The Merkel Mail

Thursday, January 16, 1985 ... Merkel, Texas

Our 97th Year



§ Amber Whisenhunt of Merkel is market hog at last weeks Merkel her animals well in other swine shown with her Grand Champion Stock Show. Amber also placed divisions.

Council votes to keep alley open; tax collections are low

Monday night and voted not to the City Landfill. The last hole close an alley at their regular lasted a year and the new hole will meeting held Monday night at the be 50' wide by 300' long and 8' Merkel Emergency Medical Ser- deep.

landowner to close an alley. The 15 days remaining, about 40 person making the request owns percent of Merkel's property the entire block where the alley is taxes have not been paid. The located and a potential sale deadline for doing so, without between the owner and a person penalty, is Feb. 1. The city still

prompted the request. Council followed City Manager and then to act on the alley closing

proposal at a later date. In other action, councilmen

The Merkel City Council met learned a new hole will be dug at worked 101 cases

Council also discussed tax col-Council has been asked by a lections for the city. With less than 1985 taxes.

Merkel Police Chief Ray Pack J. A. Sadler's reccomendation to also presented his monthly police leave the alley open until the sale report as well as a report on his of the lots has been completed, department's activites for 1985 (See related story).

In December, Merkel police felony arrests.

each of criminal mischief, runaways andf harassment.

Police worked nine traffic accidents and a case of criminal burglar alarms and investigated Tuesday. seven prowler calls. They answered four dog calls and picked up three dogs.

They investigated four cases of wanting to build a home there, needs to collect about \$46,000 in assault and a case of aggravated traffic citations, investigated six leads Tuesday after an early door by taking the door apart. thefts and five burglaries.

They also investigated six fam- Merkel Drug here. ily disturbances and made nine misdemeanor arrests and three door but were unable to get including about 3,000 Valium

Results from Saturday's Merkel Livestock Show

5. Amy Welborn, 6. Ray Goff, 7. Kris Harris; Angora Goats: 1. James Johnson; Breed Champion

Perry, 2. Roy Herd Manahan, 3. Riley, Breed Champion Finewool Mitzi Shelton, 2. Mitzi Shelton, mond. 3. Stephanie, 4. Ray Cobb, 5. Ray Manahan, Bold Grand, 2. Julie Lanford

The results of the Merkel ford; Grand Champion Lamb Yarbough, 2. Amber Whisenhunt, Livestock Show are as follows: Lance Perry, Reserve Champion 3. Jimmy Collier, 4. Billy Hair, 5. Medium Wool: Lt. Wt.: 1. Lance Lamb Roy Herd Manahan, Lamb Perry, 2. Roy Herd Mananhan, 3. Showmanship Lance Perry, Se-Angie Welborn, 4. Amy Welborn, cond Place Lamb Showmanship Roy Herd Manahan.

James Johnson, 2. James Johnson Tricia Newsom, 2. Suzie Ham-3. James Johnson, Grand Rserve mond, 3. Misti Doan, 4. Suzie Hammond, 5. Joe Murphy, 6. Medium Wool Lance Perry, Re- Suzie Hammond, 7. Stephanie serve Champion Medium Wool Boyd; Does 1. Suzie Hammond, 2. Greg Pilgrim, 3. Kevin Waller, 4. Sheep Division: Fine Wool Lt. Stephanie Boyd, 5. Shelle Green, 1. Lance Perry, 2. Ricky 6. Sandra Marshall, 7. Suzie Riley, 3. Ricky Riley, 4. Roy Herd Hammond, Grand Champion Manahan; Heavy Wt. 1. Lance Breeding Rabbit Tricia Newsom, Reserve Champion Breeding Rab-Roy Herd Manaham, 4. Ricky bit Suzie Hammond, Rabbit Showmanship Joe Murphey, Second Lance Perry, Crossbreds: Lt. Wt. Place Showmanship Suzie Ham-

Swine Division: Berkshires: Lt. Goff, 6. Ray Goff; Hvy. Wt. 1. Roy Wt. 1. Cassie Townsend, 2. Cassie 2. Bridgett Townsend, 3. Cassie Townsend, 4. Vaughn, 3. Coty Manahan, 4. Doug Bauer, Breed Champion Lance Perry, 5. Stephanie Boyd, 6. Berkshire Cassie Townsend, Reserve Champion Berkshire Cassie Crossbred Roy Herd Manahan, Townsend; Chesterwhite Lt. Wt. 1. Crossbred Billy Riley, 2. Melissa Davis, 3. Bridgett Waughn; Southdown: Lt. Chris Harris, 4. Brad Cochran; Wt: 1. Melissa Harris Grand, 2. Hvy. Wt. 1. Billy Riley, 2. Russell Brdgett Vaughn Reserve Grand; Morgan, 3. Todd Smith, 4. Ricky Breding Sheeps: 1. Stephanie Riley, 5. Ricky Doan, Breed Champion Billy Riley, Reserve Reserve, Jeanette Langford, 4. Breed Champion Russell Morgan. Jule Lanford, 5. Jeanette Lan- Hampshires: Lt. Wt. 1. Kelly

Amber Whisenhunt, 2. Russell Morgan, 3. Lynn Hays, 4. Connie McMillian, 5. John Bauer, 6. Justin Harris, Breed Champion Hampshire Amber Whisenhunt, Reserve Champion Hampshire Russell Morgan

Durocs: Lt. Wt. 1. John Paul Dudley, 2. Robin Dudley, 3. John Paul Dudley, 4. Randy Dudley, 5. Kevin Mitchell, 6. Kevin Mitchell, 7. Kevin Mitchell, 8. Kerry Miller Med. Wt. 1. Melissa Harris, 2. Criswell Whisenhunt, 3. Kris Harris, 4. Robin Dudley, 5. Doug Bauer, Hvy. Wt. 1. Scott Easley, 2. Dennis Ludkte, 3. Lorena Pack, 4. John Paul Dudley, 5. Lynn Hays, Kerry Miller, Breed Champion Duroc Scott Easeley, Reserve

Champion Duroc Melissa Harris. Poland Chinas: Lt. Wt. 1. Jay Williams, 2. Twilla Williams, Breed Champion Poland China Jay Williams, Reserve Champion Poland China Twilla Williams; Spotted Poland China; Lt. Wt. 1 Mitzi Shelton, 2. C.J. White, 3. Mitzi Shelton, 4. Keith Wilson, Grand Mitzi Shelton, Reserve C.J

Please see Page 2

Mashburn files for re-election

trespassing. They answered four Leo Mashburn filed for re-election the peace.

Mashburn will be seeking his the filing deadline for county election is set for Nov. 4th.

Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace second term as the local justice of p.m.

offices is not until Feb. 3rd at 6

The party primary elections will So far, he has no opposition but be held May 3rd and the general

Police checking leads in Drug Store break-in

sexual assault. They issued 30 Merkel Police were checking entered the building from the rear Monday morning break in at Once inside, they made off with

Thieves tried to enter the front amount of prescription drugs,

watches, colognes and a large through the locked door. They tablets, according to Danny

Woodall the store's pharmacist and owner

Thieves also ruined the door on

the store's safe. Last week, the Merkel Skinny's store was robbed as well as break-ins at Pat's Beauty Shop and Wilson's Jewelry.

Merkel Chamber sets chili supper

supper Jan. 24th at Heritage Hall basketball game.

The Merkel Badgers will be chili at \$2.50 per bowl. Tea will be

The Merkel Chamber of Com- hosting the Wylie Bulldogs that included with the meal. merce has scheduled a chili night here in an important 6AAA

The Chamber will be selling going Chamber activities.

fund raising supper to fund on Comptroller's Office.



Friendly competitors

§ Mark Payne [left] had the big winner at the Trent Livestock Show. Lee Hunt [right] also fared well in the competitions. Staff photo

Sales tax rebates are dow

Merkel's sales tax rebates for January are 8.15 percent behind to \$4,228.60 for January, 1985. those of last year according to a The Chamber is sponsoring this news release from the State \$500 for January and the State January and said since Thanks-

> Merkel's January check, representing November sales by local merchants, was \$3,699.67 compar- were the three county cities that ed to \$4,027.81 for January of last received checks lower than last

Tye's rebates are 21.33 percent ahead of last year.

Tye received \$5,130.46 compared

Trent's rebate check was under

year while Tye leads the way in

the state comptroller said statewide averages found Texas cities up three percent over last does not send checks for less than giving fell in the middle of a reporting period would lessen Abilene, Merkel and Impact some checks to cities. He said that difference would be shown on next month's checks.

Texas law provides for a one per increases according to the news cent rebate of the state sales tax to be rebated directly to cities where goods are purchased.

Tye Chamber plans chili supper/concert

is sponsoring a Chili Supper and 7:30 p.m. The concert featuring \$2.50 for students. Concert January 20, 1986 at the Canyon will be held from 8 p.m. Tye Elementary School. The Chili till 9 p.m. Total cost for the supper calling 692-2679 or 698-2076.

The Tye Chamber of Commerce Supper will be held from 5 p.m. till and concert is \$3.50 for adults and

Trent stock show results

results are as follows:

1st Mark Payne, 2nd Dock Chester Carriker, Champion Carriker; Spots and Polands: 1st Ginger Massey, 2nd Terri Gaskill; and Poland Terri Gaskill; Berk-2nd Missy Simpson. Hvy. Wt. 1st 3rd Billy Clark, 4th Scott O'Kelly, Massey.

The Trent Livestock Show Scott O'Kelly, 2nd Lee Hunt, 5th Ginger Massey, 6th Jason Champion Berkshire Scott O'Kelly Massey, 7th Brian Massey; Hvy. Fryer Rabbits (pen of three), Reserve Berkshire Lee Hunt; Wt. 1st Crystal Hunt, 2nd Lisa 1st Mike Wallis, Grand Champion Duroc: Lt. Wt. 1st William Self; Slaton, 3rd Willie Brazelton, 4th Mike Wallis; Broiler Chickens 2nd Jason Massey; Hvy. Wt. 1st Brian Massey, 5th Brian Massey, (pen of three), 1st Joey Brede- Chris Simpson, 2nd Mark Payne, 6th Willie Brazelton, Champion meyer, Grand Champion Joey Champion Duroc William Self, Cross Crystal Hunt, Reserve Bredemeyer; Barrows: York- Reserve Duroc Chris Simpson; Cross Lisa Slaton, Grandchamshire: 1st Melony Orr, Champion Hampshire: Lt. Wt. 1st Lewis pion Barrow Chad Sipe, Reserve York Melony Orr; Chester White: Knapp, 2nd Willie Brazelton, 3rd Grandchampion Barrow William Mark Payne, 4th Simon Dela Self; Steers: Lt. Wt. 1st Scott Cruz; Hvy. Wt. 1st Chad Sipe, 2nd O'Kelly, 2nd Scott O'Kelly, 3rd White Mark Payne, Reserve Ty Hunt, 3rd Sam Jones, Cham- Scott O'Kelly; Hvy. Wt. 1st Britt Champion Chester White Dock pion Hamp. Chad Sipe, Reserve Sipe, 2nd Chad Sipe; Grandcham-Hamp Ty Hunt; Crosses: Lt. Wt. pion Steer Britt Sipe, Reserve 1st Lewis Knapp, 2nd Chris Grand Champion Steer Scott Champion Spot and Poland Ginger Simpson, 3rd Dock Carriker, 4th O'Kelly; Showmanship Awards, Massey, Reserve Champion Spot Simon Dela Cruz, 5th Jason Rabbits Mike Wallis, Steers Scott Massey, 6th Ginger Massey; Med. O'Kelly, Barrows 1st Lee Hunt, shire: Lt. Wt.: 1st Bebo Beaver, Wt. 1st Britt Sipe, 2nd Chris Jones, 2nd Bebo Beaver, 3rd Brian

More Merkel Stock Show results

From Page 1

Whisenhunt Grand, 2. Amber Criswell Whisenhunt, Reserve Bauer, 4. Ricky Flores.

Crossbred Lt. Wt. 1. Donnie Todd, 2. Lee Cain, 3. Destry Pack, 4. Gary Tilly; Middleweight 1 Doug Bauer, 2. Lynn Hays, 3 Ricky Riley, 4. Billy Ray Riley, 5. Ricky Riley, 6. Keith Wilson, Hvy. Wt. 1. Amber Whisenhunt, 2. Criswell Whisenhunt, 3. Russell Morgan 4. Lynn Hays, Breed Champion Amber Whisenhunt, Reserve Breed Champion Criswell Whisenhunt; Overall Grand Champion Market Hog Amber Whisenhunt, Overall Reserve Grand Champion Hog Billy Ray Riley, Market Swine Showmanship Amber Whisenhunt, Second Płace Swine Showmanship Lynn

Breeding Gilts: Lt. Wt. 1. Randy Dudley, 2. Ricky Riley, 3. Kevin Mitchell, 4. Kevin Mitchell, 5. Twilla Williams, Medium Wt. 1. Lýnn Hays, 2. John Dudley, 3. Cassie Townsend, 4. Robyn Dudley, 5. Phillip Seymore, 6. Chris Harris, Hvy. Wt. 1. Criswell Whisenhunt, 2. Russell Morgan, 3. Robyn Dudley, 4. Lynn Hays.

Yorkshire: Lt. Wt. 1. Criswell Grand Champion Breeding Gilt Whisenhunt Reserve, 3. John Champion Breeding Gilt Randy Dudley

> Cattle Division: Steers: Lt. Wt. 1. Roy Herd Manahan, 2. Michelle Barnett, 3. Josh Mashburn, Middie Wt. 1. Randy Toombs, 2 Michelle Barnett, 3. Christi Wade, 4. Roy Herd Manahan, Hvy Wt. 1

Wade Toombs, 2. Randy Toombs, 3. Brent Toombs, Grand Champion Steer Wade Toombs, Reserve Champion Steer Randy Toombs, Steer Showmanship Roy Herd Manahan, Second Place Showmanship Michelle Barnett

Breeding Cattle: Heifers: Class One: 1. Keith Munden, 2. Linda Munden, 3. Debbie Pack, 4. Debbie Pack, 5. Debbie Pack Class Two: 1. Debbie Pack, Kevin Munden, 3. Debbie Pack, 4. Keith Munden: Class Three: 1 Kerry Munden, 2. Casey Ellison, 3. Debbie Pack, Grand Champion Heifer Kerry Munden, Reserve Champion Heifer Keith Munden, Breeding Cattle Showmanship Debbie Pack, Second Place Showmanship Keith Munden



§ Tricia Newsom showed the Saturday: Grand Champion breeding rabbit

at the Merkel Stock Show last

Middle school boys bring home Rotan trophies

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Merkel's 7th and 8th grade boys took 1st and 2nd place in the Rotan tournament last Saturday.

The 7th grade boys took home the 1st place trophy beating Hamlin 50 to 19 and Rotan 59 to 14. High point in the Hamlin game was John Boswell with 18 points. Sean Leaman had 16. John Boswell was high point in the championship game also. Boswell scored 20 and Leaman scored 18

The 8th grade boys took 2nd place in the tournament. Merkel beat Hamlin 37 to 22. Rotan defeated Merkel 40 to 35 in the championship game. In the first game against Hamlin, Kyle Doan scored 21 points for high point, Brandon Rice had 6 points, Steven Bauer had 4. David Thomas 3. Steven Ross 2 and David Clark 1. The highlight of the game was Steven Ross's 65 foot shot at the end of the 3rd quarter

in the Championship game, Brandon Rice was high scorer with 13 points. David Thomas 8, Steven Bauer 6. Kyle Doan 4. Steven Jacobs and Steven Ross 2 points each. In the two games Merkel's 8th grade gold team lost both of it's games in the tournament. Rotan won 39 to 24 in the first game. Chance Ferguson was high point with 6 points, Dusty McCloud and Randy Toombs had 4 points each, James Talent, J. Thomas, Mike Blue, Troy Hovet and Chris Pack each had 2 points.

The 8th grade gold was defeated 29 to 27 by Hamlin in the consolation game. Dusty McCloud and Chance Ferguson had 8 points each. James Talent had 6. Mike

Blue 3. Johnny Thomas 2. Merkel will play it's last home game next Thursday, Jan. 23, The boys and girls 7th and 8th grade teams will play here beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Chili suppers, locals will run, central road system

by Cloy A. Richards

Okay, it's going to be snowing in April isn't it?

With January afternoons in the high 60's and low 70's, there's not much telling what spring will be like, if we even have one.

It may be one of those "straight into summer from winter" kind of

The Merkel and Trent Stock Shows came off well Saturday.

It made for a busy day for me until Joey found a rusty nail with his foot while playing behind the holders have now announced for new Ag Show Arena here.

The new facility received its Taylor County Precinct 2 Comfirst workout at the Merkel show missioner Don Dudley announced and a lot of people I talked to said last week and Precinct 2 Justice of they were quite impressed.

I'll still take the Bears in two The field won't be set until Feb. weeks, even though I blew last 3rd at 6 p.m., which is the filing week's predicition on who their opponent would be. Only one more football game until late summer?

Elementary School cafeteria.

The Merkel Chamber will spon- equipment. sor a chili supper Jan. 24th starting at 5:30 p.m. at Heritage

will be provided.

If we don't get some rain soon,

The building fund for the new for jobs needed in the county.

City Hall now has almost \$15,000,

That building will be construct- With that in mind, I have a cy Medical Service building.

Fire Department's station and the officials. Merkel Emergency Medical Ser-. It's the classic confrontation

Insulation was being applied to and losing for years.

For those of you who think not a whole lot goes on around here, that case. check out the Merkel Police port in this week's paper.

happening in town.

The City Council is concerned about the property tax collection

All city taxes are due Feb. 1 and so far, the city has collected only 40 percent of current taxes due.

With lower revenue sharing income and lower sales tax rebates, council may start watching the bottom line closer than

Both local Taylor County office

the Peace Leo Mashburn paid his filling fee Tuesday morning.

Speaking of Taylor County, I read with great interest, an article The Merkel and Tye Chambers in the Reporter News recently of Commerce have scheduled chili about a system of managing county roads in Texas.

The Tye supper is January 20th The idea of the system, is to and includes a concert by the have a centralized road repair group Canyon. Tickets are \$3.50 facility, instead of the current for adults and \$2.50 for students. method, where each commission-The supper will be held at the Tye er takes care of roads in his precinct with the precinct's own

The logic behind the proposal is Chili is \$2.50 per bowl and drinks pretty easy to understand. The "centralized" system would keep The Merkel Chamber's supper counties from duplicating equipis planned around the Merkel- ment purchases and it makes a lot Wylie basketball game here that of sense these days to have one office instead of five small ones.

For Taylor County to implement we are going to have to ask Dale the system, the county would have Hammond to draw one his his to hire a county road engineer and patented, rain making cartoons. staff, decorate and pay for the The local wheat could stand a support people in his office.

That office would then be in charge of dispatching equipment

That office would also be all from collections of the 2 responsible for setting the prioripercent gross tax on local Bingo ties in which the needed road work would be performed.

ed South of the Merkel Emergen- couple of points to raise about the system that is being studied by the Also, improvements are planned League of Women Voters in or started at the Merkel Volunteer Abilene, the media and county

rural people have been fighting.

the fire station Monday and Let's say you live on the Tuesday and a storage area will opposite side of the county from be added to the ambulance the "centralized road and bridge section. You can bet you would be the last person to get service in

I also have a strong suspicion Department's annual activity re- that this "centralized" office won't be immune to political



you are sadly mistaken.

county commissioner responsible never even seen my dirt road. for the upkeep of the roads and

bumpy road out of the city limits right of way in the area. of Abilene near Wylie schools Personally, I'd much rather ask won't get more attention than a someone like Don Dudley to grade dirt county road South of Merkel. a road than have to talk to some engineer in an office on the other I like the idea of having a local side of the county, who's probably

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City property taxes are past due Feb. 2

On Feb. 1, most of the unpaid delinquent property taxes, includ- considered delinquent. The delining City of Merkel taxes.

on time," said Ron Patterson, later delinquency dates. executive director of the State clouded land titles, and even delinquent. seizure and sale of their property if they make no effort to pay."

taxes on time," he explained.

Most taxing units mail tax bills percent in penalty and interest." in October or November with a Taxing units that hire outside cancel them," Patterson explaindelinquency date of Feb. 1.

quency date is postponed for tax bills that are mailed after Jan. 10. "It pays to pay property taxes some taxing units also result in Special payment plans offered by

In all cases, the delinquency Property Tax Board. "Delinquent date will appear on the tax bill. All taxpayers must pay additional taxpayers must be given at least penalty and interest charges, and 21 days to pay after their bills are they run the risk of lawsuits, mailed before their taxes become

Patterson emphasized that even By paying before Feb. 1, the property owners who do not taxpayer avoids penalty and receive bills must still pay their interest charges. Regular penalty property taxes on time or else charges can go as high as 12 face additional delinquency char- percent, and interest is charged at ges. "Texas law states that failure the rate of one percent per month. to receive a tax bill does not "For example," said Patterson, relieve the taxpayer of his "someone who pays taxes a year responsibility for paying property late will have to pay the original amount plus an additional 24

attorneys to collect their delin- ed. "The taxes, penalties and

property taxes in Texas become that remain unpaid on Feb. 1 are additional 15 percent penalty for attorney's fees.

> Tax collectors notify delinquent taxpayers at least once. Many collectors send additional notices and warning letters. "By responding to these warnings and paying their bills, taxpayers can avoid the expense of a delinquent tax suit and the risk of losing their property to pay the overdue taxes," said Patterson.

> State law protects homeowners age 65 and over from tax suits and seizure of their home. By filing a "tax deferral affidavit" with the appraisal district, an elderly homeowner can postpone paying taxes on his home for as long as he owns the home and lives in it. If the over-65 homeowner has been sued for delinquent taxes, he can suspend the suit by filing a tax deferral affidavit with the court.

> "The tax deferral only postpones tax payments--it does not

Once the property changes hands.

Appraisal district offices can

quent taxes to be paid in taxes. installments. By signing an installment agreement, the delin- avoided by selling or transferring quent taxpayers is admitting that the property. Taxing units hold a he owes all the taxes covered by tax lien on each item of taxable the agreement. However, he property. This tax lien gives them cannot be sued for delinquent the power to foreclose on the lien taxes as long as he makes the and seize the property, even if its installment payments on time and ownership has changed. "As a

The tax collector's last resort is a delinquent tax suit is successful. the court costs are added to the answer questions on the over-65 tax bill. The court will give the tax deferral and provide affidavit taxpayer one final chance to pay before ordering the property Some tax collectors allow delin- seized and auctioned to pay the

Delinquent taxes cannot be keeps other property taxes paid result," Patterson explained, arrangements to pay

someone who buys real estate can't get a clear title until all the these taxes become due immedi- to sue the delinquent taxpayer. If delinquent taxes on the property are paid.

> In addition, the law makes each person who owns taxable property on Jan. 1 personally liable for the taxes. The Jan. 1 owner can be sued personally for unpaid taxes even if he has sold or transferred the property.

> Property owners can avoid these extra charges and legal problems by paying their property taxes on time," said Patterson. "If their taxes are overdue, they should contact the tax collector without further delay and make

Police release annual report

Merkel Police Chief Ray Pack nual activity report at the regular calls, five cases of child abuse and meeting of the Merkel City Council Monday night. In that toxication. report, Merkel police worked a total of 1,114 cases during 1985.

cases of criminal mischief, 18 made one arrest for driving while cases of criminal damage and license suspended, charged one destruction and 15 cases of criminal trespassing.

Police also made 12 arrests for gated 55 prowler calls and 10 a child. cases of hit and run.

and picked up 103 dogs (that child and made three arrests for number includes all dogs turned posession of illegal weapons. into Merkel Vet Clinic in violation

of the Merkel Dog Ordinance). of drugs, worked 73 motor vehicle vated sexual assault cases. accidents and investigated four

Police investigated 13 cases of presented his department's an- obscene or threatening phone made 15 arrests for public in-

They also made 10 arrests for driving while intoxicated, investi-Merkel police investigated 36 gated an unlawful wire tap. They man with evading arrest and

three for resisting arrest. Police issued 272 traffic cidisorderly conduct and answered tations, investigated two cases of 36 burglar alarms. They investi- fraud and three cases of injury to

They also worked six cases of unauthorized use of a motor Police answered 59 dog calls vehicle, six cases of inticing a

They made two arrests for credit card abuse, investigated 16 Polce arrested 13 for posession runaway cases and three aggra-

Police also investigated 68 thefts 44 burglaries, two robberies, 38

assaults and 44 cases of family disturbances.

Police made three arrests for assault on police officers, had one escape and four cases of unlawful posession of firearms. They also investigated one case of false imprisonment.

Police made 82 misdemeanor arrests and 30 felony arrests

Ray Pack is Merkel's Chief of Police and officers are Mike

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Waterways should be inspected annually

Waterways are one of the basic conservation practices used by landusers in the Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District, according to B.J. Jones of the Soil Conservation Service in

Waterways are used to carry off excess runoff water from fields. diversions, terraces and road ditches. The satisfactory performance of a waterway depends on proper management and maintenance. Most waterways are designed for grass to be seeded. To keep proper cover it is sometimes necessary to fertilize the grass and control the weeds by mowing or spraying. These areas

can also be used for hav production or grazing. When field grazing is done, livestock should be excluded from these areas in wet weather.

Waterways should be inspected annually and after heavy rains for signs of erosion. These should be corrected while they are small. When small washes start it is sometimes necessary to divert the water from this part of the waterway to replant or repair and let this area heal over. Jones stated any one needing assistance on waterways or other conservation practices should contact their local Soil Conservation Service office in Abilene.

Rural residents should renew prior notification requests

(AUSTIN)--The Texas Department of Agriculture reminds Texans that their requests to receive prior notification of aerial sprayings of pesticides expired December 31 and must be renewed to cover 1986.

Sam Biscoe, general counsel for IDA, said, "We proved last year that the new standards will work without imposing any hardships on anyone, and we expect that same positive attitude to carry over in 1986. This is just a continuation of the 'good neighbor policy' most of our state's farmers and ranchers already practice.

IDA implemented new pesticide * health and safety standards last year. They include the right for certain people to be given prior notice of an aerial spraying of pesticides. Prior notification applies to persons living immediately adjacent to a field. individuals living within 1 4 mile of a field to be sprayed by an airplane and who have a medical condition which may be made worse by exposure to pesticides, and certain institutions. Those institutions eligible to request prior notification must also be located within 1 4 mile of the field. They include schools when children are present, licensed day-care centers, hospitals, in-patient clinics and nursing homes. Licensed migrant labor camps within 1 4 mile of the field and those labor camps located on the field to be sprayed are automatically given prior notification without having to request

The regulations state that 'all requests for prior notification shall expire at the end of each year. Anyone wishing to receive prior notification during 1986 should put that request in writing to the farm operator in charge of the field to be sprayed. Certified mail is preferred. The request should include

the name and address of the person asking for prior notification, one home and business telephone number and the hours they can be reached, the date of the request, and the location of the field being sprayed. The request for prior notification can be limited to certain pesticides, such as only organophos-Medically-sensitive individuals

must file their request with the nearest TDA district office or the Austin headquarters. That request must include a licensed physician's signed confirmation of the medical condition. If TDA approves the request, the appropriate farm operator will be notified. If the request is denied, TDA will provide a written statement explaining the reasons for the rejection.

The farm operator is required to begin giving prior notice within 10 days of receiving the request, and the notice must be given at least the day before the planned spraying. Notice can be given through a phone call, a personal visit, a post card, or by erecting warning flags. However, warning flags cannot be used to notify medically-sensitive persons.

Biscoe said. "I expect we'll again get good cooperation from everyone involved because most people recognize the importance of these standards. Those individuals requesting prior notification do not have the right to stop the spraying, but they do deserve the opportunity to take whatever precautions they choose. Making one or two phone calls or putting up a warning flag is a small inconvenience in exchange for protecting the health and safety of rural Texans.

More information about the pesticide safety standards is available from TDA's toll-tree telephone hotline. 1-800-TDA-REGS (832-7347).

Pippins and Steve McNally. CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CONDITION (Including Domestic and Foreign Subsidiaries) (Dollar Amounts in Thousands) Home State Bank 1398-32 Box 125 FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT NO 79561 Trent, Texas 11 13 20307 CITY COUNTY CLOSE OF BUSINESS DATE Trent Taylor Texas December 31, 1985 Dollar Amounts in Thousands Bil Mil Thou 1. Cash and balances due for depository institutions a. Noninterest - bearing plances and currency and coin b. Interest - bearing balaces 3. Federal funds sold and curities purchased under agreements to resell in domestic offices of the bank and of its Edge and Areement subsidiaries, and in IBFs 4. Loans and lease finating receivables: a. Loans and leases, et of unearned income b. LESS: Allowance to loan and lease losses c. LESS: Allocated trasfer risk reserve d. Loans and leases, et of unearned income, allowance, and reseve (item 4.a minus 4.b and 4.c) 3 690 5 Assets held in tradimaccounts 6. Premises and fixed issets (including capitalized leases) 7 Other real estate ovned 8. Investments in uncossidated subsidiaries and associated companies 9. Customers' liability othis bank on acceptances outstanding 10. Intangible assets 11. Other assets 12. Total assets (sum diems 1 through 11) LIABILITIES 13. Deposits 5 381 a. In domestic offices 13 a.(1 (1) Noninteresting-bearing b. In foreign offices Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs 13.b.(1) (1) Noninterest - yearing 13 b (2) (2) Interest - bearing 14. Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreement to repurchase in domestic offices of the bank and of its Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and in IBFs 15. Demand notes issue to the U.S. Treasury 16. Other borrowed morey 083 17. Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases -0-18. Bank's liability on aceptances executed and outstanding -0-19. Notes and debentus subordinated to deposits 092 20. Other liabilities 21. Total liabilities (surof items 13 through 20) 556 22. Limited - life prefered stock EQUITY CAPITAL 23. Perpetual preferredlock (No. of shares outstanding 24. Common stock (Noof shares a. Authorized b. Outstanding 25. Surplus 061 26. Undivided profits at capital reserves 27. Cumulative foreignurrency translation adjustments 28. Total equity capita sum of items 23 through 27) 895 29. Total liabilities, limid-life preferred stock, and equity capital (sum of items 21, 22, and 28) MEMORANDA: Amount outstanding as of Report Date: 1 a -0-1 a Standby letters of dit. Total 1.b Amount of Standbitters of credit in memo 1.a conveyed to others through participations NOTE: This report must paigned by an authorized officer(s) and attested by not less than three directors other than the officer(s) signing the report I/We, the undersigned ficer(s), do hereby declare that this Report of Condition has been prepared in conformance with official instructions and is true to theest of my knowledge and belief SIGNATURE OF OFFER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT January 14, 1987 NAME AND TITLE OFFICER(S) AUTHORIZED TO SIGN REPORT AREA CODE PHONE NO. Betty Hamr, V.P.-Cashier We, the undersigned of ctors, attest the correctness of this Report of Condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledgind belief has been prepared in conformance with official instructions and is true and correct

SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR

SIGNATURE OF DIRETOR

State of

(MAKE MARK FOF Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th

My commission expires 9-30

NOTARY'S SEAL and I hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank

SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR

County of Taylor

day of January

135 Edwards 928-4738.

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Want A Fireplace ahead of its time? Try the IN-FURN-O at AMERINE MECHANICAL 502 Kent St Merkel, Tx. 141-TFC

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147-21c

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For Sale: 1975 Cad Deville Clean, runs good For Rent: 3 bedroom new tires, 928-5572. See house, stove, refrigeraat No. 1 Ron Circle. 147-2tp

Ph 928-4876.

141-TFC

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147-1tc

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134-TFC gerator, \$250 a month, \$150 deposit, 2 blocks from school, 928-5194. 134-TFC

washer-dryer, stove \$250 per month, \$150 deposit

142-TFC

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138-TFC . cellent condition, Travis 1, 2 or 3 bedroom mobil home for rent in Merkel 928-4973.

27-TFC

rcle 928-4307.

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102 EDWARDS

service and repair. 6:30 138-TFC

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finance with

small down payment.

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neighbors and friends

for their prayers, flow

ers, and food and mem-

orials of our dear mo-

ther and grandmother.

Our special thanks for

Bro Jack Riddlehoover

and Bro Mickey Parsley

for the beautiful servic-

es. Norma and Robert

McClellan for the music.

for each of you has

made this time much

The Family of Marry

147-1tnc

To all our dear friends

in Merkel and all around

who were so very nice

and who stood by and

supported me and my

family while I was ill,

all your love and con-

cern means so much to

us. Thanks to each of

you for your cards, food

and each gift that was

sent. Especially for your

147-1tnc

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black and white kitten, 2

adorable 6 week old

puppies, small mixed

breed. Merkel Veteri-

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144-4tc

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PLAYHOUSE

133-13tp

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AND COLOGNE

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137-TFC

MISC.

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Grandchildren.

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Ellen Lusk

1 downstairs apartment House For Sale: by left with 2 bedrooms, 3 owner, will consider ceiling fans, central owner heat and air, 1 bath, refrigerator, stove and Nice Locust Street locadishwasher, \$275 per tion, fruit trees, pecan month, \$150 deposit 928- trees, celler, water well.

Mobile Home For Rent: bath, 928-5717. 2 bedroom, 11/2 bath, central heat, fenced in back yard, call 928-5845. 145-1tc ----

REAL ESTATE

Land For Sale: 11/2 to 31/2 acre tracts available Owner financing with low down payment, call Ray Pack 928-4916 after

146-4tc

Merkel- Brick, 3 bedroom, fireplace, covered patio, fenced, double carport, equity, new loan, 37,500.00. 846-3191 146-3tp

For Sale: one story house, 2 bedroom, living room, dining room, kitchen, 1 bath, has central heat, in good location, priced to sell, call Cyrus Pee 928-5613.

145-TFC

Nice Doublewide mobile home for sale, cheap \$12,000.00 Must sell soon, Unoccupied at this time, needs little work and must be moved, 928-4902 126-TFC

For Sale: Nice 3 bedroom Austin stone home at 1400 Heath Street. Water well, stone fence, call 928-4144, 928-5765 or (915) 353-4872 after 4 p.m.

144-4tc

Ideal Starter home, cute little 2 bedroom frame house, living room, bath remodeled kitchen with stove, big back yard, \$18,500 call 928-4426 after

132-TFC

Mobile Home For Sale: good starter home, new carpeting, set up on lot, a tin shed and a wooden shed, porch, underpinned, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 window air conditioners. Call 928-5650, \$9,000.

120-TFC

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Own Your Own jeansportswear, ladies apparel, childrens, large size, petite, combination store, maternity, accessories. Jordache, Chic. Lee, Levi, E Z Street. Izod, Esprit, Tomboy, Calvin Klein, Sergio Valente, Evan Picone, Liz Claiborne, Members Only, Gasoline, Healthtex, over 1000 others. \$13,300 to \$24,900 inventory, training, fixtures, grand opening, etc. Can open 15 days, Mr. Loughlin (612) 888-6555. 142-1tc

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928-5712

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR WASTE WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT **AMENDMENT** THE CITY OF MER

KEL, 107 Lamar Street,

Merkel, Texas 79536 has

applied to the Texas Water Commission for an amendment to Permit No. 10786-01 to au- THE STATE OF TEXAS irrigation purposes. The dant, Greeting: applicant proposes to You are hereby corigated land are not to ten o'clock A.M. before charge of treated do- Court House of said fluent at a volume not to as. exceed an average flow Said Plaintiff's Petiof 45,000 gallons per day tition was filed in said which is to remain the court, on the 13th day of

The plant site is approximately 3200 feet North and 3,500 feet East of the intersection on Interstate Highway 20 and Farm to Market Road 126 in Taylor County, Texas. The effluent is discharged into an unnamed tributary of Bitter Creek: thence to Bitter Creek; thence into the Clear Fork of the Brazos River in

Brazos River Basin. Legal Authority: Sec- d/ b/ a Don Davenport tion 26.028 of the Texas Water Code, as amen- fendants. ded, and 31 TAC 338 of

Segment No. 1232 of the

Water Commission.

be held on this application unless an affected person who has received notice of the application has requested a public hearing. Any such request for a public hearing shall be made in writing and contain (1) the name. mailing address and phone number of the person making the request; and (2) a brief description of how the requester, or persons represented by the requester, would be adversely affected by the granting of the application. If the Commission determines request set out an issue which is relevant to the permit decision, or that a public hearing would serve the public interest, the Commission shall conduct a public hearing, after the issuance of proper and timely notice of the hearing. If no sufficient request for hearing is received within 30 days of the date of publication

of the notice concerning

permit will be submitted to the Commission for

final decision on the

the application, the

application.

LESTER HUMPHREY

TERMITE AND PEST CONTROL 677-2413 1202 PINE

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BRADLEY R. BANNER, DVM KATHRYN L. BANNER, DVM SAME LOCATION FM 126 NORTH

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928-5235 FOR APPOINTMENTS 928-4176 FOR FMERGENCIES

hearing and/ or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application whould be submitted in writing to aminer. Texas Water Commission, P. O. Box 13087, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, Telephone (512) 463-7905. Issued this 9th day of January, 1986.

> Seal Mary Ann Hefner Chief Clerk Texas Water Commission 147-122-1tc

thorize the use of some To: Don Davenport, Adits treated effluent for dress Unknown, Defen-

allow a farmer to ir-mmanded to appear by rigate 34 of his 38.9 filing a written answer acres of land adjacent to to the Plaintiff's Petition the plant site. The ap- at or before ten o'clock plicant is to construct an A.M. of the first Monday earthen storage tank after the expiration of and pump the treated forty-two days from the effluent into this holding date of the issuance of tank only as needed for this citation, same being irrigation use. Applica- Monday the 10th day of tion rates for the ir-Feb., 1986 at or before exceed 3.6 acre-feet acre the Honorable 42nd Disyear. The existing per-trict Court of Taylor mit authorizes a dis- County, Texas, at the mestic wastewater ef- County in Abilene, Tex-

> September, A.D. 1985, in this cause, numbered 39.491-A on the docket of said court, and styled, Galloway Enterprises, Inc. Plaintiff, vs. Don Davenport, Individually and d/ b/ a Don Davenport Operating, Inc., Defendant,

The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: Galloway Enterprises, Inc. are Plaintiffs and Don Davenport, Individually and Operating, Inc., are De-

A brief statement of the Rules of the Texas the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Suit No public hearing will on Account Plaintiff prays that Defendant be cited to appear herein

Requests for a public and that on final hearing Plaintiff have judgement against the Defendant for the sum of \$18,194.93, together with the sum of \$6,000.00 as attorney's fees, in the the Chief Hearings Ex- total sum of \$24.194.93 for costs in this behalf expended, and for such other relief as the Plaintiff may be entitled either at law or in equity, as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

> If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this process shall promptly execute the same according to law, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Abilene, Texas, this the 23rd day of December, A.D. 1985. Attest

Rilla Mahoney District Clerk 42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas By Patricia Henderson Deputy (SEal) 145-4tc-91

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5 speed, air. \$3,995 § 1982 Dodge Ram D50 4 speed, air \$3,495 § 1977 Ford Ranchero air & power 69,000 miles

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First Published March 3, 1889

Cloy A. Richards--Editor--Co-Publisher Melanie Richards--Co Publisher Published at 916 North 2nd Street Merkel, Texas

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Roy Herd Manahan had the

the Merkel Stock Show Saturday.

TDA pledges to fight for farmer, honors group announces new crisis hotline

(AUSIIN) -- Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower told a Capitol news conference that his agency "will lead a statewide charge against a deliberate effort by the federal government to shut down 7,000 of our state's best farmers and ranchers."

Joined at the news conference by representatives of farm, legal and church organizations, Hightower said that, "The Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) has declared war on its own borrowers, coldly attempting to rush thousands of good agricultural producers out of business in the next few weeks. What FmHA is doing, Jesse James got shot for. It's the greatest bureaucratic heist in American farming history, and we're going to do our damndest to keep them from ripping off Texas farmers and

Hightower announced that IDA will be contacting the 7,000 FmHA borrowers in Texas who are in immediate jeopardy of being foreclosed upon by the federal lending agency. "We will be explaining their legal rights and options, and we will help them find assistance to fight the foreclosure attempts and to deal with other problems that this economic assault causes." Hightower said. He announced that TDA has organized a toll-free "Farm Crisis Hotline, supported by private organizations to assure easy communication of farm families during this crisis. The crisis hotline number if 1-800-AGRI-AID, and it is in operation now.

"It is a sad irony that this assault on farmers is coming from the very agency that was established specifically to stand with farmers in the kind of hard times we're suffering today." Hightower said. "The farmers Home Administration was created in Congress in the depth of the Great Depression to serve as the lender of last resort for family farmers and ranchers. A 1978 law reaffirmed the Congressional intent that FmHA must stick with farmers in distress, saying, 'Congress believes that the maintenance of the family farm system of agriculture. is essential to the social well-being of the nation and the competitive

production of adequate supplies of food and fiber. . . . It is the policy and intent of Congress that no such program be administered in a manner that will place the family farm at an unfair economic disadvantage."

"At no time since the Great Depression should FmHA be more concerned about fulfilling that Congressional mandate than today. Texas farmers were lucky to get 50 percent of the cost of production for any crop they raised in 1985. It cost Panhandle farmers 90 cents to produce a pound of cotton which they had to sell last month for as little as 45 cents. Rice farmers along the Guif Coast were paid 7.6 cents last month for a pound of rice that four years ago was bringing 13.2 cents. The past year has been equally as disastrous for corn and wheat farmers," Hightower said. "The new Farm Bill. agreed to by Congress and signed into law by President Reagan, is only going to cause even lower farm prices and accelerate the economic crisis which is already gripping much of rural Texas. "The federal government is hitting our good producers with a double whammy. First, the 1981 and 1985 tarm bills establish a price structure for agricultural commodities that is beneath the cost of production. Second. when the low-price policy of the



A somber mood prevailed at the Capitol news conference held by Texa Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower to announce the new farm crisi hotline, 1-800-AGRI-AID. Standing behind Commissioner Hightower an (l-r) Steve Howes of Bill Milburn Travel in Austin; Richard Daly representing the Texas Catholic Conference; Carl King, Texas Corn Growen Association and Frank Dietz of the Texas Conference of Churches. Not shown is John Muir of the Texas Rural Legal Aid Fund, who presentd AGRI-AID with a check for \$35,000.

overnment puts such a heavy debt on farmers that they are sinking, FmHA is turned loose to call in the debt. This is a federal government that paid 45 billion tax dollars to bail out the bad management of Continental Illinois Bank, and that will send a boatload of tax dollars to any right-wing Latin American dictator who can afford a pair of sunglasses, but suddenly it turns vengeful on good productive American farmers who have a debt that is not of their making," Hightower said.

Approximately 16,000 Texas farmers and ranchers now have loans with FmHA, and 42 percent of those Texa borrowers are currently behind in some of the loan payments. Texas has more delinquent borrowers with FmHA than any other state, and their debt exceeds \$161 million. About 80,000 FmHA borrowers nationwide are delinquent on their loans.

"In the next few weeks, the 7,000 FmHA borrowers in Texas who are delinquent on their loans will receive the coldest, most vague, most complicated, most arrogant form that a bureaucratic mind could devise," Hightower said. "It is FmHA's Form No. 1924-25, titled 'Notice of Intent to Take Adverse Action.

"FmHA is proposing to give its delinquent borrowers five optionsfour of which are awful and the fifth one merely bad, but it at least gives producers a fighting chance. A wrong move on a farmer's part is tantamount to selling the farm, losing homestead rights and waiving the right of appeal.

"The only chance an FmHA borrower has to save his or her farm is to check not one but all seven serving actions on an accompanying form, Borrower Acknowledgement of Notice of Intent to Take Adverse Action.' That will force FmHA to sit down with the affected borrowers and see what options are still available to foreclosure, such as reamortization, consolidation of loans, deferral of payments, restructuring of debt, etc.

"By the time FmHA sends out its Notice of Intent to Take Adverse Action,' the Texas Department of Agriculture will have already contacted these 7,000 borrowers, offering them

information and assistance on teps that they should take. We arealso offering additional information o all borrowers such as the 'Farmers buide to FmHA.' We can also refer these borrowers to attorneys in their ara of the state who have agreed to provide them a free consultation. Already, about 1,000 Texas attorneys har said they will help, and more lawyer are enlisting every day.

"In addition, TDA has already begun organizing local seminar where producers, lawyers, local fnancial representatives and communityleaders can expand the grassroots efort to assist these farmers. The first such seminar is being held today in Labbock, and some 500 farmers have turned out for the meeting.

"Effective today, immediate assistance for any Texas farm and ranch family is available from the Texas Farm Crisis Hotline, 1-800-AGRI-AID (1-800-247-4243). Organized by the Texas Department of Agriculture, the hotline is funded by a grant from Willie Nelson's FarmAid, commitments for Milburn Travel Agency of Austin. the Texas Conference of Churche, the Texas Baptist Conference, Texas Rural Legal Aid and other legal service organizations, the Texas Corn Gowers

Association, and private contributions. "Besides dealing with FmHA, the Texas Farm Crisis Hotline will provide information and referrals in any farmers and rural residents the are suffering other financial, lgal or emotional problems because of the farm crisis." Hightower said 'lt can also advise individuals of mat job retraining possibilities mint be available in their area of the sie.

"Even without publicity, thhotline has been receiving 15-20 call a day since it was installed recent! Those calls confirm that it was bleak Christmas for many Tex farm families who are facing creased financial and emotional presire and are struggling to deal with it in ferent ways. The hotline is also therfor the farm family that simple needs somebody to talk to," Highwer said.

The hotline office is locald at 1301 Nucces, Suite #100, here in listin. It will be staffed from 8 a.m8 p.m., Monday-Friday. A message soice will record calls at other times, anthe calls will be returned at the time squested. Information on all the call is kept confidential. Nancille Gamore is hotline administrator.

This attempt by FmH 40 'shuck' 7.000 producers off their land just the opening shot of the war wish Texas Gas Company, gave a program on farmers and Aranchers must light in "Picture Perfect Entertaining". 1986." Hightower said. compared The following members and guest with what's ahead, the events the last enjoyed a delicious stew supper: tive years will seem like his border Betty Lou Satterwhite, Val Pat- skirmishes. EmHA is ring to terson, Bettye Conley, Y Sadler, climinate 7,000 of or Ruth Tipton, Liz Eager, Jane producers, and the new Last Bill will Carson, Blanche Hewitt, Louise likely prevent another 20 per at of our Dubose, Mamie Steck, Kathy lamity farmers from staining Leverich and Katherine Cawley. Imancing in 1986.

Services held for Mattie Dickerson

Mattie Marie Washburn Dickerson, 62, of Denton, formerly of Merkel, widow of Herman "Joe" Dickerson, died Friday in a Denton hospital. Services were at 11 a.m. Monday at First Baptist Church with the Revs. Mike Eklund and Wayne Keller officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery directed by Starbuck

A former resident of Merkel, she was a member of Temple

Survivors include: two sons, Wayland Dickerson of Phoenix, Ariz. and Gary Dickerson of San Diego, Calif.; three daughters, Wanda Johnson of Odessa, Brenda Hays of Sanger and Linda Mitchell of Ovalo; three brothers, Oddie Washburn of Rufus, Ore., Oddis Washburn of Portland, Ore. and Charles Washburn of Coleman five sisters. Mrs. L.A. Luttrell of Abilene, Margaret (Mrs. Red) Dickerson, Bill (Mrs. Troy) Dickerson, La Dean (Mrs. Leroy)

Fariello named to

Mary M. Fariello, a Tarleton State University senior, from Merkel, was among the 47 students inducted into Texas Alpha Kappa Chapter of Alpha Chi. a lational honorary scholastic soety. Membership to Alpha Chi is mited to the upper 10 percent. ademically, of the junior and

Thomas and Barbara (Mrs. Mick- grandchildren; and seven great ey) Newsom all of Merkel) 16 grandchildren.

Merkel Restaurant BREAKFAST 99¢ 1/4 LB HAMBURGER \$159 CHICKEN FRIED STEAK DINNER \$395

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6 PACK 12 OZ

Preceptor Eta Omega met at the Taylor Electric Coop on Tuesday, January 7, for a Stew supper with Kathy Leverich hos-

holds stew supper

Preceptor Eta Omega

tess. Reports from standing committees were given and plans were made for members to answer phones at the Rehab '86. Katherine Cawley, with Lone Star

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§ Lance Perry displays his Grand Stock Show last week Champion lamb at the Merkel

Will farm economics get better?

Probably the most often asked question wherever farmers gather is. "When are things going to get

While the farm economy is in dire need of a "shot in the arm", little seems to be swinging in its favor at this time.

"The basic problem is that global capacity to produce agricultural goods is outpacing demand due to large gains in

All That

'Real diamond earrings-only \$10.99! Call now to get this deal of a lifetime." It may sound like a great deal, but it probably isn't.

The "genuine" diamond stud earrings you hear so glowingly described Staff photo pinhead. The certificate that ensures the diamond's authenticity says

FANCY TERMS FOR BAUBLES

The most important factor in the value of gold jewelry is the number of karats. This is normally engraved on ly mixed with some other base metal

Under Federal Trade Commission guidelines, if the word "gold" is used by itself it is supposed to be 24 karat gold, not mixed with anything else. The more typical jewelry is made of 14

Gold

GENUINE BUT TINY

Listen carefully to the ads. Many an inch thick in order to qualify for this

IT'S THE KARATS

the clasp of a necklace or bracelet Gold is a very soft metal and is usualto increase its durability and hardness.

unrealistically low price for 18 or 24 karat gold, you should be suspicious. On the other hand, 10 or 12 karat gold should not be high priced. Of course, the amount of work put into the item by the craftsman will figure into the

productivity," points out Dr. Carl Glitters Is

Not Solid

Another type of jewelry is known

as gold filled. If it is properly marked,

it will indicate something like "12K gf"

to indicate that it was made from a

base metal with a gold coating. Unless

otherwise marked, gold filled items are

1/20th or more gold alloy. Jewelry of

has been applied to another metal elec-

trolytically. Under FTC guidelines, the

gold must be at least 7 millionths of

As always, it is wise to shop

around for jewelry. If you see the ac-

tual item before you purchase it, you will be able to make a better decision

Anderson, an economist with the

Texas Agricultural Extension Ser-

vice. The Texas A&M University

System. "And there is still a lot of

potential for productivity increas-

+"World demand for food and

fiber will continue to expand, and

government policies and economic

and population growth will in-

crease consumption," says An-

"However, the key gues-

es over the next five to ten years."

CONSUMER **ALERT**

tion or through trade.

be strong exporters, will they be

Jim Mattox Attorney General

tion is whether demand growth economy during 1986, with 1987 will be met by domestic produc- posting a noticeable recovery, contends Anderson. "But plentiful The economist points out that food and fiber supplies worldwide Russia and China hold much of the are expected to keep a lid on farm answer to world trade. Will they income for several years.

Texas farmers will again see a basically self-sufficient, or will decline in cash receipts in 1986 they be importers of food and along with some decline in production expenses." says An-'The long-term outlook is for a derson. "Strong farm program gradual turnaround in the farm participation will be the order of the day. This will mean heavy government payments with large commodity entries into the loan program and large deficiency payments (difference between target prices and loan rates;

> Anderson believes that much of the future prosperity of U.S. agriculture depends on national economic and trade policies. The keys to restoring prosperity to American agriculture are a reduced budget deficit, lower real interest rates, a realignment of the strong dollar to encourage exports, and meaningful trade incentive programs, he points out

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it is appreciated Kim & Matt

this variety may last a long time, but the gold coating may wear off. Some jewelry is called gold electroplate, which means that the gold

in the TV commercials may be real, but they're often chips the size of a nothing of its value

times the word "point" will be used to term. For watches, which require described gemstones. For example, a greater durability, the layer must be at ring may be described as having a one- least 750 millionths of an inch (or 19 quarter (.25) point stone. That means microns) thick. one-fourth-hundredth of a karat, which is very small. It takes one hundred points to equal a karat.

You should also be careful in your other jewelry purchases. Some fancy words are used to describe some less than fancy merchandise. For example, a string of "faux" pearls is a fake pearl

THAT COUNT

karat, 12 karat or 10 karat.

If you see what seems to be an

HERE'S THE BEEF!!

Newspapers Deliver Audiences Of All Ages

Texans of all ages are frequent readers of the local newspaper. Did you know that the majority of Texans read newspapers?

	Age	Percent Reading
	25-34	69%
	35-49	74.3%
	50-64	72.6%
	65-plus	68.5%
To reac	h Texans of all a	ages, choose newspapers

every time! SOURCE: Consumer Data Service (CDS)

Prepared by Texas Newspaper Advertising Bureau (TNAB) (An affiliate of The Texas Press Association)

TEXAS NEWSPAPERS

Read By The Entire Family

MISD lunch menu

Thursday January 16: Turkey roast with gravy, buttered rice, lettuce and tomato salad, squash casserole, hot rolls, pineapple

Friday January 17: No School-

Monday January 20: Chicken Fried steak with gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, rosey pears.

Tuesday January 21: Beef tacos pinto beans, shredded lettuce and cheese, pineapple pudding. Wednesday January 22: Pizza,

mixed vegt., lettuce wedge, prune bars with iceing. Thursday January 23: Spaghetti lettuce and tomato salad, buttered

Friday January 24: hot dogs with chili, baked beans, fried okra, ho bake cookie.

corn, garlic bread, peaches and

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We pump grease,

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