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# HELOTES ECHO

VOLUME IX, NO. 19

HELOTES, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS — 10 CENTS PER COPY

OCTOBER 18, 1974

## Contract Let For Highway 16

A low bid of \$2,600,000 by Dean Word Company of New Braunfels was accepted in Austin October 16 by the Texas Highway Department for paving of 3.6 miles of Bandera Highway—Highway 16—from Scenic Loop Road north. At present work on the divided highway to Scenic Loop from Loop 410 is nearing completion by M. B. Killian Co. after more than two years of construction.

The new work will include building of addition to the four-lane divided highway and straightening out of several curves now considered hazardous. Survey work has already been completed and rights-of-way purchased. The new segment will pass the proposed Ranch Town here and will go to about Villarreal's.

## Fun-Tier Night Slated At Locke Hill

Fun-Tier Night at Locke Hill School will begin at 3 p.m. and last until 8 p.m. Saturday, October 19, on the school grounds located on IH 10. Mrs. Freida Atkinson, chairman of the event, said that there will be a Wild West Show featuring Tommy Worrell, stunt man and gunfighter intermittently all evening.

There will be a bazaar with handmade items, and a Mexican Dinner will be served at \$1.50 for adult plates and less for children. A Horseshoe Tunnel is among the novel newer attractions.

Locke Hill School which is in its 106th year is one of the oldest public schools in continuous operation in the State. It has a large and loyal alumni—something not usual for elementary schools. Students rode horseback to school until about 20 years ago, when the mode of transportation became obsolete due to the growth of the area. A central office facility is planned for the school building next year, and, as plans are now, this will be the last year that the school will be in operation for classes.

All alumni, interested patrons and District residents are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Campbell were recent guests of Mrs. Babe Gilliam on their vacation trip. They all visited friends and relatives in Charlotte, Pleasanton, and Somerset where they called on Mr. and Mrs. Bryce Johnstone and reported Mrs. Johnstone in improved health.

## RANCH TOWN WINS ANOTHER ROUND



"We don't mind the stew we're in!" seems to be what Bill Wengler, Tom Stolhandske, county commissioner, and Vincent Jaskinia (L-R) are thinking. Miss Lora Pape, 1974 Vegetable Day Queen, also seems to be enjoying the vegetable stew she is sampling.

Anyone is eligible to take part in the contest. Admission is free, parking is free and there is no fee to enter the contest. Prizes will be given away and entertainment will highlight this year's Vegetable Day Show and River Art Group Exhibit on Nov. 9.

A federal loan guarantee of \$18,000,000 was upheld Friday, October 4, by the U. S. Court of Appeals in New Orleans dismissing a suit brought by environmentalists against San Antonio Ranch (New Town) slated to be built on the former Lytle Ranch here. It is proposed to be a town of more than 80,000 people on about 9,000 acres or more.

The suit involved worry on the part of several groups that the Edwards Aquifer might not be safeguarded, but Ranch proponents cited precautions planned in the development.

A ruling by the District Court asking the Ranch Town developers to pay \$20,000 court costs was also overturned.

Bexar County Judge Blair Reeves was quoted in the San Antonio Express-News as saying that the County is pursuing the appeal to be on record as totally against the planned community.

## In 'Who's Who'

Charles E. Brown, principal, Holmes High School in Northside District, is among 22 Bexar Countians listed in the recently-released edition of Who's Who in Texas.

## Helotes School Fun Fair Set For Oct. 26

Saturday, October 26, is the date for the annual Helotes School Fun Fair which will run from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. with Patty Motz as Chairman of the Parent-Teacher Association sponsored event. The Fun Fair has had one of the longest continuous runs among events in this area. The community is invited. Many attending will be former students of the school, teachers and patrons. Funds go for extras at the school, especially for projects needed by the library.

A Disney cartoon feature will be shown, and there will be other variety acts. The Explorers Post 401—comprising teenagers, will perform a traditional Indian Dance under the direction of Scoutmaster Ray Garrison.

Favorite games will be back this year—including the Dunking Booth, Fish Pond, and Cake Walk. And the Spook House, Box Maze and Wishing Well will have their record attendance, no doubt.

Although no regular dinner is planned for this year, there will be some short orders—and plenty of soft drinks, snow cones and bakery goods at the Sweet Shop. A Country Store will feature homemade items.

According to Henrietta

Richards, publicity chairman, the entire P-TA is taking an interest, and merchants and businessmen have contributed door prizes and other assistance.

Serving as Chairmen on the committees are the following volunteers: Bean Bag Toss, Betty

Zoeller; Bean Jar, Anita Barnes; Box Maze, Pat Pizzini; Cake Walk, Janice Caldwell; Candle Shoot, Mamie Mayfield; Confetti Eggs, Barbara Hartmann; Country Store, Diane Bray; Dart Booth, Robbie Carson; Disney Feature, Helen Widner; Door

Prizes, Linda Spears; Dunking Booth, Sonja Bertie; Fish Pond, Mona Parks; Food Cluster, Connie Madla; Frisbie Throw, Anda Wolfe; Horseshoes, Janice Oatman; Hot Dogs, Ginger Echteroff; Make-up Booth, Mary McDaniel; Moon Walk, Kay Daughtry; Ping Pong Toss, Stevie Seitz; Ring Toss, Barbara Lowe; Soft Drinks, Nancy Reddout; Snowcones, Barbara Galland; Sweet Shop, Sharon Kempf; Tickets, Becky Burke; and Wishing Well, Alice Taylor.

## GRANGE ASKS TEACHING HOSPITAL TO GO TO STATE

James Kiles, Master of the Texas State Grange, said that plans are now being made to have a Legislator introduce a bill to place the Bexar County Teaching Hospital under the State Hospital System.

Kiles stated that any private citizens interested in supporting this bill should contact Judge Blair Reeves or their State Representative.

The local chapter passed a resolution supporting that stand.

The Archie Knight family will install the officers of the Leon Valley Grange at 8 p.m. on October 24 at the Grange Hall.



Patty Motz, center, is chairman of the 1974 FUN FAIR to be held Saturday. Among her many assistants to put over the traditional and ever expanding event are Linda Spears, left, who is in charge of gathering door prizes, and Becky Burke, right, who is chairman of the tickets.

## Telephone Workers Aid United Way Scenic Loop

The United Way October 10, received \$302,231 in gifts and pledges from the combined efforts of employees of Southwestern Bell

Telephone Co., Communications Workers of America, Western Electric, and American Telephone and Telegraph Long Lines.

According to Pat Legan, UW campaign chairman, it represents a 22.8 per cent increase this year. With 96.4 per cent participation by 3,742 employees, the average gift is \$83.81, or \$80.77 per capita.

The pledges were reported by Darlene Buethe, the "Southwestern Bell Ms. United Way." The local UW campaign, with a goal of \$6,036,753, runs through Oct. 30.

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### Scene Of Accident

A small station wagon left Scenic Loop Road at the Helotes Creek crossing near Bandera Highway October 12, turning over after it was involved in a collision with another small vehicle travelling in the opposite direction. Each car was occupied by a young couple.

The young married occupants of the overturned vehicle attributed their lack of serious injury to the fact that they had hooked their seat belts. The young lady said that she struck the windshield after she unhooked the belt when rescuers came to assist them out. Only the tailgate was able to be opened for them to exit.

The other car was damaged also, but the occupants were apparently uninjured. One couple was residing at Serene Hills. The other two were planning to visit in the area, but reside in San Antonio.

This was the second accident at Scenic Loop during the day. Earlier a car failed to negotiate the turn and landed in the new open culvert ditch at the entrance of Scenic Loop and the new Bandera Highway. Later in the day several young men were able to put up boards and returned the car to the highway.

### Monica Woods Injured

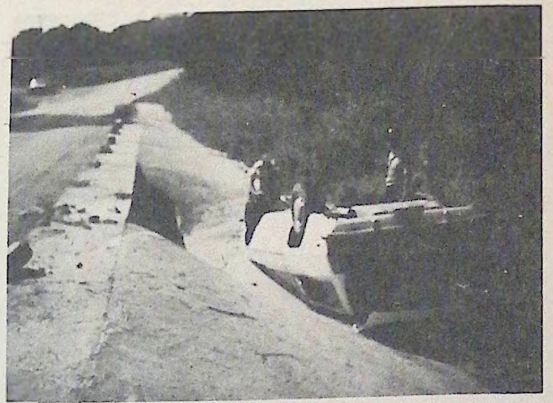
Monica Woods, 17-year-old Marshall High School coed, was seriously injured in a head-on collision on the new segment of the Bandera Highway about noon on Friday, October 4, as she was on her way to distributive education. The accident occurred when another vehicle occupied by a man and woman travelling toward Bandera, Texas, entered the wrong lane, not realizing, according to report, that the divided highway was not completed there and that two-way traffic is presently using only one lane.

Miss Woods, who is the daughter of Col. (Retired) and Mrs. Richard M. Woods of Bandera Road here, was pinned in the totally demolished car until members of the local fire department using saws from the Leon Valley Fire Department were able to release her.

The Emergency Modular Service answered the call. The victim sustained a broken hip and dislocated shoulder and facial injuries and has been hospitalized under intensive care. She has been making improvement, but time will be required for her complete recovery.

According to reports, the occupants of the other car did not sustain severe injuries.

The driver of the second car suggested that more signs be put up to warn other drivers of the two-way traffic.



This small station wagon overturns after being in collision with another vehicle, and both occupants escape without serious injury.

### Mrs. Powell

#### Joins U.T. Council

Catherine H. Powell, assistant professor of Urban Studies at Trinity University, has been appointed to the University of Texas School of Architecture Foundation Advisory Council.

Mrs. Powell, the only woman and the only urban planner on the Council, holds a bachelor of arts degree from Radcliffe College and a master's in city planning from Harvard University.

Currently, she is working on two projects, each funded by a \$25,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Architecture and Environmental Arts Division.

The first is a public education program called City Edges. It has a game format and will be available to interested groups this Fall.

The second program, called City Options, explores alternatives for development on the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. Both programs are sponsored by Citizens for a Better Environment.

Mrs. Powell is a member of the American Institute of Planners.

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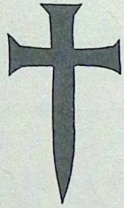
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**Blood Drive To Be Here In Nov.**



Mrs. Philip Strickland, of Helotes Pharmacy, has her first experience as a blood donor during the past drive. Trained personnel are present to assist at the Presbyterian Church during each Blood Drive.

Alpha Rho is sponsoring its third Blood Drive on Saturday, November 2, to obtain donors to replenish area needs. Those wishing to give can do so from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, according to Miss Virginia Springer, chairman of the Drive. Anyone wishing to make an appointment for a special time should call 695-3347. Information on restrictions may also be obtained by calling this number. Alpha Rho is a service sorority active in this community.

**Corn Quilt 1975 To Be Started**

Mrs. Ben Zimmerlie has been appointed chairman of the Helotes Women's Club quilting project. At the meeting of the Club in the home of Mrs. Martin Terry, vice president, the members voted to keep the traditional colors of green and yellow for the third annual Helotes Corn Quilt which will be finished in time for the 1975 Cornyal here.

Mrs. Zimmerlie also displayed alternate patterns including a charming blue-patterned, with yellow corn and blue star, quilt which she finished for her own use.

**Methodist Women To Serve Dinner**

The United Methodist Women of the Helotes Hills United Methodist Church will serve their famous Mexican dinner on November 2 at the Church. Serving will be continuous from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Meals are two dollars for adults and one dollar for children. Tickets will be available at the door or from any member of the UMW in advance.

**AARP To Tour Valley Next**

During November, the American Association of Retired Persons Chapter 1044—which has a large membership from Northwest Bexar County—will visit the Rio Grande Valley. The tour will include Padre Island at Port Isabel; Brownsville and its sister city, Matamoras, Mexico; and Harlingen with its Confederate and Air Force museum.

Tour chairman is Mrs. Nadine Hartmann of John Wagner Road in Helotes. The group will go by chartered bus.

She said that this will end the tours for 1974. With the approaching holidays, most plan to be at home or with their families elsewhere.

During the past six months members of AARP have visited the historical town of Salado, toured the Big Bend, explored Longhorn Cavern, toured Fredericksburg, and enjoyed Lake Buchanan. They have also visited Galveston, Houston and Austin.

All persons retired or interested in retiring are eligible for the organization which has many other programs for its members, civic, social, and educational, making it a very active group here.

**Silver Belles Plan Parties**

A Birthday Party-Meeting will be held by the Silver Belles in the Boerne at the Kuntry Chicken on Thursday, November 14, honoring all members who have birthday anniversaries from June 1 through

Tentative plans for the Christmas Party were discussed at the October 10 meeting at Scenic Loop Playground Clubhouse.

Hostesses for the recent occasion were Marie Parrigin and Maurene Biering who served punch and cake to the members. The Christmas Party will be held in the home of a member, according to tradition.

**Holmes Students Commended**

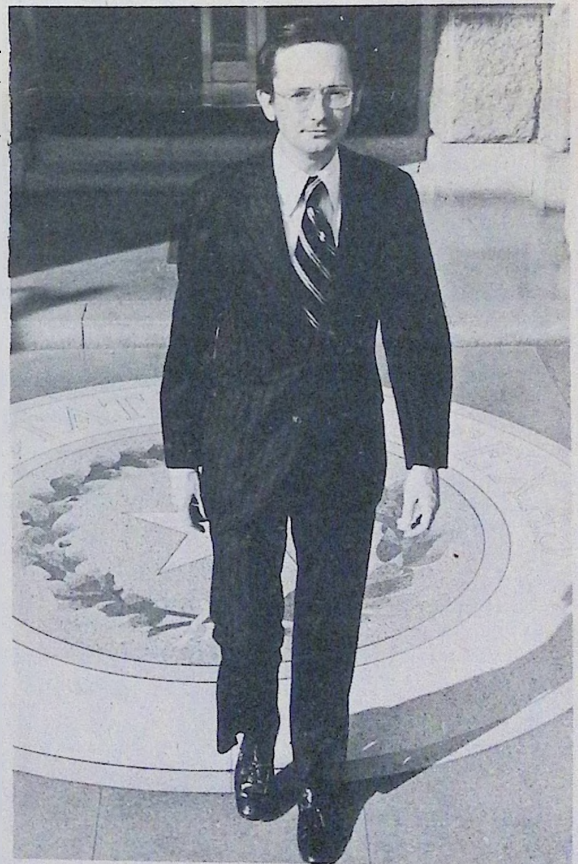
Eight seniors at Holmes High School in Northside District, have been named Merit Program Commended students by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. These students are in the upper two per cent of the nation's Class of 1975.

Dean T. Alderson, Karen Grisham, Timothy Hamon, Kevin Jolly, Mary Kuntz, Patricia Rutledge, Lori Slovacek and Charlie Urbanowich have been commended on the basis of their high performance on the 1973 Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test-National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

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VOLUME IX, NO. 19  
OCTOBER 18, 1974

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## Seminar Slated For Bankers

Bankers from a 38-county area of Southwest Texas are being provided a forum late this month for interchange with agricultural producers on a subject of mutual interest and concern:

The credit needs of Farmers and Ranchers in the year ahead.

The occasion will be a two-day seminar, Oct. 23-24 with a theme which should appeal to any farm and ranch-oriented money lender: "Financing Agriculture and Can We Afford It in 1975?"

"We are expecting a big turnout because we have a timely program and an outstanding panel of speakers," enthuses Wayne Hamilton, La Pryor, Chairman of Southwest Texas Agricultural Resources (STAR), which is co-sponsoring the event with several regional bankers associations.

"Any banker with pretension of seeking and servicing agricultural accounts—and that has to include just about all of them in this part of the state—will find much of interest at this seminar."

## Bikel To Star In Centennial



Temple Beth El, which is celebrating the congregation's 100th birthday, will bring stage, screen and television star Theodore Bikel to the Convention Center for a single performance at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 27.

Bikel, who played the role of Tevye in the national company of "Fiddler on the Roof," will be the featured entertainer at a champagne hour and dinner to which the public is invited.

Bikel's first important role was in Sir Laurence Olivier's stage production of "A Street Car Named Desire," starring Vivien Leigh. Since then he has appeared in countless stage, screen and television portrayals, including "The Sound of Music", in which he created the role of Baron Von

Trapp. He has recorded 16 albums, the latest being "Silent No More."

## Stacey Endorses Wentworth

John Stacey, who polled nearly 4,000 votes in a light voter turnout in the June Democratic run-off election, announced Monday night his endorsement and support of Republican Jeffrey Wentworth as the man best qualified for State Representative, District 57H, the House seat being vacated by State Representative Wayland Simmons.

Stacey cited several reasons for his endorsement of Wentworth. He said further, "Cartwright has not lived in the area with the exception of the last two years, and could not possibly know the problems of the district or of its people."

"Jeffrey Wentworth by contrast has been a resident of the area since 1945. Jeff is a successful attorney, a graduate of Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University School of Law. He was President of the Tech Law School student body. Jeff served nearly three years active duty as a U. S. Army counterintelligence officer and is a veteran. He has been active in such civic organizations as the San Antonio Jaycees, Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, Taxpayers League, Research and Planning Council, San Antonio, Texas, and American Bar Associations. In addition, Jeff Wentworth has had practical experience in government having served three years on the staff of Congressman Bob Price," Stacey added.

Stacey concluded by saying, "It's not a matter of party. I have been and am still a lifelong Democrat; however, I sincerely believe that it is imperative that we send to Austin to represent us our most qualified candidate, and I am sure that the majority of the people of the district will agree with me that Jeffrey Wentworth is that man."

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## Black Sun Herb Farm Is Tourist Attraction



This historic compound is ageless and has a young and vital role in the community still. It was built in the 1850's to withstand the rigors of a frontier.

Black Sun Herb Farm—named for the eclipse of the Sun—is housed in one of the most picturesque and vital landmarks of Helotes and is being run by a young couple—Barbara and Rocco Avery—who have purchased five acres and a compound of four or so historic buildings bearing the State Historic marker.

The herb farm was once the Menchaca Ranch homeplace and was earlier owned by other

Menchaca kin and called Le Serene, for the French side of the house.

It consists of a two-story rock main residence, a kitchen house, and two smaller structures which Barbara and Rocco (Rocky) have converted to a home and business that occupies their time to the fullest.

They first became interested in growing herbs for decorative, culinary, and medicinal purposes

while on a ranch owned by their family in Mexico. Barbara started and then Rocky took up helping her care for her favorites. When they returned to San Antonio, they decided to look for a place and happened through friends to find that the recent owner of the landmark in Helotes, located 3.4 miles from Bandera Road on the Scenic Loop, was available.

The time and energy they have put into gardening since then—about a year—is history. They found the buildings in excellent shape, but they have added their own personal touches.

They are parents of twin girls, five years old, and an active two-year-old son. The landscaped playground is ideal for them.

Visitors are invited to visit and to shop for their needs in herbs. There are so many that it is an education, and also a journey into the past to see the buildings which date from the 1850's.

Many of the local citizens are related to the original owners, and the house is revered here as a landmark. It is reached by a private roadway which is marked at the corner by a sign "Herb Farm."

The community welcomes this new business and tourist attraction and the young couple who own it.



Barbara Avery checks some of her plants which grow in the charming setting of the new herb farm just as many herbs were once grown by the original owners in the kitchen gardens.

### About Your Social Security

The Social Security Administration has saved \$189 million from 1966 to 1974 through vocational rehabilitation. Jules Gipson, branch manager of the Kerrville Social Security Office, announced today that during this 8-year period over 56,000 beneficiaries have been provided rehabilitation services.

As a result, in excess of 14,000 beneficiaries have been rehabilitated, and their social security checks stopped. This means that 1 out of every 4 disabled individuals who are provided services are able to return to gainful work.

The Social Security Ad-

ministration, by law, is required to refer disability beneficiaries for vocational rehabilitation so that as many as possible can be restored to useful, productive lives. Because of the effectiveness of this program, the Administration saves about \$2.50 in benefit payments for every trust fund dollar spent for vocational rehabilitation, noted Gipson.

Obviously, not all people benefit from vocational rehabilitation. For this reason, only disability beneficiaries who appear to have potential for rehabilitation are referred to the Texas Vocational Rehabilitation Agency for their services.



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LATE APPOINTMENTS ON REQUEST

### Coast Guard Requests Applications For Marine Events

The Coast Guard reminds sponsors of regattas, marine parades or blessings of the fleet of their responsibilities in accordance with Federal Regulations regarding submission of permit applications.

The Federal Regulations governing marine events state that a sponsor of a regatta or marine parade is required to obtain a permit from the Coast Guard District Commander having jurisdiction in the area where the event is scheduled to take place. This permit is required if the event, by its nature, circumstances, or location will involve extra or unusual hazards to the safety of others on any navigable waterway of the United States.

Some examples of unusual hazards are: inherently dangerous competition, the customary presence of pleasure or commercial craft in the area, the possible obstruction of a navigable channel, or expected accumulation of spectator craft.

An event for which an application is required will be held only after approval by the District Commander, except where an application is referred to a state, then approval is governed by state laws.

The Federal Regulations require submission of a permit application so as to reach the Coast Guard not less than 30 days in advance of the scheduled event. This lead time is required to allow the Coast Guard enough time to evaluate the request, make necessary arrangements for any required patrols, prepare and distribute Special Local Regulations where required, and give other waterway users reasonable advance notice.

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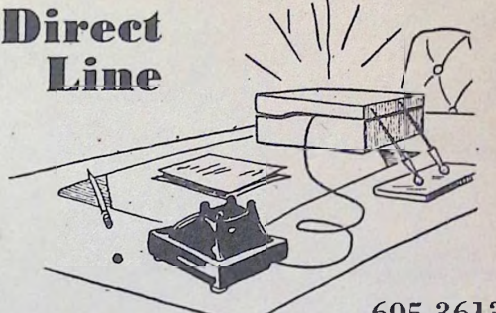
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Whatever your hurry is, you CAN wait.  
You can also tell your neighbors, your teenaged drivers, and your co-workers to stop and wait for any school bus with blinking lights (which means the bus is loading and unloading children) . . . no matter which side of the road you are on or the bus and the kids are on.  
Stopping for blinking buses is something to start doing for a multiple choice of reasons:  
1. Because the law says so.  
2. Because it takes only a split second for a very slowly-moving vehicle to cause an accident.  
3. Because Northside school people are concerned about the safety of kids.  
4. Because parents are concerned about the safety of kids.  
5. Because not enough people are concerned enough to prevent the near-accidents that are daily reported to schools and central office.  
6. All of the above.  
If everyone doesn't start stopping for school buses and WAITING until the bus proceeds, everyone won't have to WAIT long for something really tragic to happen.

### Vickie Schneider Passes Away

BABY SITTING in my home. Monday through Friday. Two years or older. Mrs. Spears, 688-3497.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. V. Schneider, 1406 Vanderbilt, San Antonio, their relatives and friends were shocked by the untimely and tragic death of their daughter, Miss Vickie Schneider, 18 years, 1 day of age, a student at Evergreen State College, Olympia, Wash., on October 3rd. Interment was at Mission Burial Park, South at 10 a.m. Oct. 7th with Otto Weltner of Grey Forest, officiating.

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## Mrs. Duerler Dies Oct. 4, Aged 65

Mrs. Edna D. Duerler of Helotes Ranch Acres who was born in Bracken, Texas, August 4, 1909, died in a San Antonio hospital on Friday, October 4.

Rosary was recited at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Friday evening, at the church where she was a parishioner for many years.

Mrs. Duerler was a longtime resident of Bexar County. She is survived by her husband, Eugene M. Duerler, and a son, Leslie E. Duerler, both of Helotes. She also leaves three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Duerler left many friends in the community also.

Mass was offered by Rev. Louis A. Trawalter, S.M., on Saturday afternoon, October 5. Concluding services were said at Helotes Catholic Cemetery.

Sympathy is extended to her family in their loss.

## Social Security Adds New Phone

Beginning Oct. 15 you can call your San Antonio social security office without going through the federal switchboard for answers to your questions about social security, supplemental security income and medicare, according to Gilbert G. Gonzalez, District Manager.

In order to better serve the public, the local social security office has set up a special unit of highly trained personnel to answer general inquiries regarding all phases of social security.

Since the local office has been handling 5000 telephone calls weekly, now commercial lines have been installed to serve the special unit.

Although calls regarding specific cases will continue to be handled through the federal switchboard (225-5511), the majority of those 5000 weekly calls are for general information and will be channeled to the special unit.

"Since 5000 calls tie up a number of telephone lines, it's still advisable to call the office for general information after the middle of both the week and the month for quicker service," Gonzalez advised, noting that the social security office is always busiest in the earlier part of the week and month.

The new telephone number for general information is 341-3991. It is not listed in the telephone directory yet, but is available through directory information.

## Medical Care To Get Boost

Emergency Medical Technicians will be trained with a \$76,156 grant awarded this month to the Alamo Area Council of Governments by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The grant award was announced October 2 by the Washington office of Congressman Abraham Kazen.

The grant for training is in conjunction with another grant received three months ago to purchase emergency medical equipment. Both grants will be used primarily in the 11 rural counties of the AACOG region.

Under the most recent grant, ambulance attendants will receive basic Emergency Medical Technician training, expected to begin January 1 at San Antonio College.

The \$332,896 equipment grant will be used to purchase "modulances," a new type of completely equipped ambulance that is presently being used by the San Antonio Emergency Medical System. A data system will provide information about the types of emergencies that occur so counties can pinpoint their facility needs. The program will inform citizens about the emergency care available and will instruct them on how to use emergency services.

## Texas Highway Dept. Offers Films

San Antonio—In an effort to keep the public informed of all its activities, the Texas Highway Department, Public Affairs Office, has expanded the film library to meet increasing community requests for more information.

A broad selection of films are available for showing to organizations or interested groups. A film titled "Texas-Land of Contrast", gives a general introduction to the wide variety of scenic, historic and recreational attractions of our state. It may be requested in English, Spanish, German or French. Also available is "Texas Builds a Highway", telling how our highways are planned, financed and built. There are movies on waste and litter, and the most recent addition to the film library "The Missions of Texas", which focuses on state history and explores 10 of the ancient Spanish missions where Texans can walk in the past today. Most of all, this film is a reminder of Texas rich mission heritage. The showing of these films average 20 minutes.

For information on how to borrow a film or to request a presentation contact Mal Steinberg, District Public Affairs Officer, 696-1110 ext. 221.



Plans are underway for the Christmas Party, December 20, at Helotes Elementary School. On the committee to plan events are homeroom mothers. Four who met recently to talk over the special holiday event are Mesdames Edith Chessir, Carmela Garcia, Betty Storbeck, and Norma Smith.

## Increase In Interest In GI Home Loans

For the fifth time since the first percent on April 15, to 8.75 percent of the year, the maximum interest on May 13, and to 9 percent on July rate on GI home loans and FHA 8, followed by the latest boost. loans has been changed—this time, increased from 9 to 9.5 percent.

The increase was a joint action of the Veterans Administration and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

VA officials explained that the increase was the only means to put veterans and servicemen seeking home financing on a competitive basis in today's market.

Starting January 22, the interest rate on VA and FHA loans was lowered from 8.5 to 8.25 percent. Since then, it was increased to 8.5

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### Kite Contest Winners Named



Participants in the Kite competition are shown with their wind-blown kites. In the first row are, left to right, Tony Ippolito, Kenny Motz, Michael Sanchez, and Louis Walz. In the back row are Stephen Pizzini, Billy Widner, Fulton Pizzini, Ricky Echterhoff, Jeffrey Richards, and one small lass, Cheryl Ansell.

In a gusty wind that damaged several kites before competition, the Fall Kite Flying Contest, sponsored by the Explorers Post 401, was held for Cub Scouts on the Helotes Elementary School grounds, September 28.

Following a brief timeout for repairs which allowed some of the damaged kites to compete, several categories yielded winners. Kenny Motz won "Best Looking

Homemade Kite" awards with one that represented a fish. First place for "Highest Flying" parent-and-son combination went to Billy Widner, with second place in this category going to Michael Sanchez. In the "Highest Flying" solo contest Jeffrey Richards took first place, and Ricky Echterhoff took second place. "Dog Fight" winner was Jeffrey Richards.

### Helotes Patrol Asks Assistance

The Helotes Patrol fund has been growing slowly to aid in combatting crime here, and Richard Ellis, in charge of the Patrol, said "I would like to take this opportunity to thank those individuals who have donated to our secret witness fund and urge everyone to donate. Make the check payable to the Helotes Patrol Fund and drop it by the Helotes General Store where it will be added to the growing account."

Rock throwing vandalism has resulted in two more smashed windshields, although constant patrol has kept it to a minimum, Ellis said.

"The rock throwing persists even though members of the patrol have actually sat up on the cliff all night," he said. "When we are on top of the cliff, vandals do not show up," he said.

At present 27 cars have reported being hit, five have had windshields smashed.

He urged parents of children

and young teenagers in the area to check on the young people's activities, and to keep them away from the cliff at night so that they will not be mistaken for the culprits by irate motorists. Vandalism has also continued by a group who tore down mailboxes in the Scenic Loop-Babcock area, a federal offense which is being investigated, he said.

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