## The Merkel Mail



Help at the push of a button


New emergency systems
offered here for local elderly
by Vernon Wade
The Emergency Response Sys-
tem, a device which can be used by someone to receive help from installed here Friday Mable Harris of Me the first unit and sherkel received push a button, they wear able to number is ance pushed, a phone and that call is made to a place where their medical information is Eva Brown of Merkel also had a
device installed at her home

Friday. The device has a base
station, usually located near the person's bed, that has a button
that can also be activated
The receiver of the call then calls a person listed on the
information sheet and the necessary steps to get help to the person is then set in motion.
The system is The system is designed to let
someone at home stay at someone at home stay at home
who might otherwise need to placed in a nursing home or to live with a member of their family. It
is available by contacting the is available by contacting the
Senior Citizens Group which meets
on Tuesdays and Thursdays at
Heritage Hall at 11 a.m. Persons
interested may also contact Geneinterested may also contact Gene-
vive King, Vernon Wade, Waymon Adcock or Esther Wheeler.

Officials of the program said this may be a valuable, inexpensive alternative for families
that are elder member in a nursing ing an It has already proven very part of the state dendable in this part of the state and many area
cities have programs similar to
this already in effect.

Board pretty satisfied with teachers, Legislative special session (yipes), rough Wednesday...more
by Cloy A. Richards night, for what usually is a very long session, so I loaded up with about ten of the most current
magazines and prepared for a long magazines and prepared for a long
wait. fact has an equal value to another we must have some pretty good teachers at MISD. of that quite so easily five years ago, but I am a pushover now, in that regard.
With their boss making a personhired all but four teachers without reservation. Of those four, one was
rehired on a solit vote, one resigned and the other two were renewed, both for particular rea sons. One, Phillip Pursley was not rehired because the program he teaches will not be offered nex year and the other is leaving
country for at least one year. What that means to me is the school board is pretty well satisfied ith their leace tornaff and the turnover, forced turnover that is,
the lowest it has been in six contract sessions.
That speaks well for all involved. sure, some on yout a particular eacher for a particular reason, but guarantee the majority don share your opinions, because that Or at least offered the job nex year, should they decide to accep that mission.

nown for a lot of things but bold new concepts on specing tax dollars
aren't usually at the top of it's It's going to be one of those
Wednesdays. Wednesdays. This column is usually writte
ate Tuesday afternoon, and do I have a 24 hours in store for me. My daughter is one of the kids aking off on the Student Counc our to Washington at 3 a.m.
Wednesday (by now long gone). Tuesday already promised to be
long day at The Mail so I should be able to go home at midnight, sleep back to bed until 6:45 and because class starts at 8 at TSTI.
I'II be the guy with toothpick propping up the eyelids. Merkel area senior citizens a'e
now eligible for a simple, effective notification system that nursing homes. some people out
ning The device has a base station an with the push of a button, an elderly person can have a phone number
automatically dialed for assisin fact, may require.
In fact, two of the systems are
already in use here. It also teatues a button that is worn around the neck than
the call.
More information can to place about the system at the obtaired and Thursday luncheon meetings at Heritage Hall or from Verron Heritage Hall or from Verron
Wade, Waymon Adcock, Genevive
King or Effie Wheeler.

## Board offers new teacher contracts, delays possible May

bond vote, enrollment at 1,143


#### Abstract

The Merkel school board decibond issue here and also chose what teachers to offer contracts to or the 1984.85 school year at their in the High School library. The board also leaned MISD enrollment stood at 1,143 students. enrollment stood at 1,143 students. The board approved the resigThe board approved the resig- nation of 8th grade girls coach Barbee, and did not renew the contracts of Phillip Purisey and Karen Clark. Clark had requested a leave of absence and Pursley was not renewed because the was not renewed because the not be offered next year, accorling to MISD superintendent Bill The board also retained Clifford Smith on a split vote. They hired Sally Odenwald as compute:


Jiteracy instructor at Merkel Middle School and Becky Bollier The rest of the MISD teaching staff was offered a contract for the school year without discussion. leaned the University Interscholastic League has approved a new education standards rule that
states an athlete must be passing states an athiete must be passing
our subjects to be eligible for that four subjects to be eligible for that
week's game (the old rule was hree), and further states, that if an athelete is failing a class, he
may not miss that class to attend a IIL event. That rule will affect participants in baseball, golf, lennis, swimming, gymnastics and Merkel Elementary principal David Casey reported his school
had accepted delivery on seven

Apple II personal computers for use by students. The computors were purchased through funds raised by the
Organization. Concerning the delay of the bond issue, superintendent Everett said he did not feel they had time to adequately take the case before
the people for MISD needs by May.
Board Board member James Boyd said
bond isswin 20 per issue in May stands about a 20 per cent chance of passing a while."
Board members also agreed hey wanted to wait and take a
look at actions of a promised look at actions of a promised
Special Session of the Texas Legislature.
Charles Harper is expected to present pencil is setches of his
ideas for new facilities.


 the first Merkel student organi-

## Little League meeting March 26th

There will be a meeting of The T-Shirt Leagues, all officers, any and rules and
Merkel Little League, March 26th sponsors that would like to be discussed.
7 p.m. in the Taylor Electric participate. This mive Building. The meeting will be a discussion your help this year. Should you lance for everyone involved to March, the financial position of please contact Terry Wade-Pres This includes all of last years ment, the maintenance of the equip- ident; Gary Parker-co-president coaches from both Little and the ment, the maintenance of the field or

Merkel bands selling album
recorded over past three years
Merkel ISD band director Randy
Tierce has announced that the
Merkel bands will be releasing a ecord album of their awardlast three years. ast three years. ormances by will include per- 1982,83 and 84 idddie school bands as well as the
1983 and 84 high school bands. 83 and 84 high school bands.
Although the record is primarily
ended as a keepsake momento or the current and past member
the Merkel bands involved the Merkel bands involved.
Records will be sold to individ Records will be sold to individ
als in the community. All recor sales are in advance and must be purchased by mait or in person
through the high school band hrough the high school band
directors office. director is office.
This is not a fund-raising project since the records are being sold at

Should you desire to purchase Merkel. an aibum, send a check or money morchases in is is April 10 ht . For payable to the MISD Band. Mail to 928-5511, extension 24.

Special for elderly taxpayers set on PBS Sunday
Tax laws, credits and deductions
affecting taxpayers age 55 and
aiflecting taxpayers age 55 and
oider will be the subject of "Your
Tax Return: 55 and Oider Up-
date," to be aired on Sunday,
March 25 , trom 2 to
During the program, Internal Revenue Service tax assistors will
be available at IRS phone centers to availabie at iRs phone centers
to answer viewer questions. The March 25, from 2 to 3 p.m. CST on toll-free tax information
Public Broadcasting Sta $t i$ o $n$ to call is $1800-24-1000$


## Are we better off today?

by Russell McAnall
 ore?". I keep waiting for the rest it- "better off than before
WHAT or WHEN?" "Better off" than before inflation came down I would say yes- If it eans better off than before the udget de
have named a plus and minu todays' condition so I could go cenomic comparison. A dollar or a high school woy in the wage
boar between 1936 and 1940. rom experience because I wa mount. That boy he dollar and a half days wage and take his date to a picture show at twenty cents a ticket. Down the
street South of the Court House in Lubbock, was a hamburger place with very large hamburgers- and Beef." Thase hamburgers were Bive Those hamburgers were
ive cents each or six for 25 cents. The cokes were also five cents ach. So, two movie tickets, two hamburgers, and two cokes came
to a total of 60 cents for the vening. A couple of large bars of candy would cost another dime hat total... 70 cents, with 80 cents The young high school man of today could probably make 25 dollars a day. That is a little over 6 times as much as the 1936 boy oy make. The dollar and a hal hamburgers as the 25 dollar a day boy. The two boys could probably go to the movies the same number of times on their days' wage. The
dollar and a half boy could buy 30 cokes with his days' wage could buy about the same. (I hope these igures are not too complicated for the bookkeepers at the $\mathrm{H} \& \mathrm{~B}$ Lbr
Co .) Are we better off than before? or a young man's work today he
ould buy about 20 gallons of gasoline while the dollar and gallons at 15 cents a gallon. Not long ago, I went into the
showroom of Max Murrel Chevro
car. They were very nice and as peasonable as any. With pencil and extras on a new car. It came to a little over $\$ 1,800$. The extras are what we demand but also what we
have to pay for. The point is have to pay for. The point is- that
$\$ 1,800$ of extras on todays car would have bought two new Chevrolet's for the dollar and a
half boy. In 1942 , I was offered a half boy. In 1942, I was offered a
new Chevrolet for $\$ 840$. I didn't have the money to buy it. Are we
better off today than before-

Fortnightly treats

## guests to fashion

show by Braggs

The Fortnightly Study Club met it's Guest Day meeting with the social committee serving as hostesses. Club president Alwyne San-
dusky welcomed members and guests and program chairman Alice King announced the program as "Fashions", to be presented by Bess Dixon, Becky

Rogers, and Bragg's Department | Rogers. |
| :--- |

Bess Dixon spoke on "Sewing ha come into it's own'. She gave an interesting account of how sewing
was first done by using needies made from thorns. She said that some of the intricate works of art made in the early days of sewing
are now museum pieces. Becky Rogers' subject was Buying ready made garments." Her interesting and informative
talk gave many helpful ideas talk gave many helpful ideas other things, she said that we should analyze our wardrobe before purchasing a new garment,

## when? reats shion raggs

My youngest son bought a used ing. He came in ing. He came in one hot summer
day, with perspiration flowing freely. He said, "It sure is ho
driving with the wint driving with the windows all rolled
up." When we gave him questioning look, he said "If you drive with all the windows up, people think you have air conI will agree, Some of us are
better off

we have. Also, she suggested we should consider our life style Madelon Horton then read a welcome from the new owners of
Braggs Department Braggs Department Store; Dana
Dunnagin, Paula Bowen and Debbie Doan. to see the latest fashions bie Doan and invited all to see the
latest fashions for "Spirited latest fashions for a "Spirited
Sorinn". ine
iane music was performed by inna Belle Shouse and Marilyn Tittle was MC. Models included Amber Whisenhunt, Wendy EITerrace Beaslezy, Gina Faulkner, Bethany Teaff, Becca Dunagin, Eric Beaird. Also, Adrianne Holloway, JeanAmy Jones, Ida Mae Seymore, Blanche Hewitt, Minyon Seymore, Janice Smith, Wanda Hendricks,
Edna Hill and Debbie Childers The Saint Patrick's Day them was used in the decoration and also in the refreshments. Linnie
Fisher won a beautiful ponted Fisher won a beautiful potted
plant. Refreshments were served

Mrs John Jones buried here
Mrs. John D. (Marie)
Jones, 88 of 3102 Buffalo Jones, 88 , of 3102 Buffalo
Gap Road, died at 8 p.m. Saturday at Hendrick Medical Center. Servic-
es were held at 2 p.m. es were held at 2 p.m.
Monday at Elliott-HamAbilene.
The Rev The Rev. Kenneth Jones, minister of the
Caps Baptist Church officiated, assisted by the Rev. Oscar Fanning, a retired Baptist mini-
ster. Burial followed at ster. Burial foliowed
Rose Hill cemetery
here.
Born March 5, 1896 in
Inditer Indiana, Pa., she came to Texas at an early age,
settling in Putnam. Her
parents were the late
Mr. and Mrs. John
Rupe. She married Rupe. She married John 912 in Baird December of - Mulberry Canyed she moved to Abilene in le Peaking from Castle Peak.
Baptist.
Her hu
Her husband had died She is
daughter, Mrs. E. L. Ruth) Clark of Abilene; wo sons, Vernon of
Buffalo Gap and R. D. of the home; two sisters, Lottie Carson of Plainiew and Agnes Snipes
of Port Aransas; three granddaughters and
four great-grandchild-

Wright here on leave
before heading to Korea
Sgt. David W. Wright
and his wife, Mindy Sue
are visiting David's par-
ents Mrs. Katrina M
Smith and Mr.
Wright of Merke He is on a 40 day leave and will be sent to Korea
for a year of duty soon SALES SERVICE RENTALS

Pallbearers were Ro- ney, John Lilly, Ron
Bevins and Dennis Wal-

## LAMBDA BETA BEAUTY PAGEANT ENTRY FORM

five great new channels of ENTERTAINMENT AND INFORMATION

ROUSTABOUT SERVICES AVAILABLE 24 HRS A DAY
ALL WORK GUARANTEED DISTRIBUTORS \& FABRICATORS FOR NEW \& USED COMPRESSOR UNITS \& RELATED CONTROLS REPAIR OF ALL OIL FIELD RELATED ENGINES, PUMPS, \& COMPRESSORS MAGNITO REPAIRS \& SALES INSURED
JERRY W. DAWSON PRESIDENT 24 YEARS EXPERIENCE
1107 N 2ND
928-5031

## 

COMING SOON TO CABLE TELEVISION IN MERKEL. WE RECENTLY CONDUCTED A POLL OF SUBSCRIBERS AND THE FOLLOWING CHANNELS WERE SELECTED FOR ADDITION TO MAKE CABLEVISION MORE INFORMATIVE AND ENJOYABLE.


CBN-Christian Broadcast Neiwork
Virginia Beach, Virginia. This grea religious chanel offers general family game shows, Independent news and the
famous 700 Club. 24 Hours of enter-
ainment
The Fomily Enthrtainer
USA Network- New York. This chan is produced by Time Publishing Co and offers 24 hours of quality programming
of a great variety that includes movies, "Calliope", the famous Children's show, NCAA Sports, Ladies Programming, game shows, health shows, interviews,
and a great variety of enter tainment for and a great variet,
the whole family.


5 CNN-Nows, Allanta. The greatesi channol to have beon croated in
television nows. 24 hours of national,
worid, sports, financial, health, and entertainment nows at your fingertips. Nows in depth. You have nover scen on
Notwork. You get all the story in


NEW PREMIUM CHANEL
+Nashvillo Notwork- Nashvile.
exeint channol will be offered as
companion to HBO or you may subscribe
to it alone. Nashville Nou may subseribe
to has boen
more popular
than any other channol offered on cable.
SHOWCASE CABLEVISION SYSTEMS


Airway must be cleared within 4-6 minutes
by Vernon Wade
President- Merkel Emergency
Medical Service Medical Service Association have oxygen in some form to live Tent air we breathe contains 21 per about 12 pints of air. However, we use only about a pint each time we breathe. If a person has a problem life can be in danger. In this
lis article, we will deal with the worst
problem a
breathing.
outside the hospital Problem seen personnel is a complete airway obstruction. A small child putting something in their mouth, an adult every person, there is a deman for air which can't be met until the thing that is obstructing their air
way is removed. If the item is not removed within about ${ }^{4}$ to
minutes, the person will die. To help you decide if there is an obstruction, ask the person a question. If they move their lips but no sound is heard, there is
Probably an obstruction. If the child looks like they are crying but no sound, that is a possible air way obstruction. If there is some sound but they look like they are
distress, call the ambulance The following should be done if no sound comes out or the patient become uncosscious, Call the Don't insert your finger if you cannot see anything. If you can see something, gently try to remove it. Be careful that yo
don't push it in anymore If yo don't push it in anymore. If you
cannot see anything, with the hand open, slap the patient between the shoulder blades about four times. The patient's head should be lower than the shoulder blades or the patient should be ying down
After the four back blows, look in the mouth to see the object is where it can be seen. If it is,
remove it. If not, give four more back blows again. If possible, have someone else to call the ambulance or call before you start the back blows. If the air way is blocked, time is very important
and the proper help is needed quickly. Call the ambulance. If after the back blows (Sharp),
the air way is till obstructed the air way is till obstructed
attemt to breathe into the patients

mouth. Seal your mouth over
theirs and hold their nose shut and
attempt to breathe . It no air is
moved, try the back blows again.
Remember tit Remember, 1st call the ambuairway. If the air way is blocked

## Mayor proclaims

March as Youth

## Art Month

 Whareas, childhood is the time
to develop interests sfilfs and
aptitudes that wiff last a lifetime and
Whereas, through meaningful art
actipities, children develop initiatipe,
seffeexpression, creative ability self
evaluation, disciplite, and a hightened
appreciation of their environment, and
Whereas, the importance of art
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Now Therefore J Wh sethulet Mayer of the giwn of metiel do kere'fy proclaim March 1984 as' YOUTH ART MONTH and urge alf citizens to become interested in, support and encourage art programs presented in your
schools. to 6 minutes. The call to the equipment may be the patient only choice. Call, then attempt the oniy choice. Call, then attempt
back blows.

Hadaway's will be leaving for Tanzania as missionaries

divinity from the South-
has also attended the completely, the patie only has 4 Robin and Kathy Had-

## PANCAKE SUPPER

TRENT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

TUESDAY MARCH 27, 1984

5:30-8:00

HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
${ }^{3} 2^{50}$
PRESCHOOL ${ }^{1} 1^{\text {so }}$

ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO HELP BUILD THE FIRE STATION AND PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
COME EAT AND SUPPORT YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT


