

Taylor County's
Only Legal
Weekly
Newspaper

The Merkel Mail

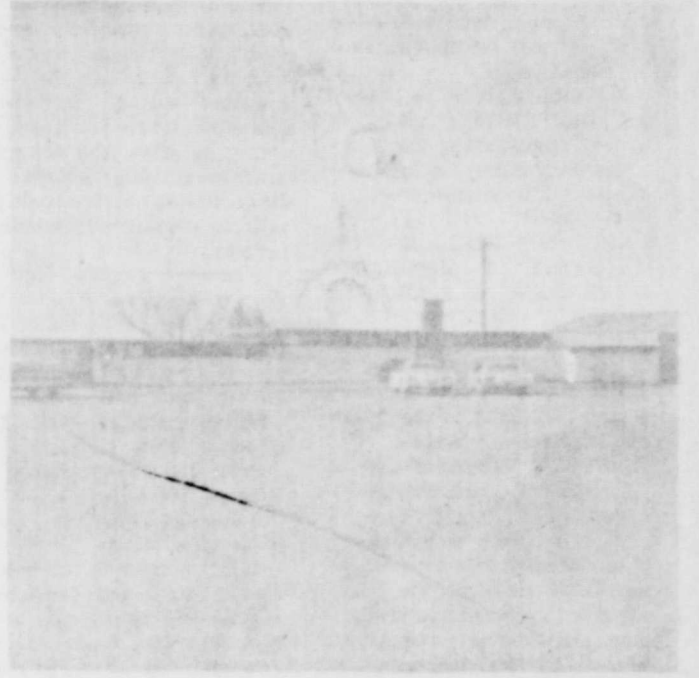
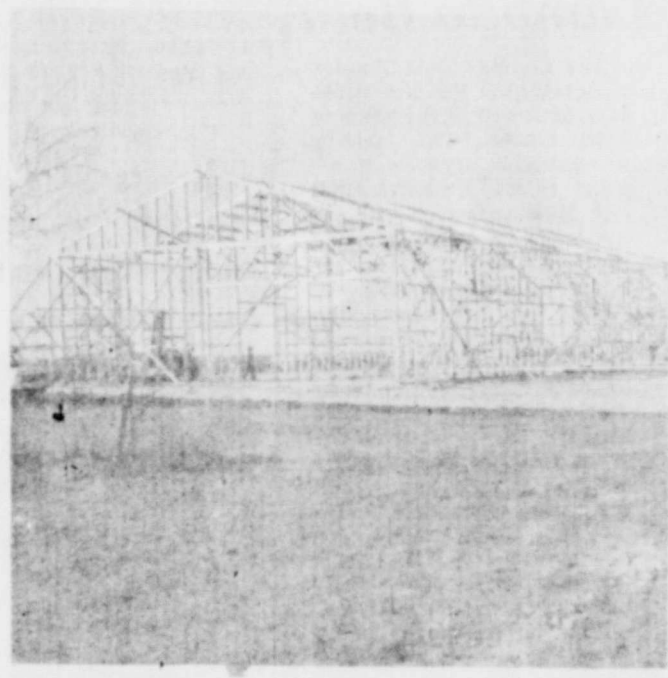
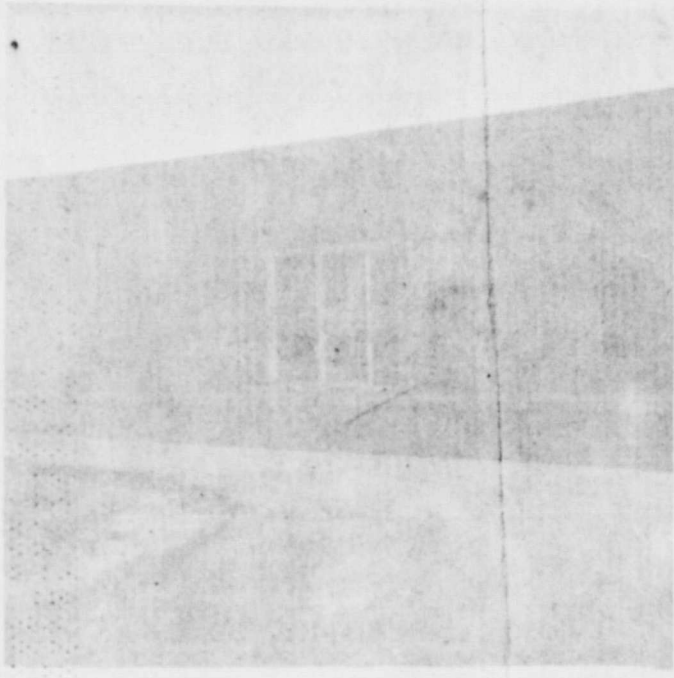
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PUBLISHED WEEKLY

THURSDAY, MARCH 11 1976

VOL. 87 NO. 3

MERKEL—A PROGRESSIVE TEXAS CITY



MERKEL, A CITY ON THE GROW—Merkel is definitely a West Texas City aimed at progress and proving it by the number of industries now coming to this community, the expansion of living facilities and the improvements being made on existing businesses and buildings. Among new buildings

and industries are (left) Wilkerson Manufacturing Company which manufactures ladies handbags, (center left) Basset Company which specializes in modular homes, (center right) Abilene Savings and Loan which is nearing completion of their facility in Merkel and (right) the Country Club of Merkel

which has recently expanded their club house and pro shop and made extensive improvements on the golf course. Other new businesses coming into Merkel but not pictured are Merkel Home Furnishing Center, Western Auto Associate Store, the new Ben Franklin Building, Shannonside Apartments, Country Club Estates, a commercial vegetable nursery,

a new baseball park for the youth activities, and there are rumors of a new restaurant to be built in the very near future. Our city has a progressive city coordinator, a banker with energy and ideas and the location and community to make these work to our advantage. Yes, Merkel is definitely a town going somewhere and taking steps to get there.

Between You And Me

By SARAH ECKOLS

There are few things that make me so mad as does useless and totally senseless vandalism of the caliber that occurred in Merkel over the week end. Several Merkelites reported to local authorities that windows and windshields of their automobiles had been broken during the night Friday night or Saturday morning.

Personally, I can see no rhyme or reason for such acts of destruction. What type of person could have such a lack of conscience and respect for others that he could with malice and forethought steal from another by an act of vandalism.

I use the term steal by act of vandalism because that is exactly what is done when one takes something from another person even though he doesn't necessarily gain that thing for himself. Webster says that steal may refer to any taking of money, valuables or anything comparable in any way.

I can understand to some degree stealing money or something valuable to sell for money or to use. I can comprehend stealing for the preservation of life in cases where money or food is necessary to sustain one's mere existence. Going far out in my realm of understanding, I can even see how one could steal to support a drug habit. I can not, however, in any stretch of my imagination understand why or how anyone could destroy property with no self benefit. I cannot see the kicks in such behavior.

I was reared with respect for other people, their rights and their property. I was taught and firmly believe that my rights extend only so far as not to infringe upon the rights of others. Apparently some people weren't taught these values. Had they any feeling for others and any sense of right and wrong, those responsible for vandalism would stop before the crime and think of what they are taking from others in time, money and feeling.

I was getting worried. My mother even mentioned it to me the other day. I had begun to think it was going to be forgotten this year. I had even tried to find it from last year. I looked for it every day for the past month. I had just about given up when I opened Monday morning's Abilene Reporter-News and there it was. Yes, Kathryn had remembered to print "The Old Mesquites Ain't Out" just as she has in the past several years. Actually, we began looking for the traditional printing of the poem a bit early this year due to the spring-like weather we experienced in February. Even if winter is back, I am very happy to see it since it brought moisture with it.

Newspapers are guilty often of printing a story about an individual who has been injured or who is sick and then leaving the readers to wonder thereafter about the progress of the person. I don't want to leave everyone hanging on wondering about the conditions of two such individuals who have been mentioned in this paper.

First of all, Sessions Hammond, we understand is doing very well except for an apparent bout with the flu. He was recently staying with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hammond, conveying while his wife did the traveling with the kids to stock shows, etc.

Larry Justice is at home, though still on crutches, following his recent surgery. He is doing very well and tells me that he is feeling great. Mrs. Myron Hubbard, Martha Sue's mother, is visiting and keeping him company while he is recuperating.

Jimmy Guthrie of Nolan was in the office this week with an old edition of The Merkel Mail that he found at the bottom of his mother's trunk. The issue, dated December 21, 1928, has some very interesting articles.

One article tells of the Christmas Day football game between the Hamlin all-star team and former college players from Merkel that was staged on the local gridiron with proceeds going to Merkel Boy Scouts and the Merkel Cemetery Association.

Listed on the lineup for Merkel were Delbert Polly, A&M Junior College; Lester Tittle, Simmons; Jerone Hutcheson, Austin College; Roy Largent, TCU; Clesby Patterson, Trinity; Howard Laney, MHS; Buford Smith, MHS; George Woodrum, Yale; Dean Murray, A&M Junior College; Royce McDonald, Tech; Blanton McClain, Sul Ross; L. D. Toombs, ACC; Joe Bailey Toombs, ACC; Buster Haynes, ACC; W. L. Harkrider, McMurry; Audrey Witcher, MHS; Tony Darden, MHS; Carlton Vick, MHS; J. C. Petty, MHS.

It is also interesting to note that on December 31, 1928, school attendance became compulsory in the Merkel School District. Failure for children between eight and fourteen years of age to attend at least 100 days of school per year subjected parents to fines from \$5 to \$10 per day, and by-the-way, in 1928, the Christmas special on the T&P Railroad was a round trip to El Paso for \$14. Reading the ads from early Merkel Mail editions gives me a reporter inflation blues.

Local Barbers Attend Dallas Meet

E. A. Conley, owner of Conley's Barber Shop and Ronny Doan attended the Texas Bicentennial Spring Festival of Hair in Dallas March 7. The festival, sponsored by the International Barbers and Hairdressers Association was held in the Le Baron Hotel.

Conley has recently enrolled in a hairstyling course to be conducted in San Angelo. The latest techniques and styles will be taught in the course which includes both men's and women's hairstyling. The class will be for the month of March. Upon completion of the course, Conley will be offering women's wedge styling as well as men's styling at his shop.

Doan, an employee of Taylor Electric, works in Conley's shop on Saturdays and has been barbering for nine years. Ladies and gentlemen are invited to come by and take advantage of the latest in styling at Conley's Barber Shop.

Schools Comply With Title IX

The Merkel Independent School District in accordance with the requirements of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 hereby declares its intent to fully comply with the intent and specifications of this statute.

Merkel Independent School District shall not, on the basis of sex, exclude any person from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Merkel Independent School District shall further; engage in a self-evaluation to assure compliance, establish grievance procedures, and appoint a coordinator for Title IX implementation.

Five File For City Councilmen

One lady and four men have filed for three vacant 2 year terms on the Merkel City Council. The election of councilmen will be held April 3, 1976 at Merkel High School Gymnasium with polling hours to be from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Filing for seats are Henry Guenther, Dalien Roysden, Jerry Byrd, Pete Morgan and Jimmy Atkinson.



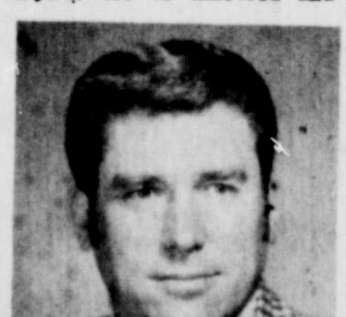
LEE HERRING

...merrymaking speaker for banquet

Dr. Ray To Conduct Revival At Merkel Baptist Church

Dr. David Ray, Assistant Vice President for Development at Hardin-Simmons University, will be the guest evangelist for revival services at Merkel's First Baptist Church, March 17-21. Pastor Kenneth F. Jones has announced that services will be held Wednesday through Saturday nights at 7:30 P.M., with the regular schedule to be followed on Sunday, March 21.

Dr. Ray, a native of the Abilene area, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lem Ray of Wylie. He is married and



DR. DAVID RAY

...guest evangelist

Services Held For Mrs. Garner

Stella Garner, 88, of Merkel died at 10 p.m. Sunday in Central Nursing Home after a short illness. Services are pending with Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born May 2, 1887, in Bell County, she moved to Comanche County at an early age and to Merkel in 1922.

Merrymaker To Speak At Chamber Banquet March 16

Lee Herring, the merrymaking, story telling vice president of Grand Prairie State Bank, will be the guest speaker for the Merkel Chamber of Commerce banquet to be held March 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Merkel School Cafeteria.

One of the state's most successful after-dinner speakers making some 100 or so speeches a year, Herring doesn't go in for the joke-type speech or off-color stories. A rather soft-spoken businessman, Herring began his speech-making career by giving one speech which led to invitations from his audience for more engagements and it evolved into a second business in the process. Herring says that his speaking engagements seldom interrupt his first career of banking.

Herring says that he enjoys speaking to chambers of commerce, civic groups, such as Rotary and professional associations. His personal favorites are World War I veterans and distributive education students.

Herring claims that he doesn't go into a speech with a prepared text, but gears it toward the group to which he is speaking. The size and type of audience often dictates the tone of the speech he said. He does, however, use notes and stressed that preparation is the best way to go about any speaking engagement and have it be successful.

Herring noted that he always gets his audience to laugh, but also gives them food for thought in the process. He says that he likes to include family stories and situations that have really

happened in his speeches.

Herring is a native Texan, born in Salesville. He graduated from Mineral Wells High School, Allen Academy in Bryan, Texas Tech and SMU Graduate School of Banking. He has been active in Rotary, Masonry, community work in fund raising activities such as for mentally retarded children and has served as chairman of the United Fund and six years on Grand Prairie State Bank, the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce, Texas Tech University, board of managers of Dallas County Hospital District, Texas Commission on Alcoholism and was named Citizen of the Year in Grand Prairie in 1970.

Herring and his wife, Ann, have three daughters, Suzanne, Dana Kay and Deborah and a son, Lee D., Jr. They are members of the First Baptist Church.

The 1976 banquet will carry the Bicentennial theme and Waymon Adcock will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Decor will be by Ann's Flowers and the meal will be catered by McEplens of Abilene. Tickets will be available from any Chamber of Commerce member or at the Chamber of Commerce office thru the first of next week, according to Benny Melton, Chamber manager.

Highlight of this year's banquet will be installation of officers and new members of the board of directors. New board members are Pat Castille, Tommy Carson and Bob Hammond. Officers for a second year will be Don Hensley, president; George Starbuck, vice president and Travis Davis, secretary.

Man-of-the-year will be named by the Chamber and woman-of-the-year will be named by Beta Sigma Phi.

Alpha Nu Nu Art Fair To Feature Area Artists

Plans are nearing completion for the Arts and Crafts Fair to be held March 13 and 14 at the Merkel Lions Club Building under the sponsorship of Alpha Nu Nu chapter of Beta Sigma Phi.

The fair will be open to the public from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday and from

2 until 6 p.m. on Sunday. Coffee, soft drinks, sandwiches and cookies will be sold during the fair and admission at the door will be 50¢ for those 12 years or older.

Entries in the fair to date include Billy Bob and Pat Neff, John Howell, Linda Carroll, Mrs. Middlebrook, Mrs. Tre Baker, Mrs. Russell McAnally, Merkel Fire Department and Darla Mawson.

Billy Bob and Pat Neff will show coral and turquoise, puka shells, abalone, a pre-Columbian necklace, hand-painted candleholders, drawings, paintings and graphics.

Linda Carroll of Carroll Creations in Austin will show creative ceramic art.

Mrs. Middlebrook of Abilene will display macramé, shell craft, hand mirrors, hanging crafts, toll painting and metal sculpture.

Mrs. McAnally will have quilt tops on display.

The Merkel Fire Department will have crocheted items and plain or personalized denim purses as well as miscellaneous items.

Mrs. Mawson will show her oil paintings and other crafts. Xi Nu Chi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi will have a table with a kettle for donations for their bicentennial tree project which will provide for trees to be planted in Merkel City Park in April.

Other entries include Mrs. G. W. Grolley and Mrs. Truett Thompson.

Eight File For School Board Seats

Eight candidates have filed for three places on the Merkel Independent School Board it was announced this week by school superintendent, Mack Fisher.

Filing for one of two three year seats are Robert Roysden, Bobby DuBose, Dink Whisenant, Jack Moore, James Boyd and W. R. Leach.

Candidates for one year term are Jack Reynolds and Wyman Wilkerson.

Incumbents in the election are Bobby DuBose who is currently president of the board and Jack Moore, board member.

The election will be April 3 at Merkel High School Gymnasium with polling hours from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Trent School Board Election Scheduled

Roy Neff, superintendent of Trent Independent School District, has announced the election of board members for April 3, 1976 at Trent City Hall. Polling hours will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Candidates who have filed for election are Booth West, Lloyd Williams and Ronnie Freeman. The three candidates will vie for two vacancies to be filled, Neff noted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ELECTION ORDER AND NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TAYLOR
On this the 2 day of February, 1976, the Board of Trustees of Merkel Independent School District convened in special called session, open to the public, with the following members present, to-wit:

Bobby DuBose, President
Bobby Toliver, Jack Moore, Joe Henry, Jerry Gibson and Charles Jacobs and the following absent: Don Hart, constituting a quorum and among other proceedings had by said Board of Trustees was the following:

WHEREAS, the term of office of Joe Henry, Bobby DuBose, Jack Moore members of the Board of Trustees of this School District will expire on the first Saturday in April, 1976, said first Saturday being April 3, 1976, and on said date a trustee election will be held in said School District.

WHEREAS, it is necessary for this Board to pass an order establishing the procedure for filing for and conducting said trustee election; THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MERKEL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

1. That an election be held in said School District on April 3, 1976, for the purpose of electing to the Board of Trustees of said School District 3 Trustees-two 3 year terms, and one 1 year term.

2. That all requests by candidates to have their names placed upon the ballot for the above mentioned election shall be in writing and signed by the candidate and filed with the secretary of the Board of Trustees at the superintendent's office not later than 30 days prior to the date of said election.

All candidates shall file with said application the loyalty affidavit required by Art. 6.02 of the Election Code. The Secretary of this Board of Trustees shall post on the bulletin board in the building where the Board of Trustees meets the names of all candidates that have filed their applications in accordance with the terms and provisions of this Order, and said Secretary shall otherwise comply with the terms and provisions of Art. 13.32 of the Election Code.

3. That said election shall be held at the following places, and the following named persons are hereby appointed officers for said election:

(a) In election precincts numbered at Merkel High School Gym Building, in Merkel, Texas, in said School District, with Bill Button as Presiding Judge and Mrs. Tom Russum and Troy Sloan, Clerks.

(b) In election precincts numbered at Tye School

Cafeteria Building, in Tye, Texas, in said School District, with Floyd Kinney as Presiding Judge and Bueno Kinney and Mrs. Marun Holloway, Clerks.

The polls at the designated polling place shall on election day be open from 7 o'clock a.m. to 7 o'clock p.m.

4. Mrs. Clyde Bartlett is hereby appointed Clerk for absentee voting. The absentee voting for the above designated election shall be held at Merkel City Hall within the boundaries of the above named School District and said place of absentee voting shall remain open for at least eight hours on each day for absentee voting which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or an official State holiday, beginning on the 20th day and continuing through the 4th day preceding the date of said election. Said place of voting shall remain open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on each day for said absentee voting. The above described place for absentee voting is also the absentee Clerk's mailing address to which ballot applications and ballots voted by mail shall be sent.

Absentee voting, both by personal appearance and by mail, shall be by paper ballots and shall be canvassed by a special canvassing board, and Bill Button, as Presiding Judge, Mrs. Tom Russum, Mrs. Raymond Ferguson and Troy Sloan, as Clerks, are hereby appointed the Special Canvassing Board for said election.

5. The manner of holding said election shall be governed, as nearly as may be, by the Election Code of this state, and this Board of Trustees will furnish all necessary ballots and other election supplies requisite to said election.

6. Immediately after the votes have been counted, the officers holding said election shall make and deliver the returns of said election and perform all other duties as provided by the Election Code.

Alpha Nu Nu chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority met March 4 in the home of Peggy Vanderwerker. President, Martha Sue Justice presided over the business meeting and led opening and closing rituals.

The program was an open discussion on what Alpha Nu Nu stands for and what the aims, goals and purposes of the sorority are.

Officers and city council representatives were elected and the results were Peggy Vanderwerker, president; Pam Bishop, vice president; Anita Raymer, recording secretary; Mychelle Hammond, treasurer and Sarah Eckols, corresponding secretary.

Sarah Eckols and Ann Leach were elected city council representatives.

Those present were Ann Leach, Martha Sue Justice, Mychelle Hammond, Peggy Vanderwerker, Anita Raymer and Pam Bishop.

Today could be a day without grief or sorrow, if we'd only forget about yesterday and the uncertainty of tomorrow.

Martha Sue Justice

Elementary

Mr. Cain, principal of Merkel Elementary, has announced the Honor Roll for this grading period.

First Grade "A"- Tracy Bicknell, Eddie Biera, Anna Delacruz, Abby Irvin, Tina Jaramillo, Debbie Pack, Bridget Pallares, Danny Santee, Christy Stokes, Marissa Toombs, Dawn Vanderwerker, Fondale Watson, Sandy Webb and Michelle Woodard.

"A-B"- Mark Aldridge, Shawn Beene, Mike Ellis, Kristen Kennedy, Brent Pierce, Brit Pursley, David Ray, Tony Roberts, DeAnn Stevens, Ronny Vasquez, Travis Watson and Sheila White.

Second Grade "A"- Cammie Bright, Kevin Coker, Amy Irvin, Lorie Kimbrell, Gayle Landeros, Kelly Riney and Regina Stuckey.

"A-B"- Dean Franklin, Chris Horton, Randy Pallares, Devin Sanford and Ronald Waldon.

Third Grade "A"- Jerry Davis and Tim Jacobs.

"A-B"- James Allday, Donny Brady, David Glasscock, Cody Johnson, Shane Smith, Cindy Toney, Cresencio Vasquez and Tamara Watson.

Fourth Grade "A"- Angie Allen, Joan Fariello, Brenda Hohertz, Russell Lucas and Kimberly Pack.

"A-B"- Lori Aldridge, Scott Alves, Bonnie Anderson, Jay Gibson, Trayla Gregory, Tammy Hayes, Judy Jinkens, Guy McGee, Billy McKeehan, Scotty Niemann, Denise Pack, Cindy Sims, Charlotte Toney, Pam Wheeler and John Ybarra.

Fifth Grade "A"- Tina Bicknell, Rosie Biera, Tammy Cloyd, Linda Holmes, Tammy Townsend and Windi Whisenhunt.

"A-B"- Tonja Bicknell, Tim Brady, Angela Dunlap, Kimberly Gurganus, Eddy Harris, Karen Jackson, Diana Landeros, Eddie Martin, Pam Massey and Kim McCasland.

Sixth Grade "A"- Loyce Baker, Nancy Click, Janice Jacobs, Stacy Seymore, Yvonne Swinney and Debbie Williams.

"A-B"- Rene Aiken, Kristi Alves, Michele Brown, Larry Hines, Paul Kannel, Sharry Luckey, Maria Moreno, O.C. McKeehan, Shirintorn Parsarn, David Wilkerson, Ann Wooten, Christine Franklin, Mary Fariello and Kim Smith.

Seventh Grade "A"- Manuel Biera, Mark Bland, Judy Castille, Becky Dunlap, Norma Frazier, Sherry Lauerance, Randy Martinez and Bart Pursley.

"A-B"- Sheila Adair, Lisa Allen, Christi Brady, Buster Brown, Vickie Campbell, Tammy Davis, Cindy Doan, Walter Elmore, Kim Gary, Todd Gregory, Rhonda Hurley, Kelly Knight, Alane McGee, Ann Melton, Jan Melton, Delisa Roysden, Louise Sellers, DeeAnn Smith, Ronald Stone, James Turner, Billy Walters, Charlotte Watts, Sheri Williams and Linda Wilson.

Eighth Grade "A"- Jeanessa Cypert, Victor Herrera, Wendy Hogan, Jodie Jinkens, Chirre Kraatz, Kim Mashburn, Susan Peachey, Tomi Santee, Lisa Shugart, Brad Wade, Cynthia White and Dion Wilkerson.

"A-B"- Josh Arvine, Gary Arnold, Susan Arwine, Sherry Ascencio, Shannon Bagby, Becky Carter, Mark Copeland, Chris Cox, Brian Fariello, Robert Fowler, Susie Hewitt, Sharon Isom.

Carmen Lerma, Lisa Owen, Karen Pack, Diana Saldona, Marissa Sandusky, James Stovall, John Townsend, Lynn Wade and Becky Watts.

THANKS TO ALL Who came to see me in the hospital, for all my lovely flowers and to all who signed cards or even thought of me. May each of you be blessed for your thoughts.

Thelma H. Griffin
3-1tc

You can make a room seem warmer by adding a bench and a cherry-colored cushion.

Honor Roll

Travis Watson, Sheila White and Chad Pack.

Fifth Grade "A"- Tina Bicknell, Rosie Biera, Tammy Cloyd, Linda Holmes, Tammy Townsend and Windi Whisenhunt.

"A-B"- Tonja Bicknell, Tim Brady, Angela Dunlap, Kimberly Gurganus, Eddy Harris, Karen Jackson, Diana Landeros, Eddie Martin, Pam Massey and Kim McCasland.

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"A-B"- Josh Arvine, Gary Arnold, Susan Arwine, Sherry Ascencio, Shannon Bagby, Becky Carter, Mark Copeland, Chris Cox, Brian Fariello, Robert Fowler, Susie Hewitt, Sharon Isom.

SORORITIES

Alpha Nu Nu

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The program was an open discussion on what Alpha Nu Nu stands for and what the aims, goals and purposes of the sorority are.

Officers and city council representatives were elected and the results were Peggy Vanderwerker, president; Pam Bishop, vice president; Anita Raymer, recording secretary; Mychelle Hammond, treasurer and Sarah Eckols, corresponding secretary.

Sarah Eckols and Ann Leach were elected city council representatives.

Those present were Ann Leach, Martha Sue Justice, Mychelle Hammond, Peggy Vanderwerker, Anita Raymer and Pam Bishop.

Lambda Beta

The Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Tuesday, March 2 in the home of Betty Coker. The meeting was called to order by president Chera Hohertz. Roll call was answered with the answer to the question "Name your favorite woman speaker." Committee reports were given. Two programs were presented called "A Woman Speaks," and "A Woman Chooses," by captain Ginny Yaddow and co-captain Sara Lucas.

Members present were Mmes. Jim Allday, Bill Booth, Rosey Castille, Junior Clark, Obie Coker, Jan Couch, Richard Hill, Harold Hohertz, Craig Jones, Billy Lucas, Paul Moore, Billy-Bob Neff, Phil Seymore, Larry Teaff, Mike Welch and Lee Yaddow.

Following closing rituals, pledges Mychelle Hammond, Anita Raymer and Sarah Eckols were taken to dinner by the chapter members present which included Peggy Vanderwerker, Ann Leach, Pam Bishop, and chapter director, Louise Sudderth.

Today could be a day without grief or sorrow, if we'd only forget about yesterday and the uncertainty of tomorrow.

Martha Sue Justice

Alpha Nu Nu
To Host
Joint Meeting
March 18

Alpha Nu Nu chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority will host Lambda Beta and Xi Nu Chi chapters for a joint meeting March 18 at 7:30 p.m. in fellowship hall of the Methodist Church in Merkel. Beula Love, with the welfare department in Abilene will be the guest speaker for this meeting, it was announced.

All Beta Sigma Phi members are urged to attend and the public is invited.



Use your
Electric
Clothes Dryer
Wisely...

AND SAVE



Reddy's
Helpful Tips

- ★ Operate your dryer with a full load.
- ★ Do not over-dry. Over-drying any fabric increases wear and tear and causes yellowing, in addition to using more energy.
- ★ Use leftover heat to dry light synthetic garments and only partially dry items which are to be pressed immediately.
- ★ Keep lint filter clean. A dirty lint filter can lengthen the drying time and present a fire hazard.
- ★ Vent your dryer to increase its efficiency. Occasionally check the vent to make sure it is not clogged. A clogged vent can cause your dryer to consume needless energy and presents a potential fire hazard.

Pick up your FREE copy of "ENERGY CONSERVATION"

Booklet from

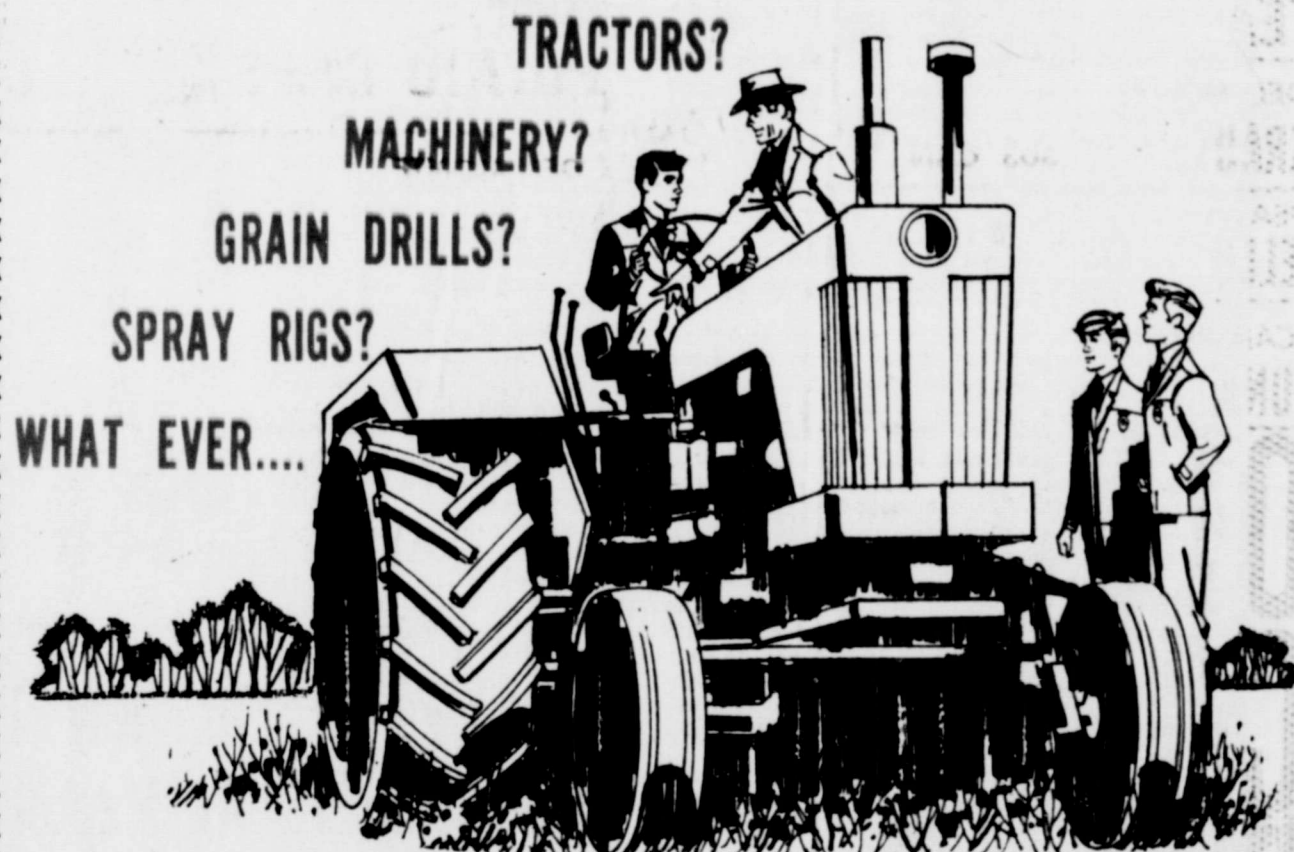
Frigidaire

Home Environment Division of General Motors.

West Texas Utilities
Company

Remember REDDY Supplies the energy—
but only YOU can use it wisely!

NEED A LOW COST FARM LOAN



BEFORE YOU BORROW COME TO THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK OF MERKEL

Whatever your farming needs ... machinery or supplies ... you can depend on us to cooperate with you in making agriculture an important part of this county's progress. We are vitally interested in your success in farming ... that's why we offer a special program for low-cost farm loans on convenient terms.

928-4728

MERKEL, TEXAS

73 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX Air and power, honey comb wheels, sunroof, electric windows, green with white vinyl top. NICE ONLY.	\$3695
74 PONTIAC LEMANS Sport Coupe-Air, power, bucket seats with console, factory tape, new tires, 38000 one owner miles. Lime green with green landau top. Real Nice. ONLY.	\$3795
73 AMC GREMLIN 6 cyl., 3 speed, factory air, 23000 miles. Real Nice. Only.	\$2495
74 GMC 3/4 ton, V-8, 4 speed, air and power, beige New reconditioned engine.	\$3495
74 PONTIAC FIREBIRD 6 cyl., 3 speed transmission on the floor, power steering, radio and heater. Red with white vinyl top. Nice. ONLY.	\$3295
73 BUICK ELECTRA 2 Door Hardtop, air, power, electric seats and windows. Blue with light vinyl top. Real Nice. ONLY.	\$2795
72 FORD GRAN TORINO 2 door hardtop, air, power. Blue with vinyl top. Nice.	\$1995
73 PONTIAC CATALINA 6 pass. sta. wagon. Loaded, one owner. Nice.	\$2995
72 GMC 3/4 TON 4 wheel drive, LWB, 350 engine, air, power, automatic.	\$2995

We Have A Nice Selection
Of
APPLIANCES & T.V.'S
Have Several other nice cars, SO COME SEE US.
"We Sell 'Em-We Lease 'Em"
Palmer Pontiac & GMC
MERKEL
MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5111
ADLANS 673-1182

SCHEDULE EVENTS
SENIOR CITIZENS
1st Monday
of Month singing
2nd Tuesday Noon
Covered Dish
Luncheon.
Game Nights
Every Thurs.
& 4th Monday
4th Thurs. GAME
Night Reserved for
Talented Amateur.

EMMA'S CLOTHES CLOSET
RACK OF CLOSE OUTS & 2ND
\$2 TO \$5
NOW OPEN MONDAY
NEW HOURS 9-5:30 EVERY DAY
928-5100

CAL-TEX
BUYERS OF
CATTLE MILO AND
HAY
ROUTE 2 BOX 128
TRENT, TX.
915-862-2951
CUSTOM CATTLE FEE 1G

FOR SALE
150 ACRES OF LAND
LOCATED ON I-20
AND WEST OF MERKEL
PART OF ACREAGE IN
CITY LIMITS. SAID LAND
IS SUITABLE FOR
COMMERCIAL OR
FARMING. 1/2 OF
MINERAL RIGHTS GO
WITH PLACE
CYRUS PEE
AGENCY

March Savings

5 BIG DOLLAR DAYS TUESDAY THRU THURSDAY
MARCH 11 THRU MARCH 16



HOT BAR-B-QUE
POTATO SALAD BEANS
PIMENTO CHEESE

CRISCO

WITH \$10.00 PURCHASE
EXCLUDING CIGARETTES

FOLGERS COFFEE

LIMIT ONE
LB CAN \$1.19

3 LB. CAN \$1.23

BACON GOOCH LB \$1.29

LOIN STEAK HEAVY BEEF LB \$1.39

ROUND STEAK HEAVY BEEF LB \$1.39

HAMBURGER FRESH GROUND LB 59¢

BEEF RIBS LB 49¢

CLUB STEAK HEAVY BEEF LB \$1.39

3 MINUTE POP CORN 1 LB BAG 29¢

LIPTONS INSTANT TEA 3 OZ JAR \$1.39

DEL MONTE KRAUT 303 CAN 29¢

PEACH JELLO 3 OZ BOX 2 FOR 39¢

CARNATION TUNA FLAT CAN 2 FOR \$1.00

KIMBELL'S 303 SIZE PINTO BEANS 2 FOR 39¢

PRINGLE POTATO CHIPS TWIN PKG. 89¢

DEL MONTE PEAS 303 CAN 2 FOR 59¢

KEN'L RATION 15 OZ CAN DOG FOOD 6 FOR \$1.19

OLEO KRAFT PARKAY 2 FOR \$1.00

CORN LIBBYS CREAM STYLE 303 CAN 3 FOR \$1.00

BEANS RANCH STYLE 300 CAN 3 FOR \$1.00

SPINACH DEL MONTE 303 CAN 4 FOR \$1.00

MACARONI DINNER KRAFT'S 7 OZ BOX 3 FOR \$1.00

YAMS SUGARY SAM SQUAT CAN 2 FOR \$1.00

CATSUP DEL MONTE 14 OZ BOTTLE 3 FOR \$1.00

BISCUITS KOUNTRY KIST 8 FOR \$1.00

TOWELS VIVA BIG ROLLS LIMIT 2 2 FOR \$1.00

POLYESTER MATERIAL
1 1/2 YD x 60"
CLOSE - OUT SPECIAL \$2.98

Apple Jelly BAMA 18 OZ JAR 59¢

ZEST BATH SOAP 2 FOR 59¢

PICKLES BESTMAID SOUR OR DILL QT 59¢

COMET CLEANSER 17 OZ BOX 39¢

IVORY LIQUID KING SIZE 89¢

CHEER GIANT SIZE \$1.29

Hot Days On FROZEN FOODS

STILLWELL BREADED SQUASH 1 LB. BAG 49¢

STILLWELL'S BREADED OKRA 12 OZ PKG 49¢

KEITH'S 6 OZ CAN LEMONADE 5 FOR \$1.00

A Garden Of Good Things PRODUCE

CALIFORNIA DELICIOUS APPLES LB 25¢

TEXAS Grapefruit 5 LB BAG 59¢

TEXAS CABBAGE LB 8¢

ARIZONA CARROTS 1 LB BAG 12¢

RUSSET POTATOES 10 LB. BAG 98¢

MILK MARIGOLD 2% HOMO GAL \$1.39 REG. HOMO GAL \$1.49 PLUS DEP.

COCKTAIL DELMONTE FRUIT 303 CAN 39¢

SPAGHETTI FRANCO AMERICAN 15 OZ CAN 2 FOR 45¢

CAKE MIX DUNCAN HINES BOX 59¢

BROWNIE MIX BETTY CROCKER 23 OZ BOX 89¢

FLOUR GLADIOLA 5 LB BAG 69¢

USDA APPROVED TO REDEEM FOOD STAMPS DELIVERIES DAILY AT 10.00 A.M.

REFRIGERATED AIR 1037 N. SECOND

PARKING LOT IN REAR

Double Premiums
On WEDNESDAY ON
Purchase of \$2.50
OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE
Save Valuable
Cash Register Tapes
For Premiums

Where Customers Send Their Friends
PHONE 928-5713

GET ACTION USE

CLASSIFIEDS

PHONE 928 - 5712

Miscellaneous

FOR MONUMENTS and CEMETERY CURBING M.A. (Sarg) Noster
1404 Herring Dr. Merkel, Texas
Phone 928-5565

For Sale

FOR SALE: Badger Inn, 311 Ash. Merkel, Call 928-5745 or 928-4944.
3-tfc

FOR SALE - 125 Yamaha-Enduro. Call 928-5235, Roland Pack.
3-2tp

FOR SALE: Two 500 gallon underground fuel tanks. One overhead water tank and stand. Call 928-5769 or 928-5872.
3-1tc

FOR SALE-3/4 Limousin bulls, 1/2 Chianina bulls-will sell or lease. 50 to pick from. Call E. J. Bishop or Darrell Compton, 754-4324 or 754-4515, Winters, Texas 50-3tc

Help Wanted

HOMEWORKERS NEEDED in this area to lace leather goods at home. Earn \$150 per week. No experience necessary. Send \$1.00 (refundable) and long stamped envelope to: Cumberland Leather Craft, 1516 Magic View Dr., Kingsport, Tn. 37660.
3-3tp

HELP WANTED - Unlimited opportunities for man or woman, earn \$200 plus. Four to six hours per week part time or full time. Call 928-5968.
3-1tp

HELP WANTED-Dishwasher at Shamrock Cafe, \$2.30 an hour. Fred Crenshaw 928-6768.
46-tfc

LUCAS & HAYS WELDING
111 Kent
All Types Welding
Ph. 928-5630 or 928-5794

NEED A New Water Well Drilled? Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets
ROBERT HIGGINS
928-5998

IT'S A BREEZE
To Saw a Board
When you have your own kind of cut power saw machine. They cut clean, near, faster. Bring them in for quick service and expert work.
BOB'S SHARPENING SERVICE Ph 928-5595
701 So. 2nd St. Merkel, Texas 79536

THE BEAUTY SHACK
JUDY PAPE, OWNER
PH. 928-5917
705 S. 3RD
MERKEL, TEXAS

SEAT COVER CENTER
Seat Covers
Truck Cushions
Door Panels
Arm Rests
Headliners
1056 BUTTERNUT
677-1349
ABILENE

TOOMBS REAL ESTATE
FREDDY TOOMBS (BROKER)
116 EDWARDS
PH. 928-5921
RES. 928-5696
RES. 928-5508
ABILENE 672-6727
GARAGE APT.
For sale or rent,
3 Bedroom house on 3 lots on Rose St
40 ACRES FOR SALE
Noodle area on paved road. Will divide for veterans
HIGHWAY FRONTAGE, on 1-20. For commercial use! For sale
WE NEED ALL KINDS OF LISTINGS HOUSES, FARMS, & RANCHES
OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT ON EDWARDS
OR PLUMBED FOR BEAUTY SHOP

WE NOW HAVE A MAINTAINER
BACKHOE SERVICE
SEPTIC SYSTEMS
FRONT-END LOADER
WATER SYSTEMS
STORM CELLARS
SWIMMING POOLS
ANY KIND OF DITCHING
L. R. MCGEE
928-5423

WE PAY 150% OVER FACE VALUE FOR ALL SILVER COINS.
(\$2.50 FOR \$1.00 SILVER) (We pay 25c for silver dimes)
PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP
2155 S. 1st.
Abilene, Texas

SERVICE
Our Specialty

J. E. FISHER FINA SERVICE
TWO LOCATIONS INTERSTATE 20 & WEST HIGHWAY 80
MERKEL AUTO PARTS
921 N. 2nd
OPEN SATURDAYS TOO
WE WELCOME YOUR BUSINESS

BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY
Phone 8-5151

buy Your Prepaid Funeral Plan Direct From The Funeral Home and Save
STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME

MERKEL VFW POST 5683 MONTHLY REG. MEETING 8:30 P.M. SECOND THURSDAY POST & LADIES AUXILIARY Y'ALL COME NOW!

MASONIC MEETING
Stated meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710 on 2nd Saturday and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Members urged to attend.
BILLY D. DOAN, W.M. ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y

Dutch Boy PAINTS STARBUCK FURNITURE
NEED HELP? Call the Merkel Outreach Program. 928-5859 or 928-5017.
LAND FOR SALE? CALL Collect-Bill Largent, Farm & Ranch Mgr. At Frances McClure Inc., Realtors. 3157 South 27th-Abilene. 698-3211, Night 698-2375.
NOW OPEN - kandy's Fabrics in Abilene. 1120 Butternut. Good Furniture fabrics at great prices. Upholstery Available.
NOW OPEN Douglass Catfish farm. No advance in prices also now booking orders for catfish fingerlings.
POODLE GROOMING at 1405 Heath. Call 928-5445 or Abilene 677-1193, Cathy Carson Kelley.

Wanted

WANTED - HAY of any kind, rotted or otherwise. Call 928-4932 or 928-5017.
3-tfc

Garage Sale

3 FAMILY GARAGE Sale - Sunday afternoon, Monday and Tuesday, Corner of 10th and Locust. A little bit of everything.
3-1tc

For Rent

FOR RENT - 2 Bedroom furnished house, carpeted, paneled, garage and large yard. Also a private front bedroom with bath, 928-5777.
3-1tc

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Noticia Publica

ORDEN Y AVISO DE ELECCION

EL ESTADO DE TEXAS CONDADO DE TAYLOR
En este día 2 de February, de 1976, el Consejo de Administradores del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Merkel se reunió en sesión special called, abierta al público, con los siguientes miembros presentes, a saber: Bobby DuBose, Presidente; Bobby Toliver, Jack Moore, Joe Henry, Jerry Gibson, Charles Jacobs y los siguientes ausentes: Don Hart constituyendo un quorum y entre otras actas tomadas por dicho Consejo de Administradores se encuentra la siguiente:
EN VISTA de que el régimen de Joe Henry, Bobby DuBose, Jack Moore miembros del Consejo de Administradores expira el primer sábado de abril de 1976, dicho primer sábado siendo el 3 de abril de 1976, y en dicha fecha se llevará a cabo una elección de administradores en dicho Distrito Escolar.
EN VISTA de que es necesario que este Consejo pase una orden estableciendo el procedimiento para archivar y conducir dicha elección de administrador; POR LO TANTO, SE ORDENA POR EL CONSEJO DE ADMINISTRADORES DEL DISTRITO ESCOLAR DE MERKEL:

Noticia Publica

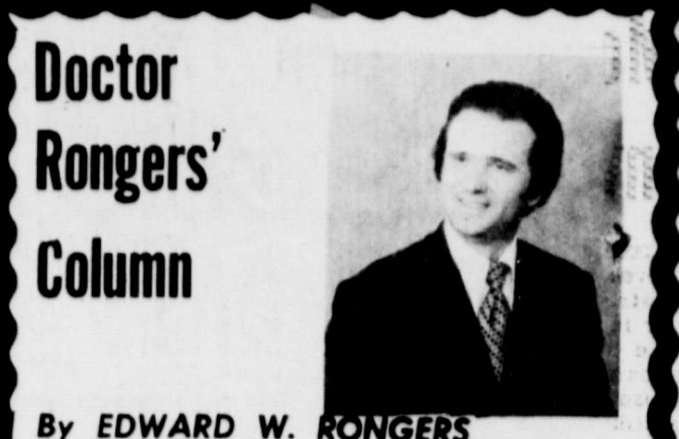
AVISO DE ELECCION DE FUNCIONARIOS DE LA CIUDAD
Ciudad de Trent
Se da aviso por la presente que se llevará a cabo una Elección de Funcionarios de la Ciudad el día 3 de Abril, de 1976, en la ciudad arriba mencionada para el propósito de elegir a los siguientes funcionarios para dicha ciudad: Alcalde, dos Concejales.
El Distrito Electoral Num. 25 en el Edificio Trent City Hall.
Los lugares de votación arriba designados para dicha elección se mantendrán abiertos en el mencionado día de elecciones de las 7 a.m. a las 7 p.m.
La votación ausente para la elección arriba designada se llevará a cabo en el Edificio Trent City Hall, en dicha ciudad, y dicho lugar de votación ausente se mantendrá abierto por lo menos ocho horas en cada día de votación ausente no siendo sábado, domingo o día festivo oficial del Estado, continuando hasta el cuarto día anterior a la fecha de dicha elección. Dicho lugar de votación se mantendrá abierto de las 8 a.m. a las 5 p.m.
Fecha de esta día 11 de Marzo, de 1976.
Billy W. Hamner
Alcalde

PRESTIGE HOMES & PROPERTIES
317 N. Willis Suite 20
Abilene 673-6444

MERKEL--Spanish stucco, charming 3 bedroom, paneled, large living room, fireplace, sun room, near high school.
MERKEL--2 year old brick, 3 bedrooms energy-saving total electric.
FT. PHANTOM LAKE deeded lot with old rock building.
ACREAGE--Several nice properties from 40 to 335 acres in Eastland Co.
TYE--136 acres on 707, Mulberry Creek thru place, 2 tanks, old house.
GARAGE, wrecking yard and home on 5 acres; would sell or TRADE FOR RANCH.
listings needed
Shannon Teal 692-0787
Jewel Nixon 692-9767
George Schroeder 677-5713
J. Frank Jones 673-6532
Pauline Butmas 692-2222
* REALTORS
MERKEL BRANCH OFFICE
Billy and Pat Naff
928-5623
Equal Housing Opportunity

CALL 928-5595 FOR CARPENTER WORK

Nudman Ditching Service
DIG DITCHES
LAY WATER LINES
P.V.C. PIPE FOR SALE
PHONE 537-2348
ROUTE 1, MERKEL, TEXAS
PAUL HUDMAN



Doctor Rongers' Column
By EDWARD W. RONGERS
HIPOCRASIA

Hemorrhoids are a very common condition. Fifty percent of people over 50 years old have some evidence of hemorrhoids. Over 25 percent of people between 25 and 50 years of age are also afflicted. Teen-agers and younger children suffer from them occasionally and the condition is more frequent in males than females.
Hemorrhoids, also known as "piles," form as the result of a rupture or tear in one or several of the small veins in the rectum. This tear causes a swelling bulging, or distention of the mucous membrane which covers the vein.
The main reason that hemorrhoids form in the first place is due to an increase in pressure inside the thin-walled veins located around the rectum. Some factors that contribute to this increase in pressure are:
1. Forceful straining during bowel movements.
2. Futile straining during spells of diarrhea.
3. Constipation.
4. Abdominal or rectal tumor.
5. Enlarged prostate gland.
6. Poor muscle support.
7. Obesity.
8. Pregnancy and childbirth.
When you think about it, dilated veins occur below the level of the heart. By our very nature as human beings, we are upright animals and therefore the influence of gravity on our blood circulation creates a greater pressure within our veins that lie below the level of the heart. We do not experience dilated veins in the head, but dilated veins do occur as hemorrhoids around the rectum, varicose veins in the legs and varicoele in men, which is a condition of dilated veins in the scrotum.
There are two types of hemorrhoids, external and internal. An external hemorrhoid forms at the anal opening as a protruded swelling or as a small ball-like mass. The term "piles" is derived from the Latin word "pilis," meaning a ball. This protruding mass or ball can usually be felt and seen upon examination. Sneezing and coughing will usually cause the swelling to protrude still further. The external hemorrhoid usually causes the most itching, pain and swelling and unless it becomes inflamed or irritated, may require no treatment.
The internal hemorrhoid forms higher up inside the rectum. Since there is a lack of sensitive pain fibers in this area, internal hemorrhoids usually cause no discomfort. However, the hemorrhoidal swelling may protrude into the path of the stool and this can cause pain and bleeding. Often the bleeding from internal hemorrhoids is painless and bright red. The term hemorrhoid comes from a Greek word meaning the "flow of blood."
The internal hemorrhoids, although usually symptom-free, will bleed silently and if this bleeding is prolonged or profuse, there may be symptoms of anemia, such as pallor, listlessness and dizziness. Some persons tend to become depressed also. Sometimes an internal hemorrhoid may enlarge or extend into an external hemorrhoid. It is not uncommon for some people to have both internal and external hemorrhoids.
You can reduce your chances of ever having hemorrhoids by avoiding the strain and pressure of forceful bowel movement. Some people believe that to be in good health you must have a daily bowel movement. Therefore, rather than letting their body take its natural course, they strain and force, with the result that they develop a hemorrhoid.
You must also improve your diet to avoid constipation. Straining at the stool due to constipation contributes to the formation of hemorrhoids.
If you suspect that you have hemorrhoids or rectal bleeding, do not waste any time with self-treatment or various preparations or suppositories. See your doctor at once. Hemorrhoid and rectal bleeding can be signs of cancer, therefore early diagnosis and treatment may save your life.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF CITY OFFICERS' ELECTION

City of Trent
Notice is hereby given that a City Officers' Election will be held on the 3rd day of April, 1976 in the above named city for the purpose of electing the following officers for said city: Mayor and two Aldermen.
In Election Precinct No. 25, at Trent City Hall Building. The polls at each of the above designated polling places shall on said election day be open from 7 o'clock a.m. to 7 o'clock p.m.
The absentee voting for the above designated election shall be held at Trent City Hall Building, in said city, and said place of absentee voting shall remain open for at least 8 hours on each day of absentee voting which is not a Saturday, Sunday or an official State holiday, beginning on the 20th day and continuing through the 4th day preceding the date of said election. Said place of voting shall remain open between the hours of 8 o'clock a.m. and 5 o'clock p.m.
Dated this 11 day of March, 1976.
Billy W. Hamner
Mayor

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Trent will hold an election on April 3, 1976 at the Trent City Hall for the purpose of electing 2 City Councilmen.
Filing for a second term is John Griffith and filing for a 3rd term is Jerry Frank Patterson. Also filing for the first term is Julia Darby.
The polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. Mr. L. P. Halbrook is election judge. Betty Freeman will act as absentee clerk and voters may vote absentee between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the City Hall.
Thank You,
Betty Freeman
City Secretary

Card Of Thanks

We of the Merkel Primary and Junior High School staff would like to thank all of those who came to our open house on March 4.
We are proud of our school, student body and staff. There was a tremendous amount of quality work accomplished by the students on display in the rooms.
Two hundred and seven adults registered in both buildings. Thank you for making our open house a success.
The staff of Merkel Junior High and Primary

AUTHORIZED DEALER
Lawn & Garden Equipment
Allis-Chalmers-Owatonna
Hay Machinery
Farm Equipment and Forney
Welding Equipment
Shafer Plows - Continal Belton Products
677-4349
DOTY FARM EQUIPMENT CO.
366 Chestnut
Nights-Sundays-Holidays 672-2451 - 698-2572

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Merkel Mail
PUBLISHERS STATEMENT
Established in 1889

Published weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas
Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, 79536 as second class Mail.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$4.75 Per Year Taylor and adjoining counties. \$5.50 Per Year outside of Taylor and adjoining counties.

Member of the Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association.
STEVE LANHAM..... Publisher/
Sarah Eckols..... Editor
Martha Sue Justice..... Advertising Sales Manager

For Classified Rates:
\$1.25 minimum for the first four lines. Excess of 4 lines will be charged at the rate of 8 cents per word.
Cards of Thanks \$2.50 for the first 50 words, 6 cents per word for each additional word. TERMS: Cash in advance unless account is already established. NOTICE of typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion of claims for refunds or extensions will not be recognized.

Most Common Tax Error Involves Personal Exemption Credit

Officials of the Internal Revenue Service's Dallas District office say that, so far in the 1976 filing season, the most common errors showing up on tax returns are those caused by a misunderstanding of the \$30 tax credit for each personal exemption.

"Apparently, many taxpayers are confusing the \$30 tax credit with the \$750 personal exemption deduction,"

A. W. McCannless, district director of the IRS for North Texas, said today. "They wind up thinking each personal exemption is worth one deduction of \$750."

The two are not related, however. Mr. McCannless said that taxpayers should compute their tax liability in the normal manner before dealing with the \$30 tax credit.

When the normal tax is computed, the taxpayer is then entitled to subtract \$30 from the total tax liability for each personal exemption claimed on the return. For example, a married couple with two children would claim four personal exemptions on a joint return and come up with a certain amount of tax due. They would then subtract \$120, or \$30 for each exemption, from the tax due.

"A deduction, such as the personal exemption, is a reduction of the income on which tax is figured," the tax official said. "A tax credit, on the other hand, is a dollar for dollar reduction of the actual amount of tax due."

He also pointed out that, while extra exemptions are allowed for blind taxpayers and those over 65, these people do not receive extra tax credits.

Consumer Food News

Egg prices at Texas grocery stores are trending upward slightly as they recover from post-holiday dips but they are still reasonable

Open House Honors Pinckleys

Friends and neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Pinckley will host a housewarming for them on Sunday, March 14 from 2 until 5 p.m. The housewarming will be at the recently completed Pinckley residence.

Pinckley farms near Merkel. Mr. and Mrs. Pinckley, longtime Merkelites, are members of the First Baptist Church. They have a daughter, Sue Gauthier, and a granddaughter, Jana.

Ladies Auxiliary

The Merkel Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will show pot holders and purses as well as other items at the Arts and Crafts Fair sponsored by Alpha Nu Phi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi March 13 and 14.

The auxiliary will meet March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the meeting room of the fire station.

This meeting is very important for each fireman's wife and each one is urged to attend. Cook book plans will be finalized.

Boy Scout News

Registering of Troop 218 will be conducted Tuesday 16 of March at the United Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m. All parents of Scouts that are registered now and parents that have boys that are interested in joining the Boy Scouts are urged to attend. Slides from last summer camp will be shown.

Anyone interested in donating items for a garage sale to help benefit the Boy Scouts please call 928-4882 after 5 p.m. The proceeds will help the scouts attend this year's summer camp and buy camping equipment. The garage sale will be held the 17th, and 24th, of April.

Young Homemakers

The Taylor County Young Homemakers will meet Thursday, March 11 at 7 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Larry Beasley. The program to be given by Mrs. H. C. Reid will be on the history of Merkel. Hostesses for the March 11 meeting will be Dianne Green and Mary Hill. All members are urged to attend.

Jackie Harris Named Little Sister For January

Jackie Harris, 17 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Harris, was named Little Sister of January by the Merkel chapter of Taylor County Young Homemakers. A senior at Merkel High School, Jackie is active in Band, F.H.A., VICA and is employed by Judge Lewis Milllette, justice of the peace. Jackie's future plans include marriage in June and future employment.

"If thine enemy wrong thee, buy each of his children a drum." Old Chinese proverb

THE GLAMOUR BAR
SONJA TOLIVER
OWNER
PHONE 928-4842
OPEN WED - SAT
TUESDAY BY APPOINTMENT

for the values they provide, Mrs. Gwendolyn Clyatt says. Of other price checks around the state, she reported dairy items on special in many stores, including cheeses and milk.

At beef counters, consumers can find some economy prices on chuck roasts, stew meat, steak selections and ground meat, she added.

Mrs. Clyatt is a consumer marketing information specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

She also advised shoppers to watch for specials on canned and frozen vegetables—with good values currently on applesauce, corn, green peas and tuna fish.

"Also, dry beans are offered at attractive prices. Choose beans that have a bright uniform color and uniform size."

"At fresh-fruit counters, grapefruit features fine taste and moderate prices, while other economy buys are oranges, apples, bananas and pears," Mrs. Clyatt said. She listed budget vegetable choices as cabbage, carrots, broccoli, turnips, rutabagas and hard-shell squash.

Consumer Watchwords: In buying fryer chickens, look for well-fleshed birds with full breast and meaty legs, along with a generous layer of fat well-distributed under the skin—giving it a yellow cast. A bird with clean, thin skin—free from abrasions, bruises, unfeathers and discoloration—is desirable.

Rain Doesn't Dampen Apartment Opening

Though the rain came, it did not dampen the spirits of those at the open house of the recently completed, twenty unit Shannonside Apartment Complex.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reynolds of Dallas were here along with Mrs. John Shannon, co-owner of Shannonside Apartments to show guests the features of the total electric one, two and three bedroom apartments. Annette Clark, apartment manager stated that the units have been rented rapidly and she has only a few one bedroom apartments still available.

NEW OWNERS
BURGER INN
FM 126 & I-20
CHUCK & MIKE STOWERS
COME BY AND GET ACQUAINTED

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
Merkel Fina Station
NOW OPERATED BY
RICKY ELLIOTT
Will Continue To Give Friendly, Courteous Service.
MERKEL FINA STATION
Hwy. 80 Ph. 928-5341



MR. AND MRS. BILL BLACK ...celebrate silver anniversary

Mr. And Mrs. Bill Black Celebrate Silver Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Black of Route 1, Merkel will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary Sunday, March 14. An open house is planned from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. in their home.

'A Good Dish' Featured

A GOOD DISH
In the back of Mrs. Irl Walker's cookbook, where she copies down recipes from friends, she has one that she has labeled simply "A Good Dish."

First place, Tracy Bicknell - Mrs. Peel; second place, Danny Santee - Mrs. Holloway, third place, Marissa Toombs - Mrs. Holloway and fourth place, Kerry Deen - Mrs. Holloway.

Second Grade
First place, Kelly Riney - Mrs. Wade; second place, Kevin Coker - Mrs. Wade; third place, Randy Pallarez - Mrs. Sandusky; and fourth place, Regina Stuckey - Mrs. Wade.

Third Grade
First place, Cody Johnson - Mrs. Wilson; second place, Cindy Toney - Mrs. Wilson; third place, Apornpan (Mum) Prasarn - Mrs. Wilson; and fourth place, Tim Jacobs - Mrs. Wilson.

Fourth Grade
First place, Brenda Kinder - Mrs. Mawson; second place, Angie Allen - Mrs. Mawson; third place, Pam Wheeler - Mrs. Malone; and fourth place, Tommy Hays - Mrs. Malone.

Fifth Grade
First place, Eddie Martin - Mrs. Pursley; second place, Linda Holmes - Mrs. Carson; third place, Sharon Jackson - Mrs. Carson; and fourth place, Diana Landeros - Mrs. Pursley.

Sixth Grade
First place, Stacy Seymour - Mrs. Hart; second place, Brad Elliott - Mrs. Hart; third place, Nancy Click - Mrs. Hart; and fourth place, Roberta Duran - Mrs. Hart.

The five 1st. place winners will go to Abilene to the District contest. We are proud of all these students and all the students who entered the contest.

1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 cup broth from chicken (hot water if using tuna)
1 small package corn tortillas, cut in quarters
1 10 oz. can tomatoes with green chilis
1 onion, chopped
1 bell pepper, chopped
Grated cheese
mix together all ingredients except cheese and tortillas. In baking dish, alternate layers of quartered tortillas with layers of mixture. Top with grated cheese. Bake at 350 F. for one hour.

A good, old-fashioned dessert that Mrs. Walker highly recommends is this buttermilk pie.

BUTTERMILK PIE
1/2 c. margarine
3 Tbsp. flour
2 c. sugar
3 eggs
1 c. buttermilk
pinch of salt
Mix all together and put in unbaked pie shell. Bake at 350 F. for 30 minutes or until golden brown and firm.

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Japanese Garden Texas Style

On May 8 kimono-clad Japanese girls will serve tea in this little German settlement in the Texas Hill Country, Fredericksburg, where beer is the normal fare. Seven craftsmen from Japan are hard at work constructing a Garden of Peace, a gift to America from the people of Japan and funded by popular conscription throughout that country.

Although he was instrumental in bringing about their defeat in World War II the Japanese Admiral Admiral Chester Nimitz because of his kindness to them at the close of the war and his admiration for their great naval hero Admiral Heihachiro Togo. The garden is being built on the grounds of the Admiral Nimitz Center, a state museum in the Admiral's birthplace. It will be of the classic style for which the Japanese are famous, its designer, Mr. Taketora Saito of Meiji Seisakusho, Ltd., Tokyo, is in Fredericksburg supervising its installation. A replica of Admiral Togo's study, resembling a tea house, is en route from Japan. Both native and exotic trees and shrubs will be used. An interesting sidelight according to Douglass Hubbard, center director is an invitation from the Admiral Nimitz Foundation to individuals and organizations who wish to participate by purchasing trees as living memorials. The dedication of the garden is scheduled for May 8, 1976, Fredericksburg's Founders' Day. Among those expected to be present will be Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson whose home is nearby, Admiral Thomas Moorer, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who interested the Japanese in the project, and the Mayor of Fredericksburg.

Due to increased availability of suitable fabrics, patterns, notions and pre-packaged kits, more people will be sewing skiwear and outer sportswear during 1976. By making their own outdoorwear, homesevers save money, challenge themselves with a new experience and create custom and unique looks. Mrs. Becky Culp, area clothing specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System, points out.

Students-Of-The-WEEK

This weeks featured students in the work-study program are Mary Palmer and David Kraatz.

Mary, a senior at Merkel High School, is married to Airman Richard Palmer and the mother of an eleven month old son, Chad. She is employed by Super Duper food store in Abilene. She takes courses in English, typing, choir, Moc, is secretary in VICA and is a teacher's aid. Mary's future plans include attending McMurry College to study education and eventually teaching history on the secondary level.

David, also a senior at Merkel High School has worked for two years at West- Tex Drilling, where he is a mechanic. He studies typing, health, civics and Moc and plans to continue working at West-Tex and perhaps attend technical school.

Kraatz is vice president in 4-H and was a starter on the Badger football team.

Jackpot Barrel Race Slated For Merkel Arena

There will be a \$500 added jackpot barrel race at the Merkel Riding Club arena in Merkel, March 14, 1976. The entry fee will be \$25 with \$20 back in the jackpot. There will be 2 full go-arounds and an average.

We will also have a novice barrel race and calf roping. The novice will be a \$250 novice. The entry fee will be \$10 with \$7.50 back in the jackpot on one run.

The calf roping will be a two calf and average with a \$25 entry fee and \$20 back in the jackpot. We will have fresh calves.

There will also be a jackpot flag race and pole bending. The entry on each of these will be \$7.00.

We will start taking entries at 8 o'clock and will start the events promptly at 10 o'clock. For more information call 928-5698.

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PRIZES WILL BE TROPHIES & ENTRANCE MONEY 1st, 2nd & 3rd PLACE LESS EXPENSES
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MONTY HEATLEY— THIS WEEK DO ME A FAVOR BEFORE YOU COME IN ON THURSDAY & FRIDAY FOR YOUR CHICKEN & FISH— PLEASE STOP OFF AT A FRIENDS HOUSE & HAVE — NOT A LIGHT SNACK, — BUT BUT A LARGE SNACK — SO I CAN BREAK EVEN THIS WEEK!
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Taylor Farmers Take Fly-In To Washington

R. E. Clemmer of Merkel and Joe Montgomery of Hamby were two members from Taylor County Farmers Union as representatives for the Farmers Union Fly-In to Washington, D. C. recently.

Jr. High Track Teams Run In Santa Anna

The Merkel Junior High boys and girls track team traveled to Santa Anna for the A. D. Donham Relays last Saturday March 6 for their first track meet of the season. There were 35 boys teams and 35 girls teams entered in the meet. All athletes who participated for Merkel did well. Placing for the boys was the 440 yard relay team consisting of Bobby Dickinson, Ellis Williams, Bart Pursley and Donnie Tutt who finished 6th, with a time of 32.5. Placing for the girls was the 440 yard relay consisting of Gwen Tarpley, Dee Ann Smith, Becky Watts and Lisa Shugart who finished 6th. Becky Watts also placed 3rd, in the 220 dash and 4th, in the triple jump. Lisa Owen placed 6th, in the 60 yard dash.

Our school and community are proud of these young people who represented us. There were over 500 athletes at this track meet and to place in the meet was a tremendous accomplishment.

Starbuck Insurance In Business Since 1949

Starbuck Life Insurance, a locally controlled company, was first organized February 14, 1949 and began writing insurance in May of the same year. In the beginning, the company was limited to a coverage of \$150,000, this being the amount authorized by the State Board of Insurance for a Burial Policy. In later years, authorization was secured to increase the coverage to \$1,000,000, depending on age, and the charter was changed to permit cash payment. The company was established to be of service to the local populace and over the years has expanded its area of service because of requested needs. It exists under the supervision of laws regulated by the State Board of Insurance of Texas and is examined periodically by a state board examiner. Its officers include: Naomi Starbuck, president; George Starbuck, vice-president; and Fred Starbuck, secretary-treasurer.



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Area Students To Carry Bicentennial Greetings Around The World

The Texas Youth for Understanding Bicentennial Committee chaired by U. S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen will be screening essays submitted by students between the ages of 15 and 18. The winners of the essay competition will be chosen to go abroad as "Bicentennial Couriers."

"Something Old, Something New" Texas License Plates, 1976

Starting in February, it will be "something old, something new" for most Texas license plates.

The "something old" will be the five-year license plate issued in 1975 already mounted on the vehicle. The plates were designed to last for at least five years, being made with more durable materials than the one-year plates issued in earlier years.

The "something new" will be a red, white and blue validation sticker to be affixed in the embossed rectangle at the upper left-hand corner of the license plate issued a year ago. Affixing the sticker will make the plate good for another year's driving.

Miss Griffith, Cochran Set Wedding Date

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Griffith of Tye announce the engagement and June 26 wedding of their daughter, Jeanna to Steve Cochran of Merkel. Cochran is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Cochran.

The bride elect is a graduate of Merkel High School and is employed by Wilkerson Manufacturing Company. The prospective bridegroom is also a graduate of Merkel High School and is employed by Taylor Telephone in Merkel.

The June ceremony is planned to be held in Tye Baptist Church.

Baseball Assn. To Meet

There will be a meeting of the Tri-City Baseball Project this Monday evening at 7:30 at the Big Country Inn Restaurant.

It is almost baseball season once again and all interested persons are urged to participate in the summer activities for the youth of Merkel.

Welders are needed to prepare for the girls softball diamond and are urged to attend the meeting. Also as many mothers as can be asked to come for formation of a Tri-City Baseball Project Ladies Auxiliary, it was noted by J. C. Carson, project chairman.

American Revolution Bicentennial Administration in Washington. Twelve young people will be chosen to represent Texas abroad during the summer of 1976 and will live with carefully chosen host families in 23 countries throughout the world. The number of couriers has been determined on the basis of one student per million population. Bicentennial scholarships will be funded by grants from various civic, corporate, and Bicentennial agencies. The only costs for which the students will be responsible are individual passport fees and personal spending money.

Each Bicentennial Courier will carry Bicentennial greetings and invitations from local, provincial, and national officials overseas. The Bicentennial Couriers also will speak to groups in their host countries about the Bicentennial celebration and about American life in general.

Youth for Understanding is the largest of the teenage student exchange programs which cooperate with and receive an annual grant from the U. S. State Department. Since its inception in 1951, Youth for Understanding has made it possible for 50,000 American and foreign high school students to have an overseas living experience. The international headquarters of this organization is in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Interested students should contact their principal's office or contact Jo Ellen Jorde at Route #5, Hereford, Texas 79045 for entry brochures and contest guidelines.

Square dancing lessons will begin Thursday, March 18 at the Merkel Lions Club building on South First Street. The first class is scheduled from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and there will be a charge of \$2.25 per couple.

All area couples interested in having a good time and getting some good exercise are invited to come. Jack Mason of Sweetwater will be the caller.

Notice

Burl King reminds vehicle owners that registration will be available at Max Murrell Chevrolet in Merkel March 13.

Also those needing to register for voting may do so at this time. Any one having problems or questions concerning voter registration or vehicle registration are welcome to come and discuss the problem with Mr. King.

Badger Inn Across From High School 6 Days From 10 til 9 929-5745

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Local Teachers Judge At UIL Contest

Darla Mawson and Anita Raymer, teachers at Merkel Elementary School were among judges at the UIL 4-A school Speech contest in Abilene at Hardin-Simmons University.

Schools participating in the contest included Abilene and Cooper High of Abilene, Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, San Angelo and Snyder. There were some 250 entries in the contests which included poetry and Prose Interpretation, Debate and Informative Speaking categories.

Mrs. Mawson and Miss Raymer were contacted to be judges through City Council of Beta Sigma Phi in Abilene. Mrs. Mawson is a member of Xi Nu Chi and Miss Ray-

mer is a member of Alpha Nu Nu. Both Xi Nu Chi and Alpha Nu Nu are Merkel chapters of Beta Sigma Phi.

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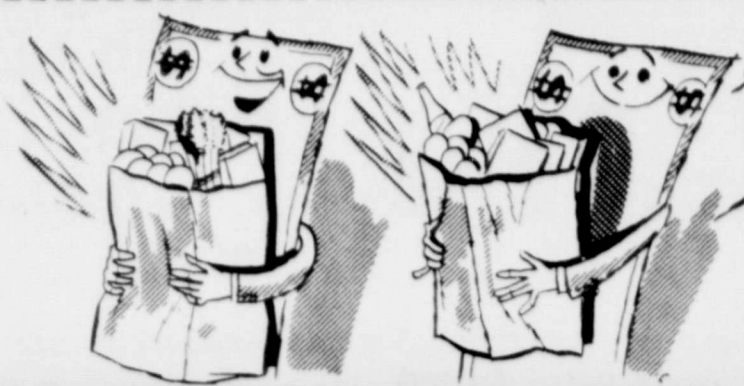
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