

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, December 18, 1986 . . . Merkel, Texas

Our 98th Year



§ The Merkel VFW building was almost completely destroyed by fire here Friday morning.

§ The inside of the building was either demolished or heavily damaged.

§ Post members are discussing re-construction and are still going ahead with plans to help local

needy children have a better Christmas. Donations are being accepted at 904 Orange Street

Board changes high school policies, admissions requirements

MISD board members met Tuesday morning and approved a new list of recommendations designed to create "higher" academic expectations from Merkel High students and approved a new admission policy for incoming students.

The meeting was described as "routine" by MISD superintendent Bill Everett.

MISD curriculum director David Layman presented the final results from the statewide Texas Assessment of Minimum Skills Test (TEAMS), taken by first, third, fifth, seventh, ninth and 11th grade students. Layman expressed concern with the results from 11th grade tests.

Board members approved the following recommendations for high school students.

(1) teachers within Merkel High need to develop "higher" academic expectations of all students by reducing grade inflation and the removal of pressure to pass students who have not mastered the material;

(2) high school students may not advance within the English curriculum until they have passed the previous level which will insure junior students who take the exit-level TEAMS tests are prepared and to re-inforce the importance of English. A students classification will be based on credits and passing English;

(3) honor classes will be limited to the top 20 students per grade level with no students being allowed who's grade average is below 90. MISD hopes to reinforce high academic expectations and to prevent the honors program from becoming a "social status club."

(4) Mandatory remediation classes will be required for any student who does not pass the 9th or 11th grade level TEAMS tests. MISD hopes to enhance the importance of doing well on these tests and to provide special help for students in need;

(5) the district made becoming effective reading teachers their number one priority in in-service training.

Board members also approved a new admissions policy. The policy matches the Abilene ISD policy and was needed to close loopholes in the current MISD policy.

Board members also approved bills of \$71,554.35 and approved an increase on the lease on a truck for the Vocation Agriculture Department.

Board members also accepted the resignation of high school physical science teacher Bill Boswell.

School will dismiss at 2 p.m. in Tye and 2:30 p.m. here Friday for the Christmas Holidays. School will re-open January 5th giving MISD students and staff a two week holiday.

Santa letters, holiday schedule, new flag

by Cloy A. Richards

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas ...

There is a new Christmas decoration in town this year that was funded by the Chamber of Commerce and constructed by the city crew.

It's located on the vacant lot across from Starbuck on North 2nd and help add to the holiday mood here.

George has started playing Christmas music from his store and the visit from the jolly one can't be that far away.

The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department has been busier than usual in the past week.

Early Friday morning, the Merkel VFW was almost completely destroyed. Not only were plaques and other memories destroyed, so were canned goods and toys the VFW was collecting for local needy children.

Donations are being accepted to replace those lost items and are being taken at 904 Orange Street here.

Monday night, the firemen were called again as they fought an oil field storage tank fire near Noodle.

Fire departments from Merkel, Anson and Hawley combined forces to fight that blaze.

A reminder for those wanting information or articles in next week's paper.

The deadline next week will be Noon Monday so readers can get their papers before Christmas Day. That same rule will be in effect for the January 1st edition.

WE would appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Mark down an assist for the Western Observer in Anson last week for helping us get the paper out.

We had a piece of a suspended ceiling give way during the night last Tuesday and called on the folks in Anson to help out.

They did and we surely appreciate their kindness.

You only have a couple of days late to get those Santa Claus letters here to be published next week.

Letters either mailed to the North Pole or turned in by local school teachers will appear in next week's paper.

My wife and I were sponsors on

a 4th grade trip to Safety City in Abilene last week.

Safety City, an Abilene Jaycee project, teaches children traffic and pedestrian safety rules.

The kids seemed to have gained quite a knowledge of the rules of the road and that alone made this week worthwhile.

City Hall will be closed Thurs-

day and Friday next week for the Christmas Holiday. The city landfill will be closed Wednesday and Thursday but will be open Friday and Saturday.

The City of Tye will dedicate their first city flag Sunday at the Tye Municipal Building at 2 p.m.

The ceremony will be held at 205

North Street in Tye.

Make sure you are a little more careful driving around town the next two weeks as MISD students will be on their Christmas vacation. School will let out one hour early here Friday and will not re-open until January 5th.

Sales tax rebates up in '86

Merkel's sales tax rebates are running 4.65 per cent ahead of those last year according to a news release from the State Comptroller's Office.

So far this year, Merkel has received \$63,983.28 in rebates, compared to \$61,137.41 through the same period last year. Merkel's latest check was for \$2,884.77.

Although Trent did not receive a check this month, rebates are running 37.59 per cent ahead of those one year ago Trent has received \$3,282.52 this year.

In Tye, rebates are almost half of what they were a year ago.

Tye's latest check of \$4,215.03 places their annual total at \$62,122.42 which is 44.50 per cent

behind last year's pace.

Other Taylor county cities are also reporting lower rebates this year. Abilene is 5.68 per cent behind, Buffalo Gap is 5.91 per cent behind.

Leading in the increases is Lawn with an 81.47 per cent increase. Other cities reporting increases were Impact with an 8.99 per cent increase and Tuscola with a 9.48 per cent increase.

Trent students offer Christmas gifts, wishes

The Trent Kindergarten class has 19 enrolled this year. They recently moved into a larger classroom to accommodate this year's increase in class size. Linda Varner, their teacher, is now in her 4th year as Kindergarten teacher.

Miss Leanna West, Glenda Coltharp and Wanda James, Elementary Teachers in Trent, in

a survey with the 10 students from 3rd to 5th grades at Trent, found that the most popular Christmas toys the children wanted to receive this year were: 1st Grade Lasser Tag-infrared light gun that sounds a beep when hit. 2nd Grade skateboards. 3rd Grade Computer with video games. 4th Grade basketballs and footballs. 5th Grade transformers and M.A.

S.K. war toys.

The teachers also asked the students what they would like to give or receive this year that money couldn't buy. The children responded with these answers: 1st Love was the top answer, 2nd no one would fight (people or countries), 3rd people had more jobs, 5th No School.

Merry Christmas from the Trent Elementary and Kindergarten classes.

Boys 1st, girls 3rd at Early

The Merkel boys varsity basketball team won four games last week, including the championship game at the Early tournament, to run their season record to 8-3.

The week started with a 66-61 win over Sweetwater. Ramon Moreno led the way with 20 points and Lynn Hays added 19. Shayne Newberry had three blocked shots and nine rebounds.

In the opening round of the Early tournament, the Badgers downed Bangs 77-74. The Badgers fell behind 28-14 in the first quarter, but used a strong performance in the second and third quarters to regain the lead.

Newberry led with 21 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists. Brit Pursley had 16, Kenneth Jowers 11 and Moreno 13.

The Badgers, behind a 19 point performance from Lynn Hays and

18 from Ted Seymore, beat San Saba 57-53.

In the finals, the Badgers downed Early.

Ted Seymore, the tournament's most valuable player, led with 16. Newberry added 12 and Pursley added 10.

Lynn Hays was also named to the all-tournament team.

Boys coach Skip Townsend told The Mail Monday "We are just playing well enough to win right now. We have fallen behind in some recent games and came back to in and that is a good sign. We shouldn't have been behind one of those teams.

The boys were off Tuesday night and will host Anson here Friday. Four games are scheduled and games III start at 4 p.m.

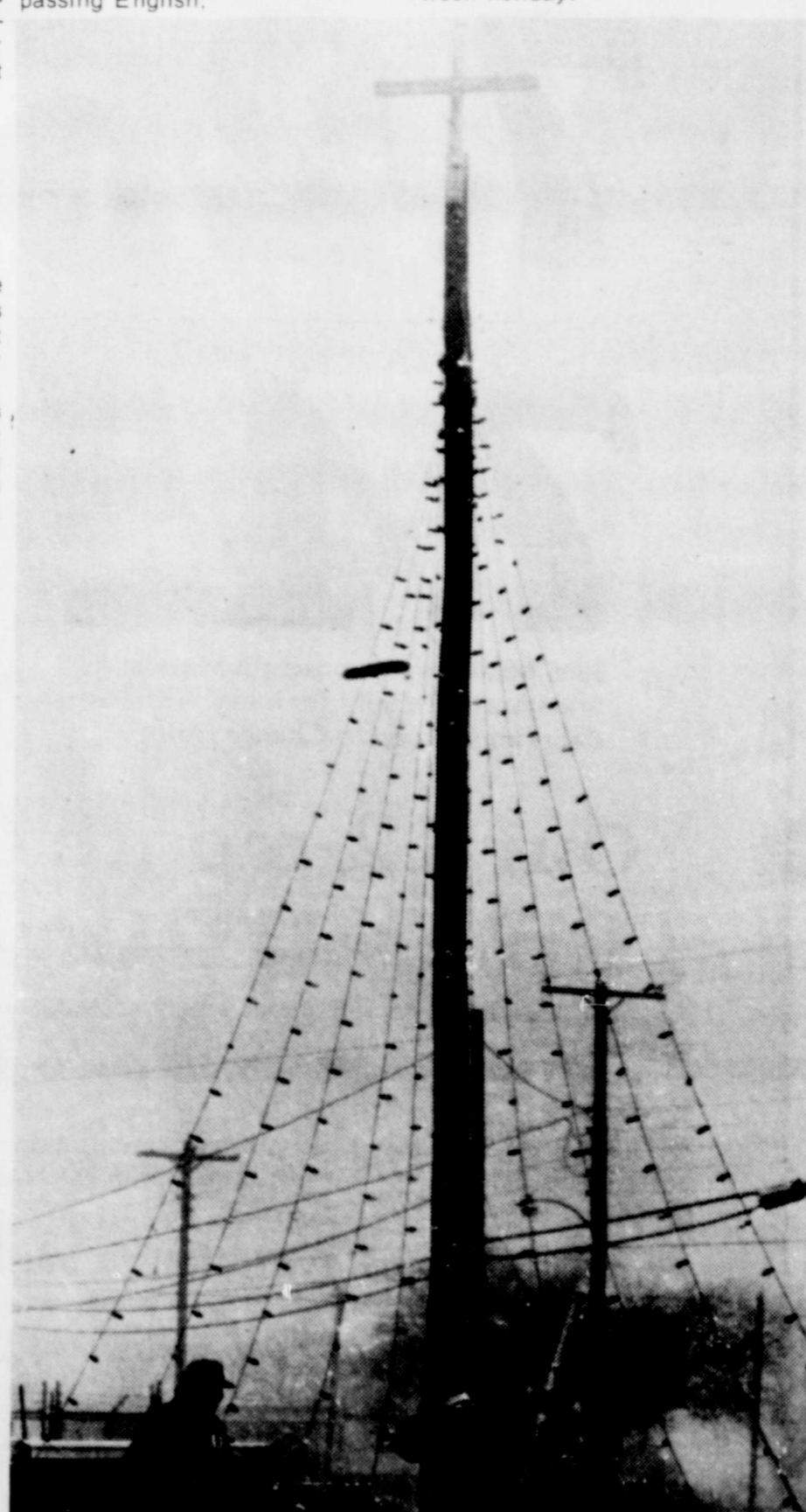
The Merkel Girls varsity basketball team took third place in the Eula Tournament this weekend.

The girls opened the tournament with a 45-22 loss to Comanche. Stacey Newberry led the way with 5 points.

The girls defeated Bangs 65-41. In that contest, Newberry had 20 and Amber Whisenhunt had 11.

In the consolation game, Merkel beat Early 58-41. In that game, Teresa Lucas led the way with 24 points. Newberry added 11.

The girls opened district play here Tuesday night as they hosted Ballinger (details were not available at press time).



§ Merkel city employees put up a Christmas Tree on North 2nd street here. The tree was funded by the Chamber of Commerce and

put together by Merkel city employees.

Staff photo

Please see Page 2

Newsbriefs

Trent Christmas show

The Annual Christmas Band Concert and Elementary program will be presented in the school assembly, this Friday afternoon, December 19th at 1:30 in the high school gym. The high school and 6th grade band will perform a selection of Christmas numbers and the Elementary classes will sing and present Christmas Skits, by individual classes. Each season this proves to be an enjoyable event for all involved and family and friends are all invited to attend. Everyone is welcomed.

Choir performs

The Abilene State School Choir and Rhythm Band performed last Sunday night at the Trent Baptist Church. The 18 member group, under the direction of Chuck Keller, sang a number of Christmas songs and carols. The school Chaplin was also among the visitors and friends who were present.

Everyone was treated to cookies and punch following the service. The TFBC youth and childrens directors would like to remind everyone that the Church Children's program will be this coming December 21, Sunday night, at 7:00. We hope you are planning to attend with your child.

Puppets busy,

His Kids puppet ministry from Trent will be very busy this holiday season. The adult supervised youth involved ministry will be traveling to the Sweetwater-Roscoe area for 4 engagements this next few days. Founding director, Debbie Woffard, has organized a collection of songs, simple skits and messages her group presents with puppets and clowns to area children and

nursing homes, upon request. Mrs. Woffard, and her friend and partner, Kathy Huffman, have been working with the project over the past year with very excellent results. They will entertain at almost any function they are asked. They have done Children's Birthday parties, Church parties, rest homes, and Christian school assemblies.

If you are needing something special for your group, "His Kids" can more than likely add you to their calendar of appointments. For more information phone, Debbie Woffard in Trent, 862-6429.

7th grade girls

The Sweetwater Colts defeated Merkel 24-14 Monday night. High point scorer for the Badgers was Becca Dunagin with 8. Coty Vaughn, Dayna Doan and Eilyn Rutledge had 2 points each. From the floor Doan shot 33 percent, Dunagin 30 percent and Rutledge 25 percent. Dunagin shot 100 percent from the free throw line and Vaughn shot 67 percent from the line.

Other contributors to the team were Kristi G. Smith, Kriste A. Smith, Son Hui Chon, Hope Ward, Becky Donaldson, Tanya Beasley, Christy Minze, and Lori Thompson.

The Badgers will play Wylie January 5 here in Merkel beginning at 5:00.

Owens assigned

Army Staff Sgt. Royce X. Owens Jr., son of Royce X. and Nina A. Owens of 1404 N. Third, Merkel, Texas, has arrived for duty with the 2nd Engineer Battalion, South Korea.

Owens is a personnel administration specialist.

Radio collecting

KMXO Spanish Radio and many

Abilene area merchants will be sponsoring their first annual Christmas Spirit Drive.

On Saturday, December 6, 1986, KMXO Radio will begin to announce merchants that will act as collection centers for donations of new toys, food, and clothing. The public is invited to visit these merchants to leave their Christmas Spirit gifts. Gifts will be accepted through December 23rd. On Tuesday, December 23, KMXO Spanish Radio will conduct a three hour remote broadcast from the Sears Recreation Center parking lot from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. During this remote broadcast, families with a need for toys, food and clothing will be welcome to come and pick up their gifts from the community and enjoy the Spirit Of Christmas with all their friends.

The public is invited. There will be refreshments and candy for everyone, young and old. A visit from Santa Claus is anticipated at 2:30 p.m.

For additional information please contact KMXO Spanish Radio at 672-5700.

Band concert

The members of the Middle School Concert Band and the Middle School Honor Band will combine to present their Christmas Concert on Thursday evening December 18 at 7 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

The Spanish Classes of Merkel Middle School will sing some Christmas Carols during the concert. The Spanish class will be directed by Mrs. Kathy Thompson and accompanied by Mrs. Barbara Graham. Mrs. Cherry Curry is the director of the Merkel Middle School Band.

Come join in the Christmas spirit and enjoy an evening of music presented by some of Merkel's finest young people.



DALE HAMMOND

Higgins' services held here

Elizabeth Alatha Higgins, 86, of Merkel, died Dec. 13th at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Funeral services were held Dec. 15th at the First Baptist Church here with Wayne Keller, pastor, officiating. Burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery here under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born July 22, 1920 in Lee County, New Mexico, she had

married Orien Higgins February 6, 1945 in Cross Plains. He preceded her in death July 21, 1979.

She and her husband ran a dairy here for 15 years. She was a member of the Stith Homemakers Club and a member of First Baptist.

She was a practical nurse. She is survived by three sons, Allen, Danny and Dale, all of Merkel and a daughter Barbara

Green of Lake Dallas. She is also survived by five sisters; Leta Mae Vannoy of Lubbock, Melvina Kaley of Traverse City, Michigan, Ida Bell Carrell of Tuscola, Nellie B. Upton of Cross Plains and of Midland and Althea Ingram of Cross Plains. She also has a brother in Roswell, N. M. and three grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Scott Tarpley, Billy Boyd Tarpley, Roger Burfiend, David Robertson, Jerry Eckhart and Jerry Merritt.

Williams' services held here

Funeral services for Shirley Williams, 86, of Merkel, were held Dec. 15th at the Starbuck Chapel here.

He died Dec. 13th at Humana Hospital in Abilene.

Services were held at 4 p.m. with David Strange, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiat-

ing. Burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery here under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 6, 1932 in Sweetwater, he married Nora Fronia Raborn July 17th, 1932 in McGregor. She preceded him in death in 1979.

He was a retired hydraulic mechanic and a Baptist.

He is survived by two sons, Shirley Lee and Billy Dan, both of Merkel, a daughter Bobby Grace Weaver of Lewisville, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Pallbearers included Doug Jowers, Billy Williams, Jerry Vincent, Johnny Smith, Johnny Hargrove and Lewis Goodman.

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Annual Rate

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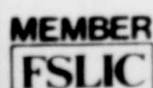
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BORDEN'S REGULAR EGG NOG	QT. CTN.	99¢

ALLSUP'S FRESH & HOT Sausage ON A Stick 99¢ EACH

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REFILLED AT ALL ALLSUP'S LOCATIONS FOR ONLY 25¢

RUFFLES REGULAR/SOUR CREAM & ONION/BBQ/BAKON & SOUR CREAM/CHEDDAR & SOUR CREAM

Potato Chips NOW ONLY **99¢** REG. \$1.39

ALLSUP'S Hot Chocolate 8 OZ. CUP ONLY **30¢**

SHURFINE 3 LB CAN VEGETABLE SHORTENING **89¢**

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- BLUE SPRUCE
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WE WILL BE OPEN ALL DAY CHRISTMAS FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE

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89¢

6 PK CANS

LITE CORN SYRUP **99¢**

32 OZ

Two attend Masons' conference

Notice

**Our Drive-In Facilities
will close at
3:00 PM
CHRISTMAS EVE**



HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY!!!

Officers and Employees of

Farmers & Merchants

National Bank

Merkel, Texas

Member F.D.I.C.

W.M. Jack Keenan and S.D. Curtis Summers attended the annual Grand Lodge of Texas Conference at Waco, Texas, December 4th and 5th. Brother Jake Martin was awarded a 25 year pin at the last stated meeting, Dec. 13th. There will be no meeting Dec. 25th. The next stated meeting will be Saturday, January 10th, when the Lodge will be honored with the presence of District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District # 75 Hubert E. Smith, Sr.

All Masonic lodges in Texas will be celebrating the Sesquicentennial of Masonry in Texas during 1987.

Stated meetings are the second Saturday and fourth Thursday. Practice is every Thursday when possible. All brethren please attend.

Townsend on Governor's team

Sgt. Gene Townsend, this week, received a beautiful medal from his recent Army rifle competition with the Texas State Rifle Association. This award signifies his becoming a member of the elite Governor's Twenty for 1986, one of the top twenty marksmen in Texas.

Gene William spent a week in November in Georgia training with the Fifth Army Rifle Team.

Abilene Farm joins ag group

Former Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman, today welcomed Abilene Farm Supply, Inc. of Abilene into membership in the Agriculture Council of America, a national organization that brings together all sectors of agriculture, from producers and their suppliers to retailers and exporters of food and fiber.

"We are committed to forging a public-private program that will securely increase demand for U.S. farm exports, as the best way to restore profitability to agriculture and prosperity to rural America," said Freeman, president of ACA and chairman of the ACA Education Foundation, a separate research and educational organization.

Recent cemetery donors named

The Merkel Cemetery Donations are as follows:

Robert and Beverly Figeira in memory of Olga Gamble; Tke Cox; Jo Barnett in memory of Vickie Traweck and Hump Curb; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Brown; Edwir Renfro; Maggie Renfro; Mr. and Mrs. Comer Haynes in memory of Lloyd Pribble; T.G. Hull; Mary Collins; Mr. and Mrs. John Edwards; Mrs. W.J. Spurgin in memory of W.J. Spurgin and E.B. Rains family; Jimmie Griffin in memory of Bruce Deen; J.O. Ludby; Mr. and Mrs. William L. Mitchell in memory of Kenneth Ray; Modell and Naylor Eoff in memory of Hump Curb; Ray and Willie Jo Orsborn in memory of Kenneth Ray; Allene Richardson in memory of Vickie Traweck; Mary Stout in memory of Henry Lee Stout; Mrs. C.R. Tittle and Betty Jane in memory of Hump Curb; Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Farmer; T.G. Hull; Loneita Teaff; Rachel Stanford in memory of James Gober; Eldon and Lee Roberts in memory of A.L. Teaff; Mr. and Mrs. Deverl Teaff in memory of Georgia Stotts; Mr. Boog Eysen

Fudge in exercise

Chief Master Sgt. James D. Fudge, son of Ora F. Fudge of Merkel, Texas, has participated in William Tell '86.

William Tell, an Air Force sponsored meet held every two years, is hosted by Tactical Air Command and conducted at Tyn-dall Air Force Base, Fla. It measures the ability of fighter units to accomplish their air-to-air intercept mission in a realistic combat environment.

The meet demonstrated the capabilities of weapons systems and professional competence of crews.

Fudge is a William Tell Chief enlisted manager with the 33rd Tactical Fighter Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

in memory of Olga Gamble; Canibel M. Moore in memory of Olga Gamble; Johnny Sears Snyder in memory of Olga Gamble; Mrs. George T. Moore in memory of Olga Gamble; B.T. Brown; Mary Stout in memory of Henry Lee Stout; Deverl and LaVerne Patterson Hinch; Mrs. J.W. Teaff in memory of Olga Gamble; Mary Stout in memory of Henry Lee Stout; Ada Belle Clark; Inez Detrick in memory of L.W.

Detrick; Norman and Nell King in memory of Olga Gamble.

Also: Grif and Mildred Barnett in memory of Lola Rodgers; Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Farmer; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Palmer in memory of James Gober; Mr. and Mrs. F.R. Teaff in memory of Aurthur Teaff; John and Mary Boyd in memory of Olga Gamble; LaVerne West in memory of Olga Gamble; Zoe West Warren; T.G. Hull.

JUST ARRIVED KIDS ROPERS

MANY COLORS

ALSO GOOD
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LARRY MAHAN
TONY LAMA
& HONDO BOOTS

JOE'S BOOTS



A FULL SERVICE AGENCY
HAMMOND
INSURANCE
AGENCY
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Your telephone is one of the best ways available to keep in touch with friends, neighbors and family. And with all the changes happening in the telephone industry, the way you use your telephone keeps changing too! To answer your questions, Contel has produced a series of four informational brochures on a variety of telecommunications topics. We are offering these brochures to you, our customer, free of charge. It is our hope that this information will help you better understand the changes occurring in the industry and how you can best make use of the services Contel offers.

As your telephone company, we are interested in your comments or suggestions regarding your telephone service. We think it's important to keep in touch.

Services Offered

Confused by all the new services available? This brochure will help you select the ones that fit your needs.

Customer Tips

Ways to get the best value from telephone services and rates.

Long Distance Service

Some customers are being asked to make a choice. This

brochure will help you make sense out of the long distance "jungle." Also, tips on saving money and the best times to call.

Rates and Other Charges

Local telephone service is still one of the best values for your money. But how are rates set? This brochure gives the facts on the rates you are charged.

- Services Offered
 Customer Tips
 Long Distance Service
 Rates and Other Charges
 Please send all four brochures

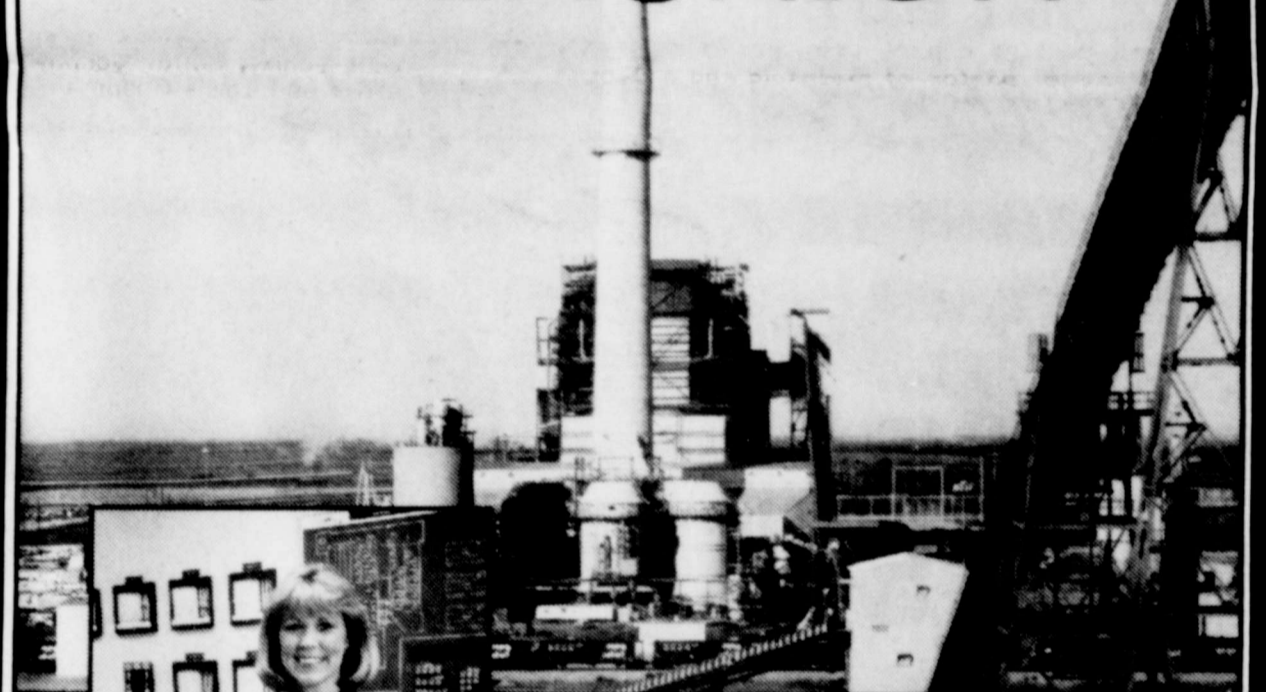
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____

Detach and mail to Contel Public Affairs, P.O. Box 12000, Bakersfield, CA 93309 stop by your area Business Office.

Yes, I am interested in this special offer from Contel. Please send the customer brochures checked above.

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STILL OUR BEST CHOICE!

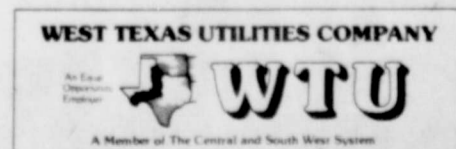
WTU's new power station will soon be on line! The Oklaunion Power Station near Vernon, Texas, will be WTU's first coal-powered plant.

A coal-powered plant was our best option back in the 70s when WTU first began planning for a new power station. At that time a new federal law known as the Fuel Use Act prohibited the use of oil or gas as boiler fuel for new utility plants.

Coal is still our best choice, especially over the long haul. The unlimited supply of clean-burning coal means more stable fuel prices and a continued reliable supply of electric energy for WTU customers.



Coal Delivery at Oklaunion



We're happy the Oklaunion Power Station is coming on line! It will be good for our Company and good for our customers!

Merry Christmas FEASTING and Happy **SAVINGS** too!



PRICES GOOD DEC 18 thru DEC 24 AND FRI-SAT DEC 26-27
8 BIG SHOPPING DAYS WILL BE CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY DEC 25
 CLOSED ON SUNDAY
 STORE HOURS 7:30-AM - 6:30 PM MON thru SAT

BLUE DIAMOND FLAVORED ALMONDS 6 OZ CAN 79¢

DUNCAN HINES CAKE MIXES
 ASSORTED 18 OZ BOX **79¢**

CORN OIL CRISCO
 32 OZ JUG **\$1.49**

PARADE PURE CHOCOLATE CHIPS
 12 OZ BAG **\$1.09**

BRACKS CHOCOLATE COVERED CHERRIES
 12 OZ BOX **\$1.79**

PARADE CREAMY FROSTING
 15.5 OZ CAN **99¢**

CANDIED FRUIT ROW PEANUTS ASSORTMENT OF NUTS SHELLED PECANS

PARADE FLAKE COCONUT
 14 OZ BAG **99¢**

7 UP SUNKIST ORANGE OR DIET SUGAR FREE CHERRY COCA COLA
 2 LITER BOTTLE **89¢**

PARADE PEANUT BUTTER
 CRUNCH ONLY 18 OZ JAR **\$1.19**

PARADE CHICKEN BROTH
 2 300 CANS **69¢**

CARNATION CONDENSED MILK
 12 OZ CANS **89¢**

MRS CUBBISONS CORNBREAD HERB STUFFING
 2 PACK BOX **89¢**

FRITO LAYS RUFFLES CHIPS
 6.5 OZ BAG **\$1.09**

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TURKEY



ARMOUR STAR BUTTER BASTED BROAD BREAST 10-14 LBS HENS LB 95¢

EAGLE BRAND SWEETENED MILK 13 OZ CAN **\$1.49**

PARADE 11 OZ MANDARIN ORANGES CAN **59¢**

OCEAN SPRAY 300 whole or jelly CRANBERRY SAUCE can **63¢**

libbys 303 PREMIUM PUMPKIN CAN **59¢**

DEL MONTE 303 WHOLE GREEN BEANS CAN **59¢**

DEL MONTE 303 WHOLE KERNAL GOLDEN CORN 2 FOR **79¢**

DEL MONTE 303 GARDEN SWEET PEAS 2 FOR **79¢**

TFAPPIE 303 HEVY SYRUP WIOLE YAMS CAN **69¢**

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DEL MONTE 15 OZ JUIC OR SRUP CRUSHED PINEAPPLE CAN **59¢**

ARMOUR'S BASTED TURKEY HENS 10-14 LBS POUND 93¢

SUNDAY HOUSE SMOKED TURKEY HENS 10-12 LBS LB **\$1.29**

CEDAR CREEK BONELESS HALVES COOKED LB \$2.39

CHOICE BEEF ROUND ROAST BONELESS LEAN LB **\$1.89**

CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN STEAK BONELESS LEAN LB **\$2.29**

CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN ROAST BONELESS LEAN LB **\$2.15**

PARADE FRANKS ALL MEAT 12 OZ PKG **89¢**

WRIGHTS SMOKED BACON POUND **\$1.89**

CHICKEN FRIED BREADED BEEF SAUSAGE 12 OZ PKG **\$1.69**

JIMMY DEAN PURE PORK SAUSAGE 2 LB BAG **\$4.15** 1 LB BAG **\$2.09**

REYNOLDS FOIL WRAP 25 FT 12 IN ROLL **63¢**

CHINET DINNER PLATES 40 CT PKG **\$2.19**

LIQUID DAWN 22 OZ BOTTLE **\$1.19**

DETERGENT OXYDOL GIANT SIZE BOX **\$1.79**

NORTHERN COLORED TISSUE 4 ROLL CRTN **79¢** LIMIT 2

This Week's
FROZEN FOOD
Specials



PARADE
ORANGE JUICE 12 OZ CAN **63¢**

BANQUET 20 OZ
MINCE PUMPKIN OR
FRUIT PIES \$1.19 EA

BIRDSEYE 8 OZ
COOL WHIP EA **79¢**

AUNT JEMIMA
10 OZ PKG
WAFFLES **69¢**

MRS SMITH 9.5 OZ PKG
PIE SHELLS \$1.09
2 PACK

\$900⁰⁰ IN PRIZES
AT CARSONS SUPERMARKET
1ST WHIRLPOOL AUTOMATIC WASHER
2ND HAMILTON BEACH FOOD PROCESSOR
3RD CHARCOAL GRILL PORTABLE
4-5-6TH WORLDS BIGGEST XMAS STOCKINGS
NOTHING TO BUY
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN
BE SURE TO REGISTER EACH TIME IN STORE
DRAWING FOR PRIZES DEC 24TH AT 2PM

XMAS BOWS - WRAP TAGS
50% OFF

KRAFTS MARSHMALLOW CREAM
7 OZ JAR **63¢**

KRAFTS MIRACLE WHIP
32 OZ JUG **\$1.49**

BRACH'S WRAPPED PEPPERMINT CANDY SMALL CANES
40 COUNT BOX 79¢

KRAFT 1/2 MOON CHEESE
16 OZ PKG **\$2.59**

KRAFTS CHEEZ WHIZ
REG OR JALAPENO 16 OZ JAR **\$2.29**

BORDEN WHIPPING CREAM
1/2 PINT CARTON **49¢**

BORDENS SOUR CREAM
16 OZ CRTN **\$1.29**

BORDENS OR FOREMOST
EGG NOG
QUART CARTON **99¢**

POINSETTIA HOMO MILK
GAL JUG **\$1.99**

BORDENS LOW FAT 1 1/2% MILK
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TEA BAGS LIPTONS
FAMILY SIZE
24 COUNT BOX \$1.59
LIMIT 1
WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

CREAMY CRISCO
ALL VEGETABLE
3 LB CAN \$1.89
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GLADIOLA ALL PURPOSE FLOUR
5 LB BAG **79¢**

FOLGERS FLAKE COFFEE
11.5 OZ CAN **\$2.19**
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16 OZ JAR **\$1.89**

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CALIFORNIA
NAVEL ORANGES LB **49¢**

FRESH STALK
CELERY STALK EA **39¢**

GOLDEN
BANANAS POUND **29¢**

FRESH
CAULIFLOWER CELLO EACH **99¢**

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WISHES

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3 LB TUB **\$1.49**

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Fresh Vegetables Best Meats in Town
Merkel, Texas



Local cagers finishing pre-holiday schedule

The girls are now 4-6 on the year and coach Bobby Pierson told **The Mail** Monday "We need to develop consistency. We have a good game and then a bad one."

Pierson added he felt his team has just as good a chance as any in the district race.

This weekend, the junior varsity teams will be in the Novice varsity tournament.

8th grade boys

The Merkel 8th Grade boys basketball team have begun their season and have had a great start with victories over Wylie, Sweetwater and Clyde.

The first victory came when they won a squeaker over Wylie 42-34. John Boswell lead the scorers with 17 points and Sean Leamon had 14. Good defense was provided by Brandon Toombs and Brandon Boyd.

The second victory came when Merkel defeated Sweetwater by a score of 48-40. The Badgers jumped out to a 40-16 lead early in the 3rd quarter and then held on to win. Brandon Toombs lead all scorers with 16 points, while Boswell and Leamon each had 12 points. Again, good defensive performances was provided by Brandon Boyd and Daniel West.

The last victory came over Clyde here Monday night as the Badgers defeated the Bulldogs by a score of 51-38. Boswell again lead all scorers with 15 points and Daniel West had the hot hand putting in 11 points.

The Badgers now have a 3-0 start on the season. Their next game will be against the Mustangs in Sweetwater. Be sure and come out to support the Merkel Basketball Teams.

Trent girls

The Trent Junior High girls ran their season record to 3-0 with a 26-21 win over Blackwell.

Ginger Massey led the way with 12 points and Julie Clay added 10. The varsity girls beat Hermleigh 46-41 to run their season record to 2-5.

Tammy Collier and B. J. Poindexter each had 10 and Luci Masonheimer led with 11. Collier led in rebounding with 21 and Tina Holstine added 15 rebounds.

8th grade boys

The Merkel 8th Grade Boys Basketball team put another mark

in the win column Monday night as they defeated the Sweetwater Mustangs by a score of 44-36. It was a game that had many lead changes including a 3 point lead by Sweetwater by half-time, but that was not enough to hold back the Badgers. Sean Leamon lead all scorers with 18 points, while John Boswell had 16. Brandon Toombs, Brandon Boyd and Daniel West provided good defensive performances.

The 8th grade boys now have a

perfect 4-0 record to carry them through the Christmas Holidays. Their next game will be January 5 at Wylie and then the Wylie 8th grade tournament January 8, 9, 10. Please come out and support the Merkel Basketball teams.

8th grade wins

The Merkel 8th Grade Boys Basketball team have begun their season and have had a great start with victories over Wylie, Sweetwater and Clyde.

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John Deere has made us a deal that will save you a bunch. Big pass-along savings on John Deere implements are available to you right now. Come in and save big and then save more by waving finance charges good-bye to November 1, 1987. See how much you can save if you buy a John Deere tractor at the same time... tractor finance waiver also applies to implement purchase.

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SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MERKEL FIRE DEPARTMENT

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THANK YOU

Merry Christmas

& HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM 111 VETERANS & 92 AUXILIARY MEMBERS

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DEL MONTE PEACH HALVES OR SLICES 16 OZ REG 95¢ 79¢

RUFFLES REG \$1.39 \$1.19

DEL MONTE FRUIT MIXED CHUNKY 17 OZ 89¢

EAGLE BRAND MILK 14 OZ REG \$1.83 \$1.45

HOLL HOUSE BUTTERSCOTCH MORSEL 12 OZ REG \$2.70 \$2.29

CHEFS PANTRY MOZZARELLA STICKS CHEESE REG \$2.82 \$2.49

ITALIAN STYLE BOTH ARE EXCELLENT FOR PARTY SANCKS MEAT BALLS REG \$2.52 \$2.29

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FOR SALE

For Sale: 1981 Buick Rivera, leather interior, electric windows, seats and locks, am-fm tape, 50,000 miles, cruise, tilt, Tom Carson, 928-5069.
190-TFC

House for sale: living room, dining room, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen, central heat & evap cooling, good location, storage in the back, water well, 2 pecan trees, on five lots, new carpet. Cyrus Pee, Realtor 928-5613.
190-TFC

REAL ESTATE

House for sale at a bargain, 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, one bath, has central heat, all furniture and appliances stay with the house. Cal Cyrus Pee, Agent 928-5613.
179-TFC

House For Sale: large living area, water well, storage building, central air and heat, available for immediate occupancy, call to see Cyrus Pee Realtor 928-5613.
185-TFC

For sale: brick home, large living room, fireplace, 2 bedroom (1 is large master), 1 3/4 bath, kitchen, dining room, cabinet top range, dishwasher, rural water & well on 9.6 acres. Pasture behind also 30 X 20 metal building & 10 X 20 storage building. Could easily be 3 bedroom. Call Cyrus Pee 928-5613.
193-TFC

For Sale: 3 bedroom brick house, central air and heat, bath 8 3/4, built in dishwasher and range, on 2 lots, 1 car garage, horsepens, and storage building, 906 Locust 928-5145.
171-TFC

House For Sale: 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, 2 baths, three lots, call Cyrus Pee Agent 928-5613.
186-TFC

Choice Lots For Sale: in the growing area of town, after 6:00, 928-5067
189-TFC

House For Sale: 304 Edwards, downtown, 2 1/2 lots and water well, call 806-799-0495, Mike Warren.
195-3tc

FOR RENT
Equal Housing Opportunity
SHANNONSIDE APARTMENTS
1, 2, & 3 bedroom apartments, all electric, central heat & cooling. For more information call 928-5038.
194-TFC

For rent: 2 bedroom, bath \$225 per month \$100 deposit. References required, call 928-4025.
194-1tc

Classifieds

See, Ads work

Two one bedroom apartments for rent: Water paid, deposit required, 928-5234 or 928-5632.
192-TFC

For Rent: 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, central heat and air, fenced back yard, close to school, available Dec. 1, \$375 per month plus \$200 deposit. Call 846-4715 or 846-4696.
191-TFC

MISC.
Al-Anon, a self-help support group for the families and loved ones of alcohol and/or drug abusers is meeting every Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. at the Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church, Merkel.
P & L Auto Parts is open from 7:30 am until 6:30 pm Monday-Friday and from 7 am until 3 pm each Saturday. 135 Edwards.
176-TFC

Germania Insurance Company. For your insurance needs. Locally represented by Donna Carter 928-5348.
Remodeling and Painting 35 years experience for Gene or Frances 312 Edwards no job too small or too large.
193-2tp

**Three adults would like to lease a 2 or 3 bedroom home 4 to 5 miles around Merkel in good shape, 928-4165 asking for Gene or Frances 312 Edwards no job too (with city water).
193-2tp**

Unlimited long distance telephone services anywhere in the US, \$100 per month, Call Jan Whisenhunt 928-5941 after 4 p.m.
195-1tc

Granny's Playhouse Day Care Center. Open 6 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Hot lunch and snacks provided more information call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange.
184-4tp

Professional Dog Grooming, all breeds, hand fluff dry, hand scissoring, free polish and bows. Please call 928-4474 after 3 p.m. for an appointment.
178-TFC

WE'VE MOVED!
Amerine Mechanical, your all around heat and cool specialist is now at 908 N. 1st. It's the old feed store building, come by and see what we've done with the place. Or give us a call at 928-4876.
195-1tc

Will the person who found the brown laundry basket in front of the Library Sunday please return to the library. It had 1 of each, white shirt, ladies pajamas, rose sweat shirt, pair of white socks, 1 pair ladies black slacks, also 1 box and 1 pill box with my name on it with sequins and pearls, 1 pkg. needles, 2 purple bandanas, keep the camel goods, also a pair of red crocheted house shoes, sentimental value Thank You.
Evelyn Martin.
195-1tc

CARD OF THANKS
Our family would like to say a special thank you to everyone who expressed their sympathy at the loss of our mother. Your kind gestures of food, cards and flowers were sincerely appreciated and placed beside the wonderful memories of our mother and friend.
The Family of Elizabeth Higgins
195-1tc

Thank all of you for the many things you did for us while I was in the hospital and since I have been home. We shall never forget it. God Bless You.
Mary Lou and Pack Hays
195-1tp

Our heartfelt thanks to all who extended comforting sympathy and help in our recent sorrow. For the beautiful service, floral offerings, and other kindnesses, we are deeply grateful. A special thanks for the consideration shown us by the staff of Humana Hospital and Starbuck Funeral Home.
The Williams Family

PUBLIC NOTICES
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: RICHARD SAMUEL PRECIADO * Residence Unknown, Respondent.
GREETINGS:
-YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Abilene, Texas.
Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said Court, on the 28th day of July, A.D. 1986, in this cause, numbered 39,981-A on the docket of said court and styled ODDILEE REDDIN, AN INDIVIDUAL Plaintiff vs. M. E. BISHOP, AN INDIVIDUAL Defendant.
The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: ODDILEE REDDIN, An Individual are Plaintiffs and M. E. BISHOP, An Individual, are Defendants.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding upon you.
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 12th day of December, 1986.
Rilla Mahoney, Clerk 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas by JoAnn Lackey Deputy (Seal) 194-78-11c

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit:
On the 15th day of July, 1986, the Plaintiff, was and still is, the owner in fee simple of the following described premises situated in the County of Taylor and the State of Texas: Lot 7, Block 6, Original Town of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas.
After the 15th day of July, 1986, the Defendant, M.E. Bishop, unlawfully entered upon and disposeses her of such premises and withholds her the possession thereof. Said property being described as Lot 7, Block 6, Original Town of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas.
Plaintiff prays that the Defendant be cited to appear and answer this petition and that the Plaintiff have judgement against the Defendant for the title and possession of the above described premises, for her damages and costs of suit, and such other and further relief to which the Plaintiff may be entitled either at law or equity.
as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.
If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
The officer executing this process shall promptly execute the same according to law, and make due return as the law directs.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this 3rd day of November, A.D. 1986.
Attest: Rilla Mahoney District Clerk, Taylor County, Texas 42nd District Court by Rita Moore, Deputy (Seal) 191-4tc-109

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First Published March 3, 1889
Cloy A. Richards--Editor--Co-Publisher
Melanie Richards--Co Publisher
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Entered As Second Class Mail at the U. S. Post Office in Merkel, Texas 79536
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