

HELOTES ECHO

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 6

HELOTES, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS — 15c PER COPY

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NOVEMBER 17, 1978

Person-to-Person

With the Thanksgiving holidays here already, families are gathering to count their blessings. Helotes, with the spectacular changing of the oak leaves at this time, is always a favorite place for the gathering of the clans. For all who are home for the holidays, or enjoying their first Thanksgiving here, we wish them a happy time with happy memories recalled and to be recalled.

The traditional Community Thanksgiving—observed by all the churches as an ecumenical ceremony—this year will be held at Zion Lutheran Church of Helotes on Wednesday, Nov. 22. The services begin at 7:30 p.m. with Rev. Paul Probst of the Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Ed Jach of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Rev. Jerry Reeves of Helotes First Baptist Church, Rev. Bill Henderson of Helotes Hills United Methodist Church, and Rev. Joe Reynolds of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church here among the clergy participating. Special choir music is being prepared. Rev. Probst will welcome the community and their guests and Rev. Reynolds will give the Thanksgiving sermon with the others offering special prayers. This is an event that has become important to the community. The church is located at Leslie and Braun Roads.

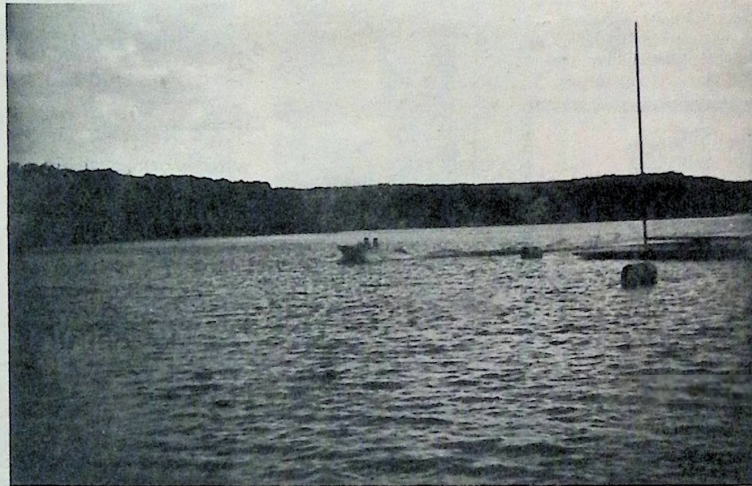
For those who enjoy Country & Western along with the variety of football amid family reunions, there will be a big Friday night, Nov. 24, dance at the Cabaret in Bandera, Texas presenting Charlie Walker from the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville. He's a native Texan, of course, and most like his longtime hit, "Pick Me Up on Your Way Down," to name one.

Then on Saturday, Floore Country Store will feature Billy Mata and Texas on Nov. 25. . . with Dale Keith and his Starlite Ramblers there for dancing in the afternoon on Sunday, Nov. 26.

David Fish has returned from an air force assignment of some duration in the Pacific and will be assigned to Randolph Air Force Base. His wife, Doris, and three small children have been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Dunford, Sr., while David was on the islands. The Dunfords live near San Geronimo.

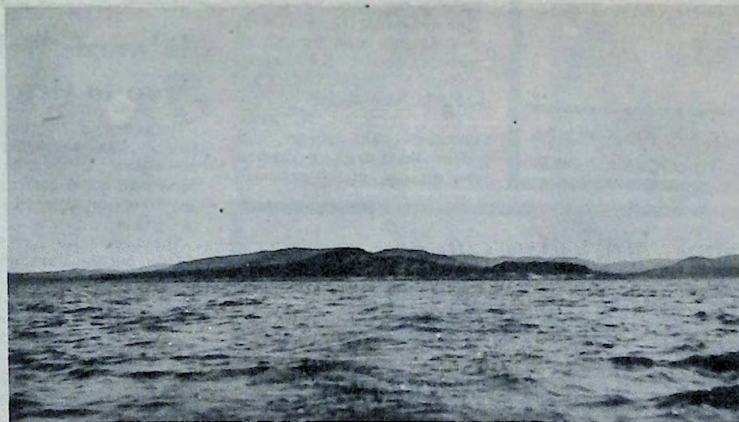
VOTERS OKAY SCHOOL BOND ISSUE 3 TO 1

Medina Lake Now . . .



he hills in the background here appear dwarfed by the mighty encroaching waters.

And Then . . . 1917



For those who journeyed to Medina Lake recently to observe the marking of the area as an important historical site, there were some who could remember back to about 60 years ago when Medina Lake was being hailed as the newest sight in the area. (For more pictures see Page 5.)

District Growth Requires New Classrooms

Northside voters by about three-to-one approved a \$25 million bond issue here Tuesday, Nov. 14. The vote was tallied at 3,344 to 1,341 in a vote that saw the newer districts especially favoring the bonds—marked to finance a four-year expansion program.

District Supt. Ed Cody reported that the 1978 tally was about double the votes cast in favor of 1973's \$31 million bond issue which was wound down this year, giving Helotes its new school as well as financing Clark High.

Expected from the current money plans will be five new elementary schools—at least one a year—and other improvements.

Cody promises no expected tax increase due to the growth here and increase in valuation of property.

Building will be done as demand is shown for more facilities, administrators said.

Spring Dates

December 1 is the priority date for students who wish to apply for admission to The University of Texas at San Antonio for the spring, 1979 semester.

Dr. John H. Brown, Director of Admissions and Registrar, said that applications should be on file with the university by that date.

Registration for the spring semester will be Jan. 8-10. Spring classes begin Jan. 15.

For more information, call the UTSA Admissions Office, 512-691-4530.

Grey Forest Searching For Sewer Help

Details of a new Environmental Protection Agency program to aid individual owners of septic tank systems were detailed at a called meeting of the Grey Forest city council Thursday night.

Under the program, owners of defective septic tank systems which might contribute to health or environmental problems can receive a grant of 85 per cent of the cost of rebuilding the system. The other 15 per cent of the cost would be guaranteed by the city.

Cost of new septic tank systems was estimated at from \$1,000 to \$5,000, depending on the terrain in which they are located. Those in solid rock

would cost the higher amount.

Details of the new program were given by Gene Wossum of the Environmental Protection Agency regional office in Dallas and Will E. Winters, of the grants department of the Texas Department of Water Resources, Austin. They were in Grey Forest at the invitation of the city council.

Before any grants can be awarded, a consulting engineer would have to make a study of all septic tanks in Grey Forest, pinpoint those which are defective, and estimate the cost of rebuilding each system. Then one application would be made by the city for all the septic tank systems to be rebuilt. The original systems must have

been in operation before Dec. 27, 1977, he said.

The city also would have the responsibility of overseeing the operation and maintenance of the new sewer systems, and would charge a fee for these functions. Ownership of the septic tank systems would remain with the individual property owners.

Before recent amendments to the Environmental Protection Act, individually-owned septic tank systems were not eligible for grants. However, a cost effective analysis would also have to be made to show that the individual systems would be more economical than a central collecting system.

The city of Grey Forest has

been trying since 1975 to solve the problem of sewer collection and disposal in the community.

In that year the city submitted an application for a Helotes Creek Watershed Municipal Utility District which also would have included Helotes Park Estates, Helotes Ranch Acres, French Creek Village, Beverly Hills, and adjacent areas. The utility district would have operated a sewage collection system throughout the watershed and fed the sewage to the San Antonio sewage disposal system.

A feasibility study was made but cost of the proposed system was found to be so great that no

(Continued on page 8)

SAC Prof Honored



Theron Kirk, San Antonio College professor of music and music department chairman, has been named recipient of an American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) award.

Kirk's catalog of compositions numbers more than 1,000 musical works, ranging from symphonic, choral and band compositions to chamber music and comic opera. Performances by the San Antonio Symphony, Chicago Chamber Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, Philadelphia Symphony and Cincinnati Symphony have included Kirk's compositions.

Delia Schuh and Cleo Taylor were co-hostesses at the November meeting of the Silver Belles, where they announced plans for the Christmas party to be held Dec. 16 at the home of Lucille Stemens on Dec. 16. Santa Claus will be there, according to Babe Gilliam, who is on the planning committee.

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Thanksgiving

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HELOTES ECHO

SAC Adds 2nd 'C' To Its Name

The San Antonio Union Junior College District has been rechristened so it now has "community" in its name as well as its programs.

The new name, San Antonio Community College District, reflects the work the district does in meeting the needs of the San Antonio area through its three campuses, San Antonio College, St. Philip's College and the Southwest Center.

Dr. Jerome Weynand, president of the colleges, said, "When the district was created, the colleges offered primarily

the first two years of college transfer work. We have gone far beyond that now, offering programs in every area outlined by the Texas Legislature."

SACC has a current enrollment of 21,132 students.

Edwards Wells Drop In October

Reflecting a relatively dry October, water well levels in the five-county Edwards Underground Water District, with one exception, dropped slightly in October.

The check well at Kyle was up 4.6 feet, but San Marcos Springs dropped 45 cubic feet per second to 110 cubic feet per second, the same reading as the end of August. Comal Springs in New Braunfels fell nine cfs to 308, still well above the 285 cfs average. The San Marcos average is 166 cfs.

Following are the end-of-October check well readings

shown in feet above mean sea level:

San Antonio: 673.1 feet, down 2.2 feet.

San Antonio: 673.5 feet, down 3.6 feet.

DANCE



Grand Ol' Opry Star
Charlie Walker
Show
CABARET CLUB
Bandera, Texas
Fri., Nov. 24
9-1

\$5.00 per person

ATTENTION HUNTERS & TRAPPERS

John F. Shaddix--Fur buyer will be in Helotes

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Inn Gets Facelift



Along with watching new construction in Helotes, the sidewalk superintendents have especially savored watching the careful restoration of the landmark Helotes Inn in progress.

Those in charge, including new owners, take with good grace the proprietary comments and warnings from oldtimers, including many young ones, who want the Inn to keep its identity. For a century, this was a hub of social activity and many a bride had her wedding reception there, as well as a genuine trading post, dance hall and saloon in past cattle days. It will be open again in the near future, as a restaurant.



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UTSA Prof To India

Dr. Richard E.W. Adams, Dean of UTSA's College of Humanities and Social Sciences, will attend the 10th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences in New Delhi, India, Dec. 9-19. He will present a paper entitled, "Numerical Indexing, Cultural Evolution and Maya Civilization," based on his work in Guatemala and Mexico during the last ten years.



Also at the congress, Dr. Adams will participate in conferences and work sessions on the practical applications of lessons from archaeology, such as modern land-use planning made from radar mapping of ancient Maya agricultural zones in lowland Guatemala.

grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Logan. His uncle, Mark Logan, whose 17th birthday was Nov. 9, shared in some of the happy birthday greetings also. He is the son of Mary Jane and Ricardo Blanco.

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BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED

One of the highly cherished memories of all is the celebration of childhood birthdays.

Oct. 28 was quite an eventful day for Carrie Rogers, daughter of Dianne and David Rogers of Route 4. A party was held in her honor at her parent's home to celebrate her third birthday. Attending were her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Rogers of Helotes, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cave, Lola Gray and many friends and other relatives from this area. Out-of-town guests were her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Gray, Sr., and Uncle Donald of Wichita Falls. Also there for the gala occasion was Great Grandfather Theodore Mann, Sr. of McKinney, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Gray and son, Jeremy of Youkon, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. Billy E. Gray and daughter Sandra of Lake Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. James Uecker and family of Boerne, and Dr. Richard Lazarte of Corpus Christi. Carrie's father is a city attorney and municipal judge of Grey Forest.

Friends, neighbors, cousins, uncles, grandparents and even great-grandmother enjoyed the party Nov. 11 for two year old Ricky Blanco. He is a descendant of the Madla clan here and is very close to his great-grandmother, Mrs. Mary Madla Logan as well as his

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HELOTES ECHO

"Ye shall know the Truth"
VOLUME 14, NUMBER 6
NOVEMBER 17, 1978

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Farm Bureau To Convene In Dallas

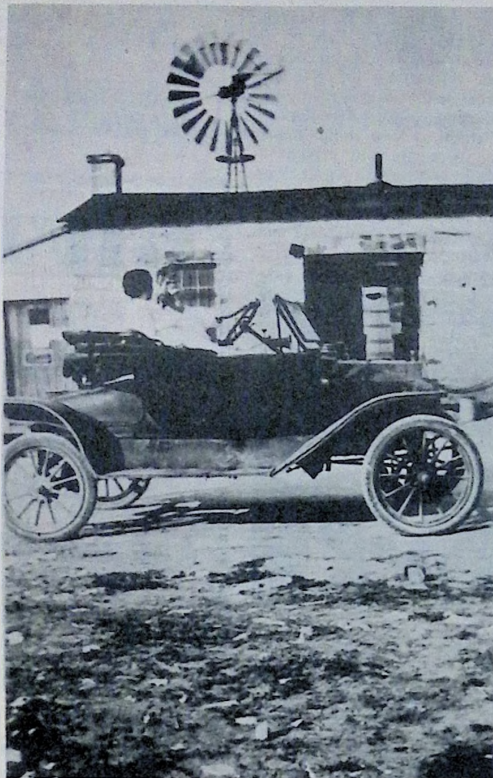
Bexar County Farm Bureau will sponsor 12 delegates to the 45th annual meeting of the Texas Farm Bureau to be held Nov. 26-29 at the Dallas Convention Center and the Dallas Hilton according to M.L. Stolte, president. Theme of this year's convention is "Farm Bureau for Freedom and Profit".

A vesper service at 6 p.m. Sunday at the Convention Center Theater kicks off convention activities. Various recognition awards will be interspersed throughout the meeting. Awards are given each year to counties with outstanding achievements in membership, public relations, safety and Blue Cross Blue Shield. Bexar County will receive public relations award for first place in the state scrapbook contest.



Grand Ol' Opry Star
ERNEST TUBB
And the
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Boerne
Fair Grounds
Boerne, Texas
Sat., Dec. 9
9-1
\$5.00 per Person

A Trip From Helotes In 1917



To View The New Medina Lake

Oldest Man-Made Lake In Texas

Alfred Biering, who lives in California now but grew up in Helotes, was a young man then. In this touring coupe in 1917, he took several for a tour to Medina Lake. According to those who recall the event, he was accompanied by Lena (Scheel) Rosie and Letta (his wife) to Medina Lake. The hosts overnight were the Haby's, who were cousins of Letta's. The toll road required a stop for paying to pass.

Services Set For Martha Whitley

Funeral services are scheduled for Mrs. Martha Louise Whitley this afternoon from Porter Loring with graveside services at 1:15 p.m. at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, Friday, Nov. 17. Mrs. Whitley, a longtime resident of Helotes' Scenic Loop Playground, now Grey Forest, Texas, died in Community Hospital Monday, Nov. 13, 1978 at about 10:30 a.m. at the age of 61 years.

She was a member of the Helotes Hills United Methodist Church, the Scenic Loop Playground Club, Helotes Birthday Club, and Silver Belles.

Mrs. Whitley was the granddaughter of the late Dr. J.R. Wrather of Amarillo, Texas.

She is survived by her husband, E.H. (Bob) Whitley of Grey Forest, who has the sympathy of their many friends and neighbors in his loss. She leaves an aunt, Mrs. Byron Bennett of Seattle, Wash., and several cousins. In addition, she numbered Irene and Earl Wischer of San Antonio as close friends.

Rev. Collin Furr, former pastor of the local Methodist Church, will conduct the service at Fort Sam Houston with the Silver Belles paying special tribute.

Mrs. Whitley will be remembered by her friends for her sincere charm at all times and especially during her final illness. She will be missed in Helotes and Grey Forest.



An awning stretched over this picnic table kept the young ladies comfortable in the fashions of the day. Flowers from the area were apparently gathered to add to the festive air.



Riding out on the waters, the group had a view of the dam, still visible.

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Here, the group pose on the dry spillway, and also view the diversion of the Medina River, much as tourists do to this day.

Mrs. Lydia Steubing Dies At 80 Years

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 8, for Mrs. Lydia Steubing of Route 17, a member of pioneer families here, who died Sunday, Nov. 5, 1978 at the age of 80 years.

Rev. Norman H. Albertson of St. John's Lutheran Church officiated at services at Riebsaunders Chapels with interment at Zion Lutheran Cemetery in Helotes.

She is survived by her daughter, Miss Wilma Steubing and her son and daughter-in-

law, Woodrow and Fredna Steubing, and a grandson, Frederick Steubing. She also leaves a sister, Mrs. Erna Fischer of Boerne, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Robert Stanley, Alvin Fischer, Gilbert Fischer, Charley Francesco, Elmer Stahl, Alvie Atcoonce, Harry Barth, and John DuBois.

Sympathy is extended to her family at this time of loss of a beloved member.

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Burger Hut Has New Owner

Bob Westaway, Jr. this month acquired Burger Hut, a restaurant, located at Helotes Park Plaza and has announced hours from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. during week-days. With the beginning of hunting he will feature an even earlier breakfast hour, he said. Plate lunches daily are featured as well as short orders.

Westaway is married and he and his wife, Debbie, have a 10-month-old daughter Kelsey. They are rapidly becoming part of the community, and invite old and new customers to come in and get acquainted.

Originally from San Antonio, where he was a graduate of Edison High School, he most recently was manager of Pelican's Wharf in McAllen, Texas. His former restaurant experience include Old San Francisco Steak House and Jim's Coffee Shop in San Antonio.

The community welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Westaway.

Some restaurants will be open, but not many on Thanksgiving day. The entire week-end will be with business as usual, of course.

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Special Notice

VFW Post 7108 will
sponsor a New Year's dance
at Braun Hall featuring
country and western music
by Southern Comfort. Ad-
mission will be \$7.50 per
person and tickets will be on
sale to the public at Braun
Hall each Wednesday thru
December 13th from 6:30 to
10 p.m. Tables will be
reserved only after "table
minimum," tickets are
purchased. Patrons are
advised to form their group
early for choice seating.

Police To Sell Unclaimed Cars

The San Antonio Police
Department will hold an auction
of motor vehicles unclaimed by
former owners, at the Police
Storage Lot, 3625 Growdon
Road, Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 10
a.m.

Purchasers will receive the
vehicles free and clear of all
liens so that they can be
registered and certificate of
title obtained.

The vehicles may be viewed
prior to the auction between 8
and 10 a.m.

Arts Festival

Set For Weekend

The Helotes Art Guild will
sponsor an arts and crafts
festival this week on the gallery
grounds on Bandera Road. The
show will run Saturday from 10
a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from
12:30 to 6 p.m. It will feature
guests artists and craftsmen
from throughout South Texas as
well as Helotes Art Guild
members.

The guild's artist of the
month, Paul Carter, wood
carver, will be honored during
the festival. A plaque will be
presented to him at 2 p.m.
Sunday.

A retired electronics expert,
Carter specializes in wood
carved jewelry. An inlay piece
by him took best of show in
Winslow, Arkansas, in June.

Salvation Army To Assist Santa

The Salvation Army
Christmas Clearing Bureau will
register families in need of food
baskets and Christmas toys
through Dec. 1, at the Social
Service Center, 226 Nolan St.
The Salvation Army took over
the function of the Christmas
Clearing Bureau last year.

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ECHO-LOG

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

The UTSA Concert Choir and University Chorus will perform Haydn's "Lord Nelson Mass" in St. Gregory's Catholic Church, 700 Dewhurst, 8 p.m. Admission free.

Witte Memorial Museum, 3801 Broadway, will present a film keyed to Thanksgiving, "A Sense of Wonder," based on Rachel Carson's book and narrated by Helen Hayes. Admission free.

San Antonio College continues the Pulitzer Prize play, "The Shadow Box," in McAllister Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Admission \$2. Recommended for mature audiences. Final performance Saturday night.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

UTSA will host a regional meeting of the American Musicological Society, including concert by the UTSA Baroque Ensemble, 2 p.m., in the UTSA Arts Building.

San Antonio Symphony will present the husband and wife duo piano team of Yarbrough and Cowan in concert with the orchestra, Maestro Francois Huybrechts conducting. Theater for the Performing Arts, 8:30 p.m. The concert will be repeated Monday in Laurie Auditorium, 8 p.m. Ticket information at the Symphony Box Office, HemisFair Plaza.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

The UTSA Wind Ensemble will present a concert, 8 p.m., in the Arts Building on the UTSA campus. Admission free.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Make Today Count organization will meet at the Cancer Therapy Center, South Texas Medical Center, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Thanksgiving Day.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

The Trinity University Department of Music will present Julius Schulman, concertmaster and solo violinist of the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra, in a guest concert, 5 p.m., Ruth Taylor Concert Hall.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Trinity University will present a "Salute Latin America" concert performed by its Carnegie Hall-Jeunesses Musicales and Collegium Musicum, 8 p.m., Great Hall of the Chapman Graduate Center. Admission free.

Membership meeting of the San Antonio Association for Retarded Citizens, 227 W. Drexel, 7:30 p.m. John Foley of the National Association for Retarded Citizens will speak. Admission free.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Trinity University will present Dr. Winfred Kudzus, professor of German and Comparative Literature at the University of California at Berkeley, speaking on "Literature, Schizophrenia and Video-Realism," 7:30 p.m. Studio 21 of the Richardson Communication Center. Admission free.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Art of the Hills exhibit and sale opens in the Inn of the Hills, Kerrville, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Will continue on Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Proceeds go to the Alamo Area Chapter of the American Diabetes Association.

"Life After Divorce," a workshop for separated and divorced people and couples contemplating termination, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., The Horizon House, 8610 Jones-Maltsberger Road. Sponsored by the Family Services Association of San Antonio, phone 349-0145.

SPECIAL NOTICE

FAMILY MISSION IN THE PARISH

A popular slogan tells us: The family that prays together stays together! The parish of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Leon Springs extends an invitation to participate in a Family Mission, December 4-8, 1978, at their parish Church. Bishop Raymond J. Pena and his team, Deacon Rudy V. Lopez and Sister M. Emiliana Fecher, SSND, will conduct the session each evening from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The Liturgy each evening centers on a particular group, and symbolic gifts are presented.

The Mission begins on Monday with consideration of the family as Domestic Church, since the family is really where Church begins. The Liturgy stresses family participation. Tuesday's theme highlights Parish, the family of families. A special children's Liturgy is celebrated on Tuesday. The third night emphasizes Christ, the center of the community; Youth prepare the Liturgy. On Thursday the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated. Reflection on how we fail in the church of the home, in the local church, the parish, and how we fail Christ in the community, points up the need for reconciliation. On the fifth and final day of the Mission, families are sent out to be Evangelizers of the Good News, in their homes, in their neighborhoods, and in the community.

Bring the whole family! Make this a FAMILY preparation for the Feast of Our Lady and for Christmas!

New Solar Battery Studied By UTSA Biochemist



Dr. Robert Renthal

The purple membrane of a bacterial cell may provide the mechanism for a new type of solar battery.

UTSA Assistant Professor of Biochemistry Dr. Robert D. Renthal is studying this membrane (cell surface). It contains a purple pigment that gathers solar energy for the cell to use.

He recently received a \$117,000 grant from the Public Health Service and a \$51,000 grant from the Robert Welch Foundation to continue his research, which he began in 1976 through a Cottrell Research Grant from Research Corporation.

According to Dr. Renthal, the purple membrane is a specialized patch on the surface of a bacterial cell. The species of bacteria thrives in saturated salt solutions and grows along the seashore and salt lakes.

The bacteria normally use oxygen to extract energy from food. When they become crowded and use all the oxygen in their surroundings, they make purple membranes. The

membranes allow them to continue to live off solar energy.

"The purple color is from a protein similar to one found in the retina of the eye and involved in visual reception," he said. Similar chemistry may be involved in visual reception and the reaction of the purple pigment to sunlight.

Dr. Renthal explained that the membrane is the only known example of photosynthesis occurring without chlorophyll.

Sunlight activates a pump-like mechanism that carries protons, the simplest type of ion, across the cell membrane.

"The ejected protons produce

an electrochemical gradient that the cell uses as a miniature battery," Dr. Renthal said.

He hopes to block pump activity, trace the pathway of the protons and study the chemical reactions that occur.

"Based on the findings, scientists eventually may be able to design a plastic sheet, modeled on the membrane, that can store solar energy and function as a solar battery," he explained.

"The research also may contribute to basic medical knowledge. The functions of the kidneys, the intestines and the nervous system involve ion pumps," Dr. Renthal said.

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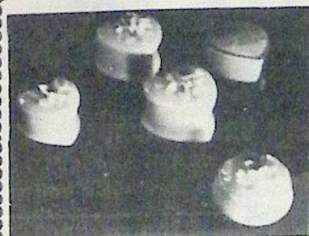
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(Continued from page 1)

general public support was generated for it.

Then last summer Grey Forest was approached by developers of the San Antonio

Ranch Town to go in with them on a system which would collect sewage in Grey Forest and deliver it by a trunk line to the Ranch Town's proposed disposal system to be operated by its San Antonio Municipal

Utility District No. 1.

Considerable opposition to this plan developed in Grey Forest, including opposition among some of the council members. On Monday of this week, Bob Honts, resident partner in the Ranch Town, wrote to Mayor Virginia Springer of Grey Forest "that it is the opinion of the San Antonio Ranch developer that other alternatives available to San Antonio Ranch and the San Antonio Municipal Utility District No. 1 appear to offer a more desirable approach for the organized sewer collection system for the San Antonio Ranch at this time."

He added that "should a united City Council wish to approach the San Antonio Municipal Utility District No. 1 or the San Antonio Ranch developer in the future for some modification... we would be most receptive to discuss the matter with you further."

Will Winters of the Texas Department of Water Resources said Thursday night at the Grey Forest city council meeting that the department did not see any way that the Ranch Town's municipal utility district could extend to Grey Forest.

Madrigal Dinner

To Be Dec. 1-3

UTSA's third annual Madrigal Christmas Dinner will take guests into a "castle in Elizabethan England" for a holiday feast honoring the lord of the manor, Dec. 1, 2 and 3.

Presented by the University's Division of Music, each performance will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the gallery of the UTSA Humanities-Business Building.

Tickets, priced at \$12.50 per person, will be sold in the UTSA Division of Music office through Nov. 28. All proceeds benefit the UTSA music scholarship fund.

For ticket information, phone the division office at 691-4355.

Fire Prevention Winners



Shown with their principal, Fred Pizzini, are the six trophy winners in the fire prevention essay contest at Helotes School sponsored by the Helotes Volunteer Fire Department and the T.M. Edwards Village Insurance Agency. Left to right they are Emily Knicker, Laura Riley, Billy Ruck, Tami Herring, Ann Abney and Leesa Kime.

Along Our Route

Leon Valley

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Brown:

The Historical Society of Leon Valley thanks you very much for letting us see your Helotes Echo office and also for all the information you gave us.

We enjoyed it very much and the old house is beautiful.

Thanks again,

Karen Petersen, Sec.,
Historical Society of Leon Valley



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