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# THE TYLER COUNTY BOOSTER

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FOR A FRIEND! 283-2569

**Heritage Village Museum**  
Toast Texas Independence  
1:45 March 2 at Heritage Village  
Horsehair hatbands by folklorist Bill Brett

THURSDAY, March 1, 1990  
Woodville, Texas 75979



**COLMESNEIL SUPERINTENDENT**- Larry Stinson, (C.) Feb. 20, is shown advising Duhon (L.) and Attorney Larry Watts (R.) that "Grievance can be presented in executive session, but that no recording can be made."

## At Colmesneil I.S.D... Duhon Nonrenewed

By Annabeth Willis

Following what was supposed to be an open grievance hearing, Tuesday, Feb. 20, the Colmesneil Independent School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to follow Superintendent Larry Stinson's recommendation for non-renewal of Elementary School Principal Dianne Duhon. Having worked in the Colmesneil District for nine years in the District before accepting the position of Principal for Grades K-6 five years ago. She holds a superintendent's certificate and was responsible for setting up the program for gifted and talented children in the Colmesneil District.

Duhon, who had requested that her grievance concerning an evaluation by Superintendent Larry Stinson which she felt was unfair be heard in Open Session, was very unhappy with the way the grievance hearing was handled. Attorney Larry Watts of Watts & Company Inc., in Houston, Texas, represented Duhon at the hearing. Watts informed the Board that Duhon wished to be heard in open session which is her legal right.

Board President John Pittman asked Watts, "Is the complaint against the Superintendent?" to which Watts replied, "She is grieving an evaluation. We have a Court Reporter here. I intend to have it recorded." Watts also said, "I can't imagine why you would want it closed if she wants it open." Pittman agreed by saying, "O.K. She has 30 minutes." Watts informed Pittman that a time limit could not be placed on the hearing and proceeded by calling Stinson as his first witness.

Watts' initial question to Stinson was "Did you discuss Ms. Duhon with Board Member Jimmy Crews before commencement of the school year?" At this point, Stinson said, "I recommend we go into Executive Session because this is a slanted hearing." The Board walked out of the room filled with approximately sixty people, the majority of which supported Duhon, and met in Executive Session for approximately one hour and thirty minutes.

When the Board returned at 9:40 p.m., Watts was informed that they could have thirty minutes to present the grievance and that no witnesses could be called. Watts stated that the evaluation by Stinson "was punitive to his client, and that they were trying to railroad her with an evaluation." Watts again attempted to ask a question by saying, "Mr. Stinson, and was quickly interrupted by Pittman who said, "We're not mentioning names." Watts retorted, "I am mentioning names." Stinson retorted, "He's out of line." Watts said, "This evaluation didn't happen in a vacuum. I'm speaking for her. What policy says I don't have the right to speak?" Stinson spent the next five minutes searching for a policy in the Colmesneil ISD Policy Manual. Watts also had a Policy Manual and offered several times to show the policy to Stinson. Watts stated, "Under Board Policy, my client's constitutional rights have been violated in several areas and the following caused an unfair evaluation. What you (Stinson) were told by a Board Member about my client before school started, my client's attendance at Board Meetings, my client's objection to the system of selecting the Halloween Carnival's King and Queen, my client's siding with parents who believed the P.T.O. should be disbanded, my client's disagreement with you in regard to multiple reassignments of teachers in her building."

Stinson answered, "Nothing he has said has to do with the evaluation."

Watts stated, "You have violated policies in the processing of his evaluation and her complaints." Stinson then said, "Because you are using names in making these allegations, you are out of order." Watts said, "You have made charges against Ms. Duhon." Stinson replied, "What charges?" to which Watts answered, "I'm glad you asked." Stinson said, "I think he is trying to intimidate us so that we cannot go on with our day to day activities. I don't have to sit here and listen to this." Pittman asked, "Can you get back to the grievance?" to which Watts replied, "I want you to remove that evaluation from her file. That's the relief she seeks." At this point, Board Member Irving Broussard said, "I

move that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation for non-renewal." Watts exploded with, "Has the superintendent made a recommendation for non-renewal of my client? I guess Mr. Broussard just let the cat out of the bag! It's the first my client has heard of non-renewal. Was there a straw vote...poll so to speak...taken in Executive Session on the matter Mr. Broussard has revealed to us?" Pittman answered, "No vote was taken. Do I hear a motion to deny the grievance?" Doyle Cowart moved and Buddy Wilkinson seconded that "the time frame be ended on the grievance and that we move on to other items." The vote was unanimous. Following the unanimous renewal of High School Principal R. B. Moffett, Irving Broussard again moved that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation for nonrenewal of Elementary School Principal Duhon. Jimmy Crews seconded the motion. Watts asked several times when specifically the Superintendent made the recommendation for nonrenewal. Board President, Pittman said regarding the recommendation for non-renewal that "He made it tonight...he made it at the meeting we were just in."

The vote for nonrenewal was unanimous.

Following the vote, Watts said, "We are appealing the Superintendent's recommendation...we are asking that the Board respond right now." As Watts pushed for a date for a new hearing, the Board finally agreed to get with the Attorney's for C.I.S.D., Henslee, Ryan and Groce, Inc., of Austin, and set a new hearing date as soon as possible.

Duhon stated in an interview with "The Booster" Monday, February 26, that she did not feel she had received a fair hearing. According to Duhon, "I feel like after they came out of Executive Session, their minds were made up. We were not allowed to say anything and I don't think the whole truth came out. I don't feel like the Board even heard us." Duhon said she grieved Stinson's evaluation of her because "there was not one positive comment in the entire evaluation."

According to Duhon, "Mr. Stinson handed me a blank evaluation form before the Christmas holidays, asked me to fill it out, and said that we would compare it with the one he filled out. When he called me into his office, I refused to sign the evaluation because I felt it was unfair. The evaluation covered thirty-five points and it was all negative." When asked about previous evaluations, Duhon said, "The only negative comment that I ever received from former Superintendent Handley was that I was too friendly with some of the teachers." Duhon said that Handley did verbal rather than written evaluations. Duhon stated that she had talked with each Board Member offering them copies of the evaluation and her written response to it. Three Board members accepted her offer, she said. According to Duhon, as of Monday, she has not been informed of any new hearing date. When asked following the Board Meeting if the next step was to wait for the school to set a hearing, Attorney Watts said, "No. The deed is done, they did it...now it's our turn."

Superintendent Larry Stinson, who was interviewed by "The Booster" Monday, February 26, stated "I feel that the School Board tried in every aspect to listen and certainly provided sufficient time for the grievance on the evaluation to be heard." Stinson had nothing to say regarding the evaluation stating that "It was a confidential type thing." He did say that an attempt was made to go over the evaluation with Duhon earlier. Stinson is in his first year with Colmesneil ISD. He served as principal at Ana, Texas, before coming to Colmesneil. Stinson stated that he does not have anyone from Ana in mind as a replacement for Duhon. According to Stinson, no date has been set at this time for a new hearing.

A Special Meeting has been set for Thursday, March 1, 1990 in the Home Economics room at Colmesneil High School. The Board will be meeting in Executive Session with their attorney regarding "threatened litigation." Other items on the agenda are discussion of employee contracts and management of Lake Tejas.

## Koci Is DETDA Officer

Annual installation for officers of the Deep East Texas Development Association will be held at 6:30 p.m., Friday, March 2nd in Lufkin at the Crown Colony.

Keynote speaker will be Senator Bill Haley, who has chaired the House Committee on Public Education in the 68th, 69th and 70th Legislatures, also served on the House Committee on State Affairs and Finance Institutions. Senator Haley was instrumental in the enactment of the most sweeping of reforms in the Texas Education system since the 1940 Gilmer-Akin bill.

President Henson said, "DETDA will be honored with the presence of State Representatives and county judges and commissioners from the nine county organization."

Incoming officers are Tony Bennett from Dittell, President; Gordon Steele from Lufkin First Vice President and Eugene Koci from Woodville, Second Vice President.

Bennett is Vice President of Temple Inland Forest Products Corporation with the responsibility for corporate communications and legislative affairs. Steele recently retired from the U.S. Forest Service as Staff Officer for Land Management Planning and Koci is District Superintendent for Gulf States Utilities.

Anyone interested in attending the Banquet is welcome and may make reservations by calling 409/275-2389. DETDA's office is in San Augustine. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Tickets are \$15 per person.

Luts gave Angelina county a good turnout and began 1990 with a 100% attendance and welcome to all other counties to be included in the year of '90," said Henson.

Female of the Banquet will be drawing of four prizes, from the member counties.

## Human Services Dedication March 6

Anticipation is building for the Grand and Formal Opening of the Tyler County Human Services Building set for Tuesday, March 6, with the opening ceremony set for 2 p.m. with a reception following.

The Commissioners Court has sent out numerous invitations to regional and local entities in heralding the new facility which is expected to provide many needed human services to Tyler Counties for many years to come. The facility will house the Tyler County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Sheltered Workshop and MHMR Offices, along with the Tyler County Nutrition Center, and offices for the Caring-Is Sharing Food Pantry, as well as other agencies offices. The building is located behind A & M Motor Company, at 201 Willow St., in Woodville and adjacent to the current Sheltered Workshop Building.



**TYLER COUNTY REALTOR BOARD MEETS**- Jeff Wentworth, the Texas Regional Director of Environmental and Consumer Health Protection, was the guest speaker at the regular meeting of the Tyler County Board of Realtors Thursday. The topic of discussion was "Onsite wastewater treatment with specific discussion on permit costs for septic tank installation in Tyler County." Shown above are Wentworth and his wife, Jan (seated) and Realtor Board members (From Left To Right): Thelma Cain, president and members: Herb Branch, Jerry Grimes, Anne Tolbert, Butch Herring, Bud Jones and visiting guest Chamber of Commerce Director Dr. Larry Phillips.

## Prescribed Burning Soon

Big Thicket National Preserve Superintendent, Ronald R. Switzer, has announced plans to conduct prescribed fires on various units of the Preserve during the 1990 calendar year. As in the past, these fires will be strictly controlled by trained firefighters from the National Park Service and will follow "prescriptions" of environmental factors outlined in the approved Fire Management Plan for the Preserve.

Plant communities within much of the Big Thicket were maintained by historic fires which controlled understory growth and promoted ecosystem diversity. Settlement of the area has altered this fire cycle through the suppression of all fires. Prescribed fire is a method to restore vegetative diversity and reduce the buildup of hazardous fuels. Reduction of these fuels will lessen the chances of an uncontrolled wildfire occurring in the future.

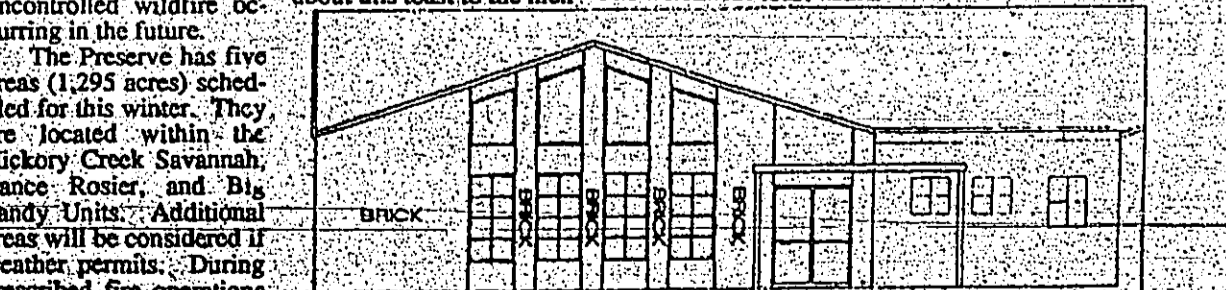
The Preserve has five areas (1,295 acres) scheduled for this winter. They are located within the Hickory Creek Savannah, Lance Roster, and Big Sandy Units. Additional areas will be considered if weather permits. During prescribed fire operations travel on secondary roads may be disrupted for short periods of time. Some trails may also be closed temporarily, and some Monday the addition also will probably involve adding "one or two employees"

## Toast Texas At Village

Thousands of Texans around the world will proudly raise their glasses and toast Texas' independence on Friday, March 2, at 2 p.m.

What will be so unusual about this toast to the men who gathered at Washington-on-the-Brazos 144 years ago is that the beverage of the day will be pure Texas spring water.

On Friday, March 2, at exactly 2 p.m., Heritage Village Museum will join this worldwide toast with a special program of its own with Woodville Mayor Tom Knapp as guest speaker. The pure spring water will come from the artesian well of the H. B. Duncan homplace on Old Harmony Road.



**HOSPITAL EMERGENCY/WAITING ROOM EXPANSION SOON**- Tyler County Hospital Administrator, Tom Sturdivant reports this week that the much needed Hospital Emergency/Waiting Room funding is ready and construction should start soon on the new addition. Sturdivant told the Tyler County Chamber temporarily, and some Monday the addition also will probably involve adding "one or two employees"

### Obituaries

#### Mabel Beller Tucker

Mabel Beller Tucker, 84, of Woodville died Thursday, February 22, 1990 at Woodville Convalescent Center in Woodville. Cremation was held Friday, February 23, 1990 at Haven of Rest Crematory in Beaumont, under the direction of Riley Funeral Home in Woodville. A memorial service will be announced at a later time. A native of Missouri, she lived in Woodville about a year. Survivors include a daughter Janice Rabalais of Woodville, and a son, John M. Tucker of Jonesboro, La.

#### Harvey Tucker

Harvey Tucker, 83, of Woodville died Wednesday, February 21, 1990 at Seaton Medical Center in Austin after an illness. Funeral was held at 2 p.m. February 24, 1990 at Riley Funeral Home Chapel in Woodville with Dr. Ralph Thompson and Rev. Don Calhoun officiating. Interment followed in Hubert Cemetery in Polk County under the direction of Riley Funeral Home. A native of Woodville, he lived in Beaumont most of his life before moving back to Woodville 15 years ago and was a retired welder from Ideco in Beaumont. Survivors include his wife, Coleta Tucker of Woodville; a son, Harold Austin Tucker of Beaumont; a daughter, Marlene Smith of Austin; a brother, Leo Tucker of Fort Worth; a sister, Kaleta Duggins of Woodville; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren and numerous other relatives in Tyler County and Polk Co. Serving as pallbearers were: Elton Lee Hubert, Jim Pace, James Pace, Edith Hubert, Wayne Hubert and Charles Hubert.

#### Charles Cleveland Cowart

Charles Cleveland Cowart, 63, of Beaumont died February 24, 1990. Services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 27, 1990 at Edwards, Daniels and Stanley Funeral Home with Rev. Don Dawson and Garry Masterson from the First United Methodist Church, Beaumont officiating. Mr. Cowart was a Civil Engineer and Lab Tech. at Lamar University, a veteran of W. W. II Army and member of First Methodist church of Beaumont, Texas. Survivors include his wife, Bobbie Cowart of Houston, John R. Cowart of Myrtle, Mississippi, and Louis Cowart of Rockland; sisters, Mrs. Lavelle Brown of Rockland, Mrs. Virgie Anderson of Woodville, and Mrs. Betty Read of Colmesneil.

#### Fred Vernon Hamm

Fred Vernon Hamm, 86, of Woodville died February 20, 1990. Services were held Friday, February 23, 1990 at 10 a.m. at the Chapel of Edwards, Daniels and Stanley Funeral Home with Bro. John Spanhans officiating. Burial was held at Fairview Cemetery. A native of Louisiana, Texas he has lived since 1960 coming from New Orleans, he is a retired flight inspector and served in the Navy in W.W. II and in the Air Force in W. W. II. Survivors include sons, Lee Hamm of Houma, LA and Fred Hamm Jr of Breckenridge, Texas; brothers, Leonard and Jack Hamm of Town Bluff, Bill Hamm of Lumberton and Huey Hamm of Sour Lake; sister, Nell Crowley of Town Bluff; 10 grandchildren. Pallbearers were Art Miller, Edward Fancher, Lynn Hamm, Larry Williams, David Harris, and David Hamm.

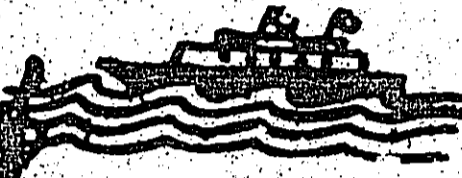
#### Benjamin Franklin Nugent

Benjamin Franklin Nugent, 78, of Colmesneil died February 18, 1990. Services were held Wednesday, February 21, 1990 at 10 a.m. at the Chapel of Edwards, Daniels and Stanley Funeral Home with Larry Dolcambra and Daniel Patrick officiating. He was a retired Merchant Marine, Veteran of World War II, Merchant Marines. Survivors include his brother, Simon H. Nugent, of Colmesneil; sister, Belle Flowers of Colmesneil. Pallbearers were Earl Nugent, Jim Nugent, Jimmy Graham, Jerry Nugent Sr., Nelson Flowers and John McCoy Sr.

#### Evangelist Here

Teacher-Evangelist James A. Griep of Cypress, Texas, will minister morning and evening on Sunday, March 4, at Trinity Christian Center according to Pastor Fred Hill. Rev. Griep has a wealth of experience from traveling in evangelistic meetings in many states, pastoring, establishing two new churches and teaching in a cross-denominational Bible school. He soon will be traveling to Argentina with a building ministry. Meetings are open to the public at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Trinity Christian Center is located on Highway 190 West or you may call 283-2947 for more information.

**Cruise Composers Travel Agency**



201 N. Magnolia (Inside Woodville Inn)

**ALASKA CRUISE TOUR**  
June 23 - 30, 1990  
ms Westerdam  
**SPRING PILGRIMAGE**  
New Orleans, Natchez & Vicksburg  
March 26 - 30, 1990

**Hill Country Holiday**  
April 9-12  
Highlights: Tour Austin, LBJ Country, Fredericksburg, Mystery Dinner in Kerrville, V.O. Ranch

**NASHVILLE GETAWAY**  
April 18 - 23, 1990

For more information, Please call: 283-7741



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Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm

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Tyler County Commissioner Precinct 4

"Your Vote & Support Will Be Appreciated"

(Pd. Pol. Ad By Thomas Harris, Box 188 Fred, Tx)

**THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK**

Brought To You Every Week By Bob Bell

Tomorrow is the day when idlers work and fools reform. Don't wait. Do your work and reforming today. -Anonymous

It's not what happens to you, but the way you take it that counts. -Hilys Jasper

Nothing can bring you peace but yourself. -Ralph Waldo Emerson

It's not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness. -Charles H. Spurgeon


Happiness is a habit - cultivate it. -Anonymous

Presented as a public service every week by:

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Colmesneil Phone: 409-437-2212 Woodville Phone: 409-283-7312  
P.O. Box 158, Colmesneil, Texas 75758

**To The People Of Tyler County**




Patrick O'Neal Hardy

I would like to express to you and my office's appreciation to you for your support over the past 7 years. Without your help we would not have enjoyed the success we have in bringing criminals to justice. I intend to visit with as many of you as possible, however, because of my duties as your Criminal District Attorney I will probably not be able to see everyone in person, however, I certainly need your vote and support. I feel I can look anyone in the eye and honestly tell you I have worked very hard at representing you, the people of this county, and have given you my very best in being your Criminal District Attorney. I would stand on my record in asking for your vote and support.

Sincerely, Patrick O'Neal Hardy  
(Paid Pol. Ad By Pat Hardy, P.O. Box 2253, Woodville, Texas 75798)


St. Paul's Episcopal Church Women present Jane Leister's **Women at the Well** Sunday, March 11th, at 3 pm



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Women will present Jane's Leister's "Women at the Well" on Sunday, March 11th, at 3pm at St. Paul's Church. We wish to invite the public to view this moving portrayal of these biblical women with us. The presentation is a collection of original dramatic monologues in which Ms. Leister brings to life women of the New Testament - women who knew Jesus and whose lives were changed by his life.

# Dogwood Country

**"The Mayonnaise Jar Remembered"**



By Patsy Duke

If you have not drunk your meal beverage from a mayonnaise jar, you've missed half your life! Maybe you don't remember the Great Depression of the late 20's and early 30's. Families of modest income had few dishes and glasses that matched. China and crystal were completely beyond acquisition. This mattered much to adults, but to the children (in my family), it was fun. Children had few choices, but we played the "Dish Game." If we had been well-mannered during a meal, immediately prior to the next one, our parents permitted us to select, for our dining pleasure, the plate of our choice. Keep in mind that most dishes were of various patterns, colors, and shapes.

Our crystal consisted of pint-sized mayonnaise jars, so of this, we had a matched set.

Television was still on drawing boards in scientific laboratories and radio was reserved for evening entertainment. So, during our meals, we talked to each other. And we listened to each other.

Mother and Daddy held our attention with true-to-life stories of how it was when they were children. They also related adventures of friends and relatives and told of historic events.

Through patience, perseverance and a deep faith in God, our country worked its way through the Depression. China, crystal and silver appeared on our dining tables and gracious living again made its way into our lives.

It's not so much what you have that counts. It's what you do with what you have.

Regardless of the vessel from which you drink, be it a silver goblet or mayonnaise jar, may your thoughts be the lovely and your heart filled with peace.



Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dawson

**Warren Vols To Meet**

The Warren Volunteer day, March 5, at 7 p.m. Department Monthly Meeting will be held Monday, March 5, at 7 p.m. All members need to attend.

**EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT!**

**Spaghetti Night \$4.95**

**Woodville Inn**

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1983 Chevrolet 4x4 Pickup.....\$2,995 (Hunting Rig)

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**Kenner-Dawson Wed**

Miss Gina Re'Gae Kenner and Mr. Charles Bryan Dawson were married at seven in the evening of Friday, February 9, 1990, at the Beech Creek Assembly of God Church in Livingston, Texas. The double-ring candlelight ceremony was performed by The Reverend Jimmy Cheatum with music provided by Sherry Harvey and Charlene Weeks. A reception followed in the fellowship hall.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Kenner of Woodville, and the granddaughter of Miss LeRoy Tolar and the late Mr. LeRoy Tolar of Doucette, Texas. Her paternal grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kenner of Chertok, Texas.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence (Bo) Dawson of Livingston, and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie C. Jordan, also of Livingston, and Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Dawson of Carleton.

Miss Sheila Pangburn of Nacogdoches, served as maid of honor and the groom's sister, Crystal Dawson, served as junior bridesmaid.

Mr. Gene, Carl, and Larkin, served as best man and the groom's brother, Chad Dawson, served as groomsmen. Mr. Kirk Wiehold of Nacogdoches, served as usher.

The bride wore a designer gown of white satin featuring a heart-neckline edged in lace beaded with pearls and long-puffed sleeves accented with lace and seed pearls. Her train was edged by three feet of deep tulle. The bride carried a bouquet of pink and white flowers cascading from the wedding date which was also carried by her mother.

Members of the fiancée party included: Miss Glenda Kay Tolar, Mrs. Melinda Wieholt, and Miss Audrey Kenner. Miss Karen Collier and Miss Houston Collier handled the tote bags to the wedding guests.

The bride and groom are graduates of Woodville High School and are attending Abilene Christian College. Following a honeymoon in Galveston, the couple will reside in Lufkin.

**Texas Exes To Meet March 3**

University of Texas students, past and present, are invited to the Texas Independence Day in 1987. The first March 2 celebration, a revived group singing, "A Song of the Capitol at 1415" - present. Winton invited this request for a Texas Independence Day celebration.

On March 3rd, University of Texas Ex-Students in Tyler County join more than a quarter million other Texas Exes in celebrating Texas Independence Day and recognizing The University at a celebration at 6:30 p.m., 11 Cecil Dr. Woodville, Texas.

The meeting is open to the public. It is one of hundreds taking place world-wide as Texas Exes gather to honor Texas independence Day and pay tribute to a first-class university.

The local chairman for the Tyler County Texas Exes is Robbie Barrow. He can be contacted for more information at 283-7574 or 283-5102.


If you are a former student of the University of Texas, we need you. Join us on March 3 for a fun evening with a great group of Texas Exes. (To Page 4A PUBLIC NOTICE)

Notice is hereby given that RAINY DAY EATING AND AIR CONDITIONING, heretofore a sole proprietorship, doing business at 109 East Bluff, Woodville, will be conducting business as RAINY DAY AIR CONDITIONING INCORPORATED effective February 20, 1990. (9-4-90)

**First Shiloh Revival**

First Shiloh Baptist Church, will conduct revival services Friday through March 18. The Rev. J. T. Riley of Colmesneil will bring the message. Robbie Conners of Woodville will provide music. Services Friday March 16 and Sat. March 17 at 10:45 a.m. Sunday March 18, 10:45 a.m.

**Re-Elect Qualifications No. 2 On The Ballot No. 1 In Experience**




Donece Gregory

WHILE SERVING AS THE COUNTY CLERK, I HAVE IMPLEMENTED OR HELPED TO IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING IMPROVEMENTS:

- 1-Installed DAILY recording of documents.
- 2-Instituted cost-saving measures in ordering and bidding for county property and equipment.
- 3-Changed filing certificates to bring them into compliance with microfilm rules.
- 4-Converted Clerk's Office to computer, including indexing and record storage.
- 5-Instituted professional accounting procedures for County Clerk Trust Fund.
- 6-Developed written job descriptions, and written office policies and detailed procedures.
- 7-Required all job applicants to take a written interview, spelling and vocabulary tests, and typing proficiency test.
- 8-Brought the County Clerk's Office into compliance with the law as necessary following legislative changes.
- 9-Improved control of valuable documents, such as birth certificates and marriage licenses.
- 10-Made notification of defendants in County Court more efficient.
- 11-Constantly sought to help parties in probate and guardianships get copies of essential legal requirements.
- 12-Tighter inventory control on supplies and equipment to save taxpayer money.

(Paid Political Ad By Donece Gregory, P.O. Box 273, Fred, Texas 77616)

**ELECT**



**JIM CLARK**

**CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY TYLER COUNTY**

(Pd. Pol. Ad. By Jim Clark, 104 N. Reid, Woodville, Tx 75798)

FOR A MAN EXPERIENCED AND DEDICATED TO TYLER COUNTY AND TO HIS PROFESSION

- Member of State Bar 37 Years
- Past President Tyler County Bar Association
- Past Director Houston Junior Bar Association
- Member Texas Bar Association
- Member Jefferson County Bar Association
- Licensed To Practice In The Federal Courts In The Eastern And Southern Districts Of Texas.
- Past President Woodville Lions Club
- Past President Tyler County Chamber of Commerce
- Former Executive Director of Tyler County Dogwood Festival (6 Years).
- Former Director Western Western Western (3 Years)
- Member Permanent Board Of Directors Tyler County Dogwood Festival.
- Tyler County Ambassador To The Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (13 Years)

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Hope is the strength that sustains us through hardship.

Learn what it takes to fill your heart with hope. Join us for the meetings below.

Here's Hope.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SPURGER, in revival Sunday-Thursday, March 4-8. Services Sunday 9:45am and 6:00 pm. Monday-Thursday 11:30am and 7:00pm. A. B. Lightfoot - Evangelist; David Nugent - Pastor, with Mrs. Rose Lightfoot and her ventriloquist's dummy, Chester Woodensbody. Bro. Rick Altman will be directing the music.

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!

The largest paper money ever issued was the one kwan note of the Chinese Ming dynasty issue of 1368 to 1399. It measured nine by 13 inches.

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Please Call or Write for Free Consultation

**"TOP" OUT THE TRAILER SLATED FOR MARCH 3**

McDonald's of Woodville, TX, has teamed up with Woodville Clean and Green to encourage area residents to help "top out the trailer" to have it completely loaded with recyclable items for the next Recycle Saturday set for March 3.

According to Sandy Sanders, Director of Public Relations for McDonald's of Woodville and Jasper, everyone who donates items to the recycle trailer this Saturday will receive a free litter bag, compliments of McDonald's. The bags feature a coupon redeemable at the local restaurant for a McDonald's treat. "Our goal is to collect enough recyclable items to finish filling the bins in the trailer on March 3 so Gulf Coast Recycling of Beaumont can come pick it up on March 4," stated Sue Tortello, Woodville Clean and Green Recycle Committee Chairman. "They will be bringing along an empty trailer to leave for us to fill so the program can continue."

The recycle trailer is located at the City Sewage Treatment Plant on Willow Street. Hours for the acceptance of donated recyclable items are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on alternate Saturdays.



**Spurger Church Workday Brings Back Memories**

**TAKING BREATHERS-** Billie Martin is shown (photo below) getting some air as he was one of the many Spurger First Baptist Church Volunteers who turned out Saturday to help demolish their existing facility to make way for a new church building.



**ME AND MY SHADOW-** Bright sunshine day is evident as worker at First Baptist Church Spurger is shown with a load of shingles from demolished roof. He seems to be getting some help from his shadow.



**HARD AT WORK-** are Kenneth Gregory and Corbett Levis teaming up to build a new church at Spurger after first demolishing their present structure. The church family is currently worshipping in the church's gymnasium but expects to begin building a new facility in the near future.

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**At Spurger Baptist... "The People Had A Mind To Work"**

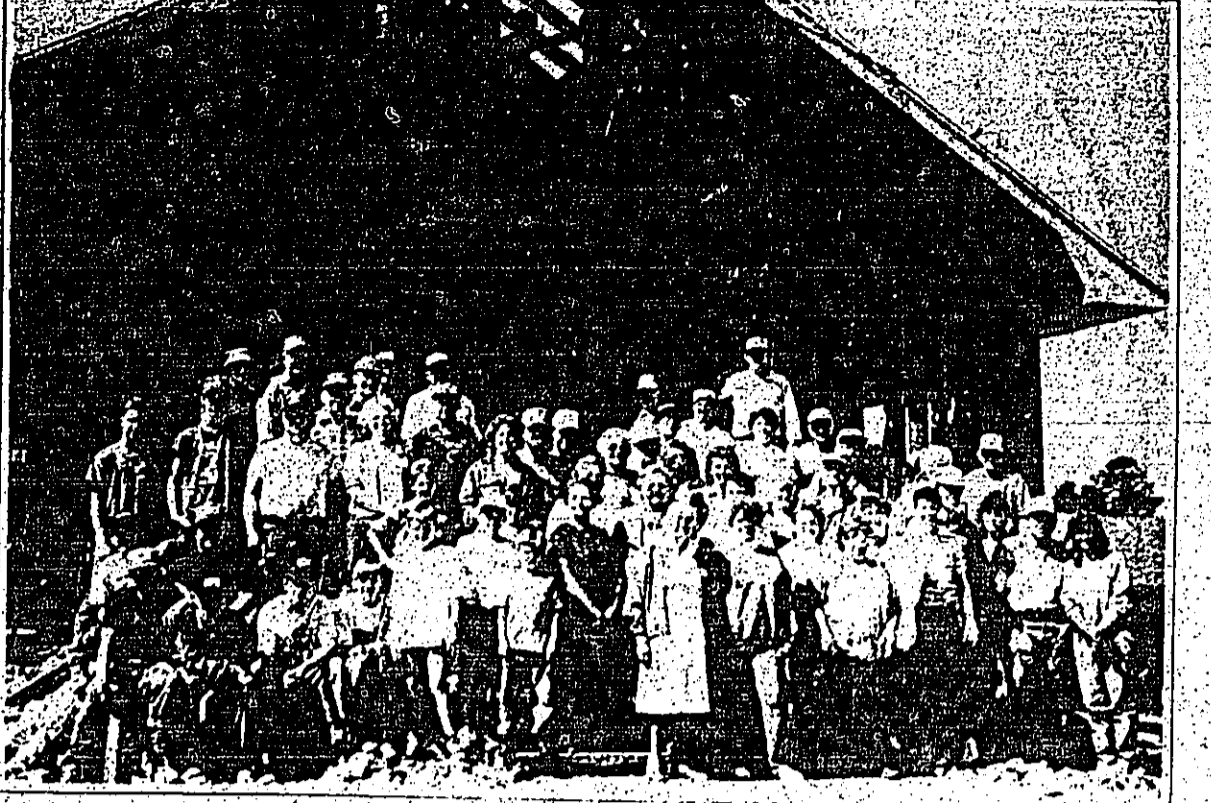
The men and women of the Spurger Baptist Church, Spurger, volunteered their time and energy to help with the work needed to get the job done. The pastor said the church would worship in the gymnasium until the new facility was built.



**WORKDAY IN THE 60'S-** First Baptist Church, Spurger. "The women cleaned the parsonage while the men worked outside."



**PULLING NAILS AND CLEANING LUMBER-** Pitching in to pull some nails in an attempt to recover some lumber from the dismantling of the church are (right to left) Debbie Hicks, Mary Beth Hicks and Pastor David Nugent. Everyone who was present seemed to have a good time during what presented itself as a beautiful day.



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SPURGER WORKERS-** Saturday are shown before a lunch break. Some 90 strong the group is in the process of tearing down their original church building in order to put a new one in after falling off some scaffolding. Horn is doing alright now and is expected to be released from the hospital in a few days according to church officials.



**OLDEST AND YOUNGEST MEMBERS-** who turned out to work at church shown following lunch shared by all. Shown at right is Pastor David Nugent with young Brandon Hicks at center and at left is Gerrie McLean a charter member of the First Baptist Church of Spurger, established in 1919.

**VOTE & ELECT**

**LLOYD C. FORTENBERRY**  
COMMISSIONER  
PRECINCT 2

- BUSINESS EXPERIENCE
- LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
- DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE
- CIVIC EXPERIENCE

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FOR TYLER COUNTY CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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96 Sent To Prison  
8 Felony Trials  
4 Convictions,  
4 Not Guilty

**Since Hardy: 1983-1989 = 7 Years**  
208 Sent To Prison  
31 Felony Trials  
22 Convictions  
4 Not Guilty  
5 Hung Juries

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Public Notice PUBLIC NOTICE-The City Council of the City of Woodville, Texas reserved the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

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EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT! Mexican Food Buffet Senior 3.95 Toddler 1.95

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See The Big Thicket—Like A Vision Of Heaven

W o o d s m a n



VOLUME 3 NUMBER 3 N.S.

HERITAGE VILLAGE MUSEUM

WOODVILLE, TEXAS 75979

MARCH 1, 1990

**Dogwood Festival Coming:**

## Western Weekend Is Set For March 31

WOODVILLE—Horsemanship is an art well known to Texans, many of whom learned to ride before they learned to walk.

But horsemanship is only part of the reason behind Western Weekend in Tyler County the last weekend of every March. More important aspects of the weekend are the camaraderie of folks on horseback, and the delight in traveling in through some of the loveliest

springtime landscapes found anywhere in the world.

For the thousands of spectators who come to Woodville each year to witness one of the largest congregations of trailrides anywhere in the United States, sometimes numbering over 6,000 horses, the camaraderie and the sheer spectacle of that many horses in one place are enough.

Most of these horses and their riders

come a long way to participate in the annual Western Weekend Parade. They start out from places as much as 150 miles away, then converge on this little city, population 2821, on the final Saturday of each March for a grand parade followed by a rodeo and other events. On the way, the riders join up with other trailrides coming from other points on the compass, camping out together and throwing trailride dances

together all during the week preceding that final Saturday.

This year's parade will begin at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, March 31, on Highway 69, just north of Woodville and travel south to Highway 190, then east in front of the court house, continuing through the middle of town.

Until 1967 the trailriders, who have

(Continued On Page 2)

## Dogwood Parade Is April 7

WOODVILLE—It took World War II to stop the Annual Dogwood Festival once it got started, but nothing could stop the beauty of the dogwood trees that fill the forests of Tyler County each Spring and beckon visitors from all over the world.

Because of that early interruption, the festival that started 50 years ago is this year celebrating its 47th anniversary. That's 47 years of the entire community getting together to honor not only the season but the history of this fascinating area of Texas with a stirring pageant, beautifully produced under the stars in its own Dogwood Amphitheatre.

The dream of progress in the form of better roads was the real progenitor of the Annual Tyler County Dogwood Festival. The dream was that of the late J. E. Wheat, who invited some of the state's leading citizens to Tyler County to enlist their aid in getting U. S. Highway 190 completed through Woodville and across the Neches River to Jasper in the adjoining county. The year was 1938 and until that time and for many years after, automobile traf-

(Continued On Page 3)



**BONNIE AND CLYDE AT ROCKLAND**—Famous outlaws Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow temporarily landed in the East Texas area. In this photo they are shown crossing the Neches River on the Rockland ferry. The ferry's owner, at right, is George Jones. Bonnie and Clyde were shot in 1934 in Louisiana. The colorful history of Rockland is the theme of this year's Dogwood Festival Pageant, to be held April 7.

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**★ Western Weekend**

(From Page 1)

been coming to Tyler County every year since 1958, were part of the Annual Dogwood Festival Parade. But, as the numbers of riders increased, local horsemen got together and organized a weekend of their own, thereby expanding the celebration of Spring in Tyler County.

And, as usual, this 24th annual Western Weekend promises to be even bigger and better with two rip-roaring Rodeo performances, Friday and Saturday nights, an all day Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday, and a Western Weekend Dance at the Woodville Inn on Saturday night.

The fun starts on Friday night at 8:00 with the first Rodeo performance at the FFA/4-H Arena, 2 miles west of Woodville off Hwy. 190. Tickets at the gate are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 12. Trailriders with proper identification will be admitted to this per-

formance for just \$2. The Western Weekend Arts & Crafts Fair opens at 9 a.m. in downtown Woodville. Parade time is 2:00 p.m. with the 1989 Western Weekend Sweetheart as Parade Marshall, leading over 3500 horses and riders through downtown Woodville.

At 3:30 p.m. the final phase for selection of this year's Western Weekend Sweetheart will take place at the Rodeo Arena, where contestants will be judged on their horsemanship. The second performance of the Rodeo, during which the 1990 Sweetheart will be announced, starts at 4:00 p.m. Again, tickets will be \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 12.

You don't have to own a horse to enjoy Western Weekend. You don't even have to own a saddle. Just come on up to Woodville for a little taste of country ease and good old fashioned fun.

**Toast To Texas March 2**

Not too many years ago, people in Texas celebrated March 2 with more zeal than they did the fourth of July, according to Frank Lively, editor of Texas Highways magazine. "Nowdays, most folks don't even know when Texas Independence Day is."

On Friday, March 2, 1990, at exactly 2 p.m., thousands of Texans the world over will prove that they do know about this day as they proudly raise their glasses and their consciousness in a toast to their state's history.

What will be so unusual about this toast is that the beverage of the day will be pure Texas spring water... a fitting tribute to the brave men who gathered at Washington-on-the-Brazos 154 years ago and declared Texas' independence from Mexico.

All Texans, born or naturalized or wishing to be, who hold this day dear, are urged to come to the Heritage Village Museum at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 2,

and help us toast this auspicious event. Woodville mayor Tom Knapp will officiate at the ceremonies in the Village. The beverage of the day will be fresh honest-to-goodness spring water from the artesian well on the H. B. Duncan homestead on old Harmony Road.

So come join us at the Village and let's stand tall together in memory of our forefathers, who made March 2 a day we should never forget.

The proffered toast to Texas on this special day will be:

To Texas... Joyous and sparkling,  
Evergreen when it rains, enduring in drought,  
Timeless, endless in boundaries, exciting,  
Home to the adventurous of yesterday and today,  
With shrines from the past  
And space and spirit for the future.  
To Texas, everlasting in the hearts of your people!

**The East Texas Echo**

Published by The Woodman Publishing Co., Inc. Woodville, Texas 75979  
P.O. Box 339 205 W. Bluff (409) 283-2516

To further the interests of the Tyler County Heritage Society, a non-profit educational corporation, and to promote genuine historical research, tourism, and the news from Heritage Village Museum.

Dottie Johnson—Editor for the Heritage Village

John Yearwood—Publisher

The East Texas Echo is published as a supplement to the weekly Woodman (USPS 562-730) of Woodville, Texas. The name and logo are owned by the Tyler County Heritage Society, Inc., and used by agreement between the Woodman and the Society. The East Texas Echo circulates in all newsstand and subscriber copies of the Woodman and receives additional circulation through ports of entry into the State of Texas and other locations.

Address all correspondence relating to historical news and items of interest for future issues to Dottie Johnson, c/o Woodman, P.O. Box 339, Woodville, Tx. 75979. Inquiries as to the programs and facilities available at the Heritage Village Museum may be addressed to The Heritage Village Museum, P.O. Box 688, Woodville, Tx. 75979, or by calling (409) 283-2272. POSTMASTER: send change of address to the WOODSMAN, P.O. BOX 339, Woodville, Texas 75979.

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**Tyler County Community Calendar**

● **MARCH 1-31, 1990: WOMEN IN TEXAS HISTORY EXHIBIT.** Heritage Village Museum, featuring women in Tyler County history.

● **GARDEN OPEN HOUSE.** McFaddin-Ward House, Beaumont. A spectacular display of azaleas in full bloom.

● **WOMEN IN HISTORY EXHIBIT,** featuring famous Golden Triangle women. John Jay French Museum, Beaumont.

● **MARCH 2, 1990: TOAST TO TEXAS.** 2 p.m. Heritage Village Museum. Offer a toast to the signing of Texas' Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836.

● **MARCH 3, 1990: EAST TEXAS BLACKSMITH ALLIANCE.** Gathering at the Forge, Heritage Village Museum, beginning at 10 a.m.

● **MARCH 6, 1990: DEDICATION OF NEW TYLER COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING.** 2:00 p.m. Docents from Heritage Village Museum to serve as hostesses.

● **MARCH 14-APRIL 7, 1990: AZALEA TRAIL.** Jasper, showing off residential districts where azaleas have been cultivated for years. Tour maps available, 246 East Milam. (409) 384-2762.

● **MARCH 17-18, 1990: HERITAGE VILLAGE MUSEUM.** A weekend of spinning and weaving demonstrations by Nelda Wagner and family from El Campo.

● **MARCH 24, 1990: WILD AZALEA SPRING FESTIVAL.** Newton. Flower show, antique car show, flea market, arts & crafts, fiddlers contest and food booths at Court House. Wild Azalea Canyons open.

● **MARCH 30, 1990: WESTERN WEEKEND RODEO.** 8 p.m. FFA/4-H Arena, 2 miles west of Woodville. Tickets at gate, \$5/Adults, \$3/Children under 12.

● **MARCH 31, 1990: WESTERN WEEKEND PARADE.** Woodville. Over 20 trailrides, more than 3500 horses, beginning at 2 p.m.

● **ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR,** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. in downtown Woodville. Sponsored by Business & Professional Women's Club.

● **RODEO** 4 p.m. at FFA/4-H Arena, Woodville. Crowning of Western Sweetheart. \$3/Adults, \$3/Children under 12.

● **WESTERN WEEKEND DANCE.** Woodville Inn. 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. \$15/Couple, \$10/Stag. Tickets at Judy's Laundry & Cleaners, 518 S. Magnolia.

● **APRIL 7, 1990: ANNUAL DOGWOOD FESTIVAL** in Woodville begins at 8 a.m. with 3.1 5K Fun Run. Entrance Fee \$8/Adults, \$5/High School and younger. Arts & Crafts Fair in downtown Woodville, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Antique & Classic Car Show, 10 a.m.

● **ANNUAL DOGWOOD PARADE,** representing communities throughout Southeast Texas. Begins at 2 p.m.

● **ANNUAL DOGWOOD PAGEANT.** 7:30 p.m. Coronation of Queen, followed by Historical pageant, Dogwood Amphitheatre. Tickets \$6 & \$4.50, available at gate and local merchants.

Paid For by The City Of Woodville Tourism Fund

**★ Dogwood Parade**

(From Page 1)

fic across the Neches was carried by ferry.

But, there wasn't even a ferry where the new highway was to be laid. At that time, the road from Woodville to Jasper was along the present day FM 1746 to Town Bluff, where a ferry was operated as early as 1835 by Wyatt Hanks and later by the Colliers, the Ogdens and the Barlows.

Although the new highway to Jasper wasn't immediate, the reaction of the visitors to Tyler County's natural beauty was, and with that a second dream was born. Wheat, whose ancestor Josiah Wheat gave the 200 acres for this county seat in 1846, envisioned an annual event to celebrate that beauty, an event that would bring visitors from all over the state and beyond.

From its modest beginnings in 1940, when the pageant played to an audience of about 300, Tyler County's Annual Dogwood Festival has grown into an event that spans two weekends, involves hundreds of people it is production, attracts tens of thousands of visitors annually, and offers the longest running outdoor historical

**Pageant Features Historical Rockland**

When Aloha Freeland was asked to write this year's historical Dogwood pageant, she agreed immediately. She had a story she was longing to tell, and this was the perfect outlet.

Her story "The Sound of The Whistle" is that of Rockland, Texas, a tiny spot on the Neches River in northern Tyler County where her husband pastors to a congregation of about 35 people, mostly retired descendants of old time settlers. Aloha plays the piano and the organ, is program chairman of the WMU and teaches a Sunday School Class.

Only the Baptist Church, the Post Office and the shell of the once handsome Aldridge Hotel remain of what was once a bustling productive town, one of the largest in the county.

In its heyday, Rockland boasted nine stores, two hotels, two doctors, two drug stores, a livery stable, a dance hall, boarding houses, a railroad depot, a round house and a shop where trains were repaired. The last three were of major importance, because this was as far as the railroad went, from Beaumont to the river and back. In fact, it was to accommodate the railroad that Rockland came into being in the first place.

That was in 1882, and it was first

drama in the South. Thousands of visitors come to Woodville each Spring, many of whom set aside the first Saturday in April each year so as not to miss this spectacular event.

This year's Dogwood Festival will include a 3.1 5K Fun Run beginning at 8:30 a.m., a day long Arts & Crafts Fair sponsored by the Woodville chapter of Business & Professional Women, and a flowerfloat parade of more than 150 breathtaking floats and entries representing communities and organizations from throughout Southeast Texas.

The evening pageant will climax the presentation of the Dogwood princesses and the crowning of the Dogwood Queen with a performance of Aloha Freeland's "The Sound of the Whistle," an historical drama about Rockland, once one of the largest towns in Tyler County.

Pageant tickets are available at the door, at many local businesses, such as Jarrots Drug Store, Bob's Prescription Shop and Sullivan's Hardware, and at the Chamber of Commerce. Ticket prices are \$6 and \$4.50 with all seats reserved.

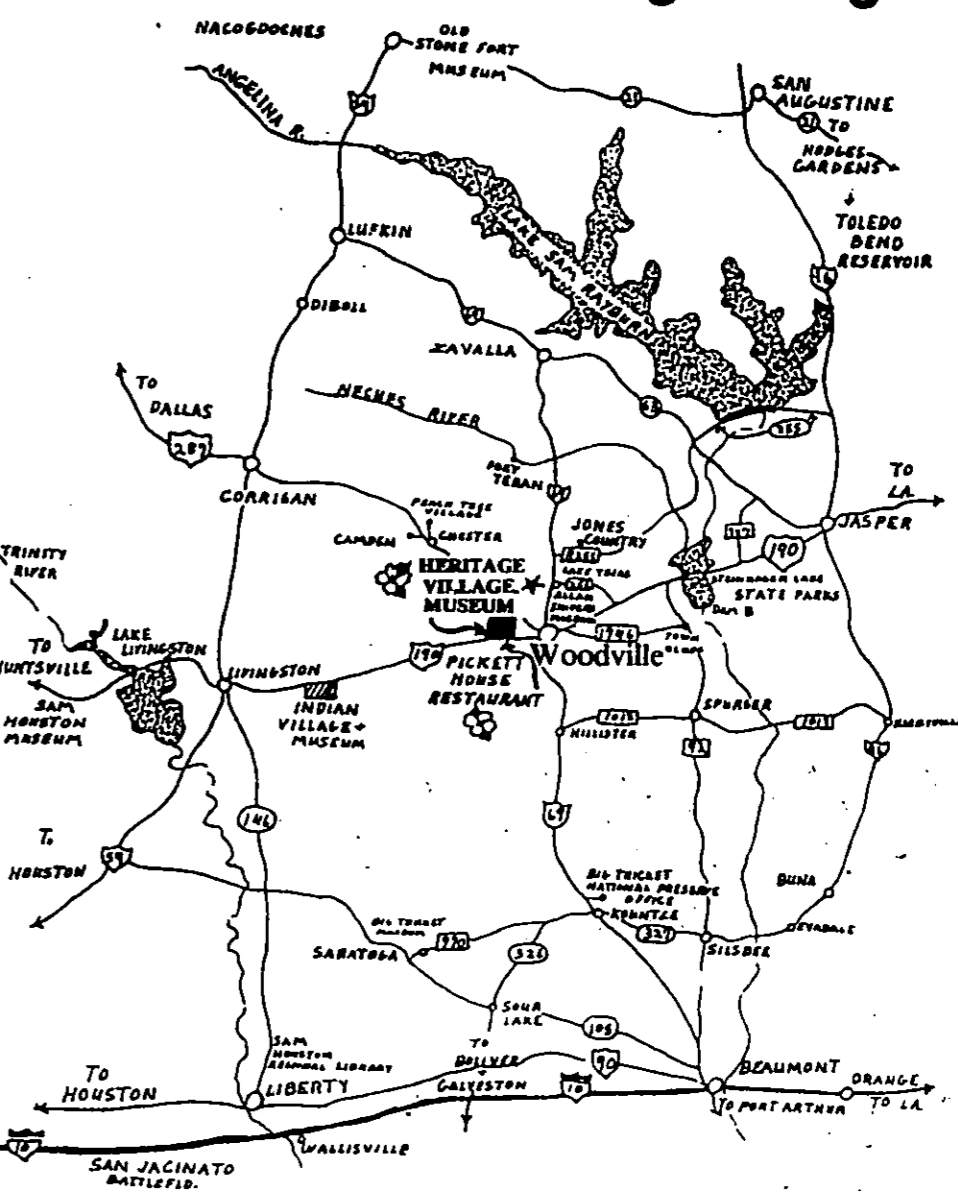
Prosperity came to Rockland in 1894 with the opening of the Cameron Mill, which provided work and homes for hundreds of people. After the mill closed in 1911, the town survived for many years from the granite quarry or "Blue Hole" as it was known in those days. It was Rockland granite that was used to build the seawall in Galveston, shipped a few pieces at a time on railroad cars.

It is a period in Rockland's illustrious history from its beginning to 1911 that Aloha Freeland relates in her historical drama, which will be performed in the Dogwood Amphitheatre at 7:30 p.m. on April 7.

Mrs. Freeland, who taught fifth grade in Woodville for 18 years, and her teacher husband, Kenn, moved to Tyler County 21 years ago from their native Indiana. They had fallen in love with the area, she says, when they visited her parents, who had retired to Town Bluff.

This past year, Mrs. Freeland authored another historical outdoor drama, "Whispers In The Wind," which was performed at Heritage Village Museum in June and will become an annual summer presentation at the Village.

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by T. E. Phillips

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** T. E. Phillips' career with the U. S. Border Patrol spanned the years of World War II. Often, during our conversations, he has mentioned that during that period he was engaged in counter-espionage for the United States Government. As fascinating as his Border Patrol stories are, we wanted to know about this other part of his early career. In the following, he gives us the first taste of those times.

I am very proud of my record during the 24 years I served as an officer in the Border Patrol. I am proud that I worked with some of the old time officers that helped make Texas history. It was something to be accepted as an equal by these old officers. They all helped me and were just as proud of me when I earned the name "Felipe" as I was. That name became well known and respected up and down and on both sides of the Rio Grande River.

By 1941 I had earned my promotion and was in charge of the Mission Patrol Station. I worked very closely with the U. S. Army, and we helped each other. In fact, after the war started we caught two Japanese spies working southwest of Mission and a contact man from Mexico. They were caught with the help of the postmistress at Mission.

During the war, the Army wanted me along the border and offered me a commission as Captain of Intelligence, but my chief patrol officer, Fletcher Rawls, in McAllen said that did not equal my position in the Patrol and would not let me go.

I also worked with the Moore Air Force Base, which was located seven miles north of Mission. The men flying the planes out of that base kept me informed on anything they spotted from the air. One day, they reported they had seen a man in the brush just outside the base. When I checked I found that other officers had seen a strange man in the same area, so I decided to investigate. Following some tracks I saw in the area, I found a young man sitting under a tree drawing pictures of planes. The drawings included each plane's number, time of departure and time of return.

I talked with the man for a while, got his pictures and some maps he had with him, but he refused to tell me where he lived or who his contacts were. In fact, he refused to tell me anything about what he was doing. Now, it was getting close to dinner. I had worked hard all day tracking in the soft sand, and I was getting hot and tired of the man and his lies. So, I got a little rough with him. When he regained consciousness, he led me to a small cave, where he had been staying and where he had other books and records.

I reported all this to the Colonel in charge at Moore Air Force Base and, needless to say, they were all very upset. In fact, I had trouble getting the spy away from them. But the Colonel was so glad of the arrest that he made a big report of my work.

As I've said, the officers with whom I had been working in the river area

## Catching Spies: The Border Patrol Reaches Into Brazil

wanted to sign me up for the Army and again offered me a good commission as Captain and Fire Arms Instructor. Again my chief told me that the commission was not equal to that I had in the patrol and refused to let me go. Then the Colonel at Moore Field asked me to join the Army Air Force and work with them. He too offered me a Captain's commission. When I told him my officer would not let me accept a captain's commission, he offered to send me to Officers Training School for six weeks and get me a Major's commission. Still the patrol would not let me go.

An invitation from the Navy  
A short time later, I had a message from the Navy in New Orleans to go to Houston for an interview. I didn't go at first, thinking it would be more of the same, but a Navy officer came to Mission and told me that if I did not go, they would send someone to take me. So, after working until midnight, Bobbie and I drove to Houston for the interview.

The first man I talked with was very nice. Even though he obviously had my life story on his desk, he asked me about my training as a fire arms instructor, about the fights I had been in and my official shooting records that qualified me as being in the top ten shots in the U.S. I knew he had records from Washington, but most of the questions were about things the public didn't know.

After a while, the young officer excused himself and left the room. When he returned, he had a man with him so laden down with medals and ribbons I wondered who he was. This man read the young officer's report, then told me that they would have to forward it to New Orleans, where they would approve my commission. But, he said, that they were going to send their own recommendation that I be accepted as a fire arms expert with a commission as a full commander. He explained that the Navy was preparing for a campaign in the South Pacific. They would be capturing islands and wanted to put young men in training on those islands. They wanted me to be in charge of training those young men in fire arms.

I was then sent into the next room for my physical exam, which consisted of me talking to a doctor dressed in uniform. I told him I had a bad tooth, and he gave me a form all made out for the dentist in Mission to sign that night after I got back and return at once. The whole exam lasted about 15 minutes. I told him I was O.K., and he evidently took my word for it.

A couple of days later I received a telegram from New Orleans that my commission as a commander and a fire arms instructor had been approved and for me to report to New Orleans within five days. I took the message down to Headquarters and showed the Chief. As soon as I got back to Mission, Bobbie and I started planning on her going to Port Arthur to stay and how we would have our furniture moved. The next day I received word that Washington had stopped the move and that I was to remain in Mission. I decided to give up on any war service.

The Scene Changes  
A couple of days later I received a radio call about 8 in the evening, telling me to be in McAllen by 11 o'clock, ready for a six week trip. It was just

before my birthday, and Bobbie was down town shopping. By the time we found her and got me ready, it was almost 11 o'clock. I didn't have any idea where I was to go or what service I was to be in. When I got to McAllen, the chief had a car ready to take me to San Antonio.

When I got to the air field in San Antonio, I found a couple of men from Washington waiting for me with about 20 other patrol inspectors. I was told that we were going to be sent to South Africa, that I was to be in charge of exchange prisoners, and that the plane was ready to take us to New Orleans. From there we would be sent on another plane out into the Atlantic, where we would meet and board a ship going to Africa. I did not receive any written orders or any kind of papers. And that's the way it was for me during the rest of World War II.

When we reached New Orleans, I was told my orders had been changed. I was to be in charge of a new department called "counter-espionage." The British Navy had sunk a German Battleship near South America. So, instead of South Africa, my first job was to go to South America and get the men from that ship and bring them back to El Paso as prisoners of war. I had about 30 men from the Border Patrol to act as guards.

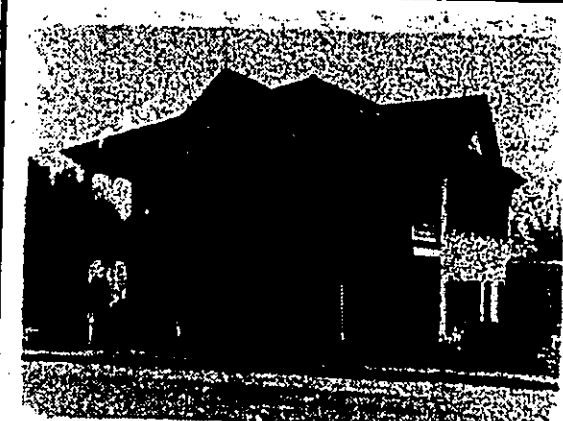
By ship, we went from the mouth of the Mississippi, east until we could get around Cuba, then South to Brazil. I might add that German submarines

were sinking a ship a day in the Gulf of Mexico in those days.

I can't remember exactly where we found the prisoners or exactly how many there were, but most of the officers had already escaped or more likely bought their freedom and gone to Argentina. I do remember that we had one high ranking officer who, it was decided, would be a good man for trading purposes.

After we got the prisoners back to New Orleans and on the train to El Paso, I had to take this officer to Warm Springs, Georgia, where President Roosevelt and his cabinet spent much of their time.

Now, I want to make one thing clear. I have no written documents of any kind to bear out any of my war stories, which I will continue in the future issues of the *East Texas Echo*, but I know they are on record somewhere. I was told I was assigned to the State Department, but have no record of it. I will tell about my many trips to South America, how I received prisoners from every country except Uruguay and Argentina. But again, I have no way of telling the exact dates of any of these trips or really in what order they occurred. I just know they did occur. They did happen to me during World War II. And I'll tell them just as accurately as I'm able.



### Allan Shivers Library And Museum NEWS

302 N. Charlton, Woodville, TX

- March 2, 1990 - 2:00 P.M., St. Paul's School
- March 7, 1990 - 10 A.M., Day Care Film
- March 8, 1990 - 2:00 P.M. Library Book Delivery Both Nursing Homes
- 2:45 P.M. Bellaire Academy Tour
- March 9, 1990 - 2:00 P.M., St. Paul's School
- March 13, 1990 - 2:00 P.M. Wish & Weed Garden Club Tour
- March 14, 1990 - 10:00 A.M. Day Care Film
- 2:30 P.M. Board Meeting
- March 15, 1990 - 6:00 P.M. John Gray Institute Small Business Development Center topic: How To Collect Past Due Accounts.
- March 16, 1990 - 2:00 P.M. St. Paul's School
- March 19, 1990 - 9:30 A.M. Tyler County Retired Teachers
- March 21, 1990 - 10:00 A.M. Day Care Film
- March 22, 1990 - 2:00 P.M. Library Book Delivery To Both Nursing Homes
- March 23, 1990 - 2:00 P.M. St. Paul's School
- March 28, 1990 - 12:00 A.M. Day Care Film
- March 30, 1990 - 2:00 P.M. St. Paul's School
- April 2, 1990 - 1:45 P.M. Hockley Community Center Group Tour

Paid For By The City Of Woodville Tourism Fund.

## How Nancy Shivers Was Related To Robert Jackson Tolar

By Dottie Johnson

The role women have played in the history of America has never been fully recognized and recorded.

Throughout the centuries, thousands upon thousands of courageous women have left their homes, their families and their own dreams behind as they followed their men westward and helped them tame the wilderness.

No where has this been more true than in Texas, where women braved a vast and savage unknown, so unlike anything they had experienced before. These are the women Heritage Village Museum wishes to salute during the month of March as part of the National Women in History Month.

When we talk about the women in Texas history, we conjure up the names of those we read about in our history books: Jane Long and Emily Morgan, Dilue Rose Harris and Suzanna Dickinson, Louisa Ervendberg and Mary Austin Holley.

In Tyler County, the women we honor didn't make the history books, but many of their names are as well known as our own, although their personal histories may be a bit sketchy.

Such a woman was Nancy Tolar Shivers, a widowed lady, who brought her family of seven daughters and one son, 16 year old Robert Magee, her father Henry Tolar and a son-in-law James Tolar to Tyler County in 1858.

The fact that Nancy Shivers' maiden name was Tolar has brought many genealogy seekers to Heritage Village Museum in Woodville, asking her relationship to the historic Tolar cabin that

is the focal point of the Village. At last, we know they answer.

Some folks say Nancy Shivers came to Tyler County on an earlier expedition of her own, liked what she saw and returned with her family. According to the folks at the Allan Shivers Library, which was given to Tyler County by her great grandson, it was Nancy's husband William Gilbert Berry Shivers, the son of John and Jimma Berry Shivers, who first journeyed to Tyler County in the 1840's and plotted the move. But the War with Mexico intervened, then illness which claimed the lives of both William Gilbert and his oldest son, John, and the move was delayed.

Whatever the scenario, Nancy Shivers was a woman of strength and courage. It is said that she traveled to Texas from Mississippi with the Riley and Fortenberry families, whose descendants can be found throughout Tyler County. It's probable that this included some of William Gilbert's siblings, as his sister Blance was married to Isaac Fortenberry, his sister Alice to James Fortenberry. Dilliah Shivers, the daughter of his older brother Ivan, was married to John Shows Riley.

Homesteading Tyler County

In 1860, Nancy Shivers secured the deed to 640 acres out of the James Blount League in the Campground Community just west of the county seat of Woodville. Known at that time as the Shivers Place, the property was divided in part among various family members, but was later restored to its original size and place when Gov. and

Mrs. Allan Shivers purchased it and built a log home of their own under the spreading magnolia trees. It was here that Allan Shivers chose to be inaugurated, when he was catapulted into the governorship on the death of his predecessor in 1949. Today, his wife, children and grandchildren are frequent visitors to Magnolia Hills, the still working farm that Nancy Shivers homesteaded in Tyler County 130 years ago.

In the minutes of the old Bethel Baptist Church in Woodville, under the date of January 8, 1859, it is noted that Nancy Shivers and her daughter Mary Elizabeth were received by letter from the Hebron Church in Lawrence County, Mississippi. In the 1860 Census, Nancy is listed as a farmer and head of the family, Mary Elizabeth as a teacher, one of the first women teachers in Tyler County. Mary Elizabeth was later married to John Wheat. She and her mother are buried side by side at Magnolia cemetery.

In 1873, when the congregation of the Bethel Church dissolved, Nancy Shivers moved her letter to the Baptist Church of Christ at Shiloh, where a William H. Tolar was later elected Elder and her son, Robert M. Shivers, became clerk in 1879.

No mention can be found of her father, Henry Tolar, other than his listing in the 1960 Census. He is nowhere to be found in the cemetery records of Tyler County. Nancy's mother, who obviously passed away before the family moved to Texas, was Ketsy Magee, thus starting a long line of both Ketsys and Magees in the County.

Shivers and the Tolar family trees.

And so we return to the question so frequently asked. How was Nancy Tolar Shivers related to the Robert J. Tolar who built the celebrated Tolar cabin now standing at Heritage Village. Well, it's really very simple.

Robert J. Tolar was the only son of John Philip Tolar and Canzetta Fuzzel Tolar. Exactly when they came to Tyler County is not known, but what is known is that John Philip was Nancy Tolar Shivers' brother, making Robert J. her nephew.

According to Robert Jackson Tolar's descendants, he came to Tyler County from Mississippi in 1864 to help his brother-in-law build a house. He was just 16 years old at the time. Two years later he built the log cabin near Hillister to which he brought his own bride, Versie Durham, in 1870, the same house that was to earn the Texas Historical Medallion when it was moved intact to Heritage Village Museum in 1964.

It is also believed that James Tolar, who married Nancy's daughter Ketsy, was the son of William H. Tolar Jr. and Sarah Covington and that William H. Tolar Sr., the church elder at Shiloh, was a brother of Henry Tolar, Nancy's father.

Today, many a Tyler County resident with the surname of Tolar, Weeks, Keith, McAlister, Gettys, Hooks, Isbell, Clow, Baker, Trull and many many more can trace their roots back to a spunky little lady named Nancy, who traded the land of her birth for a new land, a new state and a place under the magnolia trees in Tyler County.



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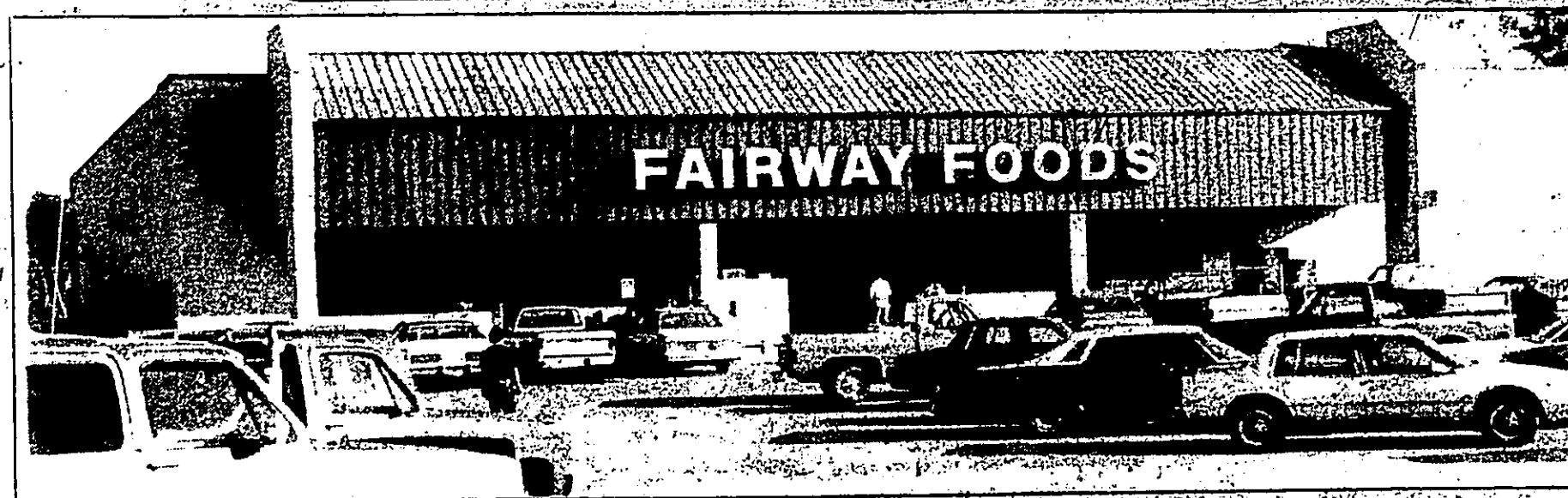
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## Notes From the Village

### Women In Texas History Highlighted In March



Marjorie Schultz

St. Louis is a beautiful city, currently enjoying a "rebirth."

The reason I'm telling you this is because I recently spent a week in that city, representing all of East Texas for the East Texas Tourism Association at the National Boat and Sports Show. It was an experience to share and learn from.

My tourism duties at the show began at 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, so like any good promoter of touring, I spent my off time touring.

The Riverfront buildings of the original town have been restored and now house restaurants, gift shops, taverns and hotels facing cobblestone streets. The city has restored rather than replaced the beautiful intricate iron faced buildings. Where actual change was impossible, murals cover the sides of buildings with the illusion of earlier and better times. The city loves its fur trading French history. French traders gathered their wealth along the river highway from Pennsylvania to the Gulf of Mexico. Even Texas' notorious Jean Lafitte, in his "second" business venture, made his fortune and revised his reputation in St. Louis by building a distillery based on his own personal recipe for good times, "Southern Comfort."

Texans show up on the scene everywhere you go. On my first day of wandering through the "Guide To St. Louis" I went to the history museum at the base of the famous Arch and watched a demonstration by Texas' famous Buffalo Soldiers from Ft. Concho at San Angelo. Maybe next February they will travel to Woodville and Heritage Village.

As I promoted our area forests and lakes those six days, I reinforced my belief that we really "have it all" right here in East Texas. We can get to major shopping and cultural offerings any time we need them but - we live with tall pines, beautiful lakes, fresh air and the finest folks in the world.

#### Children Love The Village

Three school buses full of fourth graders from Colmesneil descended on the Village this past week and toured the Village. Judge Phillips was on hand, of course, with his tall tales of the Border Patrol, and our favorite folklorist Bill Brett came out to spin stories and weave horse hair. Children of all ages love both these fine gentlemen. Even noted Woodville author Howard Peacock came out to add to the festive scenery. Ken Fortenberry fired up the forge one day, Herb Fouts anointed, showing the children how they could hammer out items on the forge. Board members Janie Ashworth and Mary Ann Sheffield toured the first group, Peggy Burton and Christine Sanders, the latter two. And Ewell Wood was there, showing the youngsters how they used to split shingles. And how they love that, especially when he lets them have a go at it.

It's always fun to have children at the village. They bring such life to it and get so involved with the old ways; they're a real pleasure. That's why we are always urging our school and church groups to bring the children to the Village for some good old fashion "learning" that's a lot of fun for all of us.

**Junior Historian Video**  
We're really pleased with the response to the Junior Historian Video Christine Sanders and Glen Ely put together. It's a wonderful learning tool.

It shows our junior high schoolers at work in the Village and lets them tell in their own words of their experiences and what they think this business of history is all about. We're so proud of these kids. And all of Tyler County can be proud that the Tyler County Heritage Society has made the Junior Historian program available to these youngsters.

Every school in the state could benefit from having a copy of this excellent video in its library to show its students. And every child in Tyler County and beyond needs to know that there is a place like Heritage Village eager to help them learn about history in an interesting

and hands-on way.

**Women In Texas History**  
In recent weeks many hours have been spent delving into the histories of some of Tyler County's oldest families as part of our salute to *Women In Texas History*. We'll have some exciting exhibits on the subject at the Village throughout the month of March.

One of the things that have made this effort extra-rewarding for our researchers has been the wonderful helpful people with whom we have talked, people who are trying to put their own family trees together before all memories are gone forever.

In so doing, we have had the opportunity to urge these people to share their findings with us, to let us have copies for our Genealogy Library at Heritage Village Museum, so that others searching for their family roots can find them. That's one of the things that's so extra special about Heritage Village. People come here looking for information, and more often than not we can help them. And of course, the more input we get, the more help we can be.

We already have many books and genealogies on file, all being catalogues for easy reference by our volunteer librarian, Helen Paling. We also have microfisch and microfilm readers and a Genealogical Cross Reference Registry.

Anyone having family genealogies they would like to share are urged to bring them to Heritage Village. If you don't have copies, we'll copy them for

you right then and there, so you can take your original home with you.

If we all work on this history business together, who knows. One day, we might get it right.

Meanwhile, we have some folks busily putting together some interesting programs on Women in our own Texas history along with fascinating exhibits. And to recall where so many Texas women created some of their finest work, Nelda Wagner will be back at the Village the weekend of March 17-18, spinning and weaving and telling us all how it was done.

#### Meeting With Big Thicket

Ron Switzer, superintendent of the Big Thicket National Preserve, met with Christine Sanders at the Village last week to seek ways in which the Big Thicket and the Tyler County Heritage Society can work together to offer an on-going program at the Village.

Joining Switzer and Christine were Chief Park Ranger Mike Livingston; Chuck Boettcher, Park Ranger from the North District office in Woodville; and Heritage Society Board Member Keelin Parker, who with her husband Tim have a forestry consulting service in Colmesneil.

According to Christine, the National Park Service is changing its focus to education through outdoor activities, and the Village's 11.5 acres of marked hiking trails would seem to offer a perfect location.

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**Women in Texas History**

**Kidnapped By Comanches—The Story Of Cynthia Ann Parker**

One of the best loved true stories of early Texas is that of Cynthia Ann Parker. It has been told and retold countless times, but a small book authored by James T. DeShields and published in 1912 relates the account of several who survived the Indian raid on the fort where she lived as a small child. Fort Parker consisted of log cabins surrounded by a stockade that had a large double gate giving access to the enclosure. The outer walls of the cabins formed part of the walls of the stockade. The cabin roofs sloped inward. At one or more corners of the stockade were block houses. The walls around the entire quadrangle were perforated with loop holes. The fortification was bullet proof, and like others of the kind, could not be taken by Indians if it was defended by a few well-armed and determined men.

Cynthia Ann's rescue, or capture perhaps, occurred when Captain Sul Ross, then a dashing ranger officer, and a company of Texas Rangers took as prisoners a number of Indians camped at the head waters of the Pease River. In the battle Cynthia Ann's husband, Peta Nocona who was then chief of the band, was killed. A white woman was among the captured Indians. She bore the name Nedua, which meant "keep warm with us." She carried in her arms a little girl about two and a half years of age, name Topassannah or "Prairie Flower." She did not speak a word and no one knew who she was.

On returning to the settlements, Captain Ross sent for Isaac Parker, thinking it possible that the woman might be Cynthia Ann. Her age and general appearance fit the descriptions of her, but she spoke no word to help clear the mystery. Colonel Parker was ready to give up in despair, when he turned to the interpreters and said very distinctly that the woman he was seeking was named Cynthia Ann. The sound of the name stirred some emotion long suppressed, and Colonel Parker describes the moment in these words: "The moment I mentioned the name, she straightened herself in her seat and, patting herself on the breast, said, 'Cynthia Ann, Cynthia Ann.' A ray of recollection sprang up in her mind that had been obliterated for twenty-five years. Her very countenance changed, and a pleasant smile took the place of a sullen gloom."

Both Cynthia Ann and her daughter Topassannah died in 1864 and were buried in the Foster graveyard in Henderson County. Her remains stayed there until December, 1910, when her son Chief Quannah Parker had her exhumed and moved to Lawton, Oklahoma, to be interred in the Indian family cemetery at Post Oak in the Wichita mountains. Quannah, who had become the famous head chief of all the Comanches and was loved by both the red and white men of his time, died at his tribal home on February 23, 1911. He was buried, as he desired to be, by the side of his mother, Cynthia Ann Parker.

**A Yellow Rose By Any Other Name**

by Judy Walls

No coverage of the women in Texas history would be complete without mention of the legendary Emily Morgan, whose important role in the state's history has been heralded in both story and song.

Emily was born a slave, and when quite young became the property of James Morgan of North Carolina. In 1831, Morgan moved his business to the Mexican province of Texas, where he found that Mexican law forbade the importation of slaves. He solved the problem by simply "freeing" his 16 slaves and indenturing them for 99 years.

In April of 1836, Emily was about 21 years old. She was very pretty with a winsome face and figure. She also possessed a bubbling charm. At that time Santa Anna was enroute across Texas in a luxurious coach drawn by six white mules. As they traveled from the Alamo, the going became more and more difficult. When they reached the Guadalupe River, Santa Anna saw that to travel further in comfort, style and splendor was impossible and reluctantly sent the coach and his "current" wife back to Mexico.

When Santa Anna entered New Washington on April 18, 1836, he was lonely and noticed Emily watching all the excitement from the sidelines. She spent three days with Santa Anna in New Washington, while his army looted. It was apparent that the General was quite infatuated.

On the morning of April 20, the army was ready to march when Captain Baragan reported that Sam Houston was close at their rear. Santa Anna delayed, and the following day in late afternoon the Texans slipped out of the woods and attacked. It was reported that Santa Anna had stated that he was taking a siesta at the time, and rumor for years has been that Emily was in the tent with him. His military aide, Deigado, later reported that at the moment of attack, Santa Anna emerged from his tent wringing his hands and unable to give an order. Eighteen minutes later, the battle was won. Texas was an independent nation.

**French Museum Celebrates Women**

BEAUMONT—In celebration of National Women's History Month, the Jay French Museum is offering an extensive display of historical documents, artifacts and memorabilia from local chapters of the National Organization of Women, American Association of University Women, YWCA, League of Women Voters and the Beaumont Woman's Club.

In 1981, Maryland Congresswoman Barbara Mikulski sponsored a joint Congressional resolution establishing National Women's History Week, which was eventually expanded to a month long observance in March, 1987.

Since then, the idea has grown, and Texas is among the many states that has adopted a Women's Hall of Fame. Programs for school children promoting women's issues and their role in history have been developed by the National

Women's History Project on Education. In the French Museum Exhibit, memorabilia of famous Golden Triangle women such as Babe Zaharias and Janis Joplin is also being featured.

Of special interest is an international collection of colorful postage stamps, on loan to the regional chapter of NOW, honoring outstanding women from the United States, Great Britain, Israel and Russia (the first woman in space). Of special note is the fact that the very first postage stamp, printed in 1840, portrayed a woman—Queen Victoria—according to the owner of this collection.

The exhibit, assembled by Tommie Brent, now Golden Triangle Chapter Treasurer, can be seen at the John Jay French Museum Exhibit Hall, 2985 French Road in Beaumont. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday thru Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

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**Valuable Fannin Document Found In Waco Collection**

AUSTIN—A valuable historical document once located in the State Archives has been returned to its rightful home. The document, a letter dated November 31, 1835, and written by James W. Fannin to Governor Henry Smith, was part of a Texana collection owned by the late Waco attorney Tony Duty.

Last year Austin rare book dealer and collector Tom Munnerlyn was appraising and preparing Duty's collection for auction when he noticed the Fannin letter. Suspecting that it belonged to the state, he contacted Duty and archivists at the State Library. After checking their records, the archivists confirmed that the letter was one of several hundred transferred to the State Archives from the Secretary of State in 1905. Duty then made arrangements to return the document to the State Archives.

Duty had obtained the letter from a document dealer in 1972. It is unknown when the document was improperly removed from the Archives. Once he learned about the document, he wanted to do the right thing, according to Tom Keilman, who conducted the auction last month. "It was his wish to have the letter returned to the state."

Fannin's letter urged the governor to double the size of the Texas army and noted that several United States Army commissions had offered to resign their commissions and come to Texas to participate in the revolution. Among those officers mentioned is James Butler Bonham. The letter is especially significant because it is one of the few in existence with Fannin's signature. "We are extremely pleased that this document is being returned to the custody of the State Library," stated William D. Gooch, director and librarian of the Texas State Library, "and are especially grateful that Mr. Duty worked with us to ensure that this piece of Texas heritage is in a public repository where it can be accessible to all of the people of Texas."

**Steam-Powered Texas State Railroad Resumes Runs Mar. 24**

RUSK—The steam-powered Texas State Railroad will again take 50-mile round trips between Rusk and Palestine when the spring season begins March 24, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials.

Last year the excursion trains were forced to make shorter trips after spring floods washed out sections of track. Repairs have been completed, and the trains will again be making the scenic 25-mile runs through the East Texas Pineywoods. Turn-of-the-century style depots provide the experience of times past as visitors climb aboard for the four-hour trip.

Advances reservations are recommended during the spring when the old steamers are completely booked on weekends. Although the trains run more frequently during the summer season, it is advisable to have reserved seating since a busy season is expected.

Reservations will be taken beginning Feb. 1 and prospective visitors in Texas can call toll-free 1-800-442-8951. Callers from out of state should dial (214) 683-2563. The office is open seven days a week between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The train makes weekend trips between depots until Memorial Day (May 28), when it starts running five days a week from Thursday through Monday. In the fall, it again operates on Saturday and Sunday only until closing for the winter in November. A train departs from each depot at 11 a.m., stops for a lunch break at the opposite depot and then returns to the departure point by 3 p.m. Moonlight runs will leave the Rusk depot at 6 p.m. Engine cab tours are offered before the 11 a.m. departure. The railroad originated in 1896 when the state prison system began construction on the track as part of a plan to support the state's iron works at Rusk with rail transport to Palestine.

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**Catch And Release:**

**Guarding The Black Bass, A Natural Resource**

By Matt Williams

Pssst, hey buddy. Wanna hear the latest drift on all those nice bass you've been catching and releasing?

Biological gurus say an incredibly high percentage of those bass are surviving the turmoils of being caught time and time again, providing they are handled like a tender form of life instead of a rag doll.

You know what else? Those same scientists are also saying well-run bass tournaments are having very little impact on the physical life of the overall fishery scene. The truth of the matter is that part of the monies generated by these tournaments wind up going back into the cyclic fisheries system in some form or fashion, making our lakes and reservoirs better places to conduct business in general.

Well imagine that. Researchers and fisheries biologists at Auburn University published a multi-month study in 1989 which examined the perils of bass tournaments and the effects they have on bass caught and released during them. Keep in mind, however, that not only do the results apply to the tournament angler, but to the weekend angler as well.

The primary reasoning of the study was to determine if the conservation of a depletable resource is as viable an argument as it has been made out to be. In other words, would a quality-sized bass caught by legal means be better off in the frying pan or released to die several hours later?

So much for the ill-gotten theory that a released bass is a dead bass. It's just not so.

Conducted at three month intervals from August 1986 to July 1987, the study's criteria took the form of simulated tournaments. Anglers were selected on a volunteer basis and were allowed to catch bass from a 10-acre pond with artificial lures.

Documented in the study were survival rates of bass released immediately after capture as opposed to those held in livewells several hours before being released. In addition, "Catch and Release," a commonly used water-conditioning agent, was evaluated.

Immediately after each bass was caught, it was marked for later identification and then subjected to a variety of situations often encountered by tournament and weekend fishermen. For instance, 90 bass (the immediate release group) were transported to a neighboring pond and released within 30 minutes after being caught.

Eighty-seven bass were placed in a 75-liter livewell with chemical-free pond water and were released back into the pond three to nine hours later. Meanwhile, an additional 85 bass were placed in an identical livewell containing one milligram of "Catch and Release" per liter of water and were moved to the pond three to nine hours later.

Time spent in the study livewells was comparable to the time a bass might spend in a tournament livewell.

As could be expected, bass released immediately yielded the highest rate of survival at 98.9 percent. However, there was a noticeable drop in the survival of those bass treated with "Catch and Release" and those that were not—96.5 percent of the treated bass survived, while 90.8 percent of the untreated bass survived.

An environmental factor found to play a vital role in the survival of each group was water temperature.

Concurrently, those bass caught and released during the cool weather February simulation attained a higher survival rate than those bass caught and released during the July portion, when water temperature was at its yearly peak.

Bass caught and released immediately during the month of July achieved a 94.4 percent survival rate. Meanwhile, those in the conditioned-water category registered a 93.3 percent mark. Uncondi-

tioned water accounted for and 86.7 percent rate of survival.

You don't have to be a mathematician to see that this study tags the largemouth bass an extremely durable and versatile character. But rest assured, the way a fish is handled by the angler determines the bulk of its fate.

There are a number of things you can do to help ensure the survival of a bass after it has been caught, especially if you have no intentions of retaining it to begin with.

Let's briefly explore those options.

Always wet your hands before lipping a bass to remove the hook. This way, the protective slime coating on the fish will remain intact.

Never let the fish flounce around the bottom of the boat if it can be helped. And by all means, never "throw" a fish back in the water. Bass may be tough, but they are not invincible and immune to bodily injury.

When a bass is released, it should be done with utmost care. With thumb and

(Continued On Page 11)



**CATCHING 'EM AND LETTIN' 'EM GO**—Teaching youngsters the thrill of fishing in east Texas's numerous lakes should also mean teaching them how to preserve the bass resource. This photo was taken at Lake Sam Rayburn near Woodville in late February.

★ **Black Bass**

**Everybody Loves A Story—**

(From Page 10)

forefinger on the bottom lip, gently place the fish back into the water, making sure to touch no other part of its body. Next, revive the fish by holding it upright in the water and move it back and forth a few times to force water through the gills.

In order to boost large-scale survival rates, small-time tournaments circuits and anglers alike might consider the mandatory adoption of Jungles' Catch and Release formula in their weekly or monthly tournament format.

A type of fish tranquilizer harmless to humans, Catch and Release keeps fish from thrashing around in captivity and further injuring themselves while helping to elevate the oxygen content in the livewell. Taking the measure of protecting the fish while in the livewell, and being sure to handle fish only with wet hands and as little as possible, are the two things anglers can do to help the catch and release program succeed.

And that means that one of Texas's most valuable outdoor recreational resources—game fishing—will be around from now on.



**BILL BRETT SPINS A YARN FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**—The famed local novelist frequently visits Heritage Village, where he was captured last week telling tall tales to youngsters visiting from a local school. Heritage Village arranges special programs for school children and is always pleased to entertain and educate the young about Texas history.

**Plan To Attend  
The 1990  
Western Weekend  
And  
Dogwood Festival**

For information contact Heritage Village, (409) 283-2272 Or Chamber Of Commerce, 243-9362.

A collection of pioneer buildings and artifacts depicting life in early Tyler County.

Owned and operated in the public trust by Tyler County Heritage Society, Inc. as a non-profit educational facility

★ **Heritage Village Museum** ★

P. O. Box 888  
Hwy. 190 West  
Woodville, Texas 75979

**PICKETT HOUSE  
RESTAURANT**

(409) 283-2272  
Summer Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Winter Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

★ Bill Brett's Book "There Ain't No Such Animal And Other East Texas Tales" & Hand Twisted Horsehair Hatbands And Reins.

★ Jim Sturrock's Handmade Bull Horns

★ Ken Fortenberry's Unique Knives

★ John Jehlen Hand Turned Bowls

★ C.R. Jehlen Inlaid Dominoes

★ Texas Dinner Bells

★ Handmade Quilts (Full, Queen & King Size)

★ Old-Time Sun Bonnets

★ Pewter Belt Buckles With State Seal & Woodville  
★ Leather Bullwhips, Coonskin & Confederate Caps.  
★ Other Fine Handmade Crafts And The Best Selection of Books On Texas History In The Area.

Western Weekend — Saturday, March 31, 1990

Dogwood Festival — Saturday, April 7, 1990



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# Heritage Village Museum: A Unique Collection Of Early Tyler County Artifacts

1. **PICKETT HOUSE:** Country cook in served Boarding House style. Open daily.

2. **CORN HUSK CORNER:** Judy Walls' exquisite corn husk creations, dolls and ornaments, are made, displayed and sold here. Each of her period dolls are carefully researched as to dress and culture to make them true and valuable collectibles.

3. **MUSEUM STORE:** Enter the Village proper through this store, which features a unique collection of fine hand made crafts, including dolls, quilts and a variety of wood work items. The Store also carries the best selection of books on Texas history in the area.

4. **JEWELRY SHOP:** Custom jewelry designer John Killam demonstrates his artistry for Village visitors.

5. **JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:** In the old days, the JP's duties included assaying minerals as well as performing marriage ceremonies and handing out punishment to criminals. Village Judge T. E. Phillips, former Woodville City Magistrate and Border Patrolman, offers interesting evidence of his colorful career.

6. **BAND STAND:** Next to it is Woodville's first piece of fire-fighting equipment, donated by the Woodville Volunteer Fire Department.

7. **PAWN SHOP:** Old-time mechanical money banks in the window and other treasures.

8. **TEXAS DINNER BILL FACTORY:** The traditional triangle, which rang across pioneer lands both as an alarm and a chow time "come 'n get it," is made here for sale at Heritage Village and around the world.

9. **POST OFFICE:** Willie Reinhardt was the last postmaster of the Pluck Post Office, once located near Corrigan. Of special interest is the Spencian script on the wall, a common style in the old days.

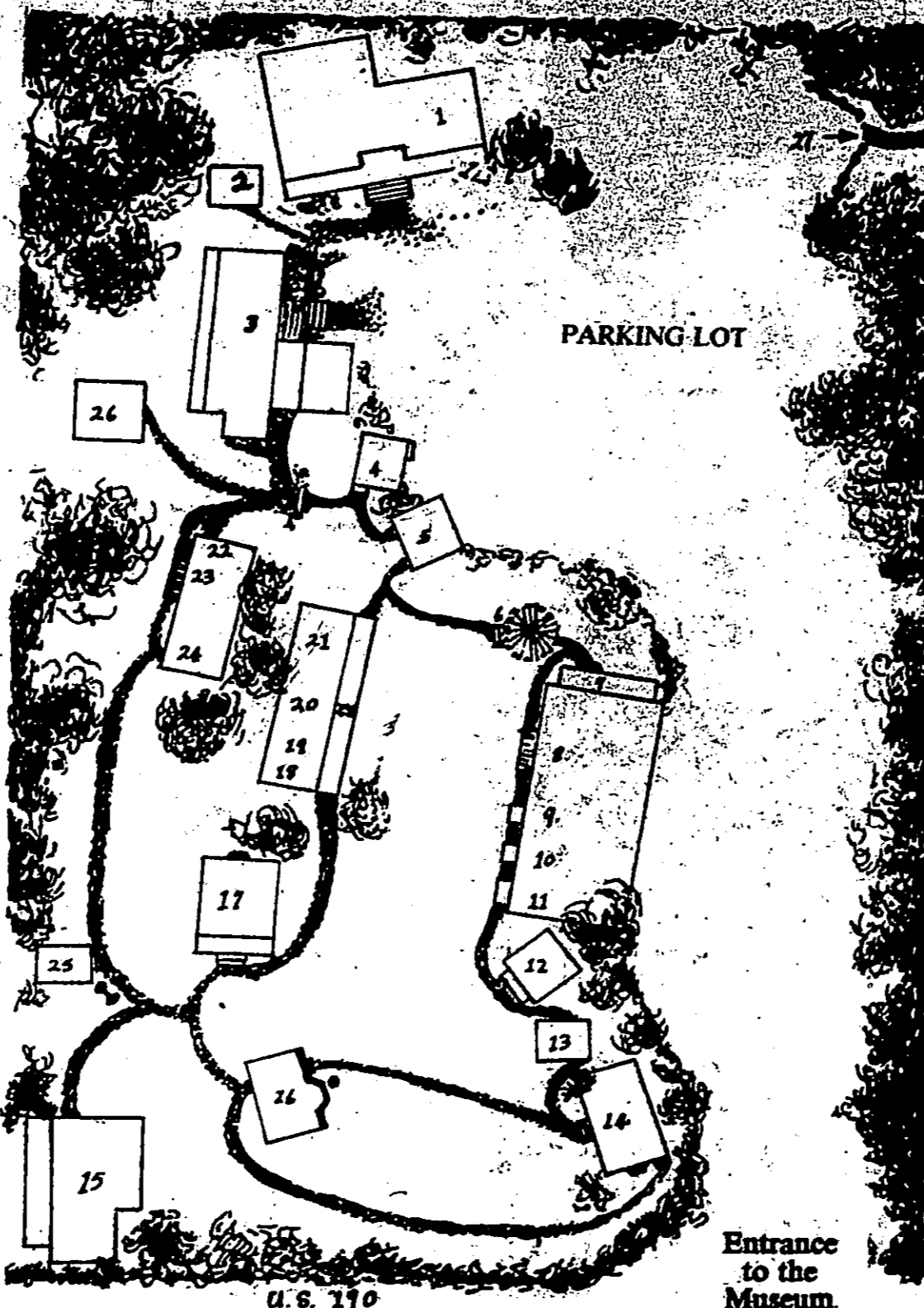
10. **BARBER SHOP:** In this 100 year old Barber Shop, you had your choice of two chairs, which could be laid back and revolved, but not raised and lowered. And you could take a bath in the 1836 copper tub, which once belonged to a Jefferson, Texas, blacksmith.

11. **SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND JAIL:** Every town had one.

12. **BLACKSMITH SHOP:** In use in Colmesneil in the late 1800s, this shop is now the home of the East Texas Blacksmiths Alliance. Village Blacksmiths fire up the forge most weekends to delight visitors as they make decorative items to sell in the Museum Store.

13. **WAGON SHED, CANE GRINDER, SYRUP MILL:** Behind the shed, a cane grinder and syrup mill bring back sweet memories. Horses or mules were used to turn the grinders through which sugar cane was squeezed before the slow process of cooking the cane juice to produce a delectable syrup. In the shed, you'll see a wagon used for freight between Woodville and Beaumont, and a buggy, donated by late Gov. Allan Shivers, a famous Woodville son.

14. **TOLAR CABIN:** Built by Robert Tolar for his bride in 1866 and donated by his ancestors, the cabin, where family members prepared meals for all comers into the 1930s, was moved intact from



**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.**

near Hillister. It was awarded a medallion of the Texas Historical Commission.

15. **BIG HOUSE:** Treasures galore were once displayed in this building, which housed the original Village entrance and shop. It is now used for storage, but plans are under way to replace it with a temperature controlled facility for delicate textiles and treasured old documents.

16. **RAILROAD STATION:** Materials for this depot came from the 1890 station in Hillister. The loop hanging on the wall

held the Order Stick, which the station master would hold out to a passing train, so orders, information and outgoing mail could be picked up without the train slowing.

17. **Z.C. COLLIER STORE:** Much of the original materials and furnishings are included in the reconstruction of this general store, built in Town Bluff in 1863 by Zacharia Cowart Collier. No visitor to the Village should miss this fine collection of interesting 19th century items.

18. **COTTON GIN:** This machinery was

used to re-gin old mattresses, once an important local industry.

19. **APOTHECARY:** In an old time drug store, only prescriptions and home remedy materials were sold. The prescription counter is from a drug store in Rockland, which is now nearly a ghost town but was once the thriving terminus of the railroad from Beaumont.

20. **PHYSICIANS OFFICE:** This typical doctor's office of the late 19th century is a composite collection of many, including Dr. John Shivers of Woodville and Dr. N. E. Laidacker of China.

21. **CHAIR FACTORY:** Dallas Miller operated this chair factory in Birkeville until 1964. Miller, considered to be the best chair maker in this part of the country, was also a genius in fabricating the machinery he needed to make those chairs. To be noted are the lathe on which he turned the legs, the hole puncher for his hides and drying racks for his chair backs.

22. **MUSIC SHOP:** Musical history memorabilia from the collection of Bubba Voss of Orange has been increased to include old sheet music donated by Fred Bennett of Woodville. Don't miss the early phonograph display.

23. **SEAMSTRESS SHOP:** Recreation of an 1875-85 Shop, which was, in its day, a genteel way for a lady to earn a living. A delightful look into the past world of fashion, this shop has many original items used over 100 years ago, in addition to a variety of dresses and hats, created especially by Martha Stark and Joseph Gerriets after much research into the period.

24. **LEATHER SHOP:** Saddles, boots and shoes were made here.

25. **LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE:** This typical one-room school house is where all grades were taught by one teacher. Older students were pressed into service to help the younger ones. The plantation bell outside was used to call the students to class.

26. **CANTILEVERED LOG BARN:** This 140 year old log barn once belonged to the family of famous East Texan John Henry Kirby at Peach Tree Village near Chester. It was moved log by log to Heritage Village, where it has been rebuilt by Village volunteers.

27. **THE BIG WOODS:** This 11.5 acres of woods and hiking trails, adjacent to the original Heritage Village properties, offers all the delights of the Big Thicket.

**Heritage Village Museum**

**Salutes Women in Texas History**

**With Month Long Exhibits & Special Programs**