

No opinion poll is needed to find out how Texas farmers and ranchers feel about the past year. 1982 was a disaster in almost every sense of the word-a year that most farmers and ranchers would just as soon forget. The year started out with many producers in bad financial shape due to poor prices the past two years. And from there things got worse. Farm prices continued to suffer as commodity supplies mushroomed, and producers found little encouraging news as 1982 drew to a close. A FEW BRIGHT SPOTS

which farmers and ranchers can be thankful. Interest rates eased down a bit and that old nemesis, inflation, finally cooled off to slow the

croos was lukewarm at best HEAVY WEATHER LOSSES

+Extensive wet weather in the spring delayed

crossings repaired

The Merkel City Council decided Monday to draft a "terse" letter to Missouri-Pacific Railroad officials concerning the conditions of local railroad crossings, and awarded Gene Amerine Heating and Air Conditioning a bid on a solar heating project here at their regular session

Council also approved sending a representative from the city to a hazardous material spill management seminar in San Angelo next month.

City manager J. A. Sadler told council he had contacted the region's trainmaster and had requested a meeting following the Dec. 13 council meeting. Sadler said that meeting never took place and said the rough crossings in town are not a new problem area, they have been in bad shape

Sadler read from Texas Legal Statutes the legal authroity cities have to ensure crossing are maintained with proper care. Powers of the city include speed restrictions, controlling of switch-

Sadler told Council "There are even clauses that allows for the city police chief to hand deliver a 30 day warning to repair crossings or a fine could be started against the company.

Council authorized Merkel Mayor Kent Satterwhite 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 of Housing and Urban Development Block Grant.

The units will be installed in five demonstration projects and will use the sun to heat water as well as provide passive solar heating, supplementing current heating.

Ronnie Freeman, 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 be completed by March or April. In phase one of the project, Shannonside units 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, and to determine the utility savings by keeping an eye on energy consumption. There will be no cost to the homeowners for the solar units.

+A few things did happen during the year for

rise in production costs. 1982 also turned out to be a fairly good crop year for some producers.

At the outset of the crop year, many farmers were in a dilemma about what to plant. For most it was a matter of choosing the least of several evils. Many opted to plant less cotton -- more than a million acres less-due to poor price prospects. Rice plantings were also down for the same reason. The slack was taken up by corn, grain sorghum and soybeans, but the outlook for those planting operations in some western areas and in the state's mid-section. That caused many crops to be late, making them prime targets for the long, hot summer that followed. So some areas went abruptly from extreme wet conditions to a season-long drouth that cut crop yields severely.

Of course, the usual spring storms with heavy rains and cool weather reduced young crop stands in some sections, particularly in central and eastern areas and in Southwest Texas, where hundreds of acres of corn, cotton and vegetables were lost to flooding, hail and high winds. Earlier, dry conditions had delayed plantings in parts of Southwest Texas and other areas.

The real blow as far as spring crop losses are concerned came in the Texas plains. Farmers saw most of their cotton crop wiped out by some of the most severe hailstorms in the area's history. Almost half of the South Plains' five million acres of cotton were reduced to stubble by the savage storms. Since the storms hit so late in the season that cotton could not be replanted. most farmers went to alternative crops such as soybeans and sunflowers. A considerable amount of grain sorghum also replaced hailed-out cotton.

Texas wheat yields in late spring was "so-so" as the crop endured extremely dry conditions in late winter and early spring followed by heavy rains. Rust disease also was severe in many areas. This year's wheat acreage was the largest ever in Texas, spurred by good price prospects. But when harvest time rolled around, prices had cooled off considerably

INSECTS AND OTHER PROBLEMS +Insects once again made the scene as the 1982 crop season progressed. Yellow sugarcane

aphids, greenbugs and cutworms dealt a lethal blow to thousands of acres of grain sorghum in coastal and central areas.

By mid-year the weather has settled down into its usual pattern-hot and dry. Most crops progressed well for a while, but soon spring moisture was gone and drouth stress set in. In irrigated areas, farmers had irrigation pumps going full blast to keep their crops watered. Needless to say, running those pumps pushed production costs up sharply.

The hot, dry summer weather continued into the fall, providing ideal harvest conditions in most areas. Most farmers reaped good cotton, corn and grain sorghum harvests despite slow crop starts in the spring. However, the summer-long drouth cut into crop yields in some areas, particularly cotton and dryland peanuts in central areas and soybeans and peanuts in coastal and eastern sections.

The summer drouth also dealt a blow to this year's pecan crop, which already had its share of disease and insect problems. In addition, this was an alternate-bearing year for most pecan trees.

RANCHERS ALSO HAD PROBLEMS +While farmers were enduring all these problems ranchers weren't faring any better. 1982 started out extremely dry so cattle had little grazing on small grains such as wheat and oats. A siege of extremely cold weather followed which brought snow to much of Texas and caused a surge in livestock feeding. Spring brought

(Continues on Page 2)

Council also approved to send a representative from the city to a Hazardous Material Spill Management Seminar in San Angelo next month.

The seminar is being co-sponsored by the City of San Angelo and Texas A & M University's Extension Service.

The seminar will run Monday through Friday and will deal with the emergency response and management of hazardous material spills.

### Mail office closed this week

The Merkel Mail offices will be closed Dec. 29 through Jan 2 for New Year's Vacation.

The office will reopen at 9 a.m. January 3rd. People desiring assistance from Merkel T V Cable should call the Operator and ask for Enterprise 84049.

### Fortnightly group holds meeting

Members of the Social committee were hostesses to the Fortnightly Study Club when it met on Tuesday, Dec. 14 in the home of Ida Mae Seymore. The president, Alwyne Sandusky, called the meeting to order and presided for a brief of the names and addresses of Boys at Boy's Ranch in Abilene and each member selected one name to send a Christmas card to.

Program chairman, Alice King, announced the program, which was titled "Children in a Christmas Program", directed by Ida Mae Seymore and Kathryn Rister, teachers. Several of their fourth and fifth grade students gave a very interesting and entertaining program. Some of Mrs. Seymore's fourth grade students shared their thoughts about Christmas by reading a paper each had written on "What Christmas Means To Me," Mrs. Rister's fifth grade students presented an original Christmas play. The program also included poems, a duet, and Christmas songs by the talented students. Attractive Christmas ornaments, made by Ida Mae Seymore and Alice King, were presented to every one present. The twenty one members enjoying the program and delicious refreshments were: Mrs. Joe Allen, Mrs. C.M. Brown, Miss Arius Deavers, Mrs. Mack Fisher, Miss Mildred Hamm, Mrs. J.W. Hammond, Mrs. Comer Haynes, Mrs. Orvel Hill, Mrs. Buster Horton, Mrs. Carl Hughes, Mrs. Allen D. King, Mrs. C.B. Knight, Mrs. Curtis Rister, Mrs. Perry Rogers, Mrs. Ed Sandusky, Mrs. C.M. Seymore, Mrs. Andy Shouse, Mrs. Aaron Sudderth, Mrs. Alf Walla, Miss Maurine White, and Mrs. Ray Wilson

1.10

## Holidays, looking back...ahead

#### by Cloy A. Richards

So, how did the holidays go for you and yours? Our trip to San Antonio and College Station was exciting right to the end. Driving in on 1-20 Sunday evening was tricky, to say the least, as the bridges were glazed with ice.

The melted ice looked nice Monday morning, the moisture didn't hurt a bit.

The low point of the trip was a two stroke golf loss to my brother-in-law. He really knows how to ruin a persons attitude.

We will be heading off again Tuesday night to Sherman and Fort Smith, if the weather is decent enough.

The past year has been a quiet one here.

There have been no major controversies involving the school or the city, farmers suffered through the continuing decline of cotton and grain prices, the country went through another year of hard ecenomic times, times that were felt here with oil-related work slowdowns and the closing of Nu Corp, that put a few local people out of work.

What was different about 1982?

Merkel won four football games, that's a change

The school is starting to take hard looks at problems it may face in the next few years.

The city is moving right along with the work funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development Grants, including the remodeling of local homes that qualify for the work, the water tower rennovation, the sewer plant work. This year, the major program will be street paving, which is a blessing, and more work on homes, including a solar project.

The local business climate here in 82 was better than 1981...barely.

We did not have any new businesses open, we lost a couple, and it was definately a bad time for welders, roughnecks, tool pushers and drillers.

The year did not go by without leaving it's marks, most years don't ... it's not their style.

What's ahead from Merkel in 1983?

You don't have to ask MISD superintendent Bill Everett many times to get a definate answer on how he feels.

If the current growth trends continue through this school year and next year, Merkel Elementary and Middle schools will have more students than they have space for. That's a fact.

Same a

Noone knows if the current trends in growth will continue, but if they do, temporary classrooms will have to be obtained to take care of the increased population.

The city will also make some strides this year, mainly due to the federal grant.

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 own last year, although a department store closed and no business took it's place.

The year should be about the same for those 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 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 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 won the half beef 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. Anyway, Martha Sue said the Chamber made a

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.

Only if I win next year.

It was a very dark weekend for Texas football teams as TU, Dallas and Houston (what a suprise) lost.

Maybe SMU can end the streak in the Cotton Bowl.

The Merkel Mail offices will be closed Dec. 28 through Jan. 2 and will reopen at 9 a.m. January 3rd

all and a second

### 83 farm outlook dim

#### (Continues from Page One)

warmer weather and some rain, but much of the state continued dry until May-and even later in some areas-extending the feeding period due to lack of grazing. Of course, this pushed costs up May rains gave a big boost to pastures and ranges and brightened the outlook for most livestock producers. However, market prices remained weak for the most part and tended to waiver downward as the year progressed.

Stockmen again had to be on guard for screwworms-perennial livestock pests. The first case of screwworms in Texas in more than a year was confirmed May 18 near the Starr-Hidalgo County line. But only a few more cases followed to bring the 1982 total to six, compared to five in 1981

As the hot, dry summer weather wore on ranchers had to contend with short grazing conditions, so they started to feed hay. Some had plenty of hay from an abundant harvest or past seasons but other faced short supplies

particularly in coastal, central and southern areas. As the dry siege continued, ranchers started culling their herds heavily. They shipped calves and lambs to market earlier than usual And these heavy runs at local auctions sent prices plummeting

The dry weather continued into the fall, causing delays in small grain plantings for fall and winter grazing. Some fields were dry-planted but didn't come up due to lack of moisture. Limited small grain drowth hampered the movement of stocker cattle into the plains area where small grain grazing traditionally is big business. However

terhand ronnymwergint stocker cattle picked up in early December following widespread rains. with some going for up to \$1 a pound.

These December rains gave a big boost to small grains although much of the western half of Texas remained short on soil moisture. Stock water also continued short in some sections due to lack of runoff.

#### WHAT'S AHEAD

Undoubtedly, Texas farmers and ranchers are putting improved prices for their products at the top of their list of New Year wishes. There are two chances of that happening-slim and none. So what's there to look forward to?

Most farmers will need to take a hard look at their operations to try to cut costs wherever possible. They will also need to consider participating in the 1983 governement farm program which offers some price protection on their investments and can supplement their ncome.

Ranchers also need to adopt efficient management practices-those that can bring in extra dollars-and they need to cut out anything that might be draining their pocketbooks.

Farmers and ranchers must strive to become better businessmen if they expect to financially survive the year ahead. If U.S. and world economic conditions improve some, the demand for agricultural products could increase and prices could strengthen. But that may not happen for some time. So farmers and ranchers must continue to hang on for survival--a situation they have become accustomed to over the past several vears.

### Texas reports 174 wells in November

Railroad Commission Chairman Jim Nugent announced that Texas operators reported 97 gas and 67 oil discoveries in November 1982.

One year ago, 103 gas and 31 oil discoveries were filed with the state's energy regulatory agency

Gas discoveries in the eleventh month of the year included 42 in deep South Texas, 22 in the Refugio area, nine each in Southeast Texas and West Central Texas, four each in North Texas and the San Antonio area, three in the San Angelo area, and two each in East Texas and the Midland area.

Oil discoveries included 24 in West Central Texas, 10 in Southeast Texas, six each in deep South Texas and North Texas, five in the Midland area, four in the Lubbock area, three each in East Texas and the Refugio and San Angelo areas, two in the San Antonio area, and one in East Central

Through the first eleven months of this year, there have been 1,307 gas and 611 oil dicoveries throughout the state. For the same period last year, there were 1,163 gas and 536 oil discoveries. In November, operators reported 609 exploratory and field tests would up as dry holes. This number includes 308 dry holes reported for the last six months in RRC District 7B, based in Abilene. New applications for permits to drill oil and gas tests totaled 2,962 in November compared with 2,846 in the same period of 1981.

Applications to drill, deepen, plug back and for service wells in November amounted to 3,280 against 3,112 a year earlier

Operators filed 759 amended applications to drill. A year earlier they submitted 825 amended requests.

### Unemployment benefits are taxable

Individuals receiving unemployment compensation during 1982 may face higher taxes when they figure their 1982 income tax returns.

ear's new tax law

unemployment compensation

More couples will likely be paying higher taxes on unemployment compensation this year than before, notes Lovell. He advises families with

Weitnesday, December 29, 1982

### Gina Farmer named to student Who's Who

Gina Farmer is one of twenty eight McMurry College seniors that have been selected for the 1983 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Campus nominating committees and editors of the annual directory have included these students on the basis of their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and future potential. More than 1,300 institutions in the United States and foreign countries participate in selecting students for the directory. The annual directory has been honoring outstanding students since 1934.

### הנונינייני Many Americans con-

sume two to three times or even more sodium each day than they need to, say nutrition experts. Here are some more facts you may not know about the mineral element that's as essential to our bodies as air and water-sodium.

• Only about 1/4 of your sodium intake comes from the salt you add to food

• In most cases, from 1.100 to 3.300 milligrams of sodium per day provides a safe and adequate amount, according to the experts at the Food Marketing Insti-

use. This sodium is used to maintain proper fluid balance in the body, and nourish our cells.

· Excess sodium in the diet is believed to contribute to high blood pressure or hypertension, which puts an extra strain on the heart. Only a doctor can advise you if you need to cut down on the sodium in your diet

· Most of the sodium in foods is added to products during processing to help preserve and flavor them. Salt is added to vegetables, for instance, during canning and freezing.



As of January 1, 1983, Continental Telephone of Texas will sell rather than rent telephones to new customers and to existing customers seeking a change in service.\*

below its replacement cost. Your local Continental business office

### Page 2

(the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act) lowered the unemployment compensation base amounts for income tax purposes, effective with the 1982 tax year, says an economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System

For married couples filing jointly, the base amount for 1982 is \$18,000 which is \$7,000 less than last year. For all other taxpavers except married individuals filing separately, the base amount is \$12,000 for this year, or \$8,000 less than a year ago

Taxpayers receiving unemployment compensation must add it to adjusted gross income when figuring their income tax returns, says Dr. Ashley Lovell of Stephenville. If the total exceeds the appropriate base amounts, taxable income is calculated by including the smaller of one-half of the amount above the base or 100 percent of the

several sources of income or liquid assets-such as prat-time farmers-who are receiving unemployment compensation to counsel with their tax advisors before vearend

Based on prospects for a scheduled tax cut in 1983, these families may benefit by deferring some income until next year or by stepping up payment of such expenses as medical bills in 1982, says the economist

Lovell adds that families who suffered unemployment in 1981 as well as this year should not be surprised to learn that similar amounts of income and unemployment compensation in the two years may result in different taxable incomes and income tax liabilities.

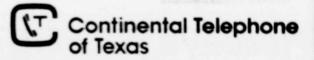
So he advised some careful yearend planning that might save tax dollars at a time when many families are suffering financial hardships

Our action stems from plans to deregulate the telecommunications industry by the Federal Communications Commisssion (FCC).

Customers currently renting business or residence equipment will have the option of continuing to do so or they may purchase that equipment at a price far

can answer any questions you may have about service changes including convenient ways to purchase your present telephones.

Private ownership. When you think about it, it has a nice ring to it.



Party-line customers are not affected by the change in policy.

### Barnett's Barber Shop WE WILL BE OPEN FRIDAY WITH RONNY DOAN WE'D LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR AND SAY THANKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS IN 1982 SHUGART COUPON Tuesday, January 11 121 Edwards Merkel Drug 190 WALLET SIZE 99¢ Extra charge



Wednesday, December 29, 1982

## Certain landwork is deductable

Certain soil and water conservation and 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 in future years. However, the choice to expense or captialize land clearing costs is an annual election, the economist points out.

Producers might also be able to defer paying certain taxes and interest until next year. And shifting capital assets bought before 1981 from a rapid method of depreciation to straight line depreciation can postpone deductions.

"Farmers also can boost their 1982 income by making sure they receive payment for grain and livestock sales before yearend," Ahrenholz explains. "In addition, they can receive advance diversion and deficiency payments when they sign up for the 1983 wheat, feedgrain and cotton programs.

CCC crop loan proceeds can also be included in income in the year received. Once this proctice is started, however, it must be continued in future years.

To avoid a NOL, producers might consider 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.

A new way of transmitting image and light through long thin fibers of optical glass is bringing better health to millions of human and animal patients throughout the world.

Fiberoptic endoscopy has . been used in medicine for the past ten years. Fiberoptic endoscopes are made with glass fibers that can be made long and flexible. Most of them are small, lightweight and portable for easy use by the physician. Photographs can be taken through the endoscope which are valuable in revealing the progression of a disease or the response to therapy.

A leader in the development of technology and research in this growing field is A O Scientific Instruments. Its Fiber Optic Stylet Laryngoscope gives doctors a clear view of the larynx, oropharynx and vocal cords for easier insertion of a life-saving endotracheal tube. It's especially useful when

movement of the mouth, moved into veterinary medijaw, head and neck area are limited, as in patients with rheumatoid arthritis or severe burns, because it can

To delay 1982 income so as to take advantage of a lower tax rate next year, simply avoid receipt of income from any 1982 sales through a deferred payment agreement with the buyer, suggests the economist. Producers also have the option to delay counting until next year crop insurance proceeds, federal crop disaster payments and income from forced sales of livestock from federally designated drought areas.

"Farmers and ranchers can also step up deductions to postpone 1982 income," explains Ahrenholz. "This simply means to pay for and 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 deductible.

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 if the current year's income will be 20 percent 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 management strategies identified above.



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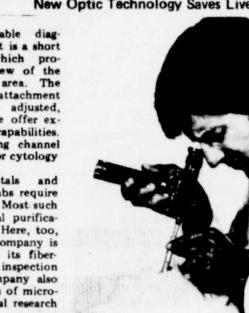
position. Another valuable diagnostic instrument is a short colonoscope, which provides a clear view of the sigmoid colon area. The wide angle optic attachment and an easily adjusted, focusing eyepiece offer excellent viewing capabilities. A large operating channel can take biopsy or cytology samples.

Clinics, hospitals and pharmaceutical labs require ultra-pure water. Most such places use special purification equipment. Here, too, the instrument company is involved through its fiberoptic boroscope inspection system. The company also makes a selection of microscopes for medical research and diagnosis.

Fiberoptics has even cine. A special small diameter fiberscope is used as an invaluable aid in detecting and diagnosing infecbe adjusted to the patient's tion, tumors, ulcers.

OF HEALTH

New Optic Technology Saves Lives



Fiberoptics is shedding new light on many serious medical conditions. Here, a physician inserts a life-saving endotracheal tube in a patient's throat to aid breathing.

The Consumer Alert by Mark White Attorney General

AUSTIN-Many Texas con- Study advertising carefully 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 a tall stack of bills and a short deceptive sales tactics, instack of dollars, it's time to re- cluding "last chance" deals examine your individual or and bait-and-switch selling. -Examine merchandise carefamily fiscal policies.

Our Consumer Protection fully before buying, to be sure Division attorneys frequently it's what you need and want see the results of improper and that it's in good condition. consumer planning for holiday . Follow manufacturer's inbuying-problems with stores structions and care labels, to over bills, difficulties with get the best service or wear debt collectors, unsuccessful from each product, so you can attempts to return merchan- use it longer with greater dise that should not have been satisfaction.

bought in the first place. They .Don't waste your money dealfind 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 firms from themselves and their own or individuals who stand behind their offers. spending habits.

In order to avoid the post- Never pay money based on Christmas letdown a pile of oral promises-always "get it unpaid debts can bring, not in writing."

only to you but to your -Never sign a contract if you creditors, start revamping. haven't read and understood Our attorneys suggest that each word and filled in all you resolve to do the following blanks. -Turn down all chances to inin the New Year.

Keep a one-week record of all vest in speculative deals expenses to learn where your unless you have checked them money really goes. Organize shopping and buy- able persons, and never coming only from a prepared list, mit money you cannot afford

avoiding impulse buying. ·Purchase first for necessities, ·Plan as a family or as an inthen for luxuries.

Plan ahead for big items cut your energy consumption. you'll need, then save up for .Plan food purchases to avoid them and avoid paying in- buying expensive, unneeded terest and carrying charges. "filler" foods which supply lit-

spend on a major item in ad- . Try to settle any consumer vance and refuse to exceed problems you have with the your limit. -Comparison shop for prices, that doesn't work, contect the quality, warranty, and finance Attorney General's Consumer

charges.

Decide what you can afford to the nutrition.

firm or person involved. If

out with reliable, knowledge-

to lose to such investments.

dividual to practice ways to

**Protection Division nearest** 

Irvin Melton buried here

### Monday

Irvin L. Melton, 72 of Merkel, died at 8:50 a.m. Saturday at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Big Spring. Services were held 1:30 p.m. at the Starbuck Funeral Home in Merkel under the direction of Larry Gill, Merkel Church of Christ minister and the Rev. T. C. Melton of Abilene.

Born Oct. 19,1910 in Coryell County, he lived in Snyder most of his life before moving to Merkel this year. He was a Texaco Oil Co. pumper for 24 years and served with the U.S. Army in World War II. He was a Church of Christ member and had married Maxine McAnally in 1940 at Mineral

Wells. Survivors include a wife; two sons Rusty

of Andrews and Buster of Merkel, a daughter Janice DeShazer of Midland, six brothers Price and Clarence, both of Merkel, T. R. of Odessa, Vernon of Andrews, Marvin of Marble Falls and Pat of Houston, two sisters Minnie Owen of Merkel and Rachael Patterson of Bakersfield. CA, two grandcyhildren and a greatgrandchild.

He was preceeded in death by four sisters. Lela McEver, Bonnie Underwood, Ella Mae Davenport and Mae Owens.



Wishing You A Prosperous and Happy New Year

ACTION

Julian Y

**FARMERS & MERCHANTS** NATIONAL BANK ★ MERKEL ★ MEMBER FDIC ★

1000

WE NOW HAVE MOTORCYCLE BATTERIES IN STOCK P&L AUTO PARTS TFC Germania Insurance Company, for your

insurance needs. Local ly represented by Donna Carter, 928-5348. 40-tfc

For Sale: 1977 Cougar XR 7, loaded, 43,000 miles, Call Faye Robertson, 928-5806 after 5 p.m.

#### 40-tfc

For Sale: New GE dual action microwave 2 speed with a 25 minute timer, never been used, asking \$230. Call 928-4394. 41-2tc

FOR SALE: Used washer, \$35. Call 928-5712. NC

Custodian needed approximately four hours per week. Reterences required. Call 928-5801. 1 TP

For Sale- Glass fire place doors & screen. Good condition \$40 928-5705. John Brady 42-1tp

4 month old pit bull and german shepard FREE to good home. Call 928-5103. TC

For Sale: 1965 Chevy pick-up, V8, standard transmission, short wheel base, air conditioner, good condition, all 928-5476. 2 TC

Now Open Kid's Korner Day Care Center 2nd & Oak. Open Mon. Friday 6: 45 a.m. till 6 p.m. Call 928-4381. 31-tfc

Full Time Real Estate Agent needs listings. Good loan connections Qualified to serve as igent. Cy Pee 928-5613. 37-TEC

GAIL'S BARBER & STYLE SHOP Open Tues. thru Sat. 118 Edwards. Call or come in 928-4815.

Would like to babysit call 928-4370 41-2tp THE CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent-Nice 2 bdrm house, call 928-5635. 42-2tp

2 BEDROOM, all electric, central air & heat, \$275 Bottom, \$250 upstairs. Call 928-5014. 16 JEC

For Rent or Sale: Extra large 2 Bedroom house, one year lease, 2 month rent and damage deposit required in advance. \$300 per month, call 817-835-4898 after 4:30. 34-tfc

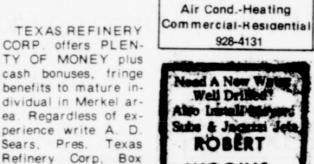
#### SHANNONSIDE APARTMENTS

1,2 & 3 Bedroom apartments, shag carpet, all electric, dish washer, garbage disposal, central cooling and heating. For more information call 928-5038. 8 TFC MOBILE HOME SPACES FOR RENT in Merkel \$50 a month, V.A. & FHA approved, Pat McAlister, 846-4715 or 846-4696. 50-TFC Weather Permitting. THINGS IN GENER AL will be open Saturday. December 18. from 2 till 4. No repairs. New Batteries Fit most autos, pick ups, tractors, boats or

golf carts. \$30. Call 928-5694. 2 row John Deere Cult. & Planter, Front mount 200 gal, weed sprayer, Water Pump 846-4328. 35-TFC

711, Fort Worth, Texas

76101



guarantee that, if a-NOTICE OF warded the contract. CONTRACTORS OF the bidder will pro-THE FOLLOWING mptly enter into a co-WORK FOR TRENT ntract and execute bo-INDEPENDENT nds in forms provided SCHOOL DISTRICT as outlined in the + RECEIPT OF BIDS Specifications and In-Sealed proposals wistructions to bidders. Il be received by the A performance bond Trent Independent Scand Payment Bond or hool District, Trent, Irrevocable Letter of Texas until 7:00 p.m. Credit in the amount January 10, 1983 for of One Hundred per construction of Two cent (100) of the con-Single-Family Residetract price shall be nces to be located in required of the su-Trent, Texas. Bids will ccessful bidder be opened at app-

the High School.

date above mentioned.

after the time set for

BID REQUIREME-

A cashier's check or

CHARLIE'S REPAIR

SERVICE

Hetrig.-+ reezers

928-4131

ROBERT

HIGGINS

128-5801

receipt of bids.

NTS:

PRIME CONTRACT roximately 7:00 p.m. All work including January 10, 1983 at the general construction regular board meeting will be awarded under in the board room at a single contract. BIDDING DOCUM-Bids shall be pub-

ENTS lically opened and re-The General Contraad at the time and ctor may examine and secure copies of the Bids may not be wiproposed contract Dothdrawn or modified cuments from the Business office of the Trent Independent School District, Trent, Texas, on the following basis:

Certified Check on a (1) Bidders will be State or National Bank issued one complete in the State of Texas set of plans and spepayable without rescifications upon recource to Trent Indeeipt of a deposit check pendent School Distrin the amount of One ict or an acceptable Hundred Dollars made Surety Proposal Bond, payable to the Owner. in an amount not less Unsuccesful bidders than five (5) per cent shall be refunded their of the largest possible deposit check if the total bid, including plans and specificatconsideration of alternates, must accompany each bid as a



### 10.9° The 10.9% APR True Financing\* Financing Financing Financing 1982 Inventory Getting Low-Hurry for Best Selection; \* GMC Sierra Diesels **4** Pheonixs **High Sierra Drivers Ed** 7 Firebirds -1 Demo GMC Sierra Classic, Diesel 2-6000's 3 GMC S-15 **5** Bonnevilles

**2 Bonneville Broughams** sel Demo

\* GMC Crew Cab 1 Ton Grand Prix Brougham Die- \* GMC Cab & Chassis 1 Ton \$300 Below Cost

next after the expi-

ration of 20 days from

the date of service of

#### **Dealership contributes to the reduction of the finance rate**, which may affect the final negociated price of the vehicle! PONTIAC & GMC KENT SATTERWHITE JACK HORTON RON PALMER DUANE SHUGART INSURANCE & FINANCE ON THE SPOT. "WE SELL 'EM WE LEASE UM' MERKEL 673-1182, Abilene Merkel PH: 928-5113

Wednesday, December 29, 1982

good condition within 10 days after the receipt of bids. (2) Bidders who do not submit a bid or fail to return their plans within 7 days after the

bid opening date will

be refunded their deposit less the cost of plans and specification reproductions. BID ACCEPTANCE In Compliance with House Bill No.1612,

66th Legislature, Regular Session, the Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Owner reserves the right to

waive any formalities in bids or bidding. The Owner may accept any bid deemed advantageous.

TRENT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TRENT'TEXAS 2 TC

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: RUFUS BARELA Respondent: GREETINGS: +YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer be-

fore the Honorable 326 District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday RAMCON

NEW HOME

\$39,500

3 Bedroom, 2 full:

baths, 1 car garage,

will sell conventional

this citation, then and there to answer the petition of State Department of Human Resources, Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 15th day of August, 1980, against Rufus Barela, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 4377C on the docket of said Court and entitled "In The Interest of Marcla Ann Barela, a Child" the nature of which suit is a request to legitimate the child and establish an Order of Support. The Court has authority in this suit to

enter and judgement or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding upon you.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship and the appointment of a conservator with authori-

A DALLARD TO CHORE THE AND A LARGE THE DALLARD THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs. " Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 6th day of December, 1982.

Page 4

10.9%

Rilla Mahoney Clerk 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas By Rilla Mahoney



INTERTHERM Inc. **Cutting Heating Bills** Down To Size

The family is in the den watching television, playing cards and just talking. Outdoors, temperatures are sliding below freezing. The central heating system is working hard-heating rooms no one is using.

A waste of energy, not to mention money.

Energy conscious families have come to realize that they can turn down the central heating system thermostat and still comfortably and economically heat the room being used.



### **Baker** receives

### Army medal

First Lt. Carol J Baker, daughter of Harold and Rosie Holden of Clyde, has been decorated with the U. S. Army Commendation Medal at Fort Riley, Kansas. Her husband, Army 1st Lt. Len Baker, is

the son of Julia L. Wilson of Trent. Lightfoot buried

### Artie Bolin Lightfoot, 79 of Caps, died at 2:35 p.m. Dec. 21 at

West Texas Medical man of Valley Mills, Center four grandsons and a \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\*

Services were held at 2 p.m. Dec. 23 at the Caps Baptist Church with the Rev. Kenneth Jones officiating, assisted by the Rev. Allen Cartrite of North Park Baptist Church. Burial followed at Elmwood Memorial. Born Jan 25, 1911 in

Survivors include

her husband; two so-

ns, Charles of Caps

and Wayne of Merkel.

a sister Clara Free-

Whitney, she was reared there and married B. A. Lightfoot, Feb 7. 1935. They moved to this area from Hamlin in 1947. She was a member of Caps Baptist Church.

ENERGY-JAVING

Stephenville.

great granddaughter

Pallbearers were

Andy Anderson, Jay

Stevens, Dick Free-

man, Willard Brown.

Rhonda White Bragg

of Merkel was a recent

graduate of TSU in

Chuck Ferrell and

Walter Johnson



A lot of American homethe sides, then directs it owners whose ceilings are downward through the botwarmer than they are, are tom at low velocity so no discovering an ingenious and inexpensive energy saving one in the room feels a draft. device. It's a unit that's de-

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

SHOP MON. DEC. 27TH 'TIL 9P.M.

signed to circulate warm air quietly down to the floor level without creating drafts.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS GHES' Residence or Respondent:

GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED To appear and answer before the Honorable 326 District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and

there to answer the petition of Texas Department of Human Resources, Petitioner. filed in said Court on the 9 day of June, 1982 against Marcus Hughes, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 9554-DR on the docket of said Court. and entitled "In The Matter of the Marriage of JoAnn Taylor Hughes and Marcus Eugene Hughes" and In the Interest of J. W. Trampus Hughes, a Child, the nature of which suit is a request to ask the Court to enter and Order for Child Support in accordance with the allegations in the petition.

The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement which will be binding upon you. If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of it's issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof. and make due return as the law directs Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court

at Abilene, Texas, this

the 20th Day of December, 1982. Rilla Mahoney Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County

Texas By JoAnn Lackey Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS GREETINGS YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326 District Court, Taylor County, Texas at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the

Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of Texas Department of Human Resources. Petitioner, filed in said

Court on the 22nd day of September, 1981 against Doris Hilley, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 6229-C on the docket of said Court and entitled 'In The Interest of Gladys Hilley and Roger A. Hilley, children, the nature of which suit is a request to

have the Court enter

New Years Party

The Halfbreed Show

For your Dancing Pleasure...

RAY PACK

★ MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW★

<sup>\$8∞</sup> IN ADVANCE \$10<sup>∞</sup> AT THE DOOR

Texas Tradition + HIGHWAY 80 ABILENE

Texas. The court has the authority in this suit to enter and judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you. If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of it's issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof. and make due return as the law directs.

Page 5

and Order for Re-

spondent to pay a fair

and reasonable am-

ount for the support

and maintenance of

Said Gladys Hilley

was born the 23rd day

of February, 1980 in

Abilene, Taylor Cou-

nty, Texas. Said child

Roger A. Hilley was

born the 16th day of

September, 1978 in A-

bilene, Taylor County,

the minor children.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 15th day of October, 1982.

Rilla Mahoney, District Clerk, 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas By Johnnie Woodard Deputy

### **PAPPAGALLO • NINA • NICKELS** BEENE BAG . BASS . CAPEZIO CALIFORNIA COBBLERS . FOXY MOCS MAINE WOODS . WHITE MOUNTAIN . UNISA IPANEMA • 9-WEST

**REG. \$30 TO \$66 NOW ON SALE...** 

lear-end

# 23 1102

TO: MARCUS HU-Whereabouts unknown

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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ABILE

TO: DORIS HILLEY Respondent:

ARROW FORD'S \$900,000 INVENTORY SELL-DOWN CONTINUES With Deep Price Cuts on Every Unit in Stock! In Appreciation of the Fine Business We Enjoyed in 1982, We Want to Say THANKS by Passing This Savings on to You! SHOP DA					
FOR BEST SELECTIONS! <b>64LOT 1"</b> <b>4001 So. 1st</b> 692-9500	"LOT 23" 4343 No. 1st 692-9503	"LOT 4" 3921 So. 1st 692-9			
1961 MERCURY COUGAR \$5995	NATIONAL AUTOFINDERS ELDON MARTIN, DIRECTOR	52 FORD 1/2 TON PICKUP 6 cylinder, automatic, air, power, \$59			
1974 F100 TRUCK \$1175   40 V8. automatic \$2295   1973 F100 \$2295   Automatic, air, V8.2 tanks \$2295   1974 F1.TMOUTH \$2295   1974 F1.TMOUTH \$1095   905 Fons MUSTANE \$1095   1906 Fons MUSTANE \$1250   1978 JEEP WAGONEER \$4750   1978 JEEP WAGONEER \$4750   1978 JEEP WAGONEER \$6995   1978 JEEP WAGONEER \$4955   1978 JEEP WAGONEER \$4995   1981 CLES CUTLASS \$6995   1981 OLDS CUTLASS \$6995   1981 OLDS CUTLASS \$6995   1980 FFUTURA 2-DOOR \$4795   1900 miles, pretty and nice \$4795   1900 miles, pretty and nice \$4795   1900 miles, pretty and nice \$8895	77 LTP LANDAU   4-door, fully loaded, low mileage \$3295   75 TOYOTA CONOLLA \$1995   58-5 \$1995   Automatic, air, hice car \$1995   51 OLDS CUTLASS SU- *6295   76 ENE \$6295   76 FUTURA FAIRMONT \$3995   72 COUGAN LS *6495   4-door, loaded, 7000 miles SPE \$8495   76 CHEVTROLET PICKUP *2995   76 CHEVTROLET PICKUP *2995   76 CHEVTROLET PICKUP *2995   76 CHEVTROLET PICKUP *5995   76 CHEVTROLET PICKUP *5995   77 FORD CUSTONIZED *5995   78 FORD CUSTONIZED *5995   78 FORD SUPPERCAS *11,995   79 CALEY SUPERCAS   Midows loaded \$10,995   78 CHEVY ONE TON *6995   79 CALEY SUPERCAS   Midows loaded \$6995   78 CHEVY ONE TON *6995   78 CHEVY ONE TON *6995   78 CHEVY ONE TON *6995   79 CHEY SUPERCAS   *10,995 *6995   78 CHE	80 SUBARU GLF COUPE Supered, air, AM-FM-Cassette, reor defroster, 32,000 miles, local cat. \$44.   80 PONTIAC SUBBIRD MATCHERACK Coupe, air, power, tilt, AM-FM-3 track, nice \$39.   79 OLDS STARFIRE FMENZA Sport Package, air, power, sport wheels \$39.   79 COUGAR XR-7 Air, power, automatic, 302 en- gine, good condition St TOYOTA SUPPLA Lodded with sun roof, low miles. \$39.   81 COUGAR XR-7 Midnight blue, looded, like new T8 CUTLASS CALAIS Fully looded, low miles. \$45.   81 FORD DROUCE 41/4 - speed, air, power, AM-FM-tope cleon St FORD DROUCE 41/4 - speed, air, power, AM-FM-tope state, wire wheel covers 32,000 miles \$62.   79 OLDS ''CS'' ROYALE +door, while, red interior, like New \$62.			
HAPPY HOLIDAYS With Sincere Wishes For 1983 Art Reyes Jim Cowen Brad Bradley Billy Sluder Fred Reyes	Iutore blue and white. \$11,275   captain cháirs, loaded. \$11,275   S1 MUSTANG \$4995   Loaded. \$4995   S1 FORD ESCORT \$4995   WAGON \$5695   S1 CAPRIC 4-DOOR \$6995   Diesel, fully loaded. low miles. \$6995   S1 FORD RANGER \$6995   WM. loaded. SUPER NICE. \$6995	Addor, while, red interior, like \$519 To SUBURBAN SILVE- RADO Dual air, sharp! \$679 To CHEVROLET VAN Custom, 4 captoin seats, couch \$589 etc. \$589 So FORD FAIRMONT 4-door, 4-speed, air, power, clean \$299			



Get a cash rebate direct from John Deere, in addition to our good deal on the 40 Series tractor of your choice -2WD or 4WD. These tractors also carry a 1981 sticker price, so we're offering rebates from prices already competitively low.

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 a shown. Or you can elect to have the John Deere finance charge waived to June 1, 1983, instead of taking the additional cash rebate.

During December, special rebates, too, on 50 Series 4WD tractors that are replacing 40 Series 4WDs being closed out. Cash rebates up to \$10,500. Waiver of finance charge option: See us soon!

Model	Cash Rebate on Purchase	Dec. '82 Cash Rebate In Lieu of Walver	Maximum Rebate
228-hp 8640	\$4,500	\$1,700	\$ 6,200
179-hp 8440	4.000	1,350	5,350
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-hp 2940	1.800	500	2,300
70-hp 2640	1.300	400	1,700
60-hp 2440	1.200	350	1,550
50-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-hp 8450	5,700	1,500	7,200
(Offer subject to tractor availability.)			

Arailability of John Deere financing plans subject to approval of cred ers may be reduced in value or withdrawn at any time.

> ABILENE FARM SUPPLY 3526 SOUTH TREADAWAY

THE MERKEL MAIL	Wednesday, Dec 29 1982	CRACKER J	
START OF		POF	
with SAVING	SA-PLENTY	PILLSBURY	9¢ 3.6 OZ \$ ] 69
LAYS POLATO	TOWN TALK BROWN & SERVE	BISCUITS 12 OZ 3	
log cabin POTATO	ROLLS	CHEX	FROZEN FOODS JENOS DI77A ASST \$119
SYRUP 36 0Z \$189	3 FOR \$100	DISPLAY CEREAL \$119	MORTONS ASST
24 OZ \$169 ************************************	**********	ASST BOX	POT PIES 2 FOR 79¢
VIENNA PARADE	SE 14 OZ CRTN \$ ] 69	FOLGERS	BROCCOLI CHEESE PKG 98° PATIO ASST EA & SAUCE PKG 98° MEXICAN DINNER 98°
SAUSAGE FRUIT COCKT	700	4 OZ <b>\$ ] 98</b> JAR	COOL WHIP 8 OZ TUB 69¢
2 FOR 89¢ GREEN BEAN			TAB 7UP OR COCACOLA
CHEESE GOLDEN CORN DEL MONTE 303 WHIZ SOUR KRAUT	00		
8 OZ \$109 GREEN GIANT 303		JUG <b>7</b> 3'	BOTTLE
HURST BLACKEYE	2 FOR 50¢	CRISCO	32 OZ JUG
PEAS RAGU 16 OZ ASST S PAGHETTI SAU	000	ARS TUCK	ER <sup>42 OZ</sup> \$] 29 CAN
24 OZ BAG 89¢ RANCH STYLE 300 BLACKEYE PEAS		CHEESE	KRAFT \$729
CHOICE BEEF	SHOP &	FLOUR	
	SAVE FOREMOST		5 LB BAG 69¢
EXTRA TASTY	HOMO MILK		CREAM EGG
EXTRA TENDER	GAL \$229	GAL \$719 1	<sup>2</sup> PT 43 <sup>¢</sup> QT 89 <sup>¢</sup>
FRESH BLADE CUT SALT POUND LEAN \$1	59 COCOA MI		TOMATOES
CHOICE BEEF EXTRA TRIMED	KRAFTS 8 OZ.	~ '	VINE RIPE FRESH
	MACARONI DININI	101	POUND 49¢
SIRLOIN STEAK TENDER POUND	259 CHEESE DINNE NICE & SOFT FACIAL TISSUE	200 CT BOX 63	FRESH
ARMOUR STAR HAM BONELESS COOKED 3 LB CAN \$7	798 GOLD BATH SC	00	BELL PEPPER 2 FOR 39°
GOOCH B R	98 LIQUID	DETERGENT	FRESH CELLO HEAD 49° RADISHES EA 15°
GOOCH B R FRANKS REG OR BEEF \$1	09 IVORY	OXYDOI	WASH DELICIOUS RED APPLES LB 49
GOOCH B R 12 OZ		GIANT SIZE	RUTABAGAS LB 25"
GOOCH B R	e1 00	\$ ] 98	CABBAGE LB 15"
AUSTH HANDY OLEO			SPUDS 10 LB PAG \$149 OME FOOD STAMPS
STEW WRAP PARK	BROASTED	BOND	ROMA
24 G. CAN 125 FT ROLL IB \$109 604 19	8 PIECES Double on Wednesday	SUPER	BEST MEATS IN TOW/
<u> </u>	FEEDS 4 with \$5.00	A second s	DEST MEATS IN TOTAL

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have

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