

# The Merkel Mail

Thursday, July 23, 1981...Merkel, Texas-Merkel's 100th year

15 cents

## Plans on block grant funds started; \$545,000 first year budget

by Cloy A. Richards

The planning has already started for Merkel's \$1.3 million Community Development Block Grant implementation and city manager J.A. Sadler told the Mail Monday that no additional city employees will be needed to administer the grant.

Major projects include paving, water works, water tower repairs, housing rehabilitation, the construction of a community center and a new city park.

The project, which has two-one year phases, will see construction starts as early as October.

Sadler attended a seminar in Arlington last week for city personnel that have received block grants. In the seminar, the ins and outs of the program were further explained, as well as the distribution of instruction manuals for the volumes of paperwork that go along with the funds.

Sadler told the Mail he felt Merkel's performance on the last three federal projects was the key to the funding this time around.

The project's first year will see \$157,000 spent on water distribution improvements. About 13,750 linear feet of 6" water line will be installed. Sadler said that main line will increase pressure and eliminate many of the dead ends in the city water system. Also in the project, two more crossing under the Missouri-Pacific tracks will be made and nine new fire hydrants will be installed.

Construction should start Dec. 1 and be completed in April of 1982.

The Merkel water tower will be painted in Badger purple and gold as well as cleaned and repaired. Cost of the project is \$55,000 and work should get started in October and completed in December.

Sadler said he felt the tower was adequate to meet the needs of Merkel currently, but said another, smaller water storage facility should be looked at in the near future.

A chlorination station will be built at a cost of \$18,000. The city does have one station, but it is in Tye and chlorination levels are not what they should be here. Sadler said the project would ensure a clean, germ-free water supply here. The project will start in December and be completed in February, 1982.

Under housing rehabilitation, \$125,000 is budgeted for the first year and the same the next year. The program is intended to make border line houses more stable and will be funded a need basis. Twenty-five units will be rehabilitated and applications will be accepted between October and December this year. The Mail will have details on the application procedure when they become available.

In the solar energy program, ten solar panels will be installed in the first year and the same the next year. Most of the panels will be for providing hot water and the cost is set at \$30,000. Applications will be accepted in January, 1982 and that project will get started in April.

Work on the preparation of setting minimum housing and business codes has already been started and will be a \$20,000 project. The zoning and standards will give the city power to condemn and have property destroyed at the owner's expense, if those properties do not meet

minimum standards.

The city will also be writing in lot appearances in the code, as well as zoning of residential and business areas.

The enforcement of the codes will begin in January, 1982.

While an application for \$90,000 is pending with the state parks department, Merkel will get a city park on the North side with \$90,000 in federal funds. Construction should be started in April, 1982 and be completed in July.

A community center will be built at the east end of the block across from Pleasantville. The center will have a large meeting room, and a kitchen that could be used for a Meals on Wheels, or other nutrition programs.

A comprehensive plan will also be created for the city, at a cost of \$50,000. That project has already started and will be delivered in final form in June, 1982.

The city manager said he was especially excited about that project because it will give the city goals and time tables for correcting existing problems.

Sadler also said the plan would take a good look at city facilities, and the community as a whole. The major program in the second year is a \$424,000 paving project.

Streets proposed to be paved on the North side include West-1st and 2nd, Thornton- 2nd to I-20, Lamar-2nd to 6th, Taylor- 1st to 6th, 2nd- one half block between West and Thornton, 5th between Lamar and Taylor, 3rd between Lamar and Edwards.

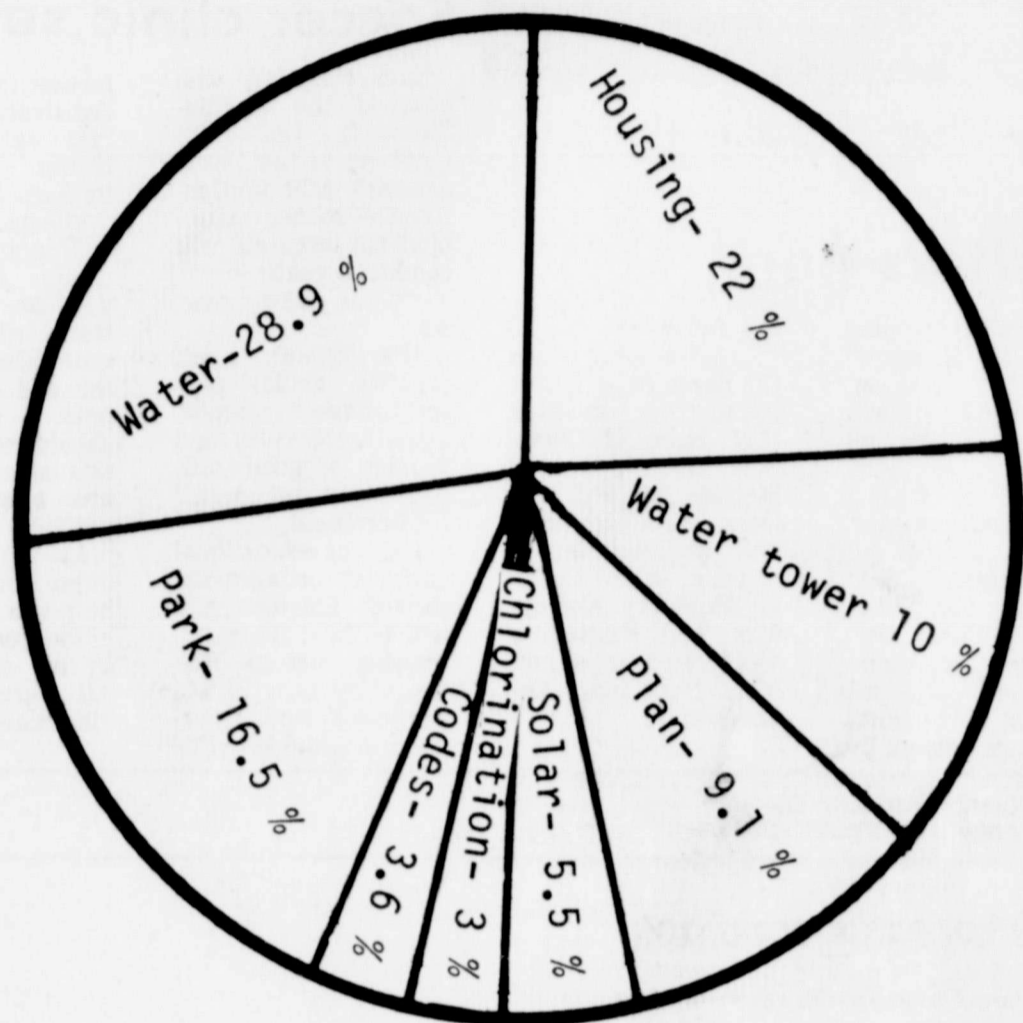
Proposed paving on the south side include Orange-1st to 7th, Rose- 4th to 7th, 2nd- between Cherry and Orange and 7th- between Cherry and Orange.

Also included in the second year is \$25,000 for demolition of dilapidated structures and clearing lots.

Sadler said the block grant would address most of the short-term community needs, but he also gave his opinion on future needs. Sadler said "Maintenance of existing facilities will be vital and we also have a need for additional housing, both from private and government sources. I would not hesitate a second to file an application for further government sponsored housing here when we show completion certificate to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. We also need strict code enforcement on private property here to make sure we don't see weeds, trash and debris on lots in town. We also need the city and the private sector to get together on local needs. There never has really been a concerted, combined effort between the city and the private sector to identify and address problems here."

Sadler went on to say he felt the existing city staff could administer and watch on construction progress during the two year block grant period. He said some folks would have additional duties and will put in additional hours.

Sadler agreed that many of the projects funded during the next two years might have never been accomplished if not for the federal funding. He explained, "We applied for the money because we knew it was available. Had we not applied, the money would have been granted to some other community, but Merkelites would have paid their share in taxes for that money."



Slicing the federal pie

This chart shows the percentages of first year projects in the Community Development Block Grant. Total expenditures the first year is set at \$545,000. Some of the planning work has already started. (Staff art by Cloy A. Richards)

## MISD budget compared to averages

The largest increase in school property taxes in history was adopted by school trustees last year, according to the report Bench Marks for 1981-82 School District Budgets in Texas published by the Texas Research League.

Tax bills mailed by the 1,070 school districts in Texas totaled almost \$2½ billion—a whopping \$393 million increase over the previous year. Statewide the increase was 18.8 percent.

The increase for Merkel ISD was 44.8 percent.

Last fall school districts adopted budgets for 1980-81 calling for spending averaging \$1,928.95 per student for current operations. MISD's budget called for \$1701.02 per student based on the 962 students in average daily attendance in 1979-80.

The average salary for classroom teachers paid by MISD in 1979-80 was \$12,239 which was 3 percent above the minimum salary prescribed by the state. The average among all school districts in Texas was \$14,101 per classroom teacher, or 13.7 percent over the minimum.

### Board sets special tax discussion tonight

MISD Trustees will meet in special session tonight (Thursday) for a tax rate discussion.

There was an average of one teacher for each 17.5 students in MISD, as compared to a statewide pupil-teacher ratio of one to 16.5.

School districts are permitted to levy local property taxes above the local share of the Foundation School Program and to use the proceeds to "enrich" the program prescribed by the legislature. In 1980-81 the average school district levied property taxes five times the amount required for the Foundation Program and used the funds to enrich the program by an additional \$695 per student. Enrichment from local taxes in MISD was \$832 per student.

School districts must adopt new budgets for the 1981-82 fiscal year which begins September 1st. The tax assessor must calculate a tax rate that would produce the same revenue that was levied last year. If trustees anticipate adopting a rate that is more than three percent greater, a quarter-page notice must be published and a series of public hearings on the tax rate must be held.

The meeting will start at 8 p.m. in the high school library and the meeting is open to the public.

## Feds, golf tourney, baseball playoffs, football, auction, cotton, jumper wins

by Cloy A. Richards

Complain as you will about federal programs, but Merkel's participation in HUD's Community Development Block Grant program may have been a lifesaver for our town.

By being semi-familiar with the city budget and operation of the city, one can easily see the \$424,000 paving project would be out of reach of the budget, as well as the \$157,000 destined for water system improvements and the \$55,000 planned for water tower work.

Some may scoff at \$60,000 for solar hot water heaters here, and \$90,000 for a northside city park, but those projects will also fill local needs. Maybe not needs having the same priorities as others here, but needs none the less.

In a conversation with City Manager J.A. Sadler Monday, it was easy to tell Sadler is very excited about the project, and relieved as well.

The programs under funding are things the city needs or would need shortly and Uncle Sam, through you and I, is footing the bill.

Sadler should be commended by all Merkelites for knowing the grant application procedures and the ins-and outs of dealing with the feds.

The Merkel Country Club is hosting a two man scramble Saturday and Sunday. Entry fee is \$70 per team and four flights will receive McGregor irons for first, McGregor woods for second, McGregor bags for third and balls for fourth.

Entries are still being accepted at the club and more information is available at the club, or from Steve Shugart and Walter Harris.

The Texas Teenage Baseball League's District tournament will be held here Monday through Wednesday. Admission is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for teenagers. No admission for children under 12.

It's almost time for two-a-day football practice. That get's underway August 10th. Physicals for male athletes are August 5th and August 6th for female athletes.

The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department is holding an auction Saturday downtown on North Second.

It's a good chance to pick up on some items at auction prices, as well as sell any items from your home. The Department will keep ten percent of the sale price.

The cotton crops look good, the price stinks, so far. Then again, that's the way it usually goes.

Merkel's Brad Pursley won the pole vault in Dublin and will be competing in the university games soon.

The Mail will run softball results and standings if they are submitted from the adult softball leagues that recently started. Remember, our deadline is noon Tuesday.

## Fire dept. auction set Saturday

The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department will be holding their auction Saturday starting at 9 a.m. on North Second, in the street between Hick's Auto and Adcock's Cleaners.

The department will accept any item for sale and keep ten per cent of money collected from sales.

The auction was originally planned for July 4th's Fun Day but was rained out.

Persons wishing to continue their Fun Day booths may do so. So far, only one commitment for a spot has been received. Jim Giesler will be

selling woodwork.

Items that will be sold include two butter churns, a pair of wagon wheel lamps, an old sewing machine, refrigerator, 10 x 12 rug, a Shetland pony, devan, reclining chair, old dishes, dishes of all kinds and a rubber raft. Merkel Volunteer Fire Department Chief Wayne Adcock said the rest would have to be seen to be believed.

The public is invited to bring any item to be auctioned, or may donate items for sale to the fire department.

## Merkel's tax rebates up 24 %

Although Merkel's June rebate of the local option one per cent state sales tax rebate dropped \$1,500 from the same period last year, Merkel's rebates are running 24 per cent ahead of 1980 rebates according to the State Comptroller's Office.

Merkel's June check was \$1,330, compared to \$2,574 the same period last year.

Merkel has received \$27,752 so far this year, compared to \$22,207 for the same period last

year. Tye is still maintaining a 34 per cent increase over last year's rebates, although the June rebate dropped slightly from last June.

Tye received \$4,070 and that pushed the yearly rebates to \$30,722 so far.

Trent did not receive a check in June.

Local merchants collect the tax along with the state four per cent sales tax and the Comptroller's Office rebates the one per cent to the city in which the tax was collected.

## County appraisers in Trent today

Appraisers from the Taylor County Appraisal District will be re-evaluating properties inside the Trent City Limits starting today (Thursday) according to the district.

The county has finished most of the Merkel

reappraisal and Mr. Welcome of the district said he found most Merkelites cooperative.

Appraisers from the district should not enter homes, but may want to ask questions concerning the property.

## Athletic physicals set Aug. 5 & 6th

Physicals for Merkel High athletes have been scheduled August 5th and 6th according to MHS athletic director Eddie Lang.

Boys physicals will be held August 5th from

4:30 until 7 p.m. The physical is required for all sports and the school will not be responsible for cost of the physical if the date is missed.

Physicals for female athletes will be held August 6th at the same time.

# All-Stars downed

by Ronny Powell

Yes, the baseball season is officially over for the Merkel Little League All-Stars. After Merkel had thrashed Winters, 6-0, it looked like Merkel might have been on their way. All they had to do was beat Anson and Ballinger. Note, that's all they had to do. Easier said than done. Merkel played Anson on Tuesday, July 14. In the 1st inning, Anson jumped on Merkel scoring 3 runs, two on wild pitches. And a third on a single. Anson had runners at first and second, Danny Santee was the Merkel pitcher. He walked the next batter to load the bases. Coach Hernandez, then pulled Santee and brought in Ricky Doan, who did a good job to get out of the inning. For Merkel, in the first Maury Oler got it started on a walk with one out. Romono Moreno was up next and he slapped a single to left field moving Oler to second. Todd Yaddow up next grounded out for two away, but moved the runners on over to second and third. Then up came Russell Morgan, who has been able to come through with a key hit to get things started, and did just that, as he blasted one in to centerfield scoring Oler and Moreno. That was all the scoring for Merkel in the first, as Willie Brazelton grounded out to end the inning Anson 3 Merkel 2. In the second Anson scored nothing but Merkel exploded in their half for five big runs. Ricky Doan got it started on a single. Lee Leverich up next who smashed one down the first baseline for a 3 bagger scoring Doan, to tie the game. David Doan was up next, he grounded to 3rd, Leverich was tagged out trying to steal home for one away. Brit Pursley up next, nailed one down the left line for a 2 bagger, putting runners at 2 and 3. Then came Maury Oler who can hit the ball when he has to and did so looping it to center field and scoring Doan, and Pursley, making it 5-3 Merkel. Moreno was tagged out later at second also later Merkel scored Oler. Yaddow nailed a hit and Morgan up also got a hit scoring Yaddow to make it 7-3. Willie Brazelton grounded out to end a supergood inning. In the 3rd Anson was shut out again. The 3rd showed speedy Ricky Doan crush one into center for a 2 bagger. Leverich up next who gladly dropped one into right field for a hit and scored Doan. That was the only score of that inning making it 8-3 Merkel. But then came the 4th, as Anson exploded for 6 big runs and take a 9-8 lead as Ricky Doan just could not hold Anson off. Todd Yaddow came on to pitch, Anson scored 3 runs off Yaddow, to take a 9-8 lead. For Merkel in the 5th, they got the tying run as Morgan slashed one to left field scoring Yaddow. Morgan ended the inning as he was tagged out at home. Neither team scored in the 6th but in the 7th, Anson scored 3 big runs to lead 12-9. Merkel could score only one that being Yaddow, scoring from 3rd. Anson beat Merkel 12-10 in a real heartbreaker. Merkel would then meet Ballinger on Thursday with the winner playing Anson again for the championship. The winning pitcher was Todd Ranwater the loser was Todd Yaddow.

Thursday the 16th, Merkel vs. Ballinger, in this game it was the team from Runnels County

rolled, stomped, kicked and danced to an easy 14-2 victory over Merkel. Ballinger scored 12 ugly runs in the first 3 innings before Merkel got 1 in the 3rd that being Dean Franklin who was walked home on bases loaded. Ballinger later added 2 more runs to make it 14-1 Ballinger. The only other run Merkel got was when Moreno scored when Todd Yaddow singled him home from 3rd. The final score was again Ballinger 14 Merkel 2.

The winning pitcher was Cory Lee, the loser was Ramon Moreno.

Also Cory Lee nailed a 3 run homer for Ballinger.

Ballinger beat Anson 9-0 to win the central division championship.

In closing out this 81 Merkel Little League Season you can probably say it in one word, SUCCESS. As long as there are people like Jimmy Leverich working the system there will always be a successful Little League in Merkel and I am talking for most everyone in the MLL system. Have a nice fall and winter and I'll see you in baseball action next summer.

## Teenage tourney here

Merkel will host the district tournament of the Texas Teenage Baseball League Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Teams competing will include Snyder, Brownwood, Sweetwater and Anson.

The tourney is being played in a double elimination format and the winner will advance to the state meet in Ranger.

Admission will be \$1 for adults and 50 cents for teenagers. There will be no admission charge for children under 12.

Boys participating are in the 16 through 18 age bracket.

## George Tomlinson buried here

George Riley Tomlinson, 80, of Merkel died at 9:45 p.m. Thursday at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene after a short illness. Graveside services were at 10 a.m. Saturday at Rose Hill Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home with the Rev. Russell McAnally officiating.

Born Dec. 16, 1900, in Alvord, he was an oil field worker before retiring in 1964. He

moved to the Merkel area in 1966, and for the last several years was a night auditor at Big Country Inn in Merkel.

Two brothers and a sister preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, a son, Howard of Merkel; a sister, Mrs. J.F. Cason of Merkel; two grand children; and several nieces and nephews. Nephews were pallbearers.



Becky Watts & Dolin Morris

## Watts' engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Watts have announced the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca Lynn, to Dolin Nile Morris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Buster Welch of Sweetwater, and Mr. Nile Morris of Lubbock.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Merkel High School and is employed by Physicians Physical Ther-

apy Center in Abilene. The prospective bridegroom is also a graduate of Merkel High School. He attended Texas Tech University and is employed by Wilburn Drilling Company of Abilene.

The couple plans a September 19th wedding at the First United Methodist Church in Merkel.

## Soccer clinic set

Sam Parham, who coached the Hardin-Simmons University Cowboys to the Trans America Athletic Conference soccer championship last Fall, will conduct a youth soccer camp at MSU, Aug. 3-7.

"Participants will practice drills, play scrimmage games, learn basic rules and develop a good attitude about the sport," Parham said.

The co-educational camp is for ages six through fourteen and will be held 2-5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is \$45 per child and insurance is provided. For

further information on registration call 677-7281, ext. 250. Registration continues through July 30.

The group will meet at Portmore Field at MSU. Refreshments will be served and there will be a daily swimming period at the end of the workouts. Participants should bring a swim suit since no cutoffs are allowed in the pool.

At the end of the camp, an award will be given to the player of the week as selected by the other players. All participants will also receive a t-shirt.

## Visitors here

Visitors this past week in the homes of Mrs. ... Mr. and Mrs. Mack Seymore, of Merkel and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh R. King of Lake Sweetwater were: Mr. Jerry W. Holder of Manaus Brazil, S.A. and Mr. and Mrs. Lowen W. Burch, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Holder and Leslie all of Tulsa, Oklahoma. They were joined by

the following ... Mr. and Mrs. King (Allen D.) home for a family reunion: Mr. and Mrs. R.N. Reed of Clovis, N.M., John C. Reed of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Gary D. Worthington and two daughters of Abilene, Matt Carter of McMurry College, Mrs. Tom Russom of Mulberry Canyon and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Weston.

Comptroller of the Currency  
Administrator of National Banks

### REPORT OF CONDITION

Consolidating domestic subsidiaries of the  
The Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Merkel  
In the state of Texas at the close of business on June 30, 1981  
Charter number 7481 National Bank Region Number 11

Statement of Resources and Liabilities		Thousands of dollars
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and due from depository institutions		5,070
U.S. Treasury securities		2,326
Obligations of other U.S. Government agencies and corporations		-0-
Obligations of States and political subdivisions in the United States		409
All other securities		23
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell		1,000
Loans, Total (excluding unearned income)	7,954	
Less: Allowance for possible loan losses	70	
Loans, Net		7,884
Lease financing receivables		-0-
Bank premises, furniture and fixtures, and other assets representing bank premises		151
Real estate owned other than bank premises		9
All other assets		565
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>17,437</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations		6,170
Time and savings deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations		8,265
Deposits of United States Government		2
Deposits of States and political subdivisions in the United States		889
All other deposits		-0-
Certified and officers' checks		48
Total Deposits		15,374
Total demand deposits	6,485	
Total time and savings deposits	8,889	
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		5
liabilities for borrowed money		-0-
Mortgage indebtedness and liability for capitalized leases		380
All other liabilities		15,759
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES (excluding subordinated notes and debentures)</b>		<b>15,759</b>
Subordinated notes and debentures		-0-

MEMORANDA EQUITY CAPITAL		(par value)
Preferred stock	No shares outstanding	-0-
Common stock	No shares authorized	150,000
	No shares outstanding	150,000
Surplus		375
Undivided profits and reserve for contingencies and other capital reserves		928
<b>TOTAL EQUITY CAPITAL</b>		<b>1,678</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY CAPITAL</b>		<b>17,437</b>
Amounts outstanding as of report date:		
Standby letters of credit, total		-0-
Time certificates of deposit in denominations of \$100,000 or more		490
Other time deposits in amounts of \$100,000 or more		110
Average for 30 calendar days (or calendar month) ending with report date:		
Total deposits		15,068

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.

Betty Jane Tittle  
Vice-President - Cashier

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.

Directors: Dan W. Hensley, [Signature], [Signature]

Betty Jane Tittle  
July 15, 1981

**PRICES EFFECTIVE  
JULY 23-25, 1981  
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST**

<p><b>BORDEN'S COTTAGE CHEESE</b> 12 OZ. CTR. <b>79¢</b></p> <p><b>RATH'S BOLOGNA</b> 12 OZ. PKG. <b>\$1.19</b></p> <p><b>RATH'S COOKED HAM</b> 5 OZ. PKG. <b>\$1.49</b></p> <p>49 OZ. SIZE <b>CHEER \$1.50</b></p>	<p><b>DELICIOUS RATH'S FRANKS</b> 12 OZ. PKG. <b>99¢</b></p>
<p>1 OZ. JAR <b>NESTEA</b> <b>89¢</b></p>	<p><b>BURRITOS</b> 3 FOR <b>\$1.00</b></p>
<p><b>FOLGER'S COFFEE</b> REGULAR DRIP ELECTRIC PERK 1 LB. CAN <b>\$2.29</b></p>	<p><b>BORDEN'S SHERBET</b> ASSORTED FLAVORS 1 GAL. CTR. <b>\$1.59</b></p>

**ALLSUP'S CONVENIENCE STORES**  
"THERE'S ONE NEAR YOU"

# Pets Are A Family's Best Friend



There's something special about that furry, four-legged member of the family with the cold nose. Maybe it's the happy eyes or reassuring nudges he gives you when you're down. Or maybe it's the loving lick or purring welcome she greets you with after a hard day at work.

### Pets Bring Families Together

Dogs and cats are important companions. As members of the family, pets bring love, security, self-confidence and just plain fun to everyone. What's more, they bind a family together, says Dr. Boris Levinson, psychologist and professor emeritus at Yeshiva University in New York City. Pets act as effective family stabilizers and mediators because, Levinson says, they offer love,

affection and unconditional acceptance. In addition, they provide an outlet for expression and a focal point for affection.

A pet's ability to cement family relationships is more important today than ever. Pets bring families together and close growing gaps between generations.

In addition to their emotional benefit, pets have been found to be good for your physical health. A recent study conducted by researchers from the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Maryland reveals that heart patients who are pet owners have a better chance of survival than patients who don't own pets. The study says pet owners, such as hard-working fathers, may live longer because pets offer them extra, needed comfort.

### Everyone's Friend

For mothers who want more exercise, a four-footed friend makes an enthusiastic jogging or walking partner. The frisky friend can also entertain the children, giving mom added pleasure.

Dogs and cats teach children about love and loyalty. They also build a child's self-esteem and confidence by expressing love and loyalty in return. Pets help children learn about trust and responsibility as well as nature.

Finally, for grandmothers and grandfathers, pets make growing older a bit easier by supplying companionship and by relieving loneliness.

"The fact is," says Dr. Michael Fox, noted veterinarian and author, "contact with healthy animals on a regular basis gives pleasure and a proven psychological boost to everyone."

## Legal notice

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Charles Wayne Noe, 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 First Amended petition of James Edward Galloway and Evelyn Elaine Galloway, Petitioners, filed in said Court on the 13th day of July, 1981, against Charles Wayne Noe, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 4129C on the docket of said Court and entitled "In The Interest of Charles Johnathon Bridges, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to terminate parent-child relationship and that Edward Wayne Galloway be granted a decree of adoption of such child. Said child was born the 30th day of September, 1974, in Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado.

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

## 294 oil & gas discoveries in June

Texas operators reported 110 gas and 184 oil discoveries in June 1981, the Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas Division announced today.

In the year-earlier month, 110 gas and 51 oil discoveries were filed with the state's energy regulatory agency.

Gas discoveries in the sixth month of the year included 24 in deep South Texas, 23 in Southeast Texas, 20 in the Refugio area, 17 in West Central Texas, six in the San Antonio area, five in North Texas, four in East Texas, three each in the San Angelo and Midland areas, two each in the Panhandle and Lubbock areas, and one in East Central Texas.

Oil discoveries included 140 in Southeast Texas, at Abilene, Texas, this the 15th day of July, 1981.

Irene Crawford, Clerk 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas by Rella Mahony, Deputy.

18-11c

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: Mark S. Willingham, Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition at or before ten o'clock A. M. of the Monday next after the expiration of twenty days after the date of service of this citation before the Honorable County Court at Law of Taylor County, Texas, at the Court House of said County in Abilene, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court, on the 15 day of April A.D. 1981 in this cause, numbered 12,568 on the docket of said court, and styled, The Citizens National Bank in Abilene, Plaintiff, VS. Mark S. Willingham, Defendant.

The nature of Plaintiff's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Original Petition, accompanying this citation and made a part hereof.

**DODIE'S**  
**KUT & KURL**  
118 EDWARDS  
928-4815

**SYBLE'S**  
**BEAUTY**  
**NOOK**  
215 EDWARDS  
928-4858

Roofing and Roof Repair All Types Angel Lerma 928-5419

HOW TO WIN AT THE LOSING GAME  
**DIET CENTER**  
**THIS IS THE LAST WEIGHT-LOSS PROGRAM YOU'LL EVER NEED**  
• CALL TODAY •  
695-4590

**FLY**  
LOWEST FARE **CHAPARRAL AIRLINES**  
NON-STOP  
To Dallas-Love Dallas/Ft. Worth Houston-Hobby and Austin Connections World-Wide Now With 52 Flights Daily. Call your Travel Agent or 677-3337

**HOUSEWARMING**  
There will be a housewarming for Amy Mae and Marshall Tutt, Saturday, August 1 at North 4th and Taylor, in Merkel, from 3 to 4:30. Hostesses for the occasion are Karlen Hardy, Ruby Hammond, Mitzie Hart, Gail Baker.  
Selections are at Ben Franklin.  
Friends and Relatives are invited.

## Sloan graduates

Tommy Sloan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sloan of Rt. 1, was one of 683 students at Abilene Christian University who received degrees during the University's 75th Annual commencement ceremony in early May.

Sloan was a candidate for the Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business. He is a 1977 graduate of Merkel High School.

James Murray

## buried in Rockfort

James Gordon Murray died on June 18th in the Veterans Hospital in Houston of pneumonia and Alzheimer's disease. He graduated from Merkel High School in 1933 and Texas A&M in 1941. He retired in 1962 from the U.S. Navy as a commander. He was employed by the State of Texas until his illness last September.

He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Murray and is survived by his wife, Betsy; four children, John G. of Dallas, Lucy of Charlotte, N.C., Dean C. of Dallas and Ellen of Lubbock; one brother, H. Dean Murray of Arlington; two sisters, Mrs. Marvin Johnston of Oklahoma City and Mrs. James Benshoff of Charlottesville, Va.

Funeral and burial were held on Sunday, June 21st at Rockfort, Texas.

Memorials may be made to: Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders, National Hdq., 292 Madison Ave., 8th floor, N.Y., N.Y. 10017.

## Dear Editor...

My mother, Mrs. John Mansfield, and I want to tell you how much we enjoyed your special Centennial Edition of the Merkel Mail.

I was happy to see you used the picture of the football team of 1932 that I sent. I wish some of the other old-timers had turned in their family histories, i.e., Toombs, Moores, Coxes, Pattersons and others.

I especially enjoyed the article on West Texas Utilities Co. I will remember all the managers named. My

## Newsbriefs

daddy, John Manstieic was serviceman and lineman under each of them. He worked nearly thirty years. Also my husband and brother worked for them, all at the same time, back in the 30s and 40s. My dad also work-

ed in Trent. He always loved the people in Trent, almost as well as everyone in Merkel. Congratulations on a fine paper. We enjoy it each week.

Sincerely,  
Caribel Moore  
(Mrs. L.V.)

## 2-Year Hold Placed On State Loan Guarantees

AUSTIN--No loan guarantees under the Texas Family Farm and Ranch Security Loan Program will be made until after September 1, 1983. Agriculture Commissioner Reagan V. Brown has announced.

The Legislature placed a hold on the program during the past session to provide time for review and to build up a monetary reserve.

Brown said that the Legislature passed the moratorium when it was apparent that no provisions could be made for appropriations for payment adjustments. These are called for in the bill which passed in 1979.

"We could see that the law could not be effectively implemented unless the Legislature granted such appropriations or alternatives," Brown said.

Approval was granted to allow investment of the bond proceeds in tax-exempt special and general obligation bonds. Such action removes the 10 million dollars in bonds sold in December 1980 from Federal arbitrage regulations.

"This postponement will allow us to invest our earnings on the bonds. We predict that the fund will generate about

\$300,000 before the next session of the Legislature. The original \$10 million will be intact," Brown said.

Payment adjustments reduce payments for the purchaser, with the state paying part of the interest for the first ten years. The buyer then repays the interest at the end of the ten years.

"As the program stands now, it does not offer enough incentives. And with the extremely high interest rates in the past year, there have been few who could afford to invest in farmland," Brown explained.

"Although we have received more than 2,000 requests for information, no applications for loan guarantees have been returned to the Texas Department of Agriculture since the program was instituted," Brown said.

In the two-year period, the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture will review the appropriations needed for making payment adjustments and will study other ways to strengthen the program.

THE MERKEL MAIL-MERKEL'S 100th YEAR

\*\*\*\*\*  
**SUMMER CLOSE OUT SALE**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
WESTERN SHIRTS VALUE TO \$20.00 **\$13.99**  
2 POCKET DRESS SHIRTS VALUE TO \$20.00 **1/2 PRICE**  
KNIT SHIRTS VALUE TO \$20.00 **1/2 PRICE**  
JARMAN SHOES VALUE TO \$45.00 **\$22.99**  
JOGGING SHOES VALUE TO \$15.00 **\$9.79**  
SUN DRESSES VALUE \$11.99  
TERRY SHIRTS VALUE \$9.99 **\$6.99**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
IT'S TWICE AS NICE TO SHOP  
**CRAWFORD'S**  
135 EDWARDS VISA OR 928-5612 MASTERCHARGE

Thursday **TEX** ★ **MART** Now Open  
Friday **TEX** ★ **MART** Sundays  
Saturday **TEX** ★ **MART** STORE HOURS 6 to 10  
Trent, Texas

**CANTALOUPE** 3 FOR **\$1.00**  
**PEACHES** LB. **39¢**  
8 OZ. **74¢**  
**COOL WHIP** **\$1.39**  
KRAFT DELUXE AMERICAN  
**CHEESE** **68¢**  
FRENCHES BIG TATE AU GRATIN  
**POTATOES** 5 1/2 OZ. **\$1.69**  
DOUBLE ACTION COLGONITE  
**Dishwasher Soap** 27 OZ. **59¢**  
PET EVAPORATED  
**MILK** 13 OZ. **79¢**  
HEINZ 14 OZ.

**FOR SALE REAL ESTATE**

**FOR SALE:** Pump septic tanks and grease traps. C. A. Crouch, 928-4439. 15-4tp

**FOR SALE:** 12 x 20 metal building, practically new, Charley Massey, 1211 North 2nd, 928-5104. 18-2tc

**FOR SALE:** chest type Amana deep freeze, call 928-5255. 18-1tp

**FOR SALE:** 1978 Chevrolet Impala station wagon, good gas mileage, call 928-5717. 18-2tc

**FOR SALE:** 18 foot camper trailer, 1975, self contained, refrigerated air, sleeps 4, call 928-4165 or 928-5671. 18-1tc

**GARAGE SALES**  
GARAGE SALE: 3 family garage sale, 512 Taylor, beginning at noon Friday. 18-1tp

**GARAGE SALE:** Thursday and Friday, South 2nd and Lois, lots of little girls clothes sizes 8-10, lots of misc. 18-1tp

**3 FAMILY GARAGE SALE:** 902 Rose, Friday only. 18-1tc

**GARAGE SALE:** 1005 Locust, Friday, 1-5, Saturday 9-5, clothes and misc. 18-1tp

**GARAGE SALE:** chest of drawers, portable closet, games, toys, clothes, little bit of everything, 1108 N. 5th, Friday and Saturday. 18-1tp

**YARD SALE:** Gordon Pursley's, 1 mile from I-20 North on Fm. Rd. 126, Friday and Saturday, clothes, jewelry, odds and ends. 18-1tc

**GARAGE SALE:** 8 a.m. til 12 noon on Saturday Only. 2nd circle behind Avondale No. 3. 18-1tc

**CARPORT SALE:** Saturday Only. five families, dishes, clothes, fruit jars, odds and ends. One half mile west of Stith, FM 605, E.L. (Babe) Tarpley home. 18-1tp

**FOR RENT**

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

**FOR RENT:** Small trailer house, come by 512 Rose. 18-2tc

**PLEASE TELL ME WHY!** A 3 bedroom, 2 bath, home for \$20,000.00 is still on the market. It might be because it's all cash, but there's a possibility of assuming a note with payments under \$110.00 with \$12,200 equity. It needs work, but if fixed up, it could be a good investment. Call Jackie Shay 692-4747, Century 21 Alden Cathey 692-8311. 13-TFC

**Lawn Properties, Inc. MLS**

**208 Marion, 3 br., 1 bath, owner may carry; 18.2 acres good investment, paved frontage, city water; 407 Manchester, rock, 2 br., 1 bath, owner carry; Trent- 3 br., den, fireplace, 1 3/4 bath, remodeled, nice on 5 acres of land, owner will finance; Trent-4 br. house on S. 5th and Main; Brick 3-LR-1 in Merkel, equity 7,500; Mobile home 14 wide furnished, 12,000 cash.**

We buy equities and pay all closing costs. Call us for all your Real Estate needs. Call Betty Stautzenburger, 862-6329. Lawn Properties Inc., 695-1880.

**Real Estate Investors**

31465 14th Abilene, Texas 79605

**NEW HOMES!** Quality construction in Humphrey's Village, priced 68.5 and up, excellent location to work and play, call today Jackie Shay 692-4747, Century 21 Alden Cathey, 692-8311. 18-TFC

**HOUSE FOR SALE:** 4 bedroom, living room, den, 2 1/2 lots, fruit and pecan trees, fire alarm in most rooms, priced to sell, Cyrus Pee, Agent. 17-3tc

**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

**HELP WANTED** Now taking applications for nurses aids, housekeepers, laundry and vacation relief for dietary. Starr Nursing Home.

School bus drivers needed for school year 81-81. Certification classes, August 4-7, 9 a.m. til 3 p.m. Contact Leon Harris, 928-5127 or Mr. Bill Everett, Superintendent, 928-5813.

# The Classifieds

**NEED SOMEONE** to do fence repair, also have an old building to tear down, will give away all the materials to whoever tears it down, come by 410 Manchester. 18-1tc

**NEED** IMMEDIATELY nurses aides, cooks, dishwasher, housekeeper, full and part time, apply in person at Starr Nursing Home 18-TFC

**NEED** a housekeeper one day a week, 928-9788 or after 5:30 928-4376. 18-1tp

**HELP WANTED:** now taking applications for all shifts for clerk. Apply in person at Alsups, see Sue, also need stocker. 18-TFC

**LOST:** Red, White faced Brahman, cross cow, strayed from 2 1/2 miles north of Merkel on FM 126, call John Lanford, 928-5194. 18-1tc

**CARD OF THANKS**

The kindness and sympathy of neighbors and friends in our recent sorrow will always remain with us as a precious memory. Our sincere thanks and gratitude for all those comforting acts. Mrs. George Tomlinson, Howard and wife. 18-1tp

We would like to thank all the wonderful friends and neighbors who were so kind to us during the illness and loss of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother. The food, flowers, prayers, and comfort extended to us will always be remembered. Also a special thanks to the workers of the Starr Nursing Home. The Family of Laura Orr. 18-1tp

**MISC.** NEED house for rent at least three bedrooms, fenced yard (if possible), 862-6291, around Merkel or Trent area. 16-4tc

**WALLPAPER HANGING:** Scenic and murals a speciality. Call 928-4365. 17-4tc

We buy junk parts and cars and we do auto repair. call 928-5932. 16-4tp

I pump septic tanks, and grease traps, C.A. Crouch, 928-4439.

**H** All kinds of insurance for all your needs **MOND** INSURANCE AGENCY 129 EDWARDS 928 4122 692-5184

**WINDOW & SCREEN REPAIR** New-Repair-Rescreen 112 South St. Tye, Texas 79663 Box 332

**Notice** CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: WAYNE WELCH, Respondent GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326 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 Janice Riley Brewster and Larry A. Brewster, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 12th day of June, 1981, against Wayne F. Welch, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 5758-C on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of Tammy Jene Welch, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request to Termination and Adoption. Said child was born the 14th day of December, 1972, in Breckenridge, Texas. The Court has the authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the 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 under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this 15th day of June, 1981. Irene Crawford Clerk 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas By Rella Mahoney, Deputy 15-4tc

**THE STATE OF TEXAS** To: Cynthia Lou Ann Henson, who may be served at 1180 Prairie Creek, Apt. No. 257, Dallas, Texas, Defendant, Greeting: You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition at or before ten o'clock A. M. of the Monday next after the expiration of twenty days after the date of service of this citation before the Honorable County Court at Law of Taylor County, Texas, at the Court House of said County in Abilene, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court, on the 27 day of March A.D. 1981 in this cause, numbered 12,541 on the docket of said court, and styled, The Citizens National Bank in Abilene, Plaintiff, vs. Cynthia Lou Ann Henson, Defendant. The nature of Plaintiff's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Original Petition accompanying this citation and made a part hereof. 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 under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this 27 day of March, A.D. 1981. Attest: Janice Lyons, Clerk County Court Taylor County, Texas By Marie Gill, Deputy 17-4tc

**NOTICES** NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INCORPORATE Notice is hereby given that D.B. Electric whose principal business office is at 504 Kent, Merkel, Texas, Taylor County, intends, on June 1, 1981, to become incorporated. CAN HAUL DIRT, ROCK & GRAVEL LEVEL & REPAIR DRIVEWAYS FREE ESTIMATES CALL ANYTIME HAROLD WALKER PHONE 928-5872 202 CHERRY Need A New Water Well Drilled? Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets ROBERT HIGGINS 928-5998

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**BRAGGS** Department Store THE FINEST IN NAME BRANDS 213 Edwards 928-5811

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**GERMANIA FARM MUTUAL AID ASSOC.** HOME AND PROPERTY, AUTO, LIABILITY DONNA CARTER, MODEANIA COOK NUBIA EXCHANGE 846-4871 MERKEL EXCHANGE 928-5348 NOLAN EXCHANGE 798-4918

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**NOTICE** Notice Of Board Of Equalization Meeting Dear Sir: You are hereby notified that the Board of Equalization of Merkel Independent School District in Taylor and Jones Counties, Texas, duly and regularly convened and now sitting for this year. You are hereby notified to be and appear before said Board of Equalization at 9:00 a.m., July 22, 1981, at the School Building, Merkel, Texas, at which time and place said Board will then consider any evidence you may elect to submit as to the value of said property for taxable purposes. The Board, on said date, will from the evidence now before it, and such additional evidence as may then be before it, finally fix, determine and equalize the value of your property for taxable purposes for the current tax year. By order of the Board of Equalization of Merkel Independent School District, Taylor and Jones Counties, Texas. Vicki Thomas Tax Assessor-Collector Merkel Independent School District 17-2tc

**Professional Saw & Tool Sharpening** 122 South St. Box 332 Tye, Texas 79663 Phillis & Harold Boyd (915) 692-5184

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**The Merkel Mail** Established in 1889 Cloy A. Richards Editor-Co-Publisher Melanie Richards Co-Publisher Cathy Pack Business Manager Carol Dillon Production Martha Sue Justice Advertising Mgr. Published weekly at 916 N. Second St. Merkel, Tx. Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas 79536 as second class mail. Subscription rates are \$7.50 per year inside Taylor County and \$8.25 elsewhere. Member of the Texas Press Association. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the Mail will be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher. For Classified Rates \$1.50 minimum for the first four lines (18 words). Excess of 4 lines 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 \$1.00 minimum for the first 50 words, 4 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. Serving Merkel in it's 100th Year

## Cotton growers should use defoliant before desiccant to help early harvest

In their process of shortening the cotton season to complete harvesting before the late summer storms, Texas farmers are increasing their need for a chemical defoliant at harvest time, cotton specialists say.

"We want to get the cotton harvested as soon as possible," explains Dr. Robert Metzger, extension cotton specialist at Texas A&M University. "But, desiccants used to prepare the plants for harvest, such as paraquat or arsenic, require a 75 to 80 percent open boll count to be economically effective and also to prevent yield reduction."

To help beat the bad weather, Metzger says, growers can use a defoliant before the desiccant to hasten opening of the mature bolls. The defoliant should be applied when 60 percent of the bolls are open.

Weather conditions are important for this application, according to Doug Nail, Mobil Chemical Company's product manager for Folex defoliant.

"The ideal weather conditions for applying defoliants are warm and sunny days with night time temperatures above 65 degrees F," Nail told the Farm American News Service. "Average conditions—55 to 65 degrees—may require a higher rate of defoliant for good results."

A desiccant is ensured better coverage on large plants when a defoliant is applied first. Once the desired defoliation has taken place, which may range from four to seven days, then a desiccant is applied.

Spray coverage is crucial with both defoliants and desiccants to get the full effect of the chemicals. The materials don't translocate, so they have to reach each leaf at application. Experts recommend five gallons of spray per acre minimum for aerial application.

At least 15 gallons of spray per acre should be used with ground equipment, and up to 12 gallons by air or 30 gallons on the ground for a tall, rank crop. Large spray droplets help to get the defoliant down into the plants, where it can knock off bottom leaves as well as the upper canopy.

One important rule of thumb Metzger stresses is: don't defoliate acreage faster than you can harvest it. "For example, you shouldn't defoliate 500 acres at one time if you have the capacity to harvest only 250 at any given time," Metzger points out.

If the harvest is delayed, there's an opportunity for regrowth. The second growth adds excess moisture which hampers storage and ginning, and may even impart a green stain to the cotton, which lowers the lint quality.

## Noodle High reunion held

The 1956 and 1957 graduating classes of Noodle High School held a reunion at the Merkel Country Club Saturday night. Class members attending were: James Allred, Myrna Patterson Allred, Dallas; Elva Allred Hatfield, Noodle; Frankie Sullivan Spurgin, Anson; Gloria Lawlis, Abilene; Larry Olney, Abilene; Morris Chancey, Austin; Johnnie Mae Horton Woodard, Hawley; Clara Frances Hill Pettit, Lubbock; Jeanette Lucas Pursley, Parkersburg, West Virginia; Merkel; Clinton Spurgin, West Virginia.

### West graduates

Jeanie West, daughter of Mrs. Mary Lou Hicks of Rt. 1 and Mr. B. R. Fincher of Abilene, was one of 683 students at Abilene Christian University who received degrees during the University's 75th annual commencement ceremony in early May.

West was a candidate for the Bachelor of Science in Education degree. Her field of study was Elementary Education. She is a 1972 graduate of Merkel High School.

### Walters scholarship

William Walters, an incoming freshman, has accepted a \$300 Residence Hall scholarship to attend West Texas State University during the 1981-82 academic year.

Depending on the available funds, a number of Residence Hall Scholarships are offered to students who have demonstrated superior leadership and academic abilities.

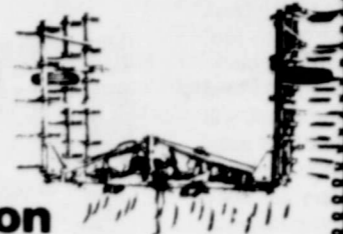
Walters, who is the son of Lillian M. Walters of 702 Yucca, is a graduate of Merkel High School.

### Gamblers set

The Country Gamblers will have a musical Saturday, July 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tye Community Center.

All bands are welcome. The admission is free and the concession stand will be open. Everyone is welcome to come enjoy the good music.

## Mounted field cultivators with Real-Action shanks give you soil-stirring action for thorough incorporation



Hitch-mounted design makes this field cultivator maneuverable for easy turns. Comes in sizes of 9 1/2 to 24 1/2 feet. Stop and see us soon about a hitch-mounted John Deere Field Cultivator with vibrating spring-reset shanks.

### Stop in and see our big-job tractor

Stop by the store now and see our 4640. We have one in stock and ready to solve your big-job problems with big-job power and big-job strength. It will give us great pleasure to point out all the features from stem to stern, from the 83-gal. (U.S.) fuel tank to the heavy drawbar. No matter how you size up a tractor, you'll find that this 4640 has been sized up to please you. But you'll want to hurry. With its power and strength, this 4640 may not be here long.

## 155-hp 4640



### Lots more than power from a big-job tractor

Big-power jobs demand something equally important — big-job strength. And strength is the 4640's strong point. Evidence is everywhere — a 466-cu.-in. engine, long wheelbase, plenty of built-in weight, multi-pinion differential, big final drives, big drive axles. Even the drawbar is bigger and heavier than on the model it replaces. Big-capacity cooling systems are used for engine coolant and transmission/hydraulic oil. Stop by the store for more details on the big-job strength of a 4640.

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3526 S. TREADWAY

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FOURTH PLACE - BALLS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT WALT HARRIS- STEVE SHUGART OR

THE COUNTRY CLUB

## Wildlife management tips from A&M

Wildlife is an important product on farms and ranches of Texas as well as other states in the Great Plains area.

"Farmers and ranchers of the Great Plains have always had an interest in the wildlife on their lands," says Dr. Wallace G. Klusmann, head of the Texas A&M University Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences Department.

Klusmann, who as Department head, is a joint employee of both the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, has served as the first chairman of the newly-formed Wildlife Resources Committee of the Great Plains Agricultural Council.

The committee will give priority to the development of opportunities with wildlife and fisheries resources as they relate to the farm and ranch lands throughout the Great Plains states, Klusmann adds.

"Crop and rangeland wildlife will be the focus of the Wildlife Resources Committee. While state agencies have been effective in attacking wildlife resource problems within their states, the goal of the committee is to identify wildlife resource problems that cross state boundaries and coordinate efforts of member agencies in their solution," Klusmann says.

He points out that many states share common wildlife problems and resources within the Great Plains area.

"Wildlife are mobile and cross political boundaries. Thousands of ducks produced in North and South Dakota, for example, winter on the croplands of the High Plains of Texas. Farms

and ranches along the migration routes provide the main resting and feeding areas. Although waterfowl provide recreation opportunities, the damage they do to crops must be considered," he adds.

"We also have good pheasant populations in West Texas, but like those in Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota, their full potential is not reached," he believes.

Wildlife populations not only provide recreation from the standpoint of viewing and hunting, but can also be a major source of income to landowners who wish to lease their property to others for the privilege of hunting or viewing, Klusmann emphasizes.

"The committee hopes to consider many ways that wildlife resources can serve to improve the quality of life of people in the Great Plains," Klusmann adds.

The Great Plains Agricultural Council, of which the Wildlife Resources Committee is a vital part, is made up of directors of land grant university Agricultural Experiment Stations and administrators of various U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies within the 10 Great Plains states.

Among the participating USDA agencies are the Science and Education Administration, Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

"The Council's main function is to provide an organization for effective cooperation among member agencies in a voluntary, cooperative attack on problems of the Great Plains," Klusmann says.

## Russell reunion held at Sweetwater

The Russell reunion was held July 11-12th at Harris Hideaway on Sweetwater Lake. Some enjoyed golf on Saturday. Todd Warlick won the golf trophy. Doyle Russell of Merkel and Charles Russell of Neosho, Mo. won the game trophy. Russell Lucas told jokes and Kelly Russell entertained with his guitar and his good singing. Sarah, Bill, Russell and Teresa provided some good singing.

Charles Russell and Jimmy Gordon Russell made quite a speech before presenting their mother, Dorothy, and Anna May with a trophy. They were voted the honored Russell's this year.

Everyone enjoyed charcoaled Hamburgers Saturday night, a cook out breakfast Sunday and a big chicken dinner Sunday noon.

Those attending were: Shelly and Crystal Russell, Richardson; Chester and Mary Lou Price, Brownwood; Mr. and Mrs. John Warlick and Bill, Nancy, Todd, and Tami Warlick, both from Abilene; Charley, Pat, Kelly, and John Russell, Candian; Jimmy, Liz, and Charles Russell of Neosho, Mo.; Robin Wait, Abilene; Doyle and Rodney Russell, Danna and Dwain English, S.G. and Anna May Russell, Jimmy and Dorothy Russell, Connie, Robert, Melissa, Kris Harris, Sarah, Bill, Russell, Teresa Lucas, Anna Lou and Raymond Ferguson, all of Merkel; Guests were Bonnie and George English and Pug and Leo Harris.

Everyone voted to go to Brownwood Lake next July to Chester and Mary Lou's.

## Beard reunion

The Beard family met Sunday, July 13 at Cobb Park for an outing. There were 35 families attending. They were: Emily Estelle Beard of Merkel, Charlie, Louise, Nancy and Steve Beard of Abilene; Virginia Augua of Ira; George Beard of Ira; Katie Beard of Ira; GayLa Beard of Ira; Jerry Beard of Ira; Tommy Beard of Ira; Chrystal Beard of Snyder; Mike Beard of Snyder; Sissy Gilbert of Lampasas; Slim Gilbert of Lampasas; Albert Evans of Stith; Mr. and Mrs. James Milton Beard; Mr. and Mrs. Bug Isenburg of Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Row and Judah of Abilene; Gene, Minyon, and Shelly Seymore of Merkel; Lonnie Beard of Merkel; Roger and Gayla Beard and Eric of Merkel; Lorine Beard of Merkel; Homer Beard of Merkel; Shirley Benton of San Angelo; D.D. Benton of San Angelo; Billy Beard of Abilene; Eunice Isenburg of Merkel; Ginger Dunlap of San Angelo; La Donya Dunlap of San Angelo; Crystal Dunlap of San Angelo; Justin Dunlap of San Angelo; E.J. and Mary Steel of Anson; JoAnn Beard of Abilene; Gladys Isenburg of Abilene; Chris Isenburg of Abilene; Susan Fry of Abilene.

We will meet next year at Rose Park. We want everyone to come. The time is not set yet.

## Brenem's have son

Mr. and Mrs. Joey Lee Brenem, of Merkel, are proud to announce the arrival of a son, Johnathan Wayne born July 14, 1981. He weighed 9 lbs. He has a sister, Jennifer.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. E.V. Walters. Paternal grandmother is Mrs. J.E. (Carolyn) Stevens of Trent and grandfather is Johnnie Brenem of Gatesville.

## King's have daughter

Paul King is pleased to announce the birth of his baby sister, Tamera Renee, on Saturday, July 18, 1981. She weighed 8

and was 21 1/2 inches long. Parents are Ray and Paula King. Grandparents are Mrs. Genevieve King and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Crouse.

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# Freeway Maintenance Zone Deaths Prompt DHTActions

Leslie Kovar is alive. He is nervous, still favoring a leg fresh out of its cast, but he is back on his job. Two of his co-workers won't be back: One was killed when a pickup skidded into his crew last January, another will perhaps never regain the use of his arm. Kovar is one of 25 Houston highway workers injured since January of 1980; he feels lucky not to be one of the 12 dead. "The first day I came back out here I was really scared," states Kovar as traffic whips past his work site. "Every time I heard brakes squeal, I was ready to run."

On this stretch of I-45 in north Houston, the cars and trucks pound by at a rate of 7,000 per hour. During this day, as Kovar's crew repairs damaged guardrails, 50,000 vehicles will move past their safety cones and dump trucks. All that is required to repeat the January accident is one of these 50,000 drivers to be drunk, drugged, reckless, or simply inattentive.

WHOOSH.  
WHOOSH.  
WHOOSH.

They come like artillery shells... by the time you hear them it's already too late.

"We have to stay on our toes constantly and try to work in such a manner that we're always conscious of this traffic," says Arnold Vyviall, maintenance supervisor in the north Houston district of the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (DHT). "If there's anything out of the ordinary we can take action, but this isn't always possible. When you're working in noise, you don't hear as well as you would normally."

"Our main problem has been traffic control," Vyviall continues. "We've had good luck with perhaps 90 percent of the public; perhaps 8 percent of these drivers left something to be desired; but that 2 percent has just about undone us."

The rash of accidents caused by this "2 percent" in Houston and across the rest of Texas has forced DHT to take a number of immediate actions. In the Houston district, an extra lane is being blocked off and extra trucks are placed



These highway workers stake their lives on the skills of 50,000 drivers during one day of maintenance work on freeway guardrails.



Continuous noise makes it impossible to get advance warning of an impending crash. DHT is trying to find a way to alert workers to speeding or wayward vehicles.

in blocking positions between traffic and workers. The closure of the additional lane slows traffic and, in congested areas, increases bottlenecks.

"We're weighing public convenience against the lives of these workers," states Dick Kabat, district administrative engineer, "and we do not hesitate to protect them."

When possible, the district is rescheduling night work to daylight hours during the week and on weekends. This was prompted by the fact that all but one of the recent Houston accidents occurred at night.

The main problem in these maintenance zones is speeding. Although studies have proven that a manned and waiting police vehicle is the best way to slow traffic, police forces are too understaffed to provide each maintenance zone with an officer. So, other measures must be considered.

DHT is investigating the use of portable barriers, rumble strips, controlled queuing, warning devices that alert work crews when their site is transgressed, and several versions of crash attenuators. All these require additional work load and

expense on a department already stretched thin.

There is little choice but to take action. In 1979, according to DPS statistics, there were 11,319 accidents in maintenance zones; 2,200 of them related to construction in progress.

Studies by the Texas Transportation Institute reveal that the maintenance zone accidents increase with the density of population. Houston leads the statistics followed by Dallas and San Antonio.

The recent rash of accidents comes as bitter news for DHT. The department is now forced to take action to defend itself against the public it serves.

For workers like Leslie Kovar, the "2 percent" have made their workdays tense and filled with anticipation of another fatal crash into their crew. They want out of the traffic so they can relax. They take no breaks for coffee or lunch but rather eat "on the run."

"It's hard working out here because traffic goes by so fast," says Kovar. "We're doing the best we can and trying to do it as fast and as safe as we can. I just wish they would slow down."

## Trent Cub Scouts attend day camp

Cub Scouts from Trent's Troop 185, Dens 1 & 2, spent a great week at Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp Tonkawa near Buffalo Gap. The boys attended the week of July 13 through 17. Scouts attending this year's camp were David Conatser, Dock Carriker, Jeff Hobbs, Lee Hunt, Michael Jackson, Jamie Masonheimer and John Thomas. Reva Carriker, Jo Conatser and Beverly Hobbs were a tremendous help as staff members.

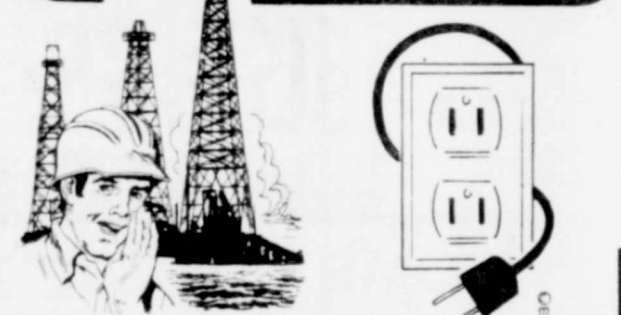
Tuesday, the 14th, an Egg Drop was held. Scouts were asked to bring a fresh chicken egg in a container no bigger than 6" square. The eggs were put in a helicopter at the campsite and dropped from a height taller than a tall building. Winners (those whose eggs didn't break) were awarded with a bear claw. Jeff Hobbs, John Thomas, David Conatser and Michael Jackson were all winners in that competition. Popcorn, styrofoam and masking tape were among the winning combinations in packaging.

Awards were given out Thursday night at a special ceremony, to which the parents were invited. Lee Hunt was a member of the Colors Corp at the Flag Ceremony. The Super Trooper award for acts of Bravery beyond the call of duty was presented to John Thomas. Marksman Jeff Hobbs took first place in the BB gun competition with a score of 167 out of a possible 200.

Scouts Jamie Masonheimer, Lee Hunt, Michael Jackson and John Thomas participated in the Corn Dance with other members of the Ft. Sam Houston Group. These scouts also won first place in the Paddle Board Swimming Relay.

Webelos Jeff Hobbs and Dock Carriker joined Camp Apache in their Deer Dance. Other events at this year's camp were whistle ball, tug-of-war, the obstacle course, archery and arts and crafts.

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# Top Tye news & events

Editor's Note: This column has been omitted the last two weeks because of space problems. The Mail apologizes to fans of "What's Happening in Tye."

## Whats Happening in Tye

By Harold Boyd  
Surely you didn't miss the 2nd Annual 4th of July celebration in Merkel this past Saturday. If you did, you really missed a treat, seeing old friends, handy crafts by neighbors, and a wail of good eating. Old man weather didn't hold out for the remainder of the evening, but while it did last, good fun by all. To the folks of Merkel that made Fun Day 81, you again out did yourselves. See you in 82.

To an "Aggie" in Merkel, you should be hung by a rope, if he knew which end to do it with. It seems that a sister took many an hour for this aggie to put his Christmas present up in a plastic trash bag, after he had received it. What am I talking about? A hand hooked rug of the Mail's front border of the wagon wheel, etc. Not ole Cloy. I saw it for the first time Saturday and it is something to boast about. The workmanship and hours of love that put it together for it is sheltered by him. Cloy, hang it up at the Mail where everyone can see it...it can only improve the decor 100 percent. What do you say employees??

At Fun Day, there was a host of things to do, but I would like to take this time to say thanks to you all for the cakes, pies, and your support that you gave the fire department. A special note to those that did not see the American Flag cake made by Mildred Isom. She out did herself on this one. Tye Vol. Fire Dept. bought the cake and then turned it over to the Merkel Park, Ray Pack auctioned off this cake and it brought the park an additional \$100 to their goal. Again, our thanks to all of you that did donate cakes, pies and breads to a Fun cause.

Despite the weather, Tye did not escape any of it. The Vol. Fire Department was pressed into service at the K Bar M Trailer park. Lot 24 trailer roof blew off during the storm. No injuries were reported, just the loss of the trailer roof. Other damages in Tye were minor, three limbs broken, a few signs removed, but nothing serious. The few inches of rain were welcomed by some and a few others, well ask Otto Brazell. He had hay on the ground, but he needed the rest. Make hay when the sun shines, right Otto?

Heard that the Danny Patterson family, friends etc. went to Brownwood Lake and came home early Saturday evening despite the weather. But did I hear that when Joyce "Dee Dee" jumped into the lake that some 20 boats sank Roland? Only reporting the facts, as I heard them.

To the "Hoss" Bowen family, sorry to hear about your husky being shot last weekend, some person in Tye just doesn't have any respect or likes a fine pet like this dog was. He was found shot in the head the following day. Knowing the person that did this isn't the type that can read or just doesn't have any conscience. This dog was a family pet and companion to the BOWENS, but to someone else he was nothing, not to say about the

person that shot him. A person doesn't do things like this, but the fact still remains, it was done by someone. Your day will come and you then will have to answer for this petty crime.

Next Tuesday will be the City Council meeting, 206 North Street, City Hall at 7 p.m. If you want to see your council in action, do be there. You can learn first hand what is happening in Tye as for coming things, such as sewer lines, progress of the streets and where your city stands financially. We will see you there.

Should you be taking a vacation over the next few months, call your city police department for a vacation check. Let your neighbor know when you will be leaving and when you will return. The department can offer night patrol and check your home, business, while you are away. In case of an emergency, leave a number or address where you may be contacted should you be needed. This is the time of the year when homes, business are victims of crime. A call will do the trick and only they need to know.

Now mothers, you know the great thing about July is that only some 60 more days and the kiddos will be back in school. Isn't this a great thought? I know, what am I suppose to do the next 60 days, just weather out the storm with the glassed of water, can I go here questions.

For another week, you all take care and will report any news that we get, if you have any events, news that you would like to share, drop it by the Rinky Dink or the screen and window shop prior to Saturday noon, we will get it to the Mail. Till next week, take care and remember the rules

## Sublett reunion held

Oakland Park, near Lake Dallas, Texas, was the site of the 54th annual Sublett reunion on July 11-12, 1981. There were 71 Sublett descendants and guests in attendance. The descendants of George Allen Sublett, who moved from Alabama to Texas in 1878, have held a reunion every year (except war years) since 1923. Many of the Sublett descendants lived in Merkel.

The only current resident of Merkel attending this year's reunion was Mrs. Irl (Annie) Walker. The oldest person attending was ex-Merkel Mrs. V.B. (Estelle) Sublett, who now resides in Dallas, Texas. Other ex-Merkelites attending were: Mr. Jack R. Sublett, Albu-

querque, N.M.; Mr. W.O. Crow and Mrs. W.O. Crow (Vernelle Sublett) of Carrollton, Tx.; Mrs. E.S. Ottman (Janet Hayes) of Denton, Tx.; Mrs. W. Carl Black (Imogene Hayes) of Odessa, Tx.; Dr. Gaston L. Walker of Hurst, Tx.; Dr. Jimmy R. Walker of El Paso, Tx.; Mr. David C. Hayes of Snyder, Tx.; and Mr. Marvin Hunter of San Angelo, Tx.

The 1981 Sublett Reunion was hosted by Mr. Donald E. Allen of Denton, Texas; Mr. Ronald Roark of Irving, Texas, and Mr. John E. Stoneman, Sr. of Dallas, Texas. The 1982 Sublett Reunion will be held in Snyder, Texas, the second weekend in July, 1982. Mr. Donald C. Hayes will be the host.



BY DALE HAMMOND  
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Congressman  
**Charles W. Stenholm**

## Congressional Comment

They say only two things in life are certain, death and taxes. The absolute certainty of those two are never more apparent than to family survivors faced with liquidation of an inheritance due to inequitable estate taxes.

Hardest hit by past estate laws are owners of family farms and ranches and small businesses. Land values, in particular, have been swept to such levels that few young farmers can ever hope to own a farm or ranch unless they inherit it and estate taxes on the inflated value of that land make inheritance doubtful for many others. For the past two or three years, land values have increased 12 to 14 percent, pushing estate taxes right along with them.

Under current law, estates of more than \$175,000 are taxed at rates that rise as high as 70 percent. To pay that estate tax, many owners of small farms and businesses may be faced with the prospect of selling out—often to larger firms or wealthier individuals.

Proposals included in both the Ways and Means Committee version and the Reagan tax package

would bring needed changes to estate tax laws.

The exemption on taxable inheritance would be increased from \$175,000 to \$600,000 in both proposals. The House Committee version (tentatively approved July 16, but open to change at the last minute) would cut from 70 percent to 50 percent the maximum tax on estates of more than \$600,000.

Both proposals would allow a person to leave an estate of any size tax-free to the surviving spouse. Currently, the marital exemption is generally limited to half of the estate.

The bills would also increase to \$10,000 the limit on tax-free gifts to one person. For instance, a couple could transfer \$20,000 each year to each child without being forced to pay any gift tax.

Although the final form that these proposals will be presented to members of Congress is still unclear, I strongly support this general move away from an inequitable and unfair tax.

Earlier in the year I had co-sponsored H.R. 3882, the "Family Enterprise Estate and Gift Tax Equity and Reduction Act" which would allow family farms, ranches and businesses to pass intact from one generation to another. This bill included a provision which has not, as yet, appeared in either Ways and Means Committee or the Administration's proposals. Under this provision, the executor of an estate could elect to value an interest in a closely held business at 50 percent of its fair market value, provided the heirs do not dispose of their interests or merge the firm into a publicly held company within 10 years after the parents' death.

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**NO PEST STRIPS**

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