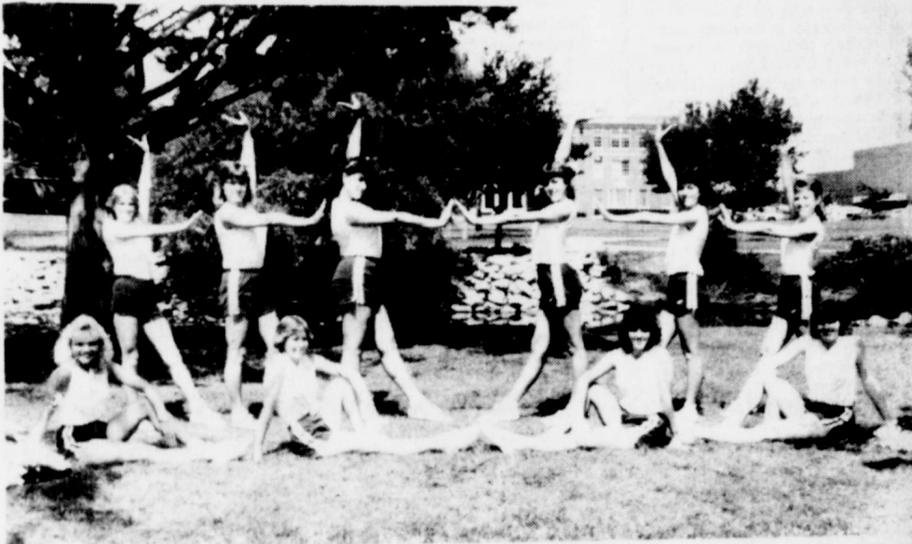


The Merkel Mail

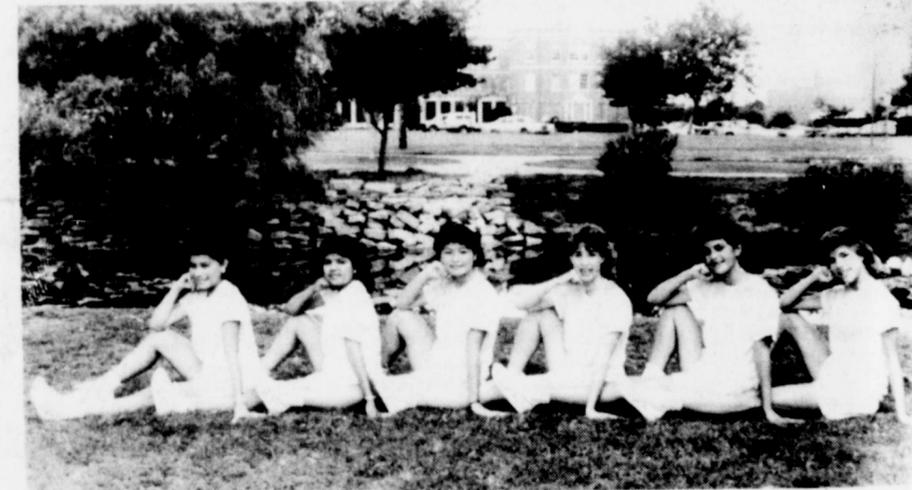
Thursday, July 17, 1986 Merkel, Texas

Our 98th Year



The newly formed Merkel High Drill Team won several awards at a recent camp they attended at Hardin-Simmons University.

Members of the team include [back row from left] Tina Myatt, Traci Smith, Linette Latinette, Caren Hendrix, Melissa Roys, Michelle Davis [front row from left] Linda Munden, Marjoh Parish, Abby Irvin, Debbie Pack and not pictured is DeAnn Stevens.



The Merkel Junior Varsity leading camp at Hardin-Simmons Acuna, Irene Alvarez, Mi Hwa Cheerleaders recently participated in the Big Country Cheerleaders are [from left] Bridget Baker and Laura Baker.

USDA commodity distribution set Aug 2, police work 106 cases in June

The Merkel City Council met Monday night and learned Merkel's chances for approval of an application for funds for housing rehabilitation may be in jeopardy. About \$3 million in funds have been approved for 19 counties in the region and Sweetwater officials are seeking \$1 million of that for housing rehab of homes destroyed in a tornado. Merkel has applied for funds for 30 homes.

Council also learned the next USDA commodity food distribution is planned for Aug. 2nd at the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department building.

People who qualified for the last distribution will not have to re-apply. New applications will be taken at the Fire Station the day of the distribution. People who would like to volunteer their labor are asked to contact city manager J. A. Sadler for more information.

Council also heard the police activity report from Merkel police Chief Ray Pack.

In June, Merkel police worked a total of 106 cases. They included three cases of criminal mischief, a case each of criminal damage and destruction and criminal trespassing and worked seven traffic accidents. Police also investigated a case of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and two cases of discharging firearms in the city limits. They also investigated a case of hit and run and answered seven prowler calls.

Police worked two cases of phone harassment, issued 17 citations, answered nine dog calls and picked up five dogs.

They also made one arrest for public intoxication and tow for driving while intoxicated. They investigated seven thefts, 12 burglaries and made three arrests for disorderly conduct.

They investigated six assaults and four family disturbances and made ten misdemeanor and seven felony arrests.

Parade set for Riding Club's challenge, gunfights planned

The Merkel Riding Club will be sponsoring a parade Aug. 2 at 5 p.m. downtown in conjunction with their annual Challenge of the Clubs.

Western Heritage Day, sponsored by the Merkel Chamber of Commerce will begin Saturday morning across from Satrbuck's.

Events planned that day include a style show, demonstrations of roping, branding and horse shoeing. Gunfight re-enactments will also be held between 4 and 5 p.m.

Categories in the parade will include trophies for the youngest rider, the oldest rider and for the best Sesquicentennial costume. A trophy will also be presented to the best riding club, saddle club or Sheriff's posse entered in the parade. Groups or individuals wanting more information should contact Barbara Whisenhant at 928-5534.

Also, area Merchants who want to either participate in, or sponsor a team for a steer saddling contest should contact LaVena Vaughn at 928-5535.

A Honda Spree motor scooter, donated to the Merkel Riding Club by Home State Bank in Trent, will be given away at a drawing at the club Aug. 2nd. Drawing tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and are available at Home State Bank, Merkel Drug, Hi-Val Farm & Home Supply, Gerald Rutledge Operating Company or from any riding club member.

The belt buckles that will be presented to individual event winners will be on display at local merchants who sponsored the awards. The buckles are hand made and are sterling silver with a 14k overlay.

More information concerning the Challenge of the Clubs is available from Jan Woodall or information concerning Western Heritage Day is available from Ann Payne.

WTU plans more consumer refunds as fuel prices continue to drop

West Texas Utilities Company's retail customers will receive another fuel cost refund and a significant decrease in their future electric bills if a request filed Tuesday in Austin is approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

WTU is asking permission to refund a total of \$5.7 million in retail revenues collected in excess of actual fuel costs, and to lower its fuel charge rate for the months of September, October and November. The total refund includes \$5,425,372 in actual fuel cost savings which have accumulated from March through June, plus \$305,511 in interest.

This would be the third time for WTU to make a refund and to lower its fuel cost factor since its last rate increase in November, 1984. Over \$17.6 million was refunded in August 1985, and \$9.3 million was refunded in May, 1986.

"This is not an actual rate case filing," WTU President Glen Churchill explained. "It is an adjustment possible because the price of our boiler fuel has been declining. Any savings we can make on fuel cost is passed on to our customer as soon as permitted."

The due amounts on customer bills include both fuel costs and base rates. Utility companies are not allowed to make money on fuel. WTU has had no change in its base rates since 1984.

If a reduction in fuel rates, technically known as the Interim Quarterly Fixed Fuel Factors, is approved, WTU officials estimate the fuel cost charges to its customers will drop by 24 percent, or \$7.9 million, during the three-month period beginning in September.

After the state's Public Utility Regulatory Act was amended in 1983 the PUC ordered the use of the fixed fuel factors and their use was recently re-adopted in an emergency fuel rule. Previously, an automatic fuel adjustment matched fuel billings to fuel expense each month. These immediate adjustments prevented over-recoveries of fuel costs and made refunds unnecessary.

Under WTU's proposal, all existing retail customers would receive refunds through one-time credits to their bills in the billing month of September. A typical residential customer would receive about \$11.

Natural gas is the principal fuel for all of WTU's eight major power generating stations. In recent years, fuel costs have amounted to more than half of the Company's total operating costs, but have dropped from all-time high of \$3.18 per million BTU in 1983 to \$1.88 in June 1986.

We found Art, you don't have to wait long for more fajitas

§ by Cloy A. Richards

A new feature is being started this week in **The Mail** as former Reporter News columnist Art Lawyer has resigned from the paper to make a living writing columns for area weekly newspapers.

If the future columns are as well written as the first, you should have something to look forward to each week.

Just when you thought it would be a long time before you had a

chance to eat the locally famous Chamber of Commerce fajitas, you only have a few more days to wait.

The Chamber will be cooking fajitas at the first night of the Merkel Riding Club's Challenge of the Clubs, Friday Aug. 1 at the Merkel Riding Club's arena and then on Saturday downtown as a part of Western Heritage Day, a first time event being held in conjunction with the Challenge of the Clubs.

There will be demonstrations downtown Saturday topped off

with a parade at 5 p.m. Make plans to attend.

.....

Mom and Dad hosted Sesquicentennial party in College Station over the weekend and I was a good chance for me to see a lot of their friends I haven't seen in the past few years.

One thing bothered me Sunday. You know you are going older when your son and the son of a longtime family frier are old enough to go fishing alone. I guess I should have had that hint when my daughter entered high school.

Groups raise funds by selling trees

Local organizations interested in fund-raising can now sell trees through a program offered by the National Arbor Day Foundation, a nonprofit organization.

Clubs, churches, school and scout groups, and other organizations can sell trees in their community and make a profit of \$1.25 on each tree sold.

The trees available, Red Maple, Black Walnut, Weeping Willow, Sugar Maple, Purpleleaf Plum, Thornless Honeylocust, Tuliptree and Pin Oak, are each 2-3 feet tall and cost the customer \$3.50 each.

"Along with being a very profitable fundraiser, selling trees will serve as a valuable community-improvement and beautification project," John Rosenow, the Foundation's executive director, said. "The Foundation will mail the trees directly to the customer's home address this fall. The local sponsoring organization never has to handle the trees. We will include complete planting instructions and a guarantee that the trees will grow next spring, or we replace them free."

To allow for delivery of trees this fall, organizations should plan their sales promotions for July, August and September.

There is still time to organize sales promotions this summer. All sales materials are provided free of charge by the Foundation. Organization representatives can obtain information about the program, including sample sales materials, by writing to: Fund Raising Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 60 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

Merkel's sales tax rebates still 8 % ahead of 1985 pace

Merkel's sales tax rebates are more than holding their own compared to 1985 totals according to a news release from the State Comptroller's Office.

So far this year, Merkel has received \$38,444.55, compared to \$35,506.09 through the same period last year. That represents an 8.28 per cent increase.

Tye's rebates continue to slip as Tye is more than 21 percent behind 1985 payments. So far this year, Tye has collected \$36,130.78 compared to \$45,791.91 through the same period last year.

Trent's rebates are still running 56.82 per cent ahead of those last year. So far, Trent has deposited \$1,886.15 in rebate checks this year.

The state rebates monthly one per cent of the state's 5.125 per cent sales tax to cities where retail purchases were made.

The state sent out checks totaling \$56.6 million to the 1,015 Texas cities that levy the one per cent tax.

MISD board meets tonight

The MISD school board will meet Thursday night at 7 p.m. at the Merkel High Library.

Agenda items include liability insurance bids and a presentation

by Merkel High Principal Larry Curry in the State of Merkel High for the 1985-86 school year.

The meeting is open to the public and will get started at 7 p.m.

Art Lawler



Somebody has stolen the flag of the United States right off the Mason County courthouse lawn.

If that somebody is apprehended any time in the near future he (or she) may wind up being attached to the same pole.

Toes first. Glenn Marshall was so incensed by what he saw as "un-American" behavior he wrote the editor of the *Mason County News*. He hoped the thief might be literate enough to read his words. But Glenn had his doubts.

The thief, you would figure, could not be much of a reader - or classroom listener. To him, the name Jefferson would mean the family on a television sitcom. Washington would be a place where the Redskins play football. King would be a rock singer who drugged himself to death.

"Someone (or several), decided their personal gain was worth more than the respect and admiration the community has shown to the flag. So they stole the American flag and the banner below it..." wrote Marshall.

He holds little hope the *criminal* will ever be apprehended, fearing instead the flag will wind up as a curtain in a decrepit van.

He wants to believe the theft was committed by a transient who will never pass through the county again. "We certainly do not need that type of demented person in our county again," he says.

I don't blame Marshall for being angry. Americans have seen too many flags that were sewn into the crochets of Levis, or torched during acts of social defiance.

But rather than hanging the culprit by the toes - in the unlikely event he is ever apprehended - it might be better to educate him. Better yet, give him (or her) a choice. Jail, or history class.

Since it doesn't seem likely the flag was stolen as an expression of social or political protest, (kids aren't that political these days) we can probably assume the thief just liked the colors. Rather than a willful act of treason, we are probably dealing with an act of hard-earned ignorance.

Take up a community collection. Then find a local historian to escort the villain on a journey. Depending on the amount of money raised, it might be possible to lead him through the Civil War battlefields in Virginia. Or maybe just through the top museums in the country, or in Texas. If it's a rebel he aspires to be, introduce him to Robert E. Lee. He'll be impressed. If it's a macho man he admires, expose him to U.S. Grant.

When it's all over, have him write a paper. Have him include the number of U.S. war dead in each of those battles. Ask him to explain why anyone would be willing to chance a bullet piercing his heart for an intangible goal like freedom. Not the freedom to steal flags, but the freedom to work toward a democracy.

Let him know it didn't just happen, too. Tell him we've been fighting wars - often with ourselves - while trying to define it. Sometimes the flag is the only thing united about us.

Let him know, though, when the squabbling stops, and we're all in agreement, we won't be interested enough to continue with the goal of democracy any longer.

He may want to mull that over for a while. But don't let him off with a shrug.

In the end, take him back to the courthouse square. Have him hoist the flag back to the top, if he hasn't already destroyed it. Otherwise, have him work until he can pay for a new one.

If, while he looks up at the flag, the people of Mason County see goose bumps where there ought to be goose bumps, I say spare him.

If the bumps aren't there, give him a cigarette and a blindfold. Some people you just have to shoot.

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(Note: Anyone wishing to address his, or her, comments to this columnist should write P.O. Box 432, Buffalo Gap, Texas - 79508)

Low-income households may be eligible for energy assistance

AUSTIN—Some low-income Texas households may be eligible for help in paying their cooling bills this summer through the Home Energy Assistance Program, according to Texas Department of Human Services Commissioner Marlin Johnston.

Commissioner Johnston said the one-time payment is available to many low-income households. Households which this month received food stamps, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, or Supplemental Security Income will be mailed applications automatically. Other low-income households may request an application from DHS during the enrollment period of June 16 through July 18.

Eligibility is limited by gross income. For instance, aid is available for a one-person household having less than a \$547.49 gross income per month. The gross income limit is \$733.49 for a two-person household, \$919.49 for three, \$1,105.49 for four, \$1,291.49 for five, and \$1,477.49 for six.

Eligible households must be subject to

energy cost increases—because of bills or rent being higher due to rising energy costs.

Households in privately owned or rented housing are eligible if the cost for cooling is included in the rent payment or if the household pays a portion of its home energy costs.

Energy assistance checks are sent directly to the people who are eligible for assistance. However, the checks are made payable to the energy company for the benefit of the eligible person.

Households receiving one of these energy assistance checks should mail it or take it in person to the energy company business office with the regular energy bill. The check can be cashed only by the energy company. If the HEAP check is more than the energy bill, the additional amount will be credited to the person's account for the next month's bill. If the energy bill is higher than the check, the person is responsible for paying the difference.

Merkelites son re-enlists in Army

Sgt. 1st Class David L. Carson, son of Dean Durham of 2902 Edgemont, Abilene, Texas, and John C. Carson of Route 1, Merkel, Texas, has re-enlisted in the U.S. Army at Fort Bliss, Texas, for six years. Carson is an instructor with the Staff and Faculty Battalion.

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REPORT OF CONDITION

Consolidating domestic and foreign subsidiaries of the

Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas
In the state of Texas, at the close of business on June 30, 1986
published in response to call made by Comptroller of the Currency, under title 12, United States Code, Section 161
Charter Number 7481 Comptroller of the Currency 11th District

Statement of Resources and Liabilities

	Thousands of dollars
ASSETS	
Cash and balances due from depository institutions:	
Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin	1,207
Interest-bearing balances	4,325
Securities	8,321
Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell in domestic offices of the bank and of its Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and in IBFs	400
Loans and lease financing receivables:	
Loans and leases, net of unearned income	8,547
LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses	108
LESS: Allocated transfer risk reserve	-0-
Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve	8,439
Assets held in trading accounts	-0-
Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)	189
Other real estate owned	-0-
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies	-0-
Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding	-0-
Intangible assets	-0-
Other assets	570
Total assets	23,490
LIABILITIES	
Deposits:	
In domestic offices:	
Noninterest-bearing	6,225
Interest-bearing	14,616
In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs	-0-
Noninterest-bearing	-0-
Interest-bearing	-0-
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase in domestic offices of the bank and of its Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and in IBFs	-0-
Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury	101
Other borrowed money	-0-
Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases	-0-
Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding	-0-
Notes and debentures subordinated to deposits	-0-
Other liabilities	466
Total liabilities	21,408
Limited-life preferred stock	-0-
EQUITY CAPITAL	
Perpetual preferred stock	-0-
Common stock	375
Surplus	375
Undivided profits and capital reserves	1,332
Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments	-0-
Total equity capital	2,082
Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, and equity capital	23,490

We, the undersigned directors, attest to 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 has been prepared in accordance with the instructions and is true and correct.

Don W. Finley
John A. Wicket
Directors

Betty Jane Tittle
Vice-Pres.-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.

Betty Jane Tittle
July 9, 1986
Date

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JOHN DEERE 4440 TRACTOR \$21,500	NEW HOLLAND 275 SQUARE BALER \$2,900
JOHN DEERE 4630 TRACTOR \$14,000	HESSTON 1000 MOWER-COND \$3,250
JOHN DEERE 7530 TRACTOR \$15,000	JOHN DEERE 480 MOWER-COND \$4,500
JOHN DEERE 4010 LT TRACTOR \$1,900	JOHN DEERE 340-15 OFFSET \$3,750
FORD 8 N TRACTOR \$1,750	1HC 14' OFFSET \$2,250
FORD 961 TRACTOR \$2,750	SUNFLOWER 20' OFFSET \$2,750
FORD 552 ROUND BALER \$2,750	

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Slaton-Williams ceremony held

Lisa Diane Slaton and Billy Glen Williams of Trent were married Saturday at Mulberry Street Market at Buffalo Gap. Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Slaton of Abilene are the parents of the bride. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Williams of Trent are the parents of the bridegroom.

Darla Yates, of Abilene, was the maid of Honor. Bridesmaids were Melony Orr of Dublin, Missy Simpson of Trent, Debra Williams of Trent, sister of the bridegroom, and Lori Roberts of Abilene, sister of the bride. Lloyd Williams, Jr., brother of the bridegroom, was bestman. Groomsman were Danny Freeman of Trent, Herb Stocking of Cortez, Colorado,

Kerry Fender of Midland, and Brooks Boyd of Merkel. Jennifer Tia Williams, of Merkel, niece of the bridegroom and Stephanie Roberts of Abilene, niece of the bride, were flower girls. Jerry Williams of Trent, uncle of the bridegroom officiated.

Both graduated from Trent High School. The bride is employed by J.C. Penny Co., in Abilene and will attend Hardin-Simmons University this fall. The bridegroom attended Abilene Christian University and is self-employed as a farmer.

After a wedding trip to Porte DeLa Varde, Mexico, the couple will live in Trent.



Mrs. Billy Williams

Davis' will celebrate 50th Sunday

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Davis of Abilene will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on July 17. Mr. and Mrs. Davis were married in Anson on July 17, 1936. They lived in the Merkel area, where Mrs. Davis operated a beauty shop in the Merkel Drug for many years. Later they owned and ran the old Merkel swimming pool.

A reception will be held honoring them on July 20, 1986 from 2:00-4:00 at the Merkel Church of Christ Family Center. Friends are invited.



Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Davis

Butman's hold annual reunion

Descendents of the late Sam Butman Sr. and Madge Belle Butman met July 12 at colorful Camp Butman, for their annual get together. Seventy one people registered coming from East to West from Roswell, New Mexico to Ft. Worth and from North to South from Lubbock to San Angelo.

Greatly missed was a family member Evel C. Ray, who died April 3, 1986.

The camp staff prepared the delicious noon meal. In the Blessing given by Edwin Polk of Midland, he stressed the great privilege and blessing it is to have family members and friends to meet together.

Lot of visiting, picture taking, tape making and swimming made the day all too short.

Registering from out of town were: Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Polk, Randall and Allison, Midland, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Merrell, Mica and Megan, Colorado City, Mr. and Mrs. Forest Harlow, Bill and Jennifer, San Angelo, Mrs. Louis Butman, Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Gray, Big Spring, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Powell, Roswell, New Mexico, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bodwill and Bobby, Katherine, Jeff, Jon, Lubbock, Jeannie King, Sweetwater, Mr. and Mrs. Rick Littrell and John Paul, Lubbock, Randy and Kasey Martin, Abilene Mr. and Mrs. Payton Scott, Rising Star, Tommy Russom, Ft. Worth. All from Merkel included: Mrs. Lillie Butman, Mrs. Lottie Everett Mrs. Mary Russom, Joe Swinney, Rex Martin, Kristen Kennedy, Tim Carter, Alice King, Danny Santee, Rev. John Wagoner Pastor of Merkel Methodist Church and Rev. Kerry Patton, pastor of Pioneer Methodist Church. Also Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ray and David, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bagby, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Swinney, Tammie, Darla and Manie, Mr. and Mrs. Jerrell Butman and Misty, Mr. and Mrs. David Scott and Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Bob Neff and Pam, Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Riggan and Sunny, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brnovak and Mr. and Mrs. A.D. Scott.

Musical set Saturday

A country & western musical is planned Saturday night at 7 p.m. at the old Merkel Lions Club Building.

A concession stand will be open and everyone is invited.

Slater-Woodard wedding plans

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Slater and Teresa Slater have announced the engagement of their daughter, Rhonda, to Sean Ray Woodard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Laird of Merkel and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Woodard of Abilene.

The bride elect graduated from Haltom High School and Ranger Jr. College.

The prospective bridegroom graduated from Merkel High School and attended Ranger Jr. College. Both will attend Tarleton State University in the fall.

An August 9, 1986 wedding is planned.

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162-TFC

For Sale: 25,000 BTU air conditioner, call 928-5892
164-TFC

FOR SALE: Golden Acres Seed, TE Hay-grazer, TE Goldmaker (sterile), Chiefton Cattle Grazer, several varieties of Maize, call Ray Pack, 928-4916
167-TFC

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165-TFCNC

For Sale: used water pumps in good condition 1/2 horsepower Myers jets \$100. 3/4 horsepower Sears hydro convertible jet \$150. 85 gallon galvanized pressure tank \$90. Palmer Pontiac & GMC 928-5113.
170-TFC

For Sale: camper cover fits long wide bed, \$125. 20 cu. ft. refrigerator, avacado, frost free \$250, portable dishwasher, avacado, \$135. call 846-4533.
171-2tp

For Sale: 1986 Kawasaki (Maroon) 454 LTD, windshield, plenty of chrome, never dropped or wrecked, always stored in shed, excellent shape, still under warranty, call Joe after 5:00 p.m.
928-5629
172-2tc

For Sale: 1962 Ford 3/4 ton, 4 speed, utility bed, 68,600 miles, license & sticker, \$750.00. Berlie Wilson, 928-5211.
172-1tp

For Sale: Evaporative cooler, 4,200 BTU Essick new pads, in good condition. Call 928-5970.
172-1tc

For Sale: GE Refrigerator-freezer, 18.7 cubic feet, frost free with ice maker, \$250; ten foot satellite dish and receiver \$1,500. Queen sleeper sofa and love seat \$300, trundle beds \$125, 928-4447
172-1tc

For Sale: beautiful Shepard and Border Collie mixed puppies, males \$15, females \$10. 846-4255, or 846-3050, 846-4771
172-1tp

Piano For Sale: Wanted Responsible party to assume small monthly payments on piano. See locally, call Credit Manager 1-800-447-4266.
172-3tc

For Rent

For Rent: 2 bedroom all electric apartments. Upstairs \$250 with \$150 deposit Downstairs with dishwasher \$275 with \$150 deposit. 928-5194
149-TFC

For Rent: 3 bedroom house with stove & refrigerator, washer & dryer, ceiling fans, fenced yard \$300 per month \$150 deposit. 928-5194
134-TFC

2 bedroom house For Rent: furnished or unfurnished, fenced back yard, city water.
928-5189
171-1tc

Mobile Home For Rent: 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, storage building, fenced in yard, deposit required 928-5845 or 928-4991.
171-2tc

For Rent: 2 bedroom rock house, stove, refrigerator, \$250 per month \$150 deposit, 2 blocks from school. 928-5194.
134-TFC

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

2 bedroom house For Rent: furnished or unfurnished, fenced back yard, city water.
928-5189
172-1tc

For Rent: 2 bedroom, living room, dining room, kitchen, central air and heat stove, refrigerator, washer & dryer, edge of town on 1 acre \$375 per month \$150 deposit. Call 928-5194.
142-TFC

1, 2 or 3 bedroom mobil home for rent in Merkel. Call 928-4973.
27-TFC

Mobil home for lease with option to buy; two bedroom, 1 bath, completely furnished, one bedroom has a king sized bed, before 5 p.m. call 692-0702, after 5 call 928-4034
107-TFC

Real Estate

Rt. 3 Box 31 Quail Co. 93,000, Merkel Beauty, steel A-Frame- perfect for retirement or pleasure- on 6 acres- out building Helen Winchester 677-1811; 692-7457, Senter Realtors
Merkel, 113 Country Club Rd. 45,000, Fantastic Buy in Merkel. Large size 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 story home, skylight, wood deck, total electric. All the extras, \$45,000. Call Diane Schwartz at Senter Realtors, 698-0541.
168-TFC

For Sale: 1982 double-wide, many extras, fireplace, appliances built in, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1876 sq. ft., excellent condition, 691-1107.
171-2tc

14 by 80 mobile home For Sale, Rent or Trade for something of equal value. Call Joyce at 928-5673.
171-TFC

For Lease- For Sale: Mobil home site and or home-office site. All utilities and septic are in on this lovely 2 acre lot south of Merkel, lease for 185.00 per month or purchase Daltzell Realtors 691-1300 or Debbie 695-6105.
171-4tc

House for Sale: 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, washer-dryer, air conditioner, 1 bath, refrigerator, front room carpeted, 1 acre of land 1 1/2 mile East of Merkel, mail service and bus route. Call 928-5613, Cyrus Pee, Realtor.
171-TFC

Trade or Sell two Spartan, all metal trailers, can be moved with 1/2 ton P.U. Trade for small house or what have you or sell outright, 928-4893.
172-1tc

Classifieds

For Sale: 3 bedroom brick house, central air and heat, bath & 3/4, built in dishwasher and range, on 2 lots, 1 car garage, horsepens and storage building, 806 Locust 928-5145.
171-TFC

For Sale By Owner 1 1/4 acres with 2 trailers, front trailer 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath, kitchen, dining room separate, central heat & air, furnished nice, screened in front porch. Back trailer 3 bedroom, 1 bath, good furniture \$27,500. Call 928-5175.
155-TFC

Merkel Home on 5 Acres with 15 additional acres Like new 3 bedroom, 2 bath, super work shop 30 x 40. Windmill and water well. Also on city water. Any new loan. Wayne-Jean Walker 677-1811. 673-3305.
169-TFC

Land for sale by owner. 160 acres after 6 call 928-4916.
157-TFC

Land For Sale: located on I-20. Will sell either 1, 3, 5 or 10 acres. Will be good for housing or motel. All utilities can be secured, call Cyrus Pee Realtors 928-5613.
164-TFC

House For Sale: 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, washer, dryer, refrigerator, 1 bath, front room is carpeted on 1 acre of land 7 1/2 m. east of Merkel, has mail and school bus route, call 928-5613.
171-TFC

Misc.
For Watkins Products call Larry or Martha Sue Justice 928-5217.
166-TFCNC

Responsible Lady would like position cooking and cleaning for the elderly.
Sue Hughes 928-4429.
170-3tc

PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING ALL BREEDS HAND FLUFF DRY HAND SCISSORING FREE POLISH BOWS & COLOGNE. Please call Faye at 928-4474 after 1 p.m. for an appointment
137-TFC

Bob's Electric Service. Quality Work, reasonable rates, construction or re-wiring, ceiling fans installed, No Job Too Small 928-5795.
159-TFC

HELP WANTED: Needed Immediately Part Time LVN 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Apply in person Starr Nursing Home.
167-TFC

Trade paid for 1985 Dodge Pickup, top of the line, for small house, 928-4893.
172-1tc

KID'S KORNER DAY CARE CENTER 2nd & Oak. Open Monday through Friday 6:30 am until 5:30 p.m. Call 928-4381.
66-TFC

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

Airline Jobs \$17,800 to \$68,500 a year. Now Hiring. Call Job Line 1-518-459-3535 Ext. A-6692 For info. 24 HRS.
171-3tp

Memories On Video. Get Weddings, birthdays, or any special occasion on tape. Minimum charge \$25.00 including tape, call 928-5717.
168-TFC

Granny's Playhouse Day Care Center Open 6 A.M.-6:30 P.M. Hot lunch and snacks provided, more information call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange.
172-3tp

Need a good window air conditioner? We have a good selection of used units at Amerine Mechanical, 502 Kent, 928-4876.
166-TFC

Remodeling & Painting, 35 years experience 312 Edwards, 928-4548, No jobs too small or too large.
172-TFC

Canoes For Rent: 7.50 per day with paddles and life vest, 928-4986, 610 Orange.
172-4tc

All Types of small repairs, building repairs, cement work, lawns mowed, evaporative cooler and refrigeration units repaired, 928-4986.
For adoption: well behaved male dog, small.
Two free kittens, first come first choice.
Merkel Vet Clinic 928-5235.

Small engine and bicycle repair. No charge on pick-up and delivery. Rebuilt mowers for sale, will take trade-in. Bufaio Energy 928-4827
1-9 p.m.
172-4tp

New and Used RV Parts and Accessories AT Discount Prices. Guaranteed repair. Work at your place or ours, Licensed, Bonded, Insured, two seasons, 241 Air Base Rd. Tye, 692-0670.
169-4tc

Own Your Own Jean-Sportswear, ladies apparel, children's, maternity, large sizes, petite, dancewear, accessories or bridal shop. Jordache Chic, Lee, Levi, Izod, Gitano, Guess, Calvin Klein, Sergio Valente, Evan Picone, Liz Claiborne, Members Only, Gasoline, Healthtex over 1,000 others. \$14,300 to \$25,900 inventory, training, fixtures, grand opening etc. Can open 15 days. Mr. Keenan (305) 678-3639.
172-1tp

Cellers built, concrete and backhoe works, water lines laid, also remodeling and furniture refinishing, 928-5879.
170-4tc

Bob's Electric Service. Quality work, reasonable rates, construction or re-wiring, ceiling fans installed, no job too small 928-5795.
169-TFC

Garage Sales

Back Yard Sale: at 100 Lois Street, Friday and Saturday, 9:00-5:30. Lots of ladies and girls clothes, shoes, books, refrigerator, and misc.
Weather Permitting.
172-1tc

PORTABLE SIGNS FOR RENT 928-4307

Yard Sale: Saturday Only, lots of stuff, 8:30-5:00, 604 Locust St.
Garage Sale: Friday 8-5, Saturday 8-12, have lots of size 12 clothes, real nice, lots of misc. behind the water tower in Trent 172-1tc

Garage Sale: 821 Yucca Friday and Saturday, 8-5 both days, baby clothes, lots of toys misc. items.
Garage Sale: 812 Oak, Thur., Friday, Saturday until noon. Record player, clothes, and lots more

KOFOEDS AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL INSTALLATION & REPAIR

STATE LICENSED
FREE ESTIMATES 928-5939



AUTHORIZED SERVICE DEALER

LARGE SELECTION OF PARTS
WARRANTY REPAIRS WELCOMED
MOWERS
CHAIN SAWS WEED EATERS TILLERS
CRANK SHAFT STRAIGHTENING
SAW CHAIN REPAIRS & SHARPENING
PICK UP AND DELIVERY
PORTABLE SIGNS FOR RENT
OPEN 8-6 MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS
BROWNE ENTERPRISES
ON THE CORNER OF NORTH 1ST & KENT

102 KENT 915-928-4307

ABILENE PAINT & BODY

2726 S 2nd
FOR PROFESSIONAL PAINT & BODY WORK
SEE STEVE PARKER 676-4441
FREE ESTIMATES 24 HOUR SERVICE

Consolidated Plumbing

ALL WORK GUARANTEED FULL TIME ANSWERING SERVICE
928-5627
RADIO DISPATCHED TRUCKS FOR FAST DEPENDABLE SERVICE IF NO ANSWER CALL 928-5263 OLD AND NEW WORK TRENCHER AVAILABLE

VIC'S ROOFING

5 YEAR GUARANTEE
OVER 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN MERKEL AREA ALONE
FOR FREE ESTIMATE CALL 928-4703
VICTOR LERMA
OWNER & OPERATOR

GENERAL REPAIRS

MOWER & TILLER SERVICE
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N 2nd & Taylor STREET

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS SEYMORE INSURANCES

Auto, Property, General Liability
Crop, Health, Life, Disability,
Tax shelters, Retirement,
Educational Plans
102 Edwards 928-5379

FOR SALE APARTMENTS-11 UNITS PLUS LAUNDRY & MINI STORAGE

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ONLY 3 YEARS OLD
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The Merkel Mail
First Published
March 3, 1889

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Melanie Richards--Co Publisher
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\$10 Per Year in Taylor County
\$11.75 Anywhere in Texas
\$12.50 Out of State

Professional Affiliations
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION

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

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

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

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Recorder on after hours or when out of office
Please Correspond top Box 428, Merkel

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Publishing weekly since 1889

"Congress Shall Make No Law Abridging The Freedom of the Press"

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WE WANT YOU TO READ OUR MAIL



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

Energy Efficient
HEATING and AIR CONDITIONING

- Gas, oil or electric furnaces
- Air conditioning to fit any requirement
- Low cost operation
- 24 hour service
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Air Conditioning & Heating

Amerine Mechanical & Sheet Metal
Box 517 Merkel, Texas 79536
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LESTER HUMPHREY TERMITE & PEST CONTROL
1202 PNE 677-2413

MERKEL VETERINARY CLINIC
OPERATED BY
BRADLEY R. BANNER, DVM
KATHRYN L. BANNER, DVM
SAME LOCATION FM 126 N
HOURS MON-FRI 8:30-5:30
CLOSED FROM 12-1
SATURDAYS FROM 8 UNTIL NOON
928-5235 Appointments
928-4176 Emergencies

**Kuker-Amerine set
Aug 29th wedding**



Lisa Kuker and Josh Amerine have announced their engagement and upcoming wedding, planned Aug. 29th at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church here. Lisa is the daughter of Marian Kuker of Dumas and Evan Kuker of Iowa. Josh is the son of Iris Amerine and Gene Amerine, of Merkel.

Miss Kuker is a 1983 graduate of Dumas High School and attended Angelo State University. She will be a senior at McMurry College in Abilene this fall. Josh Amerine is a 1980 graduate of Merkel High and attended Angelo State University. He is associated with Amerine Mechanical of Merkel.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS MANAGEMENT-ADMINISTRATION SERVICES
City of Merkel, Texas is soliciting qualified consultants for management/administration services required for the implementation of its Community Development Program Grant.

Statements of Qualifications will be received and will be evaluated according to the firm's overall qualifications, background of the principals involved in the proposed project implementation, and previous work experience and demonstrated technical competence in commu-

nity development planning, management, administration, and related areas. Major areas of concern will include environmental review, financial management, labor standards/EEO requirements, and project monitoring/reporting. The firm selected will be given an opportunity to negotiate a

contract for administration services involved in the implementation of the program. Statements of Qualifications will be accepted until 4:00 P.M., July 25, 1986, at City Hall, 107 Lamar St. The City of Merkel is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

172-1tc

Computers now on-board new line of tractors

Farmers are using tractor-mounted computers and radar sensing units and displays to measure how fast tractors move, and that improves both tractor performance and the efficiency of field operations. This space-age technology helps tractors cope with the conditions in which they operate.

Automobiles travel on solid surfaces, like paved highways, so their tires don't slip. But tractors operate in fields, on loose soils, where there is less traction. The wheels spin, or slip.

In an automobile, the speedometer counts the revolutions of the axle. Because there is little tire slippage, the speedometer can convert axle rotation to miles per hour with almost perfect accuracy.

But the same device is far from perfect on a tractor, because of slippage. Some slippage is acceptable on a tractor, then farmers add weights to make their tractors heavier and reduce slippage. But it takes more fuel to move the extra weight.

On the other hand, removing weight to lighten the load means there is less pressure between the tire and the loose soil. That means less traction, more slippage, and an even greater waste of fuel as it is "spun" away by the spinning tires.

The compromise, say agricultural engineers, is approximately 12 percent slippage for most efficient tractor operation, depending on field conditions.

But what does that mean to the accuracy of a tractor speedometer which, like the one on the automobile, measures speed by counting axle rotations? Obviously, the tractor's speedometer is off—by the 12 percent or even more.

Enter the space-age electronics.

John Deere's new line of tractor Performance Trak monitors utilizes a radar unit mounted on the underside of the tractor frame. It works like the radar highway patrolmen use. The major difference is that the highway patrolmen is sitting still and the radar unit is moving along with the tractor, and it reads the speed at which the field passes below.

This accurate speed measurement is critically important in

such farm operations as applying agricultural chemicals. The amount applied to a given area is a function of the amount of chemical going through the sprayer nozzles and the speed of the tractor. If the amount of chemical sprayed through the nozzle remains constant but the tractor is moving too slow, too much chemical will be applied; wasting expensive chemicals and perhaps hurting yield. If the amount

remains constant and the tractor is moving too fast, inadequate amounts will be applied and control of weeds or insects may suffer.

The new John Deere Performance Trak monitors can also be programmed by inputting the width of the implement or sprayer boom. They will then tell the operator how much area he has worked and can convert this to area worked per hour.

Watch Out: High Pressure Sales

Some businesses resort to high pressure sales tactics to entice their customers into purchasing goods or services. Their salespersons are highly trained in various techniques, which they use to manipulate the "potential buyer" into being an actual purchaser. Surprisingly enough, many consumers may not realize that high pressure sales tactics are being used until it is too late.

THE CONSUMER LAWS

The Consumer Protection Act provides relief for those persons who have been victims of high pressure sales tactics. If you've been ripped off, contact your nearest Attorney General Consumer Protection Office or your local Better Business Bureau. However, the best medicine is preventative medicine. Here are some commonly used tactics to watch for the next time you are approached by a salesperson:

COMMON TACTICS

1. **The Guilt Trip** — The idea is to make you feel guilty if you don't buy.

Example: "You wouldn't want to deprive your children of the education and knowledge these encyclopedias could give them."

2. **Statistics** — In many instances these salespersons will bombard you with statistics that in some cases are not accurate or are given too quickly for you to comprehend.

Example: "The government surveyed thousands of people during their productive years and came up with some very accurate figures. Out of 100 people who reach retirement,

ONLY ONE will be 'well to do.' This deal will make you that one."

3. **Your Last Chance** — A salesperson may convince you to make a hasty decision by saying to you that "this is the last time it will be offered at this price."

Example: "You'll get a \$500 discount tonight only. If you don't purchase this vacation plan tonight, the discount will never be offered again."

4. **Jump on the Band Wagon** —

Many times a salesperson will encourage you to buy because everyone else is.

Example: "Your neighbor just bought one" or "everybody who is anybody is buying this product."

5. **Assumptive Close** — You may notice during a sales presentation that the salesperson talks as if you have already agreed to buy.

Example: "Do you want to sign this spa agreement with my pen or your pen?"

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BUFFALO GAP ★

The Strawberry Patch

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WHEN YOU NEED US



BOX 547 MERKEL 928-4122
PERSONAL ATTENTION

HONDA SPREE DONATED BY

HOME STATE BANK

TRENT, TEXAS MEMBER FDIC

A BANK OF FRIENDLY SERVICES -

PROVIDING INTEREST BEARING CHECKING ACCOUNTS



**THE MERKEL RIDING CLUB
WILL BE HOLDING THE
DRAWING FOR THIS
SCOOTER AT THEIR**

**CHALLENGE OF THE
CLUBS AT THEIR ARENA**

**AUGUST 2 a AT 7 PM
TICKETS ARE \$1⁰⁰ EACH
6 FOR \$5⁰⁰ 12 FOR \$10⁰⁰**

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO
BE PRESENT TO WIN
TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM
HOME STATE BANK, MERKEL DRUG
HI-VAL FARM & HOME SUPPLY
GERALD RUTLEDGE OPERATING CO
OR FROM ANY
RIDING CLUB MEMBER**

HONDA SPREE SPECIAL

DONATED BY

HOME STATE BANK

TRENT, TEXAS
MEMBER FDIC



*The PROOF is
in your purse*



**SHEDDS
COUNTRY
CROCK
SPREAD**

1 LB TUB **59¢**

**KRAFTS
SINGLE SLICED
CHEESE**

8 OZ PKG **\$1.29**

**ASST.
SWEETEN
KOOLAID**

2 QT PKG **59¢**

PRICES GOOD
THUR-FRI-SAT
JULY 17, 18 & 19
STORE HOURS
7:30 am - 6:30 pm
MON THRU SAT
CLOSED SUNDAY

**SUNSHINE
CHEEZ-IT**

10 OZ BOX **\$1.09**

**AQUA NET IT'S NEW
CONDITIONER OR
SHAMPOO**

16 OZ BOTTLE **\$1.19**

CREAMY 2nd '29
CRISCO
3 LB CAN **\$1.98**
1 LIMIT
WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

FROZEN FOODS

**PARADE
ORANGE
JUICE**

12 OZ CAN **79¢**

**CARNATION
COFFEE MATE**
11 OZ JAR **\$1.49**

DEL MONTE 15 OZ **PINEAPPLE** IN JUICE CAN **59¢**

DEL MONTE 44 OZ **PINEAPPLE JUICES** ASSORTED **\$1.29**

DEL MONTE 303 CUT **GREEN BEANS** 2 FOR **89¢**

DEL MONTE 303 **SWEET PEAS** 2 FOR **89¢**

DEL MONTE 303 **SPINACH** 2 FOR **89¢**

CONTADINA **WHOLE TOMATOES** 2 FOR **79¢**

CONTADINA **TOMATO SAUCE** 3 FOR **59¢**

VAN CAMPS 300 **PORK & BEANS** 2 FOR **69¢**

**KRAFTS
BAR B Q
SAUCE**
18 OZ JAR **98¢**

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

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

**BETTY CROCKER
HAMBURGER
HELPERS**
ASST. BOX **\$1.33**

**PARADE
SUGAR**
5 LB BAG **\$1.19**
2nd \$1.49
1 LIMIT
WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

**PATIO ASSORTED
MEXICAN DINNERS** EACH **\$1.29**
Mrs. SMITH
APPLE-BLUEBERRY OR
PEACH PIE 26 OZ **\$1.89**
FARM SELECT
CRINKLE CUT
POTATOES 2 LB BAG **53¢**

**DIET OR CLASSIC ONLY
COCA COLA**
6 12 OZ CANS **\$1.59**

**FRENCH
MUSTARD**
28 OZ JAR **98¢**

**DEL MONTE
CATSUP**
32 OZ JUG **98¢**

**BOUNTY
TOWELS**
2nd 79¢
JUMBO ROLL **59¢**
WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE
EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

HAMBURGER



**FRESH GROUND
CHUCK QUALITY
LEAN BEEF**
3 pounds or more
\$1.15
LB

CHOICE BEEF THICK SLICED
ROUND ROAST LEAN POUND **\$1.59**

CHOICE BEEF TIP
SIRLOIN STEAK BONELESS LEAN LB **\$2.19**

GOOCH B. R. **BRISKET** PACKER LB TRIM 7-9 LBS **99¢**

ARMOUR STAR HEAT & EAT CHICKEN FRIED
BREADED PATTIES LB **\$1.59**

PARADE **FRANKS** ALL MEAT 12 OZ PKG **83¢**

ARMOUR STAR **BOLOGNA** MEAT OR BEEF 12 OZ PKG **\$1.35**

WRIGHTS **BACON** NO 1 LB **\$1.79**

OSCAR MAYER **COOKED HAM** 6 OZ PKG **\$1.79**

GENERIC 2 LB JAR **STRAWBERRY PRESERVES** EA **\$1.29**

**PLANTERS
CHEESE BALLS** 5 OZ CAN **93¢**

**PRINGLES
POTATO CHIPS** ASST **\$1.19**

**SKINNERS
MACARONI** LARGE 12 OZ BAG **53¢**

**CARNATION
MILK** 2 TALL CANS **89¢**

**GENERIC
TEA BAGS** 100 CT BOX **79¢**

**CASSEROLE
PINTO
BEANS** 2 LB BAG **69¢**

**HEINZ
SWEET
RELISH** 9 OZ JAR **69¢**

**READY POUCH
TIDE** 10 BOXES FOR **\$1.98**

**LIQUID
JOY** 22 OZ **98¢**

**AUTO-DISHWASHER
REG OR LEMON
CASCADE** 50 OZ BOX **\$2.19**

**BATH SOAP
ZEST** 2 BAR DEAL FOR **89¢**

**DETERGENT
PARADE** 10 LB BAG **83¢**

Fresh Produce

**PEACHES
CALIFORNIA**
LB **59¢**

**FRESH FIRM
LETTUCE** HEAD **49¢**

**FRESH SWEET
RED PLUMS** LB **59¢**

**HOT HOUSE
TOMATOES** LB **39¢**

**GOLDEN
BANANAS** LB **25¢**

**FRESH
SWEET CORN** 3 EARS **59¢**

**FRESH
BELL PEPPER** 2 FOR **49¢**

**RUSSET
SPUDS** 10 LB BAG **\$1.69**

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

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

**FOREMOST
COTTAGE
CHEESE** 16 OZ CRTN **\$1.29**

**YAMI
YOGURT** 8 OZ CRTN **43¢**

**DISINFECTANT
LYSOL
SPRAY** 12 OZ CAN **\$2.39**

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

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS
**CARSON'S
SUPER
MARKET**
Fresh Vegetables
Best Meats in Town
Merkel, Texas