## The Merkel Mail



Fast response when an emergency exists.

New column, New Year, New
Year one of growth, News...


#### Abstract

We have started out the new year with a new column that you will find on the front page of this week's paper. It's written by Vernon Wade of The Merkel Emergency Medical Service. The EMS here has done a The EMS here has done a world of good in this community especially with all of the newly trained personnel and newly purchased equipment. Their Bingo fund raising efforts have been a God-send to the group been a God-send to the group and they have been able to equip and they have been abie to equip state of the art equipment. The first column deals with an important subject, noticing the signs of a heart attack and knowing when to call an amLook for it in future editions.


The New Year looks to be one that will exciting around I had a short chat with some folks of the county Appraisal District office Tuesday and if it may be very exciting.
They say that land purch within MISD are the most active in the county, consider for a
moment, Wylie ISD is in this county and they say they are constantly having to update MISD tax rolls with new names. "You guys are geting the Lion's the past three months." I was told twice.
A drive in and around the
countryside and Merkel will prove that point.
With that growth will come With that growth will come
some challenges, one MISD some challenges, one MISD
voters will surely face this year and that is space for education.

MISD's middie school popula-
tion is already over it's maximum and will swell next year with a large 5 th grade class. The school board has already
put into motion the mechanics of put into motion the mechanics of presented to the voters in mid-year and will surely be talked about in much detail
In other 1984 events to watch, the city will be completing a Urban Development Program that saw streets paved, homes remodeled, the water tower repaired, water lines extended, minimum housing and industry codes, as well as a master plan mapping the growth of the city. That ought to be enough to
keep 'em busy at City Hall but, I am sure other projects will come up that will also require attention.
Also, Ic , $k$ for more talk on the City of Abilene.
Like every where else, elections will be rolling around in
November, 1984 with primaries November, 1984 with primaries along with the national voting, are always a little fun. Also, expect some mobile
homes near here to be damaged by high winds, watch for it to rain when it dang well pleases and where it pleases and how much it pleases.
Also, watch for
Also, watch for farm prices to
stay low, expenses high, and a farm program that will be a lot different fr

## election year

on things to pop up in and around Merkel, are slowly are slowly but surely being
demolished. 1 teel this is one of the greatest accomplishments we have had around here. Some of the clean-up has already made a lot of improve-
ments. ments.
Look ever, for a resurgance of Nu-Corp, or whatever they call thear are one-tenth true, their getting back on their feet won't hurt our financial neck of the woods one little bit.
progress. Some of a year of hard to see, but if one looks close enough, they always see a
little more than they do at first little more than they do at firs
glance. glance
Football, football, footbail. I'd be a rich man if I could ever understand i Tom Osbrone for trying the two
point conversion to sure an outright claim to the national collins of SMU. I hope Bobby Collins of SMU was watching. a couple of years ago and he hasn't heard the end of it yet. The Redskins...totally awesome...F or sure.

We'd like for a lot of people in Merkel to make a New Years Resolution to call us more often with news and items of interest.
My mom and dad have made that a little easier for those who say we are hard to get ahold of. We now own a telephone an-
swering machine and at least swering machine and at least
you can leave a message when we are not here.
If you want to see items in the
paper, we have to paper, we have to be made
aware of them. Don't take it for granted we already plan to have something on it or will be at the event. Give us a call and let us
know.

The
be held Saturday at their ag barn.
Also, look for 1984 to be a year
of continued change for the of continued change for the
better I think we will continue
to see a and unemploymention in inflation
andionally and in Texas and Taylor County believe that interest rates will
continue their downward trend through the end of the year, because, if nothing eise, It's an
election election year. Bad polotics to
have bad ecennomic news projected for 1985 when there's an
election to be held in election to be held in November. Russen McAnalley had some
good advice in his column this week saying we will get out of
the the New Year exactly what we
put into it. If you want to put into it. If you want to see
part of Merkel and the see part of Merkel and the area
changed for the better, get
involved, put somethe, involved, put something into it.
A lady called the other day, in
quite a hurry and had something to say.
Her message was that Mrs.
Mary Bankston, who had been Mary Bankston, who had been
sick recently, is now a resident sick recently, is now a resident
of the Care Inn in Abilene on $S$ 7 th Street.
She then
that tidbit of information will help some of The Mell r will

MFMS news \& views

## Merkel Emergency Medical

Service offers heart attack

## warning signs; information

## you need to know

By Vernon Wade
President Merke Medical Service

## tamily wait.

Ancost all callis for an ambulance come in as a last resort.
Neighbors, friends, sons and Naughters are called and arrive betore a call is made for an
ambulance. The person needing ambulance. The person needing
help is not sure he or she is help is not sure he or she is
really sick. They think the problem will go awa
It usually doesn't. When the ambulance arrives,
everbody is now in a hurry to everbody is now in a hurry to
get the patient to the hospital, to the doctor. The Merkel Emer-
gency Medical Service (MEMS) gency Medical Service (MEMS)
has changed in the last 12 has cha
months.
we nav
months.
We tave a tull
Support Sy
Support Systom anveneed Lite lance. We have radio comm unication capabilities, which with direct voice and hear monitor readings to a physicia at the Trauma
Hendrick Hospital
One or more of the personnel aboard your ambulance when arrives will have at least 1,000 hours of training in the use of
this equipment. All ambulance personnel are trained as Eme rgency Medical Technicians or Paramedics. We are trained and expected to assess and stabilize a the hospital. There are very very few fast rides with red
lights and sirene from the
scene to the hospital. A fast ride causes excitement which harms
the patient. Also, while in route the patient Also, white in route
the doctor is asessing the patient (by what we tell them) and in some cases giving the ambu-
lance personnel instructions for the care of the patient. Patient care by the physician starts with
the arrival of your ambulance. The Trauma Center doctor can make contact with your doctor for more treatment which can
begin en-route or begin en-route or on arrival at
the hospital. Your ambulance can go to the hospital of your choice. If the patients' condition
worsens, we have comminia worsens, we have communica-
tions with all arva hospitals and tions with all area hospitals and
a change can be made while en-route.

Heart Attack
myocardial In
$\qquad$ Acute myocardial nsfasction
(Heart Attack) is the leading
cause of deeath in the United cause of doath in the United
States today, accounting for more than half a million deaths per year; of these jeatrs, more
than half occur before medical than harrives, during the first 2
help or 3 hours after the onset of the symptoms. Ninety per cent of the doaths from a heart attack of the heart. That can be prevented or treated. Most deaths from heart attacks are preventable. The ambulance
must be called and called eaily must be calied and called eaily
if we are to help. The follicwing are signs or guidelines to use when deciding to call for an
ambulance on attack:

1. Any type of chest pain.
2. Pain in chest that radiates any other part of the body
3. Indegestion or nausea ${ }^{4}$ Cool skin that feels moist or 5. A ch 5o A change in
of breathing. 7. 6 Felling faint or dizziness. 7. A sudden awareness of your 8. Confusion or stupor. 9 Restiesssess or hyper-active
an agressive personality cha-
nge. nge.
4. Pain
arms or arms or legs.
5. Loss of appetit.
12 Weark
12 Weakness.
6. A feeling of dying If any one of these above signs
are felt or noticed, call us, we will respond, let us help you. we The treatment starts on our
arrival. We have the equipment, wo hove the personnel. It may
ise a false run, 1 may be the real
thin thing, Don't walt, call seotite or The American Heart Ass-
ociation guidelines for a cardiac arrest or heart stopping says
that CPR must be started in that CPR must be started in at
least 6 minutes and advanced life support must be started in 12 minutes for a patient to have any chance of survival. Why not
have the ambulance personnel already on the scene if it should aireaden? The treatment cannot start until we arrive. Don't wait,
call $928-4786$ or $908-4725$ call $928-4768$ or 928 -4725.
Next week, 100 k for Next week, look for an article
on what you can do before the ambulance arrives. Also, a
a meeting will be announced con-
cerning "What the Public Shcerning "What the Public
ould Know in an Emergency.

## Hope your New Year

## started better than mine



important thing is how you of good and bad thingsensere a oing to happen to most of us. There is no doubt about this, but most of the time a thing is good or bad
according to the way we respond according to the way we respond
to it. What we are really saying
is, you can 'make this a is, you can make this a gacod
year, or you can let it be a bad year, or you can let it be a bad
year. The more good we put out year. The more good we put out
into it the more good a lot of
people will got ont on people will get out of it.
This is a New Year t This is a New Yoar for each
one of us, but it is not a one of us, but it is not a
guaranteed time allitted to us.
We live on day at a time yes. We live on day at a time-yse,
We hour or one breath at a time.
one It is that uncertain. One of my resolutions made in
the urgency of a moment was that I would not use this column to PREACH. It is such a difficult
task. It is a littele like asking a
cook not to cook not own well boing in this your,
and that you get out of it eyectly what you put into
Happy New Year.


Steps Needed to Preserve the Family Farm


Hance challenges opponents to debate


## SWEETWATER CATTLE AUCTION



Every Wednesday
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| ble reward. C lect, $677-4543$. |  |

## The Clàssilfieds



## New license classifications here

Texas motorists applying for
new or re-newing their current driver's license, will receive licenses bearing now codes
signitying the class of licen signitying the class of license.
Colonel Jim Adams, director of the Texas Department of Public Satety, said the department is starting the conversion to a new classified driver
licensing system in accordance with a law passed last year by the Texas Legislature. "Licenses issued prior to 1984
will be valid until the explration will be valid until the expiration
dates which appear on them" Adams said. "The new licenses will carry classifications designating the type and weight of venicles which the holder may The n tions are A, B, C, and M.
The Class $C$. The Class $C$ license permits
operation of single, two operation of single, two-axie
venicles with a gross weight of 24,000 pounds or less excluding motorcycles and mopeds. This
designation also designation also allows the
towing of a vehicle not exceeding 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or a farm trailer not exceeding 20,000 pounds.In addition, the Class C designation
permits the operation of a bus with a maximum seating a bus city of 23 passengers not including the diver. Standard operator licenses issued undier automatically to Class C permits upon renewal or issuance The Class a license.
The Class B license allows the
holder to drive Class C vehicles plus single vehicles weighing under 24,000 pounds and buses with a capacity of 24 or more mopeds are excluded
Class A permits a
ation of any venicle or com. bination of venicles including hose listed for classes B and C.
Mopeds and motorcycles are excluded. Commercial and full chautfer licenses issued under the old statute will be converted automatically to class A permits
upon renewal or issuance of a duplicate license.
The Class $M$
allows the holder to operate
motorcycles, motor-driven cycles and mopeds -driven cycThe road test must be taken with a vehicle which meets the specific requirements . per son is applying. ding renewals will be valid for lour years", Adams said. "The ee for obtaining or renewing all $\begin{array}{ll}\text { license classes will be } \\ \text { examination toe of } & 55 \\ \text { will be }\end{array}$ charged for those drivers soeking a higher classification or a their current license."

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { their current license. } \\
& \text { Drivers who have ; }
\end{aligned}
$$ violation convictions no moving ear period and who over a four no physical limitations have eligible to renew their license by mail. To qualify for mail-in Dirt. The cost of a duplicate

license is $\$ 3$.

SCHEMATIC OF TEXAS CLASSIFIED LICENSING PLAN

receive a DPS form in the mail his application should be mail ed back one week department it is
within one received. When the license is enewed, the driver will be sent a validation card which must be vision test and new photograph will not be required for mall-in enewals. Drivers will recelye mail-n renewal forms may also
visit a driver license office, and enew their licenses according to the standard procedure which will require them to be phototested.
The fee for a provisional license is computed at $\$ 2.50$ pe ear until the driver's 18 th


AUSTIN-As we begin the
new year, I would like epportunity to review some of the highlights and maies some of the 1983.
the firse been fortunate during to receive the advice of thousands of Texans who have taken the time and effort to write me about the
opinions on important issues. opinions on important issues.
By July, my office had received more letters than the previous administration did during its entire four-year term. At the end of 1983, we had logged in well over
50,000 leters 50,000 letters. cern about the quality of educa tion offered by Texas public schook. I began 1983 calling for improved public education for our students and better salaries
for our teachers. Through the Tor our leachers. Through the
hearings of the Governor's Sclect hearings of the Governor's Scley have achieved the most constructive and thorough public dialogue about our educational system i
recent history. As the new year recent history. As the new year
begins, that committee will com pile is final recommendations for the Legislature to consider in a special session in 1984. During the past year, we also
began an aggressive campaign to began an aggressive campaign 1 o sreng then our economy and pro-
vide needed jobs. As the recession deepened, it became painfully clear that we have depended too heavily on the oil and gas industry and that future economic strength
base.
Hightighting this new cam
Hignighting (his new cam
paign is the Office of Economi Development created within the Governor's Office to provide tech.
nical assistance to communitie nital assistance to communities
trying to attract new businesses It is also heiping Texas businesses

Child Care Credit Helps Working Parents
Taxpayers who pay others to care
for their children while they work may qualify for a special tax credit. mas qualify for a special tax credit.
the Internal Revenue Service savs.
This Child Care Credit applies not This Child Care Credit applies not
only to babysitters and day care cenonly to babysitters and day care cen-
ters that watch your child or disabied lersthat watch your child or disabied
dependent while you work. but also io relatives and certain household
workers you pay for this service. workers you pay for this service.
This credit is available to married This cedin is avalable to married
couples who file jointly, including hose in which one spouse works and he other is a full-time student or
disabled disabled. The credit also applies to a di-
orceed or separated parent who has custody of a child under 15 , even though the parent may not be enti-
tied to a dependency exemption for the child. The parent claiming the credit must. however. have custody
for a longer period during the year lor a longer period during the year
than the other parent. A spouse who qualifies may take the credit if the other spouse is absent for the last six months of the taxable year.
The credit is from 20 to 30 percent of eligible expenses depending on the taxpayer's adjusted gross income.
The maximum credin The maximum credit that may be
aken is limited to $\$ 720$ for one qualilaken is limited to $\$ 720$ for one quali-
fying person and to $\$ 1,440$ for two or more qualifying persons. To qualify for the child and dis-
abled dependent care tax credit, axpayer (1) must have income from work: (2) must have incurred the xpense in order to work or look for work: and (3) must have maintained
househoid that included one or more qualifying individuals. Qualifying individuals are dependent chil-
drenunder 15 yeare ren under 15 years of age. a disabied any age. ble in the free IRS P Publication 503 Child and Disabled Dependent Care which may be ordered by filling oui by calling the Forms tax package or by calling the Forms/Tax Informadirectory.



