

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, February 9, 1984...Merkel, Texas

Our 95th Year

Sheriff, tax assessor-collector, Wade, Jones, Stenholm challenged

As filings for local elections began Tuesday here, the field of Taylor County candidates is complete as that filing deadline came Monday, and some county offices received a rash of candidates.

The races shape up like this: Sheriff, John Middleton, Democrat, incumbent and challengers David Dalbert, Republican and John Mauney, Republican. Tax Assessor-Collector Johnny Cornelius, Democrat-incumbent and Lavena Cheek, Democrat.

104th District Judge Billy John Edwards, Republican-incumbent.

305th District Judge Bill Thomas, Democrat-incumbent. Precinct 2 Constable [Local] Vernon Wade, Democrat-incumbent, and Royce Smith Democrat and Waymon Adcock Democrat.

11th District Court of Appeals Raleigh Brown, incumbent Democrat.

42nd District Court Don Lane, Democrat, incumbent.

24th District State Senate Grant Jones Democrat-incumbent and Carlton White of Burnett, Democrat.

76th District State House of Representatives Gary Thompson Democrat - incumbent.

78th District State House of Representatives Steve Carriker Democrat-incumbent.

17th U. S. House of Representatives Charles Stenholm of Stamford, Democrat - incumbent and Noel Cowling of Dublin, Democrat.



Joe Daniel Mitchell is fingerprinted at Merkel Elementary Tuesday. The fingerprinting was popular here and was conducted on a voluntary basis. [Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards]

Merkel leading county in percentage increase in sales tax rebates

Merkel continues to lead the county in the percentage of increase in state sales tax rebates according to a news release from the State Comptroller's Office.

Merkel has received \$9,758.43 in tax rebates for the period ending Jan. 27. That total pushes the yearly total to \$12,545.67 for a 15.57 per cent

increase on payments to date compared to the same period last year.

Tye's rebates have fallen 15.85 per cent this year as their annual total stands at \$10,923.81 and Trent's rebates have fallen 43.40 per cent as their annual total stands at \$529.80.

The February rebate figures reflect sales made during the

final quarter of 1983 and reported to the Comptroller's Office by January 20th, 1984.

Texas cities shared in \$105.4 million and statewide, rebates are running 2.57 per cent ahead. The state comptroller's office rebates one per cent of sales tax collected back to the local municipalities where the taxes were collected.

7 area residents back from India

Seven area residents returned today from a trip to India where they performed missionary services.

The seven include Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Carson of First Baptist here, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cabral of the Country-side mission here, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Driggers and Ralph Caffey of the Trent Baptist

Church made the trip. They were joined by 62 Texans on the trip, sponsored by the International Crusades of Dallas and visited Delhi, Visakhapatnam, Vijaywada and Agra.

Olympics, Lions, labels, flu hits hard, new bus service here

by Cloy A. Richards

Filing for city and school elections started Tuesday and there are three incumbents in each race.

In the school election, board members Jack Ferguson, Jack Riney and Ray Pack (Two Jacks and a Pack) will have their terms expire. In the school race, board members are elected by place, meaning candidates who challenge incumbents must pick the place on the board they are running for.

In the city election, Mayor pro-tem Ted Smith and councilmen Jerry Byrd and James McKee will have their terms expire. Challengers for the city posts run in open elections and the top three vote getters will win city council seats.

The last day to file for the school and city elections is March 7th. People interested in the school board race must file in the superintendent's office and city council hopefuls must file at City Hall.

Local viewers of the Olympics have nothing to fear with KTXS changing viewing schedules as they assured me Monday the local ABC affiliate will carry reports as they come down the network lines. I felt sure the late night reports would be delayed by both MASH and Entertainment Tonight.

ABC has 63 and a half hours of coverage planned for the events and I'll be at the side of the tv

for most of it, although I have a hard time with the figure skating. To me, finesse on the ice is when a forward stops, skates past a defenseman with the puck, and slips the puck in by the goalie.

I am no hockey expert and I can remember the rules from four years ago. Where were you when we downed the Russians in 1980. I was at my wife's parents house at Lake Canyon and I woke them up with USA's first goal.

I could use some more fond memories with another Olympic medal for the hockey team and I really don't care what color it is.

The local Lions Club is one of the sponsors of a Biathlon March 3rd in and around Abilene.

The race is for teams made up of five members and individuals who are crazy enough to ride a bicycle 50 miles and then run a honest to goodness marathon of 26.2 miles.

The Merkel and Trent Lions Clubs will be sponsoring a Pancake Supper at Heritage Hall March 5th from 5:30 until 9:30 p.m.

Proceeds from the supper will go to Lions projects here and in Trent.

So, we have a new bus service in town to replace Greyhound, which is in the process of pulling out.

Custom Express Bus Lines has started a service with an Eastbound bus for Abilene leaving DuBose Texaco at 7:20 a.m. Cost for a one way ticket is \$3. They also will be handling package express.

Merkel schools were not noticing their overcrowding problems this week, especially in the Middle School as the flu bug has hit here and hit hard.

Early this week, 46 were out in the high school, anywhere from 60 to 67 out in the Middle School and from 60 to 66 out in the Middle School. Tye has also had quite a few out for their enrollment, as many as 27. A few teachers have also been sidelined, as well as a lot of adults in the area.

Merkel Elementary has added Campbell product labels to those on the save list. The Post Cereal Fun 'N Fitness seals will be used to purchase an Atari Computer for Merkel Elementary. Labels and seals can be placed in a bin on the shopping carts at Carson's or delivered to Merkel Elementary School.

They were printing them left and right at Merkel Elementary school Tuesday, on a voluntary basis, and many pre-school children were also being printed. It was hard to tell how many had been fingerprinted as of Tuesday, but a person doing the printing told me at least 500.

Continental computerizing, business office will be in Andrews

Continental Telephone officials recently announced that DCRIS will be serving the Merkel area April 28. DCRIS is an application of computer technology that will change the way Continental handles its business.

According to Loma Allen, Continental's Director of Public Affairs, "The telephone industry, including us, has been traveling on a paper railroad for many years. Our customers

service representatives fill out more than 60 forms to complete a routine customer transaction. After several years of development, a system that will computerize this process is being installed in Texas."

Instead of the Baird office handling customer transactions, the new DCRIS facility will be located in Andrews. The phone numbers for customer service and questions will remain the

same, only customers will be talking to Continental reps in Andrews instead of Baird.

The company said, in a news release, that customers will save a considerable amount of time when placing an order for telephone service, checking a bill or getting answers to questions. They also said DCRIS will be an accurate system, and that accounting errors will, hopefully, become almost non-existent.

Nugent asks attorney general to sue Greyhound over closings

Railroad Commissioner Jim Nugent this week urged the state Attorney General to take speedy action in filing a federal lawsuit seeking to reverse a recent Interstate Commerce Commission decision to allow Greyhound Lines, Inc. to cancel bus service to 38 rural Texas communities, including Merkel.

"Regularly scheduled bus service is vitally important to people living in rural Texas areas," Nugent said. "I strongly urge the Attorney General to build a bonfire under his staff to help us try to keep Greyhound from abandoning rural Texas."

Greyhound last year asked the Texas Railroad Commission for permission to abandon the routes and the request was denied by the Commission. The decision was appealed to the ICC and they ruled in Greyhound's favor.

So far 26 communities have already lost service and Merkel will lose its service within the next three weeks. A commuter service with express service began here Tuesday, also using DuBose Texaco here for the depot.

Even though Greyhound is still servicing Merkel, against their wishes, a new bus service began here Tuesday.

Custom Bus Line began their service, which is designed as a commuter service and packages.

An Eastbound bus will leave the DuBose Texaco station at 7:20 a.m. for Abilene and the Westbound bus will leave Abilene at 5 p.m. One way fare from here is \$3.00. A commuter ticket for 10 one way rides is available at half price. Initially, a nine passenger bus will serve the route.



The 6th grade winners in the Middle Clear Fork Soil & Water Conservation contest are [from

left] Susan Hammond, 2nd; Laurinda Powell, 4th; and

Phillip Sevmore, 1st. Not pictured in Lisa Cannon, who placed 3rd. [Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards]



These are the Merkel High Middle Clear Fork Soil & Water Conservation essay winners. [Front row, from left]

Jay Gibson, Sr. 1st, Billy Riley, Frosh. 1st. [Back row from left] Parker Wilson, Jr. 2nd, Chris Cutler, Jr. 2nd and Tim Brandon

Soph. 1st. Not pictured are Stephanie Boyd, Soph. 2nd and Becky Middleton, Sr. 2nd. [Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards]



These are the 7th and 8th grade winners in the Middle Clear Fork Soil & Water Conservation essay winners. They

are [bottom row from left] April Duncan, 8th Grade, 1st; Diem Tran, 7th Grade, 2nd; [top row from left] Walter Best 7th

Grade, 1st; Ricky Hernandez, 7th Grade, 4th; and Chad Strange, 7th Grade, 3rd. [Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards]

A helpful government program?

by Russell McAnally
[Continues from last week]
Mr. Jones, by this time, was almost sick with guilt frustrations, and was determined to go along with the Government program that was so helpful. He had been told that he was better off than before and he was trying real hard to believe it.
In a few days, the smoke in the house was so bad and two trips to the doctor for sinus problems caused Mr. Jones to call the Man who acted like he wanted to help and told him he had to give some relief. The Government man told Mr. Jones that unemployment had gone down with so many doctors put to work because of the smoke problem, and all the people required to clean the houses was of national benefit. Mr. Jones was also told that if he would stay outside and work more that the smoke would bother him less and national productivity would go way up. The Government man could not see why anyone would complain when there were so many benefits from the program.
The next day, Mr. Jones saw the same man who acted like he wanted to help standing in his back yard looking up at the fireplace chimney. He was sure there was less smoke than before. Mr. Jones went out into the back yard with tears from the smoke running down his

face. The Government man thought the tears were tears of joy and appreciation for the help Mr. Jones was receiving from the Government. Mr. Jones invited the Acting Government man into the house for a cup of coffee. The Government man didn't stay long before he to began shedding tears.
As the Government man was leaving, he told Mr. Jones that he had come up with a brilliant idea to help with the smoke in the house. The Government man said he didn't feel responsible for the smoke in the house because he was sure that somebody in years past had fixed the stovepipe wrong. He could, however, send him a packet in the next few days, and to all the other people who had fireplaces, that would take care

of the smoke in their houses. About a month later, Mr. Jones received this beautifully wrapped package and could hardly wait to see the helpful device.
In the box was a stout string and a plastic bag, and in the plastic bag was a letter with instructions. The instructions read "While you are in the house, put this plastic bag over your head and pull the string tight, but not too tight, around the neck. This will keep out all of the smoke and there will be no more tears or sinus trouble." Looking through the clear, plastic bag, out the back window, Mr. Jones saw the Government man in the back yard again looking up at the smoke chimney and insisting that this was a very helpful Government program.

Tiger Cubs visit library, meet tonight

Tiger Cub Scouts met Jan. 26th. Attending the meeting were David Carter, Jason Clinton, Kevin Graham, Jason Harrison, Jason Hoffman, Joey Richards, Andy Taylor, Greg Valentine and Shane Weaver. A talent show was held and all the boys participated. Poems and rhyms were read and recited, art work was

shown, and a few whistles were heard. The boys just demonstrated what they could do. A sing along followed the talent show as another part of the family entertainment unit. Refreshments were served.
Jan. 31, the Tiger Cubs visited the Merkel Library and re-

Dear Editor: Daddy's have rights

Daddy! You Don't have custody.
Yes child, I understand. Also, daddy, you are not allowed to come to any of my classroom parties or attend any of the programs in which I might participate.
Yes child, daddy understands. And another thing daddy, I have to go to school in the mornings by being driven down side streets to get there so you won't have any chance of my seeing or waving at you on your way to work.
Daddy, why don't you and I go to church on the Sundays I am with you. Well Punkin, let me explain something to you. We Americans are guaranteed certain freedoms within our Constitution of the United States of America; one of those freedoms is that we shall have freedom of worship with our families, however, it does not apply to your daddy because as a Church Deacon instructed the Pastor, Again, Daddy you don't have custody. Daddy does not have the right to participate in church programs involving you and me together.
Gosh daddy, this is a funny world. No child, not the world, just

some of the sick, wimpy and spineless people living on it.
One final thing daddy, don't be one minute late taking me home or be late on child support or you'll go to jail cause my mommy told me so.

Don't you worry about that child, daddy won't forget, thanks for the reminder.
Say child, it's almost time to go back home, so change back into the clothes I picked you up in besides, I've got a headache from writing and my eyes

hurt and I don't want to go blind. Say goodbye to your dolls.
Well here we are, Home again, home again, jigity jig: See you in two weeks punkin.
Bye bye daddy, Love You.
Tom Williamson

African Violet sale set here

The Abilene African Violet Society will sponsor a plant sale Friday and Saturday at Bragg's Department Store here.
The Merkel officers and members of the club will be hostesses for the event. Hours for the sale will be from 9 until 5 both days. Members would like to invite anyone that is interested in African Violets to visit with them at the sale and show you how beautiful the violet is and how easy they are to grow. Provide them with sufficient moisture and light and they will provide you with a beautiful, loving bouquet.
Remember your Valentine with a living gift of plants.
The Abilene African Violet Society meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. There are six members living in the Merkel area. If you are

interested in attending a meeting, please contact Anna Belle Shouse

at 928-5110 or talk to any member at the sale.

MOM'S DAY OUT
EVERY THURSDAY
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

KID'S KORNER
(DAY CARE CENTER)
ONLY \$5.00

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7:20 AM
FROM ABILENE
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CAN MAKE IT SIMPLE TO BUY A NEW OR USED CAR
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CORN DOGS
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WHILE SUPPLIES LAST * SELF SERV GAS * OPEN 24 HOURS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Obituaries

Maria Soledad Vasquez

Maria Soledad Vasquez, of Jones County, age 68, died at 11:15 a.m. Jan. 30 at Hendrick Medical Center. Services were held Feb. 1 at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church here and burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery here under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home. She was born in

Mexico March 22, 1915 and married Jose Vasquez. He had died Sept. 16, 1952. She was raised in Merkel and had lived in San Antonio for 30 years before returning to Merkel here last year. She was a member of Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church here. She is survived by four sons; Bennie of

Merkel, John of Noodle, Jose of Lansing, Mi., and Ramon of San Antonio; three daughters Eliosa Bermudiz of Eaton Rapids, Mi., Consuelo Hnoesto of Lansing and Olivia Granado of San Antonio; three brothers Leon, Juan and Manuel Herrera of Merkel, 33 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren.

Madge Kathryn Crain

Madge Kathryn Crain, 86, of Trent, died Feb. 7 at 6:45 a.m. at Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital in Sweetwater. Services were held Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Trent under the direction of the Rev. Carl Rea. Burial followed at Rose Hill here under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

She was a housewife and was born May 28, 1897 in Hunt County. She had married John C. Crain Sept. 25, 1921 in Trent. He died Aug. 22, 1973. She was a member of the World War I Auxillary, the Trent First Baptist Church and the Woodmen of the World. She had lived in Trent since 1910. She is survived by a

daughter Mrs. Ralph (Lady Fred) Cathy of Trent; a son Joel of San Angelo; a sister Grace Holt Holstein of Kerrville; a brother William E. Hale of Merkel, five grandchildren and 5 great-great grandchildren. The family requested contributions be made to the Trent First Baptist Church or any charity in lieu of flowers.

Newsbriefs

Grace Presbyterian

Grace Presbyterian Church-Dr. Robert D. Christian, minister Sunday school 10 a.m. Church 11 a.m.

The following is taken from Halley's Bible Handbook

Everybody ought to Love the Bible
Everybody ought to love the Bible. It is God's word. It holds the Solutions of Life. It tells about the best friend mankind ever had, the noblest, kindest, truest man that has ever trod this earth.

It is the most beautiful story ever told. It's the best guide to human conduct ever known. It gives a meaning, and a glow, and a joy, and a victory, and a destiny, and a glory to life elsewhere unknown.

There is nothing in history, or literature that in any way compares with the simple annals of the Man of Galilee, who spent his days and nights ministering to the suffering teaching human kindness, dying for human sin, rising to life that shall never end, and promising eternal security and eternal happiness to all who come to him.

Most people in their serious moods, must have some wonderment in their minds as to how things are going to stack up when the end comes. Laugh it off, toss it aside, as we may. That day will come. And then what? Well, it is the Bible that has the answer. And an unmistakable answer it is. There is a Heaven. There is a Hell. There is a Savior. There will be a Day of Judgement. Happy the man who, in the days of his flesh, makes his peace with the Christ of the Bible and gets himself ready for the final take-off.

How can any thoughtful person keep his heart from warming up to Christ, and to the Bible that tells about him? Everybody ought to love the Bible. Everybody. If you don't have a church of your choice, come and worship with us.

Lambda Beta

Lambda Beta held their Valentine Dinner Saturday. Rita Moore was honored as the sweetheart with a dinner at Buffalo Gap. Special guests were Harold and Geneva Watts, parents of Rita as well as Shawn Moore, Rita's husband. Members and their husbands attended. After dinner, refreshments were served at the home of Chera Hohertz.

Golf group

The Merkel Golf Association met Jan. 19 and elected a new board of directors.

Directors include Finley Barnett, Howard Carson, Don Dudley, D. C. Hendricks, Bob Hook, Brenda Jackson, Dean Smith, JoAnn Smith, Freddie Toombs, and Bobby Windham. The board of directors elected Freddie Toombs as president, Finley Barnett vice president, JoAnn Smith secretary and Brenda Jackson treasurer.

The pot-luck suppers will begin March 13 at 7 p.m.

7th grade boys

by Coach Huskerson
The 7th grade boys won their last game of the season downing Breckenridge 33-27.

Doug Boling had his best game of the year scoring 11. Kenneth Jowers and Martin Landeros each added 8. Wade Toombs played well, scoring 4. The coach was proud of his team's performance.

Leading by 1 at the half, Jowers hit 6 free throws in the 4th quarter to hang on to the lead. Freddie Gonzales played well defensively.

Making the trip to Breckenridge were Kenneth Jowers, Freddie Gonzales, Martin Landeros, Wade Toombs, Doug Boling, James Glaze, Davy DeLeon, David Tomach, John-David Layher, Chad Strange, Steve Leverich, Doug Carter and Shane Lancaster. The team won the district with a 5-1 record and ended up 10-6 on the year. They placed 2nd in the Hawley 7th and 8th grade tournaments.

Calvary Baptist

Feb. 26th will be our church's 52nd anniversary and our pastor's 7th. We want to make this day special for both with your presence. We will have a good ol' fashion meeting with dinner on the grounds. All friends and members and visitors are welcomed to attend. Service time is 10 a.m. for Sunday School 11 a.m. morning worship with dinner on the grounds following.

Elementary poster winners

The following are the Merkel Elementary results from the Middle Clear Fork Soil & Water Conservation District poster contests. First place winners will advance to district competition.

The students are listed in order of their finish in their respective grade.

First Grade Marijke Holmes, Marcus Malone, Ladina McCullough and Augustine Gonzales. Second Grade Troy Roberts, Heather Henderson, Mark Wright and Judd Burton. Third grade David Stuckey, Jason Kofoed, Krystal West and Caleb Kelso. 4th Grade Brandi Watts, Tanya Beasley, Joshua Mashburn and Brent Toombs. Fifth Grade Kerl Sams, EmaLee DeLaCruz, David Mallard and John Boswell.

Booster club

The Merkel Badger Booster Club will meet Monday at 7 p.m. at the school to make plans for the All-Sports Banquet.

Art group

The Merkel Art Association met Monday at 7 p.m. at Taylor Telephone. President Ruth Cox called the meeting to order and presided over a short business session. Discussions were held to hold an Art Show in May but the time and place have yet to be determined. Their next meeting will be March 5th, also at Taylor Telephone. Attending were Imogene Coleman, Ethel Pee, Marie Beard, Pat Neff, Evelyn Stribling, Ruth Cox, Ruth Hogan and Pat Byrd.

Trent poster winners named

The following are the Trent Elementary results from their recent Soil and water Conservation District.

Winners are listed in the order they finished in each grade. Kindergarten Jennie Lamm, Teri Brazelton, Kent Jones and Kendra Sturdevant. 1st Grade Laura Thomas, David Boles, James Clark and Kim Moreno, 2nd Grade Jamie Alexander, Jason Rea, Brandon Rains, Sherrie Clark 3rd Grade Britt Sipe, Jesus Carrasco, Rea Gonzalez, Timothy Childress 4th Grade Anna Rios, Rafael Tarin, Jerry Collier, Janet Marshall, 5th Grade John Thomas, Travis Walker, Lonnie Clark, Christy Holbrook, 6th Grade Robert Beard, Shelle Boles, Robin Kraatz and Veronica De La Cruz.

INTEREST-FREE 'TIL 1985

JOHN DEERE TRACTORS, 40-TO-300-HP



Or get a generous cash rebate in lieu of interest waiver.* Finance the power size of your choice with John Deere and no interest will be charged until next New Year's Day. OR take the cash rebate shown in the chart, lower right.

Special discounts on John Deere tillage tools: Buy a new John Deere tillage tool between now and May 1, 1984, and we'll give you a discount from the base price—10% off any field cultivator, disk, mulch finisher, mulch tiller, or chisel plow; 5% off any moldboard plow; and \$350 off a 250 SprayCart sprayer. That means, for example, you'd save more than \$1,500 on a 24-foot mulch finisher.

Special deals on Max-Emerge® planters: Using special allowances from John Deere, we're cutting the price on all Max-Emerge planters... but for a limited time only. With the price of seed so much higher this year, you need the proven ability of a Max-Emerge planter to deliver maximum germination and uniform emergence more than ever.

Titan combines interest-free 'til the '84 harvest: Finance a new 4420, 6620, 6622 Hillside, 6601 PTO, 7720, 7721 PTO, or 8820 Combine with John Deere and pay no interest charge until next harvest season in your area. Or take a cash rebate in lieu of waiver.

Double cash rebates worth up to \$1,600 on John Deere hay and forage tools: This offer covers new square and round balers, mower/conditioners, SP hay windrowers, and PTO forage harvesters. Buy any one now and get a cash rebate... PLUS a certificate entitling

you to a double cash rebate for purchasing a second tool anytime before April 30, 1985. See us for details. **Special financing offer on used tractors and combines:** Interest charges will be waived to July 1, 1984 on all used tractors and to January 1, 1985 on all used combines purchased from your dealer through April, 1984.*

Model**	Cash Rebate in lieu of Waiver on Tractors		
	Feb. '84	March '84	April '84
1250	\$ 750	\$ 675	\$ 600
2150	850	750	700
2255	850	800	750
2350	1,025	925	825
2550	1,150	1,050	950
2750	1,350	1,225	1,100
2950	1,600	1,450	1,300
4050	2,250	2,050	1,850
4250	2,450	2,200	2,000
4450	2,600	2,350	2,100
4650	3,200	2,900	2,600
4850	3,500	3,200	2,900
8450	4,200	3,800	3,400
8650	5,100	4,650	4,200
8850	6,400	5,800	5,200

*Availability of John Deere financing subject to approval of credit. This offer may be reduced in value or withdrawn at any time.

**A similar financing rebate offer applies to any 40 Series Tractors remaining in inventory. See your dealer.

WE'LL MAKE YOU A GREAT DEAL AND NOW THROUGH APRIL, JOHN DEERE WILL MAKE IT EVEN GREATER.

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ENTIRE SELECTION LONG SLEEVE WESTERN BOYS SHIRTS SIZES 8-20 (VALUES TO \$19⁹⁵) \$9⁹⁸



DEE-CEE O'ALL SHORTS \$10⁹⁸

RACK GIRLS WEAR (SIZES 3-14) 50%-60% OFF JEANS, CORD PTS, BLOUSES, ETC.



MENS DRESS PANTS WESTERN (VALUES TO \$41⁹⁵) \$19⁹⁸ ALTERATIONS EXTRA

SELECTION BOYS/STUDENT JEANS LEVIS DENIM, COLORED CORDUROY \$8⁹⁸

"FALL-WINTER" CLOTHING 1/2 OFF OR MORE (EXCLUDES DENIIM JEANS)

SELECTION WESTERN SHIRTS 1/2 PRICE DRESS BOOTS UP TO 40% DISCOUNT

ALL GRIZZLY & SHAG HATS \$80 VALUE \$30⁰⁰



FELT HATS CHOICE 25% OFF

STRAW HATS CHOICE \$10⁰⁰

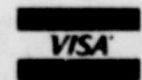
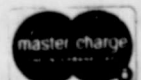


SALE ENDS FEB 18

ALL SALES FINAL NO LAYAWAYS NO REFUNDS

928-4821

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CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE



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We make hydraulic hoses.

P & L Auto Parts
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928-5671

We turn disc brakes and drums.

P & L Auto Parts
135 Edwards
928-5671

Young pole hereford bull, 13 months, sired from registered bull. Call 928-5677.

46-tfc

Closeout sale for Starr Thrift Shop, Friday until everything is gone. The building has sold.

49-1tp

For sale: 3 wooden bar chairs with reversible cushions, \$15 each. Mrs. Laveri Moore, 928-5066.

49-1tc

For Sale: 1 300 gallon propane tank with regulator. Cheap Beauford Buntin 928-5606.

48-2tp

Baldwin Fun Machine with bench and easy play music, like new Call 928-5020.

49-1tc

Like new loft bunk beds, must sell 928-4553

49-1tc

1972 WIGWAM travel trailer, 18 feet, double axle, sleeps 4 to 6. Call 928-5234.

49-1tc

For sale: Registered border collie, 8 weeks old. \$100. Call 928-5194.

49-1tc

For sale: Nice 21 foot Coldspot chest freezer. Call 928-5970. Also, used Tappan gas range.

49-1tpd

For sale: 1972 Ford pick-up with camper. Runs good, 77,000 actual miles. Kirby vacuum cleaner, good condition, some attachments. See at 301 Runnels. Call 928-5577.

For Sale: 1976 Malibu Classic, 2 door hard top, maroon and white interior, \$500. Can be seen at 824 Oak or call 928-4091.

49-1tc

Misc.

Granny's Playhouse Child Care open from 8:30 a.m. till 6 p.m. Call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange.

TFC

Piano Tuning call 928-4866, ask for Pee Wee Pack

34-tfc

Reliable electrical work done. Patrick Galloway 928-5356.

1tc

Own your own Jean-Sportswear, Ladies Apparel, Combination, Accessories, Large Size store. National Brands: Jordache, Chic, Lee, Levi, Vanderbilt, Izod, Gunne Sax, E-spirit, Britannia, Calvin Klein, Sergio Valente, Evan Picone, Claiborne, Members Only, Bill Blass, Organically Grown, Healthtex, 300 others. \$7,900 to \$24,900, inventory, airfare, training, fixtures, grand opening, etc. Mr. Loughlin (612) 868-6555.

JSP House leveling. Free estimates. Call 928-4866 or 692-4463 in Abilene.

45-tfc

Let us help with the housework. Experienced, dependable, reasonable rates. Please call 928-5530 or 928-4890.

44-tfc

Need part time LVN and full time aids. Please apply in person at Starr Nursing Home

22 TFC

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

KID'S KORNER DAY CARE CENTER
2nd and Oak Open Mon thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. thru 6 p.m., Call 928-4381.

12tfc

Austin Adventure Join me Feb. 16 for a tour of the State Capitol, the Archives and O'Henry museum. Lodge in Johnson City, explore Longhorn Caverns. Fully escorted in custom van. Handicapped and senior adults are welcomed. For information, call 928-5847, Pumpkin Bunch Travel. (Reservations are still available for the Dallas tour Feb. 11) Pumpkin Bunch Travels.

FREE PUPPIES
small dogs, 7 weeks old at 609 Locust or 601 Yucca.

49-1tgp

FREE 5 large, young roosters. Anytime Wednesday. 928-5211.

49-1tpd

Door falling? Roof leaking? Yard need cleaning? Minor or major work done on house or yard. Reasonable. Free estimates. Call 928-4703.

49-1tc

Free to good home, 2 male bobtailed mix breed pups, should be small dogs, have had all shots, Parvo and wormed. Will give to good home. Call 846-3231.

49-1tc

Help Wanted New Restaurant opening soon in Merkel. Will need energetic full and part time workers to work any shift. Call 4349.

49-1tc

Does someone you love have a drinking problem? Is it affecting your life? If so, AL-ANNON FAMILY groups can help. A Merkel group is now meeting weekly in the mornings. Call 928-4844 or 928-5067.

49-TFC

Real Estate Lawn Properties, Inc. MLS

695-1880

New Listing on Avondale at 311. Storgae shed, fenced, equity or new loan.

Pleasant Valley 3-2-2 plus office, fireplace, built-ins on 2 acres.

Merkel Just listed: 183 acres South of Merkel 5 tanks, barn, rodeo arena, pool, 2 bedroom mobile home. Call Betty.

14 X 65 Mobile, fenced, garden spot, well, carport, Sun water line, paved on 2 sides, reduced, owner will carry with small down.

25.98 subdivision 2 acre tracts, city utilities plus cable, all or part. Call Betty.

3-1-1 brick, fenced, close to school on Avondale.

3-1-1 on Sunset, brick fenced, nice yard.

Avondale 3-1-1, fire-

NEED CASH?

PAK GAINSI

Pawn Loans on most items of value

See to believe

PAWNS NW

8

LOCAL LOAN

607 Lamar

[6 Blks South of square on Hwy 70]

SWEETWATER

The Classifieds

place, storage, 2 car carport, storage shed, fenced yard, reduced. Yucca street, 3-2-2 fireplace, fenced, 3 living areas, large home reduced.

Yucca street, nice yard, 2 bedroom home could be 4 bedroom if upstairs was finished, well fenced. Doublewide mobile home on 1.30 acres 3 miles North of Tye off 707.

New Listing Country Club drive 2 story, 3-2-2 plus balcony and game room on golf course, appraisal in hand.

Trent Relisted and reduced 3-2-2 on 2 lots, central heat. Could be sweat equity.

2 story 4 bedroom 2 baths, small equity and assume, possible lease option. Call Betty

Call us, we have listings in Abilene, Potosi, Tuscola, Buffalo Gap and Creages.

After 5 call: Betty Stautzenberger 862-6329 Mike Wheeler 576-1320

695-1880

45tfc

3 and a half acres, small house, barn, can be purchased on terms Close to town. Call Cyrus Pee, Agent. 928-5613.

45-1tc

House for sale 3 bedroom, living room, dining room, kitchen, baths. Has several pecan trees, water pump, good fence around back yard, very good location. Would make a good home for someone. Call Cyrus Pee, Agent 928-5613.

45tfc

Small 2 bedroom house, new electrical, roof, plumbing, on 1 and a half lots, remodeled inside. \$12,800 after 5 call 928-5522.

48-3tp

House to be moved. Living room, dining room, two bedroom, kitchen, bath and utilities room, less than \$5 per square foot. Call 928-4349.

49-TFC

House for sale: 3 bedroom, one and three quarter bath, cellar and water well. Good location. Call 928-5717.

49TFC

House for sale 3 bedroom one and three quarter bath, cellar water well, good location. Call 928-5717.

46-2tp

For Rent

The Merkel Mail

Cloy A. Richards—Editor-Co-Publisher
Melanie Richards—Co-Publisher
Published at 916 N. 2nd, Merkel, Texas and entered as Second Class Mail at the U. S. Post Office, Merkel, Texas 79536

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NOTICE

Typographical or other errors must be brought to our attention before the second insertion or claims for refund will not be recognized.

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Classifieds are \$2 for the first 18 words and 10 cents for each additional word paid in advance. A 75 cent billing fee is added to all charged ads.

LEGAL RATES

Legal notices are 55 cents per line for the first insertion and 45 cents per line for each additional insertion.

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For rent: clean brick house, 2 bedroom, central heat, refrigerator, stove, big yard, available now. Call 928-5194.

42TFC

For rent: 3 bedroom 1 bath house for \$235 per month. \$150 deposit. See at 401 Manchester. Bryant Realtors. Abilene, 698-1636

30-TFC

Furnished 2 bedroom house for rent, water paid, washer-dryer hook-up, \$250 per month plus deposit. Call 928-4533.

49-1tc

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.

TFC

1, 2 or 3 bedroom mobile home for rent in Merkel 928-4973.

77-TFC

Real nice 2 bedroom apartments for rent with storage units. Only 6 months old. Call 928-4336.

48-4tc

For rent: 3 bedroom house on 1 acre. Third house West of Walls on access road North of I-20. \$225 per month \$150 deposit. Call 928-5194.

49-TFC

Bedroom for rent with private kitchen in Tye. Call 692-0026 Thursday.

For rent: 1 bath \$225 monthly. Deposit, references required.

49-1tc

3 bedroom, 1 bath, \$225 month. Deposit and references required 928-4105.

49-1tc

Thank You

We would like to thank all our friends for the nice cards and acts of kindness during our stay in the hospital this past year.

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Holt

I would like to thank each and everyone for their prayers, visits, cards, telephone calls, flowers and food during my recent illness and stay in the hospital.

Thanks Jack Hogan

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: UNKNOWN NATURAL FATHER, And to All Whom It May Concern, Whereabouts Unknown, 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 BARBARA HARRIS, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 26th day of January, 1984, against Unknown Father, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 18-CX on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of A Child", the nature of which suit is a request to the Court to determine what parent-child relationship exists between the Unknown Father and the Child and that such parent-child relationship be terminated.

Said child was born the 24th day of January, 1984, in Abilene, Texas.

The Court has 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 2nd day of February, 1984.

Rilla Mahoney Clerk
326th District Court
Taylor County, Texas
by Jo Ann Lackey, Deputy

51-1tc

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Treat burn victims quickly

by Vernon Wade
EMT-Paramedic
President, Merkel EMS
BURN VICTIMS

+During your lifetime, you or someone near you will be burned. Most burns are minor, but a few problems arise with burn patients which change the burn into a major burn.

1. When someone is burned, a part of the protective covering (skin) of the body is no longer usable.

2. The area of the body which is burned will let infection enter the body.

3. If the patient could have inhaled the heat into his mouth and lungs, they could have been burned also.

4. The age of the patient, particularly the young and elderly can be a problem.

5. Other illnesses such as heart ailments, strokes, diabetes and asthma can compound the burn problems.

6. The size of the portion of the body burned also has serious implications.

A burn of any type or degree should be seen by your doctor. A finger that touches a hot pan should receive medical treatment. In a flash fire or house fire or any type of fire, if the victim has any evidence of a burn about the face (red faced, singed eye lashes or eyebrows or hair) call the ambulance immediately. Treatment with oxygen should begin immediately. Other treatment will also begin at the scene. Your ambulance has contact with physicians who will be ready for you at the hospital.

While you are waiting for the ambulance, cover the patient to conserve body heat. If the patient has fallen or you find them where the heat is still present, you may need to move the patient. If he could have other injuries and you must move the patient, try to keep their nose in line with their navel, to prevent spinal injuries. Don't twist the body.

The types of burns include:
1st degree burns usually is only a redness of the skin, a light sunburn is a good example. When a patient is removed from the sun, they may turn more red. 1st degree are usually minor burns. However, if a large area is burned, go to your doctor.

2nd Degree burns could look like sunburn but will usually have small or large blisters associated with redness. Immersion of the burned area in cool water or application of cool, wet towels within the first few minutes up to an hour, will help. Almost always, 2nd degree burns should be seen by your doctor. If it is a large area (like a hand or a foot), call for the ambulance, we will help.

3rd Degree burns involve damage or destruction of the full

layer of the skin. They can involve muscles and bones. They may appear charred or leathery, usually pain is severe or absent, due to the damage of the nerves. Shock can be a problem with any 3rd Degree burns.

If the patient is in a closed area with smoke or fire, move them to a safe area; remove carefully watches, rings and loosen clothing. Don't give anything by mouth as this can cause nausea and vomiting. Moisten the lips with a damp cloth and cover with a clean sheet or place wet towels on the burned area. Lay the patient flat on a blanket and raise the feet 12 inches and cover with blanket or a quilt.

Do not rupture blisters on a burn patient. Do not put salves, creams, butter, spray or any type of oil base material on any type of burns.

If you are in doubt about any burn, contact your doctor or call the ambulance. Don't assume because it is small, or is just red, that it is not a problem. Burn treatment should be rapid if it is severe and sometimes they are hard to determine at first glance. Don't wait. If the burn is severe the treatment should begin quickly.

Remember, ambulances do make house calls. We have direct contact with a physician. Call 928-4786 or 928-4725. Next week, Posion.

FFA does well in Ft. Worth

by Chuck Peterman

Once again, the Merkel Future Farmers of America made a strong showing in major Texas competition, scoring high in the swine, steer and heifer divisions at the Fort Worth Fat Stock Show. Merkel Vocational Agriculture teachers Billy Riley and J. T. Naron, stressed the point by explaining that 60 per cent of their swine entries were placed in the premium sale.

Swine
Light weight Duroc- Allen Windham 12th, John Paul Dudley 19th. Medium weight duroc-John Paul Dudley 10th and Tim Brandon 12th. Heavy Du-

roc- Tommy Hays 15th. Light weight chester- Tim Brandon 15th. Medium weight Chester- Dusty Farmer 17th and Heavy Weight Chester- Dusty Farmer 7th, Jason McCarty 8th, Billy Ray Riley 9th, Ricky Riley 13th, Billy Ray Riley 15th. Medium Weight Poland China- Lynn Hays 3rd, Chris Cutler 5th and Lyle Baker 6th. Heavy Weight Poland China- Tommy Hays 3rd. Light Weight Spotted Poland China Jay Gibson 9th, Lyle Baker 14th.

Steer Division
Hereford: Randy Toombs 10th. Junior Show Brangus Heifers- Spring Heifers- Keith Munden 4th, Linda Munden 7th. Senior Heifer Linda Munden 4th and

Keith Munden 8th.
Open Brangus Show
Late senior heifer calf and early junior heifer calf, M Cinco Ranch, Merkel, third in both divisions.

We not only enjoy stock showing but we enjoy competing in academic contests. Presently, several of our FFA members are competing in the Middle Clear Fork Soil Conservation District essay contests. Watch for the results in next week's Mail.

The things that cost the least and does the most is just a pleasant smile. Have a nice day.

Middle school honor students

The following is the Merkel Middle School honor roll. Due to illness of students and faculty, some names may not appear on the list. The school regrets any deletions.

6th Grade All A
Dayna Bently, Lisa Cannon, Mi Hwa Chon, Lisa Donaldson, Melissa Hallford, Jennifer Hatley, Sheri Miles, David Miller, Shawn Miller, Laurinda Powell and Penny Smith.

6th Grade A-B
Bridget Acuna, Laura Baker, Richard Bryan, Tammy Caulder, Amy Coleman, Angela Carson, Toby Dupont, Robyn Dudley, Lisa Jackson, Stephen Jacobs, Lee Kotrik, Susan Hammond, Cassandra Moreno, Tricia Newsom, Kevin Pilgrim, Christi Reynolds, Brandon Rice and Suzy Willoth.

7th Grade All A
Jennifer Heidelberg, Anissa Jones, Julie Koflanovich, Chad Strange, Diem Tran.

7th Grade A-B
Stephanie Ashorn, Michelle Barnett, Walter Best, Dewayne Clark, John Paul Dudley, Michele Dudley, Jennifer Gaona, Richa Hill, Jeff Hobbs, Richard Lacey, Shane Lancaster, Maxi Lang, Steven Leverich, Pam Neff, Estelle O'Con, Wade Toombs, David Tomach, Robert Turner, Twyla Wilburn, Shane White.

8th Grade All A
Angle Cannon, Son Mi Chon, April Duncan, Michelle Goodglon, Shelly Grey, Tami Isreal, Staci Johnson, Ramon Moreno, Ted Seymore, Miltz Shelton, Amy Stuckey, Krista Toombs.
8th Grade A-B

Farm & ranch financial seminar set in Abilene

Farm and Ranch Financial Issues for Today will be the topic of a seminar at the Abilene Civic Center Feb. 14.

The one-day program, which will begin at 9 a.m., will deal with the future of agriculture, merchandising credit, sources of capital, landlord-tenant relationships, income tax planning and the outlook for cotton, cattle and the general economy.

"The program is designed to give farmers and ranchers a look at various financial issues since agriculture has become such a capital intensive business," points out Dr. Wayne Hayenga, economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A & M University System. "The producer must look on money like he does

any other tool or implement, and he must know how to use it properly."

Speakers will include R. C. Cobb, president of the Rolling Plains Production Credit Association; Dr. John Hopkin, Stiles professor of agriculture and finance at Texas A & M; and Dr. Carl Anderson, Robert Kensing and Hayenga, all Extension Service economists.

In addition to addressing various financial issues on agriculture, the seminar also pays tribute to the 50th anniversary of the formation of production credit Association. PCAs were organized during the Great Depression to provide dependable credit for agriculture and are now America's largest source of short and intermediate ag loans.

Newsbriefs

Sorority news

The Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries sponsors the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. About 1.4 million women in more than 25,000 local units will participate in the observance between January and March of this year. Last year, the Call to Prayer offering was \$829,302.

7th grade girls season at 16-4

by Coach McAdams
The 7th grade girls basketball team ended their season with a victory against Breck Monday night here. The Bagders were behind 13-8 at the half but came back in the 3rd quarter holding Breck scoreless and reeling off 12 unanswered points. Diem Tran led as she scored 6 of her 8 points in the 3rd quarter as a result of pressure defense that forced turnovers. The final score was 28-20.

Teresa Lucas had her best game of the year scoring 14. She ended the season with a 6 point scoring average.

Outstanding defense has been recognized all year by several team members including Pam Neff, Amber Whisenhunt, Diem Tran, Christie Wade and Bridgett Vaughn. Offensively the team has been led by Teresa Lucas, Maxie Lang, Michelle Barnett, Amber Whisenhunt, Diem Tran and Christie Wade.

Every member of the team proved to be valuable and I want to give sincere thanks for all the hard work and dedication on the part of her players. Opponents of Merkel better beware of this talented bunch of girls.

Umw observance

The United Methodist Women of Merkel's United Methodist Church here will hold their annual Call to Prayer and Self-Denial observance at 2 p.m. Feb. 12 at the church's Fellowship Hall.

The major event of the day will include a quiet day service. A special offering will be taken for "Strengthening Family Life". The service, whose title is **The Family of God**, was written by Gwen White. It takes as its inspiration Galatians 6:9-10, which stresses that Christians do good to all people, especially to those who are a part of the household of faith.

I love them all.

It was a super season with a year end record of 16-4. They lost to Sweetwater, Hawley, and 8th grade teams from Albany and Wylie.

I'd like to thank all the parents of these girls as well as the community for all their support throughout the year. Now, we get ready for track.

Lanford's place in Fort Worth

John and Jayne Lanford attended the Southwestern Exposition and Stock Show in Ft. Worth last weekend with their registered Rambouillet sheep. They had a Champion ewe and Reserve Champion Ram in the Open show.

Xi Nu Chi News

Members of Xi Nu Chi brought in the New Year with a Casino Night held at the home of Mynon Seymore on New Year's Eve. Keno and Skip Bo were played and a nice variety of refreshments were served. Members and guests attending were Dan and Anita Allen, Richard and Mary Hill, Robert and Nancy Johnson, Phil and Mynon Seymore, Clifford and Janice Smith and Riley and Maxine Seymore.

Xi Nu Chi participated in the 1984 Rehab Telethon held Jan 7 at the Abilene Civic Center. They answered telephones to take pledges for donation to the West Texas Rehabilitation Center.

They met and talked with several stars of the show and before they returned home they enjoyed a dutch

treat dinner out.

Participating were Judy Elliott, Mary Hill, Nancy Johnson, Vicki Rodriguez, Mynon Seymore and Janice Smith.

Judy Elliott was hostess for the first meeting of this year for Xi Nu Chi Jan. 10. Mynon Seymore was selected as our Valentine Sweetheart.

Mynon and Nancy Johnson presented a very good program on physical beauty, stressing the colors best suited to the person. A demonstration was done to show that each person has a "season" of colors that most accentuate the positives for that person. Attending were Anita Allen, Judy Elliott, Connie Harris, Mary Hill, Nancy Johnson, Diane Parker, Vicki Rodriguez, Mynon Seymore, Janice Smith, Vonne Dena Tumlinson and Peggy Valentine.

More Xi Nu Chi

Members of Xi Nu Chi met Jan. 24 in the home of Peggy Valentine. Final plans were made for the chili supper and Keno Party to host Lambda Beta and Preceptor Eta Omega Jan. 31 at Heritage Hall. Vicki Rodriguez and Mary Hill presented a program on beauty and positiveness of Women. Those attending were Anita Allen, Judy Elliott, Mary Hill, Nancy Johnson, Diane Parker, Vicki Rodriguez, Mynon Seymore, Vonne Dena Tumlinson and Peggy Valentine.

"Short supper; long life."
Serbian proverb

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- Pay much less tax on your retirement income. By retirement age, you'll probably be in a lower tax bracket, so the taxes you'll pay on your IRA retirement income could be much less than you pay now.
- Almost everyone can qualify. If you are under age 70½ and are earning an income, you qualify for a Commodore IRA, even if you are already participating in another retirement program.

Best of all, the money you put into your IRA earns a guaranteed high compound interest rate. Save \$2,000 a year for just 20 years, and your IRA investment could amount to well over \$100,000!

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PARKAY DIET OLEO TWIN LB 73¢

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 JENOS PIZZA ASST EACH \$1 19
 GREEN GIANT 10 OZ BROCCOLI OR CAULIFLOWER IN CHEESE SAUCE 93¢

BORDENS ICE CREAM 1/2 GAL CRTN \$1 69

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CHOICE BEEF LEAN CHUCK ROAST BLADE CUT POUND \$1 59

CHOICE BEEF CHUCK STEAK LEAN POUND \$1 75

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FINAL TOUCH FABRIC SOFTNER 33 OZ \$1 19

FOREMOST HOMO MILK GAL JUG \$2 33

FOREMOST OR WEIGHT WATCHERS COTTAGE CHEESE 12 OZ CRTN 83¢

FOREMOST BUTTER MILK 1/2 GAL CRTN \$1 09

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