Like most American families, our family is planning a Memorial Day cookout, no matter how cool the weather gets! I love cookouts, because the guys usually tend to the grill, while the women visit and chase the kids around the yard! I am planning to have wine burgers (recipe printed in earlier edition of the Independent) ready for the grill, as well as hot dogs for the children. I am always looking for new recipes, especially those that the children will enjoy, and I found one that I am going to try out on my grandchildren this weekend.

EASY FRUIT BOWL

1 (20 oz) can pineapple tidbits, drained

1 (10 oz) jar Maraschino cherries, drained

1 (11 oz) can mandarin oranges, drained

1 (21 oz) can peach pie filling

4 bananas, sliced

2 cups sliced strawberries

Mix together and chill. Serves 8 - 10)

HELPFUL HINTS: If you soak the sliced bananas in the drained pineapple juice for a few minutes, they will not turn brown.

This looks wonderful served in a clear glass bowl.

I hope you all have a wonderful 3 day weekend, and spend lots of time with your families. Also, please support Claud-Elen days which will be held this Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with most of the events being held at the City Park and on Second Street. Thanks to the hard work of Bill Prather, and his daughter Rhonda Tank, many of our local organizations will benefit from the proceeds of Claud-Elen Days.

Food for thought: A hug is like a hand shake, only closer to the heart.

Thanks Charlotte for your help.