## The Merkel Mail




 two years. And from there things got worse.
Farm prices continued to suffer as commodity
supplies mushroomed, and producers tound little encouraging news as 1982 drew to a close.
AFFEWBRIGHT SPOTS

Holidays, looking back...ahead


Noone knows if the current trends in growth
will continue, but if they do, temporary
classrooms will have
classrooms will have to be obtained to take care
of the increased population.
The city will also make some
mainly due to the federal gran
Those changes include
Those changes include the start of housing and building codes, city zoning, and inspections.
Merkelites have not had to deal with those types of regulations before
The city will also get a good look at it's future as the master plan, also paid for by the grant, will
be presented.
The local business outlook can't be anything but
brighter. Local businesses pretty well held their brighter. Local businesses pretty well held their
own last year, although a department store closed own last year, although a department store closed
and no business took it's place. and no business took the place.
The year should be about the same for those
involved in the oil business. Prices should not involved in the oil business. Prices should not
change that dramatically, or so the experts say, over the next year and that means a continued
slow down of oil drilling and exploration. Farmers are in for another rough year, and
many Texas farmers will go out of business in many Texas farmers will go out of business in
1983, maybe in record numbers. Grain and textile prices should remain weak, because of an oversupply and a exporting,
program that is not adequate enough to market program that is not adequate enough to market
US production. What the coming year has in store for you and yours is certainly unpredictable. But then again
aren't they all.

It was Monday, about 11 a.m. and Martha Sue
Justice still had not called to tell me that I had Justice still had not called to tell me that I had
won the half beet the Chamber of Commerce was raffling.
So I called her...she said Bill Dye had won, I said it had to be a mistake, she insisted he'd won. little money off of the project, they sold about $\$ 400$ worth of tickets, and people had fun with the raffle and she said it would make a good annual
event. event.
Only if I win next year.

## teams as TU, Dallas and Houston (what a

 teams as TU, Dallas and Houston (what asuprise) lost. Maybe SMU can end the streak in the Cotton
Bowl. Bowl.
The Merkel Mail offices will be closed Dec. 28
through Jan. 2 and will reopen at 9 a.m. January


City wants r-r crossings repaired
 white to sign a letter to Mo-Pac stating they
wanted the crossings and Oak, Cherry and Ash to be repaired or that speed restrictions would be
considered. Satterwhite said "The rough crossings have been here for years and I am tired of
telling people those are Mo-Pac's crossing, not In other action, the city approved the bid of Gene Amerine Heating and Air Conditioning for
the work on the second phase of the energy conservation portion of the Department
Housing and Urban Development Block Grant. The units will be installed in five demonstration
projects and will use the sun to heat water as projects and will use the sun to heat water as
well as provide passive solar heating, supplementing current heating.
menting current heating.
Ronie reeman, a area resident will serve as the technical consultant on the program and will
make the reccomendations on which five homes will receive the solar units. Sadler told council he would like to see homes with large families used
for the demonstration projects. The work whould for the demonstration projects.
be completed by March or Apr be completed by March or Apri
In phase one of the project, Shannonside units
were fitted with solar water heating systems and were fitted with solar water heating systems and
this phase of the program calls for the installation
of dual solar units, to provide hot water and heat of dual solar units, to provide hot water and heat
and to determine the utility savings by keeping a and to determine the utility sa
eye on energy consumption.
eye
There will be no cost to the homeowners for the
solar units.
solar units.
Council also approved to send a representative
from the city to a Hazardous Material Spil Management Seminar in San Angelo next month The seminar is being co-sponsored by the City
of San Angelo and Texas A \& University's of San Angelo and
Extension Service.
Extension Service.
The seminar will
and will deal with the emergency response and
Mail office closed this week


Fortnightly group holds meeting


83 farm outlook dim
（Continues from Page One）

Gina Farmer named to
以うこりました．月 student Who＇s Who



Certain landwork is deductable
clearing expenses can be capitalized land clearing expenses can be capitalized and
depreciated rather than taking them all this year If this election is made for soil and water conservation expenses, then it must be continued or captialize land clearing costs is an annua election, the economist points out.
Producers might also be able to defer paying
certain taxes and interest certain taxes and interest until next year. And rapid method of depreciation to straight line depreciation can postpone deductions "Farmers also can boost their 1982 income by livestock sales before yearend," Anrenholz explains. "In addition, they can receive advance diversion and deficiency payments when they
sign up for the 1983 wheat, feedgrain and cotton sign up tor
programs.
ncome in the year received. Once this proctice started, however, it must be continued in futur years.
To avoid a NOL, producers might conside selling certain assets that will eventually be sold anyway. Gilts might be sold instead of sows to create ordinary income instead of capital gains.
Machinery that is depreciated-out might be sold Instead of traded, resulting in ordinary income in
1982 . 1982.


The
Consumer Alert

Mark White
Mark White
Attorney General
Irvin
Melton
buried
here
Monday sumers overspent their bud. before responding to it.
gets during the recent holiday Look for a catch if an offer season. If. like so many sounds too good to be true and
others, you are now staring at resist all high pressure or others, you are now staring at resist all high.pressure or
a tall stack of bills and a short deceptive sales tactics, in a cail stack of bills and a short deceptive sales tactics,
stack of dollars, it's time to re cluding "last chance" deal examine your individual or and bait-and-switch selling. family fiscal policies.
Our Consumer Protection Eully before buying, to be sure Division attorneys frequently it's what you need and wan see the results of improper and that it sin good condition.
consumer planning for holiday. Follow manufacturer's in buying-problems with stores structions and care labels,
over bills, difficulties with get the best service or wea debt collectors, unsuccessful from each product, so you can attempts to return merchan- use it lotger
dise that should not have been satisfaction.
bought in the first place. They Don't waste your money deal find that on occasion con- ing with itinerants for goods
sumers who consistently live or services because you may beyond their means need pro- not get what you pay for Deal tection, not from others, but instead with established firm spending habits. In order to avoid the post- Never pay money based on
Christmas letdown a pile of oral promises-always "get in unpaid debts can bring, not in writing.
creditors, start revamping. haven't read and understoo Our attorneys suggest that each word and filled in all you resolve to do the following blanks. Keep Keep a one-week record of all vest in specalative deal money really goes. out with reliable, knowledge Organize shopping and buy- able persons, and never com ing only from a prepared list, mit money you cannot affor
then for luxuries. dividual to practice ways
Plan ahead for big items cut your energy consumpion you'll need, then save up for Plan food purchases to avoi them and avoid paying in- buying expensive, unneed
terest and carrying charges.
-filer" foods which supply Decide what you can afford to tle nutrition. spend on a major item in ad- Try to settle any consumer
vance and refuse to exceed problems you havk with the your limit. firm or person involved. Comparison shop for prices. that doesn 't work, contect the
quality, warranty, and finance Attorney General's Consumer quality, warranty, and finance Atcrney Generais Consumest
charges.

To delay 1982 income so as to take advantage of
lower tax rate next year, simply avoid receip of income from any 1982 sales through a deferred
of payment agreement with the buyer, suggests the
economist. Producers alst economist. Producers also have the option to
delay counting unti" next year crop insurance delay counting unti" next year crop insurance
proceeds, federal crop disaster payments and income from forced sales of livestock from ederally designated drought areas.
Farmers and ranchers can also step up
deductions to postpone 1982 income,", explains Ahrenholz. "This simply means to pay tor and
take delivery of exains take delivery of equipment and supplies before
yearend. Qualified farmers may also prepay certain 1983 expenses this year, including taxes, interest and lease payments. And contributions to a Keogh and an IRA retirement plan are eductible.
If a producer does everything he can to reduce
his taxable income and still finds this year's earnings to be much higher than in past years, income averaging can come to the rescue, says the economist. Averaging may save tax dollars i above the average taxable income for 1978 through 1981 plus $\$ 3,000$.
Ahrenholz advises farmers and ranchers to
check with their tax advisors or consultants now for further information on yearend tax planning strategies. A great deal of detail is associated
with most of the tax dentified or strategie
 OPEW NEW YEARS PRICES EFFECTIVE DEC. 30 - Jall. 1.1883 WHILE SUPPLIES LAS OPEE 24 MOURS 365 DAYS A YEAN

MOTICE: AT ALISUP's We'in comsianity

 FROM ALL OF YOUR FRIEMOS TMAMAK YOU. Mave
YEARI




VAN CAMPS
PORK \& BEANS 3 for $\$ 100$

| MORTON FROZEN |
| :--- |
| PIES |
| $\$ 150$ |




Marshmellow
CREAM 99 ${ }^{\text {© }}$




Baker receives






## New Years Party

 The Halfbreed ShowRAY PACK
For your Dancing Pleasure.

* MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW* ${ }^{5} 8^{00}$ IN ADVANCE s10 $0^{\circ 0}$ AT THE DOOR
Texas Tradition $\approx$ सiGGWAY bo ABILENE


| Get a cash rebaie direct from John Deere, in addition to our good deal on the 40 Series tractor of your choice - 2WD or $4 W D$. These tractors also carry a 1981 sticker price, so we're offering rebates from prices already competitively low. <br> Boost your savings even more During December. 1982, pay cash for your new tractor, finance it where you choose, or finance it with John Deere without waiver- and you ll collect the |  | cash rebate in lieu of finance waiver as shown. Or you can elect to have the John Deere tinance charge waived to June 1, 1983, instead of taking the additional cash rebate. <br> During December, special rebates, 100, on 50 Series 4 Wo tractors that are replacing 40 Series 4 WDs being closed out. Cash rebates up to $\$ 10,500$. Waiver of finance charge option: See us soon! |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Model | Cash Rebate on Purchase | e Dec. '82 Cash Rebate In Lieu of Waiver | Maximum Rebate |
| 228-hp 8640 | \$4,500 | \$1,700 | 6.200 |
| 179-hp 8440 | 4.000 | 1,350 |  |
| 180-hp 4840 | 3.600 | 1.200 | 4.800 |
| 155-hp 4640 | 3.400 | 1,050 | 4.450 |
| 130-hp 4440 | 2.800 | 850 | 3,650 |
| 110-hp 4240 | 2.300 | 750 | 3,050 |
| 90-hp 4040 | 2,200 | 700 | 2.900 |
| $80-\mathrm{hp} 2940$ | 1.800 | 500 | 2,300 |
| $70-\mathrm{hp} 2640$ | 1,300 | 400 | 1,700 |
| $60-\mathrm{hp} 2440$ | 1.200 | 350 | 1.550 |
| $50-\mathrm{hp} 2240$ | 1,100 | \% 300 | 1.400 |
| 40-hp 2040 | 900 | 250 | 1,150 |
| 370-hp 8850 | \$8.200 | \$2,300 | \$10,500 |
| 290-hp 8650 | 6.400 | 1,900 | 8.300 |
| $225-\mathrm{hp} 8450$ | 5,700 | 1,500 | 7.200 |



