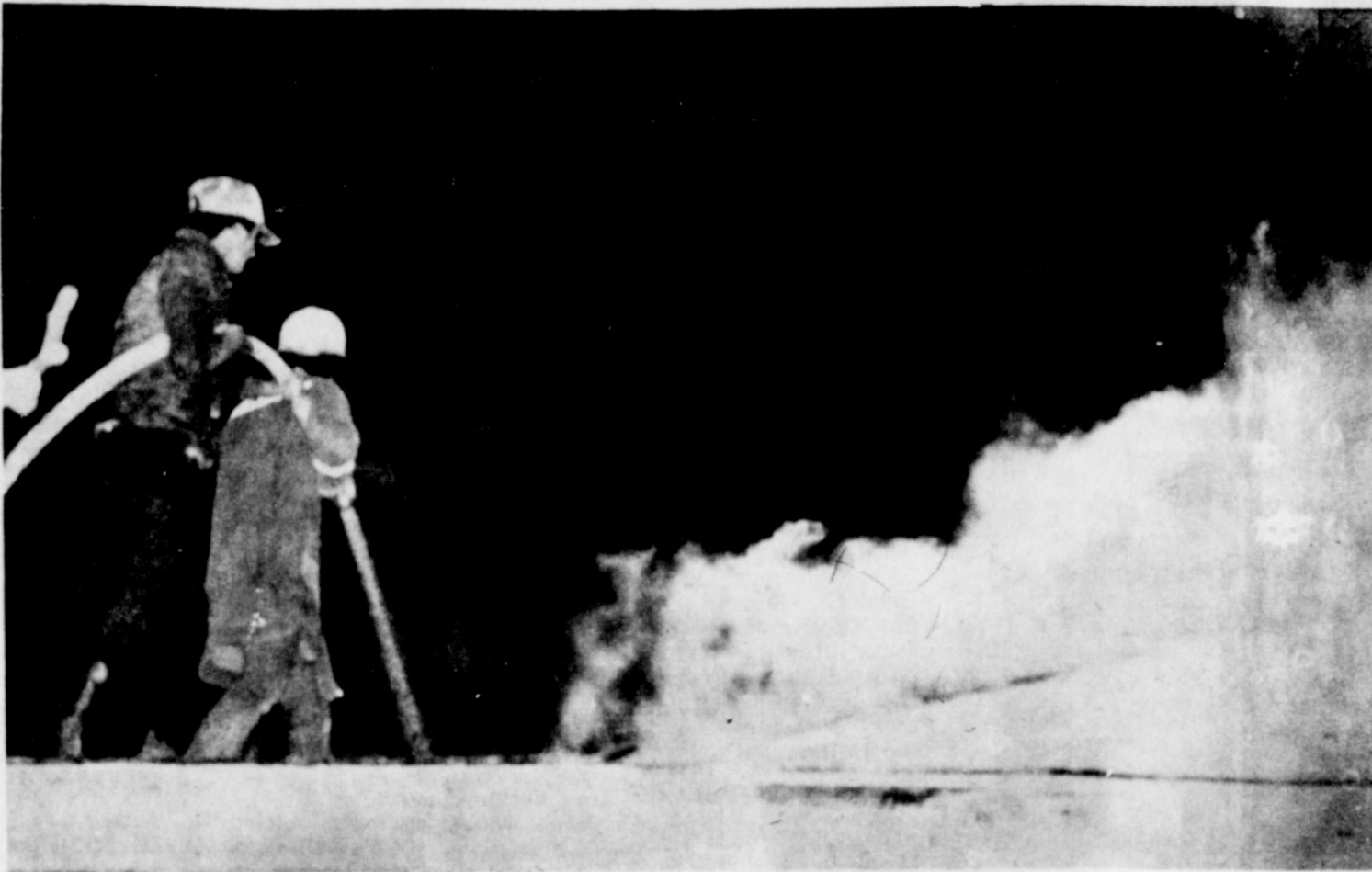


# The Merkel Mail

Thursday, April 3, 1980...Merkel, Texas

15 cents



## Wimberly home destroyed Thursday

The Hugh and Mary Wimberly home on Heath Street in Merkel was destroyed by a Thursday morning and Thursday evening blaze.

Members of the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department were called to the home Thursday morning and a large portion of the home was burned before the fire could be put out. Firemen spent two hours at the scene after the blaze was over looking for hot spots in the home.

Thursday night, the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department was again called to the home and the

second fire completely destroyed the home.

The Wimberlys are members of the First Baptist Church here and, according to church member Sue Doan, the church is planning a community wide shower Thursday evening at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Doan said that several area churches had expressed an interest in the shower. The shower was announced at local churches Sunday.

The Wimberlys lost all of their possessions in the Thursday fires, and local citizens are encouraged to donate goods to the family.

Merkel Volunteer Fireman Mitch Atkinson and an unidentified fireman battle the blaze at the Wimberly's home on Heath here Thursday. At right, Merkel fireman Jackie Cannon hoses down a hot spot. The home was completely destroyed by the blaze and a shower is set for the family tonight. (Staff photo by Cloy A. Richards)



## Council pays off bond, buys car

Merkel city council met in regular session Thursday evening and bought a police car and decided to pay off a 1965 water-sewer bond.

That call in left the only outstanding bond that only has two years remaining.

The calling in of the 1965 bond will bring a \$6,000 refund to the city and council is already talking about ways to spend that money.

Council responded to inquiries from the Mail pertaining to water meters and water service.

Council was told that approximately 20 percent of the city's 1100 water meters are inoperative but city water superintendent Robert Harris said that only 15 or 20 of those meters would make money.

City Manager J.A. Sadler said that each meter costs about \$50 to replace and council said they would look into replacing the meters, when the money comes in from the early payoff of the 1965 water bond.

Council is also seeking an alternate method to reading meters. City staff estimated that it took two men about a week of nothing but reading meters to get the job done. Council discussed hiring a person on a part-time basis to read meters and even heard a suggestion to hire another city employee.

In other action, council bought a used car from Palmer Pontiac on a bid basis. The car is being used as the city's third patrol car. The city paid approximately \$2750 for the car and warranty. The car is white with a maroon vinyl top and has already been equipped with standard patrol lights.

Merkel Police Chief Ray Pack also told council that his department took in about \$1,000 from a benefit show held here recently. Part of the money was used to buy a light bar for a patrol car.

Council met at a new time Thursday evening and decided to keep the 7 p.m. meeting time, each second and fourth Thursday of the month.

Council's next session is set for 7 p.m. April 10th.

## Santa Fe blames faulty track insulator in \$1 million derailment

Santa Fe officials have totaled dollar damage in last Sunday's derailment four miles south of Merkel and have laid blame on a faulty insulator joint in the track for the derailment.

According to Santa Fe regional manager Loren Simmons of their Dallas office Santa Fe suffered about one million in losses. Mr. Simmons also said the railroad company was satisfied with their response and notification system for derailments.

Simmons said he and other Santa Fe officials would be visiting the area Tuesday (two days ago) and assessing the damage and clean-up effort.

The Mail talked to Taylor County Sheriff Jack Landrum last Thursday and the Sheriff told the Mail that the county has no plan concerning rail derailments. He said his office called Santa Fe last Sunday morning and told them they had a report of a derailment south of Merkel.

The Mail had called after the Maxwells, a couple who live, and run cattle near the derailment, had called the newspaper after hearing the wreck.

The Sheriff told the Mail that his people contacted Santa Fe. Santa Fe said they had the situation under control and did not need assistance. The Sheriff's office did not dispatch a car to the scene.

## City, county need derailment plan

By Cloy A. Richards

The recent derailment of a Santa Fe freighter south of Merkel explained one point very clearly.

The city, and the county, have no disaster plans when it comes to railroad derailments.

Santa Fe operates a main line of their norther route through a total of 19 Taylor County miles. An average of 23 trains per day travel the line with an average of 61 freight cars and tankers.

Missouri Pacific operates the line that splits Merkel's north and south sides, operate 17 freight trains per day, with an average of 69 cars, and there are four general use crossings over that track, three within city limits and one just to the east of town.

The rail presence in the rest of the county is both beneficial to the economy of urban and rural dwellers alike.

The traffic on the two routes illustrates that, at the very least, the possibility of a derailment exists an average of 40 times per day within the area.

Beyond those numbers, lie only probabilities, which are nothing more than fiction until they become realities.

Santa Fe officials have maintained throughout the past ten days that they fulfilled their notification requirements when their train derailed south of here. The problem, as some folks see it, is that their notification list did not call for Santa Fe to notify city of Merkel officials.

If that is true, then maybe the city, and the county should plan and adopt a rail disaster emergency procedure.

At least one chemical is hauled down the two local railroad lines daily that no one would like to see spilled. If winds are high, which they usually are around here, a wide area might have to be evacuated during a derailment involving dangerous chemicals because of wind drifts of fumes.

If that situation was to occur, I believe the situation would be handled in a more efficient manner with a plan.

Santa Fe officials told the Mail last week that they have even staged derailments near municipalities to test local derailment emergency plans and would be willing to assist in the adoption and creation of any local emergency plans.

The adoption of a city plan would not totally solve

the problem unless Merkel city officials would be placed on notification plans of the Taylor County Sheriff's Office and the regional office of the Texas Department of Public Safety. Unless city officials were not notified of a derailment, that may be outside the city limits, but could threaten local residents, then a hole would still remain.

A community-wide shower is being held tonight at 7 PM for a local couple who lost most of their possessions in a fire last week.

Hugh and Mary Wimberly of Merkel lost their home last Thursday and a shower is being held to help them get back on their feet again.

The shower will be held at the First Baptist Church here at 7 PM tonight (Thursday).

The community is invited to attend.

City and school elections are set this weekend for Merkel, Trent and Tye.

In Merkel races, school board incumbents Kenny Hogan and Leroy Teaff are running unopposed.

In Merkel city races, incumbents Ted Smith, Pete Morgan and Jerry Byrd are being challenged by Martha Sue Justice, Joe Bigbee, Paul Crouse and Jo Ann Mashburn. Three seats on council will be elected. Voting will be held at the high school.

In Trent races, school board incumbents Rosemary Bland and Weldon Beasley are being challenged by Sheila Hunt, Ted Simpson and Bruce McGlothlin. In Trent city races, Booth West and Ken Kraatz have filed for reelection unopposed.

In the Tye city race, incumbent Place 4 candidates are Leon Van Gorp, Leonard Neith and Melvin White. Candidates for Place 2 are Dewitt Isom and Earnest Tyler.

Tye mayor James Barley is also being challenged by James Snowden.

All elections are set for Saturday.

The Mail will begin its 32nd year of business next week and we are planning an extra mailing to rural citizens of the Merkel, Trent, Tye area. Local businesses have been contacted pertaining to special advertising rates and we hope to bring you a good luck at the history of this paper as we begin another year as this town's oldest business.

## MISD board meets Tuesday night

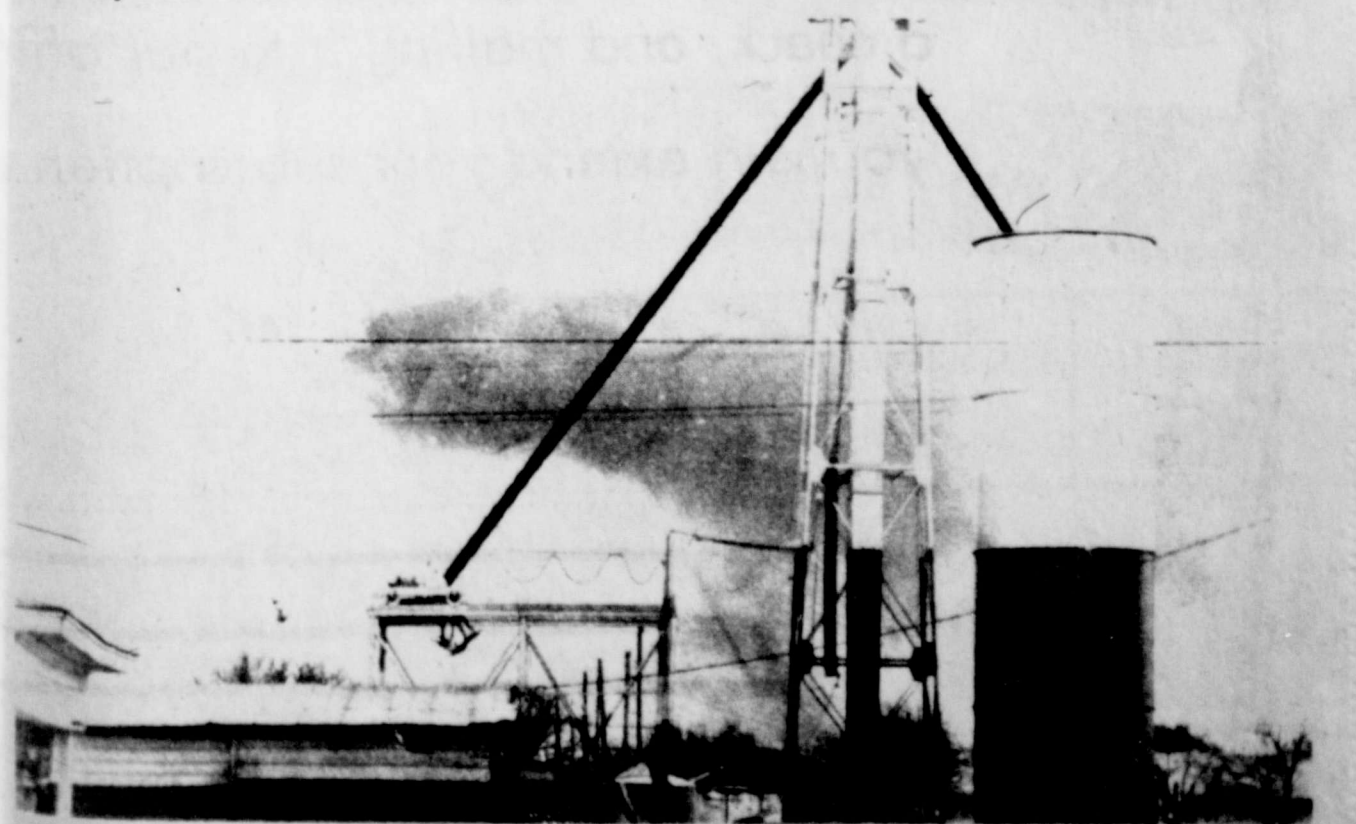
The Merkel ISD Board of Trustees are scheduled to meet April 7th at 7:30 to canvass election returns and possibly answer a five point plan presented to the board concerning teacher pay raises and contracts.

The board must reorganize itself following Saturday's election but incumbents Leroy Teaff and

Kenny Hogan ran unopposed.

School superintendent Dr. Raymond Etheridge said at the last board meeting that Tuesday's agenda does not have to be limited to canvassing the election returns and the reorganization of the board.

The meeting will be held in the chemistry classroom, near the High School office.



An ominous looking cloud rises from the site of a Santa Fe derailment last week as Santa Fe decided to burn off a tank that had caught Naptha as it

spilled from a split tank car. The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department was called to the scene and the Naptha burned off, quickly. (Staff photo)



### Skipper makes Merkel permanent port

By Cloy A. Richards

He is the only retired sea captain we know of in town, and one wonders why a sea captain would choose Merkel for a retirement locale in lieu of Freeport, Padre Island, Corpus or Brownsville. In the case of Captain Ozro Sheppard, family ties led to the choice.

Captain Sheppard, or Shep as he is more affectionately known, has two daughters and their families here. Linda Cravens, married to Logan and Rhoda Allen, married to Lou David, are Shep's daughters, and he wanted to spend his retirement years close to them.

You see, Shep is retiring for the second time and is being honored at a couple of fancy affairs being put on by the Port of Houston Authority. Shep is retiring from ten years of skippering the Sam Rayborn, an excursion ship that takes people from all walks of life on tours of the Houston Ship Channel. His first retirement came after reaching Navy Chief Petty Officer.

Captain Sheppard and his wife were guests of honors at a couple of retirement parties Sunday and Monday. He was honoree at a party Sunday and chatted with Ed Hawkins, who engineered the ship that Captain Sheppard guides on excursions and was presented a cake in the shape of a ship at a party Monday in Houston.

They bought their home here six years ago because they wanted a place to stay of their own while visiting their daughters and grandchildren and the temporary place to stay became a permanent home yesterday.

He will keep himself busy by running a few cattle but will have to have a keen imagination if he wants to wake up in the morning with the cool, crisp breeze one gets used to wherever 20 years plus in the Navy will take you.

Those memories will probably soon be replaced, at least for the moment, by spending his time watching a few cattle, and his grandchildren grow.

The captain's wife is the former Margie Lee Douglas of Wichita Falls.



Captain Sheppard

### Garden Club meets LPG powered vehicle must have sticker

#### Club meets

The Merkel Garden Club met Thursday, March 28 at the home of Louise Sudderth with Verdie Patterson co-hostess.

Roll call was answered with our favorite bulb. A report of the recent District Garden Club meet in San Angelo was made by Leota Sherrill and Olga Peachey.

The program was on bulbs and was given by Lenore Wilburn, La-moyne Hughes, Leota Sherrill, Olga Peachey, Jessye Shannon, Jewel Criswell, Georgia All-day, Lottie Everett, Mary Russom, Ora Griggs, Linnie Fisher, Lola Cox, Alice King, Mary Cleo Sadler, and the hostess.

Those present were: Lenore Wilburn, La-moyne Hughes, Leota Sherrill, Olga Peachey, Jessye Shannon, Jewel Criswell, Georgia All-day, Lottie Everett, Mary Russom, Ora Griggs, Linnie Fisher, Lola Cox, Alice King, Mary Cleo Sadler, and the hostess.

Track season enters into a flurry of activity this weekend, leading up to district tournaments in ten days.

Merkel will host Hamlin and Anson 7th, 8th grade and Junior Varsity boys here in a meet Thursday and the Badger Varsity girls and boys teams will compete in a Wylie track meet at ACU Elmer Gray Stadium Friday at 3 p.m.

Saturday the boys varsity team will travel to Spur for a meet and boys coach Doug Guynes said his team has a chance to win that meet.

According to figures rating top performance in the district this year, Merkel is in the top three in seven events and fourth in two others.

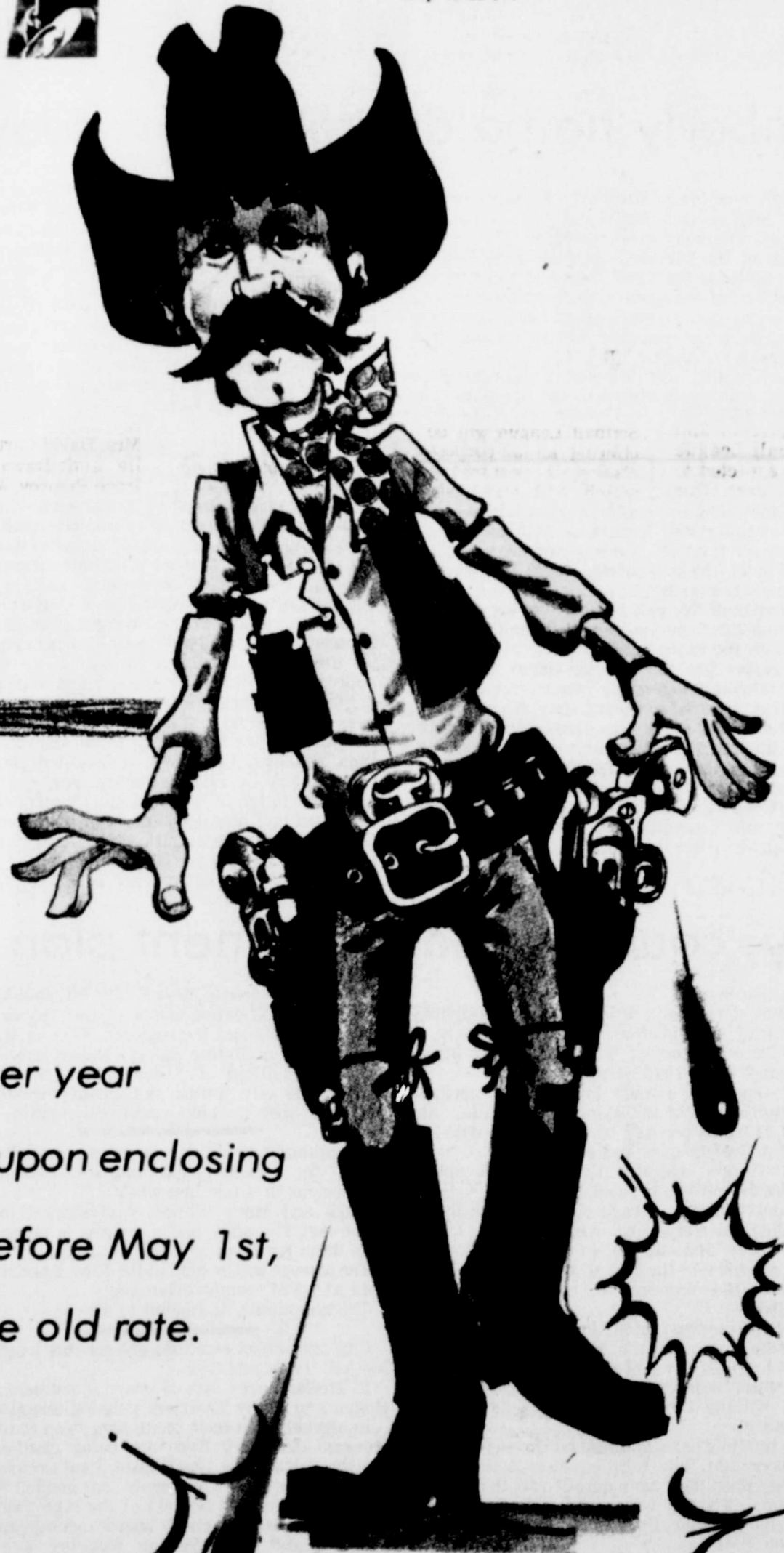
The Badgers mile relay team of Danny Davis, Randy Martin, Bart Pursley and Ty Nelson set a new school record in the mile relay as they blazed to a 3:36.71 timing and shaved six seconds off of the old record. That is also the fastest time in the district this year. The Badgers will meet Wylie's mile relay team Friday. Wylie has the second best effort in the mile relay this year.

According to other top 6-2A times, Merkel has the third fastest 400 meter relay, ty Nelson third in the 800 meter with a 2:09.41, Randy Martin is third in the 110 hurdles with a 16.19, Danny Tutt is third in the 100 meter with a 11.62, Danny Davis is fourth in the 400 meter with a 54.0, Sal Acosta has the second best mile time of 4:59.83, the mile relay has the best time in the district, Ty Nelson is tied for fourth in the high jump with a 5'10" leap and Bart Pursley is third with a 12-foot pole vault, Randy Martin is fourth with a leap of 11'6".

## Pre Inflation Sale

Merkel Mail subscriptions will rise to \$7.50 local and \$8.25 out of county per year effective May 1st. By filling out the coupon enclosing a check, and mailing it to our office before May 1st, you can extend your subscription at the old rate.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Check one: In-county...\$6.50   
 Out-of-county...\$7.25   
 (Mail coupon to P. O. Box 428, Merkel, Tex. 79536)



# The Merkel Mail



## Deason, Ferguson wed March 28th

Kathy Deason and Joel Ferguson exchanged marriage vows Friday, March 28, at the home of her parents with Brother Burt Norman of Abilene officiating. The bride was given away in marriage by her father.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip R. Deason of Merkel and the bridegroom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Ferguson of Abilene.

The bride's maid of honor was Becky Deason, her sister, of Merkel.

Best man was Mark Norman of Merkel.

Flower girl was Carrie Ferguson of Abilene.

The reception was hosted by the bride's parents.

The bride is a graduate of Merkel High School and attended McMurry College. She is employed by Edsel Burford Florist in Abilene.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Abilene High and is employed by Triple A Plumbing and Heating in Abilene.

The couple will make their home in Abilene.



Mrs. Joel Ferguson

## Water safety courses

Persons interested in becoming Red Cross Water Safety Instructors in Taylor County this summer can receive their training in April or May at the following places:

April 7-11, Abilene Christian University—class for men, 6:00-10:00 PM

April 21-25, ACU—class for women, 6:00-10:00 PM

May 19, Sun Fish Pool, N. 10th and Pioneer, Abilene, men and women, 6:30-9:30 PM. Training for Beginner Swim Instructors being held at same time.

To be eligible to train as a Red Cross Water Safety Instructor, students must hold a current

life-saving certificate and be at least seventeen years of age.

An Advanced Life-Saving Course will be held for two weeks from 6:00-9:00 beginning April 21 at Rose Park Pool.

Miss Beverly Ball, Taylor County Red Cross Water Safety Chairman, announced that this training will cover those who plan to teach Red Cross Classes in Abilene and residents of Merkel and State Park areas who will teach in programs at those pools this summer.

For further information and registration, call Red Cross Headquarters 677-2622.

## Softballers

The youth sport program for Merkel and Trent Softball League this year is expected to be the best ever. One hundred youngsters participated in it last year and 120 are expected this year. Mr. Jack Riney has been elected President for the coming year. He and a committee composed of Team Managers and interested mothers met on March 31, 1980, to announce that \$1,200 is needed for equipment.

Merkel and Trent Softball League will be offering an all-purpose cleaner concentrate which will make six gallons of the best rug shampoo or 40 gallons of window cleaner. A powerful degreaser which is an excellent product for cleaning ovens, barbecue grills and motors is also being offered. We all use cleaner, so let's buy one or more bottles to help Merkel and Trent Softball League reach their goal.

## New club organized in Tye

Tye has organized a new club in connection with the County Extension Homemakers Club. The officers are President, Betty Adams; vice president, Lisa McFall; Sec. Treas., Betty Moore; Council Delegate, Rhonda Griffith; Reporter, Mildred Isom. Other members are Sandy Neith, Nancy Moore, Cordelia Nease, Trudy Babbs, Juanita Joiner, Ann Adams, Nora Belle Easter, and Betty Crawford.

Lisa McFall was hostess for our first meeting March 11, after organizing our club in February. Joe Wilson, from the County Extension Agency, gave an informative program on gardening, which was enjoyed by all.

On April 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. we will be having a bake sale at the Tye Community Center. So come by and buy some goodies for Easter Sunday. Also we are selling cook books that have been compiled by members of the Taylor County Extension Homemakers Club, price \$3.50 each.

The next meeting will be held April 8, 1980. Anyone interested in joining, contact one of the members. We will be happy to have you.

## Goodman club meets

The Goodman Extension Homemaker Club met in the house of Mrs. David Carter March 28 with the president, Mrs. Garland Price, presiding with seven members and two children and two visitors; Mrs. Deristine from Lamesa and Mrs. Irene Pomroy from Merkel.

Prayer by Mrs. Frank Carter. Gaine by Mrs. Vivian Winters. Council report by Mrs. David Carter.

Business voted to go to Abilene for Rally Day, have lunch and go to a show.

A quilt will be put up in the home of Mrs. David Carter.

The program was "The Price is right," and was presented by Mrs. Frank Carter and Mrs. Garland Price. Points brought out—know your cuts in meat, look for less bone and less

fat. Hamburger meat you can fix many dishes for less money. Milk use dry milk, and canned milk that will keep without refrigeration. Use especially for cooking. Vegetable and fruit canned, read your labels buy size cans that fit your family's needs.

Refreshments were served to Mrs. Dan Butler, Mrs. Vivian Winters, Mrs. Frank Carter, Mrs. Carl Carey, Mrs. Dennis Butler, Mrs. David Carter, Shalia and David, Mrs. Irene Pomroy, Mrs. Deristine.

The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. Vivian Winters and will host the Stith and Compere Clubs the 11th of April with Mr. Adcock giving a program on Safety.

Everyone welcome regardless of color, race, or economic circumstance.

## Fortnightly study club holds meeting

The March 25 meeting of the Fortnightly Study Club was in the home of Mrs. Andy Shouse with Maurine White co-hostess.

Mrs. S.C. Dixon, program chairman, introduced the program *Public Affairs* with the quotation "Speech is civilization itself. The word preserves contact—it is silence which isolates." Thomas Mann. Mrs. Shouse played the piano for group singing, and she also played a beautiful piano selection.

Maurine White introduced Monte Stambough a Bell Telephone supervisor of Network Administration Department from the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company office in Abilene. Ms. Stambough gave a very interesting and informative talk on Telephone Communications

Then, Now and the Future. She illustrated her discussion with pictures of the old type switchboards and the modern desk-type switchboards being used today. She also told of future kinds of phones such as picture telephones, pocket, and even wrist-watch phones.

After the program Mrs. Johnny Hammond, president, presided for the business meeting. Mrs. Allen King gave a report of the Mesquite District Spring Convention which met in Snyder, March 14-15. Mrs. Hammond was elected second vice president of the Mesquite District T.F.W.C.

The high school student nominee from the Fortnightly Study Club, Becky Carter, Merkel High School senior, was awarded the scholarship

given by the Mesquite District T.F.W.C.

Other achievements won by the Fortnightly Study Club was a citation from the national F.W.C. for Community Improvement, sponsored by Sears Foundation, given for a report on the Merkel Library; also four second place ribbons for reports on club activities of the past year. Other members attending the convention were Mrs. Hammond, Mrs. Shouse, Maurine White and Mrs. C.M. Brown.

The Fortnightly Study Club and the Hamlin Study Club will co-host the Mesquite District

Spring Convention in 1981 here in Merkel.

Those present were visitors Mrs. Henry Howard and Mrs. Ernest Reynolds, and members Mary Collins, Mrs. S.C. Dixon, Mrs. Charles Eager, Miss Mildred Hamm, Mrs. J.W. Hammond, Mrs. Comer Carl Hughes, Mrs. Earl Hughes, Mrs. Allen King, Mrs. C.B. Knight, Mrs. Ed Sandusky, Mrs. Andy Shouse, Mrs. Aaron Sudderth, Miss Maurine White, Mrs. Alf Walla, Mrs. Allen Forbis and Mrs. Lynnward Harrison.



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| 77 PONTIAC SJ GRAND PRIX<br>Air, power, power windows, tilt, cruise, tape, rallye wheels, black with landau top, reduced       | \$3695 | 74 BUICK ELECTRA<br>4 door, loaded, green with beige vinyl top A Buy  | \$1995 |
| 76 CHEVROLET IMPALA WAGON<br>6 passenger, auto., air, cruise, beautiful blue, A Buy, ONLY                                      | \$2495 | 77 PONTIAC CATALINA<br>4 dr, air, power, blue   | \$3795 |
| 2-78 CATALINAS<br>One with white and red vinyl, the other a chesterfield brown with gold vinyl, 4 dr., air and power. A buy at | \$3495 | 77 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE 9<br>PASSENGER STATION WAGON<br>Cream color with wood grain siding nicely equipped, only            | \$3895 |
| 76 SUNBIRD<br>Automatic, power, air, 9,200 miles, one owner, like new  | \$3995 | 79 FORD MUSTANG COUPE<br>7,300 Miles, Auto, Power, Air, Cruise, Tilt, AMFM tape, wire wheels, Beautiful Auburn Color Nice | \$5995 |
| 79 GRAND PRIX<br>Automatic, power, air, tilt, cruise, am fm stereo, skymist blue with blue vinyl top, drivers ed car. Nice     | \$6095 | 76 CATALINA FOUR DOOR SEDAN<br>Auto, Power, Air, Beautiful White Color  | \$1995 |

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**PETE MORGAN SEEKS REELECTION FOR CITY COUNCILMAN**

I would appreciate your votes for reelection for a place on the city council.

I am in favor of Good City Government at a minimum cost to the taxpayer.

I oppose any tax raise or bond issue other than what would be necessary for the city to operate affectively.

We are operating with a minimum of employees to keep cost down. I realize we could do more, but it would cost the taxpayer more.

I urge all my friends to vote on April 5th.

Thank you for your consideration.

PETE MORGAN  
(Paid Political Ad by Pete Morgan)

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ASSORTED FLAVORS **ALLSUP'S ICE CREAM** 1/2 GAL. MD. CTR. **\$1.39**

BORDEN'S **COTTAGE CHEESE** 12 OZ. CTR. **79¢**



**For Sale**

LAND FOR SALE? Call Collect - Bill Largent, Farm and Ranch Mgr. at Frances McClure Inc. Realtors, 3157 South 27th Abilene, 698-3211, Night, 698-2375. 46-tfc

E.L. PALMER ESTATE Older home with fire, place, water well, etc. and 3 1/2 adjoining lots. 406 Orange St., \$12,500. Call Earl Palmer, 928-5255. 48-tfc

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: One year old home north of Merkel over 1900 square feet with ten acres. VA appraisal in hand. 928-4810 after 4. Daytime 692-8588. 5-tfc

LIKE NEW 1977 24 ft. Tioga Motor Home self-contained and all extras, sleeps six, 440 Dodge engine. Call Rex Bland at 862-3891. 4-tfc

FOR SALE: M Farmall tractor, on propane, 6 ft. shredder and a one-way moline plow. Call 928-4810 after 4. Daytime 692-8588. 5-tfc

CUTE, little, adorable Easter bunnies. White, brown, polkadotted. only \$3.50 Call 928-5437 after 5 p.m. 6-1tc

FOR SALE OR RENT: Three bedroom, fire place, carpeted, 7 rooms Call 928-5787. 5-tfc

**Card of Thanks**

The brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces of Pearl Tarpley Van Huss wish to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who helped in any way during her illness and death. Our special thanks to George Starbuck and Bro. Larry Gill for his sincere message and the singers from the Church of Christ (whose names we do not know) for the beautiful songs they sang. For the prayers offered in her behalf and just for being there when we needed you - Thank You. 6-1tc

We wish to thank all of our friends and neighbors for your prayers, flowers, food, visits, and thoughtfulness during the illness and death of our loved one, Pete Burfiend. May God bless each of you.

Mrs. Pete Burfiend Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Burfiend and family Mr. and Mrs. Roger Burfiend and family Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Burfiend and family Christine Kirkham 6-1tp

**Services**

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIR. Drop your footwear repair needs at Handy Food Store. 928-4912. One Week Service. 35-tfc

RECOVER AND DISCOVER how beautiful your present furniture can be. Randy's Upholstery and Fabrics at 1190 Butternut in Abilene. 38-tfc

We buy Oil and Gas Leases, contact Mr. Anderson, EDSCO Oil and Gas, 1133 N. 2nd, Suite 202, Abilene, Tex., 79601, AC (915) 672-6444. 3-tfc

Want to learn about beauty skin care? For luxurious facial, contact B'Ann Spurgeon, 862-2701, MARY KAY COSMETICS 2-tfc

GRANNY'S PLAYHOUSE, Licensed Child Care. Open 6:30-6:00 Monday-Friday. Call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange St. 28-tfc

PAINTING DONE. Interior and exterior, call Mike McCartney, 698-1528 after 5 p.m. 51-tfc

WILL PLOW gardens, mow lawns. 928-5777. 6-1tp

OPEN your own retail apparel shop. Offer the latest in jeans, denim and sportswear. \$14,850.00 includes inventory, fixtures, etc. Complete Store! Open in as little as 2 weeks anywhere in U.S.A. (Also infants and childrens shop). Call SUE, TOLL FREE 1-800-874-4780. 6-1tp

LICENSED Child Care. Open Monday through Friday. Call 928-5439 or come by 304 Lois. 6-9tp

**Garage Sales**

CAR PORT SALE Friday and Saturday at 512 Rose St. Also, BABY-SITTING or SITTING with the sick. Contact Margie Baker at 512 Rose St. 6-1tp

FOUR FAMILY INSIDE SALE: Storm door, carpet, Boys Jeans size 1-14, Ladies Fancy Jeans size 9-12, velvet scraps and misc. Thursday through Saturday. 710 S. 8th. 6-1tc

**For Rent**

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom doublewide Mobile Home, place to keep horses, 4 1/2 miles northeast of Merkel. Call 928-5549 after 6:00 p.m. 4-3tp

SHANNONSIDE APARTMENTS-1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments, shag carpet, all electric, dish washer, garbage disposal, central cooling and heating. For more information call 928-5038. 8-tfc

**Miscellaneous**

RABBITS-Spring is here and it is time for a back Yard cook out but the cost of meat is too high. Why not try rabbit. USDA frozen fryer-\$1.50 lb, roaster-\$6.00 lb. Call morning or evenings 915-928-5157 Buffalo Rabbitt Farm 6-4tp

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Call collect (915) 677-3921.

The City of Merkel, Texas, will hold a Public Hearing for its 1980-1981 budget at 7:00 P.M. April 10, 1980. Any interested citizen of Merkel is invited to attend. 6-1tc

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: To Whom it may concern Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition at or before ten o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of twenty days after the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 326th, Dist. Court of Taylor County, Texas, at the Court House of said County in Abilene, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said Court, on the 9th day of January A.D. 1980 in this cause, numbered 3390-C on the docket of said court, and styled, In The Interest of Crissy Childers

The nature of Plaintiff's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Original Petition, accompanying this citation and made a part hereof.

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 31st day of March A.D. 1980.

Attest: Irene Crawford, Dist. Clerk 326th, Dist. Court, Taylor County, Texas.

By Johnnie Wakefield, Deputy 6-1tc

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF OLLIE LILLY, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ollie Lilly were issued on March 11, 1980, in Cause No. 14,575, pending in the County Court of Taylor County, Texas, to:

Evelyn Evans The residence of such Executor is Taylor County, Texas. The post office address is:

Gaston Welborn, Jr. Station ACU Box 8244 Abilene, Texas 79699

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 27th day of March, 1980. By Gaston Welborn, Jr. Attorney for the Estate

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: George W. Eastburg and Betty Jean Eastburg or the unknown heirs of George W. Eastburg and Betty Jean Eastburg, if they be deceased, Defendants, Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable 42nd District 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 10th day of March A.D. 1980, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 10th day of March A.D. 1980, in this cause, numbered 36,568-A on the docket of said court and styled Ray J. West, Plaintiff, vs. George W. Eastburg and Betty Jean Eastburg et al., Defendants. A brief statement of

the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Suit to establish lost, destroyed or carried away deed of Lot 25, Block "P", Section 5, Alameda Addition to the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, and in the alternative to establish title by limitations. 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.

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Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this 10th day of March A.D. 1980.

Attest: Irene Crawford Clerk, 42nd District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Johnnie Woodard, Deputy. 4-4tc

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### Compere Club meets

The Compere Extension Homemakers Club met March 27 in Mrs. Dewey Ramsey's home for the regular meeting. Mrs. Ab Hunter, president, presided for the meeting. The prayer was given by Mrs. Hazel Spurgin. Mrs. Mims directed an "Easter Greeting" game. Mrs. Hugh Taylor read a poem "Tomorrow".

Roll call was answered with "My personal idea of being rich." The minutes were read and finance report given.

Council report was given by Louise Chancey. She reported Rally Day will be May 21. The place will be decided later.

The program on "The Price is Right" was brought by Louise Chancey and Bertha Hunter. It was brought out by Mrs. Chancey that there is 65 percent saved by a careful shopper. Sizes of cans are to be considered. Plan menus for savings. Consider price per serving on meat. Boneless meat is a saving. Let it have good color and be marbelized. To broil use meat with more fat. Make a list and stay within our budget. Know how to buy cans for casseroles. Buy frozen juices and mix drinks.

A beef and pork chart was handed out, also a book on "How to Buy Food."

Each member selected a can of food from a table of various foods, and told why she chose it.

From our imaginary five dollars, each member selected the cans she would buy with her money. Mrs. Wilson Williams came the nearest to her goal, and won the prize.

The hostess gift went to Mrs. Ab Hunter.

The next meeting will be April 11 when Compere and Stith Clubs meet with Goodman Club in Mrs. Vivian Winter's home in Merkel for a special meeting on Safety.

Refreshments were served to two gentlemen Clayton Dillard and Dewey Ramsey along with club members Mrs. Ab Hunter, Hazel Spurgin, Hugh Taylor, Clyde Chancey, Clyde Mims, Clayton Dillard, Wilson Williams, and the hostess Mrs. Dewey Ramsey.

All meetings are open to everyone regardless of race, creed, color, sex, national origin or economic circumstance.

### Stith Homemakers set bake sale

Stith Extension Homemakers Bake Sale is Saturday, April 5th in front of West Texas Utilities Company. If you want to make a special request, call Margaret Dickerson at 928-5296 or Daisy Mashburn at 928-5307.

## Fire department supper draws 100, candidates

By Harold Boyd

This weekend we'll all go to the polls to elect city and school officials. The place in Tye will be the Elementary School from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, April 5. Your vote is your voice in how you want to be represented. Don't forget, get out and vote. If you don't, then you shouldn't gripe after it is all said and done.

This past Saturday evening, Tye Volunteer Fire Department hosted a supper. More than 100 people showed up to partake of some of the finest cooking, bar none elsewhere. The candidates from Tye briefly spoke to the people present of their hopes if elected to the offices that they are running for. Now it is only up to the voters as to whom we want to govern our city.

Ken Law, candidate for Precinct 1, County Commissioner, spoke from his heart of an inspiration. His main concerns are those of the needs of the people, not only in Precinct 1 but for all of Taylor County. It would be appreciated if you believe in his goals to tell others of him and encourage them to vote for him.

Bill McCay, former law officer, probation officer and head of the probation department for the past 11 years, spoke also to the group. Bill is running for the office of sheriff. A qualified candidate for the office of sheriff, Bill's main goals are to remove the "dead wood" and increase night patrols, start a work release program for the ones in jail thus getting them off the welfare rolls and let them be productive in the community instead of a tax liability. I'm sure he'll appreciate your vote on May 3rd as well as Ken Law.

Mayor Barley has been informed that on April 8, the start of the sewer program will begin with a completion date in September 80. H-S Construction Company will receive final approval and go ahead at this time. The fence lines and alleys are being cleared to make way for this long awaited project.

You may have wondered just where the new city hall will be located. For most of you it will be between the beauty shop and barber shop. Things will start this week on this much needed facility.

For those who have asked about the council

meetings, these meetings are open to the public. An agenda is posted so as you will have an idea as to what will be discussed etc. If you are interested in city government, make it a date and come out and listen and hear what is going on in your city. These meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month and start promptly at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. After the city hall is complete, they will be hosted there.

Saturday evening with regret, our city policeman tendered his resignation to the city effective April 11. A statement was read by the mayor with deep regret as to why he is resigning. I believe a vote of praise by the people there showed Joe and his family how much they appreciated his job in hopes that he'll stay on as our police chief. We'll know more April 11 at our council meeting as to the status of this. It is time that we look at our city employees whether they police the streets, collect garbage or maintain the chores of keeping the streets in repair or collect water bills. These people are just like anyone of us. They are part of the community serving us. Whether we approve of the way they do their job or not, then speak up to your council. If they are doing their job do let them know and tell them so. I really believe that we also have a fine dedicated group of employees here and hope they continue to do the job as they have done in the past. As the old saying goes "You can't please all the people all the time." To you city officials, employees, our gratitude for the job you have done in the past and for the future, thanks.

This Sunday, April 6th is Easter. A day of rebirth, freshness, and a new life. Also a day we should cherish for "He is risen." Also your Volunteer Fire Department will host an Easter Egg Hunt for the children from the ages of 1 through 12 years. They will all meet at the fire house at 2 p.m. then will be escorted to the egg farm where they can gather the eggs. Prizes will be awarded to each group. Make it a date and hope to see as many as we had last year.

As Pastor Bob Roby said, "Only his Lord will know how he voted," and hope that you will vote your convictions this Saturday for the person of your choice.

Till the next column, from our house, may the good Lord look over each and every one of you and celebrate this Sunday with freshness and praise.

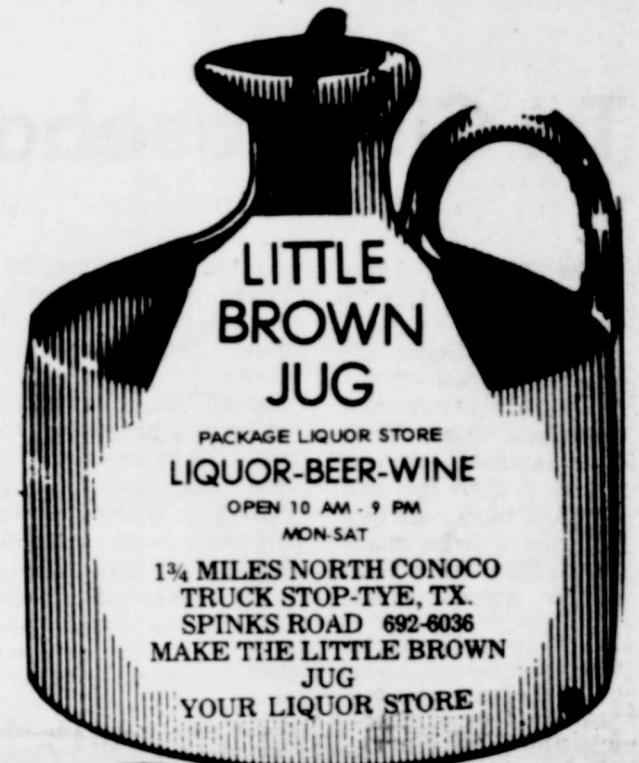


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| Gooch 12 Oz Pkg German SAUSAGE   | \$1.39       | IG MILK                         |                       |
| Gooch BOSTON BUTTS... lb         | 89¢          | VIT. D..... \$2.09 Gal          |                       |
| Gooch 4 Oz Pkg CHOPPED HAM       | 49¢          | LOWFAT..... \$2.05 Gal          |                       |
| Gooch Water Added SMOKED HAM     | lb 98¢       | Baking POTATOES... lb           | 19¢                   |
| Hormel PRESSED HAM               | lb \$1.59    | LEMONS..... each                | 10¢                   |
| All CIGARETTES \$5.49 Carton     |              | TOMATOES..... lb                | 39¢                   |
| REGGIE CANDY BAR                 |              | POTATOES... 10 lb Bag           | 98¢                   |
| Buy One for 25¢ Get One FREE     |              | DELTEX Packaged Candy           |                       |
| Nabisco 19 Oz OREO COOKIES       | \$1.29       | Reg & Diet PEPSI & MOUNTAIN DEW | 12 Oz Can \$1.49 6 pk |
| Keebler Saltine CRACKERS         | 79¢          | Lays 7 Oz RUFFLE CHIPS          | Reg 99¢ Sale 79¢      |
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## Guenther, Tarpley wed here in Catholic services

Sherlyn Anne Guenther and William Scott Tarpley exchanged vows Saturday, March 29, at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church in Merkel, with Father James Bridges of Ft. Stockton officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Guenther of Merkel. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Tarpley also of Merkel.

Matron of Honor was Patsy Bigbee of Merkel. Bridesmaids were Cara Grice of Irving, Becky Holmes of Hamby and Renee Holmes of Abilene.

Best man was Steven Tarpley, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Ricky Conley of Midland, Ronnie Sanford of Merkel, and Gwynn Tipton of Abilene.

Lugenia Guenther, sister of the bride and Gwen Tarpley, sister of the groom, registered guests.

Ushers were Gary Bigbee of Merkel, Chuck Knight of Merkel, Jerry Holmes of Hamby and Mike Holmes of Abilene.

Hostesses at the wedding reception were Suzette Hendricks, Harriet Austerman and Ferrell Adcock, all of Merkel.

Theme song "Walk Through This World With Me" was sung by Cara Grice, Ray Pack and Duke Pack. The organist was Mrs. John Brady.

The bride's parents were hosts for the reception at the Parish Hall. The groom's parents hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Big Country Inn.

The bride was given in marriage by her father.



## Tri-City baseball registration form

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parents name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Did you play in this league last year? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If so, on what team? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cap size \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt size \_\_\_\_\_  
 I agree to abide by the rules of the Tri City Baseball League  
 Signature of player \_\_\_\_\_  
 We, the parents of the above boy, give our permission for his participation in the activities of Tri City Boys Baseball. We release the sponsors, officials, and the organization, from responsibility in case of injury or accident. All boys are covered with insurance for practice, games and travel by the organization.  
 Signature of father \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of mother \_\_\_\_\_  
 A \$12.50 registration fee, to defray the expense of insurance and concession stand help, must be returned with this form. No boy will play in Tri City Baseball League this year without the \$12.50 fee.

## Tri-City baseball raring to go

The Tri City Pony League would like to extend a special thank you to Goode and Gregory Construction for building our new concession stand. They did a fantastic job, and thanks to their fast and excellent work, our new facilities will be ready for the Slow Pitch Tournament we're sponsor-

ing April 18, 19 and 20. Thank you, Gentlemen, for a beautiful job well done! This concession stand is what we've worked for, and spent many long hard hours to raise the money for, and now our dream is a reality!! Thank you to all who have worked toward this goal. Speaking of the Tour-

ament, several teams are "rarin' to go" and we want some local men to enter-let's get those teams together!! Also, we need to know the boys who are planning on playing Pony League this year so be thinking about it. See the registration form in today's Merkel Mail and get it filled in soon.

Registration will be from April 7th thru April 21st. The fee this year will be \$12.50 to be paid when you register. This fee covers insurance, other league fees, and concession stand help. When the registration form is filled out, the \$12.50 fee and registration form can be turned in as follows: MERKEL, Big Country

Inn; TRENT, Home State Bank or James Freeman; TYE, Art Herrera or Art's Barber Shop. The Pony League teams will play two games each night this year since we now have lights at the field. The first game each evening will begin at 6:30, the second at 8:15 and the games will start Monday, May 5th.

## Garden Club travels to Angelo

Merkel Garden Club attended the spring meeting March 20 in San Angelo.

Mrs. E.A. Park of Abilene was elected district VIII director. Mrs. Post, a 24 year member from Ozona, was awarded a gold ribbon. Kyle Roland of Sweetwater was presented a scholarship check.

Salute to Hawaii, was

presented by Mrs. Garrett Goyen. She made flower arrangements using original things from Hawaii as she told the story. The islands were made from volcanoes. The lava was so hot it made red flames. Man came down the river in a canoe. The birds brought seed and plants began to grow. They grow pineapple,

coconuts, bananas, and sugar cane. The ladies wear muumuu and the men wear printed bright colored shirts. A lei is made of flowers and is strung together. A lei is given to show love, welcome or friendship. Members attending were Murrel Thompson, Olga Peachy, Leola Sherrill and Peggy Black.

## Stith Club holds meeting

The Stith Extension Homemakers Club met March 26 at the Community Center. Mrs. Genoa Shaw, hostess, read 1st John for the devotional followed with prayer by Mrs. Margaret Dickerson. Roll call was answered by "My Personal Idea of Being Rich." Mrs. Daisy

Mashburn led the group in the game-gathering nuts. In the business meeting, the members of our club voted to have a picnic at Cobb Park for Rally Day in May. The Bake Sale will be Saturday, April 5, in front of West Texas Utilities Company.

The program was "The Price is Right" brought by Margaret Dickerson and Genoa Shaw. We played the price is right and each group won an Easter prize. Refreshments were served to nine members and one guest-Mrs. Leroy Thomas.

## Texas History class set

Dr. Rupert Richardson's class, Texas History Highlights, will be held at Hardin Simmons University, Richardson Library, Duffy Auditorium beginning Monday, April 7, according to Kermit Klaerner, assistant director of Tri-College Continuing Education.

studied, including Johnson, Connally, Smith, Briscoe and the Sharpstown incident. Dr. Richardson, author of Texas, The Lone Star State, will draw on both his academic re-

search and 89 years of personal experience to present this look at the development of our state. A place in the class can be reserved by calling the Tri-College offices at 673-4946.

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April 5th

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# Trent News

Thursday, April 3, 1980

## Trash haul, Variety show set

### District FFA meet

The district FFA banquet-meeting was held Sunday, March 24 at the Briarstone Manor in Abilene. Those attending from Trent were: Michael Ray, advisor, and his wife, Donna; Danny Freeman, chapter president; Eddie Adams; Riley West; Lloyd Williams; Mr. and Mrs. James Masonheimer and Leslie Masonheimer, chapter sweetheart.

### Trash haul

Saturday, April 5, the Trent Junior Class will be hauling trash. If you need your trash hauled, be sure and sign the sheets at Edwards, Carblers or Home State Bank by Friday, or contact one of the juniors. Also, they will be picking up newspapers and aluminum cans on Saturday. You may put your name on the sheets if you want newspapers or cans picked up or contact a Junior.

Members of the junior class are: Eddie Adams, David Greenwood, Carlos Garza, David Reed, Todd Richardson, Riley West, Lloyd Williams, Fidel Valdez, Janie Beavers, Marcie Brenem, Leslie

Masonheimer, Rebecca Sipe and La Nita Stephens. Mrs. John Brady is class sponsor. She may also be contacted for any of these matters at 928-5705 in Merkel.

### Track News

The Trent track teams have been busy the past week. Saturday, the Gorrilla Boys traveled to Robert Lee and placed sixth in 13 team entries. Placing for Trent were the 440 relay team grabbed second, Herbert Beaver ran an 11.3 100 meter to grab second, and placed fourth in the 200 and fifth in the long jump.

Gilbert Beaver placed third in the 100 and 5th in the 200.

The girls track team will be traveling to Santa Anna Saturday. Members of the team are Cheri Patterson, Debbie Jackson, Rebecca Sipe, Leslie Masonheimer, Dee Dee Masonheimer, Sandra Griffith, Darla Ross and Leigh McGlathlin.

### Sale goes well

The Junior Class garage sale last Saturday was a big success. The Juniors would like to thank the parents and friends who donated

things and all the people who came and bought. There are still some items which were not sold and anyone interested in seeing them can contact Pupie Sipe this week.

A special thanks to Mrs. Sipe for letting the Juniors use her garage and all of her work.

### Jr. Sr. set

Invitations were extended last week to members of the Senior Class and High School faculty, by the Juniors, for the annual Banquet which will be held Friday, April 18th, at the Royal Inn in Abilene. The Juniors have been working all year raising money for this project and making banquet preparations.

### Variety show

A variety show is being planned and sponsored by the Trent Band Boosters.

The show is set for April 12th at 7 p.m. at the Trent Gym. Homemade ice cream, cookies, and cold drinks and coffee will be sold.

The admission is 50 cents for children and one dollar for adults and the show will benefit the Trent Band program.

### TSTI

Basic Welding, Home Laundry Equipment Repair and Small Power Equipment Repair are three night courses currently being offered through the department of continuing education at Texas State Technical Institute, Sweetwater.

Only two more students are needed before the 90-hour Basic Welding course can begin. The course will cover the fundamentals of arc and oxyacetylene welding. Tuition is \$112.50 plus a \$1.50 parking fee.

Home Laundry Equipment Repair, a 60-hour course, covers the skills necessary for repair and maintenance of laundry equipment, with an emphasis on troubleshooting defects and their repair. Cost for this course is \$75.00.

Small Power Equipment Repair is being taught by the new Small Engine Repair Department on the TSTI Sweetwater Campus. In 42 hours, students learn repair, troubleshooting and tune up of all types of small equipment like mowers, edgers, chainsaws and more.

Further information on these courses may be obtained by contacting the TSTI-Sweetwater Office of Special Projects at 235-8441, extension 40.

## Tomato growing made easier

COLLEGE STATION--Growing a few tomato plants can be a fascinating and rewarding venture, or it can be frustrating.

If you're growing tomatoes for the first time, a few pointers can help you avoid some common pitfalls, says Dr. Sam Cotner, horticulturist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University System.

First, don't grow tomatoes unless you have an area that receives sunlight for at least six hours during the day.

Next, good soil is a must. Often times, garden soil is poor but can be improved with the right amount of organic matter and fertilizer.

Select a variety of tomatoes with the maximum resistance to common diseases, advises Cotner. Bonus, Big Set, Better Boy, Spring Giant and Floramerica all carry multiple disease resistance to most common diseases.

Buy short, stocky, young plants. Select plants four to six inches tall and about as wide.

If plants are in peat pots or peat blocks, do not remove them, says the horticulturist. Set the plants deeply into the ground with the top of the peat pot or peat material container below the surface. Plant them into well-prepared soil and water thoroughly immediately after transplanting.

When tomatoes start blooming, begin a weekly

dust or spray program to prevent insects and diseases that are common in Texas gardens.

Stake, trellis or cage tomato plants for best results, adds Cotner. Any method is good if it keeps fruit off the ground to prevent rotting.



Congressman

**Charles W. Stenholm**

### Congressional Comment

THE OUTBREAK of Rubella in the early 1960s has been long forgotten by most people, but not those parents of children left deaf by the disease.

In six years those children will be reaching high school age and enrollment in post secondary schools is expected to double — or even triple by some estimates.

Rather, enrollment needs will double or triple, but there are now only two self-contained post secondary schools in the U.S. and at present they can accommodate only 10 percent of the current deaf population.

We are trying to remedy that situation with the establishment of the Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf in Big Spring. The school, under the auspices of the Howard County Junior College and located at the former Webb Air Force Base facilities, will open its doors to deaf students from a 9-state area next fall.

A delegation representing the school was in Washington last week to brief Congressmen from the 9-state area on the needs for the school and to urge their support for the project. The needs for the school are clearly documented. The challenge, with increased competitive demand, is to try to find that funding through existing programs.

\*\*\*\*

FOUR ALTERNATIVES for operations of the 20 Plant Materials Centers, including the one located at Knox City,

have been announced by the Soil Conservation Service.

The program is concerned with identifying and improving plant materials appropriate for conserving soil and water resources. The cost of operating the Centers is minimal, particularly when compared to the economic benefits over the years. The Knox City Center, for instance, has been credited with saving some \$4.5 million in watershed construction in Texas through development of the Shoreline Common Reed.

That savings should be compared with the total USDA budget for the program of \$2.7 million.

This is an excellent example of a favorite philosophy of mine: If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

The four alternatives, outlined in the February 19 Federal Register, include continuation of the program "as is"; continuation, with specific increased sharing of funding and personnel from other Federal, State and local plans; reduction of the number of Centers and ongoing programs; and transfer to non-Federal control.

Those interested are encouraged to send their comments to the State SCS Conservationist, George C. Marks, P.O. Box 648, Temple, Texas 76501 or to Dr. Thomas N. Shiflet, SCS Ecological Sciences and Technology Division, P.O. Box 2890, Washington, D.C. 20013.

Comments should be sent by April 4.

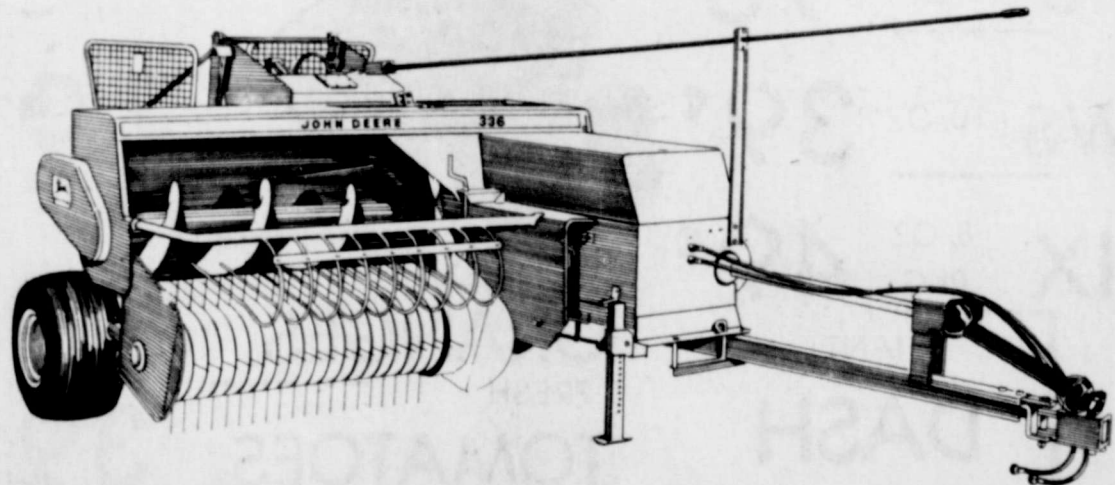
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