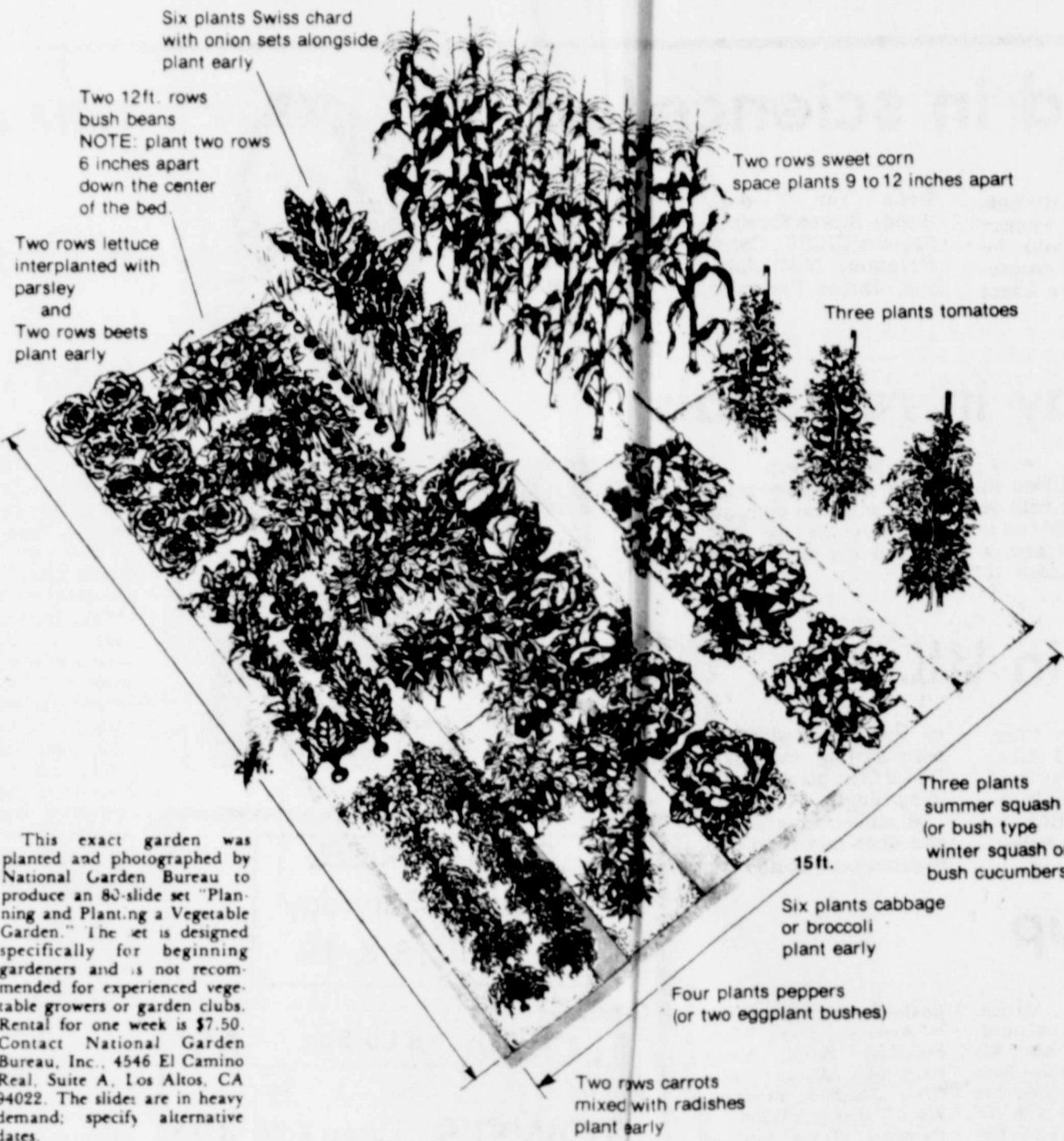
Allow plenty of space for plants to grow; thin ruthlessly.

The 500 sq. ft. National Garden Bureau garden is 20 x 15 ft., about the size of a 1-car garage. It is designed to accommodate 13 kinds of vegetables and will supply most of the fresh vegetables needed by a family of three. It can be weeded, watered and harvested within an average of two hours' time each week.

Seeds for this garden will cost about \$6.50 yet, from it, you can harvest \$150 or more of delicious vegetables, depending on the length of your gardening season.

You might not care for some of the vegetables shown in the plan. Substitute others of comparable plant size. Seed packets and gardening books can advise you. Your County Cooperative Extension Service offers free bulletins on vegetable gardening and lists of locally recommended varieties.

Depending on the length of the gardening season in your area, you can plant "succession crops" as soon as you have harvested the vegetables shown in this plan. Over most of the country, leafy salad vegetables, cabbage family members, and root crops can be planted as succession crops as late as August for fall harvest.



This exact garden was planted and photographed by National Garden Bureau to produce an 80-slide set "Planning and Planting a Vegetable Garden." The set is designed specifically for beginning gardeners and is not recommended for experienced vegetable growers or garden clubs. Rental for one week is \$7.50. Contact National Garden Bureau, Inc., 4546 El Camino Real, Suite A, Los Altos, CA 94022. The slides are in heavy demand; specify alternative dates.

Vegetable Garden plan featured in the slide set "Planning and Planting a Vegetable Garden." Produced by National Garden Bureau, Inc. and All-America Selections, 4546 El Camino Real, Los Altos, CA 94022.

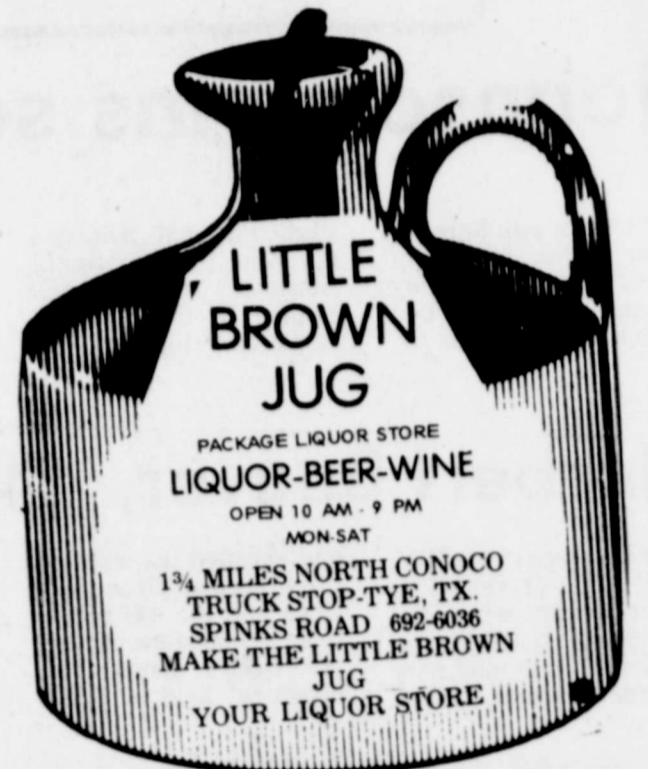
**National Garden Bureau Plan
for 20 ft. X 15 ft.
Vegetable Garden**

DIVID GARDEN INTO FIVE BEDS, EACH 2 ft. WIDE,
WITH WIDE WALKS BETWEEN BEDS

Son born to Brown's

Bobby and Mignon Brown announce the birth of a son, Joshua Heath, born April 1, 1980. Maternal grandparents are Onis and Latina Crawford of

Merkel. Paternal grandparents are Rev. and Mrs. Robert Brown of Petersburg, Texas. Paternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Velma Darby, Winter Garden, Florida.



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1 G MILK VIT. D \$2 ⁰⁹ GAL	GOOCH BLUE RIBBON BACON 1 LB PKG 98¢	DEL MONTE BANANAS 3 LBS FOR \$1 ⁰⁰
LOWFAT FOREMOST BUTTERMILK \$2 ⁰⁵ GAL 98¢ HALF GAL	GOOCH FULLY COOKED ROUND HAMS \$1 ³⁹ LB	CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES PINT 59¢
KRAFT 6 OZ AMERICAN SLICED CHEESE REG 98¢ 79¢	GOOCH PORK ROAST 89¢ LB	TEXAS RED GRAPEFRUIT 5 LB BAG 98¢
LAND OF LAKE LONGHORN CHEESE \$2 ¹⁹ LB	GOOCH 12 OZ PKG GERMAN SAUSAGE \$1 ³⁹	TOMATOES LB 49¢
***** ALL CIGARETTES \$5 ⁴⁹ CARTON *****	GOOCH 12 OZ PKG FRANKS 89¢	SUNKIST NAVAL ORANGES 3 LB FOR \$1 ⁰⁰
MORTON'S CHIPS REG 69¢ EACH 2 FOR \$1 ⁰⁰	***** GOOCH SLICED BOLOGNA 98¢ LB *****	TEXAS YELLOW ONIONS 2 LBS FOR 29¢
TIMEX WATCHES 20% OFF	HORMEL PRESSED HAM \$1 ⁵⁹ LB	ORANGES 4 LB BAG 98¢
KEEBLER 1 LB BOX CRACKERS 79¢	***** DEL MONTE CREAM STYLE WHITE OR YELLOW CORN NO. 313 2 FOR 79¢ *****	RUSSET POTATOES 10 LB BAG 98¢
2LB 3 OZ CASCADE \$1 ⁵⁹	DEL MONTE WHOLE NEW POTATOES 2 FOR 69¢	*****
LIQUID JOY 32 OZ \$1 ⁴⁹	HUNTS 8 OZ TOMATO SAUCE 4 FOR \$1 ⁰⁰	MUSSELMAN NO. 303 APPLE SAUCE 2 FOR 89¢
	KRAFTS CHEEZ WHIZ 16 OZ \$1 ⁸⁹	SUGAR FREE OR REG DR. PEPPER 2 LITER \$1 ⁰⁹
		FISHING WORMS FISHING SHRIMP FISHING SUPPLIES ***** ICE CHESTS

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A T T E N D

the annual meeting



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Cooperative

9a.m. April 17th,

Taylor County Coliseum

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Allen-Cypert Tax Service

Arrow Ford

Ben Franklin Store

Big Country Inn

Money Insurance Agency

Cal-Tex Feed Yard

Carriker Food Store

Carson's Supermarket

Castille's Hardware and Gifts

Circle A Western Wear

Dairy Queen

DuBose Texaco

El-Tye-O Trailer Sales

Farmers and Merchants National Bank

Higginbotham-Bartlett

Home State Bank

Humphreys Village

Max Murrell Chevrolet

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Merkel Mail and Printing

Ninth Street Grocery and Mobil Gas

Palmer Pontiac and GMC

Planters Gin

Taylor Telephone

Wylie Truck Terminal and Restaurant

Shop and GO with SAVINGS



RAIN HAIR SPRAY 7.5 OZ CAN 98¢

NABISCO

VANILLA WAFERS 12 OZ BOX 79¢

HAND LOTION WONDER LOTION 10 OZ BOTTLE \$1.49

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CREAMY CRISCO 3 LB CAN \$1.89 1 LIMIT WITH 10¢ IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

DEL MONTE 303 Fruit COCKTAIL 2 FOR 99¢

CONTADINA 300 Tomato SAUCE 2 FOR 63¢

CONTADINA 300 WHOLE TOMATOES 2 FOR 73¢

HUNTS 300 Tomato JUICE 2 FOR 59¢

ROTEL 300 WITH SNAPS Blackeye PEAS 2 FOR 63¢

TRELLIS 303 Sweet PEAS 2 FOR 63¢

GREEN GIANT 303 Green BEANS 2 FOR 73¢

TEXSUN 46 OZ Grapefruit Juice EA 73¢

FOREMOST Butter MILK 1/2 GAL CRTN 98¢

IG DAIRY FRESH HOMO MILK GAL JUG \$2.09

IG DAIRY FRESH LOWFAT MILK GAL JUG \$2.03

FROZEN FOODS

BIRDSEYE COOL WHIP 8 OZ TUB 69¢

PEPPERIDGE FARM 12 OZ APPLE TURNOVERS EA 89¢

JENOS ASST. PIZZAS JUMBO EA 98¢

COUNTRY TIME - PINK LEMON ADE 6 OZ 2 FOR 39¢

HI-C POWDER DRINK MIX 29 OZ CAN \$1.49

RAINBOW 8 OZ PICKLES SWEET 2 FOR 89¢

MARYLAND CLUB COFFEE WITH 10¢ IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES LB \$2.49 1 LIMIT

GOLD MEDAL FLOUR 5 LB BAG 89¢

SUPER POP POP CORN 1 LB BAG 23¢

ARROW H.D. 18'25" ROLL FOIL WRAP 63¢

BETTY CROCKER MIXES SNACK CAKES 69¢

PECAN NUT & CHOCOLATE BOX 69¢

COCA COLA 2 LITRE BOTTLE 98¢

BAMA RED PLUM JAM 16 OZ JAR 73¢

FACIAL TISSUE KLEENEX 200 CT BOX 69¢

WESTINGHOUSE - SOFT WHITE LIGHT BULBS 40-60 W. 2 PACK 69¢

SUGAR SWEET STRAWBERRIES BEST of the BERRY PATCH! CALIFORNIA 59¢

TEXAS RUBY RED GRAPEFRUIT 5 LB BAG 98¢

FRESH TOMATOES LB 49¢

SUNKIST ORANGES LB 33¢

DEL MONTE BANANAS LB 33¢

TEXAS GOLDEN YAMS LB 29¢

RUSSET SPUDS 10 LB BAG 98¢

CLEARFIELD SINGLE-SLICED CHEESE 12 OZ PKG \$1.29

WOLF TAMALES BEEF 300 CAN 55¢

OLEO PARKAY SQUEEZE LIQUID POUND 73¢

ARMOURS LUNCHEON MEAT TREET 12 OZ CAN \$1.19

HUNTS TOMATO CATSUP 26 OZ JUG 59¢

SPILLMATE TOWELS JUMBO ROLL EA 63¢

LOVE MY CARPET CITRUS CLEANER 2 OZ CAN \$1.49 "IT'S NEW"

PURINA COUNTRY BLEND CATCHOW 22 OZ BOX 59¢

Extra Lean PORK CHOPS Tender...Tasty...Terrific

MERKEL LOCKER SAUSAGE 2 LB BAG \$2.25

HORMEL VALVE SLICED BACON LB 88¢

GOOCH BR-CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS LB \$1.89

FRESH GROUND BEEF LB \$1.69

ARMOURS FRANKS REG OR BEEF 12 OZ \$1.19

GOOCH BR STEAK T-BONE LB \$3.09

GRADE A FRYERS CUT-UP LB 69¢

WHOLE BOLOGNA \$1.29

DETERGENT PUREX GIANT BOX 69¢

LIQUID JOY 93¢

SOFTNER BOUNCE 20 CT OX 93¢

BROASTED CHICKEN WE TAKE CALL IN ORDERS 8 PIECES FEEDS 4

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

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS

CARSON'S SUPER MARKET MERKEL, TEXAS FRESH VEGETABLES BEST MEATS IN TOWN

