

Taylor County's
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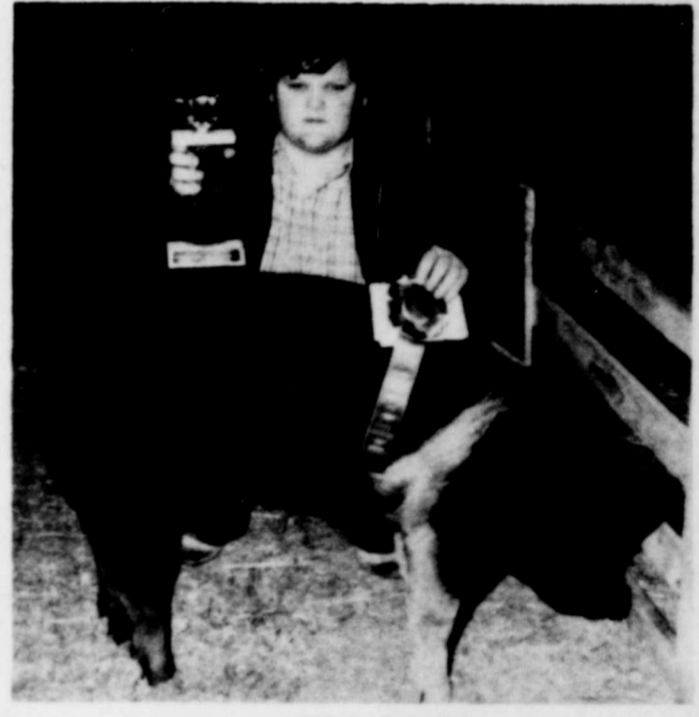
DWAIN ENGLISH
... With Wylie Truck Stop trophy



BEVERLY GILMORE
... Taylor Electric Co-op trophy



GLENN BRAUNE
... with grand champion lamb



DWAIN ENGLISH
... with grand champion barrow

West Texas Telephone Announces Reorganization

Continental Telephone Company of Texas became a reality on January 1, 1974. West Texas Telephone Company, Texas Telephone & Telegraph Company and Nassau Bay Telephone Company were subsidiaries of the Continental Telephone Corp., with each company maintaining

its own operating headquarters. The merger results in a single company with operating and staff headquarters located in Dallas, Texas.

Through the years, both suburban and rural America have been served, in the main, by thousands of independent telephone companies. This number has decreased from 5100 in 1955 to today's total of less than 1800. Continental Telephone Company of Texas represents the mergers and acquisitions of approximately 37 companies in the past 10 years in Texas alone.

Jim Richards, 81, Former View Rancher Buried

Funeral services for Jim Richards, 81, long-time View rancher who died at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at his Merkel home, were held at 3:30 p.m. Monday in Elliot-Hamil Chapel of Memories in Abilene.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merkel, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Thomas Lawrence of Hardin-Simmons University. Burial was in Elmwood Cemetery.

Mr. Richards was born Dec. 12, 1892, in Austin. He married Hattie Jones on Dec. 20, 1914, at View. They moved to Merkel in Dec., 1971. He was a long-time deacon at the View Baptist Church before moving to Merkel. He served on the View School Board for more than 30 years. The Middle Clear Fork Soil Conservation District honored him by naming him the outstanding conservation rancher of the year in 1960.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Merkel.

He is survived by his wife of the home, one daughter, Mrs. J. W. Long of 2333 Sylvan; one son, Billy Richard of 2042 Parramore; and two sons, Mrs. Tom Drummond and Mrs. Nola Patterson, both of View; four brothers, Lewis of Memphis, Tex., and Jack, M. D. and W. B., all of View; and five grandchildren. One son, Hollis, preceded him in death.

Pallbearers were Wade Parnelly, J. D. Petree, and four grandsons. Honorary pallbearers are Don Hart, Ernest Meeks, Henry Uehart, Herman Carson, A. F. Christwell, Houston Tiner, and Fred Johnson.

See TELEPHONE, Pg. 5



JOE MCDUFF
... files Tuesday afternoon

Joe McDuff Files For Re-election

Joe McDuff of Merkel, Council Commissioner of Precinct 19, filed for re-election to that post Tuesday afternoon in Abilene.

McDuff is seeking his second term. His precinct takes in the north portion of the county which include Trent, Merkel, Hawley and the northwest portion of Abilene.

McDuff issued the following statement: "I have really enjoyed my first term as your county commissioner and I look forward to being able to serve the people of Precinct 2 again. It has been a most rewarding experience for me to serve as your commissioner and to be involved with trying to solve some of the problems that our county has."

I really appreciate the help and confidence of the people of Precinct 2 while I have served as their commissioner the past three years.

I pledge to the people of this precinct my continued efforts for good sound county government that represents all the people.

McDuff lives on a farm northwest of Merkel. He and his wife have one daughter, Patricia, a sophomore at H-SU. They are members of the First Baptist Church of Merkel.

Wylie Defeats Badgers In Hard Fought Battle

In a hard fought battle Friday night, Wylie crushed the hopes of the Merkel Badgers winning District this year as they beat Merkel 56-46. Merkel still has a chance of winning district, but it is a small one. Wylie's 6-9 senior center Terry Crocker paced the Bulldogs with 19 points and 20 rebounds. Crocker and his team mate proved to be too much for the fighting cage contest. The hard fought battle was close all the way.

At the end of the first quarter the Badgers were behind only 1 point. The half time score saw the Badgers trailing by 4 points. The third quarter proved to be a standoff with each team scoring 16 each and Merkel still trailing by only 4 points. The fourth quarter saw Wylie score 15 points to the Badgers' 9.

The defeat leaves Merkel 1-1 in the second half of league play. Wylie stands at 2-0. In other action, the Merkel B boys won their game 42-40. Wylie's girls won over Merckel 48-29. Tracy Light scored 19 points for Wylie to Barnes 19 points for Merckel.

In the boys' game, Jeff Cox

and Darel Bunch both scored 13 points to share top scoring honor for the Badgers.

Other Badger scoring: Copeland 10; Morgan 8; Sims 8; Gray 2.

Merkel will play host to Albany Friday night at the Merkel High gym. There will be four games played with the acting starting with the B boys.

Pictures, Page 5

Tuesday Night
Merkel moved their second half of league play standing to 2 wins and one loss Tuesday night as the Badgers soundly defeated Rotan 78-58. Highly scorers in the game were Robert Morgan with 20; Jeff Cox with 14, and Jackie Sims with 13. Everyone of the Badgers scored in the game.

The Merkel girls won their game 62-15. Helping to give the Rotan girls a hard defeat was Jody Barnes with 18 points, Nancy Fudge with 11, Anetta Stephen 9, Jerri Kay Smith 8, and Cynthia Steck with 6. The girls stand at 1-2 for the season. Girls half at 1-2 for the second half of league play.

Glenn Braune, Dwain English Take Top Show Honors

Dwain English and Glenn Braune took the top honors at the Merkel Livestock Show held Saturday. Braune had the grand champion lamb in the sheep division, and English showed the grand champion of the hog show. His winning animal was in the heavyweight division.

Good weather, a lot of fine animals and good showmanship combined to make the Show a success Saturday as about 900 animals were shown by the young exhibitors.

The swine division got the judging started. Taking grand champion honors in this division was Dwain English of the Mulberry Canyon 4-H Club. Dwain is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George English.

Johnny Gray, last years winner of the Taylor County Gold Star Award and member of the Mulberry Canyon 4-H Club, exhibited the reserve champion hog. Gray also showed the winner of the lightweight barrow division. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Gray.

In the sheep division, Glenn Braune took the top honor showing the grand champion lamb. Braune is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Al Braune. Taking reserve champion honors was Beverly Gilmore daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gilmore. In the four sheep divisions, Braune and Miss Gilmore had two first places each. Braune had first places in Hampshire lambs and cross bred lambs. Miss Gilmore had first in the fine wool and the southdown classes.

Reserve showmanship trophies at the show were Dwain English and Beverly Gilmore. Showmanship trophies were presented for both the swine and sheep divisions.

There was no steer division this year.

Results follow:
Heavyweight Barrows
1. Dwain English; 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

OTHER PICTURES, STORES PAGE 2

Pursley; 20. Brad Pursley; 21. James Allison; 22. Brad Pursley; 23. Bart Pursley.

Lightweight Barrows

1., 2. Johnny Gray; 3. Dana James; 4. Johnny Gray; 5. Dwain English; 6., 7., 8. James Allison; 9. Johnny Gray; 10., 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, Shawn Moore.

Hampshire Lambs

1. Glenn Braune; 2., 3. Beverly Gilmore; 4. Wanda Braune; 5. Tommie Swinney; 6. Todd Robertson; 7. David Robertson; 8. Beverly Gilmore; 9. David Robertson; 10. Lisa Swinney; 11. Mile Brown; 12. Sheila Swinney; 13. David Wilkerson; 14. Mark Wilkerson; 15. John Millett; 16. Mark Wilkerson; 17. Cindy Hutchings.

Cross Bred Lambs

1. Glenn Braune; 2. Beverly Gilmore; 3. David Robertson; 4. Mike Brown; 5. Beverly Gilmore; 6., 7., Todd Robertson; 8., 9. David Robertson; 10. Tommie Swinney; 12. Mike Swinney; 13. Sheila Swinney; 14., 15. Lisa Swinney.

Fine Wool Lambs

1. Beverly Gilmore; 2. David Robertson; 3. Beverly Gilmore; 4. Glenn Braune; 5. Wanda Braune; 6. Todd Robertson.

Southdown Lambs

1. Beverly Gilmore; 2. Mark Wilkerson; 3. John Millett; 4. Glenn Braune; 5. Mike Brown; 6. Lisa Swinney; 7. Beverly Gilmore; 8. Mark Wilkerson; 9. Sheila Swinney; 10. Tommie Swinney; 11. David Wilkerson; 12. Wanda Braune.

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Rural, Star Route Patrons Urged To Use Box Nos.

Postmaster E. T. Thompson today urged all rural and star route postal customers served by the Merkel post office to use box numbers as part of their return addresses to assure faster, more efficient mail deliveries from correspondents.

"Although box numbers are an integral part of most rural and star route addresses, it has recently become the practice of many postal customers to omit this element," Postmaster Thompson said.

"This practice sometimes causes mail to be returned to the sender because of an insufficient address. It has also been cited by publishers and other large mailers as one of

the major causes of duplicate mailings to rural customers. "The duplicate mailings hurt everyone," Postmaster Thompson said. "They cost the big mailers in dollars and cents, and because they flood the mail stream, everyone's mail is slowed."

Postmaster Thompson said the box number is as important to rural and star route addresses as the house number is to city address.

"Unless a rural or star route address contains both, the box number and the route number, it is an incomplete address and is subject to return to the sender," Postmaster Thompson said.

Jerry Beard Completes AF Basic Training

SAN ANTONIO--Airman Jerry W. Beard, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Beard of 1523 Sunset, Merkel, Tex., has completed Air Force basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex.

During his six weeks training, he studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special instruction in human relations.

The airman is remaining at the Air Training Command base for specialized training in the security police field.

Airman Beard is a 1973 graduate of Merkel High School. His wife, Becky, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Schultz of 115 Air Base Road, Tye, Tex.

Drive Announced To Help Sr. Citizens Buy Building

By RUSSELL McANALLY

The Senior Citizens Organization in Merkel has been in existence for almost two years. It has surpassed our widest dreams. There are something like 140 registered members. It is not unusual to see over 80 present for their monthly meeting, and many present for the game and singing evenings. It is also not unusual to see a table or two of dominoes going on at any time of the day.

The building in which the Senior Citizens meet is owned by John West, and has been rented to the organization since they moved into it. Mr. West has decided to sell the building, and has given the Senior Citizens Organization first chance to buy the building. It has been offered to the group at a price that is very reasonable according to those who know the value of buildings.

The Directors of the Senior Citizens organization met last week and voted unanimously to purchase the building. Those appointed to look after the purchase of the building, Rev. McAnally was asked to serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The other members of the Board of Trustees are: Bob Robertson, Dent Gibson, and Paul Douglas.

One of our businessmen has agreed to loan the Senior Citizens Organization the necessary funds with which to purchase the building. The total purchase price of the building is \$3,000. There is enough in the treasury of the Senior Citizens to pay \$500. This would leave a balance of \$2,500 to be paid in small monthly payments not more than the rent payments we have been making.

Some businessmen and friends have insisted that we

give the community an opportunity to help the Senior Citizens with the purchase of this building. As of now--a Senior Citizen's Building fund has been established at Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, and Mr. Booth Warren stated that any funds turned in there would be accounted for in this fund.

One friend of the organization insisted he be given the opportunity of a first \$50 donation. There will not be any high pressure applied in the raising of these funds. If you know about this organization, and want to help them buy their building so they will have a permanent place to meet, and not have to move--it will be greatly appreciated. We will then apply these donations to the \$500 to be paid down by the Senior Citizens and the balance will be loaned so the transaction can be completed.

The papers are already in the process of being drawn up, and the purchase has been made. We will wait to see how much we have to borrow, if any. Any of the named trustees will be able to give you more information, or assist you in getting your donation to the bank.

Presbyterian
Committee To
Meet Feb. 3rd.

The Grace Presbyterian Church Pulpit Committee has advised the session to call a congregational meeting Sunday February 3rd following the morning services. All members are urged to attend due to the importance of this meeting.

Joe Lassiter Files For Precinct 24 Chairman; JP Filing Deadline Feb. 4th

Joe E. Lassiter, Taylor County Democratic Precinct Chairman from Merkel, has announced that he will seek re-election to that post. He is chairman of precinct 24.

Lassiter has filed for re-election with Larry Cunningham, chairman of the Taylor County Democratic Executive Committee in Abilene.

As precinct chairman, the person holding this office automatically becomes temporary chairman of the precinct convention. He will, in most cases, be the election judge for elections held in the precinct that he represents.

Lassiter pointed out that the precinct convention is a very important part of the party machinery. "This is where the

delegate election starts for the county, state and national conventions," he said.

The election code law state that the primary election must be held on the 4th of May. This means that persons wishing to run for election to an office that is county wide must file for election by 6 p.m., February 4, 1974.

The office of Justice of Peace, in Merkel, which is Justice Precinct 2, must also be filed for by the February 4th deadline. To date, no one has vacated this position being held by the incumbent Justice, Roy Buchannan. Buchannan has announced that he will not seek re-election to the post that he has held since 1955.

Rep. Elmer Martin of Colorado City, who represents District 61 on the state level filed for re-election to that of State Democratic Executive Committee in Austin, Colin to Quest. Any person wishing to file for the position held by Martin is required to file by Feb. 4 with Quest.

Persons wishing to file as Republicans must file with Paul Washburn of Abilene, on the county level. On the state level, a person must file with the Chairman of the Republican Executive Committee in Austin.

Persons wishing to file for a state office on either the Democratic or Republican ballot, may contact the Secretary of the state's office in Austin. This office will handle the filing.

Girl Scouts Preparing For Garden Club Cookie Sale January 25th Met Jan. 17

More than three thousand girls in the sixteen county area of the West Texas Girl Scout Council are preparing for their 23rd annual cookie sale. The Girl Scouts are checking mode of operation and getting ready for the blast-off at 4 P.M. Friday, January 25.

Troop meetings are being devoted to discussion and pre-

paration for the sale. Skits are FUN--the girls play act their sales approach. They learn to handle money, and to be business-like. They also practice good manners and good grooming.

The ethical code (Promise and the Law) becomes relevant to the occasion and the times--a Scout will do her best to be honest, to be fair, to help where she is needed, to be cheerful, to be friendly, and to respect authority, to use resources wisely--(don't eat the cookies!), to protect and improve the world around her, and to show respect for herself and others through her words and actions.

Cookies come in family size boxes of assorted sandwich, chocolate mint, butter shorties and peanut butter. They sell for one dollar a box. When you buy one box--EAT IT--get another box quick! Give the Scouts a chance to perfect their practice.

The Merkel Garden Club met Thursday Jan. 17 at the Asteroid Restaurant with Mrs. Charlie Sherill and Mrs. Olga Gamble serving as hostesses.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Johnny Cox, president.

The program theme was "Trend--Grow the Exotic." Giving the program was Mrs. Joe Hartley on "Only a Month of Azales?" Mrs. Mack Fisher, "Hydrangias--Indoor Pot Plants?" and Mrs. W. T. Sadler on the topic "Let's Talk Gardening."

Members present were Mrs. Tom Allday, Allen King, Joe Hartley, Jewell Criswell, Tom Russom, E. J. Patterson, Lottie Everett, W. T. Sadler, Mack Fisher, Johnny Cox, John Shannon, Herbert Patterson, Nora Foster, Lucy Ford, Odus Griffin, Aaron Sudderth, Dee Grimes, Oda Clark, Ora Griggs, Mary Click, Charlie Sherill, S. D. Gamble and Miss Christine Collins.

TRENT NEWS

By MRS. DEAN KING
The Trent Board of Education met in regular session Monday, January 14, 1974, in the school tax office.

The Board elected to hold the Trustee Election again in 1974 in conjunction with the city election. The terms of three board members expire this year: Weldon Beasley, President of the Board; Rosemary Bland, Secretary of the Board; and Robert Scott, Jr. All three incumbents will seek re-election.

In other action, Dean King, Superintendent of schools, contract was renewed for 2 years.



ROBBIE GAY SWENSON
... to be wed May 25

DATEBOOK

MERKEL GARDEN CLUB
The Merkel Garden Club meets every third Thursday of the month.

FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB
Fortnightly Study Club meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month.

STITCH & SEW
Stitch and Sew Club holds their meetings the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

GIRL SCOUTS
Brownies--Tuesday, 2:45; Junior Girl Scouts--Monday, 3:30; and Cadettes--Wednesday, 3:30.

BOY SCOUTS
Cub Scouts--Tuesday and Wednesday, 2:45; Webelos,--Monday, 3:00; and Boy Scouts--Monday at 7 p.m.

LADIES AUXILIARY
The Ladies Auxiliary to the Merkel Fire Dept. meet the first Monday of the month at 7:30 at the fire station.

LAMBDA BETA SORORITY
Meets every first and third Tuesday.

XI NU CHI SORORITY
Meets every first and third Tuesday.

Swenson-Hicks Engagement Told

Mr. and Mrs. John M. Swenson of Avoca have announced the engagement of their daughter, Robbie Gay, to Gary Don

Hicks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben R. Hicks of Merkel.

Miss Swenson graduated from Lueters-Avoca High School and is a senior at McMurry College. Hicks graduated from Merkel High School and is a senior at McMurry College.

The wedding will be May 25 in the Bethel Lutheran Church in the Ericksdahl Community of Avoca.

Former Merkel Man Named Savings Assn. VP

Appointment of Marvin Hunter as vice president and secretary of San Angelo Savings Association has been announced by SASA president H.J. "Mickey" Saltee. Hunter will serve as financial officer of the association, Saltee said.

Hunter, 52, comes to San Angelo from Odessa, where he has held a similar position at Odessa Savings & Loan since 1961. Prior to joining the Odessa firm, he was assistant administrator of Lubbock Methodist Hospital.

A 1938 graduate of Merkel High School, Hunter holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from McMurry College, Abilene. As a wartime member of the U.S. Naval Reserve, he served aboard the famed aircraft carriers USS Lexington and USS Midway in World War II.

In Odessa, Hunter has been active in the Optimist Club and United Fund. He is also a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason. A lifelong Methodist, he has participated in church and conference activities with St. Luke's Methodist Church of Odessa.

His family will move to San Angelo in June when son Dale, 17, is graduated from Odessa Permian High School. Hunter's other children are Phyllis, 25, a music student in New York; and Sharon Healy, 28, of Albuquerque. He has three grandchildren.

Tax Deadlines Announced By Abilene IRS

Abilene, Texas--Four important tax deadlines face taxpayers and employers in Texas during January, Arthur E. Fogle, Jr., Administrative Officer of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for the Abilene area, said today.

Employers are reminded that the deadline to give employees their 1973 W-2 forms is Thursday, January 31, 1974. The form should show earnings, income tax withheld and Social Security information. January 31 is also the deadline for reporting Social Security and withheld income taxes for the calendar quarter ended December 31, 1973. If employers make timely deposits of the full amount of the tax due, ten additional days are allowed to file the return. Fogle said that employers who received a pre-addressed Form 941, "Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return", should use this form to report their tax liability. Other employers can obtain blank copies from their local IRS office.

The last day of January is also the last day to report and pay any balance of Federal Unemployment Tax not over \$100 for 1973, using Form 940. If the balance of the tax due is over \$100.00, the employer must make a deposit with FTD Form 508. If the full amount of the tax is deposited on time, employers may then file the return no later than February 11, 1974.

Texas farmers and fishermen who have not filed their 1973 declaration of estimated Federal Income tax must file and pay that tax by Tuesday, January 15. The sole exception to this rule is if they file their income tax return and pay the total tax due by March 1.

Farmers and fishermen are defined as those persons who earned at least two-thirds of their 1973 gross income from farming or fishing.

CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS

FARMERS UNION INSURANCES
ONE STOP SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS
See Farmers Union INSURANCES

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102 Edwards
928-5379
Merkel, Texas

SERVICE
J. L. FISHER
FINA SERVICE
WEST HIGHWAY 80
INTERSTATE 20 & TWO LOCATIONS
MERKEL AUTO PARTS
921 N. 2nd
WE WELCOME YOUR BUSINESS

Merchants, Individuals Donate To Show Livestock

The following merchants and individuals contributed to the Merkel Livestock show to provide prizes and money for other expenses to the show.

Following is a list of contributors:
Alvin Braune, Dudley T.V. Service, Joe Swinney, West Texas Utilities, Boney Insurance Agency, West Texas Vet Supply-Abilene, Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Merkel Drug Co., Ben Franklin Store, Wilson Jewelry, Palmer Motor Co.

Also, Merkel Locker Plant.

ROUND-UP

John R. Wilson, former manager of Westgate TV Music Center in Abilene, is now District Manager with Interstate Electric Co. of Texas from Dallas. Interstate Electric is the distributor for REA products in this area. John is married to the former Donna Riney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Riney of Merkel. They have two sons, Eric and Johnny.

John and Donna want to say thank you to all the Merkel area people for their support while in business in Abilene. They will continue to live in Abilene.

Buddy Hunter, Merkel Fina Station, Hardy Grocery, Max Murrell Chevrolet, J.L. Fisher-Fina and Merkel Auto Parts, H.W. Lemens, Inc., Dubose Texaco Service, Farmers Co-op, Gin No. 1, Joe Higgins, Waldo Cox, Taylor Telephone, Starbucks, Brags, Carsons, Supermarket, Higginbotham-Bartlett Co., Ann's Flowers.

Also, Wilson's Food Store, Cypert Tax Service, Gilene Manufacturing Co., Cyrus Pee Ins. Agency, Tesie and J.V. Hester, Crawford's Department Store, Abilene Auction, Agribusiness - Abilene, Abilene Grain Co., Farm and Ranch Supply, Asteroid Restaurant, Jimmy Fartin Insurance and Realty Agency, Bowland Lumber Co., ACCO Feeds-Abilene, E.A. Conley Barber Shop, Ed's Feed and Seed, Mansfield Farm and Ranch Supply, S & T Tire Company, Coca Cola Bottling Co., Leroy Riney, Rancher and Farmers Livestock Commission, The Merkel Mail, Mrs. A.C. Braune.

Also, Mr. and Mrs. H.M. Beard, Barnett Barber Shop, T.J. Neill, Trent Gin, Henderson Grain Co., Lone Star Gas, Cal-Tex Feed Yard-Trent, Billy Joe Toombs, and two \$25 gift certificates from Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Hats and Belts from Circle A Western Store, belt buckles from Wylie Truck Terminal, Showmanship trophy from Taylor Electric Cooperative, Inc., Showmanship trophy from Wylie Truck Terminal.

Steve Bland to Show Pen Of Steers at Houston Show

Taylor County will be represented by a Future Farmers of America member in the Commercial Steers Division of the 1974 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo to be held February 20 through March 3.

Steve Bland of Trent will show a pen of eight commercial steers in this competition. He is a member of the Trent FFA.

Bland had shown well in the Trent 4-H and FFA Livestock Show last week with his beef rating two high good and two medium choice placings.

Bland is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Bland Jr. of Trent. His father managed Cal-Tex Feed Yards of Trent.

Commercial steer exhibitors at the '74 show will be competing for \$5,000 in premiums. Special awards for Feeding Records Contest winners which will be presented include 1st Prize, \$1,000 - J. W. Sartwell award by Port City Stockyards Co.; 2nd Prize, \$500 - Iuse Ribbon Packing Co.; 3rd Prize - \$250 - Texas Agribusiness Company. The Official Livestock Show Trophy Co. will award a trophy to the winner of the Commercial Steer Show Feeding Records Contest.

The purpose of the Junior Commercial Steer Show is to encourage more 4-H Club members and Future Farmers to participate in a practical beef production program. Emphasis on economy in the feeding operation is not only recommended but is prerequisite for entry in this show.

The steers are graded according to actual U.S. market grades and premiums are paid accordingly.

4-H Club members and Future Farmers of America who are regularly enrolled in public or private elementary or secondary schools of Texas are eligible to show in this division. They may show purebred, grade, or crossbred steers of any of the beef breeds. The steers must have been fed and cared for by the exhibitors, who must have owned their steers prior to October 1, 1973. All steers must weigh 700 pounds or more at the official weigh-in at the show. Steers need not be halter broken. However, no wild or unruly animals will be accepted.

An exhibitor may enter only one pen. This one pen may be either a pen of eight or a pen of three.

Steers must be dehorned, otherwise they will not be accepted in the show.

All exhibitors must enter the Feeding Records Contest and bring complete records to the show on program followed, care of steers, and cost, on form prescribed and furnished by the Houston Livestock Show.

Palmer Pontiac & GMC
MERKEL
G. E. APPLIANCES & TV'S
MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113 ABILENE 673-1182

Dr. Ed Dressen
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Dr. Russell Dressen
In The Practice Of Optometry
504 Cedar Abilene, Texas 677-6331

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73 PONTIAC CATALINA 2 door hard top, air condition, and power, fudge paint. DRIVERS ED UNIT. A real Nice Car. ... only \$3695

72 PONTIAC GRAND VILLE 2 door, hard top, air condition, power, factory tape player, power seats, power windows, tilt wheel, green color with gold vinyl top. A REAL NICE ONE OWNER CAR. Only \$2995

72 GMC SIERRA 1/2 ton pick-up, 400 engine, air and power. Gold and white color. EXTRA NICE. Only \$2495

2-70 PONTIAC CATALINA 4 door sedans, air condition and power. Both have two-tone paint. REAL NICE. Starting at \$1495

70 FORD LTD 4 door, hard top, air condition, power. Light blue in color. NICE. Only \$1495

72 PONTIAC GRANDVILLE 4 door, hard top. This one has all the GOODIES. Beige color with vinyl top. Nice one owner car. Only \$3395

70 PONTIAC Bonneville 4 door hardtop, air and power, green color with gold vinyl top, electric windows, cruise control, tilt wheel. REAL NICE \$1595

72 PONTIAC Catalina 4 door, sedan, air and power, bronze color with white top, nice for only \$2095

72 PONTIAC GRAND SAFARI 6 passenger wagon, air condition, power. Real nice for only \$3495

65 PONTIAC TEMPEST 4 door sedan, air con. \$695

69 PONTIAC GTO 2 door hard top, V-8, 4 speed, power steering, factory air, chrome wheels, new tires, brown color with brown vinyl top \$895

69 PONTIAC Tempest Custom wagon, air and power, we sold it new, gold with white top, nice for only \$1295

69 PONTIAC Bonneville 4 door hardtop, air and power, good tires, green with white top, only \$1195

69 RAMBLER AMBASSADOR 4 door, sedan, air condition and power. A real Nice ONLY \$995

ECONOMY Car. Local Owner ONLY \$995

3-71 PONTIAC Catalina, 4 door sedans, air and power, new tires, white with green vinyl roof, real nice - From \$1795

WE HAVE SEVERAL OTHER REAL NICE USED CARS TO CHOOSE FROM
"We Sell 'Em - We Lease 'Em"

Palmer Pontiac & GMC
MERKEL
G. E. APPLIANCES & TV'S
MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113 ABILENE 673-1182

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Mens 100% POLYESTER DOUBLEKNIT SUITS Compare to \$95.00 \$56.00	BOYS TRACK SHOES \$4.99	TEXSHEEN LINGERIE GOWNS BABY DOLL
JAYSON SHIRTS VALUES TO \$8.99 \$5.99	MENS ROUGHOUT BOOT \$17.99	Robes PAJAMAS BODY SHIRTS \$10.00 \$4.99
NOCONA BOOTS \$45.00	BOYS JEANS REG. \$4.99 \$2.59	LADIES PANTSUITS VALUES TO \$24.99
SHIRTS Reg. 2 for \$5.99 \$9.00	LADIES SHOES \$9.99 up	BLOUSES VALUES TO \$8.99
BOYS SHIRTS VALUES TO \$6.00 \$2.99	SUPREME BLANKETS REG. \$6.99 \$4.88	PURSES VALUES TO \$5.99
WESTERN SHIRTS \$4.99	LADIES COATS VALUES TO \$39.99 \$9.99 up	STEVENS UTICA NO IRON MUSLIN FLORAL SHEETS \$3.77
	100% POLYESTER DOUBLE KNIT \$2.99 YD.	

Layaway - 30 Day - Mastercharge
Merkel, Texas **CRAWFORDS** Phone 928-5612



JOHNNY GRAY
... reserve champion barrow



BEVERLY GILMORE
... reserve champion lamb

For YOUR SAVINGS DOLLAR
We Are Happy to Offer
INTEREST Bearing CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

At the MAXIMUM Interest Rates Permissible Under Present Banking Regulations...

5 1/2 % for 90 days
6 % for 1 Year
6 1/2 % for 2 1/2 Years

Minimum Deposit of \$500.00. Every depositor insured by FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION to \$ 20,000.00.

(We are required to tell you that you may cash C/D's, at your option, before maturity, but should you do this you must forfeit 90 days interest.)

Farmers And Merchants National Bank

A FULL SERVICE BANK
MERKEL, TEXAS
FDIC

BEST IN VALUE! \$ TOPS IN TASTE!

THU-FRI-SAT. JAN. 24-25-26

WILSON FOOD STORE

SAVE 55¢ WHEN YOU BUY A 10 oz. Jar of INSTANT FOLGER'S COFFEE CRYSTALS



SPECIAL PRICE WITH THIS COUPON **1 39**


WITHOUT COUPON \$1.94

Coupon cash value 1/20 of 1¢

GOOD THRU (2-21-74)

WILSON FOOD STORE

SAVE 20¢ WHEN YOU BUY A 1 LB. CAN of FOLGER'S COFFEE



SPECIAL PRICE WITH THIS COUPON **85¢**

WITHOUT COUPON \$1.05

Coupon cash value 1/20 of 1¢

GOOD THRU (2-16-74)

With \$7.50 or More in Trade Exclusive of Cigarettes

S HORTENING	SWIFTS JEWEL	3 LB. CAN	79¢
CORN	NIBLETS WHOLE KERNEL	2 FOR	45¢
SOUP	CAMPBELLS VEGETABLE	2 FOR	29¢
PIE FILLER	CLEMENTS CHERRY	NO 2 CAN	59¢
TAMALES	GEBHARTS NO. 300 SIZE	2 FOR	69¢
CAKE MIX	PILLSBURY	2 FOR	79¢
PEANUT BUTTER	KIMBELL'S	18 oz. JAR	59¢
PICKLES	Best Maid SOUR OR DILL	QT.	49¢
CRISCO OIL		24 oz. BOTTLE	79¢
FLOUR	GOLD MEDAL	5 LB. BAG	95¢

MILK	MARIGOLD 2% HOMO GAL.	1 33	REG. HOMO GAL.	1 43
7-UP		12 oz. CAN	6 FOR	69¢
OLEO	PARKAY WHIPPED		LB.	53¢
BISCUITS	MEADS	2 FOR		29¢
RED PLUM JAM	BEST MAID	18 oz. JAR		39¢
MIXED NUTS	TOM SCOT	13 oz. CAN		59¢

LIPTONS TEA BAGS	100 COUNT PKG.	1 29
JELLO	6 oz. PKG.	2 for 45¢
BAKERS CHOCOLATE CHIPS	12 oz. BAG	45¢
HOT SHOT ROACH & ANT KILLER		98¢

DEL MONTE SLICED PINEAPPLE	NO.2 CAN	32¢
COUNTRY FRESH BREAD	1/2 LB. LOAF	39¢

HUNTING LICENSE NOW AVAILABLE

MONEY ORDERS

EASY FIXINS

GOOCH

HOT BAR-B-Q - BEANS
CHILI - POTATO SALAD
PIMENTO CHEESE

TURKEYS	NORBEST HALF OF WHOLE	LB.	79¢
HOT LINKS	GOOCH	LB.	98¢

PORK STEAK		LB.	98¢
FRANKS	GOOCH	PKG.	69¢
SAUSAGE	GOOCHS OLE VIRGINIA	LB.	1 19
BACON	GOOCHS	LB.	1 09

NABISCO

CRACKERS

1 lb Box **43¢**

LADY KIM

TOWELS

BIG ROLL 2 FOR **69¢**

FABRIC SOFTNER

Rain Barrel

24 oz. BOTTLE **69¢**

PUREX

GAL **49¢**

AJAX

CLEANSER

2 for **49¢**

TIDE

FAMILY SIZE **2 39**

FROZEN FOOD

KEITHS HANDY PACK

POTATOES

5 LB. Bag **1 09**

KEITHS PRE-COOKED

FISH STIX

PKG **49¢**

KEITHS

DINNER ROLLS

PKG of 24 **39¢**

PRODUCE

Specials

TEXAS

TOMATOES

LB. **29¢**

ARIZONA

CUCUMBERS

2 for **29¢**

ARIZONA

BELL PEPPER

2 for **19¢**

WASHINGTON DELICIOUS

APPLES

LB. **29¢**

RUBY RED

GRAPEFRUIT

3 for **49¢**

Wilson's FOOD STORE

"Where Customers Find Their Friends"

Double Premiums
On WEDNESDAY On
Purchase of \$2.50
OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE
Save Valuable
Cash Register Tapes
For Premiums

USE WANT ADS

928-5712

Miscellaneous 1

FOR MONUMENTS and CEMETERY CURBING
M.A. (Sarg) Noster
1404 Herring Dr.
Merkel, Texas
Phone 8-5545

MASONIC MEETING

Stated meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710 on 2nd Saturday and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Members urged to attend.

DUNNING McCONNELL, W.M. ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y.

Buy Your Prepaid Funeral Plan Direct From The Funeral Home And Save

STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME

WELL KEPT Carpet shows the results of regular Blue Lustre spot cleaning. Rent electric shampooer \$1. Bullock Hardware & Gifts.

WANTED TO BUY: Two row tractor and equipment 40 hp. or more. Must be in good condition. Call 928-5454 MERKEL. 48-11p

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Help beat the fuel shortage. Winterize your home with permanent duranyl vinyl siding. 25% more insulation than other siding and has a 20 year guarantee. Also beautiful Arcadia stone. For free estimate write J & J Home Improvements, Box 105, Tye, Texas 75663. Nights 892-6583. 48-44p

For Rent 4

FOR RENT - Unfurnished apartment, Bay Wilson, Ph. 928-5615 or 928-9713. 31-1f

FOR RENT - Furnished large 2 bedroom apt. Clean. Walk-in closets. Fenced yard. Call Mrs. E. P. Farmer, 928-5669. 48-11c

Help Wanted 2

Relief Desk
Clerk Needed
at Asteroid Inn Motel. Apply in person or Call 928-4756. 48-11c

WANTED -- Cooks, waitresses, and dishwashers. Merkel Restaurant, 928-4923. 8-11c.

HELP WANTED
PH. 928-5171
or
PH. 928-5085
48-11c

WANTED -- Cooks, waitresses, and dishwashers. Merkel Restaurant, 928-4923. 8-11c.

For Sale 3

FOR SALE--To be moved 66 ft. x 30 ft. frame building located S. 5th & Trundy. Our Mother of Mercy Church. Call 928-4740 or write Box 398, Merkel. 45-41c

School Bus For Sale
BIDS are being received for sale of athletic school bus, OMC model. Contact Mack Fisher, Superintendent of Schools. 39-11c

FOR SALE--Two houses, one 3 room & bath; one 5 room & bath. Both have chain link fences and are near school on South 4th. Mrs. E. B. Barnes, 402 Ash St., Ph. 928-5236, Merkel. 45-11c

FOR SALE--1971 Suzuki 90. Good condition. Call 928-5545. 46-11c

FOR SALE--New 500 Gal. Sep-tic tank. Contact Tom Car-cun, 928-5069. 48-11

FOR SALE--BWA-40 Disc J.D. Landem plow, dual gauge wheels. Tandem plow, dual gauge wheels. Good condition. B.D. Buntin, 928-5606. 48-21p

FOR SALE--Three bedroom house in Trent. Bath and 1/2, being redecorated. Financing available. Call Cyrus Pee, 928-5613. 48-11c

FOR SALE--71 Plymouth Grand Coupe, excellent condition, low mileage, loaded, cream with brown vinyl top. \$1,900. Call Cal-Tex for Rick Sorensen or write, Rt. 2 Box 882, Trent, Texas. 48-41c

REWARD

Your satisfaction
Get that Dirt,
Caliche or Gravel
hauled or spread
We need you if you
need us.
Call Harold Watts
928-5769

WE BUY

old Gold, Silver
Coins, and Stamps
-Free Appraisals -
PRATT'S COIN &
STAMP SHOP
2155 S. 1st.
Abilene, Tex.

STARBUCK FURNITURE
YOUR FLOOR COVERING CENTER
QUALITY CARPETS
VINYL LINOLEUM
DO-IT-YOURSELF TILE

Member 1974
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Merkel Mail

PUBLISHERS STATEMENT
Established in 1889

Published weekly at 916 N Second St., Merkel, Texas
Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, 79536
as second class mail.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

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Member of the Texas Press Association
and West Texas Press Association.

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KAYE LANHAM.....Editor
CONNIE HARRIS.....Advertising Sales

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Cards of Thanks \$2.50 for the first 50 words. 6 cents per word for each additional word. TERMS: Cash in advance unless account is already established. NOTICE of typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion of claims for refunds or extensions will not be recognized.

Card of Thanks

THE RECENT BEREAVEMENT which has visited our home has brought to us a greater appreciation of our friends. Such kindnesses and neighborly thoughtfulness can never be forgotten.
Mrs. James Roy Lackey and Family 48-11p

Prestige Homes

We are members of the Abilene Realtors' Multiple Listing Service. Call us when you see ANY For Sale sign.

Abilene
Charming 2 bedroom frame home, carpeted, extra-nice kitchen, carport, garage.
Merkel

Seclusion supreme! 8 miles NW ---15 acres, good stock tank, 3 bedroom & den rock home.
Irrigation farm! 40 acres, 3 bedroom home.

Inspect our 2 bedroom home, paneled & carpeted living room.
Trent

Unusual circumstances force immediate sales--spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath homes.
317 North Willis, Suite 20
Abilene 873-6444

Pauline Butman 692-2222
Joe Moore 692-0484

Merkel Branch Office
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1515 Health 928-5623
Equal Housing Opportunity

Wanted

Back Hoe and Loader
Work
Cellars, Septic Tank,
and Ditching
DON DICKERSON
928-5952

FOR YOUR BUILDING AND REMODELING NEEDS

FRED RICHIE
928-5030

NEED

A New Water Well
Drilled? Also Install
Meyers Subs &
Jacuzzi Jets
Call
ROBERT HIGGINS
928-5998

WANTED

Feed Truck Driver
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R.L. Bland
Cal-Tex Feed Yard
Trent, Texas

PEST CONTROL

Tree and Shrub Work
Free Estimate
Cedar Post-All Sizes
Berlie Wilson
Ph. 928-5211

DOUGLAS FISH FARM

Will Be Open For Business
Saturday & Sunday
of Each Week Starting
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd
Plenty of Nice Fresh Fish!
NO ADVANCE in PRICE
ALIVE, DRESSED, or you CATCH'EM
DOUGLAS FISH FARM
SYLVESTER, TEXAS
PHONE 993-4644

GORILLA GROWL

By CINDY BEASLY

Trent High congratulates Mr. and Mrs. Sam Frasier, our principal and his wife, on the arrival of their baby boy, Jason Paul. Classes were "informally dismissed" Friday afternoon when the Frasier's left for Hendricks. It seems like everyone wanted to see them off. But if you think the students were excited, you should have seen Mr. Frasier! Congratulations to both of you.

Last Monday, the Soph., Jr., and Sr. Home Ec. girls attended a style show at Cloth World. Everyone seemed to enjoy it very much. The Student Council was very excited about the arrival of their wall calendar. This was to be their Christmas gift to the Student body but it didn't come in time. Just as they were about to give up it got here. It should be up in the entry hall by the end of this week.

We seem to have a "Star" in our midst. As if it wasn't enough to be on the news Sunday night and have her picture on the front page of the Abilene paper, Robbie Freeman topped it all off by winning the showmanship award at the Abilene Stock Show. Robbie is an 8th grader at Trent and we're all very proud of her. Congratulations!

Everyone come to support the Trent basketball team's Thursday night against Leaders Avoca. The games start at 7:00 in the Trent gym. I'll bring you more news from THS next week!

High School Planned at ACC

ABILENE, Tex.-- Abilene Christian College will hold its Spring High School Day on Saturday, March 9, on the ACC campus, according to Clint Howeth, ACC director of admissions and placement.

"This is an excellent time for prospective students to come to the campus and get a first hand glimpse of what college is really like," said Howeth. "A full day of special activities have also been planned."

The day's activities will open at 9 a.m. with a president's reception for high school day visitors, their sponsors and parents.

"Many of the ACC professors will be there to talk personally with students about their specific fields," said Howeth.

Other morning activities include special chapel services

SALE

1 GROUP LADIES BAGGIES-- 1/4 off "TURTLE-BAX" JEANS

O CUFFS, FLAIRS DENIM
O BRUSHED
O CORDUROY
O WOOL BLENDS

GROUP LADIES BLOUSES
VALUES TO \$12.00
\$ 5.00

Circle A Western House
924 N. 2nd.
Merkel, Texas

CEMETERY FUND

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Mrs. Essie L. Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. Max E. Swaford
Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Farmer
Beulah G. Herron
Mrs. Sallie Gant
Mrs. W.B. Mitchell
Mrs. Glenn Bicknell, Bobby Sullivan and Ora Lee Brown in memory of J.C. Brown
J.A. Bryan
J.T. Warren Estate
Cecil Cochran
Mary Tankersley
Mrs. J.K. Blair
Don R. and Meddie Rollins in memory of M.E. Herron
Gloria West
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Walton in memory of Weldon Barbee and Stacy Bird
Mr. and Mrs. Jack L. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Allen L. Cade
Mr. and Mrs. Ocie E. Day
Raymond Brewer
Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Patterson
Mrs. Nurey Toombs
Mr. and Mrs. W.S.J. Brown in memory of Hallie Burden
Johnny Sears Snyder in memory of Hallie Burden
Mrs. R.E. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Pete Petty in memory of Bill Teaff
Pauline Butman in memory of Bill Teaff
Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Tarpley in memory of Charlene Mashburn Patrigare and Hallie Burden
Mrs. Zada Bird in memory of Charlene Mashburn Patrigare
Union Ridge Dem. Club in memory of Hallie Burden
Union Ridge Dem. Club in memory of Mrs. Hazel Benson
Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Benson in memory of Hallie Burden
Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Kinsey
Mrs. Lena M. Smith in memory of Mrs. Zollinger
Mr. and Mrs. A.W. Mayes
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Breaux in memory of Hallie Burden
Simmons B. Callaway in me-

BADGER TRACKS

By JANIE CLARK

Well, basketball's still the news around MHS and last week was good and bad. On Tuesday night, the Badgers outplayed the Aspermont Hornets for a 56-55 win. But, good of Wylie beat us again so that cut out our chances for the District championship unless some miracle might happen. In the Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation Essay Contest, Merkel had several district winners, including one from Jr. high and three from high school. In the 7th grade, Lisa Suzanne Warner, first; 11th grade, Beverly Mawson, second; and 12th grade, Kathy Cypert, first. We're especially proud of Suzanne Warner because her essay was chosen to represent Taylor County in the statewide contest. This week in basketball the Badgers will play Rotan here Tuesday and Albany here Friday, so come on down to the Gym and back the Badgers.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To any Sheriff or any Constable within the State of Texas--GREETING:
You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas, the accompanying citation, of which the herein below following is a true copy.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Ronald Gordon Waldron, DEFENDANT, Greeting:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County at the Court-house thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 18th day of February A.D. 1974, to Plaintiff's Petition filed

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS:

1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:
Project: Renovation of the Old Taylor County Courthouse for State Department of Health Offices.
Owner: Taylor County Texas
Architect: Little, Luther, Loving-340 North Abilene, Texas.
Site: Old Taylor County Courthouse, 300 Block of Oak Street, Abilene, Texas.
2. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF WORK:
Renovation of existing courtroom and office space into office space. Work includes new resilient floor covering, drywall partitions, acoustical ceilings, air conditioning, plumbing and electrical items.
3. TYPES OF PROPOSALS:
Bids shall be submitted in one single lump sum category entitled General Construction which shall include all portions of the work (General, Mechanical, and Electrical).
4. TIME AND PLACE:
The Owner will receive sealed proposals until 10:00 A.M. February 12, 1974 in the Commissioners Courtroom of the New Taylor County Courthouse, 300 Block of Oak Street, Abilene, Texas. Proposals received after this time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend; proposals will be opened publicly and read aloud.
5. EXAMINATION AND PROCUREMENT OF DOCUMENTS:
Plans and specifications may be examined at the Architect's office. General Contractors, Mechanical Sub-Contractors, and Electrical Sub-Contractors may obtain the plans and specifications upon the deposit of \$25.00. The entire deposit will be refunded upon return of the specifications within ten (10) days after receipt of bids.
6. BID SECURITY:
Bid security in the amount of 5% of the total largest proposal must accompany each proposal in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders.
7. BIDDERS QUALIFICATION:
The General, Mechanical and Electrical Contractors will be issued invitations by the Owner. The General Contractor shall be required to provide a performance bond and payment bond in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract amount.
8. OWNER'S RIGHT TO REJECT PROPOSALS:
The Owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject proposals. The Owner reserves the right to award a contract within thirty (30) days following the bid opening. No bids may be withdrawn during this time.
9. LABOR STANDARDS AND WAGE RATE SCHEDULE:
Attention to bidders is particularly called to the State and Federal laws regarding the Conditions of Employment and the Minimum Prevailing Wage Rates to be paid.
By: Roy Skaggs
Judge, Taylor County Commissioners Court 47-21c

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PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Melvin Taylor, DEFENDANT, Greeting:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 25th day of February A.D. 1974, to Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition filed in said court, on the 8th day of January A.D. 1974, in this cause, numbered 8575 on the docket of said court and styled Irvy Ann Taylor, Plaintiff, vs. Melvin Taylor, Defendant.
A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Divorce; Married October 8, 1971, separated September 28, 1973. No children and no community property as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's First Amended Original 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 writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this 8th day of January A.D. 1974.
Attest: IRENE CRAWFORD Clerk, Domestic Relations Court, Taylor County, Texas By Marie Adkins, Deputy. 47-41c

Tru Fir

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

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this 2nd day of January A.D. 1974.

Attest: IRENE CRAWFORD Clerk, 42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas By Myrna Lawrence, Deputy. 46-40

AI TI BI

Contractors, Mechanical Sub-Contractors, and Electrical Sub-Contractors may obtain the plans and specifications upon the deposit of \$25.00. The entire deposit will be refunded upon return of the specifications within ten (10) days after receipt of bids.

Bid security in the amount of 5% of the total largest proposal must accompany each proposal in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders.

The General, Mechanical and Electrical Contractors will be issued invitations by the Owner. The General Contractor shall be required to provide a performance bond and payment bond in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract amount.

The Owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject proposals. The Owner reserves the right to award a contract within thirty (30) days following the bid opening. No bids may be withdrawn during this time.

Attention to bidders is particularly called to the State and Federal laws regarding the Conditions of Employment and the Minimum Prevailing Wage Rates to be paid.

By: Roy Skaggs
Judge, Taylor County Commissioners Court 47-21c

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Attest: IRENE CRAWFORD Clerk, Domestic Relations Court, Taylor County, Texas By Marie Adkins, Deputy. 47-41c

Truck For Fighting Grass Fires Outfitted by FD,CD

The Merkel Volunteer Department, in cooperation with the Merkel Civil Defense Department have just finished outfitting and placed into service the 3rd unit which designed and especially equipped for fighting grass fire, according to Civil Defense Director Fred Starbuck.

City Police News

The Merkel Police Department has moved its office to the second floor of the City Hall. The office has been repainted and cleaned up by the department.

Police Chief Jim Broussard said that the department was moved upstairs in order to give them more privacy and to reduce the confusion downstairs.

The radio equipment used by the department has been moved to the new office also. A Personal Intercom has been installed to the ground floor, giving the department an easy way to communicate with the office on the first floor.

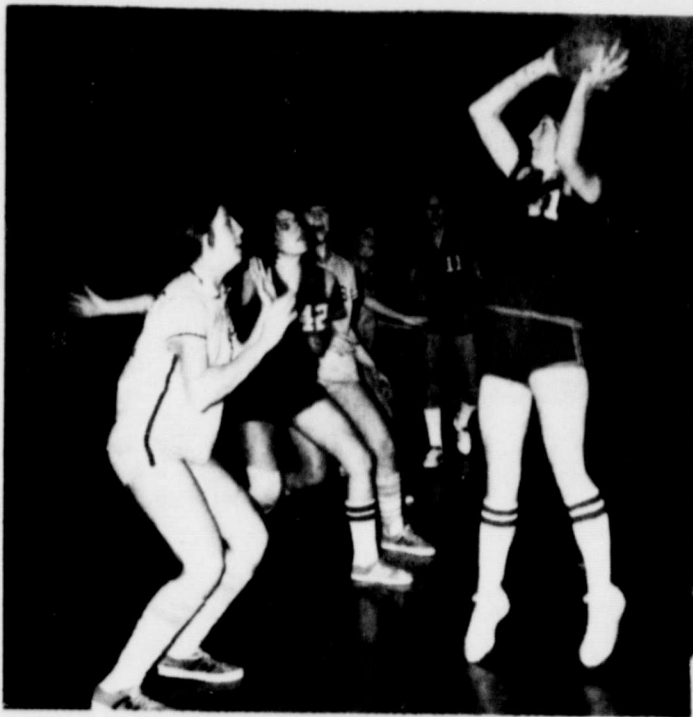
"We feel the new office will aid us in our work as it sometime became difficult to work in our old quarters due to the number of people coming in to the city hall to conduct other city business," the chief said.

The truck was outfitted at total expense of approximately \$5,000. Starbuck said that letters were mailed to 200 people asking their volunteer support in the amount of \$1,500 to help defray the cost of the fire truck.

Approximately one half of the letter recipients have responded, giving approximately \$600. "Having faith that the total amount needed will be forth coming from those contacted, we have obligated ourselves for approximately \$700," Starbuck said.

"If you have intended to help with this program, your contribution is needed now," Starbuck continued.

The rural fire program was originated 15 years ago. It is supported by volunteer money. "We appreciate the help the rural people have extended to the program," he said.



SHOOT, SHOOT--Anetta Stephan gets ready to shoot for the Merkel girls Friday night against the Wylie girls. The girls lost 48-29. (Photo by LaVonne Bunch)



LET'S GO TEAM--Badger Coach Ronnie Aldridge talks to his team Friday night at the Wylie game. Merkel lost the game 56-46. (Photo by LaVonne Bunch)



DISTRICT FIRST PLACE WINNERS
... Kathy Cypert, Suzanne Warner, Lisa Hart

Middle Clear Fork Conservation Essay Contest Winners Listed

Several members from the Merkel and Trent School system were winners in the essay contest of the Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District sponsored by the Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation and Taylor Electric Co-op in Merkel.

Winners on the local level from Merkel were as follows: 12th Grade--Kathy Cypert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Cypert, 11th Grade--Beverly Mawson, daughter of Darla Mawson, 2. Tony Helmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Helmer, 9th Grade--Suzanne Warner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Warner of Tye, 2. Marsha Clyburn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Clyburn; 8th Grade, 1st Sherry West, daughter of Mrs. Joyce West and Bobby West; 2nd Ronny Trull, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Trull; 3rd Marlon White, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. White of Tye; and 4th Freda Crenshaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Hart; 2nd Jay Boyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Boyd; 3rd Ricky Howe, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Howes; and 4th Carla Ruster, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Halbert Ruster.

Merkel, Tye and Trent also had winners on the district level of the essay contest. They are: 7th Grade--1st place--Lisa Hart of Merkel; 4th Grade--1st place--Suzanne Warner of Tye, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Warner; 2nd place--Teri Hamner of Trent; 10th Grade--Pam King of Trent; 11th Grade--2nd place--Beverly Mawson of Merkel, daughter of Darla Mawson; 12th Grade--1st place--Kathy Cypert of Merkel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Cypert; and 2nd place--Rose Chromiste of Trent.

Suzanne Warner's essay was judged the sweepstakes winner and will represent Taylor County schools in the state wide contest.

District winners, along with their parents, teacher, principal and superintendent are invited guests at the annual awards banquet at ACC Cafeteria March 26.

HONOR ROLL

Travis Davis, Merkel High School Principal, has released the following list of students making the honor roll.

A HONOR ROLL SEMESTER
Tonja Crenshaw, Kathy Cypert, Beverly Gilmore, Lisa Gregory, Mike Henry, Retha Mattingly, Beverly Mawson, Kristi Nease, Annette Parmelley, Becky Santee, Cynthia Steck, Jerie Stephan, Suzanne Warner, Stanley West, Donna White, Rhonda White.

A & B HONOR ROLL SEMESTER
Cherie Aiken, Mary Jo Barnes, Stephen Best, John Biera, Wanda Blair, Christy Boone, Royce Bratcher, Sherri Bratcher, Glen Braune, Wanda Braune, Lee Ann Butman, Audie Byrd, Steven Castille, Ciestra Cochran, Janie Clark, Ricky Conley, Jeff Cox, Karolyn Davis, Donna Ditz, Greg Doan, Roger Doan. Also, Susan Donaldson, Danny DuBose, Becky Ely, Cathy Fariello, Cindy Fishery, Nancy Fudge, Steve Gentry, Teresa Griffith, Sherlyn Guenther, Jackie Harris, Andy Hart, Kathy Hendricks, Dan Hobbs, Randall Howes, Rhonda Howes, Tammy, Hudman, Becky Kimbrell, David King, David Kraatz, Mike Magee, Tonja McAninch, Kathryn Murrell, Rose Ann Noster.

5 From Merkel Make Dean's List At Angelo State

John Scott Higgins, Catherine Roberson, Donald West Warren, Jr., Leonard Boden and Patsy Ann Hutton, all of Merkel, students at Angelo State University in San Angelo, are listed on the Dean's Honor Roll for the fall semester at the University.

Higgins, Ms. Roberson, Boden and Ms. Hutton are listed on the 3.00 to 3.49 honor roll. Warren is listed on the 3.50 to 4.00 honor roll.

Area Nurses Invited To District Seminar

The Alpha Delta Nu chapter of the Texas Nursing Students Association and the big country area of The American Lung Association are co-sponsoring a district seminar on Saturday, February 2, 1974. Included are Nursing Schools at Odessa Junior College, El Paso Community College, University of Texas at El Paso, and Angelo State University. Invitations have been issued to all nursing students of these schools, as well as professional nurse in the area.

All R.N.'s and L.V.N.'s are welcome. Application has been made to the Texas Nurses Association for continuing education credit. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Houston Harte University Center at ASU and the program will conclude by 3:00 p.m.

Wanda Braune, Belinda Broussard, Steven Castille, Janie Clark, Ricky Conley, Jeff Cox, Karolyn Davis, Greg Doan, Roger Doan, Susan Donaldson, Danny DuBose, Becky Ely.

Also, Cathy Fariello, Cindy Fisher, Nancy Fudge, Steve Gentry, Teresa Griffith, Jackie Harris, Andy Hart, Dan Hobbs, Randall Howes, Rhonda Howes, Tammy, Hudman, Becky Kimbrell, David Kraatz, Tonja McAninch, Bert McElmurray, Rose Ann Noster, Terry Reed.

Also, Melody Regeon, Becky Ruster, Ronnie Sanford, Mike Sloan, Tommy Sloan, Scott Tarpley, Kathy Thomas, Marsha Thompson, Gwyn Tipton, Gayla Tolver, Larry Tolver, Patty Toney, Susie Toombs, Sheila Wade, Ernie Walters, Billy Watts, Rita Watts, Steve West, Jim Wharton, Cindy Whisenhunt, Donna White, Rhonda White, James Williams, Jan Wooten, Mary Wright.

Golf News Ladies

More and more ladies are coming out to play golf. Their scores are not quite as bad as they thought. Many ladies are getting ready for spring tournaments, getting out and meeting new people and enjoying other golf courses.

If your family belongs to the Merkel Country Club, you can join the Merkel Ladies Golf Association for \$3 a year. Right now we are playing golf any day, but Tuesday is set aside for the ladies only. If you are looking for a good pastime where you can get away from it all, come out and enjoy a nice round of golf.

MULBERRY 4-H NEWS

Mulberry Canyon 4-H had their last meeting January 14. The meeting was called together by president, Teresia Clemmer. The 4-H pledge and motto was given by Cindy Whisenhunt, the American Pledge by Tommy Swinney and the Inspiration by Sherri Williams. Minutes of the last meeting were read by Lisa Swinney.

Our program was announced by Johnny Gray. He introduced our assistant County Agent who gave an informative talk about the energy crisis.

Members present were: Johnny Gray, Teresia Clemmer, Lisa Swinney, Sheila and Tommy Swinney, Mike Brown, Sherri Williams, Cindy Hutchings, Ann Wooten and Bart and Cindy Whisenhunt.

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Is Lone Star doing everything it can to hold down costs?

Answer:

Yes!

We're operating more efficiently than ever before. But our costs are going up none the less . . . just like yours.

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Within the last 18 months, we have invested nearly \$100 million:


- to build a large diameter, 400-mile pipeline from West Texas to the Dallas-Ft. Worth area,
- for other facilities along this pipeline,
- to attach major new reserves and
- to pay for well drilling by producers . . . all for the purpose of assuring continuing natural gas supplies to our customers.

These investments don't even include the cost of all the gas we must buy to fill the line. In 1969, natural gas cost us about 19 cents per thousand cubic feet.

Recently we paid more than 85 cents for major new supplies. And the price is still rising.

Costs like these are the price Lone Star must pay for your continuing natural gas supplies. It's important that you understand our need for adequate rates so we can continue to deliver clean gas energy to your home for winters to come.

We're doing everything possible to hold down controllable costs. But even with gradual rate increases, natural gas from Lone Star will still be your most economical and efficient non-polluting fuel.



Lone Star Gas
Clean Energy for Today and Tomorrow

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Telephone Company), Mr. Bruce McClelland, General Service Manager, Mr. C. L. Hagen, General Traffic Manager, Mr. J. R. Wisbauer, General Engineering Manager, Mr. R. G. Hughes, Community Relations Manager (former Vice President and General Manager of Texas Telephone & Telegraph Company), and Mr. G. G. Linnabery, Inter-Company Relations Manager.

Continental Telephone Company of Texas encompasses 175 exchanges throughout the state, has approximately 750 employees with some \$85 million worth of equipment and facilities. The Continental Telephone System has properties in forty-one states, Canada and the Caribbean islands and is the third largest independent telephone company in the United States.

This merger should show positive effects on the prosperity of the company, making it more financially sound, providing a strong structure for steady growth and job security, and providing more efficient operation and improved service, a company said.

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HUNTS 26 oz. BOT. CATSUP 43¢

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CARSONS COUPON WITH THIS COUPON 1-pound Can of Maryland Club Coffee 83 Without coupon 1.03

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HORMEL 300 CHILI WITH BEANS EA. 45

BAMA 18 oz. RED PLUM JELLY EA. 43¢

SUDDEN BEAUTY HAIR SPRAY JUMBO 13 oz. CAN 49¢

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YOUNG LEAN PORK ROASTS BEST by TASTE

DEL-MONTE PINEAPPLE-GRAPEFRUIT DRINK 46 oz. CAN 35¢

FRESH LETTUCE Firm Head POUND 15¢

FRESH BEEF LIVER LB. 89¢

CHEER AJAX DETERGENT KING SIZE 119

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BACON DECKER POUND 109

TIDE FAMILY BOX (1 LIMIT) 239

FRESH TOMATOES WASHINGTON DELICIOUS LB. 29¢

FRANKS DECKER 12 oz. PKG. 69¢

JOY LIQUID GT. BOT. 49

RED APPLES ARZONA LB. 29¢

SAUSAGE DECKER POUND SACK 79¢

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